



Syresham Times

Serving the communities of Crowfield, Pimlico and Syresham

Village of the Year winners 2008-10, 2013, 2015, 2017



Syresham CE School Nursery

50p (where sold)

February 2018



From the Editor's desk

2018 Already, and another month gone too!

So we begin another year with an impressive addition to the school in the form of the new Nursery Unit which is already expanding its numbers. We welcome this new community provision.

The Syresham Times can only exist through its advertising. Without the support of several local businesses, this magazine would not be dropping through your door.

We are very grateful to Malcolm Orr-Ewing who has overseen our advertising since the magazine was first launched. Malcolm has now stepped back and his place is taken by Russell Woolley of High Street, Syresham. It is so good to have someone who is able to help us with generating income. Russell—you are very welcome joining our team!

Progress continues with our new Village Hall and much work is undertaken by the Village Hall Management Committee and the Parish Council to oversee this important project.

This month sees the annual pantomime in the village hall—an auspicious occasion it being the last performance in our familiar old building

Ian Draper, February 2018

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Malcolm Orr-Ewing

Cover Photograph:-

Syresham Nursery School

Courtesy of Caroline Rushton Photography

***Copy Deadline for our next issue:-
Sunday, April 30th 2018***



SYRESHAM ST JAMES CE SCHOOL

Our new nursery building is now open and we are very pleased and proud to have such an amazing space for our younger children to play and learn. The building has come at a crucial time when child care places in the area are limited and demand from working parents is increasing with the introduction of 30 hours funded places.



With an increased number of houses being built in the village we are sure that demand will increase further.

For many years we have had pre-school and more lately our nursery operating on a part-time basis in the school hall. However, following a grant that we won through the DfE and money raised by the Pre-school Charity along with school funds, we have been able to finance the building of a brand new nursery with two rooms to accommodate children from 2 to 4 years of age.

The building has been designed to enable the children to be independent within the environment. Easily

accessible toilets and wash basins positioned between the two rooms provides a safe environment to encourage self-care for children of all ages. The rooms have been carefully



planned with resources clearly labelled and accessible to the children all day every day, allowing the children to facilitate their own play and learning alongside pre-planned adult led activities.

The children have very quickly settled into their new 'home' and are all happy and comfortable in their environment. With full daily sessions on offer we have seen a big increase in the number of children within the setting across the week. Without the need to 'pack away' at the end of each session children's play and learning is enhanced, allowing staff more time with each child and providing on-going support and teaching for those in their care. Being part of the school the children in nursery benefit from many of the curricular and extra-curricular activities that take place. Nursery children are able to have a hot school meal, milk and fruit on a daily basis. Children take part in Music lessons with a specialist teacher and PE lessons led by a sports coach who both work in the school for 1 day a week. They take part in Assemblies, phonics sessions and some

playtimes. The older year 6 children lead 'guided reading' and pre-school aged children join the reception class for an afternoon each week. The staff also benefit from being part of the school as training is delivered by the Headteacher to all members of staff as well as the management of curriculum planning and pupil progress. This ensures that as children grow and develop during their nursery years, we can ensure that they make good progress and are 'school ready' by the time they reach the Reception Class.

We are very lucky to have a dedicated team of skilled nursery staff working with our children. However, with demand for places growing we are on the look-out for trained Level 3 child care workers to join our team. If you are qualified or know anyone who would be interested in taking a position at school, please contact the office on **01280-850269**.

We are looking forward to being able to show members of the community our nursery in due course, in the meantime we still have places available to children aged 2-3 so please ring for an appointment to have a look around.

Katherine Clough, Headteacher

THE FRIENDS OF SYRESHAM SCHOOL

QUIZ NIGHT – FRIDAY 9TH MARCH

We have our annual ladies quiz night planned for Friday 9th March, come along to the school hall and enjoy this highly entertaining (and very competitive!) evening. Doors open at 7.30pm, first question at 8pm, teams of up to six people. Tickets are £9p/p and

include wine, soft drinks and substantial nibbles!

MAY DAY – 7TH MAY

A note for your diary, Syresham School will have their wonderful **May Day Fete** from 2pm on May Day Bank Holiday. As always we will have our highly successful bottle tombola and we really do appreciate your donations towards this. We look forward to seeing you then.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2017

Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed this wonderful annual event, the children all loved the games and seeing Father Christmas. The adults enjoyed buying Christmas presents at our wide variety of stalls followed by tea and cakes in the tea room. We raised an impressive £1,602, plus an additional £1,000 from Barclays in matched funding – thank you.

ROUND TABLE SANTA COLLECTION

We live in a very generous community – you are all very philanthropic, we raised an incredible £431.15 as we ran around Syresham and Whitfield on a cold December evening, collecting funds for the Friends of Syresham School, through The Round Table Santa Collection. A big thank you, to you all and to The Round Table for supporting us.

COMMUNITY FUND

A massive thank you for all those that voted for us on the **Aviva Community Fund** website, with over 500 other charities all looking to win one of seven grants in our category it was certainly going to be a challenge. We

managed to secure enough votes (over 5,000) to get through the first round and be in the top 21, sadly however we were not one of the lucky seven. We are, as you can imagine disappointed, we would have loved to inject that cash into a really wonderful outdoor learning area for the nursery and KS1 children of Syresham School, but it was not to be on this occasion. Thank you for all your support – without it we wouldn't have even been in with a chance. We are now looking to see if there are other grants we might pursue.

SIX NATIONS RUGBY

It's that time of year when we all have fun trying to guess the six nations' results; will you be this year's winner? We will report the results weekly both at school and the Post Office.

LISA DIMBLEBY, CHAIR, FRIENDS OF SYRESHAM SCHOOL

Syresham School SOS

Despite making it through to the final stage of the AVIVA Community Fund bid in our ambitious campaign to win 10k for the school ... we were regrettably pipped at the post.



Undeterred however we are all still extremely keen to get this project underway and to realise our vision for a lovely new outdoor learning area for our 2-7year olds and reinstate our much loved school timber trail ... all completed in time for the summer months for the children to enjoy.

We do have some funds available provided by school and by The Friends

of Syresham School, however there is a significant short fall which we are now planning to make up by completing some of the tasks ourselves and seeking help from local companies.

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you handy with a screwdriver or saw? A dab-hand at painting? Good for a bit of heavy lifting? Know a thing or two about the building trade? Or like a spot of gardening?

Come along during 17th and 18th March, 2018, 9.30am - 5pm

(Bacon butties for early birds and tea/coffee and cake on tap all day for workers)

For further information please contact Caroline Ferguson on 07718976221 email caroline.ferguson280@gmail.com or via our Facebook page @thefriendsofsyreshamschool

SYRESHAM VILLAGE STORES

We are now selling fresh oven baked bread from Whittlebury Bakery, delivered Monday to Saturday at approximately 8.00 a.m.



This includes a very wide range of loaves, rolls and a selection of savouries, including Cornish pasties, sausage rolls, fruit buns, doughnuts, lardy cakes, croissants and French Sticks. Hot Cross Bun orders can be placed at the Shop as well as special orders for birthday and celebration cakes.

Please let me have your orders at the Village Store.

RUTH GROVELL

Our first meeting of the New Year was sadly poorly attended but we watched part of a film on Monty Don's Italian gardens followed by coffee and a quiz. February's meeting will be a visit to Thenford for a Snowdrop day – and then on March 20th we have a visit from Darren Webster, head gardener at Thenford who will talk to us about Michael Heseltine's renowned gardens which we hope will enhance the enjoyable experience you have already had of this amazing garden.

Tuesday April 17th will be our A.G.M. and we invite you to come along and join us. This year we have planned more visits to other gardens and hopefully either a gardening show or Wisley.

Dot

SYRESHAM CHAPEL

Firstly we would like to thank everyone who contributed to our shoe box appeal when 56 were collected and delivered to the Hurricane victims.



Our services over the Christmas period were all well attended and we thank everyone for their contributions. We are now looking ahead to Easter. At present it is wonderful to see bulbs appearing in the gardens, catkins on the hedgerows and how much more wonderful when we are thinking of Jesus Christ rising from the dead on Easter Day. It is so wonderful to be able to sing "Christ the Lord is risen to-

day". We have planned three meals over the period of Lent and if anyone would like to join us please contact us.

Our first meal will be held on 17th February at 7.p.m. when we celebrate Purim – a wonderful story. Saturday 3rd March at 7.p.m. we are having a meal to introduce Passover and will hold our Passover meal on Good Friday March 30th at 7.p.m.

Easter Sunday our evening service will be led by Ken Stallard. Breakfast church meets on the second Sunday of the month except on 11th March when we invite everyone to our Mothering Day service at 10.30a.m., led by Paula and David.

Scrabble continues on Saturday 10th February and please contact Paula if you wish to come along.

Dot

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Following a successful New Year Party with thanks to Sarah and her team for the excellent catering we have recommenced our soup lunches.



There will two more of these on the 14th February (in the Sunday School) and 28th February in the Village Hall.

Our Annual General Meeting will be April 11th and then we will continue to meet fortnightly on a Tuesday for various talks including one about Joyce Grenfell and there will be outings.

Keep Fit continues fortnightly on a Tuesday at 1.30.p.m. the next one being 12th February.

Dot

MUMS AND TOTS

At Mums and Tots this term we are giving the children a taste of the world by visiting a different country each week. We have been exploring maps and globes, looking at flags, learning facts, dressing up, tasting foods and making pictures and artefacts linked to the countries.

In the first week we ate croissants as we made Eiffel Tower collages out of straws and we sponge painted ponds and added cupcake cases water lilies to replicate Monet's paintings. We made patterned fans, clicking castanets and tissue flowers for our hair whilst learning about Spain. The children made Loch Ness Monsters in Tam o' Shanters and ate shortbread whilst studying Scotland.

In the weeks to come we will be making aboriginal dot painting from Australia, Mexican sun pictures, daffodils from Wales, soldiers in furry Busbys from England and many more.

If you have a toddler or pre-schooler then come and join us on term time Wednesdays for a morning of craft, play, fun and friendship and if you have a baby then please bring them along and chat with other mums in the baby corner.

Tina Nesbitt



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

First of all a belated Happy New Year to all residents of Syresham Parish!



As you are all aware from the notice delivered to every household, South Northants District Council has received notification of Punch Tavern's intention to sell the Kings Head. As this has been registered as an Asset of Community Value, the residents of Syresham have been given the opportunity to set up a Community Interest Group which could be treated as a potential bidder for the asset. Several people have expressed their interest and the Parish Council now intends to hold a Public Meeting in the Village Hall on **Friday 16th March at 7.30 p.m.**, which every resident is invited to attend. We feel sure you will agree that a pub is an integral part of the heart of any village community and we must do all we can to ensure that we do not lose it.

We also recently sent out a questionnaire on Street Lighting in the parish. We would like to thank all those who completed the questionnaire and made various interesting comments. The results are in the process of being collated and the Parish Council will then decide on their course of action.

The Parish Council has now purchased a defibrillator that will very soon be located on the wall of the Chapel Sunday School. There will be two training courses for residents to

Sunday School.

There will be two training courses for residents to attend. The first will be on *Thursday 15th February at 2 p.m.* in the Chapel Sunday School and the second on *Wednesday 21st March at 7.30 p.m.* in the Chapel Sunday School.

We hope that as many people as possible will attend one of these courses. If you intend to come along can you please inform the Parish Clerk by phone on 01280-851178 or by email parishclerk@syresham.com

We also have a further date for your diary which is the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Wednesday 16th May. Details of speakers will be published nearer the time.

The recent inclement weather has meant that the state of our roads has deteriorated. The County Council has a list of criteria by which they judge the need to repair potholes, but if you are concerned about them you can report them directly to Northamptonshire County Council Street Doctor.

We are also extremely concerned about Northamptonshire County Council's proposed cost cutting measures and have made it known to them that we do not support any measures that will serve to increase the rural isolation of our parish. With this in mind, we are actively looking into the matter of bus and library services.

Finally, the Parish Council has vacancies for three new Councillors. If you are interested in becoming part of a team that has the good of our community at its heart and are willing

to play a pro-active part in making sure that our parish remains a vibrant, safe and enjoyable place to live, both now and in the future, then maybe this is a role for you. Please contact the Parish Clerk, as above, to register your interest.

Cllr Chris Munsey

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



Christmas now seems to be a distant past but it was one that was very busy and festive. We now start another busy year and our new entertainment programme has been produced for the coming year. As always we welcome new members to come along. Our function room is available for hire for events, functions and parties and we are able to offer a full entertainment/catering package.

We have recently re-decorated the Club, and replaced all of the furniture which is due for delivery in early February with thanks to all our Members for their support over the past year in enabling us to do this.

Preparations for the cricket season are underway, with the first team striving to win the Premier Division again, and the second team looking forward to a very competitive season in Division Two once more. *Winter nets commence at Stowe House School on a Thursday evening 7.15pm till 8.30pm, commencing on Thursday 22nd February.*

Our regular events continue to be a success, with the Sunday Carvery on

the second Sunday of the month (12.00pm - 2.00pm) and monthly prize quiz generally on the third Friday.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday Carvery: Sundays 11th

February, 11th

March, 1st April

(Easter Sunday);

Easter Bingo

Wednesday

28th March;

Monthly Quiz Fridays 23rd February,

23rd March, 27th April;

Themed Food Nights

Chinese Saturday 3rd March

Irish Saturday 17th March

Pie & Chips Night Saturday 21st April

Easter Entertainment Sunday 31st

March

English Saturday 14th April

Pie and Chips Night Saturday 21st April

1st BBQ of Summer Saturday 12th May

For further information on joining or hiring the Club, please contact our Secretary, Adam Jeskins on (07711-971709).

SYRESHAM GEMS WOMEN'S

GROUP

2018 got off to a healthy start with a great talk from Anne King and her colleague Tove from Back to Nature, Cornwall Place in Buckingham. They shared five simple steps to cope with the most common pressures on our health and gave us lots of information and tips on restoring health and wellbeing to function at our best. We sampled



healthy treats and supplements and went away with a goodie bag of samples and useful leaflets.



Winding back to November we learnt how to make chocolates. Shelley

van

Loen

-

www.shelleychocolates.co.uk - makes

a range of handmade chocolates from her home in Kirtlington, near Oxford.

This is alongside her day job as a professional violinist! We tasted lots of different products, including sea salt mendiants, boozy truffles and strawberry and white chocolate chocolates. Shelley shared her insider secrets on making chocolates and then we had the opportunity to buy, so lots of Xmas presents were purchased that evening!

More treats were consumed at the Christmas party in December where we were joined by partners, family and friends. After a generous buffet we were entertained by comedy ventriloquist and vocalist Paul Dumas and his cast of characters.

There is no February meeting as the Village Hall is being used for the pantomime so our next 2 meetings after that are as follows:

14th March – Flamenco evening and demonstration

11th April - Dogs for Good

For more information about the Group, forthcoming events and membership please contact either Maggie Newton (01295 710930) or Judith Shaw (850613).

MAGGIE NEWTON

**THANK YOU FROM
RUTH**



A very big thank you for all the wonderful Christmas cards and presents that I have received. I apologise for not thanking everyone individually as time is limited. So I shall rely on our trusty Syresham Times magazine to get my message across.

Your continued support for the Village Stores and Post Office is most welcome. Wishing you all the very best for 2018,

RUTH GROVELL

GARDEN BUDDIES

Could you be a Garden Buddy or do you need help with basic gardening jobs?



Garden Buddies is a Big Lottery funded project operated through South Northants Volunteer Bureau at Towcester.

We offer basic gardening services to elderly or disabled people in the community who have no other source of help, enabling them to enjoy and maintain their gardens. This community project aims to offer support to the most needy while also providing a positive focus for volunteers of all abilities.

Following a successful bid to the Reaching Communities Big Lottery Fund, Garden Buddies initially burst into bloom in May 2012.

If you like gardening and would like to join a dedicated team of volunteers,

then this may be for you. Our volunteers provide a valuable service and in return benefit from meeting new people, learning new skills, gaining experience/skills to add to their CV or just being part of a team.

If you are interested in volunteering with Garden Buddies then please call South Northants Volunteer Bureau on 01327 358264 or email barry@snnvb.org.uk. www.snnvb.org.uk

BARRY TURLAND, SNNVB

**POLICE MESSAGE
ALERT**



Northamptonshire Police has relaunched a free message alert system, to help people in Northamptonshire be much better informed about crime and police activity in their local area, and keep their communities safe.

The messaging service now has greater functionality than previously, allowing frontline police officers to send alert messages direct from their mobile devices to thousands of local people.

The alert service is free and simple to activate by registering at www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk and is available to anyone living or working in Northamptonshire.

After signing up, people will receive regular alerts from Northamptonshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch and other partner organisations, keeping them up to date and informed about crime and issues relevant to them and the area where they live or work.

Alerts are received either by email, text message or voice message – whichever suits. People will also be given the option of what they want to receive alerts about, and how often – you will only receive messages about topics that you have selected.

TRADING STANDARDS AND SCAMS

The National Trading Standards Scams Team are launching a new campaign to sign up one million people to Friends against Scams by 2020. This campaign launches on the 24th January as part of ‘Take 5 to stop Fraud’ week <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

If you have not already signed up to Friends against Scams, then please take the time to complete the simple online learning at the link below.

<https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/article.php?xArt=37>

Please join with us to protect and prevent people in our community from becoming victims of scams.

SYRESHAM AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

We concluded 2017 with a musical and festive entertainment with David Wornham from Worcester, demonstrating a wide range of early and modern wind instruments. We enjoyed a Wassail cup and snacks of cheese and biscuits. January’s meeting fell on the day after New Year’s day and so was rather minimally supported, however those who were there watched the film Race—the story of sprinter Jesse Owens and the

Berlin Olympics of 1936. It was an interesting film depicting the political scenarios of the time against a background of racism and the rise of Nazism in Germany.

Our February meeting sees a visit from Rosemary Leeper of Brackley History Society, Rosemary will be giving the first of a two part account of the history of Brackley.

In March, Professor John Hunter of Birmingham University will be telling us about the work of Forensic Archaeologists, dealing with the remains of victims of crime and other issues. Then in April our guest speaker will be Major David Squibb of the Salvation Army, he will be here to talk about social conditions in our society and the work of the Salvation Army supporting those less well off than the majority. May will see Bill Davies visit us to recount the story of the Mary Rose.

We are hoping to arrange visits to Churchill’s War Cabinet rooms, Broughton House and Castle and gardens, and to see the Mary Rose Museum.

IAN DRAPER, CHAIRMAN

JUST DANCE 2017

The Sylvie Essame School of Dance put on their annual dance show in the village hall on Sunday 26th November. A wide range of dance styles was shown: Modern Theatre, Tap, Contemporary, Jazz, and Latin. 21 items in all. There were also several guest performances by ex-students of the school, which made for two very

entertaining shows.

The school is very pleased that the show raised £220 for the

new village hall fund and the raffle raised £82 for Katharine House Hospice.

To learn more about the school please contact Sylvie: 01280 850293.

Sylvie@SylvieEssame.co.uk,
www.SylvieEssame.co.uk

Sylvie now runs a seated Pilates for seniors from Syresham - alternate Tuesdays at 1.30pm. All are welcome.

FROM THE RECTOR



Did you make any New Year's resolutions - and if so, did you keep them? Don't worry - 90% of those intentions go by the wayside by January 6th!

And as for giving things up for Lent....

Keeping focused on any goal can be hard and we all need a bit of help. As Christians we believe that help comes from God and we get it by a constant dialogue of prayer and worship. Over the next two months our Churches will be entering the time set aside in the Church's year when we devote ourselves to more of this prayer and worship as we follow Christ's journey to the Cross and beyond. As Christians, we take things on, not give them up.

During the five weeks of Lent, we will also be holding our popular weekly Lent Course. This allows those who come along to explore matters of faith



and learn for themselves what the Bible actually says in relaxed group sessions after watching clips from television and film.

And as well as our courses we will be holding a few "tasters" during this time for those who are curious about the Bible, Christianity or Church.

One of these will be our Lent Cinema at Helmdon Church where will be offering some Hollywood films that explore faith and or Christianity as well as simply providing some "Flicks in the Sticks" over the next two months.

Then on Maundy Thursday, March 29th we will be enacting the ancient ritual of "stripping" the church for Good Friday. We cover statues and store away most adornments that make our church so beautiful. This is to remind us of the stark reality of Christ's death and is done in silence. Everyone is welcome to come along and help as this traditionally was a community event.

Details of everything that's going on in the Astwell Benefice can be found on our church noticeboards or our website: www.astwellparishes.org.uk and if you would like us to email you with our weekly list of services and events then send your request to: rectorastwellbenefice@aol.co.uk

So why not make it your resolution this year to come along and see what it is all about you are more than welcome to come along to any of these services!

REVEREND CAROLE

carolepeters@aol.com 01327 860798

LAST PANTO IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs is our 20th panto, but we pass this milestone with a sadder landmark ... the last ever panto in the present Village Hall! It's sadder than that! No, even sadder than that!!

I shall be very sorry to see the Village Hall demolished, after 50 plus years of dances with live bands, weddings, christenings, funerals, fashion shows, art exhibitions, bingos, quizzes, bowls, ballroom dancing, discos, coffee mornings, pantos and loads more I don't even know about!

The hall has been host to many wonderful occasions ... BUT ... its time has come to a natural end. The roof leaks, the floor is subsiding and it is not suitable for a community hall in the 21st century. Bearing in mind it was a barrack hut gifted to Syresham by RAF Halton and only meant to last 5 years, ... it hasn't lasted too bad!

The new Village Hall is fantastic! I have the privilege of making a documentary of its construction, from the first clod of earth removed for foundations, until its present state at the point of first fittings of electrics, windows, plastering and heating. It is very exciting to see its growth!

It will be a wonderful legacy for many generations, with modern day facilities for all activities. I hear the odd moan, it's too far out of the village and no bigger than the old one. Firstly it is much bigger than the old one. In fact



you could fit the old one inside the new one! As for its position ... I timed myself walking from the old hall to the new hall at a leisurely pace and it took 1 minute and 12 seconds!

I can't wait to produce our first pantomime in the new Village Hall next year, with its lighting and sound facilities built in, extra seating and catering facilities. We should be able to make our shows even more spectacular!

I would like to thank another excellent facility in the village, Syresham Sports & Social Club. For 18 years, they have allowed us to rehearse in the clubroom and put up with us! They never moan at hearing the same dance songs over and over again every week for 6 months! We simply couldn't do the panto without their superb amenities and generosity ... and the bar!

Back to Snow White ... a 19th-century German fairy tale which The Brothers Grimm published in 1812 in the first edition of their collection, 'Grimms' Fairy Tales'. In 1937, Disney made the first ever full-length animated feature film produced in America. After the success of that film, the first pantomimes began to be produced and Snow White is in fact the newest pantomime.

Our production is an exciting, magical, funny version, with our amazing Chorus performing some wonderful dances. So ... buy your tickets now. The best half-term entertainment in Northamptonshire!

KEITH WATTS, DIRECTOR

SNOW White 7 & the Dwarfs

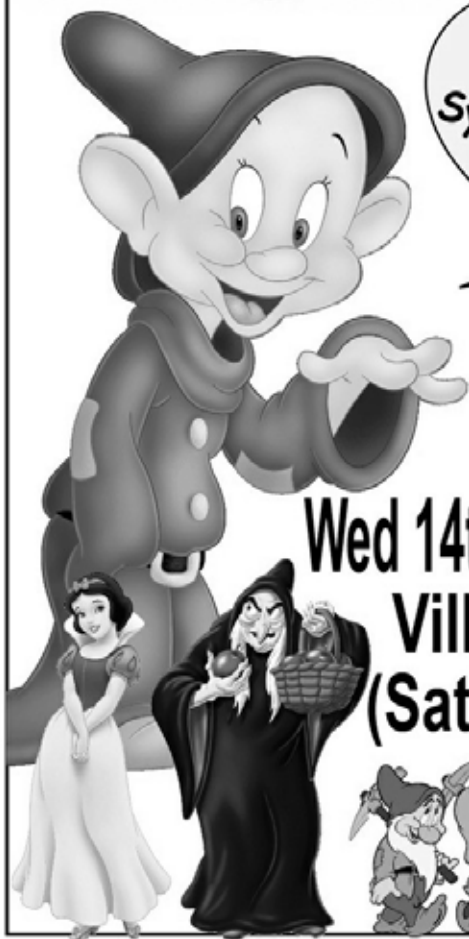


Take Your S.E.A.T.
PRESENTS

Tickets
On Sale At
Syresham Village
Shop



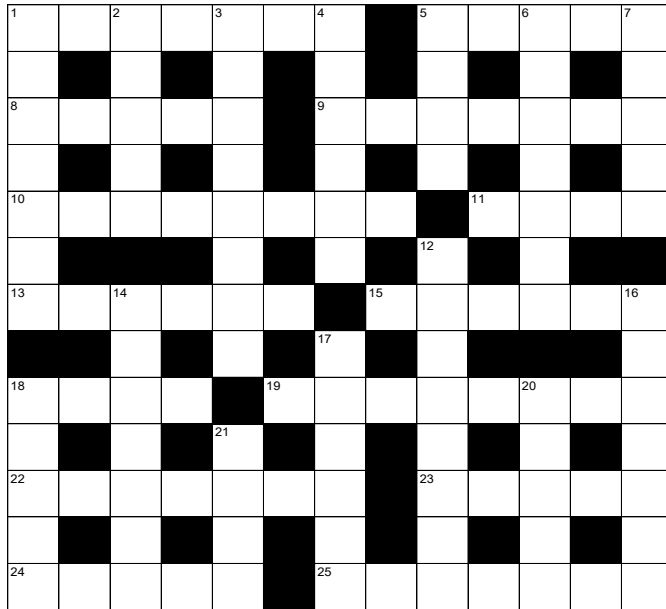
Wed 14th - Sat 17th February
Village Hall 7.30pm
(Sat Matinee 2.30pm)



Events and Diary Dates

HAPPENING SOON	WEEKLY DIARY	FORTNIGHTLY DIARY
FEBRUARY	<p>SUNDAYS:- Chapel Service 6.00 p.m.</p> <p>Church Services—<i>please check the Astwell Benefice Diary</i></p> <p>MONDAYS:- Walking Group 10.00 a.m. <i>meet at Shop</i></p> <p>CARD RECYCLING GROUP <i>contact Sue Palmer for details</i></p>	<p>THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB Second Tuesdays, usually Village Hall 2.30 p.m. <i>not August—beginning in April</i></p> <p>WEDNESDAYS (1ST & 3RD) Secret Keepers, 7-11 yr. olds 7.00 p.m. till 8.00 p.m. <i>Term time only</i></p>
<p>15th, 2.00 p.m. Defibrillator Training, Sunday School Rooms</p> <p>17th Feb Chapel meal to celebrate Purim</p> <p>Half Term week—Snow White Pantomime</p>	<p>DANCING CLASSES Village Hall—various 4.00 to 8.30 p.m.</p> <p>TUESDAYS:- Adult Ballet, <i>Village Hall</i>, 11.00 a.m. to 12.00</p> <p>PILATES <i>Village Hall</i>, 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m.</p> <p>BROWNIES, 6.00 till 7.15p.m. <i>Sunday School Term time only</i></p> <p>CRAFTS GROUP, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesday, Sunday School, 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>CIRCUIT TRAINING, <i>Sports Club</i> 7.15 p.m.</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS:- Mums and Tots, <i>Village Hall</i> 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon <i>Term Time only</i></p> <p>THURSDAYS:- <i>Village Hall</i> Coffee Shop, 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.</p> <p>BOWLS CLUB, <i>Village Hall</i>, 7.00 p.m.</p>	MONTHLY DIARY
MARCH	<p>3rd Chapel meal for Passover</p> <p>9th Friends of St James Quiz, 7.30 <i>Village Hall</i></p> <p>9th Friends of School Ladies Quiz night</p> <p>16th Open Meeting Re Kings Head, <i>Village Hall</i></p> <p>17th & 18th Working Party at the School</p> <p>22nd 7.30 p.m. Defibrillator Training, Sunday School Rooms</p>	<p>2ND SUNDAY, Sunday School & Breakfast Church 9.30 a.m.—<i>Not December</i></p> <p>2ND SUNDAY—Sports Club Carvery lunch 12.00 noon till 2.00 p.m.</p> <p>1ST TUESDAY, <i>History Society, Village Hall</i> 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>3RD TUESDAY, Gardening Club, <i>Village Hall</i>, 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>2ND WEDNESDAY GEMS Women’s Group, <i>Village Hall</i> 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>3RD WEDNESDAY Sports Club Cash Bingo Night, 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>LAST WEDNESDAY, Parish Council Meetings , <i>Village Hall</i> 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>3RD FRIDAY, Sports Club Quiz Nights</p> <p>2ND SATURDAY, Friends of the Churchyard, 10.00 a.m.</p>
APRIL	<p>4th—ACRE Oil orders due by midnight</p> <p>13th <i>Village Hall</i> Quiz—Marie Curie</p>	<p>LIBRARY VAN High Street, 2nd Wednesday 11.30a.m. 14 Feb; 14 Mar</p>
Scarecrows June 23rd and 24th	<p>CRICKET Matches in season—<i>Check Sports Club details</i></p>	

Crossword — thanks to Vintage Port



ACROSS

- 1 Reviling (7)
- 5 Offended (5)
- 8 More senior (5)
- 9 Beasts of burden (7)
- 10 Causing irritation (8)
- 11 15th March (4)
- 13 Make safe (6)
- 15 Voluble talk (6)
- 18 Imputation of wrongdoing (4)
- 19 Prickly haired daisy (8)
- 22 Morally depraved (7)
- 23 Mental weariness (5)
- 24 Port in Yucatan (5)
- 25 Skilled in deceit (7)

DOWN

- 1 Poisonous buttercup (7)
- 2 Beneath (5)
- 3 By way of reciprocation (8)
- 4 Final part (7)
- 5 Ship's crew member (4)
- 6 Feudal sphere of control (7)
- 7 Affirmations (5)
- 12 Orwell's porcine dictator (8)
- 14 Writhes (7)
- 16 Smelling strongly (7)
- 17 Remarkably strange (6)
- 18 Is very disagreeable (5)
- 20 Tutelary spirits (5)
- 21 (Of a person) stupid(4)

ANSWERS—ACROSS 1 Abusive; 5 Huffy; 8 Older; 9 Donkeys; 10 Irritant; 11 Ideas; 13 Ensure; 15 Yammer; 18 Slur; 19 Oxtongue; 22 Corrupt; 23 Ennuj; 24 Sisal; 25 Cunning
DOWN—1 Aconite; 2 Under; 3 In return; 4 Ending; 5 Hand; 6 Fiefdom; 7 Yeses; 12 Napoleon; 14 Squirms; 16 Reeking; 17 Exotic; 18 Sucks; 20 Gentil; 21 Dull

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The Brownies had an amazing Autumn term with many action packed fun evenings. We enjoyed making our annual Christmas good turn for the older members of the village and received many thank you letters.

This term we have flown around the world, visiting the four World Guiding Centres! We went to Sangam in India, Our Cabana in Mexico, Our Chalet in Switzerland and dropped off in London to Pax Lodge (all in one evening, not bad). An activity was carried out in each country and a badge was awarded at the end of the evening for all their hard work. Valentines biscuits were decorated, Mother's Day gifts made and we will end the term with a dance session at Starlight Studios. **PAULA GREEN**


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QUIZ
NIGHT**

FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHTS run by John Braybrook have so far raised £150 for Brackley Hog Watch, £210 for the local Air Ambulance, £235 for Medical dogs.

- Friday April 13th 2018 - Marie Curie May 11th—Stroke Association/



Over 70 people enjoyed a concert at St James Church given by the Wolverton Gospel Choir on Friday 12th January. This was their second visit to Syresham.



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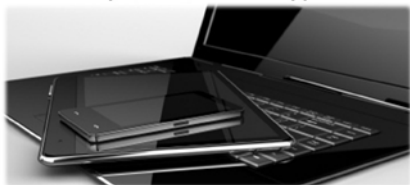
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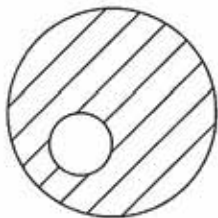
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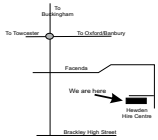


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