

## Hardingstone's Newsletter



## August —September 2020





HP Source is a bi-monthly newsletter, funded by Hardingstone Parish Council, compiled and edited by a team of volunteers for Hardingstone Village.

### **Editorial publishing rules and deadlines**

We hope you enjoy another varied edition.

Contributions are welcome from Hardingstone individuals and clubs. We work to agreed editorial and advertising guidelines. Articles should normally be a maximum of 250 words.

Submissions should be sent to the editor at hpsourcemag@gmail.com

The editor has complete discretion to omit or to edit submissions. Deadlines for submission are given below.

Articles, notices and advertisements published in the newsletter do not represent the views of the editorial team or the Parish Council, and we take no responsibility for the content. We do not endorse products, services, events, businesses, organisations or individuals featured and / or advertised in the newsletter.

Do you have any interesting or unusual Hardingstone news or views you would like to share? If so, please let us know at hpsourcemag@gmail.com.

KAPH – the editorial team.

| Issue            | Final submissions              | Delivered by           |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 9. Oct—Nov 2020  | 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020 | Last week in September |
| 10. Dec—Jan 2021 | 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2020  | Last week in November  |
| 11. Feb—Mar 2021 | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021   | Last week in January   |
| 12. Apr—May 2021 | 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2021     | Last week in March     |

## **Useful contacts**

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Church Warden St Edmunds: John Wilson hardingstonechurch@gmail.com 01604 760411

Clerk to Hardingstone Parish Council clerk@hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk www.hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk facebook.com/Hardingstone-Parish-Council 07709 523746 (office hours Tue & Thu 10-2)

## **Hardingstone Covid-19 Support Group**

Over the past few months, alongside the helpline, the Hardingstone Covid-19 Support group have been running a food bank dedicated to households within our village and connected via the school, providing food for up to 400 people per week.

This has been achieved through the incredible response from the 50 strong team of volunteers, the use of Hardingstone Village Hall, donations of contributions from the village, donations from the charity Fare Share (working with the Co-op and Asda), Morrisons Victoria Promenade, Greencore (sandwiches and fruit) and with the assistance of Hardingstone Academy and their partner schools. The help of the village teens / young adults who assist each week when deliveries arrive has been particularly

appreciated.

We should all be exceptionally proud of what we have achieved and thank you to all who have helped provide that front-line service to everyone that has needed it in Hardingstone and beyond. If you come across anyone in extreme financial hardship, the Northampton Hardship Fund has already helped families supported by our food bank; please know this resource is available and details can be supplied if requested.

Special thanks should go to Gaynor Myles who has gone 'above and beyond' with incredible initiative and energy. Both the foodbank and helpline have now ceased, but plans are being put in place for any future resurgence.

### Midsummer Merriment—2020

It wasn't possible to hold most of the merry events we had planned for the national #GreatGetTogether event over Midsummer weekend this year, but the Hardingstone Decorated Wheelie Bin competition could go ahead safely.



Having the 11 bins decorated as 'Heroes' around the village was a welcome occasion and the creations were executed with skill and imagination. Every wheelie bin's interpretation was unique, much admired and splendid in variety.

Due to cost and timescale it was not practical to publish maps and voting slips this year. From the votes received, the winner by 1 vote was 'For Our Tomorrows' on High Street.

The **'100-year-old Hero'** on The Green and the **'Tenby Crew'** on Martins Lane were in joint 2<sup>nd</sup> place.



Hopefully next year the Supporters of St Edmunds will publish leaflets again and be able to have some open gardens, races for the kids on the Rec, the dog walkers out in force and new activities arranged by other Hardingstone groups.

In the meantime, a very big thank you to all who took part. and we hope that villagers enjoyed their walk around.

John Wilson. Supporters of St. Edmunds





### **Community reports**



# Friends of Hardingstone • Putting the heart back into Hardingstone

#### Tote results

|       | Ticket  | Prize | Name        |
|-------|---------|-------|-------------|
| Prize | June    | £     |             |
| 1st   | 03 & 17 | £40   | B Naseby    |
| 2nd   | 12 & 20 | £20   | A Mountford |
| 3rd   | 04 & 11 | £15   | S Grant     |

| Prize | Ticket<br><b>July</b> | Prize<br>£ | Name       |
|-------|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| 1st   | 04 & 20               | £40        | R Walker   |
| 2nd   | 09 & 14               | £20        | R Bennett  |
| 3rd   | 16 & 19               | £15        | R Brinklow |

#### Closure of the Tote

It is with regret that we announce closure of the Tote. This is because of lack of support from the wider village with no new ticket holders in the past year. The final draw will be in August with closure after that. All those with tickets valid after August 2020 will be refunded for their outstanding months. However, if you wish to donate the very few pounds remaining for your monthly draws into FoH funds, we will use the money for village activities and amenities in the usual way. Friends of Hardingstone will continue as an organisation in the village with coffee mornings and Pins and Needles, and may support other Hardingstone organisations. We thank all of you who have loyally supported the Tote which has been running since 2006. Proceeds have helped run many events in the village and have supported other organisations. Please contact Pam if you wish to donate your outstanding £1s. Tel 761374

## **Annie's Hardingstone book swap**

'Annie's Book Swap' has been running in Hardingstone Lane most Saturdays since lockdown. Unfortunately, I was very unlucky with the weather in June, and couldn't get the books out as much as I wanted to. I've had around 700 books donated, and want to thank everyone who gave me books to start



the scheme off. Due to the vast amount of books, I gave some to the Northampton Criminal Justice Centre, as they were asking for donations

due to libraries not operating. I have also had a teacher from a secondary school take some books for vulnerable children attending school during lockdown.

I have raised over £200 for Northampton Hope Centre, most of which was from the collection tin that I put out with the books. Thank you everyone for your contributions.

Annie's Hardingstone Book Swap will continue to run as I know many people enjoy using it.

Please follow my facebook page for locations and the latest



information. Enter 'Annie's Hardingstone book swap' into any internet search engine.

Annie.

#### **Parish Council news**

#### **Londis Supermarket**

The Parish Council sends its warmest congratulations to Viren and Roy on the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of running our supermarket. It has taken long hours of hard work over the years and become a pillar of the community, especially during the covid-19 crisis.

The enthusiastic applause by many dozens of residents on 1<sup>st</sup> July says more about their standing in the village than any words. (See p10)

They have prepared provisions for delivery by the Covid-19 support group whose volunteers and organisers deserve our grateful thanks once again.

#### **Midsummer Merriment**

If any good has emerged from the awful pandemic it is a resurgence of friendliness and community spirit.

The Midsummer Merriment was a great success with, amongst other things, the decorated bin competition which generated some ingenious and often hilarious transformations.

Parish councillors placed their bin in the war memorial garden which was yet again graced by the presence of Her Majesty.

Many thanks to the organisers and all involved.

#### The Recreation Ground

Further guidelines concerning play equipment issued by the Government required each Council to conduct its own risk assessment, and adopt regulations appropriate to the size and layout of the area. The Council has done this, and has been able to allow equipment use with a limit on the number of children on each piece of equipment, providing hand hygiene and social distancing are observed.

Families should make their own judgements on the risks involved. Despite what many people seem to think this deadly virus has not gone away.

A conifer by the north east corner of the rec. has been felled because it was in a diseased and possibly dangerous state. The Parish Council is considering replacing it.

The Council has regular inspections of the trees in the rec. to ensure they are healthy and not likely to fall on anyone.

Ecotumble surface cover has been laid under the play equipment to make a relatively soft landing for children to fall on.

#### **Cherry Orchard**

The Parish Council voted by a majority of 7 to 2 to instruct a solicitor to proceed with the transfer from Northampton Borough Council to Hardingstone Parish Council on behalf of the village.

One sticking point had been the damaged boundary fence close to the Queen Eleanor roundabout which NBC needed to repair as a condition of the transfer agreement. The concern was that unauthorised vehicles could gain access via the gap. It is hoped that a kissing-gate can be installed for pedestrian use by the side of the five bar gate close to the Nursery.



If you have a picnic in Cherry Orchard please do not spoil this lovely area by leaving litter. The litter bin has been overflowing recently, so please take your litter home.

That's all for now. More information is available on the Parish Council website.

Best wishes to all our residents, keep to guidelines and keep well!

We still have a vacancy for a parish councillor and if you would like to find out what this entails please contact the Parish Clerk, Sally Willis.

We are a friendly bunch so don't be shy!

## **Notes from Parish Council meetings**

Currently meetings are being held via Zoom video conference until social distancing rules allow us to meet in person again.

#### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Reports were given of litter and overflowing bins in Cherry Orchard. If you find an overflowing bin this can be reported via the NBC website or the NBC app. Please do report as this will flag to NBC if they need to increase their regular service.

It was approved that the council would accept the transfer of Cherry Orchard by a majority of 7 to 2. A solicitor will be instructed once the fence on Hardingstone Lane has been repaired, which will improve security of the site.

#### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Thanks were given to volunteers who have helped during the current covid 19 pandemic. The current volunteer group has helped with shopping and collecting prescriptions as well as helping with a localised foodbank to help many in the local

area. Many volunteers are now going back to work and help is not needed as much. The council will work with other organisations to consider a Good Neighbours scheme to build on the goodwill of the village, and to support those who may need ongoing help.

A risk assessment was approved and the play equipment can be reopened. We ask that all users take current social distancing guidance into consideration when using the equipment. We suggest using hand sanitiser or wipes before using the equipment and please remember to wash your hands when you get home. Please use the litter bins provided for any rubbish, or take it home if they are full.

There are many fitness groups and teams that are using the rec. Anyone wishing to use the Rec in a more formal way must contact the clerk to get permission. This is so we can check there are no clashes of times and to ensure that full insurance is being provided by the groups.

Full minutes available on the Parish Council website at <a href="https://www.hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk/">https://www.hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk/</a>

There will not be a meeting in August, so the next meeting will take place on Tuesday September 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

## **Hardingstone Neighbourhood Watch**

#### **Cannabis Factories**

Police say:

Have you got people coming and going from a neighbour's address?

Have you seen strangers coming and going into properties late at night or early in the morning?

Have you noticed an increased smell of cannabis from any property?

Have you seen numerous cars coming and going to an address?



#### **Child Abuse**

Would you recognise the different signs of child abuse or sexual exploitation? It comes in many forms:

Changes in appearance, cuts, burns & bruises, much older friends, unexplained gifts.

Changes in behaviour, evidence of drug or substance abuse including alcohol, secretiveness.

Anger, anxiousness or talk of self harm.

If you think you recognise this - ACT. Report it to the NSPCC, local council or Police. For more information go to gov.uk/tacklechildabuse

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children





### **Hardingstone community**

## **Underground in Hardingstone**

In your garden, in wooded areas or in the churchyard, you will probably be standing on a subterranean network more complex than the internet.

Running through the soil, roots, decaying leaves and dead wood, are the thin root-like white threads and patches that make up carpets of mycelium. These are the underground vegetative parts of fungi, which number about 2700 species! Above ground at certain times of the year can be seen the 'flowering parts' of mycelium, which we know as mushrooms and toadstools.

Mycelium form the connections between plants and their habitats. They provide nutrients and communicate messages to various species about dangers, triggering defensive responses by plants to prevent danger from insects, predatory creatures and chemicals.





Mycelium revive sickly plants by releasing their "organic medicine." This invisible community ecosystem, together with birds and insects, develops throughout the year. Dead twigs/wood left insitu create an important tonic.

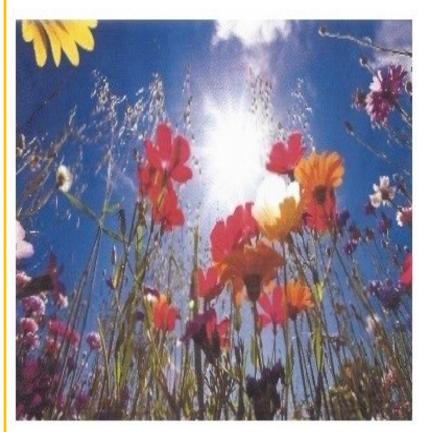
Fungi are essential (and free) soil improvers. Without fungi we would lose about 90% of our plants and trees and be without many foods and medicines. Scientists and manufacturers continue to use mycelium to develop substitutes for plastics and similar materials.

We must expand and preserve natural habitats and reduce pollution and chemical usage. We need to stop being the enemy of the wonders of the natural world. Over tidy gardeners beware!

Prompted by an article in an RSPB publication.

Pam.

## A card to KAPH (the editors) and John Wilson



June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020.

Just a little note to thank you for all your work. I know you can't include thanks to yourselves in HP Source but you deserve great credit for all the work you do for this, and all the other things you do for the village.

The magazine is interesting and very well edited. The summary of the Parish meeting makes it much more accessible to everybody.

Thank you and best wishes,

Joan Martin.

Just a little note to thank you for all you wont. I know you can't include thrower to you decerne great execut for all the work you do for the ord all the ords you do for the Village.

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Thank of best moles fear Martin

### **Hardingstone community**

#### STOP PRESS NEWS

**Hardingstone Village Hall -** The Village Hall is hoping to re-open its doors in September.

**Village Produce Show -** Consideration is being given to holding a produce show on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Look out for further details on village notice boards.

**100 new houses ? -** The Northampton Local Plan Part 2 LAA0204 as a potential site for 100 is now open for round 2 consultation (closes 24<sup>th</sup> Aug). houses.

It includes the allocation of a site for 100 dwellings to the east of The Green and Heritage Farm Close, around the old

concrete barns formerly part of Pittam's Farm. For details go to northampton.gov.uk/planning and select the box 'See updates on the Local Plan'. Page 175 identifies LAA0204 as a potential site for 100 houses.



## "Hummingbird" sighted in Hardingstone!

On 13<sup>th</sup> June we were relaxing in the garden, enjoying the warmth of the sun and the gentle sounds of birds and

insects, when I became aware of a new sound. It was a steady continuous hum, quite unlike the familiar buzzing of bees, coming from a group of red valerian flowers quite close to the ground.

Suspended motionless in the air above the flower was what appeared to be a tiny humming-bird about two inches long. Its wings were just a blur and it

seemed quite oblivious of our presence, allowing us within a few inches for several minutes. We were even able to see its

extended tongue as it probed the tiny flowers.

Thanks to Google we were able to identify it as a hummingbird hawk moth. We reported the sighting to the butterfly conservation group and it has been added to their distribution data base.

Is this a first for Hardingstone?

John Francklow



## Summer Wildlife—Moths



A pair of stunningly colourful Scarlet Tiger moths were spotted in a Hardingstone garden in mid-June.

The Northants county recorder for moth conservation says that the Scarlet Tiger has made inroads in the Midlands of late, from being almost unheard of ten years ago, it is now quite widespread. A stunning moth, which blows away the assumption that they are all brown (and eat your clothes!), they can also be seen flying or resting on plants in daytime in May and June. The equally brightly coloured

caterpillars feed on common comfrey and green alkanet.

Another type of colourful moth that has been spotted in summer is the highly camouflaged Lime Hawkmoth.

Pictured here on a garden gate, they inhabit lime trees and silver birch, against which they are superbly camouflaged.

This picture shows a male (smaller one) and female (larger one).



There is more information on moths, their habitats and recording them at the Butterfly Conservation Society website - which includes moths!

https://butterfly-conservation.org/moths

## **Churchyard wildlife**

Three bird boxes have now been placed on trees at the east end of the churchyard.

Lisa from The Wildlife Trust made a surprise visit on 17<sup>th</sup> June. Her report is as follows:

"We visited the churchyard ,and it was lovely to see your posters encouraging folk to get involved with the wildlife project. Here is a list of what I saw:

Varied carpet beetle Blackbird
Cinnabar moth Wren
Woodpigeon Goldfinch
Honey bees Red admiral
Jay Grey squirrel

Mating pair of Stictoleptura rubra – a longhorn beetle

Meligethes sp. (pollen beetles) Swifts (heard overhead but not seen) Pammene regiana (a micro moth) 7 spot ladybird larvae, pupa and adult.





Also (and perhaps most exciting), we came across a privet

hawkmoth perched on the old ladder structure in the wilder area of the churchyard – what a beauty!!
I loved your new bird table and feeding station, and I'm pleased to see you've forged ahead with the 'adopt a grave' scheme – the ones we saw were very nice indeed".



## Two students' views on home schooling

# I'm currently in year 12 and am studying for 3 A levels.

When the idea of lockdown was proposed, my school set up online classrooms and advised that we stick to timetable, however this didn't work in a practical sense when we were

actually at home. The amount of work set was unrealistic which meant missing lesson deadlines and being unprepared for assessments. It has added unnecessary stress to an already stressful situation.

There have been some encouraging teachers however,

who have advised that I needn't worry about deadlines too much and to get the work done in the summer.

#### Online school, year 10

I have found remote learning to be a very interesting and different experience. I have got on with my work well and although there is a slight lack of motivation, I have kept on top of the majority of my lessons.

Some lessons have been very revision based instead of covering new topics, which is effective during my GCSE year, although we haven't been covering the new topics which we need for the exam.

On an emotional side, it has been slightly tough at some points and knowing that this is a worldwide

thing, many people are experiencing a strange feeling.



## **News from St. Edmunds Church**

We are delighted to announce that MEB Design Ltd, Chartered Architects, have been appointed to help us complete the Feasibility Study, investigating how to acceptably develop the church building for the 21C and meet its needs.

MEB Design is an award-winning architectural practice with its own accredited inhouse conservation department. After a detailed tendering process, we are confident that this next stage of the project is in expert and sympathetic hands.

St Edmunds is a 2\* listed building, so there is a balance to

be found between preserving the special historic interests and providing a facility that will have a sustainable future, and works for us as a whole parish community.

The PCC is very appreciative of the help that Hardingstone has given us so far, answering surveys and supporting fundraising activities. There will be much more of this in the months ahead, but we are confident that we can continue to work together to achieve our aims.

If you'd like to know more, please email hardingstonechurch@gmail.com

### **Hardingstone community**

## 35 years serving the village







Many of us joined in the heartfelt village celebration on 1<sup>st</sup> July to pay tribute to Viren, and his nephew Roy, for all the hard work over 35 years serving our community. Viren's wife Nila worked here too for 30 years, latterly looking after their grandchildren. It was lovely to see all the family at the event.

About 300 socially distanced people lined Glebe Avenue and Glebe Way to give Viren a c(lap) of honour, then on into the Rec for tributes and a



presentation. The Chronicle & Echo was present, and you can find a video posted on "What's on in Hardingstone" on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. The wonderful evening was organised by Jo Crockford, who as a teenager had worked at Viren's, as had her cousins.

Viren came from Kenya in 1971, later opening his first shop in Whitworth Road, Northampton. In 1985 he came to Hardingstone and has been the pillar of our community ever since. He stocks customers' specific requirements, supports village organisations, and he has a fantastic memory asking after friends and families and sharing news.

Viren worked tirelessly from the beginning of the

lockdown, working with volunteers to box and deliver goods to shielders, and others who had no one to shop for them.

Viren was quite overwhelmed and speechless at the event, but other residents took the chance to say a quick two metre "hello" to



friends they not seen in months. They were not lost for words!



The Parish Council has marked this special occasion by presenting Viren with a photograph of the event. The frame contains an inscription thanking him for his 35 years of service to the village.

# Handingstone House Detectives

#### **House Detectives on The Green**

Our article in issue 6 prompted Perry Thomas to lend us a box of documents relating to a pair of houses on The Green. Their stories are summarised here, supplemented with further research:

The oldest document is dated 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 1730, when Mary Tousland and her son sold the house and adjoining shop to Thomas Hill, a breeches maker. 46 years later he sold them to Thomas Hall who, with his wife Elizabeth, had recently inherited the estate of John Deton, a labourer from Little Houghton.

The next reference is to the 1832 will of Thomas Hall jnr, bequeathing the houses to his brother John, who bequeathed them to his sister's sons, shoemaker John Clayson and draper/tailor George Clayson, in 1847.

John Clayson sold his house to his brother-in-law Cooper Cardwell in 1861, who bought the other property shortly after George's death in 1867. On Cooper's death in 1871 both houses came to his sister Ann, John's wife, along with a fascinating early Inland Revenue form 'Succession Duty

on Real Property'!

In 1898 the properties were sold to widow Mary Marriott for £260. There were 2 tenants, Messrs Cross and Stanton. Mary died intestate in 1920. Her children sold the cottages to John Francis Prue in 1922 for £400, for which he needed a £250 mortgage, paid off on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1943.

The full document will be stored in the new 'Parish Chest' and will be available to everyone in due course.

If you have an old house mystery, contact John on <a href="mailto:supporters@hardingstone.church">supporters@hardingstone.church</a> or 760411



## A short history of a voluntary hospital

In July 1743, after several years of discussion, a subscription list was opened to raise money for a Northampton town infirmary.

In 1744 a large house in George Row (now the

Northampton Town and County Club) was leased for £30 per year for the "poor, sick and lame and no money or reward is taken of them".

The infirmary opened in March of that year with 30 beds. The waiting list grew as there were many townsfolk living in very poor housing conditions.

In 1750 the house was purchased for £750 and an extension built to increase the beds to 60.

By 1790 there was an urgent need for a new hospital so an 8 acre site was purchased at Northampton Fields, part of land owned by St. Andrew's Priory. The hospital opened in 1793 with 100 beds and gradually expanded, new wings were built and beds increased.

In 1903 the name was changed from Northampton

General Infirmary to Northampton General Hospital, and it continued to grow and develop with advances in medicine, surgery and the allied professions, still supported by voluntary contributions. The shoe manufacturers also donated

manufacturers also donated large sums of money.

From the early twentieth century there was a growing need for healthcare for the whole population and eventually, after years of government discussion, in 1948 the National Health Service was formed to provide care based on need rather than the ability to pay.

Many changes and reorganisations have taken place since then, and now the hospital occupies a 46 acre site



with over 800 beds.

276 years after the doors first opened, the people of Northampton continue to generously support their local hospital.

Jenny Butterfield

Ref. History of NGH by Dr F F Waddy 1974

### **Northampton High School news**

#### Just keep singing!

Numerous studies have shown that music is good for us.



Whether it's singing in the shower, or community spirit from singing with others, our brains are stimulated to release 'feel-good' endorphins.

Although they have not been able to meet up in person, the Northampton High School Community Choir has

been active during lockdown with a busy WhatsApp group full of suggestions of music to listen to, online choirs and reminiscences about concerts past.

#### **Debut novelists**

Year 7 pupil Kirsten Mbawa and her sister Aiyven have raised £5500 to publish their novels 'Sagas of Anya' and 'Land of the Nurogons'. Their fundraising page has been viewed by thousands worldwide. They gave signed copies of their books and exclusive memorabilia as thanks for donations. The first run has now been printed and the books are available from Amazon, Waterstones or mbawabooks.co.uk.

#### Virtual equestrian event



The Northampton High Equestrian team held their first ever online show in June. We had 15 classes ranging from the traditional prettiest mare and most handsome gelding, through to most annoying phrase parents say at shows, best backwards riding move and the cutest pony picture.





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For all enquiries - Contact Gaynor Weatherley - 01604 764492 or email hardingstone@outlook.com

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www.lkbeautyroom.co.uk **TXT or TEL 07727 282783** 

(Please leave a message if no answer)





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john@johnjeffreyselectrical.co.uk



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Tel: 07966 639108 / 01604 404580 Email: nick.maud@btinternet.com

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