

Spring 2018

The parish newsletter for
Flitton, Greenfield
and Wardhedges

Flit
'n'
MORE

What can I say? Another beautiful photo of the church, this time by Fiona Brown - she also does portraits and you can contact her through her advert on Page 18!

I'm always asking for photos to grace this page, and now we need them even more - see Page 7 where the Friends of Flitton and Greenfield Church are planning a 2019 village calendar - and for 2019 that's only the half of it, especially if you are a keen gardener...

Please read Dave's Diary on Page 4, where our Vicar gives you details of all the services

leading up to Easter. I was reminded of this while watching the TV series 'A Vicar's Life' when one of the vicars pointed out that although nearly anyone can tell you the story of Jesus' birth, it's really his life, death and resurrection that are important. And there's plenty of church activities you can take part in during Holy Week; try the dawn service outside Pulloxhill Church as the sun rises over a splendid panorama of Bedfordshire. Amazing!

Angela Ayres
Editor



The Church Christmas Cryptic Quiz was won by Diane Alroyd from Harpenden and raised £100 for church funds; this was down on last year, possibly due to rumours that it was more challenging than previous years! If you would like the answers, contact Simon Sadler on flittonsadler1@btinternet.com

From Your Parish Council ...

Keep up to date with what's going on in Flitton, Greenfield and Wardhedges

The Parish Council has just finalised its Annual budget and the precept for 2018-19. Despite the demand for funding of various projects in the Parish (more below) we have managed to keep the increase to a minimum at 3.2% for our tax base. In terms of a Band D household, this is the equivalent of a £2 per year increase or 2.9%. We felt this was acceptable and keeps us close to the current rate of inflation.

One of our main projects this year will be to undertake Highway improvement works in Wardhedges and along Silsoe Road where the traffic speeds are excessive for a country road. We have a scheme which CBC Highway Engineers have designed and it will go out to formal consultation shortly. It involves two raised tables and a widening of the verge to make it safer for pedestrians as well as slowing traffic down. We managed again to be chosen as a project under the CBC match funding scheme, so the Parish Council only has to contribute 50% of the total cost. Have no doubt that this is still a huge amount of money, but we would never be able to undertake any highway work in the Parish without successful applications being made and credit for this is due to the Highway Sub Committee members and Chair.

Whilst mentioning speeding traffic, I would also like to say thank you to the voluntary Speed Watch group which provides our data about speeding and their liaison with the Police providing car registration numbers of those offenders. The group relies on volunteers and Cllr Jen Fisher is our coordinator who would be happy to hear from anyone who has time to help with this (jen.fisher@flittongreenfield.org.uk)

I mentioned other projects in the Parish and there are a few where bids for funding have recently been made, including the Playing Field access. As these are competitive bidding processes I should not yet talk about the plans in detail, but please be assured that we take every opportunity to apply for funding on your behalf and without this we would not be able to make our budget go so far.

One project which I can mention is the path along the river linking Flitton to Greenfield. This will provide a year-round farm track type surface, so that people with buggies and prams, cyclists or wheelchair users will be able to use it at any time of the year without it being too muddy and slippery. Appropriate measures will also be taken to prevent it being abused by any motorised vehicles or bikes. Funding for this project has already been confirmed and work should commence later this year.

Continued on Inside Back Page



Services for Spring at St John the Baptist, Flitton...

Sunday 4 th March	11 am.	Morning Worship	
Sunday 11 th March	10 a.m.	Mothering Sunday Service - a very special service celebrating mums of all generations - every mum receives a floral gift	
Sunday 19 th March	10. 30 am	Cafe Church - Informal and sociable with a short reflection at 11 am. Lots of coffee, cake and chat!	
Sunday 25 th March	10 am	Palm Sunday - a Three Churches Service when we welcome our friends from Silsoe and Pulloxhill for this special service to mark the start of Holy Week. Palm crosses will be distributed, and you are very welcome to stay for coffee afterwards.	
Sunday 1 st April	11 am	Holy Communion for Easter with the choir. There will be refreshments afterwards and Easter eggs for the children.	
Sunday 8 th April	9.30 am	Parish Communion followed by refreshments	
Sunday 15 th April	10.30 am	Cafe Church - see above! Families specially welcome	
Sunday 22 nd April	8.30 am	Holy Communion - a short service without music from the Book of Common Prayer	
Sunday 29 th April	10 am	Three Churches Service at Silsoe (no service at Flitton)	
Sunday 6 th May	10 a.m.	Parish Communion - led by the Right Reverend Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans, followed by refreshments. This is a Three Churches Service	
Sunday 13 th May	9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion followed by refreshments	
Sunday 20 th May	10.30 a.m.	Cafe Church - see above! Families especially welcome	
Sunday 28 th May	8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion - a short service without music from the Book of Common Prayer	
Sunday 3 rd June	11 a.m.	Morning Worship	

Dave's Diary Flitton Church News



The Benefice of Silsoe, Flitton and Pulloxhill - Growing as beacons of Christ's light in our communities.

THE BENEFICE JOURNEY INTO LENT AND TO EASTER

February 14th, Ash Wednesday leads us into the season of Lent. We are holding at 7.30pm, Silsoe Church, a service of imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Lent begins with this traditional service of ashing.

Throughout Lent there is a Lent Course run within the Benefice. Each of the first four sessions takes one of the qualities mentioned in the Diocese *Living God's Love* prayer: generosity, joy, imagination and courage. The final session looks at the context in which these qualities are set: "to live your love ... for the sake of the world".

21 February 7.30pm Michelle Lewis'
house 24 High Street, Flitton, MK45 5DU.
Theme; To live your love with Generosity

28 February 7.30pm Pulloxhill Church
Hall

Theme: To live your love with Joy

7 March 7.30pm Silsoe Church
Theme To live your love with Imagination

14 March 7.30pm Michelle Lewis'
house 24 High Street, Flitton, MK45 5DU.
Theme; To live your love with Courage

21 March 7.30pm Silsoe Church
Theme; To live your love for the sake of
the World

On Sunday 25th March we celebrate Palm Sunday with a 10am United Benefice Service, where all our churches join together, at Flitton Church where we give out palms and remember Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

In Holy Week on 29th March, Maundy Thursday, at 7.30pm there is a service of Hand Washing and Holy Communion at Silsoe Church. The following day, Good Friday, 14th April there are two events in our Benefice, a Walk of witness at Silsoe starting at 11am at The Millennium Green and a Walk of Witness starting at The Green in Pulloxhill.

The big day itself, 1st April Easter Day! 7.30am the first communion of Easter at Pulloxhill Church (outside!) followed by breakfast in the church. And two further services, 9.30am Silsoe and 11am Flitton, Easter Day Communion

Do join us on the journey through Lent to Easter Day.

*Dave Bell, Ian Smith,
Gillian Kern, Roy Pinnock*

EASTER LILIES

At Easter, we have a display of lilies in the church in memory of loved ones, and the names are read out during our Easter Sunday service. If you would like one or more, please contact Margaret Butt 01525 862170 mkatebutt@yahoo.co.uk before 25th March. Each lily costs £5

DE GREY MAUSOLEUM

English Heritage opens our mausoleum on the first Sunday of each month from April until September from 2-4pm, also one Wednesday each month, also 2-4pm.

For more info; www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/de-grey-mausoleum/
On 17th June which is Potato Race Day, there will be special talks in the church. and mausoleum if you want to find out about our local history in more detail.



From Mrs Ena Sharp of Flitton Hill

I should like to thank friends, neighbours, the Parish Council, the bell ringers, and the whole village for their good wishes, gifts and flowers on the occasion of my 100th birthday in December. I enjoyed my 'day of fame' immensely, and the peal of bells was magnificent. Thank you all so much.

" Bells ring out for Ena"

The joyful sound of bells could be heard at lunchtime on December 15th 2017 as the local ringers rang rounds and changes for Mrs Ena Sharp's 100th birthday the previous day. We hope you enjoyed listening to them Ena. Many congratulations!

Here we go again...

Friday 18th May

7.30 pm

Flitton Church Hall



OH NO, NOT THAT FLITTON QUIZ AGAIN!

You don't need to be brainy, in fact some might say it would be a disadvantage, you just need to be up for a good time!

BAR!

RAFFLE!

PRIZES!

***Teams of 6 -Ticket price £10 per person includes
'Posh' Ploughman's Supper and there's a licensed bar
(Please no BYO as its a fundraiser for Flitton Church and Friends)***

Call Angela on 01525 860723 or

martandang@btinternet.com to reserve your table

Book your table EARLY to avoid disappointment!

Notice of the 14th Flitton Flit Fun Runs

This year the this event will be on the second Bank Holiday Monday in May.

Monday 28th May 2018

So more time to get your-self fit for a great run around Flitton & Flitwick Moors over a flat cross-country route. See centre pages for entry form. Please let the organisers know if you can help in any way.

For more information, offers of help, or enquiries, please contact David Sedgley on 01525714961 or Jen Fisher on 01525 713917 Or email: flittonflit@gmail.com



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust Spring 2018 Programme

Monday 19th March - 7.45pm at Maulden Church Hall.

Talk on 'The Work of the Woodland Trust', by Paddy Byrne. Woods and their trees are some of Britain's greatest natural treasures. The Woodland Trust's work to protect and enhance these remarkable habitats will be Paddy's theme.

Wednesday 18th April - 7.45pm at Maulden Church Hall.

Orchards East Project – a talk by Steve Halton* - member of Beds & Luton Orchard Group. A three year project led by members of University of East Anglia has been launched in Bedfordshire. It will help record and preserve what remains of our traditional orchards as well as fund new community orchards.

Wednesday 2nd May - Paxton Pits - time to be advised. A Bird Walk around this site, hoping to hear Nightingales - led by Steve Halton- local bird expert.

Saturday 26th May- Invertebrate Day at Flitwick Moor. Our annual joint event with BNHS - this year as part of the Greensand Country Partnership Project.

Saturday 30th June - 10.00 at The Fancott Arms, for a half mile walk to the reserve. A walk around the lovely Fancott Wood & Meadows reserve, led by Graham Bellamy -ex reserve warden. There should be lots of wildflowers, including orchids.

For walks please book as numbers are strictly limited.

£2 per adult requested for talks and walks.

Contact Ann on 07890 347327 or flitvale.info@gmail.com

The Friends of Flitton and Greenfield Church

A word from the recently elected Chair,
Jo Holt

I joined the Friends as I wanted to help preserve our beautiful Church. We do this through various fundraising events. Our 2018/19 diary is already filling up. Please join us and help raise vital funds.



Thurs 18th April, 6.45 pm: AGM at the Church.

Why not come along to find out a bit more about the group?

Sunday 22nd April, 9-11 am: Parish Breakfast at the Church Hall.

Full English, toast, cereal, fruit, tea, coffee, newspapers and chat –

What could be better? Adults £7, children £5.

Booking essential, call Heather on 715439.

Friday 18th May, 7.30 pm: Flitton Church Quiz at the Church Hall.

£10 per person including Ploughman's Supper (teams of 6).

Angela's annual brain-teaser with a raffle and cash bar.

To book, contact Angela at martandang@btinternet.com or 860723

AND NOW SOME EXCITING FUTURE ACTIVITIES...

**Flitton and Greenfield Calendar
2019**



**Flitton and Greenfield Open
Gardens June 2019**



We are collecting local photographs to produce a 2019 calendar. If you would like to submit a photograph, please send to Angela;

martandang@btinternet.com

There will be a small prize for all selected photographs.

Calling all green-fingered villagers!

Next year, we're bringing back the highly-popular Open Gardens event.

If you would like your garden to feature, or would consider being involved in the organisation, please contact me at jo_holt@sky.com

An Illustrated Talk

by

Margaret Butt

"FAMOUS CONNECTIONS"

Flitton's links with Royalty and famous historical events

7:30 pm

Friday 27th April

Flitton Church Hall

Tickets £7:50

Cash Bar

Raffle

For more information contact

Margaret Butt <mkatebutt@yahoo.co.uk>



01525 862022
www.whitehartfliton.co.uk

Hi from the Campbell Family!

Caroline, Colin and son Nathan are delighted and excited to be taking over The White Hart, Flitton and look forward to building a solid and friendly relationship with villagers.

We hope you will enjoy the new menus carefully prepared by Chef Nathan, as we look to establishing the 'village local' as a warm, family and doggy friendly establishment where all will feel welcome.

A quality dining experience, whether it be a casual lunch or special evening dinner will be our pleasure. We look forward to meeting you all.

Opening Times; Tues - Fri 12 - 3 and 6 - 11, Sat 12 - 11, Sun 12 - 8
Food served: Tues - Fri 12 - 2.30 and 6.30 - 9, Sat 12 - 9, Sun 12 - 6

As a taster of what you can expect, here's our menu for Mothers' Day. Book now...

Mothers' Day Menu

Leek and potato soup with mini croque-monsieur
Prawn and lobster cocktail with avocado puree and tomato salsa
Courgette and roast red pepper tartlet with confit cherry tomatoes, basil oil
Ham hock terrine with cider mayonnaise, apple and walnut salad



Roast Sirloin of Beef and Yorkshire pudding with all the trimmings
Pan Roast chicken with smoked paprika and feta pesto,
fine green beans, crushed baby potatoes
Roast Scottish Salmon with rosti potato cake, baby ratatouille and lemon oil
Mediterranean chargrilled quinoa cakes with
coconut, carrot and mange tout salad



Classic lemon tart with raspberry coulis
Bailey's crème brûlée with sable biscuits
Chocolate fondant with vanilla ice cream

Kids' menu available



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YOU THINK YOU
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BUT YOU DONT

MONDAY

Redborne School South
(Gym) 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

Flitwick Lower School,
Temple Way 7:30pm

THURSDAY

Redborne School South
(Gym) 7:30pm

SATURDAY

Flitton & Greenfield
Village Hall 9:30am



THE FAMOUS FLITTON POTATO RACE



Sunday 17th June 2018

FATHERS' DAY!

Yes, it's that time of year to start planning and training for our one and only Famous Flitton Potato Race. Why not join in, come rain or shine, and raise funds for the community and charity

- Run, walk, stagger a mile through Greenfield and Flitton
- Win a unique medal and cash prizes for the mile races
- Carry 20kg, 10kg, 5kg or 2kg depending on your age
- Take up the team challenge to win a cask of beer/case of wine
- Enter a team in the youth team relays
- Raise money for your own charity

How else can you help?

- Advertise the race
- Distribute leaflets and posters
- Promote your business by sponsoring a race or prize
- Help on the day - we need race marshalls, programme sellers and traffic controllers

**Take part and make it a day to remember for all the family
Put it in your diary and for further details please contact
Simon Sadler flittonpotatorace@hotmail.co.uk
or visit www.flittonpotatorace.co.uk
[Online registration now open!](#)**

FLITTON FLITS FUN RUNS

28th May 2018 - 10.45am

A friendly running event on a flat cross-country route around Flitton and Flitwick Moors for adults and children.

Kids - 200m run for children age 7 and under - donations on the day.
Start: approx **10.45am**.

Juniors - 1 mile run for 8 -12 yr olds.
Entry fee £3.00
Start: approx **10.50am**.

Main Race – 5k race across the moors for adults and children 13yrs & over.
Entry fee in advance:
£7.00 (£10.00 on the day)
Start: approx **11.00am**.

Fun Team Challenge: enter as Pub Team, Work Team or other group.

Enter in advance or on the day if numbers permit. Main race is limited to 170 entries.

Prizes donated by local businesses will be awarded to race winners at the White Hart Pub after the races.

There will also be food, drinks and entertainment in the pub garden from 12pm onwards.

Race HQ –Church Hall, Brook Lane, Flitton

Please collect your race numbers on the day from the Church Hall from 9am.

Collection and on the day entries close strictly at 10.15am.

In aid of Flitton Church Hall and conservation work on Flitton Moor



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Find us on



“Flitton Flit Fun Runs”

<http://flittongreenfield.bedsparishes.gov.uk>

ENTRY FORM

Name	Age on Day	M/F	5km	1 Mile

Print Name.....

Address.....

Email **Phone**.....

Running Club.....

Fun (or school) Team Name.....

(Teams: max of 6 runners: - first 4 to count for prize)

Please sign the declaration below:

We are/I am medically fit to run. We/I agree that the organisers will not be held responsible for any illness, injury or loss of property during or after the event as a result of my participation. We/I agree to abide by the rules and safety instructions governing this event. We/I also agree to my personal details being held on a computer for all purposes relating to the event and that any photos taken may be used for publicity.

Signed..... **Date**.....

Please send completed entry form to arrive by **Sunday 22nd May 2018**

Entries to: Jen Fisher, 51 Flitton Rd, Greenfield MK45 5DJ

Enquiries to: flittonflit@gmail.com

Cheques payable to "Flitwick & District Heritage Group"



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DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE



We are nearly there!

First of all, many thanks to all those who helped make the quiz on 3rd February such a success - I think that we all learnt something from the hard questions- for me it was how little I did know. Whilst it would take too long to list everyone individually, special mention should go to Hannah Barkham who baked and donated the defib cake shown here; it warranted its own competition of guess the weight. If you want a cake for a special occasion, look for **Barkham's Cakes and Toppers** on facebook.



Apart from enjoying and educating ourselves in a packed village hall, we raised a staggering **£1,739** so congratulations all round. Along with the monies raised to date, this means that we can order the 4 units which will cover Wardhedges, Flitton and Greenfield which will take a month or so. During that period, the following needs to be resolved:

- finalising the locations for the two units in Greenfield and Wardhedges
- raising the final £800 to cover installation and training
- arranging two training and familiarisation sessions

We are looking for specific help-

- donations and fundraising
- qualified electricians willing to donate their services
- volunteers to monitor the equipment weekly

We would really like to to hear from anyone willing to donate their time or services; please contact either Helen Flynn on 07971257240, hflynn554@gmail.com or Simon Sadler on 07341550990, flittonsadler1@btinternet.com

Treasurer wanted to join Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall Committee, the group of volunteers that manages the village hall. Key responsibilities include:

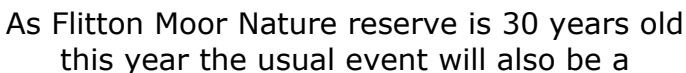
- handling receipts from bookings and bar
- making online and cheque payments
- recording financial transactions
- maintaining PAYE records including payments and returns
- preparing reports for monthly and annual meetings

For further details, contact Simon Sadler on flittonsadler1@btinternet.com



Wednesday 18th April 6 - 7pm in the Church Hall

For further information, or to help, please contact Glynis Carr on 07795 974769 or Simon Sadler on 07341 550990



Big Birthday Party

So the date for your diary is:

Saturday 21st July – from 12 till 6 pm

It will include the Art exhibition – BBQ and of course the famous DUCK RACE as well as many Children's activities.

Calling all local artists: If you would like to show your work at this event please get in touch

And much more on the Moor Look out for more info in Summer issue of Flit'N'More. For more info contact David Sedgley on 01525 714961

Jo's Puzzle Page

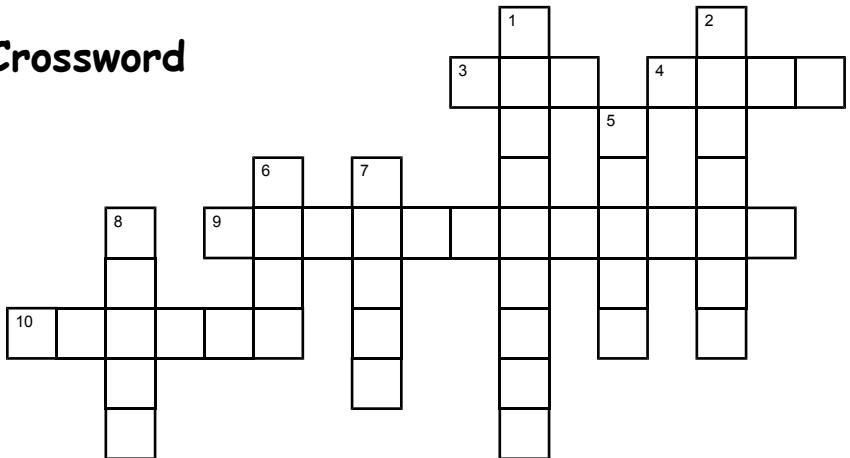
Spring Wordsearch

P R G R E E N I O V
N M E W G R O W T H
M O J W G N C N C B
L S A B O R I T K R
A S C B O L W N E A
P O P S U T F A X B
F L S K N D S G I B
G B O I Q T C Q T I
J O A N E S L E W T
U R B R H L K G S A



flower palm cross
Easter green
rain growth
rabbit blossom bud

Spring Crossword

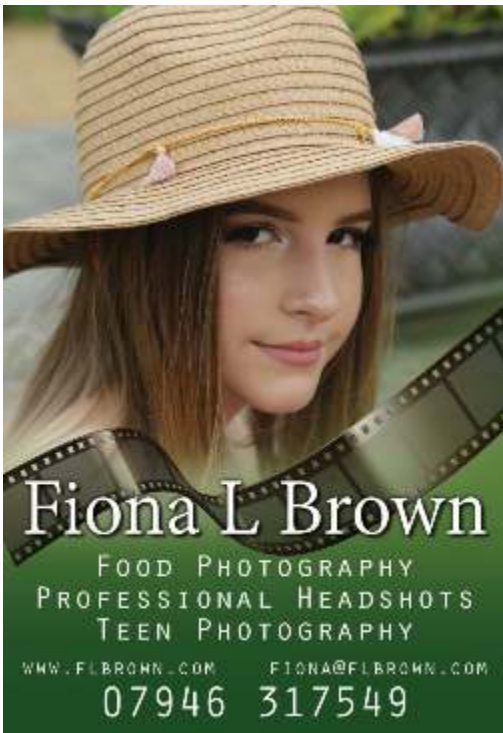


Across

3. Hawthorn blossom
4. Ewe's little one
9. Miracle which happened on the third day
10. Begin to grow and Give off shoots

Down

1. Chocolatey treat (6,3)
2. Aquatic larva of an amphibian
5. Break out of a shell
6. Structure made by a bird
7. Dutch Springtime flower
8. showers bring May flowers



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Tuesday 9.45- 10.30am (advance booking)

HIT Circuits

Thursday 7.15-8.15pm (advance booking)

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A Fresh Approach to Fitness...

Eat a Rainbow



Whilst the warmth of Summer seems a long way off, you can bring colour to your meals, provide your body with amazing health benefits and start feeling great from the inside, before the weather warms up, just by eating colourful foods. No, I'm not talking about a packet of Skittles, (although it's ok to share a bag in the cinema,) start enjoying a wide variety of foods and share that experience with friends and family, to promote the healthy growth and development of children too without creating anxieties.

Eating from a 'rainbow' of fruits and vegetables, ensures that we are getting a wide spectrum of vitamins, minerals and nutrients, without getting bogged down with calories or looking at packet food ingredients. Fruit and vegetables contain hundreds of colourful phytochemicals that act as antioxidants, which reduce the risks of cancer, keep our hearts healthy, and assist with balance, co-ordination, memory and vision.

Lycopene is the powerful antioxidant in red fruit and vegetables such as tomatoes, strawberries, pink grapefruit, red peppers and cranberries. It's more easily absorbed in the body when it's cooked, as in a homemade tomato sauce. Olive oil and cheese also help enhance absorption. Already we can see it doesn't have to be a battle to cook a meal for the whole family. So many families have fussy children, hungry husbands and wives trying to lose weight while cooking 3 different dinners! The children may not want fresh basil on top of their pasta with fresh tomato sauce, but a little more grated cheese, and adults may fancy a little chilli or a larger portion, all small adjustments to a healthy balanced meal.

Carotenoids give the vibrant orange/yellow to sweet potatoes, carrots and pumpkins. It is converted to vitamin A which has many benefits including healthy eyesight. Another antioxidant, beta-cryptoxanthin found in egg yolks, sweetcorn and peaches is also converted into vitamin A and potentially reduces the risk of rheumatoid arthritis and certain cancers. Green fruit and vegetables coloured by chlorophyll, like spinach, broccoli, avocados, cucumber and kiwi fruit are also great sources of carotenoids, plus leafy greens are an excellent source of folate for healthy blood. The purple of blackberries, red cabbage, beetroot, blueberries, prunes and aubergine is the phytochemical anthocyanin, which can help reduce the risk of cancer, stroke and heart disease.

Lastly, don't underestimate the fruit and vegetables that are white & brown. Allicin found in garlic is known for its antiviral and antibacterial properties. Potatoes get a lot of bad press but they still provide essential potassium and vitamin C! Just try not to swamp them in fat when you cook them! Onions, mushrooms, parsnips and bananas are also fantastic sources of white foods coloured by anthoxanthins which may reduce arthritis and the risk of heart disease.

Find a way to include foods from each of these coloured groups to your meals each day, compliment them with different herbs and spices and make it fun for kids, let them make suggestions about what foods they could include to brighten up their meals. Remember when you fuel your body well you will be healthier on the inside and out!

Start now and eat the rainbow!

Nicola Rayner - Fit to the Core - for information about classes
Contact fitone@live.co.uk/ 07801 510988

Merger of our local hospitals

As you may have read in the local press, Bedford and Luton & Dunstable Hospitals propose to merge to form a new Bedfordshire NHS Foundation Trust with effect from April. The hospitals have been working together and collaborating for several years in providing joint services such as NeoNatal Intensive Carers, and a merger is designed to strengthen this partnership, whilst streamlining the way that care is provided and removing inefficiencies and reducing common overheads. Both hospitals will retain their identity and individual names; it is just the official NHS Trust name that will change.

Becoming a Foundation Trust will allow more flexibility in capital projects and reinvesting for the benefit of patients; however, to be a Foundation Trust, a membership is required that reflects the population served by the hospitals; the current number of members from Central Bedfordshire is small which it is hoped to increase to reflect the particular benefit that we gain from living between the two hospitals; not everyone in Bedfordshire is given the choice of venue for treatment for some services.

Membership allows you to have your say in the governance of the Trust, appoint the Governors and be kept informed by email or newsletter - at no cost at all.

We are all encouraged to sign up as a member by completing and sending off the enclosed form or completing the online version via www.bedfordhospital.nhs.uk or www.ldh.nhs.uk/get-involved/become-a-member

Become a member and have a say in our local NHS

SOCK ACADEMY

We're recruiting! We are the UK's largest sock gifting company and pride ourselves on our fantastic products, great service, lovely customers and a really fun office. With our HQ at Hexton near Barton-le-clay, we are looking for happy, energetic and talented people to join us in the following roles;

Sales Intern
Sales Executive
Dispatch Assistant
Product Developer

We'd love to chat if you would like any more information, please get in touch. hello@sockacademy.com

01582 882124



Local History - 'The Poor of the Parish' by Margaret Butt



We have a record of all the burials for Flitton Church from 1583 to 1812

which is a fascinating piece of social history. Some vicars only recorded names but others gave an indication of age, occupation, marital status and cause of death.

The parish boundaries were very different then and the parish was known as Flitton cum Silsoe so the records are for both villages. Also large parts of Greenfield were then in Pulloxhill parish.

Some records are quite unusual;

1664 Eleesers Hawkins mother, being an infidel and also her son and daughter buried in her orchard at home.

1682 Jane Lee, a traveller called a gypsy, and another un-named gypsy in 1724.

There are many infant deaths, often unbaptised, and several un-named strangers. In 1615, Katharine, daughter to a poor stranger was buried and in 1632, a poor maid died at Flitton. There must have been many people passing through the area in search of work and several are called vagrants or vagabonds. In 1722, 1724 and 1725, unnamed vagrants' children were buried.

Poverty was widespread throughout the land and many relied on the goodwill of parishes to survive. It's hard to imagine that a failed harvest could actually mean starvation unless the parish or the local landowner stepped in to help.

In 1603, a beggar called Old Wilshire died and the following year, an unnamed 'old poor man of Bedford' was buried. In 1762, Phyllis Wood, a child from the Foundling Hospital died but which hospital is not said. From 1764 onwards, it mentions people dying in the workhouse at Silsoe such as Ann Neal, an infant, Thomas Smith [an elderly man] in 1775 and Mary Johnson, a widow, in 1768. Sadly it is not recorded where they lived but records show that in 1777, there were 22 people in the Silsoe Workhouse. This workhouse was quite close to the present day church.

From 1784 onwards, the vicar records in more detail about the number of paupers who died, usually widows or the elderly who had no-one to care for them e.g. Matthew Careless in 1789 and Ann Pepper, a widow and pauper in 1790.

An interesting record is from 1764 of Joseph Smith, 'overseer of ye poor in Flitton' so by then, Flitton had its own poor house. It is possible that this is 3 Brook Lane which originally belonged to the church as part of the Town Land Charity. It consisted of 3 cottages and was built around the early 18th century. It is not mentioned in the records of 1681 so must have been built sometime after that. Later it was noted that the Flitton Poorhouse had places for 11 people.

An entry into the parish registers Flitton cum Silsoe 1765 states:

Be it remembered with a proper acknowledgement of his Lordship's goodness & benevolence towards the inhabitants of the hamlet of Silsoe, that the Right Honourable the Earl of Hardwicke [late Lord Viscount Royston] did this year give the sum of £20 towards completing the repair and purchasing some necessary furniture for the workhouse at said hamlet.

Received on the 21st day of December 1768 of the Right Honourable the Earl of Hardwicke by the hands of Mr Joseph Cole, the sum of £10 & 10 shillings, being a benefaction bestowed by his Lordship for the relief of the poor inhabitants or the parish of Flitton with Solsoo, in extraordinary cases of sickness & distress. Deposited in my hands to be distributed, as I shall see occasion. I say received by me. Hadley Cox, Vicar.

Received on the 24th day of December 1774, the Right Honourable the Earl of Hardwicke, by the hands of Mr Joseph Cole, the sum of £12 and 12 shillings, being his Lordship's benefaction towards the rebuilding the poors house at Flitton, by me Hadley Cox.

The Earl of Hardwicke was the husband of Jemima, Marchioness Grey [1722- 1797], who was the heir to the Duke of Kent. The Earl seems to have run the estate of Wrest on her behalf and the family were very good at looking after everyone who lived in the estate villages. Rev Hadley Cox was a conscientious vicar who kept meticulous records which are very helpful for anyone researching local history.

The Silsoe Workhouse and Flitton Poor house probably were no longer needed after the Ampthill Workhouse was built in 1835 with places for 400 people.



Orchards East, is an exciting new three year Heritage Lottery funded project working across the eastern region. The project, based at the University of East Anglia extends initiatives already developed by county orchard groups and other partners, including Bedfordshire & Luton Orchards Group (BLOG) and the East of England Apples and Orchards Project, to survey existing orchards.

The survey data will be used to record the kind of orchards in existence as well as their significance as habitats for biodiversity and wildlife. In addition the project will research the history of orchards to help understand what was grown locally, how orchards were managed and the importance of orchards to the local community and its economy.

Now working across Bedfordshire, Orchards East is hoping to recruit and train as many volunteers as possible to take part in surveying local orchards. No expertise needed, just an interest in your local area and a willingness to complete a short and simple survey form! In addition volunteers are needed to get involved in local historic research involving anything from looking online to visiting the local Records Office.

The project also aims to raise our understanding and appreciation of orchards by running a range of workshops on different aspects of orchard management including planting, propagating and grafting, pruning and orchard restoration. The first grafting workshop is at the Working Woodlands Centre in Maulden Woods on 10th March. If interested ask me for details.



Apples in Old Orchard

Finally, for those individuals or communities interested in developing a community orchard or who would like to bring an old orchard back to life, Orchards East can offer help and support to get your project off the ground.

If anyone has any information about old orchards in the Parish, or even if you have a few fruit trees in your garden, we would like to know. For the purposes of this project just 5 fruit or nut trees in one area could constitute an Orchard. A 'traditional' orchard is one with trees on pre WW2 rootstock. Even if you have one tree which might be this old we would like to know.

Anyone with an interest in fruit, orchards and the historic landscape is welcome to join us! For further information, please contact dsedgley@talktalk.net or visit the website www.orchardseast.org.uk



Parish Council News Continued...

The past year seems to have been a frenzy of planning activity and we are hoping for a slightly quieter future. We have opposed a number of planning applications and Appeals and in general been successful; although it is 'wearing' and we understand residents concerns when we keep urging people to send in or re-submit comments. Hopefully now that CBC has the requisite 5-year land supply and the Local Plan is about to be submitted, it should help to set some firm boundaries on what is acceptable in our Parish and may avoid speculative development applications

The CBC Local Plan is also close to being submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for what we hope, will be approval. The Council was very pleased that most of our comments were taken into account during the first consultation last summer and we are now, rightfully back as a 'small' village and taken out of the large village category. We were also delighted that our constant nagging about protecting the gaps in the Parish between settlements was taken into account and there is now a whole section in the Local Plan about Settlement Separation. Twenty 'gaps' across Central Bedfordshire will be given protection and we have two of these between Flitton and Greenfield and Flitton and Wardhedges and they will not be allowed to be built on. We feel this is a major success and hope you agree.

So, it is worthwhile being persistent and it does help to achieve the results we want. I know it's not always the case and there are disappointments along the way, but please keep doing your bit to help achieve these successes.

Councillor Mark Gates Chairman Flitton and Greenfield Parish Council



By the time you read this, the Parish Council may have completed the annual litter picking day as part of the Great British Spring Clean 2018 on Saturday 3rd March. If not, please come and join us so that it makes the day even more worthwhile. We hope that we get loads of volunteers as it is good fun with a bigger group of people and we can collect more.

The Parish website <https://flittongreenfield.bedsparishes.gov.uk/> will give all the details. Please don't let it stop anyone from picking up litter around your own area. We should all take pride in our villages looking clean and litter free, so please help us with this.



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Churchwarden	Margaret Butt	862170
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Friends of Flitton and Greenfield Church	Jo Holt	792777
Parish Council	Debbie Lawson (Clerk);	clerk@pc.flittongreenfield.org.uk
Village Hall Hire	Margaret Lowe	07939 965817
Church Hall Hire	Jill Chandler	860715
Bedfordshire Police	Amphill Team	01234 841212
Greenfield Lower School And Ducklings Pre-School	Headteacher: Mrs Annette McCullion	712426
Scouts and Cubs	Badger Hill Scout Group;	www.badgerhillscouts.org.uk
Brownies	Jane Staff	717294
Multi Use Games Area bookings	Dawn Leaning	07860 632427
Allotments	Gareth Ellis	861496
Village Gala	Margaret Lowe	861111
Friends of Flitton Moor	Dave Sedgley	714961
Jazzercise	Clare Godleman	404858
Fit to the Core UK Fitness Classes	Nicola Rayner	fitone@live.co.uk/07801 510988
Women's Institute	Meriel Davies	633421
The Greensand Trust	Maulden Office	01234 743666
Potato Race	Simon Sadler	861727
Visit the Mausoleum (English Heritage)	Wrest Park: 01525 860000	www.english-heritage.org.uk
Amphill & Flitwick Flyers (Running Club)	Dave Sedgley	714961

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR DETAILS ADDED TO OR DELETED
FROM THIS LIST, CONTACT THE EDITOR**

'Flit 'n' More' is published and distributed by the Parochial Church Council of St John the Baptist, Flitton. The Editor is Angela Ayres, Sunnyside Cottage, Cobbett Lane, Flitton MK45 5DX, 01525 860723, martandang@btinternet.com. Please note that views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor or Parochial Church Council.

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The next issue will be out in June 2018 for events up until August. Please contact Angela if you have something to publicise or Simon on 861727 if you would like to advertise. Free for voluntary groups, very good rates for businesses.