

EDITION 88

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

WICKEN

N E W S



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022

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

Letters and contributors are always welcome and need to be in by mid November 2022 for the next edition.

For all enquiries or to make a contribution please email wicken.community@gmail.com

Parish Council Website:
www.wickennorthants.co.uk

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WELCOME

They say we remember exactly where we were and what we were doing when certain memorable events happen.

So it was for me when I heard the news of the Queen's passing; I was thousands of miles away in a very different place to home. But in this world of instant news, no matter where you are, you are kept up to date with the unfolding history, preparations, facts, figures, and pageantry. The Queen had been a fixture in the lives of so many people all around the World, whether supporter or not of the monarchy.

What I wasn't quite ready for; I was flying back on the day of the funeral, landing at 12.30pm. I realised along with a very significant proportion of the plane, that despite being 36,000 feet in the air, we were able to watch the funeral and all the ceremony live. Walking off the plane was quite surreal, with all the individual seat monitors still on and the vast majority on this one event in history.

Fenlon Dunphy
Chair



St. John's Church Update

We continue to have one service of Holy Communion a month at St John's, with the other three churches in the Benefice each hosting one of the remaining three Sundays. Where there is a fifth Sunday, we take turns with an 8am service. Details of all the services, including those available online, and other events may be found on the benefice website: <https://www.southcleley-benefice.org.uk/> . Please feel free to contact me if that's easier though. (Details follow)

October - December

2 October	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion
9 October	11.45am	Harvest Thanksgiving with bread competition and lunch
30 October	10.00am	Pet Service
13 November	10.10am	Holy Communion, followed by Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
11 December:	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion
18 December:	6.00pm	Carol Service and refreshments
24 December:	3.00pm	Christingle
25 December	10.00am	Christmas Holy Communion

The Services - details

Harvest 9 October – home-made soup, cheese and home-baked bread will be served in the church after the service. As last year, there will be a competition for the best loaf so do please get baking and come along with your bread to share. The prize will be a baking book. Harvest gifts of garden produce, packaged food or money very welcome.

Pet Service 30 October – Parrot, pooch or pony (really!), all pets are welcome at this informal and lively service.

Remembrance Sunday 13 November – please feel free to come to the service in church or just to the Act of Remembrance where, as usual, the names of the Fallen will be read and the Two Minutes' Silence observed.

Carol Service 18 December – traditional lessons and carols, followed by refreshments. Why not start the real Christmas there?

Christingle 24 December – a gentle pause in the pre-Christmas excitement. Come along and help your child/ren make their own Christingle to take home. Informal and suitable for all ages, including very small children.

We were thrilled to welcome so many visitors to the church during the Fête week-end. Everyone is always just as welcome to any of our services, even if you've never come before, here or anywhere else. We don't expect children to be completely still and silent (!) nor mind if they fancy a little wander around. Maybe bring a book or a toy? (Possibly not that drum, though, please...)

We hope to see and welcome you soon.

Tish Gordon-Lee tish@gordonlee.org 07850 108908

Summer Fete

25th June 2022

Wasn't it wonderful?!

What a Great Day! The sun was shining, the crowds turned up in force to our Wicken Village Fete!

Activities at the Church, on the Green, the Sports Club and The White Lion, Dog Fancy Dress, Vintage Vehicles, Nine Craft Stalls, Welly Wanging, Coconut Shy, Cream Teas, Cake Baking, Pimm's Bar, Hot Dogs, Burgers, Photo Shoot, Treasure Hunt – what more could you want!



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wicken junction -
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Thurs & Friday 10am-4pm

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Family Fun....



Oh yes! School Sports Day with Races for Egg & Spoon, Sack, Hula Hoop and 3 Legged, all rounded off with a very competitive Tug-O-War!
Rules, What Rules! Many aching muscles and bones, but a thoroughly good time had by all!

Down the White Lion for a leisurely evening of music, chat and the occasional drink!

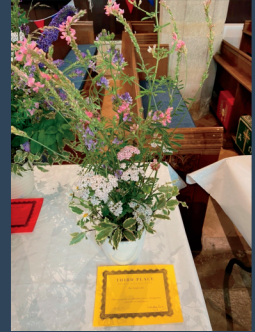


Incredible competition entries....





Even more incredible competition entries....



We raised £790 for local charities – we gave £185 to each of:

- The Bus Shelter MK
- Medical Detection Dogs
- HULA National Animal Welfare Trust
- Woad Farm Hanslope – Riding for Disabled

and £50 to Hedgehog Rescue Deanshanger.



Classic Car & Tractor Show





TOWCESTER AREA DOOR TO DOOR

(TADD) Volunteer Drivers Urgently Needed

Can you spare a few hours a week to take people in YOUR community to their health and wellbeing appointments?

Since the pandemic, many of our older volunteer drivers have stepped down and the lack of new volunteers means that we now have a long waiting list for membership. As the winter vaccine programme takes off, we are having to turn down requests for transport from those who need it most.

Our community medical transport service is invaluable in helping the elderly and disabled to remain independent in their own homes particularly where no suitable public transport exists. Please help us continue to provide this essential service in YOUR community.

Allocation of journeys is tailored to your availability on a weekly basis, mileage is paid by the passenger and insurance premiums are not affected.



For more details about becoming a TADD volunteer driver visit our website.

www.towcesterareadoor2door.com

Senior Club

2nd Saturday of every
month at the Sports Club

Anyone new who wishes to
join is very welcome! We are
also always thrilled to
welcome volunteers to help.

This is a lovely social group
that meets once a month to
enjoy a meal, bingo, raffle,
tote and occasionally
entertainment!

Craft Group

1st Sunday of every
month at the Sports Club

For more information
about the Craft Group
please contact Eleanor
Cooper by text message
on 07980 609845 or
email
danandelliecooper@
btinternet.com

Senior Club & Craft Group

For more information
about Senior Club
please contact Myrtle
01908 616603.

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Childhood Memories - Chapter 3

John Folker

To fit one's childhood into a couple pages in our local magazine, it's impossible. So, I must skip playing in my beloved brook, wellies constantly full of water, wandering the woods and fields, butterflies, birds, and bees. Playing cowboys and Indians, bats and balls, dinky toys, model boats and aeroplanes, marbles, building dens, rounders, skipping and hopscotch. Hide and seek especially winter evenings when dark by 4:30. Building Sleds, and push go carts, bows & arrow and even catapults. These things are all too endless to go there but maybe broached in another chapter.

However, I now realise that I must have been something of a ringleader as so many old school pals have told me whatever I done the rest attempted to follow. Climbing trees was a typical

example, the village was full of tall elm trees, and I wanted to climb all of them. I can remember always having to show others the way up, most failing to follow. Mum knew I was adventurous but did not want to kerb my discovery instinct, but she later told how she would not look up when I called her "hello" from the top of a tree fearing for my safety.

Wally was now accepted as part of the household. I was regularly going to the farm with him, feeding the pigs, milking the cows, riding on the tractor and horse & cart. Enjoying every new adventure. I remember Mr Cashmore was the first in the village to have a combine harvester, very basic compared with the modern version but to a young mechanically minded boy a wonders machine.

1952/1953 - Two eventful years. King George VI had died, and daughter Elizabeth was now Queen I can remember the very day the news broke. We kids soon caught on to the phrase “the King is dead long live the Queen” We had no idea how ungracious the phrase must have sounded as we kept repeating it around the village. We did not fully understand the significance of this event.

Some weeks later Mum & I were invited to the opening of the RAF memorial at Runnymede this commemorates all RAF members that lost their lives during World War 2. We attended and the new Queen performed the opening ceremony, then walked along the rows of the audience. This is a lovely location high above the banks of the river Thames two or three miles down stream from Windsor, also there, is the Magna Carta and Kennedy memorial.

See picture of me pointing to dad’s name.

The next eventful thing that year was me taking the eleven plus examination to try and gain a place at Towcester Grammar School. Mum & family were very keen for me to do well and keep up with Dad's brothers and sisters’ families. Come the day of results, I and a girl in the village were declared both border line results. So, we had to attend an interview with the headmaster of the school. Much to mum and family disappointment Janice got the one remaining position and I was to go along with the rest of my classmates to Deanshanger Secondary Modern School.

My family did not know at the time, but it would turn out to be a blessing in disguise.



Poop!

A request from the Sports Club

A huge thank you for everyone who has been more careful about where their doggies poop! The latest Poop-Gate however concerns where to put that poop when you have picked it up. Here's a quick reminder of the do's and dont's for the do-do!

The general bins located in Wicken Sports Club grounds must NOT be used to deposit dog waste bags. This is leading to hygiene issues. There are specific bins for dog bags located at 2 entrances to the Sports Club.



WICKEN PARK



Wicken Park, on the edge of our village off Wicken Park Road, was formerly one of the lodges of the Whittlewood Forest, sold in 1716 to Charles Hosier who enlarged it. The house came into the Prowse family through the marriage of Thomas Prowse of Axbridge, Somerset, to Elizabeth Sharp, eldest daughter of the Hosiers only child Anna Maria. Their descendants lived there until 1860 when it was sold to Colonel the Hon. George Sholto Douglas-Pennent, later Baron Penrhyn, who

enlarged the house and restored and enlarged the church in memory of his first wife who died 1869. The Penrhyn family lived at Wicken Park until 1944 when the estate was sold to the Society of Merchant Venturers of Bristol.

It is now the Nursery and Junior School campus for Akeley Wood School, an independent day school for children aged 1 - 18 and has been, and still is, attended by numerous children from our village.

WICKEN ORGANISATIONS & CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)

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ianhowett@wickennorthants.co.uk
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vivkime@wickennorthants.co.uk
petrascencerjones@wickennorthants.co.uk
verityrobinson@wickennorthants.co.uk

WICKEN CHURCH

Tish Gordon-Lee – tish@gordonlee.org
Celina Francklin – celinafrancklin@gmail.com
Marcus Rixon – marcus.p.rixon@btinternet.com

WICKEN VILLAGE COMMUNITY (WVC)

Fenlon Dunphy (Chair) & Will Morphet (Vice Chair)
email: wicken.community@gmail.com

WICKEN SPORTS CLUB

Fenlon Dunphy (Chair) & Will Morphet (Secretary)
email: enquiries.wickensc@gmail.com

WICKIDS

Petra Spencer-Jones email: wickidsclub@gmail.com

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Team Sergeant: Michaela Simons
email: micki.simons@northants.pnn.police.uk
Neighbourhood Team Coordinator: Katrina Heath
email: katrina.heath@northants.pnn.police.uk Tel: 101
Neighbourhood Watch Team
email: NeighbourhoodTeamSouthNorthants-
Towcester@northants.police.uk
Wicken Coordinator: Caroline Butterfield
email: wickennw@gmail.com

WICKEN SOLAR FARM COMMITTEE

Giles Butterfield (Chair) – wickensolarfarm@gmail.com

*Coming
Up.....*

9 October
**Harvest
Thanksgiving**

St. John's Church
11.45 am

30 October
Pet Service

St. John's Church
10.00 am

2nd November
**Parish Council
Meeting**

Sports Club
7.00pm



Wicken TENNIS CLUB

wickentennis.co.uk

£30

ADULT MEMBERSHIP
ANNUAL

£15

YOUTH 14-18 MEMBERSHIP
ANNUAL

£7

YOUTH U14 MEMBERSHIP
ANNUAL

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the 2022/2023 season

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courts with brand-new nets,
opposite the Sports Club.
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