



SCAN

February

2016



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**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED THIS
MONTH**



Thank you for thinking of us and helping to keep our free parish magazine coming through your doors (and online!).

Betty (Editor) and Christine (Treasurer and Advertising Manager)

DEADLINE



Copy for MARCH 2016 SCAN -

16th FEBRUARY

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OR hard copy can be put in the SCAN box (next to front door at No. 13).

Views expressed in SCAN are those of the contributors and not necessarily shared by the Editor

.TREASURER AND ADVERTISING MANAGER

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SCAN 2016

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CHURCH NEWS

Dear All,

As there was no SCAN magazine in January, may I wish you a belated Happy New Year and I hope the now distant Christmas was merry with carols, family and friends. We are now experiencing the first cold part of the winter. Until now it has been a very mild season, and the primroses are already out along the tracks and the daffodils in bud in the garden. Our thoughts and prayers though, have been with those who have been affected by the appalling floods throughout the country.

I'm sure everyone will be interested in the search for a new priest. This has been an unexpectedly long process, but at last is nearing the end. We have updated our Parish Profile and with the help of Becky Pink it now looks quite appealing. The advert for a new priest will go in the Church Times on February 26th. As and when we receive replies, there will be an interview process. More of this in the future. You may be aware that our new priest will live in the Sherington rectory and will be based in SCAN, but will probably spend a quarter of his/ her time in Newport Pagnell, helping with young peoples Christian development. Meanwhile our services have been taken by Pam, John and Robert together with other faces, some familiar and some new to us. We thank them all.

Easter is early this year. Easter Sunday is on the 27th March. This means that Lent starts on the 10th February. Some people give things up for Lent. May I humbly suggest this year that instead of giving up, you try going out to some of our varied village events advertised in the rest of this magazine. You will receive a warm welcome and any monies raised will go to good local causes.

With thanks

Churchwarden Judith

CHURCH SERVICES

FEBRUARY

7 February

10.30am 'Something Different' - Sherington

10 February

Ash Wednesday

11.30am

Holy Communion (with ashes)
followed by Soup Lunch 4 Griggs Orchard Sherington

14 February

9.30am

Holy Communion – North Crawley

6pm

Evensong - Chicheley

21 February

9.30am

Holy Communion – Sherington

28 February

11am

Holy Communion – Chicheley

6pm

Evensong – North Crawley

MARCH

6 March

Mothering Sunday

10.30am

“Something Different” - Sherington

HARDMEAD CHURCH SERVICES

Hardmead Church evensongs are always at 3 pm each time there is a fifth Sunday in the month, i.e.

3 p.m. on 31 January, 29th May, 31 July and 30 October.

ALL WELCME

PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

RIP Howard Jeffrey of Olney whose funeral took place on 20 November in St Firmins church followed by a cremation service at Crownhill.

RIP Anita Arnold of Sherington whose ashes were interred in St Lauds churchyard on 25 November.

RIP Kathleen Ada Stanley of North Crawley whose funeral took place on 8 January in St Firmins church and was buried in the churchyard.

*'I am the resurrection and the life' says the Lord.
'Those who believe in me, even though they die will live, and everyone who
lives and believes in me will never die'*



LENT LUNCH in NORTH CRAWLEY

St Firmins Church

Lent Lunch is back on the menu this year and we hope you will be able to come:

- Saturday 5 March
- 12pm
- The Institute North Crawley

For a bowl of homemade soup (with bread and cheese)

- Suggested donation £5 pp (£2 child)

Contact : Cheryl Dunkley 391931 Julia Chinn 391976

'Souper' Lunchtime Get-together

Scan fellowship, a fortnightly chance to enjoy a simple lunch together



Pam and John Fielding
4 Griggs Orchard Sherington
01908 616763
12pm - 2pm Wednesdays

10 February (Ash Wednesday Holy Communion 11.30am)

24 February (n.b. At Calgary House Sherington)

9 March (Holy Communion at 11.30am)

23 March

6 April (Holy Communion at 11.30am)

20 April

All ages welcome (children too!)

FIRST DAY OF LENT

Ash Wednesday

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, a period of forty days' abstinence (excluding Sundays) commemorating Christ's forty days in the wilderness. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'Lengentide', which means spring or lengthening of the days. Originally only one meal a day was eaten during Lent, and no meat, eggs or dairy produce consumed at all: nowadays we usually just try to give up one thing – perhaps chocolate, alcohol or smoking. Weddings are still considered unlucky during lent, as sex was prohibited in this period.

Ash Wednesday is so named because, in medieval times, bishops used to sprinkle ashes over sack-clothed penitents' heads. Later, priests just made the sign of the cross on the forehead of each member of their congregation, using ashes from the palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

A STWOOD

As a result of almost daily rain for what feels like months there's a lot of mud in Astwood at the moment. Whilst attempting a mercy dash to get some equine residents to a less muddy abode, the electrically operated brake on the 4 X 4 failed which resulted in it sadly having to be "recovered" by the RAC and taken to the garage. Then guess what? it snowed.....the only day in the last twelve months that we could do with four wheel drive.

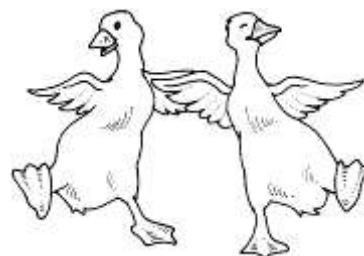
As I write this we are at that cold, damp, slushy stage although some intrepid early birds had managed to build a brilliant snow man on the Village garden this morning; he was lovely! Our pleas in the last few SCANS have been heard. We have two new recruits joining the Village Hall and Garden Committee and another one teetering on the brink of a decision, fantastic.

The Christmas Extravaganza in the Old Swan was very well supported and it was a good evening although perhaps just a bit too busy for Bob and Janet when they had a full restaurant as well as the Carol Singers and Band. We made £393 and we sent a donation of £150 to the Bedford Samaritans leaving £243 for the Village Hall and Garden fund. People using the Hall have commented on how much warmer it is since the new insulation in the floor and the roof. Two new windows have improved things and the outside certainly looks better now the front doors have been painted. More window replacements and decorating the inside are on the agenda for this year as funds allow. We have also acquired ferrules for the legs of the chairs to stop them scratching the wood floor, a work party to be arranged to attach all 240!

This year there are plans for a Summer BBQ on the Village Garden so that we can all enjoy it and have a social occasion too. The last summer event was on Wimbledon Men's Finals Day two years ago and villagers have already offered help if we organise one this year. Watch this space for the date.

Back to the Pond. Lots of choice at the moment!

Mallard and M'lady



ASTWOOD & HARDMEAD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 8pm in Astwood Village Hall

Present: Cllr R Stilton (Chair), Cllr D Hulance (Vice-Chair), Cllrs D Chapman and L Rhee, L Noakes (Nominee for Cllr) towards end of meeting. Ward Cllr K McLean, Clerk P Reynolds-Nunn, no members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr I Bradley (Cllr), Ward Cllrs D Hosking & P Geary (attending other meetings)

Apologies accepted.

Minutes of meeting on 21st October 2015 were adopted and signed as a true record

Co-opt of new Councillor: Lisa Noakes came forward but deadline for election (if necessary) is 9th February 2016 after which time we can co-opt.

Matters arising from the last meeting- outstanding issues

1. The defining of the slip road along the A422 from Bedford is still pending; Clerk will ask an officer to come out and meet with one of us to see what can be done to rectify this problem.
2. The extra street light is still under investigation with MK Council: it may be they would pay to have it installed if funds are available. Although not a priority, we need to establish how many residents are keen to have it to justify the expense. Cllr Hulance agreed to ask villagers living there or nearby to get a feel of importance and to include in SCAN.
3. Cycle Path from Stagsden, still in the early stages. Clerk will contact an officer at MK Council to enquire on the possibility of such a scheme. Cost will be a major issue here but will be investigated in due course.

Hardmead Play Area – Cllr Stilton reported that the new play equipment is in situ and being used by the children. We are still awaiting the grant funds of £5000 from MK Council which we hope to receive by end of February 2016. He mentioned that a bench sited there would be an advantage for parents to sit and watch the younger children. Although MK Council will be responsible for general maintenance, Clerk will check with our insurers to ensure cover is adequate. We do have public liability insurance in the event of an accident.

Village Hall report – Cllr Hulance reported that the Village Hall was doing well as always with two new windows installed at the front of the hall: the front door and the

fire exit door had been painted recently. The Carol Service at the pub before xmas raised £245 for funds plus £150 via a raffle which was donated to charity (Bedford Samaritans). He reported that the committee have a new treasurer, Dave Elmsley, a new secretary, Clare Syrett, and a new member, Keith Watson. Clerk has received accounts but will present in May at the AGM. A vote of thanks must go to all the committee who work very hard fundraising and keeping the hall and village green garden looking good.

Ward Cllr's report – Ward Cllr Keith McLean reported that the budget takes place on 17th February 2016, with a reduction necessary of £20 million which is grim.

Olney libraries will have hours cut and bus subsidies will be cut. He urged us to respond by end of this month if we feel strongly on these issues.

PLAN MK; This is the most important issue at present and we all need to respond if we don't like the proposals. Several well attended meetings have taken place in the ward area and it was felt we needed to hold one here to let residents know what could happen to our villages if some of the proposals go ahead. It is a far way off but we need to act NOW to put our views/comments forward. Therefore, a meeting is planned on Wednesday 9th March 2016 at 8pm in Astwood Village Hall; we hope to have one of our ward councillors present and hopefully a planning officer too. This special meeting will be notified in SCAN and a leaflet drop will be done to every residence in Astwood & Hardmead. We hope to ask Ward Cllr D Hosking to print our leaflets for us if possible. There is also a drop-in session at Olney on 24th February if anyone would like to attend. The twelve week consultation closes on 6th April 2016 so we need to be proactive, responding as individuals as well as a Parish Council.

MINERALS LOCAL PLAN; This will not directly affect our villages, apart from possibly an extra 30 lorries a day passing along the A422 depending on which route is used.

WARD BUDGET TIME; Keith mentioned that all three ward councillors will have £1000 each to share between their 17 parishes and to think about if there is anything we may need help with funding for; the new bench for the play area would be a possibility. Clerk will look at prices for a low maintenance type of bench and report at next meeting.

NAG – Cllr McLean reported that there had not been a meeting recently to report on. Speeding is still the main focus, as well as other issues such as fly tipping, dog fouling, etc. Cllr Bradley had expressed an interest in being our NAG representative following Miranda's resignation but wished to know more about it. Clerk will let him know that meetings are quarterly and the venue varies around the villages. Robert Ruck-Keene chairs the meetings with Karen Goss as the secretary; PC Andy Hipkin usually attends. SIDS are still active and Cllr D Hulance offered to look into doing

this with Cllr Bradley if applicable. It was suggested they both go along to the next meeting to get a feel of what is involved. Clerk will make enquiries and let them know the date and venue of the next meeting..

Planning:

No applications were pending at present.

15/02610/FUL The conversion of an outbuilding to a dwelling at Manor Farm, Hardmead has been permitted.

Finances

Bank balance stood at £5945.35 after the following bills were settled this evening:-

EXPENDITURE

100469	P Reynolds-Nunn	HMRC (Payroll Jan-Mar 2016)	£50.00
100470	P Reynolds-Nunn	Expenses £63.20 + £6.20 VAT	£69.40

INCOME RECEIVED

£411.57 VAT Refund

N.B. £5000 is earmarked for our new play area at Hardmead. (Grant from MKCF)

PRECEPT: This was discussed and resolved to ask for £4500 for this year, as we have very little funds available for any unforeseen expenditure. Proposed by Cllr Stilton, seconded Cllr Rhee, all in favour. Clerk's salary will be reviewed next year at this time; it was agreed to increase our SCAN donation to £75, proposed Cllr Stilton, seconded Cllr Chapman, all in favour. Cllr Stilton proposed a vote of thanks to the clerk for her hard work, seconded Cllr Rhee. Ward Cllr K McLean proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Stilton who has worked very hard for the last three years regarding the play area for Hardmead; he felt a new bench situated there would be a fitting finale for a project well done.

The grass cutting was discussed and we wondered whether we should be cutting the churchyard at Astwood, as the church is closed and up for sale. Clerk will contact the diocese at Oxford to enquire about this.

Councillor's Items:

Cllr Stilton had one issue to report. Dog fouling is occurring in the new play area at Hardmead and the culprit is a dog who leaves his house, fouls there and returns to his house. The fence is broken and he has tried to repair it to keep the dog in. Clerk will ask MK Council if they are responsible and would come and repair it. A resident has offered to prepare a note from the clerk asking for this to be stopped, and to post

in each door in The Close. If this doesn't solve the problem, environmental health would need to be involved. It is hoped we can solve it amicably.

AOB: None

Questions from the public: None

Date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 11th May 2016 to include AGM

The meeting closed at 9.30pm, all were thanked for their attendance and support.

C HICHELEY

December 2015 is now acknowledged to have been the warmest December in our country for at least 100 years, and even longer if just England is used as the guide. In our locality we were very lucky to have missed the torrential rain that has inflicted so much misery on those who live west and north of us. We have been recording the monthly rainfall for the past 40 years at our house and in 2015 this totalled 22.35". The average annual rainfall for the whole 40 years is 23.5" so for us last year was not exceptional, let's see what 2016 brings.

The New Year came into the village with a bang, actually quite a few bangs, with a really good firework display from an event at Chicheley hall. It was quite spectacular and one long standing resident in the village has contacted me to say how much she enjoyed it and pass on her thanks through this column to the organisers.

The village hall committee met recently to discuss how the plans for improvements to the hall are proceeding and look at fund raising events for 2016. Any improvements will depend mainly on being successful in obtaining financial grants and they are being pursued. Details of the events are listed below.

19th March "An airman's story". This is an opportunity to once again see and listen to the late Ted Duncombe relate his wartime experience as an airman and prisoner-of-war and farming life. This proved so popular last year that we have received requests for it to be repeated and also enable those who were not able at that time to see it. There will be refreshments. Donations for charities will be welcome.

25th March is Good Friday and teas will be served in the village hall.

23rd April is St. George's day and to celebrate that there will be a supper in the village hall.

I'm sure you all know that Her Majesty the Queen celebrates her 90th birthday this year. We have decided that such a milestone should be celebrated in Chicheley and have chosen Saturday 11th June for this. That day is her official birthday, her actual one is on the 21st April. How we celebrate is still to be decided and we would welcome suggestions from the village, please give it some thought.

ChichChat will continue as usual on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings in the village hall from 10.30 am until noon. At the start of any new year no doubt people give some thought as to their resolutions. I'm not good at that so rather think about what will happen in our village. I have lived here for over 70 years now and during that time it has obviously changed, but not by as much as our surrounding villages. The most noticeable feature is almost certainly the sheer volume of traffic that passes through the village every day. Looking back say 50 years I think that probably everyone living in the village knew everyone else, which is not the case now, and we still only have a population of around 100. Perhaps 2016 should be the year to get to know our neighbours better?

David

HARDMEAD

This year's Evensongs at will be held at 3 pm each time there is a fifth Sunday in the month, i.e. 31st January, 29th May, 31st July and 30th October.

All Welcome - Melanie

***To all readers and residents of North Crawley in particular, your Scan Editor sends many apologies for the omission in the last issue of North Crawley News and Comment. It was entirely my fault (a file deleted by mistake). I am glad your faithful correspondent has agreed to carry on with the task (quite an undertaking, month after month) of collecting and writing-up all the events, news, etc. Thank you Hawk-eye.*

NORTH CRAWLEY NEWS AND COMMENT

Well here we are once more moving through the winter months which, apart from one or two early morning hints of frost, with a sprinkling of wet snow one Sunday morning, it has been a wet and windy season so far. Most people spoken to would prefer a bit more of a chill in the air to keep weeds and vermin under control, but should a very cold spell arrive they will probably want to revisit their words.

The Christmas 2015 Advent Calendars appeal organised by Jean Loughlan through the North Crawley Facebook community, resulted in 130 calendars being collected in the food bank box at the back of the church, and were then taken to a Food Bank in Milton Keynes and distributed. Well done all of you who participated and hopefully brought a smile to the face of many less well off children over Christmas.

By all accounts the Christmas ball held on 12 December was a success and enjoyed by all. Thanks go to Gary and Tracey for all their hard work in organising and running the event.

The Christmas Quiz hosted by the cricket club was very well attended and as always was an enjoyable evening. Fifteen teams battled it out for the top spots for which prizes were awarded. The fish and chip supper went down well and three new verses of the twelve days of Christmas were invented to ensure all tables were included in the singing at the end of the evening.

Despite lots of warnings some residents seemed surprised by the work before Christmas to relay the pavement on the north side of the High Street. However everyone I have spoken to has commented how much better it looks. As regards the addition of heritage bollards, it is an attempt to highlight that the centre of the village is a crossing area, especially for our schoolchildren, and should also deter cars

mounting pavements. Following comments from residents that motorists still occasionally mount the pavement on the North side of the High Street due to their impatience at having to wait a few seconds to allow traffic from the opposite direction to pass, it may be an idea to install more bollards on that side of the road. However the Parish Council need residents to voice their opinions on the matter before taking further action, so please have your say by contacting your Councillors whose details are on the notice board in the High Street.

North Crawley Institute - A date for your diaries:- **Saturday 12 March.**

A '**Gary Priestly Cabaret evening**' is being staged, who is back by popular demand following last years very successful event. Songs from the past and present across different genres, all delivered by this top class entertainer. Audience participation is encouraged and a great time was had by all on the last occasion. Ticket cost to be announced but will be in region of £10 per head (incl. light supper), and it will be a bring your own liquid refreshment occasion.

I'm sure most villagers will have read about the publication in the Citizen of plans to double the size of Milton Keynes. A few of us attended a meeting in late 2015 to discuss matters with the planners who tried to calm the fears for those of us living in the outlying MK areas and villages. In summary it was accepted that the publication of the options had upset a lot of people, but we were assured that the plan requires further development in consultation with all citizens and their representatives over a period of several years before anything more concrete is announced. Ward Councillors will be holding a series of meetings in Olney and local villages over the coming months to explain how we can contribute to the ongoing consultations, and North Crawley hosted one of these meetings on 6 January 2016 at 7.30 P.M. in the Institute. If you missed it there will certainly be other opportunities over the coming months and years to express your views through the official channels. Why not join the Parish Council if you want to make your voice heard and influence decisions being made that could affect your lives and those of your families over the next 50 years.

Finally thank you to those of you who actually missed this article last month, and mentioned it to me. I will only say that it was submitted, but due to an oversight was not published.

Village walks

It was very uplifting to see so many people out walking on Boxing Day, lots of Mums, Dads and kids, all enjoying the Parish paths. If you want to broaden your knowledge of the paths and keep fit, please join in the monthly organised walks on the last

Sunday in each month, which start at 10 A.M. meeting outside the Institute. It is important that the knowledge of where the paths lie and how they intersect is passed onto the younger generation, as this information resides with very few people who are not getting any younger.

Historical Society

On the evening of Friday 26 February in the Institute there is a talk being given by Alan Cox on the subject of brick making in Bedford. Please use the contact details given below to register your interest.

Contact John Brandon on 391365, or Chris Stapleton on 391205, for further details of future events.

If anyone would like to contribute newsworthy information, please don't hesitate to send it to:- christopherflower@btinternet.com

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.



Hawk-eye.

R.I.P.
Suzanne Birt
of Orchard Way, North Crawley,
who sadly passed away on 17th January 2016
after a short battle with cancer.
Funeral service to be held at
North Crawley Church
On Friday 5th February
At 1 p.m.

ALL WELCOME

NORTH CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

The Council met on Tuesday 5th January 2016.

Planning:

15/02492/FUL:-Erection of outbuilding at 46 High St, permitted.

15/01993/DISCON:-Conditional discharge at 53 Kilpin Green, refused

Cranfield Developments:

No update on this.

Ward Councillor's Report:

Ward Cllr Mclean reported that there is a review regarding the library service. A proposal for short term funding to keep libraries open; may be requested by Newport Pagnell or Olney Town Councils to Parishes.

Due to funding, the Kitchener Care Centre in Olney is in danger of closing, should this happen, it would mean a much longer journey for the elderly to Simpson which is not an ideal situation... Ward Cllr Mclean urged us to write and support keeping the Centre open. . There are pages on the website, under Budget Consultation, to put your comments and concerns forward. When doing so, please ensure you copy in our Ward Cllrs at Olneyward@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Minerals Local Plan:-the final consultation is due next week with no significant changes; not directly affecting North Crawley.

There are bus subsidies in the budget, which we need to keep an eye on.

The Parish Council has been asked to advise our Ward Cllrs if we need any help with funding projects. They will each have a £1,000 to distribute between 17 Parishes.

It was resolved to ask for a Traffic Management Plan at the point of planning applications regarding Cranfield developments. The heavy lorries travelling through North Crawley have increased slightly and which can only increase once building starts at Cranfield University. We must be proactive with this issue.

PLAN MK

Steve Waters, Chair of Moulsoe Parish Council, kindly attended this evening, to join Ward Cllr Mclean in explaining where we are with PLAN MK.

Several meetings had taken place which have been well attended and it was emphasized that we all need to be acting NOW before it is too late and do all we can to protect our villages. Consultation papers showed future developments, one of which is North Crawley, and the developers want to meet this month with the Ward Councillors, to discuss their intentions/proposals.

An action group is up and running led by Phil Ayles of Castlethorpe Parish Council, and we have members with political knowledge who will respond to the consultation. Replacement papers are due out from MK Council with minor changes which were discussed at a meeting. Decision papers stated that it could have been handled better. Advice has been sought from a legal representative who recommended this be put in writing to planning. It has been resolved to send a Barrister's letter at a cost of approximately £5000 which is being prepared now and is absolutely necessary as this should alleviate problems that we may encounter later on. The only other option was to go to Judicial Review but was decided against due to the estimated cost of £50,000 at least.

The bulk of the cost will be taken up by Castlethorpe Parish Council and Olney Town Council, with other villages involved contributing various amounts of between £500 and £1000. After discussion, it was agreed by the Parish Council to contribute £500 towards the cost of the Barrister's letter. However, it was agreed that this would be a "one off" payment.

The consultation will now start from January 13th for 12 weeks; there is a drop-in fact finding session in Olney on 24th February 2016, details to follow.

It was emphasized how important it is at this stage to respond to the consultation, not just Parish Councils but Residents also. Ward Cllr Mclean and Steve Waters suggested we write in with our views as to the reasons why we do not want our village destroyed. It is important to emphasise that Residents should direct their own personal comments to MK Council. To help with this, emails will be going out with core ideas. WE MUST ACT NOW BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!!

NAG Report:

There was no update this evening. However, due to the resignation Cllr Hunt, The Parish Council is looking for a NAG replacement for him. He has kindly offered to train any volunteers to operate the SIDS (Speed Indicator Device).

Finance

BUDGET 2016/17:

It was noted that the draft budget for 2016/17 had been discussed in detail at a budget meeting attended by all the councillors and decisions made for each budget heading including the following:

- Expenditure had not been increased significantly in any area and income was budgeted to be similar to the current year

The draft budget for 2016/17 was approved. Proposed by Cllr Hatton and seconded by Cllr Small.

PRECEPT 2016/17

The amount of precept to be levied from Milton Keynes Council was agreed at £12,725.64. Proposed by Cllr Hatton and seconded by Cllr Hunt

Residential Safety

Complaints had been received that cars were mounting the pavement in the High Street rather than wait for traffic to give way; this led to a discussion regarding more bollards that may be needed in the High Street to deter this dangerous driving. We will contact Phil Sears of MKC and ask an officer to visit to see what can be done to solve the problem.

Chequers Lane safety issues have been on hold whilst making the best decision regarding the safety of drivers entering into the High Street. , Cllr Hatton will write to Phil Sears regarding this and will copy Tony Toynton, Head of Highways, who has taken over from David Hall

The Parish Council is dealing with the Chequers Lane and Nixie's Walk surface problems.

Highways:

Ward Cllr Mclean suggested the Parish Council write to Tony Toynton, copying Duncan Sharkey, with any issues. Another suggestion for reporting issues is to go on the MKC website, select "Report it" and complete a report form; you will receive an instant response with a reference.

Landscape

It was agreed to have RTM Landscapes to crown/trim the plane trees that need attention, at a cost of £175 + VAT; RMT also agreed to obtain planning permission regarding this work.

The price of £720 to clear the path behind Bryans Crescent, which is overgrown with moss/grass, was rejected as too expensive, it is possible we could arrange a working party. However, it was agreed to first register the land to the PC, Cllrs Flower and Stapleton will deal with this issue

Councillors Items

Cllr Rogers reported a manhole cover with the surrounding tarmac broken around it at Brook End, about two tenths of a mile from the Wellies Nursery sign going towards Newport Pagnell.

There is a similar problem with a manhole cover along Chicheley Road on the corner with Orchard Way.

The footpath to Brook End is overgrown with moss and grass reducing the width of the path considerably.

Clerk will report all these issues via the MKC website as advised.

Cllr Hunt mentioned the Union Flag is looking tired and needs cleaning or replacing.

Cllr Rogers has had an offer of a resident to purchase a new one, but firstly Cllr Hobbs will speak with another villager who usually buys the flags. He will report back. It was proposed that we raise the new flag on 9th April 2016, HRH's 90th birthday, and ask the Mayor (Ward Cllr Keith McLean) to do the honours

Before closing the meeting Cllr Hatton thanked Cllr David Hunt for all his hard work, not only within the Parish Council, but also for his input and dedication with NAG and SIDS. He will be missed.

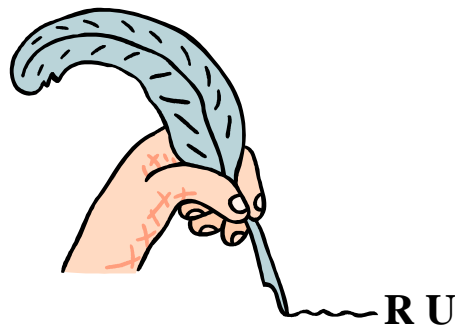
The date of the next meeting confirmed as Tuesday 2nd February at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Cllr Roz Hatton

Parish Councillor Contact.

Please attend the PC meetings to have your say, or send your comments through the Clerk via email address: patclerkncpc@btinternet.com

The above advice is the best route to follow in most cases and ensures that points are formally recorded, but of course if there is a real emergency that cannot wait, contact your Councillors by whatever means possible



Interested in making a difference in your community and representing others?

If so, why not nominate yourself to be a Parish Councillor?

The elections are due on 5th May 2019 taking place every four years so we are able to co-opt you now. You must be prepared to give some of your spare time and attend regular monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday of the month and other meetings during the month if necessary.

For further details please contact

Pat Reynolds-Nunn (Clerk) on 01767 641281 or 07899801719

Or Roz Hatton (Chair) on 01234 391073

North Crawley Parish Council

FRIENDS OF ST FIRMIN'S

Visit our website at: www.friendsfstfirmins.org

A Happy New Year to all and as I write winter seems to have finally arrived; the fields white and the cars frozen. It was a cold start for the brave chaps digging pilot holes in the French drain round at the church yard this morning. However, I'm told that on preliminary inspection it was a relief to discover that there were no significant problems.

Since our launch last June the members and the village have helped us to raise £10,000 some of which has already been spent on maintenance of the rainware goods, but much still needs to be done and at the request of the church wardens, we are planning to fund: replacement of the lead flashing on the roof, repairs to the stonework surrounding the south doors in the aisle and nave and as funds allow, restoration of lead work in some of the windows.

We have a number of fund raising events planned for this year but it has also been brought to our notice that leaving a legacy is something that people are willing to do. It can be a gift of money (a fixed sum), a percentage of you estate, or a specific item of property. If your will is already written you can amend it by means of a codicil which should be undertaken with the aid of a solicitor. You would need our registered charity number which is: 1162934. Statistically, those who leave a legacy to charity live two years longer than those who don't!

However, I am also pleased and excited to share with you all an outline of the events we have planned for 2016: Firstly, on Sunday May 8th at 4pm, "No Strings" an a cappella choir with connections to the village will give a concert in St Firmins. I'm told they are stunning and always leave their audience wanting more. Refreshments will of course be served in the interval.

In June, the 18th to be precise, an exciting new venture, which involves residents holding a table top sale in their garden whilst the public, furnished with a map, visit each house before having tea, possibly in the church grounds. I'm told householders may also be invited to make and display a scarecrow. More details to follow.

On Saturday July 23rd, Pat and Brian Currie have bravely consented to hold another BBQ at Murtlands farm. Those of you who were there last year will know this is an unmissable event and we're very lucky to have the offer of a repeat performance: a flying start to the summer holidays. Don't miss it.

On Saturday, September 17th Jeremy Sampson and his ensemble have kindly agreed to give a concert in the Church at 7:30. This will be a slightly more formal affair than usual, a chance perhaps to dress up and to enjoy a glass of wine and good music. Everyone will be most welcome and we hope you'll bring your friends.

Ann Shaw 01234 391797.

NEWS FROM NORTH CRAWLEY CE SCHOOL

North Crawley CE School & Stoke Goldington CE First School
'Together in Learning – Sharing Excellence and Expertise'

December has been another very busy and eventful month at North Crawley CE School with many 'new members' added to our school community. The children's grandparents visited North Crawley School on Friday afternoon to play dominoes. A fun time was had by all and was followed by tea and biscuits of course.

As part of the foundation stage topic on "Animals" the children brought along their own pets; a rabbit, some terrapins, puppies, dogs and even a pony arrived at school! The children talked about their pets and enthusiastically explained how to care for them as well as answering fantastic questions from their school friends.



The children received an early visit from Father Christmas – a huge 'thank you' to Santa and members of The Rotary Club of Newport Pagnell for delivering a fabulous Christmas tree to school. The visit certainly caused great excitement amongst the children.





As part of our Christmas celebrations, the whole school was treated to a trip to the Royal and Derngate theatre in Northampton which was kindly subsidised by our parents association. The children joined Stoke Goldington CE School

and travelled together to see a fantastic production of 'The Snow Queen'. This magical show was enjoyed by everyone.

Our very own Christmas production, entitled 'Away in a Manger', was equally appreciated and enjoyed. Every child from the youngest to the oldest took part with enthusiasm and great gusto. A huge 'well done' to the children for their excellent performance and grateful thanks to the staff of North Crawley CE School for all their hard work and dedication at this busy time of year. Thank you to FONS for organising the Christmas raffle, which raised over £500, and for providing the refreshments after the performance.

Festivities continued in school with Reverend Pam Fielding visiting school to help the children make and discover more about the meaning of 'Christingle'. A lovely aroma of oranges wafted around the school!

There has also been time to share a traditional Christmas lunch as well as making cards and calendars to take home to our families at this joyful time.

We are looking forward to next term and our new topic entitled 'Construction'. In the meantime we wish the readers of SCAN, all our families, friends and neighbours a very happy and peaceful 2016!

Reminder: The closing date for receipt of applications for children due to start school in September 2016 is **15 January 2016**. Visit our school website for further information on admissions

<http://northcrawley.milton-keynes.sch.uk/mk/primary/northcrawley/site/pages/keyinformation/admissions>

For visits to North Crawley CE School - telephone: 01234 391282 or email office@northcrawley.milton-keynes.sch.uk or visit our school website via www.northcrawley.milton-keynes.sch.uk



Friends of North Crawley School - Quiz Night

Sunday 24th April 2016

At the

The Cock Public House, North Crawley

*Telephone Jenny Hamilton on 07712 893680
for further details and tickets*

NORTH CRAWLEY W.I.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM W.I.

Thinking about last year, we lost three of our members, Gwen Goodman, Alma Platten and Daphne Jeffries. Gwen is living in Newport now and she is our founder member (101 now) with Doris Collier. Both were wonderful members and we miss them. They were there with Alma when the WI was formed in North Crawley. Alma and Gwen were from farming families and Doris's husband's family ran the Chequers and as she ran the Village Hall, she was always a key person in the village.

When the WI began it was an educational venture to encourage countrywomen who were quite isolated to keep up with their learning. As it turned out the country women began educating the organisers as well, with their expertise in gardening, keeping animals, cooking and preserving food and, of course, keeping a village going. At that time they had a nurse living here, a doctor's surgery once a week, three or four pubs, a post office and in the Institute a snooker table for the men, plus a good school even at that time. One of the teachers lived in the village and belonged to the W.I. We also had a village policeman who kept the young people on the straight and narrow path.

We know life has changed. Women are well educated and hold down good jobs, but please, some of you come and join us and help keep a good village organisation going.

After the above sermon (!), we are having a speaker on "Hair" from a Newport Pagnell Hairdressing Salon on 17th February at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Come and see us, Pam.

2nd February - Candlemas Day

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright

Winter will take another flight.

If Candlemas Day be cloud and rain

Winter is gone and will not come again.



MAIL BAG AND ANNOUCEMENTS

TUESDAY COFFEE MORNING

February 16th Pearl Teasdale, 33 Crofts End



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Sherington's Lent Lunch will be held on Saturday 19th March in the Village Hall, further details next month.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all those who sponsored the floodlighting of the Church, it was very much appreciated. I know we have had a few problems this year and hope that we will get things sorted out by next Christmas. Again, very many thanks.

If you would like to get involved in setting up the lights for next Christmas please contact John Burgess 01908 611163 or Mike Inskipp 01908 216214. Ella.



THUMBSTICK WALK – Sunday 6th March

Please drive down to The Knoll for 9.30 am. We shall be driving to Stone Pit Field car park and we will be making a circular walk around the Great Linford Lakes. This walk is easy but some parts may be muddy. It is approximately four miles in length. No dogs please. J&A.

A GOOD NIGHT OUT

Quite a few residents from Sherington went to The Chester Arms for New Year's Eve. What a lovely time we had, so a BIG thank you to all the staff for a really superb evening – especially the lift home!

From one very happy Sherington resident (local, not lodger now)

CAN YOU HELP?

I have lived in Sherington for 25 years, but due to a change in circumstances I can no longer stay in my present house and was wondering if anyone in Sherington has a one bed property to let or buy as I really want to stay here. I work full time and would be able to supply references if required.

Janet Berrow, 01908 614828

HAPPY NEWS

Naomi Dawson and Owen Bullett were married at the Vestry House Museum, Walthamstow, London on Saturday 19th December 2015.

FRIENDS OF ST. LAUDS CHURCH, SHERINGTON

On the evening of 6th January 2016 there was a gathering of some sixteen people at 1A Church Road, courtesy of Doris Stephens, to learn of the progress being made towards establishing the Friends of St. Laud's Church Charitable Trust.

This new Trust will succeed the present Fabric Fund.

The Trust deed has been approved; five Trustees have come forward together with willing helpers to initially serve as treasurer and secretary.

It is now necessary to open a bank account to accept those donations' already received and to proceed the application for charitable registration, a pre-requisite to being able to claim Gift Aid.

Side by side with these proposals, discussion will now take place within the current Friends regarding formal membership and proposed fund raising, etc.

An event to launch membership details and more has been proposed so please watch this space.

Derek Ferris.

DOG OWNERS PLEASE NOTE

As a responsible dog owner who always clears up after their dog, and with spare "poo" bags in the pockets of every coat I possess, I sometimes feel sad when we are all lumped together with perhaps less responsible owners.

If the elderly collie-owner whom I encountered today would like to look into the Village Shop, I am leaving him a roll of poo bags for emergency use when he is exercising his dog in the play area. I would also like to respectfully request that he keeps his dog on the lead as per the many notices displayed all around the play area and village hall."

Karen Dawson

Carters Close.

AU REVOIR



Well, I started writing the Jack Daw column in January 2001, 15 years ago, and have to say that I have generally enjoyed doing so although some months were quite hard when news was difficult to come by. I feel now that the time has come to fly the nest and make way for younger correspondents who will have perhaps a different perspective on the Sherington news and comment front. I am delighted to say that my place will be taken by not one but two young ladies from the village and I wish them the very best of luck in their new role. I will leave them to introduce themselves to you next.

That's it then from Jack Daw and my thanks to all of you who have supported me in the past in any way at all and I hope that you will likewise support our new correspondents – au revoir.

Sherington Life

Welcome to the first Scan of 2016. You may have noticed that Jack Daw has vacated his perch on The Sherington bird table after fifteen years of sterling service. We are sure you will join us in sending our heartfelt thanks for all the 'Sherington Synopses' he produced over the years. Swooping in to keep you up to date with the village goings on are The Feathered Friends. We hope you enjoy our contributions.

By now Christmas and New Year celebrations are a distant memory. The Christmas Bazaar was a resounding success once again with many stalls and visitors enjoying a festive treat, well organised by SCATS. Wasn't it nice to hear The Salvation Army Band at The White Hart on 11th December? As always, it heralds the beginning of Christmas in the village and as if by magic it snowed again albeit very locally!

At St Laud's on 19th December a sell out concert was given by Newport Pagnell Singers. Good music, company and a beautifully decorated church made this truly a night to remember. Thanks to Bess, David, Debbie and

friends for the decorations. On Sunday 20th December the congregation including many proud parents enjoyed a Parade by The Sherington Brownies followed by their interpretation of 'The Christmas Story'.

February is a month focused on looking forward to the coming of Spring and, of course, we have Valentines Day (Or Garage Flower Day as it is also known) in the middle of the month. With thoughts of love, Giles & Co at The White Hart are offering a Tapas Weekend from Friday 12th February onwards. News has also reached us that long term Sheringtonian Viv from Church Road recently married Robin on a windswept Highland Beach. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Storey.

Time to dust off your brains for The Annual Twinning Quiz on Friday 18th March at The Village Hall. Tickets are £8 including Fish and Chip Supper. Get your tickets early for this very popular event. Further details in main advert.

For our younger readers a reminder that Sherington Youth Club is on every Wednesday 7pm-9pm at The Village Hall for anybody aged 9 + years. Join in with planned activities or just chill out with friends in a warm, safe environment. For more information contact Jo Lusted 07780 987034.

Beth Morton, who is studying at Leeds University would like to share this story – “On the way home from Uni I witnessed a man in a wheelchair struggling to push himself up a hill that even I struggle to walk up. My heart was breaking as I watched at least three people sheepishly walk past and avoid eye contact with him. Don't get me wrong, at first I was hesitant too, worrying about what sort of reaction I would get if I approached a complete stranger. However, my gut instinct kicked in and I found myself walking up to him and asking if he would like me to help push him up the hill. As soon as I offered he looked so relieved and said “I think you have just saved my life” before telling me that his taxi driver had dropped him off at the bottom of the hill. We had a lovely conversation the whole way up and it genuinely felt so nice talking to someone new. I guess by writing this I just really want to show how easy (and free) it is to be a decent human being and how simple it is to be kind and helpful to people whether you know them or not, even if it's just smiling at a stranger or pushing someone up a hill – it's easy!” Thanks Beth for that and we wish you well your studies.

It is pleasing to hear that our readers overseas are still viewing Scan online and it would be lovely to receive updates from you too. So please all keep in touch and let us have any local contributions to scan.featheredfriends@gmail.com.

Finally an extract from The Thrush in February by Victorian Poet George Meredith

*I know him, February's thrush,
And loud at eve he valentines
On sprays that paw the naked bush
Where soon will sprout the thorns and bines.*



See you in March.

Hello Feathered Friends and Welcome to SCAN. Thank you for taking up the baton from our faithful friend, Jackdaw'.

It is no easy task to write a monthly piece and Mike has never missed a deadline in the 14 years I have been Editor. We send our very best wishes to you and Mrs Jackdaw - enjoy the freedom - and a huge THANK YOU for your commitment and support of our parish magazine. Betty



Sherington Neighbourhood Plan

*Vision: 'To secure that the development of Sherington, over the next 15 years, unfolds **in accordance with the wishes of those living & working in the parish.**'*

Update

The Steering Group has now collected and analysed the feedback received from the village on our draft policies. Responses were collected via a door to door survey; on-line survey - published via Facebook and emailed to those registered for updates.

Results of the consultation: **All draft policies are agreed and are therefore to be adopted with specific comments received to be taken into account.**

Details of these results have been fed back to the village via the public meeting, which was publicized door-to-door, held on Saturday 23rd January.

For those that were not in attendance this included the following;
(NB: correct at time of publication)

- **Update on Appeal hearing regarding 36 houses at the top of the high street (R15 on map)**

Although this planning application was made outside of the neighbourhood plan, its outcome has implications for the plan. The position of the parish council and the NP were presented to the inspector and the **final decision is expected 4-6 weeks** from the hearing date (expected by 18th February).

- The Implications are as follows;
 - Local housing policy could be considered “out of date” and therefore non applicable due to MK Council’s lack of 5yr land supply
 - 20-40 houses limit would therefore have limited or no relevance
 - The NP may become the only defence against further planning

The PC has sought direction regarding planning implications from MK Council – however we will now also be talking to a Planning Consultant regarding the MK Council lack of land supply and the implications for the NP and future PC Planning responses.

Next steps:

The following work streams have been allocated and accelerated

1. Informational database of actions and finding to date
 - Overseen by Cllr Thatcher with support from volunteers Oliver Powell, Jackie Inskipp, Steven Slater and our new clerk, Tracey Young.
2. Continue to sculpt the draft plan – in line with feedback received
 - Following the processes and best practice of other NP. Overseen by Cllr Hughes with support from volunteers Oliver Powell, Stephen Kennedy and Valerie Hargreaves
3. Finalise the policies – in line with the feedback received
 - Overseen by Cllr Bush with support from volunteers Keith Carey and Colin Davis
4. Site Allocations – based on the adopted draft policies
 - Overseen by Cllr Hughes and Cllr Caldwell with support from volunteers Keith Carey, Colin Davis, Duncan Clarke and David Williams
5. Continued communications – Cllr Thatcher with support from volunteers Jackie Inskipp, Valerie Hargreaves and Tracey Young

Copies of top line data results can be given via email request via Cllr Bush.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ENGAGE IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY

- Pass on your contributions to the Parish Council by contacting
 - **Will Bush, Chair of Steering Committee email**
nplan@sherington.org.uk or call 07834 997577
- **Sign up for updates** by contacting AnitaThatcherSPC@gmail.com
- **Come along to the meetings** @ the Pavilion – Tuesdays 7.30pm.
- **Become a volunteer** - work towards the future of the village and our community.

Continue to support the Neighbourhood Plan

Anita Thatcher on behalf of the Parish Council

Sherington Parish Council Meeting 5th January

(These are NOT draft minutes but simply summary of the meeting from Cllr Thatcher– Official meeting minutes will be available from the Clerk after their approval at next meeting on 2nd Feb)

4. Matters arising from 1st Dec meeting

- Planning Appeal 7th January – Confirm that PC submission will be seen by Inspector. Decision will be 4-6weeks in writing, setting out reasons for decision.
- Footpath between Newport Pagnell and Sherington – Community payback interested with PC support
- Clerk Vacancy – 8 applicants, 4 invited to interview on Monday 11th January
- Cllr vacancy – free to co-opt, seeking interested volunteers
- Contract for Ground maintenance – seeking new contractor due to notice of existing contractor speak to Cllr Caldwell if interested
- Parking at Crofts End – Cllr Johnstone highlighted danger and request more considerate parking
- Website – Due to the resignation of Cllr Collinge current PC pages will cease on 31st Jan. A new site is in development – call for hi res images for use on new site from Cllr Thatcher
- Planning support request from P.Hine: Suggest that raise planning application and allow people to make submission comments

5. Proposal to Contribute to Legal Costs of campaign Plan MK

- PlanMK - £1000 contribution towards supporting the campaign to object to the proposal to create 'satellite settlements' of 5,000-10,000 houses in the rural areas of Milton Keynes.

6. Ward Councillor Report

- PlanMK consultation begins 13th January, another meeting planned in Feb for Olney Centre regarding how to comment
- Minerals Plan – Consultation end of January, early March examination process

- MKC Budget – currently out until 20th Jan
 - Issues for PC – street lights to LED's, Partnership and ICT grants, home to school provision, close of Kitchener Centre, tax grants to effect
 - money coming in – impact unknown. Likely tax increase expected. Closing play areas, street cleaning, support reduction for BALC, No more pink sacks, Green bin annual charges

7. Clerks report

8. Report from Neighbourhood plan

- Draft policy consultation resulted in policies being agreed, Analysis was given to Cllr Bush

9. Working Parties

- **SHOP** – Detailed look at Shop planning permission planned, £100k contribution from High street planning discussed.
- **Pavilion** – Builders quotes are being gathered for improvements, surveyor's reports state electrics ok/ night lights etc, new caretaker working well.

10. Finance – reviewed and approved

11. Planning Applications – response referred to NP and emerging policies

12. External meetings – no reports

13. Correspondence – none to report

14. Public Comments – raised issue regarding budgets and support budget for NP, Newport Pagnell's Neighbourhood Plan examination on Thursday 28th January at 1300hrs at Green Park Community Centre, Green Park Drive, Newport Pagnell, MK16 0NH

15. Councillor items – Cllr Hughes: Christmas tree – cost covered by donation but next year suggest plant our own; 22 Water Lane has requested a Mirror for safety leaving drive – this is MKC highways responsibility, although unlikely to be granted suggest contacting the MKC Highways; Edith original water colours are with Mrs Bearman for safe keeping, although noted some water damage is evident, Mr Vale informed.

16. Next Meeting: 2nd February @ 7.30pm, Village Hall

SHERINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

Happy New Year!

We hope you had an enjoyable one.

The last week of term saw us hold a successful Carol Concert Service as well as a Christmas party for the children. Many thanks to Peter Burton for making the party that extra little bit special by playing the role of Santa. Much appreciated.

The children also took part in the National Christmas Jumper Day in conjunction with Text Santa. Both the children and staff looked fab! Brilliant effort made by all.



We have now settled back into the Pre-School routine and have enjoyed the snow. The snow couldn't have come at a better time and fits in nicely with our termly topic of 'Winter'. The children have been sharing their winter experiences with us, and learning different ways of keeping warm.

Towards the end of this half term we will be celebrating Chinese New Year, holding our very own pancake races as well as celebrating Valentine's Day too.

If you wish to get in contact with us at the pre-school then please call : 01908 611398 / 07538 695918 during session times.

NEWS FROM SHERINGTON CE SCHOOL

The children had a fantastic time visiting the mobile library which stops in the village. They met the librarian Steve and learnt all about the library service. This is a regular activity for the children and it's great to use this wonderful resource right here in the community.



We also use the school library service to choose project boxes each term to support our chosen topics. During the Spring term these are 'Where does snow go?' for our Sparrows (Reception class) and 'Splendid Skies' for our Robins & Owls (Years 1 & 2).

The Sparrows have had lots of fun discovering where snow comes from and what happens to it when it melts. Their classroom is full of wonderful snowy, wintry artwork produced using various materials and they have enjoyed learning about the animals that live at the North and South Poles.

Meanwhile, the Robins & Owls have been making weather diaries and filming themselves in the role as a weather reporter. They look forward to Paul Dorney from the library service coming into school next month to read stories about the night skies as well as an exciting kite making workshop!

Mondays at Sherington are musical and we are making great use of 'Classical 100'. This is a resource provided by the ABRSM and offers fantastic music - old and new - designed to whet the appetite and spark a child's curiosity in the hope it will stimulate a lifelong appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of music in all of its forms.

The children also continue to enjoy our free after school clubs – sewing, gardening, art & singing!

If you have a child due to start school and you would like to look around our wonderful school, please call 01908 610470 to arrange a visit.



New Year, new artwork to show off. The above picture comes from Adam Hird, who has given me permission to use it here, so thank you for that Adam.

In February we have a visiting band coming to ring at Sherington from the Chiltern Branch of the ODG (Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringer), so if you hear the bells ringing sometime during the day on the 2nd February then this is who it is/was.

The quarter peals at Newport Pagnell are racking up and now I have done three “quarters” of Bob doubles, with 4 of the six ringers being part of the “normal” Sherington band on the last one, so well done Nat, Liz, Keith and Mark. So with a bit more practice and a bit of help from the conductor, we might get to ring a quarter at Sherington.

Practice nights:

So now we are in 2016 we will be in Sherington on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month and on the 5th Thursday we will be at Chicheley. This does not mean too much change as there are only about four 5th's in the year, and looking at my calendar these are March, June, September and December. So our next few practices will be:

11 th February 7.30 pm – Sherington	25 th February 7.30 pm – Sherington
10 th March 7.30 pm – Sherington	24 th March 7.30 pm – Sherington
31 st March 7.30 pm – Chicheley.	

Happy New Year to all

Mark.



SHERINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

web: <http://www.mkheritage.co.uk/shhs>
email: SheringtonHS@yahoo.co.uk

Generally the Society meets in Sherington Village Hall on the second Tuesday of the month.

Entry: £2 for members, £3 for non-members, this includes refreshments.

Enid Pepper

As most would have heard by now and I am sure that you will have read or will read from others in SCAN, of the passing in early January of Enid Pepper. There is so much that could be said about Enid, it is difficult to know where to start.

After moving into the village in the mid 1990's Enid was one of the first people I got to know, she and Ted have always been very helpful and welcoming. Before Helen and I were married and before Helen had her own car, Enid would give Helen a lift in the morning on her way to work every day. At this time Enid was working in Wing, but she found time to give Helen a lift.

Enid always had an active mind and a project on the go. The one that most are aware of is the Millennium Embroidery (not tapestry) that hangs in the Village Hall. This was a village project with many people getting involved, but it was Enid who was the organising and driving force behind it. At the time, Norman reported in the SHS newsletter:

The Millennium Embroidery was the undoubted centre of attraction, and must have been the most photographed object that weekend in the county. But it is a stunning piece of work and Enid and her band of helpers are to be congratulated for their efforts. Look in our visitors book to see the praises handed out by the visitors. We probably had almost a hundred visitors over the two days.

I was present at the unveiling of the wall hanging on Friday 25th and would guess that in excess of 50 people involved in the production of

the embroidery were present. John Cook and Enid said a few words, a drop of wine was drunk and it was an excellent launch.

I will dig out some pictures for next month's SCAN to show the launch.

Enid was a great supporter of our little Society and was one of the founding members. In fact, the first meeting was at her and Ted's home. We all sat around a circular table discussing how we were to get going and what we should do. As we are still here, we can't have got it all wrong.

She will be sorely missed. To me, it seemed that she cared about the details; the little things mattered to her and could be seen in the quality of her work. From the flower and church decorations, you knew could only have come from her. Later there will be a mention about the January Jolly. On these occasions she would put together, with others, exquisite little menu cards for everyone giving them their menu choices. Quizzes and brain teasers would regularly be given to us when needed and you knew when you had been Enid'ed! To misquote a Poirot saying "Oow, those little grey cells!".

It is with great fondness that Enid will be remembered. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ted and the family at this time.

January Jolly (10th)

At the time of writing, the Jolly is just about to happen, but by the time SCAN is out it will have happened, so barring any unforeseen things, we will have had a great time, with about 20 members expected to join us up at the White Hart. A great time was had by all. Thank you to Sheila and Pearl for organising everything.

February Meeting: Ox and Bucks on the Somme

On the 9th February Stephen Barker is coming to talk to us about the "Ox and Bucks on the Somme". As this was our local regiment, it will be interesting to find out what "our boys" were getting up to. Unless I have got it wrong, we are looking at 100 years ago this year that the Somme was at its peak. Doors open at 7.45 for 8.00 pm, refreshments and raffle, £2.00 members, £3.00 non-members.

Wild Sherington, Photo Competition:

The entry has now closed and there will be an exhibition in Sherington Village Hall on the 20th February between 2 – 4 pm of the best photos and

the winners will be announced towards the end of the exhibition. There will be a book stall and refreshments. COME AND HAVE A LOOK.

March meeting: AGM

Happy New Year to you all. Hope you are rested from the Christmas festivities and are in top form for the new season. The new programme for the next season has been organised already, thanks to Caroline, and this starts with the AGM bridging the gap between the old and the new. So make a date in the diary for this event where the committee are to be up for account and anyone who is willing to help out as Secretary will be most welcome.

My Treasurer reminds me that now we are in the New Year subs are due!

MV

The Sherington Historical Society

THE NEW THURSDAY GROUP

11th February

Luncheon at The White Hart

Please meet in The White Hart,
12.30 for 1pm.

Members Only

3rd March

My Life in Hollywood

Jamie Evans from Carters Close will tell us about living and working in what we may believe to be the glamorous area of Los Angeles.

The New Thursday Group meets in Sherington Village Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm, unless otherwise indicated. It is open to all ladies from the village and surrounding area and new members are always very welcome. There is a varied programme of talks by visiting speakers, outings and events throughout the year. If you would like more information please contact Julie Smith on 01908-615043 or, alternatively, just come along to the village hall for one of the meetings.

SHERINGTON NEW THURSDAY GROUP

Enid Pepper – a tribute

Many long standing members of the New Thursday Group were saddened on learning of the death of Enid Pepper. Enid was a valued and much loved member of the Group, having been a past Chairman and a committee member on several occasions. She organised many of the Group's programmes throughout the years: themed poetry readings, book revues, craft evenings which included making gift boxes, Christmas cards and decorations. We also remember pitting our wits against her fiendish quizzes and puzzles and often being awarded with thoughtful gifts. She also loved awarding various members with handmade medals for special achievements with a neatly written message on the back of the medal. Enid also had knowledge of a number of interesting speakers. Two of her friends called themselves 'The Bag Ladies' who showed us ingenious ways of recycling plastic bags!

During the final two decades of the 20th century we (members of The New Thursday Group), often arranged our own Christmas Dinner parties in the village hall. On each occasion Enid would arrive during the afternoon with delicate tree branches, some tiny lights and small beautiful items, including table flower arrangements, with which to decorate the hall. She encouraged the committee members to bring standard lamps and table lamps to make a softer atmosphere – hence the hall was transformed on these occasions as it was when, in the past, we celebrated the Group's various anniversaries. Whenever we had a party Enid's savoury morsels were always much enjoyed.

Enid loved flowers and was a member of the local NAFAS flower club. She took part in many flower festivals, but her favourite area to display flowers was the font in St Laud's Church. Many years ago Enid and her helpers created 'Joseph and his coat of many colours' in flowers. The shape of the font suited perfectly and from that time on it was the area Enid liked to use. In spite of ill health and much pain she completed her last flower arrangement on the font just before Christmas 2015.

Enid took part in many activities in Sherington. She, and Ted, her husband, were loyal members of the Historical Society and regular contributors to the Tuesday Coffee Mornings.

After Enid retired from her post as Deputy Head of Wing School she tutored over forty local children to excel in gaining their GCSEs in mathematics. Many parents in Sherington will always be very grateful to her for all the educational help she gave to their children.

Enid liked to encourage children and young people to reach their potential. During 1995 (the centenary year of Sherington Parish Council) Enid helped to organise many celebratory functions. Some of these are well remembered by Sherington residents; especially the performance of Oscar Wilde's 'A Woman of No Importance' at Sherington School. The cast included members of the New Thursday Group, their husbands and children, suitably attired in Victorian costumes. During that year Enid also organised an excellent exhibition for the village.

Enid had a wide interest in many things and was a great perfectionist. She was a lovely lady and whatever she did was done beautifully. Although in latter years she faced declining health with bravery and determination, Enid always had time to spend with each person. She was so interested in our lives, our joys and sorrows and would offer a kind word or timely advice if needed.

And finally, if a reminder of Enid's talent is needed, there it hangs at the front of Sherington Village Hall – an embroidered map of the village, planned designed, directed by Enid. We, the volunteers, met once a week at her house and constantly stitched and chatted. When the embroidery was finished and hung, an ex-pupil of Wing School heard about it and wished to see it. He must have been very impressed because a photo and chapter about the map and village were included in his superbly illustrated book of maps which was published last year.

Enid was a lovely lady. She was interested in, and did, so many things. Everything she did was carried out beautifully and we all miss her very much.

We send our condolences to Ted, Enid's wonderful husband, who supported and helped her in everything she did.

So many tributes from members of the New Thursday Group have been received – too many to include here, but there will be a special file, put in the Historical Society archives, of all these thoughts and memories of Enid.

PT & HM



Sherington Twinning Association
The Annual Twinning Quiz Night
With Fish & Chips
March 18th 7pm Village Hall
£8

Come on your own or with a team
Tickets now available from any committee member

Price includes entrance, Fish & Chips . Licenced Bar will be selling
beer, wine and soft drinks.

Rotary Club of Newport Pagnell

Season's Greetings to all SCAN Magazine readers from the Rotary Club of Newport Pagnell. With the approach of Christmas our members have been busy every weekend making "bucket collections" at Frosts Garden Centre and in Newport Pagnell and Olney. Money raised will be donated to Willen Hospice and other charities supported by Rotary. To date almost £2,500 has been raised. Many thanks to all those who have donated generously.

Our Club has donated and delivered Christmas Trees to 13 local schools. On the theme of Youth, we sponsored a local student to participate in the Rotary Young Leadership Award run by RAF Henlow. This is a demanding overnight event involving a long hike and several challenging projects.

Finally, we would like to congratulate the Rotary Club of Milton Keynes on raising funds for the flood victims in Cumbria.

If you would like to know more about Rotary please e-mail rotary.np@btinternet.com. Our Club is also on Twitter and Facebook. We meet at 7pm every Wednesday at the Swan Revived Hotel.

SCAN DIRECTORY

<u>Rector</u>	To be appointed	
<u>Associate Priest:</u>	The Reverend Pam Fielding, 4 Griggs Orchard	01908 616763
<u>LLM</u> <small>(Licensed Lay Minister)</small>	Professor John Fielding	01908 616763
<u>SCAN Churches Administrator</u>	- Jan Weatherley	01234 391387
<u>Church Website</u>	- www.scanparish.org.uk	
<u>Churchwardens</u>		
St Laud, Sherington -		-----
St Firmin, North Crawley -		
	Mr Malcolm Rose, 5 High Street	01234 391785
St Lawrence, Chicheley -		
	Mr D Robertson, Brickyard Cottage	01234 391371
	Mrs Judith Duncombe	01234 391233
St Peter, Astwood		-----

Olney Ward Peter Geary, David Hosking and Keith McLean.
Mayor of Milton Keynes : Keith McLean

<u>Headteacher</u> -	Sherington C of E School	
	Ms Anne Shedden	01908 610470
<u>Headteacher</u> -	North Crawley C of E School:	
	Mrs Kathryn Crompton	01234 391282
<u>Sherington Pre-School</u>		01908 611398 – or 07538 695918

Chairmen of Parish Councils or Parish Meetings

Astwood & Hardmead -		
	Mr. R. Stilton, 7, The Close, Hardmead	01234 391687
Chicheley	Mr R J Ruck-Keene, Hill Farm	01908 611901
North Crawley	Mrs Roz Hatton, 87 Kilpin Green, MK16 9LZ	01234 391073
Sherington		

Secretaries of Church Committees

North Crawley	Mr N Freeman, 2 Church Walk	01234 391350
Chicheley	Mrs Christine Girard, Newgate Cottage	01234 391489

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