

The Great Bake Off is Back!

Saturday 16th March 2013:
THE GREAT BAKE OFF!



The Great Bake Off at Packington Memorial Hall is back - Saturday 16th March from 12 pm – 5 pm.

Make your cakes and bakes at home and bring them along between 12 pm - 2pm on the day to enter them into one of 14 categories of baking.

This event is inspired by the popular TV show the Great British Bake Off where Paul Hollywood and Mary Berry put wannabe bakers through their paces. **NEW** for this year, Packington is putting local amateur bakers to the test in the LIVE Bake-Off challenge -

pitting eight bakers against each other in a bid to win the title of MASTER BAKER.

The Technical challenge will be formally judged and the hugely popular public vote is back too – the Signature and Invention challenge entries will be cut up into samples for a public vote. New this year the showstopper challenge will combine a formal judges score and a public vote on looks to decide the winner. There is a prize for the winner of each category and rosettes for the top three in each category.



Also taking place on the day is the table tennis tournament, decorate a cupcake activity for little ones and the Packington half mile. The competition is hotting up - and rumour has it that lots of people are practising their baking already! See Page 2 for entry details.

Contact Judith – 412 658

In this edition of the Packington Post:

Page 2 – an update on the successful Charity Breakfast

Page 3 – Cricket Club news and Mark Page reports

Page 4 – PMG news and Nature Notes

Page 5 – Daybreak services welcome on-site florists Blossom and Bloom after revamp of the store premises

Page 6 – Vivien's Voice celebrates Eastertide and local fundraisers ask for your support

Page 7 – Church group updates including CoffeandChat and Ready, Steady Stick

Page 8 – Wally Instrall poses another history mystery to village residents

Plus much, much more!

**PACKINGTON PARISH
ANNUAL MEETING
Provisional Date
18th April Memorial Hall
See Website For Update**



Packington Post

www.packington.info

Next Edition May 18th Copy Date May 5th

GREAT BAKE OFF: ENTRY CATEGORIES

TECHNICAL CHALLENGE

1. Lemon drizzle cake

THE SIGNATURE BAKE

2. Six muffins – your choice of flavour, savoury or sweet
3. Six small bread rolls, must be yeast based, savoury or sweet.
4. Six 15cm sausage rolls with flaky pastry.
5. A 7"-8" round cake, decorated or plain, one or more layers.
6. Tray bake - your choice of tray bake cut into 18 pieces.
7. A cake fit for a queen. [Teens aged 13 -19]

JUNIOR BAKE

8. Junior [Ages 9 and under] Six chocolate biscuits or cookies.
9. Junior [Ages 10 to 12] Six cakes or bakes from Outer Space.

THE SHOW STOPPER CHALLENGE

10. Scones, six large (6-7 cm) round scones, savoury or sweet.
11. Six miniature tarts, sweet or savoury, must have a pastry bottom
12. Novelty cake or portrait cake
13. The paper bun case challenge, six bakes of your choice but they must be presented in paper bun cases.

THE INVENTION CHALLENGE

14. An open category of baking of anything gluten-free, perhaps meringues, macaroons or a bake using gluten free flour...

To take part, please book on-line or using the booking form and receive a free tea or coffee if we receive your form by 9th March. Brochures can be picked up at Daybreak Services or printed out from

www.packington.info/bakeoff.php

Contact Judith – 412 658

Second Charity Breakfast is a Great Success!



The Memorial Hall was buzzing on the Friday evening before the event, as keen volunteers began setting up for this event, with many new volunteers joining the team since last year's event.

Come Saturday we saw that our efforts were worth it, as crowds flooded in to enjoy either a full breakfast or a tasty bacon butty. The hard working Food Gusto kitchen staff, ably organised by Wes Ewing, served an amazing total of 199 customers!



The Brownies were the stars of the show busying themselves with orange juice, toast and coffees. They had also made the lovely table decorations that adorned the hall. Many other individual volunteers helped with tasks from washing up to making the toast and the teas.

Following on from the success of last year, the Packington and Normanton Ladies Group ran the raffle again this year which contributed a brilliant £124 to the overall total.



Across the morning, a magnificent sum of **£776.86** was raised and sent to **Cancer Research UK** to aid them in their valuable work.

Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way: from Brownies and Ladies Group, to Food Gusto, and to everyone who came and enjoyed a breakfast for a great cause. Thanks to everybody's contribution, this event looks like it will become a permanent fixture in the Packington social calendar. So, see you next year!

Contact Mike Coke – 560 430

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Mark Page Reports



Staffordshire Hospital has been in the news recently for all the wrong reasons, but back in 1798 it was a completely different story when a Packington resident, one Ann Wyatt, applied for the 'office of matron'.

The article shown on the right documents her application for the job, which she published in the Staffordshire Advertiser. The language she used is very different to what someone would use today – this is exactly as it appeared in the Staffordshire Advertiser.

In the same paper, 21 days later she writes to thank the Board for choosing her to fill the position. She surely wouldn't have let it go into administration as the contemporary hospital is facing!

Contact Mark Page – 411 877

To the TRUSTEES of the
GENERAL INFIRMARY,
OF THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

My Lords, Ladies, AND Gentlemen,

ENCOURAGED by the advice of my Friends, and being entirely free from every sort of incumbrance, I take the liberty to offer myself as a Candidate for the Office of Matron to the Infirmary at Stafford, which I flatter myself my former situations in life have made me capable of filling with advantage to the Charity, and satisfaction to the Guardians of it, whose support I trust will be given to such only as may appear on the day of Election to be best qualified for this important office. Should my application be crowned with success, I shall think it a duty incumbent upon me to discharge punctually, and with fidelity, whatever is committed to my care. I am with all due deference and respect,

My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble servant,

ANN WYATT

Packington, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch. 15th Dec. 1798

Packington Cricket Team Update

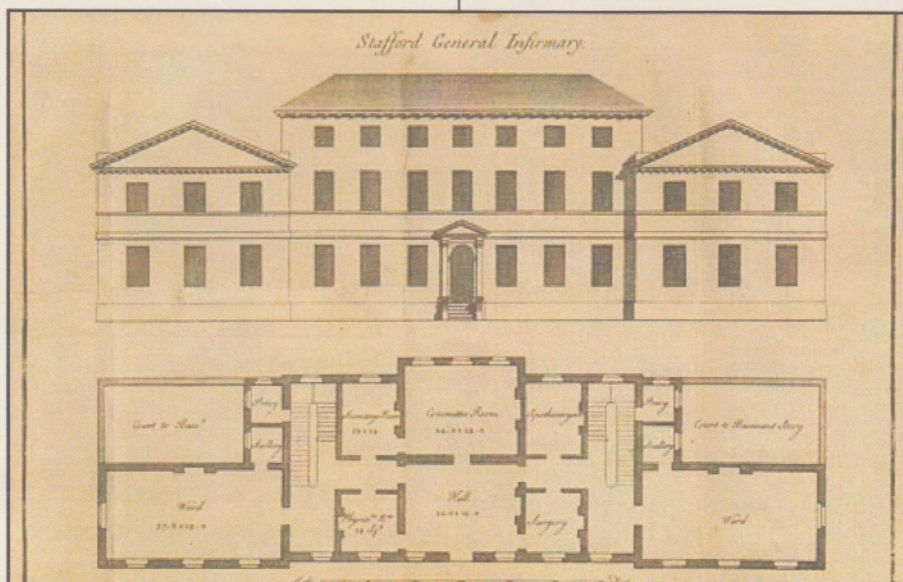


As the cold, snowy winter drifts by, my thoughts go to the warm balmy days of summer and the sound of leather on willow, that wonderful sound which tells of cricket being played.

This year, in aid of Hospice Hope, we held a darts marathon at the Bull & Lion on 9th February. The event was published in the Post but was poorly supported by villagers. However, we still had a super day and have raised some worthwhile money for Hospice Hope. It is not too late to send me your donation, or any member of the cricket club.

We are always on the lookout for new players of any standard to come along to nets which are at Ashby School Hall on Mondays 8pm - 9.30pm until Easter, then outside on Thursday nights at the ground on Range Road, Ashby School. The season starts on Saturday 20th April with a home game against Rosehill Methodists starting at 1.30pm.

Contact Roger – 01530 415 221



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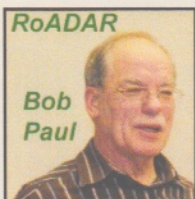
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PMG News

Ferrets to fighters? Really! During our **January 2012 PMG Evening Talk** on the theme of "Odds and Ends", veteran Ashby Auctioneer and Valuer, Chris Yeomans, told us about his magical career. His first-ever sale in 1950 was of three ferrets for 25 shillings at nearby Ashby; later he even auctioned parts of prototype fighter-bomber TSR2, on behalf of the Defence Ministry in the late 60s after the cancellation of the project:



In **February**, intense interest was evident among PMG for two guest speakers from the Leicester branch of RoADAR (RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders). You have probably heard of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and we are all in favour!



RoADAR
Bob Paul
Bob Paul gave us a timeline history of developments such as speed limits, licences, tests and tax discs, before Neil Snow described RoADAR and their system of Advanced Driving. We were pleased to learn of the Police Drivers' Handbook, "Roadcraft" and of its "I-P-S-G-A" system for early hazard recognition and negotiation.



Amazingly, the friendly RoADAR volunteers are happy to tutor and report on our driving skills in our own vehicles, FREE, in preparation for Advanced Driving tests, which have possible Gold, Silver or Bronze levels of award for Advanced achievement.

One of our PMG members currently still holds a RoADAR Silver Advanced Driving Award.



Next - party time! Please join us on **Thursday 14 March 2013** at the **Memorial Hall at 7:15pm** for our PMG party evening on a theme of "St David - patron saint of Wales, Land of Song". Expect an appreciation of Wales by a Welsh-speaker; a hot meal at round tables, of tasty Welsh lamb stew by Geoff Gasson, with laver bread, bara bridd, and Caerphilly cheese & biscuits; a presentation on St David, by Peter Last; but the highlight of the evening will be a let-your-hair-down session of singing of Welsh choral favourites, including "Land of My Fathers", under the direction of Packington's very own choral maestro Julian Baker. Welsh spring water will be available, but you are asked to bring your own favourite tippie and a plate, side plate, cutlery and a glass.



RSVP: please pay for your ticket £5 from treasurer **Wally Instrall**, on **01530 416 786**.

Date for your Diary: Thursday 11th April 2013 - Evening visit and guided tour of Champney's Springs Spa.

More on PMG - see village website www.packington.info, or contact:

Robert Dilworth PMG Secretary on 411 673



Nature Notes

A spell of cold weather and lying snow often brings birds that don't normally visit into the garden in search of food.



During this year's snow my garden was host to a fieldfare who came every day for a week or so to feed on the berries of pyracantha, which were quite abundant. The bird was almost always to be seen in the same spot, perched on a branch, hungrily devouring the berries. Fieldfares are a winter visitor from Scandinavia; rather like a large thrush in appearance but with a grey head and rump, a brown back and a patch of orange on the chest. Normally they fly around in little flocks of a dozen or so but I have spoken to several people this year who have seen single individual specimens in the garden.

Another rare visitor to my garden was a cock pheasant who was seen pecking at the seeds that had fallen from the bird feeder or been dropped by other birds.



As soon as the snow vanished, so did the winter visitors! Also seen this winter: great spotted woodpecker, black-cap and numerous blue tits and great tits.

Contact David Fill - 560 228

Daybreak Services

Peter Swift and all at Daybreak Services would like to express their appreciation and gratitude for all the encouragement and support you have given to us since we completed the extensive "makeover" of our emporium at the back in September 2012.

We were gratified by the interest you constantly expressed and the suggestions and constructive advice that were forthcoming during the planning phase of those renovations. Your comments and opinions emphasised and underlined our belief that the Village store is an essential facility within a vibrant community and certainly assisted in the considerations and calculations required to determine the value of such a considerable financial undertaking during this present austere economic climate.

With the High Street suffering a continuing decline in footfall the importance of a Village Store that can cater for the everyday needs of the average household with a minimum amount of inconvenience or fuss grows in relevance and importance. We are delighted with your response to the introduction of Blossom and Bloom our in-house Florists of Distinction who specialise in flesh flowers, floral tributes and eye catching arrangements. You can call in to order, or phone 01530 415705 or Cassie on 07971 083564 or Katie on 07979 126246 or email: daybreakservices@hotmail.co.uk



Cassie & Katie – Blossom & Bloom

We can deliver or you can collect. The choice is yours! Nothing expresses love or respect more than a bounteous bouquet and beautiful flowers can transform an occasion into a special event.

Our extensive Delicatessen counter provides an increasing variety of cured meats, cold cuts, savouries and snacks and bestows a boon for the shopper in a hurry. Pre-ordering fresh fish on the weekly early hours visit to the expanding fish market in Birmingham has also proved to be popular, with demand almost reaching saturation point and the need for a second supply run imminent.

It is our intention to uphold and enhance the standards we have set since opening nearly fifteen years ago, offering a wide and plentiful stock of groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables, hardware and gardening items, all on display within airy open and light surroundings.

To conclude our special bulletin, we would like to assure you all, that Daybreak services takes great pride in its development of becoming such a vital hub for the local community providing a neutral dispersal and collection centre for all manner of literature and information regarding local issues of relevance and importance, as well as being a fountain of district

knowledge, the latest local gossip, forthcoming events and even the immediate area weather forecast.

Call in and see us any time. Not quite open all hours, just the ones that matter!

Peter Swift and the Daybreak team

A message to Packington's Dog Owners

A parent interviewed on BBC Breakfast recently described how her young daughter had lost her sight permanently after getting dog mess on her fingers and then into her eyes. Dog mess contains a number of nasties but the worst of these can cause permanent blindness as happened to this child. It was disgusting to see that one of our more irresponsible dog owners had allowed their dog to foul on top of the wall outside the primary school and had failed to clean up. Dog mess continues to be a problem in Mill Street and I would remind dog walkers that they must clean up after their dogs.

The penalty for not cleaning up is a fine of up to £1000 AND a criminal record. The penalty for a child might be permanent blindness. Thankfully, the dog mess outside the school was removed before the children came out of school.

Barry Bryan - Mill St Resident



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Moonwalkers Raise Money for Breast Cancer UK

A local team from Packington will be taking part in the 16th Moon Walk London.



On May 11th, Battersea Power Station will host this famous moonlit marathon and half marathon, which will see ordinary people taking on an extraordinary challenge.

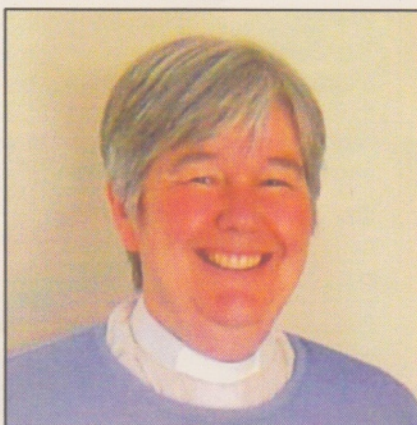
This year over 17,000 brave men and women will be taking up this unique challenge in Walk the Walks decorated bras, with a galaxy of wonderful and outrageous designs expected to pound the streets.

The Moonwalk London is organised by health charity Walk the Walk Worldwide; this, their flagship event raised in excess of £5.8 million in 2012 alone, bringing the total to over £83 million in just 15 years. This money is distributed to Breast cancer charities throughout the UK. The organiser and founder, Nina Barough says "the Moonwalk is about women and men taking charge of their lives by not only getting fitter themselves to take on this challenge, but by uniting in the common bond of making a difference to vital breast cancer causes. It is probably the most dynamic and awe inspiring night that you could experience."

To find out more about how the money is used and other walk challenges visit their website www.walkthewalk.org

For more information on the Packington Moon Angels, please call **Lisa Mayles** on **07817895323**. Alternatively you can visit Lisa's fundraising page www.walkthewalkfundraising.org/lisamayles

Lisa Mayles – 07817 895 323



Dear All,

Richard III and his bones have been causing much excitement of late, as well as many jokes: "*Have you heard about parking in Leicester? Short stay 20 minutes; long stay 500 years!*" Sorry about that! Anyway, Leicester Cathedral is in the midst of preparations for the re-interment of those bones with great ceremony – in stark contrast to the hasty burial in 1485 of a defeated king. He'd headed the Yorkist army in battle but was defeated by the house of Tudor in the Battle of Bosworth Field on 22nd August 1485. This signalled the end of the War of the Roses.

Have you been excited by the discovery? Have you joined the queues for the exhibition in Leicester? I must admit I've been surprised at the huge level of interest. So if anyone is aware that Richard III came to Packington at any point, let me know – we could get ourselves on the Richard III tourist trail! After all, Bosworth isn't far away.

My thinking turned to 'what sort of king was Richard III'? His reputation is decidedly mixed. It seems to be agreed he suffered from physical deformity which his skeleton has confirmed. His detractors portrayed him as a Machiavellian character who clawed his way to power, prepared to do murder on the way (the Princes in the Tower).

Others point out that he was a promoter of legal fairness and a good lawmaker for the common

people. Whatever, he ended up being hastily buried in Greyfriars in Leicester, a defeated king.

As we are approaching Holy Week and Easter, I found myself thinking of King Jesus, a very different sort of king. He was tempted to bring in God's Kingdom of love and peace in a variety of ways. 'Turn stones into bread' but full stomachs don't bring about a change in people's hearts. 'Jump off the highest tower in Jerusalem and defy gravity'. Yet magic is so easily discounted – it was done by strings, by smoke and mirrors we would say. All a trick. 'Defeat the powers of the world by force, so they would submit to him'. That was a third temptation. But defeating 'baddies' by force usually makes the victors into baddies too as many a regime change has proved.

Instead, he followed the way of the cross, of total self sacrifice for our sake. He demonstrated a love that goes beyond anything we could ever dream of. When evil was done to him, he never retaliated but instead forgave and blessed. Such is his love for each one of us that he gave his life. I wonder what that says to each one of us? He still holds out that hand of love to us at great cost to him. The way of the cross is a way that can change hearts for the better.

And in Jesus we have a King who doesn't need to be dug up because he was raised to life again. He is not buried but is alive for you and me today. His risen life again brings a change of heart in us.

We're continuing through Lent as you read this – trying to take in this greatest act of love there has ever been. Join in. What about trying the services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day? Realise the wonder of this king and his love for each of us.

May God bless you this Eastertide.

Yours,

Vivien

Coffee and Chat at Holy Rood Church



Everyone is welcome to drop in at the Holy Rood Church for freshly brewed coffee, cookies and, most importantly, a friendly chat! Coffee and Chat takes place at the Church on every 3rd Wednesday of the month, between 9:30am and 11:30am. The next meeting dates are as follows:

Wednesday 20th March
 Wednesday 17th April
 Wednesday 15th May

We look forward to seeing you very soon! For any information on the Coffee and Chat event, contact:

Anne Wathes – 414 621

anne.wathes@live.co.uk

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Packington and Normanton Ladies' Group Meetings 2013

Wednesday 13th March

Rev Linda Cox – "How I got to where I am now"

Wednesday 10th April

Diana Osborn - 'Doodle Do!' What do your doodles say about you!

Meetings take place at 7:30pm in the Meetings Room at the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome. Coffee, tea and biscuits are served after our talks, when there is also an opportunity for a chat. If you would like more information on the Ladies' Group, please contact **Doreen Gasson** on **01530 412 012**

Ready Steady Stick

The half term Ready Steady Stick was great fun for all who came along. Some 15 youngsters joined with the helpers (also young in heart) for a couple of hours of fun – craft activities, story time and singing, helped along by games. Look out for the next club in Packington Church on 29th May. In the mean time, there will be a joint Ready Steady Stick on **Wednesday 27th March** at 2pm in **Measham Church Hall**. For more information, contact: **Linda Cox** on **01530 411642** or e-mail lindac40@btinternet.com or **Lesley Birtwistle** on lbwistle@googlemail.com

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Photograph from the History Group

Below is a copy of a newspaper article, from the year 2000 when the school entered a Design Challenge competition for a rotating fairground wheel. We would like to know the names of the pupils in the picture, and hope that either they, or their parents, can clarify the subjects for our research.

Fair enough!

YOUNGSTERS from Packington came up with a wheely good design which netted their school £150 in a competition.

A team of pupils from Packington Primary School, in Mill Street, fought off schools from around Leicestershire to get their design of a rotation fairground wheel picked by the judges.

The entries were put on display at the Primary Design Challenge 2000 held at Leicester College. They were awarded marks for research into the history and construction of fairground wheels, the use of maths and IT skills, teamwork and design.

The 'Wednesday Wonder Wheel' was given top marks and the school was awarded a cash prize which will be spent on new goal posts or a digital camera.

Ken Davis, health and safety officer for construction and engineering at Leicester College, said: "This was a great opportunity for younger children to put into practice the skills that they have learnt in the classroom."

"Everyone was very impressed with the effort and imagination that had obviously been put into the wheels."



The text above was taken from *The Echo* on Wednesday 19th April, 2000. If you can provide any names, please contact Wally Instrall on 01530 416 786.

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Village Welcome Pack

As exhibited at the Breakfast morning, High Street resident Rachael Wozywoda has created a brilliant welcome pack for new residents. If you are aware of any new neighbours joining our Packington community, then please contact Rachael at rachaeldyer@yahoo.co.uk or telephone the editor (details above).

Note to all current / prospective advertisers:

Peter Wozywoda, of High Street, Packington, has taken over the position of Treasurer for the Packington Post and Packington Communications Group. If you would like to advertise in the Packington Post, or would like to discuss your current advert or account, please contact Peter on 07710 447650 or e-mail wozywoda@hotmail.co.uk