

THE LINK

The Magazine of The Knightley Parishes



— HAPPY —
Bastille Day
— 14TH OF JULY —

July 2026

No. 419

Badby ☒ Newnham ☒ Charwelton ☒ Fawsley ☒ Preston Capes ☒ Everdon



THE KNIGHTLEY PARISHES

www.knightleybenefice.org.uk

An on-line version of this magazine in colour is available on the web site

Services for July 2026

	5 July I Trinity 5	12 July II Trinity 6	19 July III Trinity 7	26 July IV Trinity 8	2 August I Trinity 9
Badby	11:00 Holy Communion CW [AoN]	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	10:00 United Benefice Service of Holy Communion CW at Newnham [+EC]	11:00 Morning Worship [Lay SR]	11:00 Holy Communion CW [GS]
Newnham	X	X		11:00 Holy Communion CW [MB]	X
Charwelton	09:30 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [AoN]	X		17:00 Evensong BCP (Church) [Lay GW]	09:30 Holy Communion BCP (Church) [GS]
Fawsley	X	11:00 Holy Communion BCP [CP]		X	X
Preston Capes	X	09:30 Holy Communion CW [CP]		10:00 Morning Prayer CW [Lay GH]	X
Everdon	X	09:30 Morning Worship CW [Lay SR]		09:30 Holy Communion CW [MB]	X

OTHER SERVICES

Tuesday 21 July

6.30 pm

Badby

ESOW

SUNDAY READINGS

Principal Service CW

- for other services see Lectionary

Date	Feast	OT Reading	NT Reading	Gospel
5 Jul	Trinity 5	Zech. 9, 9-12	Rom. 7, 15-25a	Matt. 11, 16-19 & 25-end
12 Jul	Trinity 6	Isa. 55, 10-13	Rom. 8, 1-11	Matt. 13, 1-9& 18-23
19 Jul	Trinity 7	Wisd. 12, 13 & 16-19	Rom. 8, 12-25	Matt. 13, 24-30 & 36-43
26 Jul	Trinity 8	1 Kings 3, 5-12	Rom. 8, 26-end	Matt. 13, 31-33 & 44-52
2 Aug	Trinity 9	Isa. 55, 1-5	Rom. 9, 1-5	Matt. 14, 13-21

PLEASE NOTE, that in accordance with the decision made at the June Benefice Council meeting, those services previously held at 0915hrs. will now start at 0930hrs.

FROM THE REGISTERS



HOLY MATRIMONY

at Fawsley
on 20th June

Demi Louise Nicholls
and
Alexander Nicholas Whitehall
[by Revd Stephen Burrow]

*Blessed are you, heavenly Father
You give joy to bridegroom and bride*



IN MEMORIAM

at Charwelton
on 17th. June
Adam Robert Hunter
[by Bishop Ed. Condry]

*Grant him peace,
and let light perpetual shine upon him*

EDITORIAL

At the end of May we were sitting in the garden at dusk one evening, the sun was shining, here was not a breath of wind, birds of all sorts were singing as they fed from the feeders, but not another sound was to be heard. How lucky we are to live in a place like this.

On 24 May the blue tit chicks finally fledged but sadly we found that two of them had been left dead in the nest box. There didn't seem to be any obvious reason for that, and it's not a situation we have ever had before - but that's nature I suppose. There was no sign (after we had removed the bodies!) of the parents returning to start another brood, so now we just wait to see what happens next year.

A pair of swallows took up their usual residence in the garage roof and have produced a brood of 5 chicks all of which have fledged and flown the nest successfully. We shall see if they produce another brood.

But there is better news about the hedgehogs. Some of you may have seen reports on the Charwelton Facebook page that our neighbour recently found a nest of baby hoglets in his lambing shed. He took those to a hedgehog rescue centre in Newnham, and I am pleased to report that all 5 hoglets are now thriving and the plan is to release them, when they are old enough, to where they were found. So maybe we shall be starting a small colony of them. Excellent news. (if you want to see them feeding go to www.facebook.com/reel/2471172626656464)

This year we have, for the first time for some years, been able to see young woodpeckers (the greater spotted variety) being fed by their parents outside the kitchen

windows. The care and attention those birds pay to their offspring is amazing.

Our son Richard, who is part-way through a round-the-world sailing trip, has just posted about Point Nemo, which is the point on the earth that is farthest from any landmass. They are currently in that sort of area (south Pacific Ocean) and he has sent us some fun facts (or factoids as he puts it) about it

- * About 48°52.6'S, 123°23.6'W in the South Pacific Ocean.

- * Roughly 2,688 km (1,670 miles) from the nearest land in any direction.

- * The nearest humans are sometimes (get this)... aboard the International Space Station when it passes overhead, since the astronauts can be closer than any people on land.

Last week I was watching Trooping the Colour, as is my wont each year, and I found myself admiring again the tremendously smart appearance of all those taking part - from the King downwards. I am always full of admiration for the care and attention which they all pay to their appearance, and their obvious desire not to let down themselves, their comrades, and those who come to watch them. Well done all!

Irecently read an account in The Spectator where Justin Webb (he of the "Today" programme) was discussing the things that the youngest generation of adults seem to find perplexing. He tells the story of his daughter Martha who, while on one of those punishing Duke of Edinburgh Award trips, telephoned him saying "Daddy, I'm standing in a thing called a phone box".

David

PASTORAL LETTER

A season of transition

July is a season of transition. For many of our young people it's time for well-earned break after exams and the anxious wait for results – with all that can mean.

For others of us, it may be time for a holiday; or finding space to recharge our batteries.

For a few in our churches, those being ordained deacon or priest, it marks both an end and a beginning: the conclusion of a long period of preparation, study and formation; and then coming to terms with a new role, new expectations and new responsibilities.

Whatever July means for us personally, in the Church's calendar it's just a fragment of ordinary time; with none of the drama we associate with Christmas or Easter, or Pentecost, (just as of course, for many of us, July will not bring any respite from our regular routine).

Nevertheless, God is with us in the ordinary moments as well as in the times of crisis, he is with us in

stability as well as in change. When we rest, he is the still point of the turning world, when in times of change or trial he sustains and upholds us.



As the psalmist puts it: 'If I take to the wings of the morning and settle in the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me and your right hand shall hold me fast.'
(Psalm 139: 9-10)

Whatever July means for you, may you find Christ's peace at the heart of it all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Dalliston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

*The Very Revd Chris Dalliston
Dean of Peterborough*

BENEFICE PAGE

PLEASE NOTE, that in accordance with the decision made at the June Benefice Council meeting, those services previously held at 0915hrs. will now start at 0930hrs.

EVENING SERVICE OF THE WORD

This short lay-led service is held once a month on the Tuesday evening following the third Sunday at St Mary's Badby from 6.30pm to 7pm. The next gatherings will be on 21 July and 18 August. There is always a brief talk about someone inspirational. All welcome!

BADBY FAYRE AND THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW!

This year the Badby Horticultural Show will be part of Badby Fayre on Sunday 13 September. We are planning to have a stall at the village hall with a colourful show of plants and produce – and lots of prizes to award as well! More information on the categories for these and how to enter the competition will follow soon. Meanwhile, please put the date in your diary and get involved!

The society is for everyone with a keen interest in gardening, be it for flowers or vegetables. Whilst horticulture is the central plank of the society, its three guiding principles are inclusively, fun and community. New members, of any age, are most welcome and membership is free!. Should you wish to obtain more information on any of our events, please contact us via sophiefitzhugh@yahoo.co.uk.

BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY

Friday 26th June: The Penguin Lessons (2024)

Based on the best-selling 2015 memoir by a former teacher, who becomes politically aware after he adopts a penguin during a cataclysmic period in Argentine history. Directed by Peter Cattaneo [The Full Monty] and starring Steve Coogan and Jonathan Pryce. It's a poignant true-story heart warmer, "elevated by a winning performance from Coogan, with a little help from a loveable pint-sized companion." [112 mins, 12 certificate]

Friday 31st July: H is for Hawk (2025)

Biographical drama based on the 2014 memoir by naturalist Helen MacDonald, who tends to a goshawk after the death of her father. Nominated for a BAFTA, it stars Claire Foy and Brendan Gleeson. "Pairing Claire Foy's psychologically raw performance with lush, evocative imagery, the film approaches its tale of grief and acceptance with bruising realism and thoughtful candour." [115 mins, 12 certificate]



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ruthmackman@btinternet.com or
<https://bookwhen.com/kindheartiyogawithruth>

PARISH NOTICES

BADBY

Correspondent - Geoff Pullin (gcsspullin@yahoo.com)
 website: www.badby-pc.gov.uk

	Reader	Sidesman	Coffee
5 Jul	F. Williams J. Peel	J. Jordan G. Nelson	J. Hall
12 Jul	J. Jordan C. Richards	F. Williams J. Hall	C. Richards
26 Jul	N. Shaw C. Wakeford	F. Williams N. Shaw	A. Syred

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CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR JULY

w/b 29 June: Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper

w/b 6: Jo Hind, Judy Jordan, Gill Nelson

w/b 13: Ann Cotton, Monique Shortt, Ann Syred

w/b 20: Gillie Morley, Ann Skinner, Helen Morris

w/b 27: Jan Cooper, Moira Cooper

T 4 U

On Friday 3 July, we hope you can come to the village hall between 2.30 and 4.30pm to enjoy sunshine with your tea and cakes in the lovely outdoor seating.

CRICKET CLUB

The first win of the season still eludes the Badby & Farthingstone club.

Two away trips - to nearby Everdon and Buckingham Town - were punctuated with a midweek T20 loss to the Thirsty Knights. At long standing rivals Everdon, the presence of two 'galactios' in the home ranks was enough to sway the game in Everdon's favour. Our wickets were evenly shared between Steve

Haynes, Alex and Dom Goddard, Dhillon Choksi and Ollie Tierney; wicket-keeper Richard Bull starring behind the stumps with a stumping and an unusual catch using both his pads to trap the ball. Everdon totalled 182, two run outs and accurate Everdon bowling saw us fall 80 runs short.

Away at Buckingham, the home side were initially struggling at 43 for 3 before recovering to make over 200. Pick of our bowlers was Jordan Shingler who took six wickets. Set over 200 to win, we got off to a good start with good batting coming from Richard Bull, Nathan and Steve Haynes who recorded our best score.

With three home games at its Longroods ground on Sundays in July (5 Culworth Casuals; 12 Crooked Hooker XI; 19 Northampton Eaglets and 26 Napton CC) the club looks forward to welcoming new players and visitors who want to play friendly, social cricket. We are also looking for local sponsors to support its development plans. Contact chairman Andy Nightingale at andyntingale234@gmail.com

BADBY & FAWSLEY WI

Summer is here at last and we will be having A Spanish Fiesta to celebrate on Thursday 9 July in a member's garden. New members are very welcome. To arrange a free taster visit or for further information about this thriving and friendly WI, please contact Jan Cooper on jancooper2012@me.com or Jackie Peel on jackiepeel22@gmail.com 9 July

BADBY PEOPLE AND PLACES

Join us on Sunday 12 July from 1 to 5pm, for a new exhibition in the village hall about Badby and its links with the past. Displays include: The Grange, a mediaeval monastic grange; Bells older than the tower; Where you live, how the village has developed over 250 years; Tracking

your family history; a Badby Timeline; and activities for families. Refreshments available.

Help us find out more about Badby's past, and preserve documents, photos and memories stretching up to the present day; and if you have something that you would like to share, please talk to any of us (Helen Morris, Hilary Mensah, Ann Skinner, Geoff Pullin, Pat Butler, Peter Cooper) about it in advance or email us at badbyhistorygroup@gmail.com.

BELLRINGING

On Saturday 18 July the Daventry Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers will hold their monthly practice, service, tea and meeting in St Mary's church. Anyone enthused by Bells + BBQ, or missed it, will be welcome to come along between 3pm – 4.30pm and to the short service led by Susan Rose. In the evening from 7pm the group will practice with the Culworth Branch at Charwelton Church.

COFFEE MORNING

We look forward to seeing you at our next coffee morning on Tuesday 21 July in St. Mary's, from 10.30am to noon. All are welcome to come along and try our cakes. There is always much coffee and conversation, and the church draw will be made.

The winners in the May draw were 1st: Jo Hind, 2nd: Kay Purnell, 3rd: Philip Turvil and, in June, 1st: Ann Skinner; 2nd: William Brodie, 3rd: Paul Fox.

BADBY FAYRE 2026

We are still looking for residents who would like to join in with the preparations for Badby Fayre which this year will be on Sunday 13 September. There are quite a variety of stalls,

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and jobs to be done to raise money for the church for which your suggestions and help will be welcomed by Judy Jordan.

NEWNHAM

Correspondent - Ellen Henning
(ellen.henning@hotmail.co.uk)

The classes for the Fun Dog Show 2026 will be:

1. Most gorgeous puppy (under 12 months)
2. Loveliest lady dog
3. Most fabulous fella dog
4. Dog with the waggiest tail
5. Gorgeous golden oldie (7 & over)
6. Best simple obedience (sit, down, stay)
7. Best junior handler (under 12)
8. Best dog trick
9. Best biscuit catcher
10. Dog judge would most like to take home.

VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to Bob Caldwell and Christine Warburton who donated the profit from the bar at Bob's recent Harlem Jazz Orchestra concert to the hall. The £180 received is greatly appreciated and will be used for the continuing upkeep.

CHURCH FAIR

The usual St Mary's church craft fair will be held on Saturday 6 December.

BLUEBELL CAFÉ

Opening times are Tuesday to Friday 8am to 4pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am - 2pm, next to The Maltsters.



A BIG THANK YOU FROM NEWNHAM

Despite being one of the hottest May days on record, we were so pleased to welcome nearly 200 chatty and happy visitors of all ages to Newnham gardens on bank holiday Sunday 24 May.

As always, we very much appreciated their compliments about the gardens, our special village and smashing refreshments.

So many thanks also go to the villagers, friends and family who supported us with lunches and refreshments, spending pretty much the whole day on their feet preparing, serving our visitors, or clearing up!

Together, we topped last year and raised £1,714.50 for the National Garden Scheme charities (see ngs.org.uk), with about £500 from the caterers for Newnham church – what a result!

Hope to see you again next year!

200 CLUB DRAW

£50 Prize - No 82 - Mrs F Walton
£25 Prize - No 147 - Mr M Paterson
£25 Prize - No 82 - Mrs F Walton

COFFEE MORNING AT HOME OF MARY AND JIM WOOD

There will be a Coffee Morning, in aid of church funds, at the home of Mary and Jim Wood, Hillside, School Hill, on Thursday 16th July from, 10.30am to 12. noon. Tea, Coffee, Cheese Scone and Cake will be served. We hope that you will be able to enjoy the garden, but if wet we will move indoors.

SCHOOL

Villagers are welcome to attend the much anticipated KS2 production of "Grossbusters : The Monster Musical" on Wednesday 15th July @ 1 30pm. Please collect tickets from the school office or drop an e-mail or call 01327 705053 to confirm you are attending so the school has an idea of numbers.

On Friday 17th July the school sports day takes place in the playing field from 9.30am, (morning only) all are welcome.



CHARWELTON

Correspondent - David Pound
(davidpound1939@talktalk.net)

	Reader/Sidesman	Flowers
5 Jul	Elizabeth Bird	Elizabeth Cunningham
26 Jul	Penny Cory	Denise Coles
2 Aug	Meryl Nicholls	

Chapel Cleaning	
July	Meryl Nicholls
August	June Pound

VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

Kitchen now completed.

The 2 windows should be replaced late July
Outside sockets to be done early July.

CHARWELTON OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 5th. July at 1.00 - 5.00 pm.

7 lovely gardens to view

Refreshments available to purchase from the Village Hall.

RUSHDEN TOWN BAND CONCERT

It was good to welcome back, to a packed church, Rushden Town Band under the direction of Adele Hudson. It was unfortunate that we didn't have the same balmy weather as we had enjoyed last year, but the music lifted everyone's spirits and, by the end of the evening, it had lifted the clouds, too!



It was a varied programme with, in the second half, a bit of audience participation ("... Wella, Wella!") in a medley from the film Grease, with those of us old enough being taken back to our youth.

Thank you to everyone who helped, donated raffle prizes or supported us by attending the concert. Instant feedback suggested that everyone had had a good evening: as people left several said "see you next year!"

We raised about £700 towards the upkeep of the church, an achievement which those sitting in the south aisle will be glad to hear because a small leak in the roof became apparent about an hour before the concert started.

[PAUSE FOR THOUGHT]

When filling out the form requesting a licence to sell alcohol, one of the questions asked "does the event include pole dancing?" I

admit I paused to chew my pencil for longer than I should have done, wondering if we were perhaps missing a potentially lucrative fund raising opportunity...

GETTING IN A FLAP

A perennial problem – for them more than us – is the tendency for birds ('of pray' presumably) to find their way into the church and then realise they can't get out. On the evening of the concert we were worried that a pied wagtail, flying from one clerestory window to the next, would be the latest victim. Fortunately, we managed to encourage him (or her) to exit via the north door.



A few days later, we chanced to find a crow, evidently in the last stages of exhaustion, in an otherwise empty church. What made its plight all the more difficult was that it had acquired a streamer of fleece (see picture), making flight even more difficult. In this instance, the bird's exhaustion enabled us to catch him fairly easily and relieve him of his burden. Once taken outside, he managed to make it to the top of the nearest tree, there to reflect on, and recover from, his adventure.



FAWSLEY

Correspondent - Vacant

PEACE AND QUIET

The engineering works have now been completed at the South side of the church and once more we have peace and quiet around the church.

Until the grass has fully grown there still remains a wire fence in Church Field but once this has been removed we can once more appreciate the views of the surrounding countryside.



PRESTON CAPES

Correspondent - Claire Hoare
caghoare@gmail.com

	Reader	Sidesman	Cleaning
12 Jul	Luke Bridgeman	Heather Wilson	Sylvia Delacoe and Sheila Bull
25 Jul	Mireya Weaver	Pauline Clarke	
Flowers		Toots Cowen & Pauline Clarke	

SERVICE TIMES

Please note. From 1st July, all 9.15 services in the Benefice will be at 9.30

CHURCH ROOF

Delays for extra preliminary repairs have been compounded by wet weather delays. There have just been too few dry days since last month. But as this goes to press all joinery work over the 54sqm is ready to receive its

terne coated steel covering, which is a week's work in fine weather! We need some summer! Again we apologise that the church has to be kept locked 24/7 until completion. Services are not affected.

FLAG OF ST. GEORGE

Following our 'advertisement' in the last Link, the PCC is delighted that two parishioners have generously offered to share funding a new flag, which will be flown for Remembrance Sunday if not required before.

Thank you very much to our two donors.

GILES- ELLIOTT WEDDING

William Giles and Louisa Elliott are to be married on Saturday 5th September. The Banns will be read on Sundays: 26th July 10.00, August 9th 9.30 and August 23rd 10.00. Please come along to support them for the reading of the Banns.

PET SERVICE

Sunday August 23rd 10.00 in churchyard. Everyone is invited to bring along their pets [last year we had dogs/sheep and ponies]. A maximum half hour service followed by refreshments for animals and humans. Please bring chairs and rugs to sit on. This is always a most enjoyable service. You are most welcome with or without a pet.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

This month we welcome Alan Gray, who will be giving a talk entitled *You Cannot be Serious*. Our meeting takes place on Tuesday, 28th July, starting at 7.30pm in the village hall. Guests and prospective members are welcome to join us – please contact our secretary, Diane French, at highlatches@aol.com to book.

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING

This month's coffee morning is on Friday, 24th July, from 10.30am to noon. "Bottomless" tea/coffee and biscuits now £1.50, and £1.00 for a slice of cake.



EVERDON

Correspondent - Nigel Platts
nigelplatts53@gmail.com

	Sidesman / Reader
12 Jul	Karen Kingston
26 Jul	Nigel Platts

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

July services are back into their normal rota of the second and fourth Sunday of each month. The informal Morning Worship service is taking place at 09:30 on 12th June, led by Susan Rose. Croissants and coffee are available afterwards.

On Sunday 26th July Rev Mark Betson is taking our Holy Communion service. Mark works full time for the National Farmers Union and lives locally.

Planning is underway for the Harvest Festival service and for the Harvest Festival Supper that will be held in the Village Hall.

We would like to thank Julie L'Abraham for her marvellous displays of flowers that she arranges in the Church before each Sunday service.

We'd also like to thank the bell-ringers, led by Brian the Tower Captain and well supported by Colin, Rhona and Gill. The bells are rung before every service, both at Sunday services and at occasional services such as weddings, funerals and baptisms. Practice is on Monday evenings;

both experienced ringers and beginners are all welcome.

The Church community also owes a huge debt of gratitude to Linda who goes into the Church every week to clean it and keep it tidy.

On 11th October we are planning the annual Harvest Festival with the harvest supper to be held in the village hall soon after, date still to be finalised.



DIARY

This diary records the proposed dates of any benefice, parish or village events. We hope that this will help those planning such events to know what else is going on and therefore be able to avoid any unhelpful clashes of dates.

If you know, or become aware, of events which ought to be recorded please let David Pound, or your village Link correspondent, know.

Events known about so far are:

July

- 2 Charwelton PCC
- 3 T 4 U Badby
- 5 Charwelton Open Gardens
- 7 Newnham PCC
- 9 B&F WI
- 11 Newnham Music on the Green
- 12 Village History BVH
- 14 Badby PCC
- 15 Newnham School musical
- 16 Newnham coffee morning
- 18 District bellringers at Badby 3.00pm
- 18 District bellringers Charwelton 7.00pm
- 21 Badby coffee morning
- 24 PC VH coffee morning
- 28 PC WI
- 31 Film Soc. BVH

August

- 5 Benefice Council
- 21 Film Soc. BVH
- 31 Everdon Fete

September

- 1 Newnham PCC
- 3 Charwelton PCC
- 8 Badby PCC

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- 13 Badby Fayre and Annual Show
- 18 Charwelton Quiz Night
- 19 Newnham Comedy Night
- 25 Film Soc. BVH
- 26 Charwelton Macmillan Coffee Morning
- 26 Newnham Band concert

- 6 Badby Church Fair
- 11 Film Soc. BVH
- 29 Charwelton Pantomime



October

- 3-5 Charwelton Harvest weekend
- 17 Film Soc. opera BVH

November

- 3 Newnham PCC
- 5 Charwelton PCC
- 8 Charwelton Armistice Breakfast
- 10 Badby PCC
- 13 Newnham Movie Night cinema
- 14 Film Soc. opera BVH
- 27 Film Soc. BVH
- 27 Charwelton Christmas Bingo.

December

- 2 Benefice Council

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Historical dates in July

1 July. 1838 British scientist Charles Darwin presented a paper to the Linnean Society on his theory of the evolution of species and natural selection.

2 July. 1644 Parliamentarian forces defeated Prince Rupert at the Battle of Marston Moor, their first victory over the Royalists in the English Civil War.

9 July. 1877 The inaugural Lawn Tennis Championship was played on top of the croquet lawns at Wimbledon, Spencer W Gore taking the men's singles title.

10 July. 138 Death of the Roman Emperor Hadrian who ordered the building of a wall across northern England to keep out the barbarian Scottish tribes.

12 July. 1910 British pilot Charles Stewart Rolls, 33, died after his French built biplane crashed at a flying competition in Bournemouth, Dorset. He was a partner in the Rolls-Royce car manufacturing company.

13 July. 1923 The British parliament passes a law banning the sale of alcohol to under-18's.

14 July. 1858 Birthday of Emmeline Pankhurst, English suffragette who suffered imprisonment in order to gain the vote for women.

Historical dates in July

(contd.)

18 July, 1920 750,000 war dead are commemorated with the unveiling of a new national monument in Whitehall, London. The Cenotaph takes its name from the Greek words *kenos* and *taphos* meaning empty tomb.

19 July, 1545 King Henry VIII looks on as his newly refitted flagship the *Mary Rose* sinks in the Solent, off England's south coast, with the loss of 700 lives.

21 July, 1969 The *Eagle* lands on the moon and US astronaut Neil Armstrong is the first man in history to walk on its powdery surface.

22 July, 1946 More than a year after the end of World War Two, bread is rationed in Britain. The shortage is blamed upon a poor harvest and drought.

25 July, 1814 The chief engineer at the Killingworth colliery, George Stevenson, unveils *Blutcher*, a steam powered locomotive that can haul eight carriages loaded with 30 tons of coal at the break-neck speed of 4 mph.

Rushden Town



Band



**New
Gardens**
garden design and build

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Collaborative.

We work with
you to design
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NEWNHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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07887 634936 chair@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

CLERK – Kevin Carr

clerk@newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

After the recent focus on end of year reports and annual meetings, the June meeting was a relatively quiet one. In addition to standard items, **the agenda included the internal audit report, Burial Ground repairs, street lighting and the repair of the church path wall.**

Whilst positive overall, **the internal audit report for 2025-26** highlighted two areas relating to processes and reporting which we have taken on board and have subsequently made adjustments to the way we do things going forwards.

In the **Burial Ground** on Daventry Road there are some headstones which are either leaning or uneven. We will endeavour to contact the families concerned to arrange levelling, but in the meantime, we will put up notices advising people to be careful around the headstones and encourage everyone to keep to the paths.

We agreed funding to **replace bulbs on a number of street lights in the village.** We will replace bulbs on a planned schedule to even out the costs to the Parish.

The wall alongside the Church Path needs repair in places. The problem this presents is identifying who is responsible for its maintenance. Many functions in the village are provided by West Northants Council. They are responsible for all highways' issues, which includes public footpaths and rights of way. We have to balance the need to clarify who is responsible with the need to effect a repair which could avoid further collapse and greater costs.

Following the pleas for new members and support for events from several organisations at the Annual Parish Meeting, we are looking to pull together a **village newsletter** which will contain more information on these themes.

We continue to liaise with WNC regarding the lease of space on the Playing Field which is fundamental to the **Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)** project. If we secure the necessary permission, we will consult fully in the village on a design for the facility.

Miscellaneous items:

- **Grassmowing** - if you feel that areas are being missed, please contact the Council so that we can bring this to the attention of the contractor.
- **Potholes**, report them on www.fixmystreet.com. The more frequently an issue is reported, the greater the likelihood that the WNC Highways team will resolve it.
- The **'Friends of Newnham'** WhatsApp Group. If you are interested in supporting events in the village, such as litter picks or putting up a marquee, contact Judith Dorkins on judithdorkins@btinternet.com.
- Don't forget to check out the village website www.newnhamvillage.co.uk to find out what is coming up, particularly **Music on the Green** on **11th July**, which is a great event to meet and catch up with friends and neighbours.

The **next Parish Council Meeting is Monday 6th July**, starting at **7.00pm** in the **Village Hall**. For agendas and minutes go to www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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