

Church, Community and Parish News for the villages of Wymeswold, Burton on the Wolds, Hoton, Cotes, Prestwold and Walton on the Wolds.

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The **Christian** *Link*

Pastoral Letter

From the desk of the associate Priest...

In his whole life of some 33 years or so Jesus probably walked virtually everywhere he went, he will have been carried as a baby and child and may have rode a donkey or mule on occasions but basically he walked everywhere. In our sense of travel he never really travelled.

We know that Jesus could read – he read from the scriptures in the synagogue and expounded upon them but his only known writing was when he doodled in the sand whilst waiting 'for someone without sin to cast the first stone'. He certainly did not write influential books. There is evidence that he worked with his hands – probably as a carpenter in the family business, he was brought up in a family and his ministry

lasted at the most three years.

Yet his life has changed the world. His method was to deal with the people he encountered – he taught those who turned up, he healed those he came across who were ill, he challenged the thinking of the religious and of those in authority. He made visible - to those with eyes to see - the loving, father, creator God who is not usually visible. He touched the untouchables and washed the guilty clean. No one was too disgusting for his attention.

Jesus was born into the people who had been chosen by God to be in relationship with God and then show how wonderful God was to all the other nations and Jesus became the means by which all nations could come to God.

We do not need to travel or write great books to show Jesus to today's world – we can simply use Jesus' model of caring for those our life brings us

What's in this Christian Link?

Pages 3-5 Church News

Pages 6-9 Wymeswold News Pages 10-11 News from Burton, Hoton, Cotes

and Prestwold

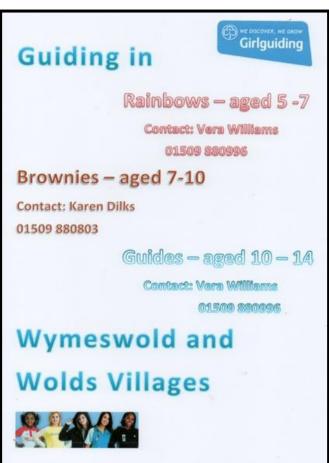
Page 12 Walton news
Page 13-15 General news
Page 16 Church contacts

up against, making a difference to lives lived out in our villages – maybe in the house next door; welcoming strangers; smiling; challenging wrong thinking. We can choose each day to rejoice in the gift of the God given day. We can trust in the totally trustworthy God that Jesus trusted in and pointed us towards.

If you ever think that you are too small to make a difference just spend one night in bed with a mosquito!

May God richly bless you! Reverend Fiona





Church News

News from St Mary's



As I wrote in the last edition of the Link, 'with faith comes

optimism' I still write with optimism as February brings us still closer to those longed for lighter nights, the spring and all that it has to offer us. It is true that we are still in the depths of controlling the pandemic, but we must try to never lose hope. I know from my own experience that this is not easy but if we take things one step at a time, hour by hour, day by day, the light will shine for us all.

I have spoken to many people in recent months who are facing different challenges. We all are coming at this drastic change in all our lives from different personal experiences and perspectives, but I thought I would include this well-known little prayer that I have quietly said to myself in times of challenge. I hope that it might help even just one person to read it. It is the 'Serenity' Prayer,

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,

The courage to change the things that I can, And the wisdom to know the difference.

We cannot change what has happened nor control all things in the wider world, but we can all be kind to ourselves and to others. A smile, a wave, a phone call, or text are all it needs sometimes. It takes many tiny drops of water to make an ocean and if we can add to that then that is a good thing. We are very fortunate to live in this beautiful village and I know that we, as a community, are very mindful of the needs of others. There is much to be thankful even in times such as these.

Services and Praying at Home

I think it is still very likely that services will be offered remotely this month. They can be viewed live, via Zoom each Sunday at 10:30 or at a later date on YouTube or via the Barrow and Wolds Group Website. As well as the Zoom link, Rev. Clive is also able to supply you with a copy of the readings for each Sunday and a 'Praying at Home sheet'. You can email him at

rev.clive.watts@barrowandwoldsgroup.com or telephone him on 07534 899522

Flowers

I will be sending out the new rota to all the people who so kindly volunteer to arrange flowers in church once we know when the church building will be open for services again. I had begun to put together a rota during the Christmas break, but it was becoming increasingly obvious that things were beginning to drastically change again. Thank you for your continued support and bearing with me at this time.

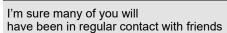
Other news...

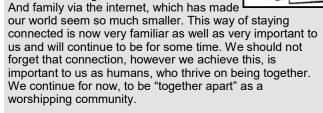
All the other groups who usually meet in usual times are continuing to do so but obviously online, as has become the norm. The bell ringers are having virtual practice nights via 'Abell' to keep their knowledge of a variety of ringing methods in their heads. There is also the opportunity for them to meet virtually with the Leicestershire Diocesan Guild of ringers and take part in a variety of ringing and social events. The Home Groups are continuing to meet when they can, and the work of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) continues. As a wider group of churches in these villages, we meet for services as outlined above as well as enjoying social events online too. To keep up to date with all events, news and changes, please refer to the Barrow and Wolds Group Website https://barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers. With every good wishes to you all,

Julie Henshaw

Methodist News





We recently held a couple of on-line events, which meant that we were invited via the internet into each others' homes. This made me reflect that this was actually very similar to the founding principles of Methodism, which in days gone by, worked on small class meetings, in homes. It also shows that when we need to, we can still be the connected church which we as Methodists are members of

We will be entering Lent on 17th February and in normal times, we would think of "giving up" things as part of Lent.

News Items and Adverts for next issue

Deadline date for the March issue is Friday 12th February. Items submitted after the Deadline Date <u>may</u> not be included in the Link.

Please send *News Items, Articles or Social Adverts* to **Jenny Bokor** at 3, Rectory Place, Wymeswold. Tel: 881428, E-mail: **jennybp54@aol.com**

Please send *Commercial Adverts* to Chris Keeling at 9, The Stockwell, Wymeswold. Tel 880515, E-mail: chriskeeling38@gmail.com

Please note <u>all</u> Commercial Adverts should be sent in JPEG Format whenever possible, otherwise it causes a lot of work so we may need to charge for the time spent creating them.

Apologies, but we *cannot distribute any additional material* with the Christian Link, e.g. flyers.

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As we are already giving up rather a lot at present, we feel that this year we should also look at Lent differently and focus not on ourselves, but try to offer a small gesture of goodwill each day to someone else, whether that's a quick chat in the street with someone, or picking up the phone to a friend who we know lives on their own, running an errand or sending a letter or whatever else you can think of.

Instead of giving something up, why not offer a kind gesture to someone who may need it through these difficult months. Then hopefully as we approach Easter our efforts can be celebrated perhaps with some treats for ourselves, whether that's of the chocolate kind, or maybe with a socially distanced visit, or walk with family or friends.

Margaret Folwell

News from St Andrew's



I know that in my last report I dreamt that early in the New

Year Covid would be disappearing into the ether and we would all be able to meet at some time – well I admit, in this instance, I was a bit too optimistic. Look on the bright side though, the vaccine is here and is being "pumped into people's arms" at the rate of knots. It is wonderful to hear that at the time of writing this, quite a few of the parishioners have had the vaccination and that so far, there have been no side effects. Good times are on the way. Good times must be on the way.

I must sound like a stuck record but the church has been closed once more and all I can say is please check the Barrow and Wolds Group website. I know that Reverend Clive and his team are working very hard to keep us all informed and are looking at ways of possibly being able to include members of the church who are not on broadband and the like in services. How are they going to do that? I don't know but what I do know is that if there is a way, Reverend Clive will find it.

When reflecting on 2020 it is great to be able to say that no one from St Andrew's ended up having to be admitted to hospital with Covid although four very much-loved people did die but essentially because their time had come. Dorothy Able was born in Hoton and lived in the same house all her life. After school she qualified as a Librarian and with her incredible, retentive memory was a mind of information. People loved her; she always had a smile for everyone and enjoyed participating in any social event that occurred in Hoton. Dorothy attended Hoton church right up until it was closed and then joined St Andrew's and again participated fully in all aspects of the church. Sadly, she died in June and is buried in Hoton in the family plot.

In July we had to say goodbye to Joyce Parker - Joyce and her husband Len, moved to Cotes in about 1948 and she, like Dorothy was extremely active in village life, attending Hoton Church until it closed when she joined St Andrew's. Despite great tragedy in her life, she never lost her faith which was and always had been very much a part of her life. Joyce was a very valuable member of the congregation, joining the PCC, helping with any social functions where she became known for making the most wonderful scones. Knitting was her passion and over the past 14 years she has been knitting anything up to 300 pairs of mittens each year for the Christmas shoebox appeal. In fact, her daughter Jean told me that up until a fortnight before she died she was still knitting mittens. Some two years ago, because she had found it difficult to get around, she went to live with Jean and her family. It is comforting to know that she died happy

and secure with her family around her. In December we said goodbye to Geoff Parkinson who came to live in Burton-on-the-Wolds in about 2002. Geoff was a licensed Lay Reader and very willingly became involved in the life of the Church, taking services and presiding over a very informative and lively Bible Study Group. In fact, he participated in activities in all four churches in the Group and was very much a part of the team. When he moved to Lichfield to be closer to his family we missed his enthusiasm and energy which had been a real contribution to the life of the church.

Just recently, we have been informed that Mavis Burley has died at her care home in Bristol. Her husband Ken was a very good musician and played the organ during church services. Mavis, like the others became a very active member joining in all the activities of the church and also joining the PCC. She was an avid fund raiser, organising coffee mornings, bridge drives and so on all with the aim of ensuring that St Andrew's would continue to thrive.

This seems to be a very sad situation but it is with much love and grateful thanks and pride that we were privileged to have known these wonderful people – people who spread so much joy and happiness and are now at peace, having left this world knowing they were much loved and left us at the right time of life.

Keep well and keep safe. Here's to a much better 2021.

Adena Hecks



WYMESWOLD POST OFFICE IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

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Tuesday 1.30 to 3.30 Friday 12 - 3.00

Christian Link

To advertise contact **Chris Keeling**9, The Stockwell, Wymeswold. Tel 880515.
Thanks to **Liz Gray** for desktop publishing.
Thanks to **Julian Gray** for proof reading this issue.
Thanks to **Susan Crinage** for the original cover design and to **Penny Samuelson** for ongoing artwork.

Wymeswold Community Volunteers

DO YOU NEED HELP?

We are a group of residents of Wymeswold who are coming together to help in the community during a time where some people are experiencing difficulty in accessing what they need. We would like to support the community that we live in and ensure that nobody is left isolated or without what they need.

We can help with:

Urgent Supplies Posting Mail Dog Walks

Chats S

Shopping

A friendly phone call

If you would like to speak to us or want to ask for help please email: wymeswoldhelp@gmail.com or call 07904 518 410

If you wish to join our team of volunteers please text 07904 518 410 or join our Facebook Group "Wymeswold In Need"

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Wymeswold News

WYMESWOLD FOODBANK COLLECTION

These are such difficult times and many more people now sadly find themselves in need of using foodbanks. Demand on these charities has increased significantly.

To help support our local LOUGHBOROUGH AREA FOODBANK, I am collecting donations at the end of every month. If you feel you would like to contribute then please leave donations in my porch on the 26th and 27th of every month. Put a note on your calendar.

All donations would be very much appreciated but they are in particular need of toiletries, nappies, tinned fruit/meat/ vegetables/puddings, soups, sauces, cereals, UHT long life milk, rice/pasta/noodles, tea/coffee/fruit juice, jams and spreads.

Please ensure all donations have a long shelf-life on them.

A BIG thank you.

Please note there are also collections in Wysall and Rempstone.

Nicole Cooper 28 Church Street, Wymeswold

East Midlands Ambulance Service Wolds Community First Responders



WE ARE RECRUITING NEW CFR's

Have you thought about this or know someone who would make a good CFR?

The role of CFR for our village's and surrounding areas is so important. We are regularly called out locally and have saved many lives. We have a CFR car and the Trust provides all the uniforms and equipment.

Please do think about if you could consider training to be a CFR. All the training is carried out by EMAS. Why not have a word with Peter about the role.

Your local CFR's have been assisting on the recent Immunisation programmes across the County. We have also covered some front line work for EMAS.

A Reminder about Accessing Your Local AED (Village Heart Defibrillators)

In all our local villages we have an emergency Defibrillators. They have been paid for by local village community donations and are regularly checked. Why don't you familiarise yourself to where they are.

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Wymeswold: Outside the Church and Memorial Hall (there is also one inside the Sports Pavilion)

Walton: (Located outside the Anchor Pub)

Hoton, Rempstone, and Burton: At the Village Halls

When a 999 emergency telephone call is made an EMAS Controller will ask some basic questions and they will access if a Defibrillator is needed. They know where your nearest defibrillator is located.

The Wolds CFR group have annual training sessions on CPR, Defibrillators and strokes but this year they have been curtailed. We do hope to offer these again when we can. If you have any questions, assistance or need to learn more than phone Peter on 01509 889692 (Registered Charity Number: 1182197)

> Peter Blount EMAS CFR Group Coordinator (01509 889692) (077 1825 1502)

Wymeswold Church of England Primary School



Dream and Believe, Learn and Achieve

What a start to the year Back to home schooling but school has to go on.

Back to home schooling and the teachers and pupils and parents have worked so hard. We ended the year with great news with Wymeswold School being 22nd in the list of the Sunday Times National Best Small Primary Schools charts. We gained the Routes to Resilience accreditation for our character education work.

A big thank you to all the school staff for all their continued hard work and commitment during these **Covid times**

We are all proud of our school staff for keeping going during these hard times and for keeping the school functioning last year and this term. The staff continue to provide excellent teaching to the children under difficult circumstances. The school was open in January for Critical Worker Provision and Online learning started up again. Attendance was near to the 100% each day. Well done everyone.

So what about all the other good news and things the school has been doing:

The parents' views about how we managed Covid was extremely positive. School meals have been extended to all pupils. The school children supported the village food bank appeal. They recognised Mental Health and Wellbeing Day to support Children in Need. Bikeablity was back in December and Flu vaccinations were carried out.

Christmas at school: Christmas dinner, Christmas Jumper day, a Christmas film from all the classes. EYFS presented a separate Nativity. We had Christmas Services and Assembly's provided by the Church.

Remembrance Day was recognised by the children who coloured in Poppies for placing in windows.

They learnt about Diwali.

Above all we learnt a lot about ourselves.

PTA news: A huge thank you to the PTA who have

bought the school another set of early readers for EYFS. They organised a really big Hamper raffle. They were generous in providing books from the 'wish list'. They organised 'Bags for Schools' collection. Thank you. We continue to pray for the staff, children, parents and carers and families at this time

Peter Blount Co-Chair of Governors

A Date for your 2021 Diaries!



Supporting Breast Cancer Now

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Wymeswold Parish Council



Wymeswold Parish Council are still holding meetings virtually and will do so until further notice. Our most recent meeting was held at 7pm on Monday 4th January.

The minutes from the meeting are available at http://www.wymeswold.com/parish-council-parish-council-agendas-minutes/

Covid-19 and Social Distancing Measures

Lockdown 3... for the time being, play areas and gym equipment in the village remain open. In line with the most up to date Government advice, it is essential that you adhere to the following...

REMEMBER that equipment and play areas are used at your own risk.

ALWAYS adhere to social distancing guidelines. MAKE sure that you have hand sanitiser and sanitising wipes with you.

ALL Equipment must be sanitised before and after use. WASH your hands thoroughly when returning home.

As they have done throughout the pandemic, the open spaces remain open for people to use. Cases are rising across the UK, so please, please keep up to date with the latest Government advice and follow the lockdown restrictions carefully.

Community Consultation Housing & Planning Survey: In November, Charnwood Borough Council undertook a review of their local plan core strategy. The new Plan period is from 2020 - 2037 and has identified a local housing need for the District of an additional circa 9000 new homes.

There are 11 possible locations that have been identified in Wymeswold as potential development sites. These sites are known as SHLAA's (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessments). Landowners put plots of land forward for consideration for development to the Local Authority, and a technical exercise is undertaken to determine the suitability of the land for housing development and the potential number of houses that could be built on each plot.

Two of these sites have already been submitted for outline Planning Application; Pegasus Developments Land to the north of East Road for 45 dwellings (Planning reference P/20/2044/2) and Rainier Developments Land to the south of East Road for 85 dwellings ({Planning reference P/20/2427/2.

It would be naive to think that Wymeswold cannot accept any development whatsoever, and therefore as a Parish we need to be able to influence the planning process and identify what we deem to be the most appropriate location for development. As a settlement, we need to identify what we require in the way of S106 developer contributions, i.e., improved play equipment, community facilities, traffic calming etc.

Please complete and submit your comments by using the link below OR by scanning the QR code on the next page. The deadline for this consultation is 25th February 2021.

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ACCESS SURVEY HERE



Paper copies are available on request from Louise Turner the Parish Clerk, see contact details below.

Police Reports

During the month of December there were no reported instances of theft in the village. As always, please do continue to report any suspicious activity in the village on 101 or email our neighbourhood watch – garryandangie26@gmail.com.

Another reminder too, that Covid-19 related scams are still out there. Sadly, scams offering vaccinations for a charge or asking you to make payment for a delivery are rife right now. As per last month, there is specific information relating to scams on the village website.

Details have also been communicated via the neighbourhood watch email system and we recommend that you familiarise yourself with the information.

Flooding on the Village

As we head in the depths of the Winter months, just a reminder that our Neighbourhood Watch will receive alerts if the water level rises and they will intern be able to use their communication network to notify residents.

If you are not already included in the network but would like to be please contact the Neighbourhood watch via email at garryandangie26@gmail.com.

S106 Monies

The installation of the long-awaited artificial cricket surface should be happening very soon. Things are now moving in the right direction and we will be able to provide a more detailed update over the coming weeks.

Getting in touch...

The best way to contact the Parish Council is via email. Our email address is wymeswoldpc@hotmail.co.uk.
Alternatively, you can contact the Parish Council via telephone on 07592 382114.

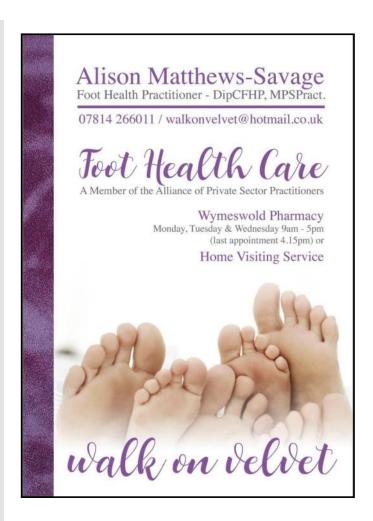
The Parish Clerk is available on a Monday and on a Thursday from 9am until 3pm. If you need to get in touch urgently outside of those hours, please use the email and contact number above and a member of the Parish Council will get back to you ASAP.

More information about the Parish Council and our activities can be found via our page on the village website... http://www.wymeswold.com/parish-council/

The next Parish Council meeting is also scheduled to take place virtually via Zoom on Monday 7th December 2020. Details of how to attend will be posted on the village noticeboard in due course.

Stay safe everyone!

Louise Turner





New Shop Location in Wymeswold Village

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Wymeswold Playgroup

Our Playgroup is located in Wymeswold Memorial Hall. We offer childcare and preschool education for children aged 2 years to school age.

We are open weekdays during term time:

Monday - Thursday 9:15 - 1:15 (lunch club is 12:15 - 1:15)

Fridays 9:00 - 3:00

We aim to provide quality care and education for children by following the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and enabling the children to learn and develop in a fun and stimulating environment. We have a dedicated team of qualified, experienced and friendly staff who would love to welcome your child to our playgroup.

Ofsted rated "Good"

Close links with Wymeswold Primary School

Funded places available

If you would like more information or to arrange a visit please email us at wymeswoldplaygroup@gmail.com or call us on 07599059061





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News Burton Hoton Cotes Prestwold

Burton Plantation

Volunteers work very hard to keep the paths in really good condition in Burton Plantation and their help has not faltered in these difficult times with Covid – 19. They all deserve a huge thank you for their efforts. As a regular walker in the wood, I appreciate the work enormously.

Grateful Burton resident.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS BARROW ROAD, BURTON ON THE WOLDS

The amount raised for "Rainbows" in donations this year amounted to a record £678.00.

We would like to thank everyone that contributed towards this total.

We hope that you enjoyed the Christmas lights.

It was great that the whole village joined in this year which really lit up Burton in December and we are sure helped to boost the donations.

Thank you again for your generosity

Ian and Helen Monk, Peter and Pam Harrison.



Burton on the Wolds, Cotes and Prestwold Parish Council

DOG FOULING

We regularly receive reports of dog fouling on the footpaths, playing field and around the plantation. Your Parish Council is determined to bring those responsible for the problem to account so that the Borough Council can initiate legal proceedings which can lead to a fine. Responsible dog owners and other residents are encouraged to report anyone not scooping the poop to Charnwood Borough Council on 01509 634564 or online www.charnwood.gov.uk/dogfoulingfag.

It is very important that dog owners/walkers leave footpaths, verges, grazing fields and public areas clear of dog excrement by bagging it and disposing it appropriately. PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG and if the dog waste bins are full, take it home. Please do not leave bagged waste or flick this in the Plantation, not only is this revolting, it affects all users including the volunteers who tirelessly take care of this village asset.

COVID VOLUNTEER GROUP

During 2020 the parish council established a register of volunteers covering all parts of Burton on the Wolds, to help people with things like shopping, prescriptions and a socially distanced chat or phone call. The latest lockdown means vulnerable neighbours are again being asked to shield, and others may need help because they are isolating or feel

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lonely.

We would like to extend the scheme to Cotes and Prestwold, and request new volunteers to register from all 3 villages in our parish by contacting the coordinator.

Anyone needing help from the volunteers' network can also contact the coordinator who will ask your local volunteer to get in touch.

Email: parish@andylawrence.co.uk or alternatively, telephone the Parish Council and leave a clear message on the answerphone. The coordinator will call you back.

SPEEDING TRAFFIC

The Parish Council has asked the police to carry out speed checks within the parish following speed initiative carried out in November 2020.

POLICE REPORT

The Parish Council is pleased to report that there was no reported crime in Burton on the Wolds, Cotes & Prestwold during December 2020.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place virtually on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7.30 p.m. unless advised otherwise and will be preceded by the Village Hall Management meeting at 7.00 p.m.

Stephanie Massey
E <u>burtonclerk@gmail.com</u>,
www.burtoncotesprestwoldparishcouncil.org.uk



Hoton Parish Council

Councillor vacancy

A vacancy has arisen for a councillor in Hoton. Parish councillors serve the local community by engaging with local residents and deciding what services and projects the parish council will deliver to improve the quality of life for those living in the village of Hoton and elsewhere in the parish. Your current councillors find this an enjoyable and rewarding position.

The role is not time consuming, no more than a couple of hours a week on average, with meetings held on the first Monday of each month. The main job of a councillor is to participate in the collective decision-making processes of the parish council. You don't need any qualifications - just commitment and enthusiasm.

If you want to make a difference by getting involved, please contact the clerk (details below) or speak to one of the current councillors.

Volunteers sought

In addition to the vacant councillor position, we are seeking volunteers to join our working parties. If you have time to commit to a single issue, such as speeding, the playing field or any other village improvement projects please speak to a councillor or contact the clerk.

Advance notice of road closures and events

Roadworks are planned on the A60 in Cotes for up to three nights commencing 10th February 2021. This will involve the closure of the road between the junction with the B676 near the Cotes Bridge and the traffic lights near the station. Road users will need to use alternative routes to reach Loughborough there may be additional traffic travel through the village.

The annual Leicestershire Half Marathon is due to take place on Sunday 28 February. The organisers are constantly assessing their procedures to ensure that the competition is covid-safe and enjoyable for all. As usual, there will be temporary road closures in place during the morning on Wymeswold Road, Vinetree Terrace and Old Parsonage Lane. There will also be no parking allowed along Vinetree Terrace, Old Parsonage Lane or Prestwold Lane during this time. You may wish to plan where you walk on that day to avoid coming into contact with competitors. Please pass this information on to residents who may not use the internet.

Census 21

As you will be aware, every 10 years there is a national Census which records information about people and households to give a complete picture of the nation and it is used by government departments and other bodies to formulate policies on subjects such as transport, education and healthcare. The next census day is Sunday 21 March 2021. It is vital that the census counts everyone to ensure that public money is spent on the places and people who need it most

For the first time, people will be able to complete the Census online and it is hoped that most people will be able to do this. To ensure that the census is as accessible and inclusive as possible, support centres will be set up to help those without access to the internet. It is not known at the time of writing where our nearest centre will be.

Tennis courts and kiosk library

It is with regret that, due to the national restrictions to reduce the spread of Covid-19, the tennis courts and telephone kiosk have been closed until government guidelines permit them to be reopened.

Litter

We have discussed litter on the verges along the roads around Hoton with Councillor Bokor, and she has advised that Charnwood Borough Council will respond by removing any litter reported to them. They will also collect dead animals from the road and verges, if they are made aware of them, and respond to incidents of fly-tipping. To report any of the above, email cleaner.greener@charnwood.gov.uk or go online to https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/street_management and use the relevant button. Residents are urged to report any litter to improve enjoyment of the countryside for all.

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 1 March 2021. This will be via the Zoom platform and details of how to 'attend' the meeting will be posted on our website and the noticeboards with the agenda. If you wish to be sent an agenda you should sign up to our mailing list at https://www.hotonparishcouncil.org.uk/emailing-lists.html. Residents are always welcome at our meetings; time is allocated for your questions or comments.

Website

The parish council's website can be found at www.hotonparishcouncil.org.uk and contains meeting agendas and minutes, current planning applications in Hoton, local news, playing field information and information on events at the Village Hall. You can also sign up to the parish council email mailing list to receive items of news and agendas for meetings.

Hellen Jarvis – Clerk to Hoton Parish Council Tel: 01509 880596 Email: hotonparishcouncil@googlemail.com Website: www.hotonparishcouncil.org.uk Follow Hoton Parish Council on Twitter @HotonPC





Walton on the Wolds Parish Council

The Parish Council met via Zoom on 12th January. All the councillors were present as was Jenny Bokor from Charnwood Borough Council and the Parish Council Clerk Cheryl Hall.

The meeting began with a vote of thanks to the borough councillor, county councillor (Richard Shepherd) and local police (Stu Davies) for their help and support to the Council during the last difficult year. The Council also wished to convey their condolences to the families of Connie Brown and Mary Pick, both ex-long-standing parishioners, who had recently passed away.

Councillor Bokor reported to the Council that the Neighbourhood Plan for Charnwood was being revisited due to recent changes in number of new dwellings required being received from central government. She also reported that the appeal against the planned development at the previous Hawker Siddeley offices had been rejected. The Clerk and a councillor are to attend a meeting about the new neighbourhood plan on 19th January.

Other planning issues of a small scale were discussed but no objections raised.

The Council resolved to maintain its communication links with parishioners through the online channels operating. The Council has a Facebook Page (Walton on the Wolds Parish Council) and a WhatsApp group for communication as well as the website www.waltononthewoldspc.org.uk. Anyone wishing to be added to the WhatsApp group should contact Chris Greenall on 07734746733.

Fly-tipping remains a problem but is being reported and dealt with swiftly when it occurs. Work on vegetation control and drainage issues is ongoing.

The question of traffic calming was discussed at some length. A reduction in the speed limit on the Loughborough Road approach to the village to 40mph has been requested in line with planned changes for the Hoton to Barrow route. The Council noted that HGV traffic through the village was increasing and that the safety of all and, in particular, horses and riders needed to be considered.

The Council expressed thanks to David Austin for taking on the tasks of mowing in the Burial Ground and tending to the hedges. Thanks were also expressed to Ian McMillan for his help in charging the Christmas Tree batteries. The tree had been much appreciated by parishioners. The Council also resolved to arrange planting of bulbs on the small strip of Green outside Towles Farm although this may have to take place next year. A Green Grant is to be applied for.

It was noted that some dog-owners had been hanging bags containing dog waste on trees on Six Hills Road. Dog owners are respectfully reminded to remove dog bags and place in the bins provided.

Financially the Council felt that a rise in the Parish Council precept was required to ensure that sufficient monies were available for the discharge of Parish work and for reserves

should equipment need to be replaced. Further explanation of this decision can be found in the full minutes which are available on the Parish Council website and displayed in the Village Notice Board.

The next meeting will be held on March 9th 2021 at 6pm.

Christine Greenall



Burton on the Wolds Pre-school Playgroup offers a warm welcome to all children from two years old to school age.

Based in Burton on the Wolds Village Hall on weekdays during term time.

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- For more information or to arrange a visit please call 07528 657859 or email botwplaygroup@gmail.com



Hire Walton on the Wolds Village Hall

Phone Ian McMillan 01509 880577 Or Liz Keogh 01509 881740



Hire Burton on the Wolds Village Hall

To book please contact

BOTWVillageHall@gmail.com
Or telephone 07421307029

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General News

County Council News

National lockdown

At the time of writing, senior council, health and police figures across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland have issued a statement saying that the national lockdown has been brought in "just in time" for our area, and adding that it could be the last chance to prevent a catastrophic peak in cases.

The prominent figures include the county council leader, Leicester's City Mayor, Leicestershire's assistant chief constable, a doctor working in a hospital and a director of children's services.

Mike Sandys, the county council's Director of Public Health, has said: "The figures make it clear that we've seen rates rocket...The new strain is now the dominant strain across the county and that's adding to existing pressures so people do need to stay at home or we'll be in real trouble."

People with symptoms are being urged to get a test. They must book an appointment by calling 119 or at http://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test

Government advice on the national lockdown is available at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home

It is important to access accurate information as there are Covid related scams. The item below gives some examples. It is also of course important to access trusted sources of information because the situation nationally and locally may change at any time.

Covid related scams

The Covid pandemic is being exploited by scammers, and Leicestershire County Council's Trading Standards Service is issuing warnings.

An example is a fake text message suggesting it has come from the County Council and regarding breaches of Covid restrictions.

The fake text reads: "We know you are breaching Covid restrictions by continuing to work in the hair and beauty sector despite government guidelines stating this is prohibited. You have been reported to Leicestershire council and a member of our team will be visiting your premises soon."

A further fake text has now been put out in which the scammers state that they have photographic evidence and that they will be issuing a £5000 fine and that a member of the enforcement team will be in touch with them shortly.

The County Council did not send these messages.

Another example is a fake text about the Covid – 19 vaccine rollout and is an attempt to steal personal and financial details. The text contains a link to a convincing fake NHS website with an application form. It asks for someone's bank/card details in order to "check identity". The NHS will not ask for payment.

There is also a scam text which states that residents are

entitled to a payment due to being in Tier 4 – the message asks people to click on a link to provide personal details.

Something which happened in London is very worrying as an example of the lengths to which fraudsters are going. City of London Police are calling for assistance to identify an individual who cold called an elderly lady claiming to be from the NHS and charged her £160 for a vaccine. The lady paid the money and has been checked in hospital as it is unknown what she was given in the injection. Fortunately she does not seem to be suffering from any side effects.

If people need advice or wish to report any scam they are asked to call the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0808 223 1133.

Information is also available on the Leicestershire County Council Trading Standards website, which itself provides a link to the National Trading Standards website, and on the Council's Trading Standards Facebook. The link to the Facebook page is https://www.facebook.com/leicstradingstandards/

SHIRE environment grants

Grants of up to £3000 are being offered to community groups and other organizations to help reduce household waste across the county. Examples of projects which have previously received funding include "fixers' groups" in Hinckley and Market Harborough, which help residents repair broken household items, and a series of waste reduction workshops run at Fearon Hall in Loughborough.

Projects must be located in the county of Leicestershire, not Leicester City or Rutland, and should help reduce household waste. Further information about the SHIRE Environment Grant can be found online at https:/www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/grants/environment-grant.html

The link above should take anyone interested in learning more to details of the application process and guidance notes, including a simplified application process for smaller grants of up to £300. The application deadline for the current round of funding is Friday, 26th February, 2021.

Richard Shepherd, County Councillor Telephone: 01509 413903 Email: richard.shepherd@leics.gov.uk

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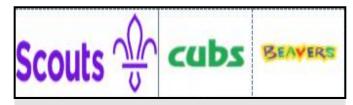
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1st Wolds Scout Group

Scouting is still going in the Wolds

We have over 100 Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

(We now need some more leaders across all sections)

January has been very hard for everyone but we all have had to keep going.

We have been meeting on Zoom and we do hope that by the time you read this we are meeting face to face in the Scout HO.

Scouting doesn't give up. It keeps going to keep its promise. Our Zoom scouting is exciting and challenging. Certainly not boring. Every section with our 20 leaders and over 100 young people are meeting regularly. We will soon be back hiking, cycling, fire lighting and camp cooking, pioneering and doing all those challenging and exciting things we do in Scouting.

But we do need more assistant leaders to join our teams. Please do think about this.

The Scouting 'never give up' spirit has been so important – all the young people and the leaders continue to all risen to the challenges.

We hope that this year we will have all those fun and fundraising events that we missed last year. Dare we say our Bonfire event will be even bigger this year!

Remembrance Day was not the same last year without the Scout Parade so we hope that will be back this year.

The new Beaver Section:

The new Beaver Colony has started and will be meeting regularly this year with five new leaders. We have caught up with our long Beaver waiting list. The future sees our other sections being full and needing to expand.

The 1st Wolds Section Leaders:

Group Scout Leader & Scout Section Leader: Peter Blount 01509 889692

<u>Beavers (Thursday)</u>: Beaver Leaders: David Bradshaw/Mandy Hickling David:07879846812 Mandy:07709784118

Cub Scout Leader: Shaun Black 01509 880438

Scouts: Scout Leader: Peter Blount 01509 889692

Yours in Scouting Peter Blount

Charnwood Museum to benefit from two recovery grants

Charnwood Museum has been awarded two recovery grants to develop its education programme and improve communication with visitors.

The museum, situated in Queen's Park in Loughborough and run in partnership with Leicestershire County Council, is one of five heritage and museum sites in the county that will benefit from more than £70,000 of funding as part of the government's £1.57bn Culture Recovery Fund (CRF). The fund was created to help the heritage sector face the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and will be used to further develop education programmes and to find new and sustainable ways of telling the rich stories of the county's history.

The award-winning education programme delivers tailored learning at Charnwood Museum as well as Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre, the 1620s House & Garden at Donington le Heath, Harborough Museum and Melton Carnegie Museum.

A total of 1,385 cultural and creative organisations across the country are to receive grant support. Charnwood Museum was also awarded £10,000 to develop a website as part of Museum Development East Midlands' (MDEM) COVID-19 Recovery Grants scheme. The museum identified that not having a standalone website that enabled the team to engage with audiences unable to visit the building when closed during the lockdown imposed in March was a barrier and resulted in the grant being awarded.



Councillor Jenny Bokor, lead member for arts and culture at Charnwood Borough Council, said: "I couldn't be more pleased for Charnwood Museum and all the heritage and museum sites that are going to benefit from the grant. "Arts and culture play a significant role in so many people's lives, and our museum provides excellent educational workshops to children across the borough and continues to promote Charnwood's rich history to people of all ages."
"I know that the team at Charnwood Museum will put both of these grants to great use, and I am excited to see the developments, including the brand-new website.' Charnwood Museum is currently closed in line with the Government's national lockdown restrictions, but customers can take part in online activities at www.charnwood.gov.uk/museum_online. For more information on Charnwood Museum, visit www.charnwood.gov.uk/museum.

Francis Daley

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2a Hoton Road Wymeswold LE12 6UA Tel: 01509 881513

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- Disposal of unwanted medicines
- Blood pressure monitoring

February 2021

What will February bring?

As I write this, at the beginning of the second week in January, the health and wellbeing world is changing so fast and unpredictably that I find it difficult to know what to include.

Let's start with what we know.

- We have a new variant of the virus that is easier to catch.
- Hospitals are at breaking point with people with COVID-19
- It's going to be months before enough people have been vaccinated to break the chain of transmission

So we all need to keep ourselves and our community safe by

- Wearing a mask please don't forget
- Keeping our distance
- Sanitising our hands

Behave as if you have the virus & don't want to give it someone special to you.

Vaccinations are ongoing. It is going to take months to get round to everybody so please be patient – you will be contacted by the NHS when its your turn. Until then, **DON'T** 'phone your GP surgery – they are not in control of when you will be invited, can't move you up the priority list and don't know when you it will be your turn

In the Pharmacy

NHS England are changing what they are asking us to do. They have suspended some things – for example we now don't have to do the patient survey – and are asking us to do more things to support primary and secondary care services

- We will be starting a new service for people discharged from hospitals with new medicines
- A minor ailments service with referral from and to GP surgeries will start.
- BUT NOT COVID-19 VACCINATION; this may well be coming later in the year but not just yet.

Alison had to suspend her Foot-health service at the beginning of January. We hope that this might return in February subject to Covid-19 infection rates and limitations on what services may be provided.

I expect that Covid tiers & rules and what we are expected and are able to deliver will change over the next few weeks.

So keep in touch.

- Find us on Facebook
- Give us a call

And wear a MASK



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May: Advanced pencil drawing, Oil painting, Lino print, Felt bowl

Full details and bookings online



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www.grasshopper-hosting.co.uk/eastleakeandkeyworth/04 MassTimes/MassTimes.html

Saturdays: 6pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday) Our Lady of the Angels, Main Street, East Leake.

Sundays: 9am St Margaret Clitherow, Willow Brook, Keyworth. Sundays: 11am Our Lady of the Angels, Main Street, East Leake.

Rev John Pugh, 18 Kingfisher Road, Mountsorrel, LE12 7FG (01162304689) Day Off: Saturday

Superintendent Minister: Rev Andrew Lomax, Logos House, 23 Lemontree Lane, Loughborough, LE11 2QS (01509219804) Day Off: Monday

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Josephine Wills, c/o Trinity Methodist Church Centre, Royland Road, Loughborough: (01509807441)

Office hrs: Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 10am to 2pm loughboroughmethodist@gmail.com

Church Stewards: Margaret Folwell (880770).

Barrow Baptist Church

Ministers: Rev Neil Jones and Rev Ben Haldane, Beveridge Street, Barrow upon Soar, 01509 416603 office@barrowbaptist.org.uk Services are held at 10am on Sunday mornings. There are various mid-week groups for all ages, please contact us for more information.

Barrow & Wolds Group of Churches Anglican - Barrow and Wolds Group

Holy Trinity, Barrow with St Mary, Walton, and St Andrew, Prestwold with Hoton and St Mary, Wymeswold. For more information and details of services please check the website: www.barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Priest in Charge: Rev'd Clive Watts (Day off Friday)

T: 07534 899522

E: rev.clive.watts@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

A: The Rectory, 27 Cotes Road, Barrow-upon-Soar, LE12 8JP

Associate Priest: Rev'd Fiona Cotton-Betteridge (Working days, Fri-Sun)

T:07903 665912

E: rev.fiona@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Administrator: Mrs Hannah White (Office Hours, Mon & Wed 9-3 and Thur 9-12)

T:01509 416520

E: enquiries@barrowandwoldsgroup.com

Churchwardens:

St Mary's Wymeswold: Michael Henshaw (880218).

Holy Trinity, Barrow: Mr Richard Hudson & Mr Andrew Garner

St Andrew Prestwold: Vacant St Mary, Walton Mr Jeremy Bowman

PAGE 16 **Christian Link**



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