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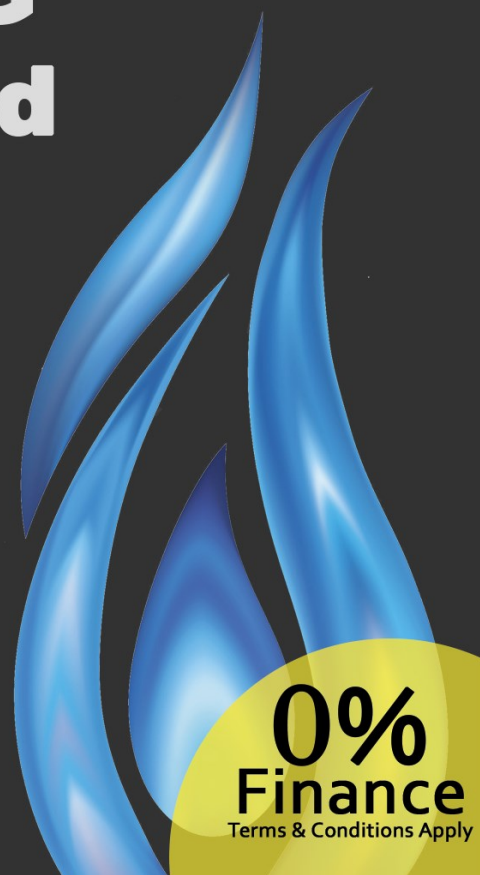
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## Editorial by Mick Ridley and James Read

Spring greetings! There is so much life coming back to the gardens, verges and fields of the village. And yes, we have the prospect of a gradual easing of lockdown.

Things are, happily, warming up nicely. Birds are making quite a noise in the hedges and trees and early spring flowers are appearing. There are crocuses and daffodils to be seen across Meppershall, with buzzing bees frantically visiting them. It would be great to think we might have another Spring and Summer to match last year – with that long period of warm dry weather and all that it meant for blossom and fruit later in the year.

Springtime for our society and community will not arrive quite so quickly. But we can now see that – if we continue to be careful – improvements will happen in the coming months. COVID-19 has taken so many lives and taken so many jobs and livings away. It has led to some of our most vulnerable friends and family members being cut-off for significant periods of time. But like that mouse emerging from hibernation, returning to normality will be challenging and great care is needed.

The plan for a gradual lifting of lockdown will come in stages right through to June. One of the requirements from government is that the COVID vaccine programme remains on-track and that it delivers a reduction in the illness. Government will also need to confirm that any rise in infections does not again cause a surge in hospital admissions – while making sure that new variants of the virus don't change things.

We all owe huge thanks to the scientists, healthcare professionals and volunteers who have been bringing vaccinations to us right here in our area. Over the past year, their professionalism and commitment has brought us to this point – with new hope.

With at least five weeks between each new relaxation of the lockdown, the process begins on March 8<sup>th</sup> with schools and colleges reopening. We send best wishes to the teachers and staff managing this tricky transition, as well as to families seeing their youngsters getting “back out there” again.

Under the plan, “stay at home” still applies in March. Households cannot mix until after 17<sup>th</sup> May. Shops and a range of services will reopen after 12<sup>th</sup> April. Also after 17<sup>th</sup> May there is the prospect of indoor entertainment reopening with reduced capacity, international leisure travel resuming and hotels and B&Bs also returning. Quarantine and safety measures may well still apply in many circumstances.

So, for now, caution is the name of the game. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March is Mother's Day (Mothering Sunday) and that's a chance to tell mums everywhere how much we love them. Family has taken on a whole new importance, with the threat of the virus and the restrictions we've lived under. Let's keep each other safe.





## Letters to the Editors

### Dear Editors

My 90th birthday was amazingly happy and memorable. I would like to thank the Meppershall Messenger for the beautiful card and flowers and for the delicious cake and chocolates that I received. Thank you, Colette, for organising things.

So many of my family and friends gave me cards, gifts, phoned or visited - at a distance - not just on my birthday, but over a week, or more. I have felt truly blessed. Thank you to all who took the trouble to remember me. The cards are still up - I cannot bear to take them down. I'll do so on Shrove Tuesday.

I am sorry I could not have a party, but perhaps before not too long (D.V.) it may be possible.

**Brenda Wright**

### Dear Editors

Just sharing with you an article on World Cancer Day. Meppershall is mentioned as I encourage people to attend their appointments:

<https://www.thecomet.net/news/health/doctor-urges-people-to-keep-up-cancer-appointments-7302178>

Stay well, all good wishes, **Dr Daksha Trivedi**

### Dear Editors

Through the Messenger can you please thank Mr Kevin Cadd and our Ward Councillors Anthony Brown and Mark Liddiard and the residents of Meppershall for the support in the presentation of the Meppershall Traffic Petition to Central Beds Traffic Department.

The response from Central Beds Council [details below] will mean we will have to wait for many months for any sign of an outcome, which is disappointing to say the least.

Yours sincerely

**Cllr Anthony Seaman**

Councillor Seaman attached a copy of CBC's response (dated 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020) to Kevin Cadd's petition to "Install Traffic Calming Measures to Combat Drivers Exceeding the 30mph Speed Limit, on High Street and Shefford Road Meppershall." The CBC Executive Member for Community Service confirmed that Council Officers will "undertake an assessment of vehicular speed within Meppershall Village, ensuring that any data gathered is obtained at an appropriate time when the impact of COVID-19 on traffic levels is no longer apparent." They further confirmed that Officers will "undertake an investigation of Meppershall village focusing on the safety concerns raised by residents and ward members including the area around the local shop and community hall," and "investigate the introduction of a buffer zone on entry to Meppershall village." They will bring recommendations back to a future Traffic Management Meeting.



## Parish Council Update

### New planning application to build 34 houses at 100 High Street

A new application has been made to build a large number of houses at 100 High Street. A similar application was refused in 2016 and in 2017, the first being referred to the Planning Inspector who, like other authorities, came out against the proposal.

A fresh set of public opinions and responses must be submitted in response to this new application – these should be submitted by **19<sup>th</sup> March 2021**.

Objection submissions should clearly state “I object to the development” otherwise they will be treated as a comment. All members of a household who are 18+ can individually submit comments and objections.

Working with residents, the Parish Council, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and previous Meppershall Action Group (MAG) members are campaigning against the development.

Documents related to this third application can be found online at:

<http://cbstor.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicportalviewer/publicViewer.html?caseID=CB/21/00459/OUT>

Please make a comment or give an opinion (“Support” or “Object”) quoting the reference number **CB/21/00459/OUT**. Email the case officer for this application at CBC, Ben Tracy, at [benjamin.tracy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:benjamin.tracy@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).

You can also “Submit a Public Comment Online” via the following link – be sure to scroll down to the link for Public Representations and click again if (like most of us) you do not have a “consultation reference”:

<http://plantech.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/PLANTECH/DCWebPages/acolnetcgi.gov?ACTION=UNWRAP&RIPNAME=Root.PgeResultDetail&TheSystemkey=621937>

The application is to build 34 houses, comprising 12 affordable/social housing units (9 two-bedroom and 3 three-bedroom) as well as 22 private homes (14 three-bedroom and 8 four-bedroom). The development would stretch behind existing homes (numbers 84 to 98 High Street) all the way down to Long Acre, incorporating parking space for 87 vehicles. Our concerns with the development are as follows:

- This housing development has not been selected or included in the emerging Local Plan which is now with the Inspectorate under review.
- The Council does not need this site to provide sufficient homes for the County as it has in excess of a 5 year housing supply.
- The proposed site is located outside of the Meppershall Settlement Envelope and would be out of keeping with the prevailing settlement pattern and at odds with the existing arrangement of built form at the southern end of the village. It would appear as an alien intrusion into the countryside.
- The location of this development by virtue of its siting and scale would cause significant harm to the character AND appearance of the area and the local landscape.

- This proposed development would provide unsatisfactory living conditions for future occupiers of the proposed dwellings with regards to potential noise and disturbance from the activities at Bury Farm.
- The viability of the existing long-established rural business at Bury Farm risks being compromised by complaints or the threat of complaints from the future occupants of the proposed dwellings.
- It would intensify the traffic hazards and congestion on the south end of the High Street particularly during peak times owing to the close proximity to Meppershall Academy. This has serious implications for pedestrians and motorists.

Should you need assistance please contact us at [lovemeppershall@meppershall.org](mailto:lovemeppershall@meppershall.org).

### **Application to remove oak tree at 84 Shefford Road**

Central Bedfordshire Council is currently considering an application for “works to a tree protected by a tree preservation order (TPO) – fell oak tree” regarding the century-old oak tree standing at 84 High Street (reference CB/TRE/21/00041).

The tree is an icon of the north of the village, greeting those entering Meppershall from Shefford. It is a unique piece of the established village environment. As discussed in last month’s editorial, the village has relatively few mature trees. We believe it is the only one on the whole run through the main part of the village (Shefford Road and High Street). It was planted by Derek Millard in the 1920s.

At the same time, a tree survey conducted on behalf of the insurer of a house that has been affected by the tree states “the observed damage [to the house] to be the result of clay shrinkage subsidence exacerbated by the influence of vegetation” and that the oak is “considered the dominant feature and accordingly we have identified it as the principal cause of the subsidence damage.” As such the report calls for the removal of the oak tree, discounting pruning as a potential solution.

The CBC decision may approve the felling of the tree or may recommend alternative measures. Residents can make representations until 10th March by emailing [Pat.Longland@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Pat.Longland@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk).

### **Centenary Field Update**

Representatives of the Parish Council and Village Hall Trustees have been working tirelessly in a bid to resolve the issues with the handover of Centenary Field for over a year now – it has not been easy or simple. Finally the team has a workable proposal that will be put to full Council on Monday 8th March. Hopefully the result of all this will be the transfer of ownership to the Parish Council asap and the commencement of remedial works on site and installation of new leisure equipment. To be clear this means that whilst some areas may be made available for use e.g.: play equipment, MUGA; others such as the field, pitch areas will not, until works on site have been completed. Feel free to contact [clerk@meppershall.org](mailto:clerk@meppershall.org) with any questions.

### **Useful Online Talks for Parents**

Central Bedfordshire Council has shared information about some valuable, free support sessions for parents who want to learn more about key issues facing our young people in these difficult months.



**SAFE AND UNSAFE ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS** (Thursday 18 March, 4.30pm – 5.30pm) deals with the question: *Are children safe online? What is internet safety?* This session will feature a guest speaker from Link to Change, an independent charity offering support for children and young people who are at risk of or have been victims of exploitation.

**MOVING FORWARD** (Thursday 22 April, 4.30pm – 5.30pm) covers *Supporting children during an unsettling time, and advice on anxiety and promoting positive wellbeing*. This session's guest speaker is Chloe Lovell, an Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner.

Read more about both sessions and register to participate for free at:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKCBCC/bulletins/2c20977>

## Census 2021

***Households across Central Bedfordshire will be asked to take part in Census 2021 this spring. Census Day is 21<sup>st</sup> March.***

The census is run by the Office for National Statistics every 10 years and it provides the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

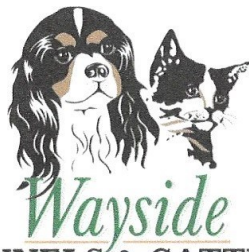
Information from the census is important for understanding the needs of the nation and helps everyone from central government to local councils and health authorities plan and fund public services across the country. Charities and voluntary organisations often use it as evidence to get funding. It helps businesses to understand their customers and where to open new shops. It provides important information on population diversity, allowing organisations to know whether they are meeting their responsibilities and triggering action where necessary.

Census 2021 will be the first to be done mainly online. A letter with a unique access code will be coming through your door so you can complete the questionnaire on a computers, phone or tablet. While the online form is available to everyone, there will be paper forms for those who need them.

Census day is **March 21<sup>st</sup>**, but households will soon receive letters with online codes explaining how they can take part. The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

**For more information and advice on how to answer the questions, visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk).**



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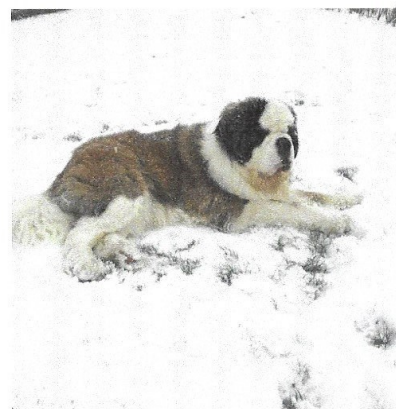


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# CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Rapid testing is available to anyone who lives or works in Central Bedfordshire who are unable to work from home and are in a customer facing role.

Examples of the types of roles include people who work in social care, retail cashiers, childminders, bus and taxi drivers, tradespeople like plumbers or electricians, construction workers and many others.

If you go into other people's homes or come into contact with other people as part of your job, then regular testing is important.

Around one in three people who are infected with Covid-19 have no symptoms so could be spreading the disease without knowing it. Identifying positive cases more quickly will help to break chains of transmission and control the virus.

Central Bedfordshire Council has set up rapid test centres at:

1. Flitwick Leisure Centre - MK45 1TH - open 7 days a week, from 8am to 8pm
2. The Dunstable Centre - LU5 4JD - open 7 days a week, from 8am to 8pm
3. Saxon Pool and Leisure Centre, Biggleswade - SG18 8SU - open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday, from 8am to 8pm

There is no need to book an appointment, just turn up. Take a smartphone if possible, on which you'll need to register and be sent your results. Help is on hand for those who might need it.

Rapid-turnaround lateral flow tests are easily self-administered and processed there and then on-site giving results within an hour.

We strongly urge people who are coming into contact with other people through their work to get tested twice a week, ideally 3-4 days apart.

If through your work you are coming into contact with lots of different people, getting tested is the responsible thing to do to ensure you are not unknowingly catching or spreading the virus.

The rapid testing is also available for pregnant women and their partners prior to attending key maternity appointments.

Further information can be found on the council's website  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtests](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtests)

Anyone with symptoms – a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – should book a standard PCR test at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) or by calling 119.

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# BeCentral Bedfordshire

## LET'S TALK *Business Newsletter*

### **Draft new business grant schemes published**

Our new draft policy outlining the next Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG2) and the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Open) has been published ahead of being discussed at our Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 18 February.

The new ARG2 is aimed at supporting businesses which have been unable to access any other form of government COVID-19 related grant schemes. The final agreed scheme will launch on 24 February. Applications for both these grants will be open for four weeks.

Get more information from CBC and via the CBC website:

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/news/article/403/new\\_business\\_grant\\_scheme\\_approved\\_by\\_central\\_bedfordshire\\_council](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/news/article/403/new_business_grant_scheme_approved_by_central_bedfordshire_council)

### **Cranfield University 'Peer Networks' Programme**

Designed exclusively for ambitious small and medium size enterprises (SMEs), this initiative will see diverse groups of people from companies across the local area teaming up to work through common business issues and develop a plan for your organisation – building for future success.

Managed by the SEMLEP Growth Hub (South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership), the support includes interactive action learning, trained facilitators, small groups for high impact group sessions, flexible topic selection and one-to-one coaching. Email [peer-to-peer@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:peer-to-peer@cranfield.ac.uk) and find more information at:

<https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/som/research-centres/bettany-centre-for-entrepreneurship/peer-network-programme-for-business-leaders-in-the-south-east-midlands>

### **Central Bedfordshire Business Park**

Phase 2 now launched at Wrest Park Enterprise - expanding and improving Enterprise House with 16 additional air-conditioned offices, six studios, and extra kitchen and toilet facilities; plus flexible terms, ultra-fast broadband, 24/7 secure access, ample parking, break out and seminar rooms and communal space, café and manned reception. Check the website or call 01525 306000 for a tour.



## Central Bedfordshire Council Tax 2021-22

Central Bedfordshire Council recently agreed its budget for the April 2021 to March 2022 period. This has important impacts on our council tax and comes at a time of significant difficulty for government funding – nationally and locally. The COVID-19 response has cost a vast sum of money and has heavily impacted the normal tax income for local and national government.

In the league table of Band D council tax for 2020/21, with number one being the cheapest, Central Bedfordshire ranked 212th out of 393 local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland. Band D Council Tax is cheapest in Westminster, Wandsworth and Windsor. Central Beds was well over half way towards the more expensive end of the scale when comparing the lowest and highest council tax rates, nationally.

In its recent press release, the Council has announced an increase of £1.48 per week on top of the 2020/21 rate of £1,560 per year (£30 per week). We can expect that rise of 5% to apply across all bands, give or take, and it is equivalent to more than half of an extra month of tax; and yet more rises are yet to come thanks to Council Tax charges related to police, fire service and Parish Councils.

The new CBC budget includes a range of service investments, infrastructure projects and efficiency measures as well as a 3% increase in Council Tax specifically to fund adult care services and an increase of 1.95% towards other needed areas of council funding such as Children's Services.

Councillor David Shelvey explained: "The increase in Council Tax is not a decision we take lightly but even with the £10.7million of efficiencies planned for next year we still have a large gap in funding that otherwise could have resulted in service cuts. We must protect our services, particularly to the vulnerable. Adult Social Care is underfunded and with increasing demands on this service because we are living longer and with more complex needs, this means we have a budget gap of approximately £5million." He added that the budget "will allow for substantial investment in services for children with Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND) and children in care."

The Council is also committing £128million to a range of building and infrastructure initiatives such as new care homes in Leighton Buzzard and Flitwick, an Integrated Health and Care Hub in Dunstable, expanding schools like Sandy Secondary School, road maintenance and a relief road at Arlesey. It will also focus on economic recovery and job creation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Council Tax Support Scheme continues to help people who struggle to pay their Council Tax, such as carers, people with disabilities and people on certain kinds of benefits. More info at

[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/53/benefits/2/council\\_tax\\_support](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/53/benefits/2/council_tax_support)

# Are you struggling to cope?

**Advice and support are available, so please ask for help.**

The Coronavirus pandemic is tough on all of us. It can be especially hard for people living on their own and people who cannot get out and about as much as others.

## Help with getting food

The easiest way to get food without visiting a shop is to order online for delivery. Perhaps you can ask family and friends to help you to do this if you are unsure.

If you already have a priority delivery slot, that will continue; you don't need to do anything further.

If someone else is going to the shops for you, most major supermarkets have ways you can pay for your shopping, such as e-vouchers or gift cards. You can buy these online and the person shopping for you can use them in store. To find out about payment options, visit your supermarket's website.

If you don't have anyone who can help you with your shopping, contact your local Good Neighbour Scheme or local volunteer scheme for help (see below).

## Help with medicine

In the first instance, ask a friend, family member, carer to collect your medicines for you. If no-one else is available to collect your medicines, contact your local Good Neighbour Scheme for help (see below).

## Good Neighbour and local volunteer schemes

We have a network of volunteer-led groups and local Good Neighbour Schemes, who might be able to assist you with shopping, collecting medication and checking that you are OK.

You can contact them directly at [gns@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:gns@bedsrcc.org.uk) or call 01234 838771.

You can also locate other volunteer schemes that cover your area at [www.cvsbeds.org.uk](http://www.cvsbeds.org.uk) or contact Advice Central (see contact details opposite).

## Help if you are self-isolating

Making sure those who have COVID-19 (and those who have been in close contact with them) can self-isolate is one of our most powerful tools for controlling the spread of coronavirus.

Self-isolating, where friends and family or delivery services bring supplies to your door, helps prevent your family, friends and community from catching the virus, as well as helping to protect the NHS.

The government has introduced a new grant to support people in work on low incomes to self-isolate. You may be able to claim a £500 lump sum payment if you cannot work from home and are required to self-isolate.

For more information visit [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/self-isolation-payments](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/self-isolation-payments)

## Financial advice and support

- Department for Work and Pensions - [www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/employment-and-benefits-support/#east](http://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/employment-and-benefits-support/#east)
- Advice Central – [www.advicecentral.org.uk](http://www.advicecentral.org.uk) or call 0300 303 6666
- Citizens Advice (Dunstable) - [www.dunstablecab.org.uk](http://www.dunstablecab.org.uk) or call 01582 670003 or 07367 457 834
- Citizens Advice (Mid Bedfordshire) - [www.midbedscab.org.uk](http://www.midbedscab.org.uk) or call 01525 402742, 01525 841217 and 01767 601368
- Citizens Advice (Leighton Linlode) - [www.leightonlinlodecab.org.uk](http://www.leightonlinlodecab.org.uk) or call 01525 373878
- Bedford Credit Union - [www.bedfordcreditunion.org.uk](http://www.bedfordcreditunion.org.uk) or call 01234 346352
- Money Matters Credit Union (Luton) - [www.mmcu.co.uk](http://www.mmcu.co.uk) or call 01582 666877



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Currently, we can undertake jobs that do not involve close contact but cannot undertake transport jobs or any which require entering a client's home.

Whatever your need, call us on **07760 793921, Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm** and if we cannot help then we will try our best to find someone or some organization that can. **We can help with;**

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Helping direct you to other organisations and support services where needed and help with advice and information on local suppliers of food and other essential supplies.



Please keep an eye out for those around you and if you think they need help, but you are unable to give it, then please call the **GNOMES** on **07760 793921**.

If you would like to help people in your community and could volunteer on a one-off or regular basis then give us a call and join our friendly team of volunteers.

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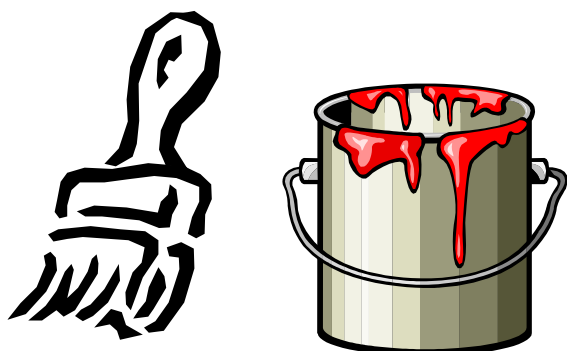
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01462 339962 – [ronigoodman@gmail.com](mailto:ronigoodman@gmail.com) – usual day off Monday

**Churchwardens:**

Dawn Abbatt 01462 816962 Chris Valentine 01462 815971

Email: [Meppershall.PCC@gmail.com](mailto:Meppershall.PCC@gmail.com)

**PCC Secretary:**

Anne Parsons 01462 813333 Email: [annie10639@gmail.com](mailto:annie10639@gmail.com)

### ***Message from St Mary's***

***"...It is always winter in Narnia - always winter, but it never gets to Christmas."***

(The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - C.S. Lewis)

I was reminded of this sentence from C.S. Lewis' book a few weeks ago. At that time the whole country (along with Meppershall) was blanketed in snow and the mercury dropped to -10c.

As I drove through the snow covered village I was reminded of just how long this particular winter has felt since the start of the current lockdown. Perhaps like me, during these last few months, you have seen family and friends who have admitted to feeling down and of having 'had enough' of the current situation. It is perhaps not surprising - life has indeed had that feeling of being 'on hold'; the weather was cold and of course the days were quite short in terms of daylight.. I think that for many of us the first few months of 2021 made it feel rather like the sentiment expressed by Mr Tumnus in the story of Narnia.

However, I am also reminded of the words of Captain Sir Tom - "Tomorrow will be a good day." The hope expressed in this now famous phrase is the key to our wellbeing and our outlook on life. As February turns to March we begin to see signs of spring - the sun shines a little warmer, the hours of daylight begin to stretch out teasingly towards summer, snowdrops and daffodils begin to appear in our gardens. It does begin to feel like we can hope for tomorrow's 'good day!' And of course, although many of us have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic, the news of family and loved ones receiving vaccinations the hope for tomorrow and the future



grows evermore brightly. Our hope that 'tomorrow will be a good day' begins to become a reality.

Hope in tomorrow is also, of course, the message of Lent. In the church year, Lent is that time 40 days before the great celebration of Easter. For many Lent is about giving things up which we usually enjoy - such as things like chocolate and alcohol! For me, however, I often think that Lent gets a bit of a bad write up - sackcloth and ashes is how Lent has been viewed in the past. But Lent is really about helping us prepare to celebrate the excitement and the wonder of Easter. Lent helps us to focus on being 'the best we can be' as we prepare to welcome the risen Lord Jesus.

In this particular Lent season I have decided to be the best I can be by bringing light and hope to others through some simple acts of kindness - to bring them encouragement and also to expect encouraging times ahead - to hold onto tomorrow 'being a good day.' I wonder if you want to join me? Simple acts of kindness might include smiling and saying hello to someone we meet in the street; planting some sunflowers in the garden to admire in the summer; putting those extra pennies from our change into a charity collection box on the shop counter. The possibilities are endless and examples can be found on our 40 Ideas for Lent sheet which can be found on the St Mary's Facebook page. There you will find 40 different challenges for the 40 days of Lent - all designed to build hope in ourselves and others.

As we prepare to celebrate the hope that is central to the message of Easter let us use this time to be the best we can be and work to bring hope, joy and encouragement to others. As we take that step of hope into the future we can also perhaps embrace those words "Tomorrow will be a good day."

**Keith Callard**

**Reader, St Mary's Church, Meppershall**

## **Church News and Events in February**

At the time of writing, we continue to monitor the situation with a view to returning to some face to face services at an appropriate time. For now, everyone, please stay safe and stay connected in some of the following ways. There is a fair chance that some "live" services, in the church, subject to strict safety measures, will be reintroduced during March. Please check the website/facebook or give us a call.

The church is generally open for private prayer, 10.30am-6.30pm, on Wednesdays. Safety is the priority so please carefully support all the measures in place – such as distancing, sanitizing on entry and exit, leaving one of the little cards in the place where you sit so that others will not re-use that space. If you need a quiet moment in

a deeply peaceful place, it is there for you. St Michael And All Angels on the High Street in Shefford is similarly open, on Fridays.



Online, join our Sunday services at 10.30am. To join, please [click here for our Facebook page](#); [here for our website](#); and [here for our YouTube channel](#).

These services bring together not only our church community right here in the village, but also our friends from Shefford and

neighbouring villages – as well as regular visitors from across the world. You can just watch and listen (we won't even know you're there!)- although lots of people add comments and it is getting quite interactive these days. The services include music and hymns – some created locally, some played with permission from sources including St Martin-in-the-Fields – really beautiful. Another hymn recently saw James and Miriam collaborating with Margie from Germany to sing in harmony. You can even connect with the service by phone (see the number above).

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You will also find the church online, everyday, for "9-and-9 Prayer". At 9am and 9pm you will find us sharing reflections and prayers, led by Roni and Andrew and sometimes others. Come and be part of it! Use the facebook link above. Bring your own tea, coffee, morning (or bedtime!) snack!

For those of you who would like to be prayed for specifically and/or by name - we have a small group of intercessors who will continue to pray **confidentially** for those who ask for prayers. If being held in prayer in that way is something you would like, or if you just want to get in touch, please talk to Roni 339962 / 07533376880 or Chris Valentine 07701 039324.

## Spring Churchyard Working Party

It has naturally been a while! COVID prevented the usual cycle of quarterly Churchyard Working Parties. However we will be doing essential tidying work in the churchyard on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 9am-4pm, clearing up and trimming back in preparation for the spring. If you are interested to help, subject to safety measures and without the usual refreshments, do get in touch or just pop by on the day.

## Your Opportunity to Commemorate Captain Sir Tom Moore



The parish church of St Mary's, Marston Morteyne, the parish where Captain Sir Tom Moore lived for so many years, has launched an online book of condolence, primarily for the people of Bedfordshire. Anyone may contribute to it.

The initiative is supported by The Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, Bishop of Bedford and HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedford Helen Nellis, who personally presented Captain Sir Tom with his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday card from HM Queen Elizabeth II last year (pictured here). The aim is for the communities of Bedfordshire to be able to honour Sir Tom and express their gratitude and sorrow.

"The parish church would ordinarily have placed a book of condolence in the church for anyone to use but in a sign of the times, as they cannot visit the church under pandemic rules, this is a way of providing that opportunity to them and a wider group of people at the same time," said Bishop Richard. "The entries are being recorded and moderated and we hope to publish as many as is practical, in time. I hope that this will provide people with a chance to express in words what they thought and felt about Sir Tom."

St Mary's Marston Morteyne has also written a prayer for all who mourn his loss. The condolence book and the prayer can be accessed directly via [www.sirtom.org](http://www.sirtom.org).

The Lord Lieutenant said: "Captain Tom was a national treasure who inspired us, and NHS staff, with his gentle, clear and hopeful messages, encouraging us to know that "tomorrow will be a good day." The image of him walking 100 hundred laps of his garden will always make us believe that we are all capable of doing something to help. The twinkle in his eye and his humble dignity touched the hearts of the world and we are proud to honour him as a son of Bedfordshire whose remarkable contribution will be forever remembered by history."

Bishop Richard added: "To so many, Sir Tom represented the best of our courage and character. Though we are sad, we are also profoundly grateful for him and his magnificent contribution over the last year. We will be learning lessons from his optimism and can-do approach to life for some time, but for now the impression left on me is of someone for whom it was never too late to make a difference and a powerful statement about the value of each person's contribution. Though we miss him, how much more will his loving and extensive family, who are in our prayers."



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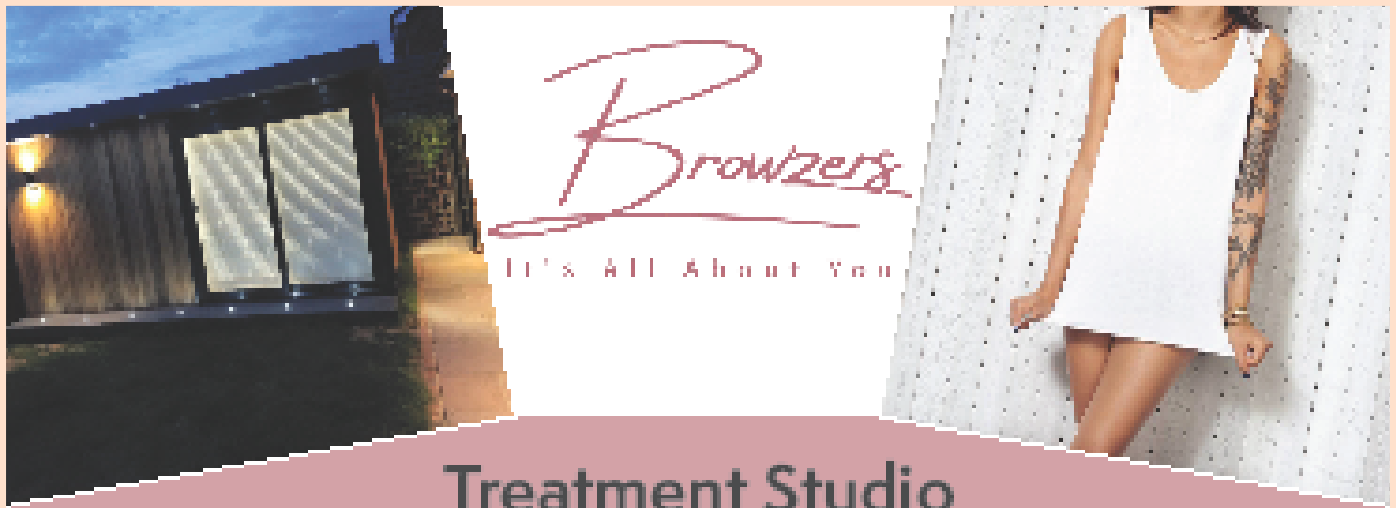
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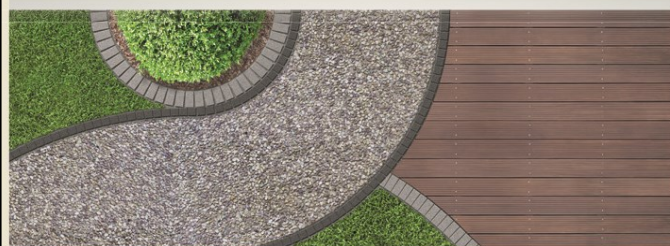
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**As things stand, our next online meeting will be on Saturday 6 March 2021, 11am.**

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*Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland*



## The Meppershall Players



"Time & tide wait for no man" (wise man that Geoffrey Chaucer). At the time of writing this Boris & Co haven't made any announcements as to when groups can meet again, so the Players, like everyone else in dear old Blighty, haven't got any idea what we will and won't be able to do. Time is the issue (as we don't live anywhere near the sea, it's very unlikely that tide will ever be an issue) so depending on when we can meet depends on what we can do - note the word can, as can't isn't in the Players' vocabulary (although the word 'unable' sometimes crops up from time to time but not tide to tide).

So, with more optimism than is probably good for us or anyone, the dates for 2021 are still as follows:

**When the Lights Go on Again** - a V.E Musical Play performing Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Matinee 3pm, Evening 7.30pm. Tickets all £10 (food included).

**Jack & the Beanstalk** - a Pantomime performing Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Matinee 3pm, Evening 7.30pm. Tickets £5 Matinees, £8 & £10 Evenings.

All performances at the S.T.M.A Shefford. Look out for our posters!

We also hope to be hosting another **Ultimate Decades Disco** incorporating all the great sounds of the 60's, 70's & 80's as the last one was great fun, and a great trip down memory lane. Tickets £5. Look out for our posters!

\*\*\*\*\*

We are still looking for a pianist/keyboard player. Backing tracks at our pantomimes and modern variety shows give the Players a much wider range of music that we might otherwise have overlooked, but we would still very much like someone who loves to play piano for our V.E production as backing tracks are few and far between for songs of these eras and do not give the same atmosphere to the proceedings.

Find the Meppershall Players on Facebook (Meppershall Players Community), Instagram and Twitter.

The Players meet every Monday evening at 7.30pm at the STMA, Hitchin Road, Shefford SG17 5JA. Membership is currently free and we welcome people from the age of 9 to 90+, to indulge in all areas of theatrical performances, set building, costumes, directing, acting, make-up, song & dance, etc. The Players will be closed until further notice.

Interested? We look forward to meeting you.

**Karen Mitchell (Players' Secretary) 01462 816336**



## Shefford Leisure Group by Enid Pamment

I am still enjoying the February edition of The Messenger and I really do thank the editors, I love the pictures showing snowy views and activities throughout the village including the snowmen!



What a welcome it is to see Spring flowers appearing in gardens and hedgerows especially following the very cold, icy January and February we experienced. The evenings are drawing out and the blue skies have been lovely. Some of the shrubs and trees are beginning to show their Spring growth, even the birds are looking around for somewhere for them to nest. Alas though we are still in 'lock down' and other than a quick walk, have a look at the garden or view it from your windows we are still having to find jobs indoors to do! I know I have plenty of 'paintwork' that is in need of a good wash down!!

Regarding forthcoming trips with the 'Leisure Group', I had hoped we would be able to resume our outings at the latest by the middle of 2021, however we have to look on the cautious side. At the moment, the suggestions are as follows:

Lavenham with 2 Blue Badge Guides/Lunch	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June
The Tower of London -	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> July
Warners (Gunton Hall) – 5 days & 4 nights.	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> October
Thursford Christmas Spectacular –	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> November

I am sure you are aware of the passengers numbers allowed on coaches and public transport, so it is difficult to plan anything concrete until nearer the date. It would be lovely to hear from you if you have ideas for future outings, also if you are interested in joining us on any future trips. For convenience, I will try to arrange a pick up point in Meppershall as well as Shefford.

As soon as I am able, I will book one or two outings locally, but certainly will not take any chances for any of us. It would be nice to hear if you are interested in any of the above. I will always take names and details over the telephone.

Next month will be the April edition – one third of 2021 gone! Hardly seems possible.

Keep safe and take care.

Enid x

Ps: Shefford Leisure Group is open to everyone in the local community, who feel they would like to join us on our ventures and see places they would not see under their own steam. We are always happy to meet new friends.

**Raffles are held and all the proceeds are sent to Keech Hospice Care for Children. For further information regarding the 'Leisure Group' please contact me on 01462 851397 or email [enid.pamment@gmail.com](mailto:enid.pamment@gmail.com).**

## Diary of an Allotment – March 2021

I would like to start this piece with a thank you.

I was recently out on a walk with a fellow allotment buddy and we were shocked with the rubbish flytipped on Chapel Road. We decided to pick some of it up. We managed to fill up two bags and thought that was all we could do. However, a man (Mikey) in a van stopped by and said he would empty our bags for us. He then emptied the two bags into a drum in his van and helped us pick up all the glass. He even took away the two hedge trimmers and bar stool which had been dumped. We were touched by his kindness as he was just driving through. He wasn't connected to our village in any way. We found out Mikey runs a small business in Letchworth doing removals, waste clearance and cleaning gutters and gardening. If you are looking for somebody please bear him in mind. His number is 07376474239. [www.cleankeptyard.co.uk](http://www.cleankeptyard.co.uk).

The last month has been one of contrasts. Not long ago I walked up to the allotment to look at it with a blanket of snow rather than the bog of mud. The allotments looked beautiful with their blanket of white. However, yesterday I spent our first day of the year in the garden. With every section cleared my spirits soared as it felt like the long winter was drawing to an end.

With optimism I am planning for the year ahead. March signals the ramping up of the activity on the allotment and as well as in the greenhouse. The start of the year has been delayed by all that rain but nothing lasts forever and that includes the mud. On the positive side it has delayed the planting to later as the ground won't be ready. Instead I shall concentrate on bringing on plants in the greenhouse and cold frame for longer so they are that much stronger when they get planted out.

The excitement of the new allotment season is very much in evidence if you bump into anyone on the allotment site. The winter has been hard on many of us and the opportunity to get out and potter around is welcomed by all. We walk around our plots like 3 year olds doing a survey of a playground and being unsure where to start with the fun (obviously, not the Meppershall playground which still seems to be on a look but not touch basis).

It can feel overwhelming and hard to know where to start with the allotment at this time of the year. Some people rotavate their whole plot and start with a blank canvas. Others clear what is needed and work their way around their beds. We are very much in the latter camp and start with clearing the beds for the onions as they need to be set first. Then we move to getting the beds for the potatoes ready and so on. That way we meet some short term goals which helps us to motivate us to carry on.

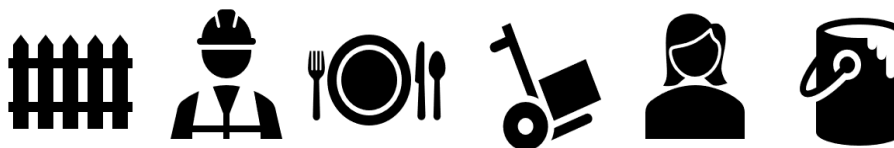
I am looking forward to seeing how the asparagus bed has come along as it was freshly planted last year. We still can't have asparagus for another year but the investment is a sign of planning for the future. Once planted asparagus will give a harvest for many years so it is well worth having a go. Now is a good time to look through online catalogues and choose asparagus varieties so they can be planted as soon as the frost is no longer a danger.

There are still plots available for anyone who would like to take up the challenge of growing fruit and vegetables for themselves.



\*\*\*\*\*

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We owe many of them special thanks for being available despite the recent very difficult months. Show your appreciation by “going local” whenever you can.

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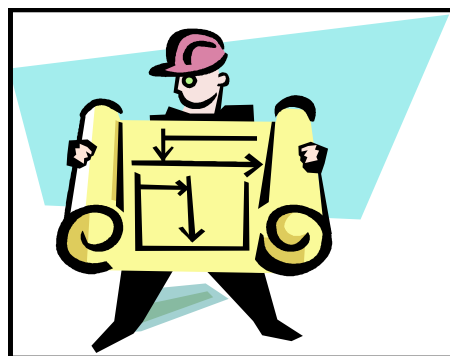
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## Tax Year-End Financial Planning by Paul Savuto

The 2020/21 tax year ends on Monday 5th April 2021. This is the date when many allowances reset and it could be your last opportunity to make use of some of them. Keeping track of how you've used your allowances can reduce your tax liability and help you get the most out of your money. Reviewing your finances ahead of the end of tax year end could reduce the amount of tax you pay and improve your financial security in the future. Here are seven allowances you should consider to ensure you're ready for the new tax year.

1. **Marriage Allowance.** The Marriage Allowance allows a husband, wife, or civil partner to give some of their unused Personal Allowance to their partner. The Personal Allowance is the amount of income you can receive before Income Tax is due. For the 2020/21 tax year, it is £12,500 for most people. If you or your partner has an income below this threshold, the person on the lower-income can pass up to £1,250 of their Personal Allowance to the other, effectively increasing their Personal Allowance to £13,750. It's a step that saves up to £250 in Income Tax. To be eligible, you must be married or in a civil partnership. The partner with the higher income must pay Income Tax at the basic rate in England and Wales, usually meaning their income is between £12,501 and £50,000. In Scotland, they must pay the starter, basic or intermediate rate of Income Tax, usually meaning their income is between £12,501 and £43,430.
2. **Pension Annual Allowance.** The pension Annual Allowance is the maximum that you can pay into your pension each tax year while still benefitting from tax relief. This includes pension contributions made by your employer or other third parties. For the current tax year, the Annual Allowance is 100% of your annual earnings up to £40,000 for most people. However, there are two reasons why your Annual Allowance may be lower: 1. The Tapered Annual Allowance means if your threshold income is over £200,000 or your adjusted income is more than £240,000, your Annual Allowance will be reduced by £1 for every £2 your income exceeds these thresholds. It can be reduced by a maximum of £36,000, meaning your Annual Allowance can be as low as £4,000. 2. If you have flexibly accessed your pension, you may be subject to the Money Purchase Annual Allowance. This reduces the amount you can tax-efficiently save into a pension to £4,000 per tax year.
3. **ISA allowance.** An ISA is a tax-efficient way to save or invest. For the current tax year, you can place up to £20,000 into ISAs, choosing one account or spreading the allowance across several. There are four types of adult ISA to choose from: 1. Cash ISA: A Cash ISA operates similar to a savings account, but the interest you earn is tax-free. Some Cash ISAs are subject to restrictions, for example, how much you can withdraw. These typically offer higher interest rates. 2. Stocks and



Shares ISA: Using a Stocks and Shares ISA allows you to invest in the stock markets and other assets. Returns are taxfree. As with all investments, you should have a long-term outlook when using a Stocks and Shares ISA. 3. Lifetime ISA (LISA): If you're aged between 18-39, you can open a LISA. You will receive a 25% government bonus on contributions. However, you will be penalised if you make a withdrawal before you turn 60 for a purpose other than buying your first home. The maximum amount you can place into a LISA each year is £4,000. A LISA can be a Cash or Stocks and Shares ISA. 4. Innovative Finance ISA: An Innovative Finance ISA is designed for peer-to-peer lending investments. Usually, these kinds of investments are higher risk than traditional alternatives and, therefore, are not appropriate for most investors. Returns are tax-free.

4. **Gifting allowance.** If you're concerned about Inheritance Tax, gifting to loved ones now can reduce the value of your estate and, therefore, the eventual bill. However, not all gifts are immediately exempt from Inheritance Tax. Some may be considered part of your estate for up to seven years. Taking advantage of gifts that are outside of your estate immediately can provide peace of mind. Each year, the gifting allowances means you can pass on up to £3,000 tax-free. The limit applies per individual, so couples can gift up to £6,000 between them. In addition to the gifting allowance, you can gift small amounts (up to £250 per person) to as many people as you like. There are also many other ways you can reduce Inheritance Tax.
5. **Gifts from your income.** If Inheritance Tax is a concern, gifting from your income is another way to reduce the bill. However, these need to be made regularly and must:
  - Be made from your income
  - Be part of your normal expenditure
  - Leave you with sufficient income to maintain your current lifestyle
 This can be a useful way to offer financial support to loved ones, for example, paying the school fees of grandchildren or making regular deposits to pay for living costs of children. If you want to take advantage of this, it's important to make sure your regular gifts have continued throughout the current tax year. You should also keep a record of gifts made under this exemption.
6. **Capital Gains Tax (CGT) allowance.** CGT is paid when you sell certain assets and make a profit. This may include stocks that aren't held in an ISA, a second property, or personal possessions worth more than £6,000 (excluding your car). For the 2020/21 tax year, the CGT allowance means you can make profits up to £12,300 per individual before tax is due. In some cases, spreading out the disposal of assets across several tax years can help reduce CGT liability. If you exceed this allowance, your rate of CGT will depend on other taxable income:
  - Standard CGT rate: 18% on residential property, 10% on other assets
  - Higher CGT rate: 28% on residential property, 20% on other assets

**7. Dividend allowance.** Dividends are paid by companies to share out the profits they have made. If you hold shares in a dividend paying company, you will receive payments. The amount you receive will usually be dependent on performance and stock price. Dividends are usually paid by larger, established companies that have relatively predictable profits. However, there are no guarantees. The dividend allowance means you can receive up to £2,000 in this way without incurring tax. The dividend allowance is per individual. If you're a company director, you can pay yourself up to £2,000 in dividends from the business to make use of this allowance. How much tax you pay on dividends that exceed the allowance will depend on your Income Tax band: • Basic rate: 7.5% • Higher rate: 32.5% • Additional rate: 38.1%

Organising your finances to make the most out of allowances Keeping on top of allowances and how to use them can be challenging. But creating a financial plan that helps you get the most out of your money can put your mind at ease. As a financial planner, I can help you take advantage of this year's allowances to reduce tax liability and set up a plan for the coming year. Organising your finances now can put you in a position to make the most of opportunities as they arise in 2021/22 and avoid a last-minute rush as the deadline approaches.

## GET IN TOUCH

DGS are Independent and Chartered Financial Advisers. I am also a Chartered Financial Planner with over 29 years financial services experience, so you are in safe hands. For a free review of your financial situation and to discuss your plan, please contact me,

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\*\*\*\*\*

## Birthday Greetings

Birthday wishes from all at the Meppershall Messenger to :

Joan K who will be 92

Ron M who will be 88

Barbara H who will be 87

Richard I who will be 87

Tony E who will be 82

And (in April) Peter L who will be 88

## RAF Henlow – Masterplan Options Workshops

Homes England and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation are continuing their public consultations regarding the future development of RAF Henlow.

RAF Henlow is planned for closure by 2023. Homes England, the Government's national housing agency, and Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) – which manages Ministry of Defence (MOD) estate – are working together on the redevelopment of the base. Plans include new homes, employment opportunities and community facilities. In total, Homes England and DIO are working on six similar MOD sites. Homes England has a target of building 300,000 new homes each year.

### ***Get involved – have your say***

Engagement events were held at the end of 2020 and, using input from the public, the RAF Henlow redevelopment project now has a “Vision” and a set of “Development Principles” which have in turn shaped some “masterplan options”.

The general public are now being invited to look at the masterplan options through some online workshops during March. We are all invited to attend and give our further input. Why not get involved and give your opinions? The sessions are:

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00-11.30am
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00-11.30am and 1.00-2.30pm
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 6.00-7.30pm

You can register by calling 0800 211 8271 or by email [info@rafhenlow.com](mailto:info@rafhenlow.com).

Find more info at [www.rafhenlow.com](http://www.rafhenlow.com) or [facebook.com/homesenglandrafhenlow](https://facebook.com/homesenglandrafhenlow).

\*\*\*\*\*

## Bedford Model Engineering Society Summerfield Miniature Railway

In light of the epidemic social distancing advice, public running days at the miniature railway are postponed and we will publish further information in future editions of The Meppershall Messenger. Please refer to [www.bedfordmes.co.uk](http://www.bedfordmes.co.uk).

\*\*\*\*\*



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\*\*\*\*\*



## **In Memoriam**

Our condolences to the families and friends of:

Richard Tiffin who passed away on 20<sup>th</sup> January aged 57

Sam Kiteley who passed away 25<sup>th</sup> January aged 72

Tony Primett who passed away on 3<sup>rd</sup> February aged 82

## **Remembering Sam Kiteley**

A loving Mother, Daughter, Sister and Aunt. Friend to many; gone but not forgotten.

Sam asked for donations to be made to RNLI in lieu of flowers.

Her ashes will be taken to Joyce's home on The Chase in Staffordshire (once restrictions are lifted). A place full of special memories



## Remembering Tony Primett



**Tony Primett 1<sup>st</sup> June 1938 to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021**

Jean and Family are sad to announce we no longer have Tony. One of the original Meppershall lads – remembered by many.

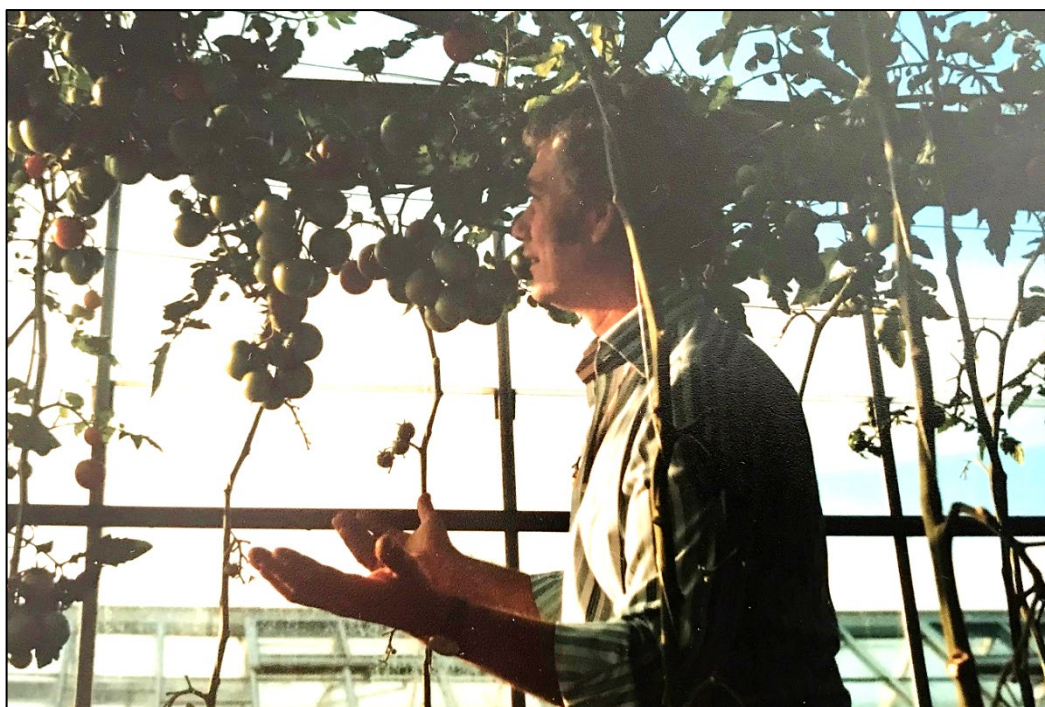
Thank you all for your kind messages and cards of support. These have helped enormously.

Tony's Funeral will take place at 10am on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at North Hertfordshire Memorial Park and Crematorium. (unfortunately limited to 30 attendees).

We will be leaving home at 9.30am on the day travelling via Stondon Road and Chapel Road if anyone would like to see him on his way.

A Memory Giving page in support of the NHS Bedfordshire Palliative Care Hub has been set up in Tony's memory if people would like to donate.

<https://www.memorygiving.com/anthonycharlesprimett>







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\* Subject to availability.

## Useful Contact Details in Meppershall

### DEFIBRILLATORS – outside School and Post Office/Village Stores

### DOCTORS, DENTISTS, PHARMACIES

<b>NHS Direct</b>	<b>111</b>
Dr Griffiths & Ptrs	
Shefford Health Centre, Robert Lucas Drive, Shefford SG17 5FS	
Appointments	01462 810034
General queries, prescriptions etc.	01462 818620
Drs. Collins, Garragher and Neal	
109 Station Rd Lower Stondon SG16 6JJ	01462 850305
Shefford Dental Practice, 34 High St Shefford	01462 814020
Shefford Dental Clinic, 99 Hitchin Road, SG17 5JB	01462 648465
Lloyds Chemists, 7 High St Shefford	01462 813283
Shefford Pharmacy	
Shefford Health Centre, Robert Lucas Drive	01462 818633

### Police Emergency 999, non-emergency 101

Report crime online at [www.bedfordshire.police.uk/report](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/report)

### Hospitals

Bedford Hospital	01234 355122
Lister Hospital, Stevenage	01438 314333

### Utilities

Gas Emergency	0800 111999
Anglian Water	03457 145145
Electrical (power cuts, overhead cable down etc)	0800 838838

### Central Beds Council 0300 300 8301

CBC councillors:

Tony Brown	<a href="mailto:anthony.brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">anthony.brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>
Mark Liddiard	<a href="mailto:mark.liddiard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">mark.liddiard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>



## Meppershall Parish Council

Parish Council Clerk Alessandro Marabese      [clerk@meppershall.org](mailto:clerk@meppershall.org)

## Member of Parliament

Nadine Dorries MP      [dorriesn@parliament.uk](mailto:dorriesn@parliament.uk)

## St Marys Church

Rev. Veronica Goodman, The Rectory, Church Road      01462 339962  
(see the church section of The Meppershall Messenger for full details)

## Library

High St, Shefford      0300 300 8067  
Check times: Closed Mondays. Tuesday - Friday 9 - 6, Sat 9 - 4.  
Pre-order for collection.

## Whitbread Wanderbus Service

Stephanie Kirby      [thewanderbus@gmail.com](mailto:thewanderbus@gmail.com)

## Shops

Village Stores, newspapers, Post Office, High Street      01462 811252  
Rogers Bakery, High Street      01462 813398  
Mobile Fish & Chips, Tuesdays 3.30 -7.00, Sugar Loaf car park

## Schools

Meppershall Academy, High Street	01462 813293
Meppershall Pre School (Village Hall) Tamsin Osborn	07816 357159
	<a href="mailto:meppershallps@gmail.com">meppershallps@gmail.com</a>
Robert Bloomfield Academy, Shefford	01462 628800
Samuel Whitbread Academy, Shefford	01462 629900
Etonbury Academy, Stotfold	01462 730391
Henlow Academy	01462 813733
Redborne Upper School, Ampthill	01525 404462

## Organisations

Meppershall Players Karen Mitchell	01462 816366
Meppershall Good Neighbours (GNOMES)	07760 793921
Meppershall Brownies, Suzanne Brightwell	07817 392325
Shefford Guides, Angie Griffiths	07957 462519
Shefford Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers)	
Kathy Georgiou	01462 629313

## The Team and Collation Dates

### CONTRIBUTIONS

The Editor welcomes contributions to the Messenger, whether as letters, articles or notices. Contributions should preferably be as attachments to e-mail (address below) but handwritten contributions may be sent by post, or left in the folder kept at the Village Stores. Contributions should run to not more than one A5 page (except by prior arrangement) and should be received by the Editor not later than the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication at the end of that month. Contributions received after the deadline may be held over.

### DISCLAIMER

The Editor reserves the right to omit or alter any advertisement or article and to change the content, format or issue date of the magazine without prior notice. The Editor cannot be held responsible for the factual correctness of, or for any libellous comment or statement made in any advertisement, article or other contribution published in this magazine. Every effort will be made to avoid any deliberate attempt to mislead or otherwise cause harm or damage to any person or persons by any advertisement, article or any other contribution published in this magazine.

### THE TEAM

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Collating Dates 2020-21			
March Issue	March 1st	June Issue	June 1th (Tues)
April Issue	March 29th	July Issue	June 28th
May Issue	April 26th	Aug-Sept Double Issue	July 26 <sup>th</sup>
Please contact Colette to confirm arrangements (contact information above).			

*Please note that dates in the above table USUALLY show when collating will take place, at 2.30pm in the Sugar Loaf, for the corresponding month, displayed to the left. The issue being collated usually relates to the following month. However, during the coronavirus social distancing measures, our collation procedures have changed and we will review our plans for the printed magazine in line with government guidance.*