

QUAINTON ·NEWS·

THE PARISH MAGAZINE & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



New Quainton Cubs Invested

You may remember that 1st Quainton Beavers and 1st Quainton Cubs were newly formed just before the pandemic hit. The two new groups have been meeting virtually for months, so it was an exciting day in March when they could meet face-to-face again at last!

Then, in May, several of the new Beavers were in a position to be invested up to Cubs, which took place on The Green, followed by an official 'Swimming up' ceremony in the grounds of Quainton Windmill!

Quainton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts all have space for new members, see details on p.7.

Welcome from Holy Cross & St Mary's Church



Dear friends,

I think I am right in claiming that I was the first person to sit down to a full English at the George after the latest lockdown rules were eased in May. It was a delightful experience sitting there with my coffee and breakfast and looking out onto a rare glimpse of the sun! Things are changing and that in itself will bring delights but also challenges

I love visionaries. The kind of people that can inspire others to think outside the box, to make things happen, the movers and shakers of this world. People like that can enable us to have a bigger perspective on life

and extend the horizons of our experience.

The prophet Isaiah in the Bible was a person like that. One of his famous sayings goes like this: "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes." (Isaiah 54:2)

In those days the message was clear. There is much more of life to explore, so much more to enjoy, so much to experience. Don't limit your life by living in a box. Break out!

What a great message for today! As lockdown is relaxed, there is a world of adventure out there for us. Of course, that doesn't necessarily mean we have to jump on an aeroplane for some exotic far flung shore. But it does mean we need to pay attention to our inner life, so easily cramped by our own fear and anxiety, which can flourish with the right support and encouragement.

This has always been the challenge for people of faith, because faith can be passive unless it results in courageous, out-reaching action. For some in the world today, that means living dangerously in places where outward expressions of Christianity are outlawed. In China for instance, the underground Christian church is one of the fastest growing faith movements in the world and yet persecution is a common experience for many.

The famous stuntman Blondin made his first crossing on a tightrope across Niagara Falls on June 30th 1859, watched, it was calculated, by 100,000 people. It is said that on one occasion he attempted the same stunt pushing a wheelbarrow in front of him, then challenging someone to get into the wheelbarrow for the return trip! It's easy to believe that Blondin can do this amazing stunt, but quite another thing to be the one in the wheelbarrow!

But that is precisely what authentic Christianity is all about. I don't mean that we all have to jump in a literal wheelbarrow, although it could be fun! I mean that faith takes us into unknown territory, beyond the horizon of our understanding and challenges our way of life to be more courageous in loving God and neighbour.

God bless,

Rev Steve

Reverend Steve Flashman, Vicar

Holy Cross & St Mary, Quainton; and All Saints, Oving with Pitchcott,

The Rectory, 27, Church Street, Quainton HP22 4AW

Web: www.steveflashman.com Mobile: 07950 000910 Home: 01296 655237

Welcome to the June 2021 issue



Louisa Richards, Editor

Email: quaintonnews@gmail.com

Tel: 655560

Hello Everyone,

Well, wasn't the Open Garden event just what we all needed?! Needless to say, we are all looking at our gardens slightly differently now, wondering what ideas we can take away from the weekend's gardening delights – well, I certainly am! Thank you so much to everyone involved (see centre spread).

It was also fabulous to see the windmill open again with the sails tentatively turning – many enjoyed tea and cake at the first open morning; and it was also lovely to hear the sound of the steam trains at The Railway – the village is slowly coming back to life!

Stay safe everyone and enjoy the read,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Louisa'.

News From Our Church:

- We had a great first Sunday back in Church to celebrate Pentecost – the birth of the church on 23rd May. We were almost at capacity following Covid rules with 40 people in church.
- A **Prayer Meeting** on four Thursday evenings in June – all are welcome. I will be leading with Jane. You won't be expected to take part unless you would like to – but please be there if you can. It will be on Zoom – starting Thursday 3rd June at 7.00pm – here's the zoom link, just click and follow the instructions just before the 7.00pm start time:
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85960216237?pwd=U0JvTmQxbzNicnJEcHNFNkpxOUhvdz09>
We have a new **home group working title**, “**Reunion**” hosted by David and Vivien Leeming and Jane Vowles. This will be an informal hour for sharing, encouraging, and reflecting. First one will be on Tuesday 6th July at 7.30pm. More info from D & V & J!
- A new **Alpha Course** is starting in the autumn at the George & Dragon in Quainton – we will have a meal together and watch a video - more details coming.
- **Men's Breakfast**. The first one will be at 8.30am on Saturday 9th October at The George – Guest speaker, our very own, Ewart Watson on his escapades in the police force.
- **Community Choir**. Re-starts Friday 10th September, 10am at the Memorial Hall, Quainton and at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th September at Waddesdon Methodist Hall.
- **Bereavement Group** meeting at The Rectory, 27 Church Street – led by me initially – a time of mutual support and encouragement for all who have lost loved ones. Starting in the Autumn.
- **Parade Service**: Our uniformed organisations will be involved as part of our Sunday Morning service programme in the Autumn. The children and young people will take a large part of the service and parents will be invited to support them.



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Covid-19 Update: Roadmap out of Lockdown Continues!

The most recent changes:

- Six people or two households can meet indoors
- People can meet in groups of up to 30 outdoors
- Domestic overnight stays allowed with people not in your household or bubble
- Pubs, restaurants and other hospitality venues can seat customers indoors
- Up to 30 people can attend weddings or other life events, like Christenings
- Remaining outdoor entertainment, such as outdoor theatres and cinemas can open
- Indoor entertainment such as museums, theatres, cinemas and children's play areas can open
- Performances and large events restart, but with limits on audience numbers
- Hotels, hostels and B&Bs can reopen
- Some international leisure travel has resumed
- Adult indoor group sports and exercise classes can restart

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Quainton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Update



At the time of writing, leading up to the impending deadline for Quainton News, the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts within Quainton have been back to outside face-to-face activities for almost two months. Below is a sample of what we have been up to.

The Beavers

Having spent more time as a “virtual” colony than face to face, all the Beavers and leaders have been keen to meet up and spend time together. We have been enjoying using the space behind the Windmill to meet each Tuesday. Always up for the challenge, the Beavers have planted their potato in a bucket for the Gardening Society Annual Show in September, spent an evening attempting to blow the biggest bubble, roasted marshmallows over a fire, practised welly-wanging, shared some time in reflection with Rev. Flashman, gone on a scavenger hunt on the hill and generally spent time enjoying playing games and being together outside. We have been so lucky to have the space to do all these things and thank Colin Dancer for generously allowing us the use of his land. We have lots more things planned for next term with the aim of the Beavers working towards their Gardening and Adventure badges, and as new children join and others progress to Cubs, it most definitely will continue to be an adventure for us leaders!

Danny ‘Badger’ and Hazel ‘Woodpecker’

The Cubs

This month the five founder members of Quainton’s new Cub Pack welcomed the 1st Beavers to ‘swim up’ to Cubs. We’d spent a number of weeks thinking how to best mark the evening. In the end it was marked by rolling thunder and a liberal dowsing for all. So, the Beavers did swim up to Cubs. Luckily the sun came out later, so we managed to get a great group picture (on the cover of QN!), even if a few of the Cubs look a little bedraggled! In June, we welcome more new joiners as we continue to grow. We now have an active waiting list for new members, so if you are interested please get in touch.

Andy ‘Akela’

The Scouts

Now we’re back to face-to-face meetings, albeit with covid measures in place, we’ve made the most of getting back to some traditional scouting activities. So far, we’ve got lost in the dark on the hill, practiced lighting fires and cooking over the embers, our tents have been dusted off and the scouts have been trained to use hand axes and bow saws and we’ve done some knife work. And we’ve not needed to open the first aid kit once. We’ve welcomed two new scouts and have space for other new members.

After so many nights online, it’s great to be back out in the elements. Even if those elements this month have been wind and rain. It’s a good job the Beaver, Cub and Scout parents have washing machines lined up ready to go after a night’s scouting in Quainton. Roll on the much-rumoured June heatwave. If you are interested in your young person joining Quainton Beavers, Cubs or Scouts, or volunteering with us in any capacity, please contact us at Quainton.Scouts@btinternet.com Our age ranges are: Beavers 6-8yrs, Cubs 8-10½yrs and Scouts 10½-14yrs.

Martin Dorrell, Scout Leader



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Thank you to Arthur from all of us!

Arthur stepped down from the parish council in May this year after ... years of service to the village. First, as a councillor, then Vice- Chairman and eventually Chairman. It is not an easy task leading a parish council but Arthur, with his calm demeanour, level-headed and scrupulously fair approach managed to keep the discussions moving, enabling decisions to be reached. Over his time as a councillor, things moved from paper documents and planning applications being passed round the councillors in envelopes, then plastic wallets, and more recently to a situation where emails had to be checked for information and responded to regarding council business and of course the inevitable zoom meetings during the restrictions and lockdown. New words and phrases came into use, such as "You are on mute" alongside the frustrations over rural broadband speed. Arthur has taken all this in his stride, with maybe a bit of help from his son and Brian. As Chairman, Arthur has always tried to do his best for the parishioners of Quanton in the clear knowledge that he couldn't please everyone all of the time but he was always there to listen, to help and offer advice. Arthur will, we are sure, continue to offer advice and guidance to those who seek it and to lend a helping hand but we hope that he will sit back and relax, read some books, do some gardening, take a nap or whatever else he likes without the pressure of parish council matters. You deserve it. A huge thank you to Arthur from us all and we wish you well.

Michelle and Claire

We welcome John Knox into the Chairman's Chair!

As Arthur steps down, we welcome long-time Councillor John Knox into the chair...

Hi, I am John Knox, the new Chairman of the Parish Council. I was brought up in Leicester and moved here 36 years ago to Lower Street via Woodford Green when CBS Records/Sony Music relocated their Finance Department to Aylesbury. However, I soon found myself commuting back to London where the main office was situated. About the time I retired from Sony Music, my late wife, Sheila, had become a councillor and I later offered to help the PC by attending and reporting on the HS2 Community Forums. I then was co-opted as a councillor after my wife passed.

HS2 has and continues to dominate my time as councillor and I presented the council's petition to the HS2 Select Committee. My brush with the carpets in the corridors of power proved fruitless. We gained no concessions and are now experiencing the damage to the parish that we anticipated. Coincidental with HS2 I am also responsible for liaising with Buckinghamshire on roads - an often-thankless task but more recently has seen some progress in getting some, but certainly not all, the drainage problems solved. Thames Water's 9-month project to replace some of our water mains lasted 3 years and involved many calls with their CEO's staff to try and resolve the damage and ineptitude caused by the contractors. With fellow councillor, Nick Butler we set about replacing all the streetlights. Not only did we discover some in odd places but we reduced our electricity bill by 80% and saved maintenance costs which would have been much higher today. The PC appointed me as a Saye & Sele trustee, although I strongly suspect that was because I live opposite the Hall. The Hall has undergone a major refurbishment involving several years of fundraising and grants and we now have a pre-school operating in the village again.

Throughout this time, I have been grateful for the support of my fellow councillors. Arthur and I attended the Local Area Forums which gave me the opportunity to meet with other parishes and county councillors, while other councillors took on the burden of planning, the Neighbourhood Plan, leisure and environmental activities. I look forward to co-opting 4 new councillors to take on these areas and serving the Parish for the next 4 years.

John Knox, Chairman



Quainton Parish Council

Chairman: John Knox. Councillors: Nick Butler, Nicolette Smith.

Clerk: Tony Pacetti Tel: 651354. E: parishclerk@quainton.org.uk

The Chairman Reports:

The first meeting of the new Parish Council took place on Thursday 20th May, a week later than usual. The delay was caused by a High Court ruling that meetings had to be held in a public place and could no longer be conducted over Zoom. This prevented one councillor attending as he was going to be away and we, therefore, would not be quorate. As the outgoing Chairman Arthur Evans opened the meeting and covered the first item which was to elect a new chairman, which resulted in my election.

Firstly, I would like to thank Arthur, Clare Lucas, Nick Heirons, Michelle Thompson and Malcolm Wearn for their service as councillors. The past few years have proved to be very busy with HS2, major planning issues, the Neighbourhood Plan, the provision of support during the COVID pandemic and the environmental survey of the parish's trees. Nor should we forget the longstanding activities such as the allotments, play park, skatepark and the bonfire night fireworks and speedwatch. Many of which have involved the participation of other residents.

The Council has had some expressions of interest to be co-opted and we will intend to meet with them so that they can understand what is involved in being a councillor. We look forward to being at full strength of seven councillors for our next meeting on Thursday June 10th.

Iain Macpherson, Phil Gomm and Jilly Jordan have been returned as Buckinghamshire Councillors. Having a multi member constituency is something new in this area and although they will represent everybody we expect to see more of Iain Macpherson in this end of the constituency and at our meetings. Iain can be contacted at: Iain.Macpherson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

HS2 continues to dominate the area and the implications of the re-alignment of Station Road and its impact on residents are a cause of great concern. The Parish Council meets regularly with the local HS2 contractors – EKFB and Fusion and frequently talks with Buckinghamshire Highways.

We have asked for a public meeting to discuss the new road and as the COVID excuse expires I am more hopeful that this will happen and involve both the contractors and Buckinghamshire officers.

There appear to be several changes to the layout of the new road which will impact the residents close by. There are even changes to changes. The Act gives HS2 the power to give themselves planning permission (Section 17) as long as it is within the land boundaries defined by the Act.

There is some confusion whether EKFB or Buckinghamshire initiated the changes. The new road joins the existing road at an angle leading up to 110 and there was a spur coming off almost facing the new development at 151. The purpose of this was to facilitate access to the Railway Centre and to the existing houses as the village side of the old road would be closed off forming a cul-de-sac.

A recent version seems to create a new access at the cul-de-sac end which suggests the removal of the original spur. Not only will the houses in this area be faced with all the visitor traffic to the Railway Centre, but now there will be the construction traffic for the so-called Romney Meadows development followed by the traffic generated by forty houses when occupied.

Other issues connected to the new road are that coming from Waddesdon, instead of going across the existing crossroads to join it, you will be required to turn left and join it close to its inception.

The reason is supposed to be so that much of the rural nature of the area can be retained. The mind boggles at who thought this one up seeing the dystopian devastation already in this area. I had also raised concern for those who enjoy walking the route round the village via the crossroads and Snake Lane. The new road would have narrow verges and they would be faced with traffic

enjoying a new, clear, pothole-free road surface at 60mph. Placing a 30mph limit well outside the residential area would have no effect and the verges would provide no safety for the Speedwatch team. Instead, it has been proposed that you turn towards Waddesdon alongside the railway before using the accommodation bridge for Needles Farm to return on yourself along the proposed cycleway to Doddershall and re-join Snake Lane after its bridge. I have already said this is unsatisfactory as your quiet country walk along this route would be punctuated by 225mph trains every couple of minutes. I look forward to being able to tell you of a date for a meeting where you can express your opinions.

Other HS2 issues: Concern the damage to local roads by the increased traffic generated by HS2 vehicles and diverted traffic. A concerned resident has reported individually each of 56 potholes at the bend on Quainton Road. These have been raised several times by several local councillors at the Community Board meeting, so I hope that this has a bigger impact with TFB. Sadly, the discussions between Highways and HS2 drag on with HS2 apparently failing to provide adequate traffic reports that would enable compensation to be agreed and these repairs to be done.

We have also been asked to comment on HS2 plans to expand the compound by the crossroads. The plan is to have double stacked portakabins housing office staff and to have parking for 218 cars. 250 blue collar workers will also start their day at this site. As this expands into land outside the Act there is no deemed consent and they need Buckinghamshire's permission. I remember some time ago an HS2 PR release in the Bucks Herald saying that workers would be bussed in from the Bicester Logistics depot relieving the number of small vehicles on local roads and minimising lorry movements. This now seems not to be the case and we will raise this in objecting to this expansion. It also seems counter to the desire to retain the rural nature mentioned above in accessing the new road in this area.

Grass: Monday 22nd May saw the second cut of the verges by our new contractor. We received a number of complaints I have met with the contractor he has done some rectification. The initial long grass and its recent fast growth has not helped plus dodging the daffodils does not aid a tidy finish. Nevertheless, he agrees it should have been better. He will return earlier in two weeks' time to deal with the rapid growth and aim to use a different type of mower before returning to his original schedule. Our agreement provides that, if parked vehicles prevent the cutting of grass, he can leave the affected area and a BT vehicle parked at the top of Winwood Drive is responsible for the missed patch there.

There are many residents who tend the verges by their houses. If you do so, please let our clerk know so that we can build up a register. Meanwhile it is not always clear and although he does try and avoid verges obviously tended privately this is not always possible.

The Green: After checking the ownership of the listed cross on the green the Parish Council decided to accept ownership and responsibility, so we are now close to regularising the use of the Green by agreeing a five-year license with the School Land Charity who own the land. This will regularise the position that currently exists in practice.

Water Leaks: Thames Water fixed the leak on VAHT property on VAHT's behalf and in doing so realised the Main was in fact also leaking. This will require road closure permissions and so the water continues to cascade down Upper St and the pothole grows. Thame's rectification of leaks in Lower Street do not give me confidence that this will be fully resolved for a while and I fear Arthur will be making many more frustrating phone calls. VAHT also visited to see the problems at a flow of water further along. They are rectifying the fencing at this property but the drainage of spring water arises elsewhere and will involve another private landowner.

Next PC Meeting: Thursday 10th June, 8pm. All welcome. Contact the Clerk for details.



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Quainton Golf Society



The Chairman's Trophy at Aylesbury Vale Stewkley - 30 April 2021

Due to the March event being cancelled because of Covid restrictions, this event was our first event of the year, and what a turnout we had!

We had 30 people playing, with a few more wanting to play but unfortunately the venue was only able to offer a certain number of tee times to the Society. The highest Stableford score of the day was returned by Brian Cuddy, but unfortunately for Brian, he was playing as a guest so not eligible to lift the main trophy. The result was as follows:

Position	Player	(Handicap)	Pts	
1(G)	Brian Cuddy	29	41	
1	Darren Knibb	13	38	Winner on Countback
2	Paul Endicott	24	38	
3	Adrian Wood	5	36	
4=	Neil Mack	23	33	
4=	Ant Kelly	23	33	

The results of the May event at Whipsnade Golf Club will be published in the July edition.

Our next event is 25th June at Oxford Golf Club.

Do you play golf? If so, why not join Quainton Golf Society? We are friendly Society of golfers of varying standards and we meet monthly for events at local courses. An event usually consists of tea/coffee and bacon butties on arrival, 18 holes of golf in the morning, lunch and then a further 9 holes in the afternoon. The golf days take place on the last Friday in the month from March to October, with the exception of the Christmas event in December. At each event we play for a trophy which is awarded at the end of the season.

For more information about joining the Society please contact Vince Hemsley on 07427555656 or vince.hemsley63@virginmedia.com.

News from The George and Dragon

Moving forward as we come out of lockdown, from 26th May we are adding Wednesday evenings from 5pm-8.30pm, plus Friday lunchtimes 12 noon-2.30pm. Please book tables via photo or email. Indoor tables are now available!

Follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram for more regular updates and keep an eye on our blackboards outside. Thank you so much to you all for your continued support!

Darren and George

Quainton Monthly Dog Walk – Sunday 6th June and Sunday 4th July

We meet at 1pm at the top of The Green on the first Sunday of each month. Please do join us if you would like to enjoy a walk over the hill. (Dogs are not obligatory!)

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Quainton School News:

I would like to thank the PTA for all their hard work over the last year in their continued efforts to raise funds for our school. It has been the most difficult of years and, without being able to hold the traditional social events, their efforts and creativity need to be applauded. Huge thanks also to everyone who has supported the fundraising; your donations are massively appreciated.



The school has always utilised the funds to support the learning of the children. This year is no different, but we have one specific goal, giving us all a clear focus to our fundraising efforts. The school is in need of a new reading scheme to support the different stages of reading ability across the school. We have identified Rising Stars, Reading Planet as the right fit for Quainton. The scheme will be throughout the whole school. The books are a mixture of genres to promote the love of reading. In addition to the physical books, there will be a corresponding online library the children can access at home. Naturally, these schemes do not come cheaply, despite our best efforts! Therefore, the PTA has agreed to help raise the funds. We want to launch the new reading scheme ASAP therefore I have secured the funds from Bucks CC upfront to enable this but with the caveat that we will fundraise. I am sure you will all agree this is a fantastic cause; ensuring that the children of our school will benefit from an excellent and well-structured reading scheme for many years to come.

I have since met again with the PTA and discussed fundraising events for the rest of the term. If past events are anything to go by, I am confident that the generous members of this village community will support the school wherever they can. We look forward to seeing you all again as soon as we are able.

Keep safe, James Vernon, Headteacher

Quainton School PTA:

We are excited that the school has identified a real need for our fundraising this year – it gives us a real target to aim for, and we intend to smash it! The PTA has agreed to finance as much of the new reading scheme project as possible. Obviously, reading is a fundamental part of our children's education and we don't see a better way to support the school at this time!

Bag2School: Apologies if you were caught out by my mistake with the date in the last issue. Contact me if you need Bag2School bags storing till the next one! Thank you to everyone who donated bags this month – we don't have a value just yet but it looked like a good haul!

Hazel Jacobs, Chair, Quainton PTA (Tel: 07813 582245)

BINGO EVENING!

Government guidelines permitting, we are still preparing for Bingo Night on Sat 17th July at the Memorial Hall. We hope to have our usual fabulous village support! More details in the next issue and posters will be up around the village soon. We will have a well-stocked bar, freshly-cooked pizza and are hoping to have a raffle.

We look forward to seeing you there!

PTA 100 Club

April winners:

1 st prize £50	Toya Willmot
2 nd prize £20	Sandy Finnie
3 rd prize £10	Arabella Cobb
4 th prize £5	George Newman

Thank you for taking part!



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Buckinghamshire Railway Centre – We are BACK!

Finally, we are fully operational now that the Miniature Railway has re-opened and we have been able to open the doors to our indoor areas – the Visitor Centre, Railway Museum and Engine Sheds. It's exciting to be back properly!

Steaming Days and Special Events in June:

Wednesday 2nd June:	School Holiday Steaming Day
Sunday 6th June:	Steaming Day
Sunday 13th June:	Steaming Day
Sunday 20th June:	Father's Day Steaming Special
Sunday 27th June:	Steaming Day



£42 Quainton Pass for Quainton residents only!

Only Quainton residents can buy our annual Quainton Pass which is £42 for a family (2a+4c) and includes entry to pretty much every event except Thomas, Christmas and the Halloween Disco. Either call the office on 655720 to purchase; or call in during office hours (M-F 9am-4pm); or simply buy your pass at the gate when you next visit. Proof of address required. (The original Local Pass is available to anyone else who lives within 8 miles of us. Price £52.)

Thomas the Tank Engine and Peppa Pig are coming to Quainton!

Our famous Days Out With Thomas will be held in July, September and October, and Peppa Pig is coming on Sunday 15th August! Quainton residents receive a 25% discount off Thomas and Peppa tickets and you can pop in during office hours (M-F 9am-4pm) to book, or you can purchase tickets on the day, but only if there is ticket availability – always best to pre-book to avoid disappointment. Proof of address required. NB: July Thomas is sold out. (Peppa is free for Pass holders.)

For all the details of future Steaming Days and Special Events, visit: www.bucksrailcentre.org or see our Facebook page.



QUAINTON MONDAY CLUB FOR SENIORS IS BACK!

We are very excited to be re-opening on June 28th 2021 to our current and new members.
10am-2.30pm in Quainton Memorial Hall.

If you are interested in popping along to find out more, do please contact me so we can accommodate you.

Contact Louise on 07828 156387 or Louise.wt@btinternet.com

We are an experienced team providing fully flexible childcare, for children aged 6 months to starting school, in a beautiful rural setting on the outskirts of Quainton.



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June – Butterflies and Moths

By David Gladwin

Congratulations to Jan Stiegeler on winning the Quainton Village Society's competition for the best photograph(s) of a male Brimstone butterfly! Her prize of a £10 voucher has been presented by the Society's chairman, Martin Jacobs. Many people found it difficult to catch the subject when still and there were not many days when weather conditions favoured the project, so well done to Jan for getting not just one photo, but three!



By coincidence, Quainton resident Ian Marriott had his camera out recently when he spotted a large and unfamiliar insect on his porch. He took a photograph (below left), which was used to identify the creature as a very rare Great Peacock moth. Such identification made more difficult by the damaged and part missing forewings of this, the largest (by wingspan) European moth (undamaged version pictured below right). It has a wingspan reaching 15–20 cm. Although not rare in mainland Europe, less than a handful of these amazing creatures have been identified and recorded in Great Britain, ever. The Bucks Herald reported on Ian's discovery on 7th May, with the photograph of the sadly damaged moth. Maybe we shall see more specimens with global warming, but Ian has certainly won the prize for the rarest moth photographed in Quainton – ever!



QUAINTON GARDENING SOCIETY: GARDENS OPEN

What a treat we had at the end of May when six Quainton residents opened their gardens to the public! The weather may not have been perfect, but it certainly didn't dampen spirits or enthusiasm. Huge thanks to QGS for organising such a superb event – just what we needed!

Message from QGS Chairman Sue Wright:

Despite the challenging weather conditions leading up to the weekend and it being chilly and damp on both days, over 200 stalwart visitors came to enjoy the six open gardens. Lots of lovely comments were made at them all and the variety of gardens was appreciated. Over £1,134 was made for the Aylesbury Food Bank and CICRA (Crohns in Childhood Research Association). Our thanks go to all the helpers on the gates, servers and providers of teas and plants, and of course to all the visitors.

Thank you to Natalie Carlisle and Martin Knight for these great photos.





Ramblings afar from Finemere Wood By Charlotte Karmali - Volunteer Warden

Finemere Wood has stunned us once again with its majestic carpet of bluebells. For me, a sight more emotive than ever before, having missed out on it last year. The natural world has kept me grounded through this challenging era. My endless wanderings around fields and open spaces, noticing flowers, butterflies and tuning into birdsong has been uplifting. But it has also been reassuring, as I observe how the cycles of nature continue regardless of the pandemic. The volunteers have weathered the storm and now return to the woods to immerse themselves in this healing, nourishing sanctuary. James, a dynamo, knows only one speed, fast. He started his working



life in the Royal Navy, where at the tender age of 19 he took part in the Rock of Gibraltar Run. He won and held the record time for a couple of years. This revelation does not surprise me in the least, having observed how he works in the wood. From here through accountancy and financial services to, ultimately, a senior corporate financial planner with the Lloyds Group. James has always had an affinity with woodland. His decision to join the Finemere team, following a BBOWT wood management course, was easy. The prospect of a slice of homemade cake adding the finishing touch. James can also be found in the wilds on a Tuesday with the Upper Ray volunteers, in the flood plain meadows of the River Ray, or other woodland reserves such as Rushbeds Wood and Whitecross Green Wood. In addition to this, he works as a membership recruiter for BBOWT. Strategically placed in a variety of venues, his enthusiasm for the natural world no doubt draws people in like a magnet. His favourite Finemere activity? "Gorging on a scrumptious slice of homemade lemon drizzle cake, Victoria sponge cake, carrot cake etc..." James also loves to scythe, a skill which BBOWT gave him the opportunity to learn. He enjoys the camaraderie of the volunteer team, the physical exercise, and most importantly the rewarding feeling that he is helping to protect a wild space. Butterflies have become his area of special interest, and he is responsible for the Chilswell Valley transect butterfly count. The abundance of Gatekeeper butterflies in the lush grasses of Finemere last Summer was a highlight for James.



When not in the woods, James has many other pastimes. Baking, campanology at his local church, Clerk of Works for the church where he is kept out of mischief with plenty of maintenance chores, walking, cycling, visiting local nature reserves, and wood carving, which he finds extremely therapeutic, that is until he chops off the wrong bit! James is not a man I can imagine sitting still for long. He has an energy and an effervescence about him, always at least two steps ahead of me. Thus, no sooner have I explained the day's challenge than he is off. Before I have time to take a breath, several panels of deer fencing are up and secured. He continues apace, the only word that will stop him is "cake". But how is that going to work in these days of Covid, when the sharing of homemade cakes is banned? I fear he will never stop.

For further information about volunteering opportunities at Finemere Wood, Calvert Jubilee and other BBOWT reserves, please email volunteering@bbowt.org.uk.



New local business just opened!

Fulbrook Feathers is a family run hatchery in Hogshaw, specialising in a variety of ducks, chickens, geese and quail. Having owned poultry for many years, we decided to add to our flock only to find very limited availability in the local area. We had to travel far and wide to find our beautiful ducks and chickens, and on many of our journeys came home empty handed as we were shocked in the manner we found people kept, handled and looked after their birds. As a direct result of what we found (and a little Covid boredom), we decided to explore the possibility of hatching ourselves to sell to the local area so we could be sure that the welfare of all of the birds was to the highest standard.

We are an ethically focused hatchery, where every single chick, gosling and duckling will have been hatched on site, and now following extensive research we are able to offer a wide selection of point of lay hens from a well-established, reputable source. We also pride ourselves on our aftercare services, as our birds are of the utmost importance and we are here to support and give advice wherever needed.

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Exciting Plans for a Wildlife Meadow & Community Orchard

Where will it be?

The field is off Lee Road, behind the football field, next to the tennis courts and skate park. The Saye and Sele Foundation own the field but lease it to the Parish Council.

How do you get there?

There is a pedestrian and cycle entrance gate from Lee Road at the entrance to the football field car park. There is also a footpath which runs diagonally through the field to the right of Klee Close (opposite the bottom of North End Road), which then leads to the back of the skate park, although this section is very boggy at the moment.

What are we planning?

The field already has a variety of grasses and some wildflowers, but the plan is to enhance the area with a greater variety to encourage even more wildlife. Hedgerow Havens, an organisation run by Buckinghamshire County Council and BBOWT, is supporting the project. In May, a group of 13 volunteers made a start with a Thistle Pulling Day to rid the field of some of the thistles to allow the new seed space.

We also plan to create a Community Orchard that the whole village can enjoy. Some fruit tree saplings will be planted, and Quainton Gardening Society is providing two 'Aylesbury Prune' (plum) trees. An oak tree provided by the Prideaux family will be planted in memory of the Duke of Edinburgh near the orchard. Some other trees, in particular oaks saplings from Doddershall, will also be planted, going a tiny way to mitigate the loss of the beautiful trees along the route of HS2. Thanks to Michelle Ro-Bo for organising the gathering of the saplings. Some will also be planted in another field in the village. It is hoped that a grant application for picnic benches will be successful to create a peaceful area for village residents to enjoy.

In the meantime, there is lots of work to be done. In July, the field will be harrowed to give some space for scattering wildflower and grass seed gathered from a nearby BBOWT meadow. We will keep you updated with what's happening in each issue of *Quainton News*.

Fundraising!

The Crafty Knitwits are busy fundraising for the Meadow & Orchard project and hope you will join them! Wherever you see one of their money boxes or jars, please give generously. In June, their much anticipated 'Window' on The Green from will be installed. The display will have an explanation and will ask you to join in with their fundraising. The Crafty Knitwits are busy creating lovely things for you to see and buy at their fundraising picnic on The Green (date TBC). There will be a prize draw on the day and lots of groups, charities, businesses and individuals have donated some lovely prizes but there is always room to add more!

The recent lockdowns have increased our awareness of the beauty of our surroundings and their value for wildlife as well as for our own enjoyment. Thank you to everyone who has already expressed an interest and offered to help with this project. If this is something you would like to be involved with, please let us know:

Michelle: michellethompson.qp@outlook.com or Claire: claire.lucasqp@outlook.com (655552)



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Father's Day Bistro Lunch Saturday 19 June

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Rare Aylesbury Prune Trees in Bones Close

These fruiting plum trees are thriving in the sheltered area of Bones Close, which can be found by following the footpath opposite the Village Stores. Although the path is a little boggy at times, this leafy area is abundant with wildlife all year round and a real treat for the senses! If you haven't walked up to Mill Hill recently, or ever, this path is a really lovely way up. At the right time of year, you can forage for blackberries, as well as plums and damsons... villagers are welcome to help themselves when the time is right!

Whitchurch WI: June Meeting

Meeting on Zoom
7.30pm, Tuesday 1st June 2021

'The Secret Meaning of Pub Names': Speaker: Terry Penny

To book a place, contact: Linda Nicholls on: lindanicholls2016@gmail.com



NOT The Midnight Walk

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity is asking everyone to set their alarm clocks for 5am on Saturday 10th July and join hundreds of others (virtually) for a dawn walk to raise crucial funds to support the Hospice. The Midnight Walk is a long-standing and major fundraiser for the Charity, and with their income hit so badly over the past year, they are hoping everyone will get behind them by signing up to this year's virtual event and help to raise the thousands of pounds needed to help secure the future of local hospice care. Walkers are asked to walk a minimum of 5 miles, wherever they want, starting at 5am on Saturday 10th July. The event is open to all, whatever your age and wherever you are in the world - last year saw lots of children (and dogs) join in so this year the Charity are offering children's T-shirts and dog bandanas so everyone can be a part of the event. For more information and to sign up, please visit www.fnhospice.org.uk/notthemidnightwalk or call 01296 429975.

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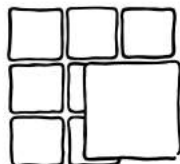
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QUANTON FOOTBALL CLUB DRAW



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The April Draw

£100	46	Daniel Ridgway	£20	36	Jan Perrett
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£25	78	George Sloan	£12	192	Darren Carter
£25	44	Carolyn Roberts	£10	123	Chris Harris
£25	196	Tim Friedlander			

George & Dragon Meal Voucher: 169 Warren Evans

Next draw Friday May 28th at George and Dragon, Quanton

Claydon Estate News

Phoenix Kitchen: Open Daily 10am-5pm

Sunday Roasts and Afternoon Teas: You can now pre-book tables online for Sunday Roasts and Afternoon Teas. Please check our website for updates: <https://claydonestate.co.uk/>

Father's Day Weekend: 19th-20th June

This year, the Phoenix Kitchen is celebrating Father's Day on Saturday and Sunday, with two tempting menus for you to choose from. We have a special 'Bistro' style lunch menu for the Saturday and 3-course roast lunch menu for the Sunday. Both menus are for pre-booked tables only, and you can book online with a £10.00 non-refundable deposit.

Humble Country Fayre: 18th-19th June

The inaugural Humble Country Fayre will be hosted in the walled gardens at Claydon Estate this June. With over 70 independent brands selling boutique homewares, gifts and accessories. Plus, demonstrations, food and drink. Tickets are priced at just £5 (children under 16 free). To find out more and to buy tickets, visit: <https://humblecountry.co.uk/humble-events/claydon-estate-june-2021/>





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- ☐ Have you considered your house might be worth more since it is near one of the few working windmills in England?

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Our Membership Fees are:

Individual annual membership	£10.00
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Individual life membership	£100.00

Please note membership fees are not required from existing Life Members and anyone who joined since 1st January 2021.

Method of Payment

Online: To Quainton Windmill Society, Sort Code: 60 01 31 and Account: 51641208.

Use your surname and forename as the payment reference and email us including your address at membership@quaintonwindmill.org so we can track your payment. You may wish to set up a Standing Order.

By Cash or Cheque: Cheque made out to Quainton Windmill Society, please include your details and bring along to the windmill on a Sunday or Thursday morning. Alternatively send to our Honorary Treasurer, 137 Station Road, Quainton, HP22 4BX.

By Card: You can pay your subscription by card at the Windmill on a Sunday morning between 10.00 and 12.30hrs.

If you have any queries about membership contact Arthur Swain on 01296 655642 or arther.swain@btinternet.com

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QUAINTON

·NEWS·

NOTICE BOARD

For Sale:

Doll. Ceramic face, hands & legs. Pristine condition. £5.00

Two Hand crafted masks, paid £50. For sale singly or as a set. £10.00 each, or nearest offer.

Can deliver, or to collect contact: 07831 447 597.

Waddesdon Wednesday Club

A huge congratulations and a warm welcome to the new manager of Waddesdon's Wednesday Club, Tracey Harding.

The contact details for the club have now changed. For all enquiries about the club:

- Call or text 07727 011026
- Call 01296 337316
- Email waddesdonclub@gmail.com

Don't forget to book your space at the club if you haven't already!

For sale:

Bosch Rotak 320C
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mower. Older
model but still
works. Free.

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FOR SALE: Dog Beds for Charity

Dog beds, various sizes available (approx. 29" x 23") with removable washable covers.

Suggested donation £10 for Horatio's Garden Charity (Stoke Mandeville Spinal Unit).

I can make more if required, so if anyone has spare, discarded, clean, single duvets to be transformed into new pet beds, then please call: 01296 655662. Quainton.



Post a FREE message on the Quainton News Notice Board!

Lost/found, Wanted, For Sale, Thanks Yous, New Baby Announcements, Engagements, Weddings, In Memory, Good Luck, Congratulations, etc.

Post to *Quainton News*, 32 Church Street or email: quaintonnews@gmail.com

Weather Figures for Quainton

Averages and Extremes for April 2021



Temperature			Rainfall		
Maximum	21.0°C	19th	Total for month	6.6mm	
Minimum	-5.8°C	7th	Wettest day	4.5mm	27th
Average	-0.1°C		Rain days	5	
Minimum					
Average	14.3°C		Dry days	25	
Maximum					
Highest	4.6°C	28th			
Minimum					
Lowest	6.7°C	10th			
Maximum					
Wind			Pressure		
Highest gust	27mph	5th	Highest	1035hPa	5th
			Lowest	1005hPa	28th

Figures supplied by Mike Beales. For the latest weather at Quainton go to: www.quainton-observatory.net/weather/quainton-weather/

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QUAINTON NEWS

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Quainton News by Post: We can send *Quainton News* by post for £15/year. Please send orders with payment to: Mrs Tooms, 7 Torbay, Quainton HP22 4AX. Tel: 01296 655306. Cheques payable to: Quainton PCC (QN).

Quainton News Online: Visit our website to see full colour versions of current and past issues of Quainton News: <https://quaintonnews.wixsite.com/quainton-news>. We are also on Facebook!

***** Quainton News copy deadline: 16th of the month *****

VILLAGE SERVICES

Quainton Website: Quainton Parish Online: www.quainton.org.uk

Quainton Village Life Facebook Page: This is a very active Facebook page for Quainton residents. Photos shared, local history discussed, questions answered, advice given, recommendations, plus lots more! There is also a Quainton Buying & Selling Facebook page.

Quainton Oil Group: Residents wishing to receive regular deliveries of heating oil on group negotiated terms from Lovell Fuels should phone 01844 202777 and ask to join the Quainton Oil Group.

Quainton Dog Warden: Lost your dog or found someone else's? Call Jan, our local contact point, on 655800 or 07941 946870 for help reuniting lost dogs with their owners.

Memorial Hall Bookings: Online bookings go to: booking.quaintonmh.co.uk, email: quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com, or call Deb Barker Boyd on 01296 655379.

To report noise/nuisance only at weekends call 07704 851945.

Saye & Sele Hall Bookings: Call John Knox on 655275.

Winwood Almshouses: For enquiries contact: winwoodalmshouses@outlook.com

Refuse & Recycling Collections for this month:

Tuesday 1 st June	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin ** Brown Garden Waste Bin **
Monday 7 th June	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 14 th June	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin ** Brown Garden Waste Bin **
Monday 21 st June	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 28 th June	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin ** Brown Garden Waste Bin **



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SERVICES AT HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH

Sunday 6 th June	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	10:30am	Family Church
	6:00pm	Evening Prayer
Sunday 13 th June	6:00pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 20 th June	10:30am	Family Communion
	6:00pm	Church Annual Meeting
	6:00pm	Evening Prayer

PARISH REGISTER ENTRIES

Cremation:	Thursday 22 nd April	Alistair (Mac) Maclaren
Burial of Ashes:	Friday 30 th April	Christopher Saunders
Burial of Ashes:	Friday 30 th April	Craig Nickless
Funeral & Burial:	Tuesday 4 th May	Geoffrey Heath
Cremation:	Thursday 6 th May	Charlie Williams

CHURCH ROTA FOR JUNE

	6 June	13 June	20 June	27 June
Morning Reader				
Morning Sidesman				
Evening Reader				
Evening Sidesman				
Altar Flowers	Stella Clark	Shirley Coote	June Hanson	Debbie Ormerod
Pedestal Flowers	Viv Craker	Amanda Cundell	Amanda Cundell	Helen Ratcliffe
Tea Rota				
Church Cleaning	Kate Dalton / Fiona Ginger / Ann Parrott		Carolyn Turnbull / Helen Ratcliffe / Georgie Bradbury	



This month's photo was taken by Quainton resident, Paul Tunncliffe.

If you have taken a photo of our Church or its surroundings which you would like to see in print, please email it to me at: quaintonnews@gmail.com

Thank you, Louisa, *Editor*

VILLAGE CALENDAR – JUNE 2021

- 2nd June:** School Holiday Steaming Day, Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, p.17
10th June: PC Meeting, see p.11
18/19/20th June: Humble Country Fayre, Claydon Estate, p.29
19/20th June: Father's Day menu at Phoenix Kitchen, Claydon Estate, p.29
20th June: Father's Day Steaming Special, Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, p.17
28th June: Quainton Monday Club restarts, under new mgt! QMH, 10am, p.17
- Future Dates:**
17th July: Quainton School PTA Bingo Night, QMH, p.15
24-26th July: Day Out With Thomas, Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, p.17

Quainton News: Our Parish Magazine & Village Newsletter

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