

# Lois Weedon and Weston Newsletter

July/August 2020 – Summer Edition

## From the Editor

Well, as week 19 of the lockdown passes and I go looking for material for the Newsletter, I am grateful to my various keen contributors. As some of the more observant of you may notice I use the same format each time to edit the Newsletter, using the same or similar headings for each edition. For example, this edition last year had the Horticultural Show catalogue (in short form), adverts for Village events, Drama productions etc. and a report of the May Day Country Fair. Editing this edition started by deleting all of these, hence starting with almost a blank sheet!!

However we still have enough content to justify a publication and as we get used to the new “normal” going forward maybe there will be plenty of new and interesting stuff to share with the community.

In this edition we have: Parish Council update, Church Reports, appeals for support across a range fundraising projects and a delightful article by Sheila French entitled “From Nine to Ninety”. Plus as much of the regular content as I can.

Some sad news: Earlier this year we learned of the unexpected death of Peter Warner, of Plumpton Manor. Our condolences go to his wife, Sally and their family.

The community recently experienced serious disruption to our water supplies and I have been asked to include comments about the relatively poor customer service on the part of the service provider, Anglian Water. While their engineers, no doubt, worked tirelessly to fix the supply problems, Anglian Water’s customer service communication could not be described as effective or timely and resulted in concerns and resulting confusion. If anyone has a suggestion on how the collective negative experience can be fed back to Anglian Water it might avoid similar occurrences in the future.

The Village Hall is open (again) !! Following the recent Government decision to relax lockdown rules, as they apply to community centres, the Trustees took the decision to re-open the Hall for hirers but under strict Covid-19 guidelines. The details are included in this edition.

The Drama Group have been meeting (on-line, via Zoom) and reading plays and other stories. However, as you probably know, public performances and rehearsals for those performances have been banned for the time being. We hope to bring you good news about when we can entertain you again, once these restrictions have been lifted, but we fear that won’t be for some time yet. Fingers crossed !!!

Finally a massive thank you to Trevor King for working so tirelessly to widen the footpath between our two villages and then beyond below the junction with Milthorpe. An excellent job which is greatly appreciated by all of us. I now deliver to most folks by email. However, I am also aware there are a number of households who don’t receive emails, or have yet to share their email address with me, and so they will receive printed copies. Please bear with me as I get round the Village. The next edition of the newsletter after this will be in September/October 2020 and all material for that edition should be given to me by Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

*Paul Smith, 8 Vicarage Rise (01327 860626) Email: [loisweedonpaul@gmail.com](mailto:loisweedonpaul@gmail.com)*

## Parish Council

Here is a summary of the most recent Parish Council meeting held on **July 27<sup>th</sup> held** on-line & email due to Covid-19 restrictions. Full minutes of council meetings are posted on the Village Notice Boards and on the Parish Council website. If anyone would like more on any matter, please contact the Clerk, Ken Power.

**Finance Matters: Accounts** 2020/21 to-date and budget performance were reviewed and approved. These have been posted on the Village website and shared by email to those on the community email list

**Payments** were approved for EON (electricity supply and maintenance), Clerk’s salary and expenses, Ground Care Company (mowing churchyard), Complete Ground Management (mowing Millennium Field)

**Millennium Field:** It was agreed that the rent paid by the school for their use of the field should remain unchanged for the year 2019 / 20 and an invoice issued accordingly. This rent will be reviewed again in July 2021.

**Other matters:** It was noted that the Council had resubmitted a declaration to the Pensions Regulator confirming no need for a pension plan at this time.

**Date and time of next meeting:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - actual venue and method of meeting will depend on Government guidelines with regard to the lockdown regulations

*Ken Power, Parish Clerk, Tel: 01327 860054 (E-mail: [wlwparishclerk@outlook.com](mailto:wlwparishclerk@outlook.com))*

### Clock in need of repair

Dear folks,

Does anyone know of a clock repairer – please contact Jenny Wilde (01327 860487)

Jenny

### Winners of Village Hall '100 Club' Lottery

June 2020		July 2020	
Win Seaman	117	Dave Kirkham	74
John Busby	15	Jonathan Staples	13
Louisa Richards	122	Jonathan Highley	30

The lottery is usually drawn once per month at the WI meeting.

During the lockdown, the draw will still take place on the first Wednesday of the month.

Prizes are £25, £10, £5. - We still have lottery numbers available.

*It will soon be time for your membership of the 100-Club to be renewed. Reminder letters will be sent out shortly.*

Rachel Smith (01327 860626)

E-mail: [rachel.k.smith4@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.k.smith4@gmail.com)



## Weston & Weedon Horticultural Society

### 5 from the garden *in the season of plenty*



- Many of us are shopping less and being more inventive with what is available when we cook. Grate or spiralize a courgette, dip it in flour and deep fry.
- Shredded nasturtiums can be whipped into butter for potatoes. Roses into macarons and lavender into biscuits or cake.
- Lots of vegetables can be eaten raw at this time. Pick them young and put them in a salad. Dress with an oil flavoured with garden mint, thyme or some basil.
- Herbs can also be added to salt and butter bringing extra layers of flavour to your food.
- When the tomatoes start to arrive marinate some and serve with young cucumbers. Freeze some goat's cheese and grate it over the dish for salty seasoning.

### **STAY SAFE**

*See you all in 2021 for the 80<sup>th</sup> WWHS Annual Show*

### Nursery Rhyme Quiz

The answers to last edition's quiz

1. RACHTBC – Ride a Cock Horse to Banbury Cross	2. PACPACBM – Pat A Cake Pat A Cake, Baker's Man
3. RRRYB – Row Row Row Your Boat	4. TGODOY – The Grand Old Duke of York
5. PPTKO – Polly Put The Kettle On	6. JAJWUTHTFAPOW – Jack & Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water
7. OMHAF – Old Macdonald Had a Farm	8. PCPCWHYB – Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, Where Have You Been
9. WKCR – Who Killed Cock Robin	10. BBBSHYAW – Baa Baa Black Sheep, Have You Any Wool

## Church News

So what has the 'Church' been up to during the past 2 years? - (Rev Carole left us in September 2018).

As you may all have gathered we now have the prospect of a new Rector. The Rev Diane Whittaker joins our Benefice on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. She plans to move in to the Rectory around the 24<sup>th</sup> August. We first met Diane via Zoom at the beginning of the year. The interview team comprised members of the Benefice PCC, representatives of the Diocese and patrons from our supporting colleges. Archdeacon Richard was in the Chair and although she was the only applicant she was unanimously accepted. After due process she was offered and accepted the post. Very sadly in the intervening period her husband, Jon, passed away after falling ill at the beginning of the year. We were naturally concerned that she may need time to reflect, however she quite promptly stated she would wish still to take up the post. She joins us after an 8 year incumbency at the Clevely Benefice based in Potterspurty.

For the last 2 years the main focus of this Shepherdless flock was to continue the 3 year Trial which was started at the beginning of 2018 whereby instead of having 6 separate church PCC's we would unite in a single Benefice PCC with each church forming its own BRICC. This rather bizarre acronym stands for **B**uildings, **R**epair, **I**nsurance and **C**ontents Committee. A very unsubtle concoction implying a focus on 'bricks' and mortar. A PCC has the status of the legal entity with potentially onerous responsibilities. The legal bit is governed by Church law which for reasons of history carries the same legal weight as the law of the land. The BRICC however is more relaxed and from my experience (Churchwardens are automatically the Chairman) are conducted in the same vein.

So far we have flourished, services held, fundraisers organised, inter-Benefice relationships strengthened and, having been scrutinised by our masters, worthy of a replacement for our departed priest. At one stage the Bishop cast doubt on our ability to finance an incumbent and we were threatened with what amounted to eventual closure.

So, viewing progress parochially, what have we been up to? Firstly we completed all the repair work dictated by the infamous Quinquennial. The church insists upon a 5 yearly survey of churches to ensure that the building is maintained. The cost of repairs was in excess of £15,000. No sooner had we completed the 2014 Quinquennial, we had our 2019 survey and inspection. Our insurers pointed out we had not had a recent electrical inspection and also our fire extinguishers were out of date. We had already installed an alarm system to comply with their conditions. The electrical work cost around £4,000 but we now have working floodlights, heaters and path lights and no danger of electric shock or conflagration. The infamous crack in the walls has not moved significantly but we were warned that the plethora of trees around the church were a long term problem. It will not have escaped your notice that we now have a much more visible church. Five tall pine trees were removed and, to prevent the church wall continually collapsing, the two crab apple trees at the west gate.

We have also, after what seems like period of 10 years discussion, submitted plans for a toilet and servery which has received provisional approval by the powers that be. All we have to do is complete a detailed design, invite tenders for the work, gain final approval and find the funds.

The church has benefitted from a spring clean and tidying, the grass is mown (courtesy of Luke Warren and the Parish Council) and one visiting priest observed that it "looked well loved".

We have seen our way through (fingers crossed) the Covid-19 crisis and will be opening the churches for services from the 12<sup>th</sup> of July. These are the church services and opening times:

**All Sundays** Church open for Private Prayer 9.00am – 3.00 pm except during Services

**All Wednesdays** except 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. Church open for visitors, by appointment with Churchwarden. 3.00 pm – 10 pm

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** Mattins 9.30 am

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** Morning Prayer (visiting preacher) 9.30 am

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** Evensong 6.00 pm

Those in Lois Weedon will have been aware that the church has not been entirely silent during this period. (Unlike the church clock which is proving a little tricky for our Tower Captain Dave Kirkham owing to its idiosyncratic mechanism and age). Aply assisted by Richard Templeman we have played music through a PA system to accompany the Thursday evening clapping for the NHS. The church also participated in the VE Day celebrations playing songs of the period from a bunting festooned Church.

I'm really looking forward to welcoming our new Rector, it was never in my plan to become a sole church functionary and I could do with a bit of a backup.

*Frank Hunter, Churchwarden*

Rev Diane and late husband Jon



## FROM THE ASWELL BENEFICE

We Need Your Help

Sadly during Lockdown, and now, your churches have had a significant reduction in income, not only because we are unable to put on any fundraising events but also, and most importantly, no services means no collections.

All of your churches rely on the generosity of all the parishioners, the collection monies go toward the running costs of these beautiful buildings. Those churches that do not have a high percentage of planned, regular giving, depend upon the service collections to pay for the heating, electricity and running repairs, allowing any surplus to go to the Benefice to pay for our Rector.

I am writing to ask you if you would prayerfully consider giving on a monthly basis. It does not matter how much or how little - every penny helps and enables your churches to budget and plan.

If you do find it in your heart to give please would you contact your Parish Treasurer:

Wappenham:	Anthony Tucker	<a href="mailto:anthonyoh.tucker@gmail.com">anthonyoh.tucker@gmail.com</a>	01327 860516
<b>Lois Weedon &amp; Weston:</b>	<b>Terry Tyler</b>	<a href="mailto:terrytyleruk@gmail.com">terrytyleruk@gmail.com</a>	<b>01327 860277</b>
Syresham:	Brenda Faragher	<a href="mailto:brendafaragher@aol.com">brendafaragher@aol.com</a>	01280 850310
Whitfield:	Brenda Faragher	<a href="mailto:brendafaragher@aol.com">brendafaragher@aol.com</a>	01280 850310
Helmdon:	Ann Netten	<a href="mailto:apnetten@hotmail.com">apnetten@hotmail.com</a>	01280 851168

I do not ask this of you lightly, I know many have found it difficult during Lockdown and many are struggling financially, but we truly need your help.

My love to you all, God bless.

*Wiggy Smith*

### **News from the St Loys Pre-School.**

We will now be open five days a week, Monday to Friday, 8:50 to 3:30 pm during term time (that's up from 2.5 days per week). There will be more information coming soon on our website: <https://stloys.co.uk/>

In my new role as Chair of the St. Loys governing body, I'm pushing the website forward with the support of the entire school and I'm writing the content and campaigns at the moment. As the heart of our little village, I'd love to be able to get the news out that we're now open 5 full days. We greatly appreciate the help from the Village Newsletter to promote this. Many thanks.

*Damien Trevatt*

### **Local girl plans Volunteering Trip to Thailand**

July next year Josie Highley is going to Thailand on a wildlife conservation programme. Part of the challenge is to raise the funds herself. She has organised a few events, the latest of which is to climb the three highest peaks in Scotland, England and Wales. She is appealing for sponsorship and would appreciate any contributions.

Please see below the link to her "go fund me" page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/65pqdz-volunteering-in-thailand> .

*Josie Highley*

### **Avon Cosmetics and Greeting Cards**

If anyone would like an Avon catalogue to browse through or if there is anything you would like, please contact me – details below

Please note: I accept Cash/Cheque/ BACS and I have no minimum spend.

I also sell Greeting Cards, and if anyone is interested please Ring or Text me

Ring or Text - Mobile: 07495 156780 -

Or Home telephone: 01295 768275 & leave a clear message.

*Penny Spademan*

## From Nine to Ninety

The first five years of my school life were at the school at Milthorpe and in 1940 I was lucky enough to be May Queen. This photo was taken in front of the back door to the school-house. It had originally been the girls' entrance; the boys' entrance was at the front of the building, linked by a passage. This all changed when the cloakrooms were added.



In the late 1980s when Robin retired we came back to Weston to live and did a lot of repairs and rebuilding. We needed a new door to replace the very battered and broken one at the front of the house. It was just at the time that the school-house was becoming part of the school and we were able to purchase some of the doors. Since the front wall of our house needed to be rebuilt, we were able to make the shape to accommodate the arched door.

I love having the door and lifting the great big latch. It has an extra meaning for me as my great grandfather was the first headmaster at the school and my grandmother grew up in the school-house, so I have a physical connection with past family.



So here I am at 90, still in front of the same old door.

*Sheila French  
July 2020*

## **'Walk, Water and Wheels in Scotland'**

This is a 425 mile journey, made up of four parts. It was conceived after Matthew's Botswana World Challenge trip was cancelled due to Corona Virus. **The trip is as follows ...**

### **1 - Walk 100 miles from Stirling to Fort William.**

Heading through Callander, the route then takes in part of the Rob Roy Way and the Great Trossachs Path before joining the West Highland Way at beautiful Loch Lomond. We then head north past the Black Mount, Glen Coe, over the Devil's Staircase and finally into Fort William through Glen Nevis.

### **2 - Paddle 60 miles from Fort William to Inverness.**

Starting at Corpach, we enter the Caledonian Canal and paddle an open Canadian canoe through the canals and lochs of the Great Glen: Loch Lochy, Loch Oich, and Loch Ness (at 23 miles long, bound to encounter Nessie).

### **3 - Cycle 160 miles from Inverness to Stirling**

Mostly following National Route 7 on a mixture of sealed and loose surfaces, via the Drumochter Pass, Tummel Bridge, Loch Tay, Lochearnhead and finally Callander to Stirling in time for the Parkinson's Pedal event which we hope will still take place.

### **4 - Cycle 105 miles from Stirling to Fort William.**

We'd planned to finish in time to participate in the Stirling 100 miles Pedal for Parkinsons Event with Team Duncan on 23rd August. (<https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/events/pedal-parkinsons-stirling>). We have been taking part in the Stirling event for many years in support of Alan's great friend Ian, who has been living with Parkinson's for more than 20 years now. It is 8 years since they swam the Corryvreckan together when many of you were so generous in your donations. Sadly the Stirling event has now been cancelled due to the Corona virus situation, so we now plan to cycle the 105 miles from Stirling to Fort William (Corpach).

We hope our current challenge will encourage you to donate here to Parkinson's UK, and to share our page with as many others as you can.

[https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/wwwis\\_alan\\_matthew](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/wwwis_alan_matthew)

*Sincere Thanks - Alan and Matthew Eastwood*

### **The Village Hall is now open for hirers but with the following constraints.**

- Anyone recently with COVID-19 symptoms within 7 days of an event should NOT enter the hall
- No more than **20** people to occupy the hall at any one time
- Social distancing must be observed – at least 1m, ideally 2m apart
- One person at a time in confined spaces – kitchen, washrooms, toilets, storeroom
- The stage area is currently not in use
- Hirers will be responsible for their own personal protection equipment (PPE)
- Hirers must clean any surface they use and own equipment, before and after their hire period  
*Extra time will be allowed for cleaning before and after the normal booked time*
- Hall windows must be opened during a hire period and closed afterwards
- Contact details (name & telephone number) of each attendee must be retained by the hirer
- Hirer should report any instance of a user becoming ill during a hire period to the administrator

#### **The Village Hall will provide:**

- Hand sanitiser at each entrance and exit
- A cleaning register – updated, as appropriate, by the regular hall cleaner
- Paper towels and hand wash in the kitchen
- PPE – masks and aprons for the regular hall cleaner
- Upgraded First Aid box, in line with COVID-19 guidelines – the kitchen is the designated treatment room
- Engaged/Vacant signage on toilet doors to avoid unnecessary contact by the wash basins
- Other health & wellbeing signage as appropriate

#### **The Village Hall will NOT provide:**

- Tea towels, table cloths and cotton (roller) hand towels
- Access to fridge, freezer and microwave, except by prior arrangement
- Storage for food stuffs outside of the agreed hire period

*Any questions please contact: Paul Smith, Administrator, (01327-860626) Email: [loisweedonpaul@gmail.com](mailto:loisweedonpaul@gmail.com)*