

February 2022



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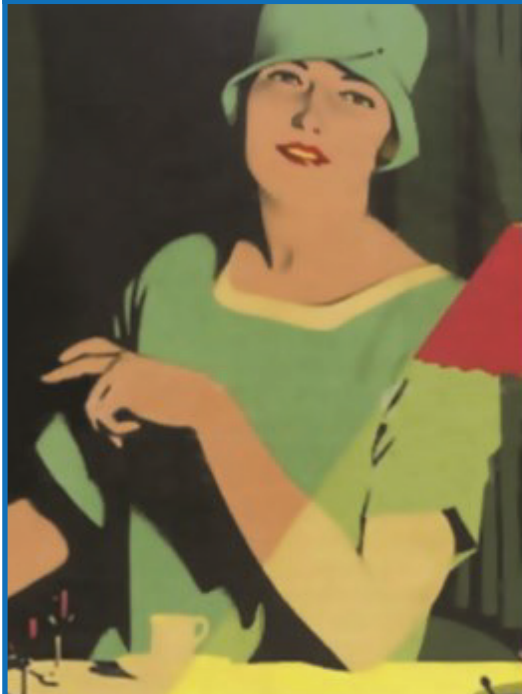
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Whenever possible, the Editor would prefer copy by email to:

spectrumparishnews@gmail.com or if you haven't access to email, written contributions to: [Mickey Pallett, 31 Lancelot Way, Fenstanton, PE28 9LY](#)

Any material submitted for insertion will be at the discretion of the editors, subject to editing, and will be copyright of the publisher.

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Rev Nick Witham 01480462293

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If you run a club or are involved in a village activity and think your telephone number would be useful on this page, please let us know. Please advise us of any errors or amendments needed to any of the above.

SPECTRUM TEAM

Editor: Mickey Pallett

Advertising Secretary: Kay Pulley

Assistant Editor: Sue Earnshaw

Accounts Secretary: Mickey Pallett

Any inaccuracies in the content of any article submitted are the responsibility of the person submitting the article.

Spectrum is produced monthly (joint issues for Dec/Jan and July/August), **by volunteers**. Printing costs are funded through annual advertising revenue, and donations from local clubs, individuals & organisations.

Monetary donations may be sent to Mickey Pallett, 31 Lancelot Way, Fenstanton, PE28 9LY (cheques made payable to Spectrum Magazine).



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Spectrum Team Needs Help

We need someone to deliver Spectrum on Huntingdon Road and one side of the High Street. If you feel you can help us please get in touch with Kay Pulley 01480 495308. Thanks

An appeal to the native people of Fenstanton:

Over the past few years I have been assembling a collection of village ghost stories, old traditions and sayings. I am now ready to put these together as a book. Before I do so I would like to make sure that I have not missed any good ghost stories, traditions or sayings. So if you have any stories that you would like me to include in the book please will you let me know, You can send them to me as follows.

01480 468718

07748 653443

john.deeks@ntlworld.com

Or you can send your story to;

24 Oaklands

PE28 9LS

Many thanks and I look forward to hearing some interesting items
John Deeks

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<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/>



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For those of you prepared to take the plunge - or at least dip a spoon into a new era - we are once again attempting to hold our Lent Lunches

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on

FRIDAYS March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
and April 1st (yes-really!) and 8th 2022.

Any time between 12 and 2.30 pm.

You are very welcome to join us for any or all the occasions.

The idea is to share a simple lunch of soup and bread, (usually a choice of 3 or 4 soups) to share the company of others, and to donate, roughly what you would have otherwise spent on a meal out, to charity.

This year we are dividing the proceeds between the chosen Parish Charity (Mission to Seafarers) and the start of a fund to support our grand-daughter Bethany, a Sea Scout in St Ives, who has been selected to represent the UK at the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea in 2023, but needs to raise her own funds to get there!

For more information contact John or Penny on 01480 464672



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SERVICES in HILTON CHURCH

8am Sunday – Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays)

11.15am Sunday – Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays)

Services on the 2nd Sunday alternate between Parish church & Methodist church

ONLINE SERVICES*

Holy Communion – Wednesdays (2.30pm)

Bible study – Fridays (10am)

Friday Feast / Messy Church – 2nd Friday of the month (6pm)

Ecumenical Worship - monthly

*** Services delivered via Zoom**

Please contact Revd David Busk (01480 436400) or

Rachel Wood (01480 830866) for details

JOIN US ONLINE FRIDAY FEAST

- ★ ONLINE SERVICE
- ★ 2nd Friday of month
- ★ 6pm
- ★ Via Zoom*



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HILTON COMMUNITY BOOK EXCHANGE



NOW OPEN IN THE PARISH CHURCH

Come on in and grab yourself a good read!

Church is open daily from 8am to 4pm

Jigsaw Exchange – Hilton Parish Church

THE JIGSAW EXCHANGE IS OPEN AGAIN!!

Do you like doing jigsaws? Do you know we run a jigsaw exchange in the parish church in Hilton? It's free and easy to get involved the puzzles are stored in the church which is open during the day, or evenings by request. We have puzzles suitable for all ages and abilities. The idea is that you just go in and exchange your puzzle(s) or, if you don't have a puzzle to exchange, then just borrow one and bring it back when completed. We can even collect & deliver puzzles for anyone with limited mobility and, of course, would be happy to receive puzzle donations. For more information, please contact Rachel Wood (830866) or Jenny Broom (830413).



HILTON METHODIST CHURCH

6th February 10am. Mr John Green

13th February 11.15am. United Service at the Parish Church with Rev David Busk

20th February 10am. Rev Pam Siddall. Holy Communion

27th February 10am Local Arrangement service. See noticeboard for details or circuit website

CAROL SINGING ROUND THE VILLAGE

The carol singing was well attended this year with around 35 singers and collectors and the weather was kind to us as well. We raised a magnificent £632.45 for the locally based charity "Mission Possible " which works in Rwanda, Burundi and Malawi as well as parts of Eastern Europe. The founder of the charity, Richard Wallis and his wife Ruth, were singing with us and are absolutely thrilled with the amount raised. He is very grateful for the generosity of all who donated on the night and also subsequently. The money is going to be used in Malawi. They suffered from a typhoon recently which ,when planted, devastated the area. The money will buy mango trees which when planted will stabilise the soil from erosion, provide shade and give a source of food which can also be sold to provide an income. Details of the charity's other work can be found on www.mpuk.org. Thank you to everyone who gave most generously.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

We held our annual gift service in December and we received many gifts which were delivered to Woodland Lodge in Huntingdon to help give the children and young adults a happy Christmas. We also had an envelope collection of money which raised £596.65 for Action for Children, a charity which supports orphans, underprivileged children and their families in so many ways. Thank you again for your generosity.



Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Chequer Street, Fenstanton



We are pleased to welcome you to our church

Sunday morning services are at 09.30. All are welcome.

2022 Services

February

6th February - Led by Alison Jiggins
13th February - Holy Communion - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
20th February - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
27th February - Revd Chris Baker

March

6th March - Revd Pope
13th March - Holy Communion - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
20th March - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
27th March - Led by Keith Cakebread

April

3rd April - Led by Alison Jiggins
10th April - Holy Communion - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
17th April - Holy Communion - Revd Dr Catherine Ball
24th April - Revd Roy Muttram

We provide a socially distanced environment, hand sanitising, and Track and Trace.

Meditation – Led by the Free Church St. Ives

Tuesday 8th February - 2.30-4pm
Tuesday 8th March - 2.30-4pm
Tuesday 5th April - 2.30-4pm

Geoff Hawkins
Fenstanton URC Secretary



Fenstanton United Reformed Church - February

1ST AND 15TH Fenstanton Knitters and Natters, 10-00 – 11-30AM

We knit for Charity. At the moment we are knitting hats for the Homeless and Innocent Smoothie Hat for Age UK. Our next project will be knitted chicks. You are welcome to come along, we are a friendly group and you will be made welcome. Just bring your knitting. Wool is available.



8th and 22nd 10-00 – 11-30am Our regular Coffee Morning.
Come and join us, we are a small friendly group.



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Parish of Fen Drayton with Fenstanton News and Services for February 2022

Hello, how are you doing?

Did you know...I am sure you did....that February was the last month to be added to the Roman calendar? Traditionally calendars used to run from March to December. Primroses and violets are often associated with February, as are the colours of purple and yellow. February is the third and last month of winter in the Northern Hemisphere. If you want to know other facts and trivia, do explore the internet as there are some intriguing trivia to discover. However, you will need to wait until 1st March for Shrove Tuesday, pancake day. A clue that Easter will be late this year (17 April).



Where is all this leading? Communication and information. When we go to press for Spectrum our details (apart from typing errors which are mostly my fault), are correct at the time but by the time Spectrum pops through your letterbox, the details may have changed. We try and let people know as best we can, using our church facebook page and other social media, our weekly newsletter which goes by email or is hand delivered, and word of mouth. If you are in doubt, do ask, as we review what we can offer and update regularly, all with everyone's well-being in mind. Any virus at this time of year, covid or not, is more easily transmissible and we want everyone to stay safe and stay well.

Please note that it is now mandatory for everyone, unless exempt, to wear a face covering in places of worship. You are welcome to join us for services in person, no booking required, or via the live-stream using Zoom. You will need the access codes for Zoom. Hopefully our Sunday Club for children will continue to meet on the first and third Sundays of the month, term-time.

Do get in touch for up-to-date information, or look on the website www.fenstantonparishchurch.org.uk the facebook page "Fen Drayton with Fenstanton Parish Churches", a church near you www.achurchnearyou.com , or email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com ikhuck@virginmedia.com

Contact details for our parish are:

Rector: Rev Rosie Tallowin: 01480 467393 email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Philip Blunt 01480 461751 and Ian Hucklesby 01480 465211

Please note that all enquiries for weddings (including Banns of Marriage) and baptisms should be made in the first instance to our Rector Revd Rosie Tallowin, 01480 467393.

Why not visit our Facebook page - Fen Drayton with Fenstanton Parish Churches.

Community Fund, or to make an application for financial help, please note we have a dedicated email address for the fund fdfscommunityfund@gmail.com

The Community Fund was set up to offer help to anyone with a strong association with either village, whether a church member or not. Especially in our current situation with the pandemic, we would like to reach out to you if you are in need of financial help and are seeking a modest one-off donation of money for a specific purpose. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence and a member of our small committee will be in touch with you with an application form and further information.

February 2022			
Please note that this pattern of services, days and times, may be subject to change.			
	Parish Church Open	<p>Parish Services are usually held in St Peter & St Paul's Church, Fenstanton</p> <p>Live stream details via https://www.fenchurchbooking.org.uk</p> <p>We have indicated when services are held at St Mary's Church, Fen Drayton</p>	<p><i>For Morning Prayer and Night Prayer Zoom details please contact Rev Rosie</i></p>
Thursday 3 rd			<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>
Sunday 6 th	9.30am onwards for a 10am service	<p>10am Parish Service, Holy Communion</p> <p>Live stream may be available via Zoom, please request details (Sunday Club, for children, meets)</p>	
Monday 7 th			<i>8pm Compline</i>
Thursday 10 th			<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>
Sunday 13 th	<p>9.30am onwards for a 10am service</p> <p>8.55am for a 9:15am service</p>	<p>10am Worship For All</p> <p>Live stream may be available via Zoom, please request details</p> <p>Please note there is a service of Holy Communion at 9.15am at St Mary's Fen Drayton</p>	
Monday 14 th			<i>8pm Compline</i>
Thursday 17 th			<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>

Continued next page

February 2022

Please note that this pattern of services, days and times, may be subject to change.

Sunday 20 th	9.30am onwards for a 10am service 4.40pm for a 5pm service	10am Parish Service, Holy Communion Live stream may be available via Zoom, please request details 5pm Sung Evensong with choir	
Monday 21 st			<i>8pm Compline</i>
Thursday 24 th			<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>
Sunday 27 th	9.30am onwards for a 10am service 8.55am for a 9:15am service	10am Family Communion Live stream may be available via Zoom, please request details Please note there is a service of Morning Praise at 9.15am at St Mary's Fen Drayton	
Monday 28 th			<i>8pm Compline</i>
Thursday 3 rd March			<i>8.30am Morning Prayer</i>

Fenstanton Community Café



“face2face” Monthly Community Café

With our thanks to our very creative café member, Helen, everyone who came along to our December café received a handmade Christmas Tree decoration, as a gift. There were enough decorations to give us the opportunity to also thank some key supporters of the café, who received one, too.

“face2face” Monthly Community Café

We made sure we had extra measures in place, to allow a face2face café run responsibly for December and again we had over 30 people in the big main hall at the Church Centre.

A big thank you to everyone who helped us set up, who came along and those who helped clear away too.

Continued next page

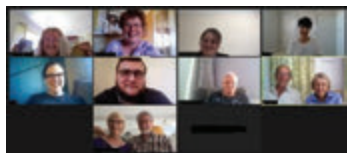


Sadly, we decided that we didn't feel it was wise to open the café for January, as we had planned. Locally, there were a lot of people ill with covid and other viruses. But we are planning to open for February, so please do come along to the Church Centre for 2pm on Tuesday 1st February. Please wear a face covering (unless exempt) until you are seated in the café. There will be extra space between tables. Any drink with cake (or biscuit) is £1. We hope to see you soon!!

The next "face2face" will be Tuesday March 1st 2022, 2-3pm, Church Centre. Pancake day! We are trying to work out if we can safely offer freshly made pancakes, watch this space.

Then 5 April; 3 May; 7 June; 5 July; 2 August; 6 September; 4 October; 1 November; 6 December.

Weekly Virtual Community Café



Can't come along to the face2face café? Then why not try our **virtual community café**?

From January 2022 the virtual café will meet weekly on Wednesday afternoons, on Zoom, from 2-3.30pm. Do get in touch for the Zoom details, we would love to see you, although

saying that, you can join us without visual providing we know beforehand.

We have been asked to tell you about the virtual café so that you might get a flavour of what happens when we meet online. The virtual doors on Zoom open at 2pm. When you join Zoom you will go into a 'waiting room' and whoever is running the café that week will 'let you in'. You can see from the image what your screen might look like, although it depends on your electronic device. We have several people who can help you navigate the zoom screen and your device.

We really are a friendly bunch of people. Most people join us with audio and visual but there are occasions when visual isn't used. For example we had someone join us from their hospital bed in Hinchinbrooke, which was great for them, and we respected their wish to not be 'seen' at that café. But they were still able to join in and be part of that virtual gathering.

We chat about anything and everything. You are welcome to join in or to listen or both. We have two rules we have agreed on. 1) We respect each others views – we might not agree with another person but we respect them as a person who has their own view. 2) We don't share photos or phone numbers unless we have permission from that person.

Fenstanton Community face2face Café: Church Centre, first Tuesday afternoon of each month, 2-3pm.

Fenstanton Community Virtual Café: on Zoom, weekly on Wednesdays, 2-3.30pm. Please message Rev Rosie for meeting ID and passcode.

We have a Facebook page "Fenstanton Community Café", a WhatsApp group and Instagram page.

For more information about Fenstanton Community Café, please contact:
Rev Rosie. 01480 467393 email: rosie.tallowin@btinternet.com

A Bewitching Story:



Picture for illustration only

The original story was written in 1922 by Gertrude Peet and edited by John Deeks in 2022

The following tale of ‘Bewitching the Horses’ was told by Mrs Baxter, Mrs J Allen and Mrs Armon of Fenstanton in the month of April 1922. All accounts agree, each one not knowing what the others said. Mr Chambers of the High Street, now dead, told the same tale some years ago.

“Mr Hopper a farmer on the Hilton Road was with his muck-cart. The load was on the cart ready to be drawn by the horse, from his manure pile, through the gates and on to the road, to be taken like this to his field.

The horse was told to ‘go-on’, but stood still not offering to move. He was told again to start, slightly hit, but Mr Topper’s horses never needed the whip, he fed them well and treated them kindly. Not wishing to strain the horse and thinking his horse had wisdom enough to know if it needed the help of another to draw the load. Another horse was attached in front. To the surprise of Mr Topper neither horse moved a muscle when told to ‘go-on.

Mrs Chard whose cottage was just opposite the yard, stood at her doorstep, looking at the horses. Mr Topper felt that she was bewitching them. Not caring to be beaten by her witchcraft, another horse was attached to the load, Mrs Chantas and her neighbours were collecting to watch proceedings. The third horse was told to start, but not one of the three horses moved a muscle.

All five of Mr Topper’s horses were attached to the load and workmen held each horse, ready to start. The command to start was given to all five horses, but not one of them moved. Mrs Chard stood staring at the horses and Mr Topper felt she was bewitching his horses and ordered that they be taken back to the stable. They were unfastened from the cart and taken back, the load was left. The next morning the first horse was put into the shafts and immediately drew the load from the yard, into the road and on to the field”.

John Deeks

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The Sunday service is at 10.30am in our lovely church building at No,2, Burrell Road, St Ives, PE27 6RR: Come for some lively worship; hear about God's love for us and how we can put it into practice in our lives. We also meet together in small groups during the week, where we build friendships and grow together as a family in our faith.



We hold a monthly church prayer meeting plus a men and a women's breakfast fellowship. There is a youth group for 11- to 18-year-olds which meet on Friday nights in term-time between 7 and 9 pm.

The Babies and Toddlers group meets at 9.30am on Tuesdays in term-time. A Craft Club meets at 2pm on alternate Thursday afternoons. A women's weekly Bible study group meets on Tuesday morning at 10am. We also have the Bridge Drop-In on a Friday morning from 10.30, specifically designed for people on their own. We would love to welcome you to any of these events. For further details of times and places please see the website or ring the Church Office.

Now the Children's Church at the Bridge! It's a fun, exciting and safe place where children can learn about God in a meeting especially designed for them. The mornings are jam-packed with activities in a contemporary "magazine" style, relevant to the culture in which our children are growing up. Why not encourage your children to come along from 10:30 on a Sunday morning?

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www.sacredheart-stives.org

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Papworth Everard, at the Parish Church,
Saturday Mass 18.00

The Particular Baptist Chapel Church Lane, Fenstanton, PE28 9JW

There has been a witness to the worship of
God here over the years since 1643

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Pastor: BE Izzard (01480 830142)

An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

The winter is a busy time on the reserve as we go around the different habitats carrying out work to maintain and improve them for target breeding species. Come the spring this work must finish to prevent disturbance to the wildlife. So, it is always a bit of a race against time and the weather to get to as many areas as possible.

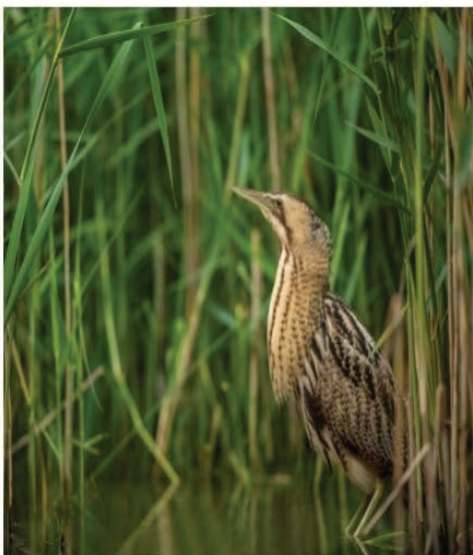
As in previous years, the reedbeds on Holywell and Elney Lakes have been a priority for our volunteer work groups. We go in to remove willow trees growing amongst the reeds. This is to entice one of Britain's most secretive and rare species, the bittern, to call Fen Drayton Lakes home.

Bitterns are medium-sized, brown herons and are reedbed specialists. They are very secretive and difficult to spot as they stalk silently through reeds looking for fish. Bitterns are one of our conservation success stories. In 1997 there were just 11 territorial breeding males in the country due to loss of habitat. Following a concerted effort to save this species, that number has increased to around 200 in the UK with 2 of those being with us at Fen Drayton Lakes.

Working in amongst the reeds by Holywell Lake can be a bit treacherous as there is standing water and you are presented with a wall of reed stems to push through. Surrounded by vegetation taller than you, it is easy to lose your bearings! But it is a unique experience spending time in the habitat of a bittern.

During our work, occasionally you spot the thin trunk of a willow. These are the targeted for removal. If they were allowed to grow tall it would mean that less reeds would grow.

Over on Elney Lake we have also removed spindly willows from one of the islands to open up new reedbed. You may notice the eastern half of the lake is quite open now.



*Eurasian bittern, *Botaurus stellaris*, standing in reedbed habitat – Ben Andrew (rspb-images.com)*

Thanks to this work, bearded tits have also colonised and were confirmed to breed on the reserve for the first-time last year. Listen out for their ping call if you are at any of the lookouts surrounding the lake. You'll be very lucky to see them though as they blend in with the golden-brown reeds very well indeed.

Thanks to the hard work of the volunteers, Fen Drayton Lakes will hopefully be home to a growing number of these rare reedbed specialists in the years to come.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

Phone: 01954 233260

Visit rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity:
England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

Fenstanton Village Sports Day and Produce/Craft Show



Saturday 2nd July 2022



You will be pleased to hear that we are planning Sports Day 2002. We have some enthusiastic new committee members and the usual old crowd, so all set to go.

There will be the usual races, some new stalls, and the old favourites.

If you have any small toy furry animals which you could donate for a stall, please drop them off (in a bag) at Ron's Farm Shop.

The theme this year is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Further details next month on produce/craft show categories



If you would like to run a stall or help with one of ours, please email:
jan.way26@gmail.com



Local Weather Watch by Patrick Landucci

As I write this article in mid-January, still awaiting the first sighting of a snowflake this winter in this part of the UK, as the days lengthen another winter without the type of weather traditionally experienced, at least in my childhood during winter, benignly slips by.

My last article however, co-incided with the end of meteorological summer, i.e. the end of August. In recent years though summer has continued through much of September barely influenced by the approaching Autumn equinox. And so it was in 2021. In fact, up to the 26th, bar a couple of days, daily maxima temperatures were above 20C (68F) including a 4 day spell warmer than any of the days experienced last August, peaking at 28.6C (83.4F) on the 7th. Apart from a very wet day on the 14th when more than an inch of rain fell and the last 4 days of the month the weather was fine and dry. Night time minima were generally 12C (53.6F) or above and only one night fell below 10C (50F), well above normal.

Southerly and south westerly winds continued to blow through much of October, maintaining above average warmth. An exceptionally warm day occurred on the 19th with the night time temperature remaining above 16C (61F). A 10 day dry spell was brought to an abrupt end on the 19th/20th when more than an inch and a half of rain fell. As a consequence October was wetter than average. With few windy days the conditions produced magnificent autumn colours.

A change to northerly winds at the start of November brought the first ground frost of the season on the 3rd but it wasn't until the 28th that the first air frost occurred following the passage of Storm Arwen on the 26th. It also heralded the start of winter with 3 consecutive days failing to exceed 5C(41F), on 27th, 28th and 29th. November was a very dry month with rain on only 4 days totalling 0.40" (10mm), most of which fell on the 27th.

Continued next page

After a chilly first week to December, the month will be remembered for its lack of sunshine, being the duller UK wide on record, and for two mild spells, 11th to 16th and 28th to 31st, the latter bringing a surge of sub-tropical air and the warmest New Years, Eve ever recorded in the UK. Provisionally a reading of 16.5C (61.7F) was recorded at Bala in Wales. I recorded 16C (60.8F). There were only two air frosts in December, one being on the 22nd when the temperature fell to -3.5C (25.7F). 2022 started with a new record maximum temperature for New Year's Day of 16.3C (61.4F) recorded at Kew Gardens. I recorded 15C (59F) that day.

In concluding this article I will focus on the growing impact of climate change in various locations across the world in 2021. In Alaska in December on the island of Kodiak the temperature soared to 19.4C (67F) almost 7C higher than the State's previous record. In the same State at the same time in the town of Ketchikan the temperature fell to -18C (-0.4F) on Christmas Day. These extremes lead to warnings of "Icemeddon" as torrents of rain and snow left roads coated with thick ice as hard as concrete.

In the Philippines, in the space of a month, mid-November to mid December, it was hit by 3 "Super" typhoons, "Haiyan", "Goni" and lastly typhoon "Rai" with winds of up to 165 mph, causing massive devastation affecting an estimated 13 million people.

In the US State of Kentucky, deadly tornadoes killed at least 70 people and caused widespread destruction in December. One of the reports noted that photos blown away during the tornadoes were found 140 miles away.

There were record breaking snowfalls in Japan and Pakistan, while in the Californian mountains of Sierra Nevada in December there has been more snow than in any of the last 50 years. In contrast ice thickness in the Great Lakes is well below past seasonal averages due to higher temperatures. These events make Britain's climate seem tame by comparison.

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If this sounds like your situation, then your role means you are recognised as a carer.

Caring Together are a local charity who last year supported more than 17,000 carer of all ages and their families across Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, and Norfolk. Carers can be any age and have a wide range of situations.

Whether you are new to your caring role, have seen your role evolve as the person you care for has needed more support over time, or have lost a loved one you cared for, Caring Together are there to help you. They can offer a range of advice, information and support, and help you, and the person you care for, access services that are helpful to you.

Their services include:

- a dedicated carers telephone where trained advisors can give you information and advice that will support you in your caring role, such as carers assessments, emergency planning and welfare benefits;
- homecare services, where a care worker looks after the person you care for, including to enable you to have a break;
- face-to-face and online carers hubs, where you can meet other carers in a similar situation;
- a monthly newsletter to keep you informed and updated.

To find out more call them on **0345 241 0954** or email them at hello@caringtogether.org.

You can also visit their website: www.caringtogether.org.uk



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FENSTANTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

On 8th December we had a wonderful talk from Josie Charter on her work for the people in Malawi, particularly the children.

The talk was very informative and at times amusing and Josie's dedication was evident. We are so fortunate in our part of the world, and we look to be able to help in the collection of necessary goods when Josie brings a container into the village this year.

Last year kind of fizzled out with the cancellation of our Christmas tea. This was due to the fast-growing numbers of covid's new variant and the need for members to stay safe. We are, however, going to have another attempt at celebrating Christmas on the 16th of February. A little late but I hope with enthusiasm. Look forward to seeing all of you there.

The programme for March and beyond will be announced then.

Meanwhile stay well and enjoy the New Year.

New members will be very welcome anytime. We meet fortnightly on Wednesdays, in the United Reformed Church building in Chequer Street, at 2.00 pm.

Please contact me for more information.

Marie Newns 01480 350677



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Session is £4, Mondays 10am -12 at Fen Drayton Village Hall excluding school holidays.

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Contact Fendraytontots@gmail.com for further info or find us on Facebook. Booking advisable

Hilton Baby & Toddler Group

We are a friendly group with babies and toddlers of all ages.

We have a great range of toys and a well stocked biscuit tin so feel free to come along and have a chat while the little ones burn off some energy!

Sessions cost £2.50 and run from 10.00am -11.30am every Tuesday, excluding school holidays.

Contact Abi Halstead - abigailhalstead@hotmail.com / 07749 682229 for further information.

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antbalaam1988@gmail.com

Latest news from Fenstanton Parish Council

Parish Council Elections

MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Parish Councils have elections for all of their Councillors every four years. The next Parish Council elections will take place on Thursday 5th May 2022.

If you are community minded and feel that you can represent the interests of the whole community then now is the time to consider whether you would like to stand for election.

If you are over 18, a qualifying citizen of the Commonwealth, the European Community or the

Republic of Ireland then this is an opportunity for you as a Parishioner to put yourself forward.

Election notices will be published at the end of March.

Further information will follow in the next issue of Spectrum and in the meantime you can contact the Clerk if you would like any further information.

Play Park - Repairs in progress

Your Parish Council is pleased to report that work has begun to make repairs to the play areas that require attention.

We hope the work will be completed very soon.

Your Parish Councillor Peter Hayes will be continuing with weekly inspections on our Play Parks.

To contact your Parish Council Clerk
Telephone: 01480 465 300 Web: www.fenstantonpc.org
Email: clerk@fenstantonparishcouncil.org.uk

Job Advertisement

Responsible Finance Officer – Experienced Book keeper/Accountant

Working hours – approximately 5-7 hours per week.

Your Parish Council is looking to appoint a Responsible Financial Officer reporting to the Chairman of the Finance and Constitution Committee and working with the Clerk to ensure the effective administration of the Parish Council finances.

Working from home or from the Parish Council office in Fenstanton.

Some evening work will be required, this will be to attend the Finance and Constitution committee meetings, which are held ad hoc approximately 3-4 times per year and where possible the monthly Parish Council meetings, which are held once a month.

The ideal candidate will be computer literate with good communication skills, as well as being able to plan and manage the workload in order of priority using their own initiative to meet deadlines. They will need to be proactive and motivated and able to demonstrate an ability to work constructively and accurately with a wide variety of stakeholders.

Experience of working in the public sector, and at Parish Council level is an advantage but not essential. Experience in bookkeeping is essential and experience of 'Scribe' financial software would be an advantage, but training can be given.

The salary for the R.F.O. will be in accordance with the NJC scales: between point 12 (£11.53 per hour) and point 24 (£14.90) but will depend on experience and qualifications. Holiday entitlement 22 days (pro rata). The Council supports attendance at training courses.

The closing date for applications is 11th February. Interviews will be held at a convenient date thereafter and the successful candidate will be expected to commence duties as soon as is possible.

A full job description is available on the Fenstanton Parish Council website or from the Clerk. If interested please contact the Clerk,

Litter Picking Teams

Your Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to everyone involved with the Litter Teams in the Village. You all did a fantastic job

throughout 2021 keeping our Village looking clean and tidy and your Parish Council appreciates your continued support and hard work throughout 2022. Thank you!

Clock Tower - Lighting

The Clock Tower lights have now been replaced and it is great to see them working once again!

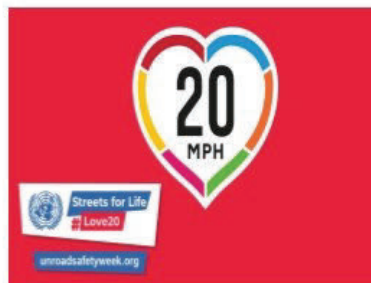
Your Parish Council would like to thank DSS Electrical for stepping in to complete the job.



Your Parish Council has now gathered the data required and submitted a privately funded Local Highways Initiative application.

Your Parish Council will keep you updated on the progress.

In the meantime, 20's Plenty for Us wheelie bin stickers are available , please contact the Clerk if you would like one.



Multi-use games area

The MUGA is proving to be very popular. It is great to see so many residents making use of the facility.

Please ensure the MUGA is locked after use .

Please take your rubbish away with you and dispose of responsibly.

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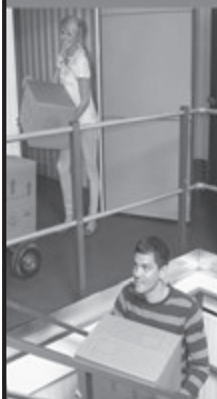
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HILTON FLOWER CLUB

Beverley and June hope you had a great Christmas and wish you all a healthy New Year.

Our December meeting was our Christmas Workshop and party it was a great success, 38 ladies did a wonderful arrangement each for Christmas, great fun was had by all, well done.

FEBRUARY 7th Beverley and June will be your demonstrators, looking forward to seeing you all.

Hilton Village Hall 2pm----4pm
Entrance £5.00 (includes Tea /Biscuits)

Look forward to seeing you all.
Beverley

HILTON ART CLUB

There were a great variety of seasonal pictures at the November 'Christmas' session – well done everyone. Very impressive.

In December, we had our annual lunch at the George & Dragon in Elsworth.

25th Feb 9.30am – 12.30pm
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Hilton Community Garden

Progress Report:

How a corner of a field was turned into a community garden in only seven months by:

- the generosity of a local farmer
- an active and collaborative committee
- successful grant applications
- hard graft

The enforced confinement of Lockdown drew attention to the few amenities in our village and the need for more ways to bind our community together. A community garden offered the chance for people of all ages to meet outdoors and share the satisfaction of watching growth from seed to harvest. It offered a cure for loneliness and a place for newcomers to the village to make friends.



The first hurdle was finding the site. Luckily a well-disposed farmer allowed us a corner of a field close to the village green for a peppercorn rent. Secondly, successful grant applications enabled us to fence off the plot, buy a shed and construct a circular seating area.

Following a garden design made by a committee member, raised beds were swiftly installed on one side of the plot. A donated fruit cage took central position. We marked off an area for fruit trees starting with the donation of a pair of cherry trees and underplanted the trees with

spring bulbs. A shady area of the plot has been set aside to grow native plants. Near the seating area we have a bed for herbaceous plants and donations from a local garden centre of summer flowering annuals gave some instant colour. These elements linked by well-constructed paths have made our garden look attractive and productive in a very short time.



Community Endeavour

Working parties met on a Saturday morning from spring to autumn.

Enthusiastic workers dug over the unyielding clay soil, cleared nettles and planted up the beds. Reinforcements of whole families arrived for sessions of path laying, made fun by the children's enthusiasm and the team's work ethic. There were Wednesday morning sessions to try to work through the job list as well as chat and relax with coffee and cake.

Community Events

We have hosted two weekend events for families.

In **July** we offered an introduction to the garden with a series of activities aimed at children. We ran a series of craft making stalls, 'how-to' demonstrations for bug-hotels and bird boxes, a Tree Trail around The Green followed by a planting session with sunflower seeds and lavender plugs at the garden.

In **October** we had a further Saturday event with more craft tables, pumpkin carving, and a Treasure Trail.



Continued next page

Satisfaction

The above events were really appreciated. It is gratifying to see people sitting in the garden or dropping by to see the progress.

We know it has helped newcomers to the village to make friends and feel valued members of the community.

It has brought to the surface people who have special needs and the garden and gardeners have brought them into the wider community.

We are proud of all that has been accomplished in the short time the project has been running.



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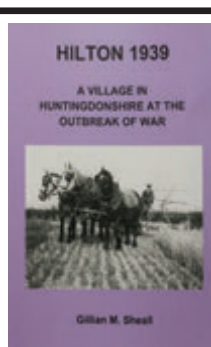
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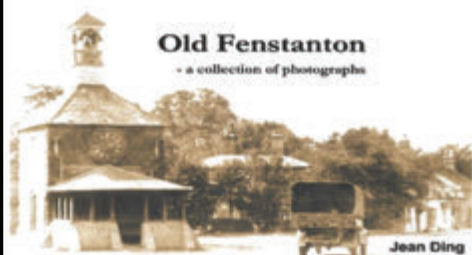
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HILTON VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Queen's Platinum Jubilee – 2nd – 5th June 2022

A party, oh how Hilton loves to have a party and 2022 needs to be a good year to celebrate. So as we don't need much of an excuse, plans are starting to come together for Hilton's celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the long Bank Holiday weekend of 2nd – 5th June 2022.

Anyone having a go at submitting an entry for the Queen's Platinum Pudding – there are so many amazing cooks and bakers in our village, we are sure there are a few who are up for a challenge – do let us know. One of the main celebration events of the weekend for the village will be an open-air theatre production of **Peter Pan** performed by **Illyria** on **Sunday 5th June** on the Village Green. We are also inviting you to join us for a **Picnic on the Green**, our village celebratory Platinum Jubilee lunch prior to the open-air theatre production. This will align with the national Big Lunch celebration that the Queen has planned for the country and including the winning Platinum Pudding.

Plans are still being finalised and there will be more information coming soon with flyers, posters and obviously the Booking Office will open for ticket sales – always a popular event so get your tickets early.

Current timings are likely to be: -

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 12 noon | Gather on the Village Green for your Picnic – bring your own to have with family and friends |
| 2.00 pm | Gates open for Illyria's open-air theatre production of Peter Pan |
| 3.00 pm | Performance of Peter Pan by Illyria |

More information will be available soon, for not only the Big Lunch and Peter Pan but for other elements of the weekend for everyone to enjoy. We all need some light relief after the challenges of the last 2 years and these events are for everyone in the village to enjoy and celebrate as a community.

If you would like to be involved and help with the weekend events, do get in touch with any member of the Village Hall Committee, we would love your support.



Christmas Grand Draw. A BIG THANK YOU! To everyone who joined in and bought tickets to support Feast Week. The winners were 1st prize £100 T Wilkinson, 2nd prize £50 R Wood & 3rd prize L Norton.

Race Night at the Village Hall – Sat 5th Feb 7.30pm. Come and join us for an evening of racing fun. Simple betting for as little as 50p per horse and of course, a licensed bar. Tickets cost £5 and are available at feastweek.co.uk Beat the winter blues, come along and join in the fun.

Other Dates For Your Diary.

Saturday 26th March Quiz Night in the Village Hall
Saturday 16th April Family Easter Egg Hunt around the village
and, of course, the main event
Sunday 24th through to Saturday 30th July Feast Week!!!!!!!



Fancy the chance of winning some cash while supporting Feast Week at the same time?

Of course you do, so sign up now to **the 200 Club** to be in with a chance.

This year more than ever, **the 200 Club** needs your support. This is our only source of income for the time being and for those of you who missed Feast Week last year and want to see it back this year, please, please, please sign up. £5 for a month or £60 for the year for each number you purchase, monthly draws and guaranteed winners of cash prizes. The more numbers in the draw, the greater the prize fund. So what are you waiting for???

For further details, rules of play and to buy tickets please see feastweek.co.uk/200-club

Small Lotteries Registration No. SSL1776



Hilton Parish Council

Happy New Year to all parishioners!

[Report from the Meeting of the Council dated Monday 6th December](#)

[Path between the Church and Church Lane](#)

The Council has resolved to resurface this path with tar and chip at a cost of £2,050 +VAT.

[Jubilee Copse](#)



Posts have been placed to mark the location of the trees for the Jubilee copse and it is anticipated that these trees will be planted over Christmas. The Council has resolved to purchase a commemorative plaque made from European Oak at a cost of £37.50 +VAT.

[The Maze](#)

The gaps between the path of the maze are gradually shrinking as the grass is spreading and so the Council has resolved to authorise the contractor to recut the maze to bring the grass walkways back to the English Heritage recommendation of 18 inches, at a cost of £675.

[Bulbs in the Grove](#)



The Parish Council has granted permission for the Community Garden Group to plant British bluebells and wild garlic in the Grove.



[2021/22 LHI bid for a 24hr HGV ban on the B1040](#)

Hilton Parish Council submitted a statement to Steve Cox to state that it wholeheartedly supports its request for a 24hr ban on HGVs through the village as there is a much more suitable alternative route and that the village has been blighted by HGVs and this statement was published on the PC website. The Clerk and Chair authorised a leaflet for each household advising them of the consultation regarding this traffic regulation order application and inviting them to comment by the deadline of 17th December. Information was also published on the Council's website and Facebook page.

[Budget and Precept](#)

The Parish Council has agreed their budget for the 2022/23 financial year and also the precept amount at £31,550, which is an increase of £950 or 3.1%. A copy of the budget can be found on the website – www.hiltonparishcouncil.com

A428 Development Consent Order Issue Specific Hearings

Cllr Peter Balicki spoke at the Issue Specific Hearing number 5 regarding highways and traffic to request that all construction traffic for the A428 development is routed away from Hilton. The Council resolved to write to the Planning Inspectorate to reiterate the points made in this meeting.

2022/23 LHI bid for improvements to the surface of the Ford and 30mph limit across the Green

The Council has received correspondence from the Highway Maintenance Manager stating that the improvements to the surface of the Ford are the responsibility of the County Council and therefore should be removed from the LHI bid. He is looking into options to reduce the slipperiness of the surface of the Ford and will liaise with the Parish Council in the new year. Consequently, the Parish Council resolved to remove this element from their LHI bid which is now for a 30mph limit across the Green only.

Outline planning application for 16 houses on Church End, west of Wychwood (20/00164/OUT)

Hilton Parish Council has appointed solicitors to establish whether there is a case for a judicial review regarding this application and has approved expenditure of up to £1,000 +VAT for this purpose.

Dog Mess

There are still reports that dog mess is being left on the Green and also around the wider village. Hilton Parish Council would like to remind all dog owners and walkers to pick up after their dogs and to utilise the proper bins provided at the entrance to the Wilderness, opposite the Village Hall and opposite the Cricket Pavilion and also Tithe Lane, near the bus stop on Potton Road, Scotts Crescent, outside the Shop and near the Church.

Litter

There are also disappointing reports of litter being left on the Green, particularly near the football goal posts. Please act responsibly and take your rubbish home with you or utilise the above-mentioned litter bins.

20s Plenty for Cambridgeshire

Hilton Parish Council has resolved that it supports 20's Plenty for Cambridgeshire's aim for wide-area, default signed 20mph limits for this Parish and across Cambridgeshire. Further information can be found on their website - www.20splenty.org. Councillors would also like to ask residents to do their bit and travel through the village at 20mph. The Council purchased wheelie bin stickers for parishioners to display. Please contact the Clerk if you would like a wheelie bin sticker – clerk@hiltonparishcouncil.com

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th February 2022 in Hilton Village Hall. Agendas will be issued in advance on the village notice boards and the Council's website www.hiltonparishcouncil.com. Parishioners are welcome to speak at council meetings on agenda items.

The Royal British Legion in Hilton

Firstly, we would like to wish all readers of Spectrum a Healthy and Happy 2022.

What is really remarkable, for all folk living in Hilton, is that even within the restrictive guidelines in force for October and November 2021, Hilton's Poppy Appeal Collectors, Hilton's businesses and donations from visitors led to an amazing £1,515.45 deposited into the Appeal fund. All thanks to YOUR generosity.

THANK YOU ALL!

All monies collected from the Poppy Appeal are used to help/support past and present Military personnel and dependants. One only has to have received 7 days pay for being a member of our Military Services to qualify for oneself and dependants to receive support from the Royal British Legion. If you qualify and need advice or support, the Helpline is open 7 days a week between 8am and 8pm and is 0808 802 808 or you can contact Margaret or Julie, who can give you the contact details of St Ives's RBL Welfare Officer. All in the strictest confidence.

There was a small printing error in the December/January Spectrum: Hilton's Royal British Legion, do not hold meetings, but are affiliated with St Ives RBL, and St Ives Women's Section RB who, normally, meet monthly at the Ivy Leaf Club in The Broadway, St Ives. At the moment there are no meetings, but we will let you know when they restart.

If you have any queries please contact: Margaret 831 186 or Julie 830 580. Thank you.

HILTON WI

Well, we have battled through Christmas and New Year - hooray ! 2021 has gone for ever and daylight is longer .

Covid is still blighting our WI lives but we are dealing with it well .

We managed a fun but careful Christmas party and then we enjoyed our January meeting with 18 members and three visitors all feeling safe enough to be in the Village Hall . Our planned speaker from the Woodland Trust was unable to come so clubs are thriving as best we can and we are thinking about ideas to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

We used the time to discuss the five proposed 2022 Resolutions .

We are also looking at possible short and longer visits and trips this year while the more immediate excitement is the February meeting when Adrian Arnold is coming to talk about his experiences in the Round the World Yacht Race. He is very much 'one of us' having previously lived in Hilton for some years .

Just before Christmas we sent out Newsletter 40 containing a mix of seasonal items and a huge thank you from the three editors for our amazing support during the two years . It is probably the last one but can come out of hibernation any time , maybe Easter but definitely , definitely one for the Jubilee - all ideas and articles welcome even now !

Substitutes for a healthy diet

Pasta – Zucchini

Chips – Carrots

Milk – Almond Milk

Rice – Cauliflower

Butter – Sadness

Cheese – Nope

Tacos – this is stupid...

I'm not doing it.



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Its Pantomime time in Hilton



Snow White and the Seven A14 workers.

Friday 18th February 2022 at 7pm
Saturday 19th matinee at 2 pm and evening at
7 pm **At Hilton Village Hall**
Tickets ready to purchase from January 2022
Adults £8 - Child £4 - Family ticket £20

*From Helen 830690 Margaret 831186
Pauline 830216 Pam 07867994569*

It will be a great show

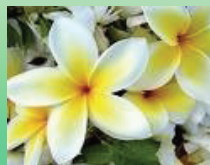


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