



Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II

21st April 1926

8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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## **Editorial by James Read**

There is little to add to a month of September 2022, in which the passing of Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II was so widely and rightly mourned and commemorated — in Meppershall alongside places across the world. The



village sends its deepest condolences, love and thoughts to His Majesty The King Charles III and to the Royal Family. Although burdened by the greatest of duties, her smile was one of simple human warmth. Although possessed of great wealth and privilege, she rose at 7.30am diligently throughout her life, working tirelessly on her official duties, the work of the state, and her private affairs, well into old age. Although Head of a nation with almost unrivalled power and historical influence, she carefully presided over the granting of independence to the people of some 58 countries that were previously under British rule. And with all the security resources of the country to help her travel wherever she wished, her preferred means of travel from London to Balmoral included the public train, disguised by a headscarf. After the longest reign of any British monarch, the longest service of any female head of state in history, her funeral was escorted by some 6,000 members of the armed forces and watched across the world by an estimated 4.1 billion people. Rest in peace, Your Majesty.

In this issue we also commemorate the passing of Peter Lambley in August. And we have an environmental article that might interest King Charles. There are also lots of volunteering opportunities which may inspire you in honour of the life of The Queen. But as we continue to think of the Royal Family, there are no better words than those of the statement from Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

#### Our dearest Grannie,

We've not been able to put much into words since you left us all. There have been tears and laughter, silences and chatter, hugs and loneliness, and a collective loss for you, our beloved Queen and our beloved Grannie. We, like many, thought you'd be here forever. And we all miss you terribly. You were our matriarch, our guide, our loving hand on our backs leading us through this world. You taught us so much and we will cherish those lessons and memories forever. For now dear Grannie, all we want to say is thank you. Thank you for making us laugh, for including us, for picking heather and raspberries, for marching soldiers, for our teas, for comfort, for joy. You, being you, will never know the impact you have had on our family and so many people around the world. The world mourns you and the tributes would really make you smile. They are all too true of the remarkable leader you are. We're so happy you're back with Grandpa. Goodbye dear Grannie, it has been the honour of our lives to have been your granddaughters and we're so very proud of you. We know that dear Uncle Charles, the King, will continue to lead in your example as he too has dedicated his life to service. God save the King. With our love, Beatrice and Eugenie.





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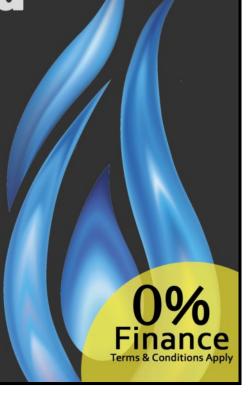
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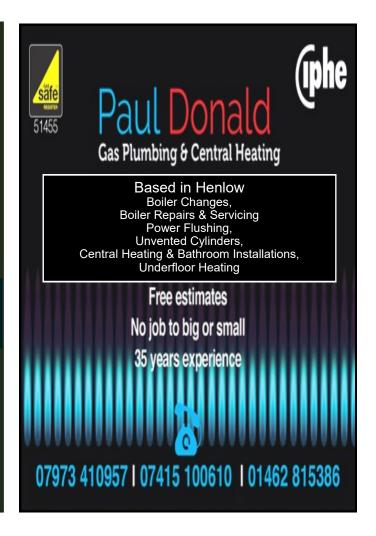
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#### **Letters To The Editors**

#### Dear Editors,

This is the most difficult letter I have ever had to write. Whatever I say could never do justice to the most beautiful tributes that were thought out so beautifully with such depth and genuine feelings of love and respect for Peter.

I have sat quietly reading all the beautiful letters and cards I have received about Peter . I am in awe of every one of them and the amazing turn out.

Our sons, Peter and Jon, Sarah, Karen and all our grandchildren were deeply moved by the wonderful people of our village. That was apart from our families and friends who travelled from various points.

Thank you, we will never forget your support.

#### **Elizabeth Lambley**

**From the editor:** with people across the village we were deeply sad to learn of Peter's passing in August and we are privileged to share the family tribute to him later in this issue of the magazine.

#### Dear Editors,

It is now 2 years and 8 months since the residents of Meppershall raised a road safety petition with the traffic department of Central Beds Council (CBC). At long last it would appear the developers of the Shillington Road development have agreed, this September, to carry out the traffic calming measures and replace the vehicle activated sign (VAS) on Shillington Road to meet the requirements of the S278 agreement with CBC.

It is a great shame that a pavement/pathway could not have been installed on Shillington Road to enable residents at this end of the village to safely reach open countryside for exercise and enjoyment.

At the other end of the village it is anticipated that a 40mph section is to be installed on Shefford Road from the A507 roundabout for a short distance then another section of 60mph followed by a further 40mph section just prior to the entrance of the village To me this seems illogical as, if the whole section of road was 40mph, then pedestrians on the pathway on the other side of the hedge would be better protected from vehicles leaving the road at 60mph. In addition, the council would save on the cost of additional signage. It is also hoped a village entrance chicane could be approved, as installed in many other similar villages. Many of us residents are also hopeful the Shefford Road VAS could be replaced (using the £20K provided to Meppershall Parish Council by the Police & Crime Commissioners Office) and at least one pedestrian crossing be provided on Shefford Road. With the increased volume of traffic within the village roads, as residents we must all continue to press for more 20mph sections of road within the village to protect our children and grandchildren.

#### A concerned Grandfather

# **Meppershall Parish Council – Approved Minutes**

Due to the postponement of the September Parish Council meeting, as part of the period of national mourning, the July minutes are not yet confirmed. We will publish approved minutes in our November issue of The Meppershall Messenger.

\*

#### **Central Bedfordshire Council News**

#### Proposal to increase support to the vulnerable - consultation

CBC is proposing to change its Council Tax Support Scheme to increase support for those on low incomes, disabled people and carers who can claim discounts on their Council Tax in Central Bedfordshire. Discounts for pensioners and for single people living alone or with people not considered for Council Tax purposes (such as students) are not changing. CBC aims to simplify the scheme by using income bands (rather than precise income) to calculate the level of support given. Read more and give feedback at <a href="https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations">www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations</a> or find a paper copy at Central Bedfordshire libraries or via phone on 0300 300 8301. The consultation closes on 1st November.

Ever thought of becoming a councillor? Do you know someone who would be great? Our region needs passionate, proactive people who want to make a difference to represent the views of local people and shape the future of the community. Find out more at: https://bit.ly/3CnGqaC.

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# **New Appointment - HM Lord-Lieutenant Of Bedfordshire**

Mrs Susan Lousada has taken up her appointment as HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, succeeding Helen Nellis MA Barrister CVO CStJ. Susan is well known in Bedfordshire for her contribution to education, the voluntary sector and business across the County. On taking up the role of representing the King in our County, she said: "I am deeply honoured to have been appointed by Her Majesty The Queen to become the next Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. It is important to me to support those who work to make this county prosper, ensuring opportunities are open to all. Bedfordshire is a truly beautiful and great place to live, and I look forward to serving the people who live and make their lives within it."

Helen Nellis held the position for more than a decade, and was the first female Lord Lieutenant here in more than 500 years. There are 98 Lords Lieutenant across the country, covering every country. Interviewed by the BBC following the announcement of her retirement, Mrs Nellis discussed her time in this high profile role for Bedfordshire. "We've got gritty towns and beautiful villages" she said. "The wonderful spirit of the people who live here is absolutely fantastic. It's a county that's full of music, the arts and sports, and all traditions blending together. I've seen that individuals can make a difference and you can make even more of a difference if you work together with other good-hearted people."

With her office near Meppershall at Priory House, the Lord Lieutenant engages with services, businesses, charities, young people, voluntary groups and more, on behalf of His Majesty The King. We greatly commend and thank Helen Nellis for her service under the dearly missed the late HM Queen Elizabeth II and we welcome Susan Lousada and wish her every success in her new position under Charles III.





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WHAT YOU NEED TO DRIVE: You need to be under 75 and have Category D1 on your driving licence. This will be common if you are in the older generation age group but it can be applied for from the DVLA so age need not be a restriction.

WHAT WE OFFER: Full on the job training will be provided and you can accompany a driver on a service to understand more of the role. You will never be asked to drive on your own until you are entirely comfortable about doing so.

WHAT YOU GET BACK: Our passengers are generally in the older age group and are most grateful for the service we provide. It is a very social, friendly atmosphere on the buses and you will quickly get to know your regulars who will express their gratitude. It is a very rewarding service that we provide and will give you much satisfaction in helping.

MORE INFORMATION? Please drop us an e mail (thewanderbus@gmail.com) with your contact details and we will get back to you to answer any questions and hopefully set a date to start your volunteering.

Alternatively, you can call us on 0300-123-3023

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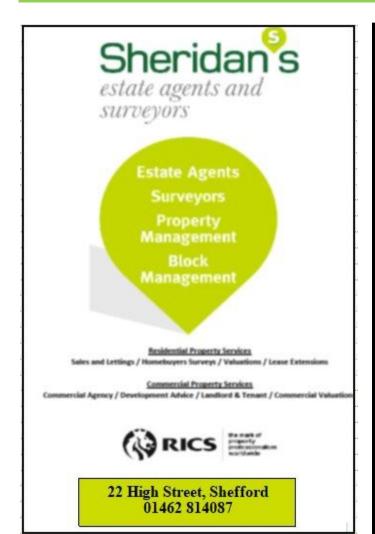
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# **GNOMES (Meppershall Good Neighbours)**



# **Meppershall Gnomes**

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People often ask us what being a Gnome involves.

Here are some of the recent tasks we have helped with:

Collection and delivery of prescriptions.

Minor repairs/DIY & Gardening.

Lifts to appointments including Doctors, Dentist and Foot Clinic.

Transport to our Coffee Mornings and Jubilee Celebrations.



Need our help? Give us a call on 07760 793921.



# **Children's Colouring Activity**

Inside this edition of The Messenger you will find our Gnome waiting to be coloured in.

We look forward to receiving many completed pictures which we hope to display at events we attend and, hopefully, some will be reproduced in the Messenger!

# **Meppershall Gnomes**

Good Neighbours Offering Meppershall Excellent Services
Your local team of insured and DBS checked volunteers.

Children's Activity - Colour in this picture of a Gnome.



First Name \*: Age\*: \*Optional

We suggest you ask if you can use felt-tip pens as they reproduce much better.

We hope to display them at events the Gnomes attend
and hopefully some will be reproduced in the Messenger!

The completed sheets can be handed in over the next few weeks to Budgens, Meppershall.

Get colouring in!

#### #breastfootforward - October Is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer in the UK, mostly affecting women over the age of 50, but younger women, and men can also get breast cancer. About 1 in 8 women are diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime. Remember, when breast cancer is spotted early, treatment is more likely to be successful. Thanks to research, treatments are kinder and more effective than ever.

Go to - https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/breast-screening-mammogram/how-to-decide-if-you-want-breast-screening/ to find out more about:

- How do I decide if I want to have breast screening?
- Am I eligible and when will I be invited?
- What are the benefits and what are the risks?

You will automatically get your first invite for breast screening between the ages of 50 and 53, and then you'll be invited every 3 years until you turn 71.

If you have previously been invited but missed the opportunity to have your breast screening, you can book to attend your nearest clinic by calling **01582 497599** 

Ivel Valley South PCN Care Coordinators are here to help you with any related queries, contact us on <a href="mailto:block">blmkicb.carecoordinator.ivs@nhs.net</a>

For information about your nearest breast screening service go to:

https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-services/Breast-screening-services/LocationSearch/325

# **A507 Road Improvements Between Meppershall and Clophill**

Work is underway on a series of improvements to the A507 around Beadlow, to upgrade road safety measures and prevent further incidents on this stretch of road.

The speed limit is being reduced from 60mph to 50mph and at the Eagle Bends the speed limit will be cut from 50mph to 40mph. Additional signage including 'Slow' and 'Think Bike' signs will be added.

The road lining will be upgraded and enhanced rumble strips on the road surface will help motorists with lane discipline. New bollards on the verges will highlight the junctions. More information at <a href="https://one.network/">https://one.network/</a>.

In addition, plans to improve the A6/A507 (Flying Horse) roundabout will progress to CBC's Traffic Management Meeting on Tuesday 29 November 2022. Subject to approval, work could start in early 2023. The scheme includes £6.8million of government Levelling Up funding. It aims to ease congestion and "build capacity for the future" – including two lanes in and out in every direction, with new crossings, footpaths and reduced speed limits (30MPH on the approaches). More information at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/clophill.

## Melting Ice And Meppershall by Dr Phil Porter

Phil moved to Meppershall three years ago and many will have seen his passionate and well-informed comments on the Facebook village noticeboard on ecological and environmental topics. He is an academic at the University of Hertfordshire, where he serves as a Reader in Geoscience and Geoscience Education, and is also Associate Dean Education and Acting Associate Dean International within the School of Life and Medical Sciences. We are delighted to welcome his contributions to The Meppershall Messenger – thank you Phil!

Welcome to what is the first in a series of articles detailing the trials and tribulations of working as a scientist on the climate change front line in the High Arctic and how what I see there relates to us here in Meppershall. I have been privileged to have worked as a glacier scientist in the High Arctic for almost thirty years. I have seen some of the most beautiful wilderness areas on our planet, yet these wonderful sights are tinged with sadness, as I have witnessed such profound and accelerating change over the past few decades, particularly in the last ten to fifteen years. We Arctic scientists have a saying: "what goes on in the Arctic doesn't stay in the Arctic"; the Arctic is warming at more than three times the global average and this warming and associated loss of ice impacts regional and global weather systems that have a particularly significant impact on weather and climate in the North Atlantic region, and that includes us here in the UK and indeed in Meppershall.

But before I return to that, what is it that we investigate in the High Arctic and where do we do it? My specialism is glacier hydrology, essentially the study of how water (from melted snow and ice) moves on the surface, within and beneath glaciers and ice sheets, with the ultimate goal of trying to predict how much meltwater will emerge from glaciers and ice sheets and when. In an Arctic setting, this is important to help assess the rate of sea level rise from melting land based ice, but in Alpine and Himalayan settings, that meltwater is a vital resource for millions (more on Alpine and Himalayan adventures in a future article). Floating ice, such as Arctic sea ice, doesn't contribute significantly to sea level rise, but land based ice does, and you can see this by performing a simple experiment at home. Drop an ice cube into an empty glass and then fill the glass to the brim with water. As the ice melts (our ice cube represents floating sea ice) nothing will happen to the water level in the glass. Add an ice cube to the full glass however (this ice cube represents land-based ice) and the water will overspill, this overspill representing sea level rise.

To predict how much water will emerge from glaciers and when is however, extremely complex, as the insides of the glacier are like a giant Swiss cheese, riddled with holes, caverns, passageways and tunnels, which combined, act to store and delay the transfer of melt water from the ice surface, to the front of the glacier and on into the ocean. To successfully predict how much and when that water will emerge is the goal of the glacier hydrologist and this is where the fun starts, as we can't simply lift the glacier up to have a look at this complex network of passageways and caverns. So what do we do? Fortunately, we have a wide range of techniques available to us, for example, injecting biodegradable fluorescent dyes into surface streams on the ice, which vanish

into the interior of the glacier, and then looking at where and when that dye emerges from the front of the glacier. Analysis of the resultant date provides a wealth of information about the form and functioning of the insides of the glacier.

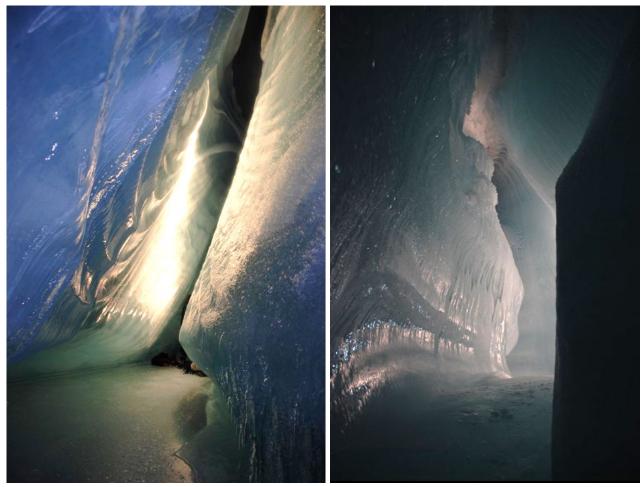


Abseiling into the glacier. Half way down a 60 metre drop and putting a brave face on it!

But eventually, we have to bite the bullet and do some direct exploration. Much of my Arctic work takes place in Svalbard, a group of islands in the north Barents Sea, east of the northern tip of Greenland and a project I have recently been working on in northern Svalbard, entails abseiling 60m down into the glacier, crawling through those tunnels and caverns at the base and using laser scanning technology to map them in detail and to see how they evolve within and between years, as Arctic warming accelerates. I often joke that more people have walked on the surface of the moon than have explored this deep inside a glacier.

I'm not sure if this is true, but it can't be far off and as someone who struggles with heights and is not a fan of enclosed spaces, this experience is both exhilarating and utterly terrifying in equal measure!

Working in Svalbard provides a wonderful opportunity to be amongst Arctic wildlife, such as the fin whale shown in the photograph below (the second largest creature on earth and a conservation success story), Arctic foxes, walrus and of course the polar bear. We are trained to carry and use firearms to offer protection should we encounter a bear; it is sad to note that bear encounters in Svalbard in summer are increasingly likely to be dangerous; sea ice, upon which bears depend for food, primarily seals, has retreated further north year on year as the Arctic has warmed and so bears encountered in Svalbard in summer, now a long way south from the retreating sea ice, are likely to be hungry and therefore aggressive. Thankfully the two bears I have encountered in my career were healthy and calm, but others have not been so lucky and indeed there was an attack while I was in Svalbard this summer.



Inside the glacier. Meltwater channels at the base of the Austre Brøggerbreen glacier, northwest Svalbard.



The second largest creature on our planet; a fin whale in the Barents Sea, Svalbard.



A healthy, male polar bear in Grønfjorden, Svalbard.

But what of the links between what I observe in Svalbard and our lives here in our village? We have recently experienced 40 degree temperatures in the United Kingdom, something that I thought I would not see until perhaps the autumn years of my life. These extreme and rapid changes that we are witnessing here in the UK and indeed in Meppershall, echo what I see each year in the High Arctic and indeed are influenced by the rapid warming of the Arctic. In particular, the loss of Arctic sea ice, that acts as a giant white 'umbrella', reflecting radiation from the sun and keeping the northern hemisphere cooler than it would otherwise be. That white, reflective 'umbrella' is progressively shrinking, revealing dark oceans that soak up energy and warm, and this is a key reason why the Arctic is warming so fast and is one of several important factors behind some of the extreme weather we are increasingly experiencing here in the UK.

But what can we do here in Meppershall? In the face of the monumental challenge that climate change and environmental degradation present, it is easy to feel helpless, but we mustn't forget that small changes at local level can have a significant impact if we all do our bit. One tree being felled may not seem like much, but that one tree, aside from the obvious presence of birds and potentially their nests, is home to a vast array of species both above and below ground. Similarly, that old scruffy looking hedgerow may not look impressive, but is home to myriad creatures, out of sight maybe, but vital to the healthy functioning of ecosystems upon which we all depend; we have seen extensive hedgerow removal in Meppershall and had it justified through the folly of biodiversity offsetting (destroying biodiversity at one location but then trying to improve it elsewhere so there is not net 'loss'), a concept that fails to

recognise the science behind how ecosystems function as interconnected systems. In our own gardens, that Astroturf may look like a tempting alternative to our wilted, weed-ridden lawns, but it will slowly but surely release micro-plastics into the environment and smothers important food sources for our feathered friends, as well as removing a habitat for a wide range of invertebrates, again creatures upon which we all ultimately depend and creatures who are already struggling (as we do with 40 degrees!) as our climate warms. We have choices and we can act; the prevention of the felling of the Willow Tree on Willow Tree Way is just one example where local residents made a difference, while we see some wonderful examples of positive land and environmental stewardship in the farms and woodlands around our village. I am often asked when I give public talks "but what can I do?". My answer is threefold. Firstly, reduce consumption in all its forms, be that material possessions, water, energy, petrol/diesel etc. We can do this by making very small changes. For example, am I really unable to walk up two flights of stairs such that I need to use the lift? Do I genuinely need that phone upgrade? Can I really justify driving from Meppershall to Shefford? Second, hold our elected representatives to account, both at local and national level. One letter may not make a difference, but dozens of letters do. Finally, publicly call out greenwashing, such as the recent activities of Davidsons Homes that I raised in the June edition of the Messenger, using traditional means and social media, the latter being particularly powerful. Never think that our individual actions cannot have a big impact; I don't know who the original author of this quote is, as I have seen it variously attributed, but I tell my students this each year: "If you think you are too small to make a difference, try spending the night with a mosquito"!

Now that I've set the context here, in the next edition of the Messenger I will give an insight as to what it's like to live and work under canvas in the frozen north, fending off storms, polar bears and aggressive Arctic terns!

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# A Tribute To Peter Lambley

The village was sad to lose one of its most cheerful, fun and friendly characters in August. Peter Lambley will be much missed by so many. With our deepest sympathies to Elizabeth and the whole family, we are privileged to be able to share here some of the moving tribute given at Peter's funeral by his family, delivered so well by Jon in honour of his Dad. Our thoughts and best wishes to you all.

In April 1933 in Lower Holloway, Islington, Peter Lambley was born to Helen and William, the youngest of the family, with older brothers Billy and Eric and sister Jean.

Peter had very fond memories of growing up in London. He loved his pets, house rabbits and black standard poodle. Peter's father was a clever man and as an engineer worked alongside Lord Mountbatten and the Royal Fusiliers. He was instrumental in designing a gun stabiliser for the tanks' pivot heads in the 2nd World War. During the war, Peter's father was a bookmaker which meant they often had treats and unlike other children his age didn't want for much. Sadly, Peter's eldest brother Billy was killed during the war from 'friendly fire' and this was to mould Peter's utmost respect

for all service men and women. Peter referred to the bravery of the Spitfire Pilots, flying high in the dark night skies only a few days before he passed away.

Peter, Jean and his mother were evacuated to Norfolk and Peter and Jean went off to explore the countryside. No sooner had his mother unpacked than Jean spotted a low flying plane. Being a few years older than Peter she recognised the swastika and immediately told Peter to run. As soon as they told Peter's mother, she repacked their bags and took them on the first train back to London!

Peter joined the BBC in 1947 as a Post Clerk. He adored the job and was incredibly proud to work for such a well-regarded corporation. It was there that in 1954 in the BBC Canteen he spotted the soon-to-be love of his life - News Information Clerk, Elizabeth. Two weeks later at the Annual Ball Peter approached Elizabeth and despite her telling a fib about her age (that she was older than she was) they sat and talked together all evening.

Peter was called up to do his national service and went to train in Colchester and soon after was sent on a special mission to Malaya. He loved the country and felt very sad about the wonderful local people and fellow young men who suffered there. During the conflict in Malaya, Peter lost a friend whom he carried across the battlefield; he very rarely spoke of it, though it remained with him all of his life and without doubt influenced his ability to mask pain and never complain. Peter never told his mother about his time Malaya. He returned to England and spent time in Germany in the Parachute Regiment (some of you may know that Peter did not swim!). It was a happy time, he loved Germany and amongst other things he boxed for his country at the age of 19. In 1956



in Edgware Registry Office Peter Lambley married Elizabeth (Peter's family were protestant, Elizabeth's Catholic, so it was under these terms that Elizabeth's father gave his blessing). From that moment on, for the next 66 years, it was "Betty and Pete". Peter had a wonderful relationship with both of Betty's parents and when her father suddenly passed, he was a great support to not only Betty's mother but also her four siblings: Gerald, Lorraine, John and Terry. They remained the best of friends; Peter was like a brother, particularly to Gerald with whom he spoke by telephone every day until just a few days before he died.

Peter and Betty had some wonderful, fun times together in the early years of their marriage. With London theatres, cinemas and holidays there were many giggles, and together they bought their first vehicle - a Vespa - and got up to lots of mischief across the city they both adored.

sharing After several London townhouses with Peter's parents, they bought their first home together: a flat in Kingsbury. They both adored having their own space along with all white carpets and furniture and it was there after some time that their first son, Peter, arrived - followed three years later by Jon. With lots of BBC overtime, they moved out to the suburbs of Edgware and purchased a 1930s semi which was to be their much-loved family home for over 25 years. During that time they were joined for a while by their much-loved nieces Liz and Jane and the house was always open to family and often friends of the boys who needed a



place to stay for a while. It was here that Tom the puppy arrived and Peter's love - particularly of boxer dogs - grew!

Peter continued to work hard at the BBC and was honoured to complete over 40 years' service, finishing as Head of Security at Broadcasting House. During his time at the BBC he made many lifelong friends and particularly enjoyed the latter years when both Peter and Jon worked with him. They all played together in the BBC football team (albeit Peter was 60 years old before he finally hung up his boots). After retiring from BBC life, Peter took on a job at the University of London as Transport Manager and made many special friendships there too.

In the 90s, the boys relocated to Bedfordshire - Betty and Peter moved too and set up home at 1a Church Road. Soon followed the wonderful arrival of grandchildren, first Jamie then Ben, Izzy and Beth and finally Billy. Both Betty and Peter adored their grandchildren and they were without any doubt the sparkle in his eye, the spring in his step and he was immensely proud of them all. At the grand age of 88 Peter became Great Grandad to Lochie.

He was a wonderful father-in-law and confidant; generous, loving, kind and so very wise. Peter loved the countryside and anything to do with nature and was incredibly grateful for the friendships he made and time spent with all his neighbours, fellow villagers he met on walks or during his stint as a delivery driver at Rogers Bakers. During the past few years he was particularly grateful for the kindness and support shown and Elizabeth and the boys thank you from the bottom of their hearts.

Above all, Peter was loved. God Bless you Pete, Rest In Peace.

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# FESTIVAL FOR OLDER PEOPLE Trapid St. here PEER RAPID AND-19 TESTS TOTAL T

Healthwatch Central Bedfordshire will be hosting the Festival for Older People for the 9th year:

# Friday 7th October 2022 from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick

The focus for the day is to celebrate older people and the contribution they make to society. This year's theme is 'The Resilience and Contributions of Older Women'.

There will be many statutory and voluntary organisations, and local groups who offer advice and information about local services for older people, such as social care, health, housing, leisure activities, holistic services and much more. There is also entertainment throughout the day with musical interludes and other activities.

The Festival for Older People is a very popular annual event, and it is open to all. Please share with colleagues, friends and family.

To express your interest in attending, please:

Email <u>info@healthwatch-centralbedfordshire.org.uk</u> Or call 0300 303 8554.

Advice and information for older people from local organisations, voluntary and community groups

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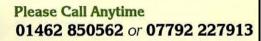
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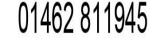




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## Parish Church of St Mary The Virgin (Church of England)

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#### **Rector: The Reverend Veronica Goodman**

01462 339962 – ronigoodman@gmail.com – usual day off Monday

#### **Churchwardens:**

Chris Valentine 01462 815971 Peter Clark

#### **PCC Secretary:**

Anne Parsons 01462 813333 Email: annie10639@gmail.com

#### Message from St Mary's...

October has traditionally been the month of Harvest Festivals, although the Harvest seems to have been brought in really early this year! October turns our minds to the environment - and to God's command "to work the earth and take care of it" (from Gen 2:15) - in several ways.

First we celebrate and give thanks to God for the Harvest...

For fields of wheat and barley;

for oil-seed rape and maize...

For healthy herds,

for sheep and pigs...

For the harvest of local hedgerows,

for the straggling bramble;

for black showers of elderberry...

We praise you for the harvest of gardens and allotments;

For earthy roots, and leafy cabbage,

for hanging beans and striped courgettes...

For all who cooperate and collaborate

to bring food to our tables:

For farmers, growers,

for breeders, shepherds and dairy-farmers

For those who bring in the harvest of the seas...

For packers and processors,

For distributors, hauliers, retailers and stall-holders,

for chefs and cooks...

(Based on a prayer by The Reverend Rachel Parkinson, Northallerton)

At the beginning of October we celebrate St Francis, calling to mind his love of animals.

At our Pet Blessing Service we give thanks for all living creatures - but particularly for those who share our homes as our pets and much loved companions.

At our Village Pet Blessing Service on 4th October at 11am, you and your pet are welcome in Church. If your pet would be uncomfortable, or may make others uncomfortable, or to remember a pet who has died, please bring along a photo!

The heat and the drought and the wild fires of this summer have turned all our minds again to the care of the world we inhabit... and that we hold in custody for future generations. As we give thanks - we are also making a fresh promise to tend the earth, and to care for God's good creation.

We are trying to do that as a church community too. St Mary's shares the "Eco Church" Vision that caring for creation is an integral part of loving our neighbours and following God faithfully. We hold, as part of our annual Mission Action Plan and as a priority, to "Grow our environmental awareness - and identify what action we can take to lessen the environmental impact in our church building, our churchyard and our homes...."

As grandparents, Andrew and I are so aware of our grandchildren's worry for the world they are inheriting.... about species that are becoming extinct, about the destruction of the rainforest, about the oceans "swimming" with plastic and other waste - instead of teeming with fish!... to name but a few of the things they have talked about.

I think it is a worry too big for small shoulders! So even as we enjoy a thankful October, let's make it our responsibility to "tend the earth, and to care for God's good creation" now.... So that our children, and grandchildren, can live with hope and joyful anticipation and not in fear and apprehension.

#### **Rector Roni**

#### **Church News and Events in October**

11.00am	Morning Worship every Sunday
	Holy Communion: 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays (9 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> October); Pet Blessing Service 4 <sup>th</sup> October)
10.00am	Holy Communion in church
10.00-3.00	Private prayer and quiet time – the church open for you to sit and visit during the day
9.00am	Morning Prayer using 24-7's Lectio 365 App 7-days-a-week
9.00pm	Night Prayer/Compline from the C. of E. Daily Prayer App, 7-days-a-week
	10.00am 10.00-3.00 9.00am

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Why not come and enjoy your local, historic Parish Church on your own, or with friends, or with your family? A warm welcome awaits you in the beautiful setting of the oldest building in the village. Do you need prayers? We have a small group of intercessors who pray confidentially for those who ask for it. Please talk to Roni (01462 339962 / 07533 376880) or Chris Valentine (07701 039324).



## **Meppershall Second Sunday Strollers**

A recent stroller requested a walk on a hill. We are happy to oblige. Bedfordshire isn't the Peak District, but right on our doorstep Pegsdon Hills Nature Reserve offers some short but stiff ascents, plus autumn trees, beautiful chalk upland and incredible views. So join us at 2pm on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at the church gate, to share lifts to Pegsdon for a 6KM loop via Knocking Hoe, Deacon Hill, the Icknield Way, Telegraph Hill, Hoo Bit and back to Pegsdon. A short route with some good climbs. Pegsdon is just a 10 minute drive away. If the area is new to you, this is a walking spot that you need to know about! We're a mixed and friendly group; all are welcome, especially dogs. We would love to see you. More info from Miriam or James on 857836 or find the Strollers at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/MeppershallStrollers">https://www.facebook.com/MeppershallStrollers</a>.

\*

# **Spring Bulbs**

#### By Donna Cameron, Donna's Garden Designs, 07833 670934

After such a dry summer us gardeners are really now hoping for rain. As a designer I am now seriously researching drought tolerant plants that will survive these conditions next year. I am continuously looking in people gardens to see what plants have withstood the heat.

Recently back from summer holidays I am now looking forward to next year. I am starting to buy flowering spring bulbs for clients. I love bulbs as after a period of dormancy in the garden, up they pop to hail in the spring. These can be planted from September onwards although Tulips like to wait a bit later into Autumn.

There are soo many to choose from Daffodils, Tulips, Camassia, Alliums, Crocus. Just go to a local garden centre and you will be spoilt for choice. They are so easy to grow and will bring such joy to watch them emerge and then burst into flower. I always find it miraculous that these brown little bulbs hide such beauty.

You can either plant them direct into the ground, although you may to wait until the ground has softened up with some rain! Or plant in pots, that can be moved around to where you want when flowering. To give them pride of place. Plant 2 to 3 times the depth of the size of the bulb.

You can plant in amongst the borders or if you have room have a cutting garden in rows and then you won't feel guilty snipping them from the border! Then later you can over plant with Dahlias.

A popular way in pots at the moment is what's known as 'Lasagna Pots'. This is when you add in layers of different types of bulbs for progressive flowering. E. g Daffodils at the bottom, then Tulips then on top Crocus and Narsissus.

A great tip I have recently learnt that my Great uncle used to do who was also a Professional Gardener up in Scotland was to sprinkle in some Blood, Fish and Bone in with the bulbs.

Also when finished flowering let the leaves die back for 6 weeks as the nutrients go back into the bulb for next years displays.

#### Must Haves....

#### **Alliums**

These are great in the garden and one of my favourites with their balls of purple or white dotted amongst the bed add such architectural interest. Some of their heads can be enormous and look like they are from Outer space!

Leave the seed heads after flowering for added interest in the borders.

Also another top tip is to underplant with Hardy Geraniums or Alchemilla Mollis to cover up their scruffy foliage. *Recommended...* 'Purple Sensation'.

#### **Daffodils**

These are a must to herald in the Spring. With an enormous variety to choose from for all different areas and size of garden.

Recommended for pots, rockeries and hanging baskets... Narsissus 'Tete a Tete' Jolly and bright and a long flowering period.



For Fragrance... 'Winston Churchill', 'Avalanche'

Indoor fragrance... 'Paper white' (although some people find this too heady)

White Varieties... 'Thalia', 'Pheasant Eye' This one has a petite yellow and orange centre.

#### **Tulips**

Unlike the bulbs mentioned above that can flower for numerous years. Tulips can be a bit less predictable and best to plant fresh bulbs every Autumn to insure a good display.

I love colour schemes with tulips or mixed in with Forget me nots and Wallflowers for an old fashioned look.

For fragrance... Ballerina

#### **Snowdrops**

These are best planted in the green for more reliable show in February.

#### Jobs in the Garden in October:

Prune climbing Roses Plant out spring cabbages

Cut back perennials that have died down

Trim hedges

Divide perennials Collect seed to Sow next year
Divide Rhubarb Last chance to Sow grass seed.

Move tender plants to greenhouse Harvest apples and pears

\*

#### **Birthdays**

Congratulations on two special birthdays this month:

Dora Surridge will be 95

Betty M will be 94

Wishing you both a great year ahead and hoping you had a wonderful and special day.



#### In Memoriam

With the nation, we mourn the loss of Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II.

We are deeply sad that Peter Lambley passed away in August aged 89. Condolences to Elizabeth and family. Please see our tribute to Peter in this issue of the magazine.

\*

\*



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#### **The Meppershall Players**



The Ultimate Decades Disco is back on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm-11.30pm at STMA Digswell Hall. We'll be giving it a party feel so bring your own food/nibbles for your table and shake your booty to all the amazing sounds of the 60's 70's & 80's. A great way to celebrate, whether it be with friends, a girls' night out, birthday or just a trip down memory lane. All tickets are £5. Another fun for all the family event (the same price for the young and young at heart). Fashions of the decades is optional (but fun) with prizes for the best dressed; doors open at 7.15pm. So, grab your "Prince Charming" and "Let's Dance" - it's a "Boogie Wonderland" and "I Love to Boogie".

Tickets for The Ultimate Decades Disco are on sale <u>NOW</u> and can be purchased online from <u>www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers</u>. For non-internet sales and enquiries call 01462 816336

The Players are well into rehearsals for this year's Pantomime 'Aladdin'.

'It's all happening in Peking. The Royal Chicken and Aladdin are on the run from the Police, while his mother, Widow Twankey, and brother Wishee Washee are up to their elbows in washing at the laundry. Is the Magician Abanazer to be trusted? Will the Emperor and Empress ever find a suitable husband for their daughter, Princess Shi Lee? And can the Genie escape the bonds of the Lamp and be free? Come and find out the answer to these questions and a lot more in this fun for the whole family show. We will be performing Aladdin on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December, Matinees 3pm Tickets £10 & £5 Concessions (17yrs & under & 60yrs & over) Evenings 7.30pm Tickets £10 & £5 Concessions.

Tickets can be purchased online from <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers">www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers</a> and are on sale <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers">www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers</a> and <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallplayers">www.ticketsource.co.uk/themeppershallp

If you're over 18yrs and would like to be involved in this year's Panto behind the scenes or front of house please contact Karen on the number below or come to our meetings on Monday evening at the STMA 10, Hitchin Road, Shefford.

\*

Find the Meppershall Players on Facebook (Meppershall Players Community) Insta-gram, Twitter.

The Players meet every Monday evening at 7.30pm at the STMA, 10, Hitchin Road, Shefford SG17 5JA. Membership is free and we welcome people who have an interest in amateur theatricalities, Whether it be on stage or off indulging 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





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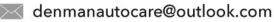
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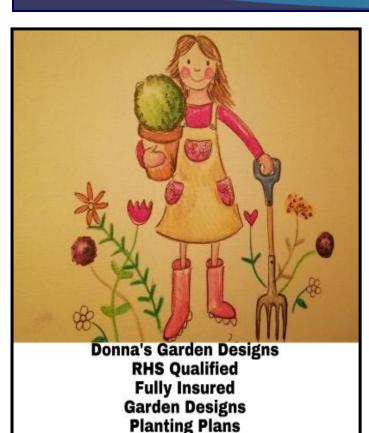
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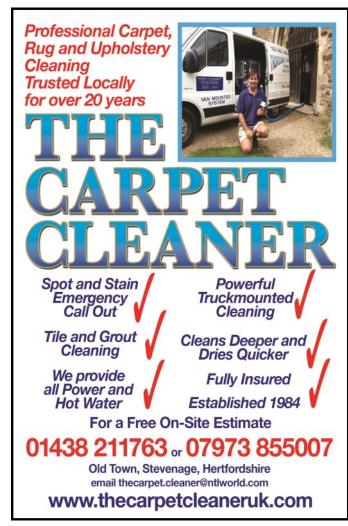
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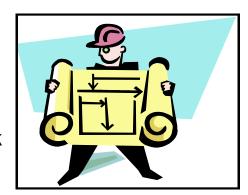
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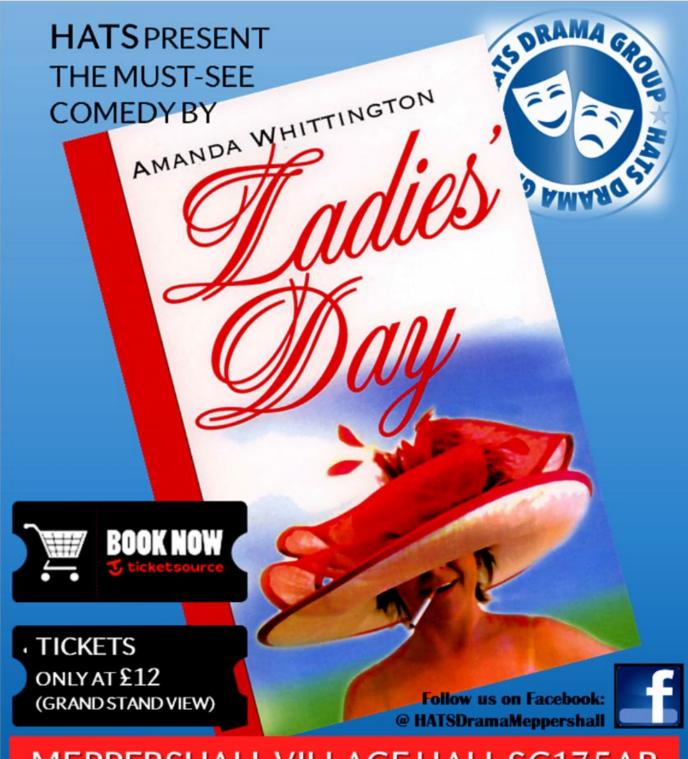
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Enquiries: <a href="mailto:lin.winfield5@gmail.com">lin.winfield5@gmail.com</a>

#### **Financial Matters by Paul Savuto**

#### Your retirement today

The Class of 2022 retirement report provides a riveting insight into the plans and thoughts of those either planning to retire this year or recent retirees, really highlighting the changing face of retirement in the UK.

The last couple of years have impacted people's plans, with people reassessing what retirement looks like to them. Less people are giving up work entirely, choosing to adopt a more staggered approach to retirement. Two thirds (66%) plan to continue working in some capacity during retirement; of this number some plan to move to part-time hours, others intend to continue working for their own business, start their own new business or volunteer. Therefore, a third of retirees plan to give up work altogether, down from 44% of 2021 retirees.

#### Financial readiness

Confidence in financial readiness to retire has fallen, with only 25% feeling financially ready to retire, versus 30% in 2021. A key factor in this fall being the rising cost of living, with 28% of respondents unsure how to mitigate the impact of rising inflation on their retirement income – a prime concern for those with large cash holdings.

#### Pass it on

With over a half (56%) of retirees planning to pass on wealth to their loved ones, just 23% feel confident about how they will pass on any leftover assets to loved ones. Only 9% have started gifting wealth to reduce their IHT liability. Interestingly just 30% have had conversations with their partner about passing on their estate, while just 26% have spoken to their children about it.

#### No two retirements are the same

Retirement is a thriving new beginning to plan for. Whether you're thinking about a gradual retirement or full retirement how do you visualise your retirement years? Have you thought about your income requirements or tax implications? Have you started a conversation with family about how you want to use your wealth to help them? Advice can help you seek clarity and provide focus and direction.

#### Divorce and your pension – a supporting role

Research suggests that nearly one in five people are, or will be, financially worse off due to their divorce, and that many divorcees struggle to make ends meet after separating from their partner.

The statistics make for worrying reading. A third of divorced respondents said they were forced to take money from their savings to supplement their finances, 20% had to use credit cards for everyday expenses, 18% borrowed from family and friends, while 15% resorted to selling their possessions to make ends meet.

#### Pensions are an asset

Pensions can be highly valuable assets – 42% (or £6.4tn) of UK wealth is currently held in private pensions – meaning that a pension can be a hugely important part of a

divorce settlement. And yet, 15% of divorced people had no idea that their pension could be impacted by getting divorced, while 35% did not make any claim on their former spouse's pension.

#### Don't underestimate your pension

Alistair McQueen, Head of Savings & Retirement at Aviva, commented, "It's critical that, as part of the separation process, couples take time to think about and discuss one of their single most valuable assets, their pension [...] It can often be a very complex issue so, as well as hiring a family lawyer, it would be advisable for couples to contact a financial adviser to walk them through the pension valuation and financial process."

#### The impact of 'no-fault' divorce

It has yet to be understood how the introduction of so-called 'no-fault' divorce in April this year might be starting to impact the way in which pensions and other assets are treated in divorce settlements.

We would always recommend speaking with a qualified financial adviser for guidance relating to the financial aspects of your divorce. We are here to help you make some important decisions with your finances as you navigate the complexities (emotional and financial) of divorce.

#### <u>Trust Registration Service update</u>

The Trust Registration Service (TRS) opened in 2017 with the aim of digitalising the trust registration process. Following the UK's adoption of the EU's Fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive (5MLD) in 2020, changes to the TRS were required in order for HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to fulfil its obligations under the new regulations.

The new rules require all UK express trusts and some non-UK trusts (including most non-taxable trusts) to register with HMRC. The TRS began accepting registrations from non-taxable trusts in September 2021, with an initial deadline of 10 March 2022. Due to delays in getting the TRS prepared, this deadline was later amended to 1 September 2022.

#### Rules relating to non-taxable trusts

The September 2022 deadline applies to all trusts that existed on or after 6 October 2020 — even if they are now closed. Following this deadline, all new trusts (and any changes to the details of existing trusts) must be registered within 90 days. In order to not penalise trusts set up close to the September 2022 deadline, however, the 90-day rule will also apply to trusts set up on or after 2 June 2022.

#### Which non-taxable trusts are exempt?

There are some trusts that are exempt from registration unless they pay UK tax. Some examples include trusts used to hold money or assets of a UK-registered pension scheme, trusts holding life insurance and other policies that pay out upon a person's death, charitable trusts and will trusts. We understand that the rules relating to trusts are complex, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you are unsure

#### GET IN TOUCH

DGS IFA Ltd are Independent and Chartered Financial Advisers. We also hold the Gold Standard for Pension Transfers. I am 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 plans and goals, please contact me, Paul Savuto, AFPS, Chartered Financial Planner. DGS Independent Financial Advisers Ltd. 07834 499 595 or email ps@dgsifa.com, I'll be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you have. FCA 225814.

\*



The MacIntyre Charity is recruiting carers in our area, and is also open to enquiries from people with a Learning Disability who may need support from a carer. Read more at https://www.macintyrecharity.org/for-adults/shared-lives.

Carers share their home, family and community life and the person they care for get to know and bond with them. Sometimes the scheme is a way for people to learn the skills they need to live independently and to help put down roots in the area or in the community before moving into a place of their own.

If you love helping someone to flourish, without the red tape of traditional caring or nursing, where it's easy to get burnt out and feel unfulfilled, Shared Lives care puts what's important first. It is all about relationships, helping someone grow and maintain their confidence, make new friends or learn new skills. It's a way for them to flourish as a person – and for you to bring your whole self to the role.

Shared Lives caring can be anything from the odd day here and there, to living with a carer full time.

More info on 01525 406501 or by email: sharedlives.cb@macintyrecharity.org.

#### MEPPERSHALL - WANDERBUS

Bookings & Info: Tel: 0300-123-3023 www.wanderbus.org.uk



#### <u>Certain Routes/Times have changed - VALID FROM 6th June 2022</u> Please check and see W5 – New Destination

As from 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 "Stop	s at all Bus Stops on R	equest"
W2 BEDFORD - 1st & 3rd Wednesday of Mon	th OUT	RETURN
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
WA BIGOLESWARE		BETHEN
W3 BIGGLESWADE - Every Monday		RETURN
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
W5 BIGGLESWADE - A1 Retail Park/Town Centre - Every Fri	iday OUT	RETURN
Rectory Rd / High St all stops	10.00	RR
Shefford Rd. – all stops	10.03	RR
Biggleswade A1 Retail Park / Town Centre	10.25/10.30	
Town Centre – o/s Asda / A1 Retail Park		12.10 / 12.15
W6A CAMBRIDGE - 4 <sup>TH</sup> Wednesday of Mon	th OUT	RETURN
Shefford Rd – all stops	08.48	RR
High St - all stops / Rectory Rd	08.50	RR
Cambridge, Downing St. – o/s John Lewis	10.10	14.15
W8A ST ALBANS - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Mon	th	
	08.48	DD
Shefford Rd. – all stops High St. / Rectory Rd – all stops	08.50	RR RR
St Peters St. o/s Santander Bank / pick up opp Bank	10.25	14.00
St Peters St. 0/8 Santander Bank / pick up ggg, Bank	10.23	14.00
W10 ST NEOTS - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of Mon	th OUT	RETURN
Rectory Rd. / High Street, All stops	09.18	RR
Shefford Rd, All stops	09.20	RR
St Neots - Market Place	10.15	12.20
W11 MILTON KEYNES - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of Mon	ith OUT	RETURN
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	1313
/ John Lewis (Stop E3)	10.10	13.15
7 COMIN LEWIS (STOP LS)		13.13
W12 HITCHIN - Every Tuesda	ay OUT	RETURN
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
WAA WELWAN CARDEN CITY 4st Thursday of Man	Ath OUT	DETUDN
W14 WELWYN GARDEN CITY - 1st Thursday of Mor		RETURN
Rectory Rd. / High Street, All stops	09.14	RR
Shefford Road, All stops	09.16	RR 43.45
WGC Central Bus Station	10.00	12.15

EXCURSIONS - 4TH Thursday of Month - call For Details - 0300-123-2023

E: Thewanderbus@gmail.com

Buses available for PRIVATE HIRE - Call for Quote.

## WANDERBUS Excursion Programme 2022

DATE	DESTINATION	Entrance Fee as per current website	Bus Fare
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	ASCOTT HOUSE & GARDENS Near Leighton Buzzard. An old English black & white timber manor house dating back in parts to C17 <sup>th</sup> . Acquired by the Rothschild family in 1873. Housing an exceptional collection of paintings, fine furniture and superb porcelain. Extensive gardens.	£13.00 p.p. House & Gardens or £8.00 Gardens only. Free to National Trust members.	£12.00 p.p. Pick up 11.30/12.00 Depart 15.30
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	BICESTER VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTRE Oxfordshire Home to more than 160 luxury fashion & lifestyle boutiques of many of the leading brands offering savings of up to 60% off the recommended retail price. Dine at Soho House & Co's farmhouse restaurant and café of the splendour of Café Wolseley.	Free Entry	£20.00 p.p. Pick Up 10.00/10.30 Depart 15.15.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	CHRISTMAS MARKET BURGHLEY HOUSE, STANFORD Enjoy a magical festival shopping experience in the idyllic surroundings of Burghley House. Wander amongst the traditional chalets, heated marquees and avenue of pagodas bedecked in sparkling Christmas decorations and lights. Over 130 stalls offering everything from luxury gifts, artisan food and drink to Christmas decorations and winter clothing. A festive day out with carol singers, a Victorian carousel and much more.	Entry £6.00 per person	£14.00 p.p.  Pick up 11.15/11.45 Arrive 13.00  Depart 16.15

To Book: Call 0300-123-3023. Or email: thewanderbus@gmail.com. We require a deposit of £10.00 p.p. for any excursion. Post a cheque to Wanderbus, 5 The Pastures, Upper Stondon, Beds SG16 6QB or bank transfer to: CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code :40-52-40 Acc: 00013118, Wanderbus Ltd. (Use your name as reference). Cancellations must be made 10 days before the event or full charge may be taken.



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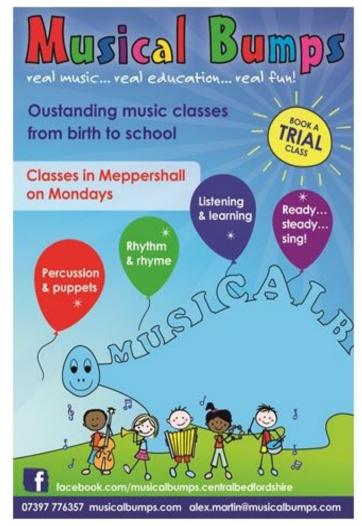
WEDDINGS ATTENDED



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#### **Useful Contact Details In Meppershall**

# DEFIBRILLATORS – outside School and Post Office/Village Stores DOCTORS, DENTISTS, PHARMACIES

NHS Direct 111

Dr Baxter & Partners

Shefford Health Centre, Robert Lucas Drive, Shefford SG17 5FS

Appointments 01462 810034 General queries, prescriptions etc. 01462 818620

Drs. Carragher, Neal and Akhtar

109 Station Rd Lower Stondon SG16 6JJ 01462 850305

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 <u>anthony.brown@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</u>
Mark Liddiard <u>mark.liddiard@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</u>

**Parish Council Clerk** 

Alessandre Marabese <u>clerk@meppershall-pc.g</u>ov.uk

**Member of Parliament:** 

Nadine Dorries Nadine.Dorries.MP@parliament.uk

#### **St Marys Church**

Rev. Veronica Goodman, The Rectory, Church Road 01462 339962 See full details in the church pages of The Meppershall Messenger

#### Library

High St Shefford 0300 300 8067 Tuesday – Friday 9am – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 4pm, closed Mon & Sun

#### Whitbread Wanderbus service

Stephanie Kirby thewanderbus@gmail.com

#### **Food and Supplies**

Budgens Stores, Post Office, High Street

Rogers Bakery, High Street 01462 813398
The Sugar Loaf, 25 High St 01462 654334
Mobile Fish & Chips (Happy Plaice), Tuesdays 3.30 -7.00, 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

#### **Organisations**

Meppershall Players, Karen Mitchell01462 816366Meppershall Good Neighbours (GNOMES)07760 793921Meppershall Brownies, Suzanne Brightwell07817 392325Shefford Guides, Angie Griffiths07957 462519

HATS Drama Group, Linda Winfield <a href="mailto:lin.winfield5@gmail.com">lin.winfield5@gmail.com</a>

Shefford Scout Group (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers)

Kathy Georgiou 01462 629313

#### Meppershall Village Hall

Trustees <u>trustees@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk</u>

Bookings <u>bookings@meppershallvillagehall.co.uk</u> 07485 102727

#### **The Team And Collation Dates**

#### **CONTRIBU**TIONS

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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Collating Dates 2022/23					
November Issue	October 31 <sup>st</sup>	March 2023 Issue	February 27 <sup>th</sup>		
December-January Double Issue	November 28th	April 2023 Issue	March 27 <sup>th</sup>		
February 2022 Issue	January 30 <sup>th</sup>	May 2023 Issue	April 24 <sup>th</sup>		
Please contact John Thompson to confirm arrangements					
(contact information above).					

Please note that dates in the above table show when collating will take place, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall, for the corresponding month, displayed to the left. The issue being collated usually relates to the following month. However, please continue to look out for updates and alterations to usual plans during the coronavirus social distancing measures.