

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE



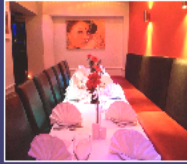
JUNE 2024



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DIARY JUNE 2024

School Dates 2024:

Summer Term	Tues. 16th April — Fri. 19th July
Half-Term	Mon. 27th May — Fri. 31st May
Autumn Term	Wed. 4th Sept.—Fri.20th Dec.
Half-Term	Mon.28th Oct—Fri.1st Nov.

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

Thurs.6th June	WI Talk on Kathryn Princess of Aragon 7.30pm RVH	p12
Thurs.6th June	D-Day 80th Anniversary Remembrance Service 2pm	p23
Sat.15th June	Bulky Waste Collection 8am-9am	p24
Fri.21st June	Alma Singers Midsummer Concert 7.00pm All Saints Church	
Tues.25th June	Citizens Advice comes to Bedford	p15

Church cleaning rota:

Mon. 10th June	Sally and Peter Poole and Tessa Wood
Mon. 24th June	Christine Smith and Jill Burrows
Mon. 8th July	Judy Wootton and Pauline Capell
Mon. 22nd July	Jill Barrell and Ingrid Lennox

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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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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).

Frontispiece: Tulips along the embankment Photos by P. Capell and A. Grant

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EDITORIAL By Anne Grant

The sun is shining as I write this, the sky is radiant blue and the profusion of spring flowers has really lifted the spirits. I think the cold weather has meant many of the spring flowers have lasted a lot longer than usual and certainly, the display along the embankment has been absolutely spectacular (front cover) and the bluebells at Moggerhangar Park were also lovely. Is there anyone out there who is a keen gardener and would like to give us an article for the magazine every so often, perhaps with some handy hints for us, not so proficient gardeners, and maybe include the odd photo as well? If you are interested please get in touch, my details are on p3. We would love to hear from you.

Someone recently ran into my car and in trying to sort things out I have found various phone numbers ringing me, trying to persuade me to avail myself of their services. If I don't recognise the number I don't answer, then go on my computer and go on this free website: **who called.co.uk** They will look it up and advise whether it is a genuine number but no reports have been associated with it, which means it is either a safe number or nothing adverse has yet been reported. It will tell you the area it comes from and whether any adverse reports have come in. I thought it could be useful to pass on. It is a free service and can be used to unmask unknown callers and take control of your phone line and recognise common scam tactics, suspicious caller IDs to protect yourself from malicious calls.

Thanks to our great team of magazine staplers who turned out in force to collate the May magazine after a plea, as last month we were a bit thin on the ground. About 17 busy people can be seen working, chatting, laughing and performing a really useful service for us all.



There is much of interest in the magazine this month. An article sent in by Julie Roberts shows history is far from boring and Pauline Capell's article tracking back the way libraries have changed in the way they provide services is fascinating and will bring back many memories. The installation of the new flagpole at church was a mammoth task and looks magnificent, The litter pickers all festooned in their luminous yellow hi vis jackets did an amazing job. What a great way to show youngsters the mess created by litter, by having them pick up the rubbish discarded by others. Our thanks to them and all those in Renhold who participate in community activities which benefit everyone. Tony Ploszajski as always provides a fascinating page on the flora and fauna of Renhold and always appreciates any photos people send in. There is also an update from the BRCC Village agent Lydia Wright reminding everyone of all the ways she can help with information about a range of problems. Last but by no means least, look at the amazing photos of the Aurora Borealis p17.& p20. We welcome all your contributions which broadens the interest of our magazine so please keep on sending them and that includes jokes as well!!! Please remember the next issue will be a double one July and August.



Martyn Smith

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All Saints Church Services for June 2024

All services taken by Revd Ian Smith except where stated.

Sunday 2 June TRINITY 1	11:00am	Parish Communion
Wednesday 5 June	11:30am	Prayers for the Community
Thursday 6 June	2:00pm	Commemorating D-Day 80 (<i>Memorial Garden</i>)
Sunday 9th June TRINITY 2	11:00am 6:00pm	Café Church Evensong (BCP) with hymns
Wednesday 12 June	7:30pm	Night Prayer <i>Sarah Tomlinson</i>
-		
Sunday 16 June TRINITY 3	11:00am	Parish Communion <i>Revd Sarah Burrow</i>
Wednesday 19 June	10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Revd David Powell</i>
Sunday 23 June TRINITY 4	11:00am	Parish Communion
Wednesday 26 June	7:30pm	Compline BCP
Sunday 30 June PETERTIDE	11:00am 6:00pm	Parish Communion Evensong (BCP) with hymns

DAILY OFFICES – Revd Ian says the Daily Office in church at the following times. You are warmly invited to join him at this short service.

EACH MONDAY –	9:30am	Morning Prayer
EACH THURSDAY –	4:30pm	Evening Prayer (To be confirmed)

LETTER FROM THE VICAR

I believe we are officially now in the summer season – the weather, as I write, certainly suggests this with the warmth of the sun, the vibrant colours of the flowers in the gardens and the amazing birdsong that seems to be all around me, even at 3:00am; but I am not complaining. It is a real privilege to be able to live and work in a rural parish with all that goes on, in it and around it, and with the characters that you happen to bump into; it really makes you appreciate life here. This time of year, I love being outside, I might not be the most enthusiastic gardener as Christine will confirm, but there is something about being in the presence of nature and surrounded by God's creation.

Some of you who watch our livestream broadcasts will have seen occasions recently where I have taken short services outside in the garden and churchyard, with much favourable comment being received; sometimes it just feels right to do this.

The churchyard and grounds are a beautiful space which are lovingly cared for by a group of dedicated volunteers who each month throughout the year, spend a Saturday morning weeding, sweeping leaves, tidying graves and flowerbeds etc. to make it a place of peace for us all to use. The churchyard is not the same as the cemetery in Norse Road in that, as it is consecrated ground surrounding a sacred building, we are governed by rules and regulations. These regulations are mandatory, and we cannot ignore them. They specify the size, usable materials and designs of memorials for both full body burials and ashes. They state where flowers can be left on a grave or plot and that these flowers should be "real/natural" definitely not plastic/artificial, with the occasional exception to use silk in very limited circumstances. These rules may seem a bit draconian and over the top, but when you look at them knowing the reasons behind them, they are not so demanding after all.

One of the main focuses of these regulations is safety, the safety of those using the grounds and those who are working to maintain them. Ideally all graves should be flat and grassed to the headstone to facilitate ease of mowing and ground maintenance. The use of edging, fences and grates have now been banned and PCCs are instructed to remove them at the earliest opportunity. When it comes to flowers, cut flowers being placed on graves as a symbol of the brevity of life are encouraged, as are the planting of bulbs as these are symbols of the resurrection. Against this, shrubs, trees including conifers and perennial plants are not permitted as these impede the maintenance and may encroach on the grave itself or adjacent graves.

The PCC are obligated to abide by the regulations and are charged with making the churchyard and grounds as accessible and as safe as possible. To this effect the team are working on levelling graves using the excess soil from new graves being dug, to assist in the mowing etc. and, to ensure as firm a footing as possible for users, as even slightly sunken graves create a high risk of falling or contracting muscular injuries. We will make every effort to communicate any changes being made to specific graves to families in advance of work taking place.

The regulations are for our benefit, as well as protecting those who have gone before us and preserving the grounds for those who come after us. They are extensive but not a secret, and a copy is displayed in the church porch for your information, or a soft copy can be emailed upon request.

Details of all services for June are listed within this magazine, and these will be live streamed where possible using the All Saints Renhold Facebook page. We have been experiencing major issues with our website recently and we apologise for any inconvenience caused; and are currently using a national church facility at <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7680/service-and-events/events-all/> to post information of services and accompanying service sheets.

Take care, stay safe, enjoy the summer sunshine and God Bless...

Rev. Ian

Down Memory Lane to the Library Pauline Capell

Popping into the library the other day I found a buzz of activity – a group of ladies playing Scrabble, an interactive story and song time for the children, people sourcing information from computer screens, and the smell of coffee and sound of a dozen different conversations coming from the cafe area. That sparked memories of my dad who was a librarian back in the 60s – 80s and I wondered what he would think of the modern day library, in comparison to the hushed almost reverential silence back in his day. In order to survive in this ever changing world, libraries have had no choice but to transform themselves or cease to exist.

I wonder what his reaction would be to unstaffed libraries where users can let themselves in using their card, and return and check out books on a machine. Who remembers taking out a book and having it stamped by a hand-held device that had to be pressed into an ink pad? As a child I used to accompany my dad to work some Saturdays, where I would go down a flight of concrete steps into the bowels of the building to the work room, where no daylight ever penetrated. I would be given a pot of glue and a brush, and my job was to stick a label into the front of each book where the date of return would be stamped. I also had to attach a small cardboard pocket onto the bottom left hand corner of the inside of the cover, so that a small piece of card could be inserted bearing typewritten details of that book. When someone took it out, that card was placed in a holder bearing the borrowers name, and that was then filed by hand alphabetically as a record. Before the typewriter they were written out in a handwriting style called 'librarian's hand' which was introduced by Melvil Dewey, who invented the Dewey system of cataloguing books. Another task was to fit plastic covers onto the book which protected the paper cover and helped to keep it clean. I looked up some fascinating facts about library books, and found that they get very dirty being passed through hundreds of hands, and have been found to conceal, amongst other things, bed bugs, traces of cocaine and nose pickings!

One of the perks of having a librarian for a dad was that we got brand new books before they went onto the shelves. This rather spoilt me, as to this day I love the smell of a new book and the memories it evokes. I can still however sometimes access new books through the library for just 90p. If you request a title that cannot be sourced, the library will buy it in for you, and you get first go at a brand new book for less than £1. Now that's what I call service.

So what about other modern concepts of libraries? Did you know that Bedford Railway Station has had its own small library for the last 6 years? Faced with a long train journey and finding yourself with nothing to read, you can take a book from the shelves and trolleys near the barrier as long as you return it, or replace it with a book of your own at some stage in exchange. Then there is the Imagination Library, founded by Dolly Parton in 1995, which sends 2 million books a month around the world for children who have no access to them at home. Little Free Libraries have sprung up all over the place, since a US business man named Todd Bol, erected a box on a post in his front garden shaped like a one room schoolroom, and filled it with books for the taking in memory of his mother, who was an avid reader and school teacher. There are now 170,000 such LFTs, and counting, in 120 countries round the globe. Closer to home is Sweet Caroline's Hidden Book Adventure, dreamed up by a head teacher in Newbury who thought up a book based treasure hunt to promote reading. She became terminally ill, but her family ran with the idea in her memory, wrapping up books and hiding them with an explanatory treasure map. Children find them, read them, then hide them again. From small beginnings the idea has spread to Canada, the US, South Africa and Australia.

Long live libraries and those who promote reading.

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A History lesson Part 1 sent in by Julie Roberts

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot & then once a day it was taken & sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were “piss poor.” But worse than that were the really poor folk who couldn’t even afford to buy a pot; they “didn’t have a pot to piss in” & were the lowest of the low. The next time you are washing your hands & complain because the water temperature isn’t just how you like it, think about how things used to be.

Here are some facts about the 1500s. Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June. Since they were starting to smell, however, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married. Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it ... hence the saying, “Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water!”

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof, resulting in the idiom, “It’s raining cats and dogs.” There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed, therefore, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That’s how canopy beds came into existence. The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, leading folks to coin the phrase “dirt poor.” The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance-way, subsequently creating a “thresh hold.”

(Who said history was boring, to be continued next month).

Horses

Please can I ask all road-users to be very much aware of horses on our village roads. The Highway Code was updated last year and horse riders and carriage drivers are classed as vulnerable road users. The advice is to pass horses at 10mph leaving at least 2m gap between the car and the horse or carriage. Please do not hang back as it can make the horse anxious but drive past steadily and sensibly. Horses are creatures that can take fright over the silliest things, so please be aware of their unpredictability as they are programmed to run away from any perceived danger. It goes without saying not to overtake if it is unsafe, and you wouldn’t do so if it were any other vehicle. I would also ask cyclists to call out if they are behind a horse so that both horse and rider/driver are aware of your presence. We have had a couple of near-misses recently when cars have passed horses at great speed which could have resulted in a nasty accident. Thank you very much, I know that many people who enjoy horses will appreciate your consideration for both them and other road users. Nicky Gribble

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Homes for Ukraine Scheme . Liz Taylor

Following my appeal earlier in the year asking if anyone could help a small Ukrainian family I am very pleased to give you the latest news. The family I was assisting have found a sponsor in Kettering which is wonderful. However a sponsor in Renhold offered to help and so we have been in discussions about offering another family an opportunity to escape the horrors of Ukraine. We are working with a wonderful sponsor in Renhold at the moment. We are very much hoping that Julia, a young mother with her 6-year-old son, is going to be moving here in the summer. We are always trying to interest the community in our Ukrainian guests while preserving a degree of confidentiality. So until Julia is safely here and can meet you all I don't want to say too much more about her . She will be able to meet you all herself very soon we hope.

However she has asked me to ask the Renhold community if there is anyone in the village who would consider sponsoring her mother so they could be together .We are therefore looking for an additional sponsor for a single woman. Julia's mother ,Natalia is 62 . Julia speaks very good English and would emotionally support Mum. Natalia has been working as a carer in Ukraine . Julia and Julia's 6-year-old son are all the family Natalia has. While she is so grateful that her daughter and grandson are being offered an opportunity to escape the nightmare of Odessa, it would be wonderful if there was anyone living locally who could sponsor her so they could be together .

After reading all of this information if you would be interested in finding out more about becoming a sponsor please contact me. I will happily answer any questions.

Liz Taylor Bybrookhomesforukraine@gmail.com 07875951852



Renhold WI

Following our insightful talk about the ARP, our next meeting on Thursday 6th June takes us further back in time to the reign of Henry VIII. But our subject is **Kathryn, Princess of Aragon**, before she became Henry's wife.

Our speaker is **Nora Butler**, chairman of the Kimbolton History Society. I have heard Nora speak before and thoroughly enjoyed listening to her. We meet at Renhold Village Hall, at 7.30 pm. All welcome. Guest admission £5 which includes refreshments. Raffle!

Jan Tozer, Treasurer



From Our Village Agent Lydia Wright
Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC)



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 0800 039 1234.

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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.

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 between £169.50 to £221.20 per week if you live alone, or more as a couple. Ask me for a confidential review of your finances if you think your income might fall below this amount.

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 jar opener; handy reacher; automatic night light; CO2 Monitors; extra-long shoe horn or seat belt helper. Just call and ask for the item you need.

Contact your 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.



Renhold Village Clubs 2024

Group	Contact	Tel.	Day	Time	Place
Bridge Club- No Fear	TBA		Every Mon. Every Fri.	9.45-1pm	St. Marks Church Brickhill
Brownies	Kim Dellar	267150	Every Thurs.	6.15- 7.45pm	RV Hall
Carpet Bowls	Chick	838651	Every Mon. Every Wed.	2-4.30pm 7-9.30pm	RV Hall
Chapel Coffee morning	Albert Brown- ing	772689	2nd Tues.	10-12noon	Chapel
Creative Club	Teresa Trangmar	07788402 441	2nd Mon.	7.30- 9.00pm	Chapter House
Luncheon Club	Yvonne Potter	771495	2nd Wed.	12.30 for 1pm	
Pudding Club for carers	Anne Grant	771811	1st Tues.	2-3.30pm	4, Brookside
Reading Group	Pauline Capell	771858	1st Fri.	4pm	1, Church Close
Renhold pre- school group	Vicky Thomp- son	771724		Term time	
Stitchers	Jackie Croot	870271	3rd Thurs.	10.30- 12.30pm	Chapter House
Table tennis	TBA		Every Mon. Every Wed. Every Fri.	1.30pm 10.30am 10.30am	Church Lane Com- munity Centre
WI.	Jan Tozer	297456	1st Thurs.	7.30pm	RV Hall
Yarn Craft Group	Marion Sutton	217647	Alternate Fridays	10am- 12.30pm	Wilden Village Hall

RV Hall = Renhold Village Hall; the Chapter House is at the back of All Saints Church.

Mobile Library Times June and July 2024

<u>Location of Mobile Library</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
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

Citizens Advice is coming to Renhold in June and September with the mobile library . See the dates below.

Citizens Advice Bedford will be in our parish with the mobile library in the months of June and September.

Tuesday 25th June– Renhold

Tuesday 3rd September- Renhold

North Beds Ramblers walk every Saturday

North Beds Ramblers:

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

June Walks

1st pm Wilstead, 6 miles

8th am Bradwell Abbey, Milton Keynes 12 miles, or pm Wilden 6.5 miles,

15th am Southill Walk and Lunch 7 miles

22nd am St Ives 12 miles or pm Keysoe Row West 6.8 miles

29th pm Woburn 6 miles

Contact; Margaret Sawyer 07780933729 Facebook; North Beds Ramblers

<https://www.ramblers.org.uk/north-bedfordshire>

A note from Barbara Libiszowski

Roy and I decided at short notice to do a week's cruise in the Norwegian Fjords from Southampton. It was lovely! One port was Alesund, where we climbed a steep hill at the back of the town with a great view and then stopped in a café on the way back to the ship. Just before we found a coffee, I saw a van parked there that had the word RENHOLD on its side amongst other words. I thought there might be a village of that name nearby. So I enquired in the café what RENHOLD was. I guess it was in a list of jobs that the owner of the company does...it means CLEANING! And if you are the one responsible for the cleaning i.e. the cleaner then you are the RĒNHOLDER!! What more can I say. At least I learnt two Norwegian words.

Renhold Litter Pick (see opposite)

After a whole day of rain the day before, the sun shone on us for the Renhold Village Litter Pick.

We met at the school for 11am and spent two hours clearing rubbish from the roads, verges, pavements and play-parks throughout our village.

Team Renhold managed to collect almost 30 bags of rubbish and a shopping trolley that we left at strategic points to be picked up by the team at the Borough Council who supplied the tabards, bags and pickers.

It was a fantastic way to spend a Saturday morning and hopefully the children can also learn how to protect our environment and keep it clean for everyone to enjoy. We then concluded our morning by meeting at the Polhill Arms for well-earned refreshments.

A huge thank you to Renhold School PTFA and other residents who joined us.

We will be planning another litter pick in the Autumn.

Many thanks for your support and enthusiasm,

Nicky Gribble.

THE AURORA BOREALIS AS SEEN FROM RENHOLD. Nicky Gribble

We were very lucky to witness the amazing spectacle of the Northern Lights in Renhold on Friday 10th May. The sun has been very active recently and had produced many, strong solar flares and ejections of plasma into space. Luckily for us sky-watchers, these were Earth-directed, the skies were clear and they collided with Earth in the hours of darkness. When these charged particles hit our atmosphere they react with the gases and the result is the wonderful, dancing colours that were observed all over the UK.

These images were taken from the back of the Church as it is a reasonable dark-sky area in our village but I have seen photos of this event from the Aspires estate and into Bedford as the solar storm was so intense on this occasion. (see opp)

Joke

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race start?" The mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and so all mankind was made." Two days later the girl asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved." The confused girl returned to her mother and said, "Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."



These astonishing photos were taken by Nicky Gribble (the Chair of our Parish Council and our Borough Councillor and now also our Stargazer) on the 10th May. (see opp.) It is incredibly unusual to see the Northern Lights as far south as the UK. Thanks to others for also sending in some photos it is much appreciated. Anne Grant

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A New Flagpole for All Saints Church, Renhold



When the old wooden flagpole at Renhold Church snapped in high winds, it was time for some teamwork to replace it!

A 12 metre fibreglass replacement flagpole was ordered by the Churchwardens

Kevin removed the original steel framework. The new mounting plate was bolted down to the existing concrete base.

Once the new mount was firmly in place the new flagpole was delivered by the supplier.

In the meantime the neighbours trees were trimmed to give clear access for raising the flagpole

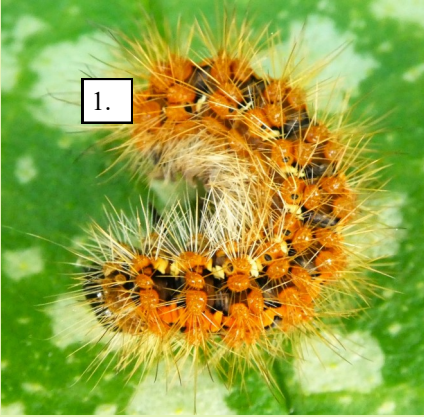
Finally the flagpole was raised by a group of volunteers from the Church and the village – see photograph above

“Teamwork makes the Dream work”

Kevin Huckle

Photos by Ian McIver, Jill Barrell and Teresa Trangmar.

WILD ABOUT RENHOLD (see opposite)



WILD ABOUT RENHOLD by Tony Ploszajski

1. Jersey Tiger Moth caterpillar

One of the most attractive of the Tiger Moths with black and cream wing markings and vivid orange hindwings, until recently Jersey Tiger Moth was restricted to the Channel Islands and parts of the south coast. It now seems to be expanding its range quite quickly, and having seen a couple in our garden last summer, we found this striking caterpillar feeding on speckled Pulmonaria leaves in our garden this spring. The exotic shapes and colours on the caterpillar are a warning to predators that they are poisonous or distasteful, and the spines are intended to make them harder for a bird to swallow. Hopefully this strategy will work and we can look forward to seeing the next generation of Jersey Tiger Moths in our garden this summer!

2. Goldfinch

Unlike most other species of finch, Goldfinches are currently doing very well, with a UK population of 1.7 million pairs, an increase of 194% since 1995. Anne Grant photographed these on her bird feeders and wrote 'I am ecstatic to finally see finches feeding on the Nyger seed. By chance my granddaughters, helping fill the bird feeders, switched the position of two feeders lifting the Nyger seed higher up. Bingo the finches have arrived'. This underlines the complexity of bird feeding. A small adjustment to the height or location of the feeders can have a dramatic effect. Most small birds like Goldfinches prefer feeders to be partially concealed or at the very least close to some cover to which they can retreat to should a Sparrowhawk arrive.

3. Jackdaw

Anne also photographed this Jackdaw near her bird feeders. The smallest of the corvid (crow) family, Jackdaws have a distinctive grey 'shawl' to the back of their head and neck and their pale eyes stand out from their black plumage. The Jackdaw's call - a familiar hard 'tchack' - gives it its name, although another theory is that the 'Jack' refers to a rogue or knave because they will often steal food from other birds. They are quite common around Renhold, where they seem to enjoy nesting in chimney pots! They eat invertebrates, fruit, seeds and carrion and occasionally take eggs and nestlings. A sociable bird, Jackdaws can be seen in flocks, often performing aerial acrobatics or repeating loud calls. Jackdaws mate for life, pairing-up during their first year, but not mating until the year after. The pair will often sit next to each other, preening.

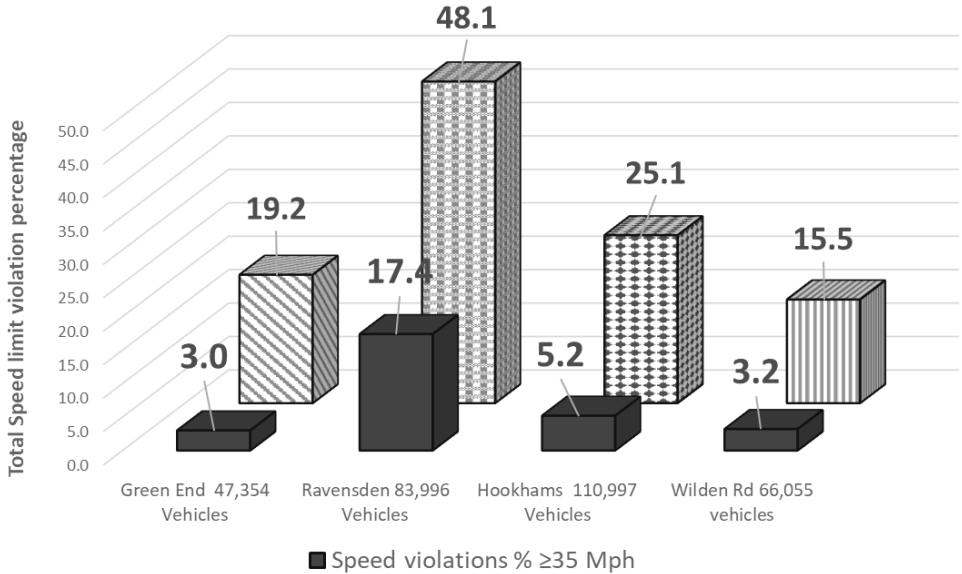
4. Aurora Borealis

There was a lovely display of the northern lights over Renhold on the evening of 11th May as also observed by Nicky Gribble. (See p16-17).

5. Star of Bethlehem

Sue Brunsdon spotted these lovely Star of Bethlehem flowers at the bottom of the footpath up to the school. It is normally a garden plant, whose range in the wild includes continental Europe, north Africa and western Asia. It is a member of the asparagus family and has a number of attractive colloquial names, including Summer Snowflake and Starflower.

Speed Indicator Device data March 2024



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www.bedford.gov.uk/environmental-issues/

community-safety/anti-social-behaviour

Community Safety Team

Bedfordshire Police

101 (non emergency number)

Online reporting system

www.beds.police.uk/ro/report

999 (emergency number)

Community Watch Schemes

(Such as Neighbourhood

Watch)

www.beds.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/wsi/watch-schemes-initiatives

Borough Council Report May Update

Hello everyone, I do hope you are well and are enjoying the decent weather which, hopefully, is here to stay.

I was amazed a week or so ago when I realised that it has been a year since I was elected your Ward Councillor and Ward Councillor for Ravensden. Where on earth has this year gone? I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the community and wider. I wish I had done it sooner and feel I may have missed my vocation in life!

The highlight for me, apart from meeting and talking to my residents, has to be the much improved communication with the Borough and external partners, which I feel is such a positive for the Ward and does enable me to move things along, speak with the right person and get results. I do get frustrated at the speed at which large public organisations work, but we seem to get there in the end even if it takes months rather than weeks or days.

I first walked into Borough Hall after my election and honestly felt that I shouldn't be there, some kind of imposter. I went on every training course I could and I now also sit on Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Adult Services Committee, Climate Change Committee and more recently, Rural Affairs Committee. I also represent the Borough externally at the Inland Drainage Board, Beds Rural Communities Charity and the East West Rail Mainline Partnership Board. I was lucky enough to be granted a place on the prestigious New Generation Independent Course which I thoroughly enjoyed.

We have seen new pavements, repaired pavements, potholes filled and community security cameras fitted, tea and cakes eaten and Ward Fund spent to name a few. A lot of my work is carried out with individual residents helping them with issues where I can. I do feel that this is just the beginning, and we have a lot left to achieve together to make our community a bright and safe place to live.

I now do not feel like an imposter but someone who is working for my residents and seeing results, and I hope you do as well.

I have also launched a new Facebook page with help from Caroline Coster-thanks Caroline! Please search for **Cllr Nicola Gribble** for news and updates and also another way of contacting me.

Once again,

Thank you for your support and keep in touch,
Nicky.

Cllr Nicola Gribble

Nicola.gribble@bedford.gov.uk Tel. 07955530234

Please join us for a D-Day 80th Anniversary Remembrance and Service of thanks at Renhold War Memorial for a short wreath-laying ceremony. All welcome at 2pm on June 6th to recognise the sacrifice given 80 years ago by the brave men and women of our country and beyond on the day of the Normandy landings and the beginning of the effort to liberate Western Europe from Nazi Germany. Nicky Gribble



Renhold Parish Council May Update

BULKY WASTE SERVICE IN RENHOLD

*The service returns again to Renhold and will take place on **15th June** from **8am to 9am** to be located in the **layby area outside 3-9 Wilden***

Road. More information on details of items that will and will not be accepted by this service, and full details of the schedule are available to view on the following webpage: www.bedford.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/household-bins-and-recycling/bulky-waste

CITIZENS ADVICE COMING TO RENHOLD.....

Citizens Advice are now providing an outreach service by coming to different parts of the Borough, and will be in the village with the mobile library for the months of June to September.

The confirmed dates for Renhold are:

Tuesday 25th June and **Tuesday 3rd September** will be in:

Green End 10am to 10.15am

Lay-by Salph End 10.20am to 10.35am

Home Close 10.40am to 10.55am

Ravensden Road 11am to 11.15am

Keep a look out for the mobile library van opposite and it is also a great way to browse the variety of stock in the library who always welcome new members.



UPDATE FROM UNIVERSAL DESTINATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

The Universal UK Project Team have issued an update on the project following the recent public engagement sessions they ran locally. They reported close to 1,500 attended the public events with over 6,000 responses to the survey with 92% being supportive. If you would like to find out more about the proposal and keep up to date with the project progression, then more information can be found on the website: universalproject.co.uk

EAST WEST RAIL LATEST

East West Rail recently held some drop-in events in May, where you could find out more information about how the statutory consultation process works. As it stands at the time of writing the next opportunity for public engagement is expected in June. It is also still expected to be a statutory consultation so it is important that as many members of the local community engage in the process as possible and express their views on the many items being consulted on.

The Parish Council will be looking at ways they can share the key information relating to any local impact that will arise, as well as looking at how best to publicise, and share this across the various platforms so Renhold residents can stay up to date on what is expected to be a consultation with many complex and technical documents. Alongside this work the Parish Council will also be ensuring that a detailed and thorough response is submitted by the Parish Council to East West Rail.
(continued opposite)

REPORTING LOCAL MATTERS

In recent months the Parish Council have been aware of some anti social behaviour occurring in the parish, which has impacted those living nearby. Thankfully, those impacted contacted the Parish Council seeking support on what could be done to stop the issues being experienced. Through some follow up by the Parish Council, supported by Borough Councillor Nicola Gribble, it has allowed the problem to be taken to the relevant organisations, so with combined work being carried out by the Borough Council Community Safety team as well as members of the local community police team, resulting in a number of positive actions taken.

If you are not sure about what can be done about a local issue, such as anti social behaviour, littering/flytipping, or any other community matter, please do let the Parish Council know so follow up action can be taken, details on how to do this are below.

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

Please note that contact details have been updated for a number of Parish Councillors as well as the Parish Clerk as the Council move over to more official email addresses. A full list is available as usual in the Magazine directory, so do make a note of 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

Is Dementia an Issue for You? Teresa Moon

Tibbs Dementia Foundation are a Bedford-based charity who are here to support you. We run a wide range of activities which offer cognitive and physical stimulation for all stages and types of dementia, diagnosed or not, and also offer support to their family carers. Sign up for our regular newsletter to keep up-to-date with all the activities on offer by emailing sarah.russell@tibbsdementia.co.uk or calling 01234 210993.

ART ACTIVITIES

We are starting a new programme of Art Activities on Mondays from 2 to 3.30pm at Holy Cross Church Hall, 355 Goldington Road, for people with dementia and their carers. Whether you have creative flair, or just want to have a relaxing afternoon, our skilled helpers will welcome you with tea, cake and an exciting range of enjoyable activities. Email kerry.harlow@tibbsdementia.co.uk for more information.

OUTDOOR BOWLS

Our Outdoor Bowls sessions are held at Mowsbury Bowls Club in Mowsbury Park on Tuesdays from 11am till noon. No experience needed for this enjoyable summer activity. Spaces are limited, so call 07483 951734 or email margaret.duggan@tibbsdementia.co.uk to book your place.

ALLOTMENT

If you enjoy gardening, our allotment at Mile Road is already flourishing, so come along and give us a hand on Thursdays from 10 to 11.30am. Contact dianne.richards@tibbsdementia.co.uk for more details.

WALKING GROUP

We meet for a stroll and a chat at 2pm every Friday afternoon at Mowsbury Park. Email sarah.russell@tibbsdementia.co.uk for details of where to find us.

RENHOLD SUPPORT GROUP

We are starting up a regular support group at Renhold Baptist Chapel. Contact Teresa Moon on teresa.moon@tibbsdementia.co.uk or call 07930 999573 for more details.

RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL 2024

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Lizzie Barnicoat

PO Box 1548, Bedford MK44 5AX

Tel: (01234) 771702 email: parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk

Councillor	Phone	e-mail
Susan Brunsdon	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 2024

Parish Council meetings now start at 7pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be from 7pm — 8.30pm on Tues.18th June then the following one on Tues.30th July.

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

BREAKING NEWS

There's been a fight in the biscuit tin. A lad called Rocky hit a Penguin over the head with a Club, tied him to a Wagon Wheel with a Blue Ribbon and made his Breakaway in a Taxi. Police say Rocky was last seen just After Eight in Maryland, with a Ginger Nut known to police as Rich T . They didn't leave a crumb of evidence so the Jammi Dodger got away with it!!! Sent in by Marie Baird

RENHOLD CHAPEL

Sunday Services

Chapel Preachers

2 June	10.30 am	Mr G Hicks
9 June	10.30 am	Mr D Gibson
16 June	10.30 am	Mr R Crane
16 June	4.00 pm	Free afternoon Tea
23 June	10.30 am	Mr D McWilliam
30 June	10.30am	Mr R Keech

It is a free tea to anyone and everyone 4.00pm

Renhold Chapel Notes

How the year is flying by! We are already nearly halfway through the year- the days and weeks come around very quickly. Our birthdays come around quickly too, even though they are only once a year! We all know that things we enjoy like holidays seem to go by more quickly than things we don't like, but the time is still the same-always 24 hours in each day! We remember the old poem:

When as a child I laughed and wept,

Time crept.

When as a youth I waxed more bold,

Time strolled.

When I became a full grown man,

Time ran.

When older still I daily grew,

Time flew

Soon I shall find, in passing on,

Time gone.

Time-We can never get it back. We may make lots of preparations for things in this life, but at some point we will have to leave it all behind. This life is not everything. We have a never dying soul and we need to be investing in the life to come, not just in this world which is passing very quickly.

The Bible says that Jesus will come again to take those who have trusted in what He did on the cross, and realise that was for them to be with Him forever. We don't know when that will be, no one does, but we do need to be ready for it, and the only way to do that is to believe that He died for us and turn from our wrong, asking Him to forgive us, which He will, for He took the punishment for us. Then we can know He will help us in this life and take us to be with Him one day. We need to do it now while we have time. The Bible says "now is the accepted time".

"The end of the poem above says:

O Christ! wilt Thou have saved me then?

He will if we will only ask Him.



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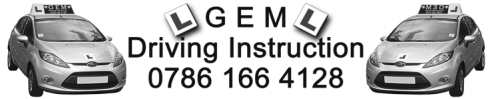
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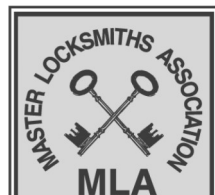
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Rev. Ian Smith
e: renhold.rev@gmail.com
772794

Churchwardens

Alan Bloomfield
351162
Keith Timms
772605

Lay Vice Chair

Alan Bloomfield
351162

Secretary to PCC

Ann Timms
772605
Jill Burrows
07710228995

Verger

Ann Timms
772605

Treasurer

Christine Smith
772794

Bell Tower Coordinator

Yvonne Potter
771495

Churchyard Volunteers

Teresa Trangmar
07788 402441

Renhold Chapel

Mr Albert Browning
772689

Brownie Pack

Amanda
1strenholdbrownies
@gmail.com

Renhold School

771724

Chapel Coffee Morning

Albert Browning
722689

Preschool Group

Term time
Vicky Thompson
771724

Renhold Bridge Club

TBA

Magazine

Anne Grant
771811

Carpet Bowls Club

Chick
838651

Football Club

Mr K. Harlow
871178

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Women's Institute

President

Jooles Roberts
07766 478974

Secretary

Jill Barrell
870461

Treasurer

Jan Tozer
297456

Renhold Stitchers

Jackie Croot
870271

Reading Group

Pauline Capell
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Pudding Club for Carers

Anne Grant
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771495

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

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Bedford Hospital

355122

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