



Preserving Packington's Past

Packington Village History Group needs your help!

Members of the PVHG are undertaking their most ambitious project to date – a survey to establish and map the date of construction of **all the existing** properties in Packington as of 2024, and they need your help.



We don't know when the first inhabitants of Packington arrived (not surprisingly none of their original dwellings remain!) but, to quote the late Peter Cooper, one of the founders of Packington Village History Group:

“Packington started life as an Anglo-Saxon village - the ‘tun’ (farmstead or settlement) of Pacca. This may have been in the 7th or 8th century when many Anglo-Saxon villages were formed, but the first historical references to Packington come in the 11th century.

“In 1043 AD the “village” of Packington was given to the new Abbey of Coventry and it remained in their hands until the dissolution of the monasteries in Henry VIII's reign 1509-1547 when it then came into the hands of the Hastings family.”

Most of the “Hastings Estate” properties were sold off by auction in the 1920s. The last item to go was the Round House which passed to the Parish Council in 1997.

Many current Packington residential properties stand on the site of former agricultural landholdings such as farms and small holdings, or other properties such as previous dwelling houses, church buildings, post offices, smithies, shops, or even pubs! Each new property development has brought additional people with more skills and vibrancy into our village.

Continued on page 5 with full details of how you can get involved.

Also in this issue:

Change of Editor – page 2

Traffic Calming Update - page 3

Village Awards – page 4

The Big Breakfast 2024 – page 8

Christmas Round-Up – page 9



Packington Community Award

Do you have a local hero?

The Parish Council have created this Award to recognise and publicly thank people, either an individual or a group, who have worked to improve the parish. We hope that it will help you to reward and thank the people you think have made a difference.

Closing date for nominations is **Tuesday 9th April**. Nomination forms and guidelines available from the Parish Clerk.
clerk@packingtonpc.org.uk
07936 359949

Awards will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 7th May.

Memorial Hall

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

We begin 2024 with the notification of the AGM. This will be held on **Tuesday 19th March at 6:30pm** in the **meeting room of the Memorial Hall**. This is your chance as a village resident to meet the village volunteers who run the hall on your behalf as its trustees, and to have input into 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 general committee meeting.

Chris Miles Chairman

If you have any questions regarding the Memorial Hall AGM, please contact
Chris Miles 07856 179485

New Editor for the Packington Post

Due to work commitments, the time has come for Amy Powell to step down from the role of editor. Amy has been involved with the post since January 2021, first as deputy editor to Mike Coke before taking over the editor role a year ago. Amy writes:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as editor and would like to say a big thank you to all the PCG team for their support."

Sharron Miller has stepped up to take on the role of editor with Helen Edgington taking on the role of deputy editor. Sharron writes:

"Joining the team a year ago as deputy editor, I have had the pleasure of working alongside Amy who has been a great support in showing me the ropes. There is a huge amount of work that goes into putting each edition together and I'm sure I speak for the whole team when I say a huge thank you to Amy for all the hard work she has continuously put in, ensuring the Packington Post has kept coming through our doors."

Sharron Miller editor@packington.info

Community Safety Event

Save the date!

15th March 2024

An evening event
at Packington Memorial Hall

Keep an eye out for flyers or check our
website for more information

www.packingtonpc.org.uk

Contact the clerk if you would like to be
involved: **clerk@Packingtonpc.org.uk**

Packington Traffic Calming Group

A PTCG meeting was held at the Memorial Hall on 16th November and was attended by Lead Councillor Nick Rushton, LCC's Traffic and Signals Team Manager, District Councillor Nigel Smith, two Parish Councillors, and John, the school crossing patrol officer. Unfortunately, a representative from Leicestershire Police was unable to attend.

PTCG Chairman, Jonathan Alexander, gave a presentation highlighting the problem the village has with regards to excessive traffic speed. The presentation and full article can be viewed by scanning the code below.



On Saturday 25th November residents may have noticed the police presence on Measham Road. In half an hour there were 6 vehicles out of a total of 81 vehicles passing by which were travelling above the prosecution threshold.

We understand there were further speed checks carried out by the police in Packington on 23rd December although the precise location and number of prosecutions for our village is not yet known.

For any comments or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact:

PTCG Chair – Jonathan Alexander
jonathan.alexander.uk@outlook.com

PTCG Secretary – Nicola Beanland
nicolabeanland@btinternet.com

Measham Medical Unit Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Our AGM held on the 8th January was very well attended with some new faces joining the team. A new Chairperson has been elected and will push forward with the aim of making our group one of the most proactive and forward-thinking PPGs in the area.

The PPG has again made communications one of its top priorities for the forthcoming year and hopefully plans will come to fruition over the next twelve months.

As we are all fully aware, our NHS is under extreme pressure which all GP practices are experiencing. Our practice is still having in excess of **200 DNAs** a month (short for *did not arrive* as a failure to attend an appointment).

We as a PPG are fully supporting our practice in trying to reduce this number. Please try and let the surgery know in advance if you cannot make an appointment to allow us to offer it to another patient.

We acknowledge that at times, particularly in the early morning, it may be difficult to get through on the telephone to inform the surgery that you cannot make an appointment but please do keep trying.

Hopefully with your help we can bring our *did not arrive* figure down and improve appointment access for all.

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

The NHS logo, consisting of the letters 'NHS' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

New Year Honours List Names Former Packington Resident

Chris Bryant, whose family have lived in the village since 1985, has been awarded an MBE in recognition for his 'Services to Sport'.



Chris grew up in Packington until he moved to Manchester to study Business Management at university. After graduating, he joined Deloitte Consulting where he was seconded to the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games. Following this, he moved across to deliver the 2015 Rugby World Cup before he joined the Football Association (FA) based at Wembley, where he has been for the last eight years.

As Director of Tournaments and Events for the FA, Chris has led a number of projects, including Tottenham Hotspur's Premier League residency, NFL, EURO 2020, Women's EURO 2022 and the recent 2028 UK and Ireland EURO bid.

Chris told the Packington Post: "I have always loved sport and consider working in the industry a great privilege. I feel both honoured and grateful for this award. I am very proud and thankful to all my colleagues, friends and most of all my family."

Chris will be invited for his Investiture at Buckingham Palace in 2024 (date TBC).

Award Win for Poochies Cafe

Our village cafe has been awarded Best Cafeteria in Ashby by Restaurant Guru.

Owner Bev Smith told the Packington Post: "We are delighted that our little cafe has been awarded Best Cafeteria in Ashby de La Zouch 2023 by Restaurant Guru. The award is based on customer and visitor positive reviews which earned us this recognition. Team Poochies would like to thank everyone who has reviewed us."



If you haven't been to Poochies yet you and your pooch will be made most welcome.

Open Thursday to Saturday 9:00am to 3:00pm and Sunday 10:00am to 2:00pm

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
ProCon 2023
LEICESTERSHIRE PROPERTY AND CONSTRUCTION AWARDS 2023
Medium Residential Scheme Award **WINNER**

Packington Village History Group

Continued from page 1

It is probably no coincidence that the Packington carnivals started in the 1970s shortly after the building of many affordable new village properties in the late 1960s. These were soon filled with young married couples, some already with children. The opening of the A42/M42 making our village commutable to Birmingham and Nottingham brought more growth and a new wave of arrivals.

Packington currently contains nearly 400 properties. Recent expansion is likely to continue in the foreseeable future.

In order to map the growth of Packington, and record the history of our village at the start of this new Carolean era, Packington Village History Group (PVHG) proposes to try and establish the date of construction (as accurately as possible) of **all the existing** properties in Packington.



Date stamp on house exterior on Babelake Street

Packington Village History Group would welcome help from the current owners and residents of property in Packington to assist in this survey. We realise that many current owners may have extended or significantly altered their properties since they were acquired but, in this survey, we are simply trying to plot the current individual dwellings in our village and establish the date in which they were initially constructed. If you know

the date, or the year, in which your property was built we would be very glad to hear from you. We understand that a property on Mill Street has a date (in the early 1700s) stamped somewhere on its interior which is a wonderful clue to the date of its origin.

Please do help us with our survey of village property construction dates and tell us when your home was built by using the quick form on the History Group's website at pvhg.uk or by scanning the QR code below.

Alternatively, you can contact Adrian on the number at the end of this article.



We hope to publish the results annotating a street map of the village in the near future.

Thank you for your help in this matter. Future generations of Packingtonians and current members of Packington Village History Group will be very grateful for your contribution.

A. Mongredien - PVHG

Contact Adrian Mongredien
01530 564613
adrian.mongredien@gmail.com

PVHG Chairman - Robin Boucher
randbboucher@googlemail.com

PVHG Secretary - Sue Brown
koorick99@gmail.com

Packington Primary School

After weeks of rehearsing and preparation, a group of our pupils from Years 3 to 6 participated in the Young Voices concert at Resorts World Birmingham on 10th January.

'The Young Voices experience is not simply a children's choir concert, but the largest in the world. Children perform alongside 5,000 to 8,000 other children as a single choir to audiences of family and friends.'

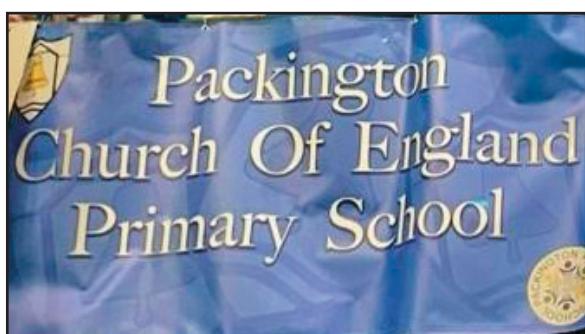
Everyone was buzzing following the experience and we are so proud of all who took part and the parents and families who came along to support and left some wonderful comments:

"It was an incredible experience for everyone and a fantastic night! Thank you so much."

"Thank you so much for the opportunity, the kids rocking out and singing at the top of their voices was just wonderful. An awesome event celebrating music and street dance."



With thanks to our PSA for purchasing the wonderful Packington banner for the event. We are already looking forward to attending again in 2025!



Packington Community Choir

Friends and family got a treat in December when they attended an informal concert performed by members of the choir. We included a range of pieces, from well-known carols, gospel tunes and folk melodies to a fabulous rendition of Bad Moon Rising! With a full church, much fun was had by all, and we are looking forward to our next sharing evening.



We always welcome new members, and would particularly like to hear from any men who would like to give it a go!

There's no audition, and no previous singing experience is necessary.

Holy Rood Church
Thursdays 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Aimee 07967 316645
aimeemusic@live.co.uk

Get Involved

If you have an interest in writing and would like to join the Packington Post editorial team then please do get in touch. New members are always welcome.

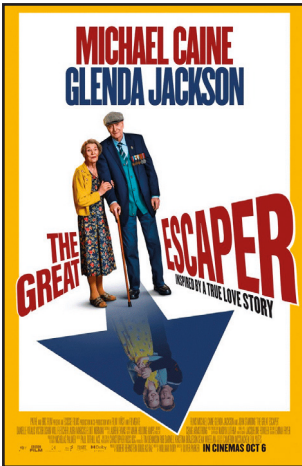
Sharron Miller - editor@packington.info

Packington Film Club

Film Club has some great films coming up as we move into 2024 – watch this space!

Our film for **Friday 9th February** is **The Great Escaper** (12A) based on the true story of D-Day veteran Bernard Jordan.

The Great Escaper sees two-time Oscar winners Sir Michael Caine and the late Glenda Jackson reuniting to portray the real-life story of Bernard Jordan who in 2014 escaped from his care home in Hove, East Sussex, to attend the 70th anniversary commemoration of the D-Day Landings in France.



Moving on to **Friday 8th March** we will be showing **Top Gun: Maverick** (PG13) Set 30 years after its predecessor, it follows Maverick's return to the United States Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program (also known as U.S. Navy-Fighter Weapons School - "TOP GUN") where he must confront his past as he trains a group of younger pilots, among them the son of Maverick's deceased best friend Lieutenant Nick "Goose" Bradshaw, USN.

Adult tickets are £5 and are inclusive of refreshments. No pre-booking needed, just turn up at the Memorial Hall where we look forward to seeing you all. Doors open at **7:00pm** and the film starts at **7:30pm**.

Packington Film Club Committee

Board Games

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month

Next dates: 8th and 22nd Feb
At the new time of 1:00pm – 3:30pm
Memorial Hall meeting room
 £2 - inclusive of tea, coffee and biscuits



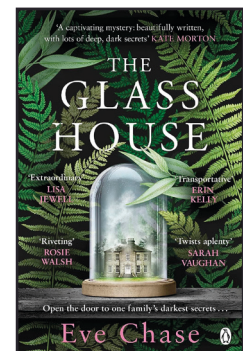
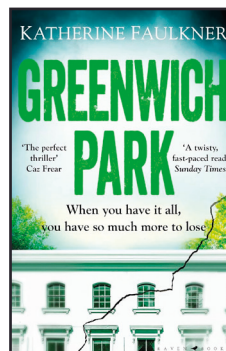
For further information, please contact:
Helen Edgington: 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com

Packington Book Club

Last Wednesday of the month
7:30pm Memorial Hall meeting room
 Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided.

The next books are:
Greenwich Park by Katherine Faulkner
 (31st January)

The Glass House by Eve Chase
 (28th February)



For further information, please contact:
Helen Edgington: 07766 086580
helenmedgington@gmail.com

PHS Spring Fair – Call for Stall Holders

Packington Horticultural Society's (PHS) first event for 2024 will be the annual **Spring Fair** at the **Memorial Hall** on **Sunday 21st April**.



It will bring together local businesses, craftspeople and artisan makers to showcase their talents and sell their products.

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 **Friday 1st March**.

Wreath Making Workshop

Before Christmas, the PHS hosted another two successful Christmas Wreath Making workshops at the Memorial Hall. Once again, Lauren and Grace from Brier and Bud guided just under 40 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. Look out for the date of the 2024 workshop later in the year.



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

The Big Breakfast is Back!

This year's charity Big Breakfast will once again be held at the **Memorial Hall** on **Saturday 2nd March** from **9:00am until 1:00pm**.

A full English or vegetarian breakfast including tea or coffee will be £10, children's breakfast £5 and breakfast baps £5. For the third year running, proceeds will go to Bright Hope, formerly known as 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!

Call 07971 047 283 for more details

PACKINGTON'S BIG BREAKFAST

Saturday 2nd March 2024
Packington Memorial Hall

No need to book!

Full English Breakfast £10
Children £5
Vegetarian options available

Raising funds for:

 **Bright Hope**
in North West Leicestershire



Volunteers are always needed to help make this event a success so if you'd like to get involved in any way or could spare an hour or two on the day, please do get in touch, you will be made most welcome!

Debbie Hamilton - 07971 047283

debbie.hamilton7@yahoo.com

Santa Fun Run & Walk

Following the hugely successful 2023 Ashby Santa Fun Run & Walk, where 892 Santas ran, trotted, walked or wheeled their way around a snowy Ashby, Ashby Castle Rotary Club has now presented the chosen charities with cheques from the proceeds. The event raised a phenomenal £10,800 for charity. Me & Dee, NWL Home-Start and Bright Hope (formally Hospice Hope) each received a cheque for £2900.



Christingle Service

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously at the Holy Rood Christingle service. The amount raised was £171.48 and will be sent to The Children's Society to support their valuable work.

Anne Wathes

Christmas at Packington School

We had a busy December starting with our whole school pantomime visit to see Peter Pan at Loughborough Town Hall. Despite much illness in the lead up, our Nativity was performed beautifully and with great confidence. We also enjoyed a yummy Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day. Finally, our PSA arranged a fantastic Winter Wonderland event including Santa's Grotto and lots of Christmas crafts and games.

Carols at The Bull and Lion

The Salvation Army wish to extend their thanks to all who turned out to support the evening and stayed despite the rain. A total of £242.92 was raised. Thanks to Chris Miles for providing the sound and lighting and to Terry and Sammy of The Bull and Lion who kindly hosted the event.

Boxing Day Tradition

The Pennyroyal Garland Dancers and The Packington Morris Men made their return to The Bull and Lion for the annual Boxing Day dance. As usual, there was no shortage of onlookers to enjoy this lively village tradition of music, song and dance.



Toy Service with Pop Up Nativity

A huge thankyou to Richard Badcock who made and donated our amazing stable. Also, to Anita and staff from Phoenix Children's Charity and the children who came along with the donkeys. Finally thank you to everyone who donated toys and wrapping paper. As usual these were taken to the Marlene Reid Centre for distribution to local children who otherwise might not have received any Christmas presents.

Anne Wathes and Lesley Birtwistle

Sunday Church Services

Church services for January and February all start at **10:00am** unless otherwise stated.

Holy Rood Church, Packington

28th January	Holy Communion
4th February	Morning Prayer
11th February	Morning Prayer
14th February	Ash Wednesday service
25th February	Holy Communion
3rd March	Morning Worship
10th March	Songs of Praise

Holy Trinity Church, Normanton-le-Heath

21st January	Holy Communion
18th February	Holy Communion

Services with a Difference!

On **Sunday 4th February**, we have invited Revd. Rhianne O'Rourke from Coalville to be our speaker at our service. Rhianne is what is known as a Pioneer Minister and as such has a particular role – a remit to connect with people outside of Church and to create new ways of doing Church together in the local community. Pioneers are leaders of innovation, with a gift for seeing what God is doing and responding creatively to it. So, if you want to see that the church is not always stuffy but can be contemporary and relate to modern life and its pressures and be relevant and meaningful, come along and hear what she has to say!



On **Sunday 10th March**, which is Mothering Sunday, we are holding a Songs of Praise service, suitable for all the family. If any of you have a favourite hymn which you would like us to sing on that occasion, then either please sign the list at the back of church or get in touch with me by phone or email.

Please do bring your children along, there will be flowers or a plant for them to give to their Mums – and they can choose a hymn too if you tell me in advance! Thank you.

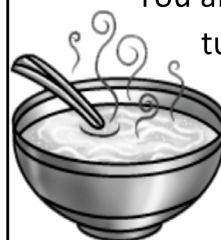
Lesley Birtwistle 01530 413309
lbwistle@googlemail.com

Soup and a Pudding

Friday 9th February

12noon – 2pm

A choice of Homemade soups and Puddings



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

Anne 01530 414621

Holy Rood Church
 Packington

Toastie Thursday

Come along to Holy Rood Church, Packington

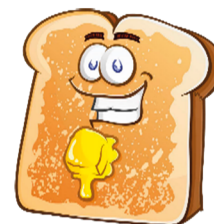
On Thursday 22nd February 12noon - 2pm

Join us in our local Church for ...

Cheese Toasties

Toast & Spreads

Cake!



Our theme is....

Saying Thankyou!

Crafts to make for Mothers Day

Don't Be Bored on Toastie Thursday

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

For more info please contact

Anne on 01530 414621

WhatsApp-ening in Packington

If you are keen to keep up to date with everything that is going on in the village (outside of your regular dose of the Packington Post), the village WhatsApp groups provide an informal way to exchange messages and keep people up to date on what is going on.

There are currently three core groups that have been established and you can join them by scanning the QR code beneath each description:

Packington Social

A place to post details of events, items for sale/free or general interest in the village.



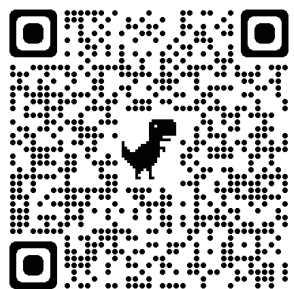
Packington Kind

A place to post pictures and messages of things from around the village photos of sunrises, wildlife or anything else that may put a smile on people's faces.



Packington Watch

Members are requested to keep messages related to **emergency** matters as in cases of flooding or suspicious behaviour in the village.



Please note, Packington Watch is only available to verified residents of Packington.

Karl Saunt

Packington Post Village Website

Did you know the Packington Post has its own website? Established in 2007, **packington.info** contains a rich history of our village and has a number of fixed pages providing background information. Articles about the school, the shop, the pub, the church, the recreation ground, village groups and events can all be found on there. People moving into the village have often paid compliment to the insights they had into the breadth of our friendly village community – with some saying the website was much of the reason why they chose Packington to live.

Hosted economically for our Packington Communications Group, PCG, the website was designed and built, and is run by volunteers with a greater capacity for photo galleries, articles and presentations.

Contributions of photographs, articles or any updates you might know of are always welcomed to be added and included.

Robert Dilworth

QR Codes

Seen QR codes like the ones on this page popping up all over the place and wondered what they are for or how you might use them? They are simply a much quicker way to visit and view a website without the need for typing in a long address.

To use:

- open the camera on your smartphone or tablet and point it at the code
- once captured, a coloured outline will appear around the code with a coloured box highlighting what it's for
- Tap the link in the coloured box and you'll arrive at the website!

A Very Special Concert

Holy Rood Church is delighted to be hosting a concert of Tudor and Stuart music on **Saturday 16th March.**

Our players are a highly skilled ensemble named Siranu, one of the most successful and innovative groups on the early music scene, of whom it has been said that they provide a “brilliant synthesis of scholarship, musicianship and vivacity of performance”.



They have broadcast many times for the BBC in England and performed for the British, Dutch and German Early Music performance networks.

Posters giving more details, including where to obtain tickets, will be displayed around the village and the information will be put on social media.

This is an event not to be missed!

Lesley Birtwistle

Do you have a story, some interesting news or something you would like to share with the village?

Contributions and suggestions for articles are always welcomed!

We'd love to hear from you so please do get in touch.

Email us at editor@packington.info

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www.craneandwalton.com

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