



Packington Post

www.packington.info

July 2023

issue no 121

£1.50 (Village residents free)

20th Anniversary Edition

Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the Packington Post!

This milestone edition, no.121, marks 20 years of publishing the Packington Post!

Following a meeting back in 2000, a village survey was conducted from which the concept of a group to communicate news and information to village residents was born.

In 2003 the first issue of the Packington Post was published with Stephen Plummer at the helm.



Twenty years later we have seen five editors and 121 issues of the magazine distributed to our growing village.

As an original founding member and still on the team today, Stephen Plummer takes us through the last two decades.

You can read the full story on pages 10 and 11.

Line up of Events to Come

Bank Holiday Monday 28th August will see the return of the ever-popular **Duck Race**. From 5.30pm, the Gilawiskaw will see plenty of action from the three usual races plus the custom Duck race. **Details on page 6.**



Saturday 2nd September will be the **80th Annual Packington Village Show**. Packington Horticultural Society (PHS) presents a milestone show for 2023: held in the Memorial Hall. **Details on page 6.**

Saturday 9th September 2023 will see Holy Rood Church holding its very own **Heritage Open Day**. **Details on page 12.**

Open Gardens Cancelled!

It is with regret that the decision has been made to cancel this year's Open Gardens.

Letter to the editor on page 14.

Next Edition: Copy by Wednesday 13th
Out Friday 22nd September 2023



Packington Post
www.packington.info

The Parish Council have met three times since the last issue of the Packington Post, one of which was an extraordinary meeting to discuss a planning item.

Crime in the village

May - One traffic offence on Coleorton Lane and anti-social behaviour on Spring Lane.
June - Criminal damage on Babelake Street and vehicle interference on Heather Lane.

Traffic Calming

Members of the Packington Traffic Calming Group (PTCG) attended the July meeting to discuss the findings of the recent LCC traffic surveys as compared to a private survey, which showed significant speeding on a number of roads in the village. A wide-ranging discussion took place which recognised the frustration of financial limitations at LCC which mean that any traffic calming solutions are unlikely to be provided by them. Council advised that the traffic data should be sent to Leicestershire Police who can influence county decisions.

The PTCG have a priority requirement list which starts with average speed cameras and also includes changes to the pavement on Measham Road to enable it to be used by wheelchairs and mobility scooters, which the Parish Council supported. It was agreed that LCC will be asked whether they will support traffic calming if funding can be found. Council proposed a meeting with LCC and agreed that they will be happy to host and pay for the hire of the meeting room.

Hall Lane/Homecroft Drive

The Council have been working with residents to try and overcome the problems that they have due to sat nav not being able to find Homecroft Drive. With LCC permission, the Parish Council have agreed to pay for a sign which will hopefully relieve these issues.

Events at the Memorial Hall

The Parish Council had a stand at the recent open event at the Memorial Hall, with information about both the council and the Breedon & Kiddier Charity, which owns the recreation ground. They advertised the Solar Farm Funds, which they manage and are

available as grants to village groups. They were also seeking expressions of interest in allotments as they have a potential site on Babelake Street.

Street Lamps

The County Council is seeking input to a survey on street lamp brightness. In order to save money, they are proposing to dim street lamps to 30% brightness from 8.00pm (they already dim to 30% after 10.00pm). The consultation runs until **Thursday 3rd August** - more information can be found by visiting www.leicestershire.gov.uk and searching 'street lighting consultation'.

Coleorton Lane Traveller Site

The traveller site on Coleorton Lane has been granted approval by the Planning Inspectorate. The full decision notice can be found on our website.

Please use the Council's web site for more information www.packingtonpc.org.uk
Alex Stretton, Clerk to the Parish Council

Are you interested in an allotment?



The Parish Council have a potential allotment site on Babelake Street and are seeking expressions of interest.

If you are interested in having an allotment, please contact the Clerk:
clerk@packingtonpc.org.uk
Tel: 07936 359949

Grants Available

The Parish Council holds funds from the Ashby Solar Farm and Park Farm Solar Farm and we make grants in line with their guidance.

In the past we have supported various groups in the village with grants totalling more than £28,000.

We now have a balance of **£38,611.60** in the fund, with more received every year.

We welcome applications from local groups. Could your group benefit? For more details see the website www.packingtonpc.org.uk or contact the Clerk, **Alexandra Stretton** on: **07936 359949**

New Parish Councillor

Hello Everyone,



My name is Bryan Smith, your new co-opted Parish Councillor. I have lived in Packington for 27 years with my wife Val. We have one daughter and two grandsons.

Five years ago, I retired, having previously worked in Engineering, Commercial and Factory Management in several different industries.

At this point I moved into Land Management (well gardening actually!!) on a part-time basis locally. My wife and I both enjoy gardening.

I also became a volunteer coach at Ashby Ivanhoe Football Club and I am currently coaching the U13 boys 23-24 season.

My main goal as your Councillor is to learn as much as possible and help serve, contribute and protect the village of Packington.

I look forward to seeing you as we go about our daily business.

Bryan Smith

Bryan can be contacted through the Parish Council via www.packingtonpc.org.uk

Measham Medical Unit Patient Participation Group

Our patient participation group (PPG) meets at **Measham Leisure Centre every two months**, with working parties then meeting as necessary to work on issues raised at the main meeting.

Our PPG exists to support and enhance the work carried out by both the Medical Unit and the wider Primary Care Network covering the whole of North West Leicestershire.

The main focus we are currently working on is communications between the Primary Care Network, the Medical Unit and our Patients. There has been a lot of work done on the new Measham Medical Unit website and any feedback would be most appreciated. We are looking at the possibility of having a PPG notice board in the Medical Unit as well as various other ways of improving communications, including publicising news in local publications such as the Packington Post.

Any patient registered with the Medical Unit is a member of our PPG and would be most welcome at any of our meetings. For our PPG to work well we need to have a diverse group of people representing all areas of our community. If anyone is interested in joining our group then either contact the unit or visit the Measham Medical Unit website at meashamdoctors.co.uk.

Our next open meeting will be on **Monday 11th September at 1.00pm at Measham Leisure Centre.**

John Wilebur, PPG Chair
measham.doctors@nhs.net
meashamdoctors.co.uk



Packington Traffic Calming Group

With the long summer days upon us, the clear disregard for the speed limit through the village is more visible than ever. However, we have continued to push forward with ways to make the roads safer in our village.

Progress has been slow as we have been awaiting the traffic survey report from Leicestershire County Council (LCC). However, this has now been received along with their comments:

“Whilst we appreciate your concerns, we do need to advise that the current accident data and recent speed surveys do not justify funding for further traffic safety measures as they do not meet our current criteria.”



LCC's traffic survey indicates that traffic is not travelling at an excessive speed. However, residents may recall that the locations of the Council's Automatic Traffic Counters were questionable.

The independent traffic survey carried out by Packington Traffic Calming Group fully supports the concerns of residents. This will be forwarded to LCC and Leicestershire Police, and a meeting will be requested to discuss next steps.

We have also raised concerns with LCC regarding the width of the pavement on Measham Road. Not only is it too narrow for pedestrians to walk two abreast, but residents using mobility scooters, wheelchairs and with double prams are unable to utilise this path. This is unacceptable from both a safety aspect and community equality and inclusion. Whilst suggestions have been made to LCC to widen the path (which would also reduce the width of the road, causing traffic to reduce their speed), they have replied advising:

“Officers have assessed the footway width at the above location and can confirm it is of sufficient width for pedestrians to use in single file, the widths range from 1 to 1.6 metres along the footway. The length of the footway in question (starting at the junction with Babelake Street to opposite Vicarage Lane) is approximately 90 metres.

We appreciate that at busy times, pedestrians will be walking in both directions, however, as is the case where footways are narrow at numerous locations across the County, pedestrians are responsible for ensuring that they overtake / pass pedestrians when it is safe to use the carriageway. We can only advise that all road users should be aware of their surroundings / environment and take appropriate action when required and follow guidance contained within the Highway Code.

Whilst we acknowledge that widening footways can be advantageous to pedestrians and can in some cases assist with slowing traffic, there are also several disadvantages such as:

- *cyclists may feel intimidated by some vehicle drivers' behaviours where the road narrows*
- *It may be difficult to take space from the road, which could already be quite narrow*
- *Taking land from the other side of the footway could be very expensive if it is owned privately (as is the case at this location)*
- *May encourage more clutter to be placed into the footway e.g., wheelie bins*
- *Some drivers may be tempted to park on wide footways, because they believe there is plenty of space which could further compromise pedestrian safety*

In addition to the above, such schemes can only really be looked at as part of larger scale projects which come with their own dedicated budgets. Upgrading this area to facilitate a wider footway is something that would require a substantial level of funding. Schemes like this involve a significant level of engineering design which generally require heavy resource dedicated towards that project as this is due to the multiple elements such as highway maintenance, managing water drainage (which can be complex and costly) and requires a full assessment to understand how the layout would exist prior to committing.

Even if private land was acquired to enable widening of the footway, a broad budget estimate for a standard third party funded footway that we would be prepared to adopt is more than £50,000. We would generally add a further 20% to this to cover full design

costs. As I am sure you can appreciate this is a significant amount of funding even for the County Council to consider."

As anticipated, we have a battle on our hands, but we are still pursuing all avenues.

We now have a constitution in place which will enable us to apply for grants/funds going forward, one of which is the Solar Farm Grant.

And finally, residents will no doubt have noted that the Visual Automated Sign on Measham Road is now back in operation! Only a year of chasing – but we got there!

If anyone has any comments or suggestions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact:

Jonathan Alexander, PTCH Chair
jonathan.alexander.uk@outlook.com

Nicola Beanland, PTCG Secretary
nicolabeanland@btinternet.com

Memorial Hall Open Day

On the 17th June the Packington Memorial Hall opened its doors to our community for an open afternoon during what was to be a gloriously sunny and warm day.



Many groups and clubs who are regular users of the hall and its facilities, as well as other Packington groups and societies were present to share information about their group. Not only was this a great opportunity to meet potential new members, this also allowed the groups, who rarely have an opportunity to network, to meet and talk about their upcoming events together. A fun afternoon was had by all who attended.



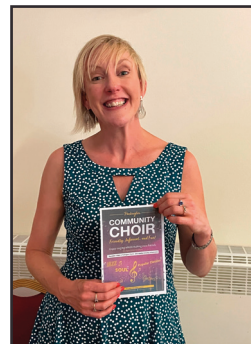
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BARSTOOLS
CUSHIONS

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The groups that attended included; Packington Lunch Club, Packington Board Games Club, Packington Book Club, Packington Village History Group, Packington Village Community Film Club, Ashby Ivanhoe Garden Society, Packington Holy Rood Church, Packington Community Choir, Packington Horticultural Society (PHS), Packington Communications Group (PCG), Packington Parish Council and Ashby U3A Science and Technology Group.

For more information on some of the groups who attended this event take a look at www.facebook.com/packingtonmemorialhall

A huge thank you to the PMHV trustee committee for organising this event.

80th Packington Village Show

Count your carrots, arrange your asters and whip up your best biscuits because it's not long to go until the Annual 2023 Village Show, which this year is set to be big one! The 80th anniversary show will be held on **Saturday 2nd September** at the **Memorial Hall**.

The team look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to make our 80th anniversary show one of the most successful yet.

The show will feature the usual sections for home grown vegetables and flowers plus items of craftwork as well as the homebrew section. The popular baking section has a variety of categories from savoury to sweet including sausage rolls and home baked bread to cakes, banana bread and, of course, the hotly contested Dundee cake. There are also sections for children such as designed miniature garden, Lego models and biscuits. It's a great opportunity for everyone to get involved, whether you want to showcase your skills and enter or simply just want to look at the fabulous pieces the talented community have created.



It is also important to point out that the show is not just for professional growers but is open to everyone. So, don't worry if you've got a wonky vegetable, quirky bit of craft or a soggy bottom - there is still a class for you.

Food from Biddulph's Pizza and refreshments will be available in the evening along with a raffle and the famous auctioning of all the produce.

This year's 80th anniversary edition of the Show Guide will be available and distributed

to homes around the village throughout August and contains information on all the categories, including entry forms and details for the day. There's also a little bit more insight into the team behind the event along with a history of the Village Show.

Packington Horticultural Society (PHS) - a small group of volunteers - plan, organise and present the Annual Village Show to raise money for various village organisations.

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/packingtonshow or search 'Packington Village Show' for up-to-date news about the show.

Annual Packington Duck Race

Let's try again this year. Unfortunately, last year the drought beat the ducks and this event had to be cancelled. But we're aiming to be back on:

Bank Holiday Monday 28th August.

5.30pm on the Gilawiskaw, Mill St.



Duck Race Tickets (which we are reusing from last year!) can be purchased for £1.00 in advance from Memorial Hall Management Members or on the day from **5.00pm on Mill Street**. Please remember to bring CASH.

Contact **Chris Miles** for tickets and info **07856 179485** or christopher.miles@sky.com

There are three races, with prizes for; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, followed by the very successful customised duck race with a prize for the best decorated duck. It's a great holiday project to customise a duck!!!

BBQ and soft drinks available.

Proceeds to Packington Memorial Hall Charity.

High Street History Walk

Despite the rather uncertain weather conditions, nearly forty people gathered opposite the Bull and Lion on the evening of the 27th June for a walk along High Street, led by Robin Boucher, chair of the Village History Group.



During the walk, Robin mentioned many aspects of the history of the village and referred to various prominent figures from the past, including:

- Rev. Arthur Mammatt and his scheme for a Reading Room in the village
- Ayre Bott, licensee of the Bull and Lion and maker of five-barred gates and coffins
- Herbert Hatton of Grange Farm, representative of Packington on Ashby Rural District Council for many years
- Wilf Swift, shopkeeper at No.18
- Samuel Henson, master baker and pork butcher
- Lily Spare of the Post Office, thwarting an attempted robbery
- Kate Smerdon, initiator of the campaign to build the Memorial Hall
- Harry Swann, blacksmith for many years on the site where Daybreak is now

After concluding at Round House Corner, the group adjourned to the Memorial Hall for refreshment and to exchange memories which had been stimulated by the walk. On behalf of Packington Village History Group, thank you to everyone who came along.

Robin Boucher: 01530 411638
randbboucher@googlemail.com

Packington Lunch Club

Packington Lunch Club continues to operate with regular attendees of 21-22 including a table of men. In June we had a High Tea, and were treated to a selection of beautiful sandwiches, cakes, scones and trifles.



These were presented on our newly purchased glass cake stands which were purchased with some of the money kindly donated by Packington Horticultural Society.



They were a real improvement on the disposable ones we have used previously and will prove to be a good investment. People kindly said that it rivalled high teas they had had elsewhere.

There is no meeting in July due to staff holidays. We meet again on **Wednesday 16th August for 12 noon**. The menu is a ham, cheese or both ham and cheese ploughman's, followed by a choice of Eton Mess, jam sponge and custard or fruit salad.

Each month people can select their menu for the following month. Dietary requirements are catered for. If you would like to join this friendly group, please ring either of the numbers below.

To book your meal, please contact:

Pauline: 01530 414378 or 07786 978822
Rachael: 01530 413795 or 07852 624059

Farewell Liz

After 22 years in the village, Liz Deakin, founder of the Friendship Group and an active member of our community, is moving on. The Post caught up with her to find out about her time in the village.



Liz Deakin arrived in Packington on a very rainy December day in 2000. After a busy time dealing with unpacking, she and a friend went to the Bull and Lion for the 'Monday Night Special' meal – the first of many! Afterwards they walked back up to her new house, serenading any passers-by with 'Singin in the Rain', and the latest chapter in her life had begun.

Liz was born and brought up in Salford but she met her husband Tony, who worked for the Coal Board, on the Isle of Man. They moved to a village near Chesterfield where they lived for about twenty years, raising their family of four children. In the late 1980s they moved to Coleorton.

However, Tony sadly died in the late 90s and after a couple of years Liz started to look for somewhere for a new start, to reinvent herself. She really liked Packington, but the clincher was that her new house had a room big enough for the baby grand piano!

The day after she moved in, her next-door neighbour popped round to introduce herself and Liz made the first friend of the many she has in the village. Liz was soon attending Holy Rood church where she became a very active member. She helped with a stall at the local car boot sale, giving balloons to passing youngsters and talking about the church community. She helped at Ready Steady Stick too, a holiday club for primary school children.

Liz was also on the committee of the WI for a while. She and a friend were chatting at the back of the AGM and the chairwoman fixed them with a stare and asked if they would like to be on the committee? What could they say?!

When eventually the WI in Packington had to close, the members were all keen to keep in touch and so Liz set up the Friendship Group to provide that continuity. They met monthly at the Memorial Hall and had tea, coffee, cake and a chat. Sometimes there would be speakers, quizzes, 'bring and buy' sales and beetle drives.

She has also been very involved in lots of village activities including the Lunch Club, the Book Club and keep fit.

When we asked her what she would miss most about Packington her immediate response was her friends and the sense of community. She is also going to miss having the village shop just round the corner.

Liz is moving to Bedford where she will be a short walk from her younger daughter, Sarah. Her new home is in a McCarthy and Stone assisted living complex with many activities for the residents, including a restaurant, and she is looking forward to this new chapter with the same positivity that she brought to her life in Packington. She plans to use modern technology to help her keep in touch with her friends.

Liz summed up the last twenty-two years in Packington; "It has been a fabulous place to live, and I couldn't have chosen a better community to be part of."

By Helen Edgington

Ashby u3a Science & Technology Group

The Ashby u3a Science & Technology Group is one of 28 activity groups within the Ashby u3a. But what is the u3a? Founded in 1982, the u3a is a collection of groups (u3as) that run local and online member-led learning for those no longer in full-time work across the UK. Its motto is Learn, Laugh, Live, so it's all about encouraging physical and mental activity into retirement.

Within the Ashby u3a there are groups for a very diverse range of activities, from Arts & Crafts to Wine Appreciation. At the Science & Technology Group, we try to explain the science behind the technology in layman's terms in a friendly environment. A career or academic qualifications in science or technology are not required, just a curiosity to learn more about these subjects, now you have (hopefully) more free time.



This year has seen our attendance grow and we have speakers booked for talks till December. Starting at **2.00pm** in **Packington Memorial Hall**, the main talk occupies the first part of the meeting and is given by either a group member or a guest speaker. Members often share their work experiences as professional geologists, science educators or as engineers in aviation, trains, submarines or electronics, focusing on their colourful colleagues as much as the science. Guest speakers are often experts in their field and wildlife subjects are always popular as well as topical ones on climate change and nuclear waste disposal.

Future talks include:

Tuesday 12th September – Nottingham Trams - building a new tram system in Nottingham

Tuesday 10th October - Climate past, present and future – a comprehensive review by an expert

Tuesday 14th November – Twycross Zoo – the science behind the enclosures

Tuesday 12th December – Searching for the Snow Leopard – one trip to Mongolia was not enough!

After the main talk we review science or technology news items, feature a scientist or engineer whose birthday coincides with the date of the meeting or just highlight one of the many unsung heroes of science. In August we will be led by an expert on a walk listening for bats, a follow-up to a meeting held in June. For next year, we are planning to visit the Forensic Science Department at Derby University. Tea, coffee and biscuits are served at the end of the meeting.

Interested? Then check out our website at www.ashbyu3a.co.uk and choose **science & technology** from the groups list or come along to one of our meetings above to learn more, you will be most welcome.

Paul McKay, Organising Committee

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Packington Communication Group (PCG) and the Packington Post 20 years on...

Continued from page 1...

At a public meeting, called by the Parish Council, in May 2000 it was decided to canvas residents' thoughts over a wide range of local issues which would help planning to maintain and improve village life. The Packington Appraisal Steering Group (PASG) was formed comprising 12 village residents, a picture of which can be seen in the foyer of the Memorial Hall.

A formal constitution was adopted on 1st August 2000, and a very comprehensive questionnaire, comprising of three sections, was formulated, printed, and circulated to every household (then 312 houses) in November of that year.

Packington Village Appraisal Questionnaire

PART 3 to be completed by EACH member of the household aged 16 & over on 31/12/00. Please tick in the boxes and write clearly on the dotted line.

Name:(optional) _____ House No:(optional) _____ Street/Road: _____

IF YOU REQUIRE MORE SPACE FOR ANY ANSWERS, PLEASE USE SECTION 10 (Additional Comments) AT THE END OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

SECTION 1 - ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION

Packington Village Appraisal Questionnaire

PART 2 - For every young person under the age of 16 on 31/12/00.

We are **very keen** to find out your ideas and views about the village. Some of your ideas could help us make plans for the future! All completed questionnaires will be put into a Prize Draw.

Packington Village Appraisal Questionnaire

PART 1 to be completed by ONE member of each household. Please tick in the boxes and write clearly on the dotted line.

Name:(optional) _____ House No:(optional) _____ Street/Road: _____

1. Which best describes your home?
 Detached House Semi Detached House Terrace Bungalow
 Cottage Flat

2. Has anyone in your family moved away from the village within the last 5 years because suitable accommodation had not been found?
 Yes No
 If "Yes", which type of accommodation was required?
 Small Flat Sheltered Accommodation
 Starter Home Medium Family Home Larger Family Home

3. What modes of transport are owned/used by the members of your household?
 Please give a number in each category.
 Car/Small Van Large Van/Lorry Motorbike Cycle Other

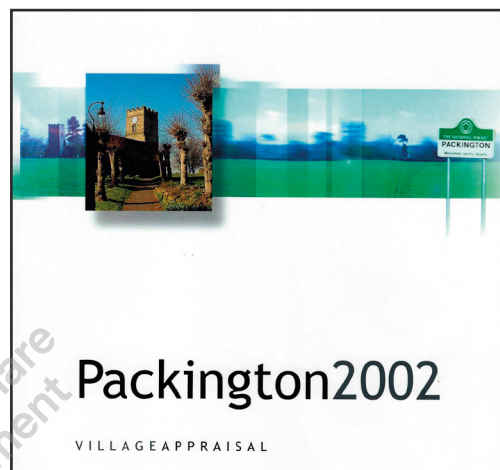
4. Did your household receive a "Welcome Pack" when you arrived in Packington?
 Yes No

Thanks to the efforts of the PASG, who steadfastly and repeatedly called back to collect the completed forms, by early 2001, a fantastic 80% response rate was achieved.

Over the next few months moving into 2001, more than 140,000 tick box responses and over 7,000 written comments were collated by hand and entered onto a computer spreadsheet for analysis.

Then the mammoth task began of interpreting the results and summarising the recommendations of the PASG.

With my contacts and background in mail order catalogue production, I was able to oversee the result; a professionally designed and produced 36-page report, which was, in 2002, circulated to every house in the village.



The recommendations were summarised in five categories: -
Information & Communication
Leisure and Recreation
Environment & Conservation
Traffic & Transport
General

Recommendation no.1 in the first category was: -

"That a working party dealing with 'Communication' within the village is formed."

A new group of 12, including some old and some new faces, stepped forward to look at this area.

The first decision was that we should produce a newsletter with two important provisos.

1. It should be a professional, full colour production consistent with modern expectations.
2. It should be distributed **free of charge** to all households in Packington.

Funding support was given by the Parish Council and other sources, and plans made for a bi-monthly newsletter – **The Packington Post**.

A competition was held in Packington Primary school and Ivanhoe Community College to design a logo. From 50 entries the winner was 13-year-old Natalie Moreland (see below), a year 8 pupil at Ivanhoe.



With the irreplaceable help of Wes Ewing and his design and printing business Context Print, based in Mill Street, the first eight-page edition appeared in the summer of 2003.

Over 20 years there have been five editors: -

- 2003 to July 2011
Stephen Plummer - 50 issues
- September 2011 to July 2013
Natalie Moreland – 11 issues (logo designer)
- September 2013 to July 2015
Barry Alldread – 12 issues
- September 2015 to November 2022
Mike Coke – 44 issues
- January 2023 to present
Amy Powell – 4 issues and counting!

It would be remiss not to mention the valuable contribution made by the people, too numerous to mention here, who have also volunteered their time for, and those that are still on, the editorial and distribution teams. Their expertise and knowledge has proved invaluable and ensured that the PCG in all its forms – **printed newsletter, social media, email alerts, website, welcome packs for new residents** - continues to **“COMMUNICATE”** with all residents in Packington.

Would you like to join the team?

As with all voluntary groups, we can always use extra help.

If you feel you can contribute and would like to get involved, please contact any member of the team listed on the back page of this anniversary edition.

Stephen Plummer,
Appraisal Group and PCG Founder member and Editor, 2003-2011
07973 548864
alerts@packington.info

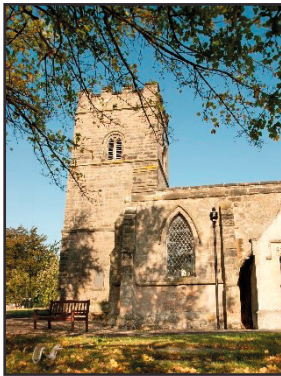
Do you have a story, interesting news or something you would like to share with the village? We'd love to hear from you.

Email us at: **editor@packington.info**



Walk into History! Heritage Open Days 2023 – 8th - 17th September

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. If you visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk you can find all sorts of intriguing places to see and interesting events, all of which are FREE to visit.



However, you don't have far to go to explore our local gem! Holy Rood Church is holding its own Heritage Open Day on Saturday 9th September 2023, 9.00am to 5.00pm. It's on your doorstep, but how much do you know about it? It's a beautiful Grade II listed village church, with a heritage dating from the 11th Century.

Quite a few of you have been on the fascinating history walks which Robin Boucher, the Chair of Packington Village History Group, has led along some of the streets in our village. At **2.00pm** on the day, he will be taking us on a **guided tour of the church**, and telling us all about its history, so don't miss this opportunity.

The tour will be augmented by historical displays and photos of key figures and past events in church life and there will be information leaflets about its heritage available if you cannot make 2.00pm.

There will also be a treasure hunt for the children and, we shall be serving delicious afternoon teas!

Lesley Birtwistle:
lbwistle@googlemail.com

Church Services

Church services for August all start at 10:00am unless otherwise stated:

Holy Rood Church, Packington:

6th August – Morning Service with Baptism
13th August – Morning Prayer
27th August – Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Church, Normanton-le-Heath:

6th August – Morning Prayer
20th August – Holy Communion

Coffee Morning

Join us in Church on the 4th
Wednesday of every month.



Come along to enjoy coffee,
tea and homemade cakes.
Books & Jigsaws to borrow

Take the opportunity
to make new friends

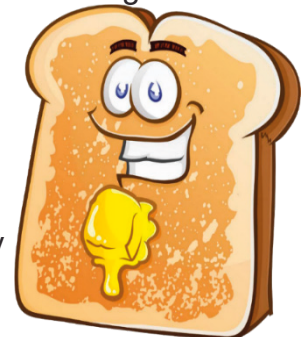
Holy Rood Church
Packington
10.00am – 12 noon

Come Along to Holy Rood Church Packington

For Drop In Tuesday
12.00 noon – 2.00pm
8th, 15th and 22nd August

Cheese Toasties
Toast & Spreads
Cake!

Each week a
different theme -
starting with Sheepy
Biscuits and nature,
followed by the
beach and then
super heroes.



Hope you can join us!

Come along and do crafts, junk modelling,
meet friends and have fun!

For more information contact:
Anne Wathes, 01530 414621

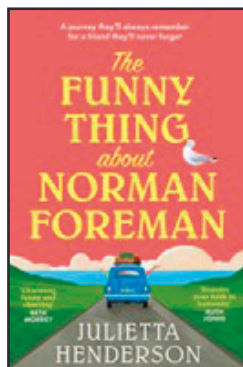
Book Club

Join our friendly group to read and discuss a wide variety of books (and chat too). We don't take things seriously – the only qualification is that you enjoy reading.

26th July – *Nine Perfect Strangers* by Liane Moriarty. 'Perfect lives – or perfect lies?'



23rd August – *The Funny Thing about Norman Foreman* by Julietta Henderson. 'A journey they would always remember... for a friend they'd never forget.'



We meet between **7:30pm – 9:00pm** on the **fourth Wednesday** of every month in the **meeting room at Packington Memorial Hall**. Tea/coffee and biscuits are provided.

If you would like further information, please contact:

**Helen Edgington: 01530 412808
07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com**

Board Game Afternoon

The board game afternoon is on its summer break.



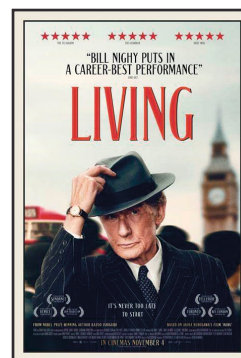
It will be starting up again on **Thursday 14th September** from **2:00pm – 4:00pm** in the **meeting room at Packington Memorial Hall**.

Tea/coffee and biscuits are provided and there is a small charge of £2.

If you'd like to know more, please contact:
**Helen Edgington: 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com**

Packington Film Club

We hope you are all having a lovely summer break. Film Club will return on **Friday 8th September** with another great film starring Bill Nighy.



Overwhelmed at work and lonely at home, a council bureaucrat's life takes a heartbreaking turn when a medical diagnosis tells him his time is short. Influenced by a local decadent and a vibrant woman, he continues to search for meaning until a simple revelation gives

him a purpose to create a legacy for the next generation.

Tickets, £5.00 for adults, inclusive of refreshments, which are available prior to the start of the film.

We look forward to seeing you all.
Packington Film Club Committee

Open Gardens Cancelled!

Dear Villager,

I have made the decision, reluctantly, to cancel Open Gardens this year due to lack of enough gardens, enough organisers for the tea and enough helpers for the car park to allow people to take at least some of the afternoon to see the gardens themselves.

If there is sufficient interest, we could consider an evening in September to think about 2024, with a view to assembling a committee to organise it. I will see what the general feedback is nearer the time. If there was a good response, we could then plan to meet in April to put things in place for next year.

If people feel that maybe Open Gardens has run its course and would prefer to consider other events in the future, then that is up to you.

Nick Gravestock
blutiles@leicester.anglican.org
29 High Street Packington

Hospice Hope Update

Work is now well under way at Swannington, the site of the new day care centre being built for local charity Hospice Hope. Hospice Hope supports people within North West Leicestershire, whose life expectancy or quality of life will be affected by their condition, plus their carers and partners.



Much delayed by COVID, the new building is now moving at pace and hand over to the charity from Bloor Homes is now forecast to be in mid-October.

If you are interested in helping this project that supports people in our community, please view our website or use the contact details below.

Peter and Kate Last
Trustees of Hospice Hope
Tel. 01530 415129 or 07712 772240

Packington School PSA

The School PSA Committee would like to pass on a huge thank you for the incredible support this year, helping us to raise over £5000 for our school. We couldn't have done it without the all of the volunteers, particularly those who helped us with such events as Winter Wonderland, Joules sale, Disco's and our amazing Circus event.



We also owe thanks to the fantastic support from local businesses, with sponsorship and the donation of raffle prizes, including Keller Construction, Phoenix Children's foundation, Purdey shooting school, Champneys, S.D.Hill, and many many more!

We would like to increase the number of parents involved in our PSA for the next school term to ensure its continued success. The Next AGM will be in September. If you are interested in joining or would just like to know more about what we do, please contact us at:

packingtonpsa21@gmail.com

This half term has been a busy one in school with our annual sports day, Saffron Lane athletics, Trooping the Colour event, KS2 Summer show and transition/class swap days. We are finishing this week with our leavers service in Holy Rood church and wish all our families a lovely summer break.

Sports Day & Saffron Lane

Early June we had a great morning at our Sports day on the recreation ground whilst the sun was shining. Once again, we enlisted the aid of the Ivanhoe College sports leaders to help run our events. All of the children showed great team spirit representing their houses and we even had time for some parent and staff races at the end! Huge thanks to our PSA for organising refreshments and to Mr Emery for organising and setting up the event.

The sports continued for some of our Key Stage pupils when they represented Packington school at the area athletics held at Saffron Lane on 14th June. It was another scorcher and they all performed well despite the heat. Well done to everyone who took part and to our parents/carers who helped out on the day.



Trooping the Colour

On 15th June we invited our families into school to share our 'Trooping the Colour' event with everyone. We had some fantastic performances from our classes including drumming, singing and Maypole Dancing. We were so proud of all the children for performing in front of everyone. Our Year 5 and 6 children also did a brilliant job in creating stalls for everyone to enjoy! Together they grew their £5's to an incredible £154. Thank you to all who came along to support the event and/or helped with the planning of the stalls.

KS2 Show

The pupils in Year 5&6, supported by those in Year 3&4, put on a production of 'Roald Dahl's Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs' which was a huge success! The children performed so well, getting into character, dancing and singing their hearts out. Huge congratulations to all the children who took part as well as the adults who made it possible! Thank you to all of our families for coming along to watch and support the children's hard work and for taking part in our raffle and collection.



Music Assembly

At Packington, our children from Year 1 upwards have the opportunity to take part in music lessons for Piano & Guitar, and Year 2 upwards for Flute. Some of the children who have been taking part in music lessons this year held a music assembly for the rest of the school to enjoy! It takes a lot of commitment and perseverance to learn to play an instrument and they all performed brilliantly.

New Starters

Our new pupils who will start in Reception at the end of August have now completed three induction visits. We have been really impressed with how well they have made new friends and got stuck in to all the different activities in the classroom and look forward to welcoming them fully in the new academic year

Coming up:

We close for summer on **Wednesday 12th July** and reopen on **Tuesday 29th August**.

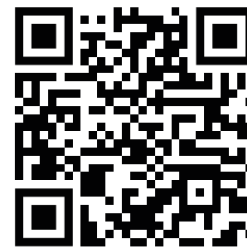
Push-Up Challenge Fundraiser

Village teenager, Dom Curtis, 16, is taking part in the national '100 push-ups a day in July' challenge in order to help raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital.



Asked why he chose this challenge and charity and particular, Dom tells us that having faced illness himself as a younger child, and as someone who now loves the gym and working out to stay healthy and focused, this challenge was simply a perfect fit. 'To do something that I enjoy whilst raising money for a charity in the process is a great opportunity to help others.'

If you would like to help support Dom in his efforts, you can donate by scanning the QR code below with your phone or table.



As Dom undertakes his daily sets, he records his efforts and uploads his energetic progress to Facebook.

Wondershare PDFelement

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