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## Editorial by Mick Ridley and James Read

Tucked away in a corner of the magazine this month is a summary of the work going on to build “The Meppershall Pipeline”. No... don’t worry... nobody has struck oil in the village! And (sadly) it is not a secret supply from Gazprom to take the pressure off our gas prices. It is an important part of our future water infrastructure (and a very interesting project from a technical point of view... showing my geeky side there!) But it also poses a risk to wildlife, habitats, scenery and farming and we will all want to see it done well by Anglian Water within the commitments they appear to be making as part of the planning process. It will certainly be a source of interest during the winter months. Our particular thoughts are with the farmers whose land will be disrupted by the project for some months to come.



We thank the Meppershall Village Hall (MVH) Committee for their response to letters and articles in last month’s issue which were voicing increasing concern at the direction being taken by the Village Hall. All eyes on the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall, scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm (in the Village Hall, we assume! More info from [trustees@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:trustees@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk)). We believe anyone can attend and observe the AGM but the MVH Committee will need to confirm how contributions and comments can be expressed and what the agenda will be.

*“There would undoubtedly be some debate about the criteria to be applied if different prices for those based outside the Parish were to be considered.”* So says MVH; and yes, some debate is certain, and we are happy to kick it off to help find a solution...!

MVH is founded legally and financially on philanthropy – related to its not-for-profit role as a key facility for our village. The criteria referred to above could be relatively simple. A concessionary (reduced rate) pricing scheme could apply to organisations whose leadership and/or membership is predominantly resident in the Parish – with provisos. The ‘normal’ tariff would be applied to private parties and events; and to bookings from which an income, profit or fundraising will be gained by an individual or organisation/company – whether or not they are resident in the village. In the end, MVH would have the right to exercise its discretion, but ‘borderline’ examples under these kinds of criteria are no reason not to get this sorted.

Of course, we are lucky to have problems like this to think about in the village. We are fortunate to be part of a thriving community – strolling to the new Budgens as pictured on our cover, picking up goodies from Roger’s Bakery, having a quick half at the Sugar Loaf or Social Club or just wandering on a beautiful footpath nearby. Life is too short. November brings our Remembrance of those who saved our nation to be what it is today – with all of its imperfections, challenges and uncertainties. On Remembrance Sunday at 10.45am at church, we stand and we gather to think of the young people lost to the village in two World Wars. And we remember also those who served since, some of whom also lost their lives in service to the nation. *They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.*





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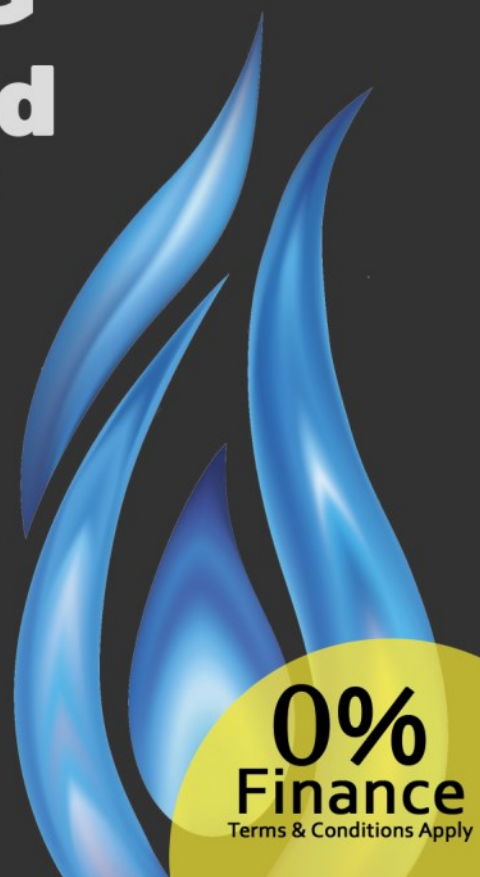
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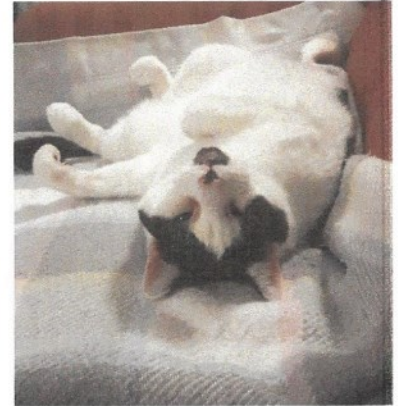


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## Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors

I hope you are staying well.

For those of you who attended Prof Robert Thomas's excellent talk on nutrition and lifestyle, here is a link to the recording. Due to technical difficulties, only the introduction is missing, but the rest of it is there including Q & A:

[www.survivingcancer.co.uk](http://www.survivingcancer.co.uk)

Our next 'online' meet is on Saturday 6 November 2021, 11am, a flyer is attached, please share widely including emails and social media, Please do let us know if there is anything in particular you would like to discuss or need so you can be supported, my telephone number is shown below,

We are a supportive friendly group, learning and sharing together and what we can do to help along this journey! We look forward to seeing you,

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3348518015>

Meeting ID: 334 851 8015

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**All good wishes, Daksha. Mobile 07961 377526**

Dear Editors

Another Remembrance Sunday is coming around. I hope everyone in Meppershall will take time to remember, even if they don't make it along to the Act of Remembrance. Thanks to the team in the church who deliver on that every year, rain or shine. It is always attended by a steady group of people young and old from around the area.

It is not just about people with connections to the armed forces. In fact it is an occasion when people with no connection to serving military can stand and pay respects and show gratitude for the sacrifices and service made many years ago, and still made now, by those who do or did serve.

I also want to remind everyone that there are a range of charities all worthy of your support at this time. Buying a poppy for the Royal British Legion is an excellent thing to do. You can also give online. Also consider SSAFA, the Armed Forces Charity, Help for Heroes, Combat Stress or one of literally hundreds of charities linked to specific branches of the services. This year more than ever, they need our support.

Thank you.

***Name Supplied***

Thank you for this letter – see the church pages for details of this year's Act of Remembrance, in this issue of the magazine (***Editors***).



## GNOMES (Meppershall Good Neighbours)



**Good  
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Our first Coffee Morning since the pandemic started, was a great success, enjoyed by everyone who attended. The dates for the next two coffee mornings are: **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of November** and **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December**. They will both be held in the **Walnut Tree Café** in the **Meppershall Village Hall** from **10.30am**.

Our **November coffee morning** will have a **Remembrance theme**, so please bring along your memories and artifacts to share with everyone, and the **December coffee morning** will include a **Christmas themed singalong** to get everyone in the festive spirit.

All are welcome, please come along for a friendly chat over a cup of coffee.

The **GNOMES** are still around and willing to help where we can, from collecting prescriptions to Telephone Befriending.

Our Facebook page is regularly updated with useful information on help and resources available locally and please remember we are here to help.

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. And if you have a neighbour who you think might need some help like this, you don't have to be a **GNOME** to ask them.



**Have some spare time?** Like to help people in your community? Then please consider volunteering on a one-off or regular basis. Give us a call or email [gnomes.secretary@meppershall.org](mailto:gnomes.secretary@meppershall.org) and join our friendly team of insured and DBS checked volunteers to help those who need a helping hand at times.

### Christmas Wreath-Making Demonstration

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club (Campton) would like to invite both members and non members to a Christmas arrangement demonstration.

Monday 1st November, 7.30pm  
Campton Village Hall

All arrangements will be raffled at the end of the session  
More information from Maryika Wilding, 01462 851729.



## **The New Village Shop**

We're delighted to have the new village shop on the cover this month and we wish Sanjay and the whole team every success in the coming months. We plan to get some more photos of the formal opening and share them in a future issue.

## **COVID Info: Have You Had the Jab?**

Anyone over the age of 18 is now being invited to get their COVID-19 vaccine by calling 119, through local walk-in options (at <https://bit.ly/2U4IYGT>) or through the National Booking Service: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/>

It's the largest vaccination programme in the history of the NHS. The vaccine is being offered to more and more people in our area every week.

### **How do vaccines work?**

Vaccines teach your immune system how to protect you from diseases. It's much safer for your immune system to learn this through vaccination than by catching the diseases and attempting to fight them.

### **Can I catch Covid-19 from the vaccine?**

No. You cannot catch Covid-19 from taking the vaccine but having the vaccine could stop you from becoming seriously ill if you catch the infection.

### **Should I be concerned about the speed the vaccine was made available?**

The speed in which the vaccines have been developed does not mean that they are unsafe. The technology used to develop the vaccine is not new. It's been tried and tested for decades. It is with this technology and massive global investment to develop a Covid-19 vaccine that has allowed it to be available so quickly.

Any coronavirus vaccine that is approved must go through lots of clinical trials and safety checks, like all other licensed medicines, before it is approved. The Covid-19 vaccines used in the UK have been declared as effective by the UK's independent Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulator (MHRA) after extensive trials. Read more at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/vaccinations](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/vaccinations).

### **What about getting a Covid-19 test?**

Find information about using the simple rapid lateral flow self-test conveniently in your own home at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests-or-by-calling-119>. Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms. Rapid lateral flow tests help to find cases in people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can give the virus to others. The test usually involves taking a sample from your tonsils (or where they would have been) and from your nose, using a swab. You can get a result in 30 minutes. Please consider testing if you are going to be with other people, whether or not you have been vaccinated.





## Mid Beds Cancer Group

**Now during Covid restrictions, log in 'Online' from anywhere!**

Informal cancer group for patients, families, friends, carers who wish to meet others for support & information. Due to Covid-19, we continue to provide support via telephone and our **online 'group meet'** and individually for those who wish to connect during this difficult time.

**Our next online meeting will be on Saturday 6 November, 2021 11am.**

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**We'd love to hear from you! Daksha & Phil Trivedi,**

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## Meppershall Village Hall

The Village Hall has now fully reopened as things start to regain a sense of normality. The bar, run by Meppershall Social Club, is open every evening, and from 12 noon at weekends.

If you would like any additional information about the running of Meppershall Village Hall, the trustees can be contacted on [trustees@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:trustees@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk).

The AGM is scheduled for the 5th December at 6pm.

### Meppershall Parish Council

An ordinary meeting of Meppershall Parish Council (MPC) took place on Monday 11th October 2021. Going forward, details of the MPC meetings will appear in your copy of the Meppershall Messenger once they have been approved by Council. Details of the MPC meeting held in October will appear in next month's Meppershall Messenger. The next meeting of MPC will take place on Monday 8th November 2021 at 7pm in Meppershall Village Hall.

**John Thompson**

**Chairman - Meppershall Parish Council**

### Meppershall Parish Council: Environment and Leisure Working Group

#### Members

The Clerk, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Merryweather and Mr Paul Carne.

#### Role of the working group:

The focus of the Environment and Leisure Working Group is perhaps the widest of all our working groups as they currently cover amongst other things:

- Provision of allotments at Wry Close
- Maintenance of Old Road Meadow Nature Reserve and all other green open spaces owned by the Council
- Equipping of Council maintained play areas
- Assisting in monitoring grass cutting within the village
- Implementation of actions from the Village Green Infrastructure Plan

We hope to add to this list with the promotion of the use of the sports pitch and outdoor gym on Centenary Field, the set up of the Parish Cemetery and the maintenance of the 5-acre green open space on the new Stocken House development site (more on this at a later date).



The Working Group covers all this, without mentioning organising and participating in litter picks, checking on council-owned benches, planting new shrubs and trees.... the list goes on.

Currently the group is working on some exciting projects that will see enhancements to the allotments, the re-development of the play area at Old Road Meadow, planting of semi -mature trees in Old Road Meadow Nature Reserve and the commissioning of 'Elizabeth and Phillip' trees and benches to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee next year. Works to improve Centenary Field post-handover (installation of drainage, landscaping, new outdoor gym and new play equipment) will also be managed by the Working Group.

Obviously, the 4 members of the Working Group can't manage all this work on their own. Often, we rely upon the services of specialist contractors and a number of residents with exceptional knowledge to help guide our decision making or implement plans. If you have an interest in different aspects of work covered by the Working Group and are willing to give us some of your time, why not volunteer to help us? Just email the clerk ([clerk@meppershall.org](mailto:clerk@meppershall.org)).

### **Alessandra Marabese - Clerk to Meppershall Parish Council**

PS: Meppershall Parish Council have a number of working groups and committees who assist the council. Membership of these can be found at on our website <https://meppershall.org/parish-council/members-of-the-council/>

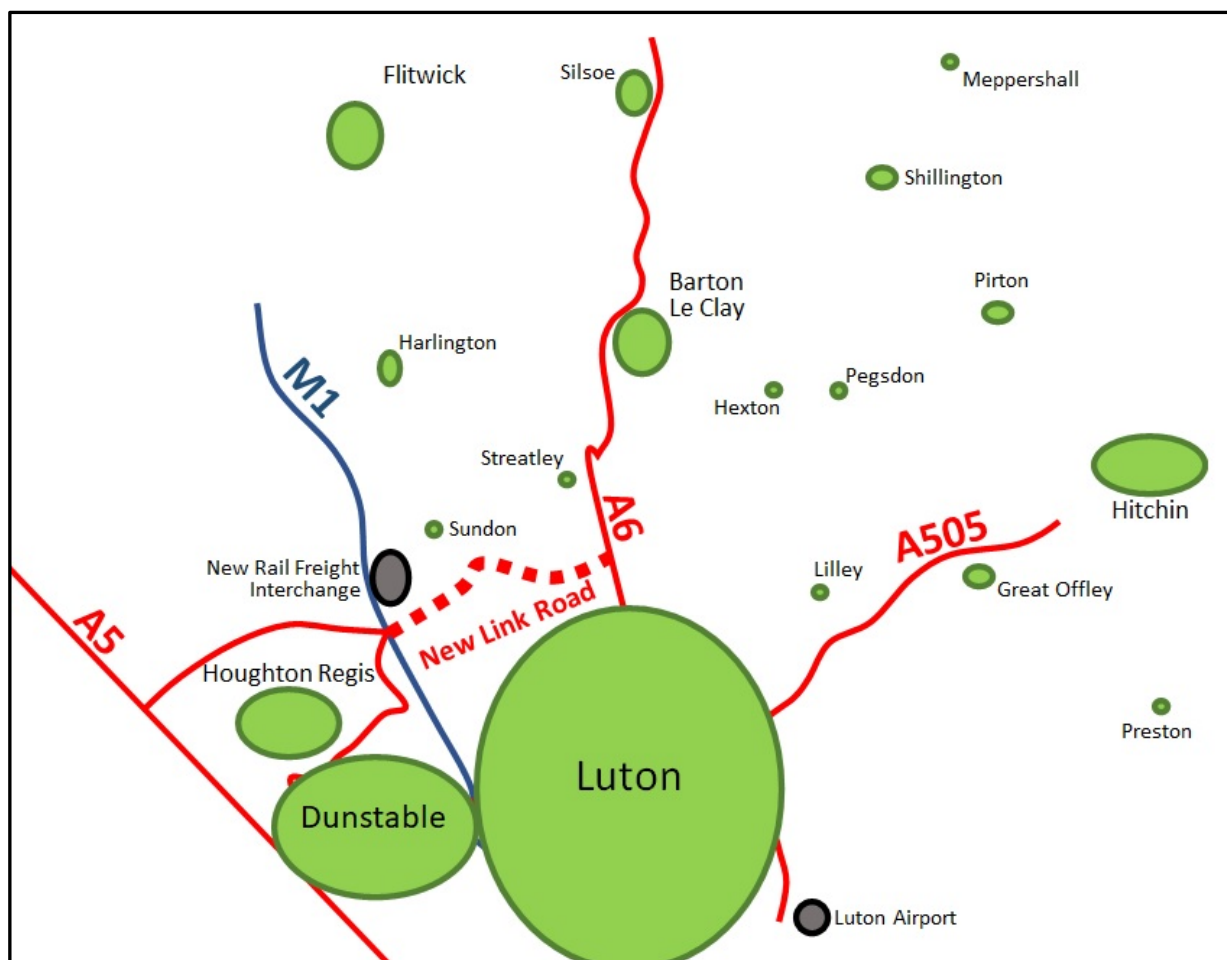
## **M1 – A6 Link Road Gets Funding**

You may remember our article in last month's village magazine where we looked at the major regional development initiative known as the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. You may be asking yourself what that has to do with the M1-A6 Link Road, for which CBC was recently awarded almost £33 Million by Central Government. The answer was recently given by the Chief Exec of the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) who said "This major infrastructure project will facilitate economic growth in Central Bedfordshire and improve east-west connectivity within the south east midlands and wider Oxford to Cambridge Arc."

### **What is this road all about?**

The road aims to open up new land for business, warehouses and factories, as well as new homes as well as relieving congestion locally on smaller roads between Luton, Houghton Regis and smaller villages such as Sundon and Streatley.

The project to build the road is led by SEMLEP and CBC and supported by the Department for Transport. CBC Leader Richard Wenham commented that the new road is all about "improved east west connectivity across *Central Bedfordshire and the wider area*" - bringing with it 3,600 new homes as part of CBC's Local Plan as well as a rail freight interchange.



### What exactly will the road be like?

It will be 2.75 miles long, running from Junction 11a on the M1 to a new junction on the A6 just south of Streatley. With a 50mph speed limit all the way, it also includes a new three-metre-wide foot and cycle path on its south side. CBC have committed to link the new cycle route to National Cycleway Network Route 6 – making it part of a growing cycle infrastructure in our region, with an ambition to link Luton and Bedford. A number of walking routes will sadly be cut off by the new road, unless bridges or crossing points are part of the construction... for now such crossings are only called “opportunities.”

### Why should we care here in Meppershall?

The new road is not that far away. If it is intended to contribute to east-west travel in the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, we have to ask ourselves what is the next instalment of the route? The illustration above is a reminder that we sit in a vale of villages that stretches all the way to Cambridge through some of England’s most beautiful and precious countryside. What’s clear is that the villages of Lilley, Hexton, Pegsdon, Shillington, Pirton as well as Meppershall and others beyond will all expect some protection. The Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the increasingly recognised “Greensand Country” provide that protection (to a degree) to the south and north. But Meppershall, like the soon to be redeveloped RAF Henlow and many other ancient, beautiful and very sustainable villages, lies in between. It is only natural to wonder, what comes next?



# TAKE A RIDE ON THE..... WANDERBUS

**W**elcome to our feature where John, the editor of LivingLife Magazine catches the Wanderbus!

## THE ROUTE

I decided to catch the W3S service to Biggleswade. The W3S picks up at various bus stops in Stotfold, including the A507/Hitchin Road, Regent Street, The Green and then also in Astwick. The W3S then heads up the A1 and drops off at the A1 Retail Park, the town centre (bus station), Asda, and finally Sainsbury's at the north end of town.

## THE JOURNEY

I jumped on the bus at Regent Street, which arrived on time at 9.46am. I paid my fare and took my ticket, but please note, if you are entitled to a bus pass then your journey is free of charge. This makes Wanderbus a fantastic way for retired people to travel to a whole host of destinations.

Our friendly driver, called Geoff, was very helpful assisting elderly passengers with their bags and walking aids. Sitting at the back of the bus (of course), I got chatting to Barry (Geoff's mate) and Budgie, both regulars on this service. It was interesting to discover that pre-Covid, two buses were required to fulfil demand for the Biggleswade service, it is hoped that demand will return once again. Our main conversation was about the levels of new-build housing developments popping up not only in Stotfold and Biggleswade but across all of Central Beds. An impassioned conversation ensued, and I am sure we could have discussed the topic for hours.



## THE DESTINATION

Biggleswade has lots to see and do and has a thriving town centre, and on a lovely sunny day it was a pleasure to visit. With a host of cafes, coffee shops, pubs, and independent shops, there's lots to see and do. I headed over to the Surfin Café, in the Market Square, and treated myself to a delicious coffee and cake, sat in the outside seating area, watching the world pass by.

Next, I popped into a wonderful DIY / Hardware store called JR Goldthorpe & Son. A delightful store with so much variety for a small shop, if you ever need those odd bits-n-bobs, you'll almost certainly find it quicker and easier than endlessly clicking around online or trawling through a huge DIY store.

It is well worth a visit to the Church of St. Andrew, its grounds are peaceful and tranquil, and from here it is a short walk to Mill Lane where you can access the Kingfisher Way which runs along the River Ivel. It's worth noting that it is only a short walk (1.25miles) to get to Jordan's Mill where you can dine at the riverside café and explore the gardens.

Many passengers alighted at the A1 Retail Park, which is perfect if you fancy some retail therapy with a host of big-name stores including M&S, Next, Boots, H&M and TK Maxx plus many more. There is also the option visiting the recently opened LIDL store if you need to do a bit of grocery shopping. So, why not come and visit Biggleswade on the Wanderbus, you will have a fantastic time!





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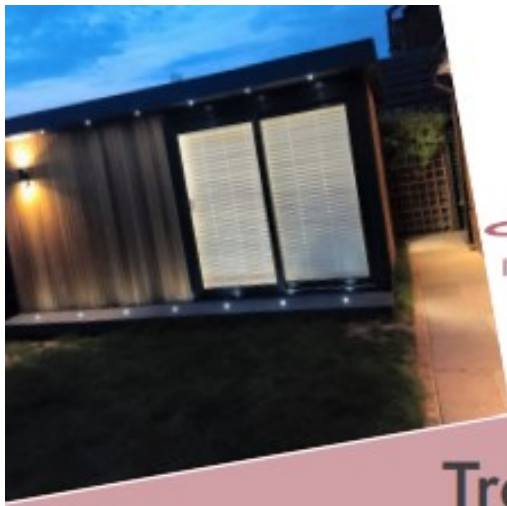
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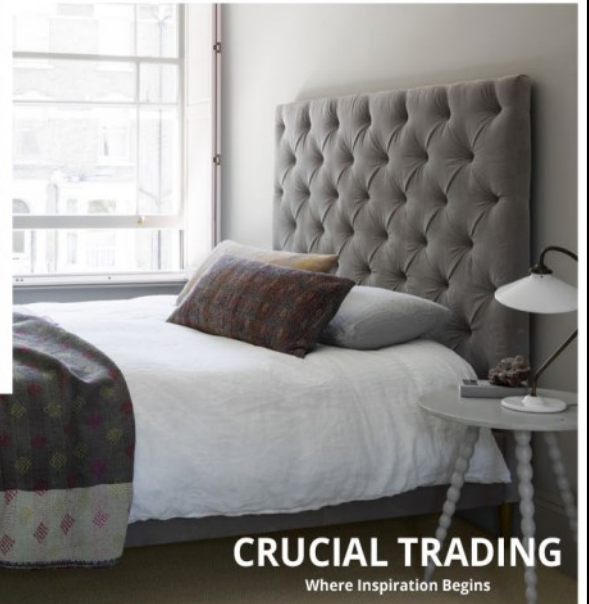
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## Central Bedfordshire Council - New apartments in Sandy for over-55s



Central Bedfordshire Council is welcoming applications for brand new apartments in Quince Court, in Sandy – an independent living facility for over 55's.

Built by specialist housing provider, Grand Union Housing Group, the development will have 25 new apartments available to rent through the council and is due to open this autumn. The new apartments have been added to the 30 existing properties that are part of the Extra Care scheme, which offers support to customers over 55 who have care or support needs, enabling them to live securely in their own home.

Quince Court encourages independent living, providing modern homes that are low maintenance in a secure environment, and encouraging residents to make friends with people of a similar age with similar interests. With tailored care and support available to those who need it, independent living schemes can support people to remain in their homes for longer.

Peter, a resident at Quince Court enjoys his independence, saying: "I am very happy living at Quince Court, I go to the local shop and catch a bus into Sandy, as I have my independence. If I need any help I have my emergency button I can press and someone will attend to me. I would recommend living at Quince Court to anyone, especially if they need some care, but still want to enjoy their independence."

The spacious new one-bedroom apartments each have their own front door and outside space. First-floor apartments come with a dual aspect balcony while those on the ground floor benefit from a dual aspect terrace. The scheme has been designed with accessibility in mind; all areas are wheelchair friendly and accessible for those with a disability.

Every apartment is fitted with a system which acts as a 24-hour emergency alarm and video door entry system. The development features upgraded smoke detectors and each resident can also wear a pendant connected to the system in case of emergency.

Cllr Carole Hegley, Executive Member for Adult Social Care said: "We're really pleased to be able to offer the new apartments at Quince Court for people who enjoy being independent, but who may also require some extra support. This kind of development is also suitable for those who are looking for a smaller, easier to manage home, and offers a real sense of community for residents."

Cllr Eugene Ghent, Executive Member for Housing & Assets said: "Safety and security is key at Quince Court, with much thought given to how residents can remain independent but also have peace of mind about their surroundings. Each new apartment is extremely high quality but also low maintenance for residents, and with the option for extra support if needed the development will keep people living independently for longer."

For more information visit [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) and search for Quince Court, or call 0300 300 5080..

## Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin (Church of England)

Church Road, off Campton Road, Meppershall

[www.stmarysmeppershall.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmeppershall.org.uk) † [facebook.com/stmarysmeppershall](https://facebook.com/stmarysmeppershall)



**Rector: The Reverend Veronica Goodman**

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

**Churchwardens:**

Chris Valentine 01462 815971 Peter Clark

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***

As we enter November, we are reminded that summer is finally over – homes in the village have their curtains drawn and their lights on by early evening. If you are lucky enough to have a fireplace then many of you will be sitting cosily round the first 'real fire' of the season. It occurs to me that November is really a month to look forward, as well as back.

As a child, as November came, I was always excited – waiting for our traditional family firework night, with bonfire, fireworks, sparklers and homemade toffee apples. Then, of course, no sooner had firework night happened our focus would shift again to Christmas as trees and decorations made their appearance in homes and shops started to play festive music. To me, as a child, November always felt like a month that was waiting for something to happen!

In addition to looking forward, November is the month when we reflect on what has already happened. Our gardens get that final pre-winter tending when the summer growth on plants is cut back to wait for the next year and summer holidays become distant memories. It is also a time each year when the church, and the nation as a whole, commemorates Remembrance Day. In church on Remembrance Sunday, we remember before God those who have fought in conflicts, especially those making the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms that we enjoy today. As is our custom in Meppershall we will begin our Act of Remembrance at the war memorial outside the church at 10:45am on Sunday 14th November and the church bell will toll to remember the names of every person named on the war memorial. You are very welcome to attend. This Act of Commemoration is directly followed by a service in church – if you are intending to stay for this part of the commemorations, please do email Rector Roni so that seats may be allocated

In November, we also take the opportunity to give thanks for all those people (friends and family) who were dear to us, but we see no longer. Rector Roni will be leading a short communion service for those special memories at 10am on Wednesday 3rd



November. If you would like the name of a loved one included in that service please do email her with the details. The church will also be open for the remainder of the day, giving people the chance to come individually to silently remember and light a candle in remembrance of those who we love but see no more.

**Keith Callard, Reader – St Mary's Meppershall**

## Church News and Events in November

We observe COVID-safe practices and have returned to a service in church every Sunday. Online services still continue. Please come and say hello ☺

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Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 11.00am Morning Worship (7<sup>th</sup> November)

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 9.45am Benefice Holy Communion in Shefford

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 10.45am Remembrance (gather at Meppershall War Memorial)

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 11.00am Morning Worship (21<sup>st</sup> November)

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 11.00am Holy Communion (28<sup>th</sup> November)

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Every Wednesday	10.00am Holy Communion in church
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Wednesdays and Sundays	Private prayer and quiet time – the church open for you to sit and visit during the day, 10.00-3.00pm
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Online services:	9.00am Morning Prayer using 24-7's Lectio 365 App 7-days-a-week
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	9.00pm Night Prayer/Compline from the C. of E. Daily Prayer App, 7-days-a-week
--	---

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmeppershall/>

Find us on our website: <https://www.stmarysmeppershall.org.uk/>

Find us on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRjDLGAy8GI6afkO8iALYOA>

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<b>Churchyard working day</b>	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> November – come and be part of the volunteer group helping to clear up and maintain our beautiful churchyard – all day, for as long or as little as you can.
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<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> November – all welcome to gather at the War Memorial in the churchyard from 10.45am. If you intend to also join the service afterwards in the church, please let Rector Roni know (for social distancing and seating purposes)
---------------------------	--

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Do you need prayers? 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, please talk to Roni (Tel. 339962 / 07533 376880) or Chris Valentine (telephone 07701 039324).

THE MEPPERSHALL PLAYERS PRESENTS

A pantomime  
by  
Karen Mitchell



# JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Sat 4<sup>th</sup> & Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021

At the



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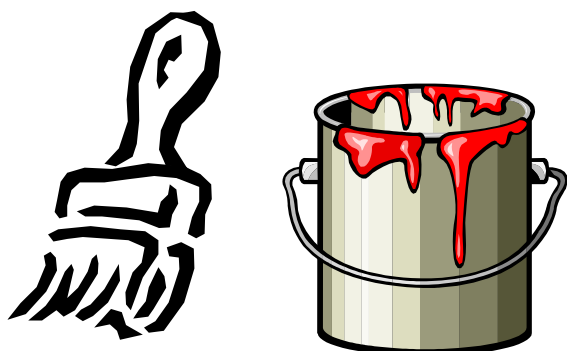
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## The Meppershall Players

November 2021



The costumes are nearly sorted, the stage will be dressed in a couple of weeks, the cast are getting nervous and excited in equal measures as we prepare for our performances of this year's Panto "Jack & the Beanstalk". As usual, we've written it ourselves and as usual it's full of fun and unforgettable characters.

Young Jack lives with his Mum Dame McNutty, and Rags the family dog, on their small farm in Little Simpleton. Times are hard and they are struggling to pay the mortgage. With the heartless Jasper De Villeman demanding payment or eviction, will Jack be forced into selling Rags to the travelling showman Magnificent Marvin? Will Dame McNutty be happy with a bag of magic beans? Will Rags be the next Britain's got talent winner? Will good triumph over evil? Or will Jasper walk away the winner?

You can discover the answers to all these questions and many more at the Meppershall Players presentation of "JACK & THE BEANSTALK" performing at the STMA Digswell Hall, 10 Hitchin Rd, Shefford SG17 5JA on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021; Matinees 3pm, **All tickets £5**; Evenings 7.30pm, tickets £10 & Concessions £8 (3yrs to 17yrs & 60yrs and over). Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased online at [ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers](https://ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers), or call 01462 816336 to reserve.

This is a fun for all the family show and suitable for all ages so start the Christmas season early with the Meppershall Players' "JACK & THE BEANSTALK" !

And I still haven't forgotten about the continuance of the Players' history, which will probably be resumed in the February issue of the Messenger.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

The Players meet every Monday evening at 7.30pm at the STMA, 10, 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..

Interested? We look forward to meeting you.

Karen Mitchell (Players' Secretary) 01462 816336

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

\*\*\*\*\*



## Anglian Water - The Meppershall Pipeline

You may have spotted groundworks happening on the fields between Meppershall and Gravenhurst and just west of Shillington Road on the way out of the village down to Shillington. The works are part of an Anglian Water project known as “The Meppershall Pipeline”. Here is a quick review of the project and some info on how Anglian Water will adopt techniques that aim to minimise environmental and habitat losses.

Anglian Water is facing several long term challenges. Our region (East of England) is officially under “severe water stress,” with lower than average rainfall and additional negative impacts of climate change (getting hotter and drier). At the same time the regional population is set to grow by 20% over the next 25 years (it feels like more than that in Meppershall), but drought conditions have arisen at times and Anglian Water is also working on its drought resilience.

Alongside these issues, a growing focus on the damage being done to the environment by water extraction means Anglian Water is working to reduce the amount of water it takes from the environment.

So they are building 500km of new pipelines which are interconnected to move water around the region. This means redistributing from areas where there is a surplus (such as North Lincolnshire) and giving more homes and businesses a supply that is based on more than one water source. That’s where the Meppershall Pipeline comes in.

The Meppershall Pipeline forms part of the wider network that is being created. It is 9 KM in length, starting in Meppershall at Shillington Road water facility and running to the pumping station on New Road between Ampthill and Flitton.

The pipeline route runs down from behind Windmill Farm just south of Meppershall to cross the River Hit north of the cow bridge, rising back up to cross Campton Road just outside Upper Gravenhurst. From there its route continues right past Cainhoe Manor Farm, along the northern edge of Wrest Park. It crosses the A6 just north of Silsoe and crosses the A507 between Hollington Farm and Brookside Farm in Maulden.

The construction phase will involve creating a series of secure working spaces and storage locations along the length of route. These will include a site on Shillington Road at the edge of our village, and another on Campton Road in Gravenhurst. Just beyond Upper Gravenhurst, another three sites are planned around Clophill Road, two on the track to Cainhoe Park Farm and another beside Cainhoe Manor Farm.

Anglian Water says much of the pipelaying will be done using a “Pipe Plough.” This is a remotely controlled machine that follows a set GPS route. It prepares a narrow section underground, lays the pipe in it and restores the ground behind – all at once, avoiding major excavation. A second technique – “Trenchless” – will be used at sensitive ecological sites, roads and rivers. In this case a pit is dug out on either side of the obstacle, a hole is bored underground and the pipe is dragged through. Lastly, where necessary, open cut trenches will be dug out into which the pipe will be laid. We all hope that is a last resort since that technique will destroy field margins, hedgerows and woodland – crucial wildlife habitats in this rural area.

Timelines published in June indicate construction between the end of 2021 and the middle of 2022 – with consultation, environmental assessment and ground investigations at the present time. The next step will be ecological protection and

removal of some vegetation to aid site access, before setting up the site compounds. After the work, in the second half of 2022, access routes, fencing, road surfaces and drainage will be restored, vegetation will be replaced and topsoil made good following the works.

## **Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club (Campton)**

It was so lovely to attend Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club in person in October. I enjoyed seeing everyone after 20 months and also to welcome some new members.

Corinne Price, the Head Gardener from the Swiss Gardens, gave an excellent historic account up to the present date of the garden, its village and the reason behind the name. I am excited to revisit soon as I will view it with new-found knowledge and see it completely differently from my previous visits. In the near future they are planning to open in the evening with a delightful display of illuminated garden lights.

We welcome at our next meeting on the 1st November two of our in-house flower arrangers to demonstrate Christmas wreath making - in plenty of time for our festive season. This is an evening not to be missed!

A diary reminder for January: Gardening Club will be the second Tuesday, the only date I could arrange for Rob MacLeod to attend and speak to us about "pruning". He is an excellent speaker so we all look forward to his knowledge and advice.

There will be seed swapping and social, as well as a competition and refreshments. All welcome to come along, just £3! For more information please contact.....Maryika, 01462 851729

## **Shefford Leisure Group by Enid Pamment**

With the clocks going forward, evenings are very dark but the trees and hedgerows are beautiful as they show off their autumn colours. We have also experienced some exquisite sunsets.



Shefford Leisure Group has just returned from Suffolk after a five-day break. We stayed at Gunton Hall where we were surrounded by 55 acres of woodland, gardens and a picturesque lake. Everyone remarked how lovely the food was. We really were well looked after, especially considering the food deliveries and staff shortages all these catering companies are currently experiencing. People were all so polite.

Just one more trip to go before we are in 2022!!

Our final trip will be to the ever-popular Thursford on Sunday 14th November. Tickets have sold out but I may be able to get hold of the odd ticket if required.

A decision was made not to book trips in the first three months of 2022 just in case we have snow!! So I will book in April and May for Lavenham and The Tower of London (the trips I had to cancel during lockdown). We are waiting for confirmation of dates and times – watch this space.

Hopefully 2022 will prove a successful year, we will see! I just hope so!

Enid

## **Financial Matters by Paul Savuto**

### **Sudden Wealth Syndrome: dealing with a financial windfall**

If you received a large windfall suddenly or unexpectedly, you'd likely expect to feel happy and excited for the opportunities it presents. Whether you're a successful entrepreneur, perhaps selling your business or inheriting, sudden wealth can feel overwhelming. Far from being a happy event for some, coming into a large sum of money can prove a massive emotional shock. In fact, it can even result in a recognised psychological condition called 'Sudden Wealth Syndrome'. The symptoms of this syndrome will vary from person to person, but can include feeling isolated from friends and family, guilty about the good fortune, uncertain about the future, or afraid of losing new-found financial stability. The process of adapting to one's new financial status can lead to poor mental health and thus self-destructive behaviour, for example excessive spending or risky investments.

#### **The link between mental health and money issues**

It is well known that our mental state has a significant impact on how we handle our money. In fact, nearly half (46%) of all people with problem debt also have a mental health issue. Unfortunately, stories about people who won millions of pounds in the lottery before losing it all, or even getting into debt, are all too common.

#### **Avoiding the negative impacts of sudden wealth**

While we can't always plan for it, or even avoid some of the negative feelings associated with coming into money, there are things we can do to keep our finances safe:

- Don't make any hasty decisions – put your windfall into an easy-access savings account(s) (within Financial Services Compensation Scheme limits), where it can accrue interest, until you have decided what to do with it
- Keep it on the down low – Sudden Wealth Syndrome can cause paranoia and anxiety that people only like you because you have money. Keeping things discreet will help alleviate these feelings and help with clear decision-making
- Take professional advice – spending or investing large sums of money without advice can be disastrous for your finances. Investment and tax planning advice are crucial. We're on hand to help you make wise decisions that will ensure your new-found wealth works hard for you and your family.

### **National Insurance and dividend tax rises**

A new health and social care tax will be introduced across the UK from April 2022. The tax will initially begin as a 1.25 percentage point increase in National Insurance, paid by both workers and employers. From April 2023, it will become a separate tax on earned income, calculated in the same way as National Insurance and ring-fenced as a health and social care levy. Tax on share dividends is also scheduled to increase by 1.25 percentage points.

### **Autumn: Time to hunker down and get organised**

As the year progresses to the season of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness', thoughts inevitably turn to hunkering down with hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows as the nights draw in. Autumn is a season traditionally associated with change, as well as themes of comfort, preservation and protection; a time to get things in order.



### **Time to prepare**

In many ways, autumn is the perfect time to get things done and that is certainly the case when it comes to finances. The halfway point of the fiscal year is fast approaching, making it an ideal time to consider your ISA or JISA investments and any other tax-related issues. It's also an opportune time to look at pension arrangements and check your protection needs are fully met.

### **Don't procrastinate!**

While we all know the importance of keeping on top of our finances, it is easy to pop such tasks on our 'must-do list' and then proceed to forget all about them. A recently commissioned poll found 84% of the UK population put off key tasks by either doing nothing or doing something more enjoyable or completely unrelated, and a staggering one in five do this on a daily basis! Sound familiar?

### **Engage with your finances**

It is though extremely important to sort out financial arrangements long before you 'need' to. This is particularly the case with retirement planning, although research suggests relatively few people do actually engage with their pensions: more people knew the value of their house (58%), car (55%) and television (63%) than the value of their pension (38%) with almost as many knowing the value of their wardrobe contents (34%).

Apparently, statistics don't lie, so it is clearly only human to procrastinate. However, it's also true there's no time like the present. It's our business to make sure your finances are in good shape. We can help you tick a few more tasks off your 'must-do list'.

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### **Birthdays**

Everyone on the Meppershall Messenger team sends best wishes for an excellent and very birthday this month to...

Margaret E, who will be 91

Anne G, who will be 90

Jennifer P, who will be 83

Stephen N, who will be 85



  
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## In Memoriam: A Tribute To Eric Larsen

Eric John Larsen (EJ)

19 September 1936 –

11 September 2021



**Eric was born on 19th September 1936 in Llandudno, Wales, although he didn't often admit that...!**

He was the only child of Hans Frederick and Emily May Larsen and, as such, he was much loved and, dare it be said, possibly a little spoilt by them both.

Although christened as Eric John Larsen he became known to most who knew him as simply "EJ", borne from a request to his somewhat adult children to not call him "dad" in his local Hostelry The Sugar Loaf. Tracy however always preferred to call him Dad as she felt it a privilege to be able to do so, and who can disagree with that sentiment. In adherence to his aforementioned request, and certainly not out of any disrespect, we can continue to refer to him as "EJ".

EJ's parents, with young EJ in tow, moved to Meppershall in 1937 when his father took up a position with one of the many nurseries that Meppershall in the day contained.

EJ attended Meppershall school, as subsequently did his 4 children, 11 grandchildren and even some of his great grandchildren. He temporarily attended the local cub scouts pack until he was invited to leave due to his "scampish misbehaviour", a sign of things to come perhaps?

He was a very keen footballer and subsequently a very keen supporter of Luton Town, where he held season tickets for a number of years. One occasion comes to mind when he even managed to get a place in one of the teams in Meppershall's once famous, well perhaps notorious, Boxing Day football match that took place annually between the social club and the sugar loaf. EJ played on a rain soaked, muddy pitch in his plimsoles, for which he blamed his performance on the day, nothing to do with his sixty years of age at the time....

EJ started his working life in an apprenticeship as a car mechanic. However with the promise of being taught how to drive he was poached from the garage to become a milk delivery boy for the local business Jepps's Dairy, his training vehicle being the milk float! Nonetheless his lifelong love of cars has certainly rubbed off on the male side of his family. Much to the frustration of anyone living on Fildyke road.

At the age of 18 he volunteered for service into the British army where he served for three years followed by a further four years as an enlisted reservist. It was during his time in the army that he had a significant posting to Hobbs Barracks in Lingfield, Surrey. Of course EJ shared his time between the Barracks and the local pubs and it was in one of the local pubs that he met Pauline, his soon to be wife for over 60 years.

Leaping forwards a few years to 1968, EJ's dad died suddenly in a road traffic accident. EJ took the loyal but often challenging decision to take over his dad's nursery, which was full of salad crops growing in the greenhouses and surrounding land. EJ and Pauline decided to build a new family home in the garden of his parents' family home where EJ had spent his childhood, until, according to his mother, the army stole him away.

As was said, the decision was a challenging one to make at the time but no comparison in magnitude to the challenges EJ and Pauline faced in maintaining his father's legacy until EJ retired in 2018. EJ was certainly very proud of what he achieved in maintaining and expanding his father's business. He was always most proud to show customers around his, by now, flower growing business. Many local people were frequent customers for his bedding plants, hanging baskets, cut Roses and pot plants.



It was always a close run thing but EJ really was even more proud of his growing family, 4 offspring, 11 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren, tinged with great sadness that he wasn't able to meet his 13th great grandchild due to EJ's hospitalisation nor his would be 14th great grandchild due in November. EJ could often be heard proudly stating "not bad for a single child", although certainly Pauline had something to do with it all too.

EJ would often look forward to meeting his mates in the Sugar Loaf for a few beers, frequently encouraged by Pauline so that she could have the lead on what was watched on the telly! Those few beers would usually be followed by a few more beers followed by some sort of practical jokes and other non-malicious mischief. As his Army officer allegedly told him "I've put you up for promotion Larsen because if you are capable of leading men into trouble you must be equally capable of getting them out of it".

In latter years EJ enjoyed his membership of local Crib and Dominoes teams, again partaking in a few beers and equally important reminiscing about the old days with his opposition, most of whom knew EJ from his years gone by.

He maintained his love for football into his latter years and, usually because he enjoyed the banter, his support for his Father's native Denmark grew stronger, both for the football team and for the country. He would visit his family there as often as health and opportunity would allow and has asked family members to deposit at least some of his ashes within the grounds of his family home just outside Copenhagen, the home his grandfather had built and which his father had grown up in prior to leaving for the UK. We are apparently waiting for family volunteers to conduct this, probably unlawful, act.

A number of you will no doubt remember EJ for his predilection for singing. He sang professionally in bands in his younger days and he was always welcomed to give a song at karaoke. Copenhagen, the Algarve, Meppershall social club, to name a few but in reality it would be any karaoke, anywhere, preferably within fifty miles of his location at any given time. Even his funeral service didn't escape the dulcet tones of EJ, thankfully.

EJ absolutely lived his life to the full and certainly didn't shy away from any challenge and he would be hoping that all reading this would accept his challenge to enjoy yourselves, be happy and do your best to follow his example.

## **Our Grandad**

He was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather, a friend, a drinking buddy; someone you couldn't wait to tell good news to.

To everyone else he was more than this: but to us, he was our grandad.

He was the type of grandad to join in the fun and games, the type of grandad to come down to our level, the type of grandad to break two ribs sledding down a Swiss mountain at 72 years of age!

As children he would make us laugh, wrestle with us, be silly with us - and he didn't change at all as he was exactly the same with our children, who all adore him just as we do.

He always taught us that you don't get anything for nothing, so he was always finding jobs here and there for us to earn some pocket money. Whether it be working the summer holidays down the nursery or odd jobs in the house and garden, he would find something he wanted doing. Part of me thinks he just wanted an excuse to treat us, as I remember he used to reward Dean for keeping his own football boots clean!

As adults he became more of a friend, someone who before he said 'hello' would say, 'want a beer?'

Especially at Christmas, if you got in and out the house without sharing a drink it was a rarity. It became a military operation, a plan of sorts. My plan was to stand up early, as if to say, 'Right, I'm off'... but I would still be standing there 20 minutes later with another glass of beer in hand. I can't mention Christmas without a note about Grandad's punch. If you know, you know!

Just to summarise: he was a child, a friend, a father figure, a role model and a bad influence all rolled into one for us. I know the term 'legend' is used a lot these days but I think it genuinely applies to our grandad.

We didn't think this day would ever come.

We always thought you were immortal... invincible... grandad will be here forever. But I hate to say it Grandad, there are times when even a Larsen just has to admit that they were wrong.

We all love you and we'll all see you another day.

**Thank you to Eric's grandchildren for sharing this beautiful tribute, and to Kevin Larsen for arranging this for the Meppershall Messenger.**

**With his passing, many will fondly recall a generation of market gardeners in the village, of whom EJ was one of the last and one of the greatest characters. Truly a Meppershall man, truly a Meppershall family.**

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<b>As from 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021</b>		<b>"Stops at all Bus Stops on Request"</b>	
<b>W2 BEDFORD</b>	<b>- 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Month</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Shefford Rd, all stops		08.59	RR
High St. / Rectory Rd - all stops		09.00	RR
Interchange Retail Park		09.40	12.20
St Pauls Square / Corn Exchange		09.55	12.00
<b>W3 BIGGLESWADE</b>	<b>- Every Monday</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd / High Street, All Stops		09.27	RR
Shefford Road, All Stops		09.29	RR
Biggleswade – A1 Retail Park		10.00	12.05
Town Centre - pick up o/s Asda Superstore		10.05	12.00
<b>W5 BALDOCK (Town Centre / Tesco)</b>	<b>- Every Friday</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd / High St. – all stops		10.00	RR
Shefford Rd. – all stops		10.03	RR
Baldock – Tesco		10.25	12.15
<b>W6A CAMBRIDGE</b>	<b>- 4<sup>TH</sup> Wednesday of Month</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd. / High Street, All stops		08.48	RR
Shefford Road, All stops		08.50	RR
Cambridge, Downing St. – o/s/ John Lewis		10.10	14.15
<b>W8A ST ALBANS</b>	<b>- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Month</b>		
Shefford Rd. – all stops		08.48	RR
High St. / Rectory Rd – all stops		08.50	RR
St Peters St. o/s Santander Bank / pick up opp Bank		10.25	14.00
<b>W10 ST NEOTS</b>	<b>- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Month</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd. / High Street, All stops		09.18	RR
Shefford Rd, All stops		09.20	RR
St Neots - Market Place		10.15	12.20
<b>W11 MILTON KEYNES</b>	<b>- 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Month</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd. / High St., All stops		09.08	RR
Shefford Rd, all stops		09.10	RR
MK - Midsummer Blvd / M&S (Stop J3)		10.10	
/ John Lewis (Stop E3)			13.15
<b>W12 HITCHIN</b>	<b>- Every Tuesday</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Shefford Rd, All stops		09.18	RR
High Street, Rectory Rd All stops		09.19	RR
Bancroft Stop D		10.05	
Bancroft Stop G (Outside Paperchase)			12.10
<b>W14 WELWYN GARDEN CITY</b>	<b>- 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Month</b>	<b>OUT</b>	<b>RETURN</b>
Rectory Rd. / High Street, All stops		09.14	RR
Shefford Road, All stops		09.16	RR
WGC Central Bus Station		10.00	12.15

**EXCURSIONS – 4<sup>TH</sup> Thursday of Month – call For Details – 0300-123-2023****E: [Thewanderbus@gmail.com](mailto:Thewanderbus@gmail.com)****Buses available for PRIVATE HIRE – Call for Quote.**





## UPDATED EXCURSIONS 2021 - See The Christmas Market Trip on 25th November

DATE	DESTINATION : Subject to change should Government guidelines become restrictive again.	ENTRANCE FEE as per Current Website	BUS FARE
<b>Thursday 26th AUGUST</b>	<b>Castle Ashby Gardens.</b> Castle Ashby is the ancestral home of the 7th Marquess of Northampton. Wander through its gardens and take a walk through history. Set in the heart of a 10,000 acre estate, the 35 acres of gardens are a combination of several styles including the romantic Italian Gardens, the unique Orangery and impressive Arboretum.	<b>£10.00 for Gardens</b>	<b>£10.00 Pick Up 10.00/10.30 : Return depart 15.00/15.15</b>
<b>Thursday 23rd SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>Wimpole Hall, Cambs.</b> The mansion, at the heart of this estate, is evidence of Elsie Bambridge's success in creating a home. Intimate rooms contrast with beautiful and unexpected Georgian interiors, including Soane's breathtaking Yellow Drawing Room and wonderful plunge bath. The fascinating basement corridor offers a glimpse into life below stairs. Stroll around the colourful parterre garden and wander through the Pleasure Grounds to the Walled Garden, abundant with fruit, vegetables and beautiful herbaceous borders. Free for National Trust members	<b>£18.95 House &amp; Gardens. £10.00 Gardens only. Free to National Trust Members</b>	<b>£5.00 Pick Up 10.00/10.30 : Return depart 15.00/15.15</b>
<b>Thursday 28th OCTOBER</b>	<b>Stockwood Discovery Centre &amp; Gardens, Luton.</b> The former Stockwood Park Museum was transformed in July 2008 into the Stockwood Discovery Centre - a spectacular visitor attraction and museum for the 21st century. A paradise for garden enthusiasts, Stockwood Discovery Centre is one of the few places in the country where the work of acclaimed artist Ian Hamilton Finlay can be seen on permanent display. His Improvement Garden is a classical garden in which the sculptures are an integral part of the landscape. Once part of the original Stockwood House walled areas, the Period Gardens reflect the changing styles of gardening in this country. New areas include a contemplative Sensory Garden, a colourful World Garden and a Medicinal Garden highlighting the usefulness of plants.	<b>Free</b>	<b>£5.00 Pick Up 10.00/10.30 : Return depart 15.00/15.15</b>
<b>Thursday 25th NOVEMBER</b>	<b>Waddesden Manor - Buckinghamshire - Christmas Market</b> The fair will be set against the backdrop of the floodlit North Front of the Manor with its 20ft Christmas trees. Soak up the sights, smells and sounds of Christmas with hand-selected stalls all housed in charming wooden chalets, surrounded by twinkling trees.	<b>£15.00 p.p. entry.</b>	<b>£10.00 Pick-up 11.00/11.30. Return departure 19.00</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>To Book : Call 0300 123 3023 or email: <a href="mailto:thewanderbus@gmail.com">thewanderbus@gmail.com</a></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">We do require a deposit of £5.00 p.p. for any excursion. A cheque to Wanderbus, 5 The Pastures, Upper Standon, Beds SG16 6QB or a bank transfer to : CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code 40-52-40, Acc No. 000131118 Name: Wanderbus Ltd (Use your name in Reference)</p>			

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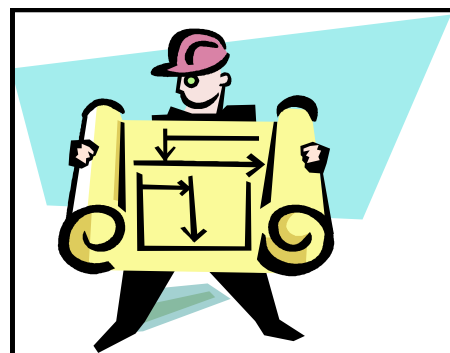
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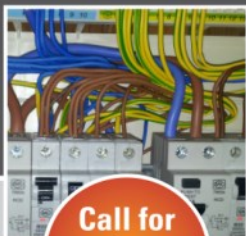
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Shefford Dental Practice, 34 High St Shefford 01462 814020

Shams Moopen Dental, 99 Hitchin Rd Shefford 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**

##### 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 3163105

(Or 105 from a landline)

##### Central Beds Council

0300 300 8301

CBC councillors:

Tony Brown [anthony.brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:anthony.brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Mark Liddiard [mark.liddiard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:mark.liddiard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Parish Council Clerk Alessandre Marabese

[clerk@meppershall.org](mailto:clerk@meppershall.org)

Member of Parliament: Nadine Dorries

[dorriesn@parliament.uk](mailto:dorriesn@parliament.uk)



**St Marys Church**

Rev. Veronica Goodman, The Rectory, Church Road 01462 339962

Full details in Messenger

**Library**

High St, Shefford (pedestrian area near Morrisons) 0300 300 8067

Tues - Fri 9 - 6, Sat 9 – 4, closed Mon & Sun

**Whitbread Wanderbus service**

Stephanie Kirby thewanderbus@gmail.com

Budgens Stores & Post Office, High Street 01462 811252

Rogers Bakery, High Street 01462 813398

Sugar Loaf, 25 High Street 01462 654334

Mobile Fish & Chips (Happy Plaice), Tuesdays 3.30 -7.00pm, Sugar Loaf

**Schools**

Meppershall Academy, High Street 01462 813293

Meppershall Pre School, Village Hall, Tamsin Osborn 07816 357159  
meppershallps@gmail.com

Robert Bloomfield, Shefford 01462 628800

Samuel Whitbread, Stotfold 01462 629900

Henlow Academy 01462 813733

Redborne Upper 01525 404462

**Meppershall Village Hall**

Walnut Tree Way Meppershall SG17 5AB [www.meppershallvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.meppershallvillagehall.co.uk)

**Organisations**

Meppershall Players, Karen Mitchell 01462 816366

Meppershall Good Neighbours (GNOMES) 07760 793921

Meppershall Brownies, Suzanne 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.

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<b>Collating Dates 2021-22</b>			
December-January Double Issue	December 6 <sup>th</sup>	April 2022 Issue	April 4 <sup>th</sup>
February 2022 Issue	January 31 <sup>st</sup>	May 2022 Issue	May 2 <sup>nd</sup>
March 2022 Issue	March 7 <sup>th</sup>	June 2022 Issue	May 30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Please contact Colette to confirm arrangements (contact information above).</b>			

***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.***