

SPRING 2021

Flit More

The parish newsletter for Flitton, Greenfield and Wardhedges

As the pandemic rolls on into the spring it becomes more and more difficult to predict what the circumstances will be when this issue of your local mag drops through your letter box. I'm writing this in early February but who knows what the situation will be in a few weeks time?

At least (and for the first time since this all began) I think I can write with confidence that things will not be worse, as this interminable winter lockdown starts to show results, local numbers drop significantly and of course the vaccine is available to more and more of our residents.

I and many of my friends have had our first dose, but we must not forget that it will be months before the whole adult population gets that opportunity, and here I want to make a very personal comment which I usually try not to do;

I want to thank all the young, fit members of our community, both adults and children, for sacrificing so much so that the older and more vulnerable among us can stay safe.

For what have I given up in comparison to those who have had to go to work despite the threat, what have I suffered compared to our schoolchildren and students who have not only lost a year's education but have also been denied the company of their friends all this time? Yes, I know we all miss our friends, but at least I know mine will still be there when we can meet again, and that is due in great part to the patience of our young people. Thank you.

Stay safe, see you on the other side.

Angela



From Your Parish Council...

Keep up to date with what's going on in Flitton, Greenfield and Wardhedges, especially during these unusual times...

Once again, I am writing my article while in lockdown, but hopefully this time there is an end in sight, as by the time you read Flit'n'More, all of our eligible residents should have at least had their first vaccinations. We hope that all others will follow, with the whole Parish being offered this option by the autumn time.

It is such a shame that events need to be cancelled again this year, but in view of the future uncertainty local organisers cannot be blamed for making these decisions early on to save a lot of unnecessary work. I am sure we will all be back to a full schedule later this year and 2022 will see everything happen as normal. On that note, we are sorry that the telephone book exchange has to remain closed. We have aligned it to Central Beds Library service and when that re-opens properly, so will the exchange. The government has told us to close the outdoor gym equipment and the MUGA and again we will re-open these as soon as we can.

The Parish Council remains busy and has just finalised its annual budget and the precept for 2021-22. We have agreed an increase of 1.5% for our tax base. This allows the Council to cover its underlying annual costs plus carry out some necessary improvement work. It means an increase of less than 10p per annum for a Band D Council Tax payer. There are three projects which we are particularly pleased about this year. One is the river path or soon to become bridleway which has proved to be a huge success for people taking daily exercise. There is still some work to be done and a new bridge to be installed across the river at Mill Lane.

The second is the Community Orchard at Joes Close, containing a variety of apples, pears, plums and damsons and soon cherry and mulberry trees too. We have purchased two 'snazzy' picnic benches so that it will become a nice place to sit and enjoy picnics (and fruit!) when the weather warms up.

Third is an 'all bells and whistles' new website for the MUGA, designed by a local company 'Imagefix' based in Silsoe. It is up and running and we are delighted with the outcome. If you are a member you should have received an email about how to change your password. We hope you find the new website clear and easy to use, but please let us know if you have any problems. (MUGA@flittonandgreenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk)

On a note of more concern, like you we have been appalled by the sewage flooding in Mill Lane. We were assured that the pumping station and system was designed to a "once in a 100 year" standard, yet it is now clear that it is unable to function properly and we are doing all we can to press Anglian Water to put this right. We are pleased that our Ward Councillor Cllr James Jamieson has taken up the case with AW and also our local MP Nadine Dorries. Thanks are also due to Cllr Bob Rishton, my Vice Chair and a Mill Lane resident who is working tirelessly on this. We understand now that AW is investigating and we hope a solution will be forthcoming.

We are also always concerned by the speed of traffic in the villages and our thanks go to the Speed Watch volunteers coordinated by Cllr Jen Fisher, who would like to hear from anyone who has time to help. (jen.fisher@flittonandgreenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk) There was a meeting of the Highways Sub Committee in January when we discussed speeding and other matters and the minutes/actions can be found as usual on the Parish website. Cllr Gareth Ellis is now working on a draft active travel plan for the parish with the aim of publishing it on the website in March.

Finally, please do not forget you can contact any of us at any time if you have a problem in the Parish and we will do our best to help. Our details are on the website or the local notice boards – and look out soon for our new notice board by the VE Day bench in Wardhedges. If we cannot help, then we should be able to tell you who can.

Mark Gates (Chair Parish Council)



Spring at St John the Baptist Church, Flitton

Online Services at Flitton:

We hope that we can have services in Flitton church soon but meantime, we are online. Every week, there is a service recorded in one of the churches in our benefice - Flitton, Pulloxhill and Silsoe. There are hymns to join in with, a bible reading, prayers to listen to or say, and a reflection by Rev David or one of our Ministry Team. The prayers and readings are done by different people, either recorded in the church or at home. The words of the hymns are on the screen so you can sing too.

Go to <http://www.3churches.uk> and click on The Virtual Vicar. You will find the service video and also the service sheet which you can print off if you want to. The service includes a list of people we need to think of especially - people who are ill and those who have passed away. Please contact us if you would like a name included in this.

There are lots of services on The Virtual Vicar for you to enjoy.

Any changes will always be on our website, Face Book, the blackboard outside the church or our weekly email newsletter.

Flitton Church News

An Easter Message from the Vicar



Virtually There

There's a very old story about a Mum who, one Sunday morning, wakes her teenage son to take him to church. 'It's okay, Mum,' replies the lad, 'I'm going to have a lie-in and watch *Songs of Praise* later. 'That's fine.' says Mum, 'Then when the rest of us have dinner you can watch the MacDonald's advert.'

I've been told many times that recorded services are not the same as the real thing, and I can't honestly argue with that. Worship is an activity that needs to be shared with others for all sorts of reasons. Even after a year of practice, our recorded services seem somewhat unreal, and making them can feel like shouting down a well with nothing coming back.

However, for the time being they remain the best offering of your local church, made with affection in a spirit of service (if you'll forgive the pun), and attempting to bring elements of worship, community and comfort to as many people as we can reach. And so we welcome anyone and everyone to access the services on our *Virtual Vicar* website, and continue to pray for all those locally impacted physically, emotionally and economically by the pandemic.

In a bleak moment the other day, my wife suggested we get a cardboard cut-out of me made to stand in the Vicarage window and appear at the interminable Zoom meetings which have become part of the Vicar's role in your village. She seemed to think it would do the job. No doubt the days will return when I can fully share in the life of schools, celebrate weddings and christenings, stand on the touchline of football matches, drink in the local pub, share tea with the locals and worship for real. It can't come soon enough and I have to say it will be a real shot in the arm when it arrives.

Rev David Payne



EASTER LILIES

This Easter we will be making our usual arrangement of lilies, each sponsored in memory of a loved one. If you would like to sponsor a lily, please let us know by Sunday 28th March, (Palm Sunday) at the very latest. Contact **Angela Ayres; martandang@btinternet.com** giving your name and the name of the person in whose memory the lily will be donated. We ask for £5 towards the cost of each lily.

(NB This is a suggested donation – please give whatever you can.)

The lilies will be arranged for Easter Sunday, and a list of those commemorated will be read out during the service. If the church is still closed at Easter, the lilies will be arranged in the porch and the list displayed there.



SAY IT WITH FLOWERS FOR EASTER!

Following on the success of our knitted poppies last year, this year we are erecting crosses in the churchyard, one of which we hope to cover with all sorts of crafted flowers, some examples of which are opposite! You can make flowers out of any weatherproof material, you don't have to stick to knitting or crochet, and just add them to our display during Holy Week - the more we have the brighter a statement it will make. Your flowers should be about 4-6" big, and as brightly coloured as possible. We may not be able to celebrate Easter inside the church, but we can shout about it outside!

GET CRAFTING!!



And to conclude this flowery page...



If you would be prepared to join the rota for arranging flowers in the church, please contact Lesley Arthur on 01525 713325.

You really REALLY don't have to offer anything fancy, a few blooms in a vase will always suffice. You can do it by yourself or join up with a friend? We have lost several loyal flower arrangers recently and that makes the burden heavier on those remaining. It's a nice, therapeutic thing to do... *Give it a go!*

Cutting out potential fly-tipping in the Parish

There are many reasons fly-tipping occurs, but one is householders paying unlicensed waste collectors to remove waste. The unlicensed collector does not want to pay waste deposit fees at waste centres, so they tip the waste anywhere. Normally, transactions between householder and waste collector are done in cash. There is a hidden economy, with no income tax being paid. There is the cost to the local authority and council tax payer (on average £135,000.00 a year in Central Bedfordshire), to remove fly-tipped waste from public land. There is the unknown cost to private landowners.

If you want to use such a service, please make sure you ask the trader to show you or send you a copy of their waste carriers licence (credit card size). This should help to protect local communities from any clandestine and illegal operators. Individual householders are issued £300 fines if fly-tipped waste is proved to have come from their address. Asking to see a licence first will protect you from a fine, identify those traders whose intentions are not totally legal and help in the overall objective of keeping our country-side, villages and towns clear of illegal fly-tipped waste.

If you want to know more about this please feel free to contact Peter Byrne Environmental Protection Officer at **Central Bedfordshire Council** Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable, LU6 1LF Direct Dial: 0300 300 4437 or Email: peter.byrne@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



Do you have a laptop or tablet that you no longer use and which you would be willing to donate to help school children learn from home? If so, I would be very happy to take off your hands as part of the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire's initiative to provide laptops etc to children that currently have inadequate means to learn online. The equipment can be any age, as long as it worked when last used, and ideally, with power lead and hard drive; I can confirm that it will be professionally wiped and refurbished before distributing to schools. In fact, desk tops and monitors will be welcome.

Thank you to those who have kindly donated as your contributions are already being used and appreciated. So far the High Sheriff has placed over 1,100 devices across the county to help with home schooling but there is still a need for more, so please look out that old iPad etc that you no longer need and don't know what to do with it. Just put it in a bag with your name and drop off at Orchard House, High Street, Flitton MK45 5DU, which is between the church and the cemetery.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and possibly donating. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, Simon Sadler, on Facebook or 07341 550990



Flitton and Greenfield and Pulloxhill Neighbourhood Plan (NP) or the Big FGP Plan

The Steering Group for the Big FGP Plan has, over the past few years, been following the steps required to complete a local NP. It is therefore with delight that they can announce an independent examination has recommended The Big FGP Plan should proceed to a local referendum. The referendum should happen within the next few months.

The question that the referendum has to ask is: “Do you want the local planning authority (Central Bedfordshire Council - CBC) to use the NP to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

The Steering Group want start raising awareness of the referendum because if the majority of voters are in favour, and a NP Order is then made, our Plan must be taken into account, sitting alongside the Plans prepared for the whole district by CBC, in all decisions on planning applications. **This would be really good news for both the Parishes.**

If you want to read what the Plan says, please see

<https://flittonandgreenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/flitton-and-greenfield-parish-council-neighbourhood-plan/> You should hear more about the referendum over the next few months.

Whilst mentioning voting, the **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Elections are taking place on 6 May 2021** (postponed from May 2020).

If you don't want to or are unable to vote in person at your usual Polling Station, you can apply to vote by post or ask a proxy to do so on your behalf (someone votes for you at your polling station or by post).

If you don't already have an absent (or postal) vote in place you can do one of the following

- download and complete a form from The Electoral Commission website <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/.../how-cast-your...>
 - ask for a printed form from CBC either by email electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or phone 0300 300 8008.
- You can email the completed application form back to CBC

Please remember you must be registered to vote to be able to apply for an absent vote, if you're unsure if you're registered you can contact CBC as above.

The deadline to apply for a postal vote for the election on 6 May 2021 is 5pm on Tuesday 20 April.



Pilates

Core Strength

HIIT

Legs, bums & tums

Aerobics

**10+ live classes
weekly**

**10, 20, 30 & 40
minute workouts**

**Access to over
200 sessions**

Diet & Fitness tips

£30 for 4 weeks

Reactivate your fitness

Online motivation, fun & support

**NICOLA RAYNER
FITNESS ONLINE**

**Healthy body
healthy mind**

**FITONE@LIVE.CO.UK
NICOLARAYNERFITNESS.COM**

Returning to face to face classes once able

Personally Pilates



Looking forward to a 'New Year' and starting 2021.
Pilates group classes and 1:1 sessions face to face
and via Zoom.

Tuesdays 9.30am, 6.25pm and 7.30pm

Tuesdays Men Only Class 8.35pm

Wednesdays 10.00am and 11.45am

Thursdays 9.30am and 10.45am

NEVER done Pilates before?

Don't worry, give me a ring to discuss before you start

Charlotte 07801 367967 E:personallypilates@icloud.com

Pilates has many physical and mental health benefits
which can help us all at this time. Such as,

- ☒ Improve Posture
- ☒ Significantly increase core strength
while improving flexibility
- ☒ Develop balance and Coordination,
for more effective movement.

**Little Squirts
Pre-School/Nursery
New Baby Room
Open 7am to 6pm**

Excellent Facilities / Dedicated Staff

Age Range 0 to 5 years

Full Time 51+ weeks a year or Term Time

Why not come along and take a look



Tel. 0773 4044 318

www.littlesquirtspreschool.com

Feeling tired all of the time?

You might be thinking how can I feel so exhausted when I am doing less now than ever? The reason could, ironically be your inactivity.



Shorter days & lack of sunlight doesn't motivate us to be active, but by being more sedentary our muscles become under used & our energy stagnates. Our bodies store energy rather than using it for movement. Little things like, getting up to make a cup of tea or walking around your home, could make a difference to your energy levels.

Increased screen time, working from home and being generally more housebound has resulted in hibernation of our energy. Many of our routines have fallen by the wayside and we find it hard to build structure, including being active, into our days. We stay in front of the television or computers for 'just a bit longer' when we need to get up and move around, get some fresh air, make a drink or do a short workout.

Trying to reestablish a good sleeping pattern can also help. The initial couple of hours that we sleep is vital for reducing stress levels and rebalancing our bodies metabolism. Schedule a time when you will do your activity as that way you're more likely to adhere to it.

Fitting in shorter workouts helps to break up the amount of time you spend seated or in front of your screens. You will also find it helps clear your head boost your energy & enhance your creative thought process.



Being seated for **lengthy** periods of time is also detrimental to our posture. We develop muscle imbalances, an increased risk of injury & general feeling of achiness making day to day life harder work and exhausting.

Find activities that you enjoy the most such as walking,

Pilates, dancing and mix it up by including some complementary exercise around it, such as some strength work or gardening and definitely include a few movements that are specific to your individual needs (such as core strengthening exercises to help an achy back).

Keep moving & rediscover your energy!

For great classes online & face to face (as soon as possible) contact [Nicola fitone@live.co.uk](mailto:Nicola.fitone@live.co.uk)

Nicola Rayner Fitness - fitone@live.co.uk - 07801 510988

The Flit'n'More Thank You Page

Local councils and others (like the Lord-Lieutenant) are singling out many worthy souls for special thanks for the help, support and strength they have given during the pandemic, so we would like to share the love by asking you to let us know of any local people you would like to thank, either for their continuing hard work or even for a single act of kindness.

We're going to kick this off by showing our appreciation to a very special group, so...

...let's give a big shout out to the staff of Greenfield Lower School for all the hard work they have been doing to keep our children safe and educated in the very best way they can in these awful times. As I write, schools are 'shut' to most, but the teachers are very much at work — I asked headteacher Debbie Drawbridge how it was all going and she told me that there are around 35 children in school and *'they are all in good spirits and a pleasure to have in'*.

The rest of the school has moved to remote learning; each day's work is uploaded to a learning platform, it gets marked and feedback given back to the children. Apparently the staff really enjoy reading some of the lovely (and funny) comments the children write when submitting their work. Each class also has a Microsoft Teams meeting weekly with their teacher. *'This is a wonderful opportunity to check in with the children', says Mrs Drawbridge, 'talk to them about their learning and give them some much needed encouragement - and it makes our week seeing them all'*. This weekly meeting also gives the children the opportunity to show some of the amazing work they have completed to their friends and share their news - a really important thing as they cannot socialise with their friends as usual.

And let's not forget that the teachers at the sharp end of this are not only continuing to teach our children both face to face and remotely, they also have to prepare, upload and mark all the online work, and some of them also have their own children at home! Of course they are not the only parents doing this, and Mrs Drawbridge also wanted me to stress that parents are *'doing an amazing job under very difficult circumstances. Juggling work and remote learning and parenting is no easy task!'* But it's no substitute for school, and as Mrs Drawbridge says;

'We just want to see all of our children return happy and healthy and be together again'.

Please send your thank you requests in the usual ways, we will feature as many as possible. Try to include the reasons for your nomination, even a photo!

ANOTHER LOCAL GETS A PAT ON THE BACK!

One of CBC's 'local heroes' in February was Flit'n'More's own Simon Sadler, (see the CBC website!) and it's well deserved recognition for all the work that Simon does in our community. As well as being the major mover behind The Potato Race and heavily involved in the Gala, he gives his time to the Village Hall, the Church Hall, the PCC, Santa's Sleigh, the Defibrillator Project, the Community Responder Appeal and many more. He is often to be seen mowing the churchyard, and never fails to bring his trusty dishmop to help with the washing up!! His voluntary work commitments outside the village are too numerous to mention (so I won't!) and he can always be relied on to lend a hand. Thanks Simon!





Greenfield & Pulloxhill Academy

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish

Greenfield School is a church school.

Our Christian ethos: nurture, inspire, flourish; underpinned by Jesus' mustard seed parable - the smallest of seeds when planted becomes the greatest of trees (Mt13v31-32).

We nurture each other while growing in confidence, knowledge and character; we inspire creativity and support relationships and resilience to enable our community to flourish.

Greenfield School is a one form entry school and Pulloxhill School has mixed year groups for Years 1 & 2 and Years 3 & 4. Both schools are Values Education schools and this underpins everything we do. Our teachers are caring and kind and our children are absolutely wonderful. We all work together in a happy, positive environment where adults and children thrive.

Our curriculum is designed to educate, challenge and inspire our children into being life-long learners.

Both schools have a nursery, in which we invite children from 2 years 9 months to attend a variety of sessions on offer. Our nursery classes are happy, fun environments for children to begin their education with experienced members of staff. Please take a look at the virtual tours on our website:

www.greenfieldpulloxhillschools.org.uk

We would love to hear from you and are always ready to welcome visitors as we take pride in our schools.

Mrs Debbie Drawbridge - Headteacher

Greenfield School
Nursery (2yrs 9 months)
to Year 4

Phone: 01525 712426

Email: supplies@gpacademy.org.uk

Pulloxhill School
Nursery (2yrs 9 months)
to Year 4

Phone: 01525 713150

Email: phs@gpacademy.org.uk

Margaret's Fiendish Alphabet History Quiz!

*If Margaret Butt's local history articles have ignited your interest in history, or if you just enjoyed all those school history lessons, why not have a go at this quiz?
Without resorting to the internet I think you will find it quite challenging!*

There are 26 questions—each answer starts with a different letter of the alphabet but they are not in the right order. Answers in alphabetical order please. Send your answers to mkatebutt@yahoo.co.uk

1. What was the name of the North Vietnamese conventional surprise offensive eventually defeated in 1968?
2. William of Orange was invited to invade England in 1688 by Parliament in order to depose James II. What was this event called?
3. Who was the Assyrian Emperor who destroyed Jerusalem in 587BC and took the Jews into captivity to Babylon?
4. There was a French Army scandal 1894 – 1906. What was the name of the wronged Jewish officer who was wrongly accused of treason?
5. What was the former Balkans country whose division led to ethnic conflict and slaughter that was stopped by NATO intervention in 1995?
6. What was the name of the formation of Greek hoplite soldiers fighting shield to shield with a forest of spears?
7. There were 2 sieges on the India-Burma border in 1944 defended by British Empire forces. One was Kohima. What was the name of the other one?
8. Who was the Prussian commander at Waterloo?
9. Who was the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire at the first siege of Vienna in 1529?
10. Which king built 9 massive fortresses in Wales around 1200AD?
11. What was the battle where the US Cavalry was defeated by native Indians in 1876?
12. Where was the naval victory in 1798 which ended Napoleon's dream of an Egyptian Empire?
13. Who was the Norwegian treasonous collaborator with the 3rd Reich?
14. What is the knitted item of clothing associated with the commander of the Light Brigade at the battle of Balaclava?
15. What is the name of the Salient attacked in the largest tank battle in history in 1943?
16. Marlborough's 3 victories over the French arms of Louis XIV were at Blenheim, Ramillies and which other?

17. Who was Henry VIII's chancellor before Thomas Cromwell?
18. Where was the capture of Tumbledown by British Forces in 1982?
19. What is the name of the European flowering of learning, arts and architecture c.1500AD?
20. What town was besieged by Henry V prior to the battle of Agincourt 1415?
21. What treaty ended the War of the Spanish Succession in 1713?
22. Eleven Victoria Crosses were awarded when 135 soldiers fought 3,000 warriors in 1879. Who were the warriors?
23. Where was the naval battle in 1916 with the British navy led by Jellicoe and the German navy by Scheer?
24. Where was the defeat of the first Persian invasion of the Greek city states in 490BC?
25. Who was the king of the Persian Achaemenid Empire?
26. What palace near Paris is famous for its Hall of Mirrors?

This quiz is free for everyone to try but we would welcome donations for Flitton Church, so if you can, please donate to our bank acc: 'FLITTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL' SORT CODE; 20-92-54 ACC NUMBER; 90239682 REF; QUIZ
(These details are also on the website www.3churches.uk, follow the link to 'support Flitton Church') Thank you for your help. Enjoy the quiz. Answers next time!

**Flitton and Greenfield
Village Hall**

**Retro
Line Dance
Class**

Jukebox Junction

**Cowboy boots
not required**

**Great exercise
for body and mind**

**Wednesday Afternoon
1.15 - 2.45pm**

Pre-book NOW

£6 per person

...includes complimentary refreshments...

www.jukeboxjunction.co.uk
07864212171
info@jukeboxjunction.co.uk


M&C
Home Support

**M&C Home Support is a new local company,
helping adults over the age of 18 years,
in the comfort of their own home.**

**All tasks undertaken, showering and all
personal care. shopping trips, respite and
night sits. Holiday or event companion**

**For more information call us on
07598 984188**

Bedfordshire Natural History Society (BNHS) has just published this new book.

Twenty years ago BNHS published "Wild Bedfordshire" – a look at the then current state of the county's wildlife. This new book looks at all the same sites and many more new ones, and at the changes that have occurred.

It is full of excellent photographs by Richard Revels, and a fascinating insight into how our wildlife is changing with the effect of our warming climate. It features many fascinating sites which you may not know of and are worth visiting.

Cost is only £20 and I have a small stock & can deliver.

David Sedgley – 01525 714961

Or: dsedgley@talktalk.net



HEADLINES AMONG THE HEADSTONES



Would you like to "sponsor" a rose in memory of a loved one?

We are resurrecting the rose garden and want to restock with new plants.

You choose the colour and we plant later in the year.

Do you have any spare time to lend a hand in looking after the churchyard?

We are looking to establish a rota for cutting or strimming the grass, weeding flower beds and paths, arguing with ivy and nettles and general maintenance.

Clearly this is seasonal.

If either answer is yes, please contact Simon Sadler for further details



Chloe's Little Book Shop

CHLOE'S LITTLE BOOK SHOP

Discounted Children's Books



chloeslittlebookshop.selz.com

10% off all orders and free delivery
with discount code **FLITNMORE**



Paws and Claws

Dog Walking and Drop-in Service

NOW TAKING BOOKINGS

Dog Walking and Drop-in Service

FULLY DBS CHECKED
INSURED AND QUALIFIED IN PET
FIRST AID FOR YOUR PEACE OF MIND

Working on a one-to-one basis, giving your dogs the
PAWfect walk

COVERING FLITTON,
GREENFIELD, SILSOE, AMPHILL
AND FLITWICK AND
SURROUNDING AREAS

PAWS AND CLAWS
CONTACT US
07867122465
PAWSANDCLAWS@OUTLOOK.COM
Alice banks



We are local to you!

Archway Home Solutions are now in Pulloxhill and we would like to introduce ourselves! Damian has been working as a plasterer for many years and has a very high standard of work, with regular customers who repeatedly come back to us because they're so happy with the quality of the work. Please feel free to contact us if you require our services. We will happily look at all requests no matter how big or small.

Archway Home Solutions
07873169181
djarnoldplastering@gmail.com

elle's
hair
STUDIO

A WHOLE NEW

you



MICHELLE TOLLETT
SENIOR STYLIST

- 26 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- FULLY QUALIFIED
- LEVEL 2 NVQ

CUT | COLOUR | STYLING

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT OR
TO VIEW OUR PRICE LIST:

PLEASED CALL:
07895 708766

OR VISIT:
ELLESHAIRSTUDIO.COM

VISIT US:
THE GABLES, FLITTON ROAD,
PULLOXHILL, MK45 5HW

FOLLOW US:
@ ELLES.HAIRSTUDIO
ELLES HAIR STUDIO

"I would usually start such an article with new year greetings but it would seem inappropriate in the circumstances, so I will get straight to the point in bringing you up to speed with what's going on in the current housing market and hopefully help you to decide whether now is the best time to make a move."



Duane Savage - Director

You will no doubt be aware that the government gave the green light for the housing market to remain open as we entered the new year and, as a company, we continue to follow strict guidelines to ensure the continued safety of our customers and staff. It is no surprise that appointment levels have decreased considerably compared to what we would usually expect in the new year, with many buyers and sellers waiting until something closer to normality returns. On a brighter note, the volume of sales agreed are similar to those of 2020. In part, I feel this is due to the nature of the buyers that are currently active – The majority are heavily focused on their potential move, therefore offering quality over quantity.

There are still vast numbers of people who are midway through transactions agreed towards the end of last year, many of whom are frantically trying to complete before the end of March to take advantage of the Stamp Duty holiday, with the sheer volume of cases putting added pressure on solicitors, mortgage lenders and related industries. Inevitably this has caused delays in the process and our sales team are focused on

helping these home-movers meet the deadline if at all possible. Meanwhile, there has been much speculation as to whether the Stamp Duty holiday will be extended. Following an online petition, MPs put the matter to debate on 1st February but it seems that we may have to wait until the Chancellor's Budget on 3rd March to know more. Whatever the result, there will of course always be people who need to move, for reasons such as job relocation, growing families, those wishing to downsize and, sadly, separations.

We're here to help if you have any questions at all so please do give us a call. In the meantime, stay safe and let's hope that we emerge from these unprecedented times sooner rather than later.



**COUNTRY
PROPERTIES**
— PART OF —
HUNTERS
Flitwick

**For advice on buying, selling and letting,
please call our local team on
01525 721000**



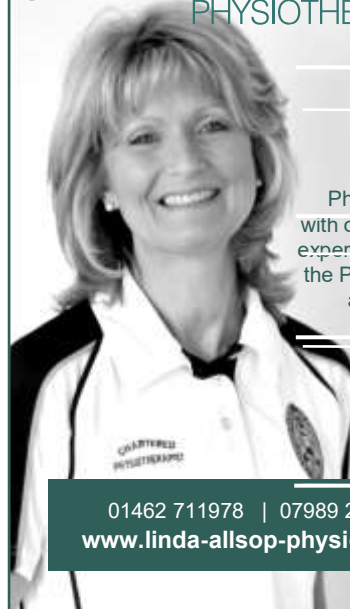
Julia Burkett Love4Learning Tutorials

*Private tutoring in
Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics
from qualified teacher.
Levels KS3-GCSE, and A level Biology.
References can be supplied on request*

Contact Dr Julia Burkett
01525 721630/ 07709 763889
julia_aked@hotmail.com

For distance learning - using WhatsApp
video, Zoom or similar platform

Linda Allsop PHYSIOTHERAPY



Chartered
Physiotherapist
with over 30 years
experience in both
the Private Sector
and the NHS.

01462 711978 | 07989 257026
www.linda-allsop-physio.co.uk



**Specialist lawn treatments,
individually tailored to your lawn,
that will improve its health and
appearance, whatever its condition.**

- Lawn Fertilisation
- Weed and Moss Control
- Scarification and Aeration
- Disease and Pest Management
- City & Guilds NPTC qualified
- Fully Insured

**THREE
COUNTIES
LAWN CARE**
Experts in lawn treatment

No Contract, just pay as you go.

Book your free survey on 07719139966
Silsoe 01525 861507
Email: sales@threecountieslawn.co.uk
www.threecountieslawn.co.uk



Totally Dogs
Grooming Salon



**Styling for all breeds
by kind, caring professionals**

**Have your dog look
and feel its best with:**

- 🐾 Wash, dry, style & cut
- 🐾 Nail clipping
- 🐾 Ear plucking
- 🐾 Hand stripping

Groomed in a quiet, calm
peaceful environment.

Only 1 dog in the salon
at a time, unless dogs come
as a pair or crossover at
collection or drop off

Just call Sue to book an appointment
or chat about your pet's needs.

Sue Franklin
71 Greenfield Road, Flitton, Beds. MK45 5DR
Home: 01525 714297 Mob: 07837 417719
Email: totallydogs@hotmail.co.uk

Distinction at City
and Guilds
and mad about dogs!

**Fully insured
Currently taking
on new customers**





James Jamieson
Central Bedfordshire Councillor for Pulloxhill,
Flitton, Greenfield and Westoning
Tel 03003008532 / 07917 364573 email
james.jamieson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk
[Twitter #gjamieson](https://twitter.com/gjamieson)



As I write this, it is nearly 12 months since lockdown began. It is also a reminder on what has been a very tough 12 months for many coping with Covid. We have all had new experiences, many having to isolate, home schooling, working from home and no live events. But there have also been positives, our communities have come together, with great local support.

I would like to thank all those who have helped, it is not just care workers, but those many who continued to work in trying circumstance, went the extra mile or helped locally. Thank You.

Today around 14 million people have now been vaccinated and case numbers in Central Bedfordshire have dropped below 150 per hundred thousand, from a late December peak of nearly 700. I hope that by the time you read this in March we have vaccinated over 20 million people and infection numbers continue to come down. I cannot anticipate the Prime minister's announcement on 22 February, but am looking forward to reopening. Getting Children back to school is essential, I am greatly troubled by the long-term impact on children of missing school on both their education and wellbeing and that of their families, and it is something we will be looking at.

Looking forward we also need to think how we come out of this pandemic and make our communities better. I believe there will be some long-term changes, some obvious, some less so. Internet shopping is here to stay and has been accelerated, that will change some of our town centres and accelerate the trends to local and leisure. Shopping will increasingly be focused on leisure and convenience.

Home working is also here to stay, while many of us would like to meet colleagues again, the concept of working in an office five days a week, particularly if commuting to London has to be an anachronism. That could really benefit our communities, not having to spend 10-20 hours a week commuting will free up more time to be part of our local communities and spend more time with our families. Contrary to what we might see in places like London, many of our local shops/pubs/leisure centres could see more business. But we do need to roll out superfast Broadband quicker and that is something Central Bedfordshire Council will also focus on.

Being at home has allowed many to fully appreciate the fantastic countryside we have around us and this combined with the recognition of the risks to our environment, will further press the issue of sustainability. It was already a priority for Central Bedfordshire Council, with schemes launched for extra tree planting, reduced carbon emissions and looking to sustainable transport, particularly walking and cycling. I can see this really accelerating over the next few years.

Unfortunately with tight budgets, and costs rising for supporting an increasingly elderly population, we have had to raise Council Tax 1.95% plus a 3% Adult Social Care precept. I appreciate how tough times are and this will impose additional financial burdens. We hope that as the economy returns to normal we can again focus on below inflation council tax rises.

We are investing more in our roads and the new A6-M1 link will provide relief to many of our villages and reduce rat running particularly by lorries. Government has also committed to allowing councils to enforce weight limits and I hope this happens this year. We also now have a new reporting system for highways – Fix My Street which will make reporting easier and also facilitate feedback. You can report potholes and other road issues at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/reportit or download the FixMyStreet App from Google Play or Apple's App Store.

Flit Vale Wildlife Trust

Spring 2021 Programme



Saturday 29th May

10.00-15.00, Folly Wood Car Park, Flitwick Moor

Invertebrate Day with Colin Carpenter

Join experts from the BNHS for this annual hunt into the great variety of insects, snails and other small creatures on this magical wetland. A part of the wider Greensand Country Festival events. Families are especially welcome. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Free event

Please contact Ann on 07580 178889 or flitvale.info@gmail.com



Our team of DBS checked volunteers all live in the villages that we cover (Flitton, Greenfield, Pulloxhill and Wardhedges) and have a willingness to give up their time to assist others, something which has become ever more prevalent over the recent weeks. In fact, our usual 14 volunteers have over doubled by temporary volunteers who have joined us to assist with the increase in demand during this difficult period.

During the Coronavirus situation, we have been busy picking up prescriptions and getting shopping for residents who are self isolating. Normally, our main tasks involve providing lifts to medical appointments or to the shops, but with social distancing, this simply isn't possible at the moment.

There are several ways that you can get in touch with us. We have a dedicated mobile phone number which is manned 7 days a week (07594 578 741) and a Facebook page where you can send us a request for assistance through Facebook Messenger. We also have an email address where you can contact us (info@good-neighbours.org.uk).

Our group is funded by donations from those we assist and by the reasonable charges we make for lifts which covers the volunteer's fuel and a small donation to our scheme. We are also very fortunate that the Flitton & Greenfield Parish Council have made donations to our scheme to assist us in buying equipment needed and to help cover our modest running costs.

NEW STUDENT OFFER – 3 CLASSES FOR £10!



Claire Godleman 07944 888944

www.jazzercisemidbeds.com

www.facebook.com/Jazzercisemidbeds

claire@jazzercisemidbeds.com

**YOU THINK YOU
KNOW US,
BUT YOU DONT**

MONDAY

Redborne School South
(Gym) 7:30pm

TUESDAY

Redborne Upper School
(South School Gym) 6:30pm
[Strength class]

WEDNESDAY

Flitwick Lower School,
Temple Way 7:30pm

THURSDAY

Redborne School South
(Gym) 7:30pm

SATURDAY

Filton & Greenfield
Village Hall 9:30am



KP Sewing

Repairs & Alterations

Sewing by hand or machine



Fast & friendly service

Quick & convenient

Pick up & deliver

Harlington based

Contact Karen

07930 443123

kpsewing@outlook.com



Musical Bumps

real music... real education... real fun!

Outstanding music classes
from birth to school

Call or email Alex for classes
in Central Bedfordshire

BOOK A
FREE
TRIAL CLASS

Listening
& learning

* Ready...
steady...
sing!

Rhythm
& rhyme

Percussion
& puppets



[facebook.com/musicalbumps.centralbedfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/musicalbumps.centralbedfordshire)
M: 07397 776357 E: alex.martin@musicalbumps.com

THE FLIT VALLEY WALK



Saturday 15th May - meet at Westoning village hall car park at 2.00pm
Drive to Silsoe & walk back along route of Flit Valley Walk. Distance c.7.5 miles.
Booking essential.

Saturday 22nd May – Launch of the Flit Valley Walk. Location Flitwick Manor Park. Park at Village Hall. Contact Flitwick Town Council for more information: 01525 631900

10.00 to 11.00am: Explore the Park - A family walk around the park, with experts.

11.00 to 2.00pm: A taste of the Flit Valley – A walk to the Jack Crawley Barn & back. Distance c.5 miles

Monday 31st May - Meet at Westoning Village Hall car park at 10.00am
A leisurely all day walk with visits to Flitwick Mill and the De Grey Mausoleum, and an extended route around Flitwick Moor. Lunch at the Compasses pub – or bring packed lunch. Distance c.8.5 miles Booking essential.

Walks led by David Sedgley : Phone 01525 714961 or email
dsedgley@talktalk.net to book and for more information.

Numbers will be limited by Covid restrictions in force at the time.

These events are part of the **Greensand Country Festival**. Look at the website for more events throughout May: www.greensandcountry.com

THE FAMOUS FLITTON POTATO RACE UPDATE

Keep the date for the Flitton Potato Race

Sunday 4th July

We hope to run this year's race and associated activities but not in the usual format.

Watch out for updates on social media

www.flittonpotatorace.co.uk



'Flit'n'More is published and distributed by the Parochial Church Council of St. John the Baptist, Flitton, and Flitton & Greenfield Parish Council. The editors are Jo Holt, jo_holt@sky.com and Angela Ayres, martandang@btinternet.com Please note that views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors or PCC. ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT/ORGANISATION IN FLIT 'N' MORE.... THAT'S WHAT IT'S THERE FOR! The next issue will be out in June 2021 for events up until September. Please contact Jo or 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.



Cakes and Canapés

CATERING LTD

Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall

Thursdays
9:30am – 12:30pm

Our Mobile Van will be serving you the
finest Barista Coffee, Speciality Tea,
Homemade Cakes & Bakes, Pastries and
Hot Breakfast Baps.

Follow us on Facebook for regular updates and menus
FB & Insta - Cakes & Canapés

www.bedfordshirecatering.co.uk
bedfordshirecatering@gmail.com



Design sketch for the window
commemorating Hubert Cobb



The
Cooker Buddy

THE PROFESSIONAL
COOKER CLEANERS

All types of ovens cleaned

**BUILT-IN or FREE STANDING
AGA, RAEURNS & RANGES**

doing the
job you love
to hate

Cleaning includes:
**TRAYS, HOBS,
RINGS & RACKS
GAS & ELECTRIC**

Call Steve

est.2002

01462 810065

www.cookerbuddy.co.uk

INTERIOR
EXTERIOR



MAINTENANCE DESIGN FURNITURE

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR GENERAL REPAIRS
BESPOKE FURNITURE | KITCHENS | BATHROOMS
INTERIOR DESIGN | REFURBISHMENT
FLOORING | DECORATING | CARPENTRY
DOORS | STUD WALLS
GARDEN MAINTENANCE & PROJECTS | FENCING

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

BASED IN BARTON LE CLAY

T: 07707 739478 | 07541 131645

INTERIOREXTERIORUK@GMAIL.COM

WWW.INTERIOREXTERIORUK.COM

COURTEOUS SERVICE | FULLY INSURED

Village History

by Margaret Butt

Dr Eric Roberts and Christine Boyce

There is a lovely stained glass window over the side altar in Flitton church in memory of Dr Eric Roberts, churchwarden for 21 years, taking over as PCC Chairman after Rev Johnson left in 1953. Rev Johnson was a divisive character who upset a lot of people in the village. Being High Church (which our parish was not) he introduced the 2 side altars, although the one in the Remembrance area was stolen. He also had the incense burner in the chancel installed. Church and PCC attendance plummeted, though after he left PCC minutes show that under Dr Roberts things returned to normal.

Rev Eagles, who was appointed in 1954, is fondly remembered by villagers and was greatly liked. Of course, he lived in Pulloxhill Rectory but divided his time between the 2 parishes. Amongst many things, he set up 2 youth clubs at Flitton and Pulloxhill which met in the church halls.

Eric Roberts lived in Wardhedges. His mother in law, Mrs Harris, was the landlady of the Jolly Coopers and owned land around the pub. Eric married Vera Harris, and they had 2 sons, Richard and Peter. I remember meeting Eric when I was a little girl because he knew my father, but all I can remember was how tall he was and he had a deep, booming voice. Eric was Professor of Chemistry at Imperial College, London and appeared on television. He loved expensive cars, owning a Rolls Royce and later an Aston Martin. His son Richard attended Kimbolton School and Mrs Harris told Eric that he had to have a 'posh' car when the family visited the school.

Eric was a beekeeper and there is a bee in the stained glass. I always thought that it was there because of his hobby but it is also the signature for Christine Boyce who made the stained glass window. After Eric died his wife wanted a memorial for him. A stained glass window was chosen and Christine was commissioned. She and her husband lived in Vicarage Rd Silsoe for 20 years from 1968-88 when they moved to Housesteads in Northumberland. There was a studio where she made the stained glass. They had previously lived in (then) Malaya because of work.

Christine was also asked to design a window at Flitton in memory of organist Hubert Cobb. After a preliminary sketch of pelicans she suggested 2 angels playing instruments and carrying sheet music. We don't have a copy of this as sadly, the scheme did not go ahead. However the first design, called Pelican in Piety, was used at St Mary's Church in Hingham Ferrers.

Christine was born in October 1928 and lived in Hull. With her twin sister she was evacuated for a time, eventually becoming a PE teacher but soon realised that this was not for her [she was always cold!] so she trained in stained glass windows at Kings College, University of Durham. In 1952, in the college bar, she met her husband Dan who was studying Agricultural Engineering and subsequently worked at Wrest Park. She died in November 2019.

Christine made 3 stained glass windows in Amptill Church – a lovely rainbow for Jenny Archer, the others for Catherine of Aragon and the National School. Her work is to be found in churches in Cumbria eg Lanercost Priory Church where the window commemorates a visit of Edward I. A book is being written about her work by Bill Waters with photographs by Alastair Carew Cox.



ORGANISATION	CONTACT NAME	PHONE
Vicar	Rev David Payne	864858
Churchwardens	Margaret Butt Jo Holt	862170 792777
Flit 'n' More	Editorial: Angela Ayres, Jo Holt Advertising: Simon Sadler Distribution: Pat Woodland	860723/792777 861727 860189
Church Choir	Clare Butler-Ellis	861496
Bellringers	Jen Fisher	713917
Church Flowers	Lesley Arthur	713325
Friends of F & G Church	Jo Holt	792777
Parish Council	Debbie Lawson (Clerk)	clerk@flittongreenfield.org.uk
Village Hall Hire	Margaret Lowe	07938 965817
Church Hall Hire	Jill Chandler	860715
Bedfordshire Police	Amphill Team	01234 841212
Greenfield Lower School & Ducklings Pre-School	Head Teacher Mrs Debbie Drawbridge	712426
Good Neighbours	www.good-neighbours.org.uk	07594 578741
Scouts and Cubs	Badger Hill Scout Group	www.badgerhillscouts.org.uk
Stepping Stones Toddlers	Lisa Moore	07949 047990 or 721738
Brownies	Jane Staff	717294
Multi Use Games Area	Dawn Busbridge	07860 632427
Allotments	Bob Rishton/Rik Stokes	Bob 07712 534901 Rik 712180
Village Gala	Margaret Lowe	861111
Friends of Flitton Moor	Dave Sedgley	714961
Jazzercise	Clare Godleman	404858
Nicola Rayner Fitness	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
The Mausoleum	Wrest Park: 01525 860000	www.english-heritage.org.uk
Amphill & Flitwick Flyers	Dave Sedgley	714961



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