

Editorial

If you have any articles for inclusion in the next edition, March 2020, please could you let me have them by 24th February either by email to alisonjstone26@gmail.com or deliver a hard copy to Sycamore Cottage, Main Street, Knossington.

Contributions are very welcome from everyone, please think about anything which may be of interest to fellow villagers.

Many thanks
Alison

Parish Council

For those of you who are not aware your Parish Councillors are Nigel Gates (Chair) George Cook (Vice Chair) Brian Cobb, Jeremy Latham-Smith and Julia Seary.

The Parish Council now has a website and all editions of OTGW are also be posted on the site – www.knossingtonandcoldovertonpc.org.uk.

The next Parish Council meeting is **Tuesday 03 March at 7pm** in the Village Hall.
The meetings are open to **everyone** and you never know you may learn something.

In addition to a regular slot in OTGW a Parish Council WhatsApp group has been set up to keep parishioners in touch with current issues.

If you would like to join the WhatsApp group, please send your name and mobile number to Julia Seary 07786515882.

Village Hall Notes

On behalf of all the members of the Knossington Village Hall Committee, I would like to wish all our friends and supporters a very happy, healthy and peaceful 2020.

Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Village Hall Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, 18th March, at 7.00pm in the village hall. All who are interested are welcome to attend. We shall be discussing, inter alia, the arrangements for **the inter-village quiz to be held on Wednesday, 13th May**. After an extremely well attended and enjoyable quiz last year, we are looking forward to a bumper competition again this year. Make a note of the date in your diary, and look in this column in the months to come, for the details of the plan which will be decided at our next meeting.

The dates of the other 2020 events are:

Village Fayre, in the Playing Field, on Saturday, 27th June

Hog Roast, at the Fox and Hounds, on Saturday, 12th September

We look forward to seeing you at these events this year.

Gary West - Secretary

Church News – February 2020

On Saturday 18th January, with hot chocolate and muffins, the St Peter's Church "Book Swap" was launched. It was good to meet old friends, and welcome some new faces too, and we now have three of the back pews full of books for anyone and everyone to add to, borrow or keep. The books are there for all to enjoy. We hope to have some shelving soon to make it easier to browse!

So pop into the church, (its open every day) and help yourselves. If you would like to bring a book (or books) please do. It would be nice to have some children's books too if anyone has any they can bear to part with!

Church Services

February 2020

Sunday 2nd Candlemas	9.30am Holy Communion – Owston 11.00am Holy Communion – Tilton 6.00pm Evensong – Lowesby
Sunday 9th	9.30am Holy Communion – Cold Overton 11.00am Holy Communion – Knossington 4.00pm The Moveable Feast 'Messy Church', Billesdon
Sunday 16th	9.30am Holy Communion – Owston 11.00am Holy Communion – Tilton
Sunday 23rd	9.30am Holy Communion – Cold Overton 11.00am Holy Communion – Knossington
Wednesday 26th Ash Wednesday	7.00pm Holy Communion – Launde Abbey

March 2020 (Provisional)

Sunday 1st	9.30am Holy Communion – Owston 11.00am Holy Communion – Tilton
Sunday 8th	9.30am Holy Communion – Cold Overton 11.00am Holy Communion – Knossington
Sunday 15th	8.00am Holy Communion - Lowesby 9.30am Holy Communion – Owston 11.00am Holy Communion – Tilton
Sunday 22nd Mothering Sunday	9.30am Holy Communion – Cold Overton 11.00am Holy Communion – Knossington
Sunday 29th	11.00am Launde Deanery Holy Communion – Hallaton 4.00pm The Moveable Feast 'Messy Church' - Tugby

A Time of Reflection

A belated Happy New Year to you all. Very belated, due to a debilitating cold virus or viruses which have laid me low since Christmas. My thanks to those who have stepped-in to help, those who have been patient with changes made and those who are still waiting patiently to hear from me as I catch up with my work.

Any debilitating illness brings with it a reminder of our human limitations and often creates the space and time for reflection. For me, this time has come at a significant moment, at the end of my first year in ministry in the five parishes of the Whatborough Group: Cold Overton, Knossington, Lowesby, Owston, and Tilton. It also coincides with a time of year when each church reflects on the past twelve months in order to inform how it should proceed in the coming year. As the parish church is here to serve both those who would consider themselves members and the wider community, if anyone has any comments or suggestions you are welcome to send them to me via my email below.

As I reflect on my first year, I can say how much I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know many of you. That includes those I see regularly but also those I have come to know through accompanying them through significant life events. It has been a privilege to journey with you whether through happy or sad times and particularly through christenings, weddings and funerals. Everyone is precious in God's sight and it is 'moving' to learn about the lives of those I meet at different stages of life's journey. Whether the roles we play in our lives appear to us to be important or fairly insignificant, it is clear everyone has something to contribute.

One of the Bible readings on Sunday was from the Gospel of Matthew (4.12-23). It described Jesus walking by the Sea of Galilee, calling two sets of brothers who were fishermen, to abandon their nets and follow him. We are told 'Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.' It is likely that 'immediately' is exaggeration for the sake of emphasis but it does serve to make you think that there must have been something so appealing about Jesus and his message that they should leave behind their way of life to follow him. It didn't occur to me until years later that it could be said I had responded similarly. I was a teacher in training when my local vicar asked me: 'Will you help me with the children's work?' I didn't immediately say yes, why would I? After all, I knew very little about the Christian faith, I had only just started to go to church, taking my children along for someone else to teach them and for me to learn myself. Tentatively, though, I did say yes, with the option to opt out at any point. I have since learned that when you attempt to teach others you begin to learn more yourself.

Twenty years later, I reflect on that calling and realise how many steps I have taken on this journey of faith. At no point have I been able to see very far ahead, but the message that Jesus teaches and the way he lived his life, lead us to knowing God better for the 'common good'. It is a journey that is compelling and fascinating. So, as I and others reflect together on the past year and try to discern the future role of the church in our communities, I realise it may now be my turn to ask if you would like to be involved in some way. But please don't let this make you avoid me the street, and you can always say no!

Rev'd Jayne Lewis
jaynelewis28@sky.com



Somerby & District Horticultural Society

The next meeting of the horticultural society is the AGM on **Thursday 20th February at 7.30pm at Somerby Memorial Hall**

After four successful years, the garden group has grown and now has members from across the district. As well as hosting a programme of speakers on a range of topics, the garden group also organises Spring and Summer Open Gardens, provides and maintains planters across the Parish and is involved in a number of local environmental projects.

Our AGM is when we review our year's activities, recruit new committee members when needed and make plans for the coming year.

2020 will be a very busy year for the group as we welcome the well-known and highly regarded Butterfly Brothers in March, host the Village Open Gardens event in June and develop our range of environmental projects

The AGM evening is not all serious business! It will be followed by our popular seed swap and a glass of wine or a cup of coffee and of course some homemade cake.

You are welcome to come along on that evening to meet us and see if the group is for you. The annual membership subscription is £12 or £3 per meeting for non-members.

If you would like to come along or become a member of the society or a copy of the 2020 programme please contact:

Angela Fisher on 01664 454265 or angelafisher@tiscali.co.uk

OTGW – Advertising

We are currently looking at ways of making OTGW pay for itself and are considering taking paid advertising. If you or anyone you know may be interested in taking out an advert for the 10 issues a year, could you contact me on either 01664 454274 or email alisonjstone26@gmail.com.