



# Flitcham cum Appleton VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

## February 2019

Produced for the Community by The Parish Council

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### CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3rd February 8.00 am

#### Holy Communion

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 11.00 am

#### Family Service

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### Hospitals Fundraising

The result of the 2018 Christmas Envelope Appeal for King's Lynn Hospitals League of Friends amounted to £252.28 collected in Flitcham. Many thanks to all contributors. I still collect used postage stamps for the League of Friends which they also appreciate. Many thanks **Yvonne Sturman**

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### Storytelling Night Report

On Friday 28th December 2018 a story telling night was held at The Bell. What a joy! Many people attended including some visiting children. One of the children, a 10 year old sang in Chinese the song Merry Christmas. We were told by a very proud grandmother that she is taught mandarin at school. The children also sang other songs in English which included Silent Night. A poem by Terry Allen which talked about Lent, Gin and Sue had us all laughing.

Several favourite passages from stories were read from books and a poem written by Deborah Griffiths about the ongoing saga of her moles in the garden. Monica's daughter and son-in-law from Mexico were staying with her and they told us about the Christmas celebrations in Mexico. They start on the 16th December and finish on the 2nd February.

It was a delightful and interesting evening and a big thank you to Patsy Young for organising the yearly event once again, Patsy supplied drinks for everyone with warm blackberry and apple pies which was most welcome. The room was decorated with lanterns and fairy lights in small glass vases on the tables. This gave the room a warm and welcoming feel.

Thank you to all who attended. **JS**

### New Year's Eve Report

This year at The Bell for New Year's Eve Disco Don and the Disco Chix organised the music and provided the lighting. Committee members and some of the guests provided the food for the evening, an enormous cheese board, sausages, sausage rolls, spring rolls, pickles, hot chicken wings and cakes to name just some of the delights. Some of us even got up and danced to the superb music. The Committee has had some good feedback and we are pleased that everyone enjoyed themselves. Sue and Terry Allen provided the fireworks for midnight and Terry with Richard Gray lit them, a splendid display.

A big thank you to Sue and Terry, Richard and Don Addyman you all made what was a great end to 2018 and start of 2019. **JS**

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### The Gardening Year February

Although February can be cold and bleak, and often brings us snow, there are still some jobs we can be getting on with when there is a break in the weather.

■ Cut down dead looking foliage from perennials and grasses right down to the ground. Clear away dead leaves and other debris from flower beds, to tidy up the garden and remove a winter haven for slugs and snails. Clear leaves off the lawn to help light and moisture reach the grass and keep it healthy.

■ Weed out perennial weeds and annual weed seedlings before they have a chance to spread when the weather warms up.

■ Winter prune Wisteria by cutting the stems back to 2-3 buds to keep growth in check and encourage the plant to produce less leaves and more flowers.

■ If the ground is not frozen or

waterlogged, trees and shrubs can be planted or moved. Prepare the ground by digging the soil to loosen it, and work in some organic matter (compost or very well-rotted manure), and leave it for a day or so. When planting, dig a hole to the depth of the roots and at least twice the diameter of the root system, breaking up any compacted soil. Place plant into hole, spreading out the roots and stake if necessary. Refill carefully, and firm in gently to get rid of air pockets, but not too hard to compact the soil.

■ Deadhead flowering pansies and primulas, to encourage new flowers and prevent them setting seed.

■ Although it is too cold to sow seeds outdoors, it is possible to sow flower and veggie seeds under cover, in a propagator in the greenhouse or on a windowsill. Cosmos, sweet peas, marigolds, petunias, tomatoes, leeks and carrots and many more can benefit from a head start!

■ If bad weather keeps you in the shed, greenhouse or garage, give your tools a good clean. Oil wooden handles with linseed oil and sharpen blades. Cleanliness helps prevent disease from spreading and good maintenance will prolong the life of your gardening tools. Sharp secateurs will give you a cleaner sharper cut next time you use them – which is good for the plant and less work for you. **Carol Allen**

**Gardening Angels 01485 600771**

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### Parish Council Report

The outstanding planning application for Nanalmo in the Village has gone back to implement changes and a decision is due to be made on the 31st January 2019.

Following a review on Income & Expenditure/ Financial Matters proposed budget it was agreed to increase the precept by £150.

The defibrillator casing has been put

**Continued overleaf**

up on the Community Centre wall ready for the electrics and defibrillator to be installed. The casing will have a key code, this code will be given if appropriate when a 999 call is made.

The Annual Inspection Report for the Playground and play equipment had been received and circulated and it was noted that there was nothing of major concern highlighted other than the normal issues regarding algae on the wooden equipment that needs to be dealt with etc. It was hoped that the Community Payback Scheme would help deal with this in the Spring along with painting the fencing. The cost to the Parish of maintaining the playground was discussed and it was felt that the playground should continue to be supported by the PC as the village had very little else for the younger fraternity, fundraising would need to take place should the playground need major investment.

Parish Clerk is writing to Highways with regards to the Bridge on Hillington Road, near misses and the car written off late last year.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 5th, all welcome to attend from the Parish, we also still have two vacancies. An issue did arise when at the meeting before last, only three councillors were able to attend, this causes problems if needing to make a decision as we do require four. Please help your local village we are here for you. **JS**

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## The bookclub

The bookclub members spent a cosy evening at Sue Loader's home discussing a book called "The Sealwoman's Gift" by Sally Magnusson. It is a historical tale about slavery from Iceland to Algiers. Some of us had no idea that four hundred years ago, pirates had invaded Iceland and other nordic countries. A number were killed while hundreds of other people were sold into slavery in North Africa. Many died, others were eventually released of whom some returned back home but many settled and made a life for themselves in their new countries. It had been a good read and we are looking forward to the next meeting, **MCM**

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## Copy deadline

Copy needs to be received before the 16th day of the month to allow time for editing and to ensure that it is out before the month starts.

## Social Club Events

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Friday 8th February  
**Poker Night**

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Saturday 9th February 8.00pm  
**Wolf Cabaret**

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Friday 15th February 7.30pm  
**Ladies Night**

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Saturday 16th Feb 7.30 for 8.00pm  
**Meal Night**

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Tuesday 22nd 7.45pm  
**Social Club Committee**

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Friday 22nd February  
**Poker Night**

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Saturday 23rd February  
**Quiz Night**

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## Christmas Eve Carol Singing

We wish to thank all who contributed so generously to raise £133.41 which, as usual, goes to SOS Children's Villages.

They offer assistance to children around the world who have lost their families, whether through war or natural disaster, providing permanent care, and working to protect their interests and safeguard their rights.

Those with long memories may recall that back in 1974 a group of us, headed by Richard Cross, set up a fundraising group in Flitcham for this charity. Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler, our former MP and then a member of the Select Committee on Overseas Aid, told us that SOS was a shining example of a charity that really delivered. We raised thousands of pounds over several years and, in a very small way, we continue this tradition every Christmas Eve. **TA**

(<https://>

[www.soschildrensvillages.org.uk](https://www.soschildrensvillages.org.uk)).

## Exhibition of Bygones

at

St Mary's Church Flitcham

10.0am to 4.0pm daily

Friday 15th Feb

Saturday 16th Feb

Sunday 17th Feb

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£2.00 entry

Bric a brac, refreshments and lots more in

Flitcham Community Centre

Enquiries to Paul Blackmur

[paul\\_blackmur@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul_blackmur@yahoo.co.uk)

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All proceeds go to St Mary's Church and Flitcham Community Centre

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## DOG FOULING

Just a reminder to those who walk their dogs in the public access field behind the playing field. Dog faeces can contain a parasite called Neospora Caninum. This is extremely dangerous to pregnant cows and calves. It can cause miscarriage, death of the foetus causing stillbirth. It remains in the soil.

I have recently noticed an increase in poo not being picked up and I have been picking up where I can.

We are very lucky to have access to this space and should respect it. The current batch of cows are exactly the animals most at risk and by being irresponsible we are potentially affecting their health and the livelihood of their owner.

Please, if you haven't been clearing up, do so. It is the law anyway. Thank you.

**Geraldine Farrow**

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## Sell Your Unwanted goods Here