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Dear Residents of Doddington

We are definitely enjoying the last of the Summer weather as the evenings cool, and darkness falls earlier each day. It has been a glorious summer weather wise (although I am not sure all of the farmers and gardeners would agree). We have also enjoyed all of the usual summer activities with the Carnival and Village Show committees already focusing on 2026!

That doesn't mean the village is going to sleep for the winter - there is still plenty for everyone to get involved in. All the usual groups and clubs have busy winter programmes. At the end of September, a good crowd enjoyed the Carnival Quiz at The Three Tuns, with lots of random questions and this month we can look forward to plenty of Halloween Fun at the Pavilion.

We are pleased to support the Christmas Lights appeal again this year. You will receive a donation envelope with this Diary and any contributions you would like to make can be taken to Newsagents, the One Stop, Tessa's or contact 07935282070 for collection. I am sure you agree that Doddington gives one of the best displays in the area, and that can only be done if we all contribute.

We are pleased that you liked the piece we did last month about past school days. It was good to hear that it was enjoyed by past residents who read the Diary every month to keep in touch with their roots. It is always a joint effort to produce this kind of story, so it is nice to know that it is appreciated and amazing to hear that it travels to the other side of the world!

Finally, a reminder that British Summer Time ends on Sunday 26th October when the clocks "fall back" one hour at 2am.

From Sally, the Editor



Doddington Diary Deadlines and Contact Details

Doddington Diary website: www.doddingtondiary.co.uk

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A Message from the Rector



One of the nation's most favourite hymns is *Amazing Grace*. It was written by John Newton over 200 years ago and it tells the story of his life. He describes himself as a 'wretch'. He was a sailor, and went off to sea at the age of 11. At the age of 20 he was on ships running the slave trade between Liverpool, Africa and the Caribbean. The crew, including John, treated slaves as if they weren't human. John was an angry and violent young man who often got into trouble.

As he was sailing on a journey back to England on 9th March 1748 John stared death in the face as the ship was caught in a violent storm. Thirty foot waves tore a the rigging and men, livestock and rations were washed overboard. He prayed that his life would be spared, saying 'God have mercy on me.'

After being in the storm for forty hours, the wind stopped and he fell down on his knees and prayed his thanks to God. By the time he reached Ireland four weeks later he had become a Christian, promising to change his life. He quickly realised he could no longer work in the slave trade and be a Christian, and he ended up supporting the abolition of slavery.

This was the story that was the focus of our first ever 'Café Church' held in the Church Rooms on 9th September. There were around 15 to 20 people gathered in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, with coffee, tea and cake. Jenny Holding, who is training to be an authorised lay minister, led the gathering which included singing *Amazing Grace*. If you want a taste of what informal church can feel like, then come along to the next Café Church on Tuesday 14th October starting at 1:30pm.

Earlier this summer I took the funeral of a friend who as young man was a merchant seaman. His ship was travelling across the Atlantic from Norway to Baltimore full of iron ore. He was in a storm for ten days, on watch for two four hour sessions each day. He said with every wave the prow of the ship plunged under the sea and huge waves of water came over the boat and hammered into the bridge-house shaking the whole ship.

If he didn't keep the ship head-on into the waves, they would have capsized. He thought he was going to die. So one night he prayed this prayer, just like John Newton: "O God — if there *is* a God, and You get me out of this — I'm going to clean up my life and I'm going to change things. I'm not going to go on as I've been doing." He did survive, and he did clean up his life. In fact he became a vicar!

We may think stories like John Newton's are from yesteryear. But God is the same yesterday, today and forever. My friend's story, so similar to John Newton's, shows that God answers prayers. If you're in a fix, and need help, cry out to God and don't be surprised if God answers!

St Mary's Church Services for OCTOBER



- Sunday 5th** **Doddington 10.30am Holy Communion**
Christchurch 10.30am Harvest Service
- Sunday 12th* *Wimblington 10.30am Harvest Service*
Manea 10.30am Holy Communion
Benwick 3.00pm Holy Communion
- Tuesday 14th** **Doddington 1.30pm Café Church (Church Rooms)**
- Sunday 19th** **Doddington 10.30am Morning Prayer**
Christchurch 10.30am Holy Communion
- Sunday 26th* *Wimblington 10.30am Holy Communion*
Manea 10.30am Morning Prayer
Welney 3.00pm Holy Communion



Dying Matters

Following the success of our first Coffee Morning we are offering a further opportunity to talk about -

LIFE - DEATH - FUNERALS - GRIEF

This is a chance to talk and share together as we think about our experiences and the reality of loss.

Please do come and join us for coffee and cake - there is no charge!

**St Peter's Church,
Wimblington.**

**Saturday 11th October 2025
10.30am - 12noon**

For more information or to express your
interest contact Sue Collinson
Licensed Lay Minister on 07484242435
or suzanCollinson@gmail.com



St Mary's Church, Doddington
warmly invites you to the



Café Church



at The Church Rooms, New Street, Doddington
on Tuesday 14th October 2025
from 1.30pm to 3.00pm
(includes informal worship of about 30 minutes)

This is an opportunity to socialise, meet new
friends and worship during the week,
with free refreshments.

For more information
contact Jenny Holding
on 01354 740894 or
hldjen@outlook.com



SIX FEN CHURCHES
WIMBLINGTON

St Peter's Church Christmas Bazaar

- Raffle
- Handmade Cards
- Unused Gifts
- Stocking Fillers
- Bakes / Cakes
- Breakfast Baps
- Tea/Coffee
- Star Message Tree

Saturday 15th November
10am to 12noon

For more details on services and other Wimblington community events please contact Church Wardens
Maggie Johnson | Peter James
or visit www.facebook.com/StPetersChurchWimblington

SIX FEN CHURCHES

I'm hosting this Macmillan Coffee Morning for

Coffee and Cake

St Mary's Church,
Doddington

Saturday 4th October
10am til 12 noon

Everyone welcome!
We look forward to seeing you!

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Methodist Church

Sunday 12th October : 2.30pm : Songs of Praise

(This will be locally arranged, so come along for a good sing-a-long)

Monday: Future Stars: 4.30pm - 8.00pm (term time only)

Tuesday: Under 5s: 10.00am - 11.30am (Mothers and Toddlers)

Wednesday: Auction: 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Thursday: No events

Friday: Under 5s: 10.00am - 11.30am (Mothers and Toddlers)

If you are looking for a venue, especially for children's parties, our hall is available at very reasonable prices. We also have the option of the use of some great play equipment through the Under 5s.

For more information please contact Elaine (details below).

The church email address for enquiries is:

Doddingtonmethodistchurch@gmail.com

For more booking information please contact

Elaine Thornton on 07778 284 749



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Girlguiding



Rainbows are working on the new Toys badge. They are designing their dream toy, thinking about the size, colour and features they want their new toy to have. They will then be making their toys, ready to test play and show off to everyone else in the group.

At Brownies we have had a good look through all the new badges we are now able to earn. We had a vote, the winner was Kitchen Creations. For this we will be trying out some basic recipes, then changing flavours, adding a mystery ingredient and inventing our own creations. There is also a Pancake challenge – we are no where near Shrove Tuesday, but pancakes are good anytime of the year!

Guides have started their Wellbeing Challenge badge. This badge is a special adventure designed to help explore and support their wellbeing in a fun way! Activities focus on physical, emotional, financial and environmental wellbeing. A compulsory task is to host a tea party for friends and family, serving their favourite teas, refreshments and treats.

This challenge is in partnership with Bird and Blend Tea Co. an independent, award-winning tea company. Their mission is to spread happiness and re-imagine tea, making the experience sustainable and accessible for everyone to enjoy.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides had a fabulous day out to Hertfordshire Zoo as part of Girlguiding Anglia's Takeover Event! Throughout the day our young members got the chance to come face to face with a variety of animals, including a very interesting and engaging Birds of Prey talk! Train rides through the 'World of Dinosaurs' created a mixture of excitement and fear as we travelled through the Paradise Wildlife Park, hoping to not be sprayed with water by the mischievous dinosaurs!

Whilst walking around the park, the girls were able to experience themed areas, which taught them about cultures from all around the world! For example, we visited the 'Lions of India' zone, which gave the girls the chance to climb aboard a Tuk Tuk and wave at the lions as they went past!

Many of our Rainbows were absolutely thrilled to be walking around a zoo they know so well from CBBC! The Whitnail Brothers are well known for presenting 'One, Zoo, Three' which educates young children on the significance of animal welfare and conservation all around the world.

Over October half term week, we have planned a couple of family events to be held at the Pavilion. We have a Spooky Sip and Paint, to paint your own Haunted House and a Batty Bingo morning. Please see our poster for more details, we look forward to seeing you.

If you are interested in joining or volunteering with any of our units, or would like to find out more about us, we would love to hear from you. Rainbows are 4-7 years old, Brownies are 7-10 years old, Guides are 10-14 years and any volunteer can be aged 14 + (Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers are welcomed!).

Please contact Abbey on abbeycater@hotmail.co.uk.



Half Term Halloween

Wed 29th October 2.00pm

Family Spooky Sip and Paint

Haunted House

@ The Pavilion, Benwick Rd, Doddington

Guided painting session

No experience necessary

Painting materials supplied

£5.00
per person

Thurs 30th October 10.30am

Batty Bingo



@ The Pavilion, Benwick Rd, Doddington

Family Bingo, all welcome

Halloween themed prizes

Best Fancy Dress prize

£2.50
12 games

 Girlguiding Doddington

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Askham Village Community hosted a lively Trivia Night on 5th September at Manea British Legion, where eleven teams came together for an evening filled with friendly rivalry, laughter, and plenty of fun.



The atmosphere throughout the night was electric, with cheering, clapping, and good natured. Teams jumped to their feet in celebration, laughed together, and enjoyed the light-hearted challenges. To keep spirits high, the winning team each received a bottle of prosecco, while the team finishing last, took home a prize of bottled water. A raffle with a wide selection of prizes added even more excitement.



Askham Village Community extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended, supported, and helped make the night such a success. The team is already looking ahead to the next big gathering, the Askham Xmas Fayre on Saturday, 22nd November, and warmly invites all to join for a festive day filled with seasonal cheer.

And for all quiz lovers, there's more to come! Plans are already underway for a Christmas Trivia Night at Askham on Friday, 5th December. Doors will open at 6.30pm, and it promises to be another evening of laughter, competition, and community spirit.



Book your diaries for...

Askham Xmas Fayre



Saturday,
22nd November



13 Benwick Rd,
Doddington, March
PE15 0TX



11am to 4pm

The cost of a stall is £10. For further details, please do not hesitate to contact our Activities team via phone at 01354 740269 or via email at activities@askhamvillagecommunity.com



Short Mat Bowls Club

Doddington Village Hall was the home once again for our annual Hog Roast and Race Night. An audience of 130 enjoyed the evening that consisted of an 8-race programme, an auction race special and even a game of stand-up bingo all accompanied by a Hog Roast meal.

The evening was another success, raising **£1,589** for MAGPAS Air Ambulance, making the total raised from this event to date an incredible **£9,617!!** This money will help the charity continue to deliver the very best pre-hospital emergency care, in the air or on land, and continue to save lives.



All those in attendance were thanked along with the amazing sponsors, suppliers and supporters. *Coversure Insurance Services; Next Level Property; Patrick-Brown Plumbing & Heating; Bowls Bi-Us; Fen View Motors; The Three Tuns; Reflection Beauty by Charlotte; Fields End Water Caravan Park, Lodges & Fishery; Brian Elmore Engineering; Aaron's Mobile Mobility Maintenance; One Stop Doddington - Rishi Brahmhatt; Doddington Village Hall; March Stationery & Print; The Hog Roast Catering Company; Soar Valley Race Nights; Doddington Diary.*

The raffle supporters:- *Shepreth Wildlife Park; Skylark Events; Play2Day Wisbech Adventure Golf; Crown Lodge Hotel; Chapel Cottage Plants; Doddington FISH BAR; Thursford; Blue Diamond Garden Centre; Jane Archer; and all those individuals who donated prizes on the day.*

The feedback received following the event has been really positive and we will endeavour to get a date in the diary soon for next year's event. Watch this space!!

**You can help save lives by going to
The MAGPAS website to make a donation
<https://magpas.org.uk/donate/>**



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Christmas Lights



Did you know that from 1st October there are just 85 days until Christmas and only 53 until our annual Christmas Event. The months just fly by!

You will notice that the lovely people who deliver the Doddington Diary have also delivered an envelope this month - in case you wish to make a donation to help repair and maintain the lights for our fabulous display. Replacing faulty items is very expensive and anything you are able to donate will help us keep the lights shining during the coming festive period. Next month we will be supplying a link to the Christmas Lights Just Giving page.

Our 10 week Summer Draw concludes on Friday 3rd October with names for the 3 big prizes being drawn. Thank you to everyone who took part in the draw and for supporting the Christmas Lights. A big thank you to Jax Kingham or Santa's Little Helper, for his part in the weekly draws.

Now it is time for the Grand Christmas Draw which will be drawn on 22nd November, just after the lights have been switched on. Tickets will be available in The One Stop, The Newsagents and Tessa's Hair Design from 1st October. They are also available from committee members and on the day of the Christmas Fair and lights switch on. Prizes will include cash prizes, hampers and vouchers so don't miss out, get your tickets now.

Would you like to have your name displayed on one of the poles with a silhouette? Perhaps you would like to dedicate a pole to a loved one who is no longer with us? Maybe your business would like its name on one or more poles or one of the larger displays around the village. We have already been very fortunate to have received sponsorship from some local businesses following the launch of the sponsorship scheme last year but there are still some opportunities to sponsor some of the displays on buildings and in public areas. Costs are: £25 per pole, £50 for all the remaining displays on buildings and public areas. Contact us for further information, details below.

We will be putting the lights up this year on the weekend of 25th and 26th October. As usual, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to the village as much as possible. We are very much in need of helpers for this weekend so if you are able to spare a couple of hours on either the Saturday or Sunday (or both!) you would be very welcome and we would be most grateful. Please contact us if you can help or meet us at 9am each day at Elmore's Engineering in the High Street.

Next month we will be publishing a full programme of events for the 22nd November and it is promising to be very exciting indeed. So put the date in your diary and we will look forward to seeing you there!

If you are intending to book a table at the Christmas Fair please contact us as soon as possible as they are going fast.

Contact Details

EMAIL: doddingtonchristmaslights@btinternet.com

TEXT OR PHONE: 07935282070

FACEBOOK: Doddington Xmas Lights

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International Reader



Every month over 1,000 Diaries are delivered to the homes of Doddington. However, more than 250 copies are also emailed and many of these go to people who no longer live in Doddington, but have an interest in the village or have friends and relatives still living here.

Following our story of school days over the years, which featured some of the children at the school in 1937, we were contacted by Nancy Kingham's younger sister, June, who now lives in Australia. June receives the Diary every month and says she particularly enjoys reading about the village 80 years ago - I am sure she will be impressed with David's contribution for October 1945!!

June attended the Lionel Walden School between 1942 and 1948, this picture was taken in 1947 where she is sitting next to her life-long friend Marjorie (now Bishop). June completed her education at March High School.

June married Gerald Shepperson in St Mary's Church, Doddington and they had three children. The family then emigrated to Australia in 1970.

The last time June visited Doddington was for Nancy's 80th birthday in 2004. June is pictured here with Nancy and brother Steve.



Back row: Mr SR Payne (Head), Keith Butcher, Phillip Hart, Alec Allen, Francis Alfrey, David Catling
2nd row: Evelyn Hicks, Kathleen Oakey, Dorothy Walker, Joan Oliver, Jennifer Norman, Doris Creber, Thelma Brand
3rd row: Kathleen Palmer, Pauline Driver, **June Kingham**, Marjorie Walker (now Bishop), Jean Lilley, Ann Harding, Margaret Martin
Front: Keith Parker, Robert Hurdell



Thank you to June for getting in touch, and to Rosemary (for sharing your Aunt's email!) and of course thanks to David Edwards for providing yet another amazing school photograph. It is the history of the village and its residents that is of the most interest to our readers.



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We would like to start by thanking everyone who came along to our **Pub Quiz** at The Three Tuns on Saturday 20th September. It was a fantastic evening, full of friendly competition, plenty of laughter and ultimately brain-teasing questions that were devised by our inhouse Quiz Master, Adam. A huge congratulations goes to our winning team, **SIMPLE MINDS**, who walked away with a prize of £60. Very well done!



Thanks to your amazing support, the quiz raised £377 towards next year's Doddington Carnival. Every penny makes a real difference in helping us put on the parade, sports afternoon, and all the little extras that make Carnival Day so special for the whole village. Big thanks to Rob and Tina at The Three Tuns for their hospitality. As always, it's very much appreciated.

Looking ahead, our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** will be held on **Wednesday 1st October**. This is your chance to hear more about what goes into organising the Carnival, share your ideas for the future, and even get involved if you would like to. We would love to see as many villagers as possible join us – whether you're a regular supporter or new to the Carnival.

Our next **Monthly Meeting** will then take place on **Wednesday 8th October**. These are more informal catch-ups where we plan the smaller details and keep everything on track. Everyone is welcome to drop in and we love to welcome new faces. So, whether you are interested in helping set up a pub quiz, marshalling the parade, or helping to setup the field — please get in touch. Even a couple of hours makes a huge difference. email: info@doddingtoncarnival.co.uk (No commitment required!!)

And don't forget the **Santa Run** will be returning on the **12th, 13th, and 14th December**. More details to follow soon, but get ready for three magical evenings when Father Christmas tours the village, asking children of all ages what they would most like for Christmas.

Thank you for your continued support – together, we are keeping Doddington Carnival at the heart of our community.

More information on our website:

www.doddingtoncarnival.co.uk

Scan this bar code to check out our Facebook Page for lots of Photos, events and more!



Women's Institute



The Fenland Orchard Project was the fascinating subject at our September meeting. The speaker Andrew Callaghan explained that it is an ambitious project, creating a new orchard near Wisbech and much has been achieved over the past three years. Heritage fruit trees with local connections have been planted and buildings constructed to use for workshops and demonstrations. Commemorative gardens have also been planted and there are plans for creating an area of natural Fenland. A lot of emphasis is placed on including children in various activities.

Members had enjoyed a visit to Elgoods Brewery Gardens on a hot day in August, however there was plenty of shade provided by the many trees and seats for relaxing and eating their picnic lunches.

Forthcoming events were publicised including Ten Pin Bowling, a Quiz Night, a Craft-making afternoon and a Flower Arranging workshop. A boat trip from Hartford Marina may be planned for next year and possibly a meeting at the Fenland Orchard Project.

The Centennial Cup for table runners to use in the Pavilion is nearing its closing date, the October meeting, so there was a reminder to have them made by then. They should be made from upcycled fabric and decorated in any medium.

Joy Healey gave details of the Macmillan Coffee Morning being held in the Pavilion in memory of Helen Buckland and members offered to bake cakes and help on the day.

Weird and wonderful animals were made from fruit and vegetables for the competition and maximum 20 points awarded to Jo Dale, Margaret Neesom and Brenda Mackenzie. The committee served refreshments

At our next meeting on Thursday 2nd October at the Pavilion, Chris Carr will be speaking about Wartime cookery and eating on a ration. She will be asked to judge the competition for an interesting Cookbook. Visitors will be made very welcome.



For further information please contact Secretary, Elaine Stratford on 01354 462057 or email to: elainestratford@tiscali.co.uk.



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Our Village by Mrs Doreen Murden, written in 1975

Doddington, village of my birth,
stands amid Fenland's fertile earth.
The A141 with traffic day and night
pounds on and on,
with heavy-laden juggernauts,
cars, buses, motor bikes, all sorts
of things disturb the people's peace.
Inside St Mary's noises cease -
lovely old church among the trees.



In Autumn wild winds blow the leaves,
around Church Lane they float and weave.
Old Weaver's Cottage stands serene,
renovated - a sight to be seen.
Our High Street looks quite smart and neat,
many a traveller stops to peep
at the new antique shop in the street,
and the florist shop has blooms galore.
Across the road, the smart Mace store.



The thatched Round House,
so neat and smart
gets many an admiring glance.
Across the road, the village pond,
of which some folk are not too fond,
but those of us who like wildlife
see quite a lot if we observe.
In spring provides a shelter of logs
for wild birds, moorhens and the frogs.

Lionel Walden School modernised
with airy rooms, big window frames,
and a lovely playing field for games.
In summer sees the children's sports
with cups and prizes to be won
the Football Club arranges the fun.

The Three Tuns boasts a bowling green,
as fine as any to be seen.
On summer evenings men at play
enjoy the game till end of day.

The Church Room is a meeting place
for Mothers' Union and Sunday School.
Once a month Women's Institute meet,
have competitions for fruit and jam,
knitting, cooking and sewing.
Good speakers thrill the members there
with talk on pets, verse and beauty care.

Recently formed a young wives group
To enjoy informal meetings, or scoot
off to London to see a show.
Jumble sales or cheese and wine,
all young mums invited to go.
Join in, enjoy themselves, drink tea,
make friends, something new to see.

Spring and autumn that smell arrives!
Some would have us believe we thrive
on this foul stench that creeps right in
despite closed doors and windows thin.
For fresh air, we need a gas mask
As trailer loads pass by - dirty task
All this smell to make our food grow,
The village farmers tell us so.

Two smart estates so people say
are Burdett Close and The Rowans.
Way down Wood Street left and right
with gardens a spectacular sight.

Clock Tower corner a busy spot.
On days when it is really hot
a meeting place for old gents
who sit and chat on the village seat
pass the time of day,
spin many yarns and rhymes,
or listen to the music
coming from the Compton organ
played inside the Methodist Church.
A really active Sunday School.
The 100th Club meet once a month,
The Guild, a real Tuesday night treat.
The few hard-working members there
hold bazaars and cake stalls
To raise the money pay for all.
Mod cons, new crocks and kitchen bright,
it really is a pleasant sight
so clean and smart, so nice and bright.

So very proud indeed are we
of our County Hospital, that
stands along the Benwick Road.
Local people share the load
of nursing care, cooking and cleaning.
The "Friends" do their share, raising cash.
We all do hope it will not close,
So many rumours—no one knows.

Held in July, the Legion Hall
is filled with produce, wall to wall.
For the Flower Show is a real treat;
and the W.I serve a bit to eat,
Everyone hopes to win a prize,
eggs, apples, marrows - what a size!

Doddington is a friendly place.
Most of the folk are very kind ...
and in times of need a friend you'll find.



Recreation Committee

We are excited to announce a special event coming up this autumn – our **Family Halloween Bingo!** Join us on **Saturday 1st November from 10am–12pm** at the Pavilion, Benwick Road. Tickets are just £3 for 6 games and there will be sweet treat prizes, spooky games, and fun for all the family. Fancy dress is optional, but anyone who comes along dressed up will be entered into a raffle to win a prize. The Pavilion will be decorated for the occasion and refreshments will be served. This promises to be a fun-filled morning for all ages, so please do come along. All proceeds will go towards the upkeep and improvements of the Pavilion.

Our next regular **Prize Bingo Night** will be held on **Thursday 16th October**. Doors open at 7pm for eyes down at 7.30pm. It's always a great evening with plenty of grocery prizes to be won.

We are also really pleased to welcome more football at the ground this season, especially the addition of two youth Doddington United teams. It's fantastic to see new sports teams developing in the village and making use of the recreation ground.

We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

To contact us: Text/WhatsApp 07541 277119. Email doddingtonrec@gmail.com

The advertisement features a green header with the text 'KAVANAGH HAYES' in white, a white star logo, and 'INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENTS' below it. The contact details '01354 697804 / 07828 531699' and 'admin@kavanaghhayes.co.uk' are in a white box. The background is decorated with autumn leaves, pinecones, and a large orange pumpkin. Two yellow boxes with orange text contain the slogans 'The Agent for ALL Seasons!' and 'SELL AND LET WITH US!'.

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Based on a few pictures of the animal concerned and a discussion regarding what you would like to see (format, details, textures), I can offer you a pet portrait in time for Christmas. There are different possibilities depending on what you think would be best (oil colours take a long time to dry). People portraits are also available, of course.



I would be happy to show you some previous work for your information, please do not hesitate to ask – there is no commitment in asking.

Peter

DoddingtonArt@gmail.com : Tel/SMS/WhatsApp 07739 989 867

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Croquet

What a great season we have had so far, with only one afternoon being ruined by rain, but as we are so eager for rain we must not complain. As always after a dry summer the grass had taken a beating but it is slowly recovering.



We have been welcoming a steady number of keen players each week with average numbers higher than last year. We have also welcome five or six new players who we hope will play with us for some time to come.

We plan to play until the end of October, but from Thursday 2nd October we shall play from 3 till 5 pm. We are also planning to have our annual tea party for Thursday 4th December.

For any queries please email Croquet@fieldsendwater.co.uk or call 07932122235

Doddington and Wimblington Speedwatch

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Last week we carried out a session in Wimblington, around the time of the afternoon school pick up, to raise awareness of speeding in the village.

In this 30mph zone we had vehicles travelling at 47mph, that is the difference between someone getting hurt and someone getting killed on our village roads.

We really need more volunteers to enable us to do more sessions, raising awareness and slowing down the traffic through the village.

Any drivers found to be exceeding the speed limit during one of our sessions will receive a letter from Cambs Police advising them of the speed limit on that stretch of road and making them aware of the dangers of speeding. Should a vehicle registration be identified exceeding the speed limit by our equipment for a third time, the registered owner will receive a visit from the Cambs Police. Drivers cannot be fined when spotted with our equipment. However, if trends show a particular issue at a location the police will run a session with their own equipment and issue fines.

Currently we have NO volunteers from Doddington, so we have not been out and about there for a while. If you live in Doddington and would like to volunteer, please call or message me on 07770 937127.

Michele Abbott
Coordinator - Doddington & Wimblington Speedwatch Team.

Village Hall

We are delighted to share that it has been a wonderful summer at the hall, with many successful events and bookings.



Looking ahead, there is plenty to enjoy. Friday 28th November, The Ouse Valley Singles Club will be performing their renowned comedy skiffle show, followed by a lively disco. Doors and bar open at 6.30pm, with the performance at 8.00pm. Tickets: £15

In December the Anglian Players return with their much-loved annual pantomime – this year's production is Puss in Boots.

Hall Hire - remember our hall is available to hire. It offers a versatile space complete with kitchen facilities, speakers, and disco lighting – perfect for parties, celebrations, and community gatherings. For more information email us on doddvillagehall@mail.com.

Open Morning - Saturday 25th October

You are warmly invited to visit the hall between 10.00am and 2.00pm to explore the facilities and meet the committee. Complimentary tea and coffee will be served, with bacon and sausage sandwiches available for purchase.

We hope to see you there!

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Family Quiz Night: Do you enjoy a quiz? Join us on **Friday 3rd**

October at the Scout Hall for a Family Quiz hosted by explorers from Doddington and Whittlesey. A virtual duck race and raffle will be running as well, with refreshments available too! They are raising money for their part of our weeklong camp in Holland next



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August. Book tickets online via www.trybooking.com/uk/FIRE - £4.50 per ticket, maximum team size of six. Doors open at 6.30pm and the quiz starts at 7pm.

Meanwhile, September was a month of skills and camps! Explorers headed off to a site in Suffolk for a weekend of developing their survival and bushcraft skills, including learning how to gut fish. Some of our Scouts undertook an expedition along part of the Hereward Way ending up in Ely to shop for food for dinner. They then caught a train to Newmarket via Cambridge, heading for their camp at the Jarman Centre, where they cooked the food they had bought earlier. Other Scouts were already at the Jarman Centre on their camp, where they were cooking food in cardboard ovens, doing archery, fire lighting and making shelters.

The Beavers also went on a camp and they stayed at the campsite on Gaul Road. They went canoeing on the river and visited the library. They also went to the Railway Station to learn about Railway Safety, find out about Railway Heritage, and they visited the old Victorian waiting room.

During section meetings Squirrels have made dens and done some yoga, as well as built strong structures with playdough and straws. Beavers creatively turned a potato into a superhero, found out about sugar in drinks, and have also been learning about safety for their Safety Badge. Cubs have been ironing their scarves and learning six knots and what they are used for, including making slings. Scouts have been hiking and practising their navigation skills, how to put up tents, and doing some activities about good diet and sleep. And, our Icen Explorer Explorers have been on a night hike, cooking up hot dogs outside, finding out about global issues with a challenge being set to try and live on £2 of food per day.




Scouts
1st Doddington

#SkillsForLife

Scouting is for Young People and Adult Volunteers too.

Volunteer today to join the fun - no Scouting experience required & any help you can offer is truly amazing.

Every week 1st Doddington helps over 130 Young People, aged 4-18, develop Skills for Life, have fun, and take part in adventurous activities.

Find out more about volunteering opportunities for however much/little time you can offer, either in the background or with our Young People in their sections.

Contact Alys our Group Lead Volunteer:

leadvolunteer@doddingtonscouts.org.uk or
07900 584182

CONTACT US

Scouting is for everyone aged 4-18y, and 18+ as an adult volunteer or Network member. Want to find out more about Scouting; either for a child to join, or to find out more about volunteering to undertake a task or two? You don't need to have Scouting experience to volunteer or be an expert at navigation or at lighting fires! Contact our Group Lead Volunteer for more info: 07900 584182 or

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Spider Biscuits

Get ready for Trick or Treat with these easy to make Spider Biscuits ... or even easier still buy some plain biscuits and just decorate them!

Ingredients

70g softened butter
 50g peanut butter
 150g golden caster sugar
 1 medium egg
 1tsp vanilla extract
 180g plain flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp bicarbonate of soda
 20 peanut butter cups
 (or Rolos or Maltesers)
 100g chopped milk chocolate
 Icing eyes (or make your own)



Step One

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4 and line two baking sheets with parchment. Using an electric hand whisk, cream the butter, peanut butter and sugar together until very light and fluffy, then beat in the egg and vanilla. Once combined, stir in the flour, bicarbonate of soda.

Step Two

Scoop 18-20 table spoons of the mixture onto the trays, leaving enough space between each to allow for spreading. Make a thumbprint in the centre of the cookies. Bake for 10-12 mins or until firm at the edges but still soft in the middle – they'll harden a little as they cool. Leave to cool on the tray for a few mins before topping each biscuit with a peanut butter cup, Rolo or Malteser. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely

Step Three

Heat the chocolate in the microwave in short bursts, or in a bowl set over a pan of simmering water, until just liquid. Scrape into a piping bag and leave to cool a little. Pipe the legs onto each spider, then stick two eyes on each. Leave to set. Will keep for three days in an airtight container.



Doddington Horticultural Society



The nights are drawing in and the evenings are getting longer. The gardens are starting to fade and it's time to plant the Spring bulbs, evergreens and Winter bedding plants to see us through the next few months.

October is the right time to pick the last summer fruits, dig up root vegetables, protect tender plants and apparently, we should, "Hang tomato plants upside down in the greenhouse to ripen any remaining fruit".

We should also give our garden tools a good clean, tidy the shed, sweep paths and patios, repair fences, clean gutters, sweep leaves, aerate the lawn, prune roses and provide for wildlife. So, there is plenty to keep us all busy.

At the end of the month, it is Halloween, when we start to see pumpkins everywhere. If you and the children are carving pumpkins remember to keep the pulp. If you not using it for pumpkin pie or pumpkin soup you can put some out for the hedgehogs, puree it into ice cube trays to add to the dog's food (full of vitamins and fibre) or even use the puree as a natural remedy to get rid of the dreaded headlice without nasty chemicals. It's worth keeping some puree in the freezer just in case.

The committee have started to review the 2025 Show and plans are already underway for next year, **Saturday 25th July**. Before then we have our Horticultural Society Tombola at the Doddington Christmas Lights event on **Saturday 22nd November** and the 3rd Doddington Scone Off on **Saturday 14th March 2026**. Both will help to raise funds for the Summer Show.

If you would be interested in joining the committee or volunteering at one of our forthcoming events, you will be very welcome. More information on our Facebook page (Doddington Village Summer Show) and from: 07757 730425 (Hilton) or 07815 462796 (Ruth) or email doddingtonsummershow@gmail.com



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Doddington 80 Years Ago : October 1945

Pte Jack Duffield, 2nd Bn Cambridgeshire Regiment, arrived home from his captivity in the Far East. He appeared to be fairly well, but was loath to disclose much of his experiences as a prisoner of war.

The recently re-hung church bells were dedicated in a ceremony conducted by the Assistant Bishop of Ely, the Right Reverend Gordon Walsh. The tower now contains the five repaired bells dating from 1736/7 and the new tenor bell. At the conclusion of the ceremony a peal was rung by the bell ringers of St Wendreda's, March.

At an auction at the Three Tuns the 40 acre Parson's Land farm was sold for £4,450 to Mr I Fresher. Properties belonging to the late Robert Wade at 36/38 and 16/18 Benwick Lane and house with shop at 63 Newgate were also sold.

Doddington was set a target to raise £8,000 for the final wartime savings campaign which was to be known as Thanksgiving Week. A total of £70,616 had been raised in the previous campaigns in the village. Amongst the events organised was a children's fancy dress parade, the results being:
Class 1 (under 6), 1st Tony Hill, 2nd Judith Shaw, 3rd Margaret Behagg;
Class 2 (6 to 11), 1st June Kingham, 2nd Richard Hardy, 3rd Frank Payne;
Class 3 (11 to 14), 1st Jennifer Henson, 2nd Sheila Driver, 3rd Master H Hudson.
The judges were Mrs Wesley Jnr assisted by Mrs Wesley Snr.

A stackyard fire at Ransonmoor destroyed two stacks, one belonging to Mr AW Walker, and the other belonging to Mr C Hurst and containing 19 tons of straw. Both were destroyed but nine other stacks and nearby buildings were saved.

Cynthia Hatch moved her ladies' hairdressing salon from High Street to Benwick Lane. Mr F Redhead of Eastmoor farm transferred his milk round to Harradine's of March.



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Doddington 50 Years Ago : October 1975

A report by the Peterborough Community Health Council presented to the Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority concluded that Doddington Hospital should continue as a small general hospital.

First steps were taken to re-form the women's section of the Royal British Legion which had not met for two years. 14 members attended and Mrs G Edgeley was elected chairman and agreed to act for two or three months after which it was hoped Mrs G Mason would takeover. Mrs W Ellington will act as secretary and Mrs B Fisher treasurer.

Mrs Jill Freud gave a talk to the Young Wives Club on her career in the theatre.

The Parish Council were disappointed that plans for 50 houses off Church Lane had been passed by the District Council without taking their objections into consideration, other than reducing the number from 52 to 50. The Clerk was to write to the District Council for an explanation.

The Parish Council was also concerned about the state of the site next to 10 Newgate Street and it was agreed to write to the Planning Department to seek some concrete action in the matter.

A burglary had occurred at Askham House and some antiques were stolen whilst the family were asleep upstairs.

To be continued....David Edwards

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100th Club

All the club members enjoyed their afternoon at the Doddington Pavilion, on Thursday 18th September of a Fish n' Chip lunch and Macmillan Fundraiser and certainly, nobody went home hungry after such a feast!

We thank all the sponsors in the village; OneStop, Doddington Garden Centre and Doddington Newsagents for their lovely, donated cakes and treats. A raffle was held and again so many beautiful gifts and prizes were won and kindly donated by many sponsors and members.

The Doddington 100th Club have many more special Events and another Day Outing planned this year:

Thursday 16th OCTOBER 2-4pm Guest Speaker James Carney, Community Safety Officer from Wisbech Fire Station will be giving a presentation on Fire Prevention and Safety in the home.

Thursday 20th NOVEMBER 2-4pm The Chatteris Choir will entertain us with favourite songs and definitely will get us all in the spirit of the upcoming festive season. The Club AGM will also be held to elect the forthcoming year's committee and presentation of the past year's financial report.

Friday 28th NOVEMBER 10am depart from the Three Tuns Pub for bus trip to Stamford Market Day where many Christmas gifts and stocking fillers will be available. Non-club members are more than welcome to travel with us.

Thursday 11th DECEMBER 12.30 for 1pm 100th Club subsidised 2 course Christmas luncheon at the Three Tuns for the members.

Membership to the Doddington 100th Club is open to any and all residents of the local surrounding area. The Club provides a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, providing social interaction and has many informative guest speakers and presentations plus day trips throughout the year!

For further details about the 100th Club please contact:

Val Opperman (Chair) 073929 94294

Heather Kilby (Secretary) 07870 483195

or email: Doddington100thClub@outlook.com

(supported by Cambridgeshire County Council)



THRIFT SHOP



September's thrift shop was another happy event despite the rain and raised a great £560 for the Church rooms and our chosen charity for the year Guide Dogs for the Blind. Apples, recycling, books, cakes, clothes, shoes, household goods, plants and fabrics all found new homes!

Next months Thrift shop cafe will see the return of Jane's bacon rolls and yes, even more apples! Thank you as always to our customers, supporters, recyclers and amazing volunteers.



Our next shop is Thursday 2nd October
9am to 1pm. If you have items to donate, please drop them in on
Wednesday 1st October 9 to 11am. Due to limited storage space, no
electrical donations, thank you. See you then!

Future Dates: 6/11, 4/12

We open on the Wednesday before to accept donated items from
9am to 11am. Hope to see you soon for more thriftiness!

Jan Holdich on 07305 799 257

ianholdich@gmail.com



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