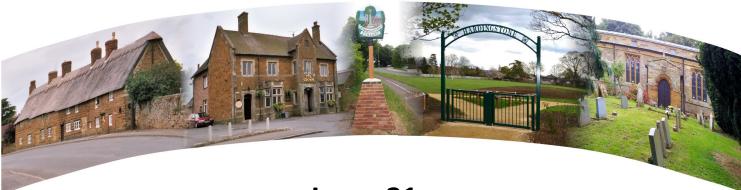


HPSource

Hardingstone's Newsletter



Issue 21 October - November 2022





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

Our village shop is open and is well lit and spacious. Darren, the owner, has said that if there are things you would like him to stock then let him know. It might be helpful to write it down as he is not always there.

The Editorial Team will be standing down after the delivery of issue 24 of HP Source. If there are any people willing to help to form a new team to continue the newsletter, can they please contact the Parish Clerk.

By the time you read this the official opening of the wonderful mural in the rec on 25th Sept will have already taken place. The Deputy Mayor, Radio Northampton, The Chronicle and Echo, our scout band and the Muralist Nicki, together with lots of residents will have celebrated this. Photos and thanks to the two property owners who gave their permission to do this.

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.

KAPH, the editorial team.

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

Issue	Send your items to us by	Delivered by
No. 22 December 2022 - January 2023	1 st November 2022	Last week in November
No. 23 February - March 2023	1 st January 2023	Last week in January
No. 24 April - May 2023	1 st March 2023	Last week in March

Useful contacts

Principal WNC Cllr for Hardingstone: Lizzy Bowen lizzy.bowen@westnorthants.gov.uk 07740 176037

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

West Northamptonshire Council westnorthants.gov.uk 0300 126 7000

Police contacts for Hardingstone rebecca.evans@northants.pnn.police.uk david.okere@northants.pnn.police.uk St. Edmund's Vicar: Revd Julie Scott (usual day off is a Friday) revjuliescott@gmail.com 01604 374379

Church Warden St. Edmund's: 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 or Jim 709715

Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2022

Hardingstone's annual Act of Remembrance and parade is a whole village event, which will take place on **Sunday 13th November. Uniformed organisations and poppy cross reps** will assemble in the Village Hall carpark by **10.30** and will parade to the war memorial. Other residents can gather at the war memorial where the service will start at **10.45**. The Act of Remembrance ends when the salute is taken, and the uniformed organisations then lead off towards the church. Please don't block their path. There will be a short church service in St. Edmund's immediately after the Act of Remembrance.



Roads will be closed to traffic around The Green, and on the High Street from Blue Barns Farm (Collins Pet Foods) between 10.15 and 11.45.



Poppy Crosses for organisations Remembrance Sunday Hardingstone 13th November 2022

Friends of Hardingstone will again be arranging for village organisations and individuals to lay poppy crosses during the Act of Remembrance. The suggested donation is at least £5 for The Royal British Legion. Reps will meet in the village Hall car park by 10:30 to donate and collect crosses. We will then walk in the parade together, following behind the uniformed organisations. <u>Please let Pam Pease know if your organisation would like to lay a poppy cross so that it can be named, and let her know who will be laying your poppy cross. Tel 761374.</u>



Bouverie WI get 'Crafty'

Bouverie W.I. have spent an interesting summer, when

amongst other things, we encountered 'Daily Life in Tudor Times' with visiting speaker Martin Sirot-Smith from Sulgrave Manor, and had friendly afternoons playing Skittles at The Crown.

Now we turn our attention to the autumn and winter months with our meetings at Hardingstone Village Hall at 2 pm.

If you haven't been to a W.I. meeting before, why not come and give us a go. We are quite a lively bunch, and we would love to have you join us. It is just £3.50 to come along to a meeting as a guest to find out more. On Tuesday 18 October, we have Julia Doherty coming to talk to us about "Life Lessons Learned from a 500 mile Hike Across Spain". Then on Tuesday 15 November, one of our own members, Lesley Francklow, will be teaching us, or in my case, trying to teach me, "How to Needlecraft a Christmas Card".

Just five days before Christmas, we meet on Tuesday 20 December for a Christmas Party.

Come on ladies, dip your toes in the water and find out what **THIS W.I.** is all about ! You may find out you like what is on offer.

Caroline Morris.



Photo courtesy The Press Association

Rest in peace your majesty

The bell tolled

On Friday 9th September from 11am St Edmunds' bell was tolled for one hour to mark the sad passing of our Queen by several people who attended 'The Well' community cafe. This was done as requested by church authorities. Lambeth Palace also advised when flags should be raised, lowered and raised again during the 11 days following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.





Our new King

The Proclamation of the start of the reign of our new monarch, Charles III, was read by the Chairman of the Parish Council , Perry Thomas, in the grounds of St Edmunds church on Sunday 11th September. The vicar, Rev Julie Scott, introduced the short ceremony, and the announcement was concluded by a short tolling of the bell from the church tower.



Tree planting in the Recreation Ground

There will be another delivery of saplings in early November from the Woodland Trust. This will go a small way to replace the loss of so many to mowing and strimming. The survivors also suffered during the drought despite myself and other volunteers watering them. Out of the original 90 saplings we have about 12 viable ones now.

Therefore, I would like to have these 30 new saplings planted in an 'Adopt a Tree' format. The trees are free, they just need planting and then some occasional weeding and watering as needed. To help warn the mowers of their presence a red tipped stake will be put in front of them until they are big enough to easily be seen.

Hardingstone Social Club programme

Meetings start at 8pm 1st Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall. Members provide their own drink. Non members welcome, £2.50 visitor's fee (excl Dec 6th)

Tuesday Oct 4 th	David Heathcote - Reduce,
	Reuse, Recycle
Tuesday Nov 1 st	Laura Malpas - Amazing
	Japan -
Tuesday Dec 6 th	Christmas Party with 2 Course meal

and entertainment by the Hardingstone Players

If interested please come along, or phone Lesley on 07599 216166 for more information.

To have a dedicated person, family or organisation to care for them will make all the difference, so if you would like to adopt a tree with thoughts of a loved one, to celebrate an event or family, or just because trees are beautiful and good for the environment, it would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Lynn Kitchen 07866415838 or email <u>lynnkitchen245@gmail.com</u> to reserve your tree.

Posters will be placed on notice boards and on social media to advertise the planting date.

Parish Council

Notes from the Parish Council



The Parish Council were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We have sent our condolences to the new King Charles III. The Proclamation of the start of his reign was read by our chairman in the grounds of St. Edmunds church on Sunday 11th September and

was well attended. (Photo on page 4)

We were all fortunate to celebrate The Queen's service to this country during the Jubilee celebrations earlier this year, and we will have a lasting memory of this in the Rec with the Jubilee mural on the west side boundary wall. The official completion of the mural will take place on 25th September, and the Parish Council (HPC) would like to thank all who have been involved in painting the mural. It looks great and is a colourful reminder of the seven decades of the Queen's reign.



There has been a lot of activity on what was the Hardingstone 9 golf course as it is transformed into a bike park. The opening date has been delayed by this summer's hot weather, revised date. HPC is concerned about the safety of pedestrians on the footpaths that run across the site to Delapre. We are in contact with West Northants council (WNC) and have



Does this provide pedestrian protection from speeding cyclists?

notified them of the issues as we see them.

The council undertake a survey of the trees in the Rec and the old Rec, where the Parish office and Scout and Guide huts are, every 3 years. It seems that all the trees are in good condition, but it has been suggested that some are cut back and we hope to be able to do this soon. We have also just renewed the grass cutting contract with R&G groundworks.

After many delays by WNC (and their predecessor), the draft paperwork to transfer Cherry Orchard into our ownership has been agreed by HPC. We are awaiting the full legal documents to sign, and expect them to be in our possession soon.

The Parish Council are considering the installation of outside exercise equipment in the Rec. We would like to know your thoughts. Is this a good idea? What items would you like to see? Please email the Clerk with your ideas, or place them in the post box on the Parish Room.

Sally Willis, Clerk: clerk@hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Full minutes available on the Parish Council website at https://www.hardingstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk The next Parish Council meetings are on Tuesdays October 4th and November 1st at 7:30pm in **Bouverie House**. Please look on noticeboards and the HPC website for agendas and further information.

Parish Council Police Report

and at the time of writing we were still awaiting the

Hardingstone Crime Figures - 2022



Telephone: 101 Follow us on Twitter: <u>@NptonPolice</u> Like us on Facebook: <u>NorthamptonPolice</u>

	Burglary Residential	Non- residential Burglary	Criminal Damage	Vehicle Crime
Мау	0	1	5	2
June	0	0	7*	2
July	0	0	3	1
August	0	0	1	0
* 3 occurred in the Criminal Justice centre, and 2 others on Brackmills.				

To report an incident or crime to the police, search for Northants police website, and click on the report button. Then fill in the form. If you do not use the internet, ring 101. Only use 999 if a crime is taking place at that moment, or someone is in danger.

Port Lane and the Cycle Park

On a beautiful, not too hot day, I decided to go for a walk to see the Cycle Park. I went down Port Lane, which is a bit rough underfoot, but quite clear. I was truly amazed to see what has been done to the fields that we played in when we were kids (a long time ago). These were our playing fields; we were always down there when it was nice in the summer, we went sledging in the winter. Good luck to all the cyclists - may they use it happily and safely. This will certainly put Hardingstone on the map.

Mavis Timms.

How did Port Lane get its name?

In the past Northampton depended heavily on the river for the transport of goods. Over time loading places for cargo were established on the river Nene in the area around Nunn Mills, which became an inland port. As the ancient track from Hardingstone to the town crossed the river at Nunn Mills, this path became known as Port Lane.

In the days before stagecoaches,

the main overland route to London from Northampton passed through the village: along Port Lane and Pedlands (the footpath

Port Lane as it looked over 100 years ago



Aug 23 On a beautyfull not too hot day I decided to go for a walk to see the Cycle Park. I went down Port Lane Which is a bit rough underfood but guite clear. I was truely amazed to see What to the fields that when we were kids (a long time ago) wae our playing fields, we were always down there when it was nice in the summer and sledging in winter. Good luck to all the cyclists may they use it happily and safely. This will certainly put Harding stone on the map Mr. W. Simmo

across the new development at Landimore Park) en route to Newport Pagnell. The advent of the stagecoach led to a change in the route, possibly because the climb into the village to meet Back Lane was too steep for them to negotiate. Some chose to cross the river at South Bridge, exiting the town along London Road, while others who found the tolls on South Bridge too expensive, chose the

crossing along Bedford Road at Rush Mills. A decline in the importance of Port Lane followed, and today the track is just a public footpath.

one stop

The village supermarket, formerly Londis, which has been closed for several weeks for refurbishment, has now reopened. Darren, the new owner, says "We apologise to all our customers for the delay in reopening the shop. The refitting took a little longer than expected, and we are

sorry for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

We offer you a warm welcome to our new store, which you will find has been designed for the present but will last long



Viren cuts the tape to open the new shop

One Stop shop reopens

into the future. We hope that the village and all our customers will be proud of having such a modern shop in which to purchase their everyday needs. We thank all our past customers for their support, and hope that they will continue to support us into the future". Darren.



The impressive appearance of the new shop at night

Hardingstone Neighbourhood Watch

If you see or hear that a crime is being committed, ring 999 straight away. This might be if you think a person's life is in danger, or if property, such as a dwelling or car, is being broken into or damaged.

NHW has asked Police to come to The Well in St Edmunds on Friday 21st October from 10.30 - 11.20. There will be some information about personal safety when out and about, and also time for residents to have a private word with Police in a quiet area of St Edmunds. All are welcome so do call in.

At this session you can ask Police to add your name to the list of people who receive Police Alert messages, which many find quite useful.

The Police website has information about how to contact them on a form. There are items on the site that might interest you.

Go to www.northants.police.uk

Do you suspect drug dealing in your area?

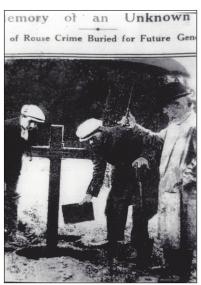


- Lots of different people coming and going from an address?
- People coming and going at odd times of the day and night?
- Strange smells coming from the property?
- Windows covered or curtains closed all the time?
- Cars pulling up to or near the house for a short period of time?

A new cross for the grave of the unknown man

In St. Edmund's churchyard lies the grave of an unknown man. Although his identity has never been established, his death made Hardingstone the subject of headlines in the national press for several days in 1930. He was murdered by Alfred Rouse, a travelling salesman, in an attempt to fake his own death. Rouse was eventually caught, and after a trial that again made the headlines, he was found guilty and hanged in Bedford gaol.

The victim's grave was originally marked with a simple



wooden cross, as the newspaper cutting shows. However, over the years rot set in, and in recent times the cross could be found in a sad state lying flat on top of the grave.

A casual conversation between two villagers bemoaning this situation led to Paul Jackson offering to buy the wood for a new cross, and for John Francklow,

www.thehardingstonecarver.com, to make and carve a new memorial for the unfortunate victim.

On August 2nd a small congregation assembled at the grave to witness the dedication of the new oak cross. The

short service was conducted by the vicar, Rev Julie Scott, and the new memorial will show that the unknown man will long be remembered by the residents of the village.







The old and the new crosses



Churchyard wildlife project

Since we achieved our Churchyard Conservation Scheme Bronze Award last August, you may think we have rested on our laurels? But no, our team of volunteers have quietly been maintaining and developing the churchyard using the recommendations of the Wildlife Trust to improve the habitat at St Edmund's for the benefit of our local wildlife.

If you have visited the churchyard, hopefully you will have been guided by the new leaflet, designed for us by Matilda as part of her chief scout gold award. You will have seen various 'adopted' graves blooming with different wild flowers, and perhaps discovered more of the wild area along the new path (unless the bird box taken over by tree bees put you off).



We now need to further develop the 'management plan' for achieving the Silver award by deciding which new initiatives volunteers would like to undertake. Suggestions include the building of a bug hotel in a sunnier spot, extending the dead hedge, and maybe develop a native hedge.



If you think you might like to join us and discover more, please come along to the church on Sunday 9th October at 3 pm (see poster above).



Hardingstone community



Hardingstone events

Forthcoming Events:			
Saturday 1 st October	FoH Coffee Morning	10:00 - 11:30am, Parish Room. Pam 761374 (See p10)	
Tuesdays 4 th October & 1 st November	Hardingstone Parish Council Meeting	7:30pm, Bouverie House. Listen to HPC's meeting. Come and have your say in Public Time.	
Tuesdays 4 th October & 1 st November	Hardingstone Social Club	8pm, Village Hall. Lesley 07599 216166.	
Mondays Oct 10 th & 24 th , Nov 14 th & 28 th	Craft Club	7:30 - 9:00pm. Jo 761461 (See page 9)	
Wednesdays 12 th October & 9 th November	Hardingstone History Society (See below)	2pm Parish Room. Adrian 761327	
Tuesdays 18 th October & 15 th November	Bouverie WI	7:30pm, Village Hall. Karen 675161 or Linda 763585 (See page 3)	
Sunday 23 ^{trd} October	Harvest Festival service	11am St. Edmunds Church.	
Wed - Friday, 26 th - 28 th October	Hardingstone Players 'Hoovering on the edge'	7:30pm, Village Hall. Box Office 07521 389025 (See page 9)	
Tuesday 1 st November	All Souls Day service	6:30pm St. Edmunds Church.	
Saturday 5 th November	FoH Coffee Morning	10:00 - 11:30am, Parish Room. Pam 761374 (See page 9)	
Sunday 13 th November	Act of Remembrance	Service at the War Memorial 10:45am. See page 3	
Sunday 27 th November	Churchyard lights switched on	4pm St. Edmunds Church. See 'Light for a loved one' poster (see page 9)	

Hardingstone History Society

Next meetings

held in

The Parish Room, High Street

Wednesday 12th October at 2 pm

The Northamptonshire Home Guard Speaker: Colin Haddon

Wednesday 9th November at 2 pm

'Northamptonshire inventors and inventions' by Jon-Paul Carr



If you haven't been to one of our meetings before, why not join us to listen to one of our Northamptonshire speakers?

Phone 761327 for details

Find out more about us on www.hardingstonehistory.org.uk

Hardingstone events

Regular Events:

Every weekday	MY-STS Wonderland - After-school club	Village Hall	3 - 6pm	sts912@sky.com
Mondays	Barre Express with Millie	Village Hall	5:30 - 6pm	Contact details as Thursday
Mondays	Yogami Hatha Flow with Millie	Village Hall	6:05 - 7:05pm	Contact details as Thursday
2nd & 4th Mon in month excl December	Craft Club Bring own craft items & chat: Oct 10 th 24 th + Nov 14 th & 28 th	Parish Room	7.30pm - 9pm	Jo 761461, FoH.
Tuesdays	'The Well' coffee morning (See page 15)	St. Edmund's Church	10am - 12:30pm	Caroline 700534
1 st Tuesday in the month	Hardingstone Social Club Oct 4 th & Nov 1 st	Village Hall	8pm	Lesley 07599 216166
3 rd Tuesday in the month except August	Bouverie WI: Oct 18 th & Nov 15 th	Village Hall	2pm	Karen 675161 Linda 763585
Wednesdays	Introduction to Yoga	Village Hall	6pm	julijanikolajeva@yahoo.co.uk 07738 738766
2 nd Wednesday in the month	Hardingstone History Society Oct 12 th & Nov 9 th	Parish Room	2 - 4:30pm	Adrian 761327 (see page 10)
Thursdays	Barre Express with Millie	Village Hall	5:30pm - 6pm	yogamiuk@gmail.com Mobile: 07948 992220
Thursdays	Yogami Hatha Flow with Millie	Village Hall	6pm - 7pm & 7:20 - 8:20pm	www.bookwhen.com/ yogamiuk
Thursdays	Northampton and District Model Railway Club	Village Hall	7:30pm - 10pm	Colin Tarry 518108
Fridays	'The Well' coffee morning (See page 15)	St. Edmund's Church	10am - 12:30pm	Caroline 700534
Fridays	MY-STS Wonderland - Inflate-a-play for children up to 12yrs	Village Hall	12:30 - 6:30pm	<u>sts912@sky.com</u>
1 st Saturday in the month (Excl January)	Friends of Hardingstone Coffee morning, all welcome, Oct 1 st & Nov 5 th	Parish Room	10 -11:30 am	Pam 761374.
Sundays	Church Services	St. Edmund's Church	11am except 8:30am 1st Sun in month	Rev Julie Scott 374379
Sundays	Barre with Millie	Village Hall	9:00—9:45am	Contact details as Thursday

Delapre Abbey and Hardingstone

Part 3 of this series explained how the Bouverie family came to purchase Delapre Abbey for Edward and his young bride, Harriet. As we move from the Tate to the Bouverie dynasty, let us consider the wife of the first Bouverie Squire.

Part 4 Harriet Bouverie, née Fawkener, 1750-1825

The memorial plate on the south wall of the Chancel of the Church states:

"Sacred to the memory of Lady Robert Spencer, Relict of The Hon. Edward Bouverie, she departed this life on the 27th November 1825 in her 76th year".

This bland statement conceals a very eventful life.

Harriet had no wealth to offer a husband, but certainly had the right family connections: through her mother's line she was related to the Churchills of Blenheim and connected to the Spencers of Althorp. Mr Edward Bouverie, an eligible bachelor from a wealthy Huguenot refugee family, needed a suitable bride, someone with the right connections. So, on 17th June 1764, the twenty -six-year-old Hon. Edward Bouverie married the fourteen-year-old Harriet Fawkener by special licence at St George's Church in Hanover Square, Westminster.

erie Batcheler, & Comolt Shawkener ere Married in this Janish, by Special Licen 1. This Shertich. One Sheapond leven Manore & Stary four By me Jim Minch life This Marriage was Jolemnized between us }

The special marriage licence

Aged 16, Harriet fell pregnant and delivered Edward an heir, a healthy baby boy, Edward (2nd). Over the next twenty-two years Harriet had 7 more children: five daughters named Harriet, Frances, Mary Charlotte, Jane, and Diana, and two sons named John and Henry Frederick.

A few years after her marriage Robert Spencer entered her life. He was the youngest son of Charles Spencer, the third Duke of Marlborough, who lived a very privileged life. By the 1770's Harriet and Robert Spencer were both key members of the Devonshire House 'circle', Robert being a close relative of Georgiana Duchess of Devonshire and Harriet a member of Georgiana's inner circle. (Edward also hovered somewhere in 'the circle').



Whilst our research discovered much about Harriet and Robert, very little was written about Edward, perhaps because he was a very quiet man, never once speaking in all his years in Parliament.

We can reveal that Harriet's fourth child, Mary Charlotte, was the result of an ongoing affair with Robert Spencer since it is recorded that *"Mary Charlotte is the tell-tale Bouverie, for there never was such a perfect indisputable Spencer, Lord Robert's walking picture, the very prettier creature that ever was seen"*

The following poem was written about Harriet, by Beau Brummell the Regency "dandy", and a close friend of the Prince Regent, the future King George IV:

She loves the truth, though she lies till she's black in the face;

She loves virtue, though none in her conduct you trace; Her delicate feelings all wickedness shocks; Though her lover's Lord Robert, and her friend is Charles Fox!

Edward died in 1810 and a year afterwards Harriet finally married Robert, the love of her life. They had a further fourteen years together before Harriet passed away in 1825. Robert lived on until 1831 and was buried next to Harriet in the grounds of All Hallows Church on his Woolbeding estate.

With thanks to researchers at Delapre and The Georgian Society.

Bill Lockerbie

St. Edmund, King and Martyr, Hardingstone

<u>Services</u>

Since September, the pattern of services at St Edmund's church has changed, except for the first Sunday of each month when the early 8.30 am continues, being led by Rev Peter.

Otherwise, the regular Sunday Eucharist will be at the later time of 11 o'clock. This is so that Rev Julie can also manage to take the service at St Mary's, Towcester Road, beforehand.

On 27 June, we welcomed Rev Margaret Simmonds as Associate Priest, with responsibility for our other sister churches at Piddington and Quinton. However, she has been on compassionate leave since her husband unexpectedly died on 5th August.





All Souls service

Tuesday 1st November 2022 St Edmunds, Hardingstone at 6.30 pm

An opportunity to remember and pray for our deceased friends and relatives

Heritage visitors



On 3 summer Sunday afternoons we were

delighted that Bill Lockerbie led more of his excellent tours for visitors. The stories he recounts bring the amazing history of St Edmund's to life - and Martin Heath of Radio Northampton visited, he endorsed this as 'one of the best church tours I have ever had.'

On a couple of these occasions, John Wilson took visitors to the top of the tower, which is challenging but very worthwhile, as Brigitte recounts on page 14

The Heritage Open Days of 9th - 11th September were a little disrupted following the death of Her Majesty the Queen. However the exhibition of Hardingstone village in the late 19C, and the History Society's display of old photographs was well received.

Since the investment of the CRF grant last year, donations from visitors who come to discover our heritage have contributed a very welcome £1,028 to the church's finances.

Bell ringing

Nine potential volunteers responded to the advert in the last HPSource, so the benefice's Tower Captain kindly gave a taster session at Piddington Church. Following this, regular lessons are provided by The Association of Ringing Trainers at All Saints, Northampton. These are for an hour on Saturday mornings, using a bell simulator so as not to distract the shoppers in town!

Volunteer cleaners

We are very short of helpers! If you could offer up to an hour a month, please contact the churchwarden (760411) or email <u>hardingstonechurch@gmail.com</u>.





Hardingstone Jubilee MurALL

To honour Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, take a walk through history along our 'Rainbow of Hope.' This colourful commemoration of some notable occasions during the last 70 years now brightens up the south west corner of the Rec.

Over 100 friends and neighbours have contributed to the design and the painting of the mural, and



the community is very grateful to our generous sponsors:

Northamptonshire Community Foundation (Constance Travis Endowment Fund) Hardingstone Parish Council Friends of Hardingstone Metcalf Commercial decorators The Supporters of St Edmund's

and all those individuals who contributed most generously to the fundraising campaign.

There have been some unfortunate setbacks, but they have been overcome with the support and incredible talent of Nicki Blanchard and her Colouring Spaces team. The delays have allowed the final panel of the MurALL to be amended to record the sudden ending of the Queen's reign.

The Completion Celebration takes place at the Rec on the afternoon of Sunday 25th September, with the Deputy Lord Mayor and the Scout band.

Climbing the church tower!!!

The weather was good, a little dull at first, but just right to drive over to Hardingstone to meet friends at St. Edmund's. Sunday the 4th September was the perfect day for the tower.

I complied with all the Health and Safety precautions, signed in and off we went. John was ahead of me, guiding my every step all the way up to the roof. We climbed up wooden steps and metal ladders and even balanced across the beams holding the bells. Five of them were there and



I wondered how it would sound if they went off while I was next to them. But of course the timing was perfect and when I finally stuck out my head through the last hatch, I saw a leaded roof and sandstone crenulations covered in yellow lichen. The view across Northampton is just spectacular and I could clearly identify all the major landmarks in Northampton. Even the new cross on the grave of the unknown man in the churchyard below was visible. The way back down seemed a bit more daunting at first, but thanks to John watching my steps I made it down again and was given a "well done" sticker to prove it.

Afterwards coffee, and another quick look into the east end of the church where the altar had been moved to expose the grave markers for the Tate family of Delapré.

Thank you so much to everybody at St. Edmund's for making this such a memorable day.



'The Well' co-founder steps down

Since 2017, the church 'Vision' group has been developing ideas to make the church

building more user friendly and to broaden its use. In order to identify what needs there are in Hardingstone that we could help to meet, Hilary Wilson (Church Secretary and Treasurer) organised a village-wide community survey.

More than 80% of respondents supported using the church as a community focal point. This supported Angie Milne's initial suggestion of a community café, and the Vision group's subsequent proposals to the Diocese.

One effect of Covid-19 was that permission was granted to rearrange the church to improve social distancing, thus creating a better space for a café. And, as an historic 2* church, Hilary successfully applied to the Cultural Recovery Fund for a grant towards promoting St Edmund's heritage and community focus.

With this and another small grant from Northampton Borough Council, 'The Well' was launched in May 2021 by Angie and Hilary, with a team of wonderful volunteers.



All's well at The Well



Historic Departme England Media & S Hilary has been, and still is, involved in many community initiatives in Hardingstone. She recently stood down as coordinator at 'The Well' and the village really appreciates her efforts in establishing this popular venue. Sincere thanks are also due to Angie, who has had to move on as she trains for ministry.

Caroline Morris has taken over the coordinator role, and we wish her every success with this venture.



Well volunteer, Joan Tear, presents flowers to Hilary Wilson from all the volunteers on her standing down as 'The Well' founder co-ordinator



At last, time for a cup of coffee !



TOD A

Mystery photograph



This photograph has been found by a reader, marked as a village group, but without a date.

Have you any idea what event is pictured in this photograph, or can you identify any of the people on it?

If you can help with any information, please let the editorial team know. Our contact details can be found on page 2.



Northampton's specialists in UK & airport transfers for personal and corporate clients

> Fully licensed & insured with West Northamptonshire Council Established in 2004

- Airport transfers
- Seaport transfers
- Business travel
- Private jet liaison
- Courier & document delivery
- Wedding cars
- UK & holiday transfers
- Sightseeing tours

- Restaurant & theatre trips
- Up to seven passengers and luggage

For more information or to book: Tel: 01604 669115 Free: 0800 6899919 Mobile: 07940 072754 Email:enquiry@voyageruk.com or visit: www.voyageruk.com

'First class service at economy class prices'

HARDINGSTONE VILLAGE HALL



John Jeffreys

VENUE FOR HIRE

HIGH STREET, HARDINGSTONE NN4 6DA

2 ROOMS WTH GARDEN AND A SMALL CAR PARK

IDEAL FOR - FAMILY PARTIES, SMALL WEDDING RECEPTIONS, BUSINESS MEETINGS, FITNESS CLASSES ETC.

(Wireless/broadband connection also available)

See our website: www.hardingstonevillagehall@wordpress.com

For all enquiries - email hardingstone@outlook.com

Or contact Gaynor Weatherley - 07486 355559

07903 534 833

john@johnjeffreyselectrical.co.uk Electrical

www.johnjeffreyselectrical.co.uk

ELECSA Approved Electrician Wootton, Northampton Registered Competent Person



lan Cattle 01604 608200 ian.cattle@carterjonas.co.uk Carter Jonas Simply better property advice





Gift Vouchers Available

Taking care of your Health and Wellbeing

<u>Massage:</u> Aromatherapy, Deep Tissue, Holistic, Remedial, Sports, Swedish, Indian Head Therapies:

Counselling, Psychiatry Hopi Ear Candles, Hot Stones, Hypnotherapy, Functional Medicine Life Coaching, Osteopathy, Holistic Facials Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) Podiatry, Reflexology, Reiki, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Ultra Sound Cavitation Inch Loss, Radio Frequency Skin Tightening T 01604 432966

W www.therapiesatwoottonfields.co.uk

17 Tudor Court Wootton Hope Drive Wootton Fields Northampton NN4 6FF



Simon Douglas

Home Improvements build - maintain - improve

> Reliable Service Immaculate Finish Kitchens & Bathrooms Carpentry Creative Projects Room Conversions Painting & Decorating Tiling Plumbing

07968 053809

01604 709774 Wootton, Northampton simondouglasone@gmail.com



SPECIAL OFFER SERVICE & MOT FOR £125.00 including V.A.T

UP TO 2L ENGINES

Includes oil and filter change, fluids top up, antifreeze, tyre pressure and depth. We also offer a free battery check and installation

Call us today on: (01604) 675 745



Units 3-5, Wootton Trading Estate, Newport Pagnell Road, Wootton Fields, Northampton, NN4 6HN



PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL PROACTIVE

Introducing Omar Al-Khashab, your local property expert



Contact me today: 01604 616882 | omar.alkhashab@horts.co.uk www.horts.co.uk



61 High Street, Hardingstone Telephone 01604 762357

RotPick

Now reopened after refurbishment A large selection of Wines, Spirits, Beer and Liqueurs Groceries, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables







