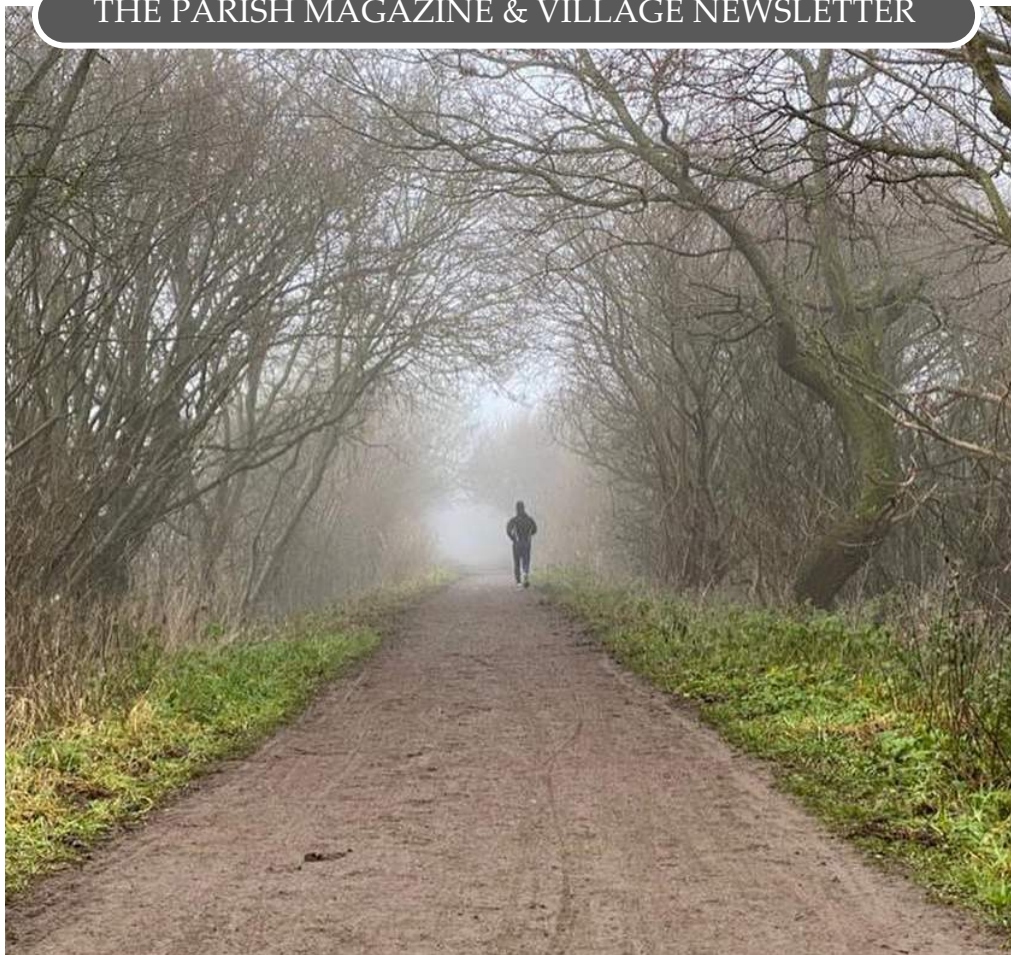


QUINTON ·NEWS·

THE PARISH MAGAZINE & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



The Man Who Ran In Jan

Thomas Dell, who grew up in Quainton, ran 12 marathons in the first 12 days of 2021, raising awareness and funds for mental health charity MIND. Read his story inside, including details of how to donate. What a legend! See p.17.

ISSUE No. 553

FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome from Holy Cross & St Mary's Church



Dear friends,

Growing up in London, one of my favourite family times was on a Saturday night gathered around our black and white TV, rented from Rediffusion, watching Michael Miles "Take You Pick." At the climax of the show, contestants would be invited to "open the box or take the money!" The excitement grew as Michael tempted them with more cash in hand if they chose not to open the box. In the box there could be a prize worth thousands of pounds, or a booby prize worth next to nothing.

The programme intrigued me because week after week contestants would make their choices, sometimes turning down hundreds of pounds, cash in hand and opting to open the box, when often they walked away with nothing.

We make choices every day of our lives, and these choices always lead somewhere – sometimes we get what we expected, but sometimes our choices land us in a pickle! It's the nature of life and we all have to take responsibility for the choices we make.

I have a lovely picture hanging on the wall in our living room, of seven African women, dressed in very decorative, ornate clothing, carrying baskets of different shapes and sizes on their heads. I often sit and try to guess what it is that they are carrying. Of course, I'll never know, but it doesn't stop me wondering.

All of us seem to have a built-in mechanism that causes us to be curious, to want to discover more. What's in the box!

I first came to faith when my curiosity got the better of me! My parents were Christians and regular church goers and I tagged along. But in my teens I had to find out if all that Christian stuff was really true. I read a book called, "Evidence That Demands A Verdict" by Josh McDowell and asked other people how they came to faith – notably someone who became a lifelong friend called Vic Jacobson who found Christ after reading one of the Gospels whilst doing time in Wandsworth Prison. Faith in Christ became personal for me.

We all have choices to make but some are more important than others. And life is too short to mess about with trivialities! Jesus made it clear that there are only two choices to make in life, the broad way or the narrow way. Most people choose the broad way, the easier option. The narrow road is more demanding, but it leads to life. (Matthew 7 verse 13 and 14)

165 million people have done the Alpha Course to explore the meaning of life. We are running a course online and anyone can join in. Curious? Drop me an email for details.

If we are brave enough to open the box, we discover treasure inside!

Blessings,

Rev Steve

Reverend Steve Flashman, Vicar

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

2 The Rectory, 27, Church Street, Quainton HP22 4AW Web: www.steveflashman.com

Welcome to the February 2021 issue



Louisa Richards, Editor

Hello Everyone,

The February issue signals the start of a new advertising year for Quainton News. Although we say goodbye to a handful of our advertisers, all for different reasons, it means we are able to welcome a few new advertisers.

Please do take the time to look through the adverts and see who has joined, and others who have made changes to their adverts. And please do use and support our advertisers where you can; they are all local and without them, Quainton News would not be possible. Thank you!

It's a big issue, with lots of features, so get the kettle on, settle down and enjoy the read!

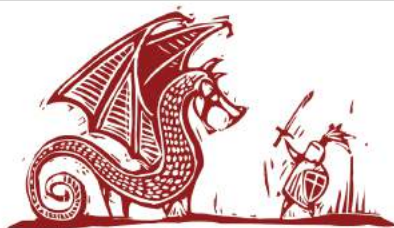
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louisa'.

News From Our Church:

Lumberjacks in the Church Yard

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has had to organise the felling and removal of the tall Scots Pine in the south side of the churchyard which had died. Thank you to Roger Simmonds for sending in this photo of the lumberjacks at work.





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Covid-19 Update: LOCKDOWN

- STAY AT HOME!
- HANDS FACE SPACE! Wash hands, cover face, give space...
- You cannot meet anyone indoors who is not in your household/support bubble
- You must not leave your local area (there are exceptions eg work, food shopping)
- You can exercise locally only with your household or one other local person
- Hospitality settings e.g. pubs/restaurants/hotels must close except for takeaway services
- All non-essential shops, entertainment venues etc remain closed
- Work from home wherever possible
- Schools are closed for most children, who are now being taught remotely alongside parents working from home
- Some people are being advised to shield again
- Gyms, the tennis club, the football club, golf courses all closed

NB There are exceptions. If you are unsure of a particular rule, everything is listed at gov.uk. It takes some wading through but most of the answers are there.

COVID vaccinations: Villagers are steadily being called to have their Covid vaccinations which is good to hear. If you need a lift to your appointment for your vaccine, the Quainton Support Network (QSN) is ready to assist our elderly residents or those classified as vulnerable to drive them to the vaccination locations, please call **Claire Lucas on 655552** to arrange a lift. Volunteers will be wearing their own masks, face shields (provided by the Parish Council) and hand sanitiser will be available. Face shields and hand sanitiser will also be made available to the passenger but please bring your own mask. **Thank you to the QSN volunteers who are on standby.**

Quainton Support Network: The QSN volunteers are here to help those shielding or isolating, e.g. shopping, delivering items from the Village Store or The George and Dragon, greengrocer and deli; collecting prescriptions from surgeries or from The Village Store, lifts to hospital appointments or to have the vaccine; walking dogs or simply someone to talk to.

Someone to Talk to: The first lockdown was easier as the weather was pleasant and people were able to sit in gardens. If you would like someone to call you and just chat, particularly if you are shielding or self-isolating, then please do give us a call and it can be easily arranged.

Bucks Council's website has support pages and BC run a county wide support team. Food parcels are sent to people/children or families who need some extra support. Foodbank <https://aylesbury.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/> or ring 01296 382 414 or out of hours 0800 999 7677. If you can afford food but need support at this time, please contact: communities@buckscc.gov.uk or phone 01494 475355

Call Claire 655552 or Louisa 655560 if you need any help due to shielding or isolating.

Or email us on: qsn-help@quainton.org.uk Visit the Covid-19 page at: www.quainton.org.uk



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Wonderful Windows in Quainton!



I wanted to say a big “thank you” to all those who have given me something different to look at whilst walking around the village (which I know many people are doing an awful lot more of!) from Christmas lights and decorations, two partridges in a pear tree, Torin’s Lego advent window (above left), the advent trail and Carol’s fabulous, crocheted window on The Green.

Thank you for your time and creativity, it’s not just the children who have enjoyed them!

Carol has unveiled her latest prehistoric window (below) and has already started planning her next one! Thank you and keep at it!

Juliet Henderson



Blooming beautiful Bonnet Bonanza!

A little reminder to get planning, cutting, sticking, knitting, crocheting and creating your spring bonnets! Anything homemade goes. Open to adults and children. There will be prizes and hopefully cake too! We are aiming to display them on The Green on the last Saturday in April (24th). In fact, if you have made something or learnt a new skill in lockdown then bring it along and show it off. If you want to register your interest, ask a question, share your creation before then, please do.... Contact Juliet on 07523399274. Happy crafting!



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Hi All,

Hope you are all safe and well. We just wanted to reassure you all that we are here for you during these challenging times. As well as the many products and services we offer don't forget that if you are isolating or know someone that is we will **deliver essential products directly to you.**

We've also worked intensely with all our suppliers to ensure that we are able to get the products onto our shelves. In addition, we continue to increase our range, so you can get most of what you need.

POST OFFICE: A reminder the POST OFFICE is OPEN during the **SAME HOURS** as the shop - except on Sunday.

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- We continue to increase our Gluten Free, Vegan and Vegetarian Range.

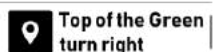
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Hope to welcome you soon! Love Emma and Sarah
#here4u #Shoplocal #Notjustavillagestore





Quainton Parish Council

Chairman: Arthur Evans. **Councillors:** Nick Heirons, Mrs C Lucas, N Butler, J Knox, M Wearn, Ms M Thompson.

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

The Chairman Reports:

Anti Covid Vaccinations: Should you require transport for medical appointments or for any other reason please call Claire Lucas on 655552 and she will find a volunteer. We are all extremely grateful to Claire and her many public-spirited volunteers who have made, and are making, life much easier for so many in and outside the present circumstances.

Road Closures: It is tempting not to give any firm information since so many of these pop up suddenly, sometimes making nonsense of previous information. For example, only a recent reading of 'Bucks Herald' official notices indicated that the road from White Hart Field to Ladymead Business Park was to be closed for resurfacing. This closure would have coincided with the Station Road diversion meaning all Aylesbury-bound traffic going via Quainton Road, Waddesdon. Just imagine the chaos. Fortunately, when this was pointed out, it was agreed to postpone the resurfacing, which is in itself a blow to several residents in that area. In another case, we were forewarned that Station Road and Snake Lane bridges were to have a 3-ton weight limit imposed. The signs are still threatened and anticipated but what route overweight vehicles (HGVs, buses, tractors and trailers, cars towing caravans, even some larger cars it is mooted) are supposed to follow is presently unclear, although it does not augur well for The Strand and Lower Street. Couple this with prospective temporary closures of the back road to Edgcott and you can visualise further difficulties.

Many have questioned the placement of temporary weekday traffic lights at Berryfields crossroads. We argued against them, but they are considered necessary by TFB (a Buckinghamshire Council body) to cater for extra traffic during the closure of Station Road. Mindful that several motorists either deliberately ignore them, or wrongly assume, on account of the long waiting times, they are not working, we again asked for their removal but were denied. Most locals are aware of how careful you still need to be at the junction so do understand driver caution when pulling out.

On the plus side, the weight limit sign on our road to Berryfields has at last been re-erected at the Aylesbury end which should, if drivers obey the legal requirements, save some of the increasing wear and tear. Fearing that attempts may be made to close the main track to Finemere Wood while an electricity substation for HS2 is built on adjoining land, we are seeking assurances that this will not occur.

Traffic calming: We still await training on making full use of the SID so that we may collect speeding statistics as well as alert drivers to their actual speeds. Observation indicates that most motorists are reacting appropriately. Volunteers will be needed to assist with tasks such as accessing data, repositioning, battery recharging and replacement, and, when permitted, continuation of Speedwatch sessions. No special attributes required.

Planning Matters: We are still reeling from witnessing that Buckinghamshire Council North Bucks Planning meeting on the plans for 40 houses **behind 151 Station Road**, which resulted in the developers' plans being given approval despite so many uncertainties and evident conflict with our Neighbourhood Plan. With less than half the 12 councillors present voting in favour and a third of the 12 abstaining, the developers can hardly claim there is much confidence in their plans. Latest news is that Barwood Homes' drainage plans have proved unacceptable while legal investigations are still being pursued by residents particularly affected. We still have unanswered questions about the application for a storage barn at **Ladymead Farm** and await clarification about proposed changes to the carport at **43A Lower Street**. There are no objections to a hay and straw barn for the Stud at **Dry Leys Farm** or a porch at **96 Station Rd**. Work having been temporarily halted at **2 Lower Street**, two new applications have been submitted. These cover the previously unpermitted work on the listed barn and its future proposed domestic usage

but leave disquiet about promised parking provision. The **Swan & Castle** is now up for sale.

New Prison: In conjunction with other local parish councils, we will be expressing considerable concerns about the negative effects such proposals will have on a rural area, roads and public services.

Excess Surface Water: There are many instances where all the Parish Council can do is to complain. However angry we are, however forceful our communications by phone, correspondence or in person, no matter how many facts in our favour we come up with, we frequently meet a stone wall. Lacking power or finance we are then understandably charged with being useless. In some circumstances, frustration has led to councillors standing down. Honesty compels us to admit that often we are helpless. We felt this again during recent downpours where some residents again required sandbags to protect their property while others suffered the possibility of danger from aquaplaning vehicles or a drenching from passing traffic. The most affected places by flooding are well known - The Willows, Station Road, North End/Townsend junction and Berryfields crossroads, all of which have again suffered floods in recent downpours, while there are others, such as in North End Road where a blocked drain makes it look as if water is flowing out rather than in. Since we have neither the cash nor the equipment to deal with these events, I plead guilty to being both helpless and useless – at times!

Finance: A 2% increase in the precept for 2021/22 has been approved.

Children's Play Area and Skate Park remain open for exercise but please obey the requirements listed onsite. Necessary repairs to the Skate Park equipment are currently delayed by present circumstances. We also await a grant to improve drainage in the sodden parts of the Skate Park field. Thanks to Brian Fludgate for his work on the play park, particularly on the wettest spots. It is hoped to improve the waterlogged footpath across Trail Flatt land.

Community Assets: The renewal of the play park, George and Dragon and the old butcher's shop to the list of community assets is to be sought. This means before any closure the community has to be given an opportunity to attempt purchase. The Village Store is already so listed.

Local Elections for County, Town and Parish are supposed to be held in May this year. Of course, there is a possibility that they may again be postponed although presently there has been no change. One or more of our present parish councillors will not be standing again so there will be room for fresh blood. If you would be interested, do speak to one of the present councillors, or our Clerk, or look online, to find details of the simple process to put your name forward.

Keith Sutton: Those of you still taking the 'Bucks Herald' will note that Quainton is one of only a few villages to have a correspondent regularly submitting a column. I know that Keith very much appreciates those who provide him with items of interest to include. I believe his deadline is the Friday previous to the Wednesday edition. Contact Keith on 655430.

Broadband: Thanks to the councillors involved, and the cooperation of Station Road residents, a case for improvement has been made to appropriate bodies. Using government provided vouchers there's hope the necessary finance will be forthcoming and work set in hand, although a quick fix would be a bonus.

Repairs to the street light by White Hart Field have been delayed by Covid necessitated work practices.

Neighbourhood Plan: Please do study the proposals and comment. The more evidence of active participation (questioning/commitment/support from residents) the stronger influence the plan will have.

HS2: The carnage and disruption continues despite opposition. While affected communities share the problems they encounter and seek change through peaceful channels, including a petition, supported by over 100,000, which sought another parliamentary debate, before being rejected, the project continues, with anecdotal evidence from participants of workers and their machinery on £200 per day standing idle. Coupled with the increasing lack of demand for train travel, as people become accustomed to working from home and businesses enjoy cutting the cost of office provision, the questioning of the scheme's viability is unlikely to lessen.

The Beacon: As you will appreciate, Covid regs and wet weather have combined to delay taking it down.

Next PC Meeting is Thursday 11th February at 8pm. As presently the norm, this will be an online meeting so if you wish to attend, or just view, please register with the Clerk who will provide access details.



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A Message from Father Christmas!

Christmas may seem a distant memory, but I am writing to you good people of Quainton from the very cold North Pole! Father Christmas would love to extend his Gratitude to the amazing contribution you all made towards the float on Christmas Eve. Our final tally is yet to be confirmed but it is in the region of £1500 +!!! A little check with father Christmas and the horse powered reindeer driver, this is the most the float has ever raised. So in a time when comfort and joy are needed so much we have decided to split the proceeds between 4 charities! £500 will go towards a bigger and better senior citizens party next year £500 will go towards a charity which we are still waiting for details on and the remaining monies will be split equally between the epilepsy society and prostate Cancer research! Many of you are aware that father Christmas got a little bit late arriving in Quainton this year... Well this is because we had a detour! For the first time ever, we had to leave Quainton and fly over to Berryfields to meet a very special young lady who is suffering from a form of childhood cancer. As with the whole evening, we um'ed and ah'ed over this due to the current climate! It was a very emotional part to the evening! The feeling we all had from the evening was one so special; for a lot of people in Quainton Christmas would not be Christmas without our wonderful float! Our thanks go to everyone involved, Father Christmas, our horse-powered reindeer driver Nick Thomas, the music man Mick Watson for sorting out the PA to make sure we are heard, Roger Simms for providing the trailer, Dick Carter for allowing us to use his yard to set up the float and Rob and Bob Bleasdale for assembling the float and all the other jobs they do surrounding the float! Thank you on behalf of the whole Team.

The biggest elf the North Pole has ever seen! Take care everyone. Until next year, when we hope we will be able to once again allow you onto the float to see Father Christmas!

Sue is Cycling 75 laps of Quainton for a Good Cause!

In November, Girlguiding became the official partner of BBC Children in Need and asked their members to take their age, do something good with it and help raise much needed funds for both charities. In the case of Girlguiding, their percentage will go towards helping to support units, which are struggling to keep going in the present situation. I decided to take my age and cycle round the village 75 times. I think we all know what Children in Need does.

At first, I was doing two laps a day but I have been rather lazy since Christmas and have not done more than one per day since. However, tomorrow I should reach 60 which will be great.

I am very happy to accept cash donations through the door (**33 Upper Street**) or any other way which is convenient to the donor. I am amazed that I have passed the £350 mark.

A very big thank you to everyone who has donated off-line to Children in Need/ Girlguiding. Being an age-related challenge, and as I rarely do more than one circuit a day, I am still persevering to reach the promised 75. Donations are still coming in which really helps to keep me motivated.

Sue Evans

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News from Quainton School

Another term and another lockdown! Fortunately, we were prepared, despite the 12-hour notice to cater for the new arrangements. The staff have been fantastic in delivering home-learning via Google classroom, giving the children a chance to meet virtually twice a day. We are also educating approximately 30 key worker and vulnerable children daily in school, whilst at the same time ensuring we are still following the strict Covid guidance.



We really would love to be open for the children, though we are making the most of a difficult situation. I cannot wait for the opportunity to open our doors to the community again, to invite you to school performances, the summer fair, sports days and so on. The chance to enjoy and celebrate all that is good at Quainton School.

Keep safe,

Mr James Vernon, Headteacher

Quainton School PTA 100 Club Draw:

100 Club December's winners:

1 st prize £50	Sue Sloan
2 nd prize £20	Michelle Robinson Boyce
3 rd prize £10	Laura Hyde
4 th prize £5	Toya Wilmott



BERNIE'S RURAL TAKE OUT

The Clare Foundation has allocated money to Bernie's Rural Take Out, a scheme set up by Councillor Paul Irwin to support village residents and their pubs.

Quainton Parish Council is happy to support this scheme which allows the Parish Council and residents to nominate somebody or maybe a family living in Quainton who deserve a 'treat' takeaway meal. We are starting with 30 vouchers but more will follow. You decide who you would like to nominate – a NHS worker, a carer, someone who needs a boost, someone who is shielding, a vulnerable person, an elderly neighbour, a family etc. Once nominated, the person or family might be lucky enough to receive a voucher for a takeaway meal from a specified menu at the George and Dragon pub, Quainton (655436) on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursdays. Vouchers to be used by March 31st. Takeaways can be collected at an arranged time with the George and Dragon, although delivery can be arranged for those shielding etc.

Nominations can be emailed to qsn-help@quainton.org or phone Claire Lucas 655552.



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Schemes and RDPE; Equestrian; Compulsory Purchase and
Compensation (HS2, East West Rail, Oxford to Cambridge Expressway).



Denham Hill Farm, Quainton, HP22 4AN
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The Man Who Ran In Jan

At the end of last year, Thomas Dell made the crazy decision to try and run a marathon every day in January. Thomas, whose family is from Quainton, lived in the village from the age of 12 and went to Waddesdon School. Thomas said, "Last year was especially tough for many of us. Seeing those closest to me struggle with their mental health made me want to try and start 2021 more positively by raising awareness and funds for mental health charity MIND. Running is my safe place, and I not only benefit from the physical aspects of running but from the mental aspects too. So, I decided to set myself a challenge – to run a marathon distance every day in January and my aim was to raise £1,000 for MIND."

January 1st came and Thomas' challenge began. He had to plan around his full-time job, so most days he aimed to be up at 4am to run as many miles as possible before going to work, to then complete the marathon after work that evening. This meant that many miles were banked in the dark, but he was still joined by loyal friends on many of his runs (including Quainton's Sam Muscroft and his younger brother Freddie).

As the days went on, Thomas' story got heard, he gained more and more followers on his social media pages and soon he was raising his target to £5,000 and then again to £10,000! All was going well, but with eight marathons ticked off, the aches and pains started to hit and around day 11 his knees were hurting and his achilles was causing him agonising pain. But he ran on. Day 12 was the toughest yet, but on day 13, the road came to an end for Thomas' challenge. His knee pain was so bad it made it impossible for him to continue. Disappointed was an understatement.

Thomas would like to thank everyone who got involved, supported him and donated to complete his journey. Although disappointed, he is thrilled to have raised funds for MIND but also to have made many memories and inspired so many others to start their own journeys. His total, as we go to print, is currently at a staggering £14,849.

To donate please visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/marathon-everyday-in-january/>



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Goodbye from Postie Neil

Hello Quainton,

On May 7th 2001 a Lofty Postie called Neil Cadenhead started delivering in Quainton. 19½ years later, I am saying goodbye to everyone in the village who has made me feel so welcome. Here are a few things that have happened during this time. Quainton has always kept me busy with parcels packets and letters. I have seen lots of things like a world war 2 reenactment and Thomas the tank engine at the Railway museum.



I've always been welcome at the School, Pub, Garage, Post Office and Nursery by all the friendly staff. Over the years I have done many things for Charity, like 2004 London Marathon; in 2007 I cycled LEJOG with a work colleague, and I had all my hair, beard and eyebrows shaved off for Brave the Shave. Over the years, I have always had banter of Football know matter what team you support. Last year, I bought myself a motorcycle and would like to thank the Piggott Presto man for looking after it and the all the bikers in the village for solving problems. For a few years now we have seen a certain gentleman flying his 1920's plane over the village and waving as well. Thanks to Roy and Christine for supplying me with tea and biscuits. At the moment I am working at John Lewis packing online parcels; it's quite different from Royal Mail. Everyone has been so kind to me over the years and I would like to say thank you, you're amazing. I will keep in touch with you once this awful virus has finished.

Thank you, Neil 'Lofty' Cadenhead

Thank you to the George & Dragon!

This pandemic has made a lot of us realise how grateful we are for our local communities. From March up until now, the local dynamic duo of George and Darren have worked tirelessly the whole way through to ensure that everyone could get their goods. From serving takeaway meals and pints in The George and Dragon; supplying cyclists and walkers with their caffeine fix in the coffee shop; to providing everyone with much needed groceries – George, Darren and the team have done a fabulous job of supporting the community. Now, more than ever, is the time to shop local! So if you are thinking of whipping up (another) loaf of banana bread, don't forget that the team now have lots of fresh produce in stock. And, if you fancy a night off from cooking, why not have a stroll up and collect a takeaway meal? Happy New Year to all and a big thank you to The George and Dragon!

Kelly Knight

THE GEORGE & DRAGON



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WHAT'S ON OFFER?

Our priority has always been and will continue to be, providing for the community - especially during these tough times. We are adapting what we do to ensure we deliver for you, so we've created a range of offers from January 19th. Let us take away your cooking responsibilities and dish up something delicious for you to enjoy in the comfort of your own home. Don't forget we get daily deliveries of fresh fruit and veg - Yes, that's right, **DAILY!** So, if you fancy popping down and grabbing some fresh produce, then look no further. We are proud to continue to serving the local community and encourage you to make the most of these offers.

◆ **January 19th - 31st**

Spend £10 in the Grocers and get a free hot drink in the coffee shop! Just ask for a ticket upon purchase.

◆ **February 2nd, 3rd & 4th**

Pay Day Deals! Discover our limited edition menu - specials to be announced.

◆ **February 9th - 14th**

Valentines Day Meal Offer - keep an eye on our chalkboards for further details.

◆ **February 16th, 17th, 18th**

Pancake Week - Sweet and Savoury options will be available.

◆ **February 23rd - 28th**

Any purchases from the grocers or coffee shop will give you the opportunity to enter our free prize draw (prize TBA!)

◆ **March 2nd - 7th**

Celebrate National Pie Week! Keep an eye on our chalkboards for further details.

Opening Hours:

Grocers:

Tues-Sat 9am-1:30pm

Thurs. Late Night 5pm-7:30pm

Coffee Shop:

Tues-Sun 9am-3pm

Evening Takeaways:

Tues-Sat 5pm-7:30pm

(Orders placed by 3pm that day)

Contact Us:

Phone: 01296 655 436

Email: enquiry@georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk

Or find us online:

Facebook: /thegeorgeanddragonquainton

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Website: www.georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk

Garden Trees – We Need Your Help

Members of the Parish Council are working on a document linked to the neighbourhood plan highlighting the trees, green spaces, hedgerows and wildlife corridors in the village. In 1990 a tree survey was undertaken by Quainton WI so a comparison can be made -will it be a loss or gain? Maybe you were involved in this survey. Quainton is lucky to have a range of trees but most are in gardens, so we need your help.

We would like to know what trees are in your garden so we can add them to the current survey. Please email parishclerk@quainton.org.uk or phone Claire 655552 with your list of garden trees. If you require assistance in identifying a tree we will try and help. This has been a steep learning curve for us so if there is anyone with tree identification knowledge, we would love to hear from you. Thank you to those who have already told us about their trees.

Claire and Michelle

Our Poor Verges:

The muddy mess and destruction of verges outside of 5 Church Street and Brudenell House on Tuesday 19th January was shocking to see on a morning stroll. However, the large clods of once beautifully kept green conservation area verge was quickly cleared from the road by two very helpful men working for Bucks Flat Roofing Specialists Ltd. The Parish Council would like to thank Ryan and his colleague for their quick thinking and eagerness to resolve the matter, despite cars driving all over these mounds and spreading further down the road. Restores your faith, a little.....

Station Road Broadband

As Station Road (and off street cul de sacs) residents will know, a leaflet drop and collection to ascertain the Broadband provision for each household has been successfully completed.

The results are as follows:

No broadband and not interested 2

No broadband but interested 3

Satisfactory broadband not interested 3

Satisfactory broadband and interested 14

Poor broadband and interested 34

Residents 55 Business only 1

Both Residents and business/charity 5

This information has been forwarded to Open Reach who are calculating the cost per household/business/charity. There are ways in which financial support towards this can be obtained so watch this space for more information as we progress. A further leaflet drop may be needed to give each address the details for registering interest once an initial cost has been obtained. With thanks to all the residents who responded, a great number of you taking the time to share your views and for those who missed the deadline, you will still be able to access this on the next round of engagement. Finally, thanks to Councillor Claire Lucas and Teddy for their help in distribution, exceeding daily steps on several occasions!

From Quainton Parish Council

Your Photos of the Windmill

We are fortunate to live in the beautiful village of Quainton and many of us take photographs in the village and from the hills nearby. If you have taken a photograph that includes the windmill please consider submitting it for the Gallery page of the Windmill website. Each quarter a prize will be awarded for our favourite image.

Please note the photograph must have been taken by you, email your submission to gallery@quaintonwindmill.org

Please examine the Gallery page on www.quaintonwindmill.org/gallery.htm



**Quainton
Windmill**





Quinton Neighbourhood Plan

Have Your Say!

Following discussions with the Local Planning Authority each household has received a consultation notice to comment on the modified Quinton Neighbourhood Plan.

We want you, the villagers, to send us your comments and suggestions before we submit the final version to Buckinghamshire Council.

More information, and how to comment is available on the village website: quinton.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan-modification or call 01296 651354

The Consultation Period ends Friday
19th February 2021



A New Year for Matthew's Way and Ladymeard Farm

Matthew Lane, from North Marston, died in October 1996, before his first birthday. A circular walk of about 10km (6 miles), between the villages of Quainton and North Marston, was officially named in Matthew's memory on 10 May 1997. Trees were planted at certain points along the way and are dedicated to Matthew. Where the route crosses Ladymeard Farm at Denham, just outside Quainton, a Liquidambar was planted but this died some years ago.

In the summer of 2020, Ladymeard's owners Antony & Julie Barrett decided to redesign the Denham approach gateway to their home and wanted Matthew to be part of the scheme. Alan Warner, who has been helping Antony & Julie develop and maintain the gardens and grounds at Ladymeard contacted and consulted with Trevor Lane, Matthew's father, about Antony & Julie's plans. And so work began including the planting of a circular photinia hedge and a Portuguese laurel hedge that separates the bridleway from the new orchard which was planted in early 2020 now home to a number of bee hives.



The new orchard is one of a number of completed and ongoing projects improving the ecology of Ladymeard. This has included the planting of over two thousand trees and a number of naturally fed lakes. The resulting bio-diversity of the existing and new habitats include nesting little owls, kestrels, moorhens and mallard ducks. Other wildlife to be spotted by walkers along the public footpaths and bridleway that cross Ladymeard include various deer, badgers, foxes, rabbits, buzzards, red kites, green woodpeckers, toads and smooth newts. In the summer, large numbers of dragonflies and damselflies can be seen darting over the two new linked lakes. The lakes are fed naturally by a watercourse, running parallel to the bridleway, land drains and natural rainfall. If you're lucky you may see a flash of iridescent blue as a kingfisher flies along the stream. Children may also be excited to see the Alpacas and Shetland ponies which are resident in the field opposite, encircled by the former racehorse gallop.



On 1st January 2021, observing necessary social distancing, Matthew's parents, Trevor & Kathy Lane and their daughter Victoria, walked up to the new gate and met Antony & Julie Barrett. Trevor re-dedicated Matthew's tree and Kathy unveiled a plaque commemorating Matthew. Three established Liquidambar Styraciflua trees have been planted as part of the scheme and Matthew's tree is flanked by two natural stone 'seats' where the weary walker can take a rest and perhaps reflect upon the engraved poem.



PLANT A TREE

By David H Wright

If when I am gone
Thou would'st honour me
Then plant a tree.
Some highway, bleak and bare,
Make green with leaves.
So radiant and fair
And full of leaves my monument will be,
So ever full of tuneful melody.
My monument will be
A sight most rare -
Trees planted everywhere.
A highway broad from city to the sea -
Plant this in memory of me.

Trevor Lane has lots of booklets containing information and a map of the route if anyone would like one after reading the article. Please contact him on: 07768 625550 or via email on: tlane@lanelandscaping.co.uk (There are also currently copies for sale in Quainton Village Stores).

Written by Alan Warner



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Quainton's very own Farrier

My name is Hugh Vowles and I have lived in Quainton all my life - 24 years. From age six, I began to develop an interest in horses and horse riding. At around age 10, having seen a demonstration of the craft at the Bucks County Show, I decided that I too wanted to shoe horses for a living. On completing my GCSEs at Waddesdon CofE School, I began to study forging skills and equine anatomy at Warwickshire College's equine and agricultural site in Moreton Morrell.

At age 18, I began my apprenticeship working for a small Farrier business operating around Thame. Over 4 years of hard work (with the blisters to prove it!), I learnt how to make by hand and appropriately fit many styles of horseshoe. I then passed my final exams and gained a diploma in the Worshipful Company of Farriers. This allowed me to start my own business, which I proceeded to do in January 2019 aged 22. I named my business Vowles Farriery. Since qualifying, I have decided to further my learning to degree level and so am 18 months into a 4-year part time course held by the University of Central Lancashire. A lot of the studying can be done from home, often at the weekends, though the occasional trip to Preston is required.

I offer a reliable service in equine hoof care for both shod and barefoot horses and ponies. I am lucky enough to have a fantastic client base in Quainton and the surrounding villages. I was even lucky enough to perform the Farrier demonstrations at Bucks County Show in 2019; I can only hope that I inspire another young person to join the craft!

Hugh Vowles

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Quainton Golf Society

Our golfing year restarts in March, with the first Society day to be held on 26 March 2021 at Badgemoor Park, Henley – Government restrictions permitting

If you would like information about joining the Society, please contact Vince Hemsley on 07427555656 or vince.hemsley63@virginmedia.com.



The Rolling Oats



Millery & Chris
The Rolling Oats
hello@therollingoats.com
www.therollingoats.co.uk

Hello Quainton!

Our big apologies if anyone missed The Rolling Oats this January. Due to Covid, unfortunately we have been unable to do our village rounds.

We have adapted and are now offering a delivery service for Quainton on Wednesday morning (last orders midnight Monday), so you can still get all your household essentials plastic free! Liquid products will be refilled on your doorstep. It will be lovely to wave at you through the window or have a physically distanced chat at your door ! This has been a difficult decision to make and we really hope to be back on the road again soon. Keep safe everyone and see you soon!

Thank you!

Thank you to Laura and Joe from Laura's Explorers Childcare in the village who put together a little batch of Christmas packages with the help of the children in their care, to donate to a few of our elders spending Christmas on their own. What a lovely act of kindness to see around our village.

Quainton Memorial Hall Update

Quainton Memorial Hall is closed due to the current Covid restrictions. We will re-open as soon as it is permitted. Let us hope it won't be too long. In the meantime we are making use of the downtime to carry out maintenance work such as resealing the floor and refurbishing the lights in the main hall.

Let's be optimistic and start planning parties, family gatherings or other events later the year. You can reserve the date with QMH and make a provisional booking with no commitment or the need to pay a deposit. Check availability and book online: booking.quaintonmh.co.uk or email quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com. Full details are on the website: <https://www.quaintonmh.co.uk/>



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We are so grateful for all your support.

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LOCAL SPECIES: "WINTER THRUSHES" by David Gladwin

Fieldfares and Redwings are often known as "Winter Thrushes" because they migrate to our shores in late Autumn and will be leaving us again in Spring to return to their breeding grounds in Scandinavia and Asia. As usual, there has been a profusion of both species in our area this winter and they seem to have found plenty of food in spite of the desecration caused by HS2.



Large numbers are still with us, joining our resident thrushes (blackbird, mistle and song thrushes) to gorge on hedgerow berries such as hawthorn, blackthorn and guelder rose. As the berry harvest dwindles, they turn their attention to apples and crab apples, often being seen more in gardens in late winter.

Fieldfares are large colourful thrushes with grey heads and rumps and rich brown backs. They have a rather upright stance on the ground and can often be seen (and heard) as large flocks fly overhead. Redwings are more like our resident song thrushes but a close look reveals a white line running across above the eye and reddish flanks under the wings, hence their name redwings.

In these Covid-ridden times it is still legal and safe to see both winter thrushes on short walks around Quainton while adhering to Lockdown rules. What will be difficult is trying to avoid all the closed paths, barriers, mud and other HS2 hazards, including groups of "workers" holding tea breaks and lengthy "planning meetings" while showing little regard for lockdown rules. The redwings and fieldfares will be leaving us in a couple of months. It may take a bit longer to get rid of HS2 and let's hope there are a few hedges left next Autumn when these birds come back again.

*Written by David Gladwin, on behalf of Quainton Village Society:
"Caring about the village" Registered Charity No. 802608*



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George & Dragon Meal Voucher:			132	G Wray	

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If you are under 25 and live in Quainton or Grendon Underwood you may be eligible for financial assistance in connection with:

- Educational studies, e.g. for the purchase of books
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- Recreational activities, including sport

Applications should be made to Tim Friedlander, Clerk to the Trustees, Parrott & Coales, 14 Bourbon Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2RS. The Trustees usually meet in January, April, July and October to determine applications.

Ramblings afar from Finemere Wood Charlotte Karmali - Volunteer Warden

Here we go again: lockdown number three. Once more, along with the wider population, the Finemere volunteers must retreat to their homes, hunker down and wait for the storm to ease. The wood will still be there, once we have made it through this tempestuous time, ready to reveal its natural wonders and share its healing powers.

What better time to focus upon another of those woodland workers? Ian, known to me for many years, from my early days of BBOWT volunteering, is one in a million, a great communicator, with a tremendous interest in people. Born a twin, during the Second World War, he had a life saving operation at Great Ormond Street Hospital at the tender age of six weeks. Early on in life, he developed green fingers and dreamed of becoming a farmer. However, he was encouraged to pursue a more lucrative career, and so studied accounts. Clinging on to his dreams of working the land, a job with the Milk Marketing Board was a compromise. Following this, an exciting opportunity arose to work as an area accountant in the West Cameroons with the Development Corporation, on their plantations. Ian relished this lucky break and spent two years working on the estates which grew palms, rubber, tea, bananas and pepper. Back in the UK he followed a more conventional career in manufacturing industry.



Ian is a keen volunteer and is known widely due to his involvement with BBOWT work parties over the years. He says he is currently less active, limiting his volunteering efforts to conservation with the Chiltern Society, gardening for the YHA, and of course Finemere. His favourite Finemere activity is to create scallops along the woodland edges of the rides. We do much of this in the wood, rotating the sections that are cleared of vegetation. This allows more light to hit the ground and encourages new growth, enhancing biodiversity in this most valuable of habitats. Ian often works like a trojan, and can be found amongst huge piles of fallen trees and shrubs, pouring with sweat. I keep an eye on him, gently reminding him that he is no longer twenty something, we only have one body and it must be preserved.

Ian is drawn to Finemere by friendship, exercise and fresh air. He has a general interest in all flora and fauna, with butterflies having the edge. At the end of a heavy day of volunteering, Ian particularly enjoys wildlife, current affairs and murder mysteries on television. He considers himself to be “one of the luckiest people in the world”, with many friends and 15 “super” grand nephews and nieces. Ian gives the woodland workers much to smile and chuckle about. His lunches are one such thing: not the usual sandwich and a piece of fruit, instead chunks of cheese, a whole packet of chocolate digestives and, on a special day, a large iceberg lettuce to munch through. The man has hollow legs.

Contact **Charlotte** at charlottekarmali@outlook.com for further information. At the moment I am unable to take on any new volunteers, as work party size has had to be reduced due to the coronavirus. There are volunteering opportunities with BBOWT: <https://www.bbowl.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer> Also, the **Calvert Jubilee Work Party** meet on the third Thursday of the month. Contact Clive at omgitsclive@gmail.com or on 07917007055 for further information.



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FINE & COUNTRY

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Waddesdon (Secondary) School's fundraising group, the WSA, would be very grateful for your support in their fundraising this year by taking part in their monthly Prize Draw, the Waddesdon Winner! By purchasing a £1 Waddesdon Winner ticket, you would be in with a chance of winning a **prize of up to £100 every month**.

Each annual subscription of £12 gives you one number which will be entered into the draw each month for 12 months. You may purchase multiple tickets at £12 each.

All proceeds directly benefit the school.

To purchase tickets, please email: wsa@waddesdonschool.com **with the**

subject: Waddesdon Winner. Thank you very much for your support!



WADDESDON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
SCHOOL

Church flowers at Christmas

In case you weren't able to make it out to the church at Christmas time, we thought you might like to see some photos of the stunning flower arrangements that were prepared by our fabulous team of flower arrangers. Huge thanks and appreciation to all of you, they looked beautiful!





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foxandfry.co.uk

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Online bookings
and phone
bookings
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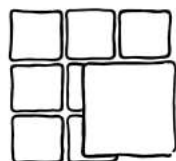
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Weather Figures for Quainton

Averages and Extremes for December 2020

Temperature			Rainfall		
Maximum	12.3°C	21st	Total for month	82.5mm	
Minimum	-4.0°C	31st	Wettest day	20mm	23rd
Average Minimum	1.5°C		Rain days	18	
Average Maximum	7.4°C		Dry days	13	
Highest Minimum	8.8°C	19th			
Lowest Maximum	0°C	31st			
Wind			Pressure		
Highest gust	44mph	27th	Highest	1032hPa	25th
			Lowest	969hPa	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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The Pace The BIG Walk

NEW ROUTE - NEW DATE 24 APRIL 2021

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QUINTON

·NEWS·

NOTICE BOARD

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Post a FREE message on the *Quinton News* Notice Board!

Lost/found, Wanted, For Sale, Thanks Yous, New Baby Announcements,
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Post to *Quinton News*, 32 Church Street or email: quintonnews@gmail.com

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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: Google 'Quainton News' to find our website with full colour versions of current and past issues. 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. Questions solved, advice, 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:

Monday 1 st February	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 8 th February	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin ** Brown Garden Waste Bin **
Monday 15 th February	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 22 nd February	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin ** Brown Garden Waste Bin **
Monday 1 st March	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin



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SERVICES THIS MONTH AT HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S

As you know we have had to close the church building for services at this time, although we are keeping the church open for private prayer during daylight hours in the week.

We are continuing to run our services online and anyone can access these on YouTube by following the link on our website: www.quaintonchurch.com

PARISH REGISTER ENTRIES

None this month

CHURCH ROTA FOR FEBRUARY

	7 February	14 February	21 February	28 February
Morning Reader				
Morning Sidesman				
Evening Reader				
Evening Sidesman				
Altar Flowers	Debbie Omerod	Celia Prideaux	Lois Skinner	LENT NO FLOWERS
Pedestal Flowers	Helen Ratcliffe	Jane Lydall	Jane Lydall	
Tea Rota				
Church Cleaning	Fiona Morrison Helen Ratcliffe Sarah Fenemore	Sharyn Buck Linda Chapple Venetia Dalton		

HOLY CROSS & ST. MARY'S CHURCH – OUR FAVOURITE PHOTOS



Thank you to Michelle Robinson Boyce for sending in this photo of our church with a light dusting of snow, taken on Sunday 24th January.

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

VILLAGE CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2021

11th February: Online Virtual PC Meeting, see p.11

14th February: Valentine's Day!

Future date:

24th April: Blooming Beautiful Bonnet Bonanza, p.7

Quainton News: Our Parish Magazine & Village Newsletter

Editor: Mrs Louisa Richards

Assistant Editor: Melanie Curtis. Web Editor: Beth Vining. Advertising: Cicely Davey.

Contributions to the Editor: Baker's Cottage, 32 Church Street, Quainton HP22 4AP

Tel: 01296 655560. Email: quaintonnews@gmail.com. Website: www.quaintonnews.com

Please note the copy deadline is the 16th of each month