St Leonard's Church

The services for March and Easter are as follows:

1st March:  9.15 am Holy Communion  (*in place of Family Service*)
8th March:  9.15 am Holy Communion
15th March: 9.15 am *Mothering Sunday*, Family Service
22nd March: 9.15 am Morning Prayer
29th March: 9.15 am *Palm Sunday*, Morning Prayer
3rd April:  6.00 pm *Good Friday*, a short service of reflection, prayer and hymns
5th April:  9.15 am *Easter Day*, Family Communion

Sunday Club

Vern Stark runs the Sunday Club, which meets on the third Sunday of the month at 9.00 am in the village hall. All children between the ages of 4 and 11 are most welcome. You can contact Vern on 01832 274279 to find out more

Church Annual Meeting

This will be held on **Thursday 16th April at 7.00 pm in the Church**. Everyone is invited to attend this short meeting, when we review our work over the last year, present the annual accounts, and look forward to the coming year. It is also the time when Church Council members are elected for the coming year. We welcome new members - please have a word with one of the churchwardens (Pauline on 273526 or Ursula on 272594) if you are interested in joining the Council. We'd also be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the Social Committee, which helps raise funds to maintain the church fabric.

Easter Flowers and Church Spring Clean

We shall be decorating the Church with Easter flowers on Saturday 4th April and giving it a spring clean. If you are free, we would welcome some extra help. Contact Tricia on 275243 or Penny on 274277 for more information.

Fundraising results

The very successful Christmas concert by the Oriana Singers raised £1,030.00. Lovely music and
delicious canapes were enjoyed by a 'full house'.

The Christmas Bazaar, held in the Church, raised £1,060.00. A big “thank you” to all who helped and attended both these events. All monies raised will go towards the fabric fund.

100 Club

We have reached 100 subscribers to the 100 Club, which raises money for the fabric and maintenance of St Leonard’s church. It has taken three years to reach the full subscription – quite an achievement. We only had one member drop out this year and we sold seven new numbers – total 100!

Now the monthly prize is £50; the lucky number is drawn on the last Friday of the month in the village hall.

This Christmas, the £100 draw was won by Patricia Ryan. Tricia lived at The Old Crown for several years and was organiser of the Oundle Festival for many years and has advised me on occasions when we have been organising events and raising money. Well done Tricia!

Good luck to everyone!

Sonya Moss

Village Hall News

The next Village Hall meeting is the Committee AGM, which is on April 21st at 7.30 pm in the village hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and contribute ideas for events and/or thoughts about improving our facilities. All committee posts will be up for re-election and volunteers for these posts are welcomed.

Southwick and Glapthorn Village Show

The Village flower and produce show will be held in Southwick Village Hall on Saturday July 4th. Schedules will be delivered round the village in the next few weeks.

Glapthorn Allotment Gardeners’ Association

The allotment site is looking very good after our working party tidy-up in the late Autumn. I have not noticed any deer damage, but others may have – please do let me know if you have seen any deer on the land or spotted any damage.

We have welcomed new tenants to GAGA – Sharon Davies (who used to live in Glapthorn and whose children attended Glapthorn School) and Michael Knight. They have taken over plot S17 vacated by a couple who have moved away. We are very pleased to welcome Sharon and Michael to Glapthorn.

Stephen Dalzell and his family will be taking over plot M1 fairly soon – this is the plot nearest to the entrance gate. We are also very pleased to welcome Stephen and his family to GAGA.

STOP PRESS: one plot, M24, has just become vacant. This is because of an increase in work commitment of the current plot holder who has two plots and who wishes to release one of them.
The plot is a medium sized one and the rental is £40.00 p.a.
If you would like to have a plot or would like more information please contact me, and I can give you more information and can pass your name on to the committee.
If you have moved into Glapthorn recently and have not been up to the allotments I would be delighted to show you around. The soil appears to be very fertile and a wonderful selection of crops has been grown on the land.
Heather Ball
Secretary Glapthorn Allotment Gardeners’ Association
The Cottage, Glapthorn, Oundle, Peterborough, PE8 5BQ

Glapthorn WI
Our WI is thriving with meetings well attended.

Once again this year we have a varied and interesting programme, which will interest all tastes. Last month we had an interesting talk entitled ‘From the Classroom to the Kitchen’. The Speaker was an ex-secondary school teacher who is now running his own successful business, The Bytham Kitchen, making preserves, pickles and chutneys.

Our speaker next month will be Ursula (Wide) who will be speaking about her grandfather, John Buchan. All members are looking forward to this.

Our Drama Group will be meeting again shortly - many thanks to Jill Rundle for organising this group.

Our Knit and Natter Group is flourishing. We have given 7 blankets to residents of Polebrook Nursing Home. The recipients were thrilled with the blankets and made comments such as ‘that square is the colour of my WAF uniform’ and ‘that colour is just the same as my bridesmaid’s dress’. A small group of members took the blankets over to the nursing home – it was a very rewarding experience.

The nursing home would like lots more blankets so if anyone has any wool that they would like to donate we would very gratefully receive it! We are still knitting baby hats for premature babies and beanie hats for the Samaritan’s Purse charities.

Any donations of wool can be given to any WI member or left with me. Wool can always be left in our porch if we are out.

If you would like to join Glapthorn WI and participate in our lively group please contact Wendy Knowles on 01832 272215.

Heather Ball, on behalf of Glapthorn WI.
Telephone: 01832 273601 or 07962 085 720
Katherine Towns, Head of Glapthorn School writes:

The children are greatly enjoying the new creative curriculum approach we have been taking to learning at Glapthorn School. Class Three children have been going far back in time and were visited by pupils from Nassington School for a day’s workshop on The Romans and also visited Peterborough Museum to see their excellent new Romans gallery. They are looking forward to their residential trip with Nassington School to York in May to find out more about the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

Class Two have been helping Fenchurch, Paddington’s nephew, track down his uncle. The children researched all four capital cities in the UK for Fenchurch and now the bear is in London and the children get to visit too! Class One visited Oundle library and are focusing on traditional tales and are currently growing beanstalks for Jack. The new curriculum approach means the children greatly enjoy their learning and have lots of opportunities to apply their basic skills in real life contexts. The children have made outstanding progress in reading, writing and maths since September using this approach whilst having lots of fun!

We produce fortnightly newsletters with our latest news and these can be viewed on our website www.glapthornschool.ik.org. March editions will include our Book Fortnight, including dressing up for World Book Day, and our Comic Relief antics, as well as our participation in the Oundle Festival of Literature. Sports-wise, the spring term includes the Cluster Basketball Tournament, Tag Rugby Tournament, Sportshall Athletics Competition and participation in the Winter Olympics (in Kettering!). Within school, the children are busy in extra-curricular sports clubs, doing basketball, running, football, rugby and cheerleading. In addition to sport, the children have been enjoying clubs for gardening, cooking, sewing, Lego, French and British sign language.

We are looking forward to becoming a primary school and are busy in talks with Northamptonshire County Council regarding building plans. We will have a temporary mobile classroom for one year from September 2015 in line with most local schools and will have a permanent additional classroom and group teaching space built onto the school hall ready for September 2016. There is a drop-in session open to interested parties between 3 pm and 6 pm on Tuesday 24th March in the school hall regarding the plans. For more information, contact the school.

Glapthorn Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 16th April 2015. This is NOT a council meeting, but it is an opportunity for parishioners on the electoral roll for Glapthorn to raise any matters of concern to them that relates to their local community. It would be helpful to have written notice of any matters to be raised but it is not essential. Please contact the Parish Clerk (see below) if you would like to see an item on the agenda.
Women’s Cycle Tour 2015

The Women’s Cycle Tour 2015 will once again feature Oundle and the surrounding area, with the possibility of Glapthorn being included on the route.

Community Noticeboard

The Parish Council, in association with the Village Hall committee, is seeking funding for a community noticeboard, to replace the existing board at the village hall. The new noticeboard will provide space for all Glapthorn organisations plus an area for public use (non-commercial).

Parish Council Election May 7th

By law, all local Councils are disbanded and re-elected every four years. The next election will take place on 7 May 2015 – general election day.

Glapthorn Parish Council consists of seven councillors, of whom four existing councillors are standing for re-election, so at least three volunteers are required to form the new council. The council is responsible for running the parish, including setting an annual precept (the money needed to run the parish), consideration of planning applications, and dealing with matters such as flooding, footpaths, traffic, local crime, litter, emergency plans and safety. The work can be rewarding and is not onerous – comprising a few hours each month and six scheduled meetings a year.

If you are interested in becoming part of England’s oldest system of public administration, either now or in the future, please get in touch with the parish clerk, details below, who will be able to explain what is involved in more detail.

Road Salt/Grit

A small stock of road salt/grit, to replenish the red grit bins on Main Street, is now available and stored within the village.

Precept for 2015/16

Having set the budget for the financial year 2015/16, the Parish Council has set the ‘precept’ the same as last year; therefore the Glapthorn element of council tax will remain unaltered.

Contact

You may contact the parish council through one of the parish councillors, details on the village notice board, or through the Clerk to the Parish Council by contacting Alan Tresadern on 01832 275281 or email to parish.clerk@glapthorn.gov.uk; there is also the Facebook page.

Oundle & District Care Committee

We have just heard from ODCC that Glapthorn raised £100.00 this year in the envelope Christmas
Appeal. This is up by £17.00 on the amount raised last year. On behalf of the Care Committee thank you to everyone who gave so generously to this very worthwhile cause.

Wendy Knowles and Heather Ball

Welcome to:
Robin and Susan Cooper and their two boys, Hayden and William, who have moved into 1 Main Street.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Following is a report present by Northamptonshire Police highlighting the progress on crime in the area and also making people aware of future plans.

The following Local Identified Priorities (LIP's) were adopted at a Community Panel meeting on 16th September 2014 - update in early February 2015

The LIP's were:

1. To address concerns and reduce of rural crime in villages across the SCT area.

   There has been a slight increase in recorded crime of 2% since 1st April 2014 when compared against the same period in 2013. This is the lowest increase in recorded crime for any SCT across the Force, where we have seen an increase of 12% in total. We have worked closely with our neighbouring forces to address the fear of rural crime, which culminated in the delivery of Operation Infield on 29th September 2014, where Northamptonshire Police executed a warrant to recover stolen property at a travellers’ site in Cambridgeshire with their assistance. This Operation saw over 30 Officers from the Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire Police execute the warrant recovering stolen property and drugs and resulted in the arrest of three offenders.

   On Friday 9th January 2015 we ran Operation Catch, a catalytic converter marking operation and press release, to increase public awareness of this theft type, resulting in 52 high risk vehicles having their catalytic converters marked.

2. To address concerns and reduce the incidents of burglary across the Safer Community Team area.

   There has been a decrease in dwelling burglaries of 14% during the period. We are working hard to keep this figure down by working with the district councillors who have provided funds to help us supply over 600 security timers to householders prior to our seasonal burglary peak over the Christmas holiday period, which was the preventative phase of Operation Hombre. Over the Christmas holiday period we ran the pro-active phase of Operation Hombre: a high visibility operation utilizing our staff to be in all villages during what was a peak period.

3. To tackle speeding at hotspots across East Northants North SCT

   In an effort to address speeding vehicles we have been able to utilise our camera safety van. We have
used a combination of the camera van and handheld checks to issue 39 enforcement tickets for excess speed.

Other News

At our September meeting I mentioned the arrest of three offenders for a series of burglaries across the Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire and Thames Valley force areas. Two of these offenders are still remanded in custody, the third has been dealt with by the juvenile court and received 30 months imprisonment.

East Northants North is at the centre of the “Futures Project” for Northamptonshire Police’s “Policing the Future” strategy. We have had a change in staffing structure from 1 Sergeant, 4 Constables and 4 PCSOs to 1 Sergeant, 2 Constables and 13 PCSOs. We are currently engaging more with the community to create a Community Hub, which is likely to have an office in the new council building at Fletton House.

We have been focusing on recruiting volunteers, especially Parish Constables, and already have some about ready to be allocated to villages in our area. We have recruited over 130 volunteers for varying roles.

We are focusing on the development of Neighbourhood Watch schemes and have made significant progress in some areas such as Titchmarsh and Oundle.

We have created a Business Watch scheme in Oundle and have virtually a 100 % sign up rate. We are about to go live with volunteers on horseback and our very own PCSO Tash Fountain is going to be the first PCSO to patrol on her horse. The same will be done with dog walkers who can volunteer to exercise their dogs in a high visibility jacket, thereby alerting criminals that there are a lot of eyes looking about in the villages.

The Police and Fire Service are working together operationally on a daily basis, with one fire officer and one Police Constable from Oundle working within a response intervention vehicle.

The above statement was made early 2015.

NB The Futures Project is based on the need to reduce the expenditure of the Northants Police from £140M a year to £110 M over the next few years and they have stated they will not reduce front line officers.

Jeff Knowles
Neighbourhood Watch

Copy date for the next newsletter: 23rd May; contributions to Brigitte Hilton (01832 273848)
brigittehilton@hotmail.com.