

GRASS

THE NEWSLETTER AT THE ROOTS OF THE GRAND UNION BENEFICE OF BLISWORTH AND STOKE BRUERNE/ SHUTLANGER, WITH GRAFTON REGIS, ALDERTON AND MILTON MALSOR

Rector's Letter

Christmas is the largest celebration around the world. This festival is not just one day, and then everything goes back to normal; Christmas takes an entire month, healthily disrupting everyone's routine. We stop and think of the people we might not have seen or spoken to for months, maybe even since last Christmas.

It can be a stressful and busy time getting everything ready, Christmas day is like no other day in our calendar. But this year we can stop and reflect on what is truly important to us, we can't go to parties or mix in large gatherings, all the social expectations are not there, so we can stop and breathe. What is the reason that we celebrate; what single event could make our world stand still for one day?

When we measure time, it all relates to one point in history, the birth of one child, born not into royalty but into a low-income family that soon became refugees fleeing for their lives. Every date in our busy lives relates to this one point in time, the birth of one child, Jesus, Emmanuel, "God is with us." Every moment, every date relates to the moment in history when our creator took upon Himself our human form.

In the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke, we hear the words "do not be afraid", three times. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John". 1:13. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God." 1:30. but the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people": 2:20.

In the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, it is mentioned 78 times in total. During this year, we have been dealing with a pandemic, finding ourselves in uncharted times, and with this has come the fear of the unknown.

For Zechariah, Mary and the shepherds, the first Christmas was a new unprecedented time that brought a fear of the unknown, not unlike what some people are feeling today. When we feel unsure of what tomorrow might bring, let us remember the words of the angel. "Do not be afraid". Why you might ask; because of the good news given to the shepherds 'I am bringing you good news of great joy'. The greatest gift you will ever receive. Immanuel, 'God is with us'. Our God is with us in whatever we might face today and tomorrow. A good reason to celebrate.

Christmas Worship

With the Government regulations, our gatherings this year will be small due to social distancing, the numbers will have to be restricted and ticket only; one of our primary concerns is to keep everyone safe. You can join in our worship through Zoom by sending your email address to grandunionbenefice@gmail.com, and we will add you to our mailing list so you can receive information on what is taking place in the Benefice and receive invitations to our worship. Our children's service will be on both the Grand Union Church Facebook and the Miltonian Facebook on Christmas Eve, which is open to everyone.

Advent 2

6 December, 9.30 a m: Eucharist

Advent 3

13 December, 9.30 a m: Eucharist

Advent 4

20 December, 9.30 a m: Eucharist

4.00 p m: Family worship with carols

Christmas Eve

24 December, 10.00 a m: Eucharist

3.00 p m: the Christmas story for children, Facebook

6.00p m: First Eucharist of Christmas

Christmas Day

25 December, 9.30 a m: Eucharist

Christmas 1

27 December, 9.30 a m: Eucharist

When the pandemic is over, and it's safe to meet in large numbers, we will be holding a grand celebration, and remember, wherever you are and whatever you are doing, God is with you.

Richard

Useful Telephone Numbers for the United Benefice of Blisworth and Stoke Bruerne with Grafton Regis, Alderton and Milton Malsor

Rector: Canon Rev'd Richard Stainer, The Rectory, 37 High Street, Blisworth NN7 3BJ, tel 01604 857619

Churchwardens of Blisworth: Mrs Fiona McKenzie, tel 01604 859541 and Mrs Angela Cheesbrough, tel 01604 858059.

Churchwarden of Stoke Bruerne: Mrs Christine Frost, tel 01604 862561.

Churchwardens of Grafton Regis: Mrs Jean Glanville, tel 01908 543463 and Lord Charles Fitzroy, tel 01908 542908

Churchwardens of Alderton: Mrs Margaret Hall-Townley, tel 01327 811307 and Mrs Linda Dards, tel 01327 811265.

Churchwardens of Milton Malsor: Mrs Jane Treharne, tel 01604 858323 and Mrs Sue Bell, tel 01327 351043

VILLAGE NEWS



STOKE BRUERNE

Stoke Bruerne C of E Primary School

Recently, our children have been raising money for a very special charity. All children and staff have been doing a sponsored run around the recreation field in Stoke Bruerne to raise money for a charity called Project 16:15 which aims to help rough sleepers in

Northampton. They try to ensure no homeless person or person in need on the streets of Northampton goes without a hot breakfast, drink and other essentials.

If you would like to help and get involved with this charity, head over to Project 16:15 Rough Sleeper Support on Facebook.



Stoke Bruerne Parish Council

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council. This is an opportunity for you to have a real say in matters affecting the village now and in the future, and to serve the community.

This voluntary job primarily entails attending Council meetings which are held on a six weekly cycle. No prior experience is necessary just a keen interest in what happens in the village! If you would like to know more or are willing to put your name forward then please contact the Clerk.

The Parish Council will now fill the vacancy by co-option. Nomination should be submitted in writing to the Clerk at the address below. If nominating another person, please include a signed note confirming their willingness to stand.

Address for correspondence: Bobs Damerell, Clerk to Stoke Bruerne Parish Council, 4 Brae Hill, Brill, Bucks, HP18 9TF,

Email: clerk@stokebruerneparishcouncil.org.uk



SHUTLANGER

Shutlanger Parish Council

We met over Zoom on 14 November to look at what we as a Parish Council want to do next year to support and develop the village. Before we go onto that, there are some more immediate matters.

We want to remind people that help is still available for those finding the pandemic difficult to deal with.

Please read the letter on what help is on offer which we are circulating to every household in the village (the letter also is on our website and on the village notice boards).

Also, parking on pavements is on the increase in a way that completely blocks the pavements. When you are parking, please leave room for other users to get by, such as those with baby buggies, in wheelchairs or on mobility scooters.

We'd like to enhance the village from next spring by installing large planters around the place and getting these planted up professionally. Is anyone interested in adopting a planter near their property, to keep it watered and weeded for the summer? If you are, please let the clerk know.

Back to the Parish Plan. This Plan will form a large part of what the Parish Council does over the next few years. You gave us a lot of information in your responses and we are still working through it. One urgent issue is the village hall, a wonderful community asset that we are lucky to have. Many of you in your responses to the plan wanted us to do more to support the village hall. The hall does need a lot of repair and maintenance and income has fallen right away during the pandemic. To keep things going, the Parish Council will match pound for pound any donation villagers or others make to the upkeep of the hall, up to a maximum contribution by the Parish Council of £5,000. These funds will keep the hall going and next year we hope to work with the hall's trustees to attract grant funding for more substantial improvements to the hall.

We will bring this need along with other priorities from the Parish Plan to our budget setting meeting in January 2021. We would very much welcome people attending so please join us on Zoom if you can.



GRAFTON REGIS

Remembrance Sunday

Despite Coronavirus, villagers came along to the churchyard at St. Mary's for our now annual Remembrance service. As we do not have a war memorial in the village, it was not a regular occurrence until Kathy Colgrove raised the funds to buy the village a 'Tommy' figure which is now a well-established figure in the churchyard.

We will be lighting our Advent candles from the end of the month up until Christmas day. In normal circumstances, we invite our village children to come along to the church and take it in turns to light the candles through the Sundays but this is not a 'normal' year.



Covid Lockdown

Once again Alan has come to the rescue and has extended his takeaway service from Tuesday through to Sunday. I can personally recommend the pizzas, cheesy nachos and onion rings.

Bell Ropes

Our new bell ropes have arrived thanks to Diane and Mark - getting them hung with the complications of Covid 19 restrictions is not quite as easy as usual. It will be good to see ropes back in place and even better to hear the bells ringing.

Jean



BLISWORTH

Blisworth St John's Christmas Fayre

As we are unable to hold our usual Christmas fayre this year, my daughter, Cheryl, has offered to have a 'pop-up' shop in her plant nursery - Sandy Lane Plants NN7 4DG.

As a garden centre, they are open during lock-down with all Covid secure guidance in place. There will be the usual Christmas fare of new & pre-loved gifts, decorations, novelties as well as seasonal home-made cakes and biscuits. We have even devised a 'Covid safe' version of the traditional tombola!

The fayre will be running from Saturday 21 November until Sunday 20 December. Normal opening hours are 10.00 a m until 4.00 p m every day. Please pop over to look at the many different gift ideas and enjoy some seasonal cheer!

Pat Masterman

Church Services on the Radio

If you have a DAB radio, you can access three Christian radio stations, UCB 1, UCB 2 and Premier Christian Radio. I have been listening to these a lot recently, and find Premier, in particular, broadcasts many thought provoking talks. On all three there is plenty of music, some familiar, some not. It's worth investigating.

Fiona McKenzie



ALDERTON

Church Cleaning Rota

December: Margaret H-T & Julie Orzechowska

Monthly Report on St Margaret's Church

The roof is currently being repaired during lockdown and we have had a new ladder with protective cage fitted to allow access to the bell tower. The wall in the chancel has been plastered over and now looks much better.

Regarding the installation of toilet/servery facilities, things are progressing frustratingly slowly; Roger is working on the situation and is trying to speed things up.

We have just been informed that our faculty (permission to proceed) for the hospitality area/toilet has expired, and we now have to reapply. We have started clearing cupboards out (a very mucky job) but at least now we can see what we have got and have thrown some things out.

On a lighter note, Roger will work his usual magic and illuminate the church from 29 November. In view of the current Covid situation, somebody has suggested that rather than switch the lights off on Twelfth Night, we should leave them on until Candlemas (2 February). Obviously this is going to incur extra costs – would any households be willing to sponsor the lighting of the church (suggested sponsorship would be £10 per week)? If you are interested, could you please let Linda, Margaret or Brian know?

So things are moving forward, albeit slowly.

Christmas Service

Government restrictions permitting, we are planning a service on Sunday 20 December in church. What we are hoping to be able to arrange is for a small procession, socially distancing, to travel from The Old Barn towards the church with Mary and Joseph and a St Bernard's dog, Bernie, taking the place of the usual donkey. We anticipate a couple of shepherds and an angel joining the procession,

There will be a short service inside the church and then the man in the big red coat has said that he may be able to spare a short while to visit us in the churchyard. Although children will not be able to approach him in the usual way, he will be there nonetheless and there will be a small gift for the children as they leave the churchyard. Fingers crossed that we can go ahead.

Tree Dressing

Whatever we manage to do or not do with the church procession, the tree dressing on 21 December will go up. So bring your mug or beaker, a pen to write a 'leaf' and perambulate up Church Lane where there will be mulled wine and a mince pie and a 'Happy New Natural Year' and a 'Merry Christmas' will be found. We may not be able to sing and we will have to stay well away from each other and come and go reasonably quickly but WE WILL BE THERE!

6.30 p m, 21 December, the tree on the triangle at the top of Church Lane. See you there!

Margaret H-T

Market for the Knight

Due to the current Covid situation, we have postponed the market which we were due to hold on Saturday 21 November until Saturday 5 December. We hope we will be able to go ahead with this but as we go to press, things are still uncertain. If we are allowed to proceed, the market will be at the top of Church Lane from 10.30 a m until 12.30 p m and there will be the usual array of cakes, biscuits, sweets, pickles, jams and relishes and various items of jewellery and bric a brac. Do come along – it's always

lovely to see everybody and you never know what treasures you might find. We are working towards raising funds for the tomb chest now and each week, the costs seem to be rising so we have a fair way to go. All proceeds will go towards this project. Please come and support us – we need every penny in order to complete this project. Please remember the mask and space rule at all times. Thanks – Margaret & Linda

December's Update of the Knight

As you already know, the conservation work on the 800-year-old effigy of our knight is now complete and he is safe for at least another 100 years. The chemicals used to hold and clean the wood of the effigy are such that they can be removed if a better method comes along in the future. The effigy will not be repainted in his splendid colours but we hope, in the future, to have an image created of how he would have looked when he was first installed in the church 800 years ago. As Hugh Harrison (Hugh Harrison Conservation) has said, he would have been in the church not long after Magna Carta - this gives you an idea of his age and the importance of the knights of this period; they were powerful people.

The DAC asked if we could rethink the design of the tomb chest for Sir William. They (and we) were not so keen on the reuse of old choir stalls, with their mixture of wood from different periods, to build a new tomb chest. Consequently we asked Hugh Harrison for the design of a new wooden chest with a more modern design and we also asked Northamptonshire stonemasons, Boden & Ward, to produce the design for a simple stone chest. We have very recently received a design for the wooden tomb chest and a basic description for the new stone chest. Both are simple but modern and attractive but they are both expensive. Hugh Harrison's design would come in at £6,420 plus VAT and the very basic estimate for the stone chest is £10,350. It is possible that we would have to get involved with archaeology if we went for the stone chest and this would add approximately another £5,000. We are now in a position to apply for a new faculty both for the tomb chest and for the position that we would like it to finally rest.

Our finances are progressing well thanks to your incredible generosity. Linda and I are still hoping to hold another 'knight market' under the tree at the top of Church Lane on 5 December 2020 from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. As my grandfather used to say, "We soldier on".

Linda & Margaret

St. Margaret's Church Appeal for Funds

St. Margaret's Church is a grade II listed building, the tower dates back to the early part of the 16th century and the rest of the building was rebuilt in 1847-8 and, due to its age, requires constant specialist maintenance to keep it in shape. The church has recently had some repairs, an internal wall re-plastered (£3,370 + VAT), new roof ladder put in place (£1,771 + VAT) so that the leaking roof could be fixed (£3,159 + VAT). We hope to see the addition of a servery and toilet facilities installed next year, which would give us the opportunity to utilise the church to the benefit of the village. We have some funds towards the costs of the works but, before we even get started, the cost of supplying water to the church has escalated, as mentioned in the November issue of GRASS and above.

Somehow, we need to raise funds to keep the church going, you don't have to be a church goer to support the church. We rely on collections, standing order donations and the art festival fund raising to cover the majority of expenditure. The Covid-19 pandemic means that we have had fewer services this year and therefore less income from collections; it is estimated that the collections will total £300 this year. A number of parishioners give donations via standing orders, and this will bring in an additional £1,165 for this year, and we do make a recovery via Gift Aid for those that have selected this option.

I will be trying to raise funds from grants; this is a long and difficult process but worth pursuing. If you think that you can support with the ongoing costs by donating monthly by standing order or a one off sum, no matter how small, the bank details are as follows:

Lloyds Bank plc, Towcester Branch, 130 Watling St, Towcester NN12 6BT, sort code 30-18-83, account number 00099371, account name: Alderton PCC.

Please let me know if you would like a standing order mandate and gift aid declaration form.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and keep safe. Brian Patton, Treasurer Alderton PCC Moat House, Church Lane, Alderton NN12 7LP. E-mail: b.patton@hotmail.co.uk, home phone: 01327 810250 Mobile: 07803268047

MILTON MALSOR



It has been a hard year with many community events cancelled or postponed, yet the news of a vaccine breakthrough comes at a time of renewed hope. Advent, the coming of Christ into the world, heralds the dawn of a new beginning. Many wonder what Christmas will be like this year with social restrictions still operating, yet the Christian faith teaches resilience and patience. This has been abundant in the life of the

village with many people coming up to the challenge and thinking of others before themselves. This edition comes to you all with a message of hope and cheerfulness that better things lie before us in the coming months.

The medicine collection has kept going and a new team willing to do this service is on hand. Ring Nicola James (07989 307670), Jacqui Jones (07728 027507) or Katie Marshall (07792 842358) who are there to help, together with other volunteers. Thanks to long-serving volunteers who are retiring.

Church Restoration

The lockdown has given opportunity for Holy Cross Church to do extensive restoration of the building with work on the tower, the east window and other necessary stonework repairs. Hopefully, scaffolding will be removed ahead of Christmas. Dry rot and death-watch beetle have been found in the choir pews in the chancel. These have been removed into storage, which gives opportunity to redesign this important worship space.

Although the church has sufficient funds to pay for building improvements, repairs and maintenance, unfortunately some money left in wills for the building fabric can only be used for that purpose. With no coffee mornings, fund raising and regular services, the day-to-day cash flow has dried up. A letter to members of the church Electoral Roll has pointed out this problem saying that

we are not going to let a 21st century virus bring the church to its knees, a church which has been going since before the 12th century. The response is very encouraging and folk are making up what they would have given over the past 7 months, either by bank transfer or other means.

Baptist Church

The Baptist Church has managed to keep its Sunday services going with tight restrictions, but during this past lockdown has stopped, yet hoping to resume as soon as possible with services throughout December with a family service on Christmas Day. Contact Dianne Turner on 01604 858243.

Trading Table

Betsy Hunt at 21A Green Street, thanks all the people who come to her trading table to buy preserves and vegetables. She has raised a sum of £800 for MacMillan Cancer Support and also £26.50 for Forever Hounds, a charity giving food for dogs. Betsy says her table is still running in her garage to keep it dry - just come up the drive to the house. She is also doing the book exchange in her garage; she has been given a lot of children's books of all ages so come up and help yourselves.

Services

Throughout the pandemic, services have been live-streamed on Zoom on Sundays and Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. The churches of the Benefice have taken it in turns to host the Sunday services with restrictions meaning that only the local congregation can attend their own church but the rest have Zoomed in.

Snoob the Rock Snake

Snoob the Rock Snake has graced the village since the first lockdown and will be moved to a more permanent place at the village hall, where the Art Group and others will redecorate any that have faded. Snoob is the long line of decorated stones placed near the church wall by the children, a great gesture of youthful resilience. Thanks to Heather Mair and all who organised this brilliant feature of the village's life.

Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday was a brilliant success. The ceremony was live-streamed on Facebook and over 500 people have viewed it with hundreds of likes and appreciative comments. The service was led by Peter Heffron and Malcolm Deacon with Gary Marshall laying a wreath on behalf of the village, David Hayworth (RAF), Gary Day (British Army), Steve Howell (Royal Navy) and Peter Brothers (Scouts and Uniformed Organisations). Thanks to the Parish Council for arranging the road closure and other support. As we did for the NHS, many villagers stood outside their doors for the National Silence at 11.00 a.m, showing respect for all those who gave their lives for our freedom.



The school children made over 200 poppies which they have placed as a Field of Remembrance at the War Memorial for all to see.

Village Round Up

In a round-up of news from village groups we hear that The Historical Society tentatively hopes to meet for its AGM on 18 March at the village hall rather than Raynesford House. 1st Collingtree & Milton Malsor Scout Group is working hard to keep its young people engaged with Scouting whilst they are unable to meet. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are all enjoying virtual meetings using Zoom to share some fun activities together and carry on working on their Scouting skills. We look forward to resuming outdoor activities when the current lockdown ends and face to face meetings as soon as the situation allows.

1st Milton Malsor Brownies have started having Zoom meetings on their usual Monday evenings whilst they cannot meet in person. New Brownies are always welcome from age 7 – register at www.girlguiding.org.uk

Fortunately, Milton and Collingtree WI were able to safely hold their annual meeting in October but mainly by email. This resulted in them welcoming two of the younger members onto the committee - a very positive step. They are keeping in touch with everyone, in various ways during these unusual and uncertain times and look forward to enjoying meetings again and welcoming more members, whenever this is possible next year. It is hoped to produce another Miltonian in the New Year when more positive news can be given.

Family Story Time, Christmas Eve at 3.00 p.m., Live on Milton Malsor and Benefice Facebook Pages.

This year our highly successful Christmas Eve Crib Service is not able to take place, so we are bringing it to you via the Facebook pages of Milton Malsor and the Benefice.

We welcome the Bethlehem innkeeper who took pity on Mary and Joseph just as Mary was about to give birth to Jesus. He will tell the Christmas story introducing us to his stable and the events of that wonderful night. Settle in to a cosy Christmas Eve family togetherness as the light begins to fade and share in what Christmas really means. Hopefully, you will be able to sing along at home as we are going to have some carols. All the characters of the story have been knitted and many of you will remember the Knitted Bible exhibition we had some years ago; some of those characters will reappear.

GENERAL NEWS

Ark Stained Glass

I am selling Christmas items, all at £10 to hang on tree. Please see my face book page www.facebook.com/martinfarrant and / or request picture of what you want by email on martinfarrant07@aol.com or from contact details below. Larger commissions and restorations still taken. I work from home so no problems with Covid rules, and would post any orders or deliver any big pieces.

Martin Farrant

Ark Stained Glass, Reedway, Spinney Hill, Northampton NN3 6BT, tel 07779 513167. www.facebook.com/thearkstainedglass, www.stainedglass-northampton.co.uk.

News from The Old Mail

For events and happenings in the nearby villages: Cosgrove, Potterspury and Yardley Gobion, see the newsletter, The Old Mail, is available online at various websites:

www.cosgrovevillage.co.uk; www.potterspurypc.org.uk; www.yardleygobionpc.wordpress.com

How to Contact the Police

We no longer divide our villages between officers unless they are specifically sponsored by the village. Our team cover all South Northants villages and this ensures villages are covered across all shift patterns. If they have a query for a specific officer, it's best to mark it for their attention via an email and they will pick it up when they are next on duty.

999 – For a crime or incident in progress

101 – For non-urgent incidents

03000 111 222 – Direct dial Northamptonshire police

To Report online: <https://www.northants.police.uk/ro/report/>

Email for Towcester: neighbourhoodteamsouthnorthants-towcester@northants.pnn.police.uk

Your local officers are as follows: PCSO Peter Firth, PCSO Charlotte Morris, PCSO Nicole Degg, PCSO James Herbert, PCSO Kev Thompson (Schools Liaison Officer)

For more local NPT information, visit the local policing pages www.northants.police.uk.

A Warning – There are Unscrupulous People About

The following message from the police was circulated in South Northamptonshire in November:

'We have received a number of calls over the last 24 hours relating to fraudulent Amazon calls and emails. Fraudsters have been calling victims and making claims such as "Your Amazon Account has been compromised" and "your Amazon Prime account has expired". They then continue to ask victims to make bank transfers, to offer access to their accounts or to withdraw large sums of money from the banks which someone may offer to collect. They may also offer for you to call them back to confirm their legitimacy and provide you with a new number.

NEVER offer your personal information or bank details to these callers and if in doubt, hang up the phone and use an alternative phone to call the company on a number you know is legitimate, not a number they have given you. If you experience this or similar, please report it to Action Fraud and make friends and relatives aware:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime>

---oOo---

One of my customers fell victim to this type of fraud; the villains were very convincing and told my customer they were from Amazon Prime and that they had detected that they had incorrectly deducted a £70 subscription from my customer's account. They said that they had attempted to pay the £70 back but there had been an error and by mistake they had transferred £7,000. My customer checked her bank account on line and found this to be true. The villains offered to put things right if my customer gave them access to their bank, to which, unfortunately, she agreed and the villains took back £8,000 then cut the connection. My customer contacted the fraud squad of her bank, HSBC, who investigated and involved the police. After a lot of stress and upset for my customer, HSBC did, to their credit, refund the money taken. Please heed the above advice from the police; these villains are very devious and convincing. Paul Dards

SNIPPETS:

Don't carry your mistakes around with you. Instead, lace them under your feet and use them as stepping stones to rise above them,

R. Wilson Garden & Tree Maintenance

Robert Wilson is a qualified tree surgeon and gardener based in Hartwell covering the Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire area.

NPTC Qualified since 1997

Over 15 years gardening experience, including tree surgery at Buckingham Palace gardens

Public liability insurance to £5,000,000
For more information or a FREE quotation call

01604 862034
or **07854 218992**

Email: bobtreesurgeon@hotmail.co.uk



PDC
Computer Solutions



Windows 7 has reached end of life, and it will no longer receive security updates; it is time to change.

I can upgrade it to Windows 10, but still keep the look of Windows 7; all your documents, pictures and programs will transfer as well.

Looking for a laptop? I have a number of refurbished laptops, prices starting from £150.

I repair laptops down to component level; ask for a free quote.

Contact Paul Dards on 07540 000844 or 01327 811265 or paul@dards.co.uk

PDC, Moorend, Spring Lane
Alderton, NN12 7LW
www.dards.co.uk

W&H PEACOCK
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS



Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email info@peacockauction.co.uk

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED
www.peacockauction.co.uk

Eastcotts Park, Wallis Way,
Bedford, MK42 0PE

01234 266366

THE PLUMBER

Apprenticeship Served 1972 - 78

City and Guild Qualified

ON CALL EVERYDAY

Domestic and Commercial Installations,
Maintenance and Repair Service.

- 💧 Burst/Leaking Pipes
- 💧 Blocked Sinks/Toilets
- 💧 Hot Water Tanks
- 💧 Overflows
- 💧 Showers
- 💧 Radiators and Pumps
- 💧 Garden Taps/Water Butts
- 💧 Fault Finding
- 💧 FREE WRITTEN QUOTE

Call The Plumber Anytime

07970 317843

theplumber@email.com

1st aid for your plumbing





TOWCESTER COMMUNITY LARDER



Free food box distribution in lockdown.

Eligibility includes people who are self-isolating or shielding, those on a reduced or low-income, and people unable to get to the shops due to ill health or disability.

Contact Miranda on miranda@sofea.uk.com or on 07974 919221 to apply.

Or send a message via the Facebook page [@towcestercommunitylarder](https://www.facebook.com/towcestercommunitylarder)

Towcester COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Towcester Community Fridge

Open to EVERYONE.

Operating above the renew169 Wellbeing Café on Watling Street. Open Monday and Wednesday 10am – 12pm and Friday 3.30 – 5.30pm.

Food availability varies according to supermarket donations.



Towcester Foodbank

Open Tuesday 12 – 2pm and Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm at the St Johns Ambulance Hall, Islington Road, Towcester NN12 6AU. Three day's worth of food, with additional toiletries, pet food etc. Bag size depends on number in household and you can come back as many times as you need.

If you are a new guest please contact 07724 832043 and leave a message with your name and number – we will get back to you.



renew169 Wellbeing Café

A quiet shared space in Towcester where it's OK not to be OK, for anyone with mental health or emotional difficulties.

Contact manager@renew169.org.uk for more information.



Cooking Good

A community cooking project with recipe ideas, advice on storage, food hygiene and support to help improve cooking skills.

Visit the Facebook page [@cookinggooduk](https://www.facebook.com/cookinggooduk) or website www.cooking-good.co.uk

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GRASS is 18 December

thanks to Jackie Grundon for proof reading

If you can get any copy to us earlier than that it would be very much appreciated

Please send any copy to: Linda Dards, Moorend, Spring Lane, Alderton NN12 7LW tel 01327 811265, e-mail: linda@dards.net. **Could you please include your name & phone number with entries in case we have any problems.** If you would like to add photographs or drawings to your text these are welcome and can be supplied via email or as photos, and returned after scanning. Contributions by email are most welcome, we can accept most formats; please request a response from us on receipt – so you are sure that we have your submission. Word (any version) is preferred.