

This is the Parish Council sponsored Newsletter for May 2019, giving details of past and forthcoming events and other items we think will be of interest.

1. Parish Council Notes:

- a. The **Parish Council Annual General Meeting** was held on Thursday 16th May in the Village Hall. Lynda Remmer was elected as the new Chair person with John Holloway re-elected as vice chairman. Graham Bloxham and Ron Reed were co-opted. Thanks were given to Alan Brown and Janet Stewart, who stood down at the recent election, for their contribution over recent years. Many thanks were also expressed for the work of the Parish Clerk, Ann Butcher, who is most efficient and helpful. A donation of £500 was given to Ian and Pauline Coleman as representatives of the village hall committee towards the cost of the work to improve access to the village hall.
- b. The Parish Council have been notified that **Action Fraud** has received over 100 reports of victims receiving phone calls from people claiming to be Police Officers who say they have arrested someone possessing a cloned bank card in the victim's name. The caller will then ask the victim to withdraw cash, or ask the victim to move their money to a 'safe account'. These calls are fraudulent. Neither the Police, nor your bank, will ever ask you to withdraw or move money, or to confirm your PIN number. For more information on how to stay secure online, visit www.cyberaware.gov.uk
- c. As a reminder, this year the annual **NGS Open Garden day at Forthampton Court** has been moved from the usual date in July to **Sunday May 19th from 12 noon until 4pm**. This is the day before Chelsea Flower Show opens, so could be viewed as a taster day before you all dash off to London! Apart from the wonderful gardens on display there will be tea/coffee and cakes as well as plants for sale.
- d. The **Tewkesbury Food & Drink Festival** returns to the town on 22nd and 23rd June and will again be held in the grounds of the Abbey. All of the popular highlights will be there, including a Food & Drink marquee with more than 60 stalls offering a wealth of local produce. The event will also feature a cookery theatre with live demonstrations from local chefs plus music to keep you entertained.
- e. On 13th-14th July the **Tewkesbury Medieval Festival** will be held, re-enacting the Battle of Tewkesbury during the Wars of the Roses. This is the largest free event of its kind and includes traditional entertainment provided by jugglers, musicians, dancers and jesters. The event is held on the fields next to the A38 (near the Gupshill Manor pub), entry is free and gates open at 11 a.m.
- f. On Sunday 21st July the "**Tewkesbury Fine Foods & Arts Market** will be held in the high Street from 10 am until 4 pm. Over 80 stalls are expected with award-winning cheese, wine, cider and other delicious produce together with an array of arts & crafts. Please be aware that the High Street will be closed to traffic for the day.

2. Church Notices:

- a. **Services at St Mary's, Forthampton** for the coming weeks are:
 - i. Sunday 19th May at 11:00 (Sung Eucharist)
 - ii. Sunday 26th May at 09:30 (Holy Communion)
 - iii. Sunday 2nd June at 6 p.m. (Evensong)
 - iv. Sunday 9th June at 09:30 (Morning Worship)

- b. **Refurbishment of the Church Tower** is now well underway with scaffolding in place and sundry equipment and tools in evidence, so please take care when visiting the grounds of the church.

3. **Village Hall Notices:**

- a. A big thank you to everyone who came to the **Bingo Night** on Saturday 11th May helping to raise the fantastic sum of £600 towards our ongoing hall improvements. The recently improved access to the hall has been welcomed by all hall users and the committee would like to thank Tim Gray from Green Scene Construction, Corse Lawn for his excellent work.
- b. The next area the committee are considering for improvement is the **garden area** at the rear of the hall. The views are amazing so improving this area and bringing it into use would make a great difference for hall users, both new and old, as well as opening up new opportunities for hall use.
- c. The next event will be a **Beer & BBQ night on Saturday 7th September** featuring the Ukeholics. Tickets are £12:50 for adults and £5 for children including a burger or sausage bap. See attached poster for full details.
- d. Thank you to everyone who supports Village Hall events as without your help none of these improvements or upkeep of the hall would be possible.

4. The next outing of the **Sevenside Walking Club** will be on Monday 20th May when the walk will start from the Gardener's Arms in Alderton. In June the walk will start from the Red Lion at Wanelodes. So, if you enjoy walking and meeting friends, simply contact Alan Brown on 01684 291220 or e-mail: skepcott1@gmail.com for full details.

5. There was no speaker at the May meeting of the **Forthampton & District WI**. However, buttonholes were presented to those ladies whose birthdays occur during the month of May, together with a beautiful basket arranged by Liz Lean to a member celebrating a very special age. We moved quickly through the agenda, confirming support for one of the two Resolutions to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in Bournemouth next month and leaving the decision on the second Resolution to our local delegate. The table top sale, with proceeds going towards the running of our WI, was very successful with sundry items and plants on offer. There was then time to socialise and enjoy tea and cakes. Our next meeting will be our June outing and this year we are visiting the Bulmer family home at Monnington-on-Wye in Herefordshire, stopping en-route for lunch at The Nest garden centre. As well as being the home of the Bulmer family, the gardens of Monnington Court are home to many sculptures by the internationally known sculptress Angela Conner, and the stables house the famous Morgan horses, which are shown all over the country and in the USA. Our next indoor meeting will be held in Forthampton Village Hall at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th July when the guest speakers will talk about the Ifakara Bakery in Tanzania. New members are always welcome and, should you require any further information, please contact Veronica Silber (01684) 591513.