

# Village Link

Issue 178



**October-November 2021**

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ISSUE 178

October - November 2021

### EDITORIAL

Welcome to your new issue of the Village Link!

The summer holidays and the start of the new school year has meant that this issue is a little lighter than recent editions. But we still have 28 packed pages, thanks to all our regular contributors. And prepare to be amazed by James Bonfield's informative article about fungi with its stunning photos.

Our recruitment campaign last issue resulted in no offers of help with the Village Link, which is disappointing to say the least. We will continue to look for volunteers, as well as consider other ways to swell our committee membership so it truly represents the community we support.

Best wishes for a colourful autumn and a Happy Halloween.

*- Simon Dear, Editor, 01767 631383*

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### OUR KIND SPONSORS

Friends of Wrestlingworth Lower School

St Peter's Church

Parish Walking and Wildlife Group

Women's Institute

Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund

Parish Council

Wrestlingworth History Society

Memorial Hall

St John's Church, Cockayne Hatley

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### OCTOBER

- 17th PWWG walk - “Fungi Foray” around Waresley Wood, starting at 10am in the Waresley Wood carpark
- 19th Women’s Institute Chilli Evening in the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall at 7.30pm

### NOVEMBER

- 7th Candles in the Dark service, All Saints church, Eyeworth at 3pm
- 8th Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley Parish Council meeting, 7.30pm, Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall
- 14th Remembrance Service, St Peter’s Church, Wrestlingworth at 11am
- 16th Women’s Institute talk - “Bagels and Bacon” by Jeff Rozelaar, in the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall at 7.30pm
- 18th Wrestlingworth History Society meeting, topic and venue to be announced, 7.30pm
- 21st PWWG walk - Tempsford Loop (6 miles with optional extension) starting 10am at Everton church
- 28th Candles in the Dark service, St Peter’s Church, Wrestlingworth at 6pm

**Please do check dates and times with organisers, as they may be subject to change.** 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. So, please email your diary dates to [villagelink@zoho.com](mailto:villagelink@zoho.com).

### 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.**

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### New Improved Bus Service

After a gap of several years Cockayne Hatley now has a bus service. This was an aspiration in the 2016 Neighbourhood Plan and there has been considerable lobbying subsequently. Service 188, 189 & 190 runs from Biggleswade to Sandy via Wrestlingworth and Potton from Monday to Saturday. The bus stops at the Millennium Garden and High Street near Hatley End have been reinstated together with the wooden bus shelter at the top of Village Road and the stop in the centre of Cockayne Hatley.

There are up to date timetables at each of the bus stops. They can also be found on the Parish Council website

**[www.wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk)**

### CAA Public Forum

Parish Council Chairman, Robin Barratt, secured a five minute slot to speak on behalf of residents at the Civil Aviation Authority Public Forum on the proposed changes to the London Luton Airport flightpath. The proposals would see a new holding area to the north of the airport and low flying aircraft making their descent over St Neots, Potton and our parish. He represented residents' concerns at the potential for intrusive noise pollution over our rural location and also challenged the manner in which the consultation had been conducted as there were no alternative routes presented.

The public forum was part of the Civil Aviation Authority's decision making process on the proposal and if approved the change will be implemented no earlier than February 2022.

### Parish Council Meetings

Despite the best of intentions both the July and September meetings had to be held via Zoom. The Council hopes to return to "in person" meetings on Monday 8th November. Draft minutes of the September meeting can be found on the Parish Council website.

## **FROM OUR WARD COUNCILLORS**

### **Tell Us Where Roads and Pavements Need Improving**

Over winter, Central Bedfordshire Council will be updating its plans for roads and pavement improvements for 2022/23. Improvements agreed for the present year include resurfacing on Hatley Road and on High Street, Wrestlingworth. A number of areas will also have upgrades to the pavements. Let us know which parts of the villages are most in need of work to bring the roads or pavements back to their best. For more details of what happens and to be kept in the picture, drop me a line to subscribe to our monthly email newsletter.

*Adam Zerny* adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk

### **Historic Wrestlingworth Uncovered**

As work on the five new homes in Wrestlingworth continues, I have been liaising with Central Bedfordshire Council to see what the archaeologists discovered before the foundations were dug.

A small collection of finds were recovered from the site; mainly fragments of pottery dated to the medieval and later Saxon periods, and animal bones suggesting the presence of sheep, goats, horse and dogs.

Further evidence of the medieval settlement of Wrestlingworth was also uncovered in the form of garden/agricultural plots, boundary ditches, and a few pits, which might have been dug for quarrying, storage, or disposing of rubbish.

Other finds included some fragments of millstone, and part of a pin beater, a small rod of bone used to compact the weft threads on an upright loom.

The archaeologists said the finds would “contribute to our understanding of the origins of medieval Wrestlingworth and the local rural landscape at the time” even though they are not considered “visually exciting” in terms of being put on display.

The finds will remain with the archaeologists until they have completed their final report. They will then be archived at The Higgins Museum, with the agreement of the landowner.

*Tracey Wye* traceywye@icloud.com

## WRESTLINGWORTH GOODWILL FUND

Hello all. Firstly, we would like to thank those residents who came and supported our Village Picnic. It was lovely to see friends and some of those who have formally volunteered with The Goodwill and hear their stories of past events. The sun may not have graced us much, but thankfully it stayed dry! With any luck, we will be in a better position next year to plan a village fete.

As autumn commences, we look forward to hosting some other events. We have an online 'Big Raffle' during October; please look out for posters and information on our Facebook page and support us. Tickets are £1 and the draw will take place on 21st October. We are inviting friends of The Goodwill who have helped us, to a Cheese and Wine evening on 21st October. If you would like to attend, please contact us. We also have another Online Quiz on 20th November!

We rely solely on your support to fund our work. You can support us through Amazon Smile and information about us is available on 'Nextdoor'

Please contact us on [info@wrestlingworthgoodwillfund.org.uk](mailto:info@wrestlingworthgoodwillfund.org.uk)

- Anna Hines

## FRIENDS OF WRESTLINGWORTH LOWER SCHOOL PTA

REGISTERED CHARITY 1044363



All the children have now started the new school year and we welcome 12 new children into Reception!

We remain cautiously optimistic that our fundraising activities like the Village Breakfast will return to normal this year and we will keep you informed via posters in the village, the Village Link and, if you're online, our Facebook page.

In the meantime, you can still support the school by joining the 100 Club, our school lottery, using the clothing bin, donating spent ink jet cartridges and pennies at the school office.

Please contact Kelly Whitfield on 07834614613 or Cheryl Roberts on 07734 751079 if you would like further information.

Thank you for your support.

## **WRESTLINGWORTH MEMORIAL HALL**

The hall is currently undergoing a massive electrical overhaul which will be completed mid September. Thank you to LDB Electrical.

Since reopening we've hosted a children's party and we're pleased a lot of our local clubs such as the W.I. and Badminton have returned. We also welcome a new Children's Martial Arts Club which takes place on a Saturday.

We are COVID secure so please consider us when you would like to host an event, start a new club or book the hall for personal use. Our rates are extremely reasonable. Details can be found on the parish council website.

<https://wrestlingworthandcockaynehatley-pc.gov.uk/>

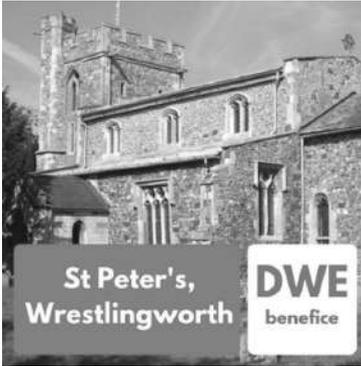
### **HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BECOMING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?**

The Dunton and Wrestlingworth CofE VC Lower Schools Federation Governing Body are looking to welcome new members. Our Governors support and work with the schools to:

- Provide strategic direction for the schools
- Act as a critical friend to the Headteacher
- Ensure accountability
- Actively participate in sustaining and developing the schools' communities
- Promote the distinctiveness and Christian character of the schools

We work collaboratively and offer access to training.

If you think you might be interested, we would be happy for you to attend a meeting as an observer. Please contact our Chair of Governors Lauren Hill – [l.hill@duntonwrestlingworth.co.uk](mailto:l.hill@duntonwrestlingworth.co.uk) for more information..



### **Ways to keep in touch with St Peter's**

Our Notice board outside church  
Our web site: [www.dwe.org.uk](http://www.dwe.org.uk)  
Facebook – follow 'DWE Benefice'

Matt Phillips, Priest-in-Charge  
01767 512122      [matt@dwe.org.uk](mailto:matt@dwe.org.uk)

Karen Nurse, Church Warden  
01767 631487      [karen.nurse@btinternet.com](mailto:karen.nurse@btinternet.com)

### **Whoever you are, you are welcome here!**

St Peter's exists to serve the village of Wrestlingworth and the wider local community. Our regular congregation is made up of people of all stages of life and we hope to provide something for everybody. You are very welcome to join us at a service, reach out to us if you have a pastoral need or make contact if you would like to discuss holding a christening, wedding or another special service at the church.

### **Services**

We have simplified the pattern of our services across the Benefice!  
**Regular Services at St Peter's are now at 11am, every Sunday.**

Join us for a warm welcome, a relevant and engaging service and tea and coffee afterwards. We also now have a dedicated Children's area and 'fun bags' for younger congregation members to explore and enjoy.

### **Special Services**

On **Sunday 14th November**, we will be hosting our **Remembrance Service at the Church at 11am.**

Our annual **Candles in the Dark** service will take place on **Sunday November 28th at 6pm.** This is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the life of friends and family who have passed away. If you would like a candle lit in memory of a loved one who is no longer with us contact Karen or Matt.

### **Open Church**

St Peter's is currently open every Sunday from 12:30pm until 3:30pm for private prayer and reflection.

## **Thank You!**

Thank you to everybody who joined us for our special Harvest service, as we launched and dedicated our new children's area. We are also very grateful to those who donated dry goods for Preen Food Bank and contributed to the collection for the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal, Water is Life.



## **South Aisle and Turret Repairs**

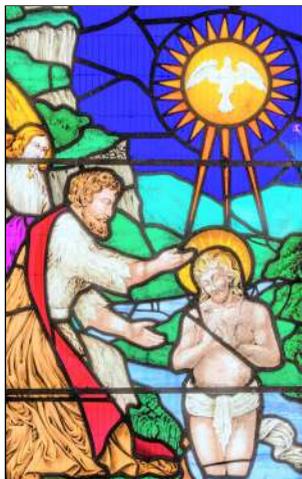
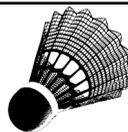
Work on the South Aisle in church is nearing completion. We are now beginning to make applications and raise funds to repair the turret.

## **Coffee Mornings & Café Church**

Everyone at St Peter's is looking forward to recommencing our Coffee Mornings and Café Church in the near future. Look out for forthcoming dates on our notice board and website. We look forward to meeting you at St Peter's and chatting over coffee and cake once again.

### **FANCY A GAME OF BADMINTON?**

We meet on Friday evenings in the Wrestlingworth Memorial Hall, usually at 7pm. We are a friendly club with a long history and proud that we are open to all ages and abilities. Newcomers are always very welcome. If you'd like to give badminton a try, or want to come back after years of not playing, why not pop along? You're sure to have some good games, and the opportunity to improve your play. As our start time can vary, please check with a club member or the 'Wrestlingworth Badminton' Facebook group beforehand.



## **ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, COCKAYNE HATLEY**

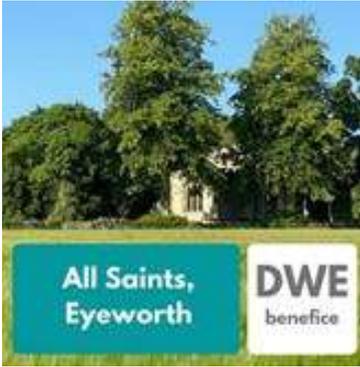
**Rector Rev. Alex Wheatley**

### **Services**

**2nd Sunday of the month** at 9am - Holy Communion

**4th Sunday of the month** at 3pm - Evensong

**<https://www.pottonparishchurch.org.uk/>**



### Contact Us

Matt Phillips, Priest-in-Charge  
01767 512122      matt@dwe.org.uk

Wendy Robinson, Church Warden  
01767 631283

For more information see: [www.dwe.org.uk](http://www.dwe.org.uk)

### Whoever you are, you are welcome here!

All Saint's exists to serve the village of Eyeworth and the wider local community. Our regular congregation is made up of people of all stages of life and we hope to provide something for everybody. You are very welcome to join us at a service, reach out to us if you have a pastoral need or make contact if you would like to discuss holding a christening, wedding or another special service at the church.

### Services in October and November

**Sunday October 10<sup>th</sup> 2021:** Holy Communion at 3pm  
*A relaxed Communion service with hymns and a short sermon.*

**Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup> 2021:** All-Age Worship at 3pm  
*A lively service with action songs, crafts and activities for all-ages!*

**Sunday November 7<sup>th</sup> 2021:** Candles in the Dark Service at 3pm  
*A chance to remember our friends and family members who have passed away and to give thanks for their lives. If you would like a candle to be lit in memory of somebody, please let Matt or Wendy know.*

**Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup> 2021:** Remembrance Service at St Peter's, Wrestlingworth at 11am  
*This year, we will be joining with our sister church in Wrestlingworth for our Remembrance Day Services.*

**Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup> 2021:** All-Age Communion at 3pm  
*A relaxed service with action songs, crafts, activities and communion.*

### Save the Date: Carols Around the Christmas Tree

**Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 3pm**  
*Join us for Carols Around the Christmas Tree, a lively retelling of the Nativity story, mulled wine and mince pies!*  
*Guaranteed to get you in the Christmas spirit.*



## What is Open the Book?

Well, if you've been a parent, or carer, of a primary-age child during the last five years, you will probably have heard them talking about "The Storytellers" at school.

We are a team of local Christians, who, hopefully "bring the Bible to life" with Bible story re-enactments taken from "The Lion Storyteller Bible". We visit the schools in Wrestlingworth and in Dunton.

Open the Book is now a national, charitable organisation under the umbrella of the Bible Society, but was started up by a team in Bedford 22 years ago. There are now thousands of volunteers visiting thousands of primary schools up and down the country.

COVID has meant that for the last 18 months, we have been unable to visit school "in person", and so we have had to learn new skills. Using Zoom, we have been able to meet remotely and "film" the Bible stories before sending them in to school. Since the beginning of this year, five stories have been videoed for school to use.

The photos show the team pre-Covid and an image from one of our recent videos.



To find out more about Open the Book locally, or how you might be able to help, please contact Chris Farthing—01767631087 [entfolk@gmail.com](mailto:entfolk@gmail.com)

# THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF FUNGI



**Parish  
Walking &  
Wildlife  
Group**

*James Bonfield, of the Parish Walking & Wildlife group, discovers remarkable miniature worlds in our damp woodland corners.*

Now we're well into autumn, we're seeing fungi pop up all over the place. In the classic game of “Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?” fungi refuse to be pigeon-holed, being their own distinct group (along with their siblings the yeasts and moulds), although unexpectedly they're closer to animals than plants! The main body of the fungus is the mycelium, an interconnected network of fine threads that act like roots, with the fruiting bodies being the bit we observe above ground. This network is what we see in fairy rings, with the outer edge of the organism sending up the toadstools.

Although picking the fruiting body is much like picking blackberries or apples, unlike them it is possible to harvest every single fruit as they are easy to reach. In some places this excessive picking can have knock on effects on the local insects and animal populations that also feed on them, leading to some places to ban commercial picking and to apply strict limits on the number picked (for example in the New Forest).

Identification is very challenging, but some useful clues based on shape, colour, smell even taste (although I prefer to leave that to the experts!) can all help narrow it down. Some fungi (Milkcaps) ooze a milky substance when damaged, like picking a dandelion. Others are very crumbly and granular like a sugar lump (Russula / Brittlegills), or distinctly conical with greasy caps (Waxcaps). It is important to note what the fungus was



*A group of Wrinkled Peach (*Rhodotus palmatus*),  
on a Wrestlingworth Elm log*

growing on (dead wood, grass, poo, or even very specific things like pine cones). Like plants, some fungi also prefer certain soil types with RSPB Sandy having a very different mix than our sticky clay woodlands. Even specific tree species can help, such as the Wrinkled Peach always being on decaying Elm, the glistening Porcelain Fungi on Beech and King Alfred's Cakes on Ash.

[http://www.mycokey.com/Downloads/FungiOfTemperateEurope\\_Wheels.pdf](http://www.mycokey.com/Downloads/FungiOfTemperateEurope_Wheels.pdf)

The free identification wheels (link above) are an amazing resource, although you'll need to join the scientists in a love the Latin names. These can be particularly challenging as fungi are being continually moved into new groups and renamed as DNA sequencing keeps discovering just how inaccurate assignment through simple appearance has been.

The spore colour can also be indicative, and a spore print can be taken by cutting off the cap and placing on top of a piece of paper, ideally half white and half black unless you can get some idea before hand. Putting a glass over it can help to stop it drying out and avoid any breezes moving the spores around.

Some slime moulds can be easily confused for tiny fungi, but are a different group entirely. They are single celled organisms with the curious ability to group together to form more complex structures, and even to gradually move. While mostly in a slime state, they reproduce by forming



*Spore print from a Brittlestem (Psathyrella sp.)*



*Slime mould (Diderma hemisphaericum) on the stem of a leaf*

spore-producing fruiting bodies resembling tiny fungi.

As well as the amazing variety in shapes, colours and sizes of fungi, I love the common names too. Some of them are so evocative in describing the fungi, or their consequences when eaten. The Bleeding Bonnet (*Mycena sanguinolenta*) and Burgundydrop Bonnet (*Mycena haematopus*) both exude red droplets from the stems when picked, Dead Man's Fingers (*Xylaria polymorpha*) are blackened stems with no caps, while the Funeral Bell (*Galerina marginata*) and Destroying Angel (*Amanita virosa*) are two of our most deadly poisonous fungi.

Which brings me on to the final point. I wouldn't recommend picking for the pot unless you can also identify every single poisonous species, as some are known to grow along side their edible cousins. In general it's best to simply admire their beauty and reserve foraging to the local supermarket shelves.

All the photographs above and below are from Wrestlingworth.



*The underside of a Brown Mottlegill  
(Panaeolina foenicisecii)*



*Earth Star (Geastrum triplex)*

*The Parish Walking and Wildlife Group organises monthly local walks on the third Sunday of every month, often starting at 10am at The Chequers in Wrestlingworth but also venturing further afield and car-sharing. If you enjoyed this article, you may be interested in our next walk 'Fungi Foray' at Waresley Wood on the 17th October at 10am, meeting at the carpark there.*

*Please visit <https://www.pwwg.org.uk>, local village noticeboards or Facebook for further information on forthcoming walks.*



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## ALL CHANGE!

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

It has been all change for the WI recently.

Our cellist Milena Kavrakova was unable to visit us in August so Nick Cooke stood in with his presentation

“Bletchley Park – Home of the Codebreakers.” We were his first face-to-face talk in months. Bletchley Park is now open to visitors and it reveals a secret world of cryptography where even the people who worked there during the War were not sure what they were achieving, it was so secret. Through films we have all heard of Alan Turing and the Enigma machine and how cracking the code reduced WWII by two years. It was fascinating.

On 21st September we ‘man the lifeboats’ with a talk on the work of the RNLI.

Our October meeting has also changed when we once again hold our successful Chilli Evening, thus the talk ‘You cannot be serious’ by a former Wimbledon Umpire will be moved to our Christmas meeting on 14th December.

Our November 16th meeting remains as programmed – “Bagels and Bacon” talk by Jeff Rozelaar.

Are you keeping up? If you cannot get your head around the changes check with our Secretary, Lesley May, on 631259 and she will put you straight. Whatever – ladies come and join us on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. We hope to see you there.

*- Carolyn Driver*

P.S. – at the risk of blowing my own trumpet, I won the third prize in the Bedfordshire Federation’s ‘Baker Brothers’ Trophy with my short story “Lockdown, Covid-19 and me” (page 20.)

*(Our cover photo was also kindly provided by Carolyn. Thank you!)*

# LOCKDOWN, COVID-19 AND ME

*By Carolyn Driver*

Who would have known at the start of 2020 that an unknown virus would spread across the world and rob us all of a year of our lives, which aged 78 I bitterly regret, and with many thousands also the loss of their lives?

I found a notebook and started my “Covid Diary”, a blow by blow account of life in Lockdown never expecting to still be writing it in 2021. Distanced from our two sons and their families and closest friends we hunkered down with my husband shielding, were kept supplied with groceries by our local charity the “Goodwill Fund” and meat, veg. and dairy produce by a weekly Farm Shop delivery. I baked and cooked tasty meals to try and keep us healthy, boiling up chicken carcasses and vegetables in true Wartime Spirit though the parsnip soup came out like porridge, went for short walks for fresh air and tried to tame the jungle the garden had become. Television became moving wallpaper as the repeats of repeats began to pall except for the travel programmes which gave us a view of all the holidays we couldn’t go on. We sat on the sofa and looked at photo albums of places we had been to over the years and I read my holiday journals which reminded us what we were looking at.

Having heard nothing but Brexit for four years and the farce of the US Presidential election the Television news got more and more depressing and the daily press conferences from the Prime Minister and his medical advisers became so downbeat we stopped looking.

My computer is too old and too slow for gizmos like “Zoom” so contact was by e-mail and phone. My only face to face conversation was with my hairdresser with her face mask and visor reflected in the mirror until she too had to go into lockdown. My husband and I have only seen our two sons and their families once in late summer when we picked blackberries and sloes in our local countryside. I missed my WI meetings, Book Club and weekly badminton so I knitted, drank more wine than was probably good for me, read and re-read all the books in my library, wrote the diary and three novels that no-one will probably ever see and entered short story competitions.

To keep contact with our three grand-kids (aged 6, 5 and 4) I sent a regular newsletter but didn’t have much to tell, so I set up a competition and sent them all some runner bean seeds to grow – whose would come up first? The Dads entered into the spirit of it and sent me regular up-dates and photographs of their progress. Once I thought the exercise had run its course, I produced three certificates on the computer (all with different categories so there were no arguments) and everyone got a First.

All I could do was KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON.

## YVONNE HALL

September 1943 - August 2021

I would like to thank all our friends and neighbours for their messages of sympathy and fond memories of Yvonne.

She became very active from the moment we moved into the village in 1990. She was diagnosed with cancer at the end of July and died less than four days later.

She will be sorely missed by us all.

*Martin Hall*

## THANK YOU

For all the kind messages of support, for those who attended Richard's Memorial Service at St. Peter's and made donations to the Goodwill Fund in Richard's memory and to the Chequers for providing us with a venue for us all to gather over refreshments afterwards.

Carolyn Driver and family

## WRESTLINGWORTH HISTORY SOCIETY

The WHS continues to meet on the third Thursday every other month, with the next date being **18th November 2021**. The topic/speaker for this meeting has yet to be announced, but once confirmed it will be advertised through our email distribution list, via the WHS website and on posters around the village.

<http://wrestlingworth-hs.org/>

# **TRIAL AND ERROR COOKING BY GORDON BLUE (ASSISTED BY EGON RONNIE)**

## **PUMPKIN AND CHICKEN SOUP (Serves two people)**

### **Ingredients:-**

- 1 Pumpkin (see below)
- 1 Tin of chicken and coriander soup
- Scoop of self raising flour
- A knifeful of butter or margarine
- Dash of milk

### **Method**

Cut the pumpkin in half. Then scoop out the seeds and discard. Then scoop out most of the remaining flesh, but leave enough so that the pumpkin is in no danger of collapsing.

Then add the soup, half a tin in each half of the pumpkin.

Next, make the dumplings.

Rub the margarine or butter into the flour until it looks like breadcrumbs. Add the milk and knead the dough until it becomes a non-sticky ball you can hold. Then make a series of bite sized balls and add them to the soup. Then cook in a pre-heated oven on about 180 degrees for approximately 25 minutes, checking regularly to make sure that the pumpkin does not burn and the dumplings are cooked. They will expand when they are done. The meal is ready when the pumpkin just shows signs of browning.

The pumpkin itself is your soup bowl. Enjoy!

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

I'll let you into a secret. Gordon does not have a food processor/ blender, so he cannot make his own soup! As you can see from the recipe, the size of the pumpkin you use needs to take into account the volume of soup and dumplings you are going to fill it up with, so be generous when you select one, so as to prevent the soup from boiling over.

# A WALK AROUND WRESTLINGWORTH

## A PERSONAL VIEW – PART 7

### By Brian Buck

Previously, we have walked up from Mill End, opening up into a large field in which peas were grown this year, seemingly not for human consumption though and possibly harvested by the time you read this. If you do decide to follow the field boundary then you had the opportunity to visit Lousy Bush Nature Reserve, which is signed from here, in brown and white and which I wrote about in my last article. Otherwise, to continue on with the walk, ignore the sign to Lousy Bush Nature Reserve and you will very soon come out onto a track, which leads back to High Street on your left and up to a ‘white’ house on your right. On the other side of the track, you will see a swing gate immediately in front of you.

Now you find yourself in a lovely grassy field. Before it got cut it was full of tall, fresh looking, grass and pretty wild flowers, which you could almost touch as you waded through it. Aim yourself in the direction of another refurbished thatched cottage, which is also in the aforementioned Water End part of the village. A friend told me, *“You walked by the place of my birth, also my dad’s birth. My brother currently lives in the same cottage, the thatched cottage by the brook at Water End.”*

In the past there were other thatched cottages, along with the William IV pub, in this vicinity. The field comes to the end just before you reach the thatched cottage. Go through yet another swing gate and cross the village brook by way of a wooden bridge, which has seen better days, but is still quite safe to walk over, having recently been repaired. Once across it you have no option but to turn right and here, I would advise you to be careful. For about ten yards the track is very narrow and in wet weather it could become slippery, although attempts have been made to make it easier for walkers and to stop them falling into the stream. The stream is at its most vibrant here in wet weather as by this stage a number of small tributaries from around the village have fed into it.

After about ten yards turn left, through a very narrow tree lined path, which takes you around the back of the thatched cottage. This leads you into another track, leading to a house to your right and back to High Street to your left. Follow the track until you soon reach the end of the thatched cottage on your left, where there is another swing gate, on your right, marked clearly by a yellow waymarker sign.

Go through this gate and you find yourself in a field, which has a goodly number of buttercups in the early summer. On my visits there were two friendly horses in this field. One day they had cloth visors over their heads and at first, I thought that they were running around blind, liable to crash into something at any moment. But on speaking to someone nearby about this I learned that they could see through these ‘visors’ and they were put on to keep the flies off them.

As you walk on, keep close to the hedge of the house on your right. Then once you have reached the end of its garden, after about thirty yards, the footpath takes you, via another but easily missed, swing gate, between some tall bushes. Immediately the footpath turns left. Follow it and soon you will see houses in front of you in the distance. Be careful when walking along this stretch as it is narrow and there are few rabbit holes which you could trip over. Eventually you will come out between the houses and then into Eyeworth Road. In the early days of my walks it would not have been possible to do this part, because it was overgrown with stinging nettles, but they were cut away. However, they tend to grow again quite quickly sometimes!

You have now reached another contender for the highest part of the walk and once again you get panoramic views southwards and over towards the Chiltern Hills. No view of Eyeworth this time, but in the nearer distance you can see the top of the tower of Guilden Morden Church. Once you are on Eyeworth Road turn left and head towards the crossroads.

If you want to take a break here then there is a bus shelter to rest your weary feet. But otherwise, to continue with the walk, turn left at the crossroads into High Street. If you want to return to base at this point then take the narrow footpath, separated from High Street by the garden of a house on your left and trees on your right and eventually you will arrive back at the Chequers. If not then ignore this and cross the road and within about twenty yards you will spot a public footpath sign, slightly hidden away at this time of the year and this will take you through a little spinney, into a field accessed by yet another swing gate. On the gate there is another ‘Bull in Field’ sign and this is one sign walkers should take a bit more note of!

*If you have any comments, additions or corrections to make then please contact me at [brianbuck66@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brianbuck66@yahoo.co.uk) and I will add them to a ‘round-up’ once the last of this series of articles has been published. Also, if you give me permission then I will acknowledge your contribution by name. Thank you.*

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<b>Wrestlingworth, Eyeworth &amp; Dunton Churches</b>	Revd. Matt Phillips - Priest in charge Karen Nurse - Church Warden (St. Peters) Wendy Robinson - Church Warden (All Saints)	01767 512122 01767 631487 01767 631283
<b>Church and Poor's Fund</b>	Liz Teague	01767 631628
<b>Parish Council</b>	Robin Barratt - Chair Sandra Williams - Vice Chair Nigel Dodgson James Kirkpatrick Frazer Dewey Kevin Puddephatt Catherine Dear - Clerk to Parish Council	01767 631418 01767 631269 01767 631643 01767 631767 01767 631746 07950 691905 01767 631383
<b>Central Beds Council</b>	Adam Zerny - Independent Ward Councillor Tracey Wye - Independent Ward Councillor	01767 261319 01767 261319
<b>Wrestlingworth Lower School</b>	Nancy Sheehan - Head Teacher Abi Chipperfield - Friends Co-chair Kelly Whitfield - Friends Co-chair	01767 631249 07949 831993 07834 614613
<b>Women's Institute</b>	Lesley May	01767 631259
<b>Conservative Association</b>	Doreen Gurney	01767 680395
<b>Wrestlingworth Goodwill Fund</b>	Sarah Burgoine - Chair Margret Pantry - Doctor/Hospital Transport	01767 631415 01767 631548
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<b>Eyeworth Village Hall</b>	Wendy Robinson - Bookings	01767 631283
<b>Walking &amp; Wildlife Group</b>	Robin Barratt - Chair	01767 631418
<b>History Society</b>	Connie Walker - Coordinator	01767 631450
<b>Badminton Club</b>	Jim Hawkins	01767 631736
<b>Ladies' Badminton Club</b>	Jan Goodwin	01767 631282
<b>The Chequers Public House</b>	Dave and Carin Moore	01767 631818
<b>Village Link</b>	Simon Dear - Editor	01767 631383

### EMERGENCY (24 HOURS)

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

**Village defibrillator locations** — Cockayne Hatley - opposite 21 Village Road  
**\*\* Call 999 whilst at Patient \*\*** Wrestlingworth - Millennium Garden bus shelter

### USEFUL NUMBERS

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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**Wrestlingworth**  
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