

THE PACKINGTON NEWSLETTER

Issue 77

March 2022



Line drawing of Church by Jon Brierley

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Many of you may have noticed that this is the first Parish magazine for quite some time that doesn't have Lord G's 'Thank you NHS' doodle on the front. This is not because we don't still feel eternally grateful for everything the NHS have done. However, with Boris announcing an end to all covid restrictions on 24th February, we felt that now was a good a time as any to mark the start of a new era where, although it hasn't gone away, coronavirus can now hopefully fade into the background and we can get back to living 'normal' lives again.

It, of course goes without saying, that our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are deeply affected by the war in Ukraine and who are by no means living a normal life at the moment. I have dedicated a page in the Mag with a list of websites where you can donate to help those so desperately in need of care and aid.

On a brighter side, we are now entering Spring, the weather has been amazing, bulbs, blossom and blooms are appearing and we can enjoy a year where people can once again gather together and celebrate occasions such as the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Commonwealth Games held just down the road!

Monday 11th April	Church & Parish Meeting	THE UNDERCROFT PACKINGTON HALL 6.15PM START
Wednesday 13th April	'Buying & Selling at Antique & Car Boot Sales' - Steve Bruce	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Friday 29th April	Social Club Fish & Chip Quiz Night	SOCIAL CLUB PACKINGTON HALL 8PM START
Wednesday 11th May	Resolution Meeting 'Eat Well for Less'	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Wednesday 8th June	'Get Moving' - Adrian Johnson	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM
Sunday 12th June	NGS Garden Open Day	PLEASURE GROUNDS PACKINGTON HALL 2-5PM
Friday 1st July (Provisional date TBC)	Estate Cricket Match & Hog Roast Estate vs Farmers	PACKINGTON HALL 6-9PM (AFTERWARDS AT THE SOCIAL CLUB)
Wednesday 13th July	'Connecting to My Truth' - Tracy Gilmour	MAXSTOKE VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM

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 2022

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

May 1st	Easter II	Holy Communion
June 5th	Whitsunday	Celebration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee
July	No Service	
August 7th	Trinity VIII	Holy Communion
September 4th	Trinity XII	Holy Communion
October 16th	Harvest Festival	Holy Communion
November 13th	Remembrance Sunday	Service of Remembrance
December 4th	Advent I	Holy Communion
December 25th	Christmas Day	Family Communion

All are most welcome to these Services

ST JAMES' CHURCH

A SAD GOODBYE



It is with great sadness that we have said goodbye to our beloved vicar, Rev John Bradford. John sadly passed away on 6th January 2022. He had been the Honorary Chaplain here at St James' Church since 2000 and it was only in October last year that he celebrated his 60th Anniversary of Ordination. As you will have read in the previous issue of the Parish Mag, he achieved an astounding amount during his lifetime and raised the spirits of anyone that was lucky enough to meet him. It goes without saying that he will be sorely, sorely missed. He was a true friend to many of us and showed an unwavering dedication to the his parishioners not only here at Packington but also to those he attended via St Alphege's, Solihull.

A Requiem Eucharist was held for John at St Alphege Church on 14th February and it is a great honour that he is now buried in the graveyard here at St James. It was a lovely service with an extremely large turnout, which won't surprise anyone. Many of you attended his funeral but for those that were unable, below is a prayer that was included in the service and that John himself wrote just a few days before he died:

In This New Year

May we seek to look to God for hope and strength
May we seek to bond more closely with others of his household,
May we seek to count our blessings daily in a spirit of thankfulness,
May we seek to show Christ's light consistently in all we are and do,
May we seek to sow good seeds of harmony, kindness and peace,
by the grace of Christ, our Friend and Saviour.
Amen

For those who would like to make a donation in John's memory to The Children's Society, these can be placed online at:

<https://john-bradford-1934-2022.muchloved.com>

ST JAMES' CHURCH

A WARM WELCOME



Before John passed away he had been kindly helping us search for someone who could take over from him and we are pleased to confirm that The Revd Canon Peter Holliday has kindly agreed to take on John's mantle and take our Sunday services starting from May 2022.

The Revd Canon Peter Holliday was ordained in the Lichfield Diocese in 1983 and has served in Burton on Trent, Lichfield and Stratford upon Avon. More recently he was Group Chief Executive of St Giles Hospice in Lichfield and Deputy Chair of the national charity, Hospice UK, retiring in 2015. Peter is also a Chartered Accountant and a member of the Chapter of Lichfield Cathedral in his role as Chair of its Finance Committee, having previously served as a Residentiary Canon of the Cathedral (now Canon Emeritus). Currently Peter takes services most Sundays, filling in where parishes are in interregnum. He also served as a Chaplain to The Queen for the last 3 years of his licensed ministry.

Peter's interests include classical music, classic cars and wishing he was a better gardener.

We are incredibly grateful to Peter and we are really looking forward to welcoming him here to St James' in May. For those who would like to meet Peter before then, he will be attending the Church & Parish Meeting which is being held here in the Undercroft on Monday 11th April at 6.15pm.

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.

May 1st 2022	Mrs Smith
June 5th 2022	Mrs Mander
August 7th 2022	Mrs Dalton
September 4th 2022	Mrs Hall
October 16th 2022	Farmers Wives
November 13th 2022	Mrs Sach
December 4th 2022	Mrs Gow
December 25th 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

Due to there being no services until May, I have simply amended the dates and kept the order the same which I hope is ok for everyone, however please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to change dates or indeed come off the list.

UKRAINE

WE SADLY CAN'T AVOID THE CONSTANT NEWS STREAMS AND IMAGES THAT ARE BEING BROADCAST ABOUT THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE AT THE MOMENT AND IT'S HEART WRENCHING TO WATCH THE SUFFERING THAT IS BEING ENDURED BY SO MANY. OVER 3.2 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE FLED THE VIOLENCE – AND ALMOST HALF OF THEM ARE CHILDREN

I HAVE PUT TOGETHER A SHORT LIST OF CHARITIES, BOTH NATIONAL, LOCAL AND WITHIN UKRAINE FOR THOSE THAT ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP.

IT ALSO GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IT'S SADLY NOT JUST THOSE IN UKRAINE THAT ARE SUFFERING AT THE HANDS OF WAR AND SO I HAVE MARKED CHARITIES WITH AN * THAT ARE ALSO SENDING AID AND HELPING THOSE IN PLACES SUCH AS SYRIA, YEMEN AND AFGHANISTAN TOO.

NATIONAL:

AirBNB - <https://www.airbnb.org/help-ukraine>

Airbnb.org is funding short term housing for up to 100,000 people fleeing Ukraine. We support our refugee guests regardless of nationality, race, ethnicity, or how they identify. You can help by offering temporary stays for free or at a discount through Airbnb.org, or donating to fund stays.

*SAVE THE CHILDREN - <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/where-we-work/europe/ukraine>

*THE BRITISH RED CROSS - <https://www.redcross.org.uk>

LOCAL:

*COVENTRY REFUGEE & MIGRANT CENTER - <https://www.covrefugee.org>

Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre (CRMC) welcomes and empowers asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants in Coventry to rebuild their lives and achieve their potential. Along with its partners and friends, they would like to speak to Coventry residents to ask for their warmth and generosity in donating any spare accommodation they may have to support Ukrainian refugees.

UKRAINIAN:

VOICES OF CHILDREN - <https://voices.org.ua/en>

During the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, we are providing non-stop psychological and psychosocial support to affected children and families from all over the country, providing emergency psychological assistance, and assisting in the evacuation process.

THE KYIV INDEPENDENT - <https://www.gofundme.com/f/kyivindependent-launch>

Support The Kyiv Independent, a Ukraine-based English-language newspaper, to continue reporting on the ground from Ukraine.

COME BACK ALIVE - <https://www.comebackalive.in.ua>

Come Back Alive provides support by supplying the Ukrainian army with laptops, lights, photo equipment, cables, and maintenance thereof. Our funds and resources are aimed at the Ukrainian servicemen and women in need of medical assistance or rehabilitation.

Packington & Maxstoke NEWS



Meeting Programme: April 2022 – December 2022

We are pleased to announce our programme for the next few months. We usually meet in the Undercroft at the Hall on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm but please contact Kate Beaty on 07761826854 or email k8tbt@btinternet.com as the venue is fluid at the moment due to Covid or changed to a zoom meeting.

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

Wednesday 13 th April	'Buying and Selling at Antique and Car Boot Sale' – Steve Bruce
Saturday 30 th April	A Bluebell walk followed by picnic
Wednesday 11 th May	Resolution Meeting 'Eat Well for Less'
Saturday 14 th May	Produce Show
Wednesday 8 th June	'Get Moving' – Adrian Johnson
Saturday 12 th June	Packington Hall NGS Open Garden Day
Wednesday 13 th July	'Connecting to My Truth' – Tracy Gilmour
Saturday 16 th July	A walk followed by tea at Whitacre Tea Rooms and Country Walks. Dogs welcome.
Wednesday 10 th August	Garden Party – Hosted by Kate Beaty (6.30pm onwards)
Saturday 13 th August	Walk at Kingsbury Water Park. Dogs welcome.
Wednesday 14 th September	'Chat, Craft and Create' – Details TBC

President - Kate Beaty

THE WI

HAPPY 70TH BIRTHDAY!

On 9th March, The Packington & Maxstoke WI celebrated their 70th Birthday! It's an amazing achievement and celebrations were held at Maxstoke Village Hall with delicious cake cut by myself and one of the longest standing members of the group, June Cooper.

The Packington & Maxstoke WI was first set up in on 12th March 1952 where a pair of silk stockings were presented to be auctioned at the next meeting in order to start funds for the Institute! Lord A reminded me that as rationing was probably still in place at that time, these would have been highly sort after.

Below are a couple photos from the happy evening.



PACKINGTON NEWS

JOHN MINSHULL

26TH SEPTEMBER 1935-25TH AUGUST 2021



LAST YEAR, WE SADLY HAD TO SAY GOODBYE TO ANOTHER LONG-STANDING AND OLD FRIEND OF PACKINGTON, JOHN MINSHULL. JOHN PASSED AWAY ON 25TH AUGUST 2021. HE HAD FARMED HERE AT PACKINGTON FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS. AS YOU CAN SEE BELOW, FROM THE ABRIDGED EULOGY READ BY SAM AND GUY MINSHULL, HE WAS A HUGE CHARACTER WHO LEFT BEHIND SOME WONDERFUL STORIES!

Dad or as we called him the old man was a Shropshire lad bought up on a farm called Lynn near Newport. When Dad was 8, his father became seriously ill and they had to leave the farm, as he was not old enough to carry on the tenancy. He moved to Edgbaston in Birmingham. A far cry from rural life.

The final school he attended was Stanley House, Edgbaston, where he was not allowed to take the school cert as he was considered to be an embarrassment to the school and therefore left at the age of 15. It was here that he met his best pals John Wathes and John Ritchie. The 3 Johns, John Wathes a successful farmer in Shropshire, and John Ritchie, a successful solicitor, which came in very handy as he has managed to keep dad out of trouble over the years.

Dad always wanted to farm, and he attended Rodbaston Agricultural college. At that time, many young lads in the farming community had been called up to carry out National Service, so he decided to volunteer before embarking on a farming life himself. He joined the Royal Air force as a radar mechanic, which still baffles us to this day as he couldn't even change a light bulb. We figured they must have used a pen knife and some baler twine to hold things together.

He loved baler twine, using it for bodging things up and sometimes even for holding up his trousers! After national service, his heart was still set on farming. He had no money but a lot of cheek. He heard of a farm at Packington, the Home Farm. The estate had been farming it but wanted a tenant. Guy Lee was the agent at the time and when interviewing dad, he said they needed a family person who had within the region of £5000 in the bank. Dad didn't have anything like that and was single.

In those days, the Late lord Aylesford was a magistrate with Dennis Prosser. It came about that Mr Prosser knew his father because they were at Reading University together and so he put a good word in for dad and before long he was allowed to come to Packington. Guy Lee was continually asking for bank details and to this day he never received them. He also kept asking about dad's marriage prospects, to which he replied "I've got the bird, I just need the nest." It was in 1967 that he married mum and the three of us came along in the following years.

Before he bought himself a cattle lorry, he would cram as many cattle or sheep as he could into his Land Rover and trailer. Warmington Hill on the way to Banbury Market was a challenge, with his overloaded trailer scarcely making the gradient. But somehow luck was always on his side.

PACKINGTON NEWS

In his marketing days he always carried with him, his lucky coin, a half crown, which struck many a deal. Whenever there was a dispute over the price, he would always say 'I'll toss you for it'. It is so worn that you can hardly make out the head or the tail, but it's not double sided as some people thought.

He started arable at Packington, as well as milking and later expanded, purchasing the odd farm. If it was a busy time, he used to try and check his stock while driving along the A45, counting them as he drove past, twice he ran into the back of someone. The first he managed to straighten their bumper and they were happy and drove off. The second he accused of reversing into him and got away with it.

He loved Packington. It was the starting block for his career. He and mum felt very honoured when they had an invite to Lord and Lady Aylesford's wedding and they decided to share a lift with Dick and Anne Beaty. The wedding was in London and as they had no idea how to get from the church to the reception at the Hurlingham Club, they tucked in behind the bride and groom, leaving the bridesmaids and all the dignitaries to follow suit. Being first to arrive, they tipped the waiter to have unlimited champagne. At the end of the day, as you can imagine, Dad and Dick were somewhat the worst for wear, and Mum and Anne did not know what to do with them. Eventually, after several stops, they arrived back home and it's been a talking point ever since.

He was not one for hobbies but once his marketing days were curtailed due to Foot and Mouth, he took up golf. He used to play once a week at Stonebridge with Bill Jones, Frank Barnacle and Dick Beaty. For years he enjoyed playing at a discounted price. He used to turn up and say "Nick Barlow says I can have half price golf", but eventually it caught up with him and he had a letter saying that under no circumstances was he allowed to play at a cheaper rate. It didn't stop him trying though.

Dad lived in what I think was a golden age for farming. There wasn't too much Government interference and not too many rules and regulations. This suited him just fine, and he made hay whilst the sun shone. He purchased Chase Farm in the late 70's and then over the next few years Redfern Farm and the farm at Balsall Common. Kingswood was purchased in the early 90's and then land at Stratford, and finally Ladbroke Grove farm. It is due to the old man's hard work, shrewdness and vision that we have what we have today, and for that, we are eternally grateful.

Mum and Dad moved from Packington to Chase Farm in 1996. With plenty of room, Chase was ideal for the grandchildren visiting or staying over. Although not a fan of their noise, Dad secretly enjoyed it when they came round. He would also often grab one of them when he wanted a hand, such as rounding up sheep. The old man never had a trained sheepdog, and as such, he always relied on the human equivalent. He would stand at one end of the field and yell his orders about where we should be running, get back! Go around! Move left! In fact, somebody overheard him rounding up sheep one day, and thought Sam was the name of his sheepdog!

After a few warning shots, unfortunately Dad had a debilitating stroke in January 2020, he was just not able to reboot the old grey matter. After a spell in hospital, he was moved to Harper Fields Care home in Balsall Common on the day of lockdown. Mum met him at the home and said "John you will really like it here, its just like a hotel", and his reply was fairly typical of him, he said "who's paying for this?". Luckily, she didn't mention the cost, or else I think he would have had a heart attack whilst uttering the last words "How much". Dad was a popular resident at the home, and always had a smile for visitors and staff alike. The care home staff have been fantastic and we cannot thank them enough.

We would also like to thank Ros Smith for doing the wreath and church flowers. If you look closely at the wreath, you will see that Ros has added a couple of wild oats just for effect, unfortunately she could not find any on our farm, so she had to pinch a couple from the Beaty's. Well, they had plenty.

PACKINGTON NEWS



DETECTORIST JAY!

Jay has been out and about and come across some more fascinating finds:



1. A strap buckle probably belonging to a farm worker who worked for Stanley Lean. He farmed in Walsgrave on Sowe in 1924 and then in Moreton Morrell in 1936.

2 & 5. An array of old pennies all in one hole including a veiled Queen Victoria penny (2.)

3. 1800's Chinese cash coin, supposed to be a lucky coin found on a doorstep!

4. Chinese 18/19th Century good luck amulet, possibly used as a coin.

6. Kind Edward I, 1272-1307, Irish edition Penny Dublin mint.

7. Kind Georgie III half penny, 1771.

8. Birmingham & South Wales Penny Token 1812.

9. Andrew Summer Coventry Freemason Token.

PACKINGTON NEWS

A HUGE THANK YOU!



They say better late than never! On 6th April 2020 Bob Halsey retired from his role here at Packington after an incredible 44 years! Due to the pandemic and being unable to gather everyone together it wasn't until that staff Christmas drinks that we finally managed to present him with his retirement present and to be able to say a HUGE thank you for everything he's done for us over the years. He has been a constant and incredibly reassuring presence here on the Estate and I'm glad to say we still get to see him now and again when he kindly returns to deal with the pesky moles! There is nothing about the Hall and Park that Bob doesn't know, he's a walking Packington encyclopedia and we are so very grateful to him.

We are sorry that covid still prevented us from arranging a large gathering to wish Bob well but thank you to all of those who kindly contributed towards his gift, which as you can see went towards a stunning dovecote and a nice bottle of whiskey. We hope that Bob will now be able to pour himself a dram, watch his birds and put his feet up.

PACKINGTON NEWS

FROM ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE!

It is all go, go, go here with project 'Great Wall of China'! Both cattle grids are now in and the pointing of the walls has started so you can now really get an idea of what it will look like. The plants for the front of the Hall have arrived and are now planted which is so exciting! Having said that, we planted some crocuses outside the front of the Hall in the Autumn which have appeared, and seem to have survived... perhaps the ha-ha wasn't needed after all!



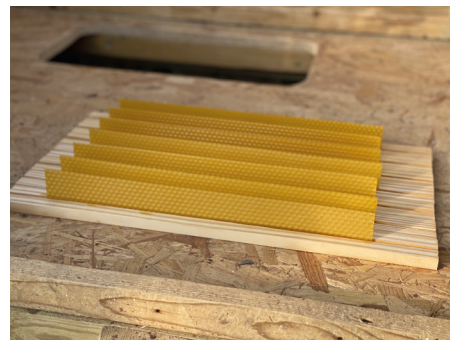
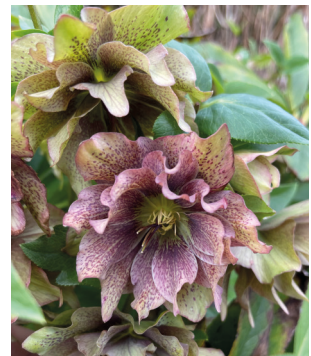
The base for the water feature that is going into the Walled Garden has now been built and the bowl itself is due to be installed in the next month or so. It's been a bit like Piccadilly Circus around here for the last few weeks! A huge thanks to everyone who's helped turn our mad ideas and dreams into a reality. We promise to keep things calmer for a while...



PACKINGTON NEWS

IN THE GARDEN

This has to be my favourite time of year. There is nothing more exciting after the cold of Winter than the emergence of tiny green shoots and then the appearance crocuses, snowdrops and hellebores, and then before you know it the happy, yellow daffodils have arrived. The tulips that were planted when the last Parish Mag was out are beginning to pop above the soil and seeds are being sown in abundance. As you will have seen from the previous page, the water feature is almost in and we are hoping the paths will be down so it can be opened for this year's NGS opening day! Tony has been busy constructing our first tree beehive which is designed to mimic a bee's natural habitat and we have two new inhabitants in the garden...Monty (Don) and Alan (Titchmarsh). We hope they will keep our rodent friends at bay and stop them digging / eating everything in the garden.



PACKINGTON NEWS

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE - MARCH 2022 UPDATE

By Sam White

Following the decision in the Autumn of 2020 to start using farming practices that fall under the bracket of regenerative agriculture, along with the decision to no longer use chemical sprays and fertilisers, we have continued to engage with advisors and other farmers in trying to learn how we can continue to adapt our farming techniques and improve soil health and structure.

In the last few weeks we have been speaking with an advisor who commented on how impressed they were at the dense and consistent carpet of small leaf clover that has established across some of the fields forming Outwoods Farm. The clover was drilled last spring and to begin with did not look particularly promising however it is a different story now!

Last autumn we directly drilled spelt and wheat into these clover leys, there was apprehension at first as to whether they would establish through the clover however I am glad to say that both crops have established, and it will be very interesting to see how this continues into the spring and summer. The ultimate proof will be when it comes to harvest later this year!

During December we saw the emerging signs of the field beans that were drilled in the late autumn. The beans are continuing to establish however there has been an issue with the volunteer plants from the previous oat crop and we are currently looking at how is best to control these without the use of herbicides.

The 8 species diverse cover crop seed mixture that was drilled last autumn in fields near Hampton in Arden has established well, it will be interesting to see how the cover crop develops and compares against the same cover crop mix developing in fields along Maxstoke Lane.

We are rapidly approaching the time of year again where we will be looking to re-establish areas of fields, that are subject to an agri-environment stewardship scheme, and have been taken out of food production and instead put into seed mixtures to assist with the conservation and restoration of wildlife habitats. Some fields have pollen and nectar seed mixtures that provide a food source for pollinators such as bumble bees, and there are also field margins that will be put into a seed mixture to provide a feed source of small seeds for farmland birds when we enter the autumn/winter months later this year!



RECOMMENDATIONS

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

FILMS



Another great recommendation from Pete Fortey. An Arctic survival tale. Available on Netflix.



I can't get the songs out of my head! A brilliant new film from Disney that everyone will love. On Disney+.



Part one of a brilliant sci-fi epic. Up for lots of awards. Definitely worth a watch! On Amazon Prime.

T.V.



A brilliant but terrifying series on the American addiction to OxyContin. Available on Disney+.

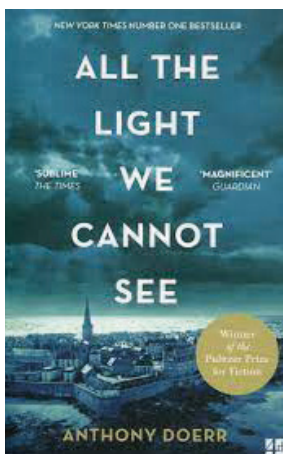


This will have your heart in your mouth for most of the series but a great one for Sunday nights. Catch up on ITV Hub.

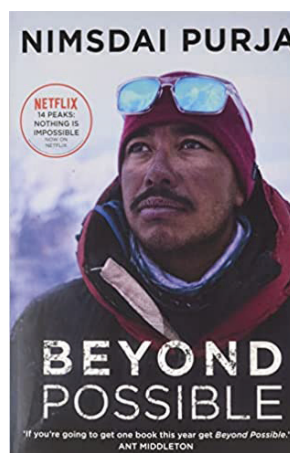


I had to include our very own Peaky Blinders! Tommy & his crew are back for one last series and it seems as good as ever. All series on BBC iPlayer.

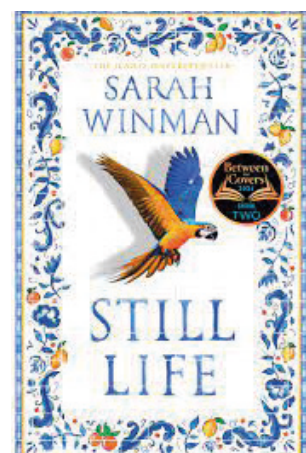
BOOKS



A beautiful book following two protagonists coming together from two very different sides in WW2.



Kindly recommended by Neil Thornley. A remarkable story of a ghurka soldier that became the only man to ever summit all 7 of the worlds 8000mtr peaks in 7 months! Also a documentary on Netflix - 2 for the price of 1!



I'm half way through this and loving it! Sarah Winman writes so well and you fall in love with all her characters. Pure escapism!

PETE'S PAGES!

ONCE AGAIN PETE HAS COME UP TRUMPS AND PROVIDED US WITH A COUPLE OF GREAT PAGES TO KEEP US SMILING DURING THESE BONKERS TIMES.



One stormy night, many years ago, an elderly man and his wife entered the lobby of a small hotel in Philadelphia, USA. Trying to get out of the rain, the couple approached the front desk hoping to get some shelter for the night. "Could you possibly give us a room here?" the husband asked.

The clerk, a friendly man with a winning smile, looked at the couple and explained that there were three conventions in town, "All our rooms are taken" the clerk said, but thought to himself, I can't send a nice couple like this out into the rain at one o'clock in the morning. "Would you perhaps be willing to sleep in my room? It's not exactly a Suite, but it will be good enough to make you folks comfortable for the night." When the couple declined, the young man pressed on, "Don't worry about me, I'll make out just fine" the clerk told them, so the couple agreed.

As he paid his bill the next morning the elderly man said to the clerk, "You are the kind of manager who should be the boss of the best hotel. Maybe one day I'll build one for you" the clerk looked at them and smiled, the three of them had a good laugh. As they drove away, the elderly couple agreed that the helpful clerk was indeed exceptional, as finding people who are both friendly and helpful isn't easy. Two years had almost passed, and the clerk, being busy, had forgotten about the incident with the elderly couple, when he received a letter from the old man. It recalled that stormy night and enclosed a round-trip ticket to New York, asking the man to pay them a visit.

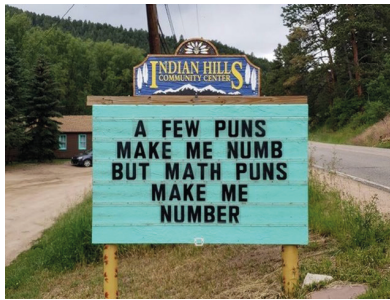
The old man met him in New York, and led him to corner of Fifth Avenue and 34th Street, he then pointed to a great new building there, a pale reddish stone, with turrets and watchtowers thrusting up to the sky. "That" said the older man, "Is the hotel I have just built for you to manage" the young man, with a quiver in his voice said "You must be joking" the elderly man, with a sly smile around his mouth replied, "I can assure you I'm not."

The older man's name was, WILLIAM WALDORF-ASTER, and the magnificent structure was the original, WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL. The clerk who became its first manager was, GEORGE C. BOLBT. The young clerk never foresaw the turn of events that would lead him to become the manager of one of the world's most glamorous hotels. - So never be afraid to reach and touch someone's life, you never know whose heart you may be touching.

A MAN GOES INTO A SUPERMARKET AND NOTICES AN ATTRACTIVE WOMAN WAVING AT HIM, SHE SAYS HELLO, AND HE'S RATHER TAKEN ABACK, BECAUSE HE CAN'T PLACE WHERE HE KNOWS HER FROM, SO HE SAYS "DO YOU KNOW ME?" TO WHICH SHE REPLIES, "I THINK YOU'RE THE FATHER OF ONE OF MY KIDS," NOW HIS MIND TRAVELS BACK TO A CERTAIN BACHELOR PARTY AND SAYS, "WERE YOU THE LADY I ENDED UP WITH ON THE POOL TABLE, NAKED, WITH ALL MY FRIENDS WATCHING, WHILE YOUR OTHER LADY FRIEND WHIPPED MY BOTTOM WITH WET CELERY ???"

SHE LOOKS INTO HIS EYES AND SAYS CALMLY, NO, I'M YOUR SON'S TEACHER...

PETE'S PAGES!



The Police car pulled me over, and the officer came up to my window and said "papers" I said "scissors" I win and drove off, he's been chasing me now for 45 minutes, I think he wants a rematch.

People say smoking will give you diseases....But how can they say that when it cures Salmon.

Mugabe is a Yorkshireman in reverse, because his name is Ed by gum backwards.

You never know where to look when you're eating a banana.

It's difficult to say what my wife does, she sells seashells on the seashore.

"Red sky at night: Shepherds delight, Blue sky at night: Day"

A hotel minibar allows you to see into the future and find out what a can of Pepsi will cost you in 2030.

A spa hotel? It's a normal hotel, only in reception there's a picture of a pebble

My friend says to me, "What, rhymes with orange" I said: "No it doesn't"

I was wondering why does a Frisbee appear larger the closer it gets.....then it hit me.

THE SOCIAL CLUB NEWS



The Social Club put on a great evening just before Christmas with a visit from F.C. himself! A huge thanks to Steve Allcock and The Meriden Rotary Club for allowing him to make a detour to Packington.



Following that we had a brilliant night for all the beaters and picker-ups which by all accounts went down very well!

The Social Club is held on the last Friday of each month, in The Undercroft which is underneath the Hall. Please park outside the front of the Hall and walk around to the entrance via the Terrace. These evenings alongside our annual events raise a lot of money, all of which goes towards local causes and makes a difference, and they are also a lot of fun! Please do come along if you can.

If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for donations or indeed events they would like to see take place please contact Paul Brown, Jay Huthwaite, Steve Allcock or Ros Smith.

We hope to see you there!

SOCIAL CLUB DATES	
Friday 29th April	Fish & Chips Quiz Night - from 8pm onwards
Friday 27th May	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards
Friday 24th June	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards
Friday 1st July	Estate vs Farmers Cricket Match with Hog Roast - 5pm start
Friday 29th July	Social Club Evening - from 8pm onwards

UPCOMING EVENTS

FISH & CHIPS



Friday 29th April
From 8pm onwards
The Social Club

Tickets available from Paul Brown - £10 per adult / £5 per child
(Book early to avoid disappointment!)

FRIDAY 1ST JULY

5PM START

IN FRONT OF THE HALL

HOG ROAST
& BAR!

ESTATE VS FARMERS CRICKET MATCH

IN SUPPORT OF THE SOCIAL CLUB



UPCOMING EVENTS



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME Garden Open For Charity



**THE GARDENS AT PACKINGTON HALL
WILL BE OPEN FOR THE NATIONAL
GARDEN SCHEME
ON SUNDAY 12TH JUNE 2021
FROM 2-5PM**

ADMISSION: ADULTS £6.00 / CHILDREN FREE

**MAXSTOKE AND PACKINGTON W.I. WILL KINDLY BE SELLING
HOMEMADE CAKES AND CUPS OF TEA IN AID OF ST JAMES'S, PACKINGTON**



UPCOMING EVENTS



5th June 2022

12pm - 6pm

at Meriden Sports Park

Stalls, entertainment, food and lots more fun.

No BBQs, Alcohol & No Dogs please.
Additional parking at the Bulls Head.

*In partnership with Meriden Parish Council & Little Angels Group.
Any money raised will go to Meriden United Charities.*



Meriden
PARISH COUNCIL
the historic centre of England



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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



Meriden Farm

PORK BOXES

charlie@meridenfarm.co.uk +447500212019

£40

Locally sourced, from Greenfield's at Twycross

1.2kg Loin Roasting Joint

1.5kg Leg Roasting Joint

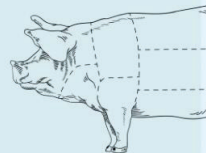
x2 packs of bacon

x2 packs of sausages

x2 pork chops

x4 slices of belly pork

500g pork mince



 @MeridenFarm



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
- x6 Mince (500g/pack)
- x4 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
- x3 Mince (500g/pack)
- x2 Stewing Steak (500g/pack)
- Braising Steak (500g)

 @MeridenFarm

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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

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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

• 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



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**

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

www.dogstrust.org.uk/fostering

Registered Charity Numbers: 227523 & SC037843



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Care and support
through terminal illness

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