

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH

www.glaphornchurch.org.uk



We have been holding services every Sunday at 9.15 am since 5th July, either in the church or in the churchyard, when the weather has been kind. We are so pleased to be back, up and running again, with services mainly conducted by our Anglican lay reader, Charles Wide. Hand sanitiser is available, service sheets are only used once, and social distancing between households is observed, as you can see from the photograph. The services are shorter than usual, sadly, because at the moment the Covid regulations do not allow us to sing hymns.

The church continues to be open on Wednesdays for private visits and prayer.

There is also a streamed short, reflective Evening Prayer every Sunday from Glaphorn. Just follow the link from the Glaphorn church website homepage (www.glaphornchurch.org) to Facebook or YouTube.

'Ride and Stride' Saturday 12th September

This year's Sponsored Bike Ride/Walk, in aid of Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust is on Saturday 12th September. It is an excellent way of raising funds for our church as well as the Trust. In addition, there is the opportunity to visit and admire some of the wonderful Christian buildings in the County. See the Trust's website for more information and sponsorship forms: <http://www.nhct.org.uk> or contact Sid Charlton on 07512498062/sidcharlton58@gmail.com.

A warm welcome to:

Aaron Mildren and Joanna Bush in Orchard House,
Molly and Bernard Delderfield in Rauna,
Carol and Bernard Todd in Mayfield House, and
Anton and Amanda McAleese, and children Luke and William, in Short Wood View.

FUNDRAISER FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Chris, Monica and Georgina Crosby wish to **thank everyone** who attended their Provost Lodge pop-up Macmillan Cancer Support three-day event over the Bank Holiday. It was a last-minute decision to run it, thanks to Covid-19 and the weather. With the help of Sally & Dean Nowlan's marquee (a big thank you to them), put up in the Barn, which made the space cosy and contained, but with the Barn doors opened for fresh air, together with sensible social distancing and restricted numbers, all in line with Government guidelines, **we raised £945.00 for Macmillan.**



GLAPTHORN C of E SCHOOL

www.glapthornschoo.ik.uk

Lou Coulthard, head teacher, writes: The families and staff of Glapthorn CE Primary have been looking forward to being back together at school full time in September. After a difficult summer term, everyone is keen to get back to some sort of normal, although there will still be strict COVID measures in place. We were delighted to welcome back around 80% of all pupils last term, so we are already well practiced with the new safety measures. We are now keen to focus on our existing curriculum and also the mental health and wellbeing of the whole of our Glapthorn School family. This academic year is likely to throw up further challenges, but there will also be new opportunities to explore together, as we continue to strive to offer **'challenge and opportunity for all'**.



Tanya Knowles, on behalf of Friends of Glapthorn School, writes: We raised £1,300 from selling plants outside The Cherry Tree, which were either grown by Matthew and Oliver, or donated. These funds will go towards the sensory gardening club, as well as a new stage for Glapthorn School.

Thank you so much for your donations and for buying the plants generously.



GLAPTHORN VILLAGE HALL

www.glapthorn.org.uk

Exciting News! The Village Hall will be reopening in the coming weeks, once Covid risk assessments have been submitted from our regular hirers.

Look out on the website for events and classes starting again in the hall.

Some of you might have heard that we recently took part in a BBC Northampton radio show (due to the fact Glapthorn won the 'Best Northamptonshire Village' competition in 2019). The show was about rural communities 'coming together' in the Covid era. A big thankyou to everyone who took part, you all did us proud. A special thank you to Tanya Knowles, who organised the village representatives.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of everyone to thank Tanya and her fellow helpers who spearheaded the Glapthorn village response to looking after the shielded in the village, with food, medicine deliveries and general contact when needed. Well done, everyone, once again the village community spirit shines through.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

GLAPTHORN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

www.glapthorn.org.uk

The WI have introduced a weekly newsletter, with member's accounts of the changes in their lives and how they are adapting. One member has contributed some fascinating accounts of what's happening in her life on the farm and we have learned so much from her about rural life. Another member is providing gardening hints and reports on what we should be doing and why. Other members have contributed stories of growing up during the Second World War and living through the Asian flu epidemic in the 1950's. The committee have had some meetings either socially distanced in gardens or using Zoom. Coffee mornings using Zoom and afternoon teas in members' gardens, all socially distanced, have been another feature of this summer. Members have been telephoned for chats and are currently being asked how they see the WI progressing and how we can continue to support each other over the next few months. On 2nd September, we welcomed our first speaker on Zoom, Jane Isaac, who gave a most interesting talk on her life as a successful writer of crime thrillers.

Southwick and Glaphorn Flower Show

To make up for the cancellation of the Flower Show this year, on the afternoon of Saturday 5th September, there was a 'socially-distanced' non-competitive exhibition of flowers, produce and handi-crafts in the Church Cottage garden. This was a chance for villagers in Glaphorn and Southwick to show off what they have been working on in garden and home during the last few months, and the quality was extremely high. It also gave an opportunity for neighbours to get together and socialise in a safe way, and was much enjoyed by all. Entry was free, but donations were requested for Cransley Hospice in Kettering.

ROYAL OAK CLUB

Steve Grossman, Chairman, writes: It's been a while since there has been a communication from the Royal Oak Club since, along with many other similar organisations, we have been in something of a state of hibernation.



Back in March, when the Coronavirus lockdown was first introduced, we had to abandon plans for our AGM, and the Club has not hosted any events since then.

In recent weeks, pubs and restaurants have been permitted to resume business and the committee have been consulting with members, and giving some thought as to whether it would be possible for the Club to also open its doors.

After consideration and debate, a number of things have become clear:

There would be a sizeable number of tasks to perform and conditions to create that would allow us to re-open, e.g., achieve correct distancing, track and trace monitoring, sanitising, waiter service, traffic flow etc. While most commercial operations have accepted this as the cost of doing business, it would be a lot to ask of volunteer members, some of whom themselves are in the 'vulnerable' category.

It would necessitate maintaining small family groups, limiting interaction between members and having table service only, which would probably create a markedly different atmosphere from the congenial and sociable evenings we are used to at the Club

Demand would likely be limited because some members are in a vulnerable category, and some are otherwise not keen to resume general socialising

There would be additional expense, largely around the need to sanitise and deep clean the environment

In a nutshell then, it is an open question whether the not inconsiderable additional effort of re-commencing some social evenings would be worth the somewhat limited gatherings that would likely result.

So, with regret, the Committee has concluded that, for the time being, Club evenings will remain suspended, but will continually monitor the situation and remain hopeful that conditions will be favourable for the resumption of activities in the not too distant future.

If any of our members have any views or thoughts they'd like to share about the current state of affairs, please do have a chat with any of the Committee.

As a reminder these are:

Steve Grossman – Chairman

Sonya Moss – Vice Chairman

Rosie Bliss – Secretary

Allen Brown – Treasurer

Alison Reading – Catering Manager

Dianne Grossman – Bar Manager

Paul Cooper – Assistant Bar Manager

Jo Wilkinson – Membership Secretary

Michael Wilkinson and Lauren Murphy – Flyer Production and Distribution

Glaphorn Allotment Gardeners' Association

Our allotments are continuing to flourish and are benefitting from the extra time that we have all been able to spend on them because of the restrictions in force due to Covid-19. It has been very pleasant to see our ploholders beavering away on their land and to wave to each other in acknowledgment.



The growing season has been very strange this year, as we are all too well aware, but our plots have been very productive - although some of us have struggled to have a decent crop of peas! Whether it was the pigeons or the pheasants or maybe something else most of us have had a very poor yield. However, the raspberries, currants, gooseberries etc have been wonderful.

Thank you to Graham and Ronnie for undertaking the grass cutting on our behalf and thank you to Ian Scott and his family for cutting back the hedge sides. Thank you also to Graham for his efforts in doing some of the clearing up on the verge after the builders. Thank you also to Chris and Monica Crosby for their support.

We are all so totally appreciative of our lovely allotments and their produce. I think I speak for all of us when I say that they have provided a haven of peace and stability for us all during these past six months.

We have a strong waiting list for plots which bodes well for the future.

We are waiting to hear what will happen to the eastern boundary of the allotments by the newly-built house.

Heather Ball, Secretary of Glaphorn Allotment Gardeners' Association

01832 273601 or 07962 085 720 or ball771@btinternet.com

Nature Notes

by Keith Alvey, volunteer warden for Short Wood

Work maintaining the local Wildlife Trust reserves has been intermittent due to the Covid-19 virus pandemic. Now that things are settling down a bit the staff members from the Trust are able to come out and clear trees felled by the weather and also start to mow the rides in the woods, using tractor-drawn mowers with grass collectors. The wardens have been restricted in what the Wildlife Trust will allow them to do, which has meant some of the local volunteers have been unable to come along and join the work parties. This year, we have again been doing some bat monitoring, using equipment borrowed from the 'Back from the Brink' project run by Butterfly Conservation staff based at Top Lodge, Fineshade. This entailed repeating the survey work performed last year around Short Wood and increasing our coverage to include Glaphorn Cow Pasture and Southwick Wood.

Last time I mentioned anticipating hearing Swifts screaming up and down the village. While I have not heard them I have seen several performing their aerobatic flights around the village.

Several trees brought down by the strong winds in August needed chainsaw operatives to cut them up and remove them from across rides and from leaning on the fence lines. Storm 'Ellen' will no doubt have caused more fallen branches and trees which will need clearing away.

Butterflies have been out and about in fairly good numbers: Silver Washed Fritillary, Ringlet and Marbled White in Short Wood, and Black Hairstreak in numbers in Glaphorn Cow Pasture.

As a new venture there are several YouTube videos showing flora and bird life in Southwick Wood. Below are links to those released so far:

Introduction to Southwick Wood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Jy71dCBhrU>)

Meet the Warden, Rupert Paul (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QesltA8rUTA>)

Birdsong in Southwick Wood (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xj_x5aNkgPM)

Spring in Southwick Wood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8UP9Ws3mjsc>)

Orchids in Southwick Wood (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RPNj_aK-Jbg)

Orchid hunter in Southwick Wood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yMCbenqDsE>)

Flora in Southwick Wood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6tarkXzScc>)

To ensure nature is still there for us in the future, as well as right now, please keep dogs on leads while walking around any nature reserve, follow the Countryside Code and remember to practise social distancing (without going off the paths).

GLAPTHORN PARISH COUNCIL



Glaphorn Playing Field

Significant progress has been made over the summer months with the completion of the following project elements:

- The playing field preparation and seeding
- Playing field and car park drainage works
- The access road
- The car park surfacing

The next steps involve the installation of the perimeter fence for both the field and the car park; signage/controls for the car park; tree/hedge planting and slit drainage of the pitch. However, there is still some statutory sign off by East Northants Council planners of the main construction works required, before we can make use of the facility.

Once again, we are very grateful for the support and help from the community, not least the enormously time consuming and seemingly endless stone-picking of the pitch!

The Parish Council

Parish Council meetings continue to operate remotely via Zoom whilst the Government restrictions remain in place. Villagers are able to join the meetings for the "Open Forum"; details on how to join the meetings are published with each agenda.

Communication & Contacts

Information relating to the Parish Council along with other Glaphorn and East Northamptonshire organisations can be found on the village website www.glaphorn.org.uk

You may also follow us on Facebook  and Twitter  @GlaphornCou

If you have any Glaphorn Website or Social Media content or news stories you want to share then please contact David Cashmore: david@theoldochard.co.uk or 01832 274768.

You can contact the Parish Council directly via email: parish.clerk@glaphorn.org.uk

Addendum to the Village Hall entry

Nick Knowles, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee wrote on 9 September : 'We were planning to open the Village Hall, but given today's changes in government regulations regarding Covid-19, the Hall will remain closed until government guidelines allow. We were so close to opening'.

Please send items for the December newsletter to Ursula Wide by 1 December.

Email: ursula.wide@btinternet.com

This newsletter is produced by the Church Council for the benefit of the Glaphorn Community.