

Holcot Parish Newsletter

Edition 4 – 2022

Welcome to the final edition of the newsletter for 2022. The countdown to Christmas is now well and truly with us. The next edition of the newsletter will be in February so please submit contributions by 4th February to holcotvillagenewsletter@hotmail.com Thank you and Merry Christmas! Jenny

HOLCOT COMMEMORATES 2022



Did you see this year's **REMEMBRANCE DISPLAY** on the Old School Site near the Church in Main Street?

As well as David Ashworth's Union Flag and bunting display, Heather Wilson added to her existing WW1 'Tommy' picture and poppy 'waterfall' (now in their 5th year) two new works of art - respectively commemorating WW2, and recognising the current sacrifices for the defence of Ukraine.



On Remembrance Sunday, following the well-attended annual War Memorial gathering at 10:50am - during which we held two minutes silence and a wreath was laid - many went on to the service in the Church.



During the service, '**IN FLANDERS FIELD**', a short musical play written by James Bonsor, was performed by six men and nine ladies from Holcot. This brought to life the emotions experienced by the men at the front - and their womenfolk back home waiting their return.

Songs included:
'Keep the home fires burning', and
'Roses of Picardy'.



The seventeen-minute play brought home in an entertaining, but very poignant way the impact war had on the lives of ordinary folk: a time when men were sent away to fight, many of whom had never left Northamptonshire before.

The tears of emotion from some in the audience reflected the moving and touching atmosphere the play evoked.

2023 Annual Holcot coach day-trip to London, with optional play at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

**We usually book each year's trip early in January
First come, first served!**

So, if you want to ensure that you don't miss out on this great day out, please let Phil or Heather know **NOW**, so we can tell you when the date (and play) have been chosen. Call 07785 347 297 or email phil.scordellis@gmail.com Return 'fare' for the coach is a share of the total cost: usually around £18-22 per adult (deposit £25 with booking; refund of any change on the day). Under 19s £12 - if accompanied by paying adult.

(Tickets for the Globe Theatre option usually range from around £7 up to £40+)

Village Flower & Vegetable Show

Many thanks to all those residents and friends - and children - who contributed to the magnificent displays at this year's

Village Flower & Vegetable Show on 4th September, with their flowers, fruit, vegetables, arts & crafts, and "kitchen creations".



In view of the very challenging growing season this year, the horticultural judges were extremely impressed and said: "that this was the best show they'd seen in this very difficult year". The "kitchen creations" judge commented on the sheer number of entries, adding "it is so encouraging that your show is so well supported".



Under the superb skills of **Bob Buckler**, the auction was its usual riot of banter, hilarity and laughter.

The whole event raised almost £225.

The 2023 Show will be on **Sunday 3rd September**: to make sure you don't miss out on **this traditional village fun event**, put the date in your diary now!



... And, if you're planning to enter pickled items, don't forget the judge's tip that they should be made several months in advance of the show ...



Have you been thinking about trying out a new **dance fitness class**?

Then why not try out **Dance N Tone**?

The **GOOD NEWS** is there is a **HALF PRICE** offer on your first ever class!

All the way through November and December 22, I am offering all newcomers their first class **HALF PRICE** for **JUST £3!**

So, if you have been thinking about trying something new, the time is **NOW!** And heading into party season too – whether you want to shimmy your way into your Christmas and New Year Party outfits, or just want to have some additional moves to hit the dance floor with – come and see what **Dance N Tone** is all about!

Email me for details on how to book (online bookings only currently) and take advantage of your first class **HALF PRICE!**

"Accidental solos" welcomed, and encouraged, come and put the fun back into fitness!

Monday evenings, **6:15pm Holcot Village Hall NN6 9SL**, 1 hour class with a variety of options and impact levels to all levels of fitness.

Find me on Facebook "Dance 'N' Tone with Karen" or email me on the below for more details and come "**drop a stress size**" with us! Karen.conway83@yahoo.com

'STRICTLY COME DANCING' IN YOUR OWN VILLAGE !

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?

It's not too late for complete beginners to join in! All ages welcome

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)

Update from Holcot Parish Council

A lot has happened since I last wrote. Of note, of course, was the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the accession of King Charles III. The Parish Council executed our plans for 'Operation London Bridge', and I hope Parishioners felt that the activities and events held in Holcot reflected the national events and were appropriate. There are photos on the website, and a video of the proclamation reading.

Road safety in Holcot - This continues to be a priority. We'll continue to update as plans and events evolve. We have made several improvements to help improve road safety in recent years, but there is more we could do. The Parish Council agreed the current 'Priority List' of further measures recently. To support us in working through the list, we are hopeful of further funding arising from Section 106 (of the Town And Country Planning Act 1990) related to the Overstone Leys development - this is a developer's contribution to funding local impacts of their application.

We are still awaiting news from WNC Highways about the priority chicane on Sywell Road. On our Priority List a similar chicane is proposed for Brixworth Road, as well as other improvements for the Parish. We can't arrange for any of our further proposals to be assessed until we have a funding stream confirmed.

You may recall that in 2016/2017 we were vigorously pursuing a policy to reduce speed limits to 20mph in the village and 30/40mph across much of the Parish, but despite a robust case this was refused by the authorities. We hope that next year (six years later...) we will be able to make a proposal to the Speed Limit Review Panel that will be acceptable, bringing posted limits for most of the village to 20mph, as well as reducing limits elsewhere. Simply posting reduced limits does not necessarily change driver behaviour of course, this proposal is intrinsically linked to making the further road safety engineering improvements I mentioned above.

Brief updates;

- The Parish Council has made grants annually to parish organisations that support the community. We have improved the process in this respect recently. If you believe that the Parish Council might support your organisation, please get in touch with Ruby (clerk@holcotvillage.co.uk) or find the policy and application process on the website.
- Kathryn Bourner has recently resigned from the Council. Our thanks to Kathryn for everything she has done as a Councillor over the last 7 years, six of which she was vice-chair of the Council. A co-option process for a replacement Councillor is underway.
- We've recently welcomed Tony Hewitt of Brixworth Road to the Parish Council. Cllr Hewitt's sector is Brixworth Road and Glebe Close, and Cllr Pete Matthews sector is now Main Street, Walgarth Court and Farm Close. Their contact details are on the website.
- Heather Wilson is leading the Friends of Holcot Gardening Group that meets on occasional weekday mornings to keep Holcot's garden areas in great condition. Thanks Heather and team. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Ruby and she will put you in touch.
- Aligned to this, we've just received 30 trees as part of the "Queen's Green Canopy" Jubilee project. These will be nurtured in pots by Parishioners until they are ready to be planted in a year or two. Additionally, the Parish Council asked Heather to organise planting of further spring bulbs on the approaches to the village, and this has recently been done by volunteers.

And finally... The best way to keep track of the work of the Parish Council is to observe the meetings, or read the minutes and updates on the website - sign-up for email notifications of new posts at www.holcotvillage.co.uk. Any problems signing up, or to get a message out to Parishioners, email editor@holcotvillage.co.uk.

Best wishes

David Walker

15 November 2022

Have you noticed the various beautiful garden projects springing up around the village? 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 347 297

St Mary and All Saints Church

COFFEE AND CAKE

Our coffee mornings are continuing to be popular.. These take place every first and third Tuesdays and are preceded by a short service of Morning Prayer. You are very welcome to either or both and will be greeted by good coffee, lovely cake and interesting chat!

HOME GROUP

Our Home study Group is continuing to run on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month in the Church Room. It starts at 10:30am with coffee and cake or biscuits and lasts about an hour. This time we have been looking at characters in the Bible and after Christmas we will be looking at the Parables.

It is very informal and everyone is welcome to join us.

CHRISTMAS PLANS

We are planning to hold our usual Christmas Eve service on Saturday, 24th December. This will be at 5pm and will be followed by a short service of Holy Communion for all those who wish to stay. There will no service in Holcot on Christmas morning, but there is a 10am Communion at Brixworth and a Family Service at 10:30am. Start your Christmas by coming and joining us for carol singing at Holly Tree Farm on Tuesday 20th December at 7pm. There will be refreshments, good company and some good singing. All proceeds will go to the church.

CHURCH FUND RAISING

Last Saturday we held our very first Church quiz in the Village Hall and it was a great success! We had a sell out crowd and we want to thank all those who took part. So far, with some money still coming in, we have raised over £500 for the church funds.

We aim to hold another quiz next year. Watch the Church and Village websites for details.

POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS

Let us deliver your village Christmas cards at 15p per card: all proceeds go to Church funds. Bring your cards to a COFFEE MORNING on Saturday December 10th at the CHURCH ROOM between 10.00 and 12pm. Cards should have the name and first line of the address of recipient. Delivery will be during the week beginning Dec 12th. Your cards can be collected if you can't attend the Coffee morning: contact 07753296496 if you need any more help or information.

HOLCOT CHURCH THUNDERBALL WINNERS

All winners are posted on the Church website at www.holcot-church.org.uk/thunder If you would like to join us, it's £52 for a year and £26 for a half year, please contact Lesley Hunter via the Church website.

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 880139
revdavidreith@gmail.com

Regular Dates for your Diary

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
*6:30-8pm Holcot Hub- for Holcot children age 10 & up. Term time only. 50p entry. Just turn up.
8:15pm Anglia Marine Model Club (Boat Club) – every 4th 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)
6.00-7.00pm 'Strictly'-style Dance classes (Weekly) £7/class - Julie 07736 032606 or 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
'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? Pantomimes, variety shows, workshops for young people, etc - Heather Wilson 07785 347 297

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