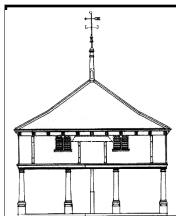


New Buckenham Parish News



July 2020



New Buckenham Parish News

July 2020

Welcome Back!

St Martin's church is open again daily from 10am until 5pm for private prayer, meditation or just a quiet sit. We regret that the kitchen, toilet, book stall and children's play area are closed, and ask you to observe the following:

Please use the hand sanitiser and wipes provided just inside the door.

Please keep a 2m/6ft distance from any other visitors.

Please do not handle books, etc.

Please touch only what is necessary.

Please wipe any hard surfaces and handles you have touched.

It would help us to decide whether our measures are adequate, and whether we can relax them, if we know how many people are visiting the church, so we would appreciate it if you would write your name on the page provided.

Food bank donations should still be taken to Kings Stores, but book donations can be left in bags in the church, ready for when we can open the book stall again.

There are prayers on the table inside and if you would like to join our 10am Zoom service on Sundays, receive the material by email or in print, or just talk, please contact one of us: Rev. Canon Steve Wright (887183), Helen Pearson (860251) or myself.

Susan Jowett (860929)

Welcome Back, Parish News!

I am sure that, in the not too distant future, books and magazines will be replaced by technology, so I would like to pay tribute to our *Parish News* in its current form. I know that we have been able to read it online in recent months, but how lovely that it is back in print and dropping through our letterboxes once more! This leads me to pay tribute to the fantastic *Parish News* team along with its contributors and distributors. As someone who, many, many years ago, used to type it out on a typewriter and copy it on a Gestetner (ask your parents or possibly grandparents!) I am very appreciative of the excellent magazine which we now have.

Thank you, one and all!

Karen Hobley

Village Hall reopening

The Village Hall Trust is working hard to reopen the hall as soon as we are able. We are currently making some changes to ensure that the Hall is Covid 19-secure, including installing new hand sanitiser stations and paper towel dispensers, and investing in more frequent cleaning. Over the next few days we will be working with our regular hirers to complete risk assessments so that we can begin to start welcoming them back. We would like to reassure Hall users that we are doing everything we can to make the hall a safe environment for you to visit.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website (<https://www.newbuckenhambvillagehall.co.uk>) for further updates. We look forward to welcoming you back to the hall as soon as it is safe to do so.

Alice Cattermole

on behalf of New Buckenham Village Hall Trust

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Helping Hands in New Buckenham

If you are self-isolating, there is a group of volunteers within the village who are willing to help in the following ways:

- ⇒ Picking up your shopping
- ⇒ Picking up urgent supplies (e.g. medication, etc.)
- ⇒ Posting your letters
- ⇒ Contacting you by telephone to check that you are alright

Since lockdown began on Monday 23rd March, our group of 30 volunteers has assisted with over 100 requests for help, including the collection prescriptions, deliveries of shopping from Kings Stores within the village and further afield, and trips to the Post Office and pharmacy.

If you need help, please ring Alice and Richard on 01953 860136 and we will pass your details on to a volunteer who will do their best to help. If you'd rather email it's alicecattermole@hotmail.com or you can text us on 07900 272524. We will usually be available between 8am and 9pm and will check our messages frequently throughout the day. Kings Stores can be contacted on 01953 860264 or by email at suecat64@outlook.com.

Alice Cattermole

Lockdown in New Buckenham

We're collecting photos taken in the village during the lockdown. Please help us put together an important community record which we'll display online later this year. More than that, we'll show a selection at a special exhibition to be displayed at next year's Photoshow (28th–30th May 2021) in the Village Hall.

What sort of photos are we looking for? Any subject, so long as it's been taken in the village during the lockdown. Photos that particularly illustrate this are more likely to be displayed. We are not looking for technically good photos, just what's important to you or your household in these months. Rather like extracts from a diary: gardens, bored children, empty streets, dog walking, community clapping, being at work, talking on Zoom – it's your choice.

It's the visual memories that are important, not skills with camera or phone, and contributions from all ages will be welcomed.

Please send your photos to photoshow@newbuckenham.net.

Photos should be sent in maximum resolution, and each one should have a caption, e.g. 'in the garden', and a note of where in New Buckenham it was taken. If there are any queries please contact me at photoshow@newbuckenham.net

Charles Oxley

New Buckenham Arts

Poppy Collection 2020

As we are planning to move from the village, we will no longer be organising the annual British Legion Poppy Collection.

If you would be interested in taking this over, please ring or email us and we will give you all the details. We have a willing band of collectors and the whole operation is easy to run.

John & Elly Newport

860767 / elly.newport@btinternet.com

New Arrivals

We welcome Pam Cole, who has moved into Drover's Cottage, Church Street. Pam, we hope you enjoy your time here!

We also welcome the birth of Violet Lily to Shaun and Abigail at King's Cottage, King Street.

Parish News Committee

Parish News Online

It is possible to access an online version of *Parish News* at <http://newbuckenhams.net/index.php/parish-news>. If you find yourself with time to fill, you can download back-issues of the magazine from 2017 onwards!

It is also possible to receive your copy of *Parish News* by email, and if you would like to do this you can sign up for our mailing list here: <http://eepurl.com/dhB-1P>.

Parish News Committee

St Mary's Residential Care Home

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New Buckenham Parish Council

The July Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 14th at 7:30pm. I think it is unlikely that we will be meeting at the Village Hall, so the meeting will again take place via Zoom. In order to join us, you will need to download Zoom onto your laptop, tablet or phone. On the day of the meeting, go onto the New Buckenham Parish Council website and you will find details of how to join us for the meeting. All parishioners are welcome to sign in. In the meantime, contact details for the Parish Council can be found on the back page of this *Parish News*. Please contact me or any other councillors if you need further information about the meeting or any other Parish Council matters.

Future Parish Council meetings will take place on 8th September, 13th October, 10th November and 8th December. The Parish Council does not normally meet in August.

Please may we, once again, issue a reminder to dog owners to clear up after their pets and to use the dog bins provided! These are still being emptied regularly. They are situated in Marsh Lane, at the entrances to the Castle and St Martin's Gardens and near the Play Area Car Park. We have had a few complaints about owners not clearing up after their dogs or clearing up, but then leaving the bags in random places.

In recent weeks, the majority of these complaints have centred around the Cricket Pitch — it has been noted that there has been a large increase in the amount of excrement on the field. This is most unpleasant for everyone who walks around the area, but particularly for the Cricket Club, who have resumed training, and the increased numbers of youngsters who are playing there due to the Play Area being closed and no school for most. There are also the health risks to be considered.

Of course, we are very much aware that the majority of dog owners are extremely responsible, but we ask everyone to look after our lovely village. Thank you.

These are difficult times and, to end on a positive note, the Parish Council would like to thank everyone in the village for 'stepping up to the plate' and continuing to support each other in so many different ways during lockdown.

Stay safe, stay well and stay alert.

Karen Hobley

01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com

Summary of Draft Minutes, May 2020 (Held on Zoom)

1. Chairman: Resolved that Cllr Hobley be elected Chairman of the Council for 2020/21.
2. Vice Chairman: Resolved that Cllr Bingham be elected Vice Chairman for 2020/21.
3. Matters Arising: Cllr Crossman has investigated the broken slats at the Play Area and concluded they need to be replaced by Playdale.
4. District/County Cllr Report
Cllr Askew reported that resurfacing of Marsh Lane was on the list, but could not give a timeframe given current circumstances. He agreed to liaise with the Parish Clerk and Highways in relation to an additional dog bin.
5. Parish Cllr Reports
The Chair reported the Noticeboard looking shabby, Cllr Highton agreed to restore it.

6. Public Participation

Mrs Thomas provided further background to the plans of the Climate Action Now Group.

7. Financial Matters

- a. Financial Report for April was received and noted.
- b. Cllrs agreed to renew subscriptions to NALC and NPTS and the monthly subscription to Zoom.
- c. The Community Project Group had considered the grant application from CAN for support in planting trees on the edge of the Wymondham Road. The Group were supportive of this, but required further details of the exact location and arrangements for future maintenance. Mrs Thomas confirmed maintenance would be undertaken by CAN and agreed to provide a map showing exact location. Chair agreed to contact Norfolk Wildlife Trust to clarify ownership of land behind the Cricket Pitch. CAN were asked to submit a new application when these issues had been resolved.
- d. Payments for May were approved.

8) Planning

The Cottage, King St: Replacement of ground-floor window to front elevation and repositioning of oil tank. Application supported.

Two further applications had been received in the last 24 hours, these were deferred until the next meeting:

Inn on the Green: Conversion of ground floor into two residential flats and construction of two semi-detached dwellings in the car park area.

13 St. Martin's Gardens: Demolition of porch and rear conservatory. Conversion and extension of garage and new rear extension to include bedroom on the first floor.

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9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Manning reported that the review of responses to the consultation was continuing.

10. Amenities

- a. Closed Churchyard: Clerk had asked BTS to cut back a tree which was obscuring light to an adjoining garden.
- b. Cemetery: concern had been expressed regarding car parking at the cemetery adjacent to the allotments. Clerk to include this issue in a letter to allotment holders.
- c. Allotments: Currently four people on the waiting list.

Mary Dowson on behalf of NB Parish Council

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August Fete

I don't suppose it will be a shock to hear that we have taken the decision to cancel the August Bank Holiday Fete for the obvious reasons. We left the decision as late as was reasonable given the preparation work needed.

The Village Hall and field are booked for 2021 – surely we will be able to hold it then!

Carolyn Hupton

New Buckenham Fundraisers

Good Companions

After a lot of discussion the committee of the Good Companions have reached the conclusion that even if the Village Hall opens its doors again in the near future, the Companions would not resume its meetings until the New Year. Our group of people are the most vulnerable to the virus and social distancing would not be able to be achieved.

Christine Wilby

Biz Buzz

Biz Buzz is now posted regularly on Facebook, Next Door and other social media sites, so that is where to get the latest updates. Things are moving so fast that a monthly update in this magazine gets very quickly out of date.

Janet Trewin





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A Wartime Tale: A Dog's Life

Jock is the dog I'm going to write about, but I'll digress along the way. Born in 1938, I was a wartime child on a farm in Norfolk, and Jock, a mixture of Scottie and Norfolk Terrier, was my dog and my friend. He was also the greatest 'ratter' in the world. We used to walk the fields, ditches, hedgerows, wood and ponds, and everything was fair game – mice, rats, moles, rabbits and even the odd pheasant and waterhen found its way into our clutches.

Harvest even then was reminiscent of a bygone era. A binder, drawn by a tractor, cutting and binding into sheaves which were then gathered together in stooks. In Norfolk, a sheaf was called a 'shoof' and a stock was called a 'shock'. Indeed, we worked in the fields, 'shocking wheat'.

The farms had stackyards and cut corn was carted, with horse and wagon, from field to yard, where large stacks were built, and then thatched to protect them from the rain. It was also at this time that tractors were taking over from horses, and the shafts on the wagons were replaced with simple draw bars. Little boys like me were allowed to drive tractors, towing converted four-wheel wagons, loaded with cord, from field to stackyard. No Health and Safety regulations in those days!

I said I would digress... I'm writing this on the 75th anniversary of VE Day. I remember the original VE Day very well, with the procession through the village and my sister dressed as Britannia, riding a lovely old Suffolk Punch cart horse. Britannia incidentally was the cap badge of the local Regiment – the Royal Norfolks. But back to the stackyard...

In March and April, there was great excitement with the arrival of the thrashing tackle, steam engine, thrashing drum and elevator, the latter necessary to raise thrashed straw up to the new straw stack.

In the morning I would be on duty with my stick, and Jock. The thrashing engine driver, Charlie, who wore a single gold

earring and had gypsy blood, would address me in broad Norfolk dialect, “Well, bor, are you a-goin’ to catch all them there little meecies?” When the thrashing started, there were always the early escapees, mainly mice, and once caught they would be laid out in rows of ten. But gradually Jock lost interest in the mice – it was the rats that he was really going for. Sometimes, he would try to climb the ladder and get closer to the action on the stack itself. He would watch as the next sheaf was forked over towards the thrashing drum, and dart at any rat that tried to escape. The sheer speed and ferocity as he caught the rat, shook it violently for a few seconds, and laid it on the straw, only to repeat the process if there was any sign of movement, was a wonderful example of keenness and experience. At times it was possible to see a small movement in an individual sheaf and he would know. A sudden dive under, and he would emerge with a struggling rodent. No mercy there! Exhausted from the chase and filthy from the dust, we would happily collapse every evening.

On the final day, the stack was halfway down, and Jock was examining a sheaf which was showing signs of movement. As the rat appeared and went to the edge of the stack, excitement and exhaustion played their part and poor Jock – and the rat – went over the edge. Alas, he fell badly. The whimper, and the fact that he could only move his front legs, are still embedded in my memory. He was put down and buried with full military honours in the orchard with a plain wooden marker – ‘Jock’.

But what a dog! And in those days, I only hoped that he found peace in Doggy Heaven.

Pat Darley

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New Buckenham Parish Council

- Chair:** Karen Hobley
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- Vice-Chair:** Andrew Bingham
(01953 861150 / andrew.bingham100@gmail.com)
- Councillors:** Don Crossman (01953 861246)
Mary Dowson (01953 860320)
Steve Highton (01953 860499)
Mary Manning (01953 861242)
Paul Martin (01953 861117)
- Clerk:** Trevor Wenman
(01379 641423 / parishclerk@newbuckenham.net)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month. At present, the meetings are being held online via Zoom. Further information about how to join these meetings, and the Parish Council more generally, can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or on our website www.newbuckenhampc.info.

Contributions for the August 2020 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6:00pm on Monday 20th July 2020 to Linda Bryan, Pine Cottage, Marsh Lane (861107), Michael Boswell, Peel House, Chapel Street (860015), Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.