

This is the Parish Council sponsored Newsletter for September 2018, giving details of past and forthcoming events and other items we think will be of interest.

1. Parish Council Notes:

- a. During recent discussions with Gigaclear members of the Parish Council were notified that **Broadband** is expected to be rolled out to all parts of Forthampton within the next 6 weeks. Gigaclear plan to write to all residents explaining the plan which will include details of the costs involved (essentially a one-off cost for connection to individual houses plus a monthly rental replacing existing rental agreements).
- b. Planning for the **Fireworks evening** to be held on Saturday 3rd November at Alcock's Farm (the home of Alan & Anabel McKinnon) in Church Lane is proceeding apace. There will be a cash bar, and various other "delights". So make a note of the date and watch out for further details. Tickets will be £5 available from Pete Remmer on 01684 297903 or email premmmer@btinternet.com with proceeds going towards the Church Tower appeal.
- c. We have been notified by the **Neighbourhood Watch** team that a garden shed was broken into at a property in the Jubilee Road area of Staunton. Between the 17th and 19th of August unknown offenders entered a shed and stole tools. A Makita Twin Battery chop saw, two Paslow nail guns and a Paslow twist nail gun were taken with a total estimated value of two thousand one hundred pounds. Please be aware and if you have any information about this incident please call 101 or email 101@gloucestershire.police.uk. Alternatively ring Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111
- d. Following a suggestion from a local resident, in order to keep the village in good order, it has been agreed to hold **litter picking** events twice per year instead of the previous annual event. Arrangements have, therefore, been made for the necessary equipment to be made available for Saturday 13th October. We will meet at the Cross at 10 a.m; so, if you can spare an hour, please come along and help.
- e. Agreement has also been reached to replace the wooden gate into the field opposite the church. A "**Kissing gate**" will be installed to prevent any further incidents of cattle escaping and getting into the churchyard. The installation work is expected to take place during the afternoon of Wednesday 7th November so, if you are able to spare an hour to help, please contact Alan Brown on 01684 291220 or email skepcott1@gmail.com

2. Church Notices:

- a. **Services at St Mary's, Forthampton** for the coming weeks are:
 - i. Sunday 16th September at 11 a.m. (Sung Eucharist)
 - ii. Sunday 23rd September at 9:30 a.m. (Holy Communion)
 - iii. Sunday 30th September at 10 a.m. (Benefice Service)
 - iv. Sunday 7th October at 6 p.m. (Harvest Songs of Praise). You are invited to bring along non-perishable foodstuffs to this service and all items will then be donated to the local Foodbank in Tewkesbury.
- b. **Our Vicar Barbara's** final service on 9th September was a wonderful event and was followed by a very well attended reception in the Apperley Village Hall. For the immediate future there will be a vacancy until the respective PCCs meet to consider applicants for the post.
- c. The next fund-raiser will be a **Concert in the church** given by Chris Leslie on Friday 9th November starting at 8 pm. Tickets are £12 and are available from Pete Remmer on 01684 297903 or email premmmer@btinternet.com (see poster).

3. **Village Hall Notices:**

- a. The long standing issue **of improving access to the Village Hall** continues. Planning permission was granted just before the new committee was formed but this permission still had a number of steps. The present committee have been seeking a solution that would not require steps so prams and wheelchairs would have easier access. A revised proposal was discussed with the Borough Council planners but we have just been advised that this has been rejected. We are again seeking other options but this is proving to be a difficult and time consuming exercise. The committee would like to reassure all of our users that improving the access to the hall remains a high priority and we are determined to find a satisfactory solution for everyone
- b. There is still time for you to get your tickets for **The Annual Harvest Supper on Sunday 7th October** which will also feature a quiz. The event will start at 7pm and tickets are just £7.50. Please contact Peter Remmer 01684 297903 or Pauline Coleman 01684 297276.
- c. The **Festive Feast on Sunday 25th November** is already sold out. For those that have already booked tickets, ticket prices will be finalised soon.
- d. The Elves are busy organising the **Children's Christmas party** on Sunday 9th December. When we have more details we will let you know but please save the date to see Santa

4. **Forthampton Club Notices:**

- a. The **Forthampton Club** is a social meeting place offering reasonably priced drinks and snacks in a friendly atmosphere. It is run by volunteers and welcomes members and non-members. Summer opening times are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8pm.
- b. On Saturday 29th September there will be a **Gin Tasting Experience** with 15 different gins for you to taste and learn about them. The bar opens at 7:30 p.m. there will be light refreshments and the cost is just £5 on the door.
- c. Later in the year there will be a **Themed Quiz night** (in October) and a **Murder Mystery Evening** (in November). Watch this space for further details.

5. "Every Picture Tells a Story" was the title of the talk given by Peter Preece at the September meeting of **the Forthampton and District WI**. When Peter retired he took up natural history photography, as a hobby and, eventually this became a business, in which his wife, Margaret, ably supports him. He lives in Warwickshire close to the Heart of England Forestry Project, covering 8,000 acres and the planting of two and a half million trees (the brainchild of the late Felix Dennis, publisher and philanthropist), Peter's presentation demonstrated how he sets up feeding stations and builds hides to enable him to take incredible images of every kind of flora and fauna. One of his favourite subjects is the kingfisher, although he and his wife travel around the UK and Europe to photograph anything from insects to mammals. Peter has won many photographic awards and until recently has provided photographs for the *Countryfile* calendar. During his presentation he also referred to the equipment he uses and how digital photography can enhance the quality of pictures. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 9th October, when our guest speaker will be Liz Spurway, a glass artist. New

members are always welcome and our meetings are held at 2:15pm on the second Tuesday of each month. For further information please contact Veronica Silber on 01684 591513.

6. Following a lovely walk from the White Hart in Maisemore in August, in September, the **Sevenside Walking Club** will start a walk from the Butcher's Arms in Sheepscombe. Then in October, we will be raising money for charity on a walk over Cleeve Hill starting from the Rising Sun. So, if you enjoy walking and meeting friends, simply contact Alan Brown on 01684 291220 or e-mail: skepcott1@gmail.com for full details.