

## From the Chair

This last few weeks has seen a small parcel of land (0.1 acres, adjacent to Gray's Grove Green) put up for sale by the Borough Council: I am sure many of you have thoughts and views as it would appear that we are to lose a piece of the village green. We have already had meeting on site with a representative from the Borough Council Estate Management Office which was not particularly fruitful but we are in the process of trying to find a way of retaining the ground for the village green. An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

The Parish Council has received a few complaints with regards to hedges encroaching over the roadside footways within the village. As a village, we only have one footway. Please take into consideration enough room for pushchairs / wheelchairs as more people over the coming months will be using the footpath so please make sure they are trimmed up. If you have any difficulty in doing this please let the Parish Council know; we can inform the Borough Council who will carry out the work but they will of course charge the homeowner for the work.

Again, I have received a moan about dog mess, please when walking your dog ensure that you pick up and deposit all dog mess in the bins provided around the village.

Thank you to Christopher Jordan for the hardcore and help he gave us for work on a project being carried out by the Parish Council. Thank you to all those councillors and clerk involved in the work so far.

We are hoping to soon see the Speed Watch team out throughout the village in an effort to keep the speed sensible. With lighter nights and children playing out and walkers this is aimed at keeping the village a little safer. Anyone wishing to help out if you have a little spare time then please contact Clive Burchett details can be found on the Parish Council Website.

## General Notices

### *Monday Quizzes at The Crown*

The quizzes will start up again in autumn 2017. If you fancy setting a quiz, or for any other queries regarding quiz nights, please contact The Crown (376260) or Duncan Brightman.

## *Charitable activities*

### **Safari Supper 2017**

This year's Safari Supper is scheduled to take place on Saturday 24th June and planning for the event will start in early March. If you are able to help out, or can provide support in any way (such as moving garden furniture, literature design and printing etc.) please contact Paul Foster on 01234 376302 or mobile 07503 648218.

As most will appreciate, the event takes place in private homes and gardens and consequently, for a combination of reasons - primarily security, attendance is by invitation only. We try to ensure that all village residents receive an invitation but are aware that people sometimes inadvertently get missed. If we have overlooked you previously or you are new to the village, please contact Paul Foster as above.

## All Saints' Church

### *Services*

- **7 May**, 9.00am, Little Staughton, Revd R Sibson
- **14 May**, 10.30am, Great Staughton, Revd R Lancaster
- **21 May**, 9.00am, Little Staughton, Revd J Alford
- **28 May**, 10.30am, Great Staughton, Revd D Draper
- **4 June**, 9.00am, Little Staughton, Revd C Owen

### *Teddy Bear Parachute Jump*

**Saturday 6 May**, 1.30pm, All Saints' Church - Bring your teddy, parachute attached, along to church for the adrenaline rush of his life! And for your enjoyment: hot dogs, ice cream, hot and cold drinks, cakes and books.

### *Christian Aid Week 14 - 20 May*

The collection at the service on **21 May** will benefit Christian Aid. If you would like to make a donation to this worthwhile charity but won't be at church on Sunday 21 May, please contact Marion Davies on 01234 376713 or [marion.j.davies@btinternet.com](mailto:marion.j.davies@btinternet.com)

### *Rogationtide Service & Walk*

21 May, 3.00pm - Sharps Barn Farm, Hail Weston.  
Revd J Alford.

# Little Staughton News – May 2017

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## Churchyard Maintenance

We continue to be indebted to John and Carol White for the huge amount of time and effort they spend keeping the churchyard neat and tidy. There is of course always more to do and if you would like to help, please contact Julia Harris on 01234 376757.

## Church Lighting

In April, All Saints was kindly lit by Clive and Delia Dixon to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to them on this special occasion.

The Atkinsons lit the church in memory of all family members no longer with them. Mike Robinson remembered Gilly. Sally Ann Dynes remembered her husband. Ian and Gill Monsell remembered her mother Patricia Thomas by lighting the church. Sue Harrington also sponsored the church lighting for the passing of a dear friend (Kaye) in New Zealand.

If you would like to mark a special occasion or remember someone by lighting the church, please contact Gill Shaw on 376530.

## Friends of All Saints' Church 200 Club

This month's winners were as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> prize	£80 Sara Singlehurst
2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	£40 Helen Folbigg
3 <sup>rd</sup> prize	£20 Johanna Farnan
4 <sup>th</sup> prize	£10 Jean Felce

If you would like to join the Friends of All Saints' 200 Club or would like further details, please give a call on 376530, or email me at [clive50shaw@btinternet.com](mailto:clive50shaw@btinternet.com).

## Baptist Chapel

### Sunday Services

(10.30am and 6.00pm)

- 7 May am: Mr Richard Brown  
pm: Mr John Martin
- 14 May am: Rev Roger Watkins  
pm: Mr Andrew Rome
- 21 May am and pm: Mr Stephen Jarvis
- 28 May am and pm: Mr David Blake

## Midweek Meeting

Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm

## Fellowship and Coffee Morning

Wednesday mornings at 10.00am  
All welcome

## Livewires

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

## Village Hall

### Afternoon Tea: 2.00 to 3.00 pm

Please note the *new time* we hope by making it slightly earlier more people are able to join us.

Although not a record, 12 people came to the last afternoon tea and our next meeting is on  
**Friday 19th May.**

## Village Hall Bookings

All enquiries to Maria and Kevin Foskett at  
The Crown (01234 376260).

## Neighbourhood Watch (NHW)

It is disappointing to report after so many clear months, that there was a break-in at the church last month (and two other local churches); but about the same time a break-in at a property on Church Lane too, with items taken from a garage. Please remain vigilant at all times and report any suspicious activity on **101 or if you believe there is a crime in action 999.**

**Neighbourhood Watch Week**, is from *Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June* (for more information about activities planned see [bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk](http://bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk) do have a look at, and consider supporting the events). During that week, Hazel and Pat (trustees) would welcome others to join them on the sponsored walk around Harrold Country Park, on *Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June*, but if you can't walk with them, then please consider sponsoring them or one of the other walkers to help make the day worthwhile and fun.

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Come and join the committee at the Community Engagement Day in Bedford Harpur Square on *Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June*.

The next **Member's Quarterly Meeting** will be held on *Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017*, at Police Headquarters lecture theatre, starting at 7:30 pm. Speakers for the evening are Sean O'Neil for Part 2 of Cyber Crime and Paul Combs from Crimestoppers. Do go along and take a friend.

Your village NHW team are in the process of **updating the database** so please ensure your street co-ordinator has up to date details for you: email, phone etc. This would also be a good time to register with your street co-ordinator if you haven't already done so (contact details were in last month's village newsletter or you could register direct with [bedfordnhw@gmail.com](mailto:bedfordnhw@gmail.com). If you do the latter please also let your street co-ordinator know so that we might keep you posted of village concerns.

*Cherry Protheroe, Village co-ordinator NHW.*

**Neighbourhood Watch: working together to keep communities safe.**

### Cricket Club

Little Staughton's cricket season will have commenced by the time you have received this Newsletter but, fear not, you have only missed the preparation of the cricket square and outfield and the inaugural junior session. The cricket club is open to all standards and is FREE. Our aim is to provide an opportunity for boys, girls and adults in Little Staughton and its surrounding area to learn or develop their cricket skills in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We can provide all necessary equipment; all we need is a little enthusiasm and a sense of humour.

Junior sessions, for children 8 years of age and older, take place on Wednesday evenings between 6 and 7pm under the watchful eye of Nick Cain and anyone who wishes to help. Just turn up at the cricket pitch and join in the fun. Unfortunately, we are still in the process of arranging Nick's DBS Check; although he already has certificates covering his voluntary work elsewhere he needs one covering his LSVCC commitment. Nick will contact known participants as soon as the required documentation is available and I will arrange for an update to appear on the village Facebook page and the relevant Newsletter.

'Senior Nets' take place on Wednesdays immediately after the Junior sessions. More able juniors are welcome to participate but the sessions are aimed at giving adults the opportunity to ease off those joints that have become a little stiff during the off season(s). Whether a total beginner or a lapsed player we are in dire need of new blood - age is not an issue, the village defibrillator will soon be in place in the phone booth at the corner of Church Lane!

Talking of Church Lane, there is no longer any parking spaces at the playing field; if travelling to the ground on anything other than a push bike please park on the wide grass verge leading to the Church - beyond the last house on the left.

So, finally, some dates for your diary (all **home** fixtures and **commencing at 6pm** unless otherwise indicated):

- Friday 12 May v Ravenstone
- Friday 26 May v Gt Staughton/Kimbolton
- Friday 6 June v Clifton Reyenes
- Sunday 3 Sept. v Waresley (time TBC)
- Sunday 17 Sept. - Village Ashes (time TBC)

If you have any questions or queries do not hesitate to contact Clive Burchett (01234 376969).

### Little Staughton Golf Day 2017

This year's event will be held at **Mowsbury Park Golf Club** on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017**, with **arrival at 9:30am** for bacon rolls and tee off commencing at 10:30am, followed by the usual hot food, cold beverages, tales of woe / success and witty banter, hosted by the inimitable Kevin and Maria at The Crown later that evening.

The cost for the whole day will be £40.

As per last year, there will once again be two main trophies up for grabs, as well as various other awards:

- The 'Little Staughton Golf Day Trophy' – which can only be won by a person who is either living in, or has lived in the village
- The 'Friends of Little Staughton Trophy' – which will be awarded to the highest placed player who does not / has not lived in the village

Unless there are any specific objections – we will be drawing all names out of a hat again for each playing group in the clubhouse at 9:45 am.

2016 saw a great turn-out for the event, but we hope that there will be even greater support this year.

*Newsletter kindly sponsored by Messrs. C Hopperton, Cherry Orchard Farms, Staughton Moor*

## Little Staughton News – May 2017

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We hope that as many villagers, friends, relations and colleagues as possible can attend this year's event and to confirm your attendance, please let Paul Feneley (376309) or Charlie Riding (376911), know as soon as possible so that we can confirm numbers to the golf club and let them have a deposit of £10 per player.

If you wish to book a buggy for the day, please let me know quickly, in order that I can reserve these in advance. Many thanks for your support.

*Charlie Riding*

### CPRE Photographic Competition

CPRE Bedfordshire, a local countryside charity, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. To mark this, the charity is running a photography competition open to all, to build a picture of Bedfordshire's much-loved countryside and green spaces, and glimpse how these are changing. **The theme is: Bedfordshire - A Changing Landscape.**

Entrants are encouraged to consider the ways that Bedfordshire's landscape, countryside and green spaces can be seen to change, throughout the year and over time, through natural or human factors. We hope people will be inspired by the theme and that we get entries from across Bedfordshire.

The **competition is free** and open to all - first prize - £100, second prize - £50 M&S vouchers. The **deadline for entries is 16th October 2017**. Full details about how to enter can be found on [www.cprebeds.org.uk](http://www.cprebeds.org.uk).

### Diary Dates 2017

**May 13<sup>th</sup> Saturday:** THE VILLAGE SHOW AT KEYSOE, which many of you support, are having an extra event this year to raise some much needed funds for the running of the show. There will be a Jumble Sale for the first time in many years, in Keysoe Village Hall, with the **doors opening at 10am entry 20p**. Refreshments will be available. Enquiries to 378878.

**May 27<sup>th</sup> Saturday:** at 2.30 pm Great Staughton Horticultural Society's Annual Plant Sale will be held at The Pavilion. There will also be cream teas and a raffle.

**June 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Little Staughton Open Gardens 1-5 pm – if you might be interested in participating, or can offer help in any form, please ring Brenda Foster on 01234 376302 or 07799 100984 for more information.

Adult entry £4, under 12's free. Starts at Village Hall, postcode MK44 2BZ. All proceeds to Malawi Education Link and Little Staughton Village Hall. Admission to gardens by programme only.

**June 24<sup>th</sup> Saturday:** Little Staughton Safari Supper more detail to follow.

July 8<sup>th</sup> Saturday: Friends of Kymbrook School, Summer Ball, Keysoe Village Hall, 7 pm to Midnight, Black Tie, Tickets on sale from 27th April, £35 Per Person, which includes Dinner and Entertainment. For bookings contact [foksummerball@hotmail.com](mailto:foksummerball@hotmail.com)

Come and join us for an evening of fun, laughter, fine food, music, dancing, games and of course a raffle! All tickets purchased before Friday 5th of May will receive a £5 Discount Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment

Proceeds will go to Friends of Kymbrook and be used in supporting the school with their new year 5 and 6 classrooms.

**July 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday:** Kimbolton Country Fayre and Classic Car Show, Kimbolton Castle. This year there will be a flypast by the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, specifically a Hurricane and a Spitfire. In addition to around 1000 Classic cars, The Sealed Knot will be re-enacting an episode from the Civil War and new to this year we welcome Heavy Horses and Beagles and carrying forward the racing theme from last year, with Seamark geese/pig/sheep racing. There will of course be the usual popular attractions such as the Galaxy Big Band. We are also expecting well over 70 stalls and stands.

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday:** Village Show, Keysoe.

**September 9<sup>th</sup>, Saturday:** Little Staughton Golf Day (see main text).

All copy for the **June 2017** issue to  
Jeanette Atkinson at Claydon, Spring Hill or email  
([jeanette@pjatkinson.plus.com](mailto:jeanette@pjatkinson.plus.com))  
by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017**