

Parish Council News

Parish Councillors

The Parish Council is very pleased to welcome its newest member - Mike Ford - who was co-opted to the council at its February meeting. Mike lives at 28 Church Street

Meanwhile, the Parish Council has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Jane Norman who has stepped down from the Parish Council after many years of service to the village. Jane's work commitments have been very demanding of late and whilst the council understands her reasons fully, is very sorry to see her go – she has been a very valuable member of the team and a font of invaluable input and the Council is very grateful to her. However, her departure means that there is a vacancy on the Council – if you feel that this is something that you would like to consider, please contact the clerk or a member of the Council for some more information, or have a look at <http://www.nassington.org.uk/page18.htm> for more information

Details of the full council will be included in an upcoming newsletter, in the meantime details can be found on the village website – www.nassington.org.uk and on the noticeboard

Eastfield Crescent

Just a reminder that Eastfield Crescent will be closed from 6th April for one week for carriageway resurfacing. Please contact the clerk if you would like any further information

Pocket Park

Thanks go to Liam Gale for the donation of the new posts at the pocket park and to Paul Burgess for kindly erecting them and putting a new boundary fence in. Users are requested to clean up after their dogs in this area – dog mess has become a big problem of late.

Allotments

It is coming to the end of the rental year and there will be an AGM in April – details of time and date will follow. The Parish Council has agreed to keep the rents the same for 2009/10 – if you are interested in taking up an allotment, please contact Yvonne Banke on 782841 or yvonne@nassington.org.uk. If you would like to become involved with the allotment committee, please let Yvonne know.

Youth Club

It is planned that at the next Parish Council meeting (March 11th) extensive discussions will take place regarding the possibility of setting up a Youth Club for the young people in the village. If there is anything that you would like put forward at this meeting, please let the Council know, via either a councillor or the clerk. This is an ideal opportunity to put forward the aspirations of the village, especially the young people for whom the facilities will be provided, as well as any concerns of the wider community. Obviously, volunteers will be warmly welcomed to put themselves forward.

STOP THE DROP – Litter picking campaign

Nassington is taking part in the Northamptonshire CPRE's (Campaign for the Protection of Rural England) equivalent of "Operation Spring-clean" which many of you will remember. This is a community wide litter pick & "Keep Britain Tidy – Stop the Drop" campaign and the Parish Council is asking for **YOUR** involvement. This will not be successful without volunteers – we need team leaders to guide small groups of litter pickers and lots of willing volunteers to help spring clean the village and immediate vicinity. The campaign runs from 20th – 29th March and the main litter pick will be on Saturday 28th March. Full details will appear on the village website and there will be posters around the village. If you would like to get involved, please contact the clerk or text LITTER to 07767 795825 (do not withhold your mobile number). If you are aware of a 'grot spot' that is in need of particular attention, please let the Council know – use the text number above or email the clerk or use the weblink on the litter pages at Nassington.org.uk. Please get involved – equipment will be provided.

Rural Community Programme for children and young people

Many parents will be aware of the superb holiday scheme run by Cultural Community Partnerships. This is an arts and crafts and indoor sports programme in the village, in the school holidays. Up until now it has been for 8-13 year olds. The good news is that it's back for the upcoming Easter holidays and the even better news is that there are 2 extra schemes – one for 0-7s and one for 13+. Full details will follow, but it's expected that there will be one session per age per week. Keep an eye on the website and notice boards for more information

Sarah Rodger, Acting Clerk
782736 / clerk@nassington.org.uk

Nassington Church

Reopening Of Church. The Church is once again open after the electrical work being completed. Please do feel free to go into Church anytime, and enjoy the peace and quiet. Thank you to all those who supported our services in the Village Hall and Nassington School during the closure period.

Family Service. This is back in Church on Sunday 1st March at 10am. As we have now entered Lent, the children may be able to find out what this is, and why the Church has this period before Easter. As always, refreshments will be served after the service.

Lent Study Course. Bishop John is holding study evenings throughout Lent, following the Passion story as told by St. Mark. All meetings begin promptly at 7.30pm and last exactly 90 minutes. Tea and coffee will be served at each meeting.

The course began on Shrove Tuesday, last month, but all are welcome to join the course at any time. So, as well as "giving something up for Lent" why not "do something extra for Lent" and join us.

Weekly Timetable.

Tuesday 3rd March Yarwell village hall.

Tuesday 10th March Nassington Church.

Wednesday 18th March Apethorpe Church.

Tuesday 24th March 11 Westmoreland Close,

Tuesday 31st March Woodnewton Church.

There will be a separate timetable for Holy Week and Easter (5th-12th April).

Fellowship Meeting. The meeting on 24th March is at Paul Parker's home, 11 Westmoreland Close, starting promptly at 7.30pm. As this meeting is during the Lent study course, led by Bishop John, there will NOT be the usual communal meal. However, please still contact Paul on 782976 if you are going.

Coffee Mornings. These will begin again in April, and the dates for the year are:- 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 2nd August and 5th December. All are on Saturdays and begin at 10.30am. All the usual stalls and more plus refreshments, and catching up on all the winter gossip.

Church Chairs. The PCC have ordered 100 new chairs for the Church, and it is hoped they may be here in time for Easter. Donations are still welcome as the PCC are buying 28 chairs from Church funds to make up the 100. If interested please contact David Laking 782025 or Bishop John 782271.

Church Electoral Roll. The AGM of the Church will be on Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm in Church. If you are not on the Church electoral roll but would like to join, please contact Hilary Hardie on 783855.

Launde Abbey. Bishop John is leading a Quiet Day at Launde Abbey on Saturday 18th April, from 10am to 3.30pm. This will cost £22, which included morning coffee, lunch and afternoon day. If you feel the need to "get away from it all", and have a 'you' day at the Abbey in the peaceful grounds, house and Chapel, please contact Bishop John on 782271 as soon as possible to book your place.

Open Gardens 2009

It's getting nearer....

Dear Resident

To those seasoned open gardeners amongst you who have agreed to support us again this year – ‘thank you’ – for those of you wondering what it is all about let us explain.

For the weekend of 4th / 5th July Nassington will openly invite people to wonder around the village viewing gardens, joining in with Duck races and other activities, enjoy refreshments such as cream teas and cakes. Of course we ask a small charge from the visitors, all of which will go towards the upkeep of the Church!

To make the weekend a success we need your help, please, please could you:

- Open your garden – all of the garden would be great, but if not just the front garden for visitors to view over the wall.
- Man an entrance point.
- Help with car parking.
- Make cakes or scones and help with other refreshments.
- Organise and run a stall such as a craft stall or cake stall.
- Help with the Duck race.
- Help with the advertising.
- Could you perhaps play a gentle musical instrument for the visitors to enjoy in a garden?

If you can help in any way, however small, please let us know. The weekend is a great way to get involved, meet people and have fun, and we need your support to make it all happen. The funds raised this year will help pay for much needed electrical and other maintenance works in the Church.

For more information please contact Philippa Joyce 782773 , David Laking 782025 or Wendy Tomalin 784937.



East Northants North Safer Community Team, Oundle
Oundle Police Station
Glaphorn Road
Oundle
PE8 4JA

Anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance

In recent weeks, it has been brought to my attention that local residents in Nassington are very concerned by the increase in incidents of anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance. This has taken the form of criminal damage offences being recorded and investigated by my officers. I have dealt with one local youth for smashing a window recently. In addition, offensive graffiti has been daubed on the bus shelter in the middle of the village. The culprit has since cleaned up the shelter. I have also received reports of young people being abusive and threatening to others when their behaviour is being rightly challenged. This kind of behaviour & criminality is unacceptable to both residents and the Police and won't be tolerated.

In response, I have stepped up patrols in the village, and my staff have been tasked to take positive and appropriate action at every opportunity. This will include confiscating alcohol and cigarettes, stop/searches under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and taking young people home to their parent/guardian to address their behaviour.

I would ask both young people in the village, and parents of teenaged children to consider the impact *their behaviour* is having on other people. Nassington is a small community, which means that a small number of people can affect a large proportion of the village. Do you know where your teenaged children are going during the evening, and what they are doing?

I would also like to outline the consequences of a seemingly minor criminal conviction. Receiving a Caution for a minor offence of criminal damage or an assault might mean for example that you are excluded from certain careers – a Caution is a Criminal Record. Stringent Visa requirements might mean that you are unable to holiday in Florida as a result of a misdemeanour in Nassington in 2009.

Please be considerate of others and don't let it be you that gets a Police record – think of the consequences for both the victims and yourselves.

Sgt Phil Holton

East Northants North Safer Community Team
Oundle Police Station.

Nassington Newsletter

Letters to the Editor

I wish to thank the many people who sent cards, flowers and kind words on the passing of my husband Dennis. It was a great comfort to us to see so many of at Dennis's Memorial Service. We would also like to thank you for your generosity; the collection raised over £460 which I have sent to Communicare Wansford and Cancer research.

Anne and Family.

Dear Editor

After recent events in our village and with specific regard to the unacceptable graffiti to the bus shelter on Apethorpe Road; I wish to make the following point.

When I was a teenager I caused graffiti to the same bus shelter, although my artwork was of a much more innocent nature (D.L loves..... etc) it was still unacceptable and did not go unpunished. My Mother informed the police and I was made to scrub off the offending scribble in front of the policeman and my Mother.

I learned my lesson and have never vandalised anything since.

I make the above statement because we need children to stop causing damage to our village and they must be made to put things right; it is not just the police's job but **parents must** teach their children to respect other peoples property.

Donna Etherington.

Hi Everyone

You may not all remember me as I left the village some nine years ago to go to university. I do still come back to see my parents. However, to those that do remember me I am pleased to say I am to marry Paul Graham of Lincoln on 28th March at Nassington church.

You will be most welcome at the church.

Hannah Roche.

Anonymous

As much as I would like to on some occasions; I am unable to publish anonymous items in the newsletter as this would set a precedent. However, I do feel that the subject matter has been well covered by the Police Report on page 5.

Editor.

David and Joy Jakins would like to thank the friends and neighbours for their support and cards of sympathy at the passing of Joan Jakins.

Donations this month

Anonymous - £30 gratefully received.

“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”



Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 15th May 2009

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15th May 2009 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2009 SIA will celebrate its 35th Anniversary and being that Friday 15th May 2009 is Spinal Cord Injury awareness day and what a better way to raise funds than eating Fish and Chips and raising money for SIA.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Donor Development Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

2009 is the first year that SIA are running the suppers but we already envisage this to be one of our top fundraising initiatives in the SIA calendar over the coming years. Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives.”

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or email fishandchips@spinal.co.uk or visit www.spinal.co.uk

The Trials & Tribulations Of Allotment Liz



The North wind will blow and we shall have snow! And didn't we just!!! The weather caught us all by surprise as we have forgotten what a lot of snow is like. One advantage is that all the allotments

looked the same, pristine snow as far as the eye could see. We are now members of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners and the catalogues have been distributed for edification and I'm sure all you allotmenters are looking forward to a bumper crop of home grown veg and fruit, the prices are very good and the seeds will be supplied by Kings Seeds which is a very good company and most of them are 50% and more cheaper than buying from garden centres. My allotment has not seen much of me but I have managed to clear away my green manure which was planted last autumn. This is wonderful stuff as it not only, when dug in, replenishes the soil with nitrogen but is also a wonderful weed suppressant. Even the twitch was kept to a minimum where it was planted. My Kale and Sprouting broccoli has fallen foul to the pigeons who have mastered the art of balancing on netting whilst stripping the leaves, now I don't begrudge them having a nibble but do they have to go at my plants like a flock of sheep! My Swedes are standing the weather well and have the most wonderful flavour, unfortunately my winter carrots did not do well and although there were carrots they were obviously grown with the "Borrowers" in mind! Small doesn't come into the equation! Miniscule more like, still I tried! My cabbages were ok but small, the red ones doing the best – but I don't like them, typical! I am ploughing on with the cardboard theory and have managed to plot out where my other beds are going to go. I first put down the cardboard then dug around the outside of the area and placed soil on the said material just so that should a high wind get up it won't take off and land on the school roof, this seems to have been successful as it is still in place. Now, what I have discovered is that field mice quite like this idea of mine and have in some cases made a nice little nest which can in the future months have a bit of a down side. Mice love peas and will tunnel under the rows and eat the seeds before they even get chance to sprout, therefore no peas or beans or in fact any large seeds will be planted into these areas until the mice have been served eviction notices! I have also decided to have a go at growing melons. I have obtained a large polystyrene box, into which I shall put some good organic manure to get the heat going from within then a layer of hay, then more manure then the planting medium, good quality compost as melons are very greedy plants. I'm going to try two varieties "Ogan" and "Sweetheart" as they sound the most likely ones to put up with my novice attempt. Wish me luck! Another kind allotmenter gave me some raspberry canes which I have just heeled in until they can be put into their fruiting position, can't wait to pick my own as they are so expensive to buy. Now this is the lovely thing about being down the allotments, everyone is keen to see them worked and share not only their excess plants but their knowledge. Next I intend to get some more fruit bushes in, I know these should go in about November but, hey, if they are pot grown and treated kindly when transplanted I think I should be ok don't you? Summer puds here I come!!!! Well, back to the seed catalogues to dream of summer days, next month things will really start to happen till then KEEEEEEP DIGGING!

News From Nassington School

At last we've all thawed out! As you will no doubt know, the school was closed for two days following the recent snow and seemingly most of the school population could be found on the hill between Nassington and Yarwell enjoying some vigorous sledging. Marks could have been awarded for the inventive apparatus that could be seen flying down the hill. On return to school, the beautiful, untouched blanket of snow that lay over the playground was soon transformed into a treacherous filthy slush. Our thanks must go the staff, Debbie Clancy and Jo Bell for working so hard to clear it.

We are pleased to report that planning permission has now been granted for the extension to the school with conditions currently being discussed with the architect.

We would like to wish Mrs Whybrow all the best as she begins her maternity leave and we look forward to meeting her little bundle in the not too distant future.

Kate Wyer-Roberts on behalf of the Board of Governors.

COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES

We are fortunate to have a new police sergeant at Oundle station who is as committed as his predecessors in helping our community tackle the various problems with anti-social behaviour and crime matters. The village also has the support of the safer community team at East Northants Council and the Parish Council is doing what it can to work with these organisations to try to combat the problems. Please read the letter from Sergeant Holton in this issue.

The Parish Council is going to reinstate the **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme** in such a way that a neighbourhood watch volunteer will be responsible for a small cluster of homes, with an overall co-ordinator for the whole village. There will be a village meeting in the spring to launch the scheme, but in the meantime, if you are interested in receiving further information, please call the Parish Council clerk on 782736, or email nhw@nassington.org.uk or text NHW to 07826 374729. In the meantime, if you would like to sign up for the NHW newsletter, which will circulate urgent information, please use these contact details.

The scheme will not be successful if it is not supported. A safe community depends on the input of residents – crime must be tackled on various fronts.

Deterrents

If you would like a SMARTWATER kit, please use the above contact details. This is a forensically unique way of marking your personal possessions (75-100 items) with a clear substance that makes them fully traceable and

therefore returnable to you. It is a proven crime deterrent – see smartwater.com for full details (and some very interesting stories about the product in action). Kits cost £21.50.

The Parish Council has a limited number of tamper proof screws for number plates available – please use the above details to request a pack. These help to avoid having your car licence plate removed and used as a form of ‘ID theft’

Contacting the police

ALWAYS use **999** if there is a life threatening situation or you've just been mugged, attacked or if you've just seen a crime being committed. Use **08453 7007000** to speak to the police in a non-emergency situation. You can report crime or information anonymously to crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** or via crimestoppers-uk.org or see their pages on facebook & bebo

Urgent Request for Help

We have a large group of very keen under 11 cricketers but very sadly we do not have a Team Manager/Coach and unless one or more volunteers come forward very soon we shall have to pull them out of the league and therefore they will have no matches this coming season.

If you are able to help please, please can you come forward now?

There are not many matches and the season is very short and all matches have to be played before schools break up for the summer.

Training night is flexible.

It's a rewarding role and we have a great group of players. An evening at the cricket club watching a match, having a beer and sharing a picnic is great fun. The job could be shared if we have enough volunteers. Support and guidance on running the team would be available from Mallie.

You do not need to have a child in the squad to get involved and it would be great to have an older person involved who could benefit the children with their own experience.

Please contact Jane Thorpe-Codman at 3 the Lily Pad, Northfield Lane, Nassington. Phone: **01780 784393** urgently if you may be willing to help save our under 11's cricket team.

Allotments Annual General Meeting Wednesday 25th March 2009 at the village hall at 7.00pm

The Allotments Annual General Meeting will be at Village Hall on Wednesday 25th March. It is a little earlier this year, as Easter is earlier, and we can then spend the holiday weekend gardening. We hope that all the allotment holders can attend. It is our chance to get together to discuss issues of mutual interest, and to raise any points with the Parish Council in a more formal way.

The first part of the meeting will be just for those with allotments, and would-be allotment holders. We need to elect our representatives for the Parish Council

Committee. Stuart Lemmon has expressed his willingness to carry on, but Danny and Alison Butler may not be able to.

At about 7.30 the Parish Council representatives will come in, to hear what we have to say, and to report anything that affects the allotments for the Council perspective.

Then they will collect the rents. The rents have not gone up this year, and remain at £15 for a whole allotment, and £9 for a half.

If you cannot attend, and wish to raise any issues, you can do so through the Councillors (Andrew Codman and Yvonne Banke, on Yvonne@nassington.org.uk or 782841, or your representatives.

If you have had an allotment this year, and do not want to carry on, please let them know as there is a short waiting list of people wanting allotments, especially those with a half plot who want a full size one.

Bishop John Flack, telephone 01780 782271, Priest-in-charge of the Benefice of Nassington, Yarwell, Woodnewton and Apethorpe.
Pastoral Assistant Jo Booth 01780 783060. **Churchwarden** Alan Rodger 01780 782736

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH 2009

1st March

9.45am Holy Communion	at Woodnewton
10.00am Family Service	at Nassington
10.30am Holy Communion	at Yarwell
11.00am Morning Prayer	at Apethorpe
6.00pm Benefice Evensong	at Apethorpe

8th March

9.45am Holy Communion	at Woodnewton
10.00am Holy Communion	at Nassington
10.30am Informal Service	at Yarwell
11.00am Holy Communion	at Apethorpe

15th March

9.45am Holy Communion	at Woodnewton
10.00am Holy Communion	at Nassington
11.00am Holy Communion	at Apethorpe
3.00pm Methodist Service	at Yarwell

22nd March

Mothering Sunday

9.45am Family Service	at Woodnewton
10.00am Holy Communion	at Nassington
11.00am Family Service	at Yarwell
11.00am Holy Communion	at Apethorpe

29th March

Passion Sunday

10.00am Benefice Holy Communion at Woodnewton
6.00pm Deanery Evensong at Barnwell

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 6th of March, 2pm at Yarwell Church. A joint service with Apethorpe, Nassington and Woodnewton.