

# Holcot Parish Newsletter

## Edition 3 – 2022

Welcome to the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the newsletter this year. It has been a busy time in the village since the last edition, especially over the Platinum Jubilee Weekend. We're now looking forward to the Flower and Vegetable Show in September. The next edition of the newsletter will be in November so please submit contributions by 18<sup>th</sup> November to [holcotvillagenewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:holcotvillagenewsletter@hotmail.com) Thank you, Jenny.



This year's Annual Holcot  
Flower & Vegetable Show will be on  
**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

This year the schedule is being published **ONLY** on the village website (see link on the page

<https://www.holcotvillage.co.uk/flower-vegetable-show>).

If you're unable to access the website, or to print your own schedule, please phone Dave Cooke on 781130 to obtain a copy.

As well as fresh changes to the classes, the website also shares some hints and tips from the judge of our Kitchen Creations class.

As usual, entries should be taken to the Village Hall  
between 10am and 12 noon.

Entry fee this year is only £1 irrespective of the number of entries.

**Even if you have nothing to exhibit, don't forget:**

- ☺ That everyone's welcome in the Village Hall from 3pm to view the exhibits
- ☺ **The fabulous, fun, auction from 4pm** – a great opportunity to pick up at bargain prices fresh, locally-grown, fruit, veg & flowers, and delicious home-made cakes, jams, etc

**WE DO HOPE YOU WILL SAVE THE DATE  
AND SUPPORT THIS GREAT COMMUNITY TRADITION**



**SAVE THE DATE!**

WHAT? Tapas Tasting Evening

WHERE? Grounds of St. Mary and All Saints Church, Holcot

WHEN? Saturday 17 September



Good food to taste  
Music  
Wine  
Raffle

More details to follow

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Do you enjoy 'Strictly Come Dancing'? You can learn the beginners' steps of 'Strictly Come Dancing' style **BALLROOM AND LATIN AMERICAN DANCES** at our Classes in the Village Hall. No partner necessary. It's not just great fun, but maybe it'll also get you fitter this summer? Ballroom/Latin Classes almost **every** Wednesday evening, from 6.00 to 7.00pm. Just £7 per person per session. **Alternatively**, socially-distanced private lessons for individuals, or one or more couples, all dance requirements catered for, and tailored to suit you!

For more details & to check dates for all the above, contact Julie  
(07736 032606 or email [dancepod@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dancepod@hotmail.co.uk))



## *Update from Holcot Parish Council*

My short update. The best way to keep track of the work of the Parish Council is to read the minutes of meetings and updates on the website. Parishioners are welcome to attend meetings.

Since the last newsletter Trudi Townsend has resigned. Our thanks to Trudi for everything she has done as a Councillor. A co-option process for a replacement Councillor is underway.

**Road safety in Holcot** - This continues to be a priority.

Since the last newsletter the white lines have been repainted, the HGV survey was completed and a short community Speedwatch was undertaken. The latter two of these involved people from across our community – it was great to see people participating. The outcomes have been posted on the website, but needless to say we have again demonstrated to the authorities that vehicles travel at excessive speeds through Holcot, and a substantial number of HGVs flout the 7.5t regulations.

We continue to await news about the priority chicane on Sywell Road. Northamptonshire Highways are being split into West Northants and North Northants Highways aligned to the unitary councils, and the new contracts supporting this reorganisation commence in the Autumn. Despite our protestations, there will inevitably be yet another hiatus.

We hope that we will be able to access further money to support additional road safety measures – the Parish Council will agree the current ‘priority list’ of measures at the September meeting, with a view to working through implementing these as funds allow.

### **Brief updates;**

- The Annual Parish Meeting on 17 May was well-attended. The Police took questions and challenges from Parishioners, and responded positively wherever they could. As always, Parish Councillors fielded questions regarding their areas of expertise. The next Parish Meeting will be in May 2023.
- The Queen’s Jubilee events went well, with new trees planted and gardens prepared, a lunch and concert, a barn dance, a parish photo, lighting of the church, and commemorative coins for Parish children. Thanks everyone for making this a success.
- Over the spring we’ve had people from Community Payback doing work tidying the playing field on occasional days. This has included painting equipment, clearing the surface of the basketball court, and gardening activities. The work was completed to a good standard.
- Asset Mapping Project – we have undertaken work to map the assets across the Parish. Assets in this sense includes tangible things owned by the Parish such as the playing field equipment, but also services that we all rely upon and are of perceived value to Parishioners. There is an expectation that West Northants Council will wish to devolve activities to Parishes in the future, and whilst it is difficult to imagine what else could be devolved to Holcot, we contributed data to the project!

**And finally...more information is provided on the website regularly** – sign-up for email notifications of new posts at [www.holcotvillage.co.uk](http://www.holcotvillage.co.uk). Any problems signing up, or to get a message out to Parishioners, email [editor@holcotvillage.co.uk](mailto:editor@holcotvillage.co.uk)

*Stay well.*

*David Walker*

*7 August 2022*

Have you noticed the various beautiful garden projects springing up around the village? So far mainly at the crossroads and in the churchyard, **and now also including the Old School Site**. These are now being regularly maintained by a group of volunteer residents; so far mainly women, but it needn't be exclusive!

**No commitment! No gardening knowledge needed!!!** If **\*\*\* YOU \*\*\*** can spare a couple of hours now and again to join this group, to come, have fun, (and meet new people?), Please phone or text your contact details to 07908 848 380 Or, if you prefer, how about joining 'Friends of Holcot Village'?

Mostly men (but it's also not exclusive!) who provide a volunteer maintenance service - mainly on village trees, bushes, signs and the 'Washbrook'. It's usually on alternate Friday mornings, but no commitment to attend regularly.

Please phone or text your contact details to 07785 347 29

## St Mary and All Saints Church.

### COFFEE AND CAKE

We are still holding our popular Wednesday coffee and cake sessions on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month in the Church Room.

Morning prayer is at 10:30am with coffee, cake and chat from around 11am. All are welcome to join us at either or both.

### HOME GROUP

We are starting a Study Group on a Wednesday from September. See Church calendar on the website for times and dates. It will be in the Church Room and is open to all. Come along for a chat, coffee and a study of some of the people in the Bible. Hope to see you there.

### HOLCOT CHURCH THUNDERBALL WINNERS

All winners are posted on the Church website at [www.holcot-church.org.uk/thunder](http://www.holcot-church.org.uk/thunder)

We are hoping to start a new list. If you would like to join us, it's £52 for a year and £26 for a half year, please contact Lesley Hunter at [lesleymhunter17@gmail.com](mailto:lesleymhunter17@gmail.com) or via the church website.

### LOOKING AHEAD - Dates for your diary

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Ride and Stride. Contact Jill Charman for details.

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Tapas and Wine Tasting

More details of these events will be on the Village and Church websites as well as on posters and fliers round the village.

[www.holcot-church.org.uk](http://www.holcot-church.org.uk)

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I wonder whether you have seen any of the images from the new Webb telescope? You can find loads at <https://webbtelescope.org>, like the Southern Ring Nebula (left) or of the "Cosmic Cliffs" in the Carina Nebula (right).



What do you think when you see images like these? What do you think when you consider our universe? Abraham Lincoln once wrote, "I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say there is no God."

One light-year is approximately six trillion miles. Our galaxy - the Milky Way - is 100,000 light years across (that's 600,000,000,000,000 miles). And there are about 350,000,000,000 in the observable universe. Why would God create more than 350,000,000,000 galaxies (and this is a conservative estimate)? Maybe it is to make us say, "Wow, God is unfathomably big?" Romans 1, in the bible, says, "Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made."

Charlotte Brontë, in Jane Eyre, wrote, "We know that God is everywhere; but certainly we feel his presence most when His works are on the grandest scale spread before us: and it is in the unclouded night-sky, where His worlds wheel their silent course, that we read clearest His infinitude, His omniscience, His omnipresence." Or perhaps God wanted us to see these pictures so that our response would be,

"Who do I think I am?" Psalm 8 says,

When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,  
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?

Pondering the sheer size and beauty of our universe should humble us; we are infinitesimally small in comparison. Yet the bible tells us that the God who made it all cares for us. "If God has the power to create and sustain the universe, how can you or I think His power is insufficient for our daily lives? Nothing is beyond His ability." (Annie Graham Lotz). Do you know the Creator God? Because he knows all about you, and would love you to come to know him. If you'd like to hear more, I'd love to speak to you! Or you can come along to Holcot church, any Sunday, at 9am.



David Reith (Rector of Brixworth and Holcot) 01604 880 139 [revdavidreith@gmail.com](mailto:revdavidreith@gmail.com)

### **Regular Dates for your Diary...**

All events normally in Holcot Village Hall, Back Lane, unless otherwise specified

\*For asterisked groups, please enter via Youth Wing (right-hand white door)

If you'd like to hire the Village Hall, or establish a regular user-group there, please contact the Booking Secretary via the website: <https://www.holcotvillage.co.uk/book-village-hall/>

#### **Monday**

6.15pm Dance 'N' Tone karen.conway83@yahoo.com

7.30pm Pedigree Paws dog training - Edwina (d.coe1@ntlworld.com)

#### **Tuesday**

9.00am 'Pilates with Louise': 07766 807184, or email pilateswithlouise@gmail.com

10.00-11.30am Mums & tots, (currently suspended – enquire with Miranda Parry 01604 781918)

7.45-8.45pm Lucy & Frankie Zumba Fitness (weekly) £5/class, First class free! - francesca020788@hotmail.com

\*7.00-8.30pm Holcot Hub ... for young people 50p, just turn up

8:15pm Anglia Marine Model Club (Boat Club) – every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month during March to November  
- enquiries Laura Fletcher (laurafletcher50@hotmail.com) or Geoff Fletcher (geoff.s.fletcher@ntlworld.com)

#### **Wednesday**

2.00-4.00pm Bowls (Weekly) – (currently suspended – but enquiries most welcome to Pat McGlasson 01604 781215)

6.00-7.30pm 'Strictly'-style Dance classes (Weekly) £7/class - Julie 07736 032606 or [dancepod@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dancepod@hotmail.co.uk)

#### **Thursday**

9.30-noon Art Club (Weekly) - Elizabeth Culley 01604 648566 / Pamela Mann 01604 495249

4.00-5.00pm Yoga Classes (Most term-time weeks) – 07557 020 183 for info, or 07785 347 297 for dates/bookings

Holcot & Walgrave Beavers (6-8yrs) and Cub (8-10yrs) Scouts currently meet at Walgrave; Contact Kim on 07815070878 or email [info@armarketing.co.uk](mailto:info@armarketing.co.uk)

'IW' (previously the Holcot branch of WI): *monthly outings - or evening meetings in Church Rooms, Main Street*  
- Kim Mabbutt 01604 781936 or Janet Wadley 01604 78194

#### **Saturday**

9:30-10:30am Lucy & Frankie Zumba Fitness (weekly) £5/class, First class free! - francesca020788@hotmail.com

#### **Interested in Drama or on-stage singing/dancing?**

- Amateur Dramatics - Peter Bonsor 01604 781577

- Pantomimes, variety shows, workshops for young people, etc - Heather Wilson 07785 347 297



Holcot Art Group currently has 4 vacancies.

The group has a tutor, John Black, who welcomes any level of experience.

If anyone would be interested in joining on a Thursday morning (currently 9.30am-midday), please ring Pamela Mann for more details. 01604 495249