

#### The Welford Golf day Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September

I am pleased to say this annual golf major can continue despite all the lockdown limitations. The first tee has been booked from 2 p.m. and we have up to 8 tee times. Please call me on 575422 or email me at john.nick@btopenworld.com to book your place. Cost for non - Cold Ashby members will be £27 and for members it is £7. This will all go towards the array of prizes that will include nearest the pins on all par 3s, a longest drive on the 18<sup>th</sup> plus the Father and son or husband and wife prize of the Muirfield print, the enlarged Welford shield for the best Welfordian score, and the coveted claret jug made by Alan Barraclough for the overall winner. There is of course Mr Blobby waiting for the unlucky player with the most blobs. All you need is your own clubs and golf shoes and a FAIR assessment of your handicap. It would be nice to get some more people from Welford playing on what is a much improved course from previous years, so go on give me a call and try and write your name into Welford's golfing history.



## POSTMAN PAT

Returns to Welford On Saturday 29th August

THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF

WELFORD INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES AND SOCIETIES, A NEW SCULPTURE WILL ARRIVE BANK HOLIDAY SATURDAY

## Welford Pocket Park

#### We need your help!!

The Friends of Welford Pocket Park are small in number and increasing in age so this is an appeal for anyone who can spare an hour or two to join us on a Work Party to continue the maintenance and enhancement effort. We believe that the Pocket Park is an amenity for all and a pleasure for many, but it takes time and effort to keep it in good shape for the benefit of villagers and visitors.

Unfortunately, a wet autumn last year and the impact of Covid this spring means that we are well behind where we would normally be and therefore facing an uphill task with the volunteer resource we currently have available. Can you please help. Our current work party schedule is:

Wednesday 5th August, Sunday 16th August starting at 10am

For more information, or just a chat about Pocket Park, please call me Bob Esling 07791 645 462 Thankyou

You can also read the Bugle online at:
https://www.welfordvillage.org.uk/

Image: Stress of the stress of

### Notes from Welford Parish Council 23/7/20

- The Parish Council discussed the bus service from Northampton to Welford and Market Harborough. As of the 20th July the village will only have one service to/from Market Harborough on a Tuesday and Friday leaving Welford at 9.50am and returning at 12.50pm. There is an additional late morning bus from Northampton at 11am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday to Northampton which leaves Welford at 11.55am.
- The Councillors were deeply unhappy at the reduced service to Market Harborough despite the village being the second biggest contributor to the service among the villages on the route. The Parish Council is reviewing the bus service in general and will be surveying villagers in the near future as to your thoughts on the service.
- The Parish Council is undertaking work within the children's play area to carry out repairs to equipment. One swing has had to be taken down completely owing to the condition of the wooden logs which made it unsafe to use. A replacement swing has been ordered and should be in place soon.
- Outdoor gym equipment has been ordered to go in the park near to the children's play area. It will consist of three units and have signage on the equipment with QR tag technology linking to instructional videos on how to safely use the equipment to aid users.
- The Parish Council does receive complaints about the state of hedges blocking the pavement. Residents are asked to keep their hedges trimmed for the safety of all pedestrians. It will also add to the visual well-being of the village. The County Council has a legal duty to ensure that footpaths are kept clear and may take action to do so.
- The defibrillator that was at the Village Hall has now been moved along West Street to the former BT phone kiosk which is now owned by the Parish Council.

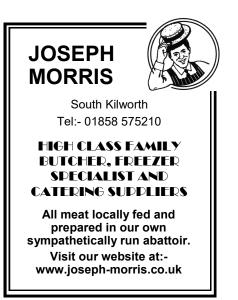
Ian Kelly, Clerk to the Parish Council



#### **Donations**

The editorial committee would like to thank the following people for their donations to help keep the Bugle bugling:

- Val Jackson
- Janet Francis Flores







#### Covid-19 Response in Welford – no-one left behind

At the start of the lockdown, a network of volunteers was set up in the village to ensure that everyone who needs it has a point of contact and support during this difficult and uncertain time. We have been pleased to be able to help out those of you who have already contacted us and many ongoing support relationships have been established.

#### What support are we offering?

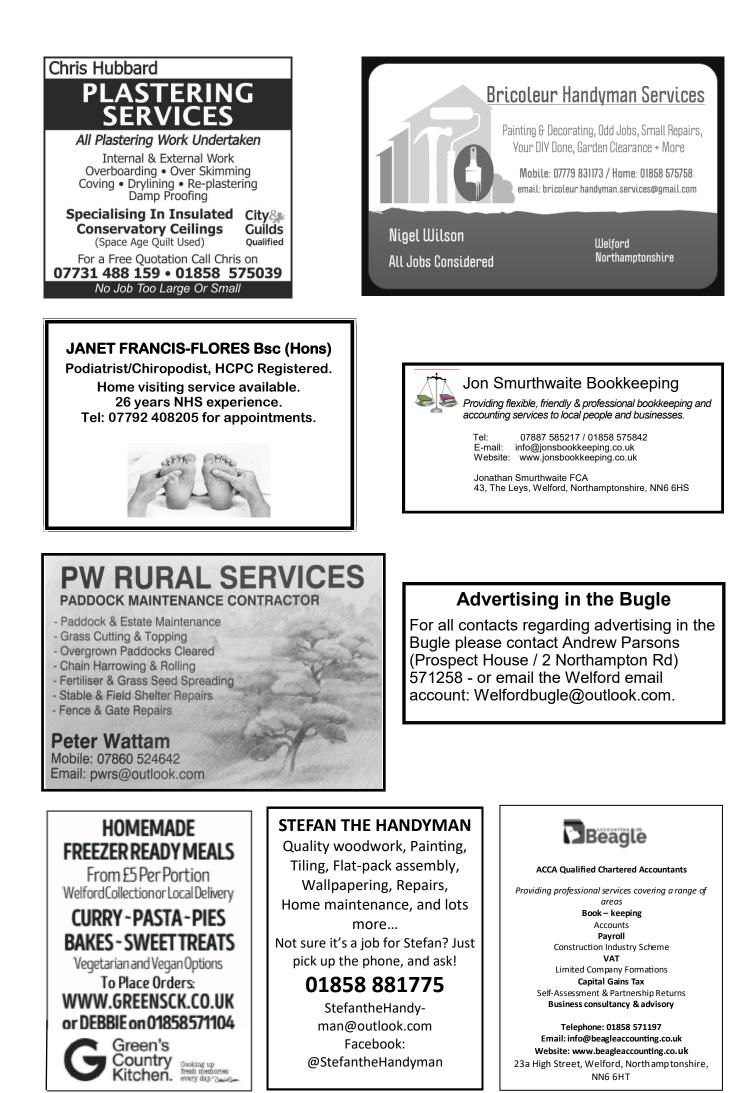
Daily phone calls to maintain social contact	We're determined that everyone in the village gets to have a phone conversation every day. Even if you have friends and family who will call you, this might be a nice chance to get to know someone new in the village and bring us closer together as a community.
Someone to procure supplies on your behalf, including medicines.	If self-isolation prevents you from leaving your home and you're unable to secure a delivery, there will be people available to get supplies on your behalf, including trips to the surgery to pick up prescriptions. We try to coordinate these to Tuesday and Thursday pick-ups only but can of course go at other times too. It seems that supermarket delivery slots are now easier to come by and many stores also offer a click-and-collect service. Plenty of smaller, independent shops have also started delivery services but if there is anything else you need then we are happy to help.
Dog walking	If you're too unwell to walk your dog, we'll strive to find someone who is happy to walk your dog for you.

#### How to get support?

We are so thankful that so many people in the village have friends and family close by who have been helping when needed, but if you ever need additional help then **please call the person who is coordinating your part of the village using the phone numbers below.** They will make sure that we've got your phone number and details of any assistance you might require. If you cannot get through for some reason, please call any of the other contacts on the list and they can assist.

Area	Name	Contact Number
Roundhouse Close/Millers Road	Abi Kirk	07742 434321
	Niamh Bland	571174 or 07837 579550
Browns Meadow	Lucy Stawt	07725 848231
Newlands Road	Laura Tann	575259 or 07901 871168
High Street lower (shop to bottom of hill), Orchard Terrace	Sue Nicholas	575422 or 07879 852849
High Street upper (shop to Church Lane), the Paddocks, Abbey View	Lee Gravestock	07954 417817
Northampton Road/ Woodford Glebe	Mandy Cant	575536 or 07944 516439
	Hannah Collins	07736 939993
Church Lane	Sheila Scullion	575784 or 07484 883433
West Street and West Court	Tania Hall	575917 or 07713 255696
Wakefield Drive	Rebecca Sandercock	575941 or 07586 574622
West End, Hall Lane, Hemploe View	Hannah Bedard	07493 638762
Salford Close, Dovehouse Close	Suzanne and Isabel Howells	575411 or 07775451148
The Leys and Christopher Court	Kathy Cox	575806 or 07738274201
Westfield Crescent	Kayleigh Riley	07564 991015
Avon Fields	Ruth Leddington	07496 029016
The Hemploe, Court Lane, Elkington Road (off Court Lane)	Bob Finch	07733 326700
Sulby	Andrea Tuck	07960 616150
Naseby Road	Helen Nicholas	571215 or 07917222376

If your area is not listed, or you have any questions please contact Hannah Bedard. Let's get through this together! Hannah Bedard 07493 638762 hannahjbedard@gmail.com



## Hockey Club AGM Notice

Our annual AGM will be held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August at 8pm, via Zoom. Please contact myself on <u>julesml@hotmail.com</u> if you would like the login in details. We will announce our



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end of season awards' winners after this with the hope of having a 'proper' end of season do at some point in the near future! Please join us if you are able.

We are also hoping to recommence training for primary and secondary school age children at some point at the end of August/beginning of September. We are awaiting approval from England Hockey to get started and as soon as we have it, we will let you know vie email and social media.

Looking forward to seeing you all back on a hockey pitch at some point. Stay safe.

## THANKS

I would just like to say a big thank you to all the many people who sent me cards, texts, e-mails, phone calls and best wishes following my recent accident at home which resulted in my week in hospital and three weeks respite. I am safely back home and making good progress albeit slowly.

Even in these difficult times Welford has proved yet again what a great village this is - so grateful for the offers of help that have been made to me.

Hopefully I should be able to dispense with the zimmer and crutches before too long.

Val Jackson

#### <u>Thank you all</u>

During this strange time of lockdown we have so much appreciated the kindness of friends and neighbours. Our co-ordinated helper, Hannah, has been invaluable collecting prescriptions and doing Post Office errands. Neighbours have given us delicious pate, bread and milk, and friends opposite have stepped in and done shopping for us when our usual online source was overwhelmed, as if they didn't have enough to do themselves. Fortunately we are back on the delivery rota now, and the butcher also delivers welcome supplies. The Good Neighbours coffee morning surprised us with Easter treats, and more unexpected treats came from the Lunch Club, as well as real beautifully decorated Easter Eggs from another neighbour. All very cheering in our isolation.

We have enjoyed joining in the online services every Sunday Morning, and seeing all the other names in the congregation. It does provide a welcome link with the outside world and a way to worship when we can't go to our church. Many thanks to Miranda for uplifting services and to all the providers of tech to make it possible. The most 'normal' contact we have had was on VE day, when the village made a real effort to put out the flags, and our end of the street had a most enjoyable distanced street party, and as the weather was kind we sat outside chatting for a couple of hours - otherwise it's been a brief chat across the road when out walking, or a wave when we clap for carers, which has been very well supported in West End. So, as we wonder how brave to be as we enter the next phase, thank you so much to all those who have made these long weeks easier for us oldies who have been unable to be as fiercely independent as usual. I'm sure I speak for many people in Welford in saying how grateful we are to live in such a supportive community. Susie Bevin

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## Peter Hetzel 1931-2020

Peter was born in Romford in 1931, the eldest son of Albert and Elma. He had three younger sisters, Norma, Shirley and Viv, who due to Coronavirus were unable to attend their brother's funeral in Scarborough, but like many of his relations and friends were able to watch it online. Only his sons, Simon and Nicholas and his wife Winifred and her son Paul were able to be present. Simon gave the eulogy and this account of Peter's life is taken from his words.

The family grew up in Hall Green, Birmingham except for most of the war years spent in Dorking.

Peter attended St Phillips Catholic Grammar School in Birmingham, and it was there that his love of amateur dramatics began, playing Puck in a Midsummer Night's Dream. At University, also in Birmingham, whilst he studied for a Masters in Electrical Engineering, he moved to back-stage with the Stage Crew Society, supporting many different student groups. Perhaps this is where his love of Gilbert & Sullivan began. He also joined the University Air Squadron team, flying Tiger Moths, gaining his pilots license and taking part in the Coronation Procession in 1953.

He met Betty at University and they were married in 1963. After a short time living outside Rugby they bought a house in West End, Welford, converting an old bakery into a family home. Simon was born in 1966 and his brother Nick two years later. The family were involved in many aspects of village life, with Peter participating in WADS, the tennis club and bell ringing at the church. Both boys have very many happy childhood memories of this time.

Although initially working for what became part of GEC, Peter soon began working for British Rail's Research Department in Rugby, where he worked on the overhead wires and connection systems for electric trains. He was an exceptional engineer with a brilliant mind. He was also very resourceful - able at home to make or to mend anything from whatever he had to hand.

For many years Peter worked on the APT (Advanced Passenger Train) - technology that was far ahead of its time in the 1970s. Ultimately overlooked by the government of the day, the irony of recent political arguments over plans for HS2 would not have been lost on him.

And so it was that trains became very important to the Hetzel family, Peter shouting "Train" whenever he saw one, summer holidays taken by sleeper train to Spain via Paris, and the thrill seeing a test train on British Rail's test track at very high speed.

In 1977 British Rail transferred their research operation from Rugby to the new Railway Technical Centre in Derby and the family moved to Loughborough to be closer to work.

In December 1980 Betty succumbed to a long battle with cancer. Peter cared for his family single-handedly at a time when male single parents were unusual and poorly supported. It was difficult bringing up 2 teenage boys alone, but Peter appeared to cope admirably, with Sunday roasts arriving on the table each week in time for the one o'clock "pips", and the family enjoyed cycling and walking holidays together.

Peter retired early in 1988 while both boys were at university. He took up a number of hobbies and volunteer roles, joining Loughborough Operatic, and taking a counselling course - later working at Loughborough University and for the Probation Service. He also began to go on organised walking tours, and on one such holiday in the Pyrenees he met Winifred. They were married in 1995, and moved to Yorkshire to be closer to her family. They shared a love of travel and of walking. Peter grew to love Yorkshire and enjoyed introducing his sons and grandchildren to its many delights.

Faith was important to Peter, he was a licensed Reader with the Catholic Church, and enjoyed singing with the Saxton Singers and in the church choir. He would have found the Coronavirus restrictions on singing very difficult, and of course singing was not allowed at his funeral.

He also loved his gardens at every home he lived in, but preferred growing fruit and veg to ornamental plants. He was also a good cook and enjoyed his food, but food had to be prepared from scratch without too much "commercial muck" from a packet.

Peter wasn't frightened to make his opinions known and often spoke his mind. Perhaps occasionally he deliberately provoked controversy. Some might have considered him eccentric, but it also meant that he wasn't afraid to do something different. When he and Winifred moved into a house in East Ayton that had been a level crossing he shaped an overgrown hedge into a steam train and carriages, complete with a branch for the smoke. The train is still there.

As he approached his eighties his memory started to decline and the effects of Alzheimer's became ever more obvious, but not before family and friends had a chance to celebrate his 70th and 80th birthdays with him. It is sad that such a sociable person could not have family and friends present to share memories and say their Goodbyes.

## Mike Johnson We are sad to report that Mike passed away following a heart attack. He will be remembered by many of the regulars at the Wharf, also for his Carnival Quiz nights where as quiz master he helped raise a lot of money for the Sportsfield. He was one of the main people in organising last years "50 years of the re-opening of the Welford Arm" celebrations alongside the Canal Trust. adult! Welford Pre-school will always remember him with gratitude, for the copious amounts of free paper and card that he kindly donated to them. Our condolences go to Linda and his family. Professional hair styling in your own home hair by ulie (framesi ) Call Julie Bentham on: Tel: 01858 575675 Mobile: 07891 426055



As the covid restrictions are gradually lifted we are now able to play tennis!

Membership is as low as  $\pounds 20$  per family, and  $\pounds 10$  for an adult!

Non-members are not permitted on the courts. To join please contact Teresa Read (575977)

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## A South American Odyssey

These are testing times for cruise ships, as you may have noticed from media reports of passengers locked down in quarantine on ships, and similar horror stories. My wife Andrea and I got caught up in one of these situations, when booked on two consecutive cruises in South America, the first from Buenos Aires to Rio (for the carnival) and back, calling at various Brazilian and Uruguayan ports, with three days in Rio. The second took us from Buenos Aires to Cape Horn, then through the Beagle Channel to the Chilean fjords, ending at San Antonio, Chile, from where we would travel to Santiago to fly home. 28 days in all, during which I was booked to give 10 talks on various maritime history subjects. My talk on the Falklands conflict was vetoed as "too sensitive" in view of the number of Argentinians onboard, and I gave an alternative talk. We visited some amazing places in the ten ports of call. The biggest highlights were Rio, in full carnival mood, Ushuaia, on the Beagle Channel, with unforgettable scenery and wildlife, and of course rounding Cape Horn (where we were spared the infamous storms).

All went well until we reached San Antonio on the final day of the second cruise. We were due to berth at 7am, but at 2.30am the ship received a message saying that we could not dock. A cruise ship in another Chilean port had reported a small number of coronavirus cases, and the authorities had reacted by barring all cruise ships from Chilean ports. We had no reported cases of coronavirus onboard. Then ensued two days of negotiations and diplomatic wrangling, in which the Chilean president and the US government were also involved (we were on an American ship and half of the passengers were American). The ship remained anchored offshore and it transpired that the Chilean government was prepared to let provisions, medical supplies and fuel be brought out to the ship in barges, but would not let the ship dock. However, the trades unions and the mayor of San Antonio refused to co-operate and we had to try to find another, more amenable, port. The global situation was changing rapidly: by this time ports around the world were banning cruise ships, and this soon included all of those in South America. This was the most uncertain and, for some, stressful part of the odyssey. We did not have enough fuel or provisions to get back to an American port. Were we destined to drift aimlessly on the seven seas like a latter-day *Marie Celeste*?

Fortunately, agreement was reached for us to restock at another Chilean port, Valparaiso, offshore without docking. Apparently, there was rivalry, and no love lost, between the ports of Valparaiso and San Antonio, which probably helped explain Valparaiso's decision. Restocking was a slow process, taking three days. Eventually we sailed – heading north through the tropics and across the equator to dock at San Diego, the nearest US port, after ten days sailing, a distance of over 5,000 miles. We sailed over calm seas in balmy temperatures, under sunny skies. We were not in lock-down and were able to enjoy the full facilities of our luxurious ship, so for most it was certainly no hardship. "Buy one cruise, get one free!" was the joke, as most passengers enjoyed the extra 15 days on the ship, with free drinks, free laundry and free wifi, as well as the usual meals, entertainment, pools, gym, etc. A few passengers were desperate to get home as they had jobs to return to, or perhaps had caring responsibilities for others. *(Continued Over)* 

Andrea and I had spent 43 days on the ship, which had covered over 15,000 miles. We made some good friends (two from Toronto and two from Texas) with whom who we played cards and dined each day. I had given an additional six talks. Before disembarkation we had to complete a medical questionnaire, declaring that we were well, and had our body temperature taken. We were given face masks and plastic gloves, plus a packed lunch, and bussed to Los Angeles airport.

The cruise company had booked a charter flight from Los Angeles to take all the British and some European passengers back to Heathrow, where we landed on 31 March. Arriving home, as we approached our drive in a taxi, neighbours' children cheered and let off party poppers, which was an unexpected delight. We then had to self-isolate. Fortunately, our daughter had arranged a supermarket delivery: we now have enough kitchen roll to last beyond Christmas!

However, over 100 South American passengers were still stuck on the ship: they were not permitted to enter the USA, and their countries had closed their borders, even to their own citizens. The prospects for these people, and for the crew, many of whom were in a similar situation, hung in the balance. A day after getting back Andrea developed the first symptoms of coronavirus, and was soon very poorly. There were reports that 76 passengers had tested positive for the virus after arriving home, as had some of the crew and passengers left aboard the ship. The figure of 76 was surely an underestimate since we were not contacted to report how we were. Fortunately, I did not develop any symptoms, and as I write this, seven weeks after getting home, Andrea is nearly fully recovered.

**Paul Brown** 

## Sulby Gardens first opening of the year under the National Gardens Scheme - Thursday 27 August!



Our long awaited garden opening can go ahead on Thursday 27 August BUT in a different format because of Covid-19. To ensure the safety of our visitors and volunteers, all entry tickets will be sold in advance on <u>ngs.org.uk/garden-tickets</u>.

Visitors can pre-book from a choice of hour-long time-slots, starting from 11am, garden closing at 5pm.

Pre-booking should be possible from Monday 17 August.

Plants will be available for sale.

However, there will be NO REFRESHMENTS and NO TOILET ACCESS

Hope to see some of you then!

Alison Lowe

## CAR TRANSPORTERS USING THE A5199 THROUGH WELFORD & HUSBANDS BOSWORTH

For many years Welford and Husbands Bosworth have seen a huge increase in the numbers of car transporters travelling to and from Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground (BPG), in spite of planning conditions limiting them from doing so. Welford Action Group (WAG) campaigned tirelessly liaising with C. Walton Ltd (CWL) managing group and regular users of BPG i.e. Mannheim, with varying degrees of success.

In January, this year Harborough District Council (HDC) granted CWL an extension to their existing operations at the car storage and distribution site. A representative from WAG raised concerns with councillors as operators had not adhered to previous planning, this was acknowledged by the councillors who conceded operators had failed to control transporters travelling through the two villages. The new Operations Plan shows clear routes to be taken by drivers, a reporting process for residents and warning of disciplinary actions should drivers not comply.

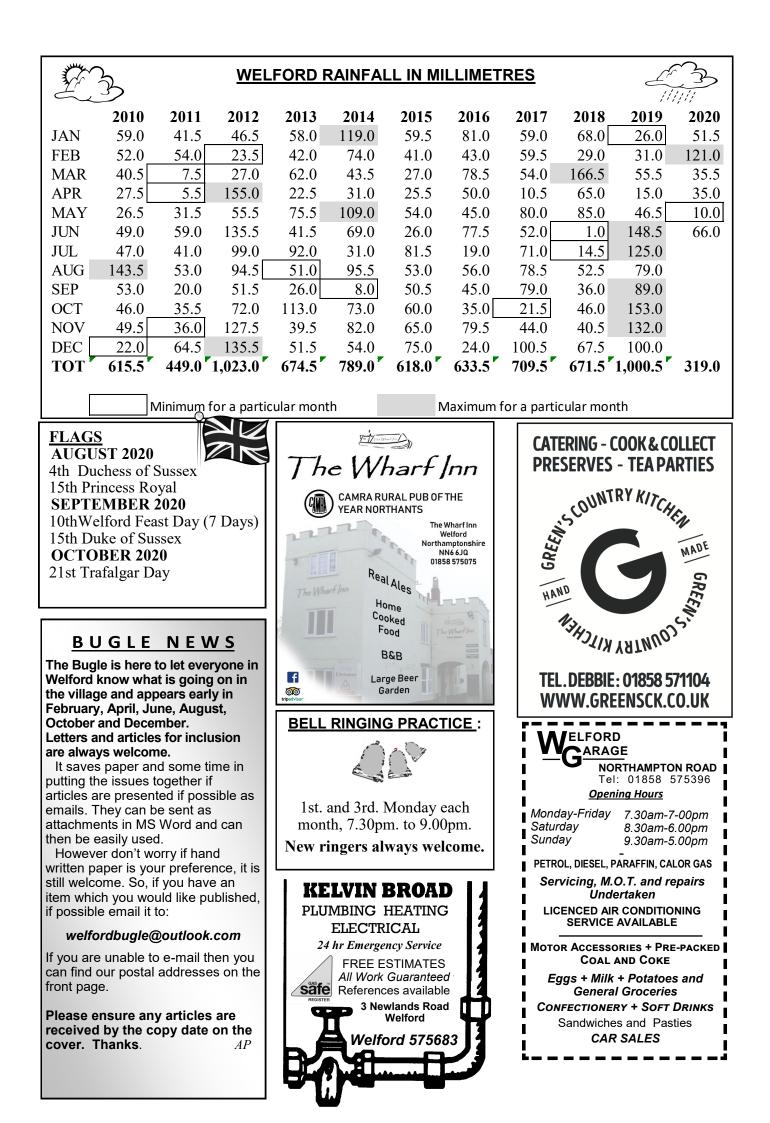
March 2020 saw an announcement from Cox Automotive UK who had just completed the acquisition of vehicle services provider at CWL securing Cox a 100% share of the capital of CWL. With new operators at BPG it is hoped the terms within the Operational Plan would be adhered to and correctly enforced.

A WAG member recently noted a transporter and followed the reporting process, a positive email was received from Martyn Rose, Bruntingthorpe Transport Manager apologising. The site is currently closed with no regular vehicle movements in or out, the reported vehicle was essential deliveries for a repossession company. Action has been taken to inform the company of designated routes following an oversight.

To ensure the Operational Plan is adhered to residents are asked to help, anyone spotting a car transporter ignoring regulations should make a complaint either by email: **tptcomplaints@bruntingthorpe.atlassian.net** or telephone: 0116 2799323.

Complaints should include as many of the following as possible. State the nature of the offence, time and direction of the offence, transporter branding, registration number and ideally a photograph. The operators should respond within 5 days and will take disciplinary action against drivers and hauliers that break the rules.

Welford Action Group





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#### Welford book of Remembrance

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Just a reminder to everyone that if you would like to remember a loved one in this book in Church all you have to do is write your two or three lines of commemoration and give it to Denise Bott or myself and Denise will enter the words in her lovely clear handwriting, so you will have a lasting tribute to the one you have lost. There is no fixed charge for this, but a small donation to Church funds is always appreciated.

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John Nicholas







It would be lovely to have more of a Welford presence on Facebook because love it or hate it, it is a great way to spread community news and discussions. So, we have decided to phase out the Welford Facebook page as it isn't particularly user-friendly

and have instead created This Is Welford - a group for all Facebook-using residents of Welford and the surrounding area. So please join us (do a search for This Is Welford in groups and we'll also put a link on the Welford Facebook page).

Hannah Bedard and Lucy Parsons







The Welford Youth and Community Centre is available to hire. Located on Welford Park it is a perfect venue for groups to hire and for any type of family gathering. Recent bookings have included **Birthday** 

parties, Wedding receptions, Dance practices and Presentation evenings.

The comprehensive facilities include a modern kitchen with a cooker and dishwasher, toilets including a disabled toilet, baby changing facilities and a separate meeting room. All of this at a very reasonable hourly rate.

Presently available:

Daytimes – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons and Weekends

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## WELFORD BABES AND TOTS

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Fridays, 9.30am – 11.00am Welford Youth and Community Centre £2.00 first child, 50p additional children, free for pre-crawlers and adults



Welford Babes and Tots Contact: Lucy on 07891287626 or Claire on 07837852364 or Helen on 07585669897

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\* = discounts offered - more weeks taken - course payment in advance

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## Welford Pre-school

We've had a very unusual Summer term this year! We had to close pre-school on Friday 20th March and then stayed closed for many weeks. During this time we offered a few activities for our pre-school children (and the community) to do during lockdown. We set up a private Facebook page for the pre-school families, and it was lovely to have so many photos and ideas shared amongst the group.

As the weeks went by we realised that our pre-school would have to make some changes in order to reopen safely. So, we had a big sort out, put away a lot of resources, and took the opportunity to decorate. We reopened our doors to a few children on June 8th. The pre-school was freshly painted, cleaned, and looked a little bare. However the children were amazing, and took it all in their stride and got on with the job of playing and having fun.

Over the 6 weeks until the end of term we have done a lot of different things, such as woodwork, making paper aeroplanes, hammering a coconut, running, explored pipes and guttering and water, mud, made piñatas, kites, lots and lots and lots of stories, finding bugs, treasure hunts, towers, lots of baking (flapjack, bread, cakes), lots of laughing, made a volcano in a bottle, bubble painting, digging for treasure, games, planted peas, made long jump tracks, rescued a butterfly ("our first animal rescue"), heard some fabulous jokes, lots of different play in a very very very large box, bubbles, chalk

(including an amazing dinosaur), lots of fun with an extremely large blow up football in the rain, Christmas jumper day (for 1 child), pancake day (yes we knew it was July!), Christmas ginger biscuits (again, we were aware of the date, but we are child-led!), and finally a lovely sports day afternoon with a socially distanced crowd of proud parents/grandparents (watching through the railings)

We missed the children who weren't able to come back, especially those who will be moving up to school next month. We were really sad not to be able to do the transition activities that we usually do, but we are sure that the children will all settle well into school and we send them on with all our best wishes and love for the next part of their journey. We will be waving to them and keeping in touch (from a distance) from our windows and garden. Hopefully one day we will be able to restart our weekly joined up play with the Reception class so the friendships can be maintained.

We all hope you continue to stay safe and have fun over the rest of the summer holidays, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

With lots of love and hugs from the Pre-school team x

## WELFORD EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Welford Educational Trust exists to promote education, (including social and physical training) of persons under the age of 25 years, who are resident in the Ancient Parish of Welford and who are in need of financial assistance.

The Trustees meet in September and February each year.

In the past, students have received financial help towards the cost of books for college and university courses. Students wishing to apply for a book grant must complete an application form available from the Secretary, Ms. S. Barlow, 5 Westfield Crescent, Welford, Northampton.

NN6 6HY, 01858 575748. Completed forms should be returned to the above address by **1<sup>st</sup> September 2020.** Late applications cannot be considered. Please note that book grant applications will only be considered at the September meeting each year.

At both meetings the Trustees will also consider applications from individuals and youth groups to provide financial assistance towards education, training and other needs. Applications by letter to the Secretary by **1**<sup>st</sup> **September/1**<sup>st</sup> **February**.

## Nature Notes

The weather has become much more changeable. We even had to use some of the wood store to light a fire to keep us warm for a few evenings in June, but the mixture of sunshine and rain is leading to good crops in the veg garden. From late April until mid June we ate asparagus daily. Delicious new potatoes have been followed by main crop Charlottes - we find they keep better than any variety and were still eating last year's in March! The annual glut of courgettes is keeping my cooks imagination busy - raw when tiny, boiled ok sometimes, fried with herbs a good side dish, ratatouille with onions and tomatoes a good freezer stand by with sausages and pasta in the winter, soup with onions and fresh mint also freezes, and I also make omlettes, quiches, roast veg... no need to waste them so long as I catch them in time! Lettuces of all colours are doing well, tomatoes - so much more delicious straight from the greenhouse - are ripening fast. Beetroot is another great addition to a salad, or makes good soup. Spinach and Kale are good standbys. The broad beans were yummy - we like them small and tender. Mangetout peas are a treat. The first runner beans went down well with Sunday lunch., and we're looking forward to the french beans later on. We have had a good crop of strawberries, despite a late frost affecting some of the flowers, and are enjoying raspberries, but the blackcurrants failed for the first time ever - for over 40 years we have frozen pounds of them, but they fell off the bushes unripe this year. Why? We do battle with pigeons, specially on the brassicas, but on the whole the garden is very productive.

Beyond the garden gate, where I have enjoyed many long walks, it has been a joy to watch the grain start to flourish after a bad start. Barley has been rippling in the wind and is now ripening blond rather than golden. Wheat is standing up well, and there are fields of beans and peas round about, as well as maize standing very tall.

The grass has kept growing and there have been enough dry spells for second cuts of silage and hay. Lambs have done well on the continually refreshed pasture. They and their mothers have been noisy in our fields, and the ewes are still white from shearing.

Birds are busy too. I so enjoy watching the swallows swooping in the evening sky - up to 5 now. Swifts occasionally zoom past. I heard and saw a skylark up the Hemlpoe, and a jenny wren chats noisily when I sit in the garden. A baby robin got stuck in the cold frame, but fortunately we rescued it, and the bats are evident at twilight most evenings.

The Buddleia is in flower which means butterflies abound, so I hope to contribute to the big butterfly count. Altogether nature has provided food and solace in all the weeks we have been isolating for me and for many others. Maybe the planet is saving us as well as us needing to turn our attention back to saving it.

Susie Bevin

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## ALLOTMENT MATTERS

The allotments were judged on Friday 24th July. Points were awarded for quality of produce, variety of produce, weed control, condition of paths and overall condition.

The results are:

First Mr & Mrs Gorman Plots 14 & 15 Second Stephen Lane Plot 27 Third Mr & Mrs Basten Plot 39

Many thanks to our judges and to Deb Siviter for recording the scores.

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## WELFORD ON THE WEB

You can read The Bugle on the Welford Web Site, as well as all sorts of interesting things about the village, by clicking onto : www.welfordvillage.org.uk And twitter on @WelfordVillage

## WHAT'S ON IN WELFORD

## (All currently subject to the situation relating to the Corona virus) **REGULARS - weekly, unless stated otherwise**

#### MONDAYS

MONDAYS	
Welford Pre-school 9.00am-3.00pm	PSM
Yoga for All 10.00-11.30am	VH(MH)
Bell-Ringing 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> week 7.30pm	CH
Rainbows 5-7 years 5.15 - 6.00pm	WYCC
Brownies 7-10 years 6.15 - 7.30pm	WYCC
Guides 10-14 years 7.30 - 9.00pm	WYCC
Table Tennis 7.00-9.00pm	VH(MH)
ISE Group (Stitch & Expression)	VH(BR)
10.00-4.00 2nd in Month	
Welford in Harmony 7.00—9.00pm	WSF
Cricket Nets from Monday 27th Feb	
(Hard Ball Teams) 6.15 – 7.15	GUIL
TUESDAYS	
Welford Pre-School 9.00am-3.00pm	PSM
Doctor's Surgery 9.00-11.30am	VH(BR)
Pilates 9.30-10.30am	WYCC
Pilates 7.30-8.30pm	WYCC
GN Coffee Morning 1st week	VH(MH)
Short Mat Bowls 7.00-8.30pm	VH(MH)
Bridge 7.30-10.00pm (1st and 3rd weeks)	VH(BR)
Cricket Nets from Tuesday 1st March	
U15s & U19s 7.00-8.30pm	LS
WEDNESDAYS	
Welford Pre-School 9.00am-3.00pm	PSM
Welford Watercolourists 9.00am-12.00	VH(BR)
Ladies Fellowship 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> week 2.30pm	CSR
Welcome Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> week 2.00-4.00pm	VH(BR)
Yoga for All 7.30-9.00pm	VH(MH)
Gardening Club 2nd week 7.00-9.45pm	VH(BR)
P.C. Planning Com. 6.30pm 2nd week	VH(BR)
<b>o</b> .	WTC
Tennis Club Night 6pm	-
Football — Welford Vets 7:30-8:30pm	WSF
Hockey Training Y8+ (U14s/Badgers) & Adults 6.30PM-8PM	
THURSDAYS	
Welford Pre-School 9.00am-3.00pm	PSM
Doctor's Surgery 9.00-11.30am	VH(BR)
Dancing for Fun 9.45-11.30am	VH(MH) WYCC
Pilates 6.00-7.00pm	

Parish Council 4<sup>th</sup> week 7.30pm

Women's Institute 2nd week 7.30-10.00pm VH(MH)

#### **FRIDAYS** Welford Pre-school 9 00am-3 00pm

Welford Pre-school 9.00am-3.00pm	PSM
Babes and Tots 9.30-11.00am	WYCC
Beaver Scouts 6-8 years 5.00-6.00pm	WYCC
Cub Scouts 6.15-7.15pm	WYCC
Scouts 7.30-9.00pm	WYCC
Dancing for Fun 7.00-8.30pm	VH(MH)
MONDAY - FRIDAY	
7.45am - 8.45am Breakfast Club	PSM
3.15pm – 6.00pm After School Club	PSM
SATURDAYS	
Football – reception & Yr 1 9.30-11.00am	WSF
SUNDAYS	
Hockey Training	
Juniors (up to Yr 7 age) 10.00-11.00am	NPF
Explorer Scouts 14-18 yrs 7.00-8.30pm	WYCC
EVENTS	

#### VENUES:

RC	Rugby College, Technology Drive, Rugby
СН	St Mary's Church
CSR	Chapel School Room
PSM	Pre-School Mobile
SCH	Welford School
VH(BR)	Village Hall Billiard Room
VH(MH)	Village Hall Main Hall
WSF	Welford Sports Field
WYCC	Welford Youth and Community Centre
LUT	Lutterworth College
MH3G	Market Harborough 3G
GUIL	Guilsborough School Hall
LS	Lawrence Sheriff School
NPF	Naseby Playing Fields
WTC	Welford Tennis Courts

For further information or to have your dates listed please contact Geoff Newman on Tel 575335 Keep up to date with events or advertise on www.welfordvillage.co.uk or follow @Welfordvillage on twitter

VH(BR)