



Free to the residents of Snitterfield

ISSUE 54
SUMMER 2020

Lightening the load during lockdown

Snitterfield has lived through an extraordinary time since the spring *Snipe* landed on your doorstep. For many it was a very frightening and lonely time. And, although things are getting back to some sort of normality, we still have a way to go.

But during lockdown in our village there are some truly life-affirming stories. There has always been a good community spirit here but during this crisis it has exceeded anything I can remember in more than 30 years of living here. Snitterfield Community Volunteers was formed the week before lockdown. The 'management team' consists of Claudine Pearson, Sue Yendall, Bruce Newsom, Darren Brown and Ann Barker. Leaflets and posters were distributed to make people aware of available services and also to ask for volunteers. More than 35 people came forward within the first few days and a phone line was quickly set up and manned seven days a week. Services offered were initially newspaper deliveries, shopping deliveries, prescription collections or just a friendly voice at the end of the line to offer moral support and reduce the feeling of isolation.

Sue Yendall said: 'Since the project started, more than 160 calls have been received from the community, with a small number of households very dependent on the helpline for vital food and medicine provisions. Other households have needed more sporadic help. The services provided have expanded since the early days, to include regular deliveries to local care homes of freshly baked cakes, including the wonderful Captain Tom tribute cakes (see *photo top*), toiletries and plants, thanks to donations from Snitterfield Garden Club.

'As we all know, the Village Shop was very busy throughout, with reduced staff, and Volunteers were able to help out with unloading deliveries. Villager Darren Brown lent the shop a business van, reducing daily trips to the wholesalers. Good neighbours also swept, cleaned and tidied the frontage of the shop and planted up donations from The Garden Club (see *photo below*). The Snitterfield Village Community Project was very kindly able to help out with cashflow for shopping at the Village Shop so that payments could be collected from residents later.

'Whilst many restrictions have been lifted, the Volunteers are still operating the main services – shopping, newspapers and prescriptions, albeit on a more part-time basis. It's great that residents who were shielding now feel able to get out and about more, but please remember the service is still available to any who need it now or in the future. The phone line (07718 279039) is still open on a Monday and a Thursday from 9am to 12.30pm, with deliveries from



the shop being made on those days. It has been a rewarding experience for all involved, both volunteers and residents, with new friendships being formed and older residents not feeling as isolated. Hopefully it has made the village feel a little more connected during these strange months we've all been living through. Thank you to everyone who has helped out in any way, it's been great!

More stories and pictures from lockdown inside

Snitterfield Scrubbers

Stitchers from Snitterfield (alongside those in Wilmcote, Hampton Lucy and Bearley) were proud to have played their part in Warwickshire Scrubbers. In a matter of weeks, they



Care home residents from Cedar Lawn in Stratford display sewing from the Scrubbers. These were delivered by Snitterfield Volunteers, who also donated cakes, cards and plants in collaboration with the WI

produced over 200 sets of scrubs for NHS staff in South Warwickshire from a standing start.

Fabric donations from village residents and material collected from retailers in Coventry by the Volunteers were turned into hundreds of laundry bags, headbands and patterned scrubs which were distributed by the Volunteers to local care homes (see *photo right*), other health care teams as well as to Warwickshire Police.



Care home staff from Cedar Lodge in Bearley

Message from your County Councillor



The new experience of the lockdown has resulted in bringing a new dimension to us all and nothing has been greater than the community spirit which has emerged throughout all the villages in and around the district.

Family time, getting to know neighbours and avoiding the daily commute are things some of us have actually benefited from in the last few months. Never before have so many parents spent so much time with their children, providing a unique opportunity to reconnect, create memories and evaluate priorities. New babies and young children, whose parents are working from home or have been furloughed, have also reaped the rewards from the undivided attention at such an important time. The simple and priceless pleasures in life such as a family walk have been rediscovered and, for many, clapping on your doorstep on a Thursday evening was a highlight of the week, particularly for those living alone or shielding.

However, lockdown for key workers was a different story. Our thanks go out to every one of them as they worked around the clock across a wide range of sectors, looking after our everyday needs from wellbeing and health, food and drink, transport, safety and waste collections, in addition to all the vital local services. And our thoughts and prayers go out to families who have lost their loved ones before their time, which emphasises and provides us all with a reminder that the way ahead is equally challenging.

As the county councillor for the Wellesbourne Division, which includes Snitterfield, Bearley, Hampton Lucy and surrounding villages, the lockdown has proved to be my busiest time ever, but it's been a real privilege to witness the expertise and professionalism of both Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council staff. I also hope you've found my weekly lockdown updates (available on Snitterfield.com) both helpful and reassuring. Credit where it's due, Public Health Warwickshire and the county communities teams have done an amazing job, as has the District, in swiftly distributing over £30 million in government grants to businesses in need and delivering thousands of food parcels to vulnerable residents, whilst retaining local services.

Whilst coronavirus cases have flattened across Stratford District and there is now extensive capacity in our hospitals, there still remains a serious risk of a second wave with the lifting of many lockdown restrictions. The message from Public Health Warwickshire is that it is absolutely essential to continue to respect social distancing procedures, where possible keep this at two metres apart and implement rigorous hand hygiene measures. The mandatory wearing of face coverings in shops, supermarkets, banks, post offices, building societies and on public transport is the way forward to retain infection control. As normality starts to return I do hope our newly acquired community spirit will continue so, in the meantime, take care and stay safe.

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Snitterfield Village
Community Projects



Snitterfield Village Community Projects continued to work in the background during lockdown.

They worked with the Snitterfield Scrubbers underwriting their expenses until the fundraising monies were in and provided the credit system to cover the shopping done by the Snitterfield Community Volunteers for those who were shielding, which was then repaid direct to our account. Thank you to all those who made donations to us: the shop collecting box collected over £46 in the period. The fund has also contributed £250 to the Church Bells restoration fund.

John Baldwin

News from your District Councillor



As the country gradually comes out of the Covid-19 lockdown we are, where possible, quickly returning to business as usual at the Council. Normal decision making of the Council is now fully operational through video conference meetings. A number of planning meetings have been held, along with scrutiny meetings, regulatory meetings and the first full Council meeting happening on 13 July.

The planning department has a substantial backlog of applications that need to be heard at a planning committee and whilst we are holding weekly meetings to hear all applications as soon as possible, it will take some time to get through all those, so we do ask for your patience and understanding as we work through those applications.

Our Council office, Elizabeth House, has now reopened to the public on reduced hours from 10am to 2pm. We have had a steady stream of visits since then with a range of queries including applications for housing benefit, council tax support, home choice plus applications, homelessness and car parking permits.

Discretionary Business Rate Grants

In June the Council announced a Discretionary Business Rate Grant scheme to help support businesses unable to claim under the previous Business Rate Grant Scheme. Applications for the discretionary grant scheme were opened on 8 June for three weeks and have now closed. Payments under this scheme have begun and so far £640,500 has been allocated and paid. The Council has a maximum of £1.7m that can be allocated for all applications and officers will endeavour to pay this money out as soon as possible to support businesses in most need.

Climate Change

Having declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019, the Council has undertaken an extensive piece of work to consider how it can do its part in helping to tackle climate change. Part of that work included a new Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document which sets out the Council's expectations for new developments. The Climate Change SPD was approved at Council and now holds weight. It sits alongside the Core Strategy and provides support and clarity on existing policies.

Joint working

Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Councils across the country have been put under increasing financial pressures. Stratford District Council has been recognised as one of the worst hit in terms of its income (largely from tourism) and as a result the Council is considering ways in which it can continue to operate its services in the most cost effective way.

Towards the end of June a joint announcement by the Leaders of both Warwick District Council and Stratford District Council was made informing us that consideration is being given to the sharing of services and functions, with a full review of Local Government being undertaken in the near future. Council has supported this review and it will begin imminently.

A white paper on Local Government is anticipated by National Government later this year and it is expected that emphasis will be placed on giving more powers to local authorities. By committing to undertake this review now, Stratford District Council will be well placed to take appropriate action once the white paper has been published and further detail is known. I will keep you informed as to the progress made on this matter.

Leisure Centres

Following Government's announcement, the Council reopened its leisure facilities on 25 July for fitness purposes. All of the swimming pools are planned to reopen from 1 August.

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Jon Cooksey

Villagers lined Church Road on 3 July to say farewell to Snitterfield resident Jon Cooksey, who sadly died suddenly on 14 June, aged 61.

Jon was a well-known and popular member of the community, often to be seen walking his dog Ruby around the village and always with the time for a friendly chat.

Originally a PE teacher, he became one of the country's leading military historians. He was the author and co-author of more than 25 books, particularly on the battlefields of the First World War, but also encompassing the Second World War and the more recent Falklands War. He was also the editor of *Stand To!*, the journal of the Western Front Association. Alongside this he was an experienced battlefield guide, lecturer and documentary maker.

Jon had represented his home county of South Yorkshire in rugby and athletics as a schoolboy, also playing football at a high level. As a keen rugby fan he led visits to the First World War battlefields with managers and players from Northampton Saints club, remembering the contribution their players had made during the conflict – something he worked closely with BBC Radio Northampton on. Indeed, a tribute from friend and colleague BBC's Graham McKechnie says: 'Jon helped shape the culture of this Saints squad. He spoke



to the players many times about heroic deeds from the past, and when he spoke, they all listened.'

Away from military history Jon loved the theatre and saw many RSC productions at the theatre, especially enjoying Shakespeare's history plays. He also loved music and was a keen singer and a valued member of the Stratford Festival Choir. The choir was due to sing at the Menin Gate in Ypres after the nightly playing of *The Last Post* earlier this summer before Covid 19 intervened. He also played the drums in a band at university and was very proud of

being in an AI Green video – if only in the crowd.

He moved to Snitterfield with his wife Heather and daughter Georgia in 2011 and, despite being a proud Yorkshireman who had lived in many places including Canada, he felt that Snitterfield was the place he wanted to put down roots. He loved the location and the friendliness and welcome the family received from the villagers. Heather said: 'Jon felt he belonged in Snitterfield. Georgia and I are so grateful for the support and warmth we have received from the village community during the past weeks. We were very moved by the people who lined Church Road on the day of the funeral.'

Donations in Jon's memory can be made to the Royal British Legion and Combat Stress, two charities that meant a great deal to him. <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SomeoneSpecial/JonCooksey>

Welcome back for church bells

Over the weeks that the bells have been away volunteers from the church and the village have been working on the bell frame and cast iron supports. The bell frame was cleaned and resealed to prevent further rot and worm infestation.

The bells were returned on 7 July from John Taylor & Co, the foundry who cast the bells back in the 1800s. All the bells were fitted with new red cast steel headstocks replacing the old and cracked oak ones. All the iron work was de-rusted and painted in the Taylor red colour to match the new bell headstocks by village volunteers. One of the original bells was not a Taylor bell, so a replacement bell was sourced and the old bell kept as a service bell/clock strike bell.

Two engineers from Taylors, with the help of volunteers from church and from the Coventry Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers, took two weeks to get the bells back in place and swinging on new bearings. In the third week, work continued on the pulleys, guides and bosses that direct the bell ropes down to the ringing floor. It is hoped that the work will be completed by the end of July and we will look forward to ringing the bells now government restrictions have been relaxed.

All of this work could not have been possible without the support and generosity of various grant bodies, the Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers and the many people from the village who gave so willingly to the fund. We are still just short of our total by a little over £2,000. People can still donate via <http://www.justgiving.com/snitterfieldpcc> or by cheque payable to 'Snitterfield PCC'.

John Foster

Photos: Andy Osmotherley



Lockdown stories from Snitterfield

A time of flour power

Lockdown has seen a surge in home baking, with bags of flour flying off the shelves. This has proved both a blessing and a curse for Snitterfield resident Karl Grevatt, who runs the historic Charlecote Water Mill.

'Demand went through the roof', Karl told *Snipe*, 'but we produce our flour in a traditional and old-fashioned way working with nature. Mechanisation has never really caught on at Charlecote. We depend on the river flow – on a good week if we're flat out we can produce three tons; more usually it's between one and two. Our finishing, packaging and other operations are also done by hand, so there's a limit to how much we can supply. It's part of the ethos behind the mill and getting back to its original purpose, which would be to mill local wheat for the local community. All our grain comes from three local farms.'

At its worst Karl, left, had a seven-week waiting list to fulfil orders but when *Snipe* visited in mid July the mill was purring along nicely and orders were back to a more normal week to fulfil. 'It's the first time this year since first floods and then coronavirus that things have returned to normal', Karl said. Sadly though Covid has left its legacy. 'Unfortunately our popular open days and group tours, which provided a significant amount of the mill's income – about a third, have been lost during lockdown and there are no plans to reintroduce these at the moment – perhaps next Easter depending on how things are then. But with a mid 18th-century listed building there's no sensible way to put in a one-way system and maintain social distancing, especially as what we're dealing with is a food product – it's a non starter at present.'

Charlecote Mill dates from 1752 although there are known to have been previous mills on the same site. It was built as two mills in one, with two water wheels, and would have originally been worked by about eight people. It fell into disuse in the 1960s but was restored in the late 1970s, partly on the back of its use as a film set for the BBC production of *The Mill on the Floss*. Karl, who took over as miller in 2012, leases the building from the Lucy estate and runs it single handed with the help of three or four regular and long-standing volunteers, although this has been limited to just one during lockdown.

It's a role he's well qualified for, having trained as a carpenter and spent ten years previously working in historic building conservation. These skills have enabled him to maintain the mill in good working order. 'A lot of love goes into keeping the mill up and running it'. Karl explains. It was while undertaking a William Morris Craft Fellowship, run by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB) in 2009, that Karl visited conservation projects around the UK and first came across Charlecote Mill. He spent a week working there and loved it. When the opportunity arose to take it on as a piece of living, working history with the retirement of the previous miller he leapt at it – and hasn't looked back since. Today he has grown his market by producing top-quality traditionally stoneground wholemeal and natural white flour. He also inherited something of a niche market for chapatti flour, developed by his predecessor, and continues to produce this.

'With mass produced flours the grain is often deconstructed and then put back together with various additives and preservatives, including to make it whiter,' Karl explains. 'Unlike these products, Charlecote Mill flour is produced to in the traditional way it always has been and is perfect across the range of baking requirements – whether you're using it for cakes, bread or pastry.'

You can put your baking skills to the test and pick up a bag or two of Karl's flour at either The Farm or Snitterfield Stores. Find out more about the mill and its history on the website – www.charlecotemill.co.uk



And the people stayed home. And listened, and rested, and exercise played games, and learned new w still. And listened more deeply. So prayed, some danced. Some met people began to think differently.

And the people healed. And, in the living in ignorant, dangerous, min ways, the earth began to heal. And when the danger passed, and together again, they grieved their choices, and dreamed new images to live and heal the earth fully, as

Untitled by Kitty O'Meara (2020)



Thank our lucky stars

For those who didn't have to isolate and found themselves with more time on their hands over the past months there have been so many things to be thankful for. We can't put it better than the poem by Kitty O'Meara in the box below.

For us at Snipe, it was a real bonus to have spare hours to explore Snitterfield's fantastic footpaths in more depth and enjoy what seemed to be the best display of flora and fauna we could remember. We even saw a little egret near Luscombe Farm - that was a first. You can find a selection of Snipe Walks on the village website, Snitterfield.com, ranging from short treasure hunts for little people to longer hikes around the vicinity. These can be downloaded to print out - see pdf right. We have had a really lovely response from villagers and will add more from time to time.

There are also so many folk to be grateful to. As well as the amazing village

Snipe Walk 1
The Bell Brook Walk
3 miles (4.8km) - with an option to shorten the route

An easy, level walk that takes you past a wildlife pond and alongside Bell Brook for much of the route. Starting at the Domestic Four Field Paths will be heading on rural tracks and field paths although part of the return route will be along village roads if you do not wish to retrace your steps.

Start at telephone box near the crossroads of The Green, Green's Lane, Bentley Road and School Road. Walk right down Bentley Road and continue until you reach a sharp bend to the left. Cross the road and turn right into Bentley Road. At the end of the lane, passing a pretty half-timbered cottage, cross down in a pedestrian track. This can be muddy after wet weather and go through a rickety gate. Continue in the same direction across a ridge and furrow field, with Bell Brook to your right.

2 At the end of the field you will come to two gates. For a short cut take the right-hand wooden gate, which will lead you to a gate to Church Road, where you can turn right and walk back to the junction with Smith's Lane, then right again to return to the start of the walk. To continue the longer route, take the metal gate in front of you and go through a small ornate gate. Follow along the side of a large pond. There are lovely views here across the valley over a variety of fields to the east. At the end of the path cross a bridge to reach a farm track. Please here to look left at a lovely view up the hill over Farmland. Turn right onto the track and then almost immediately left at the first opportunity. Follow the path over the edge of the field with the brook on your left. At the end of the field keep on the same way to follow a track with the brook on your left and the Severn there works on your right.

3 Emerge from this track onto the Norton Lindsey road by the entrance to the Severn. Here take the road to the right down the road, passing the Domestic Four Field entrance. Almost immediately after this you will see a metal kissing gate on your left - go through this, along a track and over a stile aiming for the corner, passing between sheep pens. Go over the stile and turn left down a track between trees. Walk until you reach a small bridge (ignore the narrow path to the right) and cross and go through a gate. Continue in the same direction on a tree-lined path which soon opens up to a field with views of Red Hill Christian Centre to the right.

4 Follow the path to the left of the farm road. Turn left and walk a few paces along it to reach a field. Continue across the field, aiming for a gate in the left corner. Go through the gate and turn immediately left to go through the gate and turn right around this. At the end of the official path takes you around two sides of a triangle and you may notice other walkers take a more direct route to the next gate by walking straight on with the hedge on their left. The instructions here follow the official route!

5 Follow the waymark arrow to go diagonally across the field to a waymarked metal kissing gate in the bottom right corner. Sometimes the farmer has put electric fencing up for livestock so you may need to sort around this. Don't go through the gate but turn sharp left to follow the edge of the field with Bell Brook to your right. Follow the field edge to a kissing gate near the right corner. Continue in the same direction down a narrow field with the brook on your right, passing a gate leading north. When you reach a kissing gate on your right. Go through, across a bridge and through another gate then turn left onto a path. Follow this to another kissing gate and continue in the same direction, with a wire fence on your right and glimpses of the Domestic Four Field on the left. At the end of the path go through a gate to begin the Norton Lindsey road.

6 Turn left. If you wish to keep off-road as much as possible, walk down the road until you see the entrance to the Severn. Then work, passed on the road out, and turn right to retrace your steps. For a circular walk you can return to Snitterfield church by the left and many attractive properties right and left.

7 When you reach Stocks Green, a triangular junction with a horse chestnut tree where the village docks cross road, turn right onto Smith's Lane and follow the road to reach the start point by the telephone box.




From top: one of the many street decorations and having a socially distanced picnic to celebrate VE day; a thank you to the bin men; swan and cygnets on The Old Vicarage lake; a tribute to the NHS - local farmer David Jones ploughed a heart and the initials NHS into his field - main photo taken from Monarch's Way. Many thanks to Suzanne James for these lovely photos.



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absence of people dless, and heartless

l the people joined losses, and made new s, and created new ways they had been healed.

volunteers (see front page) we should give a huge thank you to Dev and Daksha at Snitterfield Stores. They have been fantastic and worked incredibly hard with limited staff: even stocking compost for us desperate gardeners and sourcing items that were unavailable in supermarkets. We are extremely lucky to have them and they deserve ongoing support. It was also great to have The Snitterfield Arms providing takeaways and The Farm with takeaways and food box deliveries.

The marvellous Schmidt-Hansens have plans for the phone box on Smith's Lane and intend to turn it into an information centre for village and visitors alike. As well as general information the walks will be available to be viewed here. While the village cinema has been unable to run in the

village hall Hilary has also kept village film buffs entertained with loans of DVDs and books through the Lockbusters initiative from Live and Local.

And there have been many individual acts of kindness. Lauren Cooke, who lives just off The Green, sent in the photograph below and this message: 'Thanks to our neighbours who have been endlessly patient over lockdown, with us essentially occupying the lane outside our house as a playground for Callahan while our garden has been a building site!'



Picnic at The Farm

'Picnic on the Lawn' is live. We hope you're as excited as us for this one! It's been fun to plan.

The Farm's social distancing circles have been put in place so our customers can socialise responsibly. Painted circles on the lawn with two-metre spacing ensures safe distancing for families, couples, and individuals. Each one designates where groups, families and bubbles can relax while maintaining



social-distancing measures. Circles are four metres and are spaced so our customers can walk safely in between groups.

Other measures we have taken:

- One way systems and safe queuing measures in place.
- Staggered picnic times.
- Increase in visual aids and signage to ensure clear guidance on social distancing for our customers.
- The Farm Family are at hand at all times to manage social distancing and the safety of our customers.
- We have reduced the number of surfaces touched by both staff and customers where possible. We ask that customers stand at social distancing markers when ordering, and avoid leaning on counters.
- We encourage contactless payment where possible and

- only accept card payments.
- Hand washing areas and sanitising stations are also available.
- Our toilets are open (disabled/baby changing available). Regular cleaning, wiping down, disinfecting and additional signage are in place to ensure/promote good hand hygiene and cleanliness in toilet facilities.

Head over to our website www.thefarmstratfordshop.com and click 'picnic on the lawn' to book your free 90-minute time slot. Once you arrive at The Farm, head over to our new Nourish Shepherd's Hut, which is located on the front lawn. Check in by letting one of our team members know your name and you will then be allocated a circle space/number.



Coming soon: NashWhite hair salon: their converted American (H)Airstream will be located at the front of The Farm. Artwork above from @briboxuk.

Charlie Wells

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/thefarmstratford/>

Website: www.thefarmstratford.com
Telephone: 01789 731807



Dig in for village tree planting

In the Spring edition of *Snipe* we called for volunteers to join a newly forming group to plan and assist in a major tree planting scheme in the village. We have had an

exciting response but have been delayed through lockdown, so now is the time to join us. Planting trees will help slow climate change, reduce flooding and make Snitterfield a better place for wildlife and for us all. If you would like to get involved then please email Claudine (claudine.pearson@snitterfieldpc.org.uk)



Changes for the better

The improved air quality during the Covid lockdown has demonstrated that we can better our environment by working from home, travelling less, reducing our personal consumption and our food

waste. The crisis has shown that communities can make a difference when they take care of each other, and this will be invaluable as we face climate change together.

SACC has over £5,000 available to villagers this year through our community grant scheme. If you live in Snitterfield and have an idea for a home improvement or other project to help reduce your carbon footprint please apply via our website www.snitterfieldacc.org by 5 October.



There was the welcome sound of leather on willow as village cricket returned in July, heralding some hopeful signs of normality.

Snipe received the following message: if you can help please email Chris directly.

We are looking into our family tree and one of our relations William Gobsill (Gopsill) married to Magdalen resided at the Black Hill Mill. We have been scouring the internet to find any images of the mill and pub but cannot find anything. Do you know of any photos or painting of these or where we could go to get more information?

Many thanks

Chris Cox

chriscox@chriscox.co.uk



It is summer and our gardens are full of beautiful butterflies. But, where are they the rest of the year? Many species will spend the winter as eggs or as a caterpillar (for example the Small Copper) and a few species over-winter as adults, like the pictured butterflies. The Red Admiral both over-winters and migrates, while the Painted Lady

migrates to and from the continent, like a migrating bird. The migration of butterflies is something that is still not fully understood. Some years are mass migration years for the Painted Lady, like 2019 and 2009. I could have more than 20 of them at the same time in my garden last summer.

Photos: Claes Martenson



Painted Lady butterfly

All butterflies move longer distances in a straight direction by using the sun to navigate. They can cover a distance of 15km or more per day, but they cannot continue migration during overcast weather when the sun is not clearly visible. Since the adult butterfly only lives for a few weeks, it will mate and lay eggs during the migration. Few individuals would have covered the whole migration route and none will return.

Butterflies have a four stage life-cycle. The adult butterflies lay eggs on particular plants that the caterpillars will feed on. The Peacock caterpillars stay together day and night to start with. The caterpillar eats all day and grows to about 100 times its original size in a short period of time. It has to 'moult' (shed its skin) several times to allow this fast growth, and before it turns into a pupa. The 'imago' (adult) butterfly emerges from the pupa and the metamorphosis is complete. The adult butterfly has a main mission of finding a partner and

propagating. It sleeps during the night and has to warm up in the morning by exposing its wings. It cannot eat but will drink nectar from flowers through its long proboscis. A butterfly uses its feet and antennae to smell its way to flowers but recognises a partner by sight.



Peacock butterfly

Butterflies are very sensitive to weather and climate, so they have good and bad years. Humans have a net negative impact. While climate change may result in more species in Britain (warmer weather), it could also lead to less butterflies if essential feed plants and habitats for caterpillars are lost. Many species will not survive fragmentation of their special habitats, where it becomes impossible to find a mate. It's quite easy learning to identify the 59 regular British butterfly species, plus another 12 scarce visitors. As well as the colourful species shown here, there are many 'whites' and 'browns'. I recommend *Guide to the Butterflies of Britain* by the FSC (can be ordered from the RSPB shop) as an excellent identification guide.

If you want to attract more butterflies to your garden, you should plant nectar rich flowering plants as well as planting or leaving caterpillar feed plants.

Claes Martenson



Red Admiral butterfly

News from the Village Hall

What a strange few months we have had in our lovely village with so many things cancelled or postponed. The Village Hall Committee had hoped to be able to host a VE Day celebration in May and were looking forward to a Village Quiz Night in September, which looks highly unlikely at the moment. Let's hope that we can host the Stratford Festival Orchestra and Choir on Saturday 21 November. Watch this space!

We are very pleased to let you know that whilst we have been in lockdown the contract for building an annex to house an easy access toilet has been awarded and work starts at the beginning of August. Funding for this project has been obtained through grants awarded to the village hall. Tony Moon (Chairman) continues to work on grant applications for a replacement to the back room, which is in a bad state of repair. As most grants have been diverted towards Coronavirus funding, it may take quite some time to raise the capital needed. If anyone in the community would like to help towards this fundraising or contribute towards our funds we would be most grateful.

Now the good news ... The Village Hall Committee, with the support of the Parish Council as Trustees, will once

more be able to open our doors to small gatherings. Under government guidelines, and with the support of our local village hall advisers from Warwickshire Rural Community Council, we will be able to have groups of up to 30 people in the village hall, with social distancing being a key part of the groups' agreement with the committee.

The Rural cinema is waiting to hear from Live & Local (who run the scheme) about recommencement dates for the cinema and whether we will need to have a 'book in advance' ticket scheme so that we do not go over our limit of people in the hall. Rag Tag Toddler Group is also waiting for guidance from The Early Years Alliance about a re-starting date as we are all missing meeting and playing up on a Monday morning.

If you would like any further information about the village hall please visit our website: www.snitterfieldvillagehall.com or contact Hilary Schmidt-Hansen Tel: 731246, Email: Hilary@thegables.spacomputers.com. If you would like to hire the hall for family events and functions please contact Sharon Aust: email: saust1@btinternet.com, Tel: 01789 730514 or Mobile 07501416221. Phone calls Monday - Saturday 9am to 6pm.

Thank you for your support.

Hilary Schmidt-Hansen

Snippets

What's On Where

CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS

Snitterfield Garden Club

First Tuesday of the month, Village Hall
7.30pm. Gillie Waldren 01789 731830

Parish Council Meetings

On the second Monday in the month, 7.30pm
Village Hall. Email: snitterfieldpc@outlook.com
www.snitterfieldpc.org.uk. See noticeboard on
Smith's Lane.

Snitterfield Actioning Climate Change

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

SACC Community Cafe

First Sunday of the month, 2pm-4pm, Village
Hall. Ian Spiers 07818 447705

Snitterfield Crafters' Club

Wednesdays 9.30-12.30 Graham Simons
Room. £3 including refreshments.
www.snitterfieldcrafters.wordpress.com

Snitterfield WI

Meetings on the second Wednesday of the
month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.
www.snitterfield.com/WI

Sports Club 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. www.snitterfieldsportsclub.co.uk

Bellingring practice

Every Wednesday 5.30-6.30. St James the
Great Church

Thursday Club

First Thursday each month, 2.30pm,
Snitterfield Village Hall. Email: helen.hayter@
icloud.com, Tel: 07876 442726

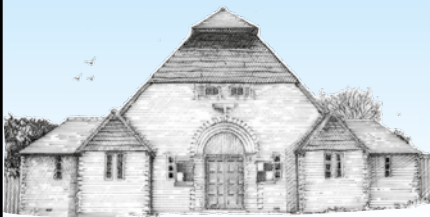
Available for hire

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: saust1@btinternet.com



The Attic Theatre and Tread the Boards Theatre Company
present

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS by Kenneth Grahame

at Snitterfield Sports Club for three outdoor
performances on Monday 31 August 12pm, 3pm, 6pm

After five months of lockdown hibernation the much loved characters of
Toad, Badger, Mole and Ratty return to delight audiences in this modern
adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's classic children's story. Toad has an
obsession with motor cars and, despite his friends' best efforts to cure him of
it, he gets himself into big trouble, much to the horror of the river bankers
and the joy of the evil Weasels of the Wild Wood.



This is a family production that will delight
all ages. Audiences will be seated in social
distant Pods of up to six to ensure they can
enjoy the performance with their household
bubble. Please note this is an outdoor
production so come prepared for the weather!

Visit www.theattictheatre.co.uk for more
information and to book tickets

Snitterfield's tree-mendous photography competition



This is the last edition before the end date for the *Snipe* Photography
Competition 2020. The theme for the competition is Tree-mendous. We would
love you to send us tree-related images photographed in the village area. These
can be landscapes, detail close-ups, abstracts, black and white or colour –
whatever takes your fancy and you really don't need to be an expert. You can
submit up to three photographs.

There are two categories, Adults and Under 18. Entrants under 18 must
gain the permission of a parent or guardian to enter the competition. The
photographs should be sent as reasonably high-resolution jpgs (as good
quality as possible or they won't reproduce). The competition will be judged by
professional photographer Ed Tyler and the winning entries in each category will
be announced in the Winter 2020 edition of *Snipe*. There are prizes too! The
winners will each be awarded a lovely book about, guess what, trees!

So give it a go Snitterfield and take a wander around the village to inspire you.
Email your entries (including your name, phone number, the age category you
are entering under and where your subject matter is in the village) to
info@sallyhopkinson.co.uk at any point, but at the latest by 1 November 2020.



Fun creative learning

Fully qualified, experienced and caring staff
Excellent indoor and outside play facilities
Forest school
Government funded places
Open term time Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

For a visit, prospectus or more information please contact
Sarah Clark, Manager, 01789 731974, info@snitterfieldnursery.co.uk or
online at www.snitterfieldnursery.com

We're a not-for-profit organisation! OFSTED Registration: EY450987 Company Number: 07672389

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