

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER '25

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE



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FEBRUARY 2025

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THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE



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MARCH 2025

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE

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To learn more,
come for a chat with
Anne Grant

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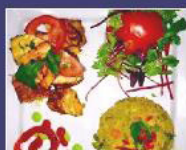
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SEPTEMBER '25

School dates	Autumn term	Wednesday 4 th Sept - Friday 20 th December
	Half term	Monday 28 th October - Friday 1 st November
	Spring term	Tuesday 6 th January - Friday 27 th March
	Half term	Monday 16 th February - Friday 20 th February

Notable Renhold dates & events	RVH (Renhold Village Hall)
	CH (Chapter House at All Saints Church)
	ASR (All Saints Renhold)

Date	Event	Time	Key	PG
Monday 8 th Sept	Creative Club	07:30pm	CH	
Saturday 13 th Sept	Bike 'N Hike			
Friday 19 th Sept	Memory Café	11:00am	Chapel	p13
Saturday 20 th Sept	Churchyard working group	09:30pm		
Saturday 20 th Sept	Choral Music Concert	07:30pm		p25
Sat 21 st & Sun 22 nd Sept	Scarecrow Festival			p12
5 th – 7 th December	Christmas Tree Festival			p7

Church cleaning rota

15 th September	Judy Wootton & Pauline Capell
29 th September	Jill Barrell & Ingrid Lennox
13 th October	Sally Pool, Peter Pool & Teresa Wood
27 th October	Christine Smith & Jill Burrows

Please be aware that all items for inclusion in the magazine - articles, notices of events, reports on activities, etc, need to be with the editorial team by the 12th of the month at the latest.

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EDITORIAL BY ANNE GRANT

By the time the magazine comes out, many of you will have heard the sad news that Rev. Ian and Christine will be leaving Renhold in October to go to serve in the parishes of Toddington and Chalgrave. This is Ian's old parish and obviously holds a special place in his heart. They are such a wonderful team and have done so much to involve many in the parish, they will be sorely missed (see p8).

It seems a while since I last penned the editorial and many steaming hot days have been endured since then. There have been several enjoyable events in the last couple of months. The Vicar's garden party was well attended, despite the incredibly high temperatures, and almost £1000 was raised for church funds. Thanks to all the many people behind the scenes who contributed to it (see pp16,17).

Christine, the vicar's wife posted some pictures of the plums they were harvesting from their garden, and I asked her if she would pen a few words about the Vicars Kitchen that she has supplied in the church porch since September 2020, and she kindly agreed (see pp16,17). I think it is easy to take all her delicious home made preserves for granted, and we owe her a big thank you for all the hours it takes her to keep it going. Be sure to read her account. We also experienced a Pet Service in the garden behind the church in July. It was a lovely occasion and the two ponies, numerous dogs and alligator all behaved remarkably well, and the grass was well cropped by the ponies. The owner of the alligator said the weather was too hot to bring the whole body, so

she just brought the head. Apparently it normally resides in her garden pond! (see p19).

Tony Ploszajski who contributes the fascinating Wild about Renhold feature each month, is about to have a book published in September entitled "The Birds of Bedfordshire" which is very exciting (pp20,21). Some of the proceeds will be donated to the fundraising appeal to repair the mindless vandalism recently carried out at the Clophill Lakes, which coincidentally we featured in the last magazine. If you wish to contribute to the fundraising appeal the website is greensandtrust.org/Appeal/clophill-lakes-boardwalk-appeal Alternatively just buy a copy of Tony's book!

In recent days a letter has popped through my door informing me that there is a proposed residential development of 400 new homes in the land between Ravensden Road and Hookhams Lane. This happened about 6 years ago and we fought it then, feeling that Renhold had done more than its fair share when the 3 estates down Norse Rd were built, doubling the size of the village. It is hard to imagine the access required along Ravensden Rd for 400 houses and I wonder what extra infrastructure may be required in terms of Doctors, schooling, bus routes etc. We had better watch this space.

**LAST BUT BY NO MEANS
LEAST IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND
OUT MORE ABOUT THE EDITORIAL
ROLE IN THE MAGAZINE, PLEASE
CONTACT ME. I WOULD HATE THE
MAGAZINE TO HAVE TO CLOSE. See
front cover.**

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The editorial team is not responsible for any opinions, errors or omissions in articles, notices or advertisements submitted to and included in this magazine. Inclusion of advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service offered.

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Email: info@jcbprinting.co.uk The magazine is now available on the Renhold Parish Council website.



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ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Services led by Rev. Ian unless
stated otherwise

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 7 th Sept	10:45am 11:00am	Red Ensign Service Parish Communion <i>Bishop of Bedford</i>
Sunday 14 th Sept	11:00am	Family Worship - Education <i>Rev Lynda Klimas & Team</i>
HOLY CROSS Wednesday 17 th Sept	06:00pm 10:00am 03:30pm	Evensong - Richard Deadman BCP Communion <i>Rev Lynda Klimas</i> Messy Church
Sunday 14 th Sept 14 th AFTER TRINITY	11:00am	Parish Communion
Sunday 28 th Sept HARVEST FESTIVAL	11:00am 04:00pm	Parish Communion for Harvest Songs of Praise for Harvest Followed by seasonal refreshments

Daily Offices:

Morning prayer	Mondays at 10:00 AM
Night prayer/Compline	2 nd & 4 th Wed. at 7:30 PM
Evening Prayer	Thursdays at 4:30 PM

From the registers:

20 th July	Burial of Ashes, Fred & Freda Rose Baptisms Rose Gamble, Benjamin Gamble, Penny Wayman
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7th August	Funeral & Burial of Joyce Odd
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Fellowship opportunities – All welcome

Monday 8th September: Craft Club – 7:30-9:00pm in the Chapter House
Thursday 25th September (4th Thursday)– Coffee & Cake Afternoon for those who would like change of scenery or just fancy a piece of cake! - 2:00-4:00pm in the chapter house - Everyone is welcome!
27th September (TBC) – Tour of St Albans Abbey with tea and Choral Evensong – More details to follow

LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Autumn is upon us – I know I sound like the voice of doom as another year is flying by, but for me this is one of my favourite times of the year where the harvest is being gathered in and the colours of the trees turn from green to gold and beyond to a rich brown. I love it as the leaves start to tumble down, creating a crisp carpet underfoot for us to trudge through in our “wellies”; but it is more than that. Nature is amazing when you consider that these leaves look dead and lifeless to us now, but across the winter they will decompose into a rich natural fertiliser to promote strong growth next spring – God’s wonderful creation and the incredible natural “Eco balance” – Yes I love it!

As you read this the new school year is about to start with the children returning from their holidays refreshed and ready to learn. It is a time of excitement and promise, much like the autumn season in church. Our first major festival is of course harvest which this year will be preceded by our scarecrow festival on 20th & 21st September. This is an event that we hope the whole Parish will join in with, by either making and displaying a scarecrow, or supporting us by buying a trail map to search out the creative masterpieces in people’s gardens etc. and then voting for your favourite. We have received several entry forms already, but more are always welcome, and we look forward to a fun-filled weekend in Renhold. The prize giving (cash I believe) will be during our Harvest Songs of Praise at 4:00pm on 28th September, which will be followed by seasonal refreshment. During our morning Harvest Communion Service on 28th September, we will be receiving and blessing gifts of products for the local foodbank and the collection that day will be donated to the Bishop’s Harvest appeal. The appeal this year is in support of increasing access to education in under-resourced communities in

Uganda and Zambia. You can donate either through us at Church or online through Missiondirect.org - thank you again for your support for both these vital “charitable causes”

Slightly earlier in September an organisation called the “Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust” hold their annual “Bike n Hike” day. This event generates income for them by participants from all over the home counties being sponsored as they cycle or walk (often with the help of a car) to visit the lovely churches throughout our diocese. The local church benefits immediately by keeping 50% of the money raised, the rest goes into a central fund to assist churches like ours when we undertake restoration or improvement works. This organisation was very generous to us a couple of years ago when we undertook the floor restoration works, and we will be applying for help again when our major access project starts later this year. If you would like to take part or would like to sponsor our intrepid Renhold participants, sponsor forms will be in church or please ask Rev. Ian for more details.

As I hinted last month (and again I apologise).. We are planning a Christmas tree festival to be held in church across the weekend of 5th, 6th & 7th December and are inviting individuals and organisations across the Parish and local community to decorate a tree and display it for all to enjoy. The members of the congregation and the organisations of this parish are renowned for their creative minds and skilful hands, and we are excited to see what they come up with this year. I know it is still early days but please put your thinking caps on and let your mind run free! Entry forms will be available shortly and will be in church after the Scarecrow festival; I know it is going to be great again this year – thank you for your support

Details of all services are listed within this magazine, and these will be

live streamed where possible using the All Saints Renhold Facebook page with service sheets being available on our website,
achurchnearyou.com/church/7680/
for those unable to attend in person.

Take care, stay safe
God bless - Rev. Ian

LETTER 2 FROM THE VICAR

On Sunday 27th July the announcement was made that the Rev. Ian Smith - currently Vicar at All Saints' Church Renhold - has been appointed as the new Rector of the Benefice of Toddington and Chalgrave.

Ian's last service as Vicar at Renhold will be on Sunday 19th October 2025 with his installation as Rector of Toddington and Chalgrave at St George of England, Toddington at 7:30pm on Monday 27th October 2025.

The Churchwardens and PCC are working with Rev Ian to maintain the regular schedule of services and worship, as well as the "Pop-Up Coffee shop" and other social and fellowship activities, that

have enhanced our community in recent years, whilst a successor is appointed.

Ian, Christine and the family really love being in Renhold and consider it as home, so have found this a most difficult decision to make. But Ian is following a strong calling to take the talents and skills he has been blessed with whilst here and use them for these two parishes as they move forward in their journeys of faith and community.

Ian, Christine and the family thank you all for your love, friendship and support over the last 5 1/2 years and hope to see you in person before Ian moves on in late October.

AROUND THE CORNER

Around the corner I have a friend
In this great city that has no end,
Yet days go by and weeks rush on
And before you know it the year is gone.
And I never see my old friend's face
For life is a swift and terrible race,
Yet he knows I like him just as well
As in the days when I rang his bell
And he rang mine.
We were younger then,
Now we are busy tired men,
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.

Tomorrow I'll say I'll call on Jim,
Just to show I'm thinking of him,
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
And the distance between us grows and grows.

Around the corner, yet miles away,
Here's a telegram sir; Jim died today.
And that's what we get, and deserve in the end;
Around the corner a vanished friend.

Author Unknown,
Sent in by Jill Moubarak



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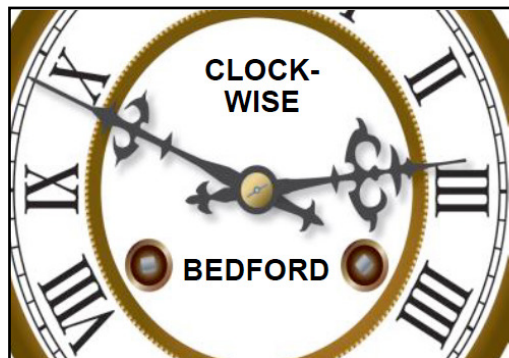
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RENHOLD WI

Our August meeting was about the North Coast 500, an amazing scenic drive around the top of Scotland. Our speaker Nick Cooke has followed this route in his camper van many times, taking about three weeks to do the whole trip. The scenery was certainly spectacular and left lots of us wondering if we could manage perhaps part of the route!
Our next meeting on Thursday, 4th

September is slightly different. It is an afternoon Garden Party, from 2 - 4pm at Caroline's home. It is open to members and partners only, with admission set at £6 for generous refreshments. Please let a member of the committee know if you are planning to come and if you have any special dietary needs. Many thanks to Caroline for hosting this event.
- Jan Tozer, President, 07855222464



WHY? SENT IN BY NICHOLAS MOUBARAK?

Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard when he lives in the jungle without a razor?
Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are flat?
Why do banks charge a fee on 'insufficient funds' when they know there is not enough?
Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars,

but check when you say the paint is wet?
Whose idea was it to put an 'S' in the word 'lisp'?
Why is it that people say they 'slept like a baby' when babies wake up every two hours?
If the temperature is zero outside today and it's going to be twice as cold tomorrow, how cold will it be?
Why is there a light in the fridge and not in the freezer?



MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES SEPT. & OCT.

Location of Mobile Library	Time	September	October
Renhold - Green End	10:00 - 10:15	2, 16, 30	14, 28
Lay-by - Salph End	10:20 - 10:35	2, 16, 30	14, 28
Renhold - Home Close	10:40 - 10:55	2, 16, 30	14, 28
Renhold - Ravensden Road	11:00 - 11:15	2, 16, 30	14, 28

Times will vary slightly due to traffic conditions, etc. For further information about the mobile library service please contact Kempston Library tel. 01234 276453

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FAMILY WORSHIP AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Calling all young people aged seven & above...

We are inviting all young people aged seven and above who enjoy singing and maybe acting to take part in the Family Worship at All Saints Church on Sunday 14th September at 11am.

- To mark Education Sunday our theme will be the 'Parable of the Talents'.
- We are looking for a junior choir to lead the singing.
- Songs will be contemporary and multi generational.
- There will be an opportunity too for members of the choir and adults to join in our drama or read prayers – in fact something for everyone.
- Our service lasting approximately half an hour will be led by Rev.

Canon Lynda Klimas and Jill Burrows (Foundation Governor of Renhold Primary School).

- Family refreshments will be served after the service.
- There will be a rehearsal on Thursday 11th September between 6:30 and 7pm in church.

Please come along and join us!
Further information from Jill Burrows:
burrowsjp@hotmail.com



COUNTDOWN TO THE SCARECROW FESTIVAL

(September 20th/21st) - Now only 3 weekends away!

Entry £2- ideally, please hand in your Entry form (available from Renhold Church, or from Jill Burrows at burrowsjp@hotmail.com) no later than September 7th. The earlier the better to help the organisers! Scarecrows to be in position on the morning of Saturday 20th September.

Scarecrow trail maps - including voting slips - £2 each (children free). Available Renhold church on September 20th and September 21st. Refreshments will also be available from 10am to 4:00pm, including soup and rolls between 12 and 2.

Do consider participating if you can. Cash prizes for the best scarecrows in the two categories, and a cup for the overall winner. Please return your votes to the church, or email to Jill Burrows at

the above address.

Prizegiving - Sunday 28th September at 4.00pm. This will be followed by a short Harvest Songs of Praise (approx. 30 minutes, with well-known harvest hymns and songs), and then refreshments in the Chapter House to follow.



THE MEMORY CAFÉ

Teresa Moon

Our Renhold Memory Cafe attracted a record number of 21 people in July. Perhaps this is because we have such a good time! Each month Pauline Capell runs some fun activities to stretch our brains, supported by our very experienced volunteers.

At the same time our carers can relax and chat together at another table, and everyone can enjoy the delicious hot sausage rolls, rock buns and cakes which people bring. The Baptist Chapel has a lovely welcoming atmosphere, and our terrific kitchen team keeps us well supplied with food and hot drinks, and clears up all our crumbs afterwards.

No wonder our group is growing! If you would like to join us, we meet on the third Friday of every month at 11am at Renhold Baptist Chapel in Woodfield Lane.

For more information, email;
teresa.moon@tibbsdementia.co.uk



NORTH BEDS RAMBLERS WALK

Every saturday

Please note change of start time for afternoon walks - Summer start 13:30

Come and join us for a walk.

We walk every Saturday afternoon approx. 6 miles, and Saturdays twice a month in the morning for approx. 12 miles. Or try our "Ramble" on first Saturday morning each month - slightly shorter, slower pace.

The Bedfordshire Festival of Autumn Walks 6th - 14th September - Full details are available on bedswalkfest.co.uk or the dedicated Facebook page.

Regulars September Walks

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 6 th | AM "Ramble", Riseley, 4.5 miles |
| | PM Riseley, 6.5 miles |
| 13 th | AM Woburn, 14 miles |
| | PM Cranfield, 6 miles |
| 20 th | PM Husbourne Crawley, 6. miles |
| 27 th | AM Ampthill, 11 miles |
| | PM Henlow, 6.5 miles |

Contact; Margaret Sawyer 07780933729
Facebook; North Beds Ramblers
ramblers.org.uk/north-bedfordshire

POSTER FOUND IN A CHURCH IN FRANCE

(Translated), sent in by Jill Barrell

"When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear the call of God" However, it is unlikely that he will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place, and talk to Him. If you want to see him send Him a text while driving."

RENHOLD VILLAGE CLUBS 2025

Group	Contact	Tel.	Day	Time	Place
Bridge Club - No fear	David Israel	078166685798	Every Mon. & Fri.	9:45 AM - 1 PM	St. Marks Church Brickhill
Carpet Bowls	Chick	838651	Every Mon. & Wed.	2 - 4 PM 7 - 9 PM	RV Hall
Chapel Coffee morning	Albert Browning	772689	2nd Tues.	10 AM - 12 PM	Renhold Chapel
Creative Club	Teresa Trangmar	07788402441	2nd Monday	7:30 PM - 9 PM	Chapter House
Dance classes	Sarah Higgins	Sarahhiggins18 @yahoo.com	Saturday	9 AM - 10:30 AM	RV Hall
KT Yoga		07977467967	Every Thurs.	7 PM - 8 PM	RV Hall
Luncheon Club	Yvonne Potter	771495	2nd Wed.	12:30 PM for 1 PM	
Mini athletics		07985 520232	Every Sun.	9 - 11:30 AM	RV Hall
Pudding club for carers	Anne Grant	771811	1st Tuesday	2 PM - 3:30 PM	4, Brookside
Reading group	Pauline Capell	771858	1st Friday	4 PM	1, Church Close
Renhold pre- school group	Vicky Thompson	771724		Term time	
Stitchers	Jackie Croot	870271	3rd Thurs.	10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Chapter House
Table tennis	Ian Smith	07989470093	Every Mon. Every Wed. Every Fri.	1:30 PM 10:30 AM 10:30 AM	Church Ln. Community Centre
Tang Soo Do	TBA	07591266614	Every Mon.	6:30 pm - 8 PM	RV Hall
Total Warrior Kickboxing	TBA	07450235946	Every Tues.	5:45 - 8:15 PM	RV Hall
W.I.	Jan Tozer	07855 222464	1st Thurs.	7:30 PM	RV Hall
Yarn Craft Group	Marion Sutton	217647	Alternative Fridays	10 AM - 12:30 PM	Wilden Village Hall

WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND!

Sent in by Geoff Greenwood

- In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb.'
- Many years ago in Scotland , a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only...Ladies Forbidden'...And thus, the word GOLF entered into the English language.
- The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred and Wilma Flintstone.
- It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- The first novel ever written on a typewriter, Tom Sawyer.
- Each King in a deck of playing cards represents a great King from history: Spades - King David. Hearts - Charlemagne. Clubs - Alexander the Great. Diamonds - Julius Caesar
- $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
- If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died because of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.
- Q; If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'? A; One thousand
- Q; What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common? A; All were invented by women.
- Q; What is the only food that doesn't spoil? A; Honey
- In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase...'Goodnight, sleep tight'
- It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.
- In English pubs, Ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So, in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down. It's where we get the phrase: 'Mind your P's and Q's.'
- Many years ago in England , pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle" is the phrase inspired by this practice.
- At least 75% of people who read this will try to lick their elbow!

THE VICARAGE GARDEN PARTY

I would just like to comment on the really great success, that was the All Saints Church Vicars garden party. What a glorious day it was weather wise, lovely and sunny with a light breeze and lots of lovely shade from the glorious trees dotted around the vicarage garden.

The event was really well attended, and everyone seemed to be having such a lovely time. There was entertainment by the Ukelele band, the Renhold children's choir, and the string quartet, lots of the people were singing and dancing along to the music, and there were lots of tables and chairs, all well shaded, to enable people to enjoy the proceedings.

Along with the entertainment there were raffles to be won and a Tombola

for winning more goodies. There was a refreshment area for teas and coffees, cold drinks and cakes, plus plants for sale and children's amusement areas for various games and fun skill challenges to win prizes.

All in all, it was a really great afternoon, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, there was fun and laughter, singing and dancing. Thanks certainly go to Ian, the vicar, and his lovely wife Christine for allowing us all to have such a nice time there, and all the behind the scenes organisers who made it all possible. Great job everyone and a big thank you and just under £1000 was raised for church funds.

Regards, Marie Baird

THE MYSTERY OF THE VICARAGE KITCHEN

Christine Smith

I've loved making jams from an early age, going outside to pick the black and red currants for Mum or collecting apples, this brings back many happy memories. It has been a real learning curve making preserves from some of the more unusual fruits such as medlars, quince and figs but each one has been amazing to make in its own way.

I began the Renhold Vicarage stall in Sept 2020 and since then I have banked to the Church an amazing sum of £3300.00, my thanks go to everyone who has supported me in buying the jams or donating fruit. Thanks also to those who return the empty jam jars for us to reuse which is great for the carbon footprint! Special thanks has to go to Alan

and Daphne Bloomfield who collect all the returned jam jars, remove the labels, clean and store them until I need them.

It has been a wonderful year for fruit, my plum tree so far has given me 7.5 kilos of fruit and we have only scratched the surface. This year for the first time, the cherry tree has also so far produced 1.5 kilos of cherries - all this is before we begin the blackberry season! If you have any spare fruit and don't know what to do with it, I am always pleased to receive it at the Vicarage!

Once again thank you so much for all your support, Christine Smith (AKA Mrs Vicar!)



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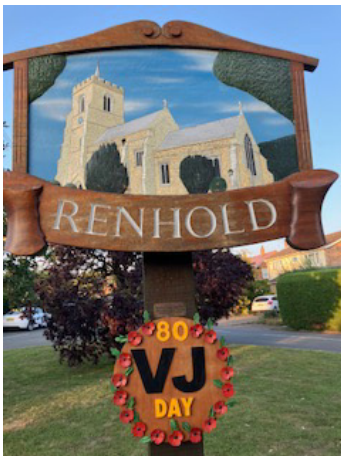
THE PET SERVICE

What a lovely Pet service we had in the garden at the back of the church on Sunday 13th July, where we welcomed two ponies, a multitude of dogs and a pet alligator (fortunately not real). The pets were amazingly well behaved and the vicar had thoughtfully provided some animal treats should they be needed. Life is never dull at All Saints!

- Anne Grant



ONE OF RENHOLD'S UNSUNG HEROES



Terry Nokes created the village sign in 2017 and the metal work was done by Mark Colgrave. Since then he has added handmade poppies to the village sign for every national Remembrance event. His latest creation commemorates the end of the second World War with the Victory over Japan Day on August 15 1945. He is now planning to create some hand carved Forget Me Nots for The Alzheimer's Day next June.

Amanda Quince

WILD ABOUT RENHOLD



The Birds
of Bedfordshire
Tony Ploszajski



WILD ABOUT RENHOLD – TONY PLOSZAJSKI

One – Black rabbit

This unusually coloured wild Rabbit is one of two that are regular with their more familiar grey-brown coloured relatives in fields alongside Renhold Brook. The technical term for this colour variant is melanism and it is caused by a genetic mutation that causes an excess of the pigment melanin, which darkens the fur. It is the opposite condition to albinism, where the absence of melanin leaves animals with white colouration. The effect is so marked in the Renhold black rabbits that even their traditional white tails are completely black.

Two – Blue tit

Claire Boardman got this lovely photo of a juvenile Blue Tit on the bird feeders in her garden. As a young bird, it had not yet fully acquired the blue components of the adult plumage. Blue Tits are familiar visitors to gardens in Renhold and numbers have increased in the UK in recent years, doubtless helped by the provision of artificial nest boxes and garden bird feeders. They typically lay between seven and 13 eggs, although infant mortality is high. Blue Tits typically live for around three years, however around two-thirds of young birds do not survive their first year.

Three – Marsh Tiger Hoverfly

Julian Roberts photographed this striking Marsh Tiger hoverfly in his garden. It's black and gold stripes are an obvious clue to the source of its name and the parallel patterning on its thorax like a stripy sports shirt, give it its alternative nickname 'the footballer'. It is a relatively common species that is associated with a wide variety of waterbodies, from large lakes and rivers down to areas as small as ditches, small ponds and muddy puddles.

Four – Yellowhammer

Yellowhammers have been present in good numbers around the village this summer, often singing prominently from bushes and wires, particularly in the vicinity of the Village Hall. Yellowhammers are a species of bunting and males like the one in the photo are unmistakable with a bright yellow

head and underparts, brown back streaked with black and a chestnut rump. In flight, it shows white outer tail feathers. Despite being widespread across the UK until the 1960s, the Yellowhammer is declining rapidly, disappearing from some of Scotland entirely and becoming a scarce sight in many other places. The national population plummeted by 61% between 1967 and 2020 due to a lack of food and nesting habitat, so their continued survival around Renhold is a feather in the cap for the conservation-minded farming practices around much of the parish.

Five – 'The Birds of Bedfordshire'

For much of the past four years, I've spent a lot of my spare time writing a book on 'The Birds of Bedfordshire'. It is finally complete and is due to be published by the Bedfordshire Natural History Society in September. The book contains 500 pages and 400 colour photos of birds in the county, along with the key birdwatching sites. It analyses bird population trends, particularly in the past 30 years or so and assesses the factors like climate and habitat change that have affected them. The entire proceeds from the sale of the book will be divided equally between two very worthy environmental causes:

The restoration and development of Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve, which featured on the cover of the June edition of the Renhold Magazine and was recently subject to a devastating arson attack, that will cost an estimated £100,000 to rectify, and the purchase and management of Strawberry Hill Farm in Knotting Green, which is the summer home of an amazing 36 pairs of Nightingales and also hosts a range of other threatened species like Turtle Dove and Grasshopper Warbler. The purchase price of the book is likely to be around £50. If anyone is interested in buying a copy, please email me at ploszajski@aol.com and I will send you the link to the webpage where you can order and pay for it. I will then be happy to personally hand deliver it to any addresses in Renhold, to save you any postage and packing costs and I will be happy to sign the book should you wish.

STAGECOACH ROUTE 28A (FROM MARCH 2025)

Monday - Friday

Bedford (Beds), Bus Station	-	08:50	12:50	16:30	17:50
Renhold, Green End	-	09:05	13:05	16:45	18:05
Salph End (Renhold), Brookside	-	09:12	13:12	16:52	18:12
Ravensden, Horse and Jockey	-	09:16	13:16	16:56	18:16
Wilden (Bedford), Village Hall	-	09:20	13:20	17:00	18:20
Colmworth, School Farm	-	09:26	13:26	17:06	18:26
Little Staughton, Grays Grove	7:30	09:31	13:31	17:10	18:30
Pertenhall, The Old Vicarage	07:35	09:36	13:36	17:15	18:35
Keysoe, Hatch End	07:43	09:44	13:44	17:23	18:43
Bolnhurst, School Lane	07:48	09:49	13:49	17:28	18:48
Colmworth, School Farm	07:52	09:53	13:53	-	-
Wilden (Bedford), Village Hall	08:00	10:01	14:01	-	-
Ravensden, The green	08:04	10:05	14:05	-	-
Salph End (Renhold), Brookside	08:08	10:09	14:09	-	-
Renhold, The Green	08:12	10:13	14:13	-	-
Bedford (Beds), Bus Station	08:27	10:28	14:28	-	-

Saturday

Bedford (Beds), Bus Station	-	08:50	12:50	16:30	17:50
Renhold, Green End	-	09:05	13:05	16:45	18:05
Salph End (Renhold), Brookside	-	09:12	13:12	16:52	18:12
Ravensden, Horse and Jockey	-	09:16	13:16	16:56	18:16
Wilden (Bedford), Village Hall	-	09:20	13:20	17:00	18:20
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Ravensden, The green	08:04	10:05	14:05	-	-
Salph End (Renhold), Brookside	08:08	10:09	14:09	-	-
Renhold, The Green	08:12	10:13	14:13	-	-
Bedford (Beds), Bus Station	08:27	10:28	14:28	-	-

No Sunday service

RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL AUGUST UPDATE

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT - LAND BETWEEN HOOKHAMS LANE AND RAVENSDEN ROAD, SALPH END, RENHOLD

Manor Oak Homes have communicated an intention to develop on this area of land in the parish. This land has come forward previously for large scale residential development, and was refused by the Borough Council, with the application taken to appeal, with the appeal at that time being dismissed.

This more recent proposal included several Renhold properties receiving a letter setting out details relating to the proposals. Renhold Parish Council were only made aware of this intended communication circulation very shortly in advance, so did not have sufficient opportunity to engage with Manor Oak Homes in regards to the statements they published. The Parish Council have fed back their disappointment at the inaccurate information shared with the Renhold community which is misleading.

Renhold Parish Council have already commenced work on reviewing the associated information that has been made available regarding this site, continuing as usual to be thorough with the approach being taken, and keeping residents up to date as much as possible.

The site does have a current live application that has been submitted to Bedford Borough Council as the local planning authority, the details of the application are planning application number 25/01308/EIASCRC. The application is a request for Screening Opinion in respect of proposed residential development at Land Off Hookhams Lane. This is not a planning application for development. It is an application to determine if an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinion needs to be undertaken on the site, as part of the planning process. Such an impact assessment looks at environmental factors in detail. The proposal is, that there is no need for a full environmental impact assessment for this site. Renhold Parish Council will be making representations on why there is such a need

for a full environmental impact assessment.

The Planning Officer, who is reviewing this application, Greg Logan, is an experienced local authority Officer. There has already been dialogue with Greg on this application and this will continue going forwards, as it is expected that in the near future there will be an application for residential development on this site.

All details for the application 25/01308/EIASCRC and any subsequent planning application on this site, or elsewhere in the parish, can be found on the Bedford Borough Council website at: [bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-applications](https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-applications). As always, members of the Renhold community are encouraged to engage in the planning process and submit comments to applications to Bedford Borough Council. This can be done via email to planning@bedford.gov.uk.

PLANNING INFORMATION REMINDER WHERE TO FIND IT....

If you wish to view current planning applications, previous planning applications, see planning decision notices, or submitted comments, on any application then all information is retained on the Bedford Borough Council Planning Portal, which has an enormous amount of resources available to you.

For more information do head here: <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-applications>

The Parish Council are aware that the planning process can appear to be complicated. To try and explain more about the different planning systems, depending on the planning matter being considered, the Parish Council decided to collate a guide document to try and assist residents. To access a copy of this document please head to: renhold-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/minutes-agendas-other-documents and you will see a document titled 'RPC Planning Guide June 2024' which gives an overview of planning. There is also a link to the Borough Council planning portal on the Renhold Parish Council website as well for ease.

EAST WEST RAIL UPDATE

The latest communication received by the Parish Council detailed:

As a key statutory stakeholder, I'm writing to share a brief update about the progress of East West Rail in light of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill currently passing through Parliament.

We're working alongside Government to understand how proposed changes may affect scheme delivery. If passed, the Bill could enable enhanced community benefits and more meaningful engagement.

As a result, we're reviewing our plans — including the timing of the previously planned January 2026 Statutory Consultation — and expect to provide further detail in the autumn. We're also continuing to consider recent stakeholder feedback and developments along the route, including the Universal Studios announcement.

Going forward, we'll continue to actively seek and consider stakeholder feedback to help refine the project. This ongoing dialogue is central to building strong relationships and ensuring the scheme continues to reflect the needs and aspirations of the communities it will serve.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS APPLICATION TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Notification was received of this application having been made. Parish Councils are not a statutory consultee in this government process, however, Renhold Parish Council did agree to submit a response to this application which will have a far reaching impact not only on the current Renhold population but for generations to come. Documents can be viewed in full here:

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT JOINING THE PARISH COUNCIL.....?

With all these local matters, it is a great time to think about joining the Parish Council, which currently has Councillor vacancies and the Council would be very interested to hear from residents who want to get involved and have their say on village matters, you might:

- Like to see improvements to your local area

Or have an interest in improving certain local provisions or services

- Have ideas on enhancing the village environment
- Want to be involved, when Bedford Borough Council allocate new housing through the Local Plan process
- Maybe are really concerned about traffic and highways safety in the village To learn more and wish to become involved in the local East West Rail project stakeholder group.

The Council really would like to have greater representation to make sure your voice is heard. There is also lots of support available for new Councillors as well. If you are interested in taking a more active role in the village, supporting with parish improvements and have ideas on how to help move Renhold forwards, then the Parish Council would really like to hear from you. Do please make yourself known to the Clerk, Lizzie, parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk or any current Parish Councillor whose contact details are in the Magazine.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PARISH COUNCIL GRATEFUL THANKS

At the July Parish Council meeting, Parish Councillors again expressed their very grateful thanks to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group who have continued to work tirelessly to take this very important local planning policy document forward to help shape the future of Renhold. The document has been meticulously created with much valued input from the Renhold residents to shape the vision for Renhold going forwards.

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

Please remember everyone is welcome to contact the Clerk or any Councillors about local matters. A full list of contact details is available as usual in the Magazine directory, so do make a note. The best way now to contact Lizzie, Parish Clerk is on: parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk for Parish Councillors the pattern is place their forename followed by @renhold-pc.gov.uk Parish Council meeting details, including dates, times and venue can all be found on the Parish Council website along with Parish Council meeting minutes and other useful documents, so do head to <https://renhold-pc.gov.uk> to take a look.

SOME CLEVER PUNS

Sent in by G.Greenwood

- She was only a moonshiner's daughter, but I miss her still.
- Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm.
- Just so everyone is clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.
- I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.
- My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet.' It's a cover band.
- I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll never hear the end of it.
- Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't "c" in the dark.
- Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a clock? Well, time will tell.
- Scientists got together to study effects of alcohol on a person's walk, and the result was staggering.
- What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up his own incision? Suture self.
- I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.

'GOD BE IN MY HEAD'

Sacred Choral Music by Paul Edwards and favourite anthems by others, including Schubert, John Ireland and Herbert Howells.

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FROM YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE AGENT

Greetings from your Village Agent, Lydia Wright. I am here to help vulnerable people in Bedford Borough villages to access the services and support they might need. These services are free, funded by Bedford Borough Council and I can visit you at home. Call me free on the number below. There are some Radar keys available.

Contact your Village Agent on
Freephone 0800 039 1234



(This is an answer phone service, so please be ready to leave your name, address & telephone number, & we will aim to call you back within 48 hours.)

RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL 2025

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Lizzie Barni-coat
PO Box 1548, Bedford MK44 5AX
Tel: (01234) 771702
Email: parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk

Councillor	Phone	Email
Susan Brunsden	266281	susan@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Fiona Cardinale	07762 881009	fiona@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Margaret Dean	771520	margaret@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Nicky Gribble	771994	nicky@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Darren Rayner	07825 950673	darren@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Julie Roberts	07766 478974	julie@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Martin Warwicker	07983 156845	martin@renhold-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting dates & venues for 2025

Parish Council meetings now start at 7 PM. The next date is:
- Renhold Village Hall

As always, if you wish to raise any ideas or make comments to the Parish Council, then please contact one of the Parish Councillors (see above or the new Parish Council website (renhold-pc.co.uk) for contact details) or contact Lizzie, Parish Clerk on 771702. or email parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk

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RENHOLD CHAPEL

Chapel Preachers for September 2025

Date

7th September
14th September
21st September
28th September

Time

10:30am
10:30am
10:30am
10:30am

Name

Mr Paul Bridle
Mr Keith Lilley
Mr Richard Lake
Mr Richard Keech

RENHOLD CHAPEL NOTES

We hope you've all had a nice rest and enjoyed the summer season, perhaps a day or two at the seaside. Was it worth it, I ask you, that day on the beach?

The smell of suncream and seaweed, sand in everything, children squealing in the water, obstacles like buckets, spades and sand castles, plus melting ice cream attracting flies and wasps wanting their share. "Don't be such a kill joy" you tell me "you were young once!" 'Tis true, I remember my first visit, a Sunday School outing to Yarmouth in 19**. What a treat, you'll have to guess the year! Was it worth it? Of course it was!

Back In the day, youngsters were taught, If a jobs worth doing "IT'S WORTH DOING WELL."

That's what's been happening at Renhold Chapel recently, with the need of new flooring for parts of the building after many decades of use. Damproofing and insulation installed, and some piping and wiring rerouted. Fortunately renovation is more or less complete, with Services and Coffee Mornings back to normal. A job well done, come and enjoy.

In 1885 two young men from this village along with five others became missionary pioneers to China. Maybe that's a story for another day, but look up "THE CAMBRIDGE SEVEN" on line. It will make you proud of our village, and you'll find it "WELL WORTH IT"

One of Seven wrote :- "Only one life 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

**WILL IT BE WORTH IT?
OF COURSE IT WILL!**

Coffee Morning: Tuesday 9th September 10am till 12 noon. EVERYONE WELCOME.



Sent in by Pauline Capell

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RENHOLD VILLAGE DIRECTORY

All Saints Church:

Parish Priest

Rev. Ian Smith
e: renhold.rev@gmail.com
772794

Churchwardens

Alan Bloomfield
351162
Sarah Tomlinson

Lay Vice Chair

Alan Bloomfield
351162

Secretary to PCC

Jill Burrows
07710228995

Verger

Keith Timms
772605

Treasurer

Christine Smith
772794

Bell Tower Coordinator

Yvonne Potter
771495

Churchyard Volunteers

Teresa Trangmar
07788 402441

Messy Church

Caroline Coster
carolinejcoster@gmail.com

Renhold Chapel

Mr Albert Browning
772689

Brownie Pack

Amanda
1strenholdbrownies@gmail.com

Preschool Group

Term time
Vicky Thompson
771724

Magazine

Anne Grant
771811

Football Club

Mr K. Harlow
871178

Village Hall Bookings

07523 667232

Women's Institute:

President

Jan Tozer
07855 222464

Secretary

Jill Barrell
870461

Treasurer

Lucie Fuller
juce44@gmail.com

Renhold School

771724

Borough Council

267422

Borough Councillors

Nicola Gribble
07955 530234

Renhold Village Agent

Lydia Wright
0800 039 1234

Parish Councillors

See page 26

Neighbourhood Plan

Amanda Quince
870704

NHS Direct (non- emergency medical helpline)

111

Bedford Hospital

355122

Police

999,
101 or
841212

Sgt Chloe Lloyd-Jones
PC Vito Napoli
PCSO Stephen Tarabella

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Richard Fuller
01767 313385

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