

THE LINK

The Magazine of The Knightley Parishes

Badby NGS Open Gardens

Sunday 18 May 2025

1pm-5pm



*Come and visit the open gardens
in our lovely village
and enjoy homemade teas in
the church*



<p>Combined admission £6 per person Children free</p>

May 2025

No. 405

Badby ☿ Newnham ☿ Charwelton ☿ Fawsley ☿ Preston Capes



THE KNIGHTLEY PARISHES

www.knightleybenefice.org.uk

An on-line version of this magazine in colour is available on the web site

Services for May 2025

	4 May I Easter3	11 May II Easter 4	18 May III Easter 5	25 May IV Easter 6	1 June I Easter 7
Badby	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	10:00	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]
Newnham			United Benefice Service of Holy Communion CW at Newnham [+EC]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [AS]	
Charwelton	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]			17:00 Evensong BCP (Church) [Lay HW]	09:15 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]
Fawsley		11:00 Holy Communion BCP [CP]			
Preston Capes		09:15 Holy Communion CW [CP]		10:00 Said Ante- communion CW [Lay GH]	

OTHER SERVICES

Tuesday 20 May

6.30 pm

Badby

ESOW

SUNDAY READINGS

Principal Service CW

- for other services see Lectionary

Date	Feast	OT Reading	NT Reading	Gospel
4 May	Easter 3	Acts 9, 1-6	Rev 5, 11-end	John 21, 1-19
11 May	Easter 4	Acts 9, 36-end	Rev 7, 9-end	John 10, 22-30
18 May	Easter 5	Acts 11, 1-18	Rev 21, 1-6	John 13, 31-35
25 May	Easter 6	Acts 16, 9-15	Rev 21.10, 22 - 22.5	John 14, 23-29
1 Jun	Easter 7	Acts 16, 16-34	Rev 22, 12-14 & 16-17 & 20-end	John 17, 20-end

FROM THE REGISTERS

HOLY MATRIMONY



at Fawsley
on 11th. April
Emma Louise Drage
and
Adrian Richard Fytche

IN MEMORIAM



at Newnham
on 31st. March
Harry Isles
[by Rev'd Canon Ann Slater]

*Blessed are you, heavenly Father
You give joy to bridegroom and bride*

*Grant him peace,
and let light perpetual shine upon him*

EDITORIAL

Spring really is here!!!

Our blue tits have been so busy building their nest, lining it with all sorts of material from the gardens, fields and hedges (including feathers from at least one of their colleagues who fell prey to the sparrow hawk!). On 12 April we saw the first egg, and by 20th. Bertha had laid her 9th. and final egg. She is now sitting (relieved from time to time by - presumably - Bob).



By the time the next Link appears I hope I shall be able to show you a nest full of chicks

Meanwhile our hedgehogs have come out of hibernation and the first was seen feeding on 31 March. He (we think) is a large specimen and clearly came to no harm during the winter. He's now coming back every evening. There must be others as there are copious amounts of hedgehog droppings around the garden, but we haven't seen them yet.

The very wet winter has resulted in a veritable forest (if that's the right word) of moss in our lawns, and I had decided to spread some "weed & feed & mosskill" as soon as conditions were right. According to the weather forecast the weekend before last was going to be appropriately wet, and so, 24 hours beforehand, I spread the mixture expecting rain within 48 hours - fine! Unfortunately the forecasters were no more accurate than usual, and no rain was forthcoming! So after a few dry days I felt I had to use the lawn sprinkler to

avoid damage to the existing grass. That took a couple of days of tedious and time-consuming effort moving the sprinkler around - at which point of course the rains appeared!!

Clearly I have uncovered a modern variation on a rain dance!

And finally, on a more serious note, let's be sure to remember and honour, by attending at least some of the events arranged in our villages, those men and women who fought (and in many cases died) for us during WW2.



David



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ruthmackman@btinternet.com or
<https://bookwhen.com/kindheartयोगwithruth>

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PASTORAL LETTER

'Lord, Teach us to Pray'

The disciples asked this simple question of Jesus as they watched him spend time with his father in quiet and solitude. They must have noticed the way in which Jesus so easily drew close to God and made time to do so. They longed for this type of relationship themselves and so asked that Jesus would show them how to pray in order to experience this for themselves.

In our Year of Prayer, we are discovering ways in which we can draw closer to God and deepen our own prayer lives and it is exciting to hear of the different ways in which many of you are exploring this further.

Thy Kingdom Come is a national and international campaign that encourages us to pray for others, that they may come to know Jesus, and takes place between Ascension Day and Pentecost. The focus this year is on the Lord's Prayer and so can help us with our own events. I do hope you will explore the resources that are available and see what you can do in your parishes during this time. How wonderful it would be to see the results of those



prayers as more people come to find out more about Jesus and know his love for them.

Let's keep praying!

+ Debbie

*Right Rev'd Debbie Sellin
Bishop of Peterborough*



BENEFICE PAGE

VENING SERVICE OF THE WORD

This short service is held once a month on the Tuesday evening following the third Sunday at St Mary's Badby at 6.30pm. There is always a brief talk about someone inspirational. All welcome! The next dates are 20 May and 17 June.

BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY

Friday 25th Apr: Hot Fuzz (2007)

Buddy cop action comedy set in the scenic cathedral city of Wells. Directed by Edgar Wright, it stars Simon Pegg as an overachieving London police sergeant who is transferred to a village where the easy-going officers object to his fervour for regulations. According to the critics: "The brilliant minds behind 'Shaun of the Dead' successfully take a shot at the buddy cop genre; the result is a biting satire and hugely entertaining parody." [116 mins, 15 certificate]

Friday 30th May: The Personal History of David Copperfield (2019)

A comedy-drama based on the novel David Copperfield by Charles Dickens. Written & directed by Armando Iannucci, it stars Dev Patel, Peter Capaldi, Hugh Laurie, Ben Whishaw & Tilda Swinton. "It puts a fresh, funny, and utterly charming spin on Dickens' classic, proving some stories truly are timeless." [119 mins, PG certificate]

NGS OPEN GARDENS

Four gorgeous gardens in Badby will open for charity from 1-5pm on Sunday 18 May 2025. Please come along to see inspiring plants and unique garden features. Everyone is welcome, including families. Look for bright yellow signs on the day directing to gardens. Entry is £6 by cash or card at the gardens or book in advance via the NGS website (ngs.org.uk). All proceeds

go to the National Gardens Scheme. NGS is the biggest funder of nursing charities, supporting Queen's Nursing Institute, Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Carers Trust, Hospice UK, Perennial, Parkinson's UK and others. There are refreshments available too at St Mary's Church in Badby, including cake, and all proceeds support the church. We can't wait to welcome you!

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The chair and secretary have moved to Paris for a couple of years (or so) and whilst they will be back, they are keen for someone to take over on a temporary basis urgently. Volunteers should contact Rich on richgreen1975@me.com or Tori Green.

☞ ☞ ☞

SUDOKU

[With thanks to Robin Baker]

Puzzle No. 114 - Mild

		8	6		1	7		
7								1
		4		2		5		
	2							7
				9				
	6		2		8		4	
		2				3		
5								8
	8		9	4	2		1	

Puzzle No. 115 - Difficult

5			9					3
	1	7	3					
	3			8	4			5
		8	5					
9	4							2
				3	9			1
	7		8	3				8
				9	2	1		
	9				5			8

[Solutions on p. 11.]

PARISH NOTICES

BADBY

Correspondent - Geoff Pullin (gcsspullin@yahoo.com)

website: www.badby-pc.gov.uk

	Reader	Sidesman	Coffee
4 May	C. Wakeford C. Richards	P. Wakeford C. Wakeford	G. Morley
11 May	J. Jordan N. Shaw	G. Morley C. Richards	K. Purnell
25 May	F. Williams J. Jordan	J. Jordan F. Williams	J. Hall

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR MAY

w/b 5 Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper
w/b 12 Jo Hind, Judy Jordan, Gill Nelson
w/b 19 Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred
w/b 26 Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner

BADBY VILLAGE HALL

Bluebell Teas will be served in the village hall on Sunday 4 and Monday 5 May, 1-5pm. Home-made cream teas and cakes will be available for those who have come to see the bluebells. If you are able to help by baking a cake or assisting for an hour or so in the hall or directing car parking, please contact Ann Cotton (01327 640107).

The village hall Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 18 June. The agenda will be posted on noticeboards and the website. All residents of Badby or Fawsley aged 18 or over are warmly invited to attend.

CELEBRATE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

Our bells will ring out in the national celebration on Thursday 8 May from 6.30pm.

In celebration of 80 years of peace since VE Day, there will be a service at 11am and a celebratory community picnic on Sunday 11 May. Bring your picnic and gazebos to Church Green, or to the churchyard, from 12 – 5pm and enjoy the music of the Field Jammers while you eat. Coffee and tea making facilities will be available in the church

kitchen. All free of charge! Please note that the upper section of Vicarage Hill alongside Church Green will be closed to traffic.

BADBY & FAWSLEY WI

Our meeting on Thursday 8 May falls on the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. To celebrate this, we will be having a talk from David G.P. Morse entitled Deception and Subterfuge in Wartime over the Years and there will be some delicious (?) wartime food to sample. Members will be asked to bring any family memorabilia they may have and some may even dress in the fashions of the time. A fascinating evening in prospect! To book a free visit contact Jan Cooper on jancooper2012@me.com or Jackie Peel on jackiepeel22@gmail.com

NGS OPEN GARDENS TEAS

Open Gardens Day will be on Sunday 18 May and, as usual, you will be able to buy tea, coffee and a wide variety of cakes in St. Mary's Church at any time from 1pm to 5pm. After you have admired one or two of the gardens come and enjoy some well-earned refreshment.

COFFEE MORNING

The next St. Mary's coffee morning will be on Tuesday 20 May, from 10.30am to noon. The draw will take place and much coffee and cake will be served. Come and join us. The winners in the April draw were: 1st: Hilary Warburton; 2nd: Julianna Hall; 3rd: Jean Hancock.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

The APCM, the annual chance to come and see what the Church has been getting up to, will be on Tuesday 27 May at 6pm in St. Mary's. All parishioners are welcome.

BADBY HISTORY ON THE WEBSITE

The Badby website has had a new section added titled Badby History. It includes the material previously on the website of the 2017 Exhibition "Badby – Then and Now", plus additional historical material accumulated since then. Go to <https://badby-pc.gov.uk/history/> to see the new section.

T 4 U

There will be no T4U in May as the date clashes with the Bluebell Teas weekend. Back as normal on Friday 6 June in the village hall, 2.30-4.30pm.

HOG ROAST

There will be a hog roast at the Old Forge, by kind permission of Sue and Neil Berry at The Old Forge, in aid of St. Mary's on Sunday 27 July, from 2pm until the evening. £20 a ticket available now from Jo Hind or Judy Jordan by email. There will also be a paying bar.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL AND FAYRE

Sunday 14 September is the special community event to raise funds for Badby Church. Jim McBeth (twolittlegoats@btinternet.com) would like to hear from anyone who can help by running stalls, games etc on The Green and others willing to help set up and clear away. Lots of scarecrow entries will also be needed of course!



NEWNHAM

Correspondent - Ellen Henning
(ellen.henning@hotmail.co.uk)
APCM

At the Annual Parish Church Meeting which took place on April 1st, Mary Wood was re-elected as Churchwarden as were all other officers and PCC members.

NEWNHAM VH DRAW

The winners for our April draw are as follows: -
£50 prize - Mr A Edwards - No 90
£20 prize - Mrs J Hopkins - No 53
£20 prize - Mrs Pierpoint - No 122

NEWNHAM WI

Gin night 15th May at 7.30pm Newnham Village Hall Daniel from the Pinnock Distillery will be telling the story of his distillery, the art and science of making Gin and providing tastings of the Pinnock range. Sales available. Guests very welcome at £7.50 to include tastings.

NEWNHAM'S CLEANING ROTA FOR MAY

May 4 Mrs. Cooke and Mrs Rees
May 11 Ms. J Minor
May 18 Mr. and Mrs. S Rees
May 25th. Mr. and Mrs. Wood.

NGS OPEN GARDENS LUNCHES AND TEAS

As part of the NGS Open Gardens on Sunday 4th. May the church will be serving Light Lunches and Teas in the Village Hall between 11.00am and 5.00pm.



CHARWELTON

Correspondent - David Pound
(davidpound1939@talktalk.net)

	Reader/Sidesman	Flowers
4 May	Fiona Spencer	Pauline Donnelly
25 May	Norman Blenkhorn	Marina Wyatt
1 June	Elizabeth Bird	

Chapel cleaning	
May	Fiona Spencer
June	Graham White

EASTER FLOWERS

The Revd Lesley Tomalin, who took our Easter Sunday service, walked into the church and straight away said "WOW!" Apparently, she'd never seen such a lovely display of flowers, other than for a flower festival. So to all those who effected this wonderful transformation, thank you very much.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

This meeting, due to have taken place on 23rd April, has had to be postponed and will now take place on Wednesday 7th May at 7.30 pm in the chapel. Everyone is very welcome to this short meeting, which provides an opportunity to have your say and to bring ideas on how best to maintain our 800+ year old church.

THE SERVICE ON 4th MAY

This service, at the beginning of the week marking the 80th. anniversary of VE Day will be at 9.15 am in the church, and taken by Revd Greg Shaw, will commemorate the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. We hope you'll join us for the service, which will be followed by refreshments.

BRASS BAND CONCERT

Please put the 5th July into your diary for the evening concert in the church. If you haven't yet volunteered to help in any capacity you are not too late, please contact pennycory@yahoo.co.uk. Many hands really do make light work.

100 CLUB DRAW

April 70 Meryl Nicholls
May 41 Rob Hedges

WHIST DRIVE

The next Charwelton Village Hall whist drive is on Monday, 29th May at 7.30pm.



FAWSLEY

Correspondent - Vacant

ODD JOBS AND TIDYING UP

The Church is a grade 1 listed building and is subject to detailed inspections every 5 years (which the church has to pay for) to ensure it is being maintained properly. The next inspection will be in June and there are a number of odd jobs that can be done before then to keep the inspector's report short and supportive; for example minor weeding and trimming in the churchyard, to sweeping the bell tower stairs and changing some light bulbs. If you are able to help in any way please contact Vivienne Baker on 01327 361585.



PRESTON CAPES

Correspondent - Claire Hoare
caghoare@gmail.com

	Reader	Sidesman	Cleaning
11 May	Mireya Weaver	Heather Wilson	Pauline Clark & Maureen Franks
25 May	James Delingpole	Peter Smith	Flowers Sheila Bull

EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you to all who decorated the church so beautifully for Easter.

CHURCHYARD MOWING

A new rota will be coming out shortly
New volunteers needed please to lighten the load on those already working. Thank you.

CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY

Saturday 17th May 9:30 to 11:30.

Please can as many volunteers as possible come for a session on sorting many tasks. There are heavier or lighter ones and the stark benefits of this biannual work are there for all to see.

Thank you to everyone who helps, past and present. Bring your own tools, more to borrow, safety clothing, gloves etc. Refreshments!

EASTER WEEKEND

EGG ROLLING WINNERS

1-4 years: Verity Mansfield
5-7 years: Seth Woodward
8-11 years: Sam Tomlin
12-16 years: Oliver Shepherd
Adults - Men: Nick Tomlin
Adults - Women: Lorraine Bannister

DECORATED EGG WINNERS

1-4 years: 1st - Verity Mansfield, 2nd - Molly Harding

5-7 years: 1st - Richard Mansfield, 2nd - Charlie Bracher

8-11 years: 1st - Harry Hoare, 2nd - Sam Tomlin

12-16 years: 1st - William Slay, 2nd - Guy Shepherd

Adult: 1st - Dan Cribbins, 2nd - Steve Mansfield

EASTER SUNDAY

As we are in vacancy (ie with no Rector) we were so fortunate to have the Bishop of Peterborough's Chaplain no less, one Canon Steve Benoy, to lead our Communion service on Easter Sunday. Our special thanks to him, and to our cleaners, flower arrangers and the tower flag looked fine in the NE wind.

PERFECT PLANT SALE 2025 AND COFFEE MORNING MONDAY 12th. MAY

(Note incorrect date submitted last month)

Change of venue this year,
The Old Rectory, Preston Capes NN11 3TE by kind permission of Luke and Tic Bridgeman with a chance to see their wonderful garden in its prime. 10.00 - 13.00

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

This month's meeting takes place in the village hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 27th May. Our speaker will be Janine Kitrowe, who will be telling us about the history of tattoos. Please contact the secretary, Anabel Lewis-Bowen (361298 or alewisbowen@btinternet.com) if you would like to join us.

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

This month's coffee morning will be on Friday, 23rd May, from 10.30am to noon. Come and enjoy a tea or coffee (and a slice of cake?) with friends and neighbours.

ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING.

This was to be held on 25th April, after the copy for this Link went to press. Please see the June issue for the report on Officer elections etc.

V.E. DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Parish Council, Village Hall Committee and Preston Capes WI invite you to come to the village hall from 2.30pm to 5.00pm on Sunday, 11th May, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The hall will be decorated, 1940s music playing and complimentary tea/coffee and cake will be served – and the bar will be open!



DIARY

This diary records the proposed dates of any benefice, parish or village events. We hope that this will help those planning such events to know what else is going on and therefore be able to avoid any unhelpful clashes of dates.

If you know, or become aware, of events which ought to be recorded please let David Pound, or your village Link correspondent, know.

Events known about so far are:

May

- 4 Newnham NGS Open Gardens
- 4/5 Badby Bluebell Teas
- 6 Newnham PCC
- 7 Charwelton APCM
- 8 VE Day 80 Beacon Newnham
- 8 VE Day 80 Badby
- 8 Badby & Fawsley WI
- 9 10 VE Day 80 Village Party Newnham
- 11 VE Day 80 Preston Capes
- 12 Preston Capes Perfect Plant sale
- 15 Newnham WI Gin Tasting evening
- 18 Badby NGS Open Gardens
- 20 Badby coffee morning
- 27 Badby APCM
- 27 Preston Capes WI
- 29 Police Beat Bus at B, C & N

- 29 Charwelton Whist Drive
30 Film Soc BVH

June

- 6 T4U Badby VH
8 Newnham Village Open Gardens
14 Newnham Comedy Night
16 Badby bells dismantled
27 Film Soc BVH

July

- 1 Newnham PCC
2 Charwelton PCC
5 Charwelton Brass Band concert
10 Newnham Coffee Morning - Jim & Mary Wood
12 Newnham Music on the Green
25 Film Soc BVH
27 Badby church hog roast
29 Badby PCC

September

- 1 Badby bells due back
2 Newnham PCC
3 Charwelton PCC
13 Film Soc opera BVH
14 Badby Scarecrow Festival and Fayre.
19 Charwelton Quiz Night
23 Badby PCC
26 Film Soc BVH

October

- 5 Charwelton Harvest weekend
10 Film Soc BVH
18 District Bellringers at Badby
24 Film Soc BVH

November

- 4 Newnham PCC
5 Charwelton PCC
9 Armistice Breakfast Charwelton
11 Badby PCC
15 Film Soc opera BVH
16 Charwelton Christmas Craft Fair
28 Film Soc BVH
28 Charwelton Christmas Prize Bingo

December

- 4/5/6 Charwelton wreath making
12 Film Soc BVH
13 Charwelton Children's Christmas party
? Charwelton Pantomime

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Solution
No. 114

5	8	6	9	2	7	1	3	4
4	1	7	3	5	6	8	9	2
2	3	9	1	8	4	6	5	7
6	2	8	5	9	1	7	4	3
9	4	3	7	6	8	5	2	1
7	5	1	2	4	3	9	6	8
1	7	5	6	3	2	4	8	9
3	6	4	8	7	9	2	1	5
8	9	2	4	1	5	3	7	6

Solution
No. 115

2	9	8	6	5	1	7	3	4
7	5	6	4	3	9	2	8	1
1	3	4	8	2	7	5	6	9
8	2	3	5	1	4	9	7	6
4	7	1	3	9	6	8	5	2
9	6	5	2	7	8	1	4	3
6	4	2	1	8	5	3	9	7
5	1	9	7	6	3	4	2	8
3	8	7	9	4	2	6	1	5

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* * * * *

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Back page box	£6.60	£79.20
Quarter page	£13.10	£157.20
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Full page	£38.25	£459.00

Pots & Plans: what to do in your garden this May

*Phillip Turvil
Garden designer in Badby
BrightenMyGarden.com*

Go, go, go

It's every trowel at the ready for planting summer bedding plants. Favourites such as cosmos, marigolds, petunias, and other 'frost sensitive' plants can be planted into borders and containers after mid-May. So can tomatoes, courgettes, runner beans, and similar vegetables that are started off inside.

Prepare your soil by removing weeds, or if your soil is compacted, lightly turn over with small fork or spade. Add a little compost to each planting hole and water plants before and afterwards to make sure the water really gets down to the roots.

To prepare containers - if they're mostly filled with topsoil or have permanent plants in, then you can usually refresh the soil for bedding plants. Just mix in compost to the top few inches and sprinkle in an organic fertiliser. But if your containers are mostly filled with purer compost from last year, it's best to start your containers afresh with new compost, or an 80:20 topsoil:compost mix for better longer-term growth.

I find that bedding and vegetable plants look rather dinky when first planted, so it's tempting to plant them rather close. But summer plants grow quickly once let loose, so follow instructions for spacing to avoid problems from overcrowding in summer. Usually plants are positioned 6 or 12 inches apart.

Stop, stop, stop

I did say it's planting time for indoor-grown veg and flowers, although check the weather! Delay planting if frost is still likely, or cover anything newly planted with horticultural

fleece if the temperatures take a downward turn.

It's also useful to 'harden off' indoor grown plants before planting them outside. Plants don't like moving from a warm cosy window-sill, greenhouse, or garden centre. So it's important to acclimatise your plants to outdoor chills. Moving plants too fast is stressful and can stop growth.

Acclimatise your plants by moving them outside during the day and back indoors at night. Ideally for two weeks. Or move plants outside into a cold frame or under horticultural fleece or side-opening tunnel cloche, and then uncover plants during the day and recover each night.

Watch your plants for any signs that the change in growing conditions is too sudden and causing damage, such as yellowing leaves, wilting, browning of leaf margins, and slow (if any) growth.

Stake, stake, stake

Some energetic plants wobble over summer when flowering, such as taller delphiniums, hollyhock, lupin. Plus taller varieties of aster, dahlia, and similar perennials. Now's the time to add stakes for best impact later in the year. Adding stakes now is also easier as the soil is softer for pushing them in.

Regularly tie flowering shoots to individual sticks or bamboo stakes. Or use 'grow through' plant supports which cover the whole plant and support shoots as they get taller. This also looks nicer in summer as plants have growth through their supports rather than have them imposed on later. Right, I'm off to do some weeding and remove mischievous slugs eying up my lettuce.

My best wishes to you and your garden.



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Happy First Birthday to Us!

It's a year since we opened our independent hearing care practice in Banbury's White Lion Walk. That's 12 months of working together for better hearing care. We may be a year older but our patients still lie at the heart of everything we do. If you want the highest levels of advice and service you need an experienced, knowledgeable and professional team that really care for you.

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Annette Gingell
Business Operations Manager



Jo Wildman
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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN – Gary Hammersley

07887 634936 chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

CLERK – Kevin Carr

clerk@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Council Update

The Council met on the 7th April. As well as the standard agenda items, updates were discussed on the ongoing flood prevention issue, the forthcoming council elections and an exciting initiative to refurbish the village bus shelter.

The Parish Council was delighted to support the initiative, proposed by Newnham History Society, to **renovate the old bus shelter on The Green**. Little, if any money has been spent on the bus shelter for many years, and the hope is that the refurbishment will provide a focal point of interest for visitors to the village. The History Society has designed and commissioned two information boards for the inside, depicting “Royal Celebrations in Newnham 1837 to 2023” and “Newnham at War”. The Parish Council would like to thank the History Society for helping to create a community asset for the village.

The Parish Council has also been discussing **how to improve communication in the village** so that residents feel informed about what is happening. Currently, news about village events and organisations is shared through the new village website (www.newnhamvillage.co.uk) and on Newnham Community Facebook page. For those not online, some events are publicised through posters on telegraph poles around the village and in the monthly Link publication. To find out how residents prefer to find out what is going on, the Parish Council will be calling on all households to survey your views. More details will be shared in the coming months.

Discussions have continued in relation to **flood prevention in the village**, with a general consensus that any works need to recognise all the potential flood points to avoid simply moving the flood water downstream or downhill and increasing risks to other properties. The Working Group is ordering sandbags and liaising with West Northants Council to produce a strategic solution.

The Parish Council, together with local volunteers, recently attended a meeting with the Woodland Trust to discuss the management plan for **The Nuttery**. This ancient site at the bottom of Manor Lane has a detailed management plan which is sensitive to the historically significant hazel plantation and the snowdrops planted there. The Woodland Trust suggested trialling some limited coppicing and thinning of the hazels to monitor which approach is the most effective in maintaining this important site.

There are some significant events coming up in the village. On **Sunday 4th May**, gardens around the village will be opened to visitors as part of the **National Open Gardens Scheme**. On **Thursday 8th May**, the village will mark the **80th Anniversary of VE Day by lighting a beacon** at the top of Walkers Hill. To conclude VE Day anniversary celebrations there will be a **party on the green on 10th May** with stalls, games, food and music. Tickets are available from Judithdorkins@btinternet.com. Huge thanks to Judith and her team for organising the events – fingers crossed for the weather!

The Local Elections taking place on 1st May apply to the Parish Council as well as West Northants Council. All Parish Councillors have to stand for re-election. However, because the number of Councillors standing do not exceed the eight places we have, there will not be a contested election.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on **28th May, at 19.00 in the Village Hall**.

The **next Parish Council Meeting** is **Monday 12th May, starting at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**.

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Benefice Secretary: Vacant

Benefice Treasurer: Christopher Nelson, The Cottage, Church Hill, Badby, NN11 3AR 300034 chris.c.nelson@talktalk.net

Ministry Team: Gerard Hoare, Susan Rose, Graham White

Lay Pastoral Minister: Graham White

Benefice Children's Officer Susan Rose (879053)

Parish Visiting: Requests for visiting should be made to the co-ordinators who will pass them on.

Link Editor: David Pound, Forge End, Church Street, Charwelton. NN11 3YT 260006 davidpound1939@talktalk.net

Copy deadlines - Editorial, 20th of the month; Advertising 18th. of the month please.

Advertising: knightleybenefice@gmail.com

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Vacant

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