



The Syresham Times



SUNSET AND STORMY SKIES

Village of the year 2008-10, 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017

50p (where sold)

November 2020

BRILLIANT BROADBAND ON YOUR DOORSTEP

We have built our network ready to bring
you ultrafast full fibre broadband



Our ultrafast full fibre broadband lets you stream in Ultra HD, game online, use multiple devices at the same time without interruption and keeps you connected with crystal clear video calls. Never has a fast, reliable connection been more important.

Choose your perfect broadband package at
gigaclear.com/streamnow

Call **0370 224 8918**



Gigaclear®



From the Editor's Desk

2020 is fast disappearing and the prospect of further restrictions on our lives and activities threaten. I cannot recall ever feeling such an impact on our well-being and mental health being such a high priority in the life of the nation. Each family and community has much to do to protect themselves, and look after the needs of the more vulnerable.

As a local community we are doing well, but with a background of what feels like the lack of a real co-ordinated approach.

The impact on the economy and the health of many thousands is extremely serious. Do many of them have only themselves to blame for ignoring the restrictions? Meantime people are losing relatives and jobs, and many families are struggling.

It feels like we are sleep walking, our feet barely lifting from the ground, and minimal progress is being made.

This crisis is unlike anything we've experienced before. One of the scariest things is the uncertainty. Even as we move out of lockdown, we're still not sure exactly what happens next. Human beings hate uncertainty and want guaranteed answers. Whichever way we turn, as in a maze, the way out remains concealed.

Ian Draper, Editor November 2020

What's in this issue?

- 4 Parish Council News
- 5 Fillingford Bridge
- 6 Mums & Tots; Parish Councillor Vacancy;
- 7 St James Church; Village Walk Street-lighting Loan
- 8 St James Church; Cemetery extension ; Village Walk
- 9 Syresham Chapel; Knitters Challenge; Remembrance Service; Chapel
- 10 Sylvie Essame Dance School; Virus update Take Your Seat Cabaret; Elf Door Trail
- 11 Friends of Syresham School
- 12 Friends of Syresham School (*cont.*)
- 13 Community Hospital Sudoku answers
- 14 Thank you Mr Pothole! HS2 update
- 15 HS2 update
- 16 Village Hall activity; Cycle routes campaign
- 17 Keith Friday's Sudoku Puzzles

ADVERTISING

Russell Woolley

thesyreshamtimes@mail.com

07772-028422

Please send articles and pictures to

Ian Draper at 9 Bell Lane

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

ianjdraper@btinternet.com

Tel: 01280-850388/07966-196033

Photographs in this edition are provided by –

*Steph Brackpool; Malcolm Orr-Ewing;
Diane Whittaker; Christina Munsey; Sharon*

***COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:-
27TH JANUARY 2021***

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



The Parish Council would like to express their gratitude to the local businesses and services that have continued to operate during the last nine months and enabled us to overcome what has been a difficult time in all our lives.

Unfortunately we are not out of the woods yet, but we thank you for all you have done for the community so far.

The Parish Council too has continued to function as near normally as possible and we are very pleased with what we have been able to achieve during the course of this year. The Swingfield project has been completed and we are now working towards the realisation of our second major project which is the replacement of all the village's street lighting with new, more efficient LED lamps. In order to achieve this, we are in the process of applying for a Public Works Loan to partly finance the necessary work. You will find further information about this in a separate article in this magazine. The existing orange lamps are now outdated and can no longer be replaced or repaired, so we have no option other than to go for new lamps, which will also save in power use and reduce costs as well as environmental impact.

Our third major project this year is the renovation of the village's Pocket Park, located next to the Kingshill layby. The Parish Council has a programme of work that will take us into the New

Year. Members of the Parish Council have already cleared all the foliage and exposed a very attractive feature on the approach to the Pocket Park, namely Frillingford Bridge. You will also find an interesting article in this magazine by the Chairman of the Parish Council on the history of this bridge.

Work is now in progress to pollard and make safe the willow trees that line the banks of the stream - in order for this work to be carried out, the Pocket Park has had to be temporarily closed, but we anticipate that it will not be too long until we are able to open it up again. Members of the Council will then be planting some native species of bulbs, which we hope you will all be able to enjoy in the Spring. We also have new benches and tables that will be installed when the conditions are right.

A new Pocket Park Committee has been formed under the auspices of the Parish Council, and we will soon be asking members of the community to join us as Friends of the Pocket Park in order to carry our further renovations and to maintain the park in the future. If you are interested in becoming part of this project, please contact the Parish Clerk.

The village of Syresham also belongs to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme the aim of which is to reduce crime by directly involving the community in activities that promote safety or assist with the detection of crime. The Parish Council is in the process of putting up new signs, as the old ones have

become rather dated and in some cases dilapidated. Our Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator is Ruth at the Post Office, If you have any issues relating to Neighbourhood Watch, please contact Ruth.

Just a reminder that if you have any issues relating to roads, pavements, hedges and trees, fly tipping and speeding you can report them to Northants County Council directly on Street Doctor www.northamptonshire.gov.uk or Fix My Street on www.fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk

Finally, the Parish Council has a vacancy. If you are interested in joining our 'team' and helping us to carry out some very rewarding work within our

community, please contact the Parish Clerk parishclerk@syresham.com for further information.

CLLR CHRISTINA MUNSEY

FILLINGFORD BRIDGE

As you walk towards the pocket park I hope everyone appreciates how wonderful the bridge now looks. Originally Fillingford was on the old drovers' road, it was a ford and later a toll house was built on the road between Fillingford and Syresham. With the advent of motor vehicles it became a very busy road for cars, lorries and buses and remained so until the present A43 was opened.

DOT

FILLINGFORD BRIDGE, KINGSHILL

Thank you to Sharon Patterson for the photograph of the swollen river at Fillingford Bridge, after a week of incessant rain. And to Chris Munsey for the picture of how the bridge looks after the Pocket Park project clearance work.



MUMS AND TOTS



Since March we have been unable to hold Mums and Tots. It is a great shame as not only have the children missed building up friendships and learning how to interact with each other, but the parents, grandparents, child-minders have also, not had the opportunity to socialise, share advice and have a laugh.

Unfortunately, we don't know at the moment when interactive baby and toddler groups are able to go ahead, but hopefully in the new year we will be able to get together again.

The abrupt end to our group meant that we were unable to do our usual thank you and goodbyes in the summer. So therefore, I'm going to take the opportunity now.

We say goodbye to Lena, Rosie, Josh, Elsie, Finn and Emily who started Reception in September. We wish you well in your journey through school. We must also say thank you and goodbye to a few mums and child minders who have, over the years given their time and enthusiasm to set up and help run our fantastic little group. Some of those ladies have been a part of Mums and Tots for a long time. They have seen two, three or more of their children through the group. A big shout out to Lisa, Claire, Lyndsey, Katy and Steph.

Claire Turnham has been our group treasurer for eight years. She has not only looked after our pennies for us, but she has also organised many fantastic activities such as: yoga

Thank You

Thank you for all the cards and gifts for our Golden Wedding Anniversary on 15th August.

Such a shame that Covid19 spoiled our plans for a celebration.

JOAN & ROBERT WHITEHEAD

PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

A vacancy exists on the Parish Council, due to a recent resignation, which is to be filled by co-option. The term of office will run until May 2021.

If you would like to serve as a Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk (details below), who will provide you with further information about the role of a Councillor and an application form.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 10.00 A.M., 24TH NOVEMBER 2020.

To qualify, a person must be a UK or Commonwealth citizen, citizen of the Irish Republic or member state of the EU. In addition you must also have lived, worked or been registered in the parish of Syresham or lived within 3 miles of the boundary for the whole of the previous 12 months.

You are not allowed to stand as a candidate if:

- you already work for the parish council;
- are subject to bankruptcy restrictions;
- have within the last five years been sentenced to a prison term of three months.

Parish Clerk:- Mrs Samantha Hosking

2 The Terrace, Biddlesden, Brackley, NN13 5TR
01280 851178 parishclerk@syresham.com

sessions, trips to Pimlico Light Railway, visits from Santa and our fantastic pottery sessions using the Spotted Chicken Company from Wappenham. So, a big thank you Claire, from all the mums and children. You will be greatly missed.

Hopefully at some point we will be able to have a small reunion party for past and present members for a catch up, coffee and some cake!

As always, we must say a big thank you to Sue Palmer. The group wouldn't be the same without Sue's guiding, caring influence and her ability to cradle and soothe every new baby.

If you and your child would like to join our group, please contact me. I can add you to our WhatsApp group and let you know when Mums and Tots will be active again.

In the meantime, keep safe and I look forward to us all getting together soon.

TINA NESBITT (07809-244797)

ST JAMES CHURCH

NEWS FROM THE RECTORY

So, my first contribution to the Syresham Times – and hopefully the first of many.

Tess, my Briard dog and I have been resident in the Rectory since 24th August, and although renovation work is still going on around me, hopefully all the work will be completed by the winter!

Before moving here to be Rector of the Astwell Benefice, I was Rector of the South Cleley Benefice, based around Potterspury, in the south of Northamptonshire. I served there for



STREETLIGHTING IN SYRESHAM IMPORTANT INFORMATION

At the Syresham Parish Council meeting of 14th October 2020, following unsuccessful bids for grant money, it was RESOLVED to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government to apply for a Public Works Loan Board loan of £13,000 over the borrowing term of 3 years for part funding of the upgrade of streetlighting in the parish. The annual loan repayments will come to around £4,483.

It is not intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments.

If you have any views or opinions you wish to feed in, please contact the parish council direct.

SAMANTHA HOSKING

Tel 01280 851178; parishclerk@syresham.com

eight years, so I have a fair amount of experience working and living in a rural area with several parishes to care for. Before then, I trained and worked as a Curate in the St Albans Diocese, but my roots are in the Midlands, as I was born in Coventry and lived in Braunston until I was 10, then my family moved to Hertfordshire for my Dad's work at British Aerospace.

I am really pleased to be here and very much looking forward to meeting you all at some point. I am always happy to accept invites to a 'socially distanced' cup of coffee. I will of course also be available at church services when I can, given the demands of Benefice life. We

are now celebrating Holy Communion at each church once a month – the Sunday for St James, Syresham is first Sunday of the month, so I will be taking the service at Syresham next on Sunday 1st November.



We will, government rules permitting, continue to worship in church, but there is also an alternative online service each Sunday for those of you who feel unable to get out for any reason. It is at 8.30 a.m. on each Sunday using zoom. If you would like to join me, the joining information is on the Astwell Benefice website and is also printed in our weekly Pews News.

We are still in such uncertain times, and the pandemic does not seem to want to go away any time soon – so there are many upheavals in our lives as we get used to new ways of living and mourn the loss of many social events that cannot currently be held.

As many of you will be aware, my life was also turned upside down when my husband Jon died suddenly in June, changing all my plans and hopes for the future together in our new venture. However, whatever the world throws at us, in the end all we can do is pick ourselves up, dust ourselves down and try to map out a life for ourselves.

Easier said than done, I know, but I have managed to draw some strength from a daily prayer time, and I recommend it to you, even if you just light a candle and sit quietly for a short while. Below is a prayer

for God's help you may think of using:
O Lord our God, source of all goodness and love, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

God Bless, **REV'D DIANE WHITTAKER**

CEMETERY EXTENSION

St James Church is very grateful to Les Hawkins and family who have donated 1/10th of an acre of their pasture land, known as Priory Fields adjoining the Wappenham Road, to the church for a cemetery extension. As soon as the legal work is completed, the Bishop will consecrate the new land. **MALCOLM ORR-EWING, CHURCH WARDEN**



SYRESHAM FOOTPATHS - A SUGGESTED WALK - NOVEMBER 2020

Despite Covid restrictions we have walked as many footpaths as possible in and around Syresham Parish.

Our original map had an error on it and it so was taken down from the Post Office window. Most paths are walkable now that the growing and nesting season is over, although the AZ3, is under discussion with NCC because of the wet area near the sewage farm.

Short walk (2.13 miles, Starting from the Village school and back.)

Up Abbey Road, turning right, then left twice at Paterson's Farm towards Langley Farm; cross Great Ouseway path (0.67 miles); diagonally across fields towards Langley Farm, then left, down through Santhill Plantation. Meet the Great Ouseway path (1.35 miles); underpass beneath A43, take the steps up onto Main Road (near the Pocket Park layby) 1.75 miles. Then return via Main Road, King's Head Pub on Abbey Road and finally to the school on High Street - 2.13 miles. A good country walk. **GEOFF AND**

STEPH BRACKPOOL - FOOTPATH CO-ORDINATORS

KNITTERS CHALLENGE!

Towards the end of August we were offered two large black bags of assorted knitting yarn. Some natural, man made, thick, thin, part and full balls and asked if we could knit warm, winter jumpers for children aged 2-10 years, who were in orphanages in Zimbabwe. With Ruth's logistic skills a system was set up and the local ladies began to knit and donate their own wool too.

Their skills and dedication to the task of making something attractive and fit for purpose have been wonderful and the completed jumpers and cardigans



are just beginning to come back ready to be shipped to Zimbabwe. We have over 30!

Well done all you knitters, once again you have come up trumps giving so generously of your skills and time. **SALLY AND STEPH**

SYRESHAM CHURCH AND CHAPEL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Owing to the on-going Covid-19 restrictions we shall be unable to meet at the memorial stone on Sunday 8th November but with help from the school will be holding a short service in the School Playground at 10.50a.m to keep us all safe, attendees will be asked to track and trace, socially distance and leave promptly without mingling.

Dot

SYRESHAM CHAPEL

The Chapel is open every day for anyone who wishes to go in for private prayer. All the necessary sanitising is carried on and we hope everyone will be able to spend whatever time they wish in a peaceful setting



We had our Harvest Thanksgiving service, decorated the Chapel at different times of the day. We asked everyone not to bring gifts but to donate money and were able to send £500.00 to The Hope Centre in Northampton.

Hearing of the spread of Covid in India we were made aware of the needs of our twinned Church and sent a donation to help feed some families.

At present we are busy completing our shoe boxes which have to be in much earlier this year. These have proved quite a challenge to all. It was wonderful Rosemary and Winnie both had cards gifts from last years recipients thanking them for their gifts

SYLVIE ESSAME SCHOOL OF DANCE

We have been running dance and Pilates classes throughout September and



October and while it is different and more challenging in the present

situation, with COVID19, it is certainly possible, with extra planning and the backing of the village hall, to run classes safely.

We have even been able to start the Seated Pilates class for the more elderly members of the local community, which as been very well received.



SYLVIE ESSAME



**SYRESHAM
CABARET
EVENING**
26/27th FEBRUARY 2021

It is a well known fact there is a lot of talent in Syresham!
Now it's time to showcase that talent!

Take Your SEAT and the Village Hall Committee are teaming up to produce a Cabaret Show for you to perform anything you like!

We will provide a large stage, sound system and lighting ... you just need to turn up for two shows and perform to a packed cabaret audience!

Of course, put it in your diary to watch as well ... it will be a great evening to get rid of the Coronavirus Blues!

Calling all societies, clubs in Syresham to get together and perform.

If you are interested in performing, contact Keith Watts ...
Email: keithwatts55@btinternet.com or ring 07831 537717 to book your slot and discuss any stage requirements.

The dates above may change depending on Covid rules in February next year.

From page 9

especially the skipping ropes so they could share and play with their friends.

We send our best wishes to Winnie who is still in hospital and to Irene who is now back at home. Finally we send you our best wishes for a very Happy, Peaceful and Safe Christmas. I just want to finish with a line of a hymn we sing regularly: *We expect a Bright Tomorrow all will be well if we trust in God.* **DOT**

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE FROM NCC

There's lots of information on the NCC webpage about help available to individuals, businesses etc. If residents need any assistance or information, please contact the Parish Clerk or check the following link:-

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-updates/Pages/default.aspx>

Volunteers may still be needed to help with shopping, prescriptions etc. Let the Clerk know if you can help out?



**Syresham
CHRISTMAS
LIGHTS**
and an
Elf Door Trail

Syresham 11th-13th December 2020
4.30pm - 9.00pm

Trail maps available from
PTA-Events.co.uk/TheFriendssofSyreshamSchool
& Syresham Post Office from the beginning of December

All funds raised to go to The Friends of Syresham School
With Thanks To Our Lovely Sponsors

 **ALEXANDER & CO** 
IN PARTNERSHIP



FRIENDS OF SYRESHAM SCHOOL

Although it's been of a bit of a peculiar start to the school year, with many of our traditional events unable to take place, we have actually been rather busy and a lot has happened since July! We've reassessed a lot of what we do and remain committed to finding new ways to raise funds and explore new ways to make lasting happy memories for the children at the school.

In September we were able to welcome new parents to the school with "*First Day Survival Packs*", rather than our usual welcome coffee afternoon. We also held our first ever virtual balloon race to kick start our fundraising on the first week back, with the children (and their parents) eagerly following virtual balloons across the skies of Russia to see whose balloon would travel the furthest!

Years 1 and 2 won the hotly contested inter-class competition and were rewarded with a new dressing up box, full of fabulous new costumes from Cleopatra to Armstrong and a brand new box of toy cars! With over 200 balloons entered into the race we raised an impressive £523 for School, which was then put to work straight away at our Autumn DIY and Tidy Up on the 17th October paying for new outdoor chalk boards, planters and various maintenance supplies. Thank you to everyone who was able to make

it—it was a fabulous team effort and there were a lot of aching limbs the next day, but as always we managed to get an amazing amount done in a very short period of time and the children (and teachers) alike were thrilled with the results!

We held our AGM in October via zoom, which whilst very different to our usual cheese and wine evening, was still a lovely opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved over the past 12 months and plan how the FOSS can support school in the coming year.

I am delighted to report that it has been yet another amazingly successful year for The Friends of Syresham School raising a substantial £5,614 which considering the abrupt end to all fundraising in March, is a fabulous result. Incredibly it was a record breaking year for spending with a phenomenal £12,870 going to school!! This included significant contributions to the outdoor areas, French lessons, the PHSE mental health programme, a new phonics programme and a whole plethora of special requests from individual classes; from Boom Boxes to Bug Hotels, a Storytelling Chair to a new woodwork bench and everything in between!

These achievements are in no small part down to all the wonderful ladies on the committee. I know it isn't always easy to give up your time and to juggle all the other stuff going on in your lives, but I think we can be thoroughly proud of what we have achieved in what has been a

particularly difficult year. As a small village school we very much rely on everyone pulling together for a shared purpose and a common goal, for the benefit of the children and I am very conscious that without everyone's ongoing support, FOSS just wouldn't be able to achieve all the things we do.

So a big thank you to everybody!

On top of our regular fundraising commitments to the school and the continuation of our "Class Wish List" scheme, Mrs Clough provided us with requests for future spending including more "in-school experience days" together with a portable kitchen unit and to develop a new outdoor area for Years 3 and 4. So we have a lovely long shopping list of items to fund, and all that remains for us to do is deliver the money! (So if you fancy giving us a hand that would be marvellous!)

We said a sad but immensely grateful farewell to our former Chair, Sarah Eames. She has however assured us that she is still keen to remain on the committee... which is great news. I was then voted in as the new Chair which is both a daunting and exciting prospect as I follow in the footsteps of some pretty impressive ladies from the village!

PUT IT IN THE DIARY!

Sadly we will be unable to hold our lovely Christmas Fayre to raise money for school this year, so we will be focusing our fundraising efforts in a number of different ways.

We will continue to run our tremendously popular "Wish Upon a Star Raffle" in early December. However all tickets will be sold on line

this year. Further details of how to purchase tickets will be announced shortly, but it promises to be yet another bumper year of amazing prizes, very favourable odds and not to be missed!

We are also delighted to announce that The Friends of Syresham School will be organising a ***Christmas Lights and Elf Door Trail*** around the village ***from Friday 11th - Sunday 13th December.***

We are thrilled that Alexander & Co have agreed to sponsor this event and we now have a creative crack team of Santa's helpers busily creating a wonderful Elven Village which will magically appear at 4.30pm each evening. Trail maps will be available to download from our new www.pta-events.co.uk/thefriendsofsyreshamschool/ or from the Post Office from the beginning of December.

We see this much more of a fun festive community event for families to enjoy as they take a stroll around the village rather than a big fundraising event. However donations will always be very much appreciated and you will be able to do this via our PTA-Events page or various collection buckets around the village. Those of you living in the village that would like to get involved - all we would ask is for you to perhaps make an extra special effort with your Christmas Lights this year ready for ***11th December*** to make it even more magical for the children to explore the village! Thank you all again for your continued support.

CAROLINE FERGUSON

CHAIR, THE FRIENDS OF SYRESHAM SCHOOL

BRACKLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL TRUST 2020



I am delighted to be able to announce that our first target has been reached. The trustees have been



amazed at the very enterprising ways in which people have, in spite of or maybe because of the Covid19 pandemic, managed to engage with others and continue to raise funds despite so many activities being currently not possible.

We have almost reached the magic figure of £165,000 which will ensure provision of a digital, state-of-the-art X-ray machine with fixed table, and discussions earlier this week with the Northamptonshire Healthcare Foundation Trust clarified that this equipment is now not going to cost quite as much. This means – more good news – that we already have adequate funds. This will ensure the provision of a Smart TV set in each room which will not only combat loneliness for the patients but will also enable consultations with specialists and family, all compatible with the NHS Pathway which will ensure total confidentiality. Importantly, the televisions will be free at the point of use to the patients!

There is more that is needed to enhance the facilities for local

residents within the building. The first item on the list is the ultrasound scanner of which we have been aware since the beginning. Next, we understand that cardiologists have expressed an interest in holding clinics at Brackley requiring equipment, so to benefit local residents who would then not need to travel to other hospitals and who would thus also reduce their carbon footprint, that is added to our list. For the same reason and for different beneficiaries, equipment to enable ophthalmologists to come here rather than us all go to them is also being investigated.

Your continued support is therefore requested and required. If you can think of innovative ways to raise funds,

SUDOKU ANSWERS - SEE PAGE 17

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

186 Hard

185 Medium

we are happy to help you in whatever way we can.

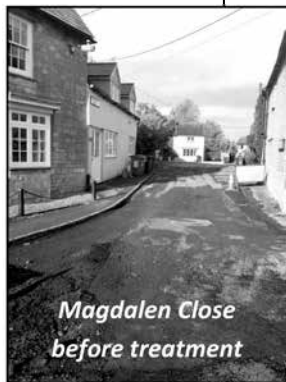
Personal donations are of course welcomed: there are many ways to help and our Treasurer, Paul Bennett, is always happy to drop by and pick up a cheque if you would like!

The bricks and mortar are almost complete; the fitting out will start in the next month or so. Not everything will be on site and operational from Day One, but in due course, together, we will ensure that the new Brackley Community Hospital is the best it possibly can be so that all of us, residents of Brackley and of all our surrounding villages, are able to benefit from the wonderful new facility.

**CARYL BILLINGHAM MBE,
CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 2020**

THANK YOU MR POTHOLE!

Mark Morrell, known locally as Mr Pothole, has been very active on behalf of the village. He has persistently lobbied the County Council Highways Department over the appalling state of our roads. Abbey Road and High Street as well as Malt Lane and Magdalen Close, were all in extreme need of repair. Nobody can fail to notice the huge improvements to the



surfaces and the drain covers.

Cllrs Munsey and Draper met with Mark to express the grateful thanks of the Parish Council on behalf of the village.



We congratulate Mark on his campaign and thank him for making the routes in and out of the village much better!



What now of the other roads, and especially the pavements and kerbstones in the village?

SYRESHAM PARISH COUNCIL AND VILLAGERS

PROGRESS REPORT—HS2

Work on the HS2 project has been given the go ahead and local residents will have seen works starting. At present, current activity includes geological, ecological and archaeological studies and fencing off the construction areas. The improved junction for Greatworth and Sulgrave on the B4525 has recently been completed in preparation for a works compound on the Sulgrave Road.

HS2 are aware of the condition of the B4525, and for this reason a temporary road will be built on the line of the route for construction traffic to use, to keep as many trucks as possible off the B4525. However, this will take a year to complete. During construction of the

Greatworth tunnel the B4525 will be re-routed temporarily, and reinstated later, which should mean minimal disruption while travelling to and from M40/Banbury. A compound is being constructed on the A422 Buckingham Road between Westbury and Brackley, continuing until summer 2021.

There have been some early works on the A43 southbound between Whitfield and Brackley involving overnight lane closures. It is likely to be two years before construction work on the A43 begins. There will be an in-line reconstruction of the dual carriageway over the HS2 line. As the line is built, it will be necessary to shut one side of the carriageway and then the other. However, Highways England will ensure that there will be 4 lanes of traffic open (with speed restrictions). Radstone Road junction at A43 will be improved for lorry access point for the road built along the line of HS2 for construction traffic.

Lorries should not come through Syresham, along Main Road, they will be instructed to join the A43 at the B4525 junction. However, the Parish Council will monitor the situation.

All footpaths between Syresham and Brackley will be dissected by the line. Some will need to be realigned to cross the tracks. There will be footpath closures, and it is not possible at the moment to say how long the closures will last for. Eventually all footpath connections will be reinstated via bridges/viaducts.

There have been several requests from residents for better local cycle-path

connections. Constructors have been asked if a cycle route to Brackley could be incorporated into planned A43 reconstruction. However, the remit of the works is to replace what is there like for like, so there is nothing in the budget for adding a cycle route to Syresham. NCC Highways have also informed the Parish Council there is not enough HS2 road safety funding available for a cycle-path from Crowfield to High Cross.

The project is very complex and there is not an exact date for completion of works, however the estimate is that there will be 4-5 years of civil engineering work and a further 3-4 years building the rail track/signalling etc. Commissioning is not expected until 2030-32.

It has not been possible for HS2/EKFB to hold public meetings, due to the pandemic. The intention is when possible, community information events will be held at HS2 new offices on Buckingham Road, Brackley. In the meantime, they will be publishing newsletters and holding online exhibitions and consultations.

For up to date information on the works as they progress and for the latest HS2 newsletters, please visit <https://hs2innorthants.commonplace.is/>

If you have any concerns or questions about how works will affect you in Syresham, Pimlico and Crowfield, please contact the Parish Clerk who will be able to seek answers at future regular meetings with the construction team.

PARISH CLERK

**On-going Village Hall Activities during
Covid 19 restrictions
(pending any further Covid19 restrictions)**

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
10:00 – 11.00 Pilates	11:00 – 12:00 Adult Ballet	12:00 – 13:00 Pilates	
18:00 – 19.45 Youth Dance	12:00 – 13:00 Pilates		
	16:30 – 19:00 Youth Dance	Sylvie Essame 850293	



ON YOUR BIKE..?!



..or not, as it seems to be between Towcester, Brackley and Banbury. As far as we can see, it is tricky to get from town to town on your bike around here without taking your life in your own hands.

Even though cyclists can use major A or B roads, mingling with fast-moving traffic and heavy trucks is not the safest way to get between these towns and villages, so, sadly, it's the car or bus (if there is one) for us. How much better would it be for everyone if there were dedicated, safe active travel routes that joined up across South Northamptonshire? Routes that take cyclists, pedestrians and mobility users away from the busy main roads, allowing us to travel locally, safely, and leave the car at home.

To this end we are looking to raise awareness and increase support in a Government initiative to get this type of active travel route in our local area, and

everyone can 'get on the saddle' to help!

Nowadays we are far more conscious of our impact on the environment, and a big part of this scheme would be to get everyone using their **cars less** and their **legs more!**

OUR AIM:

To build a safe active travel route from Towcester to Brackley alongside the A43, and to Banbury alongside the B4525.

Formally known as the 'South Northants Active Travel Route A43 & B4525'

We are seeking your support in this initiative.

To support our ambition, simply email me,

DAVID CRANWELL

snatra43@gmail.com

Please join our Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2390653717909802>



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

185 MEDIUM

SUDOKU BY KEITH FRIDAY

186 HARD

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



SOLUTIONS SEE PAGE 13

Ian Duffield
Electrical Services

- **All electrical installation works**
- **Domestic and Commercial**
- **Part P registered**
- **Free no obligation quotations**
- **Located in Syresham**



Call Ian on: 07836 714443

www.duffieldcontracting.co.uk



BOOK NOW BY CALLING
0740 118 1811

24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK
or email: aplowe@hotmail.co.uk

WE SPECIALISE IN:
AIRPORT TRANSFERS / THEATRE CHAUFFEURING
SOCIAL NIGHTS OUT / CORPORATE BOOKINGS
LONDON TRIPS / PRIVATE HIRE

ONE WAY AIRPORT RATES:

BIRMINGHAM - from £70

HEATHROW - from £75

LUTON - from £70

GATWICK - from £115

STANSTED - from £115

EAST MIDLANDS - from £75



Visit our website for more details of our services

www.aplexecutivecars.co.uk

All major Credit & Debit card payments accepted, including AMEX

Hydramex Limited

Agricultural & Accessory Supplies

For all your hardware and accessory supplies, from Agricultural spares to Wellington boots.

Equipment repairs, paints, spare parts.

*Field Farm,
Charlton Road,
Evenley,
Brackley
NN13 5GH*

01280 705202

www.hydrax.com

Just off the Evenley roundabout on the A43



Yoga with Eva Face-to-face & live, online sessions



- Wednesday morning sessions at Westbury village hall and five Zoom sessions a week
- Relax & reduce stress. Improve posture, strength & flexibility, ease achy backs
- Experienced, supportive teacher – beginners welcome.

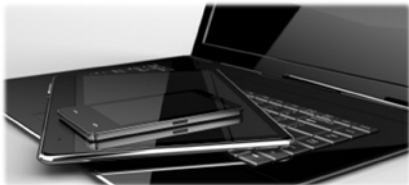


Eva 07970 659952
eva@evayoga.co.uk
www.evayoga.co.uk



ABC Computing


- ✓ Computer repairs and upgrades
- ✓ Data recovery and data transfer
- ✓ PC, laptop & peripheral sales
- ✓ Virus and spyware removal
- ✓ Broadband, WIFI & LAN solutions
- ✓ Telephone & remote support



AB Computing is a family business providing computer services for small businesses and home users in Brackley & the surrounding areas. With 20 years' experience you get a first class service at an affordable price.

Call Andy Blencowe

01280 840032 or 07815 180969

 sales@abcomputing.net

Salon 201

HAIR & BEAUTY

Your friendly salon in Brackley

**Hair & Beauty
under one roof**

**COME AND TRY US!
And Meet Our New Staff**

55, Burgess Square, Brackley NN13 7FA
Opp Costa Coffee

Call 01280 702201

or book online at www.salon201.co.uk

J.E.M.S. STATIONERS LTD

**For all your home and office
stationery supplies including
computer consumables**

Also stockists of:
Windsor & Newton
Artists Materials
Medici, Caspari &
Carte Blanche
Quality greetings cards
Fax and Photocopying
Transfers to DVDs

13 MARKET PLACE BRACKLEY

Tel/Fax: 01280 706265

www.jemsstationers.co.uk



Serving the community since 1974

Opening times

Mon - Thurs 7.00 - 11.00pm

Fri 7.00pm - Midnight

Sunday 12.00 - 2.00pm \ 7.00 - 11.00pm

Sky Sports \ BT Sport

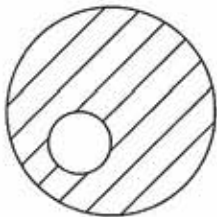
Function room available for hire.

Contact Adam Jeskins

07711 971709

Cadmonkies

**architectural
design
partnership**



Studio One, 19 Westminster Croft,
Brackley, Northants NN13 7ED
Tel: 01280 704444
www.cadmonkies.co.uk
cadmonkies@btconnect.com

Town Garage (Brackley) Limited

M.O.T. Testing Station on all Cars and
Light Commercials
Car Body Repairs
Servicing, Repairs and Welding
Diagnostics
Tyres and Exhausts

Phone or call in for our Special Offers at
71 High Street, Brackley
Phone (01280) 702227
Email: deemann2013@gmail.com
www.towngarage-brackley.co.uk

The Kings Head Syresham

2, Abbey Road Syresham, NN13 5HW

Tel - 01280 630010

Follow us on Facebook @kingsheadsyresham

Delivery and
takeaway service
available
Sunday roasts - fish
'n' chips - pizza
Phone for details &
to place orders

Opening Times

Bar

Monday & Tuesday	4pm to 10pm
Wednesday to Sunday	12pm to 10pm

Restaurant

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	5pm to 8.30pm
Wednesday to Saturday	12pm to 3pm & 5pm to 8.30pm
Sunday	12pm to 5pm

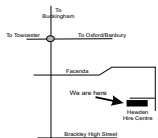


- ★ Extensions ★ Renovations
- ★ Conversions ★ Brickwork
- ★ Stonework ★ Slabbing
- ★ Plastering ★ Plumbing
- ★ Bathroom & Kitchen
Installations
- ★ Carpentry

EvanSons Building Solutions Ltd
14 The Pound, Syresham NN13 5HG
Tel/Fax: 01280 851165

TYRE THE warehouse BRACKLEY

Car, Van & 4x4 Specialists



- ✔ Immediate Competitive Prices
- ✔ Comprehensive Stocks
- ✔ Exceptional Fast Friendly Service
- ✔ Comfortable, Clean Reception Area & Free Coffee

Open Mon-Fri 8.30am-6pm
Sat 8.30am - 4pm

01280 706030

www.tyre-warehouse.co.uk

Follow us on Instagram @tyrewarehousebrackley

Email: sales@tyre-warehouse.co.uk

1 Borough Court,
Buckingham Road Industrial Estate,
Brackley NN13 7BE

LOCAL CHIMNEY SWEEP

Over 30 years
Experience

- Using the latest technology
- Traditional Open Fires
- Inglebrook Fireplaces
- Wood Burners & Stoves
- Gas / Oil Boilers
- Bird Nests Removed
- Bird Guard & Cows Fitted
- Rotary Power Sweeping



Member of



Approved Wood Burning
Stove Installer

Call Phil at PTH SWEEPCLEAN
01280 702772 or 07765 408390

www.pthsweepclean.co.uk

Syresham Cycles

Est 2004

New and reconditioned cycles

Spares
Repairs
Services
Cycle Hire
Accessories
Restorations
Wheel Building

01280 850266

Collection and delivery service



Places available now for children

aged 2 – 3 years

Sessions 8:50 to 11:50am

and 12:30 to 3:30pm

Monday to Friday

Please ring 01280 850269 for more

information and an appointment

to view

CARPET & FLOORING WAREHOUSE

Est 1984

**SAVE UP TO 70% ON HIGH STREET PRICES FROM
LARGE STOCKS OF CARPET ROLLS & ROLL ENDS**

*Large ranges of Carpets, Vinyl's, Luxury Vinyl Tiles, Wood & Laminate flooring
at the most competitive prices always available*

Many other rugs in stock

Over 50 years of the Carpet trade at your disposal, Family owned, we are delighted to help and advise you

No Obligation Free Measuring & Estimating Service

**Cundale's
Flooring
Warehouse**

*Warranted fitting service on
all types of flooring*

*Unit 2A Borough Road,
Buckingham Rd Ind Estate,*

**Brackley
NN13 7BE**



TEL 01280 705111 www.cundalecarpets.co.uk

Opening Hours Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm Sat 9.30 - 5.00pm

Mastercard, Visa & Debit Cards welcome



**SYRESHAM GENERAL
STORES & POST OFFICE**

Phone: 01280 850210

*As well as selling groceries, daily fresh bread, newspapers
& magazines, we also carry out:*

*Photocopying, Laminating (up to A3), Dry cleaning, Shoe &
Clothes Recycling, Mobile Phone Top-ups and Euros on demand.
AVON products can be ordered from Ruth. Greetings cards and
wrapping paper are stocked. Also Coal, Logs and Kindling.*

Opening hours:

7.30am to 6pm Monday -Friday 8am to 1pm Saturday

PROPRIETOR: RUTH MARY GROVELL



Tel: **01280 703451**
info@croftvetcentre.co.uk

Banbury Rd, Brackley Northants, NN13 6BH



www.facebook.com/CroftVetCentre

Taking complete care of your pet

At Croft Veterinary Centre, your pet is in the very best hands. Our team is made up of experienced veterinary surgeons, fully trained nurses and friendly receptionists who are dedicated to both your pet's needs and your wishes.



An established small animal dedicated practice in purpose-built premises with large car park

- Hospitalisation facilities, latest diagnostic and laboratory equipment all on site
- 'Dog-Free' waiting area for cats, rabbits and small pets
- Non-slip flooring to make it easier for elderly dogs with mobility problems

Visit our new website with a Pet Information Library and our new Click & Collect online shop at:

www.croftvetcentre.co.uk



Opening hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6pm, Saturday 8.30am to 12pm
Consultations by appointment

macintyers

TOWN & VILLAGE HOMES

Bradbery Grove Syresham

This fine development of family homes built by Francis Jackson Homes is now nearly all sold. For information on the last remaining 4 bedroom detached homes call Macintyers on 01280 701001 or e-mail post@macintyers.co.uk



Sales and Lettings
Macintyers, Hartley House, 29 Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB
www.macintyers.co.uk