

TEMPSFORD TIMES

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

Issue 67
Jan/Feb 2018



WELCOME TO 2018

**HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT THE
PARISH COUNCIL MEANS BY THE
“FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN” SIGN?**



Each village was given a name sign by Bedfordshire County Council to celebrate the Festival of Britain in 1951, and Tempsford's was put alongside the A1 before it was made a dual carriageway. The years have taken their toll on it. The painted lettering has faded; the cast logos have survived but their colouring has lost its brilliance; the panel is actually in not too bad a state. The Parish Council has spent some time discussing its options as to how to restore it, and having received various quotations, has accepted one, with the hope that the work will soon be started. Eventually it is intended that the sign will be re-erected near the memorials, alongside the original route of



The Festival
of Britain
Logo

Bedfordshire
County Council



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TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH,

Station Road, Tempsford

(part of the St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Circuit)

Minister: Rev Paul Beard : 01480 473444

Church Steward: Stephen Gosling,

81 Station Rd, Tempsford 01767 641175

Dear Friends

The New Year sweeps resolutely in, determined to brush away not only the cobwebs of the Festive Season, but all the webs which bind us like flies in the trap of our own choices. We are too weak to struggle free on our own; too weak to change the things that our better selves nag at us to change.

So we resolve to make a revolution in our lives. A new year: a new me, we cry. I will join the Gym (and actually go!) I will give up chocolate, smoking, buying shoes, watching so much TV, playing so many computer games ...

A week later we look in the mirror and see... ourselves — unchanged, unrevolutionized, unsatisfactory, unresolved. We still don't know what constitutes a "portion" of our five a day and we still aren't going to the Gym this evening.

Depressed yet?

I bring Good News! (I mean real honest-to-God, not fake, not spin, not Wikipedia, but actual Good News.) Change is possible. We can become the person our better self urges us to be. Not by eating five a day or giving up chocolate or exercising more, but by getting some help from the God who knows our potential and loves us whether we fulfil it or not.

Why not brush away the cobwebs of excuses and sweep away the fashionable pseudo-rationalism of aggressive atheism and give God a try. The easiest place to start is a Church. You will have to put up with some silly stuff, but at least you don't have to wear Lycra.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Taste of Christmas

THANKS

The Annual Christmas Fayre held at the Methodist Chapel on Saturday, 2nd December raised the magnificent sum of £700.00. A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who came along to help and support the Chapel on the day and to those who worked so hard behind the scenes over these past months to make the day such an overwhelming success. All monies raised will go towards urgent repair to the front of the Chapel. Thank you all once again for your loyal support.

CHAT CLUB

In November members met at the Chapel Schoolroom and enjoyed a quiz followed by mince pies and chocolate biscuits. In December members met once again for their annual Christmas Lunch at 'The Wheatsheaf'.

There will be no Chat Club get together in January. Our first meeting will take place on Wednesday, 28th February 2018 from 2.30 to 4.00 p.m. in the Chapel Schoolroom. Feel free to come along and join us in the New Year. You will be assured of a warm and friendly welcome.

COFFEE SHOP NEWS

We would like to thank everyone who supported the Methodist Chapel Coffee Shop in 2017. Special thanks must go to Willington Methodist Church and Knotts Farm Shop. We re-open on February 22nd and we look forward to seeing you all then.

TEMPSFORD METHODIST
CHURCH

COFFEE

SHOP

OPEN:

**Thursday 22nd February
from 11.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.**

In Methodist Chapel Schoolroom,
Station Road

Tea/Coffee/Selection of Cakes

*Browse through books, children's toys, village
postcards plus lots more items or sale
Drop in at any time; we hope to see you there!*

Tempsford Museum and Archives

**THE MUSEUM WILL BE CLOSED
FOR JANUARY
BUT WILL RE- OPEN ON
SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2018**

For this month only there will be a selection of Tempsford ephemera on show, including various original and copied documents, deeds, wills and other papers of interest. Also on display will be some Tempsford related photographs which we need information on, so do come along and help put names to faces.

There also will be the various permanent displays relating to Tempsford village and RAF Tempsford.
2pm till 4pm

**STUART MEMORIAL HALL
CHURCH STREET
TEMPSFORD**

Entry £2.00

**REFRESHMENTS AND HOME BAKED CAKES WILL BE
AVAILABLE IN THE TEA ROOM**

For more info email

steve.cooney1@btinternet.com

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
SHOEBOX APPEAL

32 Shoeboxes filled with 'Love in a Box'



were delivered to the Collection Centre at St. Neots Methodist Church. On behalf of everyone at the Chapel **THANK YOU** for

MEET AND EAT LUNCHES ARE BACK!

Meet and Eat Lunches are held at the Chapel on the second Wednesday of the month from **12.30pm to 2.00pm**. Call Carole Gosling on 01767 641175 to book your place. £4.00 per person.

Wed 14th February

Shepherds Pie
Seasonal Vegetables

Peaches,
Meringue and Ice Cream



A Massive 'Thank You'!

When people decide on somewhere to make their home, it's not just the house they live in that matters, there are many other important factors needed to give them a neighbourhood they desire. 2017 became a great opportunity for Tempsford to really understand what these requirements are from our community and start to produce our very own Neighbourhood Plan.

Building our Neighbourhood Plan will be entirely based on the views and opinions you shared with us via the recent questionnaire.

Over 100 Questionnaires Returned!

At the time of this article going to press, over 100 homes in Tempsford have already returned their questionnaires. This is an amazing amount and far greater than we could have ever hoped, so a massive 'thank you' to everyone who took the time to complete and return these.

What's in store for 2018?

We'll start 2018 by analysing and summarising the feedback from all the questionnaires and then share this with you. The feedback will then be used to produce our actual Neighbourhood Plan. We'll be working with representatives within Central Bedfordshire Council along with external subject matter experts to ensure the plan is supported, agreed and legally binding. We're then going to hold an official referendum where you will get the opportunity to vote the Neighbourhood Plan in. Once we have this, it will be legally in place for the next 15 to 20 years, ensuring any future development in our village is to the requirements of what we have expressed.

Thank you for the support you've already given and again for sharing your views through so many returned questionnaires.

On behalf of everyone in the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, we wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and look forward to getting our plan built with you in 2018.

Andy Bennett

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.

A warm welcome is assured at all services.

Parish Church

St Peter's Parish Services

There will be NO Services for St Peters in January

Sunday 7th January	9.30am at Gt Barford
Sunday 14th January	11.15am at Blunham
Sunday 21st January	10.30am Roxton
Sunday 4 th February	10.30am at Gt Barford
Sunday 11 th February	11.15am at Blunham
Wednesday 14th February	12 noon Holy Communion
Sunday 18th February	10.30am at Blunham

Methodist Church

Sunday 7 th January	NO SERVICE
Sunday 14th January	3.00pm Preacher: Rev. Paul Beard
Sunday 21 st January	NO SERVICE
Sunday 28th January	3.00pm Preacher: Rev. Matt Finch
Sunday 4 th February	NO SERVICE
Sunday 11th February	3.00pm Preacher: Rev. Paul Beard
Sunday 18 th February	NO SERVICE
Sunday 25th February	3.00pm Preacher: Mr. John Green

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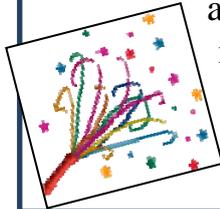


ST PETER'S PARISH CHURCH,
Church Street, Tempsford
For information contact Gloria Jones
Phone: 01767 640050



Happy New Year

From everyone at St Peter's and a very Big Thank You for all of your support in 2017. We are very pleased to say that we have made £600 this year at the Christmas Fayre and Christmas Eve, and once again our 12 days of Christmas was another great success raising £200.



THANK YOU



St Denys, Little Barford

We were very sorry to have to cancel our carol service because of the snow. We really missed our festive service this year. However just a reminder this church is an open church, so you can go along and see it any time. Please remember to sign the visitors book.

TEMPSFORD'S 2017 WEATHER

Meryl Besant gives us her annual summary of our local weather

The year started on a rather cold note. In January when we had 18 frosts out of 31 nights. The average maximum temperature was only 5°C, two degrees colder than the previous January. However, although there were many frosts, the coldest night of the year came 11 months later on 12th December when the temperature fell to -5°C.

February was much milder with only one frost in the whole month - this is most unusual as it is often the coldest of the winter months.

March and April were both mild and fairly benign. April was fairly dry with less than a quarter of an inch of rain.

May was reasonably warm but quite wet with over 3 inches of rain.

June was undeniably the best month of the summer. I think it lulled us all into a false sense of security. The week from 17th to 23rd had an average temperature of 28.7°C and on five of these days it was 30°C or more.

But in July everything went pear-shaped. It was the wettest month of the year with over 4 inches of rain, and as the children broke up from school there was no improvement as August was unsettled and wet too.

Rainfall remained quite high until October, and we had no frosts until 6th November. October was quite mild and fair, and November quite cool.

In December we saw the first significant snow fall of the year when, on Sunday 10th, approximately 4 inches of snow fell and stayed on the ground for 3 days. However it looks as if a milder spell is on the way, not unusual for our weather around Christmas time.

We have had three named storms this autumn/winter, Aileen 13th Sept which mainly affected N Ireland and Scotland, Brian on 21st Oct which went across S England, and Caroline on 7th Dec which went across N Scotland, each of which led to increased winds in our area but caused no damage thankfully.

Total rainfall up to Dec 18th = almost 23 inches, slightly above average for

TEMPSFORD'S VERY OWN BUS

IVEL SPRINTER



Departures from Station Road, Tempsford

DAY	TO	LEAVES HERE AT	RETURN JOURNEY LEAVES AT	ARRIVES BACK HERE AT
1 st Monday of the month	Tesco Goldington	9.30 am	11.30 am	12.15 pm
3 rd Monday of the month	Bedford	9.20 am	1.00 pm	1.30 pm
Tuesday	Sandy and Biggleswade	9.00 am	Sainsbury's 11.05 am Sandy 11.12 am	11.53 am
	Sandy and Biggleswade	11.53 am	Biggleswade 12.41 pm Sandy 1.09 pm	1.20 pm
Wednsdy	Cambridge	9.10 am	2.00 pm	3.00 pm
Thursday	St Neots <i>Also stops at Tesco Eynesbury</i>	8.54 am	11.55 am	12.12 pm
Friday	Sandy and Biggleswade	9.00 am	Biggleswade 10.40 am Sandy 11.07 am	11.30 am
	Sandy <i>Also goes to Sainsbury's</i>	11.30 am	Sandy 12.30 pm <i>No return journey from Sainsbury's</i>	12.45 pm
Saturday	Sandy and Biggleswade	9.20 am	Biggleswade 11.15 am [Sandy request only 11.35am]	11.25 am

For further information ring 01767 261047 or 01767 260787

Timetable effective from 1st April 2017
Full timetables available from "Sprinter" drivers, Sandy & Biggleswade
libraries and other information points

SERVICE FOR ALL TO USE

IVEL SPRINTER



Departures from Church End, Tempsford

DAY	TO	LEAVES HERE AT	RETURN JOURNEY LEAVES AT	ARRIVES BACK HERE AT
1 st Monday of the month	Tesco Goldington	9.20 am	11.30 am	12.05 pm
3 rd Monday of the month	Bedford	9.15 am	1.00 pm	1.35 pm
Tuesday	Sandy and Biggleswade	8.50 am	Sainsbury's 11.05 am Sandy 11.33 am	11.45 am
	Sandy and Biggleswade	11.45 am	Biggleswade 12.41 pm Sandy 1.09 pm	1.15 pm
Wed'day	Cambridge	9.03 am	2.00 pm	3.00 pm
Thursday	St Neots <i>Also stops at Tesco Eynesbury</i>	9.00 am	11.55 pm	12.17 pm
Friday	Sandy and Biggleswade	8.50 am	Biggleswade 10.40 am Sandy 11.07 am	11.20 am
	Sandy <i>Also goes to Sainsbury's</i>	11.20 am	Sandy 12.30 pm <i>No return journey from Sainsbury's</i>	12.40 pm
Saturday	Sandy and Biggleswade	9.10 am	Biggleswade 11.15 am [Sandy request only at 11.35am]	11.30 pm

The Ivel Sprinter is a community bus service for ALL ages; fares are on a par with Stagecoach.
Concessionary passes are accepted.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

The following is a summary of the main points of discussion at the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th November 2017. Full copies of the minutes are available on the village website www.tempsford.org or from the Clerk.

Present: - 7 Parish Councillors, and the Clerk. 3 Members of the public and 2 Central Beds. Councillors.

Declarations of Interest – None were received.

Acceptance of Minutes – The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 18th September 2017 were confirmed as a true record and duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

Police Report – The Clerk reported that again the UK police site was not up to date, as there had been incidents within the village but none were recorded on the site. Cllr. Clark reported on the meeting he had attended recently at Police HQ at which crime statistics were presented. He gave a summary of the offences recorded, but some refer back to 2014. Apparently, there is an on-line “Survey Monkey” which residents can use to record their points of view. The Council agreed this could be considered further.

Public Session – A report on Speedwatch was given. More volunteers are needed, especially during the day whilst day light time is limited. The repeat of the Defibrillator Course on Nov 14 was poorly attended, but those there said it was a good demonstration and some important points had been raised.

Planning – Items raised:-

A note from the River Ivel Project had been received to the effect that they plan to have installed a boom at the sluice at Tempsford in December 2017 then the trial and the lifting of the sluice gate will commence in January 2018.

Planning requests CB/17/04756/FULL Extension, Tree works CB/TRE/17/00400 and CB/TCA/17/00499. - no objections

Request from Bedford Borough to allow an increase in HGV movements from the Quarry, Black Cat. Council responded that there was already an increase in HGV in the last 18 months and that some HGVs had travelled down the Roxton Road to Gt Barford rather than the A421 as had been agreed.

Registration of land owned by the Parish Council was being investigated, to make sure all ownership has been properly recorded.
Neighbourhood Plan - Cllrs. Bull and Bettles reported that many Questionnaires had been received already. The Clerk was liaising with their Treasurer regarding expenditure.

Central Beds. Councillors – Cllr. Gurney reported on the plans for the A428; the preferred option for the development of the Black Cat would be announced in the new year, having been delayed due to plans for the future of the A1.
Cllr Gurney had given a video presentation at the November full CBC meeting opposing the proposed development of Tempsford Airfield in the Local Plan. Parish Council Chairman Adrian Besant, Claire Lawrence and Ken Lynch also gave presentations. Cllr. Zerny reported on the spending of S106 funds which he had also presented at the Council meeting.

Highways – 22 items had been sent by the Chairman to the Highways Department. Some had been dealt with, others “being monitored”. Concerns were expressed by some residents about the mud left on the road in Church Street by contractors exiting fields.

Festival of Britain sign. - It was agreed by Council to have it refurbished by a contractor.

Children’s Play Areas – Fort in Church Street needed repair – Chairman will attend to this. Visual checks had been done of the condition of the play areas; mould needed to be removed from the small play area in Station Road. A letter had been received from a resident regarding putting “exercise equipment” in Church Street. Clerk to investigate.

Cemetery/Churchyard – The tap had been mended. Cllr. Bettles to attend to organising repair of wall and gate in churchyard. Vines to be trimmed regularly.

Finance – The Clerk presented a list of invoices to be approved for payment. Cashflow and Bank reconciliation was read out. The Budget was also discussed, and it was agreed to arrange a separate Budget meeting for December.

Burns Night
Supper and Ceilidh

Friday 19th January 2018
7:00 for 7:30pm

Stuart Memorial Hall
Tempsford

Dancing to
“The Occasional Few”

Bar available

£12.50

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or email: tempsfordsmh@yahoo.com

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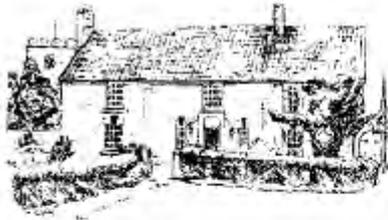
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STUART MEMORIAL HALL

Do you value your Village Hall and do you wish to keep it?

You may think that this is a strange question to ask but I will explain why we are asking it. Last Autumn, the Hall Committee applied to the Big Lottery Fund for a £10000 grant to install a fire alarm system and new emergency exit signs and lighting.

We heard recently that our request had been refused on a technicality. The technicality was that we had not involved the community in the decision to fit these systems. We thought that this was puzzling because, had we been applying for a grant to extend the Hall or for some other major project, then of course we would have consulted the community. Our project, however, is required to meet modern health and safety requirements and **must** be done if we are to keep the hall open.

On reflecting on the Big Lottery Fund's decision, perhaps they are right. Perhaps the village needs to decide whether or not it wants to keep the village hall open. We are therefore asking you two questions:

Do you value your village hall?
Do you want to keep it open for use by
all the community?

At present, the Village Hall is viable and makes enough money from bookings and events like the Tempsford Show to keep going. We could pay for the fire alarm and emergency exit system out of our current reserves but this would then leave the reserves perilously thin and we would have no contingency for major repairs should they arise.

This year, the Committee has spent significant sums on much needed basic maintenance such as the repair of the central heating system and a leaky gents toilet roof. This consumed the profit from the Tempsford Show and more.

During the year we have also replaced much of the guttering around the Hall, with more to be done.

Please don't misunderstand us, the Hall Committee is committed to keeping the Village Hall open if at all possible. The Committee would not have spent the time and effort that it has over the last year (all on a voluntary basis) if it did not believe in the Hall.

The Big Lottery Fund has given us an indication that they may fund us if we modify our wording to indicate that we have consulted the #community. We would be very grateful, therefore, if you could contact us to express your support, either by e-mailing the address below or posting on our Facebook page.

The Hall Committee wishes to thank all who have helped us in 2017. A Happy New Year to all of our community and customers.

Brian Harrison, Chairman, Hall Committee

b.harrison46@btinternet.com

or <https://www.facebook.com/Tempsford-Stuart-Memorial-Village-Hall-559028714122003/>



**Enjoying
the exhibits
at the
village show
in the
Stuart
Memorial
Hall**



WEDDING

Just a few of the events in OUR village hall



ART EXHIBITION

QUEEN'S 90th



**THE
TEMPSFORD
VILLAGE
SHOW**

**BURNS
NIGHT
SUPPER
AND
CEILIDH**





BLUNHAM COMMUNITY CINEMA

The Community Cinema held in Blunham Village Hall presents:

Friday 26th January the film '**Lion**' (Cert PG) starring Dev Patel. A five year old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousand of miles from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia. 25 years later, he sets out to find his lost family.

Friday 23rd February. Second Anniversary Evening. 'SPECTRE'. A cryptic message from bonds past, sends him on a trail to uncover a sinister organisation. While M battles political forces to keep the Secret Service alive, Bond peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind SPECTRE.

*This is a special evening with a **Free glass of fizz** to celebrate our second year of Blunham Community Cinema.*

Both films start promptly at 7.30 pm, doors open 6.45 pm.
Tickets cost Adult £4.00 Children £2.00
Tickets available from Sue Holden 01767 640572, Margaret Watts 01767 640053, or on the door.
Sweets, drinks, ice creams and pop corn available.

BLUNHAM BOOK SALE -
Saturday 24th February
10.00 to 3.00 pm



Come to our Browse and Buy Second Hand Giant Book Sale at Blunham Parish Church.

Selection of second hand/nearly new books, Homemade cakes, teas and coffees, homemade soup and a raffle....

All proceeds to Blunham Church Fabric Fund



St Peters Flood Lights

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

BLUNHAM & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The Gardening Club does not meet in January. The next meeting is Tuesday February 6th at 7:30 in Blunham village hall, when Dorothy Jamieson will present 'From Stowe to Sheringham'.

We are a small friendly club and visitors are always welcome. For more information please contact Brenda on 01767640623.

Roxton and District History Group 2018

DATE	SUBJECT	SPEAKER
4th Jan	Christmas Meal	
1st Feb	The Last Naval Hero <i>David, 1st Earl Beatty</i>	Ray Hood
1st March	Electronic Family History	Robert Parker
5th April	The Royal Maundy Money	David Ayers
3rd May	The British Empire 'My part in its Downfall'	Ken Lewis
7th June	The Charmed Life of Alfred 'Doc' Rowlett of St Neots <i>A man who sold medicinal charms a local character</i>	Liz Davies
5th July	Outside visit	
2nd August	Janet Must walking Treasure Hunt	
6th Sept	My Year as the High Sherriff of Bedfordshire	Colin Osborne MBE
4th Oct	Atishoo, Atishoo we all fall down-- The 1918 Influenza outbreak	Maurice Nicolson
1st Nov	The War to end all Wars	Norman Keightley
6th Dec	AGM	

TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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

The Late Philip George Russell

Donations in memory of the late Philip Russell, amounted to £1460 and has now been forwarded to The British Heart Foundation.

The Russell Family would like to thank all those who contributed, for their kind and generous donations.

Betty would like to add that she has been overwhelmed with people's kindness and the way they are looking

Kier is proud to sponsor the Tempsford Times: helping to support our local community and everyone within it.



TEMPSFORD TIMES is published bi-monthly by Tempsford Parish Council and St Peter's Parish Church, Tempsford, and is delivered free to all households in Tempsford. Please support our advertisers mentioning **TEMPSFORD TIMES** whenever you do so.

Articles are accepted for publication on the condition that they are included at the publishers' discretion and may be edited if felt necessary. For easier formatting, please provide them in "Word" document format and not PDF.

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Parochial Church Council or the Parish Council.

Articles for the March/April edition should be sent by

February 20th

to the Editor at 92 Station Road, Tempsford.

Advertisement enquiries should be addressed to the Advertising Manager: Linda Collins, 69 Station Road, Tempsford. 01767 640968

