

# THE PACKINGTON NEWSLETTER

Issue 76

November 2021



Line drawing of Church by Jon Brierley

NHS doodle by Lord G

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



As I write this there are less than 40 days until Christmas! I'm not really sure where this year has gone but here we are. We hope that you had a lovely Summer and perhaps some of you even managed to escape to another country?!

Since the last Parish mag was out, we've had an amazing run of events and gatherings with the Estate Cricket Match, Social Club quiz nights, the Spooky Swamp and not forgetting the incredible bonfire night that was kindly put on by Rachel and Adrian at The Old Hall.

Unbelievably it is nearly 3 years since we moved in, with over half of that time having been spent with some sort of restrictions so it really felt very good for the soul to see everyone in one place again. I know we hadn't seen some of your lovely faces for nearly two years! There is one more Social Club event before Christmas, and we have the charity Christmas Carol Concert as well so we hope we see you again before the end of the year. However, if we don't manage to see you in person before then, James and I hope you have a very Happy Christmas and here's to a fresh and happy 2022!



Wednesday 8th December	WI - Christmas Party & Carols Christmas Bring & Share Supper	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Thursday 16th December	Charity Christmas Carol Concert with Ex Urbe Chamber Choir	ST JAMES' CHURCH 7PM START
Friday 17th December	Social Club Christmas Party with a visit from Father Christmas!	SOCIAL CLUB 6.30PM-10PM
Wednesday 12th January	WI - Keep moving: Light Mobility exercises	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Wednesday 9th February	WI - Craft Evening Details to be confirmed	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Wednesday 9th March	WI - 70th Birthday Celebration Indian Block Printing & light supper	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Wednesday 13th April	WI - Speaker TBC	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Wednesday 11th May	WI - Resolution Meeting & Games Night	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM



### **ESTATE OFFICE CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR OPENING**

The Estate Office will be closed for the Christmas break on the following days: from 1 p.m. on Friday 24th December and will re-open on Tuesday 29th December 2021. For the New Year, we will close at 5.15 p.m. on Friday 31st December and re-open for normal business on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

If you are a Packington Estate Tenant and have a genuine emergency, you may call the following people. Please remember, to only call these people in a genuine emergency, and to report any problems to the Estate Office on the first working day following the emergency.

General Estate emergencies:	Stuart Jennings	07961 955163
Electrical emergencies:	Steve Gilks	07980 726993
Oil / Plumbing emergencies:	JLN	02476 677667

If your boiler is serviced by British Gas – 0333 202 9797 or 9798

If any Tenant smells gas – please call the British Gas emergency line – 0800 111 999

### **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

As last year, the Estate Office will not be sending Christmas cards but, instead, donating the money that would have been spent to the Centre of England Riding for the Disabled. Providing funding direct enables the group to provide more riding lessons for the disabled children in the area, and we hope you agree that this is a good cause.

The Estate Office wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year.

If anyone wishes to make a donation please contact Kay Gleeson at the Estate Office (01676 526702).



# ST JAMES' CHURCH

**THE ESTATE CHAPEL OF ST JAMES, PACKINGTON PARK,  
Great Packington, Nr Meriden CV7 7HF**  
In the Diocese of Coventry

Visitors enter via automated Park Gates from the A45 Eastbound c.400 yds after the Stonebridge roundabout.

## **SERVICES for 2021/2022**

Sunday Services held monthly (usually on the first Sunday) at 10.30 a.m. unless stated otherwise

December 5th	Advent II	Holy Communion
December 16th	Charity Carol Concert	Candlelit Carols & Readings
December 25th	<b>Christmas Day Service</b>	<b>Family Communion</b>
January 9th	Epiphany I	Plough Sunday
February 6th	Epiphany V	Holy Communion BCP ( <i>Holy Baptism of Milly Rose &amp; Georgia McCarthy</i> )
March 2nd	Ash Wednesday Devotion	6-6.30pm
March 27th	Lent IV	Mothering Sunday Family Service
April 15th	Good Friday Devotion	2.30-3pm
April 17th	<b>Easter Day</b>	<b>Family Communion</b>

All are most welcome to these Services



# ST JAMES' CHURCH

## **HARVEST IS A TIME FOR THANKSGIVING**

The Harvest Sermon at St James Great Packington, October 2021'

Rev John Bradford

*"Thou visitest the earth and blessest it: thou maketh it very plenteous" (Ps 65.9)*

### **I - The way we have 'undertaken' Harvest over more than a century has been changing:**

Our thankful thoughts about Harvest 150 years ago in Victorian times and earlier appear slower but essentially happy, confident and communal ~ with villagers and others coming to help.

Our thankful thoughts 100 years ago, following the first World War, would have been quieter, and even slightly solemn as local young colleagues killed or injured were remembered, the horses recruited which did not return, and with post-War social circumstances difficult.

Our thankful thoughts about Harvest 50 years ago were more farming-family operations, relatively newly-mechanised and, for outsiders, even sentimental.

Our thankful thoughts about Harvest today are much more 'farm-isolated', mechanically highly-advanced, some larger-scale & rather more type-specialised.

Our thankful thoughts about Harvest today have also become more consciously 'inclusive' ~ bearing in mind not only the 8bn mouths to feed worldwide, but the Harvest products grown and supplied to us from farmers overseas.

### **II - The way we think about Harvest to-day has been changing**

We have growing awareness now of the inevitability of deleterious climate-change and of its Harvest implications for farmers and gardeners ~ as those gathering for COP26 next month will be doing.

We all have a growing awareness of the severity of the destructiveness caused by heat, drought, fire and flood affecting farmers (fishermen, gardeners and others) their work and their Harvests world-wide.

We have growing awareness of some farming development 'absurdities' as they may seem to-day: namely, 'vertical farming' (manned by robots) and genetic editing ~ and even the hint of Artificial Intelligence.

With the Duke of Cambridge, we have seen a growing awareness of the disparity between interest in space tourism rather than a conservationist and protective approach to earth.

We have growing awareness of the uncertainties as to how future farming and harvesting patterns in our own particular situations may go forward ~ and for the longer-term implications of this.

## ST JAMES' CHURCH

### **III - The way we approach Harvest Spirituality today needs to be changed by being deepened not weakened**

#### *(a) Deepening Harvest Spiritually 'on the ground'*

By encouraging farmers and gardeners generally who value soil & seed, livestock & fisheries, sunshine and showers

By encouraging students and lecturers in Agricultural Colleges with their desire for best practice and constructive farming progress

By encouraging a growing spirit of community appreciation of, and concern for, our local farms and farmers

#### *(b) Deepening Harvest Spiritually in our hearts*

For the beneficent stability, trust and understanding of our Creator God: we must keep giving thanks

For a spirit of optimism and pride in all our agricultural work and gardening enterprise: we must keep giving thanks

For the prayers of the faithful "Give us this day our daily bread": we must keep giving thanks

\*

*As the Psalmist said: "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness" (Ps 65.12)*

Let us be sure to offer Him our Harvest thanks and praise.  
Amen

The St James' Harvest Gifts this year were very gratefully received by Marie Curie Hospice, Solihull and John received the below thank you:

Dear Reverend John Bradford,

We want to Thank You,  
for the wonderful & incredibly  
kind Harvest Gifts you  
brought into the hospice.

The carrots, cabbages,  
jams, leeks and everything  
else were lovely, just sublime.

Such a kind + thoughtful  
gesture. Thank You so  
much for even thinking of  
us! We hope you are

well, and we hope to  
see you soon, neighbour!

😊 xx Warm Regards,

The Hospice Staff x x x

## ST JAMES' CHURCH

### REV JOHN BRADFORD - 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

On Sunday 3rd October it was with great pleasure that we presented Rev John Bradford with a painting of St James' Church to mark the 60th year of his ordination, which he had celebrated just two days before. A remarkable accomplishment and if you read below you will see the incredible amount that John has achieved since he became a Priest.

For those of you that know him, it goes without saying how very lucky we are to have him as our Honorary Chaplain here at St James. He is a truly special man who has looked after us for over 20 years and we are so grateful for his continued support. He and Marion are never without a smile and we can't thank you them enough.



# ST JAMES' CHURCH

## REV JOHN BRADFORD - 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

Fr John Bradford was selected for training for the Ministry at a Selection Board held at Farnham Castle when he was 18. Following National Service with the RAF (attending courses at Dowdeswell Court, the RAF Chaplain's School) and based in Somerset, he undertook some temporary teaching before Theological College and graduation in Theology, Ethics and Philosophy (London University).

Made Deacon in 1960 at Wells Cathedral to serve in the parish of Walcot St Swithin, Bath (a parish which includes the architecturally famous Royal Crescent and Circus), he was ordained Priest at the parish church of St Mary, Bridgwater, on 1st October 1961 - sixty years ago. At Bath, with his fellow curate leaving to teach the children of the Imperial Family in Ethiopia, and with the indisposition of the Rector, he served in charge for almost two of nearly four years, seeing the opening of the Snow Hill Centre and the laying of the foundation stone of the new St Andrew's Church. He acted as Chaplain to the Diocesan Secondary School and to Ladymead House (a residential home for adults with learning difficulties), and took one service each week at Bath Abbey.

After being on the staff of the Church of England JI School at Wendover in Buckinghamshire in order to obtain qualified teacher status, John became Head of Religious Education at Dr Challoner's High School, Little Chalfont, a member of the Farmington Trust Moral Education Project and lecturer in Comparative Religion for the University of Oxford Extra-Mural Department and the W.E.A. During this period he ministered at the parishes of St James, Fulmer, at Cheddington and Mentmore, and at Wendover, St Anne.

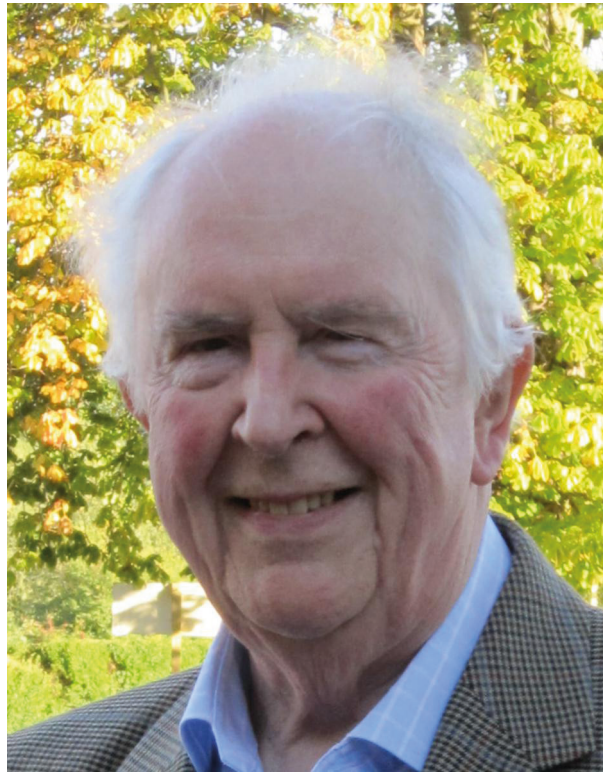
After advanced study in the sociology of education at the Department of Educational Studies of the University of Oxford, he joined the staff of St Peter's Church of England Teacher-Training College at Saltley, Birmingham, in 1970, lecturing in Religious and Social Studies and becoming Chairman of the Academic Council. In 1972 John was part of a Government multi-professional study team visiting schools in Jamaica, and later served as a part-time lecturer, examiner and consultant of the Open University in Urban Education. He was a member of a British Council of Churches delegation to the EEC following the Lime Convention. With his wife, Marion, John has lived and given honorary assistance in the parish of St Alphege, Solihull to five incumbents since that time. They have three children - Jane, Martyn and Claire.

With the closure of St Peter's College, Saltley, in 1977, John became the first national Chaplain Missioner of *The Children's Society*, being a licensed public preacher of the Diocese of Birmingham and having general permission to officiate in the Church of Wales. During these 22 years of London-based ministry to some 130 projects and 1200 staff, and with a Chapel of the Good Shepherd first at Alveston and then at Blackwell, John wrote papers and reports on ethical issues (e.g. to the Warnock Commission), organised retreats, devised services for the Royal Albert Hall, the Central Hall, and for Cathedrals and parishes across England and Wales. He took a Master's degree in Education of the University of Birmingham, and was a national chairman of the *Children's Rights and Responsibilities Committee* of the UN International Year of the Child, 1979.

Having trained at the Churches' Television Centre at Bushey, he took part in radio and television (e.g. *Night Thoughts* with Tyne-Tees Television). He was a link-person with the *International Catholic Child Bureau* at Geneva, co-organiser of the annual *Summer School for Social Workers* at Swanwick, a former chairman of the *Anglican Voluntary Societies' Forum* of the General Synod, a Bishops' Inspector of Theological Colleges, and a founder member of the Brussels-based *Eurodiaconia* (the care and social responsibility forum of the Lutheran, Reformed and Orthodox Churches in Europe).



## ST JAMES' CHURCH



John was vice-chairman of *Family Forum* and of the *Family Policy Studies Centre*, an Anglican representative for the inauguration of the Tokyo-based interfaith Global Network of Religions for Children and member of the management committee of the International Family Network of the Anglican Consultative Council and contributor to its Newsletters.

Author of a number of books, papers (e.g. *The Spiritual Rights of the Child*), prayers and articles, he has made presentations or contributions for *The Children's Society* to a range of international ecumenical conferences on child, family and pastoral issues in New York (Cardinal Spellman Centre), Chicago, Berlin, Copenhagen, Scotland (University of Stirling), UNESCO Paris, Rome, Warsaw, Hungary, Crete, the University of Beer-Sheva, Tokyo, Hiroshima, etc. He spent a short sabbatical in 1985 at the World Council of Churches in Geneva under Dr Hans-Reudi Weber. John's ministry looked outwards and engaged with change.

John celebrated his retirement Eucharist on Tuesday 23rd March 1999 at the Parish Church of Our Holy Redeemer, Exmouth Market, Clerkenwell, with the choir of St Clement Danes, and at which the preacher was the late Rt. Rev'd. Jim Thompson, chairman of *The Children's Society*, and Bishop of Bath and Wells.

More locally, John served on the Bishop's Council, represented the Diocese of Birmingham on the Education Committee of the Metropolitan Borough of Solihull for 19 years, has served as Mayor's Chaplain, has been governor of seven Local Authority Schools north and south of the Metropolitan Borough, and of Saint Martin's Independent School, was founder Chairman of the all-party Solihull Branch of the *European Movement*, and is a Trustee of the 'Make a better life' (MABL) Solihull domestic violence charity. He has co-led at least twelve parish pilgrimages to Israel and in the steps of St Paul.

In addition to regular assistance given at St Alphege, Solihull, since 1970, and to assisting in the Deanery, John has served as Honorary Chaplain at the Estate Chapel of St James, here at Packington from 2000, and as Honorary Chaplain to the Solihull Branch of the Royal British Legion.



## LEND A FLOWER ROTA



We have set up a rota to do flowers for the once a month service. If it is your turn, please take them home after the service to enjoy them, otherwise they would be wasted!

If you cannot do the month allocated please let me know:

Lady Guernsey.....01676 522274 (E-mail..... georgie@packingtonestate.co.uk)

If someone has mentioned to me that they would like to do a Sunday and your name is not down, my apologies but please could you write / phone in and then it will be remembered! Equally, if someone is down that would rather not do it, please can you email or drop me a line. Thank you.

December 5th 2021	Mrs Gow
December 16th 2021 (Carol Concert)	Lady Guernsey
Christmas Day	Lady Guernsey
January 9th 2022	Mrs Smith
February 6th 2022	Mrs Mander
March 2nd 2022	Mrs Dalton
March 27th 2022 (Mothering Sunday)	Mrs Hall
April 15th 2022	Lady Guernsey
April 17th 2022	Lady Guernsey

Lady Guernsey will organise the flowers over the Christmas and Easter periods.

Packington Hall, Meriden, Nr. Coventry, CV7 7HF

Tel: Estate Office - 01676 522020 Fax: 01676 523399

## Packington & Maxstoke NEWS



## Meeting Programme: December 2021 – March 2022

After what has been a challenging year we are so pleased to announce our programme for the next few months. We usually meet in the Undercroft at the Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm but will be meeting at Maxstoke Village Hall over the winter months.

We are a friendly group of women and visitors are always welcome to come to our meetings without any obligation to join the WI.

Anyone wishing to find out more can contact Kate Beaty (President) on 01676 523 322 or 07761 826 854 or email [packmaxwi@gmail.com](mailto:packmaxwi@gmail.com)

Wishing everybody a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2022

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party Christmas Carols & Bring and Share Supper
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Keep moving - Light mobility exercises -
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Craft Evening - Details to be confirmed -
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Indian Block Printing and light supper
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Speaker to be Confirmed
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Resolution Meeting & Games night

President - Kate Beaty

# HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!

We wanted to wish Barbara Dyer a belated but very Happy 90th Birthday which she celebrated in September. Below is a description of the happy day by Alison, one of her daughters.

The event was celebrated with a Garden Party and Barbara was surrounded by her family (daughters, son-in-laws, grandchildren and partners and great-grandchildren) and close friends. She also had a visit from her brother, Denver, who she hadn't seen for a few years. The weather was glorious for late September and plenty of food, drink and fun was had by all.

Her actual birthday, on Monday 27th September, was celebrated with a meal at The Barn at Berryfields and as well as beautiful food Barbara was entertained by the views and flocks of birds flying home to roost. (Better than a fly-by by The Red Arrows apparently)

Barbara has lived the majority of her life on Packington Estate, her family moved there when her father Arthur Summerling took the post as Head Gardener and she was in her teens. They lived in one of the Stable Courtyard flats. It was in the Gardens that she met Jeffrey Dyer whom she married. They resided in Beech Lodge, Mill Farm, a return to The Courtyard Flats, Archery Cottage before moving to Rose Cottage where she has lived for almost 50 years.

Barbara has walked a fair few miles on the Estate, including more recently regular Sunday walks in the park.

We think she is amazing and that the walking and gardening are what help her keep fit and well. Happy Birthday Mum! Love your daughters and their families x



# PACKINGTON NEWS

## NEW STAFF

We have welcomed four new members of staff to the team since the last Parish magazine, Lauren Hinckes, Lucy Lucas, Lisa Price and Jay Huthwaite.

If you haven't met Lauren yet, you may well have spoken to her. Lauren is up on Reception in the office and is doing a wonderful job at keeping the show on the road. For those of you with beady eyes you might also have noticed that she is in fact Gail's daughter!

Lucy and Lisa both started work in the gardens here in September 2020 as part of the WFGA training scheme. They passed the scheme in September this year and we are thrilled to say that they have said yes to staying on!

Jay is a new member of our estate yard team and you will see him buzzing about in his van and helping the team to maintain the properties on the estate. When not busy looking after those you may also see Jay out and about with his metal detector. He has discovered some incredible things, a few of which he's kindly let us show below.

A huge welcome to all 4 them, we hope that they're settling in and that we haven't put them off just yet!





## PACKINGTON NEWS



DETECTORIST JAY!

Below are just a few of the amazing finds Jay has discovered here at Packington.



Medieval crotal bell



16th Century buckle



Lead spindle whorl



King Henry III 1216-1272  
Canterbury mint cut penny



London Dragoon  
Service Button



£5 Coronation coin  
1953-1993



## PACKINGTON NEWS

### FROM ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE!

The deer, lechwe and mouflon have all been relatively well behaved that last few months so we have temporarily moved on from recreating Longleat to recreating the Great Wall of China..!

I wish I could pass all the blame onto Jay and his metal detector for the rather large hole that we've started to dig in front of the Hall but I'm not sure I'd get away with it. What might appear as an apocalypse-ready fortification, is in fact a ha-ha... Surprisingly not designed to keep out zombies but actually to keep all those well-behaved deer away from the front of the Hall without blocking the view of the Park. Let's hope that when it's all finished we don't fine one of our hoofed friends perched on top!

Originally a feature of formal French gardens of the early eighteenth century, and then used by British landscape architects such as Capability Brown (who designed the Pleasure Grounds and a lot of the Park), the ha-ha derived its name from the success of the optical illusion it created from a distance on viewers of the garden: the concealed ditch and wall would supposedly surprise those coming near it, and make them cry, "Ah! Ah!"



Not content with carving up the parkland, some of you may also have seen a large soup bowl, or more appropriately, a small swimming pool outside the front of the Hall as well.

This is in fact the Walled Garden's new water feature. The idea is that it will look like it's floating on top of a pool which the water will drop into. It needs to be as level as possible for this to work so cross fingers! It's currently being tested (demonstrated in the photo by Lindsay!) and will hopefully be installed into its new home in the New Year.

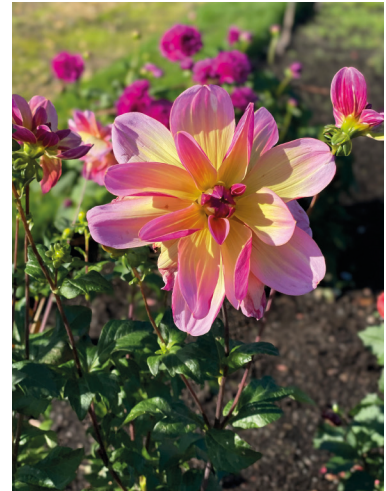




# PACKINGTON NEWS

## IN THE GARDEN

With the clocks having gone back and the nights now really drawing in, it's hard to imagine that just a few weeks ago we still had lots of beautiful flowers in the garden. The Dahlias have once again been show stoppers this year but they have now finally gone black and we are starting to lift them and swap them over for the tulip bulbs.



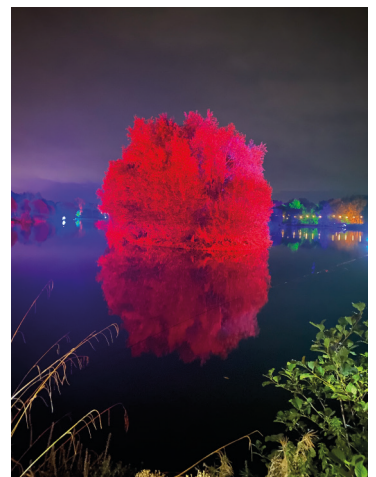


# PACKINGTON NEWS

## THE SPOOKY SWAMP

What an amazing 10 days! A huge thank you to everyone that came along. It was wonderful to see so many faces down at Stonebridge and we hope those who went had a spooktacular time! With it being our first year in putting on this event and working in a location that had never been used in this way before, we have learnt a huge amount! However we are looking forward to tweaking and improving wherever we can to make it even better next year.

A enormous thank you must go to John Burchell and the rest of the fisheries team for not only putting up with the invasion (zombie and otherwise!) but also for all their help leading up to and during the event. We hope that Salazar the Swamp Serpent didn't scare away too many fish!



# PACKINGTON NEWS

## REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

*Recently I have been reading (which is very unusual for me!) a lot about how we can turn our farms around and look at them from a more holistic point of view in terms of soil health and nature as well as production, and consequently profit. There are people that I have read about around the world that are making really good money from their farms just by changing the methods and processes and this has started a very exciting journey into the Regenerative Agriculture movement.*

*Rightly or wrongly, we are doing it to the extreme! What I want to achieve is to be a case study/laughing stock for all the farmers around Packington. I am keen for the farming community to come and see what it is we are doing or not doing. Gone are the days of high input farming. What we are trying to work out is how we can work with nature and not against it. We predict 2-5 years of not great results but over time, as the soil structure recovers and we reduce overhead costs, we hope we will be able to show a better return than present, as well as healthier and happier soil.*

*We will keep you updated with what we are up too during future issues of the Parish Mag. Sam White, our land agent is going to dive into a little more detail on exactly what it is we are doing below. Over to you Sam...*



The Estate farms over 400 acres of land in-hand and over the past 12 months we have altered how this land is farmed and have commenced using practices that fall within the bracket of regenerative agriculture.

The concept of regenerative agriculture goes beyond sustainability and actively looks to improve soil conditions. The practices adopted aim to minimise soil disturbance, maximise crop diversity, and keep a cover over the soil and will help build soil structure and return nutrients to the ground.

We are no longer using chemical sprays or fertilisers and to minimise soil disturbance we are also utilising minimum tillage planting techniques.

We have changed our farming rotation to incorporate cover crops and this year we have planted over 90 acres of a diverse cover crop seed mixture that incorporates 8 different plant varieties, this will assist in building soil structure and the anticipation is that next year we will look to plant a cereal crop, probably wheat directly into the mixture.

We have also planted 20 acres of spelt seed (a heritage grain variety), this has been planted directly into an existing clover crop and we are looking forward to seeing the spelt grow through the clover.

Prior to venturing into regenerative agriculture, we took soil samples and had them analysed and these will now act as a marker as to the improvements that changing our farming practices have had on the land. Regenerative agriculture principles promote integrating livestock into the rotation and so we have recently engaged with advisors who are helping us to form a plan that may eventually see cattle being brought onto the land!



## RECOMMENDATIONS

If anyone has any recommendations they'd like to add we'd love to hear from you,  
(georgie@packingtonestate.co.uk).

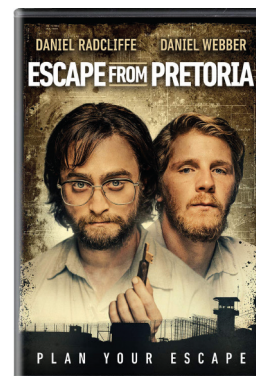
### FILMS



Kindly recommended by Pete Fortey, a real feel-good film. Available on Netflix.



Our first cinema entry! If you haven't seen this yet and you're a Bond fan, it's definitely worth a visit to the flicks!



Another great recommendation from Pete. Based on a true story, this is an edge of your pants drama about a prison escape. On Amazon Prime.

### T.V.



Now on Season 3, this is brilliant! Fast paced and razor sharp dialogue. On Sky Atlantic or NOWTV.



A gripping who dunnit / courtroom drama which will keep you questioning right up until the end! Available on BBC iPlayer.



One you may have to stick with for a couple of episodes but so worth it. You fall in love with every character. Laugh out loud funny! All series available on Netflix.

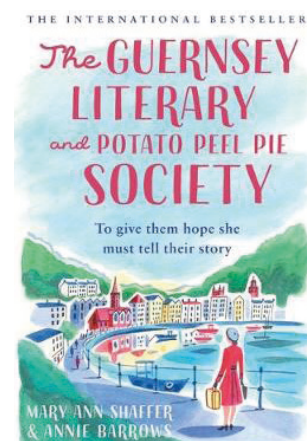
### BOOKS



Full of suspense and brilliant twists, a real page turner!!



We had the pleasure of having Derek come to visit us last month. He is a fascinating man and his book is brilliant.



One of my favourites! A heart-warming novel that is written in letters and set in Guernsey during the German occupation.



## PETE'S PAGE!

Not a week goes by when an email that makes me laugh out loud (and only occasionally blush!) doesn't arrive from Pete Fortey. I have therefore decided to officially name him contributing editor and dedicate this page to him! Thank you Pete for always putting a smile on my face and I hope this page puts a smile on everyone else's too.

If you're sitting in a public place and a stranger sits next to you, just look straight ahead and say, 'did you bring the money with you?

The saying 'Say no to Drugs' has always made me smile. If your talking to drugs it's probably to late to say no to them.

Watching my daughter at the park, another parent asked which is your's, 'just for fun' I said I don't know, I'm still choosing, she looked horrified.

If someone knocks your door, knock back from the inside, they'll go away.....trust me on this.

Confuse your doctor, by putting rubber gloves on the same time as he does.

Old people at weddings poke me and say 'your next' so I've started doing the same thing at funerals.

The next time you're wife gets angry, take a large towel and wrap it round her shoulders, like a cape, and say, now you're 'SUPER ANGRY' maybe she'll laugh.....maybe you'll die

The fact that there's a highway to hell, and a stairway to heaven, says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers.

If and when I make you breakfast in bed, a simple 'thank you' is all I need, Not all this 'How did you get into my house? business.

When I see lovers' names carved on a tree, I don't think it's cute, I just think it's strange how many people take knives on dates.

My wife made me coffee this morning and winked at me when she handed me the cup, I've never been more scared of a drink in all my life.

Unfortunately we have this COVID-19, and because of this I now believe it's OK to walk into a Bank wearing a mask and gloves.

And finally.....

1N73LL1G3NC3

15 7H3

4B1L17Y

CH4NG3.

- 573PH3N H4WK1NG



## PETE'S FESTIVE PAGE!

What do you call a snowman in summer...  
..a puddle.

What do you call a snowman in the Tropics  
.....lost.

Nothing ever seems too bad, too hard, or  
too sad, when you have a Christmas tree in  
the living room.

Teacher says, every time a bell rings, an  
angel gets their wings.

One of the most glorious messes in the  
world, is the mess created in the living  
room, on Christmas Day.

Anyone who believes Men are the equal of  
Women have never seen a man trying to  
wrap a Christmas Present.

Nothing to do with Christmas, but for your  
information, Unicorns do exist, they really  
do, the Mermaids told me.

What do you get if Father Christmas  
comes down your chimney when the fire  
is ablaze, Crisp Kringle.

How do Christmas angels greet each  
other.....Halo.

What did Adam say the day before  
Christmas.....It's Christmas Eve.

Dear Father Christmas.....Define good,  
and nice.

Why did Donald Trump continuously  
decorate his Christmas Tree, because  
people kept saying, MORON, MORON,  
to him.

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, but if  
the white runs out, I'll drink red.

Dear Father Christmas, given enough  
time I can explain.

Good King Wenceslas phoned Domino's  
for a pizza, the salesgirl asked , do you  
want your usual.....Deep pan, Crisp, and  
even.

How do you know Father Christmas has  
to be a man, no woman is going to wear  
the same outfit year after year after year  
after year.

The three stages of man, 1) He believes  
in Father Christmas, 2) He doesn't believe  
in Father Christmas, 3) He is Father  
Christmas.

May you never be to grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve

## THE SOCIAL CLUB NEWS



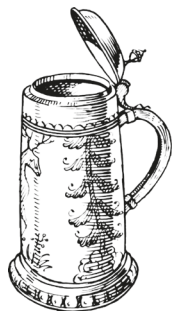
It has been wonderful to have The Social Club back open again and to see Paul & Steve behind the bar at both the Estate cricket match and at Bonfire Night. On September 10th we held the very popular fish & chip quiz night which was a great evening. Adam Beaty made an excellent quiz master and a big congratulations goes to the worthy winners, WI & Friends!

The Estate cricket match was also a huge success with the outdoor bar providing useful funds for the club. From a personal perspective it was a cracking year as with (just a little!) help from the Old Hall crew, it was the Estate that won with 46 runs to the farmer's 36! A huge thank you to Ben Greenfield from Greenfield Lamb for the delicious hog roast and to Chris Laight and Lindsay for coming to the rescue at the last minute and providing some lighting!

A final ENORMOUS thank you goes to Rachel and Adrian from The Old Hall for putting on a fabulous bonfire night. The fireworks were incredible, I think the bonfire could be seen from the airport and the music, lights and food were brilliant! Combine all that with Brownny's measures at the bar and I think it's fair to say everyone had a very good time! The bar itself made £285 which is fantastic so thank you to Rachel and Adrian for creating such a great evening and to everyone that came down to support.



## THE SOCIAL CLUB NEWS



THE FINAL SOCIAL CLUB EVENT OF 2021 WILL BE ON **FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER** FROM 7.30PM. BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPERS AND YOUR FESTIVE SPIRIT AND COME AND JOIN US FOR A MERRY TIPPLE! FOR THOSE BELOW THE DRINKING AGE (AND POSSIBLY ABOVE!), THE BIG MAN HIMSELF WILL BE PAYING US A VISIT OUTSIDE THE HALL FROM 6.30PM SO PLEASE DO COME ALONG.



The Social Club will continue to take place on the last Friday of every month. It is a wonderful set up - not only is it a great opportunity to get together, but all money that is raised goes towards local causes. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for donations please contact Paul Brown, Steve Allcock or Ros Smith.

We hope to see you there!

SOCIAL CLUB DATES	
Friday 17th December	Father Christmas on his sleigh - outside the Hall from 6.30pm Social Club Evening - from 7.30pm onwards
Friday 28th January 2022	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards
Friday 25th February 2022	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards
Friday 25th March 2022	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards



## UPCOMING EVENTS



PACKINGTON  
ESTATE

warmly invite you to

# CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

a festive fundraiser  
sung by

Ex  
Urbe  
chamber choir

In aid of  
 mind  
Solihull

Thursday 16th December - 7pm

St James' Church, Packington Estate

Tickets £15  
(to include mince pies and mulled wine)  
available from  
[www.exurbe.org](http://www.exurbe.org)

kindly sponsored by





## UPCOMING EVENTS

THE SOCIAL CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY  
FROM 7.30PM IN THE UNDERCROFT

FATHER CHRISTMAS  
WILL BE MAKING A  
VISIT OUTSIDE THE  
HALL FROM 6.30PM



## ADVERTISEMENTS



Meriden Farm

### LAMB BOXES

Meridenfarm@yahoo.com +447500212019

**Whole Lamb - £150 Half Lamb - £80**

For a half lamb box, please select one option from each of the following cuts.  
For a whole lamb box, please select two options (can be two of the same option)  
for each of the following cuts.

#### LEG:

- A. x2 Roasting Joints
- B. x3 Rump Steaks + x1 Roasting Joint

#### LOIN:

- A. Chops & Rack
- B. All Chops

#### SHOULDER:

- A. x2 Roasting Joints
- B. x4 Chops + x1 Roasting Joint

#### BREAST:

- A. Boned & Rolled
- B. Minced
- C. Minted Ribs

*Liver available on request.*

 @MeridenFarm

### PORK BOXES

**1.2KG LOIN ROASTING JOINT**

**1.5KG SHOULDER ROASTING JOINT**

**STREAKY BACON**

**BACK BACON**

**X2 PACKS OF SAUSAGES**

**X4 PORK CHOPS**

**X2 SLICES OF BELLY PORK**

**500G PORK MINCE**



**£40**



Meriden Farm

### BEEF BOXES

Meridenfarm@yahoo.com +447500212019

#### LARGE Box - £165 (13kg)

- x2 Quick Roast Joint
- x2 Slow Roast Joint
- x4 8oz Rump Steak
- x4 8oz Sirloin Steaks
- x2 Flat Iron OR Denver Steaks
- x8 Mince (500g/pack)
- x2 Stewing Steak (500g/pack)
- x2 Braising Steak (500g/pack)

#### MEDIUM Box - £85 (6.5kg)

- Quick Roast Joint
- Slow Roast Joint
- x2 8oz Rump Steaks
- x2 8oz Sirloin Steaks
- x2 Flat Iron OR Denver Steaks
- x4 Mince (500g/pack)
- x1 Stewing Steak (500g/pack)
- Braising Steak (500g)

 @MeridenFarm

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### **FAMILY CHRISTMAS HAMPER**

*4-6 people*

- 4.5LB EASY-CARVE TURKEY
- 2LB GAMMON
- 3LB BEEF ROAST
- 1LB BACON
- 2LB MINCE
- STUFFING
- PIGS IN BLANKETS (10 PER TRAY)



**£80**

### **MEGA CHRISTMAS HAMPER**

*10-12 people*

- 9.5LB BRONZE TURKEY
- 4.5LB BEEF ROAST
- 4.5LB PORK ROAST
- 2LB MINCE
- SAUSAGE MEAT
- STUFFING
- X2 TRAYS PIGS IN BLANKETS (10 PER TRAY)



**£130**



## ADVERTISEMENTS

# CW Mind Service Launch!



## Safe Haven Warwickshire

• Safe Haven provides an out of hours mental health support service to people across Warwickshire

• Wellbeing practitioners are on hand each evening to offer support and signposting

• Open: 6pm-11pm every Thursday to Sunday

 **mind** | Coventry and  
for better mental health Warwickshire



## ADVERTISEMENTS

The Safe Haven is a service  
for people who...



Feel as though they  
are unable to cope

May not know  
where to start  
looking for help

Need out of  
hours mental  
health support

Wellbeing practitioners will be  
available via phone, video link,  
text message or email.

Contact the team in the following  
ways:

T: 02477 714554

M: 07970 042270

E: [safehaven@cwmind.org.uk](mailto:safehaven@cwmind.org.uk)

The Safe Haven Team will  
provide reassuring support to  
those finding life difficult.

Wellbeing practitioners will guide  
towards creating coping  
strategies which support the self  
management of mental health  
and emotional wellbeing



## ADVERTISEMENTS



**Foster a dog and make a difference to a dog's life!**

We are looking for dog lovers who live near to our Kenilworth Rehoming Centre to look after dogs for us in their home on a short term basis.

These dogs may be puppies, elderly dogs, dogs with injuries, mums with litters or perhaps just a dog that needs a break from kennel life.

All equipment, food, support and advice will be provided by Dogs Trust.

For more information please contact the Home from Home Coordinator:

Call: **01926 484 398**

Email: **[hfhkenilworth@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:hfhkenilworth@dogstrust.org.uk)**

Or visit us at: **Dogs Trust Kenilworth,  
Honiley, CV8 1NP**

**[www.dogstrust.org.uk/fostering](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk/fostering)**

Registered Charity Numbers: 227523 & SC037843







### **An important request from Emily Williams, community fundraiser at Marie Curie:**

Every day our nurses put on their Marie Curie uniforms, like they always have, but now this includes masks and scrubs and various other pieces of PPE that are needed to wear to keep themselves and their patients safe. How they work has changed in the last year – with many of our nurses writing their names on their visors or carrying a picture of themselves without a mask on so their patients and their loved ones know what they look like underneath their masks. But the work they do is the same, providing the best end of life care.

But this isn't the only work we do. We don't just deliver the best end of life care through the work of our incredible nurses out in the community and in our hospices. We also provide care through our Information and Support Services. Our Information and Support Services have enabled even more people to get the information and support that they need. Whether it be by calling our bereavement and support line, or using our online chat service, using our website to find out information about a range of different topics or ordering our free booklets that also offer information and support on a number of different topics.

Our Information and Support Services aren't just there for people receiving care by our nurses or in our hospices, they are available to everyone, which means we are supporting a huge amount of people. And this is only growing. COVID-19 and the restrictions in place have meant people have had so many precious moments with their loved ones, at the end of their lives, taken from them. Many people haven't even had the chance to say goodbye or to grieve. This will affect people for years to come. But our Information and Support Services will be here to help people.

On top of our services being needed now more than ever, and our nurses facing new challenges, most of our fundraising has come to a stop. Normally we would be gearing up for our Great Daffodil Appeal. This year is our 35th year. We would normally be contacting hundreds of supermarkets and high street stores to book in bucket collections. We would be booking thousands of volunteers onto those collections. And we would be handing out hundreds of thousands of our iconic daffodils to people who have very kindly made a donation to Marie Curie.

However, this year we cannot do this. We have had to come up with different ways of fundraising, such as hosting Virtual Collections, encouraging people to Step Into Spring and be sponsored for walking 10,000 step every day in March and launching our Two Hour Challenge. However, we still need to do more. We have to be upfront and ask people to donate to Marie Curie. We need people to donate. We need people to fund raise and raise money for Marie Curie, so we can continue to deliver our expert end of life care.

If you would like to donate to our Great Daffodil Appeal then you can in the following ways:

#### **By Cheque:**

Please include your name, company address and state it's a Great Daffodil Appeal donation to our fundraising support centre: The Supporter Relations Team, Marie Curie, PO BOX 23897, 14 Links Place, Edinburgh, EH6 9AB. Please include a note stating its for CF44.

#### **Or by Bank Transfer:**

Account Name: Marie Curie Central & Wales

Sort Code: 60-40-05

Account Number: 30484952

Reference – please can you start your reference with the letters 'CF44' Followed by your parish council. If you do decide to kindly make a donation, please can you let me know so I can then keep an eye out for it and get a thank you sent out.

**Thank you so much for taking the time to read Emily's appeal on behalf of Marie Curie in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Warwickshire and Coventry**