



# EXTON VILLAGE NEWS LETTER 191 MAY 2021

**Another Step..... May 17<sup>th</sup>** is the next step in the opening up of the country after the Covid 19 Lockdown. This will include pubs/catering establishments with customers indoors, with limited numbers, up to 6 two households indoors, universities, exercises, sports, even a hug with out families! etc. The whole process of reintroducing normality is a minefield for organisers/community/businessowners/ to be sure of doing the right thing at the right time as the penalties are severe.

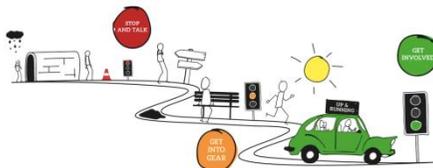


**The death of Prince Phillip, the Duke of Edinburgh a few days short of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021, touched the hearts of many. Our thoughts must be with the Queen at this sad time as she continues her long reign without the 'rock' she has had to support her during the past 73 years.**

**The television broadcast was very moving and some might say all the more so due to the covid restrictions, being a smaller personal family occasion. The sky was blue, the sun shone, the military put on a display as can only be found in the UK.**

**A certain generation can remember the excitement of the wedding in 1947, of his Royal Highness and the Queen, no internet then or TV, but lots of photos in the newspapers**

**A man of innovation and ideas, the list seemingly endless of the organisations introduced by him.**



Pepper's- A Safe Place is a mental health organisation based in Oakham. We provide 1-2-1 and peer support to adults across Rutland and Melton Mowbray. Join us during Mental Health Awareness Week (10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May 2021), get involved and help us raise vital funds and awareness of this important local source of support for people with mental health difficulties. Sign up to our virtual, sponsored Miles for Mental Health and help us raise funds by walking, running, cycling, hopping, skipping or jumping!

Get creative and enter our Photography Competition with some amazing prizes on offer. If you're feeling lucky, enter our raffle for a chance to win some incredible local prizes, such as a bottle of local Gin, a goodie bag from Hambleton Bakery, vouchers for Rutland Cakeaway, gifts from Rutland Wax Melts and so much more. Get your tickets at Oakham Market on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May, (why not treat yourself to some of our delicious cakes on sale as well!)

All the details for our Mental Health Awareness Week activities can be found on our website or social media pages (peppersoakham). We need you, our community, to help us end the stigma around mental health, spread awareness for the services we provide and raise vital funds so that we can continue supporting those in need.

Our premises provide a safe and welcoming place for anyone to come and chat, share their experiences over a cup of tea, escape potential loneliness and relax, away from daily stresses. We offer regular drop-in sessions for adults twice weekly on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, as well as providing support to parents and babies on Thursday mornings.

In addition, we have a Friendship support line. Just call our Reception on 07714 503 556 and they will put you in touch with one of our wonderful volunteers for a chat. If you, or anyone you know, is struggling with their mental health, please speak up and reach out. We are here for you.

<https://peppersrutland.co.uk> .....

07714 503 556      info@peppersrutland.co.uk



## **Exton Church Big Clean – Saturday 22 May 2021**

Our parish church is a special building. For the local community, it is where we gather for worship and the setting for marriages and baptisms and a place to remember the dead. From a national perspective, it has one of the country's finest collections of church monuments, as highlighted by Simon Jenkins in his popular book "England's Thousand Best Churches".

It is important therefore that the church is kept tidy, free of dust and cobwebs. However, this takes time and effort and is entirely the work of volunteers. On **Saturday 22 May**, there will be a morning of cleaning, sweeping and polishing to assist the regular volunteers as the church is prepared for re-opening after the Covid lockdown. We will be gathering at the church from **10am to 12.30pm**. If you can help, let us know in advance on [edward.heckels@gmail.com](mailto:edward.heckels@gmail.com) - or just turn up. Cleaning equipment and materials will be provided!



**HELP IS NEEDED**

by a resident who is not long out of hospital.

Paid assistance is required with household jobs, gardening, etc.  
Hours/times to be negotiated.

Please call Claire 01572 813996 if you think you may be interested.



### **'T' for Tuesday**

Many thanks to the team of volunteers who provided the Easter goodies in the 30 boxes delivered around the village on 13<sup>th</sup> April. It was lovely to chat with friends in the sunshine on their doorsteps. We hope to start up the meetings in the village hall over the summer (maybe July or August). If you feel unable to attend our face to face meetings a doorstep delivery can be arranged. Please look for further details in the Village Newsletter. *Bernadette 01572 821956*

### **BELOW: The Tuesday morning Exton Walkers,**

Somebody has named them after the 'Last of the Summer Wine' Cast!

What do you think?

Left to right [Mick, Colleen, Jeff, Ann]



## EXTON VILLAGE HALL



The village hall has once again had to carry out our AGM by virtual means; key points for Exton residents are as follows:

Despite lockdown the hall remains on a very firm financial footing, thanks being very much due to the stewardship of our Treasurer Dan Howison over the years. Dan has now decided to step down and Ed Heckels has been duly elected in his place. We welcome Ed onto the committee and wish Dan a very happy retirement.

Also despite being closed since December we've made some improvements to the hall. We've installed a new fire safety system including new smoke & heat detectors in all rooms, additional emergency lighting and a modern version of the old "break glass" call point at each emergency exit, all of which feed back to a new control panel and alarm point in the entrance foyer. We've also at long last commissioned our new ultrafast broadband system, and as part of this we've installed a 75" TV and sound system in the small room which once the covid regulations allow we can use to stream sports and other events. See the piccie above for a sneak preview, ready Steady Cook style!

The hall will be open for the election on 6 May and then from 17 May for our exercise classes and music rehearsals, and later in the summer hopefully we will be able to gradually extend this for villagers' own events.

**RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL FIX MY STREET:** If you see a problem, pothole, or other danger, go on line, preferably include a photo and this issue will be dealt with

<https://rutland.fixmystreet.com>



**The FOX AND HOUNDS will be reopening fully on Wednesday 19th May**, which includes our bar, restaurant, garden and letting rooms.

We aim to open our **Coffee Shop each weekend from 17th May**, weather permitting, as we do not have any undercover facilities. ordering will be from the outside bar in the garden, where payment will be taken and orders will be brought to customers' tables.

***A reduced menu will be on offer, due to the continuation of restrictions. The menu is as follows:***

Roast of the Day baguette	<u>Small Plates</u>
Mozzarella, tomato and pesto baguette	Chips
Vegan Cheese and tomato baguette	Spring rolls
Burger and Chips	Whitebait
Vegan Burger and Chips	Calamari
Fish and Chips	

Coffee shop items such as cake, tray bakes tea / coffee / hot chocolate can also be ordered from the bar.

#### **Alcoholic drinks:**

Wine  
Gin  
Guinness  
Ale  
Peroni

#### **Selection of soft drinks**

Please note that the above are subject to change dependent on stock and demand

There is no need to book, unless a table is required for 4 and above.

We are in the process of updating our website - information on Coffee Shop opening and times will be posted shortly.

Summer opening days and times for the pub will also be uploaded.

***We look forward to welcoming you all back to the Fox and Hounds.***



## **FOX AND HOUNDS continued**

I am sure we are all delighted for Simon and Christina to see them opening up the pub once again, it has been a very difficult introduction to the pub lifestyle for them.

They would like to remind customers that **the Paddock is out of bounds** this summer, all seating must be taken in the pub's walled garden. (There have been complaints regarding customers trespassing on private property due to crossing the tiny stream.)



## **EXTON - WINTER PREPAREDNESS**

To improve the village resilience and safety over Winter, the Parish Council have been reviewing the location and availability of grit bins in the village.

These are being increased to ensure better access and once installed we will publish their locations.

Winter grit bins are only entitled to two refills by RCC, they are intended for footpaths only not private driveways or highways.

In order to help ensure safer pedestrian routes across the village, Exton Parish Council is also looking for a few Volunteer Snow Wardens for Winter 2021 to ensure cover.

Volunteer Snow Wardens are nominated to RCC and receive brief key training and provision of high viz vest and shovel in the Autumn.

This is not a big time commitment but of huge help to Exton and will be easier this year with additional grit bins around the village.

If you are interested, you can find out more here:

<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-community/roads-and-highways/winter-service/snow-wardens/>

To volunteer or with any further queries please kindly email the Parish Clerk - [clerk@exton.org](mailto:clerk@exton.org)

The Parish Council can then collate the volunteers and nominate them to RCC.

## **VANDALISM AT THE PLAYPARK 13/14<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Those residents on the email list will have received my urgent message 15<sup>th</sup> April regarding the vandalism at the play park. This is really distressing and surely can we believe that someone that actually lives here would do this? Ride all over the grass – tyre tracks can be seen, shoot airgun pellets into the fence surrounding the toddler area? use the roundabout to support a motorbike wheel to send it around faster?

If it *is* someone from the village then I am even more disappointed. Please remember the cost of running the park comes out of the Precept which everybody living here contributes to.

If you have youngsters with airguns and or motor bikes do you know where they go? What happens if they hit a person, child, animal? Supposing this was someone aiming at them?



If you have any information please report to the Clerk Helen Duckering, [clerk@exton.org](mailto:clerk@exton.org), or to the Chairman of the Parish Council Tommy Cooper [thgc@thomascooper.co.uk](mailto:thgc@thomascooper.co.uk) or report it to the Police.



**Exton and Greetham CE Primary School**  
*Serving the communities of Greetham and Exton*

## **Updating our outdoor space**

Over the Easter break, we have had 'phase 2' of our Trim Trail completed – below are pictures of it ready to be enjoyed by the children when they return on Monday!



## **Have you ever wondered about how to support your village school?**

We currently have a **vacancy for a Breakfast Club Supervisor**, working each morning from 7.30am-9am. If this post would be of interest, do visit our school website 'staff vacancies' page for further details.

**We also have vacancies for two foundation (church) governors.** As a governor you have the opportunity to make a difference, not only for the children currently on the school roll, but for children in years to come. The role of the governor is primarily strategic, including responsibility for supporting and modelling its culture, values and ethos. If you would be interested in joining our governing body, please contact the school office ([extonoffice@ritschools.com](mailto:extonoffice@ritschools.com)) for further details.

If you would like to find out more about the school, the website is a good place to start – [www.extonschool.co.uk](http://www.extonschool.co.uk). We now have a 'virtual tour' available on the website under 'about us'. We are also happy to chat to prospective parents on the phone on 01572 812380.



# **SALE**

## **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

**On Playground [Ann Bell's]**

**Open 9.30 a.m.**  
**Lots of Bargains!**

***In aid of Church Funds***



## **ST PETER AND ST PAUL PARISH CHURCH, EXTON**

Unless things change it is planned to hold our first service on **Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11.15am.** This will be a service of Whit Sunday Praise and Thanksgiving for the reopening of the church and a time to reflect on Covid 19 and its affect on so many people. After a short break, the church AGM will take place in the church. The church accounts will be publicly displayed on the church notice board for two weeks preceding this meeting. Hopefully our usual pattern of services will continue after this on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 11.15am. and the church will be able to remain open during the day.

### **Book of Remembrance**

This has been recently updated by Judy Swinfen to sadly reflect all those people from our village who have died in the last two years. A different page is displayed each month so please ask if you would like it opened at a particular page to reflect anniversaries, birthdays etc. The book remembers everyone from the village, not just those who are buried in the churchyard.

### **Fire Safety Assessment**

We are very grateful to Paul Dadford who has professionally updated our Fire Risk Assessment. This had not been done since 2006 and it is something that a recent visit from the Leicestershire Fire Service brought to my notice.

### **Church Gate**

As some of you may have noticed the church gate has been refurbished to a very high standard. This was an anonymous gift and we are very grateful for this generosity.

General queries can be directed to the [cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com](mailto:cottesmorebenefice.office@gmail.com) or to me at [sallyrm24@gmail.com](mailto:sallyrm24@gmail.com) or on 811411.

*Sally Miller, Churchwarden*



## **ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**

Unfortunately still closed

# Christian Aid Week

**10-16 May 2021**

In Kenya the coronavirus pandemic has only increased the urgent need for families to access a reliable source of water.

The devastating climate crisis robs people of the water and food they need to live.

Rose walks for six hours to fetch water for her grandchildren. She tries hard to give them the kind of life she remembers from when she was a girl: when the rivers flowed with water and the crops bore fruit.

Rose and her grandchildren shouldn't have to go hungry. A simple earth dam, built with the help of Christian Aid's partners and your donations, could completely change her life. This Christian Aid Week, you can be one of the hundreds of thousands of our supporters who give, act and pray to stop this climate crisis driving people like Rose to hunger.

This Christian Aid Week (10-16 May), please:

- **Give** generously to help ensure people like Rose fight this climate crisis.

Online cash donations

You can safely and securely make a one-off donation using the online form.

Telephone donations

Please give via the website where possible or call 020 7523 2269 to donate by telephone. Join us this Christian Aid Week. Donate at **caweek.org**



## NEWSLETTER

*Thanks to the school for printing the Newsletter*  
*Contributions to the **June edition need to be with the Editor by***  
***20<sup>th</sup> May by email [annetteoliver63@gmail.com](mailto:annetteoliver63@gmail.com) or in writing to***  
*20 Stamford Road*

Anyone not already receiving the Newsletter on line should send their email address to the Editor

*Thanks to Dan Howison and his team for the distribution of the hard copies.*

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