

THE RENHOLD MAGAZINE



A moving Remembrance service for D Day was held at the War Memorial at 2pm on June 6th.

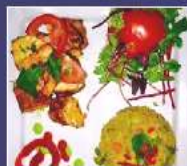
JULY 2024



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DIARY JULY 2024

School Dates 2024:

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

Notable Renhold dates & events:

(RVH = Renhold Village Hall)

(CH=Chapter House at All Saints Church)

Thurs.4th July	WI Painting demonstration 7.30pm Chapel	p8
Mon.8th July	Creative Club 7.30pm CH	
Fri. 19th July	Tibbs Support Group 11am Chapel	p15
Sat.20th July	Churchyard Clear up from 9.30am	
Sat. 10th Aug	All Saints Family car treasure hunt 11am	p19
Sun.11th Aug.	Funfest at RVH field 12-4pm	p19

Church cleaning rota:

Mon. 8th July	Judy Wootton and Pauline Capell
Mon. 22nd July	Jill Barrell and Ingrid Lennox
Mon.5th Aug.	Sally Pool, Peter Pool and Tessa Wood
Mon.19th Aug.	Christine smith and Jill Burrows

Please be aware that all items for inclusion in the magazine - articles, notices of events, reports on activities, etc, need to be with the editorial team by **the 12th of the month** at the latest.

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Frontispiece: Remembrance Service 80th anniversary of D Day

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EDITORIAL By Anne Grant

In the last month we have received the news that there will be an election on July 4th. This is a lot sooner than anyone had predicted and thrown all the politicians into frantic point scoring exercises. Many are disenchanted with politicians generally and disinclined to vote. This would be a great shame as it is a privilege not to be taken for granted and was a hard won battle to have the right to vote especially for women. I don't think you have the right to complain about governments if you haven't exercised your right to vote.

I went to hear Richard Fuller our current Conservative speak recently. It is the first time I have heard him speak and was impressed at how clearly he summarised the events of the last few years and the direct answers he gave to the questions posed. It is easy to forget that recovering from Brexit and reestablishing trade agreements was not something that happened overnight. The pandemic and the difficulties of lockdown and the incredible search for the first vaccine to deal with the Covid virus were closely followed by all the support we gave to the Ukrainians in fighting Russia. All these things were a major drain on our reserves and it is going to need careful handling to recover, whoever wins the election.

Whatever your political inclination, our next MP will need to fight passionately working together with Tom Wootton, our Mayor, to encourage EWR to reconsider their route, to avoid the destruction of our countryside and the ongoing threat of excessive house building. The change of constituency boundaries can be seen on p10 and remember you need photo ID in order to place your vote on 4th July

We have been told that our Post Office is to close on July 25th. The shop will remain open and Robert will still be there to serve us and take the mickey as only he can. When he eventually leaves he will leave a big hole in the village. The news from the Post Office can be read on p8 along with details of neighbouring post offices.

Bedford Borough Council has opened a Customer Hub to give personalised assistance, digital support and access to valuable resources in order to foster greater community engagement (see p16). For those who are diffident about engaging online this could be a great help.

The D-Day 80th Anniversary Service of Remembrance and Thanks held at the war memorial was very moving (see front cover). Rev. Ian led the service and the haunting notes of the trumpet, played by Christine Smith, contributed to the solemn atmosphere. Paul Sawford proudly held the banner and wreaths were laid including one by some of the children from the school.

There is an article from Carers in Bedfordshire advertising support for carers and former carers many of whom meet up every Monday for a coffee and a chat. It is 20 years since this organisation was founded and goes from strength to strength supporting unpaid family carers. (see p12). Tibbs dementia is starting up a support group in Renhold run by Teresa Moon (see p12 and 15) and everyone is welcome who may want to find out information about dementia and enjoy a sociable cuppa and a cake and the activities. Last month over £350 for church funds was made from the organ and flute concert which was enjoyed by many. Be sure to read the Wild about Renhold page which reveals some unusual wildlife this month.

There is much to look forward to like the Family car treasure hunt to be held on 10th August (p19). There is also a Funfest at Renhold Village Hall field 12-4pm on Sunday 11th August (p19). and a classic car show at Kimbolton on Sunday 14 July (p26). Remember next month will be the double issue for August and September. Enjoy your read.



Martyn Smith

Arboriculturist

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All Saints Church Services for July 2024
Services led by Revd Ian Smith except where stated

Wednesday 3 rd July	11:30am	Prayers for the Community
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Sunday 7 th July TRINITY 6	11:00am	Parish Communion
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Wednesday 10 th July	7:30pm	Night Prayer -
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Sunday 14 th July TRINITY 7	11:00am 6:00pm	Family Worship Evensong (BCP) with hymns
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Wednesday 17 th July	10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP) <i>Revd David Powell</i>
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Sunday 21 st July TRINITY 8	11:00am	Parish Communion <i>Revd Jennie Cappleman</i>
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Wednesday 24 th July	10:00am	Compline BCP
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Sunday 28 th July TRINITY 9	11:00am	Parish Communion
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Wednesday 31 st July	7:30pm	Communion with Prayers for Healing
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Sunday 4 th August TRINITY 10 (Lammas)	11:00am	Parish Communion
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Wednesday 7 th Aug	11:30 am	Prayers for the community
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DAILY OFFICES – Revd Ian says the Daily Office in church at the following times. You are warmly invited to join him at this short service.

EACH MONDAY	9.30am	Morning Prayer
EACH THURSDAY	4.30pm	Evening Prayer

Register

Funeral	05.06.24	Janet Pullinger (Norse Road)
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Letter from the Vicar

Dare I say “I think summer may have arrived!” Risky I know, but we have just had a number of reasonable days and the forecast on my BBC weather App (other weather forecast providers are available of course) is suggesting a passage where it is fairly settled... could this be summer? I am not confident enough to suggest a “3-letter word” meaning to grill over charcoal outdoors (I think you know what I mean), but I have a good feeling! On reflection, as with all things, the weather needs to be balanced, it is OK for some of us to enjoy soaking up the rays and basking in the heat, but our natural environment and our “eco-system” requires a few drops of the wet stuff too. We are all too aware of the potential for water restrictions, failing crops, failing fruit harvests and drying of lawns in prolonged hot and dry periods, so I will not complain over a few wet days (I would prefer nights but can live with a few wet days too); and being selfish, we have recently had the front garden reseeded with the young blades of green grass starting to come through, so I could use a few summer rain showers!

I know I keep saying this but “time is really flying again!” I sit here writing for this edition - it is early June and by the time I start to think about the next edition the school year will have ended, the children will be on holiday, many people will have enjoyed their vacation and returned, and the nights will be drawing in again; I know what a ray of sunshine I am! But in this fairly short passage of time so much will have taken place – Life is so busy and the cycles and seasons seem to merge into a blur at school, at work, on the land with the tending of the crops and pending harvest, in our homes and in our church.

Nothing stays the same for long, which is a good thing in many ways, and in church we are trying to progress and develop not only our regular worship, but also the social and community activities we offer. Our Coffee shop on the second Saturday in the month is well established now, and is an incredible opportunity for us to meet new people within our community. During June we hope to restart our handbell-ringing group after a break to have a new bell cast to complete the set, which we are very excited about. On the second Monday in each month the “Crafty Club” meet for an evening of fellowship and creativity; and I hope that before the end of this term we will be able to offer a “youth group” facility initially intended for our young people aged between 11-13 years. Our reaching out is not only aimed at the young; and we are hoping that in the near future we will be able to offer a regular “open door, chat and cuppa session” where people of any age can drop in to chat, play games and spend time with others in a safe place, over a few cups of tea etc. – please watch this space and local noticeboards for more information.

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

Take care, stay safe, enjoy your summer and God Bless...

Rev. Ian

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE POST OFFICE

Dear Customer, Branch Unplanned Closure Renhold Post Office 42-44 Hookhams Lane, Renhold, Bedford, MK41 0JU. **THE SHOP HOWEVER WILL REMAIN OPEN**

We are writing to inform you that, regrettably, following the resignation of the postmaster and the withdrawal of the premises for Post Office use, the above branch will be closing on Thursday 25 July 2024 at 13:00. At this time, therefore, we are not looking to replace Renhold Post Office. If you have any questions you would like to raise about this matter, please write to me via the National Consultation Team at the address shown at the end of the letter. Please note that your comments will not be kept confidential unless you expressly ask us to do so by clearly marking them "In Confidence". We apologise for the inconvenience the closure may cause. We hope that our customers will continue to use Post Office services and details of alternative Post Office branches in the area are shown below (contact us at comments@postoffice.co.uk . Call 03452 660115
Registered Office 100, Wood Street, London EC2V 7ER)

Church Lane Post Office

The Co-operative Food
105-109 Church Lane
Bedford MK41 0PW

Services

Offers similar services however excluding Euro/
Dollar Travel Money

Access

This branch has a wide automatic door and level
access at the entrance

Opening times

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday	07.00-22.00
Wednesday	07.00-10.00 & 12.00-22.00
Sunday	07.00-17.00

Putnoe Street Post Office

Putnoe Daily News
14-16 Library Walk
Bedford MK41 8HF

Services

Offers similar services with the addition of a
comprehensive range of Travel Money, Vehicle
Tax and On Demand Travel Insurance

Access

This branch has a wide door and level access at
the entrance.

Opening times

Monday to Saturday	07.00-18.00
Sunday	07.00-10.30

Renhold WI July meeting

Our next visitor to WI is Michael Peachy who will be giving a fun oil painting demonstration with a humorous talk on his life as an artist. We have met Michael before when he managed to produce some amazing artwork with the assistance of members of the audience who didn't have a clue! The meeting is on Thursday 4th July which is Election Day, so we will be in RENHOLD CHAPEL as the village hall is being used for voting. We meet at 7.30pm. Guest admission £5, including refreshments. Regards Jan Tozer, Treasurer.

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Change of Constituency Boundaries Peter Norris

The latest review of constituency sizes by the Boundary Commission will come into effect for the upcoming General Election on 4 July. The changes affecting the Parish of Renhold are as follows:

- North East Bedfordshire will be renamed North Bedfordshire.
- Cranbourne Gardens (513) will move from Bedford to North Bedfordshire constituency.
- The Spires (473) and Aspire (545), currently NE Beds will move to Bedford constituency.
- The numbers in brackets were the sizes of the electoral rolls at the May 2023 Local Election.

The magazine will need to recognise we have 2 MPs – with the MP for Bedford looking after over a thousand Renhold parishioners.

Please remember photo ID has to be presented before being allowed to vote.

History lesson part 2 sent in by Julie Roberts

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while, and thus the rhyme, “Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.”

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, “bring home the bacon.” They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and “chew the fat.” Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the “upper crust.” Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up, creating the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive, so they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, saved by the bell or was considered a dead ringer. And that's the truth. **Now, whoever said History was boring?**

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Carers in Bedfordshire

Carers in Bedfordshire are celebrating their 20th birthday this year. They started small but have grown to now supporting over 12,000 carers across the county. They provide support in a variety of ways but one of the most popular is peer support. Spending time with other carers and former carers, sharing experiences and stories can be most beneficial and provide some welcome respite from what can be a very demanding and relentless role.



One of these groups is the Bedford Monday Morning Drop-In group which is volunteer led and is always welcoming new members. They are a group of current and former carers who meet weekly at the Carers in Bedfordshire offices. They enjoy some talks, games, activities and refreshments. If you are a carer, or former carer you would be most welcome to come along. The group meets 10am – 12 every Monday (except Bank holidays) at Emerald Court, Pilgrim Centre, Brickhill Drive, Bedford MK41 7PZ, Tel. 0300 111 1919, www.carersinbeds.org.uk.

Nicky Talacko

Marketing and Engagement Lead

Tibbs Dementia Taster Event

There was a great turnout for the Tibbs Dementia Foundation Taster Event, hosted at Renhold Baptist Chapel on 19th May. A mix of people with dementia, carers and helpers enjoyed cake and companionship, with laughter and singing thrown in. Pauline Capell ran a Cognitive Stimulation Therapy exercise, and Sarah Russell led the Music4Memory session and talked about all the various activities offered by Tibbs Dementia Foundation in Bedford.



This event will be repeated on the third Friday of the month from 11am to 12.30pm. Feel free to just turn up at Renhold Baptist Chapel, though Teresa Moon will be happy to hear from you if you would like to attend - either as a participant or a helper. (07930 999573 or teresa.moon@tibbsdementia.co.uk)

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



From Your Local Village Agent

Greetings from your Village Agent, Lydia Wright. I am here to help vulnerable people in Bedford Borough villages to access the services and support they might need. These services are free (funded by Bedford Borough Council) and I can visit you at home. Call me free on 0800 039 1234.

Attendance Allowance

Do you need extra funds due to poor health, and get confused with the paperwork? Give me a call and I will guide you through the process and help fill in the forms.

Do You Need Help with Transport?

Bus Pass Applications

Do you need help to apply for or renew a bus pass? I'm happy to assist.

Do You Struggle with Mobility?

You might be eligible for a Blue Badge - I can help you to fill in the application form.

Do You Need Access to Disabled Toilets?

Some disabled toilets can only be used by people who have a special RADAR key. If this would be helpful to you, I can provide one.

Are You Eligible for Pension Credit?

The minimum income for people over State Pension age should be between £169.50 to £221.20 per week if you live alone, or more as a couple. Ask me for a confidential review of your finances if you think your income might fall below this amount.

Would a helpful gadget make your life easier?

We have a range of handy gadgets to distribute free of charge to people who may be struggling to manage, including a jar opener; handy reacher; automatic night light; CO2 Monitors; extra-long shoe horn or seat belt helper. Just call and ask for the item you need.

Contact your Village Agent on Freephone 0800 039 1234

(This is an answerphone service, so please be ready to leave your name, address & telephone number, & we will aim to call you.)



Renhold Village Clubs 2024

Group	Contact	Tel.	Day	Time	Place
Bridge Club-No Fear	TBA		Every Mon. Every Fri.	9.45-1pm	St. Marks Church Brickhill
Brownies	Kim Dellar	267150	Every Thurs.	6.15-7.45pm	RV Hall
Carpet Bowls	Chick	838651	Every Mon. Every Wed.	2-4.00pm 7-9.00pm	RV Hall
Chapel Coffee morning	Albert Brown-ing	772689	2nd Tues.	10-12noon	Chapel
Creative Club	Teresa Trangmar	07788402441	2nd Mon.	7.30-9.00pm	Chapter House
Luncheon Club	Yvonne Potter	771495	2nd Wed.	12.30 for 1pm	
Pudding Club for carers	Anne Grant	771811	1st Tues.	2-3.30pm	4, Brookside
Reading Group	Pauline Capell	771858	1st Fri.	4pm	1, Church Close
Renhold pre-school group	Vicky Thompson	771724		Term time	
Stitchers	Jackie Croot	870271	3rd Thurs.	10.30-12.30pm	Chapter House
Table tennis	TBA		Every Mon. Every Wed. Every Fri.	1.30pm 10.30am 10.30am	Church Lane Com-munity Centre
Tang Soo Do	TBA		Every Mon-day	6.30-8pm	RV Hall
Total Warrior Kickboxing	TBA		Every Tuesday	5.45-8.15pm	RV Hall
Wl.	Jan Tozer	297456	1st Thurs.	7.30pm	RV Hall
Yarn Craft Group	Marion Sutton	217647	Alternate Fridays	10am-12.30pm	Wilden Village Hall

Mobile Library Times July and August 2024

<u>Location of Mobile Library</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>
Renhold - Green End	10:00 - 10:15	9, 23	6, 20
Lay by - Salph End	10.20 -10.35	9,23	6, 20
Renhold - Home Close	10:40 - 10:55	9,23	6, 20
Renhold - Ravensden Road	11:00 - 11:15	9,23	6, 20

Times will vary slightly due to traffic conditions, etc.

For further information about the mobile library service please contact Kempston Library tel. 01234 276453

North Beds Ramblers

July Walks

6th pm Blunham, 6.6 miles

13th am Wootton 12 miles, or pm Marston Vale Forest Centre 6 miles,

20th pm Harlington 7 miles

27th am Woburn 6 miles or pm Woburn 6 miles or all day 12 miles

Contact; Margaret Sawyer 07780933729 Facebook; North Beds Ramblers

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

Tibbs Support Group in Renhold

Tibbs Dementia Foundation is a Bedfordshire-based charity whose aim is to help people to live better with dementia. We offer a wide range of quality, relevant services, activities, and opportunities for people at all stages of dementia (or mild cognitive impairment) living in the community, as well as their family carers and supporters.

Tibbs will be running a regular “cuppa, cake and chat” event at Renhold Baptist Chapel on the third Friday of the month from 11am to 12.30pm. It will be a relaxed opportunity to enjoy a range of fun and interesting activities, including our popular Music 4 Memory, and fun exercises for the brain. There will also be a chance to gather information, and to find out how Tibbs can support you. No need to book - just come along.

We'd also love to see you if you can spare a couple of hours to help us at the event, make teas, or make us a cake! **So come along and join us.**

Fri 19th July 11am to 12.30 at Renhold Baptist Chapel All welcome.

Teresa.Moon@tibbsdementia.co.uk or phone 01234 210993

Jokes

Your mother has been with us for 20 years “ said John. “Isn’t it time she got a place of her own?” “My mother? ”replied Helen. “I thought she was your mother”.

According to unofficial sources a new simplified income tax form contains only four lines: 1. What was your income for the year? 2. What were your expenses? 3. How much have you left? 4. Send it in.

Bedford Borough Council to Launch New Customer Hub Offering Enhanced Services and Support



Bedford Borough Council is proud to announce the upcoming launch of the **Bedford Borough Customer Hub**, a new initiative aimed at providing comprehensive support and services to residents. Situated at 2 Horne Lane, Bedford, the town centre hub opened its doors to the public on Wednesday 19 June.

The Customer Hub will serve as a one-stop destination for residents seeking assistance with Council services. The **customer service team** will be readily available to address enquiries and provide guidance on various municipal matters. From resolving queries to offering advice, the team is committed to ensuring a seamless experience for visitors.

In addition to in-person assistance, the Council is introducing a revamped and **enhanced digital support** offering at the Hub. Visitors will have access to **computers, free Wi-Fi, and phones**, facilitating easy communication and online transactions. To assist those needing extra guidance with online services, floor walker digital assistants will be on hand to provide personalised support.

Recognising the importance of digital literacy, the Hub will also offer opportunities for customers to enrol in "**learn from scratch**" courses. These courses are designed to help individuals who are new to digital services navigate online platforms effectively, empowering them to engage with Council services with confidence.

Bedford Borough Customer Hub will also host partner organisations, such as the **Citizen's Advice Bureau**, on a regular basis. These partners will offer a wide range of advisory services, including **budgeting assistance** and specialised support, such as **independent domestic violence advice**.

The Council continues to be here to support all residents online and over the phone. The easiest way will still be to report many issues online through our 24/7 save time and do it online system. However, for those that need additional support or digital assistance we will be introducing the offer of a **face-to-face support**. The **opening hours** for the Bedford Borough Customer Hub will be as follows:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Wednesday 10:00am - 5:00 pm Sarah Gallagher Portfolio Holder

Contact: email customerservices@bedford.gov.uk or call Customer Services on 01234 267422.



All Saints Church Renhold

The floral arch was created by students during a Wedding Flower Design workshop, hosted by The School of Sustainable Floristry, which is led by Cissy Bullock and takes place at Howbury Farm Flowers in the village. The flowers were all grown at Howbury and the students were taught sustainable, foam-free methods to create the arch and the pedestal and urn arrangements inside the church. The School teaches an artistic style of floristry, with sustainable techniques and using seasonal flowers and foliage grown at the Walled Garden at Howbury.

Lucy Copeman

(photo by Cissy Bullock)



Hilary Eltringham has left the far end of her garden to its own devices. The result is a lovely display of wild flowers which look perfect in that setting.

Anne Grant



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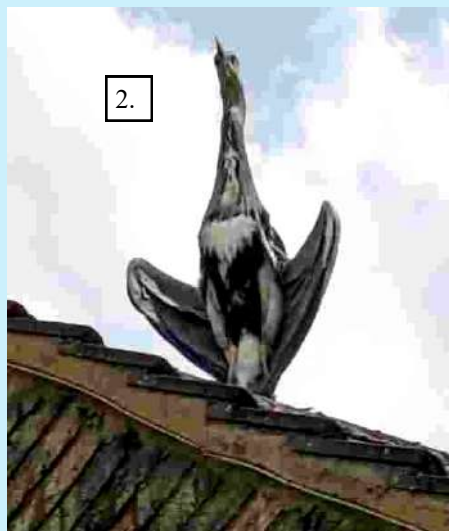


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WILD ABOUT RENHOLD (see opposite)



WILD ABOUT RENHOLD by Tony Ploszajski

Green Woodpecker

Green Woodpeckers are a relatively familiar sight around Renhold. This one appeared on our lawn and spent an extended time feeding on the abundant ants. Ants form the main part of the species' diet and it has evolved a specially adapted tongue to help it in this regard. In common with other woodpecker species, the Green Woodpecker's tongue is long (10 cm) and has to be curled around its skull. It is made sticky by secretions from enlarged salivary glands so when it probes into the ground at an ants nest with its powerful bill, it can lick up adult ants and their larvae.

Grey Heron

Elaine Gaskell sent this striking image of a Grey Heron on a house roof in an extraordinary pose! The bird has spread its wings and exposed its breast feathers to catch the sunlight. Whilst Cormorants do this to dry their feathers after immersion in water, Herons hunting techniques tend to involve just their featherless legs and bills getting wet, so what's going on here? Well, it's actually a clever ploy where the heat causes feather parasites to come to the surface, where they can more easily be picked off when the bird preens itself.

Apple Ermine moth caterpillar

Marie Baird photographed this Apple Ermine moth caterpillar with its larval web and numerous unhatched eggs. As the name suggests, the main food plant of the larvae is apple trees and they can be a significant pest for food crops. The caterpillars feed gregariously in a silken web in May and early June. The larvae vary as they grow from dark grey to pale grey and the size of black spots changes. When they hatch as adult moths they have white wings with small black spots.

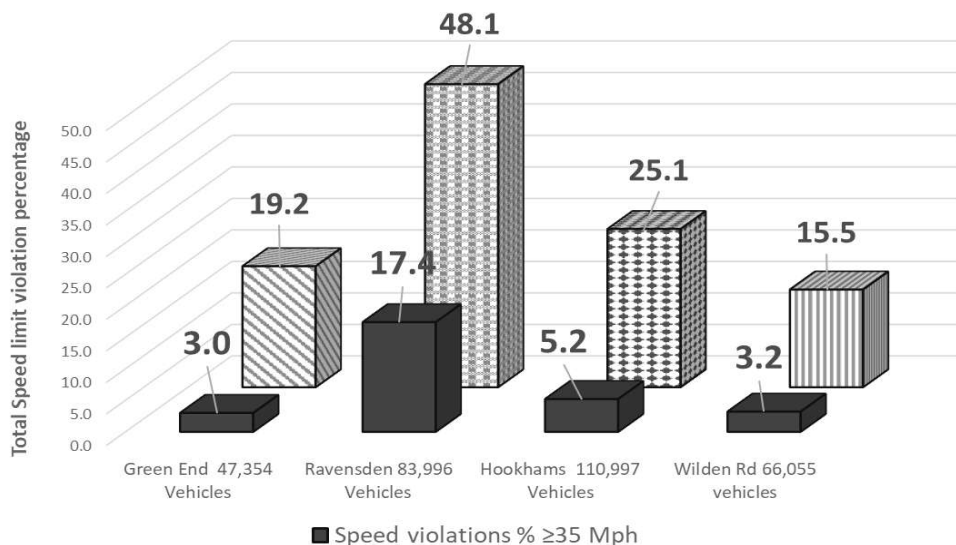
Flower Crab Spider

Marie also spotted this Flower Crab spider on a white daisy in her garden. Amazingly, the Flower Crab spider can alter the colour of its body to match its surroundings and to hide from prey, hence its white colouration on the daisy. Unlike many spiders, flower crab spiders don't spin webs to trap insects. Instead, they ambush their prey often lying in wait on foliage for unsuspecting bees, moths and other insects that come to feed on flowers. Their front legs are larger and more powerful than their back legs, resembling crabs claws, hence their name.

Garden Snail

Pauline Capell photographed this Garden Snail, an all-too-common sight for gardeners in this rather damp spring and early summer, along with the numerous slugs! When Garden Snails are moving you can see their head which has two long tentacles, each with an eye at the tip. Below the eye stalks are two shorter tentacles which help the snail to feel where it is going. The mouth is situated between these two lower tentacles. During the winter, garden snails hibernate, often in large groups, under stones and in crevices of trees. They seal themselves into their shells with a layer of mucus which hardens to form a cap.

Speed Indicator Device data March 2024



Watch Scheme Conference 29.05.24 – attended by Renhold Speedwatch Coordinator, Keith Herkes & Parish Cllr Julie Roberts – full notes on Parish Council website

Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commission encouraged all parishioners to look at 'Safer Streets' for advice, and to sign up to Beds Connected www.bedsconnected.co.uk. This is the community messaging system for the whole of Bedfordshire. Registration is free. Receive news & appeals, local crime information & prevention advice. The predominant age of those killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents are children & those age 24-30yrs. The aim is to make roads safer by working in conjunction with Bedford Borough Council, Highways, Fire & Ambulance Services & schools

Cyber Protect & Prevent Officer detailed half of businesses, & a third of charities, report having experienced some form of cyber security breach in the last 12 months. We should all take steps to ensure that our data is safe. On **Facebook**, **make sure that settings are on 'private', discourage others from tagging us with posts showing you are away from your home**

Much data could be gathered from just a first name & a Facebook 'Like'? A video showed a coffee shop asking customers to Like their Page and give their first name. Scary amounts of personal data was gathered, which was written on their takeaway cups, in the time it took to whip up a cappuccino.

Check email addresses for data breaches by going to www.haveibeenpwned.com. Passwords should be changed.

If at all possible do not allow buyers on Marketplace to enter your home, they may be checking what can be stolen

All the Watch Groups, Speed, Street, Horse & Dog were thanked for helping the police, it is important to them.

Borough Council Report

June/July Update

Hello Everyone, welcome to the June/July Borough update. Firstly, if you are not yet aware (!), Rishi Sunak has called a snap General Election for the 4th July 2024.

In order to vote you need to be a British citizen, over 18, registered to vote and have an approved form of identity to present at the polling station if voting in person. Please check Register to vote - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) for your eligibility and to register on-line. Please check Accepted forms of photo ID | Electoral Commission for information on ID required

Boundary changes have moved constituencies for our Parish: Those who live in Cranbourne Gardens, currently represented in the Bedford Borough Constituency by Mr Mohammed Yasin, will move to the new constituency of North Bedfordshire.

Those who live on the Spires and Aspires estates, currently represented by Mr Richard Fuller will move to Bedford Borough.

Your polling station address should be printed on your polling card, which is delivered by post before an election.

If you don't have a polling card, you need to contact your appropriate electoral services team. You can call Bedford Borough Council on **01234 718078** or **visit their website**.

Polling stations are open from 7am to 10pm.

On a different topic, I had a long conversation with our local Rural Policing officer and he was delighted to inform me that the team are expecting three new Police Constables and two PCSOs to join their team which has doubled the manpower working out of Riseley Police Station. We have already seen increased patrols through the village, on the Norse Rd estates and witnessed two officers responding to reports of illegal motorbikes on the Spires estate patrolling on their own off-road motorcycles!

We are also part of a parish-wide network which will discuss local issues and policing priorities for our area. If you need to report anything to the police that is not an emergency, please either phone 101 or report online Report a crime | Bedfordshire Police (beds.police.uk) For any emergencies or crime in progress please phone 999 and ask for the police.

Thank you for your continued support, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help,

Nicola Gribble, Ward Councillor for Renhold & Ravensden

Nicola.gribble@bedford.gov.uk tel. **07955530234**

Facebook: Cllr Nicola Gribble



Renhold Parish Council June Update

RENHOLD POST OFFICE CLOSING

As detailed elsewhere in the magazine, the Parish Council were recently notified by Royal Mail of Robert resigning as Renhold Postmaster and that the Post Office in Hookhams Lane will be closing on Thursday 25 July 2024 at 13:00. The Parish Council would like to recognise Robert's service to the Renhold community over so many years, and thank him very much for this. The shop will remain open and Robert will still be there to serve us for a while longer.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP LATEST

At the May Parish Council meeting, Nicky Gribble was elected Chair with Martin Warwicker elected as Vice Chair. The Parish Council currently only have seven serving Parish Councillors out of nine, so if you would like to join the Parish Council please remember you are most welcome. To find out more please do get in touch with Lizzie (details below) or any current Parish Councillor if you are thinking of joining, have any questions and would like to find out more. We would really like to hear from you.

EAST WEST RAIL CONSULTATION POSTPONED

Following the government announcement to hold a General Election, East West Rail have communicated in a recent update that in order that East West Rail complies with pre-election guidelines, the Statutory Consultation will now not be able to begin in June as originally planned. They detail they will update about next steps as soon as they can. The Parish Council continue to monitor all East West Rail communications closely as well as Parish Councillors attending the recently held local engagement events. If more up to date information is communicated to the Parish Council, or shared with the East West Rail local stakeholders group that the Parish Council attend, this will be circulated across the usual various communication platforms, Parish Council website (<https://renhold-pc.gov.uk>), village circulation list, Parish Council meeting and future magazine articles.

VILLAGE CIRCULATION LIST REMINDER

Do not forget if you are not already on the village circulation list, it is an easy way to keep up to date with a range of Parish Council and village related matters from road closures to consultation information, plus much more. To be added to the list please contact Lizzie, Parish Clerk on: parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE VILLAGE

Renhold Parish Councillors often get up to a range of quite varied activities as a Councillor, as you will see being happy to get stuck in. Thanks to Julie and Nicky for spending some time painting the village sign oak post and the bench on the Green. The local authority are due to be installing a pole in the highways verge at Water End, which will allow a community safety camera to be mounted here. This work has been funded jointly by the Parish Council and Borough Councillor Ward Fund to minimise antisocial behaviour being experienced in this part of the village. The weather conditions this season have been challenging for grass cutting in some areas of the village. The Parish Council have continued to monitor this important area of work closely, liaising regularly with the contractors. Councillors Rayner, Brunsdon and Gribble recently attended a site walk of the Orbit development with the Property manager Justin Stevens. Items covered including vehicle parking on paths, community safety work, a range of grounds maintenance related items, fly-tipping, service charge costs as well as adoption of the development. Councillors Gribble and Roberts attended the Village Hall Annual General Meeting.



RAVENSDEN ROAD SPEED LIMIT REQUEST UPDATE

A site meeting took place with Councillor Nicky Gribble, the Renhold Community Speedwatch coordinator Keith Herkes, alongside Andy Prigmore, Bedford Borough Council Manager for Traffic Operations to look at the Parish Council request for an extension to the 30mph limit up to the parish boundary at Ravensden Road. Following a thorough review of the site lines on the ground, it was agreed the visibility splay is not sufficient to enable an extension. Consideration was given to what other measures could be installed to reduce the highway speeds at this location. Village gates are being pursued, alongside suitable options being looked at to enhance this entrance to the village, to prompt drivers to slow down, including clearer markings on the road with this work to be funded by the local authority.

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR LATEST

Work has continued with ongoing dialogue between all key stakeholders: Community Safety Officers at local authority, community local police team, Borough Councillor, Parish Council plus the local residents. This collaborative working has now ensured that Bedford Borough Council will be installing a CCTV camera following an onsite assessment carried out by the Community Safety Team. The camera will be on Pedley Way to allow coverage of footpaths and the nearby courts, with appropriate signage as well being provided by the Borough Council and local police.

Please remember that if you are experiencing antisocial behaviour, it is important to report it, so that steps can be taken to support those impacted. This can be done directly to the Borough Council, local police community teams or via the Parish Council who are happy to follow up on your behalf.

ANGLIAN WATER WORKS – EXPECT LOCAL DISRUPTION

Works are taking place to replace 10km of water pipes between Ravensden and Keysoe. The project begins on 17th June, expected to run into November. If you would like to find out more about the work, including to view the diversion routes please head to the dedicated web page for the project: [tps://www.anglianwater.co.uk/your-local-area/report-an-issue/additional-contact?alertId=7cbeed76-2ac1-41b1-9b08-4ed2935a3537](https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/your-local-area/report-an-issue/additional-contact?alertId=7cbeed76-2ac1-41b1-9b08-4ed2935a3537)

If there are any questions about this project or business plan, to get in touch please use: public.affairs@anglianwater.co.uk.

REPORTING ISSUES – WHERE TO RAISE THEM

The Parish Council are mindful that it can be difficult to know where to report an issue, so here is some useful information on where it is best to send items to.

If you come across a highways issue on a road, footway, or a public right of way such as a footpath or bridleway then please report it to the local authority via the **highways.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk** or via the Borough Council website, where you will receive automatic updates.

If there is an environmental issue, such as litter, fly-tipping, noise, bins, graffiti, abandoned vehicles then please make contact with Bedford Borough Council via **environmental.helpdesk@bedford.gov.uk** or again via the Borough Council website: Bedford.gov.uk

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

*Please note that contact details have been updated for a number of Parish Councillors as well as the Parish Clerk as the Council have now fully moved over to Parish Council email addresses. A full list is available as usual in the Magazine directory, so do make a note of the best way now to contact Lizzie. Parish Clerk is on: **parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk**. For Parish Councillors the pattern is place their forename followed by **@renhold-pc.gov.uk***

RENHOLD PARISH COUNCIL 2024

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Lizzie Barnicoat

PO Box 1548, Bedford MK44 5AX

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

Councillor	Phone	e-mail
Susan Brunsden	266281	susan@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Fiona Cardinale	07762 881009	fiona@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Margaret Dean	771520	margaret@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Nicky Gribble	771994	nicky@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Darren Rayner	07825 950673	darren@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Julie Roberts	07766 478974	julie@renhold-pc.gov.uk
Martin Warwicker	07983 156845	martin@renhold-pc.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting dates & venues for 2024

Parish Council meetings now start at 7pm.

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

As always, if you wish to raise any ideas or make comments to the Parish Council, then please contact one of the Parish Councillors (see above or the new Parish Council website (renhold-pc.co.uk) for contact details) or contact Lizzie, Parish Clerk on 771702 or email parishclerk@renhold-pc.gov.uk

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RENHOLD CHAPEL

Sunday Services

Chapel Preachers

7th July	10.30am	Mr P Bridle	
14th July	10.30am	Mr A Dinnie	
21st July	10.30am	Mr A May	
21st July	4.00pm	Afternoon tea	Mr A Palmer
28th July	10.30am	TBA Open Air	Mr A Little

Renhold Chapel Notes

How do we define success? The world chooses a material definition – number of cars, size of house, etc. What is the plumb-line by which we measure not only a life of success, but also daily success? If we set the goal of one day standing before the God of the universe and hearing Him say, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant,” how do we reach that goal?

Thankfully God does not leave this as a mystery. His Word clearly states the standard of measure for our souls: “He has told you, O man, what is good and what Lord requires of you: but to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

At the end of the day, I can look back and check my day against this line. Was I just today? When I was given too much change at the store, did I return it? Did I run the traffic light when I should have stopped? Did I call sin “sin” today, or justify that “little white lie”?

Did I love mercy? When the man at church died, did I offer comfort to the family? When the driver cut me off at the light, was I offended and angry or was I merciful? When my friend asked for forgiveness, did I willingly give it?

Who was my God today? Did I spend more time in front of the TV than with my God? Did I walk with Him? Or did I just read His word? Have I conversed with Him today? Was I humble? Or did I walk into God’s presence with my list of wants? Did I seek His heart or mine?

Jokes sent in by Doug Marr

- Why don't pirates take a shower before they walk the plank? Because they just wash upon shore!
- A pair of cows were talking in the field. One says, “Have you heard about the mad cow disease that’s going around?” “Yeah,” the other cow says. “Makes me glad I’m a penguin.”
- Two Hollywood stars ran into each other at the door of their Psychiatrist’s office. “Hello there,” said one. “Are you coming or going?” “If I knew that “ said the other ,”I wouldn't be here!”
- At a party, a young wife admonished her husband, “That’s the fourth time you’ve gone back for ice cream and cake. Doesn’t it embarrass you?” “Why should it?” answered her spouse. “ I keep telling them it’s for you.”



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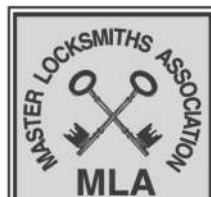
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Rev. Ian Smith

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772605

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Borough Councillors

Nicola Gribble

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Renhold Village Agent

Lydia Wright

0800 039 1234

Parish Councillors

See page 26

Neighbourhood Plan

Amanda Quince

870704

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- perennials, composts
- pots & garden essentials

... and all at extremely competitive prices!



BLOOMFIELD

WEALTH MANAGEMENT



Investment planning

Pension transfers & switches

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