

# GRASS

## THE NEWSLETTER AT THE ROOTS OF THE UNITED BENEFICE OF BLISWORTH AND STOKE BRUERNE/ SHUTLANGER, WITH GRAFTON REGIS AND ALDERTON

### Celebrating God's Creation

This next month or so normally sees most churches celebrating Harvest. We shall do so in each of our churches. The focus for all of this is God the creator. We will celebrate God's goodness and worship the One who by his powerful word brought all things into existence. Resisting the pull of idolatry we will be careful not to worship the created rather than the Creator. One of the Bible's sharpest definitions of idols is this: they are dumb; inarticulate, not speaking. Paul reminds the Corinthians that some had been led astray by such dumb idols (1 Cor 12.2). Distinguishing God the Creator, who is there and is not silent, from God's creation and from created produce is therefore easy. God speaks; the produce does not. It is true that the Psalmist exclaims (in a much quoted verse this time of year) "the heavens are telling the glory of God" – but we know of course that is a well-chosen figure of speech. Only the creator speaks. This why Paul said it so clearly "you turned from idols to worship and serve the living and true God" (1 Thess. 1.9).

So it is with great pleasure that we celebrate God's goodness in giving us good harvests even when, as this year's weather shows we are never fully in control of them, as when adverse weather intervenes. The truth is we want to acknowledge that God is sovereign; is Lord of all heaven and earth and gives us all we possess in his goodness. It is wonderful it mark God's work in creative power and the witness of nature to his Being. As we decorate our churches we do so for that reason. It is certainly not to show off anything nor just for aesthetic reasons. It is all about the glory of God our Sovereign Creator.

Harvest also has another strand of meaning in Scripture. There we read of the sowing of the Spirit and the harvest of the Spirit. And Jesus spoke of the "fields, white unto harvest". Let's pray that we will know a harvest which has truly been originated by the Spirit of God and can only be put down to the Spirit's action. We know there are large numbers people who have never actually said no to the Gospel; they have never actually heard what it is! As Christians we are called to be sowers of seed and also harvesters of lives. Sowing the seed of the Gospel and keeping on until there is a harvest.

In short Harvest is a wonderful picture of what God wants to see with human lives – grown in faith until ripe and ready for God's final harvest of which always sing: "all is safely gathered in; free from sorrow, free from sin" – God's final harvest is heaven indeed. Roy Mellor

### Useful Telephone Numbers for the United Benefice of Blisworth and Stoke Bruerne with Grafton Regis and Alderton

**Rector: The Revd Roy Mellor, tel 01604 879112**

**Churchwardens of Blisworth:** Mrs Angela Cheesbrough, tel 01604 859839 and Mrs Fiona McKenzie, tel 01604 859541

**Churchwardens of Stoke Bruerne:** Mrs Jackie Evans, tel 01604 862473 and Mr Brian Lewthwaite, tel 01604 863500

**Churchwarden of Grafton Regis:** Lord Charles Fitzroy, tel 01908 542908

**Churchwardens of Alderton:** Mrs Amanda Selvey, tel 01327 811380 and Mrs Daryl Halsey, tel 01327 811040

### Service Schedule for September 2007

#### *Sunday 2nd*

Blisworth: 8.00 a m - Holy Communion, 10.0 a m - Sunday Club, 11.00 a m - Morning Worship

Shutlanger: 9.30 a m - Morning worship

#### *Sunday 9th*

Stoke Bruerne: 9.30 a m - Holy Communion, including Sunday Club

Blisworth: 11.00 a m - Holy communion

#### *Sunday 16th*

Blisworth: 8.00 a m - NO SERVICE, 11.00 a m - Harvest Thanksgiving with Communion and a joint Service with Blisworth Baptist Church, Followed by a bring and share lunch. All are welcome.

Stoke Bruerne: 10.00 a m - Sunday Club

Grafton Regis: 9.30 a m - Harvest Thanksgiving with Communion

#### *Sunday 23rd*

Blisworth: 11.00 a m: All age Worship with Communion

Alderton: 9.30 a m - Harvest Thanksgiving with Communion

#### *Sunday 30th*

Grafton Regis: 10.30 am - United Benefice Service with Communion

No other Services today.



## STOKE BRUERNE

### The National Waterways Museum, Stoke Bruerne Honoured in People's Choice Awards

The National Waterways Museum, Stoke Bruerne, has been honoured in a prestigious awards scheme. The Museum, which is run by The Waterways Trust, was voted runner up in the People's Choice Award in the Northamptonshire Renaissance Heritage Awards.



The People's Choice Award, one of five categories in the awards scheme, is the only one voted for by members of the public. The Awards, supported by Renaissance East Midlands, are an annual event, recognising excellence in museums and heritage across the county. The People's Choice Award is supported by BBC Radio Northamptonshire.

Jane Seddon, the Northamptonshire museum development officer and coordinator of the awards, said: "We were overwhelmed by the excellence of the entries and delighted that they show the real achievements of museums and heritage groups across the county." David Henderson, General Manager of the National Waterways Museum, Stoke Bruerne, said: "We are honoured and excited to have received this accolade from the people of Northamptonshire. We know that families and canal enthusiasts alike have a great day out when they visit us as there's always plenty to see and enjoy both inside the Museum and out on the canal. It means a lot to us that so many people have taken the trouble to vote for the National Waterways Museum, Stoke Bruerne. For more information on the Pirate Weekend and other museum activities call 01604 862229.

Opening times: April to October – 10.00 a m – 5.00 p m daily and November to March – 11.00 a m – 4.00 p m daily (closed Christmas Day Boxing Day and New Year's Day). Admission: adult £4.75, child £4, concession £3.95, family ticket £14, under 5's free.

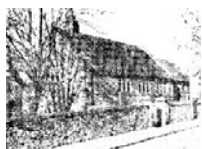
### Stoke Bruerne Village Hall

The next meeting of Stoke Bruerne Village Hall Management Committee is to be held on 7 September at 7.00 p m. Judy Cave.

### Women's Institute/Stoke Bruerne School Shields Competition

On Friday 20 July at the end of term service in Stoke Bruerne Church, W.I. shields were presented by W.I. President, Mrs. Mildred Cockram to three children considered to have made the greatest effort during the school year. Choosing the winners cannot have been an easy task for the teachers. Congratulations to the following children:

**Year 2: Charles Salter**      **Year 4: James Powell**      **Year 6: Andrew Greenhill** and to all the other children who must also have worked hard. The service and presentation ceremony progressed very happily and many certificates in a wide variety of subjects were given to the children. There were a lot of happy faces. All good wishes to the boys and girls who are moving on to new schools; we hope they will settle in happily and do well in their studies. To the staff and children who will be at Stoke Bruerne School during the new school year we send greetings and wish them all well.



## SHUTLANGER

### Stoke Bruerne and Shutlanger Women's Institute

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 September at 2.00 p m in Stoke Bruerne Village Hall. Trisha Bailey will speak about 'What the Post Lady saw' and the competition subject is 'An old postage stamp'.

### Harvest Songs of Praise and Lunch - Sunday, 7 October, at 12.30pm, in Shutlanger Village Hall, incorporating St Anne's Chapel.

A short service of Harvest hymns and readings will be followed by the Harvest lunch. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2.50 for children, for a hot lunch followed by dessert, cheese and coffee, and are available from Mary Brown. 01604 863326, Margaret Fitzhugh, 01604 768618 and Jackie Evans, 01604 862473. Wine is also available. As in previous years, we are asking everyone to bring along a suitable gift of tinned or dried food which will be donated to the Northampton Night Shelter. Thank you.

We look forward to welcoming you to this very popular Harvest Songs of Praise with lunch.

Are you able to offer any help towards the lunch? Cooking, preparing the room, help with clearing? Any help, no matter how small would be very welcome. Contact Mary, Margaret or Jackie. Thank you.

Jackie Evans



## **BLISWORTH**

### **Baptism**

Phoebe Pippa Bywater was baptised on Sunday 5 August in St John's Church. Phoebe lives with her parents, Haidee and David, in Stoke Road. Her grandparents are Kitti Vaughan, Helen Reynolds and Richard Bywater. Phoebe, who is 18 months old, was very well behaved despite the fact that she had recently come out in chickenpox and so was a spotty young lady on the occasion of her baptism.

### **Keswick Convention**

We have heard about the Keswick Convention from time to time, especially from our Rector. Every year, the Convention runs for 3 weeks and this year we were well represented at it. During the first week, Warden Fiona was there, then Roy and Sue went for the second week and then Mary Griffin was there for the final week, acting as a steward. We are grateful to Fiona for writing this account of her time at the Convention.

'Having heard a lot about the Keswick Convention from people who regularly attend, I decided to find out for myself this year what it is all about. Started in 1875, the Convention runs for three July weeks in the charming Cumbrian market town of Keswick. I had booked a b & b for the first week, and arrived on the Saturday afternoon. From the comprehensive programme and information book, I found that the week started that evening with the opening celebration in the main tent, which holds a staggering 3,000 people! The singing, the music and the worship were just wonderful – some songs new and some well-known, but always with the special 'Keswick sound'. On Sunday, I chose one of the local Churches, all of which hosted well-known speakers, and then from Monday, there began a full programme of lectures, seminars, bible study, theatre, displays – and more music!

The seminars, arranged as four or five sessions over the week, were enlightening, interesting and often challenging. I made lots of notes and brought home CD's of some of the talks, and books from several Christian outlets. The final evening celebration on Friday included Communion and it was very moving to participate with such a large number of worshippers.

The atmosphere in the town was lovely; you began to recognise people, and everyone stopped and spoke to each other, and gathering at tables in the many eating places you met even more folk. A couple staying in my b & b for a walking holiday also mentioned the great atmosphere! There is a comprehensive youth programme for children of all ages, and there were many families, some camping or staying in caravans. There was also time to explore the wonderful Lake District, and there are walks for all levels of ability. A boat trip round Derwent Water (not many minutes' walk from the town centre) provided a relaxing hour.

I found it all a wonderful experience, and came home on something of a 'high' – and I have booked my accommodation for next year. It's well worth looking into.'

### **PCC Meeting**

Our last PCC meeting was held, in Church, on Wednesday evening 11 July, so this is a rather belated report on the most important matters which were discussed then.

Thanks were reiterated to all who had helped in any way at all at the 'indoor garden party'.

The utilities project is nearing completion at last! The toilet is functioning – there will be a poly vinyl safety floor cover and John Cheesbrough says he will sand and seal the wooden part of the floor (many thanks). What a pleasure to be able to report that already, a guest at a baptism, having travelled some distance and getting desperate, was much relieved on being told that: 'yes, we do have a toilet'. We have been advised that the toilet should be kept locked except when the Church is in use. Bills are coming in for the work; some have been paid and the total cost is projected to be £24,788.39.

The stone wall near the gate in Church Lane must be repaired soon and the cost is likely to be just under £1,000. Our insurers have been asked to consider whether we can make a claim to them, perhaps on account of the exceptional weather recently.

There was discussion about the purchase of a motor mower, to have in reserve for emergency cutting, to be stored in the Rector's garage. Thanks were again expressed to Steve Newbery for all the hard work he has put into the mowing, and good wishes were again extended for his full recovery soon.

The organ box is disintegrating, due to extensive woodworm, and needs to be replaced with some urgency. Fiona McKenzie will organise the organ tuner to arrange for this to be done. Likely cost will be about £800. Essential expenses do seem to be piling in on us!

At the Deanery Synod meeting in July, far reaching and controversial proposals for changes in the Deanery were discussed. Each member of the PCC was given a copy of the Towcester Deanery Mission Plan to read and study, so that it can be discussed at the PCC meeting in October.

Elizabeth Newbery

These recent months have been exciting ones for Lizzie, who grew up with parents, Caroline and Andy, and brother, James, in Westbrook. Over the years, Lizzie has seemed to be drawn towards a job which involved wearing a uniform, and she was for some time a part time Special Constable. Eventually, her choice was the Army, and in particular, the Royal Military Police. After her interviews, she reported for training at Pirbright Barracks in Surrey, and from what we are told, the initial training was pretty gruelling. This was followed by Military Police training, but all was successfully accomplished, leading up to her big day. Her passing out parade was on Thursday 9 August at Southwick near Portsmouth, when Lizzie was resplendent in her new red cap. Among the guests were her proud parents and her equally proud grandparents, Win and Joe Pyke. What is Lizzie doing now? Well, now Lance Corporal Newbery, she has gone to Germany for one month of further training and then she is posted to Iraq. Lizzie is the only girl among her entry for training who is posted to Iraq, so that tells us how impressive she has been while training. Our prayers go with her.



Dates for September

*Saturday 8 September* – sponsored cycle ride in aid of Northamptonshire Historic Churches Fund and our own Church – sponsorship form is in Church.

*Sunday 16 September* – Harvest Festival service with Communion at 11.00 a.m. The Baptist Chapel congregation is invited to join with us at this service and at the bring and share lunch which will follow it. Please remember that there will not be an 8.00 a.m. Communion service on this day.

Finally

From a Church poster – ‘God sees us as we can be but He loves us as we are’. This can be read quickly, but it takes a little while to understand it fully and to appreciate it fully.



**ALDERTON**

<u>Church Cleaning Rota</u>	September	Sue Donnelly & Catherine Partridge
<u>Churchyard Rota</u>	25 August – 9 September	Graham Welch (whole Churchyard)
	10 – 21 September	Sara & James Rudd
	22 September – 5 October	Anna & Lloyd Brooks

**Service date: 23 September (Harvest Festival)**



Shakespeare on the Mount

How ironic that in the awful wet summer of 2007, Twelfth Night at The Mount on 11 and 12 August took place on two idyllic summer's evenings. But in addition to the lovely weather there is a considerable unanimity from those regulars who came along that this was the best production ever. So a great success all round with over two hundred spectators each evening. No decision has yet been made by Heartbreak Productions about which plays they will be touring with next year, but we should know this soon.

A lot of people put in a huge amount of work. Particular thanks are due to Doris Knights who stepped in to help with the refreshments at the last moment and to David Barker who repaired a damaged step just as folk were coming up the staircase. Other stalwarts include Sonia and Ashley Cattle, Ian Cameron, Chris Marley, Alison Samain, Margaret Hall-Townley and, Roy Gilbert to mention just a few. Derek Batten



## GRAFTON REGIS

### History Walk & Talks

Our Walk & Talks have now finished for the season and we would just like to let people know how funds were raised and distributed. There were fourteen walks during which we entertained 480 people from places as far afield as Lincoln and Greenwich. After all expenses had been deducted, the Village Hall funds benefited by £1,495.10 and a total of £299.35 was raised towards a replacement for the Church boundary.

Our visitors also contributed a further £445.65 to Church funds. Merchandise sold on behalf of the Millennium Fund totalled £446 and commission on these sales, which amounted to £101.50, remains as yet unallocated.



Our thanks to all those who gave up their afternoons/evenings to make these events so successful, particularly those who came from other villages to replace missing characters and to help with catering, and just a reminder to you all that we already have a number of confirmed bookings for next season!

Looking forward to seeing you all again in 2008 - thanks again.

Joy Wilson

### Irene Holman

Irene reached a 'significant birthday' on 13 August, we are not saying which one but in five years time she will get a telegram from the Queen!!

Rene did not want a party but agreed to a 'drop-in' to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. She was delighted that so many people came along to help make this a special day and that many who were unable to attend nonetheless made generous contributions. At the time of writing a total of £306 has been donated. On behalf of Rene, a big THANK YOU to all of you.

Joy Wilson

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Everyone was so generous last year (we raised £370) that there will be a MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING at 5, Church Lane, Grafton Regis on FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER. Looking forward to seeing YOU any time between 9.00 a m and 2.00 p m to help in the raising of funds for this worthy cause.

Joy Wilson

## GENERAL NEWS

### Advanced Warning of Firework Use

The use of fireworks has greatly increased over the years; no longer are they used solely to celebrate Guy Fawkes' downfall on 5 November. Many people love to have a firework display at their wedding, birthday party etc. and many people have animals – cats, dogs, horses, cattle etc that are terrified of the screams, whistles and bangs created by these fireworks.

I am setting up an early warning service of any firework use in the area. The aim is to call upon those who are having a firework display to spend a moment to drop me an email or telephone giving the date, estimated detonation time and duration of the display. I will then contact all those who have registered to be informed, of every intended use. I will not split the list into areas; everyone will be informed of all use as the noise created can travel miles dependent on weather/wind direction. My aim is to give advanced warning so that those affected can take appropriate action, if at all possible, to ensure the safety of their property and animals. In the past there has been livestock put to sleep due to the injuries caused by bolting/charging through fences in fear.

If you wish to be included on the advanced warning list please email [janisgilbert@btinternet.com](mailto:janisgilbert@btinternet.com) or ring 01604 862245.

All I ask is that those of you who have a firework display organised to please let me know on the contact details given above. The suffering of the animals affected and the wreckage caused by them during this period may be avoided if you take a few minutes to contact me. I am not being a party pooper, I enjoy seeing fireworks, just not hearing them.

May I take this opportunity to remind people of the law, quoted below:

***'It is an offence to let fireworks off during night hours (11.00 p m to 7.00 a m), except on Bonfire Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year, and Chinese New Year (1.00 a m).'***

### New Police Front Office Opening Times



Changes have been made to the opening times of front offices of police stations across Northamptonshire.

Following a review of the front desk operating hours, changes in opening times came into force on Wednesday 1 August. In total, the ten police stations open to the public will be open for business for an additional 21.5 hours, but senior officers are keen to stress that Northamptonshire Police provides a 24-7 policing service, even when the front offices are closed.

Chief Inspector Dave Hill, of Northamptonshire West, said:

*"The new front office opening hours are based on analysis of recent use of the front desks, so should reflect when people are wanting to visit us in person, to drop off documents for example, or hand in found property. This is the most efficient use of our resources. I would like to reassure people that we still provide a dedicated 24-7 policing service even when our police stations are closed to the public, and there are many other ways that people can contact us for assistance, including by telephone and Internet."*

In an emergency, people should continue to call 999. At all other times, call Northamptonshire Police on 08453 700700 or contact the Force via [www.northants.police.uk](http://www.northants.police.uk). If you want to report a crime or pass on some information, and want to remain anonymous, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

The new front office opening times are:

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Towcester	1300-1800	1300-1800	1300-1800	1300-1800	1300-1800	Closed	Closed

### Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance is a tax free benefit for children and adults who need help with personal care or have walking difficulties because they are physically or mentally disabled. You may be entitled to Disability Living Allowance if:

- You have a physical or mental disability, or both
- Your disability is severe enough for you to need help caring for yourself, or you have walking difficulties, or both
- You are under 65 when you claim

If you are aged 65 or over, you may be entitled to a different benefit called attendance allowance.

You can get Disability Living Allowance whether or not you work, and it is not usually affected by any savings or income you may have.

Disability Living Allowance has two parts called “components”:

- A care component – if you need care looking after yourself, or supervision to keep you safe.
- A mobility component – if you can’t walk or need help getting around.

Some people will be entitled to receive just one component, others may get both. They are paid at different rates depending on how your disability affects you.

It is normally paid directly into your bank account, although it can be received by someone else if you wish. If you start to get Disability Living Allowance, it might increase the amount of other benefits or credits you are entitled to, for example, housing benefit, council tax benefit, working tax credit and child tax credit.

To order a claim pack to find out if you are entitled to Disability Living Allowance, phone the Benefits Enquiry Line on 0800 88 22 00. Alternatively, contact the Welfare Rights Service on 01604 636112 for further details, or to make an appointment at Towcester or Brackley Volunteer Centres.

### **Attendance Allowance**

Attendance Allowance is a tax-free benefit for people aged 65 or over, who need help with personal care because they are physically or mentally disabled. It is not usually affected by any savings or income you may have. How much you get depends on how much your disability affects you. There are two rates of Attendance Allowance:

Higher rate = £64.50 per week (if you need help or supervision throughout the day and during the night.)

Lower rate = £43.15 per week (if you need help or supervision frequently throughout the day only, or during the night only, or someone with you when you are on dialysis.)

It is normally paid directly into your bank account, although it can be received by someone else if you wish. If you start to get Attendance Allowance, it might increase the amount of other benefits or credits you are entitled to, for example, housing benefit, council tax benefit or pension credit. It is not taken as income for working out income-related benefits and credits.

Your disability must require you to need:

- Help with things such as washing, getting in or out of the bath or shower, dressing, eating, getting to and using the toilet, or communicating your needs, or
- Supervision to avoid putting yourself or others in substantial danger, for example, needing someone to keep an eye on your medical condition or diet, or
- Someone with you when you are on dialysis

You can get Attendance Allowance even if no-one is even actually giving you the care you need – even if you live alone. You will not usually need a medical examination when you claim for Attendance Allowance.

To order a claim pack to find out if you are entitled to Attendance Allowance, phone the Benefits Enquiry Line on 0800 88 22 00

Alternatively, contact the Welfare Rights Service on 01604 636112 for further details, or to make an appointment at Towcester or Brackley Volunteer Centres.

### **Horse Manure for Sale**

Horse manure, off the pasture, 50p per bag. (PYO. free!)

Proceeds to Brooke Horse Charity. Phone Mercia Cooper on 01604 863397, 8 Rookery Lane, Stoke Bruerne

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ No 81

1. Who was the first team to win a cup final at the new Wembley Stadium?
2. What time did the Battle of Waterloo start?
3. In what year was DNA discovered?
4. In 1968 the first inter-racial kiss on American TV took place in which long running series?
5. How many centimetres make up a hand, the measurement used on horses?
6. Which singer has appeared in films playing characters called 'Danny Fisher', 'Glenn Tyler', and 'Lucky Jackson'?
7. What is the second most common word in written English?
8. Which one is the odd one out - The Black Panther, El Nino, Monty, or The Golden Bear?
9. From which European town do Dalmation dogs get their name?
10. What film was the ship 'Compass Rose' featured in?
11. How much money did Virginia Wade receive on winning the ladies' title at Wimbledon?
12. In which European country is it illegal to sell dolls which do not have a human face?
13. What was used on the field of play in the 1973 F.A. Cup Final but has never been used again?
14. Nana is the name of the dog in which famous children's story?
15. Which Japanese word translates into English as 'empty orchestra'?
16. Which geographical location was the first word spoken on the moon?
17. Which African country has the highest population?
18. Which word in the NATO Phonetic Alphabet would score the most points in a game of Scrabble?
19. 'Reroute novelist snobs' is an anagram of which author?
20. How many different Prime Ministers has the Queen given an audience to?

### SNIPPETS:

*Burning the candle at both ends is messy and impractical*

*He who hesitates lets another make the first mistake.*

*Bloom where you are planted.*

*Dogs have so many friends because they wag their tails instead of their tongues.*

*Self pity is like kicking the thing you stubbed your toe on.*

**Quizzly comments ....I am amazed again with the standard of answers as I had made last month's quiz very tricky, I expected some low scores but as usual, you proved me wrong. Also it was nice to see some previous quiz entrants and a new face in Andrew Woodward joining us. First this month with a rare 20, was Judy Cave (well done!), who received the £5 voucher to be spent at the Alderton Art Festival, followed by Andrew Woodward. Neil Cornwall got one up on his dad with 18. Derek Cornwell and Chris Clayson scored 17 and June Scott with no use of computers just her brilliant brain completing our list, but getting her answers to us in record time. For the keen ones I was very strict on question 15 as its aerial not air. I again hope to get the better of you all this month with some more difficult questions so get your thinking caps on to win this month's prize of some home made jam/preserve/chutney. Best of luck. Quizzly**

### Answers to last month's Quiz

1. In which year was the first English translation of the Bible completed?	1388
2. Who was the first woman to be shot by the FBI?	Bonnie Parker (of Bonnie and Clyde fame)
3. In which city would you find O'Hare International Airport?	Chicago
4. Which country has the longest coastline in the world?	Canada
5. In which country was ice cream invented?	China
6. What is the cockney rhyming slang for 'Harpers and Queens'?	Jeans
7. What film do you get from the anagram 'Leave On Scene'?	Ocean's Eleven
8. Who were Manchester United playing when Eric Cantona performed his famous kung-fu kick?	Crystal Palace
9. Hippopotomonstrosesquippedalophobia is the fear of what?	Words
10. Alan Shepherd, Neil Armstrong, John Glenn and Buzz Aldrin - which is the odd one out?	John Glenn he never walked on the moon
11. At the time of her golden jubilee, how many ships had the Queen launched?	17
12. How many players take part in the first round of the men's singles at Wimbledon?	128
13. How many letters are there in the Cambodian alphabet?	74
14. Which toy was originally called 'Pluto Platter' when it was first sold in 1955?	Frisbee
15. What do the initial letters stand for in 'QANTAS'?	Queensland And Northern Territory Aerial Services
16. What three letter word was removed from decimal coins in 1982?	New
17. In which capital city is the largest museum in the world?	Paris (The Louvre)
18. By what name was the author Eric Arthur Blair better known?	George Orwell
19. What is the only bird that is capable of seeing the colour blue?	The Owl
20. From the sun, what is the name of the nearest star?	Proxima Centauri

## Pilates classes at Grafton Regis Village Hall

### Pilates Classes

The popularity of the Pilates classes held locally at Grafton Regis village continues and the classes have become well established, there are however a number of places available in both classes for anyone interested.

The class times are:

Thursday evenings: 6.00 p m to 7.00 p m  
7.15 p m to 8.15 p m



The classes are run with numbers being kept strictly to a maximum of 9 or 10 to ensure personal attention, and last one hour including a therapeutic relaxation session at the end.

Please contact Jane Aldred-Lock on 01908-543267, we look forward very much to hearing from you.

N.B. Grafton Regis Village Hall is a registered charity and any profits made by the Activity Zone go towards the upkeep of the hall.



The Algernon Trust Animal Sanctuary in Whittlebury urgently needs good homes for cats and kittens.

The Trust has never refused to take in a cat who had nowhere else to go but now, with nearly 80 cats in its care, many of whom are elderly or feral cats unlikely to be re-homed, it is running out of space to house any of the 20 or so cats on its waiting list.

If you could offer a loving home to a cat or if you would consider becoming one of **Algy's Angels** and foster a cat, or dog, for the Trust, please contact Jane Shepherd on 01327 858238

Rural Reach.....supporting activity  
in the voluntary and community sector

## "Rural Reach at the Racecourse"

**Empress Suite**

**Towcester Racecourse**

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

**2.00pm to 8.00 pm**

More than 25 voluntary and community sector support organisations will be available to give information, advice and guidance to local community and village groups.

Don't miss out on this important opportunity to find out what help and support your organisation can receive to make it even better!

For further information contact:

**SNVB**  
Volunteer Centre - Towcester  
Moat Lane  
Towcester  
Northants NN12 6AD  
☎ 01327 358264      info@snvb.org.uk

SNVB is a Registered Charity No 1104848 and Company Limited by Guarantee No 5068116



**MAURICE CASTLE**  
**HOME AND GARDEN SERVICES**  
OF GRAFTON REGIS

.....GRAVEL DRIVES, BLOCK PAVING,  
PATIOS, PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL WORK,  
GENERAL GARDENING, MOWING, HEDGE  
CUTTING, STRIMMING, ROTOVATING,  
FENCING, SHOWER INSTALLATION, TILING,  
PAINTING AND DECORATING, GENERAL  
CARPENTRY.....

**Tel: 01908 542274**

**Mobile: 07890  
921250**

## United Benefice Calendar for 2007

All groups and organisations within the community are warmly invited to include events here.

### September

- 1 Alderton Art Festival
- 2 Alderton Art Festival
- 6 Health walk in Salcey Forest, meet 2.00 p m at the café
- 7 Stoke Bruerne Village Hall Management Committee meeting, 7.00 p m, SB Village Hall
- 11 Stoke Bruerne & Shutlanger WI, SB V.Hall, 2.00 p m. Speaker: Trisha Bailey, subject: what the post lady saw, competition: an old postage stamp.
- 8 Historic Churches Trust Cycle ride
- 12 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 13 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m
- 16 Combined Annual Home & Garden Produce Show, SB Village Hall
- 16 Harvest Festival service, Blisworth
- 23 Harvest Festival service, 9.30 a m, Alderton
- 26 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 28 Macmillan coffee morning, 5 Church Lane, Grafton Regis, 9.00 a m to 2.00 p m

### October

- 4 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m
- 7 Harvest Songs of Praise and Lunch, 12.30 p m, Shutlanger Village Hall
- 9 Stoke Bruerne & Shutlanger WI, SB V.Hall, 2.00 p m, Annual General Meeting. Competition: a pig made from a vegetable.
- 10 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 24 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 25 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m

### November

- 3 Bonfire night celebrations in the field, Alderton
- 7 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 11 Remembrance Sunday
- 15 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m
- 21 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 24 Christmas bazaar, Blisworth

### December

- 5 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 6 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m
- 19 Health walk, Stoke Bruerne, 10.00 a m
- 20 Carol Service, Blisworth, 6.30 p m
- 24 Christingle service, Blisworth. Midnight Communion 11.30 p m, Blisworth
- 25 Holy Communion, Alderton, 10.30 a m
- 27 Mobile library to Navigation car park, Stoke Bruerne, 3.10 p m to 3.30 p m
- 30 Benefice service, 11.00 a m, Blisworth

### **THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF GRASS is 14 September 2007**

**If you can get any copy to us earlier than that it would be very much appreciated.**

Please send any copy to:

Linda Dards, Moorend, Spring Lane, Alderton NN12 7LW tel 01327 811265, fax 811874, e-mail: linda@dards.net

**Could you please include your name & phone number with entries in case we have any problems**

If you would like to add photographs or drawings to your text these are welcome and can be supplied via email or as photos, and returned after scanning. Contributions by email are most welcome, we can accept most formats; please request a response from us on receipt – so you are sure that we have your submission.

Word (any version) is preferred.