

# the Villager

The newsletter of Holywell-cum-Needingworth

March 2022







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# the Villager

The Newsletter of Holywell-cum-Needlingworth

Published quarterly in March, June, September and December  
Distributed free to every household in the parish of  
Holywell-cum-Needlingworth **Spring Issue, March 2022**

## EDITORIAL

Signs of Spring are already around with flowering snowdrops, celandine and daffodils about and life in general is also showing signs of getting back to normal after the Covid pandemic. Let's hope it continues. This newsletter can report an increasing number of regular club meetings (see pages 10 to 15, and for sports, pages 29 and 30) and events including the annual Needlingworth Music Festival NFEST, planned for the beginning of July (see page 17). The Parish Council have continued to improve the playing fields and last time I



walked by I noticed the Spacenet (see page 6) was being very well used. The village Roll of Honour is being restored and updated; please note the request for entries on page 27. If you have an article, news item, advert or photograph you would like included in the next issue of the Villager, please let me have the details by email or telephone before the 1st May to ensure inclusion.

**Jennifer**

### Editor and Advertising:

Jennifer Horn,

16 Willow Green, Needlingworth, St Ives, PE27 4SW

Tel: 01480 468952 Email: needlingworth@aol.com

### Next issue deadline:

1st May for June, July and August 2022

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.

## SMALL NUGGETS FROM THE DEPTHS

Memories are little things which linger in grey matter,  
They often hide forgotten then spring forth when you natter.  
Some memories are like jewels that sparkle, gleam and shine,  
Others are Gothic horrors that need drowning deep in wine.  
Our friends can often bring them out and lay them open wide,  
Some are important, some are not, and some you lay aside.  
But others can be troubling and you wish you didn't know,  
Like naughty things you did when young to both friends and foe.  
I like to keep my memories very firmly locked away  
So I forget the nasty things which would haunt me every day.

I thought I'd got away with it, then Covid intervened,  
When locked away alone at home it sought me like a fiend.  
My body was OK you see but it got into my mind  
It stalked my thoughts, upset my brain and it really was unkind.  
It made me wonder who I was and whether I was normal  
Should I lounge around in a onesie all day or try and keep to formal?  
I had each job as I was asked and kept well through the fray,  
Now Spring is here among us and with each passing day  
We're out enjoying life again and to get back how we were  
Before this wretched virus made our lives a virtual blur.

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# PARISH COUNCIL

Holywell-cum-Needlingworth Parish  
Councillors 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022



Cllr. A. Whyte



Cllr. C. Pearce



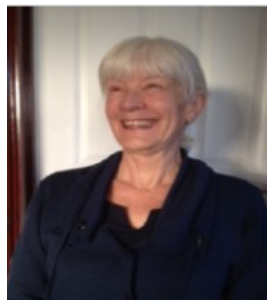
Cllr. R. Fountain



Cllr. D. Jackson



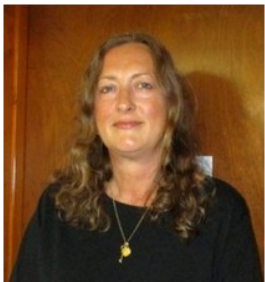
Cllr. E. MacPherson



Cllr. S. Martin



Cllr. S. Mitcham



Cllr. S. Mortlock



Cllr. J. Neish



Cllr. C. Norman



Cllr. G. Norman



Cllr. M. Williamson

## '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**

[needlingworthvillager.org.uk](http://needlingworthvillager.org.uk)

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or telephone 01480 468952  
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## Holywell-cum-Needlingworth PARISH COUNCIL

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
CLERK		
Miss Jane Bowd	Needlingworth Village Hall, Overcote Lane, Needlingworth	468451
PARISH COUNCILLORS		
Mr A Whyte Chairman	23 Bramley Avenue	464223
Mr R Fountain	18 Priory Rd	496636
Mr D Jackson	Overcote Farm, Overcote Lane	466612
Mrs E Macpherson	6 Priory Road	468633
vacancy		
Mrs S Martin	21 Bramley Avenue	494920
Mrs S Mortlock	The Paddocks, Mill Way	462945
Mr S Mitcham	6 Willow Green	301679
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green	466110
Mrs C Norman	42 Harris Crescent	463724
Mr G Norman	42 Harris Crescent	463724
Mr C Pearce	22 Harris Crescent	468759
Mr M Williamson	3 Priory Close	465821
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS		
Mr J Neish	7 Willow Green, Needlingworth	01480 466110
Mr L Besley	48 The Furlongs, Needlingworth	01480 300658
COUNTY COUNCILLOR		
Mr K Reynolds	17 Virginia Way, St Ives	01480 496006
VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS		
Eleanor Hardy	email:hardy.derek@sky.com Tel: 07730 504220	
MILLFIELDS BOOKINGS		
Miss J Bowd	Needlingworth Village Hall	468451



## Parish Council Summary Report

The November full Council meeting was attended by 11 Councillors and County Councillor Reynolds and District Councillor J Neish.

Councillor Reynolds reported specifically on Flooding of Priory Road advising that the drains had been cleaned; however, this hasn't remedied the situation and the matter will be followed up. Members were advised to report any issues to him.

District Cllr Neish reported that Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, Paxton Pits Nature Reserve and Priory Park in Huntingdonshire are all among the winners of the Green Flag Award for 2021, raising the flag for the third successive year.

Cllr Neish further reported that Huntingdonshire District Council will look to adopt the aspiration of a net carbon zero Huntingdonshire by 2040 and that the Council are still trying to attract new planners, but the market is very scarce. The enforcement team is also under an exceedingly large amount of case pressure and still only able to cope with the high priority cases.

That the accounts for payment totalling £8078.34 were approved.

The planning application for 27 Bramley Avenue Needingworth was considered and supported.

A request from the U3A for a trial period for Petanque to be played in the overflow car park Tuesday mornings was agreed.

Members discussed moving the defibrillator at Millfields to an outside location however considered that there is no safe area outside to locate the defibrillator, with the location not easily accessible for the public and the defibrillator was originally funded by the Football Association for use by footballers and cricketers and therefore these groups have access to the pavilion so there is no need to locate it outside.

Members have agreed to investigate the need for more defibrillators in the Parish and maybe to site one at the village shop and one in Holywell.

A letter from the Village Hall Trust advising Council that they will be removing the counter in the pavilion was noted to be considered at a future meeting.

An additional meeting was held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 specifically to set the budgets and precept for 2022/23

A £50 donation was approved for MAGPAS and a similar donation of £50 to SERV Suffolk & Cambridgeshire.

After full debate by members a precept of £123,900 was set for the financial year 2022/23.

At the December meeting the Clerk reported a contribution of £2000 from David Wilson Homes towards the Christmas Tree on Pound Hill & the Local Highways Improvement BID to relocate the 30mph speed limit on Bluntisham Road to take in the new development of 120 homes.

The accounts for payment totalling £8630.50 as at 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 were approved.

1 planning application was considered. Cllr M Williamson gave a summary of the proposal to members to consider

plans for an extension to the Village Hall.

It was subsequently resolved that a meeting with the VHT to be arranged at the earliest convenience to discuss the project further and to revisit the possibility of the Parish office/hub being relocated to the car park end of the pavilion.

Members received a verbal report on the site meeting with David Wilson Homes on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021.

The revised garden plot tenancy was adopted along with the documentation for booking of the playing field for events. It is hoped that these form sets will make matters clearer for all concerned.

The minutes of the Needingworth Quarry liaison meeting, (meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021) were noted.

Cllr S Martin reported that the Christmas tree on the pond site was up and decorated. Cllr E MacPherson thanked all of those involved.

2 Representatives of Needingworth Village Hall Trust attended the Planning & Finance committee meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021, and it was resolved that the Village Hall Trust will look at 2 options, extending onto the pavilion & creating a space adjacent to the existing office by knocking through into the storage areas, at their January meeting and then report back to the Parish Council.

The first meeting of 2022 was held on January 4<sup>th</sup> where the accounts for payment totalling £12146.09 were approved.

A proposal for the purchase of a flail was put forward and members agreed this would be a good piece of equipment for the grounds staff and requested the Clerk to seek further quotes and discuss with CCC the possibility of taking over their cuts in the village.

A report on the village bazaar held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 was received and noted.

The arrangement for use of overflow car park by U3A for Petanque will continue at £20/week on a pay as they use basis, payment being made a month in arrears, was agreed following the successful trial period.

Members discussed the draft response to the email requests from the CIL Action group and approved the final reply. The whole Council are concerned with the cost and time being taken with these matters and advised that, all future correspondence from the CIL Action group will be taken to Council prior to any response from the Clerk.

The official record of all meetings are the minutes which are available on the Parish Council website.  
[www.holywell-cum-needlingworthpc.org.uk](http://www.holywell-cum-needlingworthpc.org.uk)

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## Parish Council Update

### Remembrance Day 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021



It was nice to be able to return to a more normal service of remembrance following the Covid restrictions of 2020. The service was well supported, and the church service was held at the war memorial in memory of those who have lost their lives in the service of the country.



### Bus Shelter Mural



Having reported on the project in the December issue of the Villager it is gratifying to be able to now report that the mural was officially "opened" by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr A Whyte and Tawny Owl, Julie Swindells

following the remembrance service on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### Spacenet & Pergola

After a protracted wait for planning permission to be granted the Spacenet & pergola were finally installed on the playing field during December 2021. The response has been amazing with the children enjoying the challenge of climbing on the net.



The pergola has brought much

needed shelter to the under 12's play area in both sunny and wet conditions.

The Parish Council hope that both items will be of benefit to the community for many years to come.



### Christmas 2022

Once again, the Parish Council provided a Christmas Tree for the Parish located on the junction of Church St and Hawkes Lane. The lights switch on was supported by the Choir of St John the Baptist church who led the community carol singing and refreshments were provided by Needing-

worth Guides. Father Christmas welcomed children to the village lock up on their way to the light switch on.

Further illuminations were put up on Pound Hill to welcome people to the village. The Parish Council would like to thank all those involved in the initiative.



4<sup>th</sup> December 2021 was also the annual Christmas Bazaar which the Parish Council attended providing a summary of the Community Infrastructure Levy funding and the projects it has supported so far.



Residents attending welcomed the projects completed and some new ideas were also put forward for future consideration.

**Holywell-cum-Needingworth Parish Council.**



# Parish Elections 2022

## Holywell-cum-Needlingworth Parish Council Needs YOU!



A person is qualified to become a council member if he/she is a Commonwealth citizen and is an elector over the age of 18 years old. In addition he/she must, for twelve months prior to nomination, have either: resided in the parish or within 3 miles of it; or occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises there; or had his/her principal or only place of work there. All councillors have to sign up to the 'Parish Councils Code of Conduct'. Details of which are available from the Parish Clerk.

### **Elections and Meetings**

The Parish Council is made up of 13 Councillors and all 13 Parish Council seats are up for election on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022. Councillors are voluntary and serve for a term of 4 years. The Parish Council meets on the first Tuesday of every month in the evening with committees meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday monthly.

### **Responsibilities**

Our Parish Council deals with many aspects of village life including:

- Management of recreation grounds and play areas
- Organisation of grass cutting
- Maintenance of the bus shelter and provision of seats
- Provision and maintenance Mill Way cemetery
- Provision and maintenance of the garden plots
- Act as an employer – employing a Parish Clerk, assistant to the Parish Clerk, Groundsman, Handyman and Cleaner.

We are also consulted by Huntingdonshire District Council about planning and development within the parish and work closely with both the County Council and District Council on many varied issues.

### **What do Parish Councillors do?**

Speak at council meetings - all views are important, you need to join in with what's going on in the community and understand what local people think, make decisions on behalf of parishioners including how much money the Council should raise from tax and ensuring that the money is then wisely spent.

**If you are interested and want to know more about the work of the Council or how to stand for election please contact the Parish Clerk on 01480 468451 or email: [needlingworthpc@btconnect.com](mailto:needlingworthpc@btconnect.com) You are also welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting or committee. There is a 10 minute public forum at the start of each Council meeting.**



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## Village Hall News

A belated Happy New Year to everyone! As we emerge slowly into a more normal life once more, we hope you are all well and looking forward to getting out again. Most of our 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. Following the success of Quiz Night in November, we are planning another on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May – brush up on your general knowledge and book your tickets!

Planning is also well underway for this year's Music Festival which will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> July – put the date in your diary and further details will be published nearer the time.

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 me or any Trustee.

### Dates for your diary :

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Quiz Night
Saturday/Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Music Festival
Eleanor Hardy, Bookings Secretary	
<a href="mailto:Hardy.derek@sky.com">Hardy.derek@sky.com</a>	07730 504220



The Parish Council have set up a working party to look at marking the Platinum Jubilee. Currently it can be confirmed that the beacon will be lit but other arrangements are a still "work in progress" so please monitor the Parish Council Facebook page, the Parish notice-boards and Website for any further updates.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01480 468451 or by email [needingworthpc@btconnect.com](mailto:needingworthpc@btconnect.com)

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## Holywell cum Needingworth Over 60's Club

In December, the Over 60's Club held a Christmas Tea Party. After all the restrictions it was great to be able to meet friends even though the seating had to be distanced. The children from the school who were to have entertained us were unable to do so due to restrictions. Tony Perryman, one of the club members, stepped in with a very impromptu Christmas Singalong. The 'Twelve Days of Christmas' will never be quite the same again as it was sung then. The afternoon was really enjoyed by those who attended. Thanks to the committee who provided the Tea Party.

Margaret Perryman,  
Over 60's Committee Member



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## WI

We concluded our Centenary Year celebrations in a festive mood at our Christmas Party; a happy event fuelled by a delicious buffet and the odd glass or two of prosecco! The Huntingdon Ukulele Band entertained us with an excellent performance. Great fun and plenty of opportunities to try out our vocal cords; some members even took to the dance floor! Festivities concluded with the judging of the best Festive Headdress (won by a sprout, also known as Heather Williamson!).



In December our group also enjoyed a successful village Christmas Fair. Our lucky dip bags, craft items and the quilt raffle raised funds for both our WI and towards our chosen charitable project. Thank you to everyone who supported us on the day; it was greatly appreciated. We continued in celebratory style in January, when we met for our annual dinner at the Queen's Head. It was a good evening with plenty of chat and a delicious meal. Our thanks go to the whole team for their first rate, friendly hospitality.

February sees the return to business as usual and we look forward to hearing Peter Cooper of our Local History Group give us a talk entitled 'Only for the eyes of a loving husband'. ... make of that what you will! (We will hear about Elizabeth Joscelin, a previous owner of Moynes Hall in Holywell). The subject for the March meeting is more serious as 'Friends against Scams' will instruct us on how to spot a scam; a topical issue of great concern.

Our programme for the rest of the year is firming up and we're looking forward to a variety of talks, visits and activities. There are rumours that some of us may even take to the waters of the Ouse and try paddle boarding (once we can guarantee warmer weather!) and we hope to take a Cambridge Walking Tour. The planned trip next December to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular is already filling up.

We will celebrate Easter at our April meeting with an Easter craft competition and a demonstration of how to create a spring bouquet given by our local florist Debs Wain of Daisy Chains. In May the craft theme continues with a talk by Mad-die of 'Bee Crafty' entitled 'Dream, Believe, Achieve'. Our June meeting will be our celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee at our annual Garden Party. We are looking forward to marking this special year of our nation's most distinguished WI member!

Very sadly two of our longstanding WI members, Pam Pace and Marion Pratt died recently. Both contributed so much to our Group and will be greatly missed. We offer our condolences to their families and friends.

We have also been able to welcome new members and extend a warm invitation to anyone who is interested in joining us to get in touch. For further information please contact **Carol Peilow on 01480 496958**.



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire

Huntingdonshire  
Local Group

### *The Beautiful Bluebells of Brampton Wood*

The Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust invites you to come and experience the sight and scent of a carpet of bluebells in this ancient woodland, which lies on our doorstep. You are welcome to share this enchanting scene by participating in a guided walk on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 10.30 am**.

The Voluntary Wardens at Brampton Wood will lead us through this woodland, where a rich variety of flora can be

seen. Their aim will be to highlight the beautiful scent, colour and freshness of the bluebells, which encapsulate the essence of a traditional English Spring. We also expect to see other woodland flora such as wood anemone, primrose and dogs mercury. In addition we should see butterflies such as brimstone, speckled wood and orange tip and we will listen for the singing of the woodland birds.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. Please meet in the Visitors Barn at Brampton Wood, Grafham Road, Brampton at 10.30 am. GR TL 184698. What3Words plates.plodding.photocopy. Park in the Trust car park.

There is no charge, but donations are welcome. For more information please ring George on **01480 450809**.

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[www.vickygrant.com](http://www.vickygrant.com)



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## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

### The Beer and Wine Society

We are now meeting again in the village hall. We meet once a month and are a small friendly group. Our last meeting was on February 11th in the pavilion when we judged our wine made from fruit juice or tinned fruit.

March 4th is the AGM. Everyone attending must have had their covid vaccinations. Further programme to be discussed at the AGM and any suggestions for an evening will be welcome.

Anyone thinking they might like to join us are welcome to come along for an evening for free and we will be pleased to meet you. Members are reminded that there is a pot.

You can contact me on **01480 466239**  
or Sandra on **01487 825669**

**Pat Britton**

### Holywell-cum-Needingworth Local History Group

On Monday December 13<sup>th</sup> we did not have our Christmas social at Blackers Hall – after discussion it was felt to be too close to Christmas when people wanted to be with family, so didn't want to risk catching anything and being isolated instead.

During February, we hope all of us will be able visit the Norris Museum to see artifacts from the archives, of which there are so many the opportunity to exhibit them is rare. This will be until March 26<sup>th</sup>. Please see the website for this and other events. [www.norrimuseum.org.uk](http://www.norrimuseum.org.uk)  
After this we will hold a planning meeting to discuss ideas for the rest of the year.

For updates nearer the dates given, please contact Sally Beaman or Cherryl Frost, as below:

Sally - Email: [rsde.beaman@btinternet.com](mailto:rsde.beaman@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 462379

Cherryl: Email: [cherryl.frost@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cherryl.frost@hotmail.co.uk)

Or visit our website [www.hcnhistory.org.uk](http://www.hcnhistory.org.uk)



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### 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  
from 2 - 4 pm

1st March: AGM followed by a quiz

5th April: U3A Singers

3rd May: to be confirmed

7th June: Strawberry tea

For details nearer the time please contact  
**Joan: 01480 497892**

### 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"

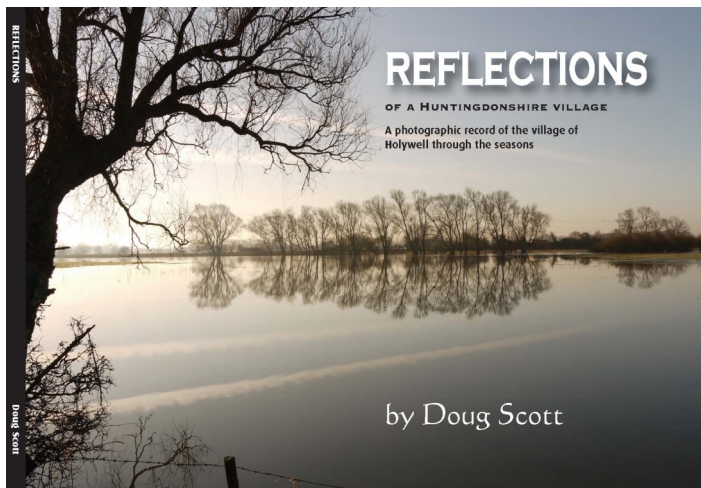
We normally meet on a Friday afternoon from 2 pm - 5 pm at my house in the Furlongs. We will resume meetings when it is safe to do so.

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





My apologies to Doug Scott, I made a slip in copying the details of his lovely book "Reflections" which is a beautiful record of the seasons in Holywell photographed over a period of 30 years, reflecting the changing moods of this village.

The price should have been £14.99 per copy (not as given in the December issue of the Villager). There are just a few copies left and it can be delivered free locally or collected from Doug Scott, Flagholm, The Front, Holywell.

The book can be mailed to any UK address for an additional £3.00 or if you wish to send it to someone, cardboard mailing pockets are available for £2.50.

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# CLUBS & SOCIETIES

## Gardening opening up.

Along with many other clubs in the village the Gardening Club is returning to some form of normality as we slowly and cautiously unravel the limitations caused by the pandemic.

For the past three months we have held our monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of each month in the village hall although we have continued to maintain some procedures to ensure a safe environment with such a large group of people in the enclosed atmosphere of the hall. Masks have been worn and we spread the chairs a little more so as to provide sufficient space. We are hoping to re-introduce refreshments at the March meeting.

Even with these minimal measures in place, we have had excellent turnouts of up to 60 members at each meeting.

One of our best and most entertaining speakers was at our January meeting. David Coop talked to us about Seed Planting which could have been a rather dry subject but David proved to be a humorous, witty and very knowledgeable speaker who kept everyone fully entertained and informed with some fascinating facts and graphics. He set a high standard even in a club that has a reputation for arranging good speakers all year round.

In February Geoff Hodges gave a most informative talk on the specialist and popular subject of growing your own vegetables.

As another sign of the gradual opening up of the club we are arranging a number of trips during the year. These include a coach trip to the wonderful RHS Hyde Hall in July. There will be at least three more trips and we will be sending out details to all our members soon. We expect a strong response to the chance to get out and visit new places in convivial company.

The Club is gearing up for the Annual Plant Sale which is a hugely popular event in the life of the village. It will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 10.00 am prompt. We have large queues at opening time as the plants are sold at very attractive prices and are good quality as they are mostly donated by our Gardening Club members. We have often sold out of the most popular plants by 11.00 am so it pays to get there early.

In addition to the opening up of the arrangements in the gardening club itself it is so good to see the signs of spring arriving in our gardens. It is suggested that spring growth is approximately one month earlier than usual due to the mild weather we have had in the early part of the year.

As I write this, there are aconites, hellebores and snow drops flowering in the garden and tips of many bulbs are showing through the soil with their promise of glorious colour to come as we roll into spring. It will emphasise again the resilience of our gardens that have just got on with what they do irrespective of the dramatic domestic and international political and medical events which have engrossed us all for so long in the past year.

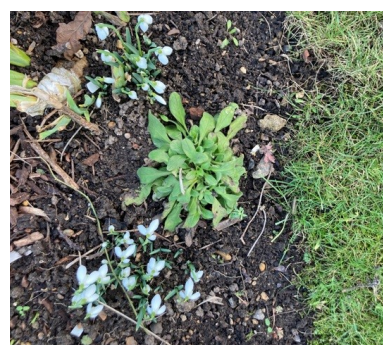
We have had a great response to our new membership year with almost 180 members re-joining but we are still able to welcome any new members. Fees are a ridiculous £5 a year. For details please see our excellent website [HcNgardening.weebly.com](http://HcNgardening.weebly.com)

Come along on 8<sup>th</sup> March or 12<sup>th</sup> April at 7.45 at the village hall and see why these evenings are so constantly popular.

### Gardening Club

Grant Williamson

Chairman Holywell-cum-Needingworth Gardening





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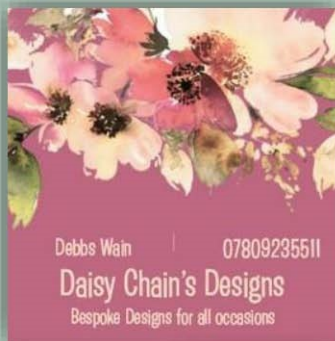
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## NFEST 22 SAVE THE DATE: 2&3 JULY 2022

A huge thank you to all the villagers who came to or supported our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary festival celebrations last August! After an incredibly tough time for live music and of course for many village residents and your loved ones, we were thrilled NFEST was able to go ahead and hope those of you that attended thoroughly enjoyed yourselves.

We are now planning to return on the first weekend of July. Entry will remain free of charge for all, but voluntary donations are encouraged to help the Village Hall Trust – the registered charity behind NFEST – maintain the building for use by many local community groups, all year around.

*"We always start with the music" says NFEST Committee Chair, Noel Glass "but the real story of NFEST is all of the individuals and groups that get involved to help make it happen – the amazing volunteers and our wonderful performers who give their time and talents for nothing – all help us keep the Festival free to all and grounded in the community. The 2021 event was particularly challenging to organise of course, but the fantastic support of local businesses and flexibility of our suppliers really blew us away. It was a great weekend, and a brilliant way to mark our first 25 years."*

Unfortunately the costs associated with running the Festival, which include the demands on the time and skills of our small volunteer group, continue to rise. One way in which you can help is to consider what you can do to help out over the Festival weekend.

Last year we ran a survey to which nearly 200 of you responded. Nearly half said they might be willing to help out in some capacity across the weekend itself. If you would like to know more about volunteering options, or attend a short session to learn more about how the Festival is run and what we need, please email us with your details or send us a message via our facebook page or web-site:

**[info@needingworthmusicfestival.com](mailto:info@needingworthmusicfestival.com)**

**Facebook/NeedingworthFestival**

Needingworth Music Festival has come a long way since its humble origins in 1995, when bands performed on an open-sided farmer's trailer and musicians and crowd were left to the mercy of the elements. Today our signature marquee makes for a brilliant environment for performers and audience alike rain or shine, and the two-stage set up allows for continuous live music well into the evening.





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## Parish church of St John the Baptist, Holywell-cum- Needingworth

[www.meridianbenefice.org.uk](http://www.meridianbenefice.org.uk)

Our page in *The Villager* last March was concerned with the psychological effects of the lockdown as Covid-19 had the coun-

try in its grip. Things have moved on since then, and for some time we have been able to resume our usual pattern of church services and other activities, although at the time of writing Cambridgeshire is still one of the areas most affected by the Omicron variant, and we are still asking worshippers to wear masks in church. We hope that will change before too long.

Nevertheless, we were able to celebrate Christmas with a well-attended carol service in the school playground and Midnight Communion in church. We have resumed our family-friendly **Café Sunday** service (9.30 a.m. on the first Sunday of the month, at Holywell School) and **All-Age worship** on third Sundays in the church, as well as the popular **Music Makers** activities for pre-school children and their parents (first Thursday of the month, 10 a.m. at the Village Hall).

Although we have not been able to continue our 'Open the Book' Bible story performances at the school itself during the last few months, we have been sending the school a video version each week, made possible by the wonders of Zoom technology and the ingenuity of the Open the Book team! YouTube has also played its part during lockdown, enabling Revd Sheila Anthony to reach many people in their own homes with her regular Sunday morning talks and prayers. The link each week is on the front page of the Meridian Benefice website.

Looking forward, the period from March to May is a very full one in the Christian year. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (2nd March) with our **Ashing Service** at 7 p.m. All being well we hope to hold a Lent Lunch in church in aid of charity – details to come in *The Herald*. The fourth Sunday of Lent, 27th March this year, is **Mothering Sunday**. We will be holding a special Mothering Sunday Service at 9.30 a.m., when we will give thanks for all Mums! Posies of spring flowers will be distributed and afterwards we will enjoy traditional Simnel cake. This is a family-friendly all-

age service and everyone is very welcome to join us.

On **Palm Sunday** (10 April), we will be joined by the Ven. Hugh McCurdy as preacher at the 9.30 service. Hugh has been our Archdeacon for 17 years and a good friend to our church; he is due to retire soon and has asked specially to join us before he steps down. Holy Week, 11th–17th April, will see our usual Walk of Witness from our village to Bluntisham church in the morning of **Good Friday** (15th April), followed by a quiet service of reflection at 2.30 pm.; and then **Easter Day** (Sunday 17th), when we hope to resume our tradition of a Dawn Communion, 6.30 a.m. outside near the Holy Well, and Easter Day Family Communion in the church at 9.30.



Further details of all these and other services can be found in *The Herald* and the Benefice website, and special events are also publicised on the several village Facebook pages.

We continue to raise funds for looking after the church and new projects. Thank you so much to our community for your wonderful support to our fund-raising during the past year. It is all greatly appreciated. We are planning events for 2022; keep an eye out on Facebook and in *The Herald* for details. We do have two dates for your diary for later in the year. Our **Well Blessing and Flower Festival** will take place during the weekend of Friday 24th–Sunday 26th June; we will be celebrating The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Saturday 1 October sees the much anticipated return of the 'Wandering Minstrels' who will give us a fabulous evening of Gilbert and Sullivan songs.



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**Huntingdonshire  
Local Group**

### **Portholme Meadow**

The Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust invites you to participate in a walk at Portholme Meadow on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am.

Portholme is an ancient meadow lying in a large flood plain bordered on two sides by the River Ouse. The meadow had traditionally been used for sheep and cattle grazing and today is a haven for breeding birds such as corn bunting and skylark and also supports a rich variety of flora. In particular, at this time of year, we hope to see the Snakeshead Fritillary.

This walk will be led by Dr. Pat Doody, who has a wealth of knowledge about the history of this meadow and its associated natural history.

Everyone is most welcome to attend. Please note that it is likely to be wet underfoot. We will meet at 10.30 am at Godmanchester Bridge (TL2446570594). What3Words will.payback.butternut. For those parking at Mill Common, Huntingdon, or Brampton Mill, meet at Godmanchester Lock (TL2410070413)

There is no charge, but donations are welcome. For more information please ring Pat on 01480 392706.



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## Needingworth Baptist Church

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Elder – David Mann

### Sunday Services

We meet in the chapel each Sunday at 10.30am, and you are warmly invited to join us! We hope to restart Sunday evening or afternoon services before too long. With the relaxation of Covid rules, we are conscious that a number of us are in the “vulnerable” category, so we are still trying to practise “social distancing” as far as possible. The wearing of masks is no longer compulsory, but please be sensitive to others on this issue. 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.needinghambaptist.org.uk/recorded-services](http://www.needinghambaptist.org.uk/recorded-services)

### Easter services

Good Friday 10.30am

– “A closed mind and the close of life.”

Easter Sunday 10.30am

– “An open curtain and an open grave.”

Do join us to praise God for His love shown to us through Jesus’s death and resurrection.

### Sunday school

Children stay in the first part of the service with their parents and then have Sunday school in the church hall during the sermon.

### Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

This is on Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm and at present it is on Zoom. Please contact us if you would like to join us.

### Coffee club (toddlers and parents/carers)

This takes place every Wednesday morning at 10am. More details on <http://www.needinghambaptist.org.uk/coffee-club/>

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

\* \* \* \* \*

### Who is to blame?

One of the features of our present news is the prominence of blame. Whether it be politicians, football managers, referees, or the England cricket team, they are all targets for blame when things are going wrong. Indeed the media appear to cultivate the culture of blame – it seems newsworthy and right. And on a personal level we have a natural tendency to blame others when things go wrong in our lives. You can observe it in children, and if we are honest, it continues throughout our lives and into old age.

If we read the Bible, we can see that this culture started a long time ago. Right back in the Garden of Eden, Adam blamed Eve for giving him the forbidden fruit, and Eve blamed the serpent.

So who is in fact to blame for all the troubles that we see in the world? Some would blame God – He made the world, so why did He not make it without problems? Well, actually of course, there were no troubles when God made the world. The troubles all started when Adam and Eve, our first parents, rebelled against God’s law and ate the fruit they had been specifically told not to eat. And we have persisted in that rebellion against God. The pursuit of self-interest is at the heart of our society.

Who is to blame? **We are to blame.** That is to say us – you and me. And we deserve to be blamed. We are all guilty. The Bible calls us sinners. It’s not good news. And the trouble is, we cannot fix our blame. We can’t get rid of it. It sticks to us – and rightly so.

And that’s the wonder and the beauty of the Christian message – and the message of Easter. Because on that first Good Friday, on the cross of Calvary, **Jesus took our blame** – He took it upon Himself. He suffered and died, not because He had done anything wrong, but to pay for our blame, to take it away and to bring us forgiveness and a new start.

If you are not sure how this works, or whether it is true, we have a small booklet “Ultimate Questions” that may help you. Please pop in to the church sometime and pick up a free copy.

### Contact us –

David Mann – Tel. 300382

Email: [david.mann@cantab.net](mailto:david.mann@cantab.net)

Website: [www.needinghambaptist.org.uk](http://www.needinghambaptist.org.uk)

## Coffee Club

Coffee Club continues to be very popular and we have welcomed people from other villages too. Children are starting to gain more confidence in letting go of their adult and mixing with other children.

Adults continue to wear masks if they wish and practise social distancing. We will let each other know if any of us show any signs of Covid.

As well as play, we sing songs, have a Bible story, do a

related craft and have drink and biscuits (the latter for the adults too!) and we are hoping to hold an Easter activity day at the end of term.

Sarah and Sally take time to pray before each session and thank God for His care.

Please don’t hesitate to get in touch if you want to know more.

Sarah Wordingham – Tel: 462396; Facebook

Sally Beaman – Tel: 462379; Mob: 07749 170984





Like many of the community activity groups, our Village Scout Group is continuing to recover from the restrictions of the Covid precautions that have tried to keep us safe. As you can see from the picture spread, our Scout section is back to offering a full activity programme for the 10 to 14 age group, albeit with sensible measures in place. Our next big challenge is to properly re-start an activity programme for our Cub Scout (8 – 10 years) and Beaver Scout (6 – 8 years) sections.

Our Cub Scouts currently has a leadership team of 3 Scouters; however, due to occupational constraints arising from the Covid precautions, we need a volunteer to take on the role of Section Leader to coordinate the Cubs' programme. Our Cubs are yet to start a regular schedule of meetings, but we hope to put something substantial in place over the coming weeks.

Our Beaver Scouts have only one leader, following the departure of 2 of our Beaver Leaders when they moved out of the Village. Our biggest challenge to starting a meaningful activity programme is the recruitment of 2 new leaders (or one, plus a Colony Assistant ('helper')).

1<sup>st</sup> Needingworth Scout Group, in addition to being an educational charity for 6 to 14 year-olds, supports community activities within the Village. We always welcome volunteers, whether for hands-on involvement with the activity programme for young people or in a Supporter role with our Group Executive Committee.

Volunteers wishing to step up to assist will find the challenge very rewarding. The Scouts have a comprehensive, *free* training programme which not only develops leadership skills for working with young people, but provides Nationally-recognised qualifications *at no cost to the volunteer!* For more details of these volunteering opportunities please contact Chris Huddleston, our Group Scout Leader, at [gslfirstneedlingworth@outlook.com](mailto:gslfirstneedlingworth@outlook.com), or check out The Scout's website at [www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer/volunteering-with-scouts](http://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer/volunteering-with-scouts)







## 1<sup>st</sup> Needingworth Rainbows

Last term, the Rainbows had a very busy time completing some beautiful displays, which can be seen

both in the village and further afield! These include poppies created to decorate the roll of honour in the village for Remembrance Day and making bees for the gallery at the Huntingdonshire Beekeeper's Association at Hinchbrook Country Park. Our bee themed celebration of Girlguiding Anglia's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday involved cakes, sampling delicious honey fudge and plenty of bee themed games. We ended the term with a fabulously festive Christmas party, enjoying games, Christmas presents and a very special visit from Santa!

We also celebrated our first ever Rainbow earning her Rainbow Gold Award – the highest award a rainbow can achieve. We were so proud of her! She had achieved a total of forty different badges before moving on to Brownies.

This term, we've got lots of themed evenings to look forward to, including Chinese New Year and Mother's Day, which will involve lots of food to taste and crafts to make! We're also looking forward to becoming engineers as we work towards our Construction badge as part of International Women's Day.

If you'd like to find out more about our Rainbows unit check out our website at: [ggneedingworth.co.uk](http://ggneedingworth.co.uk), or contact Jules at: [Needingworth.Rainbows@yahoo.com](mailto:Needingworth.Rainbows@yahoo.com) or **07597 569582**.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Needingworth Brownies

The Brownies had a fun-packed run-up to Christmas! Our highlights included being joined by Sandra King

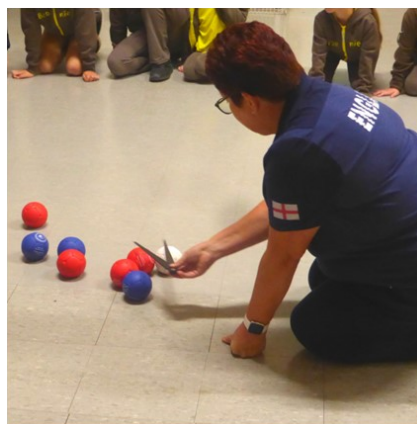
– Team GB Paralympic coach – who taught us how to play the game Boccia. On Remembrance Sunday, we unveiled our bus shelter mural to the village. We have worked so hard to complete this piece of art and hope that you are enjoying it brightening up this area. At the end of term, we



took part in Girlguiding Anglia's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Party with the village Guides unit – the yummy cake and chocolate game was a big hit! We have lots of exciting events to look forward to during the Spring term. These include a tent and pyjama party and several themed evenings, including one celebrating International Women's Day.

We're delighted that our unit has two new leaders: Snowy Owl and Peacock. Girlguiding is a great way to gain childcare experience for a



future career or to achieve the 'volunteering' part of a Duke of Edinburgh award. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to find out more about our Brownies unit, check out our website at: [ggneedingworth.co.uk](http://ggneedingworth.co.uk), or contact Jules at: [Needingworth.Brownies@yahoo.com](mailto:Needingworth.Brownies@yahoo.com) or **07597 569582**.

## 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 07584 047390

## Coffee Club

Coffee Club is a group run by Needingworth Baptist Church for Mums, Dads, Childminders and children under 5.

We meet on Wednesday mornings during term time from 10.00 to 11.30am at the Baptist Church on High Street - more details on page 23.

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:

**Abi 07824 810532**

Join us on our 'Little Tigers' Facebook page.



# YOUNG VILLAGER

**Guides**

1st Needingworth

## 1st Needingworth Guides

The Guides were busy learning First Aid in the autumn term, as well as celebrating 50 years as part of the

Anglia Region of Girlguiding. Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers across 10 counties took part in our 'Buzz about Anglia' challenge, and 10 of us in Needingworth completed all six sections to gain the badge.

Bee **A**dventurous,  
Bee **N**ew and creative,  
Bee **G**iving,  
Bee a **L**eading light,  
Bee an **I**nternational explorer and  
Bee **A**azing.



We joined with the Brownies in November for our Anglia Birthday Party, where we played games, ate cake, and received our mystery birthday cards. Units across the ten counties had sent a card, and each received a card from another Unit. Ours came from Potter Heigham Brownies. We do not know who ours went to, but on the front, we had each prepared a paper heart, which unfolded in to a Guide Trefoil with our name on it.



Outside, we enjoyed games by torchlight, and toasting marshmallows on bonfire night. We joined the village at the War Memorial on Remembrance Day, and as we start the new year, we will start to explore opportunities to camp again in the summer. If you'd like to find out more about our Guides unit check out our website at:

[ggneedingworth.co.uk](http://ggneedingworth.co.uk)

## ALCONBURY WEALD HOUSING



In a first for Huntingdonshire, affordable rent to buy is coming to Alconbury Weald on the former RAF Alconbury site. Huntingdonshire District Council is working with Rentplus, the leading provider of affordable rent to buy homes, to offer 22 affordable rent to buy homes to give people who are living in or working in the area the chance to get on the home ownership without the need for an upfront deposit.

Banks and building societies are demanding ever higher deposits to secure mortgages, which remains unaffordable for many. According to Zoopla, the average price for property in Huntingdon stood at £316,552 in October 2021 and 2 bed terraced houses £218,076. First time buyers would need an income of over £50,000 to secure a standard 90% mortgage for the terraced house, and to have saved the 10% deposit most building societies demand - nearly £22,000 + fees - leaving many local residents, particularly key and essential workers on lower incomes, unable to buy their own home. The Rentplus scheme allows for prospective buyers to move into a brand new home without the need for a deposit.

Tenants rent their home for five to 20 years at an affordable rate whilst using that time to save towards their future mortgage deposit and build a good credit rating. They pay their rent to a Housing Association and their rent includes all repairs to the property. At the end of the agreed term, they have the opportunity to purchase 100% of their home, at which point, Rentplus gifts them 10% of the purchase price towards their savings.

The 22 attractive new build homes are part of the new Urban and Civic site and comprise 8 x 1 bed flats, 11 x 2 bed flats and 3 coach houses and are available now. Aspiring homeowners looking for rent-to-buy must be either be living or working in the area or in education/training with local links to Alconbury and the surrounding area.

Executive Leader of Huntingdonshire District Council, Cllr Ryan Fuller, said: "We are very pleased that this development has come to fruition through careful planning and policymaking. We are consistently looking to develop more affordable homes for existing and future residents of Huntingdonshire to meet the requirements of our residents.

"We are continuing the momentum of two successful years in terms of delivering affordable homes across Huntingdonshire, and an initiative like this is another example of what we are trying to achieve to meet the housing needs of our residents."

Steven Collins, CEO at Rentplus, said: "Affordability is an issue across the country, and we are pleased to be able to offer this affordable rent to buy option and remove the deposit barrier to make dreams become a reality for people in Huntingdonshire.

"These much needed new homes will make a vital contribution to helping the area's working families onto an affordable pathway to homeownership without the need for the upfront deposit." They are all completed and ready to be allocated.

More information at <https://www.home-link.org.uk/choice/> or by visiting [www.rentplus-uk.com](http://www.rentplus-uk.com) or register your interest by emailing [applications@rentplushomes.co.uk](mailto:applications@rentplushomes.co.uk)

## PUZZLE CORNER

In this Word Search, can you find 16 activities or clubs that are available within the village?

Answers on page 25.

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

# FROM OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Hello and a Happy New Year.

I do hope you and your family managed to get through the Christmas period Covid free.

At the time of writing, I am still not clear on what level of council tax rise the Rainbow Coalition proposed to levy. We all know inflation is beginning to take a hold and cost for our home essentials such as fuel and provisions are no longer stable, therefore any rise from Local Government will be painful to every household, something I am acutely aware of and will endeavour to minimise where I can. The good news is that investment and works are still moving forward on flood elevation measures and even more pleasing is that the key players Anglia Water Authority, The Environment Agency, Local Authorities and riparian rights landowners are working closely together and investing in previously neglected area and while there is still a way to go I feel far more confident than I did a year ago. No doubt you will have noticed after many years of dilapidation our roadside drains and gullies have started to be cleared (a long story, if there is space I will elaborate on in the next issue).

Again at the time of writing and with regard to Covid, the reduction across the Country is not reflected in Cambridgeshire. As locally we buck the trend, as the figures in Cambridgeshire are higher than they ever were and we are one of the 'hot spots' in the country our newly appointed Director of Public Health Jyoti Atri reports that a majority of the cases are in the pre-school and primary school-age population where the virus continues to spread rapidly from one person to another and where there is currently no protection from the vaccine.

Our high case rates may also be reflective of our very proactive management of Covid-19 in schools, which is leading to more cases being identified, as many young children do not show symptoms.

Across the county the rates vary for each district, but in every area we are above the national average:

Cambridge – 1,412 per 100,000

South Cambs – 1,195 per 100,000

East Cambs – 1,123 per 100,000

Fenland – 1,240 per 100,000

Huntingdonshire – 999 per 100,000

I previously shared my concerns with you regarding the new administration (Rainbow Coalition they call themselves) AKA the Liberals, Labour and Independents who when combined slightly outnumber the Conservatives and therefore 'run' the County Council. While some of you may say that is a good thing, let me assure you it is not and many bizarre decisions and policies are now directing the council. You may recall back in May 2021, I mentioned their strange decision to disband the Health Committee and Adult Social care committee's to form one large committee with less meeting dates ! As these committees are responsible for a large part of the council's budget and have to provide services to the most vulnerable in our community, it is patently obvious that meeting infrequently places tremendous pressure on both committee members and council officers who have to administer the services in these 2 vital areas. While 6 hour meetings may not seem long to many of you, can I assure you that having to wrestle with com-

plex matters, in areas that have their own sub culture (Health provision and Adult services) and having to make decisions from a Lay Persons perspective that have an impact upon the whole community, is not an easy task, especially when information overload and fatigue kick in. Anyway, at our last full council meeting in January 2022 at the Burgess Hall, where an extraordinary meeting was called to finish the outstanding business from our December meeting, which was cancelled due to Covid, I put forward a motion to the council asking for us to revert back to a singular committee for each area as I was concerned about the quality of decision making and the lack of scrutiny, needless to say I lost the motion by a narrow margin as the administration voted against it ! Although at the same meeting my friend and colleague from Somersham (Steve Criswell) managed to prevail with his motion regard the proposed incinerator at Woodhurst cross roads, again it was noticeable the administration did not support this motion much to the disappointment of the members of the public who attended. Interestingly, we now have a similar political situation on the Fire Authority where again the Rainbow Coalition form the majority (just) making this once stable and productive forum into an arena that no longer enjoys the benefits of cross party support.

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 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 remains 'a special place'.

*Kevin Reynolds*

County Councillor  
Needingworth & St.Ives



[kevin.reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.reynolds@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## ANSWERS to WORD SEARCH

WINE	S	P	O	R	T	E	H	W	U	T
W.I.	S	R	T	C	S	U	S	M		
SPORT	O	N	R	M	L	S	S	S	K	
SCOUTS	E	T	K	A	R	T	C	W	J	
RAINBOWS	I	D	B	E	R	E	O	O	S	
MUSIC	S	E	N	I	W	O	R	B	U	
KARATE	H	G	W	F	E	Y	N	T	D	
HISTORY	T	E	N	S	I	D	S	I	I	
GUIDES	C	E	S	L	S	O	B	A	U	
GARDENING	A	G	N	I	N	E	N	D	E	
DANCE										
BROWNIES										
BOWLS										
BEER										
ART										



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\*all figures correct at time of print

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# ROLL of HONOUR

NAME RANK REGT. NAME RANK REGT. NAME RANK REGT.  
 1st Lt. C. PTE. RAVE. 1st Lt. GAUNT. C. PTE. BEDFORDS. 1st Lt. SEEKINGS. R. PTE. RY'LEW

The Parish Council are currently restoring and amending the Roll of Honour for the Parish. As many of you will be aware, this is the list of all those residents of the Village who fought in the two Great Wars. It differs from the names on the Memorial and in the Church as it includes those who fought, whether or not they were killed. The Council also wanted to take this opportunity of paying tribute to those from among our Community who have fought in any of the succeeding conflicts.

If any members of your family fit within these categories and you would like their service to be commemorated in this way, please provide the

following information to the Parish Clerk at the Parish Office by the end of April 2022.

- ◆ Details and Dates of Conflict.
- ◆ Name in full with dates and details of rank achieved.
- ◆ Specific Regiment or Station etc.
- ◆ Date of death if applicable.

Please note that the Roll of Honour should only relate to those who were resident within the Parish at the time of their Service.

If you are not sure if a member of your family has been included already within the Roll of Honour in respect of the two Great Wars, a temporary copy of the existing document is on display in the Village Hall. Any identified omissions should also be brought to the attention of the Parish Clerk.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

## healthwatch Cambridgeshire

Help improve health and care for local people

Do you have lived experience of being a family carer, have a learning disability, physical disability or sensory impairment?

Then local health and care champion Healthwatch Cambridgeshire would like to hear from you.

It's looking for new members for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Partnership Boards which work with local councils to improve health and care services.

If you have experience of using adult social care, or care for someone that does, please share what you know and help make care better for carers, disabled people and older people across our area.

You'll bring your knowledge and experience to meetings every two or three months and represent the views of other care users, helping to shape services and support for others.

You'll get training and support, including help with communications if you need it - such as a British Sign Language interpreter or information in Easy Read. We also pay out of pocket expenses.

### Get in touch

Like to make a difference? Have a chat with Graham Lewis, Healthwatch Partnership Development Manager. Tel: 07432 865996 or email

[graham.lewis@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk](mailto:graham.lewis@healthwatchcambspboro.co.uk)

Read more

[www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/independent-member](http://www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/independent-member)



so that carers have choices

### Support available for people looking after family members or friends

Do you care for someone who would find it difficult to cope without that support?

This could be looking after a family member, partner or friend because of their illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction.

If this sounds like your situation, then your role means you are recognised as a carer.

Caring Together are a local charity who last year supported more than 17,000 carers of all ages and their families across Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, and Norfolk. Carers can be any age and have a wide range of situations.

Whether you are new to your caring role, have seen your role evolve as the person you care for has needed more support over time, or have lost a loved one you cared for, Caring Together are there to help you. They can offer a range of advice, information and support, and help you, and the person you care for, access services that are helpful to you.

Their services include:

- a dedicated carers telephone where trained advisors can give you information and advice that will support you in your caring role, such as carers assessments, emergency planning and welfare benefits;
- homecare services, where a care worker looks after the person you care for, including to enable you to have a break;
- face-to-face and online carers hubs, where you can meet other carers in a similar situation;
- a monthly newsletter to keep you informed and updated.

To find out more call them on **0345 241 0954** or email them at [hello@caringtogether.org](mailto:hello@caringtogether.org).



## The ABC's Of Salvation

**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)

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# S. D. A.

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Visit our website for more information - [www.ddbhomesolutions.co.uk](http://www.ddbhomesolutions.co.uk)

For an informal discussion or quote please contact Darren or Jo Turnbull

Tel: 01480 495984, or email us at [Darren@ddbhomesolutions.co.uk](mailto:Darren@ddbhomesolutions.co.uk)



## Holywell-cum-Needingworth Bowls Club

Life at the Bowls club has almost returned to normal and we are looking forward

to a busy season. We are still playing short mat bowls in the village hall until the end of March. Everyone is still welcome to come along and play.



Then April will bring the opening of the outdoor season. We will be busy on the green this year, hosting Ladies Bowls Federation county matches where the cream of the Counties Ladies will do battle with Nottinghamshire on 5th May, Norfolk on the 1st June and Nth Cambs. on 30th June. So if you want to see some top Ladies bowls come and watch.

This year we have entered an extra team into the Cambridge and District league, so the green will be busy with a home game almost every Tuesday. Spectators are more than welcome. We also have our usual Ladies league and Men's league fixtures so something happening most nights of the week. Of course Wednesday afternoon over 60s league as well. Plenty of opportunities to come and have a drink a friendly chat and watch some bowls in the sunshine. Perfick.

We are hoping to reinstate the school scheme in May where we have year 5 children from the primary school learning to play bowls. Lots of loud and raucous laughter along the way all held together by Alan Blackley our Junior Section Manager.

The club opens the green over Easter weekend and I for one can't wait. Roll on the warm weather. If you fancy giving bowling a go don't be shy give Alan a call on **07368422241**. You won't regret it.

## Needingworth Colts FC

Needingworth Colts FC require two responsible volunteers, minimum age 18, to start in September to run a football academy for 5 year olds before they join the Hunts Youth League. Football season runs from September to April. Applicants must be available Saturday mornings at 10am for one hour at our home ground at Millfields. Full training will be given as FA qualifications are essential to work with children. Interested? Please email your details to:

Chairman -  
Sam Reid: [designapps@mail.com](mailto:designapps@mail.com)

## Needingworth Tennis Club



It's an exciting time at Needingworth Tennis Club having grown our membership to 218. We have several teams competing at different levels across Men's, Ladies and Mixed teams in both the Cambridge and "Hunts & Peterborough" leagues. Our Head Coach is looking to arrange friendly matches for our juniors.

We will be looking forward to everybody renewing their membership again in April and to welcome new members young and old. The details are below and we still offer the best value of all the clubs in our area allowing everyone the opportunity to play.

Our floodlit courts are playing extremely well and despite the rain and wind we are seeing a lot of matches being played including the popular singles Fast 4 competition where everybody can compete with others of their ability, with promotions and relegations each month.

We are also very pleased to host our Quiz Night again this year on 26<sup>th</sup> March at the Village Hall. Please see website for more information.

Club sessions have restarted in full. 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 started with a wide range of courses from juniors to the Rusty Rackets for those wanting to dust off their skills. Details of all coaching can be found on our website.

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

It is time to renew membership for 2022, Juniors pay £30, Single membership is £70, Couples £105 and family membership £130. We are always happy to welcome new members of all abilities. The year starts 1<sup>st</sup> April, which you can renew on our website, or contact Chris for more details or to join before then.

### CONTACTS

Chairman - Tim Perry  
(07484270975 – [timperry100@hotmail.com](mailto:timperry100@hotmail.com))  
Membership - Chris Moore  
([chrismoore1983@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chrismoore1983@hotmail.co.uk))  
Secretary – Jim Hunter  
([j.hunter2011@btinternet.com](mailto: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>



## 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

### Stagecoach Service V3 (Somersham—St Ives) Monday to Friday

Somersham Post Office	05:53	06:53
Somersham The Trundle	05:56	06:56
Colne High Street	06:03	07:03
Earith Adelaide Walk	06:08	07:08
Bluntisham White Swan	06:15	07:15
Needingworth Queens Head	06:20	07:20
St Ives Station Road	06:28	07:28

### Stagecoach Service V3 (St Ives—Somersham) Monday to Friday

St Ives Bus Station Bay 4	16:00	19:00
Needingworth Queens Head	16:08	19:08
Bluntisham White Swan	16:13	19:13
Earith Adelaide Walk	16:20	19:20
Colne High Street	16:24	19:24
Somersham The Trundle	16:31	19:31
Somersham The Cross	16:34	19:34

### Stagecoach Service V3 (Somersham—St Ives) Saturday

Somersham Post Office	06:39
Somersham The Trundle	06:42
Colne High Street	06:49
Earith Adelaide Walk	06:54
Bluntisham White Swan	07:01
Needingworth Queens Head	07:06
St Ives Station Road	07:14

### Stagecoach Service V3 (St Ives—Somersham) Saturday

St Ives Bus Station Bay 4	20:02
Needingworth Queens Head	20:10
Bluntisham White Swan	20:15
Earith Adelaide Walk	20:22
Colne High Street	20:26
Somersham The Trundle	20:33
Somersham The Cross	20:36

## SPORT



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**Strength**  
**Control**  
**Self Defence**

In celebration of over 20 years training in Needingworth Village Hall we are looking to develop the club. Beginners of all ages (7+ years) welcome - In a friendly supportive environment - no special kit required



**Thursday evenings 6:30pm – 8pm / £5 per session**

Pop along or contact the highly experienced instructors  
*Sensei Burton 7<sup>th</sup> Dan – 07770685608*  
*Sensei Morris 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan – 07917155254*  
([Sensei\\_Morris@btinternet.com](mailto:Sensei_Morris@btinternet.com))



# HUGE!

Holywell-Cum-Needingworth Gardening Club

## Plant Sale

**10.00 am sharp** at Needingworth Village Hall

# 7<sup>th</sup> May

## Tennis Club Quiz

7:30 on 26th March  
in the Village Hall

Teams of 8, £6 per person.

To book contact Deb  
at [dyates4physio@gmail.com](mailto:dyates4physio@gmail.com)

# **Needingworth Village Hall Trust ANNUAL TRIVIA QUIZ**

ON

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022**  
at The Village Hall  
7.30 pm for 8 pm start

**COME ALONG AND  
HAVE A GO!  
TEAMS OF UP TO SIX  
BAR AND RAFFLE**

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BOOK YOUR TEAM WITH  
MARGARET

**ON 01480 496636  
OR 07929 869780**

**Mothering Sunday  
Sunday 27 March  
at 9.30 a.m.  
All-Age Service at  
St John the Baptist Parish  
Church, Holywell-cum-  
Needingworth  
Posies and Simnel cake  
Everyone welcome!**

## **WHAT'S ON in the Village**

### **March 2022**

- Tue. 1st Over 60s AGM and Quiz (see p13)
- Mon. 7th WI 'Friends against Scams' (see page 11)
- Tue. 8th Gardening Club (p15)
- Sat. 26th Tennis Club Quiz (see opposite page)
- Sun. 27th Mothering Sunday service  
St John the Baptist Church (p31)

### **April 2022**

- Mon. 4th WI Easter Craft competition and demo by Debs Wain of Daisy Chains (see page 11)
- Tue. 5th Over 60s U3A singers (p13)
- Tue. 12th Gardening Club (p 15)

### **May 2022**

- Thur. 5th Election Day
- Sat. 7th Gardening Club plant Sale (p30)
- Sat. 7th Village Hall Annual Trivia Quiz
- Mon 9th WI 'Dream, Believe, Achieve' by Maddie from Bee Crafty (p11)

### **Advance notice**

- June 6th WI annual garden party celebrating the Queen's platinum jubilee (p11)
- June 7th Over 60s Strawberry tea (p13)
- June 24th - 26th Well Blessing and Flower Festival (p19)
- July 2nd - 3rd Music Festival
- October 1st the 'Wandering Minstrels' Gilbert and Sullivan songs

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 May).



## BUS TIMETABLES

Details of the Dews Coaches service no 21 and Stagecoach service V3 are given on page 30 but we recommend checking either, for Dews services, the web site [www.dews-coaches.com](http://www.dews-coaches.com) or for Stagecoach 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 current Post Office opening hours are: **9 am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday** and **9 am to 1 pm on Saturdays (closed Sundays)**

### POST COLLECTION TIMES

from the post Office:

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

### MOBILE LIBRARY

1<sup>st</sup> 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)

March Thurs. 10th and 24th  
April Thurs. 7th and 21st  
May Thurs. 5th and 19th

### GREEN BINS (garden waste)

March Wed. 2nd, 16th and 30th  
April Wed. 13th and 27th  
May Wed. 11th and 25th

### BLUE BINS (recycling)

March Thurs. 3rd, 17th and 31st  
April Thurs. 14th and 28th  
May Thurs. 12th and 26th



## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### 24 HOUR EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Hospital - Huntingdon (Hinchingbrooke) 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



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# WHO'S WHO

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<b>Dance Club</b>	Rose Killock	<b>466487</b>
<b>Football</b>	Email via web site:	<a href="https://needingworthcoltsfc.com/contact/">https://needingworthcoltsfc.com/contact/</a>
<b>Gardening Club</b>	Grant Williamson	<b>493360</b> <a href="mailto:parkingcare@globalnet.co.uk">parkingcare@globalnet.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.hcngardening.weebly.com">www.hcngardening.weebly.com</a>
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<b>Little Tigers</b>	Abi	<b>07824 810532</b>
<b>Local History Group</b>	Sally Beaman	<b>462379</b> <a href="mailto:rsde.beaman@btinternet.com">rsde.beaman@btinternet.com</a> History Website: <a href="http://www.hcnhistory.org.uk">www.hcnhistory.org.uk</a>
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<b>Councillors</b>	Lewis Besley	<b>300658</b>
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<b>Village Hall tel:</b>		
Outgoing calls emergency line only		
Incoming calls		<b>01480 498351</b>