

From the Chair (Garry Folbigg)

With February drawing to a close we will soon have lighter nights to look forward to.

Burglaries

On a recent policing meeting attended by councillor Hawkings it was stated that in some areas houses seemed to be getting earmarked for potential burglaries in the form of a spray dot placed near the house. Please be aware and if you see a sprayed mark appear be cautious.

Playing Field

Recently it was reported that someone had been exercising their horse on the playing field. The whole idea of the new fence was to keep horses on the bridleway and away from the playing area. Can all riders please stick to the allocated routes.

Spring Hill Flooding

The flooding across the road on Spring Hill has currently been fixed but further action may be required should investigations by the Borough Council find it to be a collapsed pipe.

Water pump lids

We are still waiting for Keysoe Parish Council to come back to us with regards to enquiries they have made for replacement water pump lids. They are also missing several and if we can get them made it makes sense to have them all done together. We will update you when we know more.

Newsletter

With a New Year a new editor is needed for this newsletter – anyone willing to have a go at compiling the village news should contact the current Editor (Jeanette Atkinson, jeanette@pjatkinson.plus.com) or the Parish Clerk (Mary Jordan, via email lspecclerk1@gmail.com).

General Notices

Village Litter Pick

Saturday 3 March, meeting in the Village Hall car park at 10.00am. All help welcome! Any queries to Marion Davies: 01234 376713

Orange bags

Little Staughton residents can now collect waste collection Orange Bags from Top End Stores.

Colmworth Carpet Bowls Club

We are looking for more people to come join us to play carpet bowls. We practise and play home League matches on Tuesday nights starting play at 7.30pm in Colmworth Village Hall. Some away matches are on differing nights.

This sport is fun, can be very skilful and suitable for persons of any age even if not fully able bodied.

Fees are very low currently we pay £2 per week plus a small yearly fee. Come along for a try out free of charge and see how you get on. Contact Brenda or Peter Bol on 01234 376685 for more information.

Keep Fit with Line Dancing

Mike's Line Dancing

Wednesday 10-11 am at the Village Hall

Very informal

Beginners / everyone welcome

Just turn up for an hour of fun

£5 per session

All Saints' Church

From Revd Bland

Dear Friends

I am writing this immediately after making 100 pancakes at our GS monthly coffee morning and next I shall be preparing the ashes for tomorrow's Ash Wednesday services. We are now well into Lent. We hope to see you on **Sunday March 11th which is Mothering Sunday.**

During Lent I am hoping more and more that we will make that journey to the cross together as a benefice. The last week of March is, of course, Holy week, starting with Palm Sunday which will be celebrated in

Little Staughton News – March 2018

all three of our churches. We then begin our journey with Compline at 8.00pm on Monday at Hail Weston, Tuesday at Great Staughton and Wednesday at Little Staughton. We then go back to Hail Weston for Maundy Thursday is celebrated with Holy communion and Vigil at Hail Weston. There will be a Good Friday Family walk and egg hunt at Great Staughton Church and in the afternoon the mood will change as we spend an hour there contemplating the events of Good Friday. The first communion of Easter and vigil will be held at 11.30 pm on Easter Saturday at Little Staughton where the Easter candle will be lit from a fire outside the church.

Two thousand years ago Jesus walked this earth with a message of hope. Many have followed in his footsteps sharing the message and bringing comfort and hope to others. Too many of them, like Jesus, have suffered for their efforts to make a difference in the lives of ordinary people and above all having the courage to expose their faith in a loving God.

Yet that hope lives on and on Sunday April 1st the Churches of our villages will be celebrating Easter, the resurrection of Christ. It will mark a new day, a new beginning, bringing fresh hopes, and an opportunity to say sorry and to forgive.

As new Easter candles are lit let us celebrate the hope and promise that God gives us in the resurrection of Christ. I hope that however you are celebrating the Easter weekend this year it will be a joyous celebration and that you may find hope and peace in the Easter message.

With love and blessings, Rev. Nicki

Services (Revd Nicki Bland)

Look out for a card listing all Holy Week and Easter Services in the three churches

- 4 March, 9.00am, Little Staughton
- **11 March, 3.00pm, Fun Family Mothering Sunday Service with puppets at Little Staughton**
- 18 March, 9.00am, Little Staughton
- **25 March, 3.00pm, Palm Sunday Songs of Praise at Little Staughton**
- **31 March, 11.30pm, Holy Saturday Service at Little Staughton**
- 1 April, 9.00am, Easter Day Family Communion, Little Staughton

Family Mothering Sunday Service on Sunday 11 March at 3.00pm

A fun family service with puppets led by Glenn and Maggie Coiley, followed by refreshments. Everyone Welcome.

Songs of Praise on Palm Sunday 25 March at 3.00pm

A short service comprising of your favourite hymns interspersed with short readings and followed by tea, coffee, cake and a chat. Everyone Welcome.

All Saints' Church Fundraising Dinner 2018

This year's dinner is on Saturday 17 March, 7.00 for 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Black Tie/Lounge Suit. Tickets: £28.00, available from Bernard Hopperton: 01234 376292, Marion Davies: 01234 376713 marion.j.davies@btinternet.com and Clive Shaw: 01234 376530.

Church Lighting

In February, All Saints' Church was lit by Win Woodhams to celebrate Sonny Woodhams 80th birthday. There was also a kind sponsor who wishes to remain anonymous. If you would like to mark a special occasion or remember someone by lighting the church, please contact Gill Shaw on 376530 or Marion Davies on 376713. All we ask for is a minimum donation of £10.

Friends of All Saints' Church 200 Club

This month's winners were as follows:

1st prize	£80 Louise Dixon
2nd prize	£40 Hazel Brown
3rd prize	£20 Kerry Grimes
4th prize	£10 Michael Airs

If you would like to join or would like further details, please contact Clive Shaw on 01234 376530, clive50shaw@btinternet.com

Baptist Church

Sunday Services(10.30am and 6.00pm)

- 4 March am and pm Mr Stephen Jarvis
- 11 March am: Mr Brian Freer
pm: Mr John Martin
- 18 March am: Mr Andrew Jones
pm: Mr Graham Tolley
- 25 March am: Mr Andrew Rome
pm: Mr Graham Went
- 30 March Good Friday Service 10am
-

Midweek Meeting

Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm

Fellowship and Coffee Morning

Wednesday mornings at 10.00am
All welcome

Livewires

Thursday evenings, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
for children aged 5 to 11 years

Village Hall

Village Hall AGM

Tuesday 20 March 2018, 7.30pm

If you would like to join the committee (all ages welcome) or would like to address the committee on any matter relating to the Hall then please come along.

Valentine's Wine Tasting Evening

Thank you to everyone who supported this event and particularly to Brenda and Paul Foster and their team whose hard work ensured the evening was a great success enjoyed by all.

Afternoon Tea

The next meetings are 2.00 to 3.00 pm on:

Friday 16th March

Come along for a natter and catch up over a cup
(or two) of tea or coffee.

Please do join us for only £1.00 per person.

Everyone welcome.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

The latest quarterly meeting of Bedford and District NHW took place on Wed. 21st Feb. The guest speaker was from CrimeStoppers.

CrimeStoppers has now been in existence for 30 years and in that time 142,000 people have been arrested as a result of a call to CrimeStoppers, drugs to the street value of £341million have been seized and 1 person every 10 days charged with murder!

This service is 100% anonymous, available 24/7, 365 days a year and partners with law enforcement as well as commercial centres such as gas, electric and water companies. It is not a substitute for calling 999 or 101 but it does collect evidence and forwards it to the police. It is there for those who for whatever reason do not want to speak directly to the police. Rewards are paid for successful outcomes to information passed on.

The website will give you more information: www.crimestoppers-uk.org or if you have information about a crime or a suspected criminal which should be passed on call: **0800 555 111**.

- ✓ Speak up. Stay safe
- ✓ Speak up to stop crime
- ✓ Become a Stopper

Bedford and District Neighbourhood Watch desperately needs new and younger blood to ensure it continues to flourish. If you could spare a few hours to assist in a variety of ways (your skills and talents will be matched to appropriate tasks needed to be done) it would be greatly appreciated. They need trustees and or people to assist with management tasks. It would give you a good insight not only into how NHW functions locally but also nationally (we are now part of a national database) and how it partners with the police. For more information email: Bedfordnhwatch@gmail.com or by voicemail on 01234 842861 or come along to the next quarterly meeting on 7th June 2018 (time and venue tbc). Thank you.

Cherry Protheroe

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Little Staughton.

Diary Dates 2018

Police

Burglary prevention advice

- Use your lights at home – keep them on a timer when you are out so it looks like someone is home
- Make sure all doors on your house and vehicle are securely locked at all times. If you have a UPVC door at home, make sure it is double-locked
- Keep all valuables and keys safely out of sight from windows, both in your home and car. Close curtains with a light on indoors
- Never leave garages or sheds unlocked – not only can valuable tools be appealing to thieves, they can also be used to force entry to your home
- Don't hide your keys under a doormat or in a flowerpot – it's the first place a would-be offender will look
- Ask a friend to keep an eye on your house when you go away, and do the same for neighbours by remaining alert to suspicious activity in your street
- If you have an unexpected knock on the door never open it to strangers, consider installing a door chain and always keep it on
- If unsure of the visitor's identity always ask for their ID first and telephone the company they are purporting to be from, and use the telephone numbers listed in your local directory or provided independently by your service provider.

Please report any suspicious activity to us by calling 101 or visiting [the force's online reporting centre](#). You can also give information about crime to Crimestoppers, completely anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

March 3rd Saturday: Village Litter Pick, 10.00am, start at the Village Hall.

March 7th Wednesday: at 7.30 Great Staughton Horticultural Society will have it's AGM in The White Hart. Any new members will be welcome.

March 17th Saturday: All Saints Church Annual Fundraising 'Black Tie' Dinner.

March 20th Tuesday: Village Hall AGM – see main text.

March 21st Wednesday: PC Meeting, 7.30 pm, Chapel Schoolroom.

April 18th Wednesday: PC Meeting, 7.30 pm, Chapel Schoolroom.

April 28th Saturday: at Keysoe Village hall 10am to noon Plant sale plus, bric a brac, cakes, books, teas and coffees. Free admission

May 12th Saturday: at Keysoe Village hall 10am to noon Jumble sale this event and the Plant Sale in April are to raise the funds necessary to finance The Village Show at Keysoe in September. Any contributions greatly appreciated. Please call Penny on 01234 378878 for more information

June 10th Sunday, 6.00pm: Puddings and Pimms. Social evening in the church.

July 8th Sunday: Kimbolton Country Fayre and Classic Car Show, in its 27th glorious year; 1000 Classic cars, fantastic line up of show ring events, stalls and entertainment as well as the usual tea tent, real ale bar, plus many more attractions and activities for the whole family.

July 28th Saturday: Village Hall Summer Party

September 15th Saturday: The date for the 2018 Little Staughton Golf Day has now been agreed so that you can hold the date in your diary.

Full details, including this year's venue, pricing and logistics will follow in due course.

All copy for the **April 2018** issue
to Jeanette Atkinson at Claydon, Spring Hill
or email (jeanette@pjatkinson.plus.com)
by **Friday 23rd March 2018**