



When every second counts

After a cardiac arrest, every minute without CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and defibrillation reduces the victim's chance of survival by ten per cent.

With this in mind the Parish Council has bought a public access defibrillator, with additional funding from Heartbeat UK and the



Snitterfield volunteers in training with WMAS's Stuart Granger

village fete committee. The defibrillator cabinet is located on the wall of the Sports Club on Wolverton Road and available for use by anyone who is present when a heart attack occurs.

Rapid response using this technology can significantly improve

the quality of life of a survivor, as the longer the brain is starved of oxygen, the more damage that can occur. To give a good outcome, help needs to be administered to the patient within four to five minutes.

A defibrillator delivers an electrical current through the chest which aims to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm, allowing it to pump again. Once in position the machine detects the heart's rhythm and won't deliver a shock unless one is needed. West Midlands Ambulance Service has trained,

Rapid response can significantly improve the quality of life of a survivor

free of charge, 12 Snitterfield residents in resuscitation techniques and specifically how to use a defibrillator.

Dr John Fitchford of the parish council explained: 'When 999 is called, the emergency services will give the caller the location of the defibrillator and the code to enter the cabinet. The contact details for volunteers will be listed by the machine'.

The defibrillator is simple and safe; it gives clear voice commands and screen messages that guide the user step-by-step through the process so any member of the public can use it if trained volunteers are not at hand.

Neighbourhood Development Plan meeting packs village hall

A Public Meeting on our Neighbourhood Development Plan took place on 4 March, when over 100 people packed the village hall for an update on progress and the latest information from Stratford District Council.

A presentation was given, outlining the background to the plan, the current understanding on housing development, the method the Neighbourhood Plan Committee has adopted in assessing potential sites and the next steps. Also present was Neil Pearce, who is an independent planning consultant engaged by the committee to provide specialist advice.

The committee is awaiting the interim report from the Inspector's report into the District Council draft Core Strategy and indications are that there may be a change in the way the village is assessed, as it is washed over by the Greenbelt. This may reduce significantly or even remove the number of houses that Snitterfield would have to accommodate. The interim report is due out on 20 March (see Peter Richards page 2). The presentation material and the site assessment matrix and supporting information are available to download from the village website and hard copies are available at the Sports Club and the village hall during Parish Council meetings.

Neighbourhood Plan meetings are open to the public in the same way as Parish Council meetings and are held about once a month. Look for dates on the village website, www.snitterfield.com, or on the noticeboard.

Ole Schmidt-Hansen

An update will be given in the summer edition of Snipe once the interim report is published.

Animal Crackers!

SNITTERFIELD VILLAGE FETE

Sunday 21 June 2015
12 - 4pm
Playing Fields, Wolverton Road

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pythons, Lizards and Tarantulas Radio Warneford Duck Herding Falconry Jousting Horse Classic Cars Dog Show Rare Sheep Miniature Horses Pony Rides Real Ale Pig Roast and Barbeque 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tea Tent Craft Tent and many more! Adults £3 Seniors £2 Family Ticket £7 (2 adults, 3 children) Child (5-16) £1 Under 5s free
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For dog show categories see noticeboards or fete website

www.snitterfieldfete.com

News from your District Councillor



As you will know from reports in *The Herald* and the previous edition of *Snipe*, Stratford upon Avon District Council's Core Strategy was due to be examined in public through January this year.

The Planning Inspector, Peter Drew, held court over the entire process and despite various challenges from developers and members of the public, there were no real surprises or new areas of concern.

One very positive outcome was a potential change to the number of houses Snitterfield can expect as part of its contribution to the housing numbers between now and 2031. Previously we anticipated a requirement of about 50 homes to be built. However, an amendment was tabled reducing the requirement of Local Service Villages (Cat. 3) in the Green Belt to provide a maximum of 25 homes through limited infill.

Clearly this is very welcomed news should it be accepted and adopted. For now we await the Inspectors decision over the entire Core Strategy on 20 March.

If you want to keep up to speed with all planning applications in Snitterfield, the council has recently launched a new planning service available to all members of the public.

By registering you will receive regular updates from the council on new and existing planning applications. For more information please visit: www.stratford.gov.uk/planaalert

Peter Richards
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Farewell to Snitterfield's poet laureate

Snitterfield's own poet laureate, Harry Marlow, died in February and will be sadly missed by family, friends and neighbours. Harry lived in Snitterfield for 57 years with his wife Val and family and was a familiar sight walking up Smith's Lane to the shop in his trademark beret. A former school teacher, Harry was an award-winning and published poet who often contributed to *Snipe*. This poem was originally published in this magazine in 2003 and was inspired by the quiet in the copse at the top of Ingon Lane before the bypass was built.

A June Dawn in Snitterfield

<i>A Hallowed place This bracken hole Where staccato-tongued blackbirds Ditch-hang in Timothy And sticky Goosegrass And Columbine, guarding tunefully This sad frame Of an old tricycle And galvanized cans Piled secretly For Posterity's child to find. Old badger knows. His liquorice streak Torpedoing away Just surface deep Into a glistening Grass-sea of green, Rudely despatched By my somnolent interloping.</i>	<i>My delight is in The dairy's distant humming, And in the friendly Herefords' Dung-fresh odours Near where khaki gadflies Gyrate dizzily About dried cow-pats And dew-fresh thistledown. Now the sweet Elder And Honeysuckle's stunning intoxications Overwhelm my senses As, singing, I make for home, Waving at the cheery red mail van Buzzing its way Up to an unsuspecting village.</i>
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Harry Marlow

News from your County Councillor



The Jay Report into the child abuse in Rotherham has reported and the Prime Minister has called for police and social workers to have a legal duty to report suspicions. I disagree because, unless the culture changes, changing the law will have no effect.

I listened to an address by Gary Porter, the deputy chair of the Local Government Association, who said it was imperative that the report be read by all councillors as it had major implications for councillors themselves. I was encouraged that Mr Porter had the same view as me that, whilst there were failures by the police and social worker management, it was councillors and MPs who are responsible to ensure that public sector staff do their jobs. Rotherham, Oxford, Manchester, Reading, Coventry and the murder of a disabled girl in Warwickshire all occurred because the local councillors

'All too often councillors think of the council as a club and have no interest in investigating issues'

had turned their back on the disadvantaged. The public should have the confidence to go to their local councillor when they have been ignored by the support services and expect something to be done.

Unfortunately, all too often councillors think of the council as a club and have no interest in investigating issues. Although it is only a minority, some councillors also seek to use their office to further their own or friends' interests. At District Council level this tends to be manipulation of planning decisions and at County it is infrastructure, like roads, and in Parliament it is

tax laws and other national policies. I do not see this situation changing because there is increasing tribalism in politics. Over the last 30 years the number of safe seats in parliament has increased and there are now only about 40 seats that decide who governs and only a few people in these seats are prepared to change the way they vote. Unless the electorate vote on the merits of the candidate and policies and not on the tribe they represent we cannot expect any change.

Also this month the County has had to give an opinion about forming a Combined Authority as part of the devolution debate. A combined authority is a group of councils merging activities to reduce costs and improve investment. It probably has more chance of success than voluntarily forming a unitary authority because there is no change to the boundaries of the councils or numbers of councillors. The possible options for Coventry and Warwickshire are to link with Birmingham or with Leicester and Leicestershire. The legislation does allow for counties to join different groups and there is an argument for South Warwickshire to join an Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire group. Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire have been able to achieve merger in two years and so things can happen very fast when there is a consensus.

John Horner
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Snitterfield Playground Area Renovation Team (SPLART)

Thank you to those of the community who have completed the questionnaire that was posted through each door during February. This will help us in our grant applications and playground designs. If by any chance you didn't manage to complete the questionnaire please go on line to complete it via this link, bit.ly/splartsurvey: the more replies we have the better.



Wildlife hot spots

As described in these articles, we have rich bio-diversity and a number of different habitats in and around the village. I have reflected on the wildlife-rich hot spots in the parish when I contribute to the Snitterfield Neighbourhood Development Plan, and I would like to share these with you so you can enjoy them on your walks.

The most valuable wildlife areas are the larger ponds

The two ponds in the village: public footpaths, easiest to access from Church Road (Kingfisher, breeding Canada Geese and Little Grebe).
The fishing ponds along Ingon Lane: access for fishermen [and the public, see page 4]; visible from public footpath south of the ponds (Hobby, Common Tern).
Luscombe Farm reservoir: Private land, but visible from public footpath between Luscombe Farm and Wolverton (Breeding Tufted Duck and Reed Warbler).
The large pond near Radcote Farm and A46: access for fishermen, but visible from the Monarch's Way public footpath.
Ponds belonging to High Close Farm, opposite garden centre at Black Hill: private land.

The second most valuable wildlife areas are the small woods or copses

Snitterfield Bushes, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve and SSSI: public footpaths (three deer species, White Admiral, Woodcock, orchids).
Heath End Plantation: public footpath through, starting from Heath End Lane (Marbled White, breeding Sparrowhawk, thousands of Woodpigeons roosting during winter).
Wood East of Heath End Plantation, west of Northbrook: private land, but visible from public footpath from Heath End Lane to Northbrook (Roe Deer, Muntjac).

Wood West of Luscombe Farm: private land, visible from public footpath from Luscombe Farm to Wolverton (Roe Deer).
Wayfield Gorse, South of Gospel Oak Lane: private land, but visible from the road.
Two woods along path from A46 to the Welcombe obelisk.

There are also other valuable wildlife areas
Public footpath along Bell Brook from Norton Lindsey Road to Heath End: (Snipe, Wren).
Heath End, Briery Land: public footpaths (breeding Tree Sparrow and Grey Partridge).



Canada Geese with goslings by Snitterfield pond

The obelisk on Welcombe Hill: public footpaths. Bird migration along the Avon valley.
The village orchards: public footpaths (Tawny Owl, Kestrel).

And last, but not least, your own garden is most probably very rich in wildlife! So, get your boots on and go explore the fantastic wildlife hot spots in our parish.

Claes Martenson
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New channel opens for village flood prevention

After seven years of pressure from the Parish Council Flood Group, Snitterfield's flooding problem is close to being solved.

As *Snipe* went to press, representatives of the Environment Agency and the County Council were meeting residents to explain their proposals. They are working on a scheme to divert Bell Brook away from the existing culvert, part of which collapsed earlier this year, into a larger open channel behind the houses on The Green. As a result of the collapse and the risk of the brook blocking, the Agency now sees the risk of flooding as an 'Emergency', opening the door to alternative funding. It is believed that up to £2 million is available for the diversion scheme.

In recent weeks, Agency engineers and contractors have been at work in the village to finalise the design and to put together

a detailed project cost. In a letter to residents the Agency said 'If a justifiable, effective solution can be determined, this is likely to be late spring 2015, subject to acquiring the necessary permissions and agreements'. There are no guarantees as yet but things look very hopeful.

The Emergency Funds will not cover the decommissioning of the existing culvert, but the Environment Agency and County Council will be working on a solution to this alongside the diversion project. A solution is essential due to the continuing risk of collapse including under the roads at Smith's Lane and The Green. However, the problem is very complex due to drainage from the roads and houses, the presence of electric cables and gas pipes. The work will also involve Severn Trent, Western Power and British Gas. Funds for decommissioning the culvert are not yet fully in place. The Flood Group is working with John Horner, our County Councillor, and Stratford MP Nadim Zahawi to identify additional funding for a complete solution.

Peter Morlidge



Flashback: the crossroads on Smith's Lane 2007

Village Volunteers Update

This initiative was launched in December and there are now 13 registered volunteers. Could you spare just a little time once or twice a year to help support village events like the fete and bonfire night? No obligation required, just a willingness to help when possible for you. Your details will be logged and you will be contacted via group email when extra help is needed. If you would like to join the list please email snitterfieldvolunteers@gmail.com or call 01789 731348.

Vikki Parker

Escape to the country at Arden Lakes

Tucked away behind the high hedges of Ingon Lane and unknown to many villagers as they travel to or from work or home is a hidden oasis that they are more than welcome to visit.

Arden Lakes is a complex of six lakes, but you don't have to be a fisherman to take advantage of the peace and quiet it offers. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the 23-acre site, including the family dog, as long as it's well-behaved and on a lead. There's also a clubhouse for breakfasts and snacks that visitors can use, and plenty of free parking.

Hugh and Anne Mannall moved to Arden Lakes from Stamford in March last year with their daughter Megan, to escape to the country, enjoy village life and fulfil their dream of running a fishery. They're hoping to build a home on the site and currently seeking planning permission. They also have plans to improve the existing lakes, several of which started life as irrigation pools for the neighbouring fruit farm, including reprofiling them, planting more marginal

plants to improve water quality, planting more trees to landscape the site and digging a new lake.

If fishing is your thing – and the site was visited by 6,000 day anglers last year – there's a wide variety of fish available, including roach, bream and barbel, and specimen carp of 25lb. Day tickets cost £8 or £7, depending on which lake you fish, or £5 for OAPs, juniors or disabled anglers. But if you just want a stroll and to breathe in the country air, then you're equally welcome. 'Snitterfield residents are very welcome to pop in and say hello', Anne said. 'The clubhouse is open on Wednesday to Sunday mornings from Easter to October. **We're also holding a coffee morning on Wednesday 29 April, with all proceeds going to The Shakespeare Hospice. Do join us if you can.'**

For more information on Arden Lakes visit www.ardenfisheries.com or email: info@ardenlakes.co.uk

Andy Hopkinson



The Mannall family

EYE SPY



How well do you know your village? This tree face is visible from the road for those with keen eyes. No prizes – it's just for fun. Answer on page 8.

Jon Cooksey

The way we were

In these modern times when those more technically proficient than I am can control their heating, TV and lights at a touch of a button on their smart phone, it is hard to imagine how different everyday life was for village residents of the past. The following is taken from the fascinating *History Scrap Book of the Village of Snitterfield*, compiled by members of Snitterfield WI between 1954 and 1956. Additional editorial comments are in brackets.

Gas

A gas works was first erected in the village in 1896 [behind the cottages on the corner of Wolverton Road and Bell Brook]. Coal required for the undertaking was brought from Bearley railway station by horse and cart. The gas supply became very poor and in 1912 the Council took over the responsibility for it. Since then the gasometer has been used only as a holding unit, distributing gas from the new mains supply from Stratford. In 1930 the land holding and buildings, which were leased, were purchased by the Stratford Corporation at the sale of the Welcombe Estate for £150.

Electricity

Snitterfield was first connected to an electricity supply in 1931. Prior to that houses relied on oil lamps and candles [one 60-watt electric bulb generates the light of approximately 100 candles]. As the cost of installing underground cables was double that of overhead, and as the consumers were only expected to be a few, the electricity company installed poles, after consultation over their position with villagers. In 1952 a transformer was erected in the fields owned by the Parish Council behind the Cooperative Stores [on The Green]. Since that time electricity has been provided throughout the village, and now only a few houses in Gas Lane [Bell Brook?] are lit by oil lamps.

Telephone

An exchange [at the Post Office, then opposite the school] was opened in Snitterfield in 1910-1912 with seven subscribers. In 1940 an automatic exchange was erected in Church Road [now the dentist surgery], after some opposition from residents to its siting.

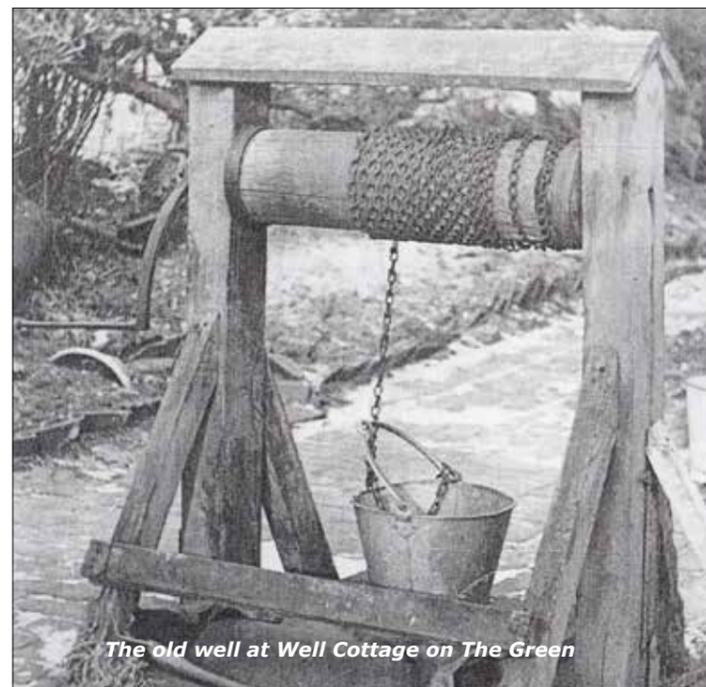
Water

[Due to Snitterfield's plentiful supply of water in 1886 a mains water system was taken through a deep tunnel below the high ground via a reservoir on the hillside above Lower Ingon to supply Stratford: now off the A46, adjacent to Arden Lakes above.] Prior to the reservoir being built the houses in Snitterfield relied on wells: these seldom ran dry due to the numerous springs. In 1947 the village was supplied

with mains water from the reservoir by The RDC [Rural District Council].

Sewerage

A sewerage works was constructed [on Norton Lindsey Road in Snitterfield] in 1901. By 1922 the situation had become very serious due to gross and long-continued neglect. An attendant was appointed at a salary of eight shillings a week, supervised by the parish council. The improvement did not last and the sewerage system in Snitterfield has been a frequent cause of complaint throughout the years. Within a short time after the erection of the council houses in Park Lane in 1927 there were constant complaints about drainage, or, rather lack of drainage. Unto this day [1956] the only improvement that has been made is that the RDC now make a night soil collection twice a week. This was started in 1951, once a week. The houses in the village have a variety of drainage - some on mains, some on septic tanks, others on earth closets, and Park Lane on buckets and night soil collection.



The old well at Well Cottage on The Green

Timber!

This enormous Cedar of Lebanon, thought to be over 250 years old, towered above houses between the Park and Church Road. It was severely damaged by winter storms and was deemed unsafe by Stratford District Council. Jean Dunstan, in whose garden the tree stood, was much saddened by its demise.

It was originally one of two cedars adjacent to each other in the garden of the former Snitterfield Hall (demolished in 1820). The other tree was lost in the 'hurricane' of 1987.

Jack Mee of Green Oval Tree Care was tasked with managing the awesome task of felling and removing this giant. Jack said 'We were sad that this grand old tree had to come down but also honoured to have the job of dismantling and felling it. The next branches it shed would almost certainly have hit Mrs Dunstan's bungalow and garage, so there was no alternative.'

'It was a substantial challenge for us, certainly the biggest tree we've ever taken on, but the team worked together brilliantly from start to finish and I'd like to thank each of them for their skill and hard work.'

Ken and Chris Chatland

Photos: Top left: the damaged tree, top right: the branches fall



Job done: the climber Dan Jeanes left, with Jack Mee, third from left, and the team

Village hall warms to its task

You may have noticed that the village hall has a new heating management system and new electric fan heaters in the front of the stage. This is part of an energy efficiency initiative which is helping to reduce the fossil fuel dependence of the village hall. Along with extra insulation in the loft, thermal curtains to the door, blinds to the windows, pipe lagging and replacement double-glazed windows the Village Hall Management Committee is working hard to bring down energy costs and reduce the carbon footprint of the hall.

The new heating management system has been installed with advice and funding from SACC. The heating is now tightly controlled so that when the building is empty a minimum temperature is maintained to prevent the building becoming damp. The electric fan heaters work alongside the gas-fired central heating to bring the room to the pre-set temperature. Once



that temperature is reached the fans turn off automatically. There is a movement sensor in the hall. Once it no longer detects movement the heating switches off.

With limited funds a significant difference has been made. The building is no longer heated when empty. The electric fan heaters help to bring the hall to temperature quickly. The electricity generated by the solar panels is used by the fan heaters during daylight hours, and as the village hall buy its electricity from Good Energy (100% renewable energy) its fossil fuel use is reduced.

A quick and easy way to cut your carbon footprint is to change your electricity supplier to one that does not burn fossil fuels to supply you with electricity. Check your energy supplier's Fuel Mix here www.electricityinfo.org All electricity suppliers have a Fuel Mix. This is a breakdown of how the

electricity supplied to our households has been generated. It shows what percentage of each fuel source such as coal, gas, renewable and nuclear energy has been used.

Many energy companies offer 'green tariffs', but, almost without exception, these tariffs don't represent the carbon reduction the name implies. For more information visit www.greenenergyscheme.org (an independent scheme holding energy suppliers

'When the sensor no longer detects movement the heating automatically switches off'

accountable for their claims, certifying credible green tariffs and making green energy understandable, accessible and desirable to UK energy users).

If you are considering installing solar panels to generate your own electricity or hot water contact SACC via our website www.snitterfieldacc.org or on 731348.

Duncan Parker

Happy Feet

Snitterfield Nursery toddlers have got toasty tootsies thanks to a generous grant from Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change.

In order to improve the energy efficiency of the building, SACC funded a new thick wool felt underlay and a hard wearing, locally sourced carpet.

The children are also enjoying a new outdoor surface, again thanks to funding, this time from Warwickshire County Council's Councillor Grant Fund. The bark chippings recently laid below the climbing frame provide a soft safe landing surface.

Lots of happy feet and happy faces at Snitterfield Nursery School!

Claudine Pearson



Do you have a child going to school or college in Henley in September?

An increasing number of families in Snitterfield are opting to attend Henley High School or College. Unfortunately, there is no public transport or school bus available from the village. Children are either driven in or catch the public bus from Bearley Social Club. A number of parents have been in discussion with the school and Johnson's bus company. However, the business case is not clear enough for Johnson's or the County Council to divert the bus or put on an additional service.

I am happy to coordinate a list of the names of children who plan to go to Henley and their transport requirements. It may be that there are enough of us to influence the bus route. If not, we may be able to sort out our own arrangements – either hiring a mini bus or coordinating car shares. If you are interested, please contact me with the names of children who are affected, the school year they will be in from September, your likely transport requirements and your contact information. Also let me know if you are happy for me to share this information with other families in a similar situation.

Helen Highlands

**Email: helenhighlands@btinternet.com,
Tel: 01789 730608.**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Naturally we do all we can to protect our families, homes and property. We watch out for ourselves. But imagine how much more we could do if we all watched out for each other. We'd know there was always someone looking out for us. We can make Snitterfield the friendliest, safest place it could possibly be.

If you have any questions or ideas, or if you spot anything odd you can email me: greg.bull@oceansblue.co.uk. I can then email alerts and ideas out to all other scheme members pronto. But, you'll need to register first...

Visit www.ourwatch.org.uk and enter your postcode to find our pages. After registration, click on "scheme admin" and select our village scheme to join.



SNITTERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION 7 MAY 2015

Would any resident wishing to join the Parish Council please contact Ian Wilkins, Clerk to the Council (01789 266665) or any Parish Councillor before 9 April, which is the date by which nominations for the election on 7 May must be received. We very much encourage you to put your name forward, particularly as the maximum number of Parish Councillors will increase from six to eight.

Guy Norris, Chairman



Spring at last, longer days and warmer weather. Make time to escape over the garden wall, to explore the countryside and gardens on our doorstep.

See for yourselves the primroses and bluebells in Bearley Woods (see page 1 photo). Visit the phenomenal meadows at Magdalen College, Oxford to have your breath taken away by the purple, chequered nodding snakeshead fritillaries. Visit Coughton Court (NT) to wander through the swathes of daffodils, play Pooh sticks and maybe pick your own tulips!

Early in May, go for a short spin to Eades Meadow, tucked away down a lane at Feckenham, to be astonished by the carpet of wild orchids (green winged, butterfly, early purple and spotted), kingcups and other wildflower treasures. Spend Sunday afternoon at Kiftsgate (HHA), one of the most beautiful gardens in England, to be bowled over by the Chinese peonies, magnolias and 'Handkerchief' tree, as well as the ethereal view from the terrace. Return in June to admire the roses, especially the Kiftsgate rose and the stunning planting in the borders. Across the way is Hidcote (NT), a garden with a series of 'rooms'.

Enjoy a day out, just an hour away in Northamptonshire to Coton Manor, to see another breathtaking bluebell wood, a



Rousham dovecote

Lose yourself at Rousham House garden in Oxfordshire, a classical masterpiece designed by William Kent over 300 years ago. No facilities apart from loos and an honesty box, so take a picnic, a bottle of wine and just enjoy the views, the gardens and peace (no children under 15). Visit spectacular Broughton Castle (HHA) a medieval moated manor,

between Shipston and Banbury, so near and very different to visit, as is Buscot Park (NT) near to Faringdon. This has a wonderful walled garden and Peto water garden, just made for an enjoyable outing. Just half an hour away, near to Moreton in Marsh, is Batsford Arboretum, beautiful in all seasons, especially with spring blossom and autumn colour. Opposite to the entrance is Sezincote (HHA), inspired by the Mughal Empire, where one can visualise oneself in another world.

Enjoy a short jaunt to Packwood House and Baddesley Clinton (both NT), not forgetting Charlecote Park (NT) just a few minutes away. Have you visited Anne Hathaway's Cottage, or any of the other properties? No? Well they are here for us to enjoy, to feel refreshed, inspired - and a perk for living in Snitterfield.

Check websites for opening times and directions. NT (National Trust), HHA (Historic Houses Association).

Margaret Tweed

New Friends at Snitterfield village hall

Friends of Snitterfield Village Hall was founded in 1992 by Lesley Fall and since 2003 has been admirably administered by Don and Lindsay Rushton and Tim and Jean Dronsfield. From January Ken and Chris Chatland, along with Jim Pullen, have taken over the reins and will be hoping to achieve the high standards of their predecessors.

The aim of the Association is to raise funds for improvements to the Village Hall, taking the form of an annual £12 subscription from members, which enrolls them in a monthly draw giving a first prize of £18 and a second prize of £12. Money from this fundraising has been used over the years to help with the provision of mood lighting, chairs, a new electric piano and a baby changing table in the ladies' toilets. A hearing loop system has been installed which helps those users suffering from hearing loss.

If you are interested in joining the Friends of the Village Hall monthly draw, please contact either Ken Chatland on 731380 or Jim Pullen on 730474. Information is also available on the village website: snitterfield.com/village_hall/FOSVH.htm

Learning the art of relaxation

Meditation has a history going back thousands of years. Its roots are believed to be from India where ancient Sanskrit writing has been found to support these ideas. However, some people believe that even primitive Neanderthals practised around fires and expressed states of connection to themselves and the earth through cave art.

Interest in the West developed at the beginning of the 20th century and has been gaining popularity ever since. Now it seems meditation and relaxation (for they go hand in hand) are the buzz words for the 21st century. Scientific evidence now supports this ancient practice as being of great benefit. It is advocated by business leaders, health professionals and the mental health organisation MIND.

We live in a fast ever-changing world where everything is instant, causing people to lose sight of our connection to nature, peace, harmony and wellbeing; resulting in anxiety, depression, stress and many other maladies. Meditation brings into alignment all parts of body, mind and soul. Blood

'Neanderthals expressed states of connection to themselves and the earth'

pressure decreases, breathing softens and begins to follow the body's own rhythms, giving a great sense of wellbeing. Continued practise then becomes evident in everyday stressful situations, whereby the stress passes through and does not interrupt the natural flow of life 'energy'. Thus, the person feels peaceful and in greater charge of their world.

A meditation and relaxation group for women is on alternate Wednesdays from 7.30pm to 8.30pm at the village hall. Please ring Sue on 07581183458. Email butterflies.asha6@googlemail.com

What's On

Snitterfield Garden Club

7 April: 'A New Way with Alpines'. Helen Picton. **5 May:** Evening trip TBC. **17-21 May:** 'A Cornish Cracker' holiday visiting gardens in Cornwall. **2 June:** Evening trip to Pettifers Garden, Lower Wardington, OX171RM. Meet there 6.30pm. **7 July:** Summer Social Evening at Hill Cottage, Kings Lane 6.30pm.

Parish Council Meetings

On the second Monday in the month, unless changed by the council. See noticeboard on Smith's Lane.

Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change

SACC meetings first Thursdays each month in Village Hall, 8pm. Check www.snitterfieldacc.org for changes.

Snitterfield WI

Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Sportsclub broadband

Free internet access is available at Snitterfield Sports Club (50p fee for temporary guest status for non members). Opening times for weekdays are 7pm to 11pm; Saturdays 12 noon to 11pm; Sundays 12.00 noon to 10.30pm.

Meditation and Relaxation Classes for Women who Lead Busy Lives

Classes on alternate Wednesdays, Village Hall, 7.30pm to 8.30pm Contact Sue 07581183458.

Classical Ballet Classes for Adults

Thursdays (term time) Beginners: 9.20am, Intermediates: 10.05am in the Village Hall. Contact Rosie Parker, R.A.D, R.T.S. Email: rosieparker@outlook.com

Quiz Night with the Yendalls

24 April, Snitterfield School Hall. Bar opens at 7:30pm for an 8pm start. Tickets £7.50 to include a home cooked curry. Teams of six please! Contact Claudine Pearson: claudine_pearson@yahoo.co.uk or call 730587 to book. All profits in aid of Snitterfield Primary School.

Available for hire

SNITTERFIELD Village Hall

Situated in the heart of the village, the hall is the ideal place to hold meetings, events, parties and family gatherings.

The facilities include: main hall, meeting room, kitchen, toilets, electric piano, stage and microphone.

For information, rates and booking please telephone 07501416221/ 01789 730514 email smcoombes@btinternet.com



Welcome to a new
YOUTH CLUB
&
OPEN MIC NIGHT
10-16 yr olds

entertainment.....music, poetry, dance
pool, table tennis
magic workshops
skittles, chess

ONCE A MONTH:
Thursday March 12th
Friday May 15th
Thursday July 16th
Friday Sept 18th
Thursday Nov 19th
Friday April 17th
Friday June 19th
Friday August 21st
Thursday Oct 15th
Thursday Dec 10th

7pm - 9pm. Arrive 6.30 for chess club.
Entry 2 pounds
siblings 1 pound

Snitterfield Sports Club
Wolverton Rd
CV37 0NS

Contact: Debbie Robinson debbierob@hotmail.com or V. Parker zokers@bt.co.uk

New club puts young people centre stage

Welcome to the New Youth Club and Open Mic night! If you are 10-16 years old, enjoy meeting new people your age, like chess, pool, skittles, table tennis, play an instrument, write poetry, can tell a good story, sing, or simply love to watch others performing - then this is the place for you!

Debbie Robinson (PGCE Art/Design teacher and professional musician) runs the open mic element at the youth club. PA, keyboard, mic's and guitar are provided ... all that's needed is you! Ever felt like you want to get up and perform something but don't know how or where to go about it? Well search no more!

The whole evening starts with Chess Club beforehand at 6.30pm. Come along and see what you're missing! It's great fun! Bring a friend! 6.30-9pm once a month at the Sports Club: Entry £2.00.

St. James the Great Church
Family Easter Service
Hymns, Songs & Drama for all ages
followed by an Easter Egg hunt!
Sunday April 5th at 11am.
Please come and join us

Eye Spy: The tree face is on the yew tree outside Taxus, opposite Frogmore Road on Smith's Lane.

Snitterfield Nursery presents
LADIES' PAMPER EVENING
all proceeds to Snitterfield Nursery School

SNITTERFIELD VILLAGE MALL
WEDNESDAY, 29TH MAY
7PM TO 9.30PM

BEAUTY TREATMENTS
LUXURY SHOPPING
LICENSED BAR
TICKETS £2 ON DOOR

Rag-Tag Toddler Group

Monday morning in the Village Hall 10.00-11.45am. Open to parents and carers with children 0-4 years. Wide range of toys and a friendly welcome. Do come along and meet us or contact Hilary Schmidt-Hansen. Tel: 731246



As part of our Eco Schools programme and to raise funds, Snitterfield School now has a clothes recycling bin. It will take clean, wearable clothing and shoes (attached in pairs), handbags and belts, sheets, curtains and towels. Please place items in supermarket type bags with the handles tied in the bin at school. The school also has a scheme to recycle printer cartridges, DVDs and computer games in original boxes.

Moving Pictures

Cinema in the Village Hall

If you would like to join our email circulation list to suggest films you would like to see, please contact Hilary and Ole Schmidt-Hansen, Tel: 731246. email: hilary@thegables.spacomputers.com

Next screening. 19 April: Paddington (PG) 3pm, Mr Turner (12A) 7pm. Future dates: 17 May, 28 June, 19 July.