



The Syresham Times

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR 2008-10, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017



50p (where sold)

AUGUST 2021

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

Despite the continued pandemic across the country and locally, it was so very encouraging to see the village coming alive again for the Scarecrow Festival weekend. The numbers of visitors were perhaps not back to normal, but it was very encouraging to see so many happy people around the streets. I am always impressed with the ways in which this community rises to such an occasion and comes together to celebrate what life can offer.

On top of that two very successful shows by *Take Your Seat* in the Village Hall, even with slightly reduced audience numbers, raised over £500 for Katharine House Hospice once more—Syresham certainly knows how to get down to business! Hearty and well deserved congratulations to Keith Watts and the amazing *Take Your Seat* team on a successful show, after such a long enforced break.

And the return of the ever popular Coffee Mornings has marked a long awaited and important return to almost normal life here in Syresham.

Those who have worked towards getting village organisations back up and running are to be congratulated. Human resilience remains strong, and as the summer continues, we see a determination to succeed. **EDITOR**

What's in this issue?

4	School Governor vacancy
5	Canals Walk
6/7	Mums and Tots Brackley Hospital
7/8	Parish Council
9	Robin West St James Church
10/11	St James Church Gerald Green
11/13	Goodbye Miss Palmer New Residents
14/15	2021 Scarecrow Festival
16	New Residents Ruth Grovel Sudoku
17	Village Hall Scarecrow Report
18	SNATRA Best Dressed Dog Walker!
19	Friendship Club Syresham Chapel
21	Sudoku Puzzles

ADVERTISING

Russell Woolley

syreshamtimes@outlook.com

07772-028422

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES AND PICTURES TO

Ian Draper at 9 Bell Lane, SYRESHAM

ianjdraper@btinternet.com

Tel: 01280-850388 OR 07966-196033

Photographs are provided by Tina Bedding, Willie Bennie, Catherine Corns, Sally Earl-Davies,

Kerry- Ann Eglinton, Paula Green,

Terry Irwin, Alice Palmer

COVER PHOTOGRAPH:-

Young Cygnets on the canal - Willie Bennie

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE

NEXT ISSUE:-

THURSDAY OCTOBER 30TH 2021

SYRESHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

Do you want to make a difference in your community and develop your own professional skills, by volunteering as a school governor? You can do both!

If you are passionate about supporting the development and education of the next generation - please get in touch.

The School is an integral part of the village and local community and continuing to drive the performance of the school and more importantly the life chances of young people, requires a diverse governing board.

Governors play a critical role in leading the school including, setting the strategic vision and direction, approving the budget and holding the senior leadership team to account. Not only that but we provide a strong link between the school and the local community, and an independent view to support the school on long term development and improvement.

There are many benefits of being a school governor, not least of all how rewarding it can be investing time, energy and skills to make a real difference to the education and futures of children and young people and to serve your community. It's also a great way to develop new professional skills and to grow new networks.

As a school governor, you'll be a role model for children thinking about their future in the workplace. It is a strategic role which involves:-



- scrutinising high-level school performance data and asking challenging questions to understand what's behind the data.

- Offering well-judged support and challenge to the school leadership team.

- Ensuring compliance, reviewing organisational policies and managing financial risk.

- Making collective decisions with people from a wide variety of professional backgrounds.

- Engaging with stakeholders including parents and the community to support the school.

The governing board meets at least once a term and governors are also expected to get to know the school through regular visits. There is a range of training opportunities available to help governors undertake their duties and develop their understanding of the key areas of school management.

Anyone over the age of 18 can be a governor and you don't need to be a parent.

If you would like to find out more about being a governor don't hesitate to give me a call on **07710-046205** or drop me a line at janetc@syreshamprimaryschool.co.uk

You'll be surprised at the difference you could make. We look forward to hearing from you.

JANET COX, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

TRAVELLING THE TOWPATH

Long before Covid (B.C.) we decided we would walk the canal from Banbury to Oxford (using the towpath, no pretensions about being the messiah).

Not all at once, kept going till we found somewhere we could drive to for the next stage then back to the car and home. I can recommend the walk. I guess the longest leg would be about 2 miles, 4 by the time you got back to the car. Peaceful, flat and lots to see on the water and in the varying countryside through which the canal passes. Once we had reached Oxford we decided to do the northern section from Banbury to Braunston. This became our 'go to' exercise D.C. (during covid) and A.P. (after plague). Again, peaceful, varied terrain, no great lengths before reaching a suitable parking spot for the next stage and a few more pubs. It is a good way to get fresh air, exercise and take in a bit of our transport history. As well as the canal, you are never far from a railway or a major road. It passes close to the scene of the great train robbery.

The number of narrow boats that are used as homes surprised us. Both their number and the variety. Some are like aquatic palaces; others, floating sheds. The occupants of the latter tend to be



cheerier and up for a chat, the palace dwellers tend to focus on their gin rather than nose walkers. There are many different ways of coping with hills (well, two). The canal either follows the contours of the land, in which case you may find yourself walking two miles to cover 100 yards as the crow flies or it climbs the hill by the use of locks, in which case it's a lot quicker for you than it is for narrow boat travellers, as they have to open and close lock gates and that is quite physically demanding. From what we could see, lock-gate opening tended to be a job for the crew, usually female, while the captain (male) steered the boat (i.e. kept it in a straight line).

Once we reached Braunston we came off the Oxford canal and headed south along the Grand Union canal. It was here where we faced a frightening challenge. Our path was blocked by a swan guarding its young. We stood frozen in silence for what seemed like an eternity. Eventually an old bloke coming the other way waved his stick at the swan and it dived into the canal and swam off.

This is our 'local' canal and passes through Blisworth and Stoke Bruerne before it reaches Milton Keynes. It is much wider than the Oxford Canal and most of the other industrial revolution canals. Many of the boats on it are wider and a bit more luxurious. There is a 19th century viaduct over the river Ouse that may trouble those who don't have a head for heights. You can

take a bit of a detour here with a short walk into Stony Stratford, its shops, bars, restaurants and numerous other bright light attractions not usually available to the residents of Syresham. If you have never seen the pretty bits of MK, do the canal walk through the city. Once you get past Wolverton, it really is very attractive and the paths are well maintained.

Our interim target is Berkhamsted and we have about one mile left to do to complete the walk. By the time you read this I reckon we will have finished.

Long term? Maybe go along the Grand Union to the Thames, then along the Thames to Oxford to complete the circle. But then again, maybe not.....

CHRIS AND WILLIE BENNIE

MUMS AND TOTS

The children at Mums and Tots have been involved in a variety of sensory play activities this term.



They've put their hands in green slimy jelly, soft aromatic shaving foam, coloured sticky spaghetti and crunchy cereals whilst playing with frogs and farm animals. They have also hunted in the sand pit for dinosaur bones! The boys and girls have explored their sense of smell by sniffing a variety of herb plants, smelling different pots to see if they could recognise what was in them and have used smelly paints to create pictures. They've made and eaten fruity biscuits, had fun playing instruments and have created rainbow

mobiles.

Our group has a calm and friendly atmosphere which is created with the help of our volunteers Hazel, Cathy and Sue, who play with the children, hold the babies, and chat with the adults.



Mums and Tots continues to play a valuable part in

many local families, with many grandparents bringing their grandchildren as well as Mums with their little ones. We have welcomed many new faces this term and have enjoyed getting to know them.

Our first session back is on **Wednesday 8th September at 10.00 am in the Village Hall.**

If you are interested in joining us, then please contact Tina Bedding 07809-244797 for details.

THE BRACKLEY HEALTHCARE FACILITY – UPDATE JULY 2021



Now that the building is opened and most of it is operational, it seemed a good idea to give an update.

You will have seen that the building is named "Brackley Medical Centre and Community Hospital". The Brackley

Medical Centre GP practice is there, on the ground floor, and the Brackley Community Hospital, with its 16 inpatient beds, is on the second floor. But, in between, there is so much more.

The building now hosts many outpatient clinics: this means that patients are able to access services on their doorstep rather than having to travel to Oxford, Banbury or Northampton. The first outpatient clinic to launch at the new centre was Ear Nose & Throat, operated by Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This was closely followed by Cardiology, Audiology and Speech & Language clinics.

In addition, the new centre is also hosting regular diabetic eye screening, abdominal aortic aneurysm screening, podiatry, osteopathy and physiotherapy sessions. Further services include plastic surgery, hair loss clinics, MIND therapy sessions and child counselling sessions.

Any enquiries regarding appointments with any of these teams within the building should be addressed to the contact details that appear on the appointments letter.

Enquiries regarding the inpatients in Brackley Community Hospital should be made via their direct telephone number on 01280-313166.

Additionally, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust teams – including school nurses, health visitors and community nurses – have their offices in the new centre, together with Washington House

Occupation Health Ltd.

There is no A+E Department in the building, and it is not intended to introduce one.

The latest update on the x-ray machine is that it will be installed and working in the autumn. The provision of gym equipment has been agreed for use in the physiotherapy department and funds are almost there for an ultrasound machine. However, these items all need to be installed when the NHS considers the time is right, so the Brackley Community Hospital 2020 Trust is ensuring that the funds are ready to be drawn on at a moment's notice.

Brackley Community Hospital 2020 Trust remains committed to using the publicly raised funds within its guardianship to enhance and hopefully to accelerate the provision of NHS services within the building for the benefit of all.

CARYL BILLINGHAM MBE

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



I am sure that residents will now have noticed our new efficient energy saving street lights. The work was carried out with

very little fuss, and the Parish Council are very happy with the results. We very much hope that residents are just as happy.

You may also have noticed that work has been carried out on the Pocket Park. A new path was laid, and a new

information board has been installed, paths have been cut and vegetation cleared. Work is ongoing and the Parish Council will be organising a working party on Saturday 14th August to continue the maintenance work. Some residents have kindly volunteered to help. If you would also like to join us, please contact the Clerk – parishclerk@syresham.com or 851178.

Parish Councillors have cleaned and sanitised the play equipment in the Swingfield ready for the children to use and enjoy during the summer holidays.

The Parish Council will install a dog litter bin at the entrance to Whistley Wood. The land actually belongs to the Forestry Commission, but as it is not their policy to install dog litter bins, the Parish Council requested permission to install a bin in order to alleviate the problem there. This is for one year on a trial basis in order to see if it works.

Dog fouling continues to be a problem in the village. There are many dog owners and walkers in the village and we realise that the majority take responsibility for their pets and pick up after them. However, there are still a few who do not. Under the ***Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014***, any person who permits a dog that is in their charge to foul any area to which the public has access ***is committing an offence***. The local authority is responsible for monitoring dog fouling and for taking offenders to court. Therefore, if you see this offence being committed and you know the person responsible, it is essential that you report it and name that

person in order for any action to be taken. Unless this is done, the Parish Council can do little but request that people clear up after their dogs. So new notices will soon be put up around the village reminding dog owners and walkers of their responsibilities.

The Parish Council has recently appointed a Councillor as Flood Warden, and the councillor who has taken on this role has attended an intensive Flood Warden Training Course. A new Flood Plan will soon be incorporated into the local Emergency Plan and the Flood Warden will be a member of the Emergency Planning Committee. All councillors' roles and responsibilities can be found on the Syresham village website www.syreshamvillage.com

Next year will be another year of celebrations. In 2022 the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service to the nation. The Parish Council has begun to think about how the village can mark this auspicious event and more details will be revealed as the plans progress. One idea is to plant one or two commemorative trees. Suggestions have been made for locations, but if you have any suggestions, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Finally, if you have any issues you would like the Parish Council to consider, please contact the Clerk. For road or street problems, you can report them to Fix My Street website www.fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk

CLLR CHRIS MUNSEY

ROBIN WEST 1950-2021



For over 20yrs Robin lived in Abbey road, the family home of Sidney and Nora West. He was one of three sons, Rodney,

Robin and Roy. He always lived locally, and worked for the Forestry Commission for many years before starting his own gardening business.

In his younger years Robin enjoyed playing football and cricket for Syresham. He later found a passion for fishing which he kept for all of his life.

Robin had 2 children, Joshua and Emilie, with whom he shared happy times on family holidays. They all loved outdoor activities together and shared his love of fishing.

Robin wrote many poems. Below is one that was read out at his funeral.

THE WATER'S EDGE

To be at one with water, is deeply within my heart,

The boy that fished for minnows,

Close to God's creations, never wants to part.

And now I'm growing older and my beard is going grey,

You'll still find me by the water's edge,

And here I want to stay.

The fascination still holds me, of not knowing quite what's there,

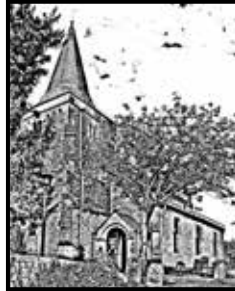
When a fish rises in the shallows, it still holds my longing stare.

And the night is coming soon,

So I'll spend one more happy hour,
In the reflection of the moon.

Robin will never be forgotten by all his family.

Shane West:- **ON BEHALF OF
RODNEY WEST**



NEWS FROM THE RECTORY

So, here we are in July, and the pandemic is still with us, despite the best efforts of lockdowns and vaccinations.

On 19th July we had more 'freedom', but this comes also with more responsibility as freedom always does. Despite the vaccination rate, the infection levels are still high, and there is a real risk that moving into a more open society will not help. I'm struck by the way that the Government have resorted to faith – faith in the vaccination programme, faith that the summer holidays will result in lower infection rates, and also faith in society.

Christians along with others of 'faith' have much experience in living in faith! Our faith is based on the acknowledgement that there is a loving creator God behind all our created world. That faith leads us to try our best to live God's love in our own lives, which I think is truly relevant to the place we find ourselves in now. It is so tempting to breathe a big sigh of relief and say –

ok the rules are relaxed; we can go back to normal life. However by doing so we run the risk of failing to honour and love those around us who are more cautious – often for very good reason as their health may be frail – or they are shielding loved ones who are vulnerable.

So, in church we will be moving cautiously forwards – still using masks if required to protect others, maintaining social distancing, looking carefully at when and how we should introduce singing, and delaying the reinstatement of the Communion Wine. We opened the church in Syresham from *Monday 19th July* for private prayer.

We are planning to mark the losses we have all experienced over the last year and a half with a special outdoor service in the churchyard of Syresham Church for *Remembrance on Saturday September 11th* in the afternoon. Churches in the other Parishes of the Benefice will also be remembering at the end of October at a joint event at Helmdon Church.

We will also be creating plenty of opportunities for celebration over the next few months, with my Induction Service – which is a Benefice event, so all are welcome - at *Syresham on 5th September*, together with plans for Harvest Festivals and social events.

My prayer for you all is that you will have a lovely and refreshing summer, and that we will all be able to approach the autumn in good health and spirits.

GOD BLESS, REVD DIANE

***GERALD GEOFFREY GREEN, JUNE
1927 TO MAY 2021***

Gerald was born at home, on The Hill in Syresham, first child to Geoff and Annie and was one of three siblings, Winnie and Aubrey being the younger members of the family. So sadly, all three have passed away in the last 16 months.



Gerald attended the village school for all of his education and went twice on a Sunday to attend the Chapel Sunday School.

Gerald spent a number of years doing his National Service in the Army before returning home to start work at the Bake House in Bell Lane.

Gerald always had a love of driving and after leaving the Bake House he drove trucks for Midland Farmers, followed by Sun Valley and lastly for Faccenda Chicken Limited where he was apparently the first driver employed by Robin Faccenda.

Outside of work Gerald had many interests, he represented Syresham at both Football and Cricket, initially using his Uncle Phil's old boots. It was during his cricketing days that he was given his lifelong name of "Basher". In later years he was a member of Brackley Bowls Club where at one time there were 5 Green family members at the club.

Gardening was another of Gerald's passions, and he would spend many hours keeping a tidy garden, from which he would produce his legendary piccalilli and pickled onions!

After losing his Mum it seemed inevitable that Gerald would remain in Syresham living on his own, but how wrong we were! David went to stay with Barbara in Adlington for a weeks holiday in 1984, his Dad dropped him off and Gerald was to do the pickup. He managed to get there but during the night did a complete 360 cart wheel down the stairs resulting in a trip to the hospital and being told he couldn't drive for a number of weeks. Aubrey had to collect David whilst Gerald stayed on being looked after by Barbara. This must have been where it all started! For soon after they received a phone call telling them that Barbara and he were to be married. David's Mum, Shirley was for once lost for words, totally stunned at the wonderful news. So on the 1st June 1985 they were married and this was the start of a very happy and loving marriage. Gerald and Barbara moved to a bungalow in Ellesmere Crescent, Brackley where they remained.

After his retirement from Faccendas he was soon spending his time helping out at both Brackley Methodist Church and the Chapel here in Syresham. Here in Syresham he became half of the Steptoe and Son Sales with George raising enough money for the kitchen extension on

the chapel.

Gerald's Christian belief played a big part in his life and in his living. He was the youngest Chapel trustee at the age of 18, he was Secretary and Treasurer for decades and participated and supported many events throughout the years. His values were shaped by his Christian belief and when Boxing Day for example fell on a Sunday there were no card games allowed to be played.

How should we therefore remember Gerald; loving husband, loyal friend, fun loving Uncle who always made time for everyone and usually a joke, even turning cream cakes on Christmas Day into a variety of animal shapes! He was patient and never seemed to let things get him down, he could always see a brighter tomorrow which was led by his strong faith.

Despite his age of nearly 94, his passing came as a shock to us all and will leave a huge gap in our lives.

DAVID AND PAULA GREEN

GOODBYE MISS PALMER— MATHS!

Headteacher, Mrs Clough writes: "Good Afternoon and welcome to a very special gathering here at Syresham School. A time to celebrate and to say thank you for all that Miss Palmer has contributed to Syresham school over the last 20 years. This afternoon is a musical medley of songs and memories, stories and music.

"Miss Palmer was already a familiar face when I joined the school in 2001, as she had recently returned to Syresham after her Dad, Eddie had

passed away. Eddie, from all the stories that I have heard was a wonderful character and led school hymn practice much to the delight of the pupils in the school. He was so popular, that the new school hall was named after him at the opening in 2004.

“Alice very quickly became part of the school family and moved back to the village to live with her Mum, Sue. While continuing to lead hymn practice, she also took on the role of teaching assistant in my Reception class and I have to say, we made a great team! Kind and caring with lots of patience for the youngest members of the school.

Reception children sang: He’s got the whole world in his hands!

“As we began to discover more of Miss Palmer’s hidden talents, so we found many different ways that she could support the children in school. She led phonics groups, maths interventions and started up the school choir. As the years went by, the expectations for the choir grew and, particularly at Christmas, the Choir would go ‘On Tour’ singing at the opening of the Christmas Fayre, The Red House, Cluster Carols, The Nativity, The Church Fayre and Carols by Candle light (my particular favourite). Where ever the children sang, there was always much praise for the manner in which they conducted themselves, their ability to



perform - remembering all of the words and most importantly their love and enthusiasm for what they were doing. All of this was down to the leadership, enthusiasm and hard work of Alice, always giving so much of her time to make sure that they were pitch perfect and ready to

perform.
Unfortunately, due to covid, over the last 15 months we have not been able to run the choir. *However, KS2 sang one of their favourite songs.*

“MISS PALMER MATHS!!!

“That’s what we call her! And frankly, what Miss Palmer doesn’t know about maths is not worth knowing, in my eyes! She began supporting the Year 6 children in SATs booster classes in the mornings before school as she helped to prepare them for their tests in the summer. It is from there that we quickly realised how others would benefit from her expertise. Miss Palmer began to support the class teachers by teaching one of their year groups, allowing teachers to focus on one learning objective at a time, rather than two! This move, revolutionised our teaching, improved pupil confidence, eased staff pressure and most importantly had an impact on the children’s Maths progress. Miss Palmer cared passionately about how the children performed and would be

as anxious as I was, as we opened the SATS results!

The children sang Maths songs.

“RE is a much-loved part of the week for most children in the school. **“It’s a Miss Palmer Day, YES!!!!”** is a sentence often associated with Alice and her teaching. The children frequently enthused about her classes and lessons, and really looked forward to being with her!

“Her passion and deep knowledge for the subject is inspiring and as us teachers take over from her, we all feel a real sense of duty to keep the subject alive, keep the children as excited and curious as they are in Miss Palmer’s hands.

“Worship and Prayer has been led with care and consideration with Miss Palmer at the helm. Always involving others from Chapel and other faith organisations, Miss Palmer found ways to interest her audience whether that be through drama, songs, prayer or in a moment of quiet. Miss Palmer helps the children to think about who they are, what they are worth and what makes them special. She encourages the children to be selfless in their thoughts and words and actions and to put faith in God, as a guide.

“The shell of St James has become an important feature for the children at school. With the shells, Miss Palmer created a special time of prayer for the children at school. The children use the shells as a symbol for someone or something that they would like to pray for. The children say their prayers as they put the shell in the prayer pot. We

thought you may like the opportunity to share in this today. On the tables were some shells, people were invited to choose one and as the children came around the tables with the prayer pot to place your shells in.

Please enjoy this special performance of Don’t Be Afraid. Libby, a loyal member of the school choir has missed the opportunity to perform during the covid restrictions. She was however able to share her musical talent as she played the violin.

“We asked all of the children about songs that reminded them of Miss Palmer and this song was unanimous—One of the first songs that children sing in Reception and one of the last in Year 6. - Big Red Combine Harvester! Nursery will lead this happy song.

“Alice, we hope you are enjoying this special afternoon. It is a very small token of thanks for all of the hard work and dedication that you have shown towards the children, staff and families of the school over the years. You have been a constant support and strength to us all and we are going to miss you very, very much. I am just so pleased that through the church, you are going to continue to work with us in our worship.

Alice, we have some gifts for you from the children, the staff and parents.”

MRS CLOUGH, HEADTEACHER

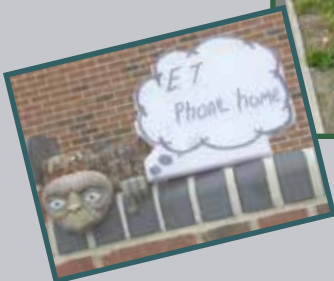
NEW RESIDENTS IN SYRESHAM

A belated hello to all from Jeremy and Sally Earl-Davies at Maple House, on the High Street. We moved here from Buckinghamshire in November 2020 where we had lived for the past 24

go to page 16

SCARECROW FESTIVAL – JULY 24TH AND 25TH 2021

AFTER THE YEAR WE HAVE HAD—ANYTHING GOES!





This year's Scarecrows were as good as any before, despite the change of dates and the impact of Covid on village life.

Many congratulations to all those who contributed to making the weekend a success and, as well as those who opened their gardens to welcome visitors.

Thanks also to Terry Irwin for the fabulous photographs!

Scarecrow Festival 2022

June 25th & 26th





**VILLAGE HALL
REPORT -
SCARECROW
FESTIVAL 2021**

After the year we have had, and the enforced cancellation of the Scarecrow Festival in 2020, we really did not know what to expect this year. We made the decision to go ahead with the festival, but to hold it a month later than normal in the hope that by July 24th and 25th we would have had a whole month free from Covid restrictions. It was not to be. As we all know so-called 'Freedom Day' was postponed until July 19th and then it was left to us to decide whether we continued to adhere to the restrictions or not. Nonetheless, I think a fun day out in the open air was just what people needed. Visitors came from far and wide and villagers came out to enjoy the day. The theme this year was – *After the Year we have had, Anything Goes*. There were, as ever, some wonderful scarecrows and we thank you for the effort you made. Many people in the village had stalls outside their houses and we hope that you were all successful in raising money for whatever cause you decided upon.

The Scarecrow Festival is normally organised as a fund-raising event for the village hall. This year we decided that the emphasis would not be on raising funds, but providing a community event to get people out of their houses, walking around the village and meeting and chatting with people they may not have seen for

many months. We had our reservations, especially when the weather forecast was for rain and thunderstorms during the entire weekend. But we need not have worried because the rain and thunder did not materialise. In fact the weather was just perfect for the event.

Of course, we did not want the village hall to lose money organising the festival, so we thank our kind and generous sponsors who made sure that we were not out of pocket. And our thanks also go to Tom Turnham for allowing us to use the field on Main Road for parking.

We had a good number of open gardens and we thank those people who kindly agreed to open their gardens to the public. One visitor to the village told me that she thoroughly enjoyed visiting the gardens and found something to interest her in each and every one of them.

We would also like to thank everyone who helped or supported us in any way, before and during the weekend. The contribution you made towards the success of the event is very, very much appreciated. I have to admit that we would greatly benefit from a few more helpers next year. Please think about it: just a couple of hours of your time during the weekend would make a huge difference. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who came to see the scarecrows, supported the stallholders and had a cup of tea and slice of home-made cake in the Village Hall. A big 'thank you' to all the bakers – the cakes were delicious! **CHRIS MUNSEY**

SOUTH NORTHANTS ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTE

SNATRA is now working with Greenways and Cycleroutes Ltd and has benefitted greatly from their advice and encouragement. Look at Waddesdon Greenway (Aylesbury) on Trip Advisor to see the quality of shared user paths they have been supporting. Shane Snow, DfT, has also assisted us greatly in liaising with HS2, particularly for the interface of HS2 and the Brackley A43 roundabout. Shane Snow, in conjunction with Greenways Cycleroutes Ltd, has proposed a provisional shared user route, separate from the A43, but running closely parallel with it, from Silverstone, passing through Syresham, to Brackley. Exactly what the local area needs.

The Rt Hon. Andrea Leadsom M.P. has also given SNATRA significant support especially by arranging an opportunity to speak directly to the Rt Hon. Andrew Stephenson, the Minister for HS2. She also requested a follow-up response from him. It is imperative that a multi-use pedestrian pathway is included in the A43 bridge over the HS2 railway north east of Brackley. Without its inclusion we will be reliant upon the motor car to access Brackley for generations to come. To show your support NOW, please write to any or all of the people below.

It is hoped that eventually there will be a network of safe, direct and pleasant routes across a much wider area that



can be used by all ages and mobility needs, free from motorised traffic.

So, for now, SNATRA remains focussed on Syresham-Brackley and Crowfield-High Cross.

To show your support you can write to: andrea.leadsom.mp@parliament.uk or andrew.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk or chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk (Secretary of State, DfT) or thank Shane for all his efforts, shane.snow@dft.gov.uk

When writing to MPs, please include your full name and address, and any other contact details you wish to share.

STEPH BRACKPOOL, FOR SNATRA

THE BEST DRESSED DOG WALKER IN THE VILLAGE!



This is a big thank you from Syresham Times Committee to George Summers for delivering our magazines throughout the Parish, for the past 25 years. George is often seen around the village with his wife Christine walking their dog, but George is always doing a good turn for someone without people realising how much he quietly does.

He has been wonderful with his Steptoe Sales over the years raising money for the Chapel. His garden has provided many dahlias for decorating the Chapel for Harvest Festival. He

was a keen competitor in the Horticultural Show. He and Christine have sold poppies round the village for Remembrance Sunday village gets bigger but I'm sure we shall see them both very busy again this year.

EDITOR

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

It was wonderful to get together again on July 14th for



Strawberry Tea at Vine Cottage. A lovely sunny afternoon spent in the garden and catching up with many friends. We all got to meet The Rev. Diane Whittaker.

Our next meeting will be held at The Priory by kind invitation of Claire and Malcolm Orr-Ewing on 17th August. Again a lovely garden to enjoy.

We shall meet in the Village Hall on 14th September and hope to have our programme again available. We extend a warm welcome to anyone who would like to join us. **DOT**

LOSING FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES

During the past 18 months, like the whole country, this village has been doing its



best to keep safe and protect and support those less fortunate than the rest. Inevitably there have been illnesses and we have lost friends and

neighbours, some of whom have been remembered in these pages. Not everyone has had the opportunity to remember a loved one with a tribute, but there is still time for those who perhaps now might feel they can offer some words? So do get in touch with something appropriate.

In this edition we remember Gerald Green, and Brian Ayres of Abbey Road who recently passed on. We extend our condolences to the family and anyone else who has lost a cherished relative. **EDITOR**

SYRESHAM WESLEYAN CHAPEL

As the chapel is 175 years old this year we wanted to let everyone at the scarecrow festival know just how long



we have been in the building and as a celebration to provide a very short resume of Jesus' life.

We invited the children to make a crown and then follow the star to the stable, look at a couple of Jesus' miracles, wave palm branches and shout on the road to Jerusalem, see the crucifixion and then meet the angel who gave the news of the resurrection; and finally leave through the tongues of fire in the upper room.

It was a team effort with help from many different people (aged 3 to over 80). We had a great time together and enjoyed welcoming so many people to our celebration.

SYRESHAM CHAPEL

**PRE-BOOK
YOUR TICKETS FOR**

ASTWELL BARN DANCE

7.00PM SATURDAY 21ST AUGUST

MANOR FARM, WAPPENHAM, NN128PH

BBQ & LICENSED BAR

LIVE MUSIC BY BANANABAND

TICKETS £20 INCLUDES FOOD



TO PRE-BOOK YOUR TICKETS AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT SHEENA WARREN
EMAIL: SHEENA.WARREN@HOTMAIL.CO.UK MOBILE: 07515 287909
IN AID OF ASTWELL BENEFICE

Tickets available from Malcolm Orr-Ewing 850218, also via Ruth at the shop

Medium



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

SYRESHAM TIMES SUDOKU

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

Hard



Solutions, Page 18

Ian Duffield
Electrical Services - Syresham

- All electrical installation works
- Domestic and commercial
- Inspection, test and fault finding
- Landlord certificates - EICR
- Part P registered



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



From September, hatha, flow and yin yoga classes. Reduce stress, feel stronger and more supple!

- Tuesdays: 9.30-10.45am, beginners' class 11am-12pm
Finmere village hall
- Tuesdays: 7-8.30pm
Westbury village hall
- Wednesdays: 9-10.30am
Westbury village hall

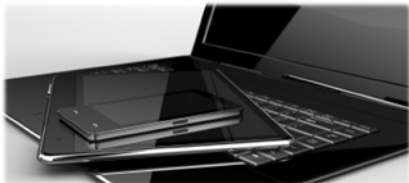


Eva 07970 659952
eva@evayoga.co.uk
www.evayoga.co.uk



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

The Syresham Times

VILLAGE OF THE YEAR 2008-10, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2017

THANK YOU!

A sincere thank you to all our advertisers for their continued support for this important village magazine through challenging times.

If you have a local business or service to advertise, rates start from just £45 per year.

For more information please contact Russ Woolley

syreshamtimes@outlook.com

Tel: 07772 028422

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



**Member's Social Club & Multi-Sport Facility.
Providing Sport & Recreation to the
Community Since 1974**

Opening times:

Mon - Thurs 7.00pm to 11.00pm

Fri 7.00pm to Midnight

Weekends 12.00 to Midnight

Sky Sports \ BT Sport

Function room available for hire.

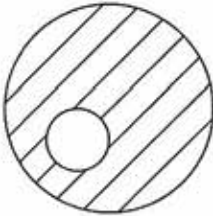
Contact Adam Jeskins

07711 971709

Bradbery Close, Syresham, NN13 5HA

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



FRESH BILLINGSGATE FISH

DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

We hand pick our fish from Billingsgate fish market in the early hours of Thursday morning each week for same day delivery to your door.

Selection box:

2 x 6-7oz salmon fillet steaks, 2 x large sea bass fillets, 16oz x king prawn crevettes, 2 x 7-8oz cod/haddock fillets & 2 x 6-7oz sea bream fillets - £30 (no delivery charge)

Also available:

Shetland UK king scallops - £30 per kilo, giant tiger prawns - £12 per kilo, large dressed crab £6 each, 20 large oysters - £20, large rope grown mussels - £7.50

Please pre order your box by 7pm Wednesday on

01280 630010

£10 fish & chips with a drink night every Thursday too!

OPENING TIMES

Bar		Restaurant	
Mon	CLOSED	Mon & Tues	CLOSED
Tues, Wed & Thurs	9pm to 11pm	Wed & Thurs	9pm to 9.00pm
Fri & Sat	12pm till late	Fri & Sat	12pm to 10pm & 6pm to 9.00pm
Sun	12pm to 7.00pm	Sun	12pm to 10pm

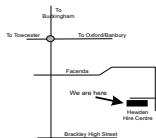


- ★ Extensions ★ Renovations
- ★ Conversions ★ Brickwork
- ★ Stonework ★ Slabbing
- ★ Plastering ★ Plumbing
- ★ Bathroom & Kitchen
Installations
- ★ Carpentry

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

Est 1988

- Chimney Sweeping Using the Latest Technology

- NACS Registered/Certificate Issued/Fully Insured

Over 30 years experience

- Chimney Stack Repairs/ Pots and Cows Fitted

- HETAS Approved Wood Burning Stove Installer



Reg No : 14260

Call Phil Hart at PTH SWEEP CLEAN on

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



SYRESHAM
SCHOOL
NURSERY

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:*

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.
Also Coal, Logs, Kindling and Wild Bird Food.

Opening hours:

7.30am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday

8.00am to 1.00pm 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

Macintyers have helped many families move into and around Syresham over the years.

If you are considering selling, or letting your home, or would just like an up-to-date 'no obligation' valuation you can call us on 01280 70100 or email

post@macintyers.co.uk



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD & LET
Bradbery Grove Homes



LET

Sales and Lettings

Macintyers, Hartley House, 29 Market Place, Brackley, NN13 7AB

www.macintyers.co.uk