

Hackleton Parish mag



Your Hackleton Parish News

Issue 58 / September 2024



Hackleton, Horton, Piddington, Preston Deanery and part of Wootton Fields



Music for a Harvest Evening

with Musica Charity Choir MK

7.00pm

Saturday 28th September 2024
St John the Baptist Church
Church End, Piddington, NN7 2ER

Tickets: £15.00

includes wine and canapés
raffle on the night

Tickets from

Joanne Wilde 01604 870162 (joandivor@outlook.com)
Jane Ward 01604 870203 (ljaneward@aol.com)

Concert proceeds in aid of St. John the Baptist Church, Piddington

Ups and Downs

Although my very limited photographic skills don't do justice to their beauty, I am delighted to feature some of the stunning gardens on display at the recent Open Garden Weekend in this month's Mag. This lovely event was a tremendous success and raised over £1300 for the Hackleton Pre-School. I'm not a gardener but I sincerely hope that this becomes a regular event as it was great to see the parish at its wonderful best. Well done everyone involved.

Not quite so inspirational was my time with WNC Councillor Phil Larratt. Don't get me wrong, it was an absolute pleasure to chat with Phil in the delightful setting of the Coffee@Carey garden but Phil's honesty regarding the future of our roads was less than uplifting. However, Phil remains refreshingly determined to do his best and maintain a surprising level of optimism. We must all do the same. Thank you Phil for your time and the frank chat.

More uplifting is the enthusiasm of our local community groups. The Wildlife, Environment and Biodiversity Group (WEB) is working hard to get a Repair Café started. The Health & Wellbeing Group are making great progress with their Good Neighbour Scheme (GNS) and this month will see the first meeting of the Forget-Me-Not Group. A new Book Club and a Craft Group also start up this month. Brilliant efforts everyone.

I do like a good local sporting contest so was delighted to hear of the walking netball match between two of our community groups, Team Thomas and the local branch of the WI. More of this please.

If you look hard enough, there are always more ups than downs.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Mag.



Alan McDonogh

Editor

Hackleton Parish Mag

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Cover

Beautiful flowers looking their best during the Open Garden Weekend

Submission Date

First week (or so) of the month preceding publication month
For the October issue please submit your material as early as possible in September.



The Soapbox

Get things off your chest!

Hello WNC, is anyone there?

In 2005, Lyne Road in Hackleton and its subsidiary offshoots were all resurfaced. Sansome Close (some five years older than Lyne Walk) was ignored. Sansome Close resident, Reg Ward, wrote to South Northants Council raising the question of why Sansome Close had not been resurfaced. Letters went back and forth but nothing was done.

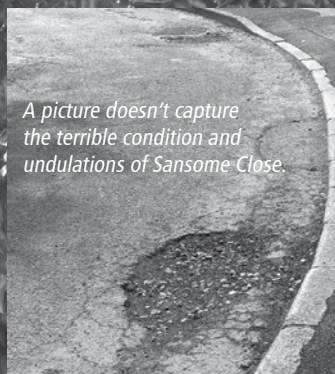
Jump forward to 2024. Sansome Close now has a further 19 years of neglect and disrepair. WNC Councillor and Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, Phil Larratt, is due to speak at the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Reg sees his chance. He presents Cllr Larratt with his 19 years worth of documents. Cllr Larratt promises to pass the documentation to the relevant person within his department and confidently assures Reg that the WNC will be in touch. The Annual Meeting was in May. Reg has heard nothing since.

Clerk to the Parish Council, Alison Benson, is now chasing the WNC and is urgently requesting a response.

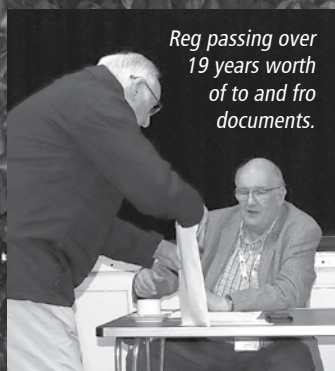
Neither Reg nor Alison are holding their breath in anticipation.

Mag Comment

It appears that the condition of Sansome Close now looks beyond a simple re-surface. It probably needs some serious structural work.



A picture doesn't capture the terrible condition and undulations of Sansome Close.



Reg passing over 19 years worth of to and fro documents.



Community Speed Watch

Thanks for the detailed explanation of the scheme and the results of the team's endeavours and those of the survey taken by WNC with no visible form of deterrent on the Brafield Road.

As requested in the Soapbox piece in the July magazine, it is important to be party to this information as it enables residents of the parish to be informed.

When analysing the data provided it looks likely that there isn't a major issue in any of the areas targeted, with average speeds in the high 30's and highest speeds in the low 40's, perhaps the high speed of 51mph on The Brafield Road may excite some people.

However as stated, the threshold for reporting is 35mph and the team recorded only vehicles that are considered to be over the limit.

This will skew the real averages in all areas by at least 5 mph higher if not more, as the team are only targeting and recording vehicles over this threshold.

New Hackleton is an unfair site to take readings, as drivers are loosing speed when coming into the 30 limit and accelerating out of it once the signs are sighted. (It would be fair to hazard a guess that most drivers do that?) this would probably account for the figure of 76 recorded offences.

Piddington lane is not a straight road, so it would be reasonable to reason that the team's recording site was mostly obscured from a drivers viewpoint which possibly contributed to the higher, possibly skewed speed result. It is hardly a hazardous place and there

are only two properties on the whole stretch up to St John's Way, where drivers are braking for the "T" junction, plus a narrow bridge lower down the lane that most driver's take carefully.

The Brafield Road is not as big an issue as first expected with a skewed average of 39mph, however the high recorded offence rate of 96 would need more analysis.

During the teams next session it would be reasonable to respectfully request, that the team record all vehicles speeds and get a more accurate set of data to analyse, even though drivers may not necessarily demonstrate normal driving behaviour due to the teams deterrent presence.

The WNC Highways data is also very interesting, especially the Va figures in the low 30mph range and the V85 only mid to high 30mph range, over a large sample size.

It can be argued that 15% are travelling at between 38 mph and 76mph, but the average of this is only mid 50mph.

The motorcycle travelling at 81mph was probably just changing from 1st to 2nd gear and didn't mean to do it :) (thought a bit of humour would not hurt at this point)

It would be informative for the residents of the parish to have the results of the next WNC survey and further community speed watch surveys published in this fine magazine, so that readers can each form their own guided and informed opinions on the subject and see where council taxes are being spent on their behalf.

Concerned of Piddington



Have you got something to say?

Say it to hackletonparishmag@gmail.com

Whilst contributions must be supplied with full contact details, articles can be published anonymously if preferred.



Work has started!

As I type this on 20th August I can confirm the scaffolding went up on the Annexe ready for the solar panels to be installed this week. It is fantastic that with the financial help received and the enormous commitment of Roy Shaw this has been achieved. Thank you to all those who have helped in any way.

The Cream Teas held in August were a great success. Thank you to all those who came along and supported the two Sundays and especially the many helpers who made sure that all those wonderful cakes were provided and eaten. Nearly £900 was raised.

Thank you for your support.

Edward Kilpin BEM

Chairman of the Trustees

Monthly Tote

Dudley Winterbottom Memorial Hall, Hackleton

The Tote raises funds for the maintenance of the hall. If you would like to join please contact **Barbara Bayes** on **870889**. For just £1 per month you can be part of the Tote which has seven prizes ranging from £100 for the top prize followed by £50, £25 and four of £10.

Winning Numbers for August 2024

£100	09/18	Mr & Mrs Norville, Old End
£50	05/25	Mrs V Collins, Forest Road
£25	07/26	Mrs Sturgess, Forest Road
£10	11/21	Vanessa Hart, Forest Road
£10	04/17	D Billingham, Lyne Walk
£10	27/29	Mrs Garnett-Letts, Willoughby Way
£10	04/21	Mrs A Faulkner, Ravenstone Lane

The next draw will take place on 18 September

Dates for your diary

Remaining 2024 Events

8th December – **Festive Cheer**

This is being run by Tracy Barwick who would appreciate some help please

New Years Eve Dance

Entertainment provided by 'Roy and the Saracens'.

Please ensure you book early to prevent disappointment.

Contact Edward Kilpin on 01604870764 to arrange tickets at £20 a head.

Hackleton Village Hall

Regular Activities

Day	Event	Time	Where	Contact Details
Monday	Pre-School/Playgroup	08.30-16.00	Main Hall	Charmaine 07787 176 416
	Rainbows	17.00-18.00	Main Hall	
	Pilates	19.00-20.00 2010-21.00	Main Hall	Sue 07587 155 018
	Adult Dance Class	18.00-21.00	Annex	Lesley 07904 485 846
Tuesday	Pre-School/Playgroup	08.30-16.00	Annex	Charmaine 07787 176 416
	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	Liz Harrison Room	Mary 01604 870885
	Bowls/Short Mat	13.15-16.00 19.00-21.00	Main Hall	Phill 01604 491969 John 01604 870388
	Parish Council	19.00-21.00 Usually 2nd Tue	Annex	Alison clerk@hackletonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Wednesday	Pre-School/Playgroup	08.30-16.00	Main Hall	Charmaine 07787 176 416
	Wednesday Club	14.00-15.30	Liz Harrison Room	Maureen 01604 870126 Evelyn 01604 870332
	Brownies	18.00-19.30	Main Hall	
	Film Show	20.00-21.30 Usually 3rd Wed	Main Hall	David 01604 870037
	Adult Dance Class	18.00-21.00	Annex	Lesley 07904 485 846
Thursday	Pre-School/Playgroup	08.30-16.00	Main Hall	Charmaine 07787 176 416
	Trustee Meeting	19.30-21.00	Annex	Edward 01604 870764
	Women's Institute	19.45-22.00 3rd Thur	Main Hall	Jane 01604 870203
	Group Eight	19.00-22.00	Main Hall	Frequent Thursday
Friday	Pre-School/Playgroup	08.30-16.00	Main Hall	Charmaine 07787 176 416
	Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	17.00-21.00	Main Hall/Annex	

Village Hall Bookings

Tel: **01604 870388** / Email: **hallbookings2@gmail.com**

They discussed what!?!?

Parish Council Notes

23 July 2024

Alison Benson Clerk to the Council

The Parish Council met on 23rd July. Eight councillors were present together with two members of the public, Unitary Councillor Fiona Cole and the Parish Clerk.

Welcome

The Parish Council is delighted to welcome **Mark Reeve** as a new councillor and very much look forward to working with him. Learn more about your new councillor later in the Mag'.

Since the last meeting the Parish Council has received the resignation of Pam Heap. Pam has been a councillor for some 22 years and has worked so hard on behalf of residents. The Council would like to thank Pam for all of her years of dedication and wish her well for the future.

Street Furniture

The broken litter bin on Piddington Lane has been reported to WNC for repair.

Thanks to the resident who has kindly agreed to take of the care of the two planters in Horton.

A new dog waste bin has been installed at the top of Forest Road, Piddington, opposite Grafton Court.

St George's Fields

The Parish Council is very disappointed at the lack of bin emptying and grass cutting on St George's Fields and continues to put pressure on Morris Homes to ensure that their appointed management company look after the open green areas.

Trees/Footpaths/Verges

Various rights of way and footpaths have been reported to WNC Highways for cutting back including KM37, KM38, and the footpath at the top of Forest Road. Dangerous branches on trees at the bottom of Carey Road have been reported to Grand Union Housing for attention.

Highways/Road Safety

The Parish Council has agreed to install temporary 30 mph signs on Piddington Lane and 20 mph advisory signs around the School once it reopens in September.

The Parish Council is also chasing WNC for a response to issues raised at the Annual Parish Meeting regarding the road surfacing in Sansome Close

Speed Data from the Parish Council Speed Indicator Device on Brafield Road shows that speed violations have increased from 32% in May to 36% in July. Discussions continue with WNC Highways to try and find appropriate ways of controlling this.

E-Scooters

It is illegal to use E-Scooters on public roads, footpaths or open green spaces. We have had reports of residents being almost knocked over by e-scooters being used illegally on footpaths and very young children being intimidated by users. The Police have the power to

seize and destroy any e-scooters being used illegally. A meeting is to be held with the Police to discuss ways in which we can stop the illegal use of e-scooters within the Parish.

VE Day 80 Beacon Lighting Event Thursday 8th May 2025

The Parish Council will be organising a celebratory event to mark VE Day 80. Please get in touch if you would like to help. More details to follow in future editions of the Mag'

Finance & Governance

Bank balances	30 June 2024
Unity Bank Current Account	£59,381.71
Unity Bank Deposit Account	£198,111.01
Total funds held	£257,492.72

Items approved for payment in July:

Item	Amount £
Payroll	4889.26
Beacon Lighting Event	265.00
Professional fees	129.00
Administration	40.38
Churchyard water	22.03
Longland Meadow plants	120.83
Repair café	41.42
Cemetery	600.00
Electricity	543.97
Refuse collection	100.75
Open spaces	435.13
Signage	65.00
Grass Mowing	2633.00
Health & Wellbeing	339.00
Parish Mag'	1420.00
Rent	160.00

Health & Wellbeing

The Parish Council's insurers will not provide cover for a Good Neighbour Scheme or Repair Café as they do not deem such initiatives as being within the usual remit of parish council business. That said, the Council is keen to support these initiatives and has agreed to support the setting up of the schemes as a separate not for profit entity, to transfer the balance of the Good Neighbour Scheme to the new entity and to look favourably upon any future grant applications subject to budget constraints.

Insurance was confirmed for the over 50's Walking Football Club and the Council would like to thank Simon Barfoot for leading it over the summer.

The Dementia Club is almost ready to host its first meeting (see separate item in the Mag'). A separate email has been set up for it so if anybody would like further information, please email: forgetmenot@hackletonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Planning

All planning decisions are made by the Planning Department at West Northants Council. It is very important that if residents would like to comment on an application, they do so directly with the planning department: <https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk>

Next Parish Council Meetings

3rd September (Please note first Tuesday of the month)
8th October

All meetings will be held in the Annexe, Hackleton Village Hall.



Parish Council Surgeries

Find out more about your Parish Council

Coffee @ Carey
Tuesday 10th September
10am – noon

Please come and have a chat



TIRED OF POTHOLES FLY-TIPPING LOOSE PAVING DOG POOP VANDALISM BROKEN STREET LIGHTING?

The Parish Council is not responsible for highways or footpaths within the Parish. Any highway or footpath related issues or defects should be reported via **Street Doctor**, which is Northamptonshire Highways public reporting system powered by *Fix My Street*

REPORT THEM TO THE COUNCIL WITH FixMyStreet.com

Your report will be logged, sent to the right team and you will receive updates of what they are going to do and why.

Some lesser-known issues you can report:

- Rights of way e.g. gates, stiles, overgrown vegetation
- Fallen trees or branches
- Signs missing or obscured by vegetation



Meet WNC Customer Service Team

Coffee@Carey
Hackleton Baptist Church,
Chapel Lane, Hackleton, NN7 2AH

Wednesday
18 September

Monday
14 October

Tuesday
19 November
10am – 12pm

Here to answer any WNC-related matters



September 2024

HACKLETON VILLAGE HALL CINEMA

RYAN GOSLING EMILY BLUNT
A thoroughly entertaining blend of romcom and action thriller

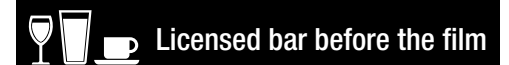
THE FALL GUY

A retired stuntman comes out of retirement to work on a new film directed by his ex-girlfriend. The star of the film goes missing and a dead body is found in his apartment.

★★★★★ Telegraph ★★★★★ Guardian ★★★★★ Independent

'A glorious fun, screwball action film'
Spectator

Wednesday
18th September 8.00pm
All tickets £5 on the door



Hackleton Parish

Hackleton Parish

September 2024

Hackleton Parish

Introducing . . .



Mark Reeve

Parish Councillor

I moved to Horton from Milton Keynes with my wife and family in 2014. We immediately fell in love with the area and especially the friendly people and the sense of community that comes with village life.

Our two daughters have since flown the nest and have families of their own, promoting my wife and I to grandparents to two wonderful granddaughters, with a grandson on the way. We can often be seen around the villages walking our tricolour Cavalier King Charles Spaniel.

I have been in technical sales for most of my career and my current role is as a Regional Sales Manager in the test and measurement sector.

I believe it is fundamentally important that residents feel safe especially using the roads where they live, be that as a motorist, cyclist, horse rider, pedestrian or as parent / grandparent with young children. Before being co-opted as a new councillor I have been actively engaged with the parish council on all matters relating to road safety and have been the Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator for the last two years.

It's also important to me that people who live in our parish have a feeling of inclusion and that their opinions are heard; also that they feel safe and have a sense of pride in where they live. I am really looking forward to working alongside my fellow councillors and making a positive contribution on issues that will make a real difference to our community.

Mark Reeve



Mark Pointer

Parish Council Groundsman

I am a retired police officer having served 30 years with Northamptonshire Police as a constable and sergeant predominantly in immediate response and firearms.

I have family living in Hackleton and Piddington and my immediate family lived in Forest Road, Piddington from the mid 1970's to early 2000's.

My wife, Niki, and I have been happily married for 33 years and we live in Collingtree village with our two dogs, Winnie & Gus.

My two children, Charlie and Ben, both went to Hackleton playgroup nearly 30 years ago ... where I helped with the snacks and arts and craft activities.

In my leisure time I enjoy weight training & fitness, DIY & gardening, dog walking especially through woodland & countryside, TV & film, good food & wine, socialising & relaxing with family & friends and spending time with my granddaughter, Teddie ... 3 going on 13!

I am really looking forward to helping take care of the villages in the parish and to making a positive contribution in the community.

Mark Pointer



September 2024



NEW BOOK CLUB

Calling all book lovers!
A new book club is planned to start for adults in the Parish this September.

Meeting every six weeks on a Monday evening, the book club will offer an opportunity for us to get together over a cuppa to talk about the books that we like, love or even struggle with!

Hopefully this will enable us to discover books that we might not have otherwise chosen. It will definitely be an opportunity to socialise and to meet new people.

**Starting Monday 16th Sept 7pm - 8.45 pm
in the Library at Coffee@Carey**

Please contact Margot or Michelle at Hackletonparishbookclub@outlook.com by Wednesday 28th August and we will get back to you confirming details and our first book.

Supported by



Hackleton Parish

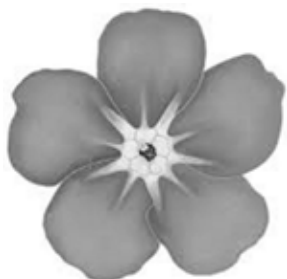
Hackleton Parish Forget – Me – Not Group



Providing practical support and activities for those living with Dementia or Dementia-like symptoms and their families (even if no diagnosis has been given).

1st and 3rd Monday of each month
1.00-2.45 pm

Horton House Cricket Club, starting 16th September



Forget – Me – Not

To book your place in the group, please contact
forgetmenot@hackletonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Max 12 spaces available



theWI Hackleton INSPIRING WOMEN & District

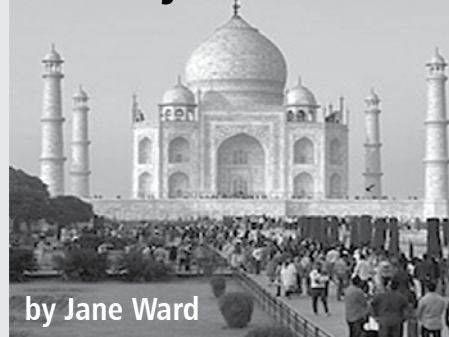
September Meeting

Thursday 19th September

Change from the published programme:

Members Travels

The Golden Triangle and Beyond



by Jane Ward

October Meeting

17th October (Open Meeting)

"MY EXTRA LIFE"

Mike Newbold – Actor

Please join us!

We meet on the third Thursday of each month throughout the year at Hackleton Village Hall. Guests are very welcome – £5.00 per meeting to include tea/coffee and delicious cake!

Contact **Jane Ward**

President on 01604 870203
or any Committee Member

THE JUDETH WILLOUGHBY CHARITY

(registered charity 309730)

Are you leaving school this summer and entering further education, an apprenticeship or taking up other means of further education and live in the civic parish of Hackleton (Hackleton, Horton, Preston Deanery, Piddington, St George's Field)?

If you are between 18 and 25 years of age this small local charity may be able to provide some financial assistance with the purchase of books, equipment and similar small expenses needed in your studies or training.

If you feel that the charity may be of some assistance please contact:

David Dunkley

Clerk to the Trustees

david.dunkley637@gmail.com

Team Thomas versus the WI!

On Saturday 10th August Team Thomas challenged the WI to a friendly game of walking netball.

With the Olympics in full swing on the TV, we thought we should try out this growing sport. Our morning started with passing practice and familiarisation with the rules, as some of us had not played netball since we left primary school, i.e. quite a few years ago!

The WI played in green vests, we had a short practice session and then the game proceeded in three-minute quarters. Players regularly changed position with members of both sides stood on the side lines. The teams played with great gusto, and with only two minor injuries the final score was 11-9 to Team Thomas. Everyone had a great time; the weather was kind to us and both teams had supporters cheering us on from the sidelines.



The closely contested match was taken very competitively and played in a wonderfully friendly spirit.



Thank you to Hackleton School and Mrs S Gillam, Headteacher, for the loan of the playground and goals, which made the event possible. Please see the adverts in every month's parish magazine for further details of Team Thomas' regular activities and the monthly meetings of Hackleton & District WI. Hope to see you there!

WHO?

WHAT?

Judeth Willoughby Charity

Autumn Quiz Night

Saturday 21st September

Hackleton Village Hall

Doors open at 7.15pm
for a 7.45pm start

Teams of approx. 4

Ploughman's Supper • Raffle • Bar

Tickets £7.50 each

WHY?

WHEN?

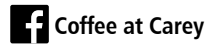
To enter please contact Pam Heap
on 870018 before 14 September



Coffee@Carey

Chapel Lane, Hackleton, NN7 2AH

Monday – Wednesday
10am – 1pm



Our lovely community focused and volunteer run coffee shop is based in Hackleton Baptist Church and is very much a community hub. We open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10am – 1pm serving a selection of very reasonably priced hot and cold drinks with delicious cakes and pastries. Whether it's a cappuccino, an americano, a pot of tea or a can of fizz, there's something for everyone, pop in and see us.

Our community library is open when the Coffee Shop is open, with donated books, jigsaw puzzles and DVDs free to borrow and return on your next visit.

Regularly, we have the pleasure of a different visiting 'Pop Up shops' selling local products. Whether you are coming to meet friends or coming in on your own, there's always an exciting new experience. If you are interested in selling your products (sorry no MLM), please contact Mike on 07851 403947.

What's On in September

Monday	Soup and Roll lunch	Served from 12pm Weekly. Orders taken
	Just Sing! Community choir for everyone, new members welcome	Weekly 7.30pm – 8.30pm
	New Book Club Email: hackletonparishbookclub@outlook.com for more details	16th Sept 7.00pm – 8.45pm Every 6 weeks
Tuesday	Social Prescribers Group Run by Denton Village Surgery, supporting you to focus on improving your wellbeing through meeting new people and trying new activities in your local community.	3rd & 17th Sept 10.00am – 12.30pm
	Hackleton Parish Council Drop In Surgery	10th Sept 10.00 am – 12.00pm
	Get Up and Go Otago Fitness Class (To help improve balance and mobility) Tel Julie: 07769 587658 to book your place	Weekly 2.00pm – 2.45pm
Wednesday	Zumba Email: chanszumbafusion@gmail.com for more details	Weekly 7.30pm
	WNC Customer Service Team Drop in Event	Weds 18th 10.00am – 12.00pm
Thursday	Zumba Gold for 50yrs +	Weekly 12pm
	New Craft Group	1st Thurs of month 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Raising funds for Hackleton Pre-school

Open Garden Weekend

29th & 30th June

As featured in last month's Parish Mag, Pat Norville and her Open Garden Team organised a tremendously successful event. There was a wide a range of gardens on display from delightful small cottage gardens to large beautifully manicured creations. Other highlights included a garden dedicated to wildlife and biodiversity, wildflowering in Piddington churchyard, an extremely well-tended allotment and a very impressive display of Lambretta scooters.

To top it all, Pat provided truly outstanding refreshments to be enjoyed in the beautiful setting of her garden.




When it comes to gardens, size really doesn't matter – it's a genuine passion for gardening and wildlife that connects all the gardens and their owners.

Thank you for sharing your gardens for us all to enjoy.







THE AIM OF THE GROUP IS TO PROMOTE LIVE THEATRE IN THE COMMUNITY TO THE MUTUAL ENJOYMENT OF MEMBERS AND AUDIENCES ALIKE.

Get Ready for a Magical Journey With Group Eight's Pantomime!

We're thrilled to announce that Group Eight is gearing up to bring you a spectacular production of *The Wizard of Oz* this December! Script readings are already in full swing, and we can hardly contain our excitement. Tom Whalley's take on this beloved classic is packed with humor, heart, and plenty of surprises, and we're having a blast bringing these iconic characters to life. From Dorothy's journey down the Yellow Brick Road to the Wicked Witch's wicked ways, every rehearsal has been a whirlwind of fun and creativity.

Mark your calendars, because you won't want to miss our performances on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of December, with a special matinee on the 7th. We can't wait to share the magic, laughter, and pure joy of this pantomime with all of you. Stay tuned for more updates as we get closer to opening night—trust us, you're in for a treat!

For details please email groupeight1973@outlook.com

Join in the fun!

If you have ever wanted to be onstage, help behind the scenes in a play or panto, or even help with front of house please don't be shy. Get in touch with us via info@groupeight.co.uk we are sure to be able to find something for you to do in the Group.





Group Meeting

Tuesday September 24th, 7.30pm
Carey Chapel, Main Road, Hackleton

As well as hearing updates from the amazing groups in our parish that are helping to create a better environment and combat climate change, we will also hear about the Health & Wellbeing initiative, the **Good Neighbour Scheme** (GNS) – what it is and what it will be doing for the benefit of our community.

The Hackleton Good Neighbour Scheme will include a **Repair Café**. Initially, we are hoping to offer a monthly service at the Carey Chapel, where you will be able to bring items to be mended, like clothing, bicycles, mechanical items, tools, toys, and non-electrical household items.

We will be looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help with the project. If we had a qualified electrician, able to do PAT tests, we would be able to include portable household items. Come along if you'd like to find out more or if you would like to be involved.

The **Green Machine** will return to Hackleton on Wednesday September 11th, 2.00 to 4.00, in front of the chapel, and Coffee@Carey will be open as usual.



At the meeting we will decide how we can help to update the Parish Council's **Wildlife & Biodiversity Policy**. The link to the latest version of the policy is:



<https://www.hackletonparishcouncil.gov.uk/uploads/wildlife-and-biodiversity-policy.pdf?v=1720448344>

Our mantra is **reuse, reduce, recycle** – and, hopefully, **repair!**

If you're interested in, or even passionate about wildlife, biodiversity and the environment in general, the WEB group is an open forum for you to talk about your thoughts, ideas and activity in the company of like-minded people.

To find out more or to join the Hackleton WEB Group, contact royhawkesford@gmail.com



The Parish Council was delighted when WNC Highways agreed to fund the re-surfacing of the Lands Pathway.

The Parish Council had the area cut back and sided out so that the WNC contractors could re-surface the maximum width.

I'm not sure our Parish Council will be as delighted with the finished(?) job.

Hackleton Parish CRAFTERS



New Craft Group

Starting
Thursday 5th September
then every first Thursday
of the month.

1.30 – 3pm
Library at Coffee@Carey

Come along and learn a new craft or bring your current project. Make new friends in a warm and welcoming environment, whilst having a cuppa and cake.

Supported by



Richard Attenborough of Manor House, Horton

Local historian, Maureen Williams, unearths another gem of a tale.

Tucked away from view at the end of a long avenue of trees off Ravenstone Lane in Horton, lies Manor House. Originally part of the Horton Estate, it was described in the 1935 estate sales catalogue as 'an attractive Georgian Farm Residence', the ground floor comprising a drawing room with a large bay window, dining room, morning room, butler's pantry, kitchen, scullery dairy and laundry. Two staircases led to four principal bedrooms, two servants' bedrooms and a bathroom. The house was built onto a much older cottage which appears on the estate map of 1622 as the warrener's lodge.

The first time Manor House appears by name in the censuses is in 1891, when the occupants were 69-year-old Richard Attenborough, his wife Elizabeth, their 28-year-old daughter Constance, a cook and a housemaid (local girl Bertha Willett from Piddington).

Born in Blakesley in 1821, Richard was the son of a yeoman (small landowner) and married farmer's daughter Elizabeth Coales of Titchmarsh in 1849. They started their married life at No. 19 Piccadilly, London, where Richard traded as a silversmith and pawnbroker. There were no fewer than three other jewellers/pawnbroker's shops in London run by members of the Attenborough family from Titchmarsh at the time! Richard employed two housemaids, and two shop assistants, all of whom lived on the premises.

The couple's three daughters were all born in London, but by 1862 when the youngest, Constance was born, Richard had also acquired a country villa and ten acres of land in Whitley Grove on the outskirts of Reading. By the early 1870s his Whitley Grove Estate had grown to 200 acres, on which he bred short-horn cattle. He continued to run his shop in London, but expanded

his business interests, becoming a colliery owner and ironmaster with offices in Great Queen Street, London.

However, he seems to have overreached himself. Although he retired from the pawnbroking business in 1884 with 'a fortune of about £100,000' (around £10m in today's money), a depression in the coal and iron industries, among other causes, forced him to file for bankruptcy in 1885.

According to a newspaper report about the bankruptcy, Richard's colliery and ironstone interests included: the Lower Resolven Colliery, Neat; the Hal O' Lee and Wedgwood Collieries, Stoke-on-Trent and Tunstall; the Strata Florida Lead Mine near Aberystwyth; and the Attenborough and Company Ironstone Quarries at Brixworth and Spratton. A trustee was appointed with the power to 'sell the estate for a sum sufficient to pay the creditors not less than 2s and 6d in the £.' The Whitley Grove Estate was eventually sold as freehold building plots for more than 100 houses.

In about 1886 Richard took a lease on Manor House, Horton. It was a bit of a come down after owning a small estate; his villa in Whitley Grove had four reception rooms and ten bedrooms. He was, however, able to continue to run the ironstone quarry in Brixworth in partnership with Mr R Timms.

On a happier note, in September 1893 his daughter Constance married Alfred Geldart in Horton Church. Alfred was the assistant master at the prestigious boys' boarding school which was based in Horton Hall between 1890 and 1900, at which point it moved to new premises at Ickfield Bury in Bedfordshire.

Alfred didn't move with the school, and in 1901 he and Constance were living with their two young sons and two nursemaids in the cottage adjoining Manor House. In addition to a cook, parlourmaid and kitchen maid residing in the main house, were two 'hospital nurses'. They must have been caring for Richard, who died some six weeks later.

The newspaper description of his funeral cortege is rather poignant: 'The coffin, which had been placed in a specially erected marquee in front of the Manor House,

was borne shoulder high to the church, a distance of rather more than half a mile. The wish of the deceased that the route should be across the fields along the path he was wont to take to and from church was faithfully carried out. The cortege, all on foot, presented a curiously quaint and picturesque scene: men and women in sombre black, relieved by the wealth of white in the large number of wreaths, wending their way through the greenest of fields on the brightest of days, contrasted life and death and immortality almost with the vividness of personality. Now and then the choir of boys, choristers from St Matthew's Church, Northampton, who accompanied the procession, sang with charming sweetness a verse of the Cornish Funeral Chant: "Sing from the chamber to the grave."

Constance and Alfred's third child was born at Manor House the following year, but they soon moved to Kingsthorpe, and by 1907 Richard's widow Elizabeth had also left Horton for a 12-room house in Cambridgeshire. The new tenants of Manor House were Francis and Mathilde Jeyes.

To be continued . . .

Maureen Williams



Manor House and its adjoining cottage in 1935

Maureen Williams COMMENT

Ask Maureen

If there's a particular aspect of local history that you would like to know a little more about, Maureen may be able to help.

Tel: 01604 870318
Email: maureenwilliams972@gmail.com



St. John the Baptist
Piddington with Horton

Is it too early to mention Christmas?

Well we may just have had the hottest days of our summer in the week when I write this message, but as always my thoughts have to turn to Christmas at this time, as we start to make plans for one of our favourite fundraising events, yes The Christmas Tree Festival! I will let you into a secret, everyone thinks that it is a difficult fundraiser to organise, but it is not as difficult as people think it is, but this maybe because I was already quite involved in the production and decoration of trees for the Festival prior to taking over the responsibility of co-ordinating the event from Cheryl MacDougall. It is the one fundraiser that is particularly suited to me as most of the work in planning and co-ordinating needed for the Festival I can do from home.

The Festival has been going for over 25 years (I am sure someone will tell me the accurate number of years when they read this) means we are therefore always on the lookout for new participants – if you feel you could decorate a tree and help our church look spectacular and help us raise money for urgent works on the church building then please contact me for more information.

We like our Festival to be themed, which was endorsed by my son who in his first year at York University, went to see the Minster's Christmas Tree Festival and said after seeing it 'Well it's not as good as our church, as there is no theme'. This year we have chosen 'Nature in the Nativity Season'. You can interpret this theme as broadly as you like from winter fauna and flora to environmental issues.

On the matter of fundraising, please don't forget about our Harvest Concert, as ticket sales are going well so you will need to buy yours soon, please see our advert in the Parish Mag for details.

Services in September

Sunday 1st September 10am
Sung Communion led by Rev Mark Hurley

Sunday 15th September 10am
Sung Communion led by Rev Mark Hurley

Contact details

Rev Julie Scott

Email: revjuliescott@gmail.com
Tel: 01604 374379 (day off Friday)

Rev Mark Hurley

Email: markscsb@gmail.com
Tel: 01604 345458 (Sun/Mon/Tues)



St. John the Baptist
Piddington with Horton

Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturday 7th December
& Sunday 8th December**
10.30am – 4.30pm

*The theme this year is
'Nature in the Nativity Season'*

**Anyone, any family or any organisation is
welcome to take part.**

**For more information:
Emma on 01604 870681**

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Our roads will continue to deteriorate!

Alan McDonogh caught up with WNC Councillor Phil Larratt over a cuppa at Coffee@Carey



West Northamptonshire Councillor Phil Larratt was a guest speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting held in May. As a Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, the audience at the meeting was very keen to hear about the Council's position regarding the state of our local roads.

Following the Annual Meeting, I was hell-bent on writing an article highlighting the incompetence of local government and citing a particular example of bureaucracy gone mad! After chatting with Cllr Larratt (Phil), I've had to slightly temper my annoyance and redirect my angst towards other government bodies.

Phil explained that WNC has statutory duties which include keeping the highways safe but he pointed out that WNC does not have the money to make all the repairs to our roads that are required.

We picked up on a particular example of the difficulties faced by the WNC Highways that Phil highlighted at the Annual Meeting.

The figures don't add up

The WNC highway network needs £291m to undertake all repairs. The total West Northants Highways budget is £24m. **An annual shortfall of £267m!** Without massively increased investment, this shortfall is going to keep increasing at more than **£267m each and every year!**

Hardingstone Sustainable Urban Extension

The catchy title for the new Tilia Homes development on the right hand side of the B573 Newport Pagnell Road heading towards Northampton. It was correctly identified that the already congested Queen Eleanor A45 interchange would need upgrading to cope with the increase in road traffic from this housing estate. It was agreed with the developers that the necessary improvements would be made before the first property on the estate was occupied. So far, so good – but here's where it all begins to go a bit pear-shaped. Many houses have now been occupied for 2-3 years and the Queen Eleanor junction improvements have still not happened. OK, so impose some sort of sanction on the developers to force some action. If only it were so simple!

Being a major trunk road, the A45 is the responsibility of National Highways and not WNC Highways. Any work required on the A45 by developments along the A45 is funded by the A45 Growth Management Scheme. The A45 Growth Management Scheme is funded by all the developers whose developments impact the A45.

National Highways and WNC Highways decided "exactly" what changes needed to be made at the Queen Eleanor junction and estimated the cost involved. The Tilia Homes developers dutifully paid this cost into the A45 Growth Management Scheme. Again, it would seem that everything is going to plan, but now this is where things go seriously wrong.

Covid hits (or at least WNC and National Highways let Covid take the blame), slowing down the implementation of the improvement works and causing project management staffing issues at WNC. So, no works are started and WNC don't have the staff to keep on top of the project.

Great! But things are about to get a lot worse. We now arrive at the biggest hurdle in this fiasco . . . bureaucracy! You just knew it was coming.

During the delays in getting the A45/Queen Eleanor interchange works started, National Highways began changing their minds on what needed to be done. This initiated a seemingly endless series of toing and froing between WNC Highways and National Highways as they tried to agree on what to do. Not surprisingly, Phil lays the blame for this repositioning of the goalposts squarely at the door of National Highways.

And guess what? The almost three year delay and ever-changing specifications now means that there is not enough money in the pot to fund the project! You'd struggle to make this up!

So here we are. A housing estate that continues to grow (and be occupied) without the necessary changes in road infrastructure to accommodate the development. Well done everyone.

Potholes

Phil and I briefly discussed the thorny subject of potholes. A word of warning: There is no happy ending to this part of our chat.

Everyone would like to see an improvement in the condition of our roads. Unfortunately this is not going to happen. There just isn't enough money available.



Phil and his Highways and Transport department at WNC estimate that they need an additional £8-9m per year to prevent the pothole situation getting worse. That's the best part of an extra £10m every year to keep the roads in their current condition! Not make them better, just stop them getting worse. Phil and I then took a moment to admire a flock of pigs serenely flying across the Hackleton sky as we discussed the likelihood of him getting this additional money.

Rays of hope

I certainly wouldn't bet a Tilia Homes mortgage on this, but it appears the National Highways and WNC Highways may have finally agreed a plan of action and it is hoped that improvement works to the A45/Queen Eleanor interchange may start in early 2025.

For the first time since the inception of the West Northants. Council, the Highways and Transport Department is now fully staffed with project managers and inspectors. This will help minimise the delays in completing many infrastructure projects.

WNC have recently invested in a JCB Pothole Pro. This is a state-of-the-art machine which seriously speeds up the process of repairing potholes.

Phil is quietly optimistic that there is an improving culture of cooperation within WNC.

Thank you

I would like to thank Phil for his time and openness during our brief chat.

Alan McDonogh



Hackleton, Horton, Piddington and St George's Fields

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to receive automated reports of crime in our area, as well as security advice and warnings of the latest scams.

Go to www.northantsnhw.co.uk and when prompted enter your postcode.

You will see the four available local schemes:

Area	Local Co-ordinator
Hackleton	Barbara Bayes barbara.bayes@yahoo.com
Horton	Carol Lloyd carollloyd1@icloud.com
Piddington	Phil Renshaw philip.renshaw@yahoo.co.uk
St George's Fields	Vacancy

Click on your local scheme and when you see the map showing the area covered by the scheme, scroll down and click on the 'Apply to join' box. You just need to complete the details requested – your membership will be confirmed by e-mail.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your local co-ordinator.

We live in a very safe place – let's keep it that way!

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Please complete this form when submitting community articles or commercial adverts.

Technical data overleaf.

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Embedded images at least 300dpi



All fonts embedded or converted to outlines

Alternative format:

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½-page 	64 x 190	-	-
Full-page	132 x 190	-	-
Back cover	148 x 210	132 x 194	154 x 216

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