

Editorial

If you have any articles for inclusion in the next edition, April 2019, please could you let me have them by 22nd March either by email to alisonjstone26@gmail.com or deliver a hard copy to Sycamore Cottage, Main Street, Knossington.

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

Many thanks
Alison

Parish Council.

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

Village Hall

Village Hall Meeting. The Village Hall Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, 13th February. We are grateful to Mr Nigel Haynes for renewing the Pre-school licence for a further ten years, and for completing the Charity Commission Annual Return.

Replacement for the Motor Car Treasure Hunt. At the Committee meeting, held on the 14th of November 2018, it had been agreed that the motor car treasure hunt had reached its “sell-by” date, and because the income from an event was needed to keep the village hall fund at a level necessary to meet routine and any unforeseen expenditure, it was necessary to find a replacement for the hunt. Several ideas were put forward, but it was felt that a decision should be delayed until future consideration by the full Committee was possible. In the meantime, we would like to have ideas for a suitable summer event from residents in the area. Please, if you have an opinion on this subject, let one of the Committee know so we can make a decision at the next meeting, if not before.

Extraordinary Meeting. On account of the smaller than usual attendance at the meeting and the decisions to be made, it was decided to hold an **extraordinary meeting of the Committee at 7.00pm in the village hall on Wednesday, 3rd April**, when we hope to have a full Committee attending.

Inter-village Quiz. It was decided that the inter-village quiz should be held on Thursday, the 9th May. Last year’s quiz was a great success; we had seven teams participating and the questions were set by Mr Roger Collin. Most importantly, everyone who attended enjoyed the entertainment, and a significant sum was raised for the fund. PLEASE, THINK ABOUT GETTING A TEAM TOGETHER NOW! It’s all good fun. There is a bit of competition, but no-one takes it too seriously. The principle aim is to enjoy the event, and you can have a light supper at the half-way point. Come and join us.

Repair Work at the Hall. The sharp-eyed among you will have noticed that work was being carried out at the hall recently. Water leakage in the roof of the cloakroom extension had been spotted, and as a matter of urgency, roofers were employed to fix the roof. This is exactly the sort of unexpected expenditure that crops up from time to time, and reinforces the need to keep the hall fund at a suitable level. Fortunately, we

were able quickly to get a roofing company to carry out the work, and we now have a fibre-glass covering over a slightly sloping roof, and a guarantee for 25 years. Of course, this also means that we have to make sure that the fund is built up again soon. Your help with this is needed and welcome, so please support us at the events this year.

Petanque

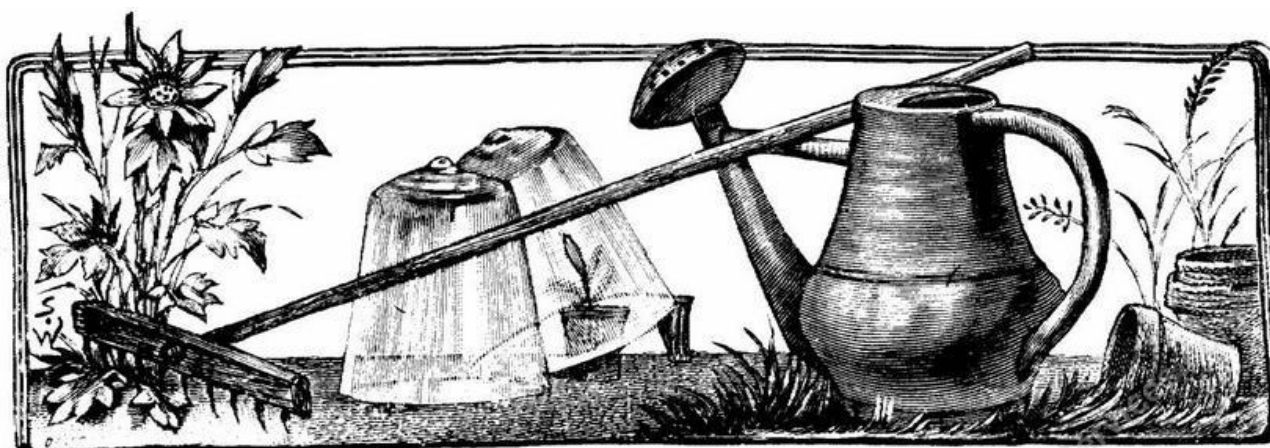
With spring upon us the start of a new season fast approaches.

We have games on Tuesday evenings throughout the summer and practice/ sampler evenings as well on other nights.

Venue Fox and Hounds

New players are always welcome whether novice, occasional or hardened professional! Why not at least come and have a go!

For more details contact George 454557 or george.cook6@btinternet.co.uk



Somerby & District Horticultural Society

The next meeting of the club is **Thursday March 21st at 7.30pm** at Somerby Methodist Hall, when our speaker will be **Sally Cunningham** talking about how to **“Know Grow and Cook Asian Fruit and Vegetables”** The evening will include a practical demonstration as well.

Tea, biscuits and gardening chat will, of course, be available as usual.

If you are not a member but are thinking about joining the group or would like to hear Sally’s talk, you are very welcome to come along. Guests pay £3 for the evening which is refundable against the yearly membership.


Our 2019 programme includes a range of speakers, visits, plant sales and open gardens designed to appeal to gardeners of any age and experience


Spring Open Gardens

Sunday 28th April 1pm - 4pm

Following our very successful Village Open Gardens of last year, we are holding another event for Spring

Owston Open Gardens - two large, established gardens offering a wealth of trees, spring flowering shrubs, perennials, alpines and bulbs - both gardens offer lots of ideas to take away and use in your own garden

 Brickyard Farm
(John and Jane Merrill)

 Little Butt
(Louise and Simon Hammond)

Annual plant sale and home-made teas also available on the day Combined admission £3, accompanied children free

If you would like more information and a copy of our 2019 programme please contact Angela Fisher at angelasfisher@tiscali.co.uk or on 01664 454265

CHURCH NEWS - MARCH

A place I call home

Moving to a new house is known to be one of the most stressful things we can do. Having moved recently from Market Harborough into The Vicarage, Tilton on the Hill, has given me recent experience of this. Packing and transporting possessions with the risk of damage to them was quite stressful in itself but what surprised me was what it took to make the Vicarage - the house - feel like home, a place where we wanted to live. This prompted me to reflect on the importance of and what constitutes feeling 'at home'. Words such as welcome, warmth, shelter, food, belonging, love, peace and security came to mind.

A popular Bible reading often chosen for funerals quotes Jesus talking to his disciples about his Father's house:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.' (John 14. 1-3)

Jesus is speaking to his disciples, those closest to him, prior to his arrest, sentencing and crucifixion. The house he is talking about is not, therefore, a bricks and mortar building but a spiritual home residing with God. For those that have followed the stories of Jesus' life and his relationship with his followers, though the Gospel accounts, it will be clear that this is a 'house' that they and we would want to live in too. This passage is a source of comfort and hope to all as we contemplate the end of our earthly lives. I have read this passage many times but, on this occasion, I was struck by the phrase 'I will go and *prepare* a place for you' as if a special effort will be made in order to create that feeling of 'home'.

Some of you will have heard me talking about the 'special effort' a good number of people have made to make the vicarage feel like home, I am grateful to them all. Not forgetting the hamper that was left as a welcome when myself and my family arrived, full of treats and essentials, there was something for everyone, our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this. I also noted, however, the truth in a comment made by one of my family members: 'the fact that we have had to do things ourselves, like painting the walls, has made it feel more like our home.' The actions of others are very important in making us feel at home, but we also have to make a special effort. This is so true of Church and our journey of faith too.

To return to the words of Jesus, his is not just a promise for the future. Jesus promises to return to be with his disciples in their earthly life through his Holy Spirit: 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.' (John 14.23). And Jesus gave his followers a new commandment: 'that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

The vicarage is both a house and a home. It is both the physical building and the relationships of the inhabitants within and with those in the community around it which constitute the feeling of home. 'The church' is the term used for both the building and God's people (and that's everyone). A Church of England parish church is a place for the whole community, where all should feel at home. But creating a home for all needs working at by the many and diverse members of its community. How we go about this should be under constant review and takes time, prayer, patience and conversations. I have already heard and seen some of the ways members of the community are living well together or are keen to contribute in some way. My prayer is that I can find the time and opportunity to discover where to take these conversations and encourage us all to ask God, daily, to live in us and show us the way to build a community where all feel at home.

Rev'd. Jayne
March 2019

Church Services for March 2019

	Sunday 4th March	Sunday 10th March	Sunday 17th March	Sunday 24th March	Sunday 31st March
St Andrew's, Owston	9.30am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion		
St Peter's, Tilton	11.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Holy Communion		10.00am Family Service Mothering Sunday
All Saints, Lovesby	6pm Evensong				
St John the Baptist, Cold Overton		9.00am Holy Communion		9.00am Holy Communion	
St Peter's, Knossington		11.00am Holy Communion		11.00am Holy Communion	

Other March Activities

Friday 1st March, 7pm 2019 World Day of Prayer, Tilton Village Church – All are welcome. This year the service has been put together by the women of Slovenia.

Wednesday 6th March, 7pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion service (with 'Ashing') at Welham Church for the Launde Deanery.

Thursday 14th March, 7.30pm Lent Group at Launde Abbey Exploring how we live out our everyday Christian faith in rural Leicestershire

Monday 18th March, 6.30pm Launde Deanery 'Shaped Every Day' A special evening hosted by Bishop Martyn, Bishop Guli and the Launde Deanery.

Thursday 28th March, 7.30pm Lent Group at Launde Abbey Exploring how we live out our everyday Christian faith in rural Leicestershire.

Thursday 4th April, 7.30pm Lent Group at Launde Abbey Exploring how we live out our everyday Christian faith in rural Leicestershire

Thursday 7th April, 7.30pm Lent Group at Launde Abbey Exploring how we live out our everyday Christian faith in rural Leicestershire

For the Lent Groups at Launde please contact Revd. Jayne Lewis for details and to confirm attendance:

0116 259 7244; other days/evenings available elsewhere in the deanery.)

NB Find out more about the Church of England's official campaign for Lent and Easter 2019 at
www.churchofengland.org/lent Sign up for daily reflections