

the Villager

The newsletter of Holywell-cum-Needingworth September 2020



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- Children
- Mediation
- Collaborative law

Contact

LUCY ARDERN

on 01480 456191

Email: lucy.ardern@copleys.net or

PAULA HAMILTON

on 01480 464515

Email: paula.hamilton@copleys.net

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

Autumn Issue, September 2020

EDITORIAL

When I was putting the last edition of the Villager together we had been in 'lockdown' for a couple of months and I had to report that essentially everything was cancelled or postponed. Optimistically I was hoping that by now some of the planned autumn and winter events would be able to go ahead, however, as unfortunately that has not turned out to be the case, again there is no "What's On" section in this issue of the Villager. At least outdoor activities such as tennis and bowls (page 23) or walking in Ouse Fen (page 25) are now possible to enjoy and the Christmas tree lights switch on has not been cancelled (page 7). Some organisations such as the Brownies (page 21) have utilised on-line Zoom meetings to keep their activities going. And the restaurants and pubs are open again, but until we can go shopping or catch a bus without wearing a face mask, things will definitely not feel as though they are back to normal. Until then, I hope all the readers of this newsletter are keeping well and cheerful, and please let me have any stories you would like to include in our next issue, copy date 1st November.

Jennifer

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

Next issue deadline:

1st November for Dec. 2020, Jan. and Feb. 2021

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.

FAMILY

I'm half of this and a bit of the other,
No whole sister or whole brother,
Walk round the garden but my mother you'll not find,
She's gone off with a German and
left us all behind.

My father's going shooting,
There's a gun amongst his tack,
When the war is over
Will he come back?

My sister's really haughty
with her nose up in the air,
My brother's very naughty
but do I really care?

So do not ask me questions,
I will say no more,
We'll all play happy families,
On the past we'll close the door.

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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 Linda Macrae I moved to Needingworth from St Ives in 2003 with my husband and 2 sons, however my husband and I originate from Cumbria. I am pleased to have been re-elected as a Parish Councillor for Holywell-cum-Needingworth for a second term; having recently taken semi-retirement I fill my days by walking with my westie, Radley all around this beautiful village listening to my books. I am a member of the book club the "Readingworths" and we meet once a month in the village pub.



Committees: Discipline & Grievance, HR, Leisure Facilities

Councillor Eda MacPherson I have lived in Needingworth for over 40 years so have been involved with many of the organisations in the village. Many of my earlier years were spent campaigning, fund-raising and eventually acquiring a Village Hall; until recently I was a Trustee. Currently I am an active member of the WI having served a few terms as President and also enjoy many activities as a U3A member. I am a long-standing member of the Parish Council and I am keen to maintain the community feel of the lovely villages in our Parish.



Committees: Discipline & Grievance, HR, Leisure Facilities, Planning & Finance

Councillor Sue Martin I have lived in Needingworth for over 30 years, raised my family here and my parents were also village residents. I have recently retired from the NHS, having worked as a Senior Nurse in both our hospitals and within the local community. Living and working locally, I share many of the concerns regarding the social, economic and environmental challenges faced by residents.



I believe we must involve local people of all ages and backgrounds in the decisions made

which will shape the future of our village.

I am proud to support and represent our local community as a member of the Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council.

Committees: Discipline & Grievance, HR, Environment

Councillor Jon Neish Prior to moving to Needingworth over 24 years ago I served in the Royal Navy and saw action in the Falklands war before joining the Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service and completing 30 years of service. I am married and have two children. I have been a Parish councillor for over 12 years, 3 of which as Chairman. I have just been elected as your District Councillor and hope to further support the Holywell-cum-Needingworth ward in my new role.



Committees: Appeals, Consultation, Environment

Holywell-cum-Needingworth PARISH COUNCIL

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
CLERK		
Miss Jane Bowd	Needingworth Village Hall, Overcote Lane, Needingworth	468451
PARISH COUNCILLORS		
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green	466110
Mr C Pearce	22 Harris Crescent	468759
Mr R Fountain	18 Priory Rd	496636
Mrs L Macrae	7 Silver Lane	462055
Mrs E Macpherson	6 Priory Road	468633
Mrs S Martin	21 Bramley Avenue	494920
Mrs S Mortlock	The Paddocks, Mill Way	462945
Mrs C Norman	42 Harris Crescent	463724
Mr G Norman	42 Harris Crescent	463724
Mr C O'Reilly	26A The Furlongs	492179
Mr A Whyte	23 Bramley Avenue	464223
Mr M Williamson	3 Priory Close	465821
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS		
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green, Needingworth	01480 466110
Mr L Besley	48 The Furlongs, Needingworth	01480 300658
COUNTY COUNCILLORS		
Mr K Reynolds	17 Virginia Way, St Ives	01480 496006
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS		
Sam Reid	07376 056603 www.needingworthvillagehall.com	
MILLFIELDS BOOKINGS		
Miss J Bowd	Needingworth Village Hall	468451

Parish Council Summary Report

Due to the new regulations delaying the April meeting until 17th no meeting was held in May.

The 2nd June meeting was again held virtually via Zoom and opened with Councillor Mortlock being re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council and Councillor Colin Pearce as Vice Chairman.

A resident spoke in public forum expressing concerns about the amount of litter being deposited on Holywell Front and concerns over the lack of social distancing being observed.

When District Councillor Neish appraised members of the work of the District Council including actions as a direct response of the Covid-19 pandemic Councillor Mortlock did request a temporary litter bin for use at Holywell.

Payments payment totalling £8191.55 as at 27th May 2020 were approved.

Amendments to the cemetery regulations were approved before moving onto environmental matters.

A decision was taken to continue to cut the grass on Holywell Front in line with the existing maintenance schedule. Grass cutting of the County and District areas of responsibility had been covered in an earlier item when Councillor Neish explained that Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) are looking to take over some of the areas around the Parish that Cambridgeshire County Council have historically been responsible for.

Despite the pressure on the common land in Holywell as a recreational area during the lock down it was resolved not to fence the common land or erect any more signs.

The members were advised that the grant application to HDC for funds to purchase equipment for the village pantry's use had been successful and a form loan agreement was approved for signing between the two parties.

The Clerk advised members that the Temporary Road Traffic Order for Holywell has been resubmitted and deadline for comments was 4th June 2020. Mem-

bers agreed for previous comments to be resubmitted.

The Chairman thanked the Gardening Club for replanting the boxes at the entrance to the village.

The Clerk reported that the Mick George grant has been successful for the outdoor gym. (See separate article, page 6)

The Vice Chairman Councillor C Pearce chaired the July meeting which opened noting the resignation of Councillor A Holloway. The Chairman thanked Councillor Holloway for all of his work during his time on the Council and asked the Clerk to write to Councillor Holloway on behalf of the Council.

County Councillor K Reynolds addressed the Council expressing his disappointed that the 3rd river crossing has been deemed as no longer appropriate and there will be a strategic study for progressing other improvements to alleviate traffic issues around this area.

The accounts for payment totalling £9,866.72 as at 30th June 2020 were approved.

The accounts for the year ending 31st March 2020 were approved along with the Annual Governance Statement for year ending 31st March 2020

The RoSPA report on the children's play area was noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the cost of installing a second hand gate into the area.

Two planning applications were considered and supported.

The Clerk provided a report on the current situation with Covid-19 and the request from Needingworth Cricket Club to be permitted to hold net practice was approved subject to certain Parish Council conditions in line with government and ECG guidelines.

The Clerk advised that work will be taking place at the Needingworth Water Recycling Centre to increase capacity from July 2020 to November 2020.

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



Holywell Front, August 2020

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Coronavirus support group.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/575337676661203/>

If you need help or assistance during this time please do not hesitate to get in touch.

'the VILLAGER'

Extra copies of this quarterly magazine can be obtained from the editor Jennifer Horn, 16 Willow Green, telephone **468952** or from Roger Beaman, 17 Willow Green, telephone **462379**.

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



the Villager is Printed by Paul Clark Printing Ltd. members of the Carbon Capture Programme, a partnership set up by paper merchants and the Woodland Trust.

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.

Notice of Vacancy in office of Parish Councillor on the Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 that due to the resignation of Cllr A Holloway there is one vacancy on the Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council.

If any member of the Parish would like to be considered for co-optation please contact the Parish Clerk.

Dated: 16th July 2020 Signed Jane Bowd

Parish Clerk

Address: Needingworth Village Hall, Overcote Lane Needingworth PE27 4TU

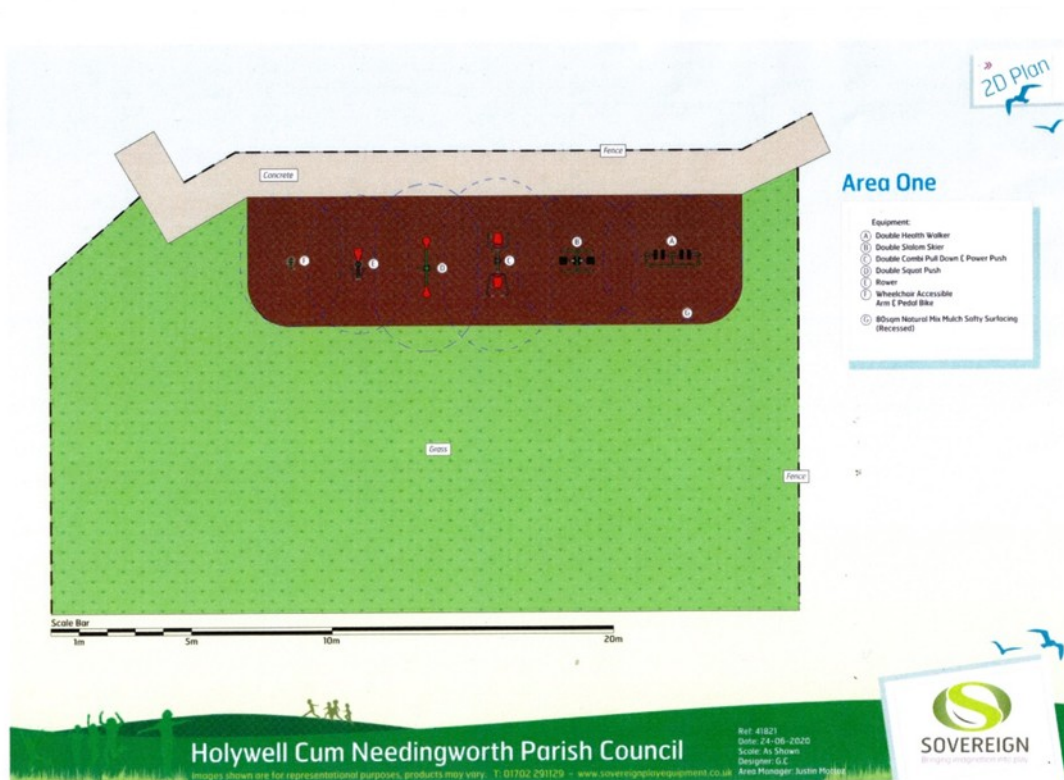
Outdoor gym equipment.

After many months waiting the Parish Council finally received confirmation that the grant application to Mick George community fund had been successful and that £10,000 had been awarded towards the outdoor gym project. The Parish Council agreed to be the third party funder and donated £1150 to the grant funder in order to release the £10,000.

The total cost of the project is **£13,742.47** plus VAT which means that £4892.47 will be paid from the community infrastructure levy funds held by the Parish Council.

A provisional start date for installation of the equipment is 17th August 2020. With the current restrictions on gatherings it is not known at the time of writing if there will be an opening ceremony so please monitor the Parish Council website and Facebook page nearer the time for updates.

This project has been ongoing since 2016 so the Parish Council are delighted that it has now come to fruition and hope that many residents will make use of the facilities once they are ready for use.





Garden Plot Competition

And the winner is.....

Despite there not being an annual show this year the garden plot tenants have been working extremely hard on their plots. The Parish Council therefore decided to go ahead with the annual "best plot" competition which was judged by Councillor Andrew Whyte.

He commented on the excellent high standard and the variety of produce and flowers being grown making his decision that much more difficult.

But, after much deliberation the winner of the best full plot is Mr & Mrs Cousins and best half plot is Mr & Mrs Merritt. Runners up were Mrs C Hanson & Mr S Wootley respectively.

As trophies could not be awarded publically arrangements are being made to deliver them to the winners.

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council

Overcote Lane Play Area

Friday 17th July saw the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor S Mortlock, re-opening the children's play area following several months of it being closed due to Covid -19.

Following Government guidelines the play area was checked, signage displayed and equipment sprayed with disinfectant prior to the re-opening.

Overcote Lane play area was closed in March due to the Covid-19 pandemic. During this period the Parish Council were able to engage Wicksteed to complete the refurbishment of the play area at a cost of £7329.60 which will be paid by the Community Infrastructure Levy funds held by the Parish Council.



Please note when visiting the play area you need to comply with the advice displayed on the signage and play your part in helping to keep the play area Covid-19 secure.

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council



Parish Christmas Tree 2020

Friday 4th December 2020.

Lights switch on approx. 6.45pm

Monitor the Parish Council website and Facebook page for the latest updates.



Who does what and how to report problems?

The Parish Council are receiving an increasing number of calls during the current Covid-19 pandemic relating to social distancing breaches, anti-social behaviour and littering. When asked residents invariably respond that they have not reported the issue as “nothing will happen”.

The bottom line is the Parish Council are not the Police! If the situation is to improve then everyone must get involved in reporting to the correct authority.

Police on 101 Incidents of anti-social behaviour, non-urgent crime or online. Website: www.cambs.police.uk

Huntingdonshire District Council Huntingdonshire District Council is responsible for the following:-

- Waste Collections
- Recycling
- Planning and enforcement
- Recreation on a district basis
- Street cleaning
- Environmental health
- Building control
- Licensing
- Housing
- Elections

The Council Offices are located at:-

Pathfinder House, St Mary's St, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE29 3TN

Tel: **01480 388388** Emergency: Out of Hours **01480 434167**

Website: www.huntsdc.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire County Council The council is responsible for the following:-

- Highways
- Transport (school transport and bus routes)
- Social Services
- Footpaths
- Trading Standards
- Street lighting (with CCC on the column)
- Park and Ride
- Education
- Libraries

The main council offices are located at:-

Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge. CB3 0AP

Tel: **0345 045 5200**

Website: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk



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Tel: 01480 495984, or email us at Darren@ddbhomesolutions.co.uk



Village Hall Report

As everyone will appreciate the last few months have been difficult and disappointing as your local village hub has not been able to fulfil its objectives.

So let us tell you where we are. We have taken endless advices on guidance, procedures, cleanliness etc. primarily from Cambs ACRE, which is part of the National organisation for the management of village halls - both legal and practical aspects. The latter is in addition to Government guidelines.

A few weeks ago we sent questionnaires to the regular users of the village hall asking when they would like to return and use our facilities, bearing in mind of course the current circumstances. Based on all the replies we have received, there was a wide range of interest from September to January next year. However there are sufficient users for us to consider opening in September. This is mainly for smaller groups; at the moment it is not possible to have large functions like parties, band nights, etc. However we will be following events to see when different options may be possible.

Unfortunately there will be additional rules and regulations which may be a fag but it is critical to ensure everyone's safety – I hope you will understand. Each group will be advised of the criteria but let us hope there will be positive changes for the future.

The management team will be assiduous in ensuring cleanliness and appropriate sanitisation, but it will be

incumbent upon the hirers to clean and sanitise all equipment used before leaving. Additional time will be allowed between lettings for the latter.

We look forward to you returning to use the hall:

Please contact Margaret Fountain tel 01480 496636 or email mfountain18@hotmail.co.uk

Please also watch our notice board at the hall and the Villager for an update on matters.

But now some other news; by the time you read this report the Architect should have been appointed by the Parish Council to produce drawings for the construction of the Village Hall extension for a stage and the adjunct Parish Council Office. Hopefully now the project will move forward.

During lockdown we stripped and polished all the floors thanks to Helen Perryman and the pavilion has been re-decorated thanks to Andy Killoran. So when you come back, your village hub will be spick and span.

Lastly all the above requires a lot of work by volunteers and YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU, if you are in a position to help us please contact me.

We are also seeking a Bookings Secretary which is advertised in the magazine.

Hope to see you all shortly, be careful and safe.

Roy Fountain, Trustee

Tel: 01480 496636

roy@rifountain.co.uk

Priority: 5 4 3 2 1

NHS test and trace service



The police been informed of a scam involving the name of the NHS test and trace service. It would appear that an elderly person has received a telephone call purporting to represent NHS test and trace service. The suspect told the person answering the phone, that they had been in contact with someone who had tested positive for COVID-19 and that they needed to be tested within 72 hours. The caller then said there was a charge of £50 for the test and took bank card details over the phone.

Any test under the NHS Test and Trace service is free.

The following is an extract from the official government website www.gov.uk and explains how the NHS test and trace service contact people.

Contact tracers will:

call you from; 0300 013 5000

- send you text messages from 'NHStracing'
- ask you to sign into the NHS test and trace contact-tracing website
- ask for your full name and date of birth to confirm your identity, and postcode to offer support while self-isolating
- ask about the coronavirus symptoms you have been experiencing
- ask you to provide the name, telephone number and/or email address of anyone you have had close contact with in the 2 days prior to your symptoms starting
- ask if anyone you have been in contact with is under 18 or lives outside of England

Contact tracers will never:

- ask you to dial a premium rate number to speak to us (for example, those starting 09 or 087)

- ask you to make any form of payment or purchase a product or any kind
- ask for any details about your bank account
- ask for your social media identities or login details, or those of your contacts
- ask you for any passwords or PINs, or ask you to set up any passwords or PINs over the phone
- disclose any of your personal or medical information to your contacts
- provide medical advice on the treatment of any potential coronavirus symptoms
- ask you to download any software to your PC or ask you to hand over control of your PC, smartphone or tablet to anyone else
- ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or NHS.

Please remember, criminals can spoof their telephone number, which means they can make the number or name displayed on your phone look genuine.

STOP - Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

CHALLENGE - Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

PROTECT - Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

For further information about NHS Test and Trace visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

For further information about Coronavirus/COVID-19 scams visit www.actionfraud.police.uk/covid19 and www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Looking back over the past few months it is amazing how our Village has pulled together to support each other during this strange and trying time. The WI ladies like everyone else have found ways to cope and keep busy. Thank goodness the weather overall has been kind, this has meant working in and enjoying the garden has been a great solace to many. We have been supporting each other with telephone calls, and social distance visiting, and where possible shopping and caring for neighbours. A group of members started a Health Club and only managed one face to face meeting before Lockdown but they carried on regardless, weighing themselves at home every Thursday morning and reporting gain or loss. It has really worked without starving themselves, in fact quite the opposite and amazingly, all have done really well. Completely bucked the trend of piling on the weight while



stuck indoors. The conclusion we have come to is that the discipline of weighing once a week and reporting the result made us all more conscious of what we are putting into our bodies without depriving ourselves of treats. So a very happy little group.

For the Church Well Dressing Event, some of us made cakes, and had a socially distanced catch up there whilst enjoying the display, and of course buying a cake.

Online Bridge is being played and enjoyed by some of our members, and another member has written down her childhood memories for her grandchildren, such a lovely idea.

Our Crafters have been busy knitting, crocheting, patch-working various projects to keep busy. Crochet Smiles have been sold around the village, at £1.00 each, people have put them in their windows to raise a smile. Some of us have been making Face Masks, (3 layers lined with a non-woven interfacing), we have two styles, lots of fun fabrics, and we are selling them for £4.00 each, with all proceeds to the NHS. Having worked tirelessly I am pleased to advise Pam Longland and I have recently presented a cheque for £1000 to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, they will be using the money for the new Children's ED Department and £500 to the Arthur Rank Hospice. We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone who has purchased a



Mask or a Smile. We are still making them, so if you are interested please get in touch, we are currently, steadily working our way to another £500 for the Hospital.

Jackie Norris,
President 01480 465997



PUZZLE CORNER

Word Search

Is your street name represented in this word search? There are 14 Needingworth or Holywell street names hidden in the square, running horizontally, vertically or diagonally, forwards or backwards - 'road', 'street', 'lane' etc. have been omitted. Here are some clues as to which are included:

- 3 religious buildings
- a tree
- a precious metal
- 3 buildings with agricultural connections
- an eel
- a part of the body
- 2 nearby villages
- 2 landscapes

Answers on page 12

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



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Keep caring - Coronavirus hasn't gone away

while lockdown restrictions are gradually being

lifted – everyone needs to take action to help us all return to a more normal life. But, the most important thing we can continue to do is to stay alert, control the virus, and, in doing so, keep people safe and help save lives.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is getting behind the local #KeepCaring campaign led by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, and supported by partners. The campaign outlines ways that people can take care of themselves and each other, to help control the spread of coronavirus.

Here are some ways you can keep caring:

- Caring is keeping your distance - inside or outside

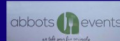
Staycations are the new normal at the moment so why not book a night or two with your loved one or family in one of our boutique hotel rooms? We have 13 hotel rooms some based inside and others outside to cater for everyone's requirements for the perfect getaway.



Sunday lunches are back!
We are doing food from our kitchen every Sunday & Monday.
Booking is definitely recommended

**FOOD SERVED EVERY
SUNDAY 12PM - 4PM
MONDAY 6PM - 8PM**

Alongside this we are working with Abbot Events who are down here every Tues - Sat 12pm - 8pm and Sun 12pm - 5pm serving a great selection of takeaway meals to enjoy here or take home with you.



Got a big event planned when this is all over? Or maybe you've even had to cancel your wedding? We've got out permanent marquee with a capacity of 400 people that is the perfect setting for any special occasion.



- Caring is being responsible - staying isolated if you think you've got symptoms, or been close to someone who has
- Caring is covering your face - even with no symptoms you might still spread virus
- Caring is washing your hands - regularly, when you enter or leave a new place.

We're also asking residents to keep caring by being fire safe at home, and on the roads when out and about:

- Caring is testing your smoke alarm – and reminding your loved ones to do the same.
- Caring is being careful in the kitchen – not getting distracted while you're cooking and keeping items well away from the hob.
- Caring is discarding your cigarettes responsibly – so you don't accidentally start a fire

- Caring is not having a bonfire – that could easily get out of control, putting you and others at risk.

- Caring is being a considerate driver – driving at the appropriate speed, not drinking or taking drugs if getting behind the wheel, making sure you and your passengers are wearing seatbelts and not using your phone while driving.

Help us help you, and keep caring.

Comprehensive advice on current government rules is available on the gov.uk website.

ANSWERS to WORD SEARCH

PARK	MILL
DALES	MALTINGS
SOMERSHAM	SILVER
BLUNTISHAM	WILLOW
BACK	PRIORITY
CONGER	CHURCH
OLD FARM	CHAPEL

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

Beer and Wine Society

We are still not holding our meetings except on Zoom when we at least can chat for a while. I would like to remind all members and anyone who makes wines that the three competitions for this year are Elderberry, Tinned peaches and Tree fruit. These will be judged in the New Year. Those who have not yet joined the club could make wine from any of the above. You could bring them along to one of our meetings and we could judge your wine and you could judge ours.

Here is a recipe for making a liqueur for Christmas. What you need is a large jug and the following ingredients: 2/3 bottle of cheap red or white wine, 4 fluid ozs vodka, 4 ozs castor sugar, 2tblsp glycerine, 1 bottle of liqueur flavouring of choice, and a few drops of capsicum. Put the wine, sugar and vodka into the jug and stir well until sugar is dissolved; add the glycerine or more can be added if needed. Add the flavouring which is very strong a few drops at a time tasting in between tastings until you are satisfied with taste. Adding a few drops of capsicum gives it the bite. Bottle it and put it away ready for Christmas, if you can leave it that long. Have fun.

We can be contacted SANDRA ON 01487825669 OR MYSELF ON 01480466239

Pat Britton

The Wellworth Players

Wellworth Players regret to announce that the October 2020 production will unfortunately have to be cancelled, like so many other live performances, as a result of the many restrictions that have been placed on us due to COVID-19. We hope to be able to invite audiences back to Needingworth Village Hall for our next pantomime, in February 2021, and wish you all good health and hope that you stay safe in the meantime. As a reminder of one of our productions from last year, the photograph below shows a scene from our October play.



Note - Christmas Bazaar

It was Needingworth Rainbows/ Brownies / Guides turn to co-ordinate the Bazaar this December - it does not look like it can go ahead in its usual format. For this year it will be cancelled.

DANCE CLUB

in normal times
Every Wednesday
2 - 4 pm

and one Saturday Evening
per month
WITH BUFFET

CONTACT
Rose 01480 466487

Hope to be able to resume soon

OVER 60s

The Over 60s club normally meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month from 2pm to 4pm

Meetings will recommence when it is safe to do so

Contact

Rose: 01480 466487

or Joan: 01480 497892

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.

We play the Benjii Accol system; we are a small friendly group and would welcome some new members.

For more information call **Hannah Dickinson**
01480 460132

Holywell-cum-Needingworth

Local History Group

Little did we realise that the lockdown would extend this far! We have not met as a group during this time and the information given has not always been clear. And being honest, our individual ideas of 'getting on with projects' has not been as productive as we would like! We are blessed with accessible countryside and with the good weather; personally, walking and gardening have taken priority!

At the moment there are no meetings planned for October or December, but we will keep you informed via the website

as to any forthcoming happenings. Please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

In normal times everyone is welcome to our very informal meetings usually held the 2nd Monday of each month, beginning at 7.30pm!

If you would like more information,

Contact:

Sally Beaman -

rsde.beaman@btinternet.com ; Tel: 462379

Cherryl Frost - cherryl.frost@hotmail.co.uk

Or visit our website www.hcnhistory.org.uk

Did you miss the Annual Village Show?

Like so many aspects of our life under the Covid virus threat, the Gardening Club had no option than to cancel the Annual Village Show which should have been held on 1st August.

The Show had been held for over 100 years in our village and it is such a shame that we were not able to maintain this proud record and hold this wonderful traditional show that is so popular for residents and exhibitors alike.

There are so many organisations in our village that have been so disrupted by the need to social distance and avoid large gatherings and the Gardening Club is one. Our meetings attract up to 100 members each month and act as a great social and informative platform for so many people. The consequences of having to miss this social interaction are very difficult for those people in our village who rely on such meetings for their friendship and sense of community.



There will be much ground to make up once we can begin to address opening up to some form of normality once more. I am sure that we, along with many other village organisations, will face a hesitant start back to full performance.

It is such a pity that the village has once again shown the huge number of wonderful gardens and displays of colourful plants when there has been reduced mobility around the village for people to witness this annual treat.

The plants, grass and weeds have continued unabated requiring the extra time and input that lockdown has provided for many reluctant gardeners. Lawns have been mown to an inch of their lives and there are certainly signs of over enthusiastic pruning and cutting back taking place in our own garden.

The hedgerows and wild flower areas of the village have benefitted from the reduction in traffic and have been resplendent. I have an area in our garden that has been filled with a

whole range of new wild flowers and it has been a treat to see the bees and insects visiting these every day.

In order to keep our large membership informed and in touch we have been sending out a communication each week or so. David Gedye, our vice chairman, has been sending out an excellent blog about the events in his large and well stocked garden and I have been including information from gardens of various members as well as interesting websites etc for those keen gardeners in our club. This effort has been much appreciated by the membership.

As we begin to think about making possible arrangements to restart the clubs activities at some stage and in some form we need to have a committee meeting to discuss this and must



face the inevitable problem of holding such a meeting using Zoom. This will be a whole new challenge for manyme included.

We look forward to welcoming you to the gardening Club when it reopens.

Grant Williamson, Chairman



News from our County Councillor

Hello and I hope you are managing to keep yourself well during these very extraordinary times we now live in. While the future is uncertain, you should be aware and relieved that the dangers we face are reduced and controlled by the local councils that serve you. The Parish, District and County Council, while all having different roles and responsibilities work tirelessly and quietly behind the scenes to ensure that this beautiful part of the country remains safe and a place we are proud of.



Every level of both local government and our supporting service's Fire, Police, etc remain accountable and efficient and while we do make mistakes and sometimes get things wrong, it is not only the best form of democracy developed over hundreds of years but also offers a degree of comfort when you look at what is happening elsewhere in the world, it is not perfect but I for one think it serves us well.

It has been well reported that we face tough times ahead from an economic perspective with public services expected to take the brunt of cost reduction measures in the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Assessment, a familiar and most unwelcome prospect for your local councils and emergency services who already deliver essential services in a very lean and effective manner. It is within our culture to continually look for new ways in delivering and improving upon the services that you rightly demand and expect. I think we have all got used to the changes and understand the old way of doing things can no longer apply and Cambridgeshire as a whole has been at the vanguard by necessity, even though there is this perception both in central government and wider afield that we are wealthy county. This is way off the mark as we do suffer from areas of deprivation and our support services (Social Services) struggle to keep up with the demands of an aging and growing population, this is nothing new and we are used to continually look for innovation and economies while keeping our eye on the quality of the service we deliver. Sounds great, but in reality you will notice small changes, some would say insignificant such as grass cutting frequency or road gritting frequency, while more substantial savings have been achieved by selling Shire Hall and moving our

admin base to the centre of the county (Alconbury), which should be complete by Summer of 2021.

At the time of writing this there is a great debate about getting homeworkers back to work in their offices because the government are worried about subsidiary businesses such as coffee and sandwich shops. Well if anything has been learned from this unfortunate and unwelcome 'lock down', is that business and commerce can not only survive but thrive on their employees working from home, productivity is up as almost without exception people tend to do more but even more importantly precious time is not lost on travel not to mention associated costs and the environmental benefits, no doubt you will have noticed the difference? Technology moves ahead in leaps and bounds and it would be wrong for public services as well as commerce not to take full advantage of new ways of working.

I know many of you take a keen interest in the Fire Service and the recent shenanigans with the previous Police and Crime Commissioner on his bid to remove the governance and accountability of the Fire Authority through your local councillors to be part of his larger empire! We have recently received a letter from the minister Kit Malthouse who has agreed to a pause and review of the whole concept and no changes and / or implementation will happen until the new Police and Crime Commissioner is in place post May 2021 and then it will be up to him or her to decide how things proceed or not.

As always if anyone would like me to publish a more in-depth report about any item within the County Councils remit, I am more than happy to do so. As you may know the County Council is responsible for many areas from Adult, Children Care, Public Health 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 hopefully 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 remains 'a special place'.

Kevin Reynolds

County Councillor Needingworth, Holywell & St.Ives

kevin.reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Hello from everyone at Chatters Café. We hope you are all well, keeping safe and enjoying the sunshine. We are all missing our time at the café and our customers lots. We hope to reopen when it is safe for volunteers and customers alike and we look forward to enjoying some delicious homemade cake and snacks with you. Take care.

Love Becci and the Chatters Team xx'



Just for fun ...

Where in Needingworth was this photograph taken?

(Answer in the next issue of the Villager)

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St John-the-Baptist Parish Church, Holywell-cum- Needingworth

www.meridianbenefice.org.uk

First of all, we'd like to thank everyone in our wonderful community for their kind support of our Patronal Festival and Well-dressing in June. We greatly appreciated the donations of plants and cakes, with special gratitude to the Gardening Club and WI respectively, and to everyone else who so generously contributed in many ways (including the use of 'the Loos!'). It was lovely to see so many people buying and viewing the floral decorations and 'Thank-Yous' on the railings. We'd also like to give a special 'shout out' to Debbs and everyone at the Village Pantry for their generous support to the 'Cream Tea' on Sunday. 'Well done' to all the households who took part in the 'At Home' Well Dressing – images of your amazing displays will be on display in the church once we are able to open again. A total of £760.00 was raised. We look forward to a traditional well-dressing and big celebration next year!



This year's well-dressing and Patronal Festival theme was a thanksgiving for the Covid-19 heroes.

While the lockdown continues, we are keeping St John the Baptist church closed to the public, but individuals or household groups who wish to come in for private prayer can do so. Simply call the Rector, Revd Sheila Anthony, on 07775 588716 saying what day and time you would like to come to the church. Then a member of the church team will be there to let you in and lock up again after you have left. Hand sanitiser will be available on entering and leaving.

Unfortunately we have ruled out the possibility of holding Sunday services in our parish church for the time being, because of the problems involved with social distancing, but this will be reviewed at the end of August; any change then will be publicised in *The Herald*, on our website and on Facebook. In the meantime, services are being held once again in our sister church, St Mary's, in Bluntisham, at 11 a.m. every Sunday. The size of the church and separate chairs for seating at the correct distance mean that health and safety regulations can be met (please bring a facemask). Everyone from Holywell-cum-Needingworth is very welcome to come and join worshippers from the other villages in the Benefice.



Reminders of past well-dressings at this year's Patronal Festival

In these uncertain times our fund-raising activities are rather curtailed, but we do hope to have a Harvest event in September, whether or not we will be holding a Harvest Festival service by then. As always at Harvest, proceeds from this will be donated to an appropriate charity. We are all praying that by December the situation will allow us to hold our Carols by Candlelight service at Holywell; in any event, those two stalwart fund-raisers, the church Christmas card and the Grand Christmas Draw, are already being planned – more details to come, through the usual channels.

We hope everyone in Holywell-cum-Needingworth will join us in our prayers for a lessening of the threat from Covid-19 and for the safety and wellbeing of our residents, as well as giving thanks for the fantastic community spirit that this emergency has brought out.

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 4:6-7)



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Needingworth Baptist Church

High Street, Needingworth
Elder – David Mann

Corona Virus “Lockdown” – our current situation

The government have allowed churches to start meeting again under very strict guidelines. We have studied these carefully, but do not think that we are yet able to hold meetings in the chapel, given the layout of our church building and the need for “social distancing.” We are keeping this under review as clearly our real desire is to be able to meet together to worship God and share fellowship with one another. We will post notices as soon as things change.

On-line services

We continue to put a weekly service on YouTube. Just search for Needingworth Baptist Church in YouTube and you will find us. The service is in audio only. In order to follow the hymns and children’s talk you need the Order of Service. If you send me an email (david.mann@cantab.net) I will gladly add you to the list of those who receive the Order of Service by email each week.

Sunday school

Currently this is being held for our children each Sunday morning on Skype. Please email or phone us to have details.

Website

We are also currently rebuilding our website, which was taken down when our web host closed. Do visit it! You should be able to access our YouTube services, our weekly sermons and other information through this site: www.needingworthbaptist.org.uk

Our “normal” programme when Corona virus restrictions are lifted is as follows:

Sunday – services at 10.30am and 6.00pm. Sunday school during the morning service

Coffee Club

Three months ago I naively thought we would be over the worst of the Coronavirus pandemic by September. But instead children have been getting to know a new ‘normal’, which doesn’t involve meeting up in a small hall, playing with a variety of toys and singing!

So I’m sorry to say Coffee Club will not re-open in September. Young children may be deemed ‘safe’ but many adults are vulnerable and we don’t want to come this far through lockdown for a spike to happen in Needingworth.

When, God willing, we do meet up again it will be with a

Tuesday – fellowship, Bible study and prayer at 7.45pm

Wednesday – Coffee Club for preschool children with parents/carers from 10.00-11.30am

Second Thursday each month – “Tea and Time to Think” – a time of friendship and a brief word from the Bible for friends and seniors at 29 Priory Road from 2.30-4.00pm

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

* * * * *

Amazing Grace!

Needingworth Baptist Church is a Grace Baptist Church and a member of the Association of Grace Baptist Churches of West Anglia. So does that mean anything, or is it just a nice-sounding name? Many people think that a Christian is someone who tries to do his best for God – going to church, being kind to others and so on – and that God will reward him with a place in heaven because of his efforts. But they are mistaken, for the Bible teaches that we are sinners, whose best efforts can never make up for our sin. We need a Saviour to rescue us. And that is why Jesus came. He died to pay for the pardon of our sins. That shows just how bad our sins are. We can never do enough to merit that pardon. Forgiveness, salvation, a place in heaven – are only ours by grace. That means they come from a gift which is entirely undeserved. When Jesus died on the cross He paid the debt of our sins. We do not contribute to that payment by our efforts. We simply trust in what Jesus has done. And even that trust, or faith, is not something we can do ourselves – it is all a gift from God. Hence the words of the hymn: “Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling. Naked, come to Thee for dress. Helpless look to Thee for grace.” No wonder John Newton, who was rescued by God from being a slave trader, could write: “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.” Needingworth (Grace) Baptist Church is a bunch of sinners who have found the grace of God in Jesus Christ, and who therefore long to make this message of Jesus known. Please visit us – online or on the phone for now – if you would like to know more.

Contact us –

David Mann – Tel. **300382** Email: david.mann@cantab.net
www.needingworthbaptist.org.uk

giant birthday party with Freddo Frogs for all the birthdays we have missed!

We do miss you all and pray for you all and hope you have all found ways of keeping in touch safely.

Please use the contacts below if you would like to chat – it would be lovely to hear from you

God Bless and Love

The Coffee Club Team --

Sally - Tel: 462379; Mob – 07749 170984

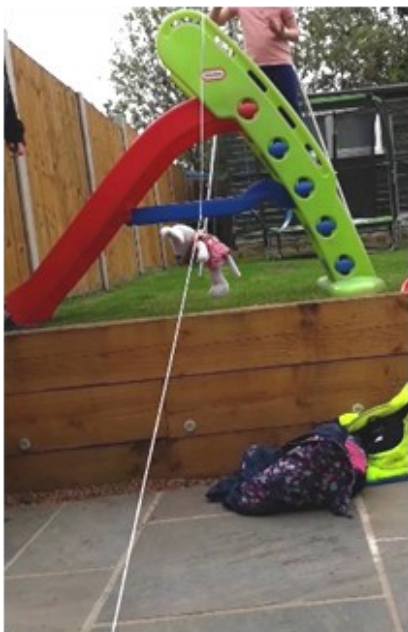
Sarah - 462396



1st Needingworth Rainbows

In the Summer term, we have continued to hold our meetings online, with the Rainbows working on a range of badges and activities.

Some of the activities have been towards special challenge badges such as the Coronavirus Isolation badge which involved making yummy cakes and 3D models that looked like the Coronavirus. Many of the Rainbows have chosen interest badges to work on at home independently and lots of Rainbows have been trying activities that were just for fun such as making a zip wire for a teddy bear!



One of the most popular activities this term was taking part in Girlguiding's Adventures from Home festival where Rainbows and Girlguiding units from around the UK took part in fun activities together including making dens, camp fires and learning new camp songs.

We know that our activities are being enjoyed by all ages so we have now put all our activities on the 'Virtual Meetings' page of our website, (<https://1stneedingworth.wixsite.com/rainbows/virtual-meetings>) so that whether you are a Rainbow, are thinking of becoming a Rainbow or would just like something fun to do, they are available for you!

If your daughter is interested in joining us, either now or in the future, please get in touch. For girls who are aged 5, we currently have spaces available, contact us at Needingworth.Rainbows@yahoo.com or Helen on 01480 460838. Check out our website at: <https://1stneedingworth.wixsite.com/rainbows>



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Be water aware

While the sun is shining, it might be tempting to cool down with a dip in local rivers, canals, quarries or lakes. But think twice before you do. There can be hidden dangers beneath the surface that can have deadly consequences.

Every year firefighters are called to incidents where people, both adults and children, get into difficulty when taking a dip in open water.

The water may look calm on the surface, but there may still be strong undercurrents, especially near locks, that could pull even the strongest swimmer under. There can also be rubbish, like shopping trolleys and rubble hidden beneath the murky water that you could become trapped in. There is often broken glass on the river bed and cuts from this can sometimes lead to deadly infections.

The water may feel relatively warm on the surface, but just a few inches below can be icy cold, even on hot days. This can cause panic and 'cold water shock', meaning the water can be so cold it takes your breath away and makes swimming extremely difficult.

If you find yourself in cold water do not panic, float on your back. If you float on your back and don't struggle, your clothes will have some air in them that will help you float more easily. After 60 to 90 seconds the cold water shock will pass and you will be able to breath normally again so

that you can swim to safety.

We are urging people to be aware of these dangers when around open water and for parents to have this conversation with their children.

If you see someone in trouble in water:

- Do not hesitate - call 999 immediately with clear details of your location. Request fire service if inland.
- Try to reach out to them with a stick or belt, keeping low so you do not get pulled into the water yourself.
- Send someone to the nearest road to flag down the emergency services when they arrive and direct them to the incident.
- Find the nearest life ring and throw it to the person. If a life ring is not available, throw in anything that could help them float.
- If someone goes under the water, mark on the water's edge the place they were last seen with something like a piece of clothing.

Download the free what3words app (see opposite) so that emergency services can help pin point your location in hard to find areas.



1st Needingworth Brownies

Over the past few months, we have continued working on a range of badges

and activities including a Google badge and Daring Book for Girls challenge. As we have had a fantastic response to these activities, we have put all our activities on the 'Virtual Meetings' page of our website, (<https://1stneedingworth.wixsite.com/brownies/virtual-meetings>) so that they are easily accessible for all. These activities can be adapted for many different ages and are also a good way to get a feel for what we do in Brownies.

The highlight of the term has been holding a Virtual Harry Potter sleepover. As the Harry Potter pack holiday we had booked for May had to



be cancelled due to the Coronavirus, the leaders decided to hold a sleepover with each Brownie logging in to take part from their own homes. Lots of us dressed up in costumes and we connected with different activities across the day using Zoom. The girls and leaders then slept in incredible homemade Harry Potter dens. The Brownies' favourite activity was making magical chocolate cake in a mug!



Our lovely unit is currently at capacity, but we do have a waiting list in place for girls who are interested in joining us. For more information please contact Julie at

Needingworth.Brownies@yahoo.com
or **07597 569582**. Check out our website at:
<https://1stneedingworth.wixsite.com/brownies>



Passionate about the Power of Play

Needingworth Community

Pre-school have a new website that is now up and running
<http://www.needingworthcommunitypreschool.org.uk/>

Rachael Beeton,
Needingworth Community Preschool Chair



CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

How what3words can help 999 #KnowExactlyWhere

what3words has helped to locate nearly 4,000 incidents since it first started being used by emergency services. It has given every 3m square in the world a unique identifier made of 3 words - making the location of any emergency very easy to describe and share. For example /// tortoises.swarm.announce will take you to a precise location on Ben Nevis where, in February 2020, a group of hikers were rescued.

To locate, search or navigate to a what3words address, all you need is the free app. Make sure you have it downloaded on your device and know how to use it, to help save time, resource and lives.

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.

For a registration form, or any other information, either see one of the staff in the pre-school room, or contact

Rachael Beeton

01480 464201 or 07584047390

Coffee Club

Coffee Club is a group run by Needingworth Baptist Church for Mums, Dads, Childminders and children under 5. We normally meet on Wednesday mornings during term time from 10.00 to 11.30am at the Baptist Church on High Street but whilst Covid 19 is affecting everyone, see note on page 18.

All are welcome for, songs, stories, activities and refreshments, as well as playing.

Cost £1/adult – children go free!

Sarah Wordingham - 462396



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:

**Sara Clarke on
07894 884621**

Join us on our 'Little Tigers' Facebook page.

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* Terms & conditions apply, hose down several times per year.
† Terms & conditions apply, see website for details.



HOLYWELL-CUM-NEEDINGWORTH BOWLS CLUB

Once again, we find ourselves in new surroundings. The new season began, or rather it didn't, with us in lock down with little prospect of any kind of competitive bowling for 2020.

However, the situation has changed for the better, although not completely, as we all recognise from every other year. At least we are able to get onto our green, which is looking better than ever this year, and enjoy the feeling of getting out again and seeing some of our members who are able to mix and play whilst ensuring that we comply with the government regulations which keep us safe.

Although we are able to play some kind of friendly games with other members of the club, it is not the same for many who crave competition. Whilst other members still feel unsafe and see playing as a risk, although very small, and would rather wait for less turbulent times and wait for a vaccine.

Everyone has to make up their own mind as to how and when they return to the club but those of us who have got back can see just how the measures taken allows for as safe a position as possible, with Frank Johnson, our chairman and green-keeper, cleaning all used equipment every morning ensuring that we can be sure that nothing has been missed. The clubhouse remains closed for everything except picking up cleaned equipment and toilets. Other sheds and changing rooms remain closed and everyone brings along their own bowls and shoes with only mats and jacks being used as provided by the club.

However, allowing for all this, the green has seen many members both old and new coming along and enjoying bowling again and with so much early sunshine at least for a while it is lovely to feel normal again.

The club has not taken subscriptions for this year and has asked only for contributions towards the running of the club. We have also been fortunate enough to have secured a grant from the government, thanks to our treasurer Terry Parietti, and the club remains in a great financial position despite having to cancel many functions which would have raised revenue.

So, anyone wanting to come along but are worried about the safety aspect, please contact any one of the committee or just organise something with other members. Any change in the position will be sent out by Alan Blackley, our secretary, and please keep safe. Even if we don't see you this year, I am certain that next year will be better, and remember Captain Tom, "Tomorrow will be a good day".

Contacts for the club are:-

*June Parietti (President) 01480 464011;
Alan Blackley (Secretary) 01480 464804;
Terry Parietti (Treasurer) 01480 464011;
Frank Johnson (Chairman) 01480 46841*



Needingworth Tennis Club

13th May we got the news we were hoping for – Tennis Clubs could re-open, since then we have seen things gradually change and now we can offer Social Tennis. Wednesday morning and evening as well as Sunday mornings are once again open for members to come and join in and meet other members (Social distancing rules apply)

Fast 4 league has hit new highs and now have 5 leagues allowing all levels of play.

Great to see that Covid regulations allow the annual tournament. This will be played in August and September good luck to all. Please visit the website for more information for men's and ladies, singles and doubles as well as reintroduction of the junior tournament.

Once again a big thank you to those members who have worked hard on the maintenance keeping subscriptions low.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Annual Membership is still the cheapest in Cambridgeshire. Juniors pay £30, Single membership is £65, Couples £85 and family membership only £120. We are always happy to welcome new members of all abilities. If interested come to join us at a club sessions details are on our website.

We have a Club coach who is happy to do individual or small group coaching and we can't wait to start the Junior coaching sessions on a Wednesday afternoon, once the restrictions are lifted. You can contact John at john.fabisz@sky.com or 07887 887319.

CONTACTS

Chairman - Tim Perry
(496918 – timperry100@hotmail.com)
Membership - Chris Moore
(chrismoore1983@hotmail.co.uk)
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>



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Summer 2020 News from Ouse Fen & the Hanson-RSPB Wetland Project - Since our last update RSPB Ouse Fen has continued to grow and our key species are thriving.

Prior to the Covid-19 lockdown, early spring survey work recorded promising numbers of bittern had begun to voice their distinctive 'boom' from the reedbeds in the early dawn. This included bittern spreading north into the most recently established reedbeds. Elsewhere on the site a pair of cranes again showed interest in the reserve, with a thrilled member of the public filming their mating routine – a very rare sight indeed.
<https://youtu.be/HJj-YyIO2gE>

The RSPB continue to work closely with Hanson to create what will be a new car park and visitor entrance at the former Lockspits Farm Entrance off the B1050 between Earith and Willingham. With planning permission in place and a contractor lined up, we hope to carry the work out in time for an opening in spring 2021, subject to the impact of the Covid-19 crisis.

Close to the new visitor entrance the latest three wetland meres have been restored and Hanson are planning to hand these over to the RSPB for management later this year. These cells cover a further 80 hectares of the restored quarry and will bring RSPB Ouse Fen to almost 3 sq.km of rich wetland habitats. Key species, including bittern, marsh harrier and bearded tit, flourishing elsewhere on the reserve have already been spotted on these cells, water voles and otters are establishing themselves across the area.

Reserve staff are busy preparing the new cells for visitors and following on from the sowing of a grass-wildflower mix around the reedbed path routes, we have planted over 450 bare root trees. Species included hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle, dog rose, guelder rose, alder buckthorn, goat willow, crab apple, bird cherry and hazel. We also planted an island with small trees in the hope that we might in future attract egrets to nest.

During these difficult times our reserve staff are working hard to ensure that the reserve remains safe to visit and provides the best possible access to enjoy its wonderful wildlife. For the latest access information and trail guide please visit www.rspb.org.uk/ousefen or our project pages at www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/projects/hanson-rspb-wetland-project

Jonathan Taylor, RSPB Project Manager

e-mail: ousefen@rspb.org.uk



A variety of small birds and insects can also be seen within the Ouse Fen area. These photographs of a reed bunting, a yellow hammer and a Meadow Brown were all taken on the Ouse Fen Reserve.

J. Horn



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire

Huntingdonshire
Local Group

[NEWS RELEASE](#)

Autumn/Winter Events 2020

In view of the uncertain future regarding the Covid 19 virus, all events organised for 2020 by the Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust have been cancelled. We will review the position later in the year with regards to events in 2021.

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Bus Times

(Due to Covid 19 some bus timetables are changing at short notice. It is recommended that you check the bus operator's web site before travelling:
www.dews-coaches.com)

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

How are health and care services running for you in Needingworth?

Health and care champions Healthwatch Cambridgeshire wants to hear if things are working well or need improving.

You can tell us about your GP, your pharmacy, hospital appointments, social care, dentists and more.

All the feedback you give is anonymised and then goes back to the people who can improve local services. We also encourage them to involve local people in decisions that affect them.

How to share your views

Join the conversation at Huntingdonshire Health and Care Forum which brings together the public and the people providing services.

You can ask questions, share your ideas and experiences or just have your say. It meets on 1 September and 3 November although these may be online meetings due to social distancing.

Find out more on our website

www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk where you can also share your views.

Need help finding information or services?

Our Information Service is here to help you.

- Call 0330 355 1285
- Text 0752 0635 176
- Email enquiries@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk

A Little Poetry.....

Local resident Catherine Morton has recently published a book (available from Amazon as a paperback or Kindle edition) entitled *Poetry and Haiku style Verse (mainly inspired by Nature)*. The two Haikus below are from the book; the poem *Memories* may be in her next book. It was inspired by her childhood in Holywell.

HERON

Shading wing by pool
Eyes transfixed in evening light
Spears a silver fish.

DAYBREAK

Daybreak, reddened sky
Greylag geese fly honking by
Two sitting cows moo.

MEMORIES

When we were thigh high
My sister and I
Would romp in the meadow
Yellow with cowslips
Fighting to pick the biggest bunch
To take them home to mother
Who would put them in a cut-glass boat
Then put them by the window
Where everyone would see them
When they knocked on our front door.

There would be buttercups and daisies
Purple patches of clover
A haze of melting colours
That smelt of paradise
We'd sit making daisy chains
Crowns and wedding rings
Then hold buttercups to each other's chins
To see the yellow pollen stains
Which meant we preferred butter.

Later on the meadows would be
head high with daisies; so huge,
they seemed like sunflowers
to our tiny fists
We'd part them with our fingers
Play hide and seek until tea-time
It was like a fairy tale jungle.

Once we gave a blackbird
Found squashed on the tractor path
A full service burial
Singing 'Morning has broken'
with wet cheeks
e left a wooden cross of twigs
With a bunch of wild flowers
To mark the grave by the ditch
And the day we stumbled on a grass snake
That slithered by the muckheap
We ran screaming

All the way home
Not having seen a snake before
We cried.

Needlingworth Village Hall

We are looking for a

BOOKINGS SECRETARY

This position would suit someone who likes to work from home, dealing with enquiries and maintaining the diary.

The person should be familiar with emails and mobiles.

For further information please contact:

Margaret Fountain on

07929 869780

mfountain18@hotmail.co.uk

The environmentally-conscious County Council

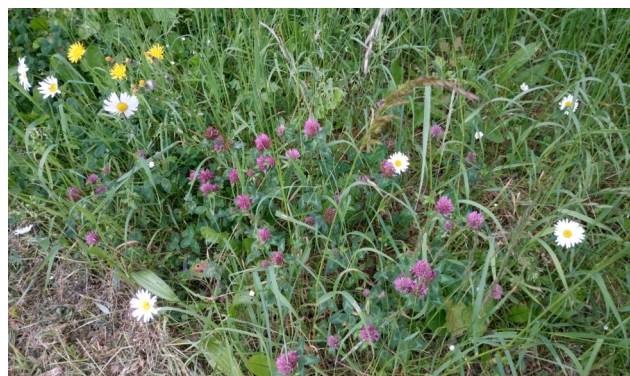
At the top of Willow Green where it joins the High Street are two triangles of grass which are maintained by Cambridge County Council. It is good to know that the Council have a policy of not cutting the grass so often and in a small way is encouraging the growth of wild flowers. The flowers attract



insects and are allowed to seed, helping with the insects to increase variety of plants. The availability of insects and seeds may also attract birds.

Obviously if taken to extremes, poor maintenance could lead to reduced sighting for traffic at junctions and hazards for pedestrians on footpaths. But if the policy is carried out wisely across Cambridgeshire, it will mean a healthier, more attractive county for both wildlife and human.

Sally Beaman



BUS TIMETABLES

Details of the Dews Coaches service no 21, Monday to Friday are given on page 26

For up-to-date information for Stagecoach (service A), telephone **01223 433 250** or go to web page

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

or <http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk>

POST OFFICE (within One-Stop Shop)

Please note change in Post Office opening hours from mid August 2019; now open **8am to 7pm every day.**

POST COLLECTION TIMES from the post Office:

Monday to Friday, 4.15 pm;
Saturday 9.45 am
(Sundays & Bank Holidays no collections)

MOBILE LIBRARY

1st Wednesday of every month

Holywell - Ferry Boat car park
3.55pm to 4.10pm

Needingworth - Playing field (Overcote Lane)
4.20pm to 4.50pm

For renewals or enquiries ring 0345 045 5225

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

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>

Most addresses in Holywell-cum-Needingworth have collections on the following days:

GREY BINS (normal waste)

Sept Thurs. 10th and 24th
October Thurs. 8th and 22nd
Nov Thurs. 5th and 19th

GREEN BINS (garden waste)

Sept Wed. 2nd, 16th and 30th
October Wed. 14th and 28th
Nov Wed. 11th and 25th

BLUE BINS (recycling)

Sept Thurs. 3rd and 17th
October Thurs. 1st, 15th and 29th
Nov Thurs. 12th and 26th



EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Hospital - Huntingdon (Hinchingsbrooke)	01480 416416
Hospital - Cambridge (Addenbrookes)	01223 245151
Gas Leaks (Any Supplier) Transco	0800 111 999
Electricity Power Cuts & Emergencies	0800 316 3105 or 0333 323 2105
Drinking Water - Supplies Failure/routine enquiries (Cambridge Water Co)	01223 706050
Sewerage, Services Failure (Anglian Water)	0800 145 145
Rivers - Pollution and Flooding (Environment Agency)	0800 807 060 or Floodline 0345 988 1188

PUBLIC & IMPORTANT SERVICES - ROUTINE ENQUIRIES

Cambridgeshire Country Council	0345 045 5200
Electricity (UK Power Networks)	0800 029 4285
Sewerage Services (Anglian Water)	03457 145 145
Telephone Services (British Telecom)	0800 150 111
Police (non-emergency no.)	101
Trading Standards (business queries)	0345 045 5206
Age UK	0300 666 9860
To stop unwanted mail	0845 703 4599
To stop unwanted phone calls	0845 070 0707

WHO'S WHO

Baptist Church	David Mann	300382 <i>david.mann@cantab.net</i>
Beavers	Del Shepherd	467842 <i>delshep@btinternet.com</i>
Beer & Wine	Petronella Britton	466239
Book Club	Sue Forrest	464082 <i>sueforrest65@hotmail.com</i>
Bowls	Alan Blackley	464804 <i>leetheflee@sky.com</i>
Brownies	Julie Swindells	07597 569582 <i>needingworth.brownies@yahoo.com</i> <i>https://1stneedingworth.wixsite.com/brownies</i>
Chatters Community Cafe	Rebecca Allen	538511 <i>Rebecca.allen@thetraveldirectors.co.uk</i>
Church	Rector: Revd Sheila Anthony	01487 740456 <i>sheila@saintintraining.co.uk</i>
	Jill Harvey	460429 <i>jillsbharvey@icloud.com</i>
	Stephen York	465120 <i>stephenyork@flagholme.net</i>
Cricket	Dave Roberts	07800 834780 <i>davez76@hotmail.com</i>
Cub Scouts	Chris Huddleston	<i>Akelafirstneedingworth@hotmail.com</i>
Dance Club	Rose Killock	466487
Football	Email via web site:	<i>https://needingworthcoltsfc.com/contact/</i>
Gardening Club	Grant Williamson	493360 <i>parkingcare@globalnet.co.uk</i> <i>www.hcngardening.weebly.com</i>
Good Neighbours Coordinator	Kate Carpenter	07794 680475
Guides	Helen Whitehead	460838
Holywell School Association	Sally Batsford	493700
Local History Group	Sally Beaman	462379 <i>rsde.beaman@btinternet.com</i>
	History Website:	<i>www.hcnhistory.org.uk</i>
Neighbourhood Watch	Mike Norris	465997 <i>michaelnorris852@btinternet.com</i>
Over 60's	Rose Killock	466487
Pre-School	Rachael Beeton	01480 464201 <i>Website: needingworthcommunitypreschool.org.uk</i>
Rainbows	Helen Whitehead,	01480 460838 <i>needingworth.rainbows@yahoo.com</i>
Scouts	Mark Culley	01480 467262 <i>Mark.culley2775@gmail.com</i>
Scribblers	Joan Tucker	463966
Tennis Club	Chris Moore	07718 987152 <i>www.needingworthtennis.co.uk</i>
Hall Trustees	Margaret Fountain	496636
Hall Bookings	Sam Reid	07376 056603 <i>designapps@mail.com</i>
Wellworth Players	Karen Bays	463505 <i>Website:www.wellworthplayers.co.uk</i> <i>mailto:admin@wellworthplayers.co.uk</i>
Women's Institute	Jackie Norris	01480 465997 <i>jackienorris@btinternet.com</i>
Youth Cricket	Stephen Mitcham	301679
Chairman Parish Council	Clr Sarah Mortlock	462945
Parish Clerk	Jane Bowd	468451 <i>needingworthpc@btconnect.com</i> <i>www.holywell-cum-needingworthpc.org.uk</i>
District	Jon Neish	466110
Councillors	Lewis Besley	300658
Post Office		465121

Village Hall tel:

Outgoing calls emergency line only
Incoming calls

01480 498351