



Issue 13

June - July 2021



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

From your editorial team

KEEP THIS COPY OF HPS AS IT CONTAINS DETAILS OF THE MIDSUMMER MERRIMENT WEEKEND

As the village commences the long return to normal, we think it appropriate to restart the village diary page(s). There are only a few entries this time (p16), but hopefully there will be more to include in the next issue.

The list of our councillors shown below has been updated to reflect the changes resulting from the May 2021 elections, and the switch to West Northamptonshire Council. It is good to see the return of Jonathan Nunn and Lizzie Bowen as Nene Valley councillors, and we welcome

back Phil Larratt who was our County Councillor some years ago.

We are always looking for items about the village and village life, so we would welcome any articles and/or photographs that you can provide.

Articles, notices and advertisements published in the newsletter do not necessarily 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.

KAPH, the editorial team.

Send your items to: hpsourcemag@gmail.com
or deliver to: The Parish Room High Street NN4 6DA

Issue	Send your items to us by	Delivered by
No. 14. August - Sept 2021	1 st July 2021	Last week in July
No. 15. October - November 2021	1 st September 2021	Last week in September
No. 16. December - January 2021	1 st November 2021	Last week in November

Useful contacts

WNC Cllr for Hardingstone: Jonathan Nunn

jonathan.nunn@westnorthants.gov.uk

07947 019491

WNC Cllr for Hardingstone: Phil Larratt

phil.larratt@westnorthants.gov.uk

07770 637160

WNC Cllr for Hardingstone: Lizzy Bowen

lizzie.bowen@westnorthants.gov.uk

07740 176037

West Northamptonshire Council

westnorthants.gov.uk

0300 126 7000

Vicar: Vacant

Contact the Church Warden (below)

Church Warden St Edmunds: John Wilson

hardingstonechurch@gmail.com

01604 760411

Clerk to Hardingstone Parish Council

clerk@hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Room, High Street NN4 6DA

www.hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

07709 523746 (office hours Tue & Thu 10-2)

Hardingstone Neighbourhood Watch

Pam 761374

Jim 709715

HPS miscellany

New gate for Cherry Orchard

A new kissing gate with a disabled facility has been installed by the Parish Council to provide an additional pedestrian access to Cherry Orchard. This is sited close to the first houses on the left when entering the village from the Queen Eleanor roundabout, beside the five bar gate.

On first sight it may look as if the padlock will prevent access, but closer inspection will reveal that the gate can be opened by releasing the latch at the top. The padlock can be unlocked by wheelchair users who have a radar key, and then the bar can be moved sideways allowing the gate to be opened outwards.

Please ensure that the gate is left secured on the latch, and if the padlock has been opened, that it is locked again after use.



Fibre Optic rollout continues



Improvements to provide faster internet access in the village are continuing. Following on from the major work undertaken by City Fibre in installing underground fibre optic cables, Opals group, working for BT, are now installing overhead fibre cables. They are shown working in the Warren during May.

A reader's appreciation

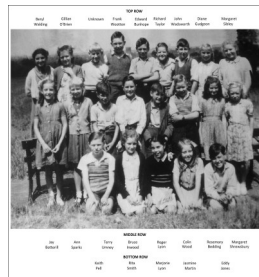
Thank you to all those involved in the production of HPSource.

An excellent array of informative articles, particularly those relating to past village life. Well done and keep up the hard work!

Jackie Walker

Missing Name

A reader thinks that the name of the 'unknown' pupil in the school photo in the last issue is Brian Wootton, brother to Frank who was on his right as viewed in the photo. Can anyone confirm this? We still don't know the date though.



Hardingstone Cricket Club

The sound of leather on willow. The dubious joy of running for shelter as England's weather turns on you again.

After a Covid-affected 2020, Hardingstone Cricket Club has been back in league action.

The additional peculiarities of arriving 'kitted up' due to changing rooms remaining off-limits and having to bring your own tea may have been added, but it's great to be out in the middle again.

Doing so at our new Northampton High School venue is an added, and very enjoyable, bonus.

By the time you're reading this the season will doubtless be

a few games in, but as I write we are a couple of friendly games (one defeat, one epic win over our friends/foes from Blisworth) and the same number of league games in.

Our 1sts and 2nds had mixed fortunes on the opening day of the season. The 1sts rattled out S&L Corby for 59 before winning by seven wickets, but the 2nd XI grabbed defeat from the

jaws of victory against Irchester 2nds, bowling them out for 68 but then collapsing to 53 all out.

Cricket is back and as fickle a mistress as ever.

Craig.



Parish Council budget for 2021 - 2022

The Precept is the element of your Council Tax that is paid to Hardingstone Parish Council. The precept of £45,000 for 2021-22 has been retained at the same level as last year.

The budget details below show how the Council intends to spend the money raised from the precept over the coming year.

RECEIPTS	£	PAYMENTS (Continued)	£
Precept (collected with the Council Tax)	45,000	Grants & Donations	
HP Source advertising	1,350	Grants	1,600
Total receipts	<u>46,350</u>	Donations	<u>0</u>
			<u>1,600</u>
PAYMENTS		Administration	
Recreation Ground		Clerk's salary	9,600
Mowing & maintenance	7,000	PAYE & employee NI	142
Other	140	Employee pension	520
	<u>7,140</u>	Employers NI	185
Open Spaces		Employers pension contribution	305
Parish Land	2,500	Insurance	800
Village Maintenance	3,500	Stationery & postage	500
War Memorial refurbishment	1,000	Telephone, Broadband & Website	1,215
	<u>7,000</u>	Auditing	422
Community		HP Source printing	2,300
Community Events	450	New and replacement equipment	500
	<u>450</u>	Training	500
Parish Room		Room rental	50
Maintenance	2,500	Professional fees	1,000
Utilities	1,200	Subscriptions	961
Cleaning	700	Election Costs	2,400
	<u>4,400</u>		<u>21,400</u>
		Total Payments	<u>41,990</u>

Annual Village Meeting 2021

Each year there is a village meeting where the Parish Council and village community groups report on their recent activities. The meeting is open to all residents, and as well as providing an opportunity to find out what has been happening over the past year, it enables villagers to highlight and discuss any issues of concern to them.

There was no meeting last year because of the coronavirus lockdown; but this year, as there were still restrictions to meeting indoors, we held the first (and hopefully last) virtual meeting.

The Parish Council updated the meeting on the progress they had made during the year, with the chair of each committee and working group describing what each group had achieved.

Most village groups were represented at the meeting and

we thank them for taking the time to update us. Groups reported that the pandemic restrictions had forced them to change the way they met, or to cancel meetings completely. Many groups have members who are deemed vulnerable and of an age where they prefer not to use technology to meet. These groups still found ways to keep in touch with members, even if not as regularly as a monthly meeting. All are hoping that meetings can resume in the coming months and be back to normal by the end of the year.

For full details on the reports from the groups please see the minutes on the Parish Council website.

Sally Willis, Parish Clerk.

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

The next Parish Council meetings are on Tuesdays June 1st and July 6th 2021 at 7:30pm.

Parish Council election 2021

Generally there are elections to the Parish Council every 4 years, and an election was due to be held in 2019. However, as new unitary authorities were about to replace the County Council and District authorities, the election was delayed a year so that all elections could take place together in 2020. Then, due to the pandemic, the government postponed all 2020 elections to this year.

Election day was 6th May, but as only 9 members of the public stood for the 11 seats on Hardingstone Parish

Council, these 9 candidates have been elected uncontested. The new councillors took their seats on 10th May, and the Parish Council is largely unchanged as the majority of existing councillors stood for re-election. However, we say goodbye and thank you to Cllr Primrose Gobey who has been an asset to the council during her 6 year term, and we say welcome to our new member, Cllr Nick Briddon. We look forward to working with him. Since the election 2 other councillors have been co-opted on to the council, so all 11 seats are now filled.

A splash of colour in the recreation ground



Some Parish Councillors have been working to enhance the appearance of some of the woodwork in the rec.

Sue, Primrose and Marc have renovated the Litter and Dog poo bins. They said “ We had lots of compliments on our efforts and I'm sure you will agree its a great improvement.”

Colin has also been hard at work. Some of the rotting timbers on the picnic tables have been replaced, and a lick of multi-coloured paint applied to make them presentable for a few more years.



Northamptonshire Police

Chief Constable Nick Adderley has unveiled an important campaign showcasing his Force priorities for the coming year.

The priorities have been identified, in part, due to the actual threat and risk they pose to communities across Northamptonshire, in particular the most vulnerable, but also because the public have told us that these are the areas they most want our officers to tackle – they are **Serious and Organised Crime, Knife Crime, Domestic Abuse and Anti-Social Behaviour**.

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold said: “These priorities reflect key areas of concern for the public, who fed back very clearly in the consultation I held earlier this year. As the public’s voice in policing, I share these priorities with the Chief Constable and am reassured that he will give them robust attention.



Telephone: 101
Follow us on Twitter: [@NptonPolice](#)
Like us on Facebook: [NorthamptonPolice](#)

Hardingstone Crimes Parish Council Police Report Crime Figures – 2021.

	Burglary Residential	Non Residential Burglary	Criminal Damage	Vehicle Crime
January	0	0	1	0
February	0	0	0	2
March	1	0	0	0
April	0	0	1	0



Hardingstone Neighbourhood Watch



Northamptonshire
Neighbourhood Watch

Voi rented scooter complaints.

Local people have complained about scooters obstructing pavements and being left as trip hazards, and Voi are now taking steps to address these issues :

- ◆ Voi e-scooter riders will now face a fine if they park scooters incorrectly, following a new in-app feature monitoring bad behaviour.
- ◆ Voi have announced that they are rolling out a new feature where riders will have to take a photo of their scooter at the end of their ride, to ensure they have parked it correctly. These photos are reviewed daily by Voi's team and "action will be taken" if users do not comply with safe parking guidelines.

Users who create an obstacle to pedestrians or wheelchairs users, or leave scooters lying on the ground will receive an email warning and an educational message.

After the first warning, riders who park their vehicles incorrectly will receive a £25 fine every time. Do report to Voi any scooter offences you see, including those being ridden on the pavement, or two people on one machine. You will need the registration number (or part of it) shown on the side and back of the scooter, plus the date, time and location of the incident. Repeat offenders will lose their right to continue hiring from Voi.



To complain to Voi: email them support@voiapp.io

Or Phone: 0800 3768179 option 3

Pam Pease. Tel 761374

Introducing our neighbourhood PC

My name is Jamie Edwards, your new neighbourhood police constable. I have just joined the neighbourhood policing team after working for three years on general incident response covering the entirety of Northampton. Prior to joining the police, I worked as a prison officer for several years and before that I worked in the care sector. I am passionate about helping people in any way that I can.

I am based out of the Mereway Fire and Police station and cover seven parishes. Collingtree, East and West Hunsbury, Hardingstone, Great Houghton, Wootton and Brackmills.

I am lucky to work alongside three very hard working and able police community support officers who also cover the above seven parishes as well.

I am really looking forward to working in the community, and I have a lot of ideas for events that I would like to run in the area. I am also very keen to get involved with community events and to meet as many of you as possible (COVID permitting) in the near future.

My overall aim is to reduce crime and problems within the parishes and to increase community engagement and involvement. To do this effectively I need your help as I am unable to be everywhere at once, or to see everything that

goes on. I have included my direct e-mail address and telephone details so that anyone within the community can contact me with information or intelligence they feel they would like to share with the neighbourhood policing team. All information shared will be handled confidentially.

Please note you should report general crime via the usual channels – 999 in an emergency or 101 in a non-emergency.

If you see me or my community support colleagues out and about in the area feel free to stop for a chat anytime.

Recently the team organised discreet and high visibility patrols over the night-time period. Three vehicles were seized, anti-social behaviour was disrupted and useful information gathered. We have targeted speeding, school parking and general motoring offences.

Jamie Edwards PC 1384

jamie.edwards@northants.police.uk



If you wish to contact Jamie Edwards by phone for a non-urgent matter, then ring 101 and chose option 1, naming "Jamie Edwards" as the person to speak to. If he is not on duty it will go to his voicemail, so leave your name and number and he will get in touch.



2021 Election results



The local elections on 6th May saw the first opportunity to vote for the new West Northamptonshire Council (WNC). WNC replaces Northampton Borough Council, Northamptonshire County Council, South Northamptonshire Council and Daventry District Council to create one unitary authority.

There were 91 seats available on the new WNC, and the Conservative Party has overall control, having won 66 seats:

Political affiliation	Seats won	Percentage of total votes
Conservative	66	51%
Labour	17	24%
Liberal Democrats	5	16%
Labour and Co-operative Party	3	2%
Independent	2	3%
Green Party	0	4%
Other parties	0	<1% each

Hardingstone falls within the Nene Valley ward, and the Conservative Party won all three of the councillor seats for this ward, achieving 67% of the vote. The new Nene Valley councillors are all familiar faces: Lizzie Bowen, Phil Larratt and Jonathan Nunn.

Hardingstone Parish Council (HPC) is the lowest tier of government, sitting beneath WNC. As only 9 candidates stood for the 11 seats, all were elected without the need for a vote, and now the other 2 places have been filled.

Conservative Stephen Mold has been re-elected as Northamptonshire's Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC). He achieved 53.2% of the first preference vote, with 102,752 votes, meaning the second preference votes did not need to be counted.

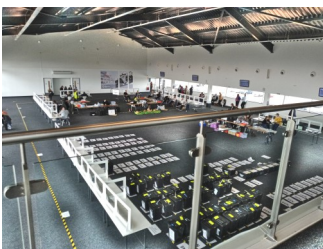
Now that we have a unitary authority you no longer need to identify whether an issue is the responsibility of the borough council or the county council. WNC is responsible for all issues, except very local ones which you should report to the Parish Council.

In for the count (Grass skirts and kangaroos!)

Anyone else remember the Kalamazoo accounting system back in the 70s? The process involved lining up sheets of paper on great big boards.

In this digital age of scan recognition, I could not believe that the similarly archaic method of counting ballots is still used at council elections. Look up the title! Yes, lining up sheets of paper on a big board, rulers, pencils, calculators, marker pens and J cloths are all essential to the process.

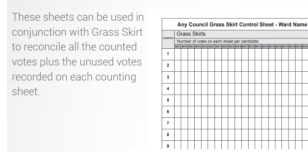
Plus, windows for the count assistants to hold up the completed boards for eager candidates and agents to peer at (from 2 metres away), to randomly gauge how their vote is going.



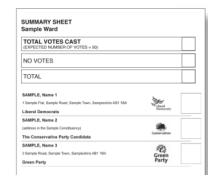
Counting the votes at Silverstone

A count supervisor feeding their three assistants with batches of 25 ballots, then taking the counted bundles to the lady with the laptop. What an incongruous process in the high-tech setting of 'Silverstone Wing'.

Grass Skirt Summary/Tally Sheets



Kangaroo Counting Sheets



Attending my very first and last count as a candidate, secure in the knowledge I wouldn't be elected, it was both a fascinating and shocking insight to the inefficiencies of our electoral process. In my opinion, such waste of time, money and effort when only about a third of people even bothered to vote, and the tribal nature of our system promotes the status quo.

Nevertheless, as 25% of those who voted in Nene Valley ward were able to make a mark for the Green party, I considered it a good afternoon. Thank you to all who encouraged me.

Hilary Wilson

Giant wasp appears in Martins Lane!

At the beginning of the last lockdown I was casting around for a woodcarving project when I came across the work of Alex Jones (www.alexjones.co.uk). His carvings of giant insects are on an epic scale, but I decided to attempt a relatively small wasp about a foot in length.

The legs and wings were always going to be the limiting factor as they needed to be realistic, strong and delicate. Until I had solved these problems there was no point in starting. One solution came when I discovered that you can get plywood just 0.08mm thick and I could cut the wings out with scissors!

Next the legs. I'd been scouring the woods, looking for twigs that were just the right shape for the legs of my wasp, but to no avail. Then I found a pile of yew trimmings in the churchyard. Not the right shape, but perhaps I could joint them. Not easy when you are working with a diameters of only 0.5cm! I drilled the ends of the pieces to be joined and used piano wire and epoxy glue to fix the

joint. They looked OK and, in the end, they turned out to be remarkably robust.



The body was carved from lime and once the components were assembled the carving was finished with acrylic paint and Danish oil.

As I was applying the final finish, the first wasp of the season joined me in the conservatory. I'm not sure if he came to cast a critical eye over my efforts or to give his seal of approval, but I could have

done with him earlier in the project as a reference point.

John Francklow

www.thehardingstonecarver.com



Village School 1929

Another early photograph from the village school which will be placed in the Parish Chest. Fortunately this one was dated on the back, together with the pupils' names, but as some names were not very clear we would like to know of any errors so that they can be corrected.

Do you have any old Hardingstone School photographs? If so, please get in touch as we would like to include as many as possible.

Photo courtesy of Hannah Mayes. Her aunt, Joan Inwood, is a pupil in the picture.

Middle Row:			Top Row: ??	Bob	John		
Betty	Joan	Elsie	Doris	Clark	Brown		
Scott	Inwood	Shewsbury	Hankins	Shewsbury	Phil??	Joan	Molly
					Coaley	Muskin	Bill
							Scott



Bottom Row:							
Fred	Fred	Alec	Betty	Daisy	Dorothy	Brenda	
James	Pulley	Swannell	Wiggins	Pulley	Swannell	Whiting	



The New Parish Chest

The old parish chest, reputed to date from the 15th century and located in St. Edmund's Church, would have contained the Church registers, Churchwarden's accounts, Charity papers, vestry minutes, constable's and highway accounts, tithing documents and enclosure records. This battered relic of the past is currently empty, the old records having been removed to the Northamptonshire County Record Office (NCRO).

The chest is now to be used to hold a new collection of historical documents, which will include a list of all the Hardingstone Parish documents held at NCRO. We also want to include documents relating to our village as it is now, which will become history in due course. The results of recent research into houses and people of Hardingstone's past are already stored; and we have interesting old documents including a copy of an 18th century will and a bill for a funeral from the late 19th century, as described in the last issue of HP Source.



However we are on the lookout for more raw material; we want to build up a picture of how the village developed over the ages, who lived where, what their occupations were etc. The aim is to cross reference births, deaths and marriages and, where possible, link them to gravestones in the Churchyard.

We have memorials around the Church to investigate, one in particular has always intrigued me; just outside the door to the Hervey Chapel there is a memorial to Pierre Jacques Benoit who died in April 1815 aged 81. He had served as a Captain in the service of the late Louis XVI and had retired to Hardingstone. Obviously a French émigré but what was the connection to Hardingstone?

The results of our labours will be shared with the Hardingstone History Society and the NCRO, and we hope that these records will interest HP Source readers. Kept in the Parish Chest in the Church, they can be made available to any interested party with a small donation to the Church.

John Wilson, Churchwarden.

Step Forward With Lewis



Since the last edition of HPS we have raised £100 for the RSPCA Northamptonshire branch and £216 for Autism East Midlands Northamptonshire with our virtual events. Proceeds from the May

event will be donated to MacMillian Nurses in Northampton. For all our events visit

www.stepforwardwithlewis.com/events

As well as raising money for local charities we have also been busy in preparing for the merriment race that will be held in the last Sunday of June and in the meantime entertaining the neighbours on the High Street with a one off street dance. Thank you to all that attended and kept social distance whilst being entertained and getting those dancing feet active again.





St. Edmund, King and Martyr, Hardingstone

Easter trail

A mum in the village organised a trail for her kids & decided to make it available to other kids in the village, happening to get some free eggs along the way. No rules were broken as it wasn't an organised event, but over 100 village kids followed hand drawn picture clues to solve the message and claim their prize from the Easter Bunny.



**Easter Trail winners,
Alfie and Olivia**

Alfie & Olivia were the first to finish (see photo).

Thanks to Jo for inspiration, Primrose & Sue for putting up the signs, Viren for holding the trails in the shop, Julie, Morrisons, and Co-op Grange Park for the Easter eggs, and Claire for checking the legalities.

Donations of £205 are being put towards the costs of organising the next big village event: Midsummer Merriment on 26th/27th June (see pages 12 & 13)



The Well

Our long-awaited community café opened as soon as Covid regulations allowed on Tuesday 18th May. A total of 47 friends old and new came along for scones, cakes, biscuits and sandwiches on our opening day. There was a continuous buzz of conversation as everyone was delighted to be able to sit down and chat with others once again.

This new venture is part of St Edmunds becoming Hardingstone's wellbeing hub – offering the space for community-led activities that will help us start to feel a little bit better after the difficulties of the past 14 months.



The Well

Hardingstone's Community Café
- the local meeting place

Open for all 10_{am} ~ 2_{pm}

Drop in to St Edmunds church
on Tuesdays and Fridays for

- A coffee or tea
- Others to chat with
- Things to do
- A space to be quiet
- The beautiful churchyard
- Important local history and heritage



All's well at The Well



St Edmund's Story

Most of the Culture Recovery Fund grant is being used to encourage many more visitors who are interested in heritage to come and spend their time and money at St Edmunds - we are a 2* church 'of national importance'. The results of this investment will be first on display during the Midsummer Merriment event (June 26th), and then on Heritage Open Days (September 11th/12th).

The church will be hosting the St. Edmund's Story exhibition, alongside the publication of a new highlights leaflet and guide book, display boards, films, slide shows and mobile phone trails, guided tours and children's activities. Keep an eye on our website - www.hardingstonechurch.co.uk for more details which will be added in the coming weeks.

St. Edmund's Story exhibition is also a chance for you to add and

share your stories, memories and images of the church and the important place it holds in the community and your heart ...

Maybe you were married in the church,
have visited to research your family history,
or enjoyed an oasis of peace and comfort in difficult times.

Perhaps you have been inspired to paint or take photographs of this ancient and beautiful building or have memories of vicars, congregations or events of the past?

If you have a story or tale to tell about the church then we would love to hear from you - please get in touch by emailing hardingstonechurchheritage@gmail.com to share your stories and memories.

We are also looking for volunteers who would be interested in providing tours for visitors during events (full training and support will be provided) so if you are interested in getting involved then do get in touch.



St. Edmund, King and Martyr, Hardingstone



Cake and Plant Sale 2nd May



The first, much-needed, fundraising activity for 2021 was held safely outdoors in the churchyard on a sunny Sunday afternoon. We were delighted and quite overwhelmed by the support of the many who came out to enjoy the occasion. Hardingstone clearly loves cake, as we were sold out in the first hour, and the few unclaimed plants will be used in the churchyard. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported St Edmunds – raising an amazing £806!!



So what is a Churchwarden?

The Churchwardens are ex officio members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). It is the PCC's responsibility to pay the diocesan share, insure, maintain and repair the fabric of the church and churchyard; but the churchwardens are the owners of, and must account for, the contents of the Church.

The Churchwardens are officers of the Bishop and are completely loyal to him and his representative the Archdeacon. They are expected to be supportive of their ministers and their families but they are also representatives of the whole parish and are expected to foster good relations with the secular organizations in the community.

Church services are when the wardens work comes under public scrutiny as they supervise the preparation of the service, the sidesmen and make sure there is sufficient wine and bread for communion. They also make sure there are candles and clean linen. They meet and greet visiting clergy and they are responsible for keeping order in the Church and the Churchyard.

The Churchwardens must keep a Church log book recording repairs, removals and alterations to the fabric and an Inventory, which is a complete record of all the movable contents of the Church.

You may know the churchwarden's prayer. 'Grant me, Lord, the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I cannot accept, and the wisdom to hide the bodies of those I finally couldn't stand. And help me to remember when I'm having a bad day and it seems that people are trying to wind me up, that it takes 42 muscles to frown, 28 to smile, and only four to extend my arm and smack them round the head'.

Interregnum

St Edmunds is very busy while we are without a vicar. Sadly there were no suitable applicants from the first advert, maybe because the post was described as 'interim', a specialist ministry that helps smooth pastoral reorganisation or other challenging circumstances.

However, the opportunity to come and live in our expanding village is now being readvertised as permanent. Looking after Hardingstone and Far Cotton, with oversight of Hackleton, Piddington, Preston Deanery and Quinton parishes, will indeed be a big challenge, but one we sincerely hope the right person applies for before the closing date of 25th June.

John Wilson, Churchwarden.

Please come and help us tidy the churchyard

1st Thursday in the month

10am -12 noon

June 3rd and July 1st

There's time for coffee too



John 760411



Hardingstone events

Midsummer Merriment 26th-27th June

the Hardingstone #GreatGetTogether 2021

Lockdown is Lifted - it's time to celebrate!

Let's all hoist our flags & hang out the bunting around the village



Events around the village on both days

Table Top Stalls in front gardens & driveways:

please put out a stall with things to sell (cakes, books, crafts, toys) to raise some funds. Please contribute to a charity of your choice, &/or St Edmunds. Thank you!!

Decorated Wheelie Bins competition (see poster)

Open Gardens: entry by ticket only, available from the Londis store

St Edmunds Story: the new exhibition opens this weekend (see poster)

Teddies zip wire from church tower: organised by the Explorer Scouts on Saturday afternoon

Village Heritage Trail (using 'What Three Words') Starts from 'flank.with.vent' at the church.

Butchers Block burger van at the Crown: from Friday - Sunday

Sunday on the Rec

Fun Run + medals at 11.00

Steve's Inflatable Theatre Magic Show at 11.30

Fun Dog Show from 12.30 see poster

The Hardingstone Bake Off see poster

Tombola, & other fun games with prizes to be won
Tombola contributions will be gratefully received and can be left at the Parish Room on a Tuesday or Thursday, or in the church.

Sunday at the Village Hall 10 - 4
(These may be constrained by covid regulations)

Refreshments in the new garden

Hardingstone Players 'Summer Shorts' see poster

Model railway exhibition



Magic Show

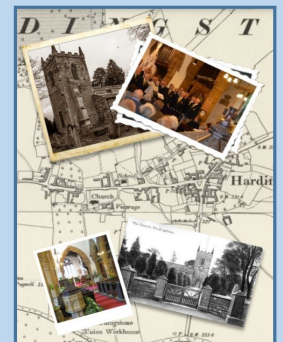


Open Gardens

St Edmunds Story

A community exhibition exploring the history of St Edmund's Church Hardingstone

FREE TO ENTER



Join us for refreshments in The Well
Hardingstone's Community Café
Tuesdays and Fridays

Explore St Edmunds Story

- Exhibition sharing the history and memories of our parish church
- A new church trail - paper and interactive digital tours
- Children's treasure trail
- St. Edmunds Story guidebook



Midsummer Merriment

Sunday 27th June 2021



11am at the Recreational ground

Kids Fun Run

Once around the Rec for kids under 6 and those above 2 times around to receive a STEP FORWARD WITH LEWIS medal

£1 to enter and all money goes towards the up keep of the Hardingstone Church

enjoy!



Midsummer Merriment

Midsummer Merriment

26th & 27th June

- the Hardingstone Great Get Together event, 2021

Join in Hardingstone's 3rd annual

DECORATED BIN COMPETITION!

Theme: THE TOKYO OLYMPICS

ENTRY FORMS with full details from the
Londis store

£2 to enter Prizes to be won

All welcome to join in the fun



Closing date for entries 19 June

#GreatGetTogether #MoreInCommon



MIDSUMMER MERRIMENT: JUNE 26TH & 27TH

HARDINGSTONE FUN DOG SHOW!

The Rec at 12.30pm on Sunday 27th June

CATEGORIES

- Handsomest boy dog
- Prettiest girl dog
- Cutest puppy (under 2 years old)
- Dogs Got Talent (decided by public vote)

Entry £2, forms available from Londis,
deadline for entries 22nd June

All entries get a prize, rosettes for the 2 top dogs
in each category




The Butchers Block van will be on The Crown forecourt, providing burgers and many other tasty foods from Friday to Sunday. Teas and coffees will be available in the pub lounge during the event for donations.



Teddy on his zip-wire



A 2020 Decorated bin



Hardingstone Players'

Summer Shorts!

A relaxed afternoon of one-act plays in the garden

**Sunday 27th June 2021
2.30 pm**

in the Village Hall Garden, Hardingstone


BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS/RUG
Refreshments available

Reserve a spot for your party by calling the box office on
07521 389025 or email us at
boxoffice@hardingstoneplayers.co.uk

No ticket price - donations will be taken on the day

This amateur production of "A Load of Bull" by Tony Cottrell and "Driving Mr Diddy" by Mandy Bannan are presented by arrangement with Pint Sized Plays Ltd. "Early Blight", "Dancers" and "Shoppers", all written by Jean McConnell, are presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. www.concordtheatricals.co.uk.

We are proud to be part of Hardingstone's Midsummer Madness weekend



MIDSUMMER MERRIMENT: JUNE 26TH & 27TH

HARDINGSTONE BAKE OFF


Bring with your cake; details of which group, type of cake, entrants name and phone number to the Rec on Sunday morning before 12:30pm

Judged in age groups:

- 8 and under
- 9 to 13
- 14 and over

Categories:

- Lemon drizzle
- Victoria sponge
- 6 shortbread biscuits
- 'Showstopper'



Results announced at the end of the dog show, with the cakes sold afterwards

Not a career for the faint-hearted ! (Part 2)

In the last issue Paul told us about his early years in the police force, and now he continues with some of the less glamorous aspects of his career.

During my Traffic years I personally dealt with countless road accidents, where vehicle occupants and others died, or suffered life changing injuries. Several lost limbs or the sight of one eye; and many of these collisions were caused by drunken drivers.

One fatal road accident I remember quite vividly was when a vehicle being driven by the wife of a USAF Base Commander collided with a British Army Tank Recovery Lorry. This resulted in their 20 year old daughter receiving fatal injuries and his wife suffering multiple injuries. When the Base Commander was required to identify the body of his daughter at the mortuary, it seemed to me that he went into a state of shock and broke down. On speaking to his Second in Command, I learned that the father had been a fighter pilot during the Korean War and had been engaged in plenty of action during the theatre of war!

Many accidents are still with me, one of which was a treble fatality on the M1 motorway at Collingtree. Weather at the time was atrocious and I was only able to record driver's details with an indelible pencil. One driver's hand written statement was a purple coloured mess, but still readable. Fifty years later I still have that pencil.

Another incident I dealt with involved the rescue of seventy milking cows, plus a couple of hundred sheep and young lambs from a large farm building which was on fire, outside Gayton village. Several years later my crew mate and I managed to rescue a pet monkey from a farm-house fire in the village of Paulerspury. Both of these incidents were very dangerous due to the flame, heat and smoke, but an added factor was that the fire at Gayton involved asbestos roofing which was cracking and exploding in the extreme heat.

Some unusual incidents I attended included a passenger and goods train collision at Milton Malsor and a university student who thought he could show friends that it was

quite easy to climb a pylon and cross the overhead railway live wires without getting hurt. Unfortunately he touched a wire and stopped the railway network in this area. The canal was seldom the focus of our attention, but on one occasion I was called to a canal boat with a young family on board where a leak from a gas fire had caused an explosion. Silverstone became an unusual incident location when I found and saved the life of a young Formula 1 mechanic who, after a drunken escapade at the circuit, was suffering alcoholic poisoning and hypothermia.

A pursuit situation at 115mph along the A43 was set in motion when the driver of a sports car failed to obey a request to stop. The chase ended when the driver lost control of his vehicle and collided with a Transit van travelling in the opposite direction. The sports car was sliced in half and the occupants of both vehicles all suffered serious life changing injuries. Several months after the resulting court hearing, the driver of the sports car took his own life.

The delivery of a death message is always difficult, especially at 4.30am in the morning. On one occasion I had to inform the parents of the death of their daughter during childbirth, but that the medical staff had saved

the life of their daughter's baby boy!

On three occasions I was assaulted whilst on duty, one of these resulting in hospital treatment. I never held a grudge against the perpetrators. Two males I had once arrested remained undeterred, they continued with their life of crime and went onto murder people. One of the persons whose life was taken was a Detective Sergeant based in Reading.

I am sure my early upbringing and the self discipline instilled into me during my early years served me well during my chosen career.

I retired from the Police in 1992 and can only say that I felt that I had served the public at the right time of my life.

I have met some wonderful and kind members of the public and enjoyed the friendship of many excellent police officers.

Paul Jackson.



Lottie Spencer (1895 - 1993) (Part 2)

In the last issue we learnt about Lottie Spencer, who for many years was a well known resident of the village. For much that time she lived in the cottage at No. 9 Back Lane, and is fondly remembered by her neighbours at No. 7.

We were her neighbours for perhaps 20 years and we would like to recount a few anecdotes about her later life.

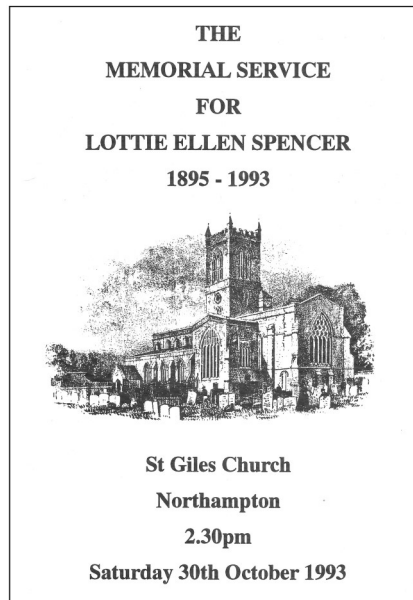
Unfortunately on her ninetieth birthday none of her family were able to visit. Accordingly, Mrs Spencer ordered a very large iced sponge birthday cake from Adams' bakery in town. When it was ready for collection, there was a problem as to how to transport the cake home (carrying it on the bus was not an option!). The first we heard of the birthday and the cake was a rather puzzled telephone call from the police, who had received a 999 call from Mrs Spencer politely asking them to bring the cake to Hardingstone. The police were unsure whether the call was a hoax but called us as neighbours. With this information, we popped into town and collected the huge cake, being subsequently rewarded by a very generous portion of the sponge. I fear that Mrs Spencer must have been eating it for months afterwards.

After this, as she grew older, she became more frail, and as there were concerns that she might fall we kept a neighbourly eye on her. We regularly took round part of our Sunday meal, which she enjoyed whilst she watched "Songs of Praise" on the TV. On one occasion we could not

obtain an answer on her phone to open the door for the meal. We therefore telephoned a relative in Northampton who had a key. Unfortunately she had fallen out with this relative and for a time Mrs Spencer was very short with us, saying: "She would not be so stupid as to fall and injure herself". Soon we were forgiven. On another occasion it

was noticed by the postman that her milk had not been collected from the doorstep for several days. Fearing the worst, the police were contacted and a police constable called round.

Accompanied by my wife, the constable climbed over our garden wall, and broke into the back door by breaking the glass. With no response to loud calls, the two of them climbed the very narrow stairs to the first floor. Much to their relief, when they opened her bedroom door, they found Mrs Spencer fast asleep in her bed. Mrs Spencer put the constable at his ease by jokingly commenting that she had not had a handsome young man in her bedroom for many years!



One last tale occurred when Charles and Diana married, and the whole country put up bunting to mark this royal occasion. As her contribution to the event, Mrs Spencer hung an enormous Union Jack flag from her upstairs front window. That morning we happened to be giving her a lift into town and Mrs Spencer leaned forward to tell me that the last time this flag had been displayed was "for the relief of Mafeking" in 1900 during the Boer War!

She loved to recount amusing events that occurred during her life. One of these was a visit she made to an elderly person's house following an emergency telephone call. The patient claimed that she must have swallowed her false teeth during the night. Apparently the resulting emergency was that the patient had bought, as a special treat, a large pork chop, and thought that she would not be able to eat this without her false teeth. Mrs Spencer was sceptical about her swallowing her false teeth and so did not immediately call for an ambulance. Instead she made a thorough search of the bedroom and found the missing teeth lodged in the springs of the bed under the mattress.

Mrs Spencer was a remarkable character, who lived in our village for so many years. She dedicated her life to serve the community and care for others. We feel privileged to have known her.

TB.



Hardingstone diary

Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 26 th June	Midsummer Merriment	Various events around the village, for details and times see pages 12 & 13
Sunday 27 th June	Midsummer Merriment	

Some regular events are now re-starting. Those we know of are shown below.
The events shown assume that covid restrictions are relaxed as expected on June 21st.

Regular Events:

Mondays	Yogami with Millie	Village Hall	6pm – 7pm	yogamiuk@gmail.com Mobile: 07948 992220
Mondays	Yogami with Millie	Village Hall	7:15pm – 8:15pm	yogamiuk@gmail.com
4th Monday in month excl December	Pins & Needles. Bring own craft items & chat Starts 26 th July	Parish Room	7.30pm – 9pm	Jo 761461
Wednesdays	Coffee mornings Re-starting July 7th	Bouverie House	10 – 11 am (New times)	Pam 761374
Thursdays	Northampton and District Model Railway Club	Village Hall	7pm – 10pm	Colin Tarry 518108



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For all enquiries - Contact Gaynor Weatherley - 07486 355559
or email hardingstone@outlook.com

Yogami with Millie:

Hatha Yoga and Hatha Flow, suitable for all levels, including new to Yoga as well as those who have been practising regularly. Each week and each class I have different routines/sequences to make our Yoga practice more varied and interesting, so you are never bored in my classes. Each week and over time, you will build core strength and flexibility, improve balance, relax, and have fun in a very friendly environment.

Classes also live-streamed from the Hall so there is the option to attend via Zoom for those that prefer or are not local (live-recording available too).

Model Railway Club:

We at the N&DMRC are a recreational hobby group bringing together all those who are interested in model railways. The club was founded in 1969. We have several club layouts that we are building and operating in gauges N, 00 & O.

Throughout the year we exhibit our layouts at shows. Pop along and see us.

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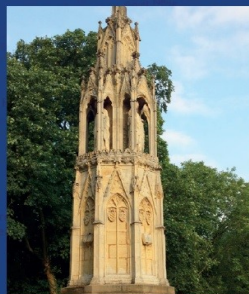
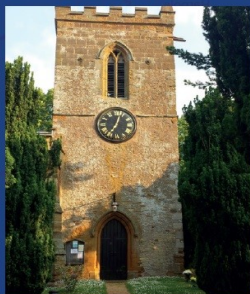
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