

the Villager

The newsletter of Holywell-cum-Needingworth

December 2022



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the Villager

The Newsletter of Holywell-cum-Needingworth

Published quarterly in March, June, September and December
Distributed free to every household in the parish of
Holywell-cum-Needingworth

Winter Issue, December 2022

EDITORIAL

With this winter issue of the Villager magazine I would like to wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and a healthy and successful New Year for 2023. You will find details of a variety of Christmas events in the following pages from the Christmas Bazaar, organised this year by Needingworth Community Pre-school but supported by many other village organisations, to the special church services arranged by both the Parish Church and the Baptist Church.



Looking forward to 2023, the Gardening Club are pleased to announce the return of the Annual Village Show and the Village Hall report a successful NFEST in 2022 and are appealing now for volunteers to help organise NFEST 2023. The next issue of the Villager will be March 2023 - seems a long way off, but remember, if you would like to include something - news report, story, photographs, announcements - please send them to me by 1st February to ensure inclusion. I look forward to hearing from you.

Jennifer

Editor and Advertising:

Jennifer Horn,
16 Willow Green, Needingworth, St Ives, PE27 4SW
Tel: 01480 468952 Email: needingworth@aol.com

Next issue deadline:

1st February 2023 for March, April and May 2023

The views expressed in this newsletter are submitted by readers and are not necessarily the views of the Parish Council or the Editor. Dates and times of events have been submitted by the organisers of the events and are passed on in good faith. Please check with the organisers before attending.

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... IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

I can feel the weather cooling,
Soon there will be frost and snow,
Christmas is approaching,
Making excited happy children, with rosy cheeks aglow.
Stores are filled with twinkling lights,
Secret notes are sent to Santa for extra special toys,
Tinselled Christmas trees sport loving gifts galore,
Some for Granny and Grandpa, some for girls and boys.
Music spills out everywhere,
Golden oldies and bells a-ringing,
Choirs sing well-loved carols
And children's happy little voices everywhere are singing.
Families gather for festive treats,
Loving greetings, an annual hug,
Some for a lavish Christmas meal,
And when it's all over our heart-strings tug.
But spare a thought for those alone
They may not know or care it's Christmas day
A cold shop doorway is their home
Passers-by avert their eyes and continue on their way.

© Rosemary Emmett Scribblers Writing Group

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Front Cover: Wintry evening, St John the Baptist Church, J. Horn
Inset photo by Richard Ruston, see page 27

PARISH COUNCIL

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council 15th August 2022



Cllr A Whyte



Cllr C Pearce



Cllr T Head



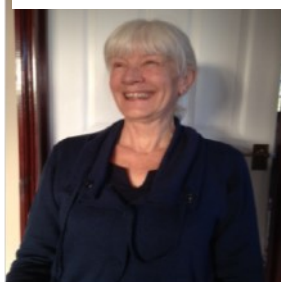
Cllr R Fountain



Cllr D Jackson



Cllr E MacPherson



Cllr S Martin



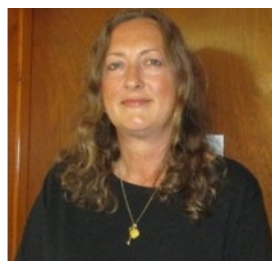
Cllr E McNeill



Cllr J Neish



Cllr S Mitcham



Cllr S Mortlock



Cllr D Peart



Cllr M Williamson

APOLOGIES, especially to Cllr Mitcham, Cllr Mortlock and Cllr Peart, for the mistake labelling their photographs in the September issue of the Villager. The error has been corrected above.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
CLERK Miss Jane Bowd	Needingworth Village Hall, Overcote Lane, Needingworth	468451
PARISH COUNCILLORS		
Mr A Whyte Chairman	23 Bramley Avenue	464223
Mr R Fountain	91 Ashton Close	496636
Mr T Head	36 The Furlongs	07452 992161
Mr D Jackson	Overcote Farm, Overcote Lane	466612
Mrs E Macpherson	6 Priory Road	468633
Mrs S Martin	21 Bramley Avenue	494920
Mrs E McNeill	Green Trees, Back Lane, Holywell	467212
Mr S Mitcham	6 Willow Green	301679
Mrs S Mortlock	The Paddocks, Mill Way	462945
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green	466110
Mr C Pearce	22 Harris Crescent	468759
Mr D Peart	Foxton House, Conger Lane, Holywell	c/o 468451
Mr M Williamson	3 Priory Close	465821
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS		
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green, Needingworth	01480 466110
Mr P Hodgson-Jones	Bluntisham House, Rectory Road, Bluntisham	01487 740778
COUNTY COUNCILLOR		
Mr K Reynolds	17 Virginia Way, St ves	01480 496006
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS		
Eleanor Hardy	email:hardy.derek@sky.com Tel: 07730 504220	
MILLFIELDS BOOKINGS		
Miss J Bowd	Needingworth Village Hall	468451

Parish Council Report

The official record of all meetings are the minutes which are available on the Parish Council website, www.holywell-cum-needingworthpc.org.uk.

Meeting on 6th September opened with members of the public raising their concerns regarding a planning application for a new dwelling in Chapel Close.

The accounts for payment as at 6th September 2022 totalling £25,582.39 were approved.

District Councillor J Neish reported that the Town Master Plan is out for consultation and urges the Council to review and comment. He also advised that the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership is consulting on proposed congestion charging in Cambridge.

The submission of the Village Hall extension plans to HDC were approved.

One Stop shop have agreed to support fundraising for a defibrillator to be sited at One Stop and it was agreed that any deficit for the purchase of the defibrillator be covered by the Parish Council.

3 planning applications were considered with 1 being supported.

The October meeting opened with a two minute silence in memory of the late HM Queen Elizabeth II.

The accounts for payment as at 4th October 2022 totalling £29,510.99 were approved.

County Councillor Reynolds reported a road closure on 14 -16 December 2022 on Back Lane for works on a water main. He further reported that Stagecoach have proposed the cutting of all services except Cambridge City and South Cambridge. The Combined Authority are in negotiations with Stagecoach. Members agreed to lobby the Mayor with regards to the rural community needs and the green agenda.

The pod swing and the table tennis table have been successfully installed on Overcote Lane playing field. Please see adjacent report and photos.

Committee meetings were cancelled in September due to the period of mourning and all committees were called in October due to budget setting.

The accounts for payment as at 4th October 2022 totalling £29,510.99 were approved.

A contract for works to improve the frontage of the Village Hall including cladding the front and side of the pavilion was accepted and agreed to be funded from CIL receipts.

The Unqualified report was noted for the completion of the limited assurance review for year ending 31st March 2022.

Members agreed to purchase 10 tonnes of gravel for the overflow car park at Overcote Lane playing field.

A working party was agreed for the Christmas Lights event which will take place on Friday 9th December 2022. (Please see advert later in the Villager page 30).

It was agreed that the Parish Council will take on the responsibility of future checking and upkeep of the proposed defibrillator in Holywell along with funding any shortfall in fundraising for the defibrillator.

Parish Update

Overcote Lane Playing Field Improvements

The Parish Council are pleased to advise that further additions of a pod swing and table tennis table have been made to Overcote Playing field. These have been funded from CIL receipts. A wheelchair access picnic bench has also been installed on the field.



It is hoped that these will be a welcome addition to our facilities at Overcote Lane playing field and will be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council

JUST MOVED IN?

Get your free 'WELCOME PACK' from Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council Tel: **01480 468451** or email: needingworthpc@btconnect.com with your address details.

'the VILLAGER'

Extra copies of this quarterly magazine can be obtained from the editor

Jennifer Horn, 16 Willow Green, tel. **468952** or from **Roger Beaman**, 17 Willow Green, tel. **462379**.

WEBSITE: back issues of the Villager Magazine can be found on the Villager website needingworthvillager.org.uk

To advertise in the Villager please contact the editor Email: needingworth@aol.com or telephone 01480 468952

(Adverts start at £11. per issue for a 1/10th page ad.)

Meet Your Parish Councillors

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council consists of 13 Councillors. Over the next few editions of The Villager we will be introducing you to your Parish Councillors



Councillor Andrew Whyte, Chairman

I was born in the village in 1955 and have lived here since then. I have worked in horticulture since leaving school and I have always had an interest in wildlife and the environment. This interest is of great help with my work on the Environment Committee.

I am pleased to have been re-elected for my second term as Councillor on Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council following the May elections.

Committees: Consultation, Disciplinary & Grievance, Environment, HR (Chairman), Leisure Facilities, Planning & Finance (Chairman), Relief in Need Charity



Councillor Colin Pearce, Vice Chairman

I have lived in the village most of my life and I am a self-employed civil engineer.

I have been a Councillor for the Parish Council for over 25 years, having served several years as Chairman. I was heavily involved in the establishment of Millfields and the Village Hall both of which are focal points of the village used by a wide cross section of the community.

In my spare time I am a keen golfer.

Committees: Appeals, Consultation, Environment, HR, Leisure Facilities (Chairman), Planning & Finance, Relief in Need Charity



Councillor Roy Fountain

I have lived in Needingworth for 21 years. Prior to retirement I was a graduate chemist and managed businesses throughout my career.

I have been a trustee of the Village Hall for 19 years and am involved with the annual Music Festival, the Village Hall's main fundraiser of the year.

I am a member of various village groups including the Beer & Wine Society, tennis club and the gardening club.

I am pleased to have been elected for my third term as a Parish Councillor and look forward to further serving my community.

Committees: Appeals, Consultation, Leisure Facilities, Planning & Finance



Councillor Deke Jackson

I have lived and worked in Needingworth for the majority of the last 30+ years, only having moved to St Ives for 2 years due to being flooded in 2003. I am a Poultry Farm Manager and have managed Bluntisham Road Farm, Whitebridge Farm and am currently manager at Overcote Farm.

I have benefitted from living and being able to raise my family of four in this wonderful community. As a family we have been involved in many different groups within the village. I was previously a member of Needingworth Cricket Club in my younger years, however, now enjoy many an evening on the Bowls green come rain or shine!

Having enjoyed my time raising my family in this community I would like to help ensure the village remains a great place to raise a family for future generations.

Committees: Appeals, Consultation, Environment



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Buyer to collect from Millfields Mill Way Needingworth by arrangement with Parish Clerk.

Garden Plot Competition

Despite there not being an annual show again this year the garden plot tenants have been working very hard on their plots during some extreme weather conditions. The Parish Council once again decided to go ahead with the annual "best plot" competition which was judged by Councillor Andrew Whyte and Councillor Elinor McNeill.

Cllr McNeill and Cllr Whyte commented on the difficult weather conditions at the moment and that they were impressed overall on the high standard of the garden plots. They chose the winners after much deliberation by looking at the variety/range of edible produce grown, maximum use of space, health of the produce and general 'tidiness' and weed clearance.

And the winners are ...

Best Full Plot: Mr & Mrs Cousins
 Runner Up: Mrs A Brown

Best Half Plot: Mr S Wootley
 Runner Up: Mr & Mrs Merritt

Holywell-cum-Needlingworth Parish Council



Pictured (L-R): Mr S Wootley, Cllr McNeill, Cllr Whyte, Mrs Cousins and Mr Cousins

Needlingworth to RSPB Ouse Fen route map





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Hunts Waste Busters Top Tips for Saving Money, Getting Creative & Reducing Waste This Christmas

The Hunts Waste Busters believe in sustainable living, making minor changes to reduce our carbon footprint. Christmas is a time where our waste increases dramatically, with the bulk, ending up in landfill. We have compiled a few thought-provoking ideas, that can assist you in reducing your waste this Christmas, in addition to saving money and creating memories.

Buy Pre-Loved

There is an abundance of ways to seek presents that are pre-loved, finding the ideal gift at a fraction of the price. Support local charities or make use of modern websites, apps or local buy-and-sell pages, saving you money and rehoming a good product whilst reducing the amount of unwanted gifts/clothing sent to landfill. The best present may be right around the corner from you...

Creative Menu

Save money by utilising end of life food or leftovers to create a unique meal, reducing your food waste as well as trying something new. The internet is full of festive food ideas and recipes with the ability to input your available ingredients to make a dish that not only tickles the tastebuds but impresses guests with your cooking skills. If you don't get through it all, freeze it for a later date, giving you a much-needed night off cooking.

*Please remember all food waste including peelings and even bones, can be put into your garden waste bin, which is processed for composting.

Make Your Own Decorations

You may find the least expensive way to decorate is right under your nose, with items such as twigs, fir cones, and holly and willow wreaths being just some of the examples, our great outdoors has to offer, to create the ultimate in Christmas decorations. Many examples, tutorials and inspirational ideas can be found online, offering a great conversation starter for any guests.

Make Your Own Reusable Calendar

Advent calendars are a major contributor to plastic waste over the festive period, with the bulk having plastic inserts that cannot be recycled with ease. Say NO to disposable and YES to reusable, making your own tasty treats, offer another fun activity for children or a perfect opportunity to show off your creative side.

Recycle, Recycle and Recycle

Always check if what you are throwing away can be recycled. For any items not recyclable through your recycling bin, check your local supermarket, most have dedicated recycle points for items such as soft plastics and batteries, making it easy to bring with you when doing your food shop. In the case of many electrical stores, they will also accept e-waste such as TV's, PC's, Laptops and phones.

*Placing batteries in your kerbside bins can cause fires in the collection vehicles.

Inspired? We hope you are... every small change makes a difference to our environment. All we can ask this year is to THINK, ACT, CHANGE and assist us in reducing waste, maximising recycling and creating a sustainable Christmas ethic that can live on for generations.

From all the Hunts Waste Busters Team, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Sustainable New Year.

Check your Christmas holiday collection dates here:
<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/refuse-calendar/>

Village Hall News

We hope you are all well and have had an enjoyable long summer. The hall time table is filling up, classes have now returned to the Hall (along with some new ones). If you are interested in joining any classes, the list of hirers is on our website (needingworthvillagehall.com) and details of events will also be posted on our Facebook page (Needingworth Village Hall Trust).

We are busy planning several events for this year and next. Planning is also well underway for next year's Music Festival We always need volunteers for our events so if you would like to get involved (even if only for an hour or two) please do contact any Trustee.

Dates for your diary :

Saturday 4th February 2023 Band Night. Totally Floyd. (Pink Floyd Tribute Band) £10 per Ticket
Saturday 4th March 2023 Quiz Night.

Village Hall Heat Hub

The village hall is a warm building. As we approach winter with escalating heating cost, we would encourage groups to use the hall and pavilion for free when it is available during the day. If anyone is interested in using the Hall for such a group, please contact us on our website (needingworthvillagehall.com)

If you would like to book please contact Eleanor Hardy, Bookings Secretary-
Hardy.derek@sky.com 07730 504220

Noel Glass, Village Hall Trust

REMEMBRANCE GARDEN

Many villagers visit this small area outside the parish church in which their loved ones' ashes are buried. I would like to form a small Remembrance Garden Group to keep the grass mown and the area more tidy. At present the work falls on just two volunteers all year. Would you be willing to help by looking after the Garden for a couple of weeks at a time, say once every two months? If so, please contact
Stephen York, tel. **07768 924249**,
stephenyork@flagholme.net.



Chatters needs volunteers to help keep it open. If you can offer any help, please email

sue.martin22@btinternet.com

GARDENING CLUB

The Village Show is returning!!

Following the previous article in the Villager announcing that the Village Show was being suspended for the foreseeable future due to the pressures on the Gardening Club that the event created, I am absolutely delighted to announce that we have received a number of offers of help and we intend to run the Show again in 2023.

The most important offer was from Stephen York who was our Show Secretary for many years and created many of the systems that underpin the organisation. He had retired from the role some years ago but has now stepped up again to allow us to open up the Show again.

There will be some changes to simplify the entry and running of the show so we hope to see many more entries.

The show has traditionally been held on the first Saturday in August as this is the best time for vegetables and fruit. However the weather conditions this year meant that, had we held the Show then, we would have had hardly any entries due to the severe drought conditions. This time also means that the schools are on holiday so we struggle to achieve many children's entries.

We have therefore decided to hold the Show on 17th June 2023. This will be the most suitable time for flowers in the garden and we therefore will have more flower based sections and less vegetable sections. We also hope to attract more children's entries by working with the school and parents in the community.

We will of course still have all the usual cooking, craft, photography and wine sections so hope they will all be well supported.

The Village Show is a great traditional event in the calendar of the village and we are delighted that we are able to reintroduce it as we are so fortunate to be able to have this in our community when so many are closing around the country.

The club has had some excellent speakers in recent months but we had a scare recently when we had the Village Hall full of approximately 80 members waiting for the meeting to start but the speaker failed to turn up leaving us most embarrassed! Fortunately, we had foreseen this possibility and had many copies of a fun quiz to hand and we made the best of a difficult situation. All the members enjoyed themselves and we were grateful for their flexibility.

It is the end of our club year in November so we will be having our AGM and Social evening. We have a brilliant range of speakers, visits and events ready for the forthcoming year and the reintroduction of our star event of the Annual Village Show tops it all off wonderfully.

We meet on the second Tuesday each month in the village hall at 7.45 so our December meeting is on Tuesday 13th when we will hear about the reality of living the good life of self sustaining gardening.

See you there!

For anyone who is interested in joining this large and friendly club we have an excellently informative website

hcngardening.weebly.com

where full details of how to join and all future events is shown.

Grant Williamson, Chairman Holywell-cum-Needlingworth Gardening Club



WI

Our WI group have enjoyed a varied and stimulating programme during the late summer and into autumn.

In August Jim Blackwood from the RAF Wyton Heritage Museum gave us a fascinating insight into the history of RAF Wyton from its beginnings just before the outbreak of World War One. We found it so interesting to hear about such a major site of local history and hope to visit their Heritage Centre in the not too distant future.

At our September meeting we welcomed Stephen from Willingham Auction House for our version of the Antiques Road Show. Although without the support of Fiona Bruce and the team from the BBC show, Stephen gave us a really entertaining talk on his life as an auctioneer, telling us about some of the more memorable items that have come (not literally!) under his gavel. We had a table full of cherished items brought in by members for him to appraise. Sadly, there were no great finds, but it was riveting to hear what he had to say about them. In October members took over the organisation of the evening from the committee. We had good fun trying out various games divided into teams, a really good way to find out how competitive some people could be! On completion of the team events a selection of delicious puddings were provided to try – no better way to end the meeting.

The next few months will see us celebrate the Festive Season, which we will prolong as much as we can. In November we had a visit from T&J Wines who presented a wine – and other seasonal beverages – tasting. All in preparation for Christmas! In December we will be holding our traditional Christmas Party with entertainment. It's always great fun and this year promises to be no exception. We start 2023 with our Annual Dinner at the St Ives Golf Club in January before returning to the Village Hall in February to banish the winter blues by holding a 'Desert Island Discs' session. Selected members will talk a little about their lives and choose some music – and of course identify that luxury item!

It isn't all meetings – we have a programme of additional activities and various groups who meet regularly. In late August some members were welcomed by the Bowls Club for a 'taster session'. Many laughs were had and some discovered unknown skills! A great afternoon was had by all. September saw members and some spouses enjoying a lovely walk around 'Hidden Cambridge'. Our guide, Murray Jacobs, was so informative and such good company. A highlight was the visit to Pembroke College which included a fascinating explanation of the origin and development of the College Chapel. Wandering through the beautiful gardens many of us were 'taken' by the stunning climbing plant, Plumbago, which thrives in the microclimate of the College's courtyard. With the end of the year rapidly approaching, members are looking forward to a trip to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular; we have donated boxes to the Rotary Club's Moldova Christmas Shoe Box appeal; our Knit n' Natter Group have knitted a beautiful Nativity set in memory of our dear friend and valued member Val Hickman, whose idea it was and who sadly died recently. It will be presented to the Parish Church of St John the Baptist in Holywell at about the time this edition reaches your doorstep, and will be on display there during the Christmas season.



We meet on the first Monday of each month in Needingworth Village Hall and extend a warm invitation to anyone who is interested in joining us to get in touch. Be assured that you will receive a warm welcome. For further information please contact **Carol Peilow** on **01480 496958**.



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

NEEDINGWORTH OVER 60's CLUB.

This is just a heading. You don't have to live in Needingworth and you don't have to be over 60.

If you have just moved into this area, we meet in Needingworth Village Hall on the first Tuesday of each month between 2 and 4pm. All are welcome, male and female. We have a speaker or some other form of interest at each meeting. There is a chance to meet other people over a cup of tea and biscuits. Do come along, you can find who to contact in your copy of the Villager (see adjacent column). Look forward to seeing you.

Margaret Perryman, BEM
Over 60's Chairman

The Beer and Wine Society

Hi all,
Here are the dates for the next four months.

December, A meal details TBN.

January, Friday 20th in the Pavilion.

Rhubarb wine competition with a professional Judge.

February, Friday 10th -- Wine whist in the pavilion.

March, Friday 3rd -- AGM.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Pat Britton

Contact me on 01480 466239 or Sandra 01487 825669

Season's Jewels

Today I walked on a path of gold,
And the patterns I made began to unfold
A single gold flake floated gently down –
I caught it - and held it – a jewel for a crown.

Today I walked on a path silver bright,
It sparkled like diamonds in the pale sunlight
A single white crystal hung sharply down
I caught it - and held it – a jewel for a crown.

Today I walked on a path emerald green
New shoots and blossoms began to be seen,
A single bud by the wind was tossed up and down
I caught it - and held it - a jewel for a crown.

Today as I walked, the path hummed with noise
Of birds and insects, and a clear bell-like voice
A vision appeared and I cast my eyes down
Took her hand, and gave to this jewel, a crown.

Anon

DANCE CLUB

This popular get together
is held every Wednesday afternoon
from
2 - 4 pm
For further details, please contact
Rose on 01480 466487

OVER 60s

Meetings are held on
the first Tuesday of every month

6th December: Christmas tea and entertainment with
John Pilbeam - music and sing-along

January: no meeting , lunch date to be confirmed

7th February: speaker to be confirmed

For details nearer the time please contact

Joan: 01480 497892

Local History Group

To contact the group email Sally Beaman or Cherryl
Frost as below:-

Sally - Email: rsde.beaman@btinternet.com

Tel: 462379

Cherryl: Email: cherryl.frost@hotmail.co.uk

Or visit our website www.hcnhistory.org.uk

ART CLUB

We meet on the second and fourth Fridays of the
month in the Village Hall.

We are a small, friendly group;
if you are interesting in joining us,
please telephone

Paul on 01480 465536

Scribblers Writing Group

normally hold meetings monthly at Needingworth
Village Hall, plus they have a lively poetry group.

For current activities please ring **Helen on 01487
843437** or **Joan on 01840 463966**.

“Bridge Bunch”

We normally meet on a Friday afternoon from 2
pm - 5 pm at my house in the Furlongs. We will
resume meetings when it is safe to do so.

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For more information call

Hannah Dickinson 01480 460132



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“A Great Big Thank You” from the Village Hall Trust as NFEST22 raises vital funds for a more sustainable future”



We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that came to this year's Needingworth Music Festival. From the villagers and those from further afield who enjoyed the two days of music and community spirit, to the record-breaking numbers of partners and volunteers that got involved, it was certainly a fantastic year for NFEST!

Every surplus penny generated goes into maintaining and developing the Village Hall for the community to use all year round. It's also a weekend for our much-loved community partners

– Holywell Community Preschool, the Parish Church of St John the Baptist, the First Needingworth Scouts and Woodgreen Pets Charity – to raise vital funds for their own work whilst making a fantastic contribution to the Festival itself.

Musical Highlights. Every year we try to mix up NFEST a little and keep it fresh – 12 of our 15 acts this year were newcomers. Saturday's musical highlights included Peterborough's amazing *Latino Sound*, Buckden's hard rockers *Junkyard Preachers* and fantastic local tribute act *Totally Floyd*, who nearly caused a riot amongst the audience who wanted them to play on longer!

Sunday's line up was bigger than ever, starting with some wonderful bluegrass before the gorgeous indie folk of *Elizabeth and Jameson* and acoustic hip hop stylings of *Uncle Arthur and the Alleycat*. And of course, we paid tribute to our friend and long-time NFEST organiser Mick Carpenter through the creation of a new 'Mick Carpenter Legends' slot, his old band *Split Whiskers*' amazing headline set on Saturday night and a special Mick-inspired jam session on Sunday.



Our Climate Declaration – reporting back on year 1. You might have noticed that this year we worked hard to bring an extra dimension to NFEST as we focused on ways to make the Festival more sustainable and reduce our environmental footprint. Starting with some of the key elements of our Climate Declaration, we managed to eliminate a huge amount of single use plastic through new reusable pint glasses and installing a water fountain, by scaling up our recycling points and waste sorting activities and by adding vegetarian and vegan options to our on-site catering. We were thrilled that so many Festival-goers embraced and applauded these changes.

Looking to the future – the Village Hall's environmental plans. Next year we will continue to implement the ambitions of our Declaration - and we're delighted that The Trust is getting involved, using some of the funds generated by NFEST this year to invest in its own environmental improvements. Trustees are currently exploring the installation of solar panels on the Hall's roof and wider energy storage options, amongst other ideas.



NFEST23 - As you would expect, plans for NFEST23 are already well underway. We are acting on your feedback and planning to implement a number of further changes, including extending catering options, improving the layout of the marquee to make watching the music more enjoyable and diversifying the line-up of performers. We hope to be able to announce next year's festival dates very soon.

Get Involved! If you have suggestions for NFEST or would like to help deliver the Festival itself please contact us at info@needingworthmusicfestival.com. We have a range of opportunities within the Organising Committee and across the Festival Weekend, and always welcome new energy and ideas.

Photography kindly supplied by Rosie Day, Shaun Pitchers and Andi Mac.



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Remembering your Faithful Friend this Christmas

Christmas may be a time to remember family and friends - but Dogs Trust Snetterton is also asking local dog owners to remember their four-legged friends this festive time, with a *Canine Care Card*.

The *Canine Care Card* is a free service, which helps to ensure your dog's future, in the event of you either passing away, receiving a life-changing diagnosis or moving into a care home. This can often be a great concern to some people, who perhaps do not have a family member or friend in a position to look after their dog, should the worst happen. Therefore, by signing up to the service, Dogs Trust can offer peace of mind, reassuring you that your faithful friend will be well cared for by the charity.

It is easy to sign up to the service, which simply asks for some information on your dog, including their likes and dislikes, as well as your dog's medical history and your vet details. It also asks for you to confirm who you would like as your Dog Guardian. This should be someone you trust, like a friend, family member, solicitor, neighbour or vet, who can sign over ownership of your dog to Dogs Trust on your behalf, should you become seriously ill or pass away.

You can register online by going to www.dogstrust.org.uk and searching for 'Canine Care Card' - or if you do not have access to the internet, you can request a paper version of the application form. Once the form is submitted, Dogs Trust will then write to you, to confirm when your application has been processed.

Once signed up, should your card ever need to be activated, Dogs Trust will then arrange with your Dog Guardian for your dog to come into the rehoming centre or into foster care. With a team of vets, trainers and behaviourists on hand if needed, your dog will then be welcomed, loved and well cared for by the charity, who will work tirelessly to find a loving new home for your much-loved canine companion.

If you would like further information about the *Canine Care Card*, or to request a paper application form, please contact Dogs Trust Snetterton's Supporter Relations Officer, Paige Pope, at paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk or phone 01953 497912.

WORD SEARCH

The Word Search in this issue hides the lords and ladies, pipers and drummers, birds, etc. featured in the traditional English carol, 'The 12 Days of Christmas', along with what they are doing. Can you find all the words (all those in **bold** below)? [Solution on page 27]

A	D	D	R	U	M	M	E	R	S	T	O
M	A	I	D	S	T	C	E	D	U	D	P
P	I	P	I	N	G	A	R	R	S	A	F
G	O	L	D	S	U	L	T	U	L	N	S
N	G	O	K	E	I	L	R	M	K	C	N
I	N	R	E	I	E	I	A	M	J	I	E
M	I	D	A	D	N	N	E	I	E	N	H
M	P	S	O	A	O	G	P	N	S	G	H
I	A	V	K	L	N	B	T	G	E	N	C
W	E	U	L	A	Y	I	N	G	E	I	N
S	L	P	R	Z	M	R	I	N	G	S	E
P	A	R	T	R	I	D	G	E	Y	G	R
X	P	I	P	E	R	S	W	A	N	S	F

The 12 days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me
A **partridge** in a **pear tree**

On the 2nd day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Two **turtle doves**, and a partridge in a pear tree

On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Three **French hens**, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree

On the 4th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Four **calling birds**, three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree

On the 5th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Five **gold rings**, four **calling birds**, three French hens, two turtle doves, and a partridge in a pear tree

On the 5th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
Six **geese a-laying**, five gold rings, four calling birds, etc. etc.

Seven **swans a-swimming**

Eight **maids a-milking**

Nine **ladies dancing**

Ten **lords a-leaping**

Eleven **pipers piping**

Twelve **drummers drumming**

Where in the village

In the last issue of the Villager I asked where in the village is this stone hiding?



ANSWER: It is tucked in the hedge along Mill Lane.



Challenge for this issue; have you noticed this interestingly shaped chimney?
Answer in the March issue.



This traditional English carol certainly dates back to the 18th century and the first known printed version was published in a children's book in 1780. Small variations in wording have taken place since then, however the most popular version quoted here was published in 1909 by Frederic Austin who also popularised the tune which is now standard. Austin was a baritone singer and composer and also a producer of operatic works. His 1909 version of the carol only differs in minor ways from the 1780 version; the word "on" is added to the first line of each round, and in the original carol the present on the 4th say was 'Four colly birds', the word "colly" meaning coal black in certain regions of England.

A number of variants of the song exist including regional variations within the British Isles and even some in other languages, including French versions which are believed to be based on the original traditional English carol. Popular singers have also parodied the carol; for example Andy Williams in 1963 recorded a version that began with "On the first day of Christmas my good friends brought to me A song for the Christmas tree, On the 2nd day of Christmas my good friends brought to me Two candy canes and a song for the Christmas tree," etc.

Although some people have tried to attach religious meaning to the presents included in the song, the consensus of opinion seems to be that, as well as simply being an enjoyable repeating song to sing, it was used to encourage children to develop their ability to memorise a list of items.

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FAREWELL TO SHEILA

In November we said goodbye to Revd Sheila Anthony, who has been our Rector for the past 14 years. Sheila is retiring from full-time parish ministry and moving to Herefordshire. In the years she has been with us she has introduced many family- and child-focused activities, such as Music Makers, Open the Book and Café Sunday, provided wise advice and leadership of the PCC and with the help of our lay ministry team maintained a full schedule of weekly services – not only here but in our two sister churches in Bluntisham and Colne. She received a joyous send-off on 20 November at a special farewell Benefice service and lunch. We wish her every happiness in her new home. Until a new Rector can be appointed our parish will be in 'vacancy'; with the help of local clergy our ministry team will continue to hold all the normal church services and activities in Holywell-cum-Needingworth. For all church matters please contact one of our church-wardens (see contact list on the back page) in the first instance.

SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS

This year we are holding not one but two carol services. Sunday 18 December sees the return of the traditional **Carols by Candlelight**, 6 p.m. at the church (please note that there is no morning service that day). Then on Tuesday 20 December everyone is invited to the playground of Holywell Primary School at 6 p.m. for our outdoor carol service, **Carols by Starlight**, which has proved so popular with families over the last two years. On Saturday 24 December, Christmas Eve we have the **Crib Service** 3 p.m. in the Village Hall and **Midnight Communion**, 11.30 p.m. in the church. Our **Christmas Morning Worship** is at 10 a.m. on Christmas Day. Please note that there will be no Café Sunday on New Year's Day, Sunday 1 January.

We wish all villagers a joyful Christmas and pray for a New Year full of hope and peace in the world.

FUND-RAISING AND EVENTS

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our Harvest Coffee morning in late September; it was lovely to be able to catch up with so many visitors. Due to your gener-

osity, and that of those who purchased the produce after the Harvest Thanksgiving service, we were able to send a substantial donation to St Ives Foodbank and to support the upkeep of our beautiful church building. Special thanks must go to the Burgess Family for their wonderful contribution of a selection of fresh vegetables and fruit.

Many of us enjoyed a highly entertaining concert in October by the Wandering Minstrels – a group of professional singers who performed extracts from Gilbert and Sullivan Operettas. Thank you to all our generous sponsors and to those who attended. Over £1,200 was raised towards our Welcome Space project.

Christmas is fast approaching and with it comes the opportunity to buy our **Christmas Cards** and **Draw tickets**. Local artist Betty Ellis has created a lovely design of the church in snow. Packs of 5 cards (A6 size £4.00 per pack) are available in church and from Wren Cottage Holywell and Chapel House, High Street, Needingworth. The Draw tickets (£1.00 each) are available from Wren Cottage, Chapel House and church members. They will also be available at the village Christmas Fair on 3 December. Prizes include Christmas Hampers, vouchers and other seasonal items. The Draw will take place after our Carols by Candlelight service on Sunday 18 December. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Flowers at this year's Harvest Thanksgiving

Looking ahead to next year, we intend to repeat our successful **Snowdrop Coffee Morning**, to be held in the church on 18 February, when all the snowdrops are out in the churchyard.

WELCOME SPACE

Our project to equip the parish church with modern facilities and open up the space is progressing to consideration by the Diocese. At time of writing; some final details have to be reviewed, including our wish to move towards a zero-carbon status by replacing the oil-fired heating. It is understandable that as we continue with our fund-raising activities people will wonder why nothing visible has happened, but the project is a complex one and any changes to a 1000-year-old listed building have to be planned and assessed in great detail. We hope to have positive news in the new year.

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Needingworth Baptist Church

High Street, Needingworth, PE27 4SB

Contact us –

David Mann – Tel. 300382

Email: david.mann@cantab.net

Website: www.needingworthbaptist.org.uk

Sunday Services

Services are held each Sunday morning in the chapel at 10.30am and on the 4th Sunday of the month we also meet at 6pm. We warmly invite you to join with us.

Not having a pastor at present, we are grateful to visiting preachers for leading our services. Services are recorded and posted on our website on Sunday afternoon for those unable to make the in-person services. You can find the recorded services here:

www.needingworthbaptist.org.uk/recorded-services

Christmas Carol Service

We are very much looking forward to our service of nine lessons and carols on Sunday 18th December at 4pm followed by refreshments. This will be instead of a morning service on that Sunday. Do come and join with us – we are sure it will be a happy occasion as we sing the well-known carols, listen to the familiar Christmas story and praise God for sending the Lord Jesus to be our Saviour and King.

Christmas Day Service

The service on Sunday 25th December will be at 10.30am and you are warmly invited to celebrate Christmas with us on that day. There will be no evening service on Christmas Day.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

This is held every Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm at the chapel and all are welcome.

Coffee club (toddlers and parents/carers)

We are sorry to say that this is currently paused. We hope to restart as soon as we have enough leaders to run it.

If we can be of help to anyone, or pray for you, please feel free to contact us.

Christmas – a gift that lasts for ever

How long do most Christmas gifts last? Do you still remember your gifts from last Christmas?

The true Christmas story that we read in the Bible points to Christmas gifts that last forever. These are truly practical gifts that deal with our past, our present and our future.

A Christmas gift that deals with our past. The angel who appeared to the shepherds at night said “A Saviour has been born to you!” The new baby had come to be a Saviour. He would save those who trust in Him from their sins. In other words, Jesus came to bring us forgiveness. Now, there’s a Christmas gift we could all do with – forgiveness for our past sins and failures!

But not only that – also a Christmas gift that deals with the present. After the angel spoke to the shepherds, we read that “a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests.’” Now, peace in our hearts in this troubled world is not a gift that John Lewis or Amazon wish lists offer! Peace with God and peace for our fears and doubts, whether we live in Ukraine or Needingworth.

And the message to the shepherds was not only of Christmas gifts dealing with the past and the present, but also a Christmas gift for our future. “I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people,” the angel told the shepherds. Good news. Joy. That is to say real hope for the future!

That hope is found in the person of Jesus. He came at the first Christmas – the eternal God taking on human form. He became one of us, so that He could die our death, in our place, bearing our sins and bringing us new life.

Forgiveness, peace and hope. These are the true gifts of Christmas and they are found in Jesus Christ, who was born into the world on the first Christmas Day. And these gifts can be ours today.

The last verse of “O little town of Bethlehem” says this: “O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.”

May we invite you to come to our church to learn about Him, and to come to know Him? You will be very welcome.

YOUNG VILLAGER



One September night earlier in the year, the Rainbow unit took part in a sleepover to remember – at Shepreth Wildlife Park! It began with a special night walk to visit the nocturnal animals, led by the zoo keepers. Dougal particularly enjoyed being amongst the bats as they awoke and swooped around their enclosure! After this, we headed back to the visitor centre where we took part in some fun zoo-based games, had supper and then settled down for the night in our two-person tents.



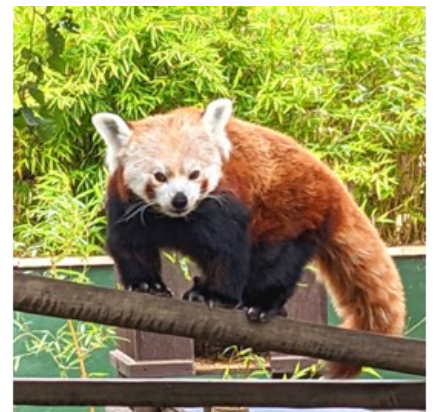
We'd love to hear from you if you're interested in helping with our unit. We're looking for volunteers to assist us run our exciting weekly sessions. If you think you can help and would like to find out more, check out our website:

ggneedingworth.co.uk
or contact Helen at:

Needingworth.Rainbows@yahoo.com

After breakfast the next day, we had our very own private tour of the zoo, where we met and learned about the furry, scaly and feathered inhabitants. We then visited the hedgehog hospital based at Shepreth. The hospital works hard to care for, and rehabilitate, around 500-800 sick and injured hedgehogs every year. After a final walk around the zoo, we had a fantastic time playing in the playground before heading home with lots of exciting memories to share with our families.

The term continued with lots more fun activities including, just before Christmas, joining other Girlguiding units from across Cambridgeshire West at the cinema for an exclusive screening of Matilda the Musical.



The Brownies have been learning to take the lead this term, by having a say about what they would like to do during our sessions. They have been choosing fun activities,

teaching each other new games and deciding which badges they'd like to work towards. As a result, we've focused on our 'Live Smart Level 2 Badge', which has involved learning skills that we need for the future. This included using different kitchen utensils safely to make fajitas, learning about different tools and using hammers and screwdrivers to make some artwork.



ing night walk from Holywell to St Ives (a request from one of the older Brownies). After spotting large numbers of bats, hearing the hooting of owls and identifying Jupiter in the sky, we ended the evening with some tasty hot chips from Eric's.

The second half of term included lots of fun autumnal craft activities and joining Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups from across Cambridgeshire West for an exclusive cinema screening of Matilda the Musical shortly before Christmas.

We also visited Tesco at Bar Hill where we learned money saving shopping tricks, how to prioritise what we need and how to keep to a budget. This included looking carefully at price tags and also at the very top and bottom of the shelves to find those cheaper items. It was quite funny to see the girls initially spending their entire budget on toilet roll! All the groups kept within their very tight budget, and the unit were able to send a good donation of items to St Ives Food Bank.



Interested in volunteering with us? We'd love to hear from you! It's an excellent way to meet new people, gain childcare experience for a future career or to help achieve a Duke of Edinburgh award. If you'd like to find out more about volunteering, either regularly or on an occasional basis, check out our

website: ggneedingworth.co.uk or contact Jules at:
Needingworth.Brownies@yahoo.com or 07597 569582.

Before breaking up for half term, we took part in an excit-



Two Guides and two leaders from Needingworth headed off to Norfolk in August, to join the 'East meets West' camp for Guides and Brownies from all over Cambridgeshire.

We arrived in Coltishall during the heat-wave, and enjoyed an action-packed week, which included paddle boarding, crate stacking, monkey climbing, belly dancing, aikido, night trail, initiative tests, and 26 challenges to do in teams throughout the week. Members of our unit, Anna and Sofia, were teamed up with Guides from Sawtry and Cambridge Guides (they are from the oldest unit in Cambs East) and named their team the High 5s. Dougal joined them and they managed to be declared the overall winners – the team even sang their made-up song to the whole camp on the last night's campfire!



On our first evening back in September, the hall was a hive of activity as cakes were baked and bunting made in preparation for a Macmillan Coffee Evening the following week. Most Guides' families were able to join us for an evening of challenges, games and plenty of delicious rocky road, lemon drizzle, five-a-day muffins and carrot cake. We were delighted to have raised £50 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Our Guiding project for the term involves learning a variety of life skills. We started with a taste test, comparing branded and saver items such as cookies, baked beans and fruit juice. We agreed that some of the supermarket own brands were as good as the well-known brands, and that we may benefit from trying alternatives.

If you'd like to find out more about our Guides unit, check out our website: ggneedingworth.co.uk

Coffee Club

Coffee Club is a group run by Needingworth Baptist Church for Mums, Dads, Childminders and children under 5. Meetings were held on Wednesday mornings during term time from 10.00 to 11.30am at the Baptist Church on High Street, but it is paused for the foreseeable future until there are sufficient members to run it.

For more information, please contact **Sally Beaman**
Tel. **07749 170984**

Email: salbeaman17@gmail.com

Little Tigers

This is a friendly under-5s play group that normally meets on most Monday mornings in term-time, in the village hall. Come along for a cuppa and chat and let your 'little tiger' play with the toys and other children.

Entrance (including refreshments): £2 per family.

For more details contact:

Abi 07824 810532

Join us on our 'Little Tigers' Facebook page.

Music Makers

Great fun for pre-school children and a real opportunity for parents or carers to meet others. Forty-five minutes of music and song, playing instruments and dancing ending with a well-earned rest and a cuppa while the children play with toys. First Thursday of the month, 10 a.m. at the Village Hall.

Entrance £2 (£2.50 for two or more children)

For more details contact:
Carole 07788 925708

Pre-School

If you would like your child to attend the very popular Pre-school, you must register them as soon as possible.

Children can start from 2 years 10 months.

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PARKING AVAILABLE

Scouts

Our Scout section broke up for the summer holidays but has since enjoyed an active Autumn term focused around a recent weekend camp at our Copley District HQ in St Ives. During the camp the Scouts erected their own canvas patrol tents, navigated a 6km night hike, tuned their fire lighting skills, learned pioneering lashings and learnt basic camping skills. The remainder of the term has planned activities including creativity, village remembrance parade, digital maker skills, science activities, navigation and a x-mas party. A big event for the Scout Group was the Hemmingford Fireworks on the 5th November where we sold burgers and hot dogs to raise funds, hope everyone who came along enjoyed the evening.

As I detailed in previous editions of the villager, the Scout section is only one of three sections in the group catering for 10-14yr olds. We are determined to re-open our Cub Pack which caters for 8-10yr olds but we remain short 1 adult volunteer to take an Assistant Leader role, and until we fill this position we can't re-start the pack. Please if you could give a couple of hours a week to join our team and help make this happen it would make a massive difference to the lives of our village children, please e-mail Chris at gslfirstneedingworth@outlook.com.

Andrew Huddleston CMgr MCMI
Scout Leader, 1st Needingworth
M 0784 1129 568 skip1stneedingworth@gmail.com



Our young Scouts learning pioneering, knots and lashings at our Autumn Camp



Some of our older Scouts lit themselves a campfire only using a flint & steel during our Copley Camp.



5 new Scouts invested into the Troop this term, awarded their membership badges and neckers.



Scouts erecting a Friction Bridge during a Troop Meeting



Scouts being taught how to light fires on camp using a flint & steel, including fire safety.



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From our County Councillor

Dear Resident

My last contribution to the Villager was a little arduous with some extracts from the last National Census quoting all sorts of figures that sent many of you asleep! So hopefully this will be a lot lighter.

At the time of writing, our wonderful summer seems a distant memory but in fairness our autumn has been one of the best for many years. I am reasonably certain that the drainage issues within the village have now all been resolved and I thank Anglia Water for the amount of resources they put in, even though we all thought it took longer than we all would have liked to resolve. The footpath issues along Bluntisham Road outside the new developments are still not fully resolved with the developers and the County Council playing 'pass the parcel' making myself, District Councillor Jon Neish and the Parish Council both giddy and frustrated in the process and of course the unfortunate residents who have to negotiate the muddy verge if they wish to walk into the village, who are feeling forgotten, understandably so. Maddening as it is, be assured we are doing all we can to get the matter resolved as quickly as possible.

Buses are another vexing issue within the village and indeed of concern wider afield throughout the county. While bus services and associated subsidies previously came within the remit of the County Council, in recent years the strategic side of bus services came under the direct control of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). It seems the subsidies to the bus operators who service the various routes were either not renewed in time or certain government grants were not applied for in a timely manner and consequently notice was given on certain routes being withdrawn across the county including some key local ones.

When you hear the term the 'council' what does it actually mean? To most and understandably so, it means the organisation that delivers local public services, which over recent years has evolved into a generic body that is responsible for just about everything but does not seem to deliver what the public expects. Among the many we look to for local public services (not including the Health Service) we have a relatively new body called the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority headed up by the elected Mayor who is currently Dr Nic Johnson and has the Leaders of all the District and Unitary Authorities on its board. Who along with Cambridgeshire County Council which is made up of 62 elected County Councillors across

the whole of the County (not including Peterborough) of which I am one, Huntingdonshire District Council and of course your ever dependable Parish Council, along with the Fire Authority and Police Service. Schools are virtually stand alone with the County Council being responsible for some ancillary items such as Transport, Allocations and Special Needs. Each one is charged with delivering specific services, although in many instances they are inextricably linked with another authority discharging their responsibility such as the schools example above and waste collection (district councils) and waste disposal (county council), some aspects of planning (district council and county council in some instances). Confused, I am not surprised, as I still have difficulty in finding my way around an ever changing system, hence what seems to be often unreasonable delays when looking at things from a common sense perspective? It seems this is a commodity (common sense) that is often in short supply, that said I have to say 4 layers of local government is too much and we could easily manage with one layer being removed, like we used to, just a thought !

This is the time of year when councils normally start to prepare their budgets for the following year and invariably we have some idea on what may be proposed. However, at the time of writing there seems to be a lot of uncertainty from central government with regard to public sector pay rises, which play a significant part in any proposed local tax rise and as things stand, I have no idea what will be happening, sorry.

As always if anyone would like me to publish a more in-depth report about any item within the County Council's remit, I am more than happy to do so. As you may know the County Council is responsible for many areas from Adult Social Care to Highways, so if there is something you would like explaining in greater detail and you feel it would interest other readers, please get in touch and I will do my best to publish a concise but interesting overview of the subject requested. Please remember your representatives at all levels County, District and of course your excellent Parish Council work very hard behind the scenes to ensure Needingworth and Holywell remain 'a special place'.



Kevin Reynolds

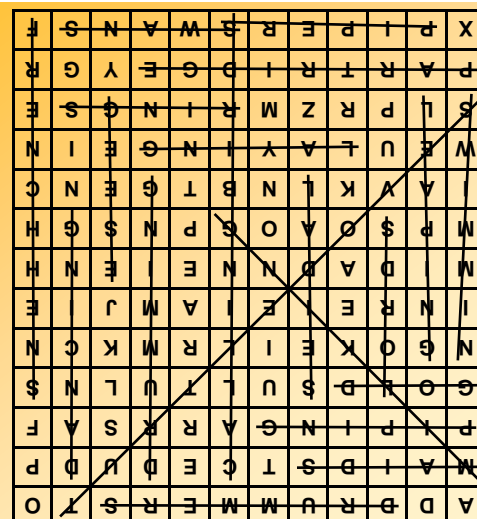
County Councillor Needingworth & St.Ives
kevin.reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Submitted by Richard Ruston

I placed this on our wall on The Front in Holywell as a mark of respect for her Majesty, and it remained in place until the end of the period of mourning for the nation.



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ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)

BELIEVE ON CHRIST. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31)

CONFESS YOUR SINS. "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes to righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation" (Romans 10:9-10)

S. D. A.

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Needingworth Tennis Club



What a Summer we have had! Our courts have been buzzing for most of the year but in the summer in particular the thwack of the tennis ball being hit could be heard most evenings and a lot of the daytime.

It is looking very hopeful that our Mens First team will get promoted to the top tier of the H & P League. The Mens B team missed on promotion and the C team a very noble third. The Mens D Team and the Ladies and mixed teams all prospered well. A special well done to our Super Seniors on storming their league without losing a match!

The Club Tournament saw some new names take the accolades. Chris Moore won the Mens Singles and the Mixed doubles with Sue Pandey. Ian Haigs and Seb Miller won the Mens Doubles. Ladies' singles and doubles are still to be finalised.

The Fast Four league is still thriving and always open to new players. This is a great format not only for testing your ability but also getting to meet new faces Club sessions are in full flow. Wednesday morning 9 until 11 being the most social aimed at those who don't normally play for our teams. Wednesday evening (6:30 until 8:30) and Sunday (10:30 until 12:00) where players of all standards come to mix in.

Our coaching team have a wide range of courses for all levels, please visit our website for details.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Discounted membership is now available until 31/03/23. Juniors pay £15, single membership is £35, couples £52.50 and family membership £65. We are always happy to welcome new members of all abilities. You can book on the website or contact Chris for more details.

PAVILLION

With the club growing in membership and participation and strongly attended by the local community, we are optimistic that we can get things moving on a new pavilion. There is nothing to report at this time but hopefully we will have more to share with you in the next newsletter.

CONTACTS

Chairman - Tim Perry
(07484270975 – timperry100@hotmail.com)

Membership – Debbie Yates
Secretary – Jim Hunter (j.hunter2011@btinternet.com)

Head to our website to find out more information about current club members, upcoming events and tournaments and how you can get involved:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/NeedingworthTennisClub>

Needingworth Karate Club

Contacts:

Sensei Burton 7th Dan – 07770685608

Sensei Morris 2nd Dan – 07917155254
(Sensei_Morris@btinternet.com)



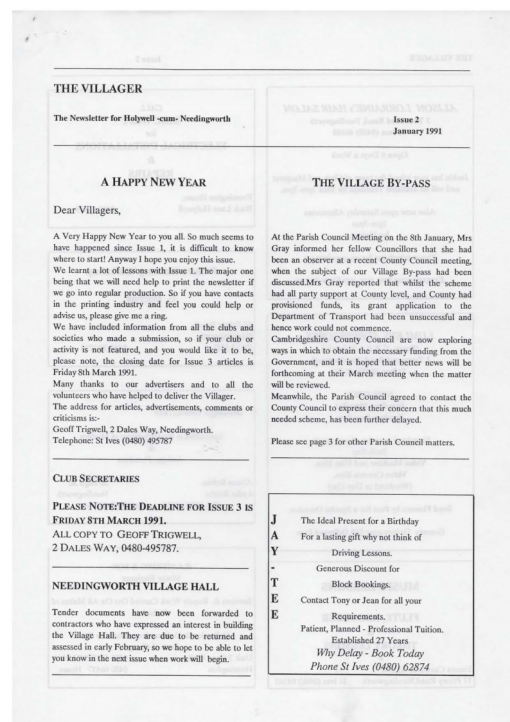
the Villager

The Villager Newsletter was first published in November 1990; issue 2 wished everyone a Happy New Year in January 1991. The archives of the Villager web site

www.needingworthvillager.org.uk

have now been extended to give access to virtually all the issues circulated around the village. If you want to look at any of these, please go to the archive section of the web site from which you can download any issue you are interested in. There are a few issues missing; if anyone has a copy of one of the missing issues, please get in touch with me, the current editor. I would love to make the archive complete. **Jennifer**

Email needingworth@aol.com
or telephone 01480 468952





**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

**Huntingdonshire
Local Group**

Did The Environment Act Change Anything?

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 14th December when we will be pleased to welcome Matt Jackson who is the Conservation Director for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust. In his talk he will update us on the implications of The Environment Act on The Trusts' current conservation work and future plans. As this is Christmas meeting we will also be running a raffle and providing wine and mince pies.

That Sinking Feeling – Huntingdon by the Sea?

Our January meeting is on Wednesday 11th when we will be pleased to welcome Pat Doody who was a leading member of the Local Group Committee until he stepped down in December. He is still our newsletter editor and works independently as an Ecological Consultant. Pat has a wealth of experience in nature conservation, with a particular interest in coastal ecology and this is sure to be a very interesting and informative talk.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Meetings start at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB. Admission charge £3.50. For more information please contact George on 01480 450809 or george.cottam@virginmedia.com.

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Parish Christmas Tree 2022

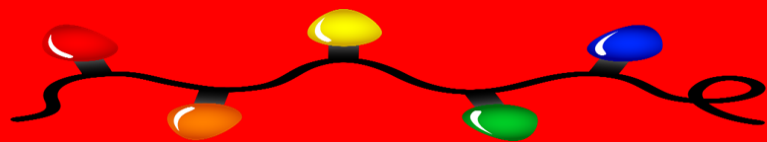
**Friday 9th December
2022 from 6pm. Lights
switch on approx. 6.30pm**



Please join us at the Pond site, between Hawkes Lane and Church Street to enjoy this annual event.

Opportunity to visit Santa in his grotto at the Lock Up on your way to the tree!

Carol singing round the Christmas Tree from 6pm and the Light Switch On at approx. 6.30pm with refreshments available.



Needlingworth Community Pre-school
Invites you to get festive at
Village Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 3rd December 10am to 4pm

Santa's Grotto £5

-Includes individual photo with Santa for each child and a selection of children's arts and craft activities

Face Painting

Teas & Coffees Mulled Wine Minced Pies

Selection of local businesses and craft stalls

Ideal for picking up Christmas gifts and stocking fillers



Bus Times

Dews Service No. 21 (Ramsey—Somersham—St Ives) Monday to Friday

Ramsey, opp. New Road	09:15	15:55
Somersham, nr. Loftsteads	09:38 12:38	16:18
Earith (opp. School Rd.)	09:51 12:51	16:31
NEEDINGWORTH, nr. Church St.	10:05 13:05	16:45
St Ives Morrisons (grounds)	10:09 13:09	16:49
St Ives Bus Station	10:15 13:15	16:55

Service No. 21 (St Ives—Somersham—Ramsey) Monday to Friday

St Ives Bus Station (Bay 2)	12:00 14:00	17:00
St Ives Morrisons (grounds)	12:05 14:05	17:05
NEEDINGWORTH, opp. Church St.	12:13 14:13	17:13
Earith (nr. School Rd.)	12:25 14:25	17:25
Somersham, nr. Loftsteads	12:38 14:38	17:38
Ramsey, opp. New Road	15:02	18:02

WHAT'S ON in the Village

December 2022

- Sat. 3rd Christmas Bazaar, Village Hall, 10am to 4pm
- Mon. 5th WI Christmas party (see page 11)
- Tue. 6th Over 60s Christmas tea and entertainment with John Pilbeam - music and sing-along (see page 13)
- Fri. 9th Christmas Tree Switch on (see page 30)
- Tue. 13th Gardening Club (see page 10)
- Sun. 18th Carols by Candlelight 6pm Parish Church
- Sun. 18th Christmas Carol Service, Needlingworth Baptist Church 4pm followed by refreshments
- Tue. 20th Carols by Starlight 6pm in the playground of Holywell primary School
- Sat. 24th Crib Service, Village Hall 3pm (see page 19)
Midnight Communion 11.30pm in the Parish Church
- Sun. 25th Christmas morning worship 10am in the Parish Church
Christmas Day service 10.30am Baptist Church

January 2023

- Fri. 20th Beer and Wine Society, rhubarb Wine Competition (see page 13)

February 2023

- Sat. 4th Totally Floyd, Village Hall 8pm (see opposite)
- Mon. 6th WI "Desert Island Discs" (see page 11)
- Tue. 7th Over 60s, speaker to be confirmed (see page 13)
- Fri. 10th Beer and Wine Society, Wine Whist (see page 13)

Advance Notice

- Fri. March 3rd Beer and Wine Society AGM
- Sat. 4th March Village Hall Quiz Night (see page 9)

If your organisation would like any future planned events listed here in the next issue of the Villager, to help avoid clashes, please send me details by the next copy date (1st February 2023).

BUS TIMETABLES

Details of the Dews Coaches service no 21 are given on page 30 but we recommend checking the web site www.dews-coaches.com before travelling.

The Stagecoach V3 service had been withdrawn as of 30th October. For Stagecoach services (guided bus) telephone **01223 433 250** or go to web page

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/regional-service-updates/east/cambridgeshire>

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Needingworth - Playing field (Overcote Lane)
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To print a calendar of collection dates go to the following web site, enter your post code and click on your address.

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins>

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GREY BINS (normal waste)

Dec. Thurs. 1st, 15th and 29th

Jan. Thurs. 12th and 26th

Feb. Thurs. 9th and 23rd

GREEN BINS (garden waste)

Dec. Wed. 7th and **Tuesday 20th**

Jan. Wed. 4th and 18th

Feb. Wed. 1st and 15th

BLUE BINS (recycling)

Dec. Thurs. 8th and **Wed. 21st**

Jan. Thurs. 5th and 19th

Feb. Thurs. 2nd and 16th



EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Electricity Power Cuts & Emergencies 0800 316 3105 or 0333 323 2105

Drinking Water - Supplies Failure/routine enquiries (Cambridge Water Co) 01223 706050

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WHO'S WHO

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david.mann@cantab.net

Beavers Chris Huddleston
agslfirstneedingworth@hotmail.com

Beer & Wine Petronella Britton **466239**

Book Club Sue Forrest **464082**
sueforrest65@hotmail.com

Bowls Alan Blackley **464804**
leetheeflee@sky.com

Brownies Julie Swindells **07597 569582**
needingworth.brownies@yahoo.com
https://ggneedingworth.co.uk/brownies/

Chatters Community Cafe
Sue Martin
sue.martin22@btinternet.com

Church
Rector: Revd Sheila Anthony **01487 740456**
sheila@saintintraining.co.uk
Roger Beaman **462379**
rsde.beaman@btinternet.com
Stephen York **465120**
stephenyork@flagholme.net

Cricket Dave Roberts **07800 834780**
davez76@hotmail.com

Cub Scouts Chris Huddleston
agslfirstneedingworth@hotmail.com

Dance Club Rose Killock **466487**

Football Email via web site:
https://needingworthcoltsfc.com/contact/

Gardening Club Grant Williamson **493360**
parkingcare@globalnet.co.uk
www.hcngardening.weebly.com

Good Neighbours Client Contact Team
Helen, Cheryl and Ruth - **07794 680475**

Guides Helen Whitehead **460838**
needingworthguides@yahoo.com
https://ggneedingworth.co.uk/guides/

Holywell School Association
Sally Batsford **493700**

Little Tigers Abi **07824 810532**

Local History Group
Sally Beaman **462379**
rsde.beaman@btinternet.com
History Website: *www.hcnhistory.org.uk*

Neighbourhood Watch
Mike Norris **465997**
michaelnorris852@btinternet.com

Over 60's Rose Killock **466487**

Pre-School Rachael Beeton **01480 464201**
Website: needingworthcommunitypreschool.org.uk

Rainbows Helen Whitehead, **01480 460838**
needingworth.rainbows@yahoo.com
https://ggneedingworth.co.uk/rainbows/

Scouts Andrew Huddleston
skip1stneedingworth@gmail.com

Scribblers Joan Tucker **463966**

Tennis Club Chris Moore **07718 987152**
www.needingworthtennis.co.uk

Hall Trustees Margaret Fountain **496636**

Hall Bookings Eleanor Hardy **07730 504220**
email: hardy.derek@sky.com

Wellworth Players Karen Bays **01480 463505**
Website:www.wellworthplayers.co.uk
mailto:admin@wellworthplayers.co.uk

Women's Institute Carol Peilow **01480 496958**
carolyrrell@btinternet.com

Youth Cricket Stephen Mitcham **301679**

Chairman Parish Council
Cllr Andrew Whyte **464223**

Parish Clerk Jane Bowd **468451**
needingworthpc@btconnect.com
www.holywell-cum-needingworthpc.org.uk

District Jon Neish **466110**

Councillors Mr P Hodgson-Jones **01487 740778**

Post Office **465121**

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