

WICKEN NEWS

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Photography Competition Edition



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It is a year since we changed our name to the Wicken Village Community. Much has happened in that year and the last few months, whether noticed or unnoticed, but I think it is worth reflecting on what Community is? See, for example, everything that is covered in this edition. Community can mean all sorts of things, but all have a commonality; however, for us, I guess it is principally a sharing of place, people and identity. The English-language word “community” derives from the Old French “comuneté”, which comes from the Latin “communitas”.

In the last year there are three Community Groups that have been working very closely on a variety of Village activities, whether by design or circumstance – Wicken Village Community, WicKids and the Wicken Sports Club. These activities have included several Sports, Senior’s Lunches, Crafts, Scarecrow Festival, Easter Egg Hunt, BBQ, Film Nights, Halloween, Children’s Xmas Party and even Litter Picks. I have probably forgotten some, but for a small village, we are also very lucky to have such good facilities available to us.

Many of those involved in these Groups sit on the committees of more than one, so it has been quite natural to work together. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who give their time to help keep the activities and institutions of our Village ticking to the benefit of the whole. I am particularly making this observation as three of our number over the past few months have partners who are extremely ill, yet have continued to give everything they can. But also, others have stepped in to fill gaps where necessary. Unfortunately, a casualty, but only delayed by a couple of weeks, has been this year’s annual September BBQ.

The nights are starting to draw in but there are many things still going on in the Village over the coming months, from BBQ, Rugby Breakfasts, Halloween Spooks, Quiz Night, to Film Nights and the Children’s Xmas Party.

Fenlon Dunphy
Chair

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

Chair: Fenlon Dunphy
Vice Chair: Will Morphet
Secretary: Will Morphet
Treasurer: Nick Plumbridge
Archivist: Fenlon Dunphy
Wicken News Editor: Siobhan Eilbeck
Committee: Petra Spencer-Jones
Andrew Edmondson

Wicken News is published by the Wicken Village Community (WVC). The opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the WVC.

Letters and contributors are always welcome and need to be in by mid December.

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On the cover: Image of Wicken by Glen Martin

For all Wicken News enquiries please email wickencommunity@gmail.com

Visit our village website www.wickennorthants.co.uk

1 *(New members always welcome!)*



'WICKEN WONDERS' Photography Competition

The Winners

With a special thank you to our judges Lee Scriven and Roger Kitchen we now have our winners for this summers Photography competition.

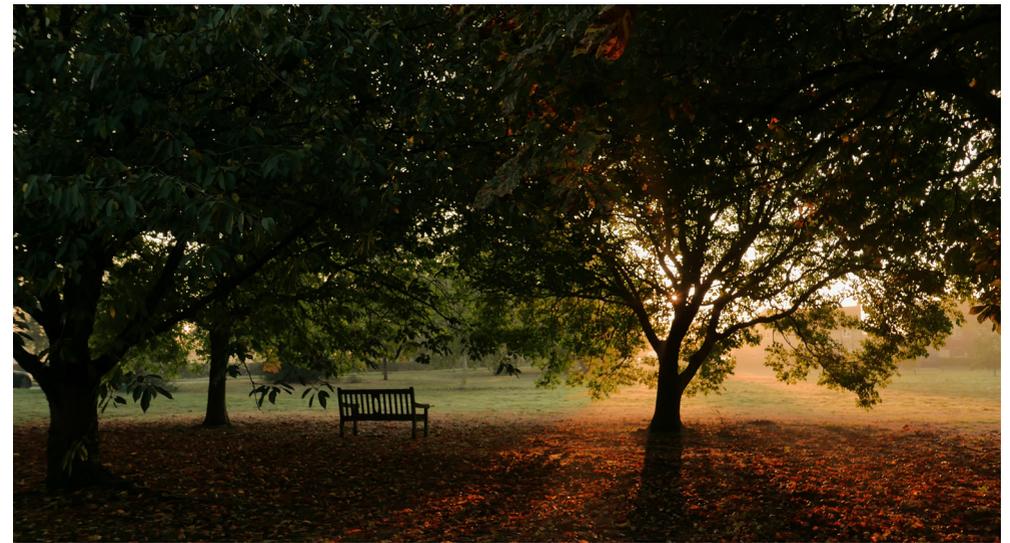
Under 9: Rosie Eilbeck

Great imagination shown. Rosie saw a photo, where there wasn't one! Excellent construction and framing that led the

eyes to the centre of the photo. Plus, clever technique to use manual focus to ensure the window was sharp.

10-15: Oliver Morphet

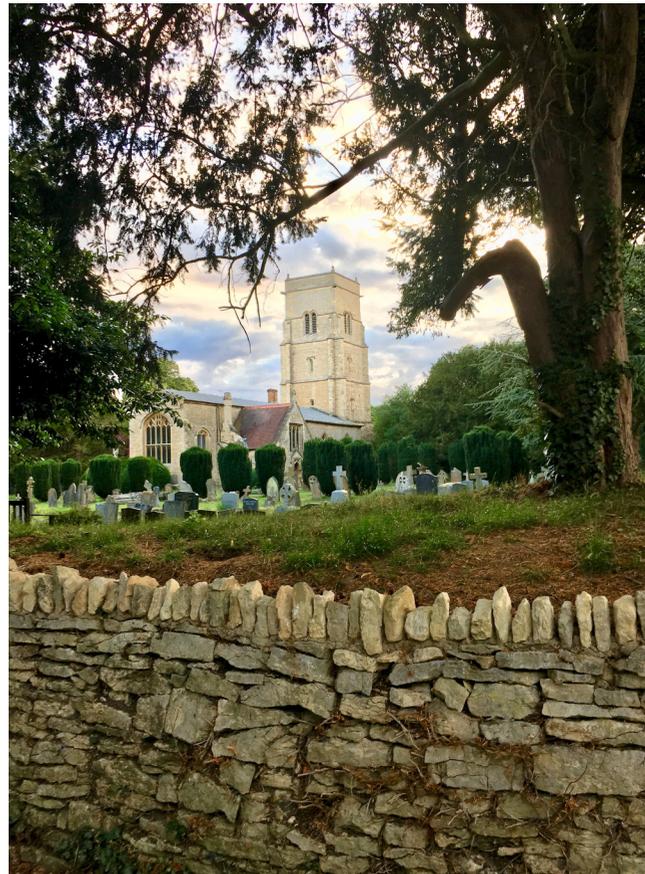
Oliver has shown great technique in collating the photo. The wall gives the photo the required depth as does the tree for the middle and then finally the church. It's a difficult photo to attain focus throughout and Oliver executed the shot superbly.



Glenn Martin



Rosie Eilbeck, Age 9 (Winner 9 & Under)



Oliver Morphet, Age 13 (Winner 10 - 15)



Glenn Martin (Winner 16 & Over)



Glenn Martin

Over 16: Glenn Martin: Photo of Sheep (actually all of them!)
Not just one, but three stunning photographs that not only met the competition's brief, but also included my favourite photo of all the entries with the heard of sheep picture. Love that photo, it made me smile. The way it cleverly captures all the lambs' eyes is brilliant.

Highly Recommended

Siobhan Eilbeck: Great photo with tons of atmosphere that gave me an impression of what village life can provide.

Hazel Dunphy: Lovely sky and getting so low down to take the photo gave it real depth. Using the little green shoots of a plant growing at the forefront was very clever.

Andy Bush: Love the construction and framing of the photo that provides a real sense of village life.

Will Morphet: Highly original photo of the sun bursting through on to the landscape. A photo opportunity that could have been easily missed, but Will's clever eye ensured a great photo.

Jo Morphet: Great evening landscape photograph with a wonderful skyline.

If you want to see the rest of the great entrants have a look at the Wicken Village Community page on our village website. The address is below:

<https://wickenorthants.co.uk/community/photography-2019>



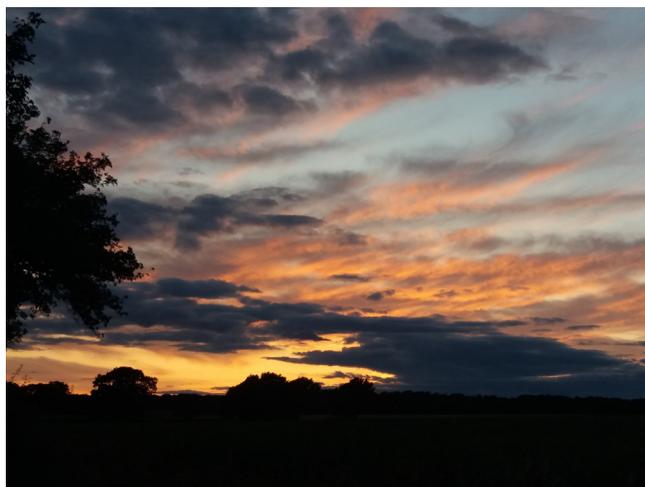
Siobhan Eilbeck



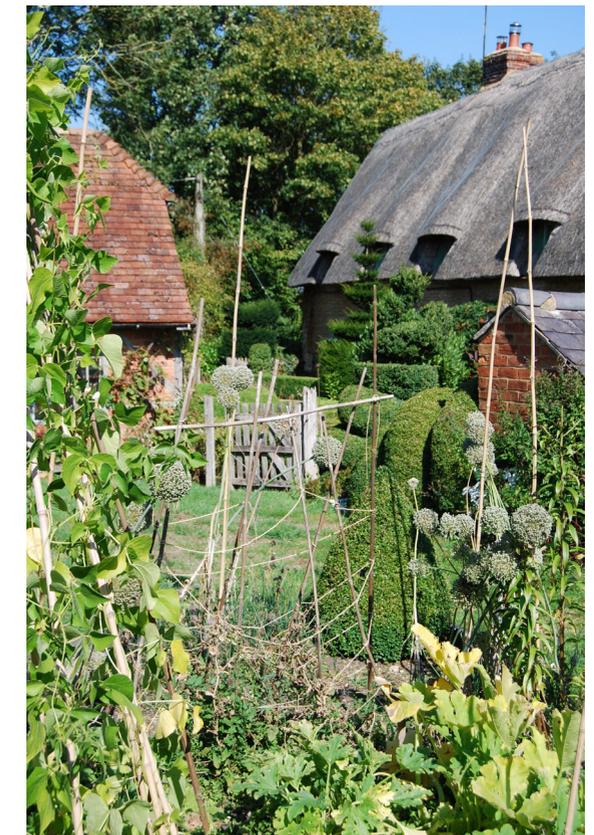
Hazel Dunphy



Will Morphet



Jo Morphet



Andy Bush



MESSAGE FROM THE CURATE

By
Reverend
Sue
Stanley

Living in the countryside as we do means that it's easy to keep in touch with how the agricultural seasons progress and to appreciate all that goes into that loaf on your kitchen table. Seed, soil, rain and sunshine; sowing, harvesting, milling and baking; transporting, shopping and preparation for eating. That's a lot of work and effort ... and maybe not appreciated quite as much in an urban environment. When my children were young one of their favourite books was the story of 'The Little Red Hen'. In the story the little red hen finds some grains of wheat and she sets out to plant them and grow them to make some bread. Along the way she asks her friends in the farmyard, the dog, cat and pig if they will help, but they have better things to do than all the hard work needed to produce bread. Until of course the bread is ready to eat and the little red hen asks who

would like to help eat it. The dog, cat and pig are more than happy to help now ... but the little red hen is not willing to share! Bread is often mentioned in the Bible, from the Old Testament stories of the Israelites preparing unleavened bread as they were led out of Egypt by Moses, to the stories which Jesus told which were often illustrated with farming practices of sowing and reaping, and in miracles he performed. One well known miracle which features bread is the Feeding of the Five Thousand. John's Gospel tells us that at one time when Jesus and his disciples were surrounded by a crowd of hungry people the only food the disciples could find was a boy's offering of five barley loaves and two fish - not much help with so many mouths to feed! But Jesus took the small offering, gave thanks, and there was enough for everyone with plenty to spare. The season of harvest festival is a good time to reflect on how much we are prepared to share what we have, in a world where millions are starving, often through no fault of their own. The Little Red Hen wasn't willing to share (which I always think is a disappointing

ending!), but the boy who offered his meagre lunch was. His tiny offering, received and blessed by God, meant that all were fed and satisfied.

God bless
Sue

PET SERVICE

Images from the church service on the 15th September



2019 CRICKET SEASON REVIEW

A tale of two hat tricks

It was a good season. Played 16, Won 10, Lost 4, 2 Abandonments.

Total runs scored – 1714, Total wickets taken – 117.

We finished 3rd in the league 14 points behind the team in second.

A cricket season is rarely made up of just numbers and indeed the 2019 league season had everything from the somewhat feisty games against Gayton CC, to my first experience of playing on a quintessential village green at Evenley, with heady doses of excitement, despondency, elation and sadness thrown in for good measure. That first game of the season at Evenley will live long in my memory. If you've never been and have the chance and inclination, I would recommend going to Evenley to watch cricket. It is a stunning venue and that first game rose to the occasion. Batting first Evenley 2nd XI scored 173 during which I took the first Wicken's two hat-tricks (3 wickets in 3 balls) this season and my first ever in over 35 years of playing the game. Any score over 160 is generally seen as a tough target but an exceptional batting performance Callum Roberts (57no) supported by Matt Pitcher (25) and Jake Dickson (13no) saw Callum hit a six to win the game with 7 balls remaining. The light was failing, the Evenley crowd was raucous and



partisan, the bowling was tight and the fielding good. It was a wonderful performance from Callum in very tough conditions to knock those runs off. Following that I can confirm the pub on Evenley village green is also very good....

This game set the tone for our season, by facing difficult conditions methodically, exemplified by wins at Braunston Paddock with 10 men, scoring 212 (Ben Halleybone 85, Matt Pitcher 70), bowling Braunston out for 75 (Siva Kajan 4/34, Callum Roberts 3/19) and in the game at Woodford Halse, the venue for our second hat-trick and noteworthy game of the 2019.

It was mid-July; we were second in the league but had some very difficult games against the stronger sides in our league looming, so a win was crucial to maintain our somewhat unexpected push for promotion. Losing the toss and put in to bat

we scored a good 156 (Jimmy Canwell 46, Tom Heenan 41) so were confident when coming out to bowl. Woodford Halse batted exceptionally well. They scored quickly and looked odds on for the win needing just 19 runs to win with 5 wickets and plenty of overs remaining. Matt Pitcher then produced an outstanding bowling display taking his first league hat-trick for the club and running through the remaining batsmen, finishing with figures of 6/19. We won the game by just 10 runs.

An unfortunate inevitability in village cricket is that players will come and go during the close season. The playing squad of 2019 found a way of winning tight games, found a way of coming together and working for each other, which leaves me feeling nothing but pride in having the good fortune and opportunity to have been a small part of it.

Dan Cooper
WSCC Secretary 2019

FARM WALK

The weather for this year's walk on 8 June was somewhat wetter and wilder than in previous years, which may have explained the reduced attendance of 10 adults and children. However, we braved the storm and were rewarded with Andrew's fascinating description of crop management approaches and its challenges. We look forward to the next walk, weather come what may!



NEW TEAM AT WICKEN SPORTS CLUB

MK PORTO FC



Over the summer we were approached by MK Porto FC to use the Sports Club for a number of friendly games during the close season. They were struggling to find a suitable venue to accommodate them. We are very happy to say that they have decided to adopt Wicken as their home ground for their league matches through the 2019/20 season and hopefully beyond. This is great news for the Sports Club, now having a Juniors, Seniors and Veterans football teams. The exceedingly Big Chicken is their mascot from sponsors "Favorite Chicken"

WHITE LION DOG SHOW

On a warm Sunday at the beginning of August, 39 dogs brought their owners to the White Lion for the annual village Dog Show.

John and Viv made everyone welcome, turning the car park into a safe haven for the dogs with paddling pools for cooling off and the garden became the show ring. There were classes suited to all the various shapes, sizes and ages of our four legged friends. There was even an obedience class which could have been a disaster but with copious quantities of treats the dogs were well behaved and pretty obedient. Even the owners behaved!

For us, the highlight was of course, our faithful old girl Maggie winning the veterans class. Being deaf and blind she didn't have a clue what was going on but still seemed quite pleased with the result.

All proceeds from the day went to Medical Detection Dogs and a fabulous £314.50 was raised.

Many thanks to all who attended and made it a such a special day and of course a huge thank you to John and Viv for organising and hosting it for us.

Emma Plumbridge



Ask at the White Lion for full details of the categories and winners.

WICKEN WOODS

As many of you know, Wicken Woods was sold to a private owner last year and some locals who had been used to free access for many years were upset to see the wood they had loved visiting closed off.

The new owner was approached by a small group of villagers, after a discussion at a Parish Council meeting and with their support. Brian Lloyd will remain as a contact point with the owner if anyone has any further questions and, of course, the Parish Council. The owner proved willing to discuss the situation with us and has kindly agreed to allow access to the wood under certain restrictions.

Firstly, villagers will have to sign up to membership of 'Friends of Wicken Woods' (FoWW) by contacting the following website and looking under 'Become a Friend'. <https://www.nicholsonsgb.com/wicken-wood>

The firm of Nicholsons is managing the wood for the owner. Their website describes in detail their plans for the wood, the work that is being done and why, and the type of trees in the wood. They will post information saying when the wood is closed for wood work to be carried out.

The owner wants the wood to be closed off at dawn and dusk as there might be shooting going on at those times, and also when there is work in the wood that would present a risk to walkers. He has already done a considerable amount of work there in clearing rides and cutting back ash trees suffering from ash die back, so in the long run the wood will be healthier for his intervention. He has also put in stiles expressly for the use of members of FoWW.

Members will be expected to follow the Country Code which is on the website and also to adhere to the following 'rules'. We are really pleased that we can now enjoy walking here again.

Rules for members of Friends of Wicken Wood (FoWW)

- ▶ Permissive path for members of FoWW.
- ▶ Please keep to the permitted and waymarked paths (map on the website).
- ▶ Access is permitted from 90 minutes post dawn to 90 minutes pre dusk.
- ▶ Permissive access to the wood may be closed on specific days (notified on the website).
- ▶ Report any anti-social behaviour (form available on the website or contact Justine / Brian).
- ▶ Please follow the Code of Conduct.

MAKE, BAKE OR DONATE



Macmillan Coffee Morning Saturday 28th September

11am – 2pm

Wicken Sports & Social Club

Fabulous Rewards for

Kids Best Biscuits and Kids Best Cupcakes

Best Decorated Cake, Best Tasting Cake & Cake of the Year!

Jams, Chutneys & Pickles Stand

Wicken Wicked Apple Juice Stand

**Amazing Raffle
Fantastic Kids Competitions**

***Huge Choice of Spectacular Cakes, Pastries and Savouries,
Heaps of Prizes and Lots of Awards
Something for Everyone to Take Home!***

Adult Cake Entry £1, Kids Biscuit & Cupcake Enter Free
Cakes and Cookies to Wicken Sports Club by 10am
All entries judged by 1pm
For more information call Mary on 01908 571323
Or email annienix@hotmail.co.uk

Fundraising for

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

SENIOR CLUB

Group of around 40 elderly citizens from the area, meeting once a month for a lunch & afternoon entertainment. Facilities and food provided by WSC. They all appreciate the hospitality, but we are seriously in need of more help to provide food. They in turn do their bit by supporting other club functions. If any village resident over 55 would like to become a member, you would be made very welcome.

Lunch and entertainment programme until end 2019: 12 Oct, 9 Nov, 14 Dec. All dates are Saturdays. Any queries, contact Myrtle on the number below.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

South Northants district contact is PS Mikki Simmons.

Tel: 03000 111 222 / Email:

NeighbourhoodTeamSouthNorthants-Towcester@northants.police.uk

Wicken Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator: Sue Oswell

Email: susanoswell17@gmail.com

COMMEMORATIVE BENCHES

We are very pleased to have finally put the two benches in memory of Bob Clapham and Cyril Eden in place at the Larks Lane / Leckhampstead Road junction and on The Green. The benches will hopefully provide a pleasant place to sit, relax and remember.



2019 BUCKINGHAM HALF MARATHON



The participants making their way through Wicken on the 15th August

The White Lion at Wicken

Good Food - Good Wine - Good Beer

John & Viv offer a warm Welcome

Home-cooked food Menu changes monthly to reflect
the seasons, local suppliers used

For Birthday Parties or Special Occasions Buffets are
available

Opening Hours

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	6pm to 10pm
Friday	12 noon to 2:30pm, 6 pm to 11pm		
Saturday	12 noon to 11pm		
Sunday	12 noon to 8pm		

Food Served

Tuesday thru Friday	6:30 to 9pm
Saturday Bar Menu	12 noon to 2.30 pm
Saturday Full Menu	6:30pm to 9pm
Sunday Lunch	12:30pm to 3pm

Contact Us on 01908 307254

Dates for your Diary....

SEPT

Sunday 22nd
Wicken Sports Club
11.15 AM
RUGBY - ENGLAND
V TONGA

Sunday 22nd
Wicken Sports Club
12 NOON
VILLAGE BBQ

Saturday 28th
Wicken Sports Club
11 AM
MACMILLAN
COFFEE MORNING

OCT

Sunday 29th
Wicken Sports Club
8.45 AM
RUGBY -
AUSTRALIA V
WALES

Saturday 5th
Wicken Sports Club
9 AM
RUGBY - ENGLAND
V ARGENTINA

Sunday 13th
Wicken Church
9.30 AM
HARVEST
FESTIVAL

Sunday 13th
Wicken Sports Club
9.15 AM
RUGBY - WALES V
URAGUAY

Sunday 20th
Wicken Church
9.30 AM
WICKEN PRAISE

19th / 20th
Wicken Sports Club
TBC
RUGBY WORLD
CUP QUATER FINAL

NOV

26th / 27th
Wicken Sports Club
TBC
RUGBY WORLD
CUP SEMI FINAL

Saturday 2nd
Wicken Sports Club
TBC
RUGBY WORLD
CUP FINAL

Sunday 10th
Wicken Church
10.50 AM
SERVICE OF
REMEMBRANCE

If you have any Wicken activities that you would like listed on this page please
email: wickencommunity@gmail.com



Homegrown Pork and lamb

Homemade cakes and fruit pies

Fresh farm eggs

Open Friday and Saturday 9am to 6pm

www.cranleybarnfarms.co.uk

Little Hill Farm, Buckingham Road, Wicken,
Milton Keynes MK19 6DD