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2023 PACKINGTON
BIG BREAKFAST**

Raising Money For



hospice hope
help make it happen

**MEMORIAL HALL
Saturday 4th March
9.00am - 1.00pm**

**Different breakfast options available to suit your
taste - Everyone Warmly Welcome**

**For Queries or Volunteers To Help
Call Debbie - 07971 047283**

Print by Context 01530 411337

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OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITY

Big Breakfast

This year's charity Big Breakfast will be held on **Saturday 4th March** at the Memorial Hall.

The event will run from 9.00am until 1.00pm with proceeds once again going to local charity Hospice Hope.

This major village event gives us all the chance to meet and interact with other village residents in a happy setting - you may be surprised at how much fun is to be had, as well as a hearty breakfast! Definitely a date for your diary.



We are looking for volunteers to help out on the day. So, whether you have helped at this event previously or it's your first time – we need you!

If you'd like to get involved and help on the day, please get in touch on **07971 047283** or **Debbie.hamilton7@yahoo.com**

Debbie Hamilton

Be the VOICE of your Community

Elections for Packington Parish Council will be taking place in May this year. If you are a resident of the village and are passionate about our community then why not consider putting yourself forward to serve as a Parish Councillor for the 2023 elections?

MAKE A CHANGE - BECOME A LOCAL COUNCILLOR

What do councillors do?

Councillors are the champions of our local community and give residents a voice on the decisions the council makes. Becoming a councillor will allow you to make a real difference in our village by engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs; making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward; and getting involved locally to ensure the services are meeting our community's needs.

How can I get involved?

Contact the clerk at Packington Parish Council on **clerk@packingtonpc.org.uk** or **07936 359949**.

Also visit **www.nalc.gov.uk/elections** for further information about the role of a Parish Councillor and the process of standing for election.

If you are interested in standing as a Parish Councillor the deadline for nominations is **Tuesday 4th April**

Look out for further information coming in the March issue of the Packington Post.

Packington Post has a new Editor!
See page 6 for full story



The Parish Council has met twice since the last issue of the Packington Post. The December meeting unfortunately was not quorate and therefore no decisions were made. Four members of the council were present at the January meeting. Councillor Claire Beynon has unfortunately tendered her resignation, as she felt that work commitments meant that she was unable to fulfil her councillor obligations. We thank her for her considered input into Parish affairs over the last three and a half years. The council has decided, that as Parish council elections will take place in May of this year, not to fill this vacant position until then.

Questions from members of the Public

Four members of the public raised questions on the forthcoming public hearing about the illegal traveller's site. They were concerned that the village was not being represented and asked if the council had applied for a 'rule six clause'* so that the Parish have a voice at the hearing. The Chairman responded to this question by saying the item was on the agenda and that consideration would be given to applying for a rule six. However, the chairman said it was the principal planning authority (NWLDC) who were making the case and that we have and will continue to liaise with NWLDC Planning Authority as to the best way forward.

**Parties with rule six status will be sent copies of documents sent by the other main parties (e.g. the applicant/appellant, the local planning authority etc.) and will be entitled to appear at the inquiry and to cross-examine other parties.*

Crime in the village

According to police records only one crime was committed in Packington during November and December. The report was of a theft in Spring Lane. The council urges residents to remain vigilant and keep all doors locked and report any suspicious activity.

Coleorton Lane - Illegal Campsite Date of Public Enquiry released as 28th February 2022, lasting four days.

The Parish Council are awaiting a further update and hope to discuss the situation again with our principal planning authority NWLDC. Following these discussions an extraordinary meeting will be held to discuss the Parish Council's response. It was noted that only legal and planning related points will be of relevance to the enquiry and that all the Parish Council's past correspondence on this matter

has been passed on to the inspector and will be taken into consideration at the hearing. To find out more about the appeal process email alerts@packington.info

Traffic calming

It was noted that the County Council Highways Department had installed speed recording monitors on all roads into Packington. Councillors thought the location of these speeding strips were such that a bias towards slow speeds of vehicles would be the result. However, it was further noted that an independent survey with more realistic locations had taken place and the Parish Council would be supporting these findings. County Council Highways has not come back with any results at the time of writing this report.

We do have some data from neighbouring villages who have extra speed restrictions in place, such as speed humps, tables, chicanes and mobile cameras. The Council is still awaiting further replies and will make a report of their findings.

Village CCTV System and Neighbourhood Watch

The Council is arranging a public meeting in order to explain the Village CCTV operation and to combine this with a Neighbourhood Watch update. A date for this will be arranged in March.

Budget/Parish Precept

Final discussions took place at the January meeting to set the Parish precept. Despite there being no increase for many years, an increase of ten percent will be made for the 2023/24 in order to meet the Council's increased cost commitments. This increase equates to ten pence per week for a Band D house. The budget will be published on the Parish Council website.

Coronation of King Charles III

The Chairman will arrange a meeting to form a working party to co-ordinate activities to celebrate this event. See page 11 for more information.

Please use the Council's web site for more information. www.packingtonpc.org.uk

Chris Miles, Chairman 07856 179485

Coronation of King Charles III

Saturday 6th May 2023
Help Packington Celebrate



Come and help organise this event. Last year's Jubilee celebrations were fantastic and the volunteer organisers did a brilliant job. We need volunteers again to step up to the plate if we are going to celebrate and make memories for our families. There hasn't been a Coronation since June 1953.

A meeting of an organising Committee will take place in the meeting room of the Memorial Hall on **Thursday 9th February at 7.00pm**. Please come along if you would like to be involved.

If you can't attend but wish to be on the organising team please contact:
Chris Miles, 07856 179485

School Governor Vacancy

Packington Church of England Primary School is looking for a new school governor. If you are someone who wants to give back to the local community by supporting our village primary school then this could be a great opportunity for you.

No prior experience in education or working at a school is necessary. The school would encourage anyone with a business background to join the governors to support some of the projects that it is currently working on. The main criteria are someone who is able to dedicate some of their time, effort and enthusiasm to support the school strategy, finances and monitoring the curriculum.

Being a governor is such a rewarding role, small actions make a really big difference to village schools. If you are interested in finding out more about what the role might entail, then please contact the Chair of Governors:
Tash Tice
ntice@packington.leics.sch.uk

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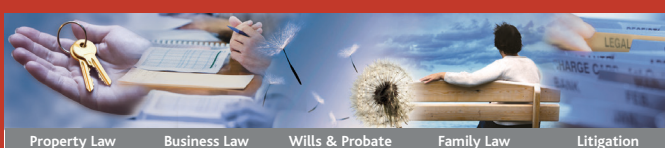
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New Year's Day

This of course was a Sunday, which left the church in a bit of a quandary, aware that a lot of people make special arrangements on that day, often spending it with members of their family, or getting up late after seeing the New Year in! Should we or should we not hold a service? In the end we did hold a short informal and relaxed service which was attended by a reasonable number.

However, our invitation to everyone to come for soup, pudding and a glass of wine afterwards hit the jackpot! We were obviously fulfilling a need, especially for those who would otherwise have been alone, with nearly 40 people in total coming to join the feast. And thanks to the very hard work of Anne Wathes and helpers, it really was a feast. There was a great atmosphere – a real community feel – and it was well worth doing.

On several lips was the question – when are you doing it again? The good news is twofold. Firstly, Packington Horticultural Society has generously given us a grant to help us to continue to provide similar occasions when people are able to come and eat together amongst congenial company.

Secondly, Anne is planning a similar event on **Friday 10th February from 12 noon to 2.00pm.**

All are welcome!



Soup and a Pudding

Friday 10th February

12.00 noon – 2.00pm



Join us in Church for homemade soup and a pudding

You are welcome to either turn up on the day or to book a place please phone **Anne on 01530 414621**

Holy Rood Church

Packington

Donations welcome towards Church funds

Coffee Morning

Every 4th Wednesday of the month in Packington Church



22nd February

22nd March

10am to 12noon

Join us for Tea/Coffee and homemade cake

Also books and jigsaws to borrow or swap

Packington Film Club

Friday 10th February, we will be showing "Belfast" a film written and directed by Kenneth Branagh, about the social tumult of the late 1960s. The film stars Judi Dench, Jude Hill and Lewis McAskie.



In **March, on Friday 10th**, we are showing "The Lost King" which is based on the archaeological dig for King Richard in the Leicester car park. This is sure to attract a lot of local interest!



Tickets, as usual, are £4 for adults and £2 for children. Hall opens 7.00pm **with the film starting at 7.30pm**. Refreshments will be available prior to the film. We look forward to seeing you all.

Packington Film Club Committee

Packington Memorial Hall

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

We begin 2023 with the notification of the AGM. This will be held on **Tuesday 21st March at 6:30pm** in the **hall meeting room**. This is your chance as a village resident to meet the villagers who volunteer to run the hall on your behalf as its trustees, and to make your input to what they do. The AGM will be followed by the regular committee meeting.

Everyone is welcome to attend this general meeting and any prospective volunteers who wish to help out with the running of the hall are also welcome to attend the committee meeting.

Please contact the Chairman **Chris Miles** if you have any questions regarding the AGM on **07856 179485**.

Hall Update

We have a few new bookings for 2023 from U3A Ashby and are now home to their History, Gardening, Craft and Science and Technology Groups. If you are interested in attending please contact U3A via their website where each group has listed its details ashbyu3a.co.uk

We also have the following new/recent regular classes booked for 2023:

Mondays - Mama Baby Bliss

Jessica Howell

Email: Jessica.howell@mamababybliss.com

Tel: 07932 012651

Tuesdays - Birth and Bloom (variety of classes including Hypnobirthing, Baby Nurture, Mum & Baby Yoga)

Danielle Freshwater

Email: birthandbloomclasses@gmail.com

Web: birthandbloom.net

Fridays – Baby Sensory

Danielle Marsh

Email: loughborough@babysensory.co.uk

Tel: 07891 143976

Web: babysensory.com

As well as these new hall bookings, there are all our regular exercise classes and interest groups to choose from.

Please feel free to email **Louise Gratton**, Bookings Secretary on bookings@pmhv.uk or call **07793 008906** with any questions.

Packington Children's Christmas Party!

By Jessica Wathes, Junior Reporter

As everyone walked into the lovely decorated hall, they got a ticket to see Santa. The parents got a seat and their children went wild. When their number on the ticket got called, they lined up and went in to see SANTA!!! After they went to Santa and got a present, they put them safely near their chairs and watched the marvellous magician. Children watched him with fascination. There was a splat the elf game - the adult winner was Matt Wathes. Sadly, it ended and everyone went home.

Boxing Day Dance



The sun was out for the annual Boxing Day dance at the Bull and Lion from the Pennyroyal Garland Dancers and the Morris Men. pennyroyal-dancers.com

New Year's Day Football



Once again villagers took to the recreation ground for the annual Dads V Lads & Lassies football match. Final Score: Dads 3 – Lads & Lassies 2

Do you have a story for the Packington Post? We are always interested to hear about news or events in the village. Send your story to editor@packington.info

Bull and Lion

The festive period saw the pub very busy and the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve party nights were a hit with all that attended.



Going into 2023, upcoming events at the pub include Psychic Night every last Monday of the month, where you will also be able to enjoy fresh Italian Wood Fired Pizza, to eat in or take away, from Biddulph's Pizzeria.

The popular Classic Car Meet will continue to take place the first Monday of every month starting in April.

The pub has recently won a travellers choice award for being in the top 10% of pubs/ restaurants in the world.

For further information about events at the Bull & Lion or to book a table contact Tracey and Drew on: traceytudor68@yahoo.com or **07446 820025**

WRAPPED studio

Welcome to Wrapped, a bespoke furniture studio, celebrating creativity and design. With an extensive range of designer fabrics, we can create the perfect piece for your home including beautiful headboards and stunning antique style chairs. Contact Melanie to start designing furniture for your home today.



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KATE

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Packington Traffic Calming Update

We are making good progress with our campaign. The Committee is corresponding with the Traffic & Signals Team Manager at Leicestershire County Council, who recently carried out a traffic survey in the village and we are awaiting their speed data.



The Packington Traffic Calming Committee has also recently carried out an independent traffic survey and the data is currently being collated. A second meeting was held in December and a further meeting will be arranged this month once the Council's data is available.

We have made enquiries with regards to monetary donations received from new developers in the village but unfortunately our campaign does not qualify for these. Section 106 (of the Town & Country Planning Act) is also not applicable to our campaign. The committee is, however, hoping to submit an application for the Solar Farm Grant, and we are presently looking at the criteria for this. We are also considering the possibilities of future community fundraising.

A statement has been obtained from John the Lollipop Man regarding the traffic on Measham Road. John fully supports our campaign and has been extremely helpful. Thank you, John!



Packington Parish Council has agreed to contact Parish Councils in our neighbouring villages on our behalf, for their advice on traffic calming and how they have been successful in obtaining this.

Packington Primary School has very kindly emailed parents the link to the petition – thank you for your support!

The total number of signatures obtained from the petitions (online and paper) is currently at 291. A reminder of the link is chng.it/kVPLYyb2 or alternatively, visit the website change.org and search for **traffic calming – Packington**. There are also paper petitions at Daybreak Services, Poochies of Packington and the Bull & Lion.

Finally, the committee would like to thank everyone for their support so far!
Nicola Beanland, 07974 944516

Table Tennis Club

The Packington Table Tennis club night continues on Wednesdays with the new timing from 8.00pm – 9.30pm with a pay as you play system - £2.50 per adult and £1.50 for juniors.

Numbers on each Wednesday currently vary between eight and 20 with all levels, genders and age groups being represented. Beginners are made very welcome. Currently four tables are in use. Junior coaching continues on Wednesdays between 7.00pm and 8.00pm. The sessions are run by our level three coach Nigel Webster at a cost of £2.00 per session.

The Packington table tennis teams continue to improve with the Patriots in the top half of division four and the Pirates in division three of the Loughborough League and are currently mid table. Home league game nights (at Packington Memorial Hall) are on a Thursday evening starting at 7.15pm. On Thursday evenings from 7.15pm some tables are assigned to general play or individual coaching with level three coach Adam Petit.

Recently Packington school years 3-6 were introduced to table tennis as the club organised a 'taster' morning. They all thoroughly enjoyed the four year group sessions ... the follow up to this is coaching sessions with Nigel every Wednesday from 3.30pm – 5.30pm.



A huge 'thank you' to the Packington Horticultural Society for their kind donation. Part of this will be used to purchase practice equipment.

For any further information contact:
Graham Saunt, 07764 471917

Board Game Afternoon



Do you like to play board games?

Come and join our friendly group who meet to play board games on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. If you have a favourite game, please bring it with you – or you can learn a new one. No booking is necessary, just come along.



We meet between **2.00pm and 4.00pm in the meeting room at Packington Memorial Hall**. The cost is £2 and tea/coffee and biscuits are provided.

The next meetings are on **9th, 23rd February and 9th, 23rd March**.

Any questions please ring:
Helen Edgington, 07766 086580

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Packington Book Club

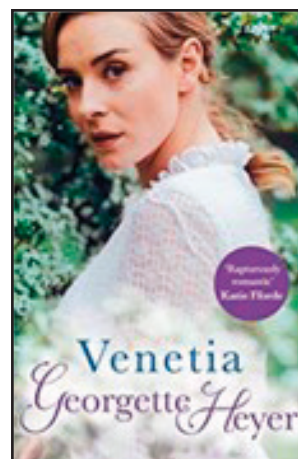
If you enjoy reading but are stuck in a rut or can't think what to read next, we'd love to meet you. We meet to chat about a wide variety of books and meet friends old and new. We don't take things too seriously – the only qualification is that you enjoy reading.

The book club meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at **7:30pm in the meeting room at the Memorial Hall**. Just read the book then come along and join us, you will be made very welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided.

For the meeting on **22nd February**, we're reading 'Then She Was Gone' by Lisa Jewell - psychological suspense when a fifteen-year-old girl disappears.



And on **22nd March** it's 'Venetia' by Georgette Heyer – "gossip, scandal and an unforgettable Regency romance".



If you would like further information, please contact **Helen Edgington**:
01530 412808 or 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com

Work to the New Burial Ground at Packington

Over the last year or so, a number of major improvements have been made to the burial ground on Vicarage Lane. As well as general cutting back and landscaping there is now a new hardwood bench and hard standing, an extension to the access path with Breedon amber gold gravel finish, new replacement oak entrance gates and a sapling oak tree planted by the Parish Council to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of the late Queen.



The bench, path and gates have all been given in memory of recent Packington residents with the former reading *'In loving memory of Stan Smith 1928-2019'*. The path and gates have been given *'In Memory of Keith Austin Haines, 9 July 1930-25 July 2021, Constant Friend and Benefactor of Holy Rood Church, Packington.'*



Thanks go to both families for the generous funding of this work, to Ravenstone Garden Services Ltd and to the volunteers who maintain this peaceful corner of the village.

Geoff Gasson

Headstones

You can see images of many of the headstones in the New Burial Ground on the **website of the Packington Village History Group**. At pvhg.uk look for the "BMD-Genealogy" menu, then choose the "Gravestone Memorials" from the sub-menu. There you can search on a name or date, and access the gravestone image using the "Tap or click for Image" link.



Packington Village History Group

After the difficulties caused by the Covid pandemic it has been a relief to be able to hold regular face-to-face meetings during 2022. We contributed to the village's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and spent the later part of the year researching Packington's carnivals. We have gathered a lot of information and started interviews with people who were involved.

This year is the fiftieth anniversary of the first carnival and we intend to commemorate this during the year. We have also started discussions with the Parochial Church Council with the aim of publicising the history of Holy Rood Church – again hoping to take this forward during 2023.

Sue Brown, who has been our secretary for the past couple of years, has expressed a wish to stand down from the role. Our thanks go to Sue for what she has done and for contributing her deep knowledge and enthusiasm for Packington's history. If you would be willing to undertake minute-taking and a few other secretarial tasks, please do get in touch.

Our Annual General Meeting recently took place and our next meeting is due to take place on **Tuesday 28th February at 7.30pm** in the **meeting room at the Memorial Hall**. If you have an interest in the history of our village, why not come and join us?

Contact **Robin Boucher: 01530 411638**
randbboucher@googlemail.com

Editor Stands Down

Back in 2015 at the PCG editorial meeting the agenda item was “new editor”.

No editor would mean no Packington Post.



I put my hand up and the rest, as they say, is history. Issue 74 was my first and now is the time to hand over after 43 issues.

When I started the PP used a three-column format which I struggled with, but thanks to Wes Ewing, I managed to get to grips with what was required. Later the format moved to the familiar two column that is in use today.

There are two issues I am particularly proud of; the 100th issue and the recent tribute to Queen Elizabeth II (issue 116).

My thanks to the PCG team for their support and it has been a pleasure to work with this dedicated group. I hope to stay on board and perhaps even write an article or two.

Mike Coke

New Editor

Amy Powell will be stepping up as new editor. She writes:

On behalf of the whole team at Packington Communications Group (PCG) I would like to say a huge thank you for all the hard work that Mike has done during his time as editor. He has been a great support to the team and his dedication and enthusiasm has ensured the Packington Post has kept coming through our doors.

Mike's retirement does of course leave the team a member down. As such, we are looking to recruit a new deputy editor. If you have an interest in writing and would like to be part of the team then do get in touch. Contact me to find out more.

Amy Powell, editor@packington.info

Open Gardens Thank You

At the Christmas gathering of the PCG, invited guests, Doreen and Geoff Gasson were presented with an Annual Pass to Renishaw Hall and Gardens by Stephen Plummer on behalf of the PCG. This was in recognition of the 30 years of organising the Village Open Gardens each August Bank Holiday Monday and raising over £60,000 for Holy Rood Church funds.



Doreen Gasson, Steve Plummer, Geoff Gasson

Geoff and Doreen Gasson have sent this response:

“We would like to thank the Packington Post for the presentation at the recent Christmas drinks evening. We look forward to having trips to Derbyshire and in particular to Renishaw Hall and Gardens in the coming months.

Over the 30 years of Open Gardens, it's been a team effort with over 70 different village gardens taking part during this period. Organisation of the event is now in the capable hands of Nick Gravestock who would appreciate continued support.”

If you are interested in showing your garden this August or helping in any other way please contact **Nick** on: **01530 416710 / 07766 600594** or **blutiles@leicester.anglican.org**

PHS Spring Fair

Following on from the success of last year, Packington Horticultural Society (PHS) is planning to hold another **Spring Fair** at the **Memorial Hall on Sunday 2nd April**.

The aim of the Spring Fair is to bring together local businesses, craftspeople and artisan makers to showcase their talents and sell their products.

PHS will have a plant stall and will also be offering advice and guidance for those wishing to enter items into the Annual Village Show – which this year will be the 80th show!

Are you a local business or craftsperson? If you would like to have a stall at the Spring Fair please contact **Jackie MacDonald** on **kevjack.macdonald@btinternet.com** by the 28th February.

Look out for further details on the PHS Facebook page, see below or by searching 'Packington Village Show', and in the next issue of the post.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Before Christmas, PHS hosted two Christmas Wreath Making workshops at the Memorial Hall.

The sessions saw Lauren and Grace from Brier and Bud guide around 36 people through the process of making a beautiful Christmas wreath. The duo demonstrated and explained their tips and techniques to help the group create their very own fabulous festive displays. Due to the ongoing success of these events, PHS aims to organise another one this year.



Follow us on Facebook for up-to-date news on all our events.
www.facebook.com/packingtonshow

Packington Primary School PSA

The Parent School Association (PSA) has had a busy few months. Over Christmas, they were able to host the long-awaited Winter Wonderland event, which was cancelled in 2021 due to Covid, and it was well worth the wait. There was a raffle with some amazing prizes from a Champneys Spa Day and £250 in cash prizes to a Clay Pigeon Shoot and afternoon tea at Poochies. The tombola, games and crafts kept everyone entertained, while the highlight was a special visit from Santa, his reindeer and even a baby donkey! It was deemed a roaring success by all.



Just to add to the chaos of event organising the team also hosted a Joules Seconds Sale on the same night over at Grace Dieu football academy. These two events saw the PSA generate a staggering £1,972.

The first project to benefit from this fundraising will be a Mud Kitchen at the school, with more to follow.

The PSA would like to thank the many people and companies who made both events a success. Firstly the companies who donated to a fantastic raffle including Perdey, Keller Construction, Champneys, Encon Installation, The Bull & Lion, Poochies of Packington and too many more to mention. Also to all the helpers from wrappers and Marshalls to heavy lifters and ticket sellers and a special mention to The Phoenix Foundation for adding that extra touch of magic with their animals.

The PSA is busy planning a number of events for this year so watch this space for more information.

Karn Turnbull, Email: packingtonpsa21@gmail.com