

CHRISTMAS 2021

Flit 'n' More



The parish newsletter for Flitton,
Greenfield and Wardhedges

Well here we are in December, and all crossing our fingers I'm sure that this year we will be able to enjoy a 'normal' Christmas, unlike last year.

There's plenty going on in the villages over the festive season, most of which you can find inside these pages, so let's continue that great community spirit we all experienced last year, and get out there! Two events that are mentioned by Mark our Parish Council Chairman are the pensioners' Christmas Lunch at the Village Hall and the Carols round the Christmas Tree outside the White Hart, both sure to be great events when the community comes together.

For all of us Christmas is a time of well-loved traditions, and for me the 'Carols by Candlelight' in the Church on 19th December fits that bill exactly. There is also of course

our annual Christingle service for the children, and for the very youngest our charming Crib Service; details of all these are on page 3 and 5.

For some of course Christmas is not such a happy time, so why not make this the year when you call on your neighbour who might be alone or not so well? We all supported one another so well in lockdown, let's see if we can keep that wonderful spirit going.

Of course we all have to be cautious, and we may yet have more restrictions to deal with, but this year's Tesco TV advert seems to capture the mood of the nation... 'Don't Stop Me Now!!'

So stay safe, keep well and let's make this festive season one to remember.

Angela/Jo/Simon/Pat



From Your Parish Council...

Keep up to date with what's going on in Flitton, Greenfield and Wardhedges, Christmas 2021...

We are all hoping that Christmas in our community may be a more sociable time this year and we can join in with the various activities planned in the Parish. The Council is delighted to support the seasonal luncheon in the Village Hall for our elderly folk and the purchase of the Christmas tree for the carol singing in December. Lots more is planned, so do take part and we thank the volunteers who arrange events like this for us.

The council was also pleased to support the recent 'I'Tea sessions at the village hall for IT help with a cup of tea and chat. It seemed like a really good idea to Councillors, we hope it was successful and well attended.

By the time you read this we should also have two new benches installed by the river, this idea also started as a suggestion by a local resident and whilst it has taken a while to come to fruition, the benches should allow nice views of the river. There will also be two information boards – one explaining why the re-surfaced river path is named after local resident Vincent Austin and the other giving details of the community orchard in Joes Close. In addition, we have ordered a new goal post for the playing field, to be delivered in November and we are seeking quotes for some new safety surfaces. Everything takes longer at the moment because of shortages of materials and lorry drivers – but we will get there eventually. Another project is to put in a new gate between the MUGA carpark and the playing field to make easier access to the field. Again, delivery is affected by steel shortages.

We continue to carefully consider all planning applications put before us or which we think may affect us. It was good to see the new Greenwood village application at Barton/Silsoe was withdrawn, and if it is re-submitted, we will be watching. It was also good to see that there will be some highway improvements in the area; a new, improved roundabout has been confirmed for the busy junction A6 and A507 in Clophill and CBC has been successful in securing government funding for the new road linking the M1 to the A6, meaning there is less traffic using village roads as rat runs.

You may see patches of dying grass around the villages and wonder why. This is for more wild flower areas to be sown next Spring. The flowers were so pretty this year and lasted a good long while, so we are planting more in 2022.

We are just beginning to put our budget together for next year and this will be finalised at the Council meeting in January 2022. We are always open to suggestions for improvements in the parish and happy to see residents attend our council meetings, details of which you can see on the website <https://flittonandgreenfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk/parish-services/meeting-dates/>

Happy Christmas and New Year to you all!

Cllr Mark Gates, Chairman of the Parish Council

St. John the Baptist Church, Flitton

December Events and Services

5th Christingle. 4pm

A service for children of all ages, with oranges, sweets and candles. 3pm to make your own Christingle, with the service starting at 4pm.



10th Christmas Concert. 7pm £10 inc. refreshments

A great way to start the festive season, with all your favourite Christmas songs. Featuring the Ampthill Town Band and Three Churches Choir.

Contact Jo Holt on 01525 792777 for tickets and information



12th Holy Communion 9:30am

The third week of Advent, with Rev. Anna Garvie.



19th Carols by Candlelight 6:30pm

Join us in the Church Hall for mulled wine and mince pies at 6pm, then over in the Church for our traditional Carols and Readings service.



24th Crib Service 10:30am

An informal service for all the family, where we talk about the Nativity story and enjoy our knitted Nativity figures.



24th Evening Holy Communion 9:30pm

Flitton's take on Midnight Mass. Join us to welcome our Lord Jesus into the world at this very special service with Rev. Anne Barker.

**The PCC wishes you a very
Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year**

Flitton Church News



Confessions of a Churchwarden

I am very disappointed to report, that after only a year, we have said goodbye to our vicar Rev. David Payne and his wife Jo. There are a number of reasons for this decision, but David stated that he felt he was, "the wrong person in the wrong role." We wish David and Jo the very best for their future endeavours in Lincolnshire.

This means that the benefice of Flitton, Silsoe and Pulloxhill is once again in vacancy. In 2022, we will offer a Holy Communion at one of the three churches every Sunday, and ask you to bear with us as we offer other services (which do not always need to be led by a Minister) at other times. Please see the Service Page for more details.

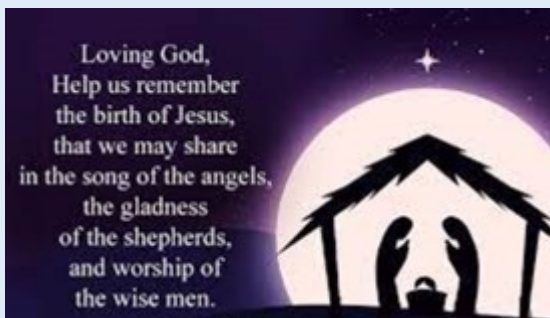
December is a very special time at Church and we hope to see you and your family at some of our traditional

services, which really bring us into the festive spirit. Our Christingle service at 4pm on the 5th will feature children from our worship group at Greenfield School. We invite you to bring along a toy animal to be part of the Crib Service at 10.30am on Christmas Eve. Any animal is welcome – not just those from the Nativity!

I am pleased to report that we will have a new service for 2022. The Fourth Friday at Flitton, starting on Friday 28th of January will be a short communion service from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). This will be led at 10.00am by Rev. Anne Barker and followed by coffee and cake. If you haven't been to a church service for a while, you will be made most welcome.

God Bless,
Jo Holt

Churchwarden,
St John the Baptist, Flitton
Tel: 01525 792777
Email: jo_holt@sky.com



Come to our Magical Christingle Service



**Sunday 5th December
in Flitton Church**

**The service starts at 4pm but you can come along at 3pm to
make your own Christingle!**

**We will provide the materials and help you - if you don't
know what a Christingle means, here's a helpful guide...**



The Flit'n'More Thank You Page

This time round we want to thank one of our own; Pat Woodland has been in charge of getting your mag out to the distributors for many years now, but personal circumstances mean that this will be the last issue with which she will be able to help.

I know you will want to join with me to thank her so much, and also to welcome Pam Buckley, who will be taking over from Pat in the New Year.

If you feel you would be able to help too, we are always looking for more deliverers—especially in Greenfield, where we could do with sharing out the rounds so deliverers' task is not so great. Please contact Pat (for now!) if you can help.



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).



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, FLITTON

Cordially invites you to our

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**Friday 10th December
7:00 for Wine and Canapés
7:30 Concert Starts**

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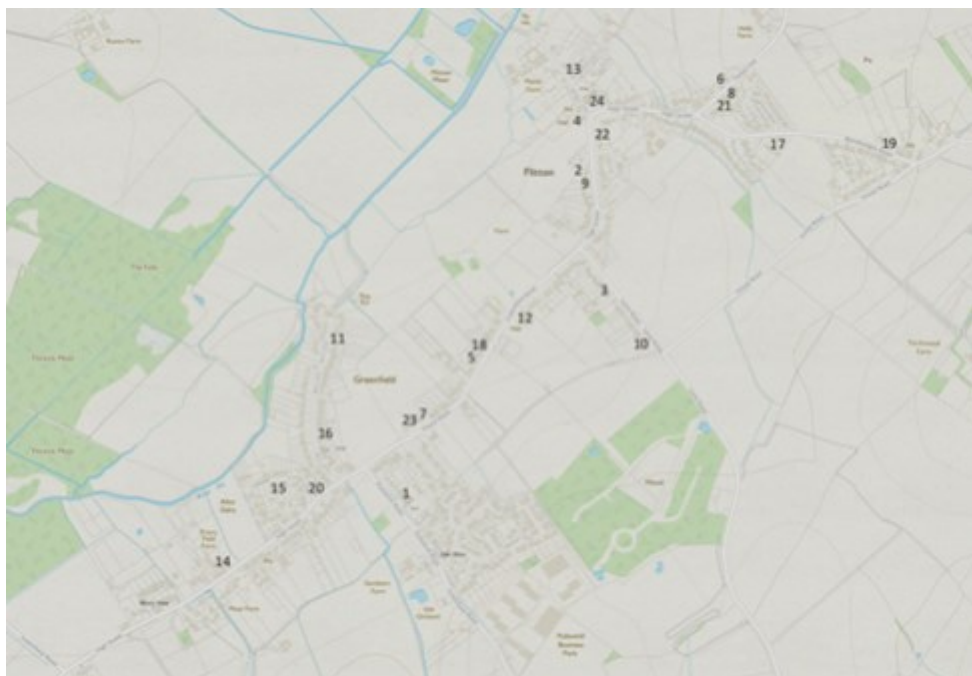
or call 01525 792777



ADVENT WINDOWS 2021

Each year these get better and better... check them out on the dates below and up to Christmas Eve, when they will all be lit! Happy Christmas!

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 School | 13 Harris, 12 Brook Lane |
| 2 Flynn, High St Flitton | 14 Broughton, Eaton Mews |
| 3 Melville, 6 Sand Rd | 15 Sharpe, 17 School Lane |
| 4 Church Hall | 16 Bloomfield, 23 Mill Lane |
| 5 Burrows, 81 Greenfield Rd | 17 Chant, Uplands, Wardhedges |
| 6 Dougie, Flitton Hill | 18 Staff, 79 Greenfield Rd |
| 7 Willcox, Flitton Rd Greenfield | 19 Cunningham, Peartree House |
| 8 Ellingham, Flitton Hill | 20 Moore, 2 School Lane Greenfield |
| 9 Lockey, 9c High St Flitton | 21 Holt, The Barn, Flitton Hill |
| 10 McSwiggan, 28 Sand Rd | 22 Lewis, High St Flitton |
| 11 Rishton, 69 Mill Lane | 23 Claire, 49 Flitton Rd Greenfield |
| 12 Village Hall | 24 Church |



Carols Round the Christmas Tree



Thursday 23rd December at 6.30 pm

Outside the White Hart, Flitton

Come along and sing all the well-known carols,
supported by members of the Church Choir
and a band from The Salvation Army.

This is now a well-established Village Event, and thanks go all those who have contributed including the Parish Council and The White Hart for funding the tree, David Taylor, Simon Sadler and team for erecting it, and all those who are providing mulled wine and mince pies!

THERE WILL BE A CASH COLLECTION FOR THE SALVATON ARMY/CHURCH

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We're back in Silsoe

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Opening Times

Lunchtimes: Tue - Sat 12pm - 2pm

Evenings: Monday 4:30pm - 8pm & Tue-Sat 4:30pm - 9pm

We're so excited to launch our new shop on the new shopping development in the parade of shops adjacent to the Co-op in Silsoe. You may remember us from our Award-winning Fish & Chips shop in Barton-Le-Clay over 20 years ago, where we spent many happy years. And we really look forward to serving customers in Silsoe.

We're delighted to offer:

- The freshest fish & chips around (Cod Boneless/Skinless)
- Cooked in state-of-the-art fryers with innovative filters for a healthier meal
- Gluten-Free Wednesdays (in addition to the regular menu)

(Not forgetting Battered Mars Bars)

Plus

- Barista coffee & specialist teas
- Tasty MilkShakes (made with ice cream)
- Seating area for dining in.

Luke & team



We're proud to announce our team have
already achieved a 5 Star Food Hygiene Rating.



Presenting the Fitness Advent Calendar!

24 days of exercise challenges to provide you with all the inspiration you need to keep moving throughout December.

This advent calendar will do wonders for your physical health as well as for your emotional wellbeing. Since it can be harder to stay positive during the darker days, it's as important as ever to look after your mental health and finding time for 10 minutes of exercise a day will help you to do exactly that.



Add these to your usual workouts or when busy try them to keep you active on a daily basis. This is the perfect motivation for you! Why not drag the family into doing it too!

Keep & cross them off as you go!

If you're looking for fun & effective ways to kick start your fitness in the New year whether it's with a rebalancing Pilates class or a total body HIIT Circuits session contact Nicola Rayner

NICOLA RAYNER FITNESS
fitone@live.co.uk 07801510988



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THE FAMOUS FLITTON POTATO RACE

The 2022 Potato Race is on track for **Sunday 12th June** and we are planning a bumper event. We are aiming to raise mega-funds for charity, including:

Motor Neurone Disease Association
Bedford Hospital Charity & Friends A&E Appeal
CHUMS Flitwick & Ampthill Community First Responder Group

To make a difference to them, we need **your** support - runners of course but also sponsors and donors. Anyone interested in supporting us in any way, please contact us on
flittonpotatorace@hotmail.co.uk



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Flitwick & District Heritage Group and the Friends of Flitton Moor



The Heritage group recently produced a new enlarged leaflet of the Two Moors Heritage Trail. We delivered it to all houses in the parish so if you haven't received yours please let me know and I'll get one to you.

We also now have our own new website – so please visit:

www.FDHG.co.uk

Here you will find lots of information on the history and wildlife of the area between Flitton and Flitwick.

The painting above is by Thomas Fisher and shows Flitton Moor as it was over 200 years ago. It was purchased by Flitwick & District Heritage Group in 2003 at the time of the opening of the Two Moors Heritage Trail.

The Friends group look after the barn as well as the Moor. We also look after local footpaths: mowing and keeping them clear and even building bridges.

David Sedgley

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PULLOXHILL CHIMES ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS



Pulloxhill Chimes was formed in 2000 when one of our stalwart residents decided that the village needed a handbells group!

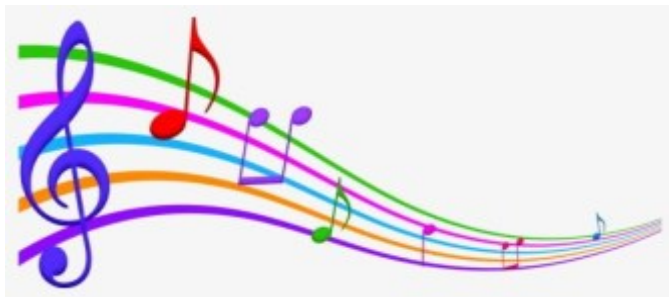
We meet on Monday evenings in Pulloxhill Church Hall and play a variety of music styles on our beautiful 2-octave set of bronze Malmark handbells, which were purchased with the aid of a National Lottery Grant.

We pay weekly subs, currently £1.50 to cover costs of the hall rent, bells insurance and music purchases. This is supplemented by a monthly raffle where members take turns to provide a small prize/gift. Our meetings are informal and sociable, with a break for refreshments.

Currently there are nine of us, but we would love to increase our numbers and share the enjoyment of handbell ringing with some new members. All musical abilities are welcome; we have a mix of music and non-music readers. As long as you are willing to have a go and can keep count, then you have what it takes to play the handbells!

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to see/hear the bells in action with a view to joining us, please call or message me.

Fiona Jephson 07798 522590 – fiona@jephson.net



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THURSDAY
 Redborne Upper School
 Dance Mixx (60 minutes) 7:00pm

SATURDAY
 Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall
 Dance Mixx (60 minutes) 9:30am

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On 9th October there was an unveiling ceremony for the newly surfaced river path to be known as The Vincent Austin Way. It was part of a Memorial Day to celebrate the life of Vincent who was closely involved in the village community before moving to Suffolk, and who sadly died earlier this year.

Vincent's family turned out to support the ribbon cutting which Joan Austin carried out. The signs and an information board which will be installed, show Vincent's interests as an artist and talk about his life in the Parish, as well as echoing his favourite colour - yellow.



What's on?

Community events at Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall



**Sessions will continue in the New Year
Every Monday from 2-4 pm**

Do you have problems logging on, surfing the internet, sending an email?
No question or problem is too simple! This drop-in surgery is here to answer your basic questions. You can also find out information about scams and fraud.

Bring your laptop, tablet or other device and come along with a question or two. We hope to resolve your problem or query. At the same time, have a cuppa and a chat! Even if you don't have an IT query but just want to get out of the house, you're just as welcome.

There is no charge, so feel free (literally) to come on down to the hall.



***LIVE at the
Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall***

Saturday 5th Feb – Doors open 4pm

England vs Scotland- KO 4.45pm

Sunday 13th Feb – Doors open 2pm

England vs Italy- KO 3pm

Saturday 26th Feb – Doors open 4pm

England vs Wales - KO 4.45pm

Saturday 12th March – Doors open 4pm

England vs Ireland -KO 4.45pm

Saturday 19th March – SUPER SATURDAY

Doors open 1.30pm

Wales vs Italy - KO 2.15pm

Ireland vs Scotland - KO 4.45pm

France vs England -KO 8pm

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT - 07938965817

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Flitton & Greenfield Village Hall Presents...



Christmas Family Film Sunday 12th December

Why not bring your duvet and snuggle down to watch Elf on our big screen?

We will also be switching on our special Advent window!

Free entry, with doors opening 4pm and the film starting at 5pm.

Refreshments and licensed bar will be available.

To book your place, please ring or text

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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, enabling our community to flourish.

What a wonderful start we have had to our new school year!

All of our children have settled back into their new year groups extremely well. It has been a pleasure to be able to give some Headteacher Awards to some of the children that have displayed some wonderful work and attitudes to learning.

It was so exciting to be able to hold our Harvest Festivals again this year and it was wonderful to receive so many donations which we passed on to Preen, which is a very worthwhile cause. We also raised money for Cancer Research by wearing pink on 22nd October, as this is a charity very dear to our hearts.

It was World Values Day on 21st October and the children all took part in some wonderful activities to celebrate this. Our values work is very important to us as it underpins everything we do along with our ethos of 'nurture, inspire, flourish', and is very much a way of life around our schools. We now have 'Values Ambassadors' in school, who are advocates of our values, contribute to ideas, and ensure that the values are being lived by everybody.

If you would like to visit our school, please do contact the school office on 01515 712426. We welcome children in our nursery from the age of three to the age of nine, when they transition to middle school.

Best wishes.

Mrs Drawbridge
Headteacher

Greenfield, Flitton, Beds.

VOTES FOR THE COUNTY.

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LAND
AND SUBSTANTIAL
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And GARDEN GROUND,
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THOS. GREENE

On Thursday, May 2, 1844, at Four o'clock in the Afternoon,

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Subject to such Conditions as will be then produced. By Order of the Proprietor. Comprising—

Lot 1. A Capital MESSUAGE, divided into TWO TENEMENTS, situate near the *Mill* in GREENFIELD aforesaid; together with Half-an-Acre of fertile GARDEN GROUND; in the occupation of Richard Jones and John Odell, at rents amounting together to Seven Pounds per annum.

Lot 2. A Capital MESSUAGE, also divided into TWO TENEMENTS; together with Half-an-Acre of GARDEN GROUND (more or less), adjoining LOT 1; in the occupation of Thos. Goodman and Jas. Cole, at rents amounting to Seven Pounds per annum.

Lot 3. A superior Field of fertile ARABLE LAND, adjoining LOT 2 on the one side, and the Estate of EARL DE GREY on the south, containing by estimation *Two Acres*, in the occupation of Mr. William Hopkins, of *Westoning*, at yearly rent of £6.

The above Estate is Tithe-free, and the Land-Tax moderate.

To view the same, apply to the respective Tenants; and for further Particulars, to MR. GREENE, Solicitor, or the AUCTIONEER, both of *Amphill*.

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VILLAGE HISTORY

BY MARGARET BUTT

Greenfield Property For Sale

On the opposite page is a bill of sale for land and cottages in Greenfield which dates from 1844. The sale poster in itself is full of interesting information and gives an indication of post enclosure agriculture in the parish

The King's Head Inn is at the bottom of Woburn Street Numbers 1-3. It is the first building on the right hand side from the town centre going up the hill. A messuage is a dwelling house with adjacent land and outbuildings, a term used since Norman times. The tenements indicate that a larger house had been divided up for farm workers to rent.

This is a time of agricultural change following the Enclosures of the open fields. The parish was once farmed with the open field system – huge fields which were divided into strips for farm labourers to work on a three year rotation plan. The names of the original open fields appear on the 1802 map – Greenfield East Field, Pulloxhill North Field etc. This feudal way of life was controlled by the landowners, mainly the De Greys at Wrest Park, and because they owned most of the land, enclosure was quite late. Enclosure could only happen through a Parliamentary Act of Enclosure which could take years to implement. Many were left jobless and forced to move to towns and cities to find work and the population of villages like ours declined.

The ownership of these Lots gave the right to vote. This was an important selling feature at a time when relatively few people could vote in elections.

The 3 Lots can be seen on the Enclosure Act map of 1802 although there were different owners then. Lots 1 and 2 were owned by J Clark but I cannot read the owner of Lot 3. It is possibly Ingram. The parish boundaries were different then with the Mill being in a detached portion of Pulloxhill parish.

The Earl de Grey was Thomas Phillip, the man who had the present Wrest Park and Silsoe Church built. He was the last person to be buried in the mausoleum at Flitton.

'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, angelaayres2468@gmail.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 Feb 2022 for events up until April. 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.

ORGANISATION	CONTACT NAME	PHONE
Churchwarden	Jo Holt	792777
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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@flittonandgreenfieldparish council.gov.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
Silsoe Drama Club	Angela Ayres	861723
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 www.FDHG.co.uk
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,
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