

# Village Link

Issue 168



February-March 2020

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## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

David Fryatt-Editor,  
Martin Campbell-Treasurer, David D'Ath  
e-mail us at: [villagelink@zoho.com](mailto:villagelink@zoho.com)

ISSUE 168

February-March 2020

### EDITORIAL

We must apologise to readers, contributors and advertisers for the lack of colour in the middle pages of the last edition of the Village Link. This was due to production problems at the printers. Express printers did offer to reprint but due to the time sensitive nature of the publication we decided to distribute the issue as it was. The printers have also expressed their sincere apologies.

Thank you to David D'Ath who has joined the Committee and will be taking over the position of Treasurer and to the other offers of help received for which we are most grateful. Thank you also to Val Cooper who has now left the Committee. Val has been part of the Village Link for many years and will be missed. Also thanks to the Parish Council for publicising our need for help.

My contact details are email: [villagelink@zoho.com](mailto:villagelink@zoho.com)  
Phone: 01767 631123

*David Fryatt*

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## Dates for Your Diary

### February

- 1st Pub Quiz at The Chequers 8pm
- 4th Coffee Morning at 30 Hatley Road 10.30am—12 noon
- 8th Live Music at The Chequers 8pm
- 16th PWWG Walk from The Chequers at 10am
- 18th WI Meeting at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall 7.45pm

### March

- 3rd Coffee Morning 10.30am—12 noon Details TBC
- 7th Pub Quiz at The Chequers 8pm
- 9th Parish Council Meeting at Memorial Hall 7.30pm
- 12th Copy Deadline for the Apr/May edition of the Village Link
- 14th Live Music at The Chequers from 7.30pm
- 15th PWWG Walk RSPB Sandy at 10am
- 19th History Society. Please check for details

Please email your diary dates to [villagelink@zoho.com](mailto:villagelink@zoho.com). We want to include all relevant events but do rely on your input; if you don't tell us, we might not know about your event. **Please do check dates and times with organisers, as they may be subject to change.**

### PLEASE NOTE

**The views contained in the articles within this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher or the members of the editorial committee.**



*All Saints' Eyeworth*  
*'The Church in the  
Fields'*

Please check the church notice board for details of services or ring the Church Warden Mrs Wendy Robinson on 01767 631283. You can also call the Revd. Carole Johnson on 01767 699934.

**9th February:** Parish Eucharist at 9:30am

**23rd February:** Family Praise at 3:00pm

**8th March:** Parish Eucharist at 9:30am

**29th March:** Benefice Eucharist at 9:30am

## **BOOK REVIEW**

**“Second Sleep”** by Robert Harris

It is the year of our Risen Lord 1468 when a solitary traveller on horseback picks his way across the wild, misty moors of Wessex. He is a young priest, Christopher Fairfax, sent by his Bishop to Addicott St. George to conduct the funeral of their long serving priest, Father Lacy, whose battered face told of his accidental 100ft fall by those who found his dead body.

Nearly a hundred mourners turn up to the funeral service, when an unknown man interrupts the proceedings by shouting that “They should all know the truth of Father Lacy’s demise, which was ‘no chance’.”

Thereafter, the young priest is drawn into a mystery, a mystery he feels compelled to solve, which changes his life forever.

Robert Harris has written many novels and this, his latest, is atmospheric and a real page-turner with an interesting twist.

*Carolyn Driver*



## St Peter's Church, Wrestlingworth

### Services

<b>2 February:</b>	11:00am Parish Eucharist
<b>9 February:</b>	11:00am Sunday Praise
<b>16 February:</b>	11.00am Benefice Eucharist
<b>23 February:</b>	11:00am Parish Eucharist
<b>1 March:</b>	11:00am Parish Eucharist
<b>8 March:</b>	11:00am Sunday Praise
<b>15 March:</b>	09:30am Benefice Eucharist, St Mary Magdalene, Dunton
<b>22 March:</b>	11.00am Mothering Sunday
<b>29 March:</b>	09.30am Benefice Eucharist, All Saints, Eyeworth

Please check the notice board or the weekly notice sheet for any changes or additions.

## **St Peter's News**

### **Christmas 2019**

Our Christmas services were particularly well supported with over 150 attending the popular Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve. The children from the school sang, making the service extra special. It was lovely to see the church lit up during the Christmas period.

### **Coffee Mornings**

Our popular coffee morning is held on the first Tuesday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join us. Our February Coffee Morning will be at 30 Hatley Road. Look out for the posters for further dates or contact Karen.

### **Café Church**

Café Church will be open again when the weather warms up.



## **Parish Council News**

### **Speedwatch**

Ken Ellis, the Speedwatch group co-ordinator, has issued a report about the Speedwatch group's activities in 2019, the main points are as follows:

- 21 one-hour sessions were carried out in 2019.
- A total of 186 out of 3399 (5.5%) vehicles were reported as travelling at 35mph or above.
- 149 out of 1770 (8.4%) of these were detected on the Potton Road and 37 out of 1629 (2.3%) on the High Street.
- The highest speed recorded was 45mph, there were two incidents of this, one on the High Street and the other on the Potton Road.
- Traffic flows in excess of 300 vehicles per hour in one direction are now common, this has increased each year since monitoring began in 2016.
- The highest traffic flow per hour in one direction was measured at 344 vehicles on the High Street.

The Parish Council would like to thank Ken Ellis and all the Speedwatch group for their contribution to this scheme throughout 2019.

The full report can be found on the Parish Council website [www.wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, everyone is welcome to come along, just to observe, or to raise issues during the open forum at the beginning of the meeting.

## News from The Chequers

You will find a warm welcome at The Chequers from Dave and Carin Moore.

The Chequers is proud to offer 22 gins, 12 whiskeys, 10 rums, 6 vodkas plus many more along with the full range of Fever Tree, Schweppes and Coca-Cola mixers.



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Excellent food includes delicious home baked pies including Steak & Ale, Steak & Red Wine, Lamb & Mint and Turkey & Ham with a wide menu to choose from as well as Sunday lunch. Vegan and vegetarian options are also available.

There is a Quiz Night on the first Saturday of each month, Live Music on the second Saturday and regular Darts, Cribbage and Petanque games.

For more information visit [www.chequersfreehouse.co.uk](http://www.chequersfreehouse.co.uk), or call 631818 or better still why not pop in, after all there is only one thing missing from your

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## WELCOME TO 2020.....

... and a belated Happy New Year. Let us hope that this new decade doesn't have so many catastrophes as the last.

Last year the WI tried their hands at Brass Rubbing (*pictured*) with Dave Maycock,



partied with Chris Bylett, singer, comedian and ventriloquist (with two cheeky dolls!) and enjoyed a sumptuous Festive Tea at The Barns in Bedford. Christmas now seems like a distant memory.



We will have celebrated the New Year with a dinner at the Royal Oak at the end of January and now are settling down into our usual routine (with added extras, of course!). On **February 18<sup>th</sup>** Eliza McClelland will tell of 'A Woman for all Seasons' and on **March 17<sup>th</sup>** we are holding a 'Games and Social Evening', finishing off our yearly programme on **April 21<sup>st</sup>** with Nick Cooke talking about 'Bletchley Park, Home of the Code Breakers'. On **May 19<sup>th</sup>** we will hold our Annual Meeting when it is hoped we can recruit some new committee members. Don't be frightened to stand – new blood is always welcome.

The WI meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7.45 pm in the Memorial Hall. Ladies if you've not come before, join us and we will offer you a friendly welcome and a cup of tea.

*Carolyn Driver*

## Winter Visitors (Who Know When to Leave!)

**Pat Humphrey, of the Parish Walking & Wildlife Group, shows us how to appreciate the over-wintering migrant birds in our part of Bedfordshire. Pictures by Mike Lawrence**

Anyone who takes a keen interest in birds will think fondly of all the various species that can be seen throughout the year even in the depths of winter. They include House Sparrow, Wren, Dunnock, the friendly Robin, and the lively Blue Tit or Great Tit.

Once summer is with us, we can enjoy many more delightful sightings of various summer migrant species, including Swallows and Swifts, and numerous songful Warblers such as Blackcap and Willow Warbler. However, as summer passes, the summer migrants leave us.

Fortunately, we need not feel down-hearted as nature obliges with yet another range of birds, our winter migrants. Some of these just add to the bird numbers we already have. For instance, Starling numbers almost double every winter with the arrival of thousands more birds from Eastern Europe. The colder weather there forces them to migrate westward to countries like ours to find food. In spring the migrant Starlings return to Eastern Europe, while our own resident birds remain to set up breeding territories here at home.

So what different bird species can we expect to see that arrive from colder climes to find food here in our winter? They include Fieldfare (*right*), Redwing, Brambling and two species of Swan, as well as many kinds of duck, geese and waders.





We are very fortunate to be able to see large numbers of Fieldfare and Redwing in open fields all around our part of Bedfordshire and you may spot them as you drive past. Both belong to the Thrush family and have

pronounced and colourful markings (*Redwing pictured above*).

Another attractive possible sighting in similar locations might be a flock of Golden Plover.

A garden species you might be lucky enough to see is a Brambling (*pictured right*), which will make use of our bird feeders, and happily moves around with its close neighbour the Chaffinch. If Swans fascinate you, then head to Welney Wetland



Centre where in the depths of winter you can see Bewick's and Whooper Swan that join our resident Mute Swan to feed on the plentiful supply of food provided. It seems a long trip to come all the way from Russia or Iceland but, for these swans, it is essential.

For the large numbers of over-wintering birds (that remarkably comprise more than 10 million) many only survive because of the available feeding grounds that we have to offer in our milder winters. Remember too that when winters are harsh, our provision of additional food in our fields and gardens can have a marked effect in helping to increase survival rates and ensure that these migrant birds return the following year to delight us again. So, when winter really sets in, fill up those bird-feeders.

As I was finishing this article, I suddenly saw from my window a mixed flock of small birds landing in our evergreen trees. To my excitement this winter gathering included Goldfinch, Coal Tit and most notably several Goldcrest, a species not seen in our garden at other times of the year.

*Pat Humphrey*

**The Parish Walking & Wildlife Group (PWWG)** organises monthly themed walks on the third Sunday usually starting at 10am at The Chequers, Wrestlingworth, but also venturing further afield in the surrounding area. This serves to keep our walkways open, to inform landowners of any problems with public access, to identify waymarkers that need replacing, and generally appreciate, often with expert help, the beauty of the flora and fauna in this wonderful part of Bedfordshire. All are welcome (£1 for non-members) including dogs, but they may be asked to be put on a lead.

**In February, on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>** we will be starting at The Chequers in Wrestlingworth at 10am for a local walk taking in a local hostelry on the way.

**In March, on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>** we will be exploring the RSPB in a 'figure of 8' walk for those who like the choice of a shorter or longer walk. Meet in the car park at the RSPB at 10am. Please lift-share.

Details of this and all aspects of the PWWG's activities from Robin Barratt on 07768 340599, [www.pwwg.org.uk](http://www.pwwg.org.uk) or join the Parish Walking and Wildlife Group Facebook page.



**Parish  
Walking &  
Wildlife  
Group**

Our cover picture reminds us that Spring is on its way and with the warmer than usual weather the daffodils are already pushing through the ground. Most readers will be familiar with the famous poem by William Wordsworth that starts with the immortal line 'I wandered lonely as a Cloud' but did you know that Wordsworth wrote several versions of his famous poem?

The first, composed in 1804 and published in 1807 is:-

*I wandered lonely as a Cloud  
That floats on high o'er Vales and Hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd  
A host of dancing Daffodils;  
Along the Lake, beneath the trees,  
Ten thousand dancing in the breeze.*

*For oft when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude,  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the Daffodils.*

*The waves beside them danced, but they  
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee:  
A poet could not but be gay  
In such a laughing company:  
I gazed — and gazed — but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had  
brought:*

The last published in 1815 has some subtle but distinct changes and an extra verse:-

*I wandered lonely as a Cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and Hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden Daffodils;  
Beside the Lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.*

*The waves beside them danced; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:-  
A Poet could not but be gay  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:*

*Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.*

*For oft when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude,  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the Daffodils.*

**Ward Councillors' Grants are funding projects across the town and villages - but there's still time to apply**

So far, Adam and I have helped several groups receive CBC funding. The grants will see two new defibrillators in Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley, and applications are in the pipeline for gardening projects in Dunton, and forest school equipment in Potton.

I will soon know how much is left in the funding pot for this financial year and am still encouraging new applications to ensure it gets spent and does not disappear back into the council coffers!

Please contact me if you would like to apply for funding for your group. Bear in mind the council is only offering cash for capital expenditures, ie buying kit or equipment.

It is expected that each CBC councillor will be able to allocate £2k again from April, which means another £4,000 for the ward.

I encourage all local groups to think about what grants they need, and how they can match-fund any application.

There are also grants up to £25k available to carry out "community asset" improvements. These are for large projects such as community building repairs or improvements, playgrounds, or a space specifically used by the community.

For more information on both funding schemes, go to [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/grants](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/grants) or contact me at [tracey.wye@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.wye@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

*Cllr Tracey Wye*

Local Independent Central Bedfordshire Councillors Adam Zerny and Tracey Wye's latest email newsletter is now available; it includes updates on new defibrillators for Wrestlingworth, development in the area, changes to local roads as well as news of new grants on offer to local groups. As always, the newsletter will include a round-up of up-and-coming local events. To get it directly, join the mailing list by emailing [adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk) or [traceywye@icloud.com](mailto:traceywye@icloud.com) .

## **Trial and error cooking by Gordon Blue (assisted by Egon Ronnie)**

### **BANANA & COFFEE SLICES WITH GROUND CHIA SEED (Serves eight to ten people)**

This recipe is another one I made up as I went along. I just wanted to eat something sweet and cake-like before I went to bed and this is what I came up with!

#### **Ingredients:-**

2 bananas

1 tablespoon of ground chia seed & 3 to 4 tablespoons of water or 1 egg.

2 oz of self-raising flour

1 oz of sugar

1 tea spoon of coffee granules

1 teaspoon of olive oil

1 handful of raisins

#### **Method**

First of all, prepare the ground chia seed. Mix the ground chia seed with the water and leave for at least 15 minutes, or much longer if you have the time. When ready it will have much of the properties of an egg, although it won't look like one! Very useful for cake making. But don't try and fry it!

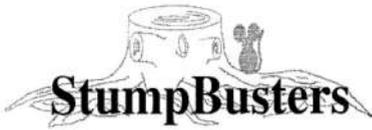
Then in a 18cm wide microwave-proof dish, pulp up one or two bananas until they are almost in liquid form. This is easier to do than it seems. Next add the ground chia seed and water mixture. If you don't have any grounded chia seed then use an egg. If you are using an egg then either beat it into the banana mixture or do this separately and then add it to the banana mixture. Next add in the olive oil. This is to help hold the final mixture together.

Then add the coffee granules, sugar and self-raising flour, in any order. Stir in until it all looks like one gluey mixture, making sure that all of the self-raising flour from the side of the mixing bowl is included. Finally add the raisins. Make sure that they are all covered by the mixture.

Then microwave for 5 minutes on full power, or until the centre of the mixture has risen a bit. When done wait for a few minutes then transfer the contents on to a separate plate or dish. It should come away from the mixing bowl quite easily. Wait for it to cool down for a while and then cut into slices and serve.

#### **Egon Ronnie comments:-**

This recipe works quite well. You can get chia seeds from your local health shops and if you are a vegan then it is a good substitute for eggs. Don't be put off if the mixture looks fairly awful both pre-and post-cooking. It will taste nice! You may need to eat it with a fork though, as it will be a bit like bread pudding! Finally, you may wish to try baking this instead. I'm guessing here, but I reckon that 25 minutes at about 180 degrees centigrade would probably do the trick.



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## HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

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	P.C.C. & Church Warden – Mrs. Gloria Crossley	01767 260527
	Friends of St. Johns – Mrs. Sharon Weston	01767 631608
Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth & Dunton Churches	Church Warden (St. Peters) – Karen Nurse	01767 631487
	Church Warden (All Saints) – Wendy Robinson	01767 631283
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Parish Councillors	Mr Robin Barratt (Chair)	01767 631418
	Mr. James Kirkpatrick	01767 631767
	Mr. Andrew Dagless	01767 631880
	Mr. Frazer Dewey	01767 631746
	Mrs. Sandra Williams (Vice Chair)	01767 631269
	Mr. Nigel Dodgson	01767 631643
	Mr. Kevin Puddephatt	07950 691905
Clerk to Parish Council - Mrs. Catherine Dear	01767 631383	
Central Beds Councillors	Adam Zerny	01767 261319
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Wrestlingworth Lower School	Head Teacher - Mrs. N. Sheehan	01767 631249
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Women's Institute	Lesley May	01767 631259
Conservative Association	Doreen Gurney	01767 680395
Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund	Mr. Brian Whitfield	01767 631128
	Doctor/Hospital Transport – Mrs. Margaret Pantry	01767 631548
Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall	Chairman - Mr. Jim Hawkins	01767 631736
	Bookings - June Cutchie	01767 631795
Eyeworth Village Hall	Bookings - Mrs. Wendy Robinson	01767 631283
Walking & Wildlife Group	Chair - Robin Barratt	01767 631418
History Society	Coordinator – Mrs. C. Walker	01767 631450
Badminton Club	Mr. Jim Hawkins	01767 631736
	Ladies section – Jan Goodwin	01767 631282
Carpet Bowls	Colin Dale	01767 631531
The Chequers Public House	Dave and Carin Moore	01767 631818
Wrestlingworth Speedwatch	Ken Ellis	01767 631394
<b>EMERGENCY (24 HOURS)</b>		
Police Contacts PC 5725 Sally Bonham & PCSO 4763 Ann Jeeves tel: 101		
Potton Surgery 01767 260229 – 24/7 (electricity) 0800 783 8838 - Anglian Water 0800 145 145		
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) 07842 087395 or 0300 300 4439		
<b>Useful Numbers</b>		
Potton Surgery (appointments/requests)		01767 260340
Police (Control Room)		01234 841212
Samaritans		01234 211211
National Rail Enquiries		08457 484950
Central Bedfordshire Council Dog Warden		0300 300 8302

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