

History Walk

On a perfect early summer evening, around thirty people gathered for the History Walk along Mill Street on June 15th. Led by Robin Boucher, the group heard about the founding of the school, the various vicarages, the mill, the Baptist Chapel, the sweet shop in the front room of one of the cottages and a variety of other issues. It became clear that Mill Street reveals the richness of the historical heritage Packington has to offer. The information was much appreciated by all who attended.



Looking ahead, and assuming that Covid restrictions are lifted as currently planned, the History Group will resume its normal meetings after the summer, with the first being planned for **Tuesday September 28th**. More information to come in the September issue.

Contact **Robin Boucher** on email: randbboucher@googlemail.com or tel: **01530 411638**



Little Breakfast Makes a BIG Impact

Last month saw the return of a firm village favourite in the events calendar - the annual Big Breakfast, except this year taking a slightly different form.

**Big Breakfast
The Little Takeaway Breakfast**

Due to Covid restrictions, our annual Big Breakfast could not go ahead as 'normal' or at the usual event date so instead was replaced this year with 'The Little Takeaway Breakfast'.

Lots of Packington residents, and those from the surrounding villages, visited the Memorial Hall for a delicious selection of takeaway bacon, sausage and egg baps and speciality hot drinks - coffee, tea and hot chocolates.

All the food for the event was sourced locally with Daybreak Services supplying the tasty bacon, sausages and eggs and the core of the Food Gusto team manning the coffee trailer and the kitchen. The morning held some memories, emotion and joy for the event itself and seeing village people enjoying space together.

Over 200 breakfast baps were sold for this charity event, raising £1,014.50 for the British Heart Foundation.

Carole Hallam told us: "Despite still being in uncertain times, it was good to see so many villagers coming out to support such a good cause. It was a great opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours after such a long time – the breakfast baps were delicious! Well done to everyone involved for all the hard work during these difficult times."

Karl and Amy Saunt said: "It's great to see this event back – it's a staple in the village and good to see the community getting back together again."

Alison and Ella Ewing told us: 'Mike Coke organised us again and we're so pleased with the turnout and support for the annual breakfast event, albeit in a different guise and to raise money for a close-to-our-hearts charity of the British Heart Foundation. We were only up and running for three hours and made such a great figure so want to thank everyone that turned up! Shoutout thanks from us to the Bennions, O'Regans and Dave for all the help on the day, Libby and Mike Jeffs who ran 'front of house' and Pippa for connecting with the British Heart Foundation.'



A big thank you to all those involved in organising and running the event and to everyone that turned out to help support this worthy cause. Some pictures of the event can be found on page 14.



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June saw the Council's first face to face meeting in fourteen months. It was held in the main hall of the Memorial Hall. There were five members of the public present and Councillor Smith, Packington's District Councillor, also attended. Councillor Powell, a newly elected Parish Councillor was welcomed to the meeting.

At the start of the meeting there is a public question time. This is a chance to raise questions of concern and, if the Council is able, for them to respond. The main question from a member of the public was concerning the illegal encampment along Coleorton Lane. The question was, "what are the Parish and District Council doing about it." The Chairman responded by saying that the site had been monitored by the Parish for a long time and they had given many warnings of pending occupation to the District Council. The Chairman also said that the Parish had no powers to intervene and that the District Council were the authority who had the power to enforce planning law. At this juncture Councillor Smith asked to speak. He re-affirmed that the District Council had the enforcement powers and had already served a stop notice on the site. He also said that the power to uphold the law was by due process with the District Council and the courts. He assured the meeting that the District Council were going to do all in their power for the site to be restored to its original state and that money was no object in achieving this goal.

Agenda items were then taken and amongst the many updates including; Flooding, Highways issues, and Financial statements, was the issue of proposed grit bins for roads where the slope makes it exceedingly difficult to access. A few sites have been mentioned by residents and Councillors will walk the affected roads to finally decide on whether there can be provision made.

You will have noticed that a start has been made by the Council to enhance the village entrances and much good work has been done by Councillor Martin in this regard. I would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work and encourage anyone else to get involved by contacting Councillor Martin.

As we prepare for pandemic restrictions to be removed, the Council remain committed to help those in need. If anyone has any problems or needs help, please speak up. Ring me or contact the Clerk. There are people in place who will assist you whatever the reason. We hope the elderly in the village will remain protected and that our normal way of life will keep us all safe.

For more details of Parish Council decisions and notices please go to our website. www.packingtonpc.org.uk

Chris Miles (Chairman)
07856 179485

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Table Tennis Club Summer Break

The Packington Table Tennis Club ceases for the summer period (after a successful post lockdown start up) and **resumes on Wednesday 8th September** with the plan to run through every Wednesday until 15th December at the Memorial Hall. The club night is at 7.15- 9.15pm. The club is committed to ensuring that club nights remain the domain of all level of player from beginners to advanced, male or female and all ages from juniors to senior players. The cost stays frozen for a fifth year at £2.50 per adult and £1.50 per junior.

The Loughborough Table Tennis League restarts in September and due to new players and a more competitive nature the club has decided to put two teams in the League and two teams in the Handicap Cup. Team nights will be on a Thursday from 7.15-9.15pm. The team in 2019 finished a very respectable 5th in Division 4. The three new League standard table tennis tables, purchased prior to lockdown thanks to the Parish Council, will certainly be getting some expert use!

Our national coach Nigel Webster from Melbourne Swifts will be in a position to restart the junior coaching in September. Juniors aged six and above are encouraged to come along on a Wednesday evening at 6.00pm for tutoring from a well-respected coach.

Contact **Graham Saunt on 07764 471917** for further details with booking being essential.

Ashby Sport Fun Day

Ashby Sport held its first Fun Day at the Bath Grounds on Saturday 3rd July which was very well received by the community and a huge success. It attracted a large number of people of all ages to 'have a go' at the many sports Ashby has to offer.



Around 27 clubs from Ashby and surrounding villages came together to showcase everything sports related within the town. From Pigeon Racing to Croquet, there were clubs represented that even people who have lived here for 40 years, didn't know existed.

People of all ages could try out Boxing, Bowls, Football, Netball, Golf, Cricket, Zumba and Chess to name a few!

Packington Table Tennis was one of the clubs to affiliate to the new Ashby Sport initiative and took part in the fun day. Many juniors and seniors come along and sampled the table tennis clubs activities of the day.



Ashby de la Zouch Town Council played a major part in helping the new set-up and the town's Mayor, Rita Manning also attended the Fun Day. She said: "It was an amazing turnout. New people to the town need to know what's available and it's great that we now have an Ashby Sport website with all the information on there."

Kenny Horn, one of the main organisers of Ashby Sport said "The main objective is to get people participating in sport, so I'm really pleased with how the event was received. Many people turned out to support their clubs and lots of the community came to have a go at something new".

The Fun Day will be back again next year with potentially even more clubs showcasing what they have to offer. In the meantime, check out the website www.ashbysport.com for the contact details of all sports within the town, their latest news and how to join.

The Little Takeaway Breakfast



Solar Farm Community Fund

Over the last two years the Parish Council has approved the following grants:

02/2019 Holy Rood Church contribution to toilets with public access. **£4,000**

02/2020 Packington Table Tennis Club contribution to league standard tables. **£1,089**

11/2020 Packington Primary School contribution towards new computer equipment. **£1,500**

11/2020 Packington Parish Council Funding for repairs to grade II listed Round House. **£2,135**

There are no applications outstanding.

There is a total balance of **£20,955.08** in the solar farm grant account.

The Parish Council would very much welcome applications from groups in the village. An application form is available to download from the Parish Council website. <https://packingtonpc.org.uk/> clerk@packingtonpc.org.uk

Packington Memorial Hall

It looks like we are getting back to normal soon. As I write this in the first week of July I can say that classes are back and the first wedding reception will take place this coming Saturday. With birthday parties returning and the Annual Village Show planned for Saturday 4th of September it feels like normal is here. Let us hope that it is here to stay. You may have noticed that outdoor painting of the Memorial Hall has been undertaken and we are expecting some maintenance procedures to take place on the roof gulleys, facias and soffits.

It sounds like the Memorial Hall is doing well. It is. BUT!!!!

We need a volunteer treasurer urgently.

Without a treasurer the Hall will have to cease operating which will be a big disappointment to many and a real shame.

If you could become treasurer of the Memorial Hall or would like to learn more about the treasurer's role, please contact me as soon as possible. **Chris on 01530 414378 or mob 07856 179485**

Email: christopher.miles@sky.com

Training can be arranged if necessary and I'm sure the temporary treasurer will be very helpful.

Packington Recreation Ground Charity

This month will hopefully see an end to the covid rules and the play-areas use will return to normal.

There have been one or two developments recently with the return of the restored "Drakely" bench and an inspection by the qualified play-area team from NWLDC. This resulted in some minor repairs and some bench painting.

On a more disturbing note however, a very prominent twenty-five year old oak tree has been vandalised with large branches sawn off. These were dragged onto the grass area above the carpark. Also, the trunk of the tree was severely affected by many holes piercing the bark. If anyone witnessed this act of vandalism or any future acts, please let the Trustees or myself know.

The fence surrounding the play-area has a number of panels missing. We all need to look after this fantastic facility so could parents and adults be vigilante and discourage fence hopping youngsters from taking shortcuts and use the gates provided.

Upcoming Event!

We hope to arrange a bonfire night celebration at the recreation ground on **Friday 5th November.**



Chris Miles, 01530 414378

Helen O’Grady Drama Academy

In this exciting world of technology many children are learning to communicate by text, email and social networking. However, this can mean that they lack the essential talking skills necessary for them to speak up with confidence.

Helen O’Grady’s verbal vs technology after school drama classes are a fun and supportive way to help!

Success in later life is often dependent on our development as a child. Building sound verbal communication skills in the early years is paramount to unlocking the world in which we live. Realising a child’s creative and expressive potential through drama is a key to a child’s healthy development.



Principal Beth Daniel is very excited to be welcoming so many new children into classes, “It is amazing how quickly the new ones settle into our classes. Because the curriculum can easily be adapted to challenge children of any ability, no-one feels intimidated and all students can develop at their own pace, while being part of something positive and successful. Classes are great fun and, in such an environment, children learn very quickly!”

Classes run at Packington Memorial Hall on Mondays from 5.00-6.00pm for Primary aged children.

Please call the office on **01664 569 738** or email nleics@helenogrady.co.uk to find out more and to learn how children can have the chance to try two lessons for free!

STOTT Pilates Classes are Back

Those struggling with pain or mobility issues will be pleased to hear that Body and Soul Pilates classes are back at Packington Memorial Hall.

STOTT Pilates uses controlled movements that work with the bio mechanics of the body’s natural function which helps to eliminate stress from the joints, improve movement and mobility, balance, strength and flexibility. Body and Soul classes can also help to correct and prevent injury, improve posture and are beneficial for post operation rehabilitation as well as improving the daily performance of the muscular and skeletal system.

Instructor Kelly Alldread said: “Make every day a happy day and join us now, all levels and abilities are welcome to join as modifications will be made to suit each individual as needed. I have over 20 years’ experience and am fully qualified to work alongside the medical profession giving you the most up to date, safe help and advice.”



Do you have any of the following problems?

- Back problems/ spinal injuries – Sciatica -
- Joint replacements – Arthritis – Scoliosis
- Re-occurring injuries - Sports injuries -
- Muscle/ tendon problems.

These are just a few of the things the Body and Soul can help you with.

To find out more contact Kelly Alldread on **07899 921475** or email bodysoul@outlook.com

You can also find us on Facebook at Body & Soul - Pilates with Kelly.

Ready Steady Stick is back and not online.

Thursday August 12th 2.00-4.00pm
Measham Church Hall, High Street,
Measham DE12 7HZ

For all children under 11 years of age (who need to be accompanied by a responsible adult).
 It’s a mixture of games, story, crafts and more and is £1 per child.

Contact Revd Wilma Colley on 07766 306 227 or revwilmacolley@gmail.com for more details.
 Come along!

Revd Canon Vivien Elphick is retiring.

I arrived in this part of North West Leicestershire way back in 2006. Where does time go to? I was newly appointed as the Team Rector of what was to become the Woodfield Team of eight churches (and more villages). One of my main jobs was to bring those churches into one team, and that took some doing but we’ve made it.

My 15 years here have been a privilege as I have met so many people – through family occasions such as weddings and christenings and funerals; through village activities and through the school at Packington. The role of ‘vicar’ is an amazing one – stressful at times it has to be said but delightful in so many ways.

Now the time has come to retire which will seem strange to me as I have worked full time ever since I was 20. I am moving to North Yorkshire where I have recently bought a house. I go with much sadness as I have many links into the communities here, but it is time.

However I would like to say goodbye well. So on Tuesday 24th August, 2.00-4.00pm, at Measham Church I would simply love it if you would drop by and we can say our farewells. If the weather is good we’ll be outside and (if allowed) a cuppa will be on offer. Please do come even if you only stay a few minutes.

In addition there will be a farewell church service on September 12th at 10.00am at Measham Church with ‘eats’ after and you would be very welcome at that too.

On a practical note, the Church doesn’t appoint a new person immediately once the old one has gone. But that doesn’t mean there is no cleric around for you. There is my colleague **Revd Rick Tett (01530 610235)** and our curate **Revd Wilma Colley (07766 306227)**.

The people of Packington and Normanton churches will be here too so you will still be well served.

But strangely this is my last contribution to the Packington Post.



The team at the Post would like to thank Vivien for her contributions to both the village and also the Packington Post over the years. She will be missed by many but we wish her good luck for her next chapter.

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August and September services

All services begin at 10.00am. Because we operate as a Team of eight churches, there is a service every Sunday at one of the churches - so if it isn't a Sunday for Packington or Normanton, you'd be really welcome at one of the others. Don't be afraid to travel.

July 25th: Swepstone and Appleby (both HC); Measham (baptism); Donisthorpe (MP)

August 1st: Normanton-le-Heath (HC); Packington (baptism); Measham and Snarestone (both HC)

August 8th: Packington (HC); Appleby and Norton Juxta Twycross (both HC); Swepstone (MP) (5.00pm Zoom service)

August 15th: Normanton-le-Heath (HC); Swepstone and Donisthorpe (both HC); and Measham (baptism service)

August 22nd: Normanton-le-Heath and Appleby (both HC); Swepstone (baptism service). 6pm Confirmation service at Packington with the Bishop of Leicester

August 29th: Measham and Appleby (both HC); Swepstone and Donisthorpe (both baptism services)

September 5th: Normanton-le-Heath and Snarestone (HC); Packington and Appleby (baptism service); Donisthorpe (MP)

September 12th: Team service at Measham to say farewells to Vivien.

September 19th: Packington and Swepstone (HC); Measham and Donisthorpe (both baptism services); Norton juxta Twycross (harvest)

Do check our website for up to date details: www.packingtonandnormantonchurches.org.uk

Special Services

On August 22nd at 6.00pm, we have a confirmation service at Packington Church with the Bishop of Leicester presiding. There are two candidates to be confirmed: one from Packington and the other from Ashby.

Do come along and be part of this important point in two people's lives.

On September 12th at 10.00am at Measham Church will be Vivien Elphick's farewell service. Please do come along as Vivien really would like to see as many as possible to say farewells. This will be followed by some sort of 'eats' depending on Covid guidance by then.

Forest Church is meeting again!

Come along on **Sunday August 1st at 4.00pm**. Venue: **behind Measham Church, High Street, Measham DE12 7HZ**



We'll be learning more about so many things. Do bring your own food and drink and something to sit on, as Covid guidance still means we can't offer this to you. Keep an eye on the church website for more details or contact **Revd Rick Tett on 01530 610235**.

Little Fishes play and stay group

Little Fishes meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month at 10.00am in Measham – either outside or in the hall (DE12 7HZ). How we meet does depend on Covid guidance at any stage so check out the church website for details www.packingtonandnormantonchurches.org.uk. Meeting will continue during the school holidays and we can take older children. However if there are older children coming along, it really does help us in our planning so **give Vivien a ring on 01530 270354**.



Do bring your own refreshments as we remain uncertain what Covid guidance will be in force by August/September.

Packington Community Orchard a short history: by Adrian Mongredien

The idea of a local Community Orchard goes back to 2007/8 when a Packington Memorial Hall Management sub-committee (of which I was a member) was trying to obtain a Grant of £250,000 from the Big Lottery Fund for a complete rebuild and expansion of our Village Hall. Faced with an application form of great complexity and length the sub-committee was requested to suggest, amongst many other things, plausible new intergenerational activities which could take place in our proposed new building. One of the ideas we came up with was: an annual multi-generational COOKING event.

A timely article in the local "Rural Communities Council" magazine had detailed one Leicestershire village which had a Community Orchard. Every October the villagers would pick the fruit and join in a weekend of communal cooking at the Village Hall with older experienced cooks helping younger novices make their own first fruit pies etc. Prizes were awarded to those whose offerings were deemed the most consumable. Nearly everyone in this village joined in the weekend festivities which ended with a party/social in the Village Hall.

This sounded perfect. The Big Lottery Fund eventually agreed to help fund our new Memorial Hall and it reopened in December 2009.

In April 2011 I wrote an article for the Packington Post proposing a Community Orchard in Packington which, as well as featuring well-known varieties of fruit, could perhaps preserve some of the rarer local varieties of apple such as "Queen Caroline" first propagated in 1820 (hence its name) in Measham.

An open village meeting in September 2011, organised by Packington Parish Council led by Chris Miles, endorsed the idea of a local Community Orchard. The Parish Council set up a sub-committee to look into the possibility of planting fruit trees on National Forest Land.

After several meetings the National Forest agreed to our planting some 60 or so trees on ground behind Normandy Wood on Measham Road.

An article in the September 2012 Packington Post by Chris asked for sponsors to fund the purchase of fruit trees. The response was overwhelming with more than £1500 being pledged in a few weeks.

At first light on 24th November 2012 a group of hardy local volunteers set off across the frozen ground, up the hill, on the ancient Saxon footpath towards Measham carrying spades and fruit trees. The mist lifted, the sun came out, the frost vanished and a few hours of digging and planting, on either side of the footpath ensued.



The following year another 30 trees were planted. In 2014 the National Forest put up a carved sign to proclaim our orchard. A count this May revealed 54 fruit trees still flourishing, some are more than three times the size they were when planted. Over the next ten years they should become more productive and with good management, and husbandry, could produce sufficient fruit to make the idea of a late autumn village cooking/social event a possibility.

Turn over to continue...

Continued from Page 5...



A knowledgeable volunteer this winter with a pruning saw and a good pair of secateurs would be useful to this long-term project. If the National Forest agreed to a few more trees being planted as a screen from the prevailing wind, the orchard might be transformed.



Meanwhile Mike Coke's annual early spring "Big Breakfast" concept has surpassed all the ideas we had back in 2007 (when a new Memorial Hall was a distant dream) of an intergenerational "cooking" event. I look forward to next March when Covid permitting the "Big Breakfast" can resume its primary role in our village communal activities. Maybe, one day a late-autumn fruit cooking festival will take place in our village as well. The Hall's excellent cooking facilities are on standby!

Community Orchard Visit

Saturday June 19th saw nine Packington residents take a walk into Normandy Wood to check out the current condition of the Community Orchard.

Luckily most of the orchard has survived the rigours of the British weather since they were planted in 2012 and 2014 and the trees were identified using a map made when the Orchard was first planted. It was evident that this year's fruit isn't going to be a bumper crop as the many late frosts in April have taken its toll on the early blossom.

However, the group surveying the orchard, quickly saw the orchard's potential and in a brief meeting, held in the carpark at the end visit, it was decided to step up the actions to make the community orchard work for the village. Cider making was mentioned! So was apple pie baking and a family fruit day.

We are looking to the future and hoping to expand this group, so come to a public meeting and make a difference by getting involved. It would be a great group for whole families to join, as well as new or seasoned gardeners. With a group set up, funding can be arranged, and with the links already established with the National Forest the Packington Community Orchard will thrive and generations of Packingtonians can benefit from this green living investment in the future.

Let us know your suggestions!

Put the date of the first meeting in your diary which will be held at the Packington Memorial Hall on **Thursday 9th September at 7.00pm**. It would be great to hear your ideas of how we can make the most of this excellent community resource.

Chris Miles - 07856 179485

Remembering Pat Dixon

Pat, who sadly died last month, for several years had been proof reading the Packington Post. Carefully checking for spelling, grammatical or punctuation errors. I shall miss her attention to detail and prompt replies to any query.

Mike Coke, Editor

Village in Bloom

You may have noticed the beautiful new floral planters at the main entrances to the village, but where have they come from?

The Parish Council have installed the new planters as a way of supporting the appearance of the village, while offering a bright and colourful welcome to our village entrances.

Following research into suppliers of the planters it was decided to have them made locally and a recommendation was given for them to be made by a young village resident, Zac Holden.

A keen gardener and woodworker, 14-year-old Zac, made six planters in total.

Zac's mum Rachael said: "He feels really proud to see his planters on display in the village and has had some lovely comments from people about them."

Councillor Martin was given responsibility for recruiting a team of volunteers to help plant, water and carry out the necessary maintenance of the planters.

He told us: "It was agreed at the Parish Council meeting to approve the budget for the purchase of plants, soil, compost and the planters. When we saw a prototype planter that Zac had made everyone was on board with getting them made locally and of course it was better value for money.

"There has been a lot of good feedback from residents about the planters and the only criticism is that there should be more, which I will be requesting in due course.

"I must say a big thank you to all the volunteers who are working hard, and it is hard work, firstly delivering all the soil and compost around each site and those looking after them and keeping the surrounding areas tidy."

You can see the six planters at the main village entrances – there are two on Ashby Road, two on Measham Road, one on Normanton Road and one on Heather Lane.



Councillor Martin and the team of volunteers

Supporting The National Forest with Travel

Packington-based personal travel agent, Emma Frearson, has announced a new sustainability initiative to help support The National Forest.

Emma's new initiative, inspired by watching David Attenborough documentaries, is a pledge to plant a tree for every overseas holiday she books. The trees will be planted in The National Forest, 200 square miles of mixed habitat forest that spans across parts of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire.

Emma, who was named as a "Rising Star" in the prestigious Carrier awards, said: "When it comes to carbon emissions and deforestation, the only way we can give back is by taking action. This will be financed by myself and I hope it will in turn inspire people to think about their own carbon footprint on each flight they make. I am looking forward to seeing how many trees I can plant, and all trees will be planted in the National Forest, the area in which I live.

"When each of my clients returns home from their holiday, I will send a certificate to show the tree has been planted. This will be at no cost to my clients, I want to give back just a little to the world in which we live."

To find out more, please go to www.thepersonaltravelagents.co.uk/find-your-personal-travel-agent/emma-frearson or **Emma Frearson The Personal Travel Agent on Facebook.**

Unearthing Hidden Gems

You may have noticed there is a new addition to Vicarage Lane – the beautiful church wall!



Having been overgrown and hidden away for many years, the wall has now been cleared of all the brambles, ivy and weeds and restored to its former glory.

And its all been completed voluntarily by local couple Rachel and Steven Roe, who live at the end of Vicarage Lane.

Rachel and Steve have lived in the village for six years and having recently retired were spending more and more time taking care of their stunning garden. Back in the spring they noticed a few spring flowers hiding amongst the weeds and brambles. After clearing a small section they not only revealed the pretty flowers but also the wonderful church wall beneath.

Rachel told us: "We spoke to one of the church wardens when we first discovered the beauty of the wall and discussed the option of clearing the whole section. So they gave us their permission to take on the task.

"We had regular visits from the church warden who expressed their delight at each stage and on completing the project told us how grateful the church are for our efforts."

Steve said: "We initially committed about a day a week and the whole project took about 12 weeks when we eventually finished in early July.



Before

"We've had an overwhelming positive response from people of all ages in the village as well as casual walkers. They've all said it was a delight to see the beauty of the wall and has restored character to the church and enhanced Vicarage Lane."

The couple would also like to give a special thanks to the Refuse collectors for Vicarage Lane who supported them greatly by taking all the waste away.

Rachel said: "By the end of the project we were on first name terms with the Refuse team and they genuinely looked forward to our progress each week!"

It's great to see these acts of kindness in helping enhance the beauty of the village and many thanks should be given to Rachel and Steve for all their hard work in revealing this hidden gem.



After – the wall revealed!

2021 Annual Village Show

Are your leeks looking good and your scones smelling scrumptious? Because it's not long to go until this year's Annual 2021 Village Show, which will be held on **Saturday 4th September** at the Memorial Hall.

With last year's show unable to go ahead due to Covid restrictions, we hope to see many familiar faces as well as lots of new ones to help make our 78th show as successful as ever.

The show will feature the usual sections for home grown vegetables and flowers plus items of craftwork as well as some new options, such as Sloe Gin in our Homebrew section. There are also sections for children such as designed miniature garden, decorated eggs and cupcakes. It's a great opportunity for everyone to get involved, whether you want to showcase your skills and enter or simply just want to take a look at the fabulous pieces the many talented gardeners, bakers, crafters and photographers in the community have created.



Food and refreshments will be available in the evening along with a raffle and the auctioning off of all the produce.

The Show Guide will be distributed to homes around the village next month and contains information on all the categories, including entry forms, as well as details for the day itself.

Packington Horticultural Society (PHS) - a small group of volunteers - plan, organise and present the Annual Village Show to raise money for various village organisations including the local Youth club, Seniors Lunch Club, Brownies, Guides, Table Tennis Club, Church as well as other deserving organisations such as Rainbows, Hospice Hope and the Air Ambulance.

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/packingtonshow for up to date news about the show.

Duck Race

At this moment in covid time, we plan to go ahead with the Packington Duck Race.

We will be selling duck race tickets on the night only, so come down early and buy your tickets - still only £1.00 each.

We plan to have our usual three races with cash prizes and, of course, the final fourth Customised Duck Race. So young people, and those young at heart, get those ducks ready because remember, that last special winner takes all! There are also prizes for the best decorated or most memorable duck.

RACE DAY: Bank Holiday Monday, 30th August
START TIME: 6.00pm

Tickets on sale from 5.30pm

Hot dogs and burgers, plus bottled and canned soft drinks available.



Chris Miles
07856 179485

Packington Film Club

Hope everyone is keeping safe and well, vaccinated and ready to go on the 19th July. Fingers crossed!

Good News! We are planning to re-start the film club in September with some super feel-good films. Put the date in your diary:

10th September at 7.30pm

We shall be showing "What we did on our holiday"

A GREAT COMEDY FILM starring Billy Connolly, David Tennant and Rosamund Pike.

"Doug (David Tennant) and Abi (Rosamund Pike) take their kids on a family vacation. Surrounded by relatives, the kids innocently reveal the ins and outs of their family life and many intimate details about their parents. It's soon clear that when it comes to keeping a big secret under wraps from the rest of the family, their children are their biggest liability. Find out how the rest of the family cope and see if the holiday will ever end."



This will be shown **free** to start our new season of films.

To stay covid safe, we may have to space chairs out and limit numbers in the memorial hall, and therefore admittance will be on a first come basis. Watch out for further details nearer the date.

We look forward to welcoming you all back in September,
Packington Film Club Committee

Carol Graham tel: 01530 416204

Lunch Club

We have had two highly successful Lunch Club meetings so far. The first was a Christmas Roast dinner and the second was an afternoon tea (at lunchtime). These were the two favourite meals missed by Lunch Club members during lockdown, and so, the organisers and chefs made a special effort to provide a memorable meal upon the members' return.

The Lunch Club usually meet on the third Wednesday of every month and provide a different nutritious meal throughout the year. All food is sourced locally and is cooked fresh in the Memorial Hall's fantastic kitchen.

If you would like to join the Lunch Club and make friends within the village please contact:

Pauline on 01530 414378 or mob. 07786 978822

or Rachael 01530 413795 or mob 07852 624059

Have you got a story for the next Packington Post?
contact: editor@packington.info

Carol Price

Head of Packington Church of England Primary School for 16 years.



After 16 years as Headteacher of Packington Church of England Primary School, Carol Price leaves in July. Carol took up the post at the school in April 2005 after working in large, inner city, multi-cultural schools, so Packington was a big change. The previous schools that Carol worked in had up to 700 pupils, whilst here in Packington there are just over 100 pupils. Packington CofE School is very popular and has a full intake of pupils every year. Carol says that the size of the school means that you get to know the families of the pupils well and involve them in activities and events.

Before Covid, there was a 'grandparents reading team' and there used to be a 'grandparents afternoon tea', where pupils take on the role of waiters and waitresses. Carol says that she used to see a lot of the grandparents who would get involved whilst parents were often at work. Other fun and unusual activities for the children also include den building for the children!

Of course, Covid has had an impact on these activities and the situation has undoubtedly presented challenges and meant finding different ways of doing things. But there have been some useful lessons taken from it, for example, realising that it is possible to do Headteachers meetings via zoom rather than taking the time to travel into Leicester for them, freeing up time for other tasks and activities.

Packington School naturally has a Christian vision: 'together we can flourish with Jesus as our guiding light' and the core values are: Thankfulness, Peace, Forgiveness, Endurance, Justice, Friendship, Trust, Compassion. Worship time is on Friday, and again, parents and families used to be involved, but again this has temporarily had to become a virtual event.

The aim of the school is to provide children with confidence and become well rounded good citizens. They have their own version of the Duke of Edinburgh award – the Citizens Award. The criteria for this award are not academic, but 'softer' skills, such as fundraising for a cause, helping at home, litter picking, joining a sports club or opening a first bank account.

One of the major changes over the 16 years has been the rise in social media, which can be damaging particularly to young people. The school does talk to pupils about the subject and try to educate them about 'e-safety' as access to media is happening at a younger and younger age and content as we know, is sometimes very inappropriate, sometimes even dangerous.

Carol says that she will be sad to leave but hopes that all the school's pupils over the years will go out to fly the flag as good citizens, reflecting the core values of the school as young people.

Interview by Pippa David