

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER '25





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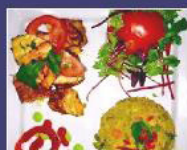
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—

NOVEMBER ‘25

School dates	Autumn term	Wednesday 3 th September - Friday 19 th December
	Half-term	Monday 27 th October - Friday 31 st October
	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
Thursday 6 th November	WI. Talk on waterways	7:30 PM	RVH	p16
Saturday 8 th November	Churchyard clear up	9:30 AM		
6 th & 7 th December	Xmas tree festival		ASR	p25
Monday 10 th November	Creative Club	7:30 PM	CH	
Friday 21 st November	Memory Café	11:00 AM	Chapel	p15

Church cleaning rota

10 th November	Judy Wootton & Pauline Capell
24 th November	Jill Barrell & Ingrid Lennox
8 th December	Sally Pool, Peter Pool & Tessa Wood
22 nd December	Jill Burrows
5 th January	Judy Wootton & Pauline Capell
19 th January	Jill Barrell & Ingrid Lennox

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

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THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE is published in accordance with its Privacy Policy, a copy of which may be obtained by application to the Editor (see 'Contact Details' above).

EDITORIAL BY ANNE GRANT

By the time this magazine comes out, Rev. Ian and Christine will have officially left Renhold to serve in his next parish. We will all miss them both. They have given so much to the parish in their time here especially after such a tricky start with Covid taking over. Ian has tried to ensure the church is open to everyone. We had the last pop up café with Ian at the helm on Saturday the 11th and the Chapter House was overflowing with buzz and chatter and sausage and bacon baps! Fortunately, we are hoping to keep this going, as it has proved very popular both for the food provided and the opportunity to mix and have a good catch up with old friends and new. I am including a photo of Ian hard at work cooking the sausages.

What a lot to cram into this month's magazine. Huge thanks to all those who sent in photos of all the amazing scarecrows for the competition. It was a fantastic success and we were fortunate to be blessed with fine weather. All credit to those who organised it, with especial thanks to Amanda Quince for masterminding it all. I just wish I could have fitted in photos of every single scarecrow but there is not room. Sue Levitt did a fantastic job photographing them all for her website and put a compilation of them all on two large sheets in the Chapter House at All Saints Church. Definitely worth a look. You can see the winners and those photos on *p16 & p17*.

We are lucky to have a pair of National Champions in our midst . Many congratulations to Geraldine and Ken Pearson for winning the title, especially after celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. No mean feat. Their photo is on the front cover and the article is on *p10*.

Rita De Selincourt took over the Bike'N' Hike challenge from Jill Barrell this year and visited several churches in the area which was fascinating. She wrote an article about it with some photos on *p20 & p21*. She also managed to raise over £210 for the church.

There is a very thoughtful article written by a Canadian friend of Pauline Capell called *A New Beginning (p12 - p13)*. Certainly those of us who are advancing in years may identify with many of her thoughts.

Please note there will be another Christmas Tree festival on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December and the theme is Christmas Carols . All the details are on *p25*.

I can't believe that I have kept this till last, but our exciting news is that we have 3 wonderful recruits who are going to join the Magazine team so the magazine will keep going. There will be more on this in the next issue which will be my last one as Editor.





Martyn Smith

Arboriculturist

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ALL SAINTS CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 2 nd Nov.	11:00 AM	Patronal Festival Eucharist Rev. Jennie Cappleman
Sunday 9 th Nov.	10:15 AM	Civil Remembrance at The War Memorial - Rev. Lynda Klimas
	10:45 AM	Service of Remembrance
	4:00 PM	Renhold Remembers
Wednesday 12 th Nov.	7:30 PM	Night prayer
Sunday 16 th Nov. <i>2nd before Advent</i>	11:00 AM	Parish Communion Celebrant To Be Confirmed
Wednesday 19 th Nov.	10:00 AM	Holy Communion (BCP) - Rev. Sarah Burrow
	3:30 PM	Messy Church
Sunday 23 rd Nov.	11:00 AM	Parish Communion Christ the King - Rev. Sarah Burrow
Wednesday 26 th Nov.	7:30 PM	Compline (BCP)
Sunday 30 th Nov. <i>Advent Sunday</i>	11:00 AM	Parish Communion Rev. Jonathan Sanders

Daily Offices:

Please note that daily offices are currently suspended because of the Vacancy...

Pastoral care:

Should you want to contact the Church about any matter or need a priest during the Vacancy, please contact the Church Wardens - Sarah (07765 6676969) and Alan (01234 351162) or email renhold.rev@gmail.com

From the registers:

5 th October	Ella Mounter - Baptism
11 th October	Alex Winstone & Glenys Lloyd Griffith - Wedding
18 th August	Liam Parker & Chelsey Southam - Wedding

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Dear all,
By the time that you read this Rev. Ian and his wife Christine will have taken up their new ministry in the benefice of Toddington and Chalgrave. It is always difficult saying “Goodbye” to people who have played such an important role in so many of our lives, not just in the life of the Church and School, but those very special moments such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. We wish them all the very best and know that their legacy will live on here in Renhold in so much of what we do.

We have successfully found clergy to lead all our services in the months ahead, so it is absolutely “business as usual”. A team of willing volunteers have stepped up to run the Pop Up Coffee shop and support other initiatives like our “Doughnut Club” for young people. In the background we will be working hard to find a replacement for Rev. Ian.

Please continue to use the Renhold Rev@gmail.com email to get in touch or contact the Church Wardens - Sarah (01234 347115) or Alan (01234 351162) if urgent. We are very lucky to have Rev. Lynda Klimas associated with our Church and ready to support any pastoral needs.

Finally, you may notice that we have regretfully had to lie a few of the memorial stones down in the Churchyard. This is because they have become loose, most likely due to the very dry weather which has caused a lot of ground movement over the summer. We are making every effort to contact families and to ensure that the memorials can be fixed back in their original position. Please get in touch with any questions.

With warmest wishes,
Sarah & Alan
Church Wardens

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES NOV & DEC.

Location of Mobile Library	Time	November	December
Renhold - Green End	10:00 - 10:15	11, 25	9, 23
Lay-by - Salph End	10:20 - 10:35	11, 25	9, 23
Renhold - Home Close	10:40 - 10:55	11, 25	9, 23
Renhold - Ravensden Road	11:00 - 11:15	11, 25	9, 23

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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UNSUNG HERO

Amanda Quince

Have you ever wondered who created this wonderful outline cut out of the soldier and poppies at our War Memorial? It was Trevor Asque, one of Renhold's unsung heroes. A Gospel Broadcaster by vocation, Trevor learned his carpentry skills from his brother-in-law Albert Browning, a first class cabinet maker. Using just a bandsaw and then cutting it out by hand, he created this timeless piece for us in 2018 to honour those brave men and women who gave their tomorrow for our today.



NEUROBLASTOMA FUNDRAISER

Amanda Quince

Hello there, My name is Amanda and I live in Renhold. I signed up for the '100 miles in September Challenge' to raise money to fund research into a very rare childhood cancer called Neuroblastoma. My grandson was diagnosed with this rare condition when he was just five months old and I am hoping that the money I raise will help to find kinder treatments and ultimately a cure.

My initial targets were 100 miles and £150. I have now walked 150 miles and raised £1625 so my new target is now £2000, thanks to the generosity of family and friends, and the support of Renhold Village Facebook. I will keep walking throughout October until I reach £2000.

I am combining the local walks with litter picking, so if you see me, please give me a wave, and please give what you can. Every penny counts! This link will take you directly to my fundraising page;

neuroblastoma.enthuse.com/pf/amanda-quince





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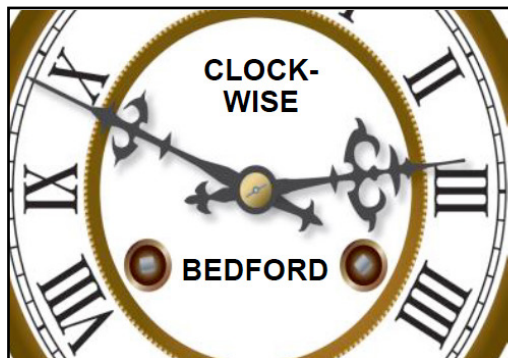
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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Geraldine and Ken Pearson won the National Championship title at The British Driving Society Trec championships days after celebrating their Golden Wedding.

While her pony and carriage are a familiar sight around the village, not many know that Geraldine Pearson and husband Ken have won the National Champions title on Saturday 20th September 2025. They live in Renhold and became the Bennington Carriages-sponsored National TREC Carriage Driving Champions just days after celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary. Having pre-qualified for the National TREC Championships finals back in April at an event in Suffolk, the couple travelled to the Addington Equestrian Centre in Buckinghamshire for the final, along with their 12-year-old pony 'Davey Crocket' whom Geraldine had originally adopted as an orphaned foal after it was left tied up and left to die in a ditch. In fact, Davey is also quite a star in his own right, having been named 'Rescue Pony of the Year' back in 2021.

As carriage driver, Geraldine is known as a 'Whip' while Ken on the carriage's back step is the 'Groom', and although they had pre-qualified for the event, they still took part in three tough phases in the morning's session against competitors from all over the country. The first phase all related to presentation: the 'Whip' and 'Groom', carriage, horse, conditions of the harness and all relevant tack, plus safety equipment (high vis, etc.) and spares. The second phase was all about driving skills as Geraldine manoeuvred Davey around a marked course. It also included one-handed driving, picking up

a drinking glass and putting it down five yards away, without the pony stopping and stepping back. The Groom is also involved by moving various flags as well as posting a letter in a marked postbox. The last phase involves a cross-country route, picking up letters as clues to make words for extra marks. Then a timed course of ten sets of cones against the clock in which the 'Whip' attempts to cover 220 metres in exactly a minute which Geraldine judged to perfection. She ended the morning session with just seven penalty points and an outright victory. In the afternoon the whole exercise was repeated in reverse order for the National Championship title itself with extra skills being needed as it was made more difficult and challenging, especially the cones course in reverse, once again taken at speed. Returning to their Renhold home, Geraldine said: "Ken and I were absolutely thrilled to win the national title at the British Driving Society National Championships show. We won the morning qualifying session and only picked up 22 penalty points overall. It was tough going in the afternoon final, against 12 other finalists, but we managed it and I feel so proud of our pony."

Geraldine Pearson



Yesterday I purchased a world map and gave my wife a dart and said to her "Throw this and wherever it lands, I'm taking you for a holiday." It turns out we're spending three weeks behind the fridge. - Marie Baird

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A NEW BEGINNING PART 1

By Joan Belford

When I type the words “A New Beginning” I think they should be followed by a story of monumental change and impact. But I believe most lives are marked by a series of new beginnings. Some are natural and evolutionary, as when we leave home to go to school, a job, or a marriage. Some are circumstantial like when we win a lottery, or suffer a debilitating injury, or endure a break-up. All can be life changing, but some are steps in our chosen journey, while others completely alter the path we thought we were on.

What is the difference between a milestone and a new beginning? To me, a milestone is a marker, a record of some kind of achievement, whether it is as heady as graduation or a promotion, or as uncontrollable as a birthday. A milestone to me merits helium balloon and big smiles. A new beginning on the other hand, to me brings a sense of trepidation, of stepping into the unknown, however grand the hopes and expectations may be, there is that sense of not being completely sure what lies ahead. I think primarily of situations in which I was out of my comfort zone. Many involved a move, a physical relocation to a place where I did not know people. Some were by choice, and some by necessity, but often the major transitions in my life occurred almost by happenstance, and I just went along for the ride. For the past 30 years or so, I have been in a very stable environment: same husband, same house, same church, many of the same friends. Nevertheless, I am feeling very strongly that I am at a new beginning. My world is changing, and I need to find a new direction. I am at the age where to quote Spock “the world as we know it” is disappearing. My life is full of uncertainty. I am retired, so I no longer have the

structure of the work world. I don't have as much energy as I used to, so I am not really pulling my weight as a volunteer either. I have a wonky eye which prevents me from curling and affects my balance to the point where I can no longer ride a bike, cross-country ski, or even walk independently on uneven pavements. In addition, my husband's health issues have greatly restricted our lives, and keep us from enjoying the travel we had planned. Our house built in 1954 is starting to show its age. A window cracked during one of this winter's frigid nights, some plaster is coming off a wall. We have endless discussions about the pros and cons of moving to a retirement home versus paying someone to do all the work necessary to keep us safe and comfortable where we are. This leads to very circular arguments about whether we are going to be in the house long enough to invest in the necessary repairs. The next breakdown of my 16-year-old car will mean the scrap heap and a big dent in independence for me.

More importantly, I am losing my relationships. I have 3 close friendships who have terminal illnesses. I attended 2 memorial services this past week, both for friends much younger than I. These are not my parents' friends, these are my contemporaries. I have been fortunate to have a group of friends who are 10 years younger than I am. That age gap has never made a difference, but it is beginning to. Now I am no longer able to do as much as I did in the past, I notice them watching out for me a little, and I wonder how long it is going to be before I am seen as a burden. Family support is not an option for us. I have no children of my own, and my husband's children live too far away to be able to help much. My stepson and daughter-in-law have their hands full with her family

and my stepdaughter lives in the USA, so moving closer to them is not on the table. I feel I am also losing relationships with our church. I have loved this church and invested a lot in it, pitching in with the workload and trying to be a support for both its spiritual direction, and as a practical assist to those who need it. I thought that at some point the church would be there for me when I need it. I can see now that is not going to happen on either of these levels. I do have friends at the church, but we are all more or less in the same boat. I can see us all holding each other up, until we can't anymore, and I wonder what will happen to us then. It may seem ironic that the mess this world is in has given me some energy and some hope. I love this country and feel so privileged to have been born here.

Moreover, I have always thought that the world in general was a marvel, filled with wonders and mostly good people. I have travelled quite a bit and always found people to be mostly kind and helpful wherever I went. What I have seen lately is causing me great despair, as I see so many people being hurt. It appears that the rule of law has gone out the window, and we are back to the stage that "might is right".

At the moment I have no idea of how to fix the situation we are in, but something tells me that we baby boomers had better try. Though some of us have suffered personal trials and tragedies, our generation has never faced war or a depression. Most of us have homes and retirement savings or pensions, we might be pinched in the recession that is coming, but we are not likely to be seriously damaged by it. What then can we do to help those who are most affected?

I do not have the energy or stamina that I once had, and I have some practical issues from my own life that need to be resolved, but I do have some time, and

I still do have a little brain power. I have led an incredibly privileged life, and I feel the importance of using whatever time is left to me in a very intentional way, to try and play an active role in the saving of our country. I don't know exactly what that will look like, but I am going to try to figure it out. That will be my new beginning.

'TALES OF THE RIVER BANK'

An opportunity to discover more about our local waterways, wildlife, and how to protect it.

Presented by Volunteer River Warden, Jim Coley.

THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

Renhold Village Hall, Wilden Road, Renhold, MK41 0LY
Talk starts at 7.30pm

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Raffle, Book Sale

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For further details contact:
Jan Tozer on 0785522464 or
Jill Barrell on 01234 870461

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COMMUNITY PICNIC – MARIE BAIRD

A church had a picnic and invited the entire community to come. The Pastor placed a basket full of apples on one end of a table with a sign saying, "Take only one apple please - Remember that God is watching." On the other end of the table was a plate of cookies where one of the children had placed a sign saying, "Take all the cookies you want - God is watching the apples."

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

THE MEMORY CAFÉ

If you are affected by memory loss, our monthly Memory Cafe is a safe and supportive place to meet socially with others, over a cake and a cuppa, and to join in activities if you wish. We also reserve a special space for carers, within full view of the people they support, where they can relax and exchange information with each other. Just turn up at Renhold Baptist Chapel on the third Friday of the month at 11am. Our next meeting will be on Friday 21st November.

Do you like making cakes? Can you help us by baking a cake for our Memory Cafe?

We love home-made cakes, but struggle to bake them for ourselves. We would be very grateful if any kind cake bakers in Renhold might like to volunteer to bake for us once a month. (Every third Friday of the month at 11:00 AM) If you can help, please contact Teresa Moon;
teresa.moon@tibbsdementia.co.uk
or text 07930 999573

FROM YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE AGENT

Your Village Agent, Lydia Wright, is here to help vulnerable people in Bedford Borough villages to access the services and support they might need. Her services are free (funded by Bedford Borough Council) and she can visit you at home. Just call Freephone 0800 039 1234.

Do You Need Help with Transport?

Do you need help to apply for or renew a bus pass? I'm happy to assist.

Do You Struggle with Mobility?

You might be eligible for a Blue Badge - I can help you to fill in the application form.

Door to Door Transport in Bedford Borough

Do you struggle to get on a bus? Did you know that the Door2Door minibus service will collect you from home, and has facilities to take wheelchairs and mobility scooters using a tail lift?

Did you know that you can sign up for Door2Door without giving up your bus pass? Call the Door2Door admin number (01234) 834933 for more details.

Do You Need Access to Disabled Toilets?

Some disabled toilets can only be used by people who have a special RADAR key. If this would be helpful to you, I can provide one.

Are You Eligible for Pension Credit?

The minimum income for people over State Pension age should be receiving is £227.00 if you live alone, or more for a couple. Ask me for a confidential review of your finances if you think your income might fall below this amount.

Are You Struggling with Debt?

Help is At Hand. Salvation Army and Citizens Advice run a highly recommended Money Advice Service in Bedford. Call them on 01234 329 200 or if you need help accessing this, just ask!

Would a helpful gadget make your life easier?

We have a range of handy gadgets to distribute free of charge to people who may be struggling to manage, including a handy reacher or CO2 Monitors. Just call and ask for the item you would like.

Contact our Village Agent on Freephone 0800 039 1234 (This is an answerphone service, so please be ready to leave your name, address & telephone number, & we will aim to call you back within 48 hours.)



Bedford Borough
Council

RENHOLD SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Amanda Quince and Tony Ploszajski

An extraordinary demonstration of local creativity was on display in Renhold on the weekend of 21st and 22nd September (see *opposite*), with this year's edition of the Renhold Scarecrow Festival attracting 30 entries. Our grateful thanks go to Peter and Rachel Worth, who donated the cup and the cash prizes for our winners, to Peter Norris whose Trail Map was so integral to the event's success, and much valued was the help of Renhold School in the printing of the maps and programmes. The grand total raised for All Saints Church was £1243.30 which was amazing.

From event headquarters at All Saints' Church, a map of the Scarecrow Trail was available, enabling Renhold residents of all ages to locate and admire each scarecrow. Entries were divided into two categories; those designed by village organisations and those created by families or individuals, and what a variety there were! We were honoured by the presence of the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, Camilla King, who had the unenviable task of having to judge the overall winner and thanks too to Alison Bradbury, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, who presented the prizes at the Harvest Songs of Praise the following weekend.

(Photos by T. Ploszajski, P. Capell & S. Levitt)

RENHOLD WI

Our last meeting was a storytelling session with Mark Steinhardt. He told us three stories from around the world and a very old joke, 19th century? It was an entertaining and amusing evening certainly, but also intriguing and thought provoking. Our next meeting is on Thursday 6th November and our speaker is River Warden, Jim Coley. Jim will be telling us how he and his team maintain the health

The people's Choice Awards and cash prizes went to:

Organisations

1st Place - The Polhill Arms for a friendly scarecrow customer at the bar with his faithful straw hound.

2nd Place - Floral Barn Studios for a fashionably dressed lady scarecrow, also with a friendly straw canine companion and some beautifully arranged flowers and vegetables.

3rd Place - Renhold Churchyard Volunteers for a weary looking scarecrow volunteer resting from his labours on the jubilee bench.

Individuals

1st Place - Petra Schreier for a magnificent conversion of her front garden into an Oktoberfest scene featuring two beer-swilling lady scarecrows wearing authentic dirndls and two giant straw pretzels, should they need any additional refreshment.

2nd Place - Sharon and Dave Wiggins for two impeccably suited Blues Brothers scarecrows, with Jake and Elwood seated on the bonnet of a real 'Blues mobile' ex-Illinois Police vehicle.

3rd Place - Laura Stanton for a creative montage featuring straw versions of SpongeBob SquarePants, Rumi from KPop Demon Hunters and a man with a speed gun.

and biodiversity of the waterways in this area, whilst keeping a lookout for invasive wildlife and plants. I have heard Jim speak before and I look forward to meeting him again. We meet at Renhold Village Hall at 7:30 PM. Guests always welcome. Admission £6 including refreshments. Raffle and book sale. See you there!
Jan Tozer, President. 07855222464

—

ORGANISATIONS



The Polhill Arms



Floral Barn studios



Renhold Churchyard
Volunteers

INDIVIDUALS



Petra Schreier



Sharon & Dave
Wiggins



Laura Stanton

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THE HARVEST SERVICE AND PRIZE-GIVING FOR THE SCARECROW COMPETITION

P. Capell

What a lovely service there was to accompany the prize giving for the scarecrows. Mrs Alison Bradbury can be seen congratulating Petra Schreier for being the overall winner of the Scarecrow competition (seen holding the cup). The church looked amazing and there was a bit of everything. We sang some harvest hymns rarely heard today, there was poetry about the harvest moon and the new junior choir gave their first performance. The incredible harvest sheaf provided by the Cottage Bakery in Ampthill was donated by Sarah Flynn, and the wonderful flower arrangements and fruit and vegetables set the harvest atmosphere. Truly a wonderful celebration.

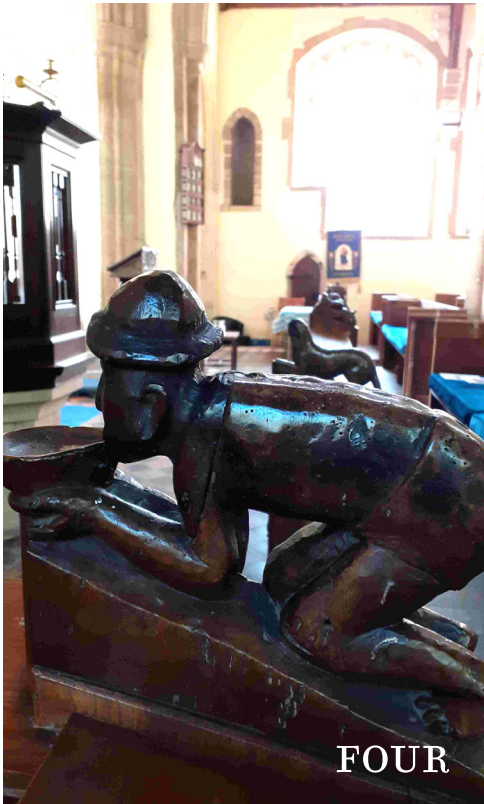


SOME JOKES – DOUG MARR

- Sometimes the thoughts in my head get bored and stroll out through my mouth. This is never a good thing.
- I see people around my age mountain climbing whereas I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without falling over!
- Our town is so small we don't have a town drunk so we all take turns.
- Sometimes I wonder if all of this is happening, because I didn't forward that message to 10 other people.
- Exercising can add years to your life. For example I jogged 4 miles today and now I feel like I'm 73.
- I trained my dog to fetch beer. It may not sound too impressive but he gets them from the neighbours fridge!

—

WILD ABOUT RENHOLD



WILD ABOUT RENHOLD – TONY PLOSZAJSKI

One – Hops

Hops occur in Britain on a wild and a cultivated basis. The ones in the photo were growing along the banks of the Renhold Brook, using dead Cow Parsley stems to climb. Hop is a sun-loving, climbing plant that is most famous for its role in beer-making. It rambles through woodland, field edges, hedgerows and waste ground, growing in sunny areas. Hop bears male and female flowers on different plants: the male flowers are small, but the female ones are like large, scaled apples and are unmistakable. Glands within these flowers contain essential oils and have a distinctive, yeasty-garlic smell. Until the end of the Middle Ages, other plants were used to preserve and flavour beer, but the flower cones of Hops enabled beer to be preserved for longer and gave the ale a distinctive taste. By the end of the 16th century, beer-drinking was popular across England and Hops were grown extensively for its production.

Two – Hornet

Hornets are large wasps with yellow and brownish-red striped bodies, reddish wings and a yellow head. Adults hunt a variety of invertebrates to feed their larvae. This one appeared on our patio in mid-September, which seems to fit a bit of a local pattern based on previous years. Hornets change their feeding habits seasonally, foraging in the spring and summer and switching to scavenging in the autumn. They have a diverse diet, hunting large insects like dragonflies, beetles and moths. They even have a taste for tree sap, nectar and fruit. In addition to our native European Hornets, Asian Hornets have recently been recorded as an invasive species in the UK. They are smaller and darker than European Hornets and pose a risk to honey bees and other pollinators. They are most likely to be seen near bee hives, preying on bees defending the hive.

BIKE'N'HIKE

Historic Churches Trust – Rita de Selincourt

Bike 'n Hike is a sponsored event held each September so that the Historic Churches Trust can keep giving grants to churches and chapels for repairs, improvements or activities, allowing them to go on doing good service in their communities. All Saints Renhold is an important part of village life and has benefited from, and contributed to, the Trust's work.

Very many thanks to everyone who donated to the over £210 we raised. This year, I decided to visit some Historic Churches in the "Limestone Villages" just west of Bedford. I enjoyed looking around the churches and churchyards and I took walks at each location - Oakley, Stevington, Pavenham, Felmersham and Bromham. What an amazing area we live in!

At Stevington, I walked a section of the Bunyan Trail and drank from the "holy well" (Three) deliciously cold water filtered through the limestone.

At Pavenham I admired the wood carvings (Four) and was offered refreshments. I'm not sure who St Guthlac was, but next year I plan to find out by including Astwick (near Stotfold) in my itinerary! There are about 500 churches within the area covered by Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust area, all worth a visit.

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 OCTOBER UPDATE

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE - LAND BETWEEN HOOKHAMS LANE AND RAVENS DEN ROAD, SALPH END, RENHOLD

Please kindly note at the time of writing, this information is the most up to date known at present, on this Manor Oak Homes development. This has been included again for continued reference and encouragement for engagement in the application at this stage; Manor Oak Home having 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 is misleading. Renhold Parish Council have after reviewing the application details below, engaged in the public consultation and had an informal meeting with site representatives to ask questions and provide clarity on items directly from the Parish Council to the site representatives.

A reminder 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 is

needed to be undertaken on the site as part of the planning process. Such an impact assessment looks at environmental factors in great 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 needed.

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

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*

PARISH COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT ON LOCAL MATTERS

Renhold Parish Council were pleased to be invited by Richard Fuller MP office to a site meeting to discuss concerns raised by residents regarding the Renhold Pumping Station. As a result of the concerns expressed, primarily focused around the discharge of sewage into the brook, Richard had arranged a site visit with Anglian Water with the Parish Council happy to support. Borough Councillor Nicky Gribble has invited Gavin Chinniah, the Borough's new Head of Planning, to engage with Renhold Parish Council and Renhold Councillors are looking forward to meeting with him shortly to discuss a number of local key planning issues.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Parish Council are pleased to welcome new Renhold Parish Councillor Paul Sawford, who was co-opted at the September Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council look forward to working with Paul.

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: bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-applications

The Parish Council are aware that the planning process can appear to be complicated. In order 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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES REMINDER

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT – OCTOBER 2025 UPDATE

Hello, as I write this month's report I am very much aware that winter is closing in and clocks will go back on Sunday 26th October, marking the end of British Summer Time. With Diwali celebrations and Bonfire Night (Guy Fawkes) fast approaching, please may I remind everyone that fireworks can really distress both pet animals, horses and livestock. Can those who are planning to set-off fireworks, especially in the old village, let neighbours know, especially those with horses and ponies. These are animals that can very easily take fright and run away from perceived danger such as loud noises and sparkles and may hurt themselves or cause an accident. If the owners are informed, they can take precautions to ensure the animals are safely away from the noises and tucked up in bed. On the subject of horses and ponies, please can I also remind drivers that horse riders and carriage drivers are classed as vulnerable road users and should be passed slowly, allowing 2m between

the car and horse. Riders and carriage drivers are always grateful but may not be able to take their hands off the reins to wave a thank you- they may try to catch your eye and nod thanks, and they are always very grateful for the consideration that is shown to them.

Once again for half-term, please check out the activities for children at the Higgins, they are always very good; I used to take my own boys there when they were young.

You may have seen in the local news that the Council is under very severe financial pressure, in line with many other Local Authorities. The cost pressures from Adult Services, especially temporary accommodation and Children Services are unsustainable especially with limited funding from Government. Unpleasant decisions are being made to address the shortfall and ways of working examined, to ensure that our money is being spent wisely. It is a very difficult position to be in, but we are all trying to work together for the good of the

Borough and our residents and recover from this deficit. As always, thank you so much for your continued support and

please do not hesitate to contact me on nicola.gribble@bedford.gov.uk if you have any questions.
Best wishes, Cllr Nicola Gribble

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Presents

2025 Christmas Tree Festival

**Saturday 6th December**
Sunday 7th December
10: 00am — 5: 00pm 1: 00pm - 5: 00pm
Theme for 2025—Christmas Carols

All Welcome
Children's Treasure Hunt
Seasonal Refreshments Raffle £3.00 Entrance
Under 12's free **Contact: Alan 351162 or Keith 772605**



NORTH BEDS RAMBLERS WALK

Every Saturday

Please note change of start time for afternoon walks - Winter start 13:00
Come and join us for a walk. We walk every Saturday afternoon approx. 6 miles and Saturdays twice a month in morning for approx. 12 miles. Or, try our "Ramble" on first Saturday morning each month - slightly shorter, slower pace

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

November Walks

- 1st

AM "Ramble", Wilstead, 4.5 miles
- 8th

PM Wilstead, 6.5 miles
AM Potton, 13 miles
PM Swineshead, 6 miles
- 15th

PM Stagsden, 6.5 miles
- 22nd

PM Ravensden, 5 miles
followed by AGM
- 29th

AM Bradwell Abbey 12 miles
PM Harrold, 6 Miles

RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL 2025

Clerk to the Council - Mrs Lizzie
Barnicoat
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:
Thursday 20th November - 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 October 2025

Date	Time	Name
2 nd November	10:30am	Mr Adam May
9 th November	10:45am	Mr Bernard Hicks
		Remembrance Sunday
16 th November	10:30am	Mr Ross Knight
23 rd November	10:30am	Mr George Morrow
30 th November	10:30am	Mr Steven Guest

CHAPEL NOTES

October has now come around once more. What lovely weather we have had this summertime, and also into our autumn days. Last weekend we celebrated our Harvest Festival and also had our Harvest Supper. It was a very joyous occasion. Our dear Carolyn, as always, arranged such a lovely supper for us. We had a good number attending, and we all enjoyed the evening. We had a very good pause for thought, which was amusingly given, but the basis of the talk was how wonderful and generous our dear God is to us all. On Sunday we had a lovely display of produce, which was all destined for the local Food Bank. Also, some lovely flowers displayed which Jackie so lovingly created for us.

Our garden is still lovely and full of colour. We have started getting on with the winter clear up, but so

much colour still remains. The dahlias especially still look bright and beautiful. They will do so until we have the first deep frost. All is safely gathered on the farm. The new grass for future hay time is now all planted, and the cultivating has begun for the planting of next year's harvest.

We are always reminded of the promise our dear Lord has given to us that whilst the earth remains, springtime and harvest, summer and winter will still come along. We now look forward to our next celebration at Christmas time. A lovely Christmas dinner, and wonderful carols to be sung. In the meantime, we still have our coffee mornings, every second Tuesday of the month. Many folks join us for this, and it is very well received and everyone enjoys the occasion. All for now, God bless us and we trust for a safe and happy winter.

THINGS TO PONDER – MARIE BAIRD

1. If the No.2 pencil is the most popular, why is it still No. 2?
2. Why do we press harder on the remote control when we know the batteries are getting weak?
3. What was the best thing BEFORE sliced bread?
4. Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?
5. Why do “fat chance” and “slim chance” mean the same thing?
6. Why do British people never sound British when they sing?
7. At a movie theatre which armrest is yours?
8. Why are there no “B” batteries?
9. Why do people say “heads up” when you should duck?

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RENHOLD VILLAGE DIRECTORY

All Saints Church:

Parish Priest

-

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

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101 or
841212

PC Abi Holt

PC Vito Napoli

PCSO Stephen Tarabella

PCSO Kim Roberts

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Richard Fuller
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Bedford MP

Mohammed Yasin
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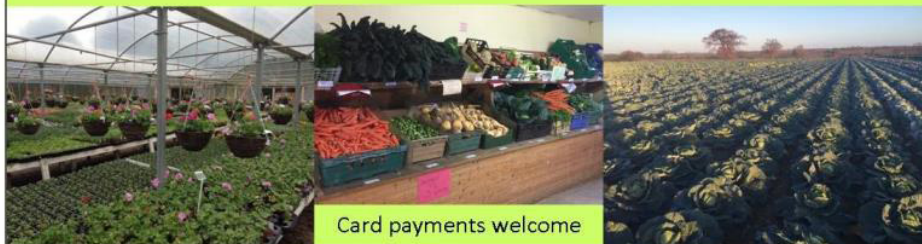
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