



# The Syresham Times

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





***SYRESHAM CHAPEL CHRISTMAS BOX DONATIONS 2023***


***FEBRUARY 2024***





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**Visit Us Today - take a break from the ordinary and treat yourself to the extraordinary.**

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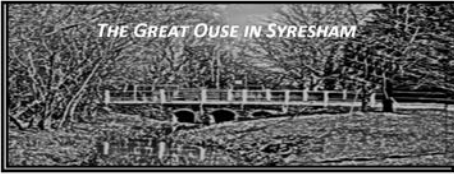
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### **From the Editor's Desk**

Who was Isha? Now in the ninth year of the "Name our Storms" campaign, the system of interesting names aims to raise awareness of severe weather before it hits. Storms are named when they cause a medium to high impact, with names often being chosen for light-hearted reasons.

Agnes, Babet, Ciaran, Debi, Elin, Fergus, Gerrit, Henk, Isha, Jocelyn, Kathleen, Lilian, Minnie, Nicholas, Olga are currently in use for 2024.

The letters Q, U, X, Y and Z are not used to comply with the international storm naming conventions.

Names on the list are inspired by people working to protect the public from severe weather around the UK, such as Debi, Ciaran and Regina. Meanwhile, the list also includes Minnie, inspired by Minnie the Minx from the Beano comic.

What is an amber wind warning? According to the Met Office, the amber warning means: a good chance that power cuts may occur, with the potential to affect other services, such as mobile phone coverage. Probably some damage to buildings, such as tiles blown from roofs. So, batten down the hatches! It can get wild out there!

**IAN DRAPER, EDITOR—JANUARY 2024**

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*Caryl Billingham, Hazel Bullen, Brenda Faragher,  
Andrew Hornby, Chris Munsey, Julie Nash,  
Rob Powell*

### **COVER PHOTOGRAPH**

*Chapel Christmas Charity Packages, 2023  
Christina Munsey*

**COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY 2024 ISSUE:**

**APRIL 27TH 2024**

**NEWS FROM THE CHURCH**  
**COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS AND**  
**COMMISERATIONS**

It was a joy to welcome so many to the church to celebrate Christmas – the birth of Jesus. From Messy Church to the Carol service, Quiet Christingle and the busy one, Christmas communion and Christmas morning, we shared many happy occasions.

We came together for sad times too, at the funerals of Charles Everett and ‘our Brenda’s’ beloved Ed. It was a comfort that so many came to mark their lives and support their families.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

to the Syresham Parish Quiz Team who came second in the first of the Inter Parish round of competitions. The next round is on February 9<sup>th</sup> in Whitfield.

**STEEPLE SAGA** We accepted the cheapest (but recommended) quote for the steeple works – total cost around £80,000. We are so grateful for the generous support of: congregation and community, 200 Club and Madge Payne Trust also NHCT grants, for gifts and pledges received. We have so far raised £30,000 in money and pledges with a loan of £45,000, which we hope will be covered by grants. Just £5000 to find – all help welcomed!

**SIGNS OF NEW LIFE** Bulbs are peeping through and the first tentative signs of spring are around us. We now enter a

season feasting, reflection and celebrations with Pancake Lunch, Lenten reflections, Mothering Sunday and Easter celebrations.

**Lent fasting** Quite a lot of people in our country, even if they don’t attend church much, still do give things up for Lent. That might seem surprising in what often looks like a ‘me’ culture which cheers people on as they seek their own satisfaction and fulfilment in doing their own thing. Maybe, though, this survival of the ancient Lenten Fast in our day indicates that a lot of people *don’t* think an unrestrained pursuit of what they as individuals might want is always appropriate; perhaps there’s an acknowledgement here of the need for self-discipline and self-denial.

Resolving to give something up in Lent (it doesn’t have to be much) and sticking with that decision is to stand against the ‘me’ culture. It’s to recognise that ‘me and what I want’ isn’t the best guide to living well and it’s to train oneself a little in the self-restraint necessary to honour the principle of loving our neighbours as ourselves. So do think of giving something up over Lent; as so often when doing something not directed to your own immediate gratification, you will, nevertheless, feel the better for it!

12 – all welcome

*Thanks to Rob Powell for the new view of the church.*

**ALICE PALMER & REVD. HUGH WHITE**



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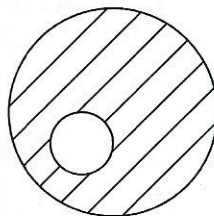


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Bradbery Close, Syresham, NN13 5HA



## **THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES CHURCH**

We have some great events coming up soon which you are warmly invited to attend. They offer a great opportunity to meet new friends and get to know your neighbours in the village.

### **EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY:**

**FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> 2024 PANCAKE LUNCH IN THE SCHOOL** Tickets are £4.50 and include a savoury and sweet homemade pancake with a choice of delicious fillings, and a drink:

*Chicken & Mushroom - Savoury Mince (Gluten Free) - Spinach & Cheese - Smoked Haddock*

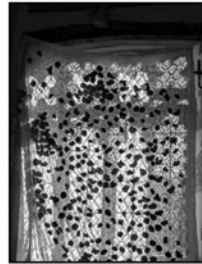
*Spiced stewed apple - Chocolate spread & banana - Maple Syrup - Lemon & sugar*

*Soft drink or Tea or Coffee.*

**APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> 2024—VILLAGE WALK WITH PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH.** Further details will be in Ruth's shop and on the village Facebook page nearer the time.

**JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> 2024 SAFARI SUPPER.** £17.50 per ticket. We all meet together for canapés and sparkling wine at the first venue, and are then taken by our various hosts for a main course. Afterwards we regroup for our desserts or cheese and biscuits at the final destination. Bring your own drinks to see you through the main course and desserts. These are always great fun! If anyone would be interested in hosting please get in touch.

**JULY 22<sup>ND</sup> FOSJ AGM.** Venue and time to be confirmed



**POPPY DISPLAY.** In the last edition of Syresham Times we put a request out for poppy makers. THANK YOU so very much to all who got knitting - what kind

people you all are! It made a fabulous display in the church to remember our fallen soldiers. We would love to have even more for this year...

**MEMBERSHIP:** *The Friends of St. James* is made up of people who may not be regular members of the congregation but who value our lovely church, its history, and the part it plays in the life of our community. The Committee, backed by the members, take responsibility for some aspects of the upkeep of the church which fall outside the scope of the Madge Payne Bequest.

We organise a variety of events, some in conjunction with other groups, which contribute to the social life of the village and help raise money to fund specific projects – such as the upkeep of the church grounds. We warmly welcome new “Friends”. If you would like to know more or become a member of the Friends, please call 01280 850060.

**ANTOINETTE HORNBY**

## **GEORGE TIMMS TRUST**

The George Timms Trust was set up over 125 years ago to support residents of



Syresham who fell on hard times or otherwise found themselves in distress. In the 21st century the Trust still operates along the same principles, offering financial and other assistance to members of our village community at times of need.

There will be times when folk experience periods of worry and anxiety and find it difficult to manage aspects of their daily lives. Christmas and winter weather often increase our costs and place additional pressure on our budgets.

The George Timms Trust is there to help.

A note in an envelope marked '*George Timms Trust*' placed in the letter box of the Chapel Sunday School Room (32 High Street), or an email [info@GeorgeTimmsTrust.org.uk](mailto:info@GeorgeTimmsTrust.org.uk), or a direct message via our Facebook page, would all receive a reply.

Just provide a contact name, address and phone number/email address and some details about your circumstances.

These requests are treated in the strictest confidence.

## **THE GEORGE TIMMS TRUSTEES**

### **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT**

First of all the Parish Council would like to wish all residents a belated but



heartfelt  
'Happy and  
Healthy New  
Year'.

We were very  
pleased in  
November to

welcome our new Parish Clerk, Nichola Ali who has been busy preparing the budget and precept application for the forthcoming year that was required to be submitted by January. This was by no means an easy initial task for a clerk to carry out, but Nichola has coped extremely well and we thank her for her hard work and diligence. If you need to contact Nichola the email address remains the same as before – [parishclerk@syresham.com](mailto:parishclerk@syresham.com)

We also have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you feel that serving your community in this way is something you would like to do, please contact the Clerk for more details.

West Northants Council are asking for your comments on a plan that affects our village, namely the Local Cycling Walking and Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). These plans are open for consultation until 15<sup>th</sup> February and aim to create a culture of walking and cycling by proposing infrastructure developments that make active travel a natural choice for residents and visitors. Three sections of the plan affect our parish, namely the routes from Brackley to Syresham, Syresham to Silverstone and from Syresham to Crowfield. The plans are in the very early stages but the Parish Council

feels it is vitally important that there should be a safe and permanently useable route that connects the part of our parish that is presently only permanently and safely accessible by car, namely Crowfield. It has been suggested that we ask for this part of the route, Syresham to Crowfield, to be completed first as a showcase to what the other routes will look like. If you would like to see this happen, please make sure you go online and have your say. You are of course also most welcome to comment on the whole plan – you can contact [LocalTransportPlan@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:LocalTransportPlan@westnorthants.gov.uk) and complete the online survey.

There is finally an update on the Truckstop planning application. The Highways and Flood Risk reports have been submitted to WNC and it is envisaged that the earliest the application will go before the planning committee is late March or early April. More details can be seen on the WNC portal.

West Northants is now in the process of implementing its Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) that is intended to promote responsible dog ownership and also prohibits smoking (including vaping) in certain public places across the whole of West Northamptonshire. You may have noticed that notices have been put up by WNC next to the Swingfield gate. This means that it is now an offence

to smoke or vape within the play area. The penalty for not adhering to this ruling is a fine of £100.

The Parish Council will be organising the Annual Litterpick during the week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> April. This initiative is now supported by our local MP, Andrea Leadsom who came out to Syresham last year to help. We hope she will take part again this year and we hope that as many residents as possible will also take part to ensure we have a litter free and tidy village that we can all be proud of..

Finally, please look out for the new bench that the Parish Council has purchased to replace the one that was destroyed some years ago by a falling branch at the top of the High Street. The bench is made of recycled material in accordance with our Climate Change Action Plan and was purchased as a result of money awarded to the village in the last Village of the Year competition.

If you have any concerns you would like the Parish Council to discuss, please contact the Parish Clerk. Please note that Potholes or Highway problems can be reported directly to the West Northants ‘Street Doctor’ or ‘Fix My Street’ on the West Northants Council website. The more people who report problems to West Northants, the quicker they will be investigated. So please don’t hesitate to report such problems.

**CLLR CHRIS MUNSEY**





**BRACKLEY LOCAL  
CYCLING AND WALKING  
INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

The *Brackley Local  
Cycling and Walking  
Infrastructure Plan*

(BLCWIP) proposes to make it safer and easier for people to walk, wheel, or cycle in and around Brackley and connect with local villages.

The draft plan is now at the stage where West Northants Council are seeking views from both stakeholders and members of the public to enable the plan to be finalised.

Details of this consultation can be found at: [Have your say on Brackley Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan - West Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space](#).

We would appreciate it if you are able to circulate this widely to colleagues and members of the local community to ensure the maximum number of people have a chance to have their say on the proposals.

The consultation will remain open until **MIDNIGHT ON SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**, following which there will be a review of the feedback and use it to finalise the document before it is taken to Cabinet for a decision on adopting the document by the Council.

If you have any queries, please e-mail [LTP@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:LTP@westnorthants.gov.uk)

**DAVID CRANWELL, SNATRA**

**REMEMBERED  
WITHIN THE  
COMMUNITY**



We remember with fondness those who have passed on in recent months. Not only including Ed Faragher and John Nash, but also Kathy Festin wife of a US Airman based at Upper Heyford, and resident at The Gatehouse during the cold war years. Kathy was a regular reader of The Syresham Times until she passed away back in November. She was very fond of Syresham. We remember also June Payne and Mick Gee, and very recently Alice Hathaway, and we pass on condolences to the bereaved. **EDITOR**

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS - SEE PAGE 25

870 MEDIUM

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

198 HARD

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

**JOHN MICHAEL  
NASH**



John was born in 1936 and grew up in Bromley. After a short spell as a runner with Lloyds Bank in the City, he was called up for National Service in 1954 and joined the Royal Air Force. Whilst posted to Northern Ireland, he met Dilys and married in February 1957 and had two children, Julie and Peter.

John trained as a Navigator, and flew in Coastal Command, being stationed mostly at RAF Kinloss in Scotland and St Mawgan in Cornwall. He first flew in Shackletons, then was part of the aircrew that flew the first Nimrod into service at RAF St Mawgan, in which he continued to fly and train others throughout the 1970s. He often flew overseas, and he and Mum had tours in Gibraltar and Germany, as well as a tour as RAF Liaison Officer with the Royal Navy in Portland.

John took early retirement from the RAF in 1986 and he and Dilys moved to the village of Wombourne, near Wolverhampton, where he worked as Partnership Secretary for a firm of solicitors. Dilys passed away in 1988.

Then, when Julie and her husband Allen were selling their cottage in Bell Lane, Syresham in 2003, John jumped at the chance to buy it from them. He absolutely loved living in Syresham, joining every committee going in the

village, including the Village Hall Committee, the History Society and the Parish Council. He enjoyed organizing things and got up to great larks with Dot and Chris and many other members of the committees.

As a great DIY enthusiast, John spent a lot of time working on his cottage and in his garden, digging and planting and pottering around with the ponds and the wood store. His DIY skills were put to good use when he and Rob Dixon rebuilt the Old Village Hall kitchen. He had a couple of garages in The Pound in which he stored a number of things, including it would appear some council road signs - "Road Closed", "Diversion" and a number of traffic cones - all for use during village events! He helped to organise the War Memorial stone opposite the pub. He was instrumental in the flood relief process for the village, and even bought a pair of waders so he could unblock the drains down by the river Great Ouse. He was for a time the bookings clerk for the old Village Hall, as well as countless other activities in the village.

John enjoyed cooking, a skill put to good use when he baked pissaladière and scones for the Syresham coffee shop. Apparently his scones were more like rock cakes but Nigel enjoyed them!

John never wanted to move from Syresham, and we were so pleased that he was able to live in his cottage until the end, sitting in his chair looking out into the garden he so loved, often saying, "That grass needs

cutting”, and then looking pointedly at whomever happened to be in the kitchen with him.

John has been described as a real gentleman, a true friend, always good humoured and good fun, and one of the nicest men you could ever wish to meet. He had a loving family in Julie and Allen, Pete, John’s grandson Tom, and Tom’s mum Clare. He had a group of wonderful friends both from his time in the Royal Air Force and those he met here in Syresham.

A huge thank you from John’s family to all of you who were so kind and helpful and good fun throughout John’s time in Syresham, and who quietly kept an eye on him in his final years. He is greatly missed.

#### ***JULIE NASH***



#### ***FRIENDS OF SYRESHAM EC ST JAMES SCHOOL***

We had a thoroughly enjoyable evening at The Towcester Young Farmers family bonfire and fireworks display in aid of Syresham School. There were delicious hot chocolate, mulled cider, tasty hot dogs and sweet treats. All set in the magical setting amongst the fairy lights and straw bales. All brilliantly organised, once again by the amazing Claire Turnham (Clip board and walkie talkies in hand!!) and the fireworks were

fantastic too, Thank you Nigel from the Kings Head!!

We would like to say a big Thank you to the amazing volunteers.... Car park crew, Gate keepers, Fire lighters, Fireworks Team, Team Hot Dog, Bar Crew, Tuck Sellers, Technical support.

Thank you to all our local sponsors.. The night went with a huge bang and we raised a rocketing £1200.

Christmas activities started a little bit early with thanks to the Round Table for bringing their fabulous Santa Sleigh to our village. We had a great team of amazing volunteers who came out to help collect donations. We had to move fast to keep up with but with lots of young volunteers this was not a problem. With your help we raised a magnificent £541.

After the success of last years Christmas Fayre, we decided to go outside again and the playground was lit up with festoon and fairy lights. We had all the usual Christmas Fayre fun which included games for the Children, Hook a candy cane, knock the elf of the shelf, and the Polar express. The adults could enjoy a warming cup of mulled wine and enter into the Grand hamper raffle. Elfridges, where the children could buy gifts for their loved ones was a sell out and the Christmas stall enjoyed a brisk trade. Even the Elves returned to the school playground and we had a visit from Pixie Mixie the sweet shop owner and Elvis McJingles

landlord of the Elven Tavern, to name but a few. Word searches were purchased and the children (and adults) had a great time looking for the letters that made up a Christmassy word.

A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported us. Thank you to all the amazing people who gave up their time to man a stall, bake, set up and tidy away. We raised whopping £2300. This is an incredible amount and we could not have done it without the generosity of our sponsors, **Longhurst** [www.longhurst.co.uk](http://www.longhurst.co.uk) The Nativity was back in the church and the children put on two fantastic performances. The audience was treated to refreshments, Mulled wine and sold more raffle tickets.

With all this incredible fundraising we have purchased lots of lovely new items for school which include ice cream at the Panto, new library books, cooking experience day, teachers class spend, topic experience day, updating the SEN area and much more.

We are always looking for willing volunteers who would like to get involved (you don't just have to be a parent of the school). If you are a keen baker or would like to help at any of our events, please get in touch with the school office.

**SARAH PATERSON, CHAIR FOSS**

### **PURPOSE BUILT PATIENT TRANSPORT**

Trustees of Brackley Community Hospital 2020 Trust, using funds raised

by the local community, were extremely pleased to have recently presented the Brackley Community Hospital with much needed patient transport. The charity was asked to consider funding a wheel-chair accessible vehicle, that could be used to benefit the patients in the intermediate care beds on the second floor of Brackley Community Hospital. Transport is often required to assist patients attending hospital appointments off-site, also for specialised treatments and assessments prior to discharge. Until now local taxi firms have been used, but are not always ideal as they are expensive and time limited due to school contracts.



Once we had confirmation of the ongoing expenses of such a project (annual servicing and checks), a suitable vehicle was sourced in good working condition and with low mileage, just the other side of Northampton.

The vehicle was personalised for us, and although donated by the charity,

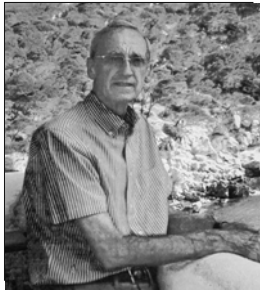
it has been funded by donations from Brackley and surrounding communities.

We are grateful for the generosity of the many local donors— thank you for your very kind contributions.

**CARYL BILLINGHAM MBE**

**EDWARD FARAGHER**

It was with great sorrow that we announced that Ed had died on 30th November



2023. He died as he lived, quietly, no fuss, was in my arms and he just passed away.

Ed was a pattern maker by trade and very skilled . His reputation took him to many racing teams, March Racing, Frank Williams etc.. He did have a spell in the film industry where with others he worked on R2D2, model cars for the film Superman and a Batmobile for the Sultan of Brunei (who has sent his condolences). However, motor racing was his love, hence coming to work at Silverstone and our move to Syresham.

Ed loved the village, then Pub, the Sports and Social Club, the Golf Society when he played so well, he had a hole in one! This was until walking the course got too much for him, or maybe it was the celebratory drinks at the 19th hole!

Ed quietly and discreetly in his own way, worked for the village. He helped Brenda in the church by doing maintenance, mowing the grass and being a general handyman.

Ed got involved in the village pantomime, making some amazing props taken from a sketch on a scrap of paper presented by Keith when he was used to working with detailed engineering drawings. But he always came up with the goods!

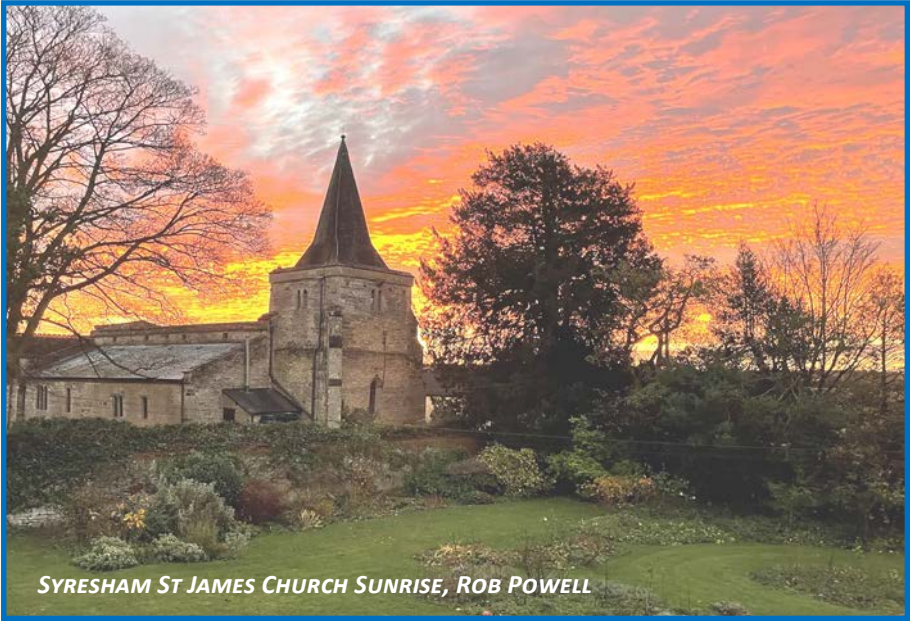
Sadly Ed’s health deteriorated these last few years and recently had him confined to bed, being very weak.

Ed was a devoted husband to Brenda, a loving Dad to Graham, an adored Grandad to Rosie and Mollie and Great Grandad to Mabel.

Cards received by Brenda and Graham have described Ed as a lovely man, a true gentleman, quiet, well respected and a man of few words; loved and cherished not only by his family but all who had the good fortune to know him. Rest in peace you darling man.

**BRENDA AND GRAHAM FARAGHER.**





*SYRESHAM ST JAMES CHURCH SUNRISE, ROB POWELL*

**SYRESHAM CE SCHOOL TREE  
PLANTING AT BRADBERRY CLOSE**

On Monday 5th February, members of Syresham School gathered with people from the village at the corner of Bradbery Close. We were joined by two members from the Stowe Gardens National Trust to plant a Braeburn apple tree as part of The Blossom project, which is a national project. The apple tree was planted by our Head Boy, Head Girl and their Reception class buddies. The school are looking forward to seeing the tree grow and change throughout the seasons and years. They are also looking forward to the Autumn harvest, when they hope they will get the opportunity to taste the apples that they have been watching grow! **BY ISLA, HEADGIRL.**





**SYRESHAM BROWNIES ACTIVITIES**





# Parish Councillor **VACANCY**

**Are you passionate about making a difference in your local community? If the answer is YES then we need you!**

Councillors make a huge difference to local peoples' quality of life and how local issues are dealt with. We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect the communities of Syresham to come forward and help keep our parish a great place to live and work.

You will be supported in your role and offered training. You should be comfortable working electronically, have a can-do attitude and be willing to work as part of a team.

Please email the Parish Clerk to apply at [parishclerk@syresham.com](mailto:parishclerk@syresham.com)



Applications to be received by **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 12:00pm**



# Electrician

Ian Duffield - Syresham

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## PARISH PATH WARDEN

At this time of year it's either cold and frosty or wet and muddy! But the countryside around Syresham is still lovely to walk in. Please enjoy it respectfully: keep to the public rights of way, fasten all gates behind you, leave livestock/crops/machinery alone, keep dogs under close control, and take your litter home.



To plan where you'd like to walk, go to <https://bit.ly/42E284u>, zoom in on Syresham, click on 'Map Features and Tools', select 'Map Features' and then 'Transport and Streets', and then 'Public Rights of Way'.

All the footpaths, bridleways and byways will then appear, along with their reference numbers. These are useful if you need to report any damaged stiles/bridges, missing waymarking signs, or blocked public rights of way to <http://www.fixmystreet.com>. Thanks to all the people who have been reporting such issues in this way, a number of remedial works have been undertaken



by the relevant authorities and landowners over the past

few months.

There is another guided community walk planned for the morning of Saturday 27th April, again with refreshments afterwards. A great way to socialise actively in the fresh air! Look out for further information nearer the time. **ANDREW HORNBY**  
**VILLAGE FOOTPATH WARDEN**

## SYRESHAM BROWNIES

This is a very special year for Syresham Brownies as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. The



Brownie Pack was started 9th January 1974 by Joan Payne. There have been many helpers over the years and we thank them all. When I joined in 1977, Mrs Payne was Brown Owl, Dot Dunkley was Tawny Owl and Barbara Hawkins was Snowy Owl. I have so many happy memories of my time at Brownies which is why after 24 years I am still running it. I hope to give the girls as much fun and new experiences that I had.

This new term has been busy already with winter activities, making bird food feeders, learning about garden birds and completing our Mindfulness Badge. For this the girls had to think about the things that make them happy, they made miniature lava lamps to look at and learnt a few basic yoga positions and breathing techniques. As we move through to the end of this term we will be doing activities linked to Mothering Sunday and Easter as well as hosting a Jacket

Potato Supper. We then look forward to the summer term where we can be outside as much as possible.

I hope to have an Afternoon Tea in June to celebrate the 50 years of Brownies and will be inviting past helpers and Brownies to come along and share their memories. **REPORT BY WOL**



*I will be holding a coffee morning in aid of Breast Cancer, Saturday 9th March in the Sunday School. 10 till 12. All are*

*welcome - PAULA GREEN*

### **MUMS AND TOTS**

A new year has started and we would like to welcome any new Mums and Dads to the village and the surrounding areas. If you have a little one from birth up to school age who would enjoy a play morning, please come and join us at Syresham Village Hall on Wednesday mornings between 10.00 am until 12.00noon during term time. Parents, grandparents and carers are all welcome too.

The play sessions offer the children a chance alongside their parents to explore different toys and activities like a home corner, things to ride on, books, puzzles, toys and table top activities to name but a few.

There is a soft play area set aside for the very young.

#### **THE COSTS FOR EACH SESSION ARE:**

£2 per adult; £1 per child over 1 year;

50p per child under 1 year.

Refreshments are offered to the children to encourage eating and sharing together. Sometimes different fruits and vegetables are provided.

Tea and coffee is available during the morning, and there is ample parking space at the Village Hall.

Cathy, Beryl and myself look forward to meeting you.

**HAZEL BULLEN**, Mob 07798-567884

### **SYRESHAM GARDENING CLUB**

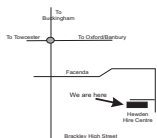
The Gardening Club enjoyed a demonstration of Christmas wreath making in November after which we all made our own individual Christmas wreaths. Our Christmas meeting included a delicious afternoon tea provided and served by club members followed by a festive Dingbats Quiz. January was our Annual General Meeting and a Fun Quiz on garden flowers. We also looked at our programme for 2024 which includes some interesting talks, films and visits. Our first visit will be to Canons Ashby Snowdrop Trail on the afternoon of Wednesday February 21<sup>st</sup>.

We always welcome new members, but if you would like to join us as a visitor you will be more than welcome. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 2.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, although this may vary if we are taking part in an outside visit. If you are interested in joining us or would just like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me or our Chairman Dot Dunkley. We would love to hear from you. **CHRIS MUNSEY**

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## **SYRESHAM AND DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY**



2024 will mark the 80th anniversary



of the D-Day Landings on June 6th, 1944. The Northamptonshire History Forum is planning celebrations to mark this very important event. Syresham Parish Council will be proposing something to mark the occasion.

And the History Society hopes to set up a celebration of the contributions of men from Northamptonshire.

Northampton Museums and Art Gallery will be creating a commemorative exhibition in libraries at Brackley, Daventry, Towcester and Weston Favell.



Each library will host exhibition cabinets filled with locally based stories, objects and memories of D-

Day and its immediate aftermath. Telling the story of home and away, the project will emphasise the Northamptonshire connection to D-Day. It will look at those serving in the theatre of war and the impact on the home front.

I am wondering if there is any Syresham family memorabilia, photographs, stories of the landings,

or remembrances of local men serving on the beaches at that time?

If you have anything that might be of local interest, or information about relatives serving at the time, do please drop me a line, or give me a call? The History Society would be happy to welcome any local family memorabilia to copy and preserve.

Deadline for inclusion in either the May or August editions of Syresham Times, April 15th 2024. Many thanks in anticipation!

**IAN DRAPER, HISTORY SOCIETY  
CHAIRMAN.**

**GEMS** Syresham Gems Ladies' Group has continued to meet on the second Wednesday of the month. We have enjoyed talks from varied speakers, including exploring our family history, Well Being and Tai Chi and we recently joined the History Society for a fascinating talk about Japan's Floating World by Laura Malpas.

Over the summer we had a trip to Coton Manor Gardens and an evening 'get together' to enjoy the ice cream we had made at Gallones (in Towcester) as well as a drink or two! Norma kindly hosted our Christmas meeting, where a meal, cooked by the committee, was appreciated by all.

We are looking forward to a full programme for 2024. Next month Joe Reed joins us from Starbucks to tell us how the food supply chain works, entitled 'From Farm to Fork'

We always welcome new members and visitors of all ages. Please come and give us a try! **SALLY EARL-DAVIES**



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## SYRESHAM WESLEYAN CHAPEL

Firstly thank you to everyone who filled a shoe box this past year. We were thrilled to see so many boxes and know some



people have already said they have started on this years contribution. This run up to Christmas knowing you are helping children who have never received a present is so special and thank you to everyone who joined us for tea and cake and bringing along their box.

Christmas services were wonderful and we thank everyone who joined us and led services.

**BREAKFAST CHURCH** meets twice a month and all the children are keen and eager to take part in all activities and a thank you to Abby for allowing us to use her stable as a living crib story.

We are now looking forward to Easter and would say the Chapel is open every day for anyone who wants to be quiet, offer a prayer or put a request in the prayer box. We found a note the other week from a gentleman who lived in the village 50 years ago saying he went to Sunday School here.

We are so thrilled for Paula having good news after her surgery and have been regularly supporting her.

**DOT DUNKLEY**

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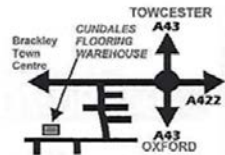
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Junior 14-17 years old £8.50; Adult 18 years and over £15.00; OAP 60/65+ £8.50; Joint Couple £25.00. Please remember to bring your membership card with you to renew for this year.

**SUNDAY CARVERY:** 11<sup>th</sup> February, 10<sup>th</sup> March & 14<sup>th</sup> April.

Takeaway available if pre-ordered with Sarah.

**QUIZ NIGHTS:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March & Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
Prize Quiz starts at 7.30pm teams of up to 6 players

**SPECIALITY FOOD NIGHTS:** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Italian, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Irish & Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April - English  
Serving from 7pm

**SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH - BOARD GAMES  
NIGHT - NEW FOR THIS YEAR!**

Simply sit at a table and choose a game to play! We currently have Connect 4, Ludo, Snakes and Ladders, Tiddlywinks, Marble Drop, Battleships, Jacks & Jenga. We will be selling homemade soup and crusty bread on the evening. Night starts from 7pm, soup from 5.30pm.

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - EASTER  
PRIZE BINGO** Join us for our prize bingo evening - 7.45pm start



**SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL LIVE BAND GLENN  
DARREN AND THE KREW KATS**

Including specialty cocktail bar and raffle with all donations in aid of Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance

**ADVANCED NOTIFICATIONS:**

**ANNUAL BEER FESTIVAL** - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of June Live band on the Saturday at 6pm - BBQ Friday and Saturday - Contact Sarah to sponsor a barrel or for more information

**MURDER MYSTERY EVENING** - Saturday 14th September

Following this success of last year's evening we will be presenting Murder in the Pizzeria! As previously, we will need 14 people to play the characters with spaces available if you would just like to watch the action and enjoy the meal. Contact Sarah to book your place and let her know if you would like to play a character or just watch.

**ANNUAL MEMBERS NIGHT** - Saturday 29th June

**CLASSIC AND MODERN VEHICLE SHOW** - Sunday 1st September

**CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY** - Saturday 21st December

**CONTACT SARAH WHITEHEAD FOR ALL  
EVENTS - 07912 784294 -**

[sarahjwhitehead@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahjwhitehead@btinternet.com)





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**SOLUTIONS SEE PAGE 9**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE VILLAGE HALL THESE DAYS?

<b>MON-DAYS</b>	<p>DANCE CLASSES 6.00PM TO 8.30PM (<i>Term time</i>)</p>	<p><b>TUESDAYS</b></p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays</p>	<p>11.00am to 2.30pm BALLET/PILATES/ SEATED PILATES (<i>Term Time</i>)</p> <p>5.30PM TO 7.00P.M. DANCE (<i>Term Time</i>)</p> <p>6.00PM TILL 7.15PM BROWNIES, <u>Sunday School Room</u>,</p> <p>TAEKWANDO 7.30PM TO 9.00PM</p> <p>PERSONAL TRAINING 7.30PM TO 8.30PM</p> <p>FRIENDSHIP CLUB (29/03) 2.15PM TO 4.00 PM FROM APRIL 1ST 2022</p> <p>CRAFT GROUP, <i>Sunday School</i> 7.30-10.00PM</p>
<p><b>WEDNES-DAYS</b></p> <p>1<sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY</p> <p>2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAY</p> <p>LAST WEDNESDAY</p>	<p>10.00AM TO 11.45AM MUMS &amp; TOTS (<i>TERM-TIME</i>)</p> <p>12.15 TO 1.15PM PILATES (<i>TERM TIME</i>)</p> <p>2.30 TO 4.30PM GARDENING CLUB (<i>FROM JANUARY</i>)</p> <p>DANCE 5.00PM TO 7.00PM</p> <p>BALLET 7.15PM TO 9.00PM</p> <p>HISTORY SOCIETY 7.30PM TO 9.30PM</p> <p>GEMS WOMEN'S GROUP 7.30PM TO 9.30PM</p> <p>7.30PM PARISH COUNCIL</p>	<p><b>THURSDAYS</b></p>	<p>COFFEE SHOP 10.30AM to 12.30pm</p> <p>BOWLS CLUB 2.00PM TO 4.00PM <i>(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)</i></p>
<b>FRIDAYS</b>	<p>Various activities</p> <p>SPORTS CLUB QUIZ (3RD FRIDAY) SPORTS CLUB)</p>	<p><b>SATURDAYS &amp; SUNDAYS</b></p>	<p>SEIDOKAN 2ND &amp; 4TH SUNDAYS 10.00AM - 12.00PM</p> <p>SOCIAL EVENTS SPORTS CLUB</p>
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<p>ST JAMES CHURCH 11.00AM</p> <p>1ST &amp; 3RD SUNDAY</p> <p>2ND SUNDAY</p> <p>4TH SUNDAY</p>	<p>HOLY COMMUNION</p> <p>MORNING WORSHIP</p> <p>PRaise AND PRAYER</p>	<p>SYRESHAM CHAPEL</p> <p>WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICE 6.00 P.M.</p>

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