

TEMPSFORD TIMES

Issue 50
March/April 2015

The village magazine of Tempsford, Bedfordshire www.tempsford.org



HEDGE LAYING IN GANNOCK CASTLE

ST PETER'S PARISH CHURCH,
Church Street, Tempsford
Rector : Rev Margaret Marshall
Phone: 01234 870363

Dear Everyone

During the post-Christmas season of Epiphany – which means ‘revelation’ or ‘discovery’ – our churches shared stories from the gospels about Jesus’ early life and ministry. One in particular is perhaps most familiar from wedding services: the occasion on which Jesus turned water into wine, to avoid an embarrassing social disaster at a celebratory party. It’s a curious little event; Jesus doesn’t really want to get involved, but his mother insists! Hardly anyone realises where the hundred or more gallons of fine wine have come from – it’s really only the servants who have drawn the water from the well who know anything unusual has happened. It’s quite a low-key matter on another score too: the need is a fairly superficial one – after all, it’s only a party, not a matter of life and death! But the thing about miracles is that they deliver the impossible (or near impossible, if you are of a sceptical disposition).

In the case of the wedding Jesus attended, one of the interesting features is the involvement of the servants in making it happen: they are the one with the back-breaking task of drawing the water from which Jesus produces the most excellent vintage. They are almost the only ones who see what has happened; they know what was in the jars to start with – plain old water!

Meanwhile back at today, almost everywhere we look there is need of some sort of miracle. If it’s not the plight of the innocent in Ukraine or Syria, it’s the desperate situation of our dairy farmers or the resourcing crisis in our health service. Sunday by Sunday we are also confronted with near-empty churches, too....

During Lent I want us to give some thought to this conundrum. If God is willing to rescue the situation, are we willing to put our backs into helping him? Are we prepared to BE THE MIRACLE, to contribute cheerfully and optimistically, or would we prefer simply to see the worship of God only possible in towns and the beautiful ancient buildings in our rural communities converted for some other purpose? Shall we only recognise our treasures when they are gone?

There is real reason to be hopeful about our church’s future – we are holding

events more regularly (the next will be our Easter Egg hunt) and the village is supportive; we are working more closely with friends at the Methodist chapel; Kiers have helped out enormously with the production of the Tempsford Times and in the Autumn Bishop Richard will take our evening Harvest service. But all of these activities need people – leaders, helpers, back-room workers and regular attenders – to breathe new life into our lovely church, making it more resilient in this secular age. (At a time when we are mourning the loss of our long-time Treasurer and supporter, David Beagent, St Peter's fragility is much in our minds).

During the season of Lent we are asked to think things over, to look at the problematic and unsatisfactory - those issues which would make God weep - and to acknowledge that we may have some part in them. Even tiny little changes from each of us could make a difference, but bigger ones, especially when we put God at the centre of our lives instead of on their margins, might make things that seem impossible in human terms come to pass. With God *nothing* is impossible (remember the resurrection!?), and especially if we are prepared to do our bit too!

With love to you all
Revd Margaret

Don't miss the daily 'Be the miracle' posts on the Riversmeeters Facebook page during Lent and ***do*** join us to celebrate, with a short communion service, on Easter Day at 9.30 am!



**St Peter's Church:
Remembrance Easter Lilies**

Once again we will be doing Easter lilies for Easter Sunday, they will cost £3 each. If you would like one please contact Gloria, 640050, Helen, 640366 or Margaret, 01480 215684 before 30th March!

TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH,

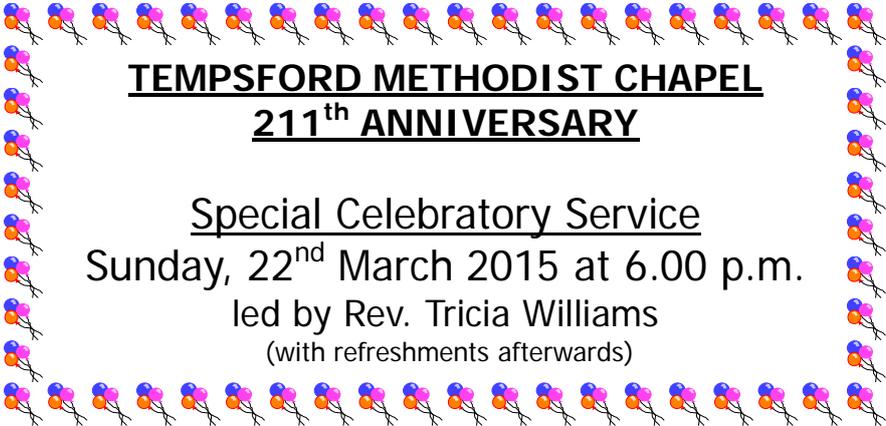
Station Road, Tempsford

(part of the St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Circuit)

Minister: Rev Barbara Garwood 01480 470378

Church Steward: Stephen Gosling,

81 Station Rd, Tempsford 01767 641175



TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHAPEL
211th ANNIVERSARY

Special Celebratory Service

Sunday, 22nd March 2015 at 6.00 p.m.

led by Rev. Tricia Williams

(with refreshments afterwards)

'MEET & EAT' LUNCHES

To help with catering and seating arrangements places **MUST** be booked by **MID-DAY** on the **Monday** prior to the lunch taking place. Call Carole Gosling on 01767 641175 if you would like to know more or if you would like to book your place.

'MEET & EAT' LUNCH

Wednesday, 11 March 2015

12.30 to 2.00 p.m.

MENU

Beef Casserole
Creamed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Lemon Meringue Pie
Tea/Coffee

£4.00 per person

'MEET & EAT' LUNCH

Wednesday, 8 April 2015

12.30 to 2.00 p.m.

MENU

Sausages/Onion Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Apple Pie & Cream
Tea/Coffee

£4.00 per person

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TEMPSFORD

As far as is possible allowing for seasonal and celebratory variations
there will be a church service every Sunday in Tempsford,
either at the Parish Church or at the Methodist Church as shown below.

A warm welcome is assured at all services.

Parish Church

1st March	9.30am Holy Communion
8th March	Holy Communion 9.30 at Gt Barford, 11.15 at Blunham
15th March	9.30am Holy Communion
22nd March	Holy Communion 9.30 at Gt Barford, 11.15 at Blunham
29th March	Holy Communion 9.30 at Blunham, Family Palm Sunday Service 10.45 at Roxton
2nd April	Holy Communion 8.00pm at Blunham, (Maundy Thurs)
3rd April	"Hour at the Cross" St Peter's 2.00pm (Good Friday)
5th April	9.30am Holy Communion (Easter Day)
8 th April	Holy Communion 9.30 at Gt Barford , 11.15 at Blunham
19th April	9.30am Holy Communion
22 nd April	Holy Communion 9.30 at Gt Barford, 11.15 at Blunham

Methodist Church

1st March	6.00pm	Section Service at Gt Barford
8th March	3.00pm	Preacher: Rev Barbara Garwood
15th March	No service	
22nd March	6.00pm	Preacher: Rev. Tricia Williams (Chapel Anniversary)
29th March	4.30pm	Circuit Service at St Ives
5th April	6.00pm	Preacher: Rev Barbara Garwood
12th April	6.00pm	Section Service at Eaton Ford
19th April		No service
26th April	6.00pm	Preacher: Rev Tricia Williams

Please note: there are services on the other Sundays at Gt Barford
Methodist Church and Berkley Street Methodist Church, Eynesbury,
all at 10.30am

CHAT CLUB

The next get-togethers will be in the Chapel Schoolroom on
Wednesday, 25th March and Wednesday, 29th April
from 2.30 to 4.00 p.m.
Come along and join us - you will be made most welcome.

St Peter's Flood Lights

If you would like the flood lights put on for any
occasion, the cost will be £10 per night.
Please contact Gloria 01767 640050



St Peter's Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre
and sponsored our 12 days of Christmas Flood Lights.
We raised a wonderful £660. Thank you for your generosity.

Womens' World Day of Prayer

Local Service at
Gt Barford Parish Church 2.15pm
Friday 6th March



**Little Barford Church
Ascension Day Service
Thursday 14th May at 7pm.**

St Peter's Easter Egg Hunt

**Wednesday 8th April 2015
From 2pm to 4pm
The Church Barn, Mill Lane,
Tempsford.**

**Entrance to the Easter Egg Hunt £2:50
Cake Stall, Tombola, Raffle,
And some fun Activities and Games.
Please come along and join in the fun.**

**Please note: if raining, it will be held in
St Peters Church.**



COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Some of you may have seen the Police Community Speedwatch indicator on Station Road last summer/autumn and wondered what it is all about.

"It aims to - educate drivers by displaying their speed

- deliver locally based feedback schemes

- and monitor and report to the Police the details of speeding vehicles

in specific areas. This to enable the police to send advisement letters to the Registered Owners with the aim to educate rather than punish and use the data gathered to inform Police and others on the allocation of resources and general road safety issues." (Police Speedwatch website)

Because of the nature of Tempsford, roads can be quite narrow and plagued by parked cars. The roads are often used by pedestrians, children and pets as well as by motor vehicles. Yet the roads have to cope with relatively busy traffic flows. Our aim is to make drivers in our village more aware of how fast they are travelling in an effort to help them drive safely and within the speed limit.



So far we have a very small number of volunteers – too small to make the system as frequent or as useful as it might be. Although the Speedwatch kit is not difficult to operate, some easy training is offered by Beds police, and First Aid training is also available for volunteers.

Anyone interested in taking part in the Speedwatch campaign should contact David Pennington 1C Bakers Lane, 01767 640482, david.pennington@idnet.com or Marianne Murray on 07548 172571 or mariannemurray1972@gmail.com

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ADVERTISEMENT

H & H Electronics proprietor Richard Headford has announced that after over 40 years of trading in Biggleswade, the popular High Street electrical shop is to close shortly.



Realising what a huge debt of gratitude Richard has to all his loyal customers and friends alike, arrangements have been made to look after all H & H warranty, rental and maintenance commitments. These will be taken care of by Michael R Peters on The Broadway in Bedford, and Richard will be writing to all those affected to outline these changes.

If you are at all worried about how these changes will affect your service, please do not hesitate to call the shop on (01767) 312960 and one of the H & H team will be pleased to help.

This is not however the end of the story, H & H Electronics manager of 20 years, Phil Sheldon is to open a new shop in Hitchin St, Biggleswade- to be known as 'Sheldon Electricals'. Here the same customer care, friendly advice and breadth of product will be available. With a focus on British TV brand 'Linsar', among others, and a great selection of domestic appliances from top manufacturers, 'Sheldon Electricals' will be building on the success of H & H Electronics.

Already known to many, Phil has been in the industry for over 20 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience gained during his time at H & H Electronics to his new venture. In many ways it will be business as usual for all his customers old and new. Be sure to look out for some exciting new products backed up with good old fashioned customer service.

Call in and see H & H Electronics soon for more details and to grab some bargains in their massive closing down sale. Richard and all his team would like to



say a huge 'THANKYOU' to all their loyal customers from the past 42 years, without whom business would have been a lot harder and far less enjoyable.

www.tempsford.org

TEMPSFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

FRIDAY APRIL 10th 7.30pm

In the Stuart Memorial Hall



Your opportunity to be involved with and discuss village matters, to hear reports from village organisations,

including the Parish Council on how things are being planned and maintained.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards.



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Remembering David Beagent

- from an address at his memorial service on 20th January

At a celebration of the life of David Beagent, who had lived in the Old Rectory behind St Peter's church for over thirty years and contributed much to church and village, many gathered to pay their respects. David's seventy-seven years were as varied as anyone's and were described in detail by his sons (Tom, Ben and Jamie, who grew up here), yet many of those present heard a lot about him that they didn't know before. Quite a few of us knew David sailed... but had no idea that he competed or that he had done so in the Admirals' Cup! He would probably never have set out to tell people, unless it came out in conversation. For him 'a time to keep silent' (as it says in the famous passage from the book of Ecclesiastes 3) was more common than 'time to speak'!



In many ways I suspect that David himself would have preferred far fewer words to be said about him. He was a quiet man, naturally modest, content to take a back seat. He invariably worked hard at things, but didn't have the appearance of feverish busyness that so many of us do these days. His unerringly accurate church council minutes exhibited what one might call 'an elegant sufficiency' – they were short! He never spoke just for the sake of it.

This natural taciturn tendency may have come to the fore even more during his illness over the last year. He had no desire to discuss something that was ebbing away. Yet there was one important thing about David which could easily remain unstated: he was a Christian; and essential to the tiny worshipping community of St Peter's for many years. Without him our gem of a church would probably no longer be in use. He freely gave his particular talents to try and secure the church's future, even as its congregation declined.

Just over a year ago David played a key part in the Tempsford Memorial Trust's project to establish a permanent monument to the work of the Special Operations Airfield, across the railway line. He told the Rector one Sunday morning -

relishing the secrecy of it all - that the church might expect a Royal visit. The magnitude of the occasion still didn't mean it was one of David's rare times to *speak*: he simply smiled whenever others did!

There were always unglamorous jobs that he simply got on with; at services David carried out his tasks reliably and unobtrusively. He would always give advice, but generally only if asked. When his illness arrived, out of the blue, his wife Karen spoke of him as her 'rock'... She was not alone in feeling that.

Inevitably for those of us who knew, loved and depended on David a 'time to lose' *will* be 'a time to mourn' or a 'time to weep'. But the safe anchorage on which David's life was secured – his Christian faith - gives us all reason for hope, not only of life still to come when our human times run out, but also that the highs and lows, the storms of this world may one day be replaced by time-*unlimited* peace, rest, restoration and, God willing, one day, reunion.

Revd Margaret

STUART MEMORIAL HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

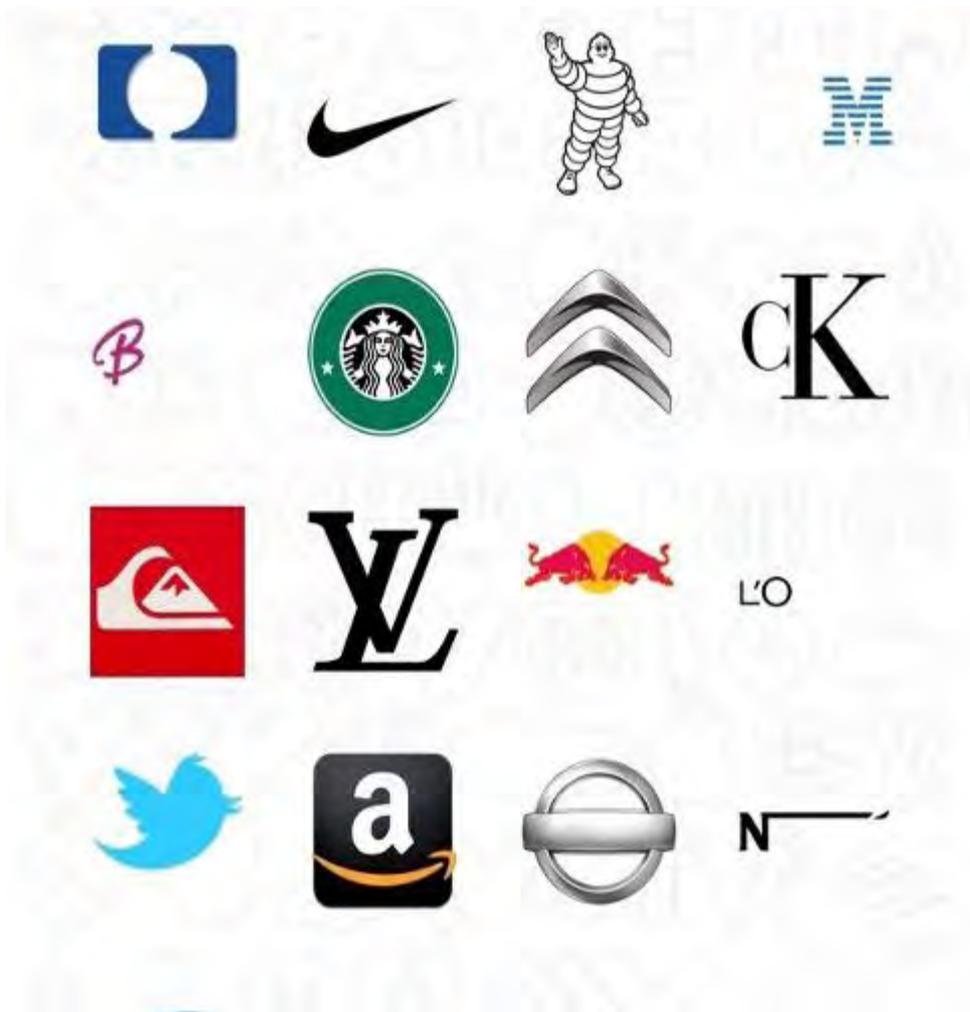
WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH 2015

7.30pm

In the Committee Room

If you value the future of the hall please come along
and help to set up a new committee
Your village hall needs you!

Do you know what famous brand names
these logos are linked with?
You might find the answers on page 20





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PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

The following is a summary of the main points of discussion at the Parish Council held on 19th January 2015. Full copies of the minutes are available on the village website. www.tempsford.org.

Apologies for absence

No apologies had been received by the Clerk.

Declarations of interest: None were received.

Acceptance of Minutes. Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th November 2014 and Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 17th December 2014 were approved as true records.

Public Session: 4 members of the public were present, of which 3 were residents. Mr. Allan Drew from Eyeworth attended the meeting as he had been selected to stand as Conservative Councillor for our Ward and wanted to introduce himself. Mr. David Pennington, resident, wanted to point out that there was a lot of litter on the link road and asked if there could be a "voluntary litter pick" He also mentioned the need for more Speedwatch volunteers. Mrs. Meryl Besant, Chairman of Stuart Memorial Hall Trustees expressed a worry about the fact that there are so few Trustee committee members, and the need for more.

Police Report : PCSO Lucy Barnell was not present and had not sent a recent statistic report.

Central Beds Councillors – Cllr. Adam Zerny was present. He raised concerns about CBC only having BT for the broadband contract. He reported that no planning application had yet been made re the Compost site on the airfield. The Council did point out to Cllr. Zerny about the bad potholes on the Little Barford road even though the surface had been repaired.

Finance: Payments presented by the Clerk were approved by Council. The Clerk confirmed that the Government 4% stocks were being redeemed on Feb 1st 2015. The Bank Reconciliation was presented by the Clerk. The Council discussed the Budget that had been presented previously, taking into account the extra cost for the defibrillators maintenance and installation, and new playground fencing. The Precept was last increased in 2010. The Chairman then presented calculations for the increase of the precept. It was resolved to increase the Precept to £12500, from £12,000.

Planning – No planning applications had been received.

Highways – Nothing had been done with regard to the work pointed out in the last "walk about". Residents' concern about the school bus turning in one of the farmer's fields, causing a lot of mud on the road in the opening was recorded. Parents had contacted CBC which had reviewed the situation and asked the bus to turn further down Station Road. Concern was also recorded about a BT man-

hole cover near 81 Station Road protruding above the pavement which could be very dangerous.

Kiers Kiers had applied to CBC for permission to erect new route indicating signs along the “link” road. Cllr. Clark offered to come up with suggestions with regard to the parking alongside Stuart Court which blocks sight lines for traffic exiting Kiers, and to seek Kiers’ help and support.

Children’s play area : The lease for this land has still not been signed at the time of meeting. The ground will need to be rolled in the Spring and weed treatment applied. The path up to the area needs attending to. The entrance gates need to be such as to prevent vehicles going onto the land. Cllr. Cooney suggested investigating bollards that could drop down. Safety checks on play grounds: – some items need attending to in both Station Road and Church Road. The swings in Church Road will need to be replaced very soon.

Defibrillators : These have been collected and the next step is to obtain some quotes from electricians to install them. An “Awareness” course then needs to be booked.

Cemetery and Church yard matters : Cllr. Cooney suggested that the storage shed at the cemetery be cleaned out and then used to store items that the village use, such as tug of war rope, plastic ducks etc. This would be a secure place. The Clerk can then administer the hire of these items from the shed, so that we know where they are and they do not get “lost”. Cllr. Donnelly seconded this proposal. The Clerk was happy to take on this task. The Clerk reported that she had received a telephone call that the bins were full at the cemetery, and not put out for emptying. Cllr. Bettles was asked if he could put the bin out for the Council, to which he agreed.

Community wellbeing : The Chairman instigated a discussion about the use of the village hall, following on from the earlier request from the Stuart Memorial Hall needing more Trustees. The Hall is used by outsiders more than residents, which is a shame. What sort of events should be put on for the benefit of the community? First Aid Courses – a resident has offered to do run a First Aid course for the village. This will be looked into after the Defibrillator Awareness Course has been completed.

Correspondence : Salt – Cllr. Infield reported that there was plenty of salt still in good condition. A very interesting Rights of Way booklet will be circulated to Councillors and the returned to Clerk for filing.

Date of next meetings : March 2nd, April 10th Annual Parish Meeting, May 18th Annual Meeting, July 20th, September 21st and November 16th.

Linda Collins : Clerk

OBITUARY

CAPTAIN OWEN WYNNE

It is with deep regret we announce the death of Captain Frederick Owen Stuart Wynne of the Tempsford Estate, who sadly passed away on Saturday evening 31st January 2015, at the age of 81 years.

Owen Wynne, as he liked to be known, was born at Tempsford Hall on 17th June 1933 to Group Captain Frederick Robert Wynne and Kathleen Anne Pole Wynne nee Stuart. Owen had an older sister Lucy and a younger sister Althea. A large oak tree stands in the grounds of Tempsford Hall today, planted in 1933 to commemorate young Owen's baptism. Owen was educated at Lancing College in Sussex and in September 1955 he was married to Susan Sheilah Bushell and together they had one son Owen Christopher Robert Wynne who was born in August 1959. Christopher as he likes to be known married Susan Jennifer Tuckett in July 1981 and gave Owen and Susan a grandson Andrew Owen Robert Wynne who was born in May 1983 and has recently married.

The family can boast a very interesting lineage, which can be traced to both the Royal Houses of Scotland and England. They are also related to Admiral Sir William Penn who founded Pennsylvania in the United States and Sir John Stuart the third Earl of Bute, Prime Minister 1762-3 and confidant to King George III, to name but a few. William Stuart a grandson of the third Earl of Bute purchased the Tempsford Estate in 1824 from the descendants of Sir Gillies Payne Baronet. William lived at Aldenham Abbey in Hertfordshire and leased the Hall and Estate to various tenants, until his son also William Stuart, came to live at the Hall from 1875 till his death in 1893. His son William Dugald Stuart then lived at the Hall, apart from a brief period after the original Hall was destroyed by a fire in 1898. A new Hall was re-built in 1903 and the Stuarts came back to Tempsford in 1910.

The Wynne family came to Tempsford in 1933, when Owen's mother Kathleen inherited the Tempsford and Sutton Cheney Estates from her first cousin once removed. Kathleen's father was a first cousin of William Dugald Stuart who passed away at Tempsford Hall in 1922. Dugald's widow Millicent lived on at the Hall, till she died in 1933. The Estate then

passed to Kathleen and then on to Owen. Thus to date the same family have owned the Tempsford Estate for nearly 191 years, although they sold the Hall and Park to Dr Hales in 1949, who subsequently sold it to Kiers in 1964.

Owen Wynne was one of the old school true gentlemen of the landed class. He was a very conscientious and fair landlord. He was a gentleman of high principles and extremely generous and kind hearted towards all who had dealings with him. Although an absentee landlord, living on his estate in Warwickshire, he was a great benefactor to Tempsford village. Both he and his wife Susan supported many of the activities and fund-



raising events that went on in the Parish and took a keen interest in village affairs and supported them if called upon. It was a proud day indeed, when Owen came to Tempsford in December 2000, to officially open our Millennium Garden Sanctuary and spent some time amongst us.

Tempsford Village and the tenants of the Tempsford Estate will be very saddened to hear of this sorrowful loss and wish to convey their sincere condolences to the Wynne family at this very sad time.

Tempsford Village Quiz

Friday 17th April 2015

**At the Stuart Memorial Hall
Tempsford**

Starting at 7.30pm prompt

Quiz Master:
the ever popular Chris Ebeling

Tickets £5 per person
To include a Ploughman's Supper
(but bring your own drinks)
Teams of up to 6 per table

For tickets contact
Meryl Besant on 01767 640873
Or Phil Woodhall on 01767 641170



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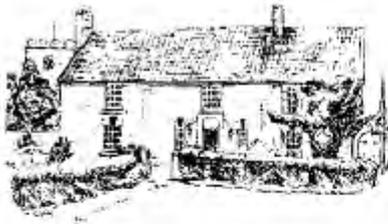
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Businesses Are Not Testing Their Emergency Plans

Local businesses can test their ability to survive a major fire, power cut or flu pandemic during Business Continuity Awareness Week (BCAW, 16-20 March) by using free resources from the Bedfordshire and Luton Local Resilience Forum (BLLRF).

If small and medium companies do not test their business continuity plans they cannot be sure they will work when needed. Only 39% of companies actually test their plans and 50% say they won't test them in 2015.

Using BLLRFs easy desktop scenarios companies can simulate emergency situations and discover if their plan protects vital assets, enables the business to carry on and whether it might help save money.

During BCAW 2015 companies can download scenarios that could affect them and a series of "injects" to be used to test their reaction to an evolving emergency.

Bedfordshire businesses can also get advice from emergency experts at the Business Expo on 16 April 2015 at Bedford Corn Exchange.

Start planning for emergencies now, visit www.bllrf.org.uk .

Need New Skills?



Release your potential and get an amazing new job with a range of **funded** courses



Essential IT - 6 days

The Essential IT Skills course will help improve your I.T. skills to either gain a job or for personal use. The course will introduce you to a number of widely used computer packages and improve your skills and confidence across a range of computer functions. These include, using the Internet and email, word processing, spreadsheets and much more.

Pathfinder Course - 6 days

Few people have a clear idea as to their true vocation, this course will help you identify what it is you are best at and whether your skills are better suited to being employed, self-employed or both. Over three days, you will get involved in a number of activities to achieve the Level 2 Award in Enterprising Skills and Employability.



Social Media Course - 2 days

You might know how to Tweet or be active on a social network, but do you know how to use social media to help you get a job or promote a business? This course will teach you how to use social media such as Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook to your advantage. By the end of the course you will have created an interesting and informative on-line profile, and with successful completion of the course, achieve the Level 2 Award in the Promotion of Products and Services Through Social Media.

**WOMEN'S WORLD
DAY OF PRAYER
(INTERNATIONAL AND
INTERDENOMINATIONAL)
Friday 6th March 2015**



Theme: Jesus said to them:

**Local Service at
Gt Barford Parish Church 2.15pm**

Do you know what I have done to you?

Written by women from the Bahamas²⁴

FROM AROUND THE VILLAGES

ROXTON AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The BBC and GLEN MILLER in BEDFORD during WW2

Illustrated talk by David Fowler, presenting a nostalgic look at Bedford in the wartime period. Learn how the BBC came to be associated with Bedford during the war and discover all about Glen Miller's associations with the town and locality.



Thursday March 5th 7.30
at the Roxton Parish Hall

All Welcome. Admission: members free; visitors £3.00

BLUNHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Blunham & District gardening Club

Last month Roy Nunn spoke on 'Lilies and Hellebores'. His presentation included a variety of lovely photographs from all over the world inspiring members to grow these plants in their own garden. He gave tips on how to propagate and grow them successfully.

Next month Tuesday 3rd March 7.30pm in Blunham Village Hall, Peter Holden will present 'Garden Wildlife in spring'.

Visitors are warmly welcomed.

For more details please contact Brenda 01767 640623.



We would like to congratulate
Dan and Paulina Clark
on the birth of their son
Lukas Daniel
on 15 Feb 2015,
weighing 7lbs 1oz.
A brother for Leah and Lois.

We are willing to publish any other personal announcements provided full details and permission are given with a signature from those concerned.

Situation Vacant

Tempsford Times is in need of an Advertising Manager. If you are interested in helping the village in this way, please contact Adrian Besant 01767 640873 for further details.

Tempsford Parish Council Contact Details

Name	Position
Adrian Besant	Chairman
Jim Donnelly	V-Chairman
Steve Cooney	Councillor
Chris Bettles	Councillor
Dan Clark	Councillor
Liz Infield	Councillor
Simon Fraser	Councillor
Linda Collins	Clerk

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