HOLME WI

**March Meeting**

We were joined in March by Sarah Oliver, or Sarah the Plumber, as she is known. After several career changes Sarah decided she wanted to work for herself and chose to train as a plumber. After her training and working alongside an already well established plumber, she qualified and is now only one of 18 qualified women plumbers in the UK. Sarah gave us a talk about how mains water works coming into our homes and how central heating works. We all managed to keep up with how the water is pumped around our homes and how it is heated for hot water, stored in tanks (if you have one) and warms our homes through the central heating system. So far so good, all makes perfect sense, until we came to the toilet, when some of us couldn’t keep up. Who knew the toilet was so complicated, from the different types of flushes, keeping water usage to a minimum, which now seems to be around 4 litres per flush, to the mysterious inner workings of the cistern itself with all its working parts. Give me a central heating system to cope with any day, the toilet – forget it. Sarah gave us a great insight into plumbing, although it is best left to the professionals. There was however, lots of giggling over ‘gurgling pipes’ and ballcocks. A very well recommended speaker.

We held our Leap Year Quiz on Saturday 29th February 2020, when else, and had a great evening. Our quizmaster John really stretched our brains with his questions. Congratulations go to the winning team ‘The All Girls’ with Janice Osborn on a winning streak. A huge thanks goes to John Racey our quizmaster, Claire Neal and Caz Racey for organising the evening, and also to our team of volunteers Janice Robertson, Wendy Aylesbury, Jenny Dickman and Lorraine Ebeling. Thanks also go to those who donated raffle prizes.

Our quiz team ‘Holme in the Corner’ came first in the WI Spring Quiz, and yes, you guessed it, Janice Osborn was part of the winning team too. I do hope Janice has brought herself a lottery ticket.

Our April meeting will be What a Waste – should be interesting.

Please remember, if anyone is interested in joining please do come along and see what we are about and what we get up to. We meet on the first Thursday of every month at Holme Village Hall, Short Drove, Holme PE7 3PA at 7.30pm. For further information email WIholmevillage@gmail.com

Alison McGuinness

President

**Holme Youth Club**

By the time you read this we will be in the midst of the Easter break with an great unknown ahead of us.  We are carrying on as normal at the moment but would ask that you keep an eye on our Facebook page and watch out for e-mails to keep you updated with our plans.  With only four sessions planned for the first half term, because of the rescheduled bank holiday, it wont be too many sessions under scrutiny.

To date attendance has fallen slightly but hand washing and sanitising have been enforced so hopefully we will keep everyone fit and healthy.

Plans are afoot for our “day out” at the end of June or beginning of July so hopefully things will be back to normal by then and it will go ahead without a hitch.

Holme Youth Club meets on Friday evening from 6.30-8.30 pm in Holme Village Hall.   Membership is open to school years 5-10 who live in Holme and those who attend or have attended Holme School.  If you fit within this criteria and are interested in joining us please email reneemitcham@btinternet.com or check our Facebook page for details of open dates and pop along to check us out.

Holme Community Speedwatch

Our team of volunteers continue to try to educate drivers regarding speed limits through our village.  Its a daunting task as between 15% and 30% of drivers seem to think the speed limit doesnt apply to them or think they are not speeding, even though they are above the 30mph limit, because they are slowing down!  However there are still those who enter the village at 50 or so miles per house with no intention of slowing down.  We would urge “everyone” to please abide by the speed limits they are there for a very good reason “SPEED KILLS” and within the village there are quite a few pedestrians about who are being put at risk.

If you are interested in joining our team you need to be willing to give up a couple of hours of your precious time each month and be prepared to be trained by Cambridgeshire Constabulary then we can get you put onto the rota at a time that is agreeable to you.  Really interested?  Then please email reneemitcham@btinternet.com and we will start things moving and get you out there as a trained operator.

(Editors note: I have not heard from Renee, but assume both these activities are suspended for the time being)

Oh dear. The Coronavirus outbreak has meant that all Girlguiding activities in meetings have been suspended to keep everyone safe.

HOWEVER…Guiding does not stop just because meetings can’t take place! All sections are still doing badges which girls do at home, and some enterprising leaders are running virtual meetings over the internet. Our girls and leaders are both resourceful and resilient and will also hopefully be able to play a role in the community during this crisis.

The new 2 centre Ranger group got off to a good start and as soon as we are allowed to meet again will be moving forward. If your daughter aged 14 -18 would like to go along, speak to Moira Bussey. Her email is moira.girlguiding@outlook.com

Guides are a bit depleted at present as some appear to have left – please it would be nice for leaders to at least receive a text message if girls no longer wish to come to meetings. Also we can accept donated current uniform and pass it on, or advise where you can rehome it.

An extra helper is needed at Guides in Holme (Mondays, 7.15 till 9) as Linda - Unit leader- is a bit overstretched with a very busy new job and home life. Ruth our Unit Helper helps her but we need 3 adults in the team. If you could join them please contact me.

We have spaces in both Guides and Rangers on a Monday -you can find out more on the website [www.girlguiding.org](http://www.girlguiding.org)

I am more than happy to chat to anyone about getting involved in Guiding, or if you register on the website we will get in touch with you – My number is 01487 831451

 e: janiceo.girlguiding@gmail.com

Janice Osborn District Commissioner, Yaxley

**Holme Parish Council News**

The Coronavirus outbreak meant that the Council meetings planned for 17th and 24th March were cancelled. However the Council is still working and running as normally as possible.

Councillor Ed Whittaker is heading up a village support network during these unprecedented times so please do not hesitate to use it if you need anything, or to volunteer to help if you feel able to. Details elsewhere.

Planning matters will be dealt with remotely for the time being– this is not ideal but a practical solution. I will publicise any planning applications on Facebook and if you want or need to make comments please do so by email to me or direct to Huntingdonshire District Council.

Your Councillors and I are doing all we can to ride the storm. I am contactable by phone and email and I will be appearing on Facebook daily. The important thing is to keep everyone safe – if you are in an At Risk Group – please self-isolate. If you are poorly, even if it’s not that bad, stay at home and keep away from others until you are properly better as the person you infect may not be as lucky.

On the upside …my home and garden are bound to look more tidy this year!

**Assuming restrictions are lifted, The Annual Parish Meeting** has been scheduled for **14 May at 7pm –** all village organsiations are invited to attend, I will be sending out invitations individually soon.

**Next planned full Council meeting: Tuesday 19 May 2020 at 7.00pm** at the Village Hall. All welcome to listen, please let me know ahead if you wish to address the Council.

Holme Parish News can now be read online – on the Council website [www.holmecambsparish.org](http://www.holmecambsparish.org)

**Greetings from Becky**

In a long list of things they don’t teach you when training to be a priest the impact of the coronavirus is certainly one. It’s an unprecedented situation and the guidance changes so frequently it is hard to keep up. However, I would like to encourage you and say thank you. I have been told of so many circumstances where people have shown such kindness. I am so enormously encouraged by the care, love and warmth that I have heard of, shown especially to those most vulnerable in our community. Thank you! From offers of shopping, taking bins out, walking dogs whilst owners are unwell, a friendly word (at appropriate social distance), picking up newspapers, it has done vast amounts of good for many who find themselves even more isolated than usual.

You may have heard on the news that Church services are going to look a little bit different for a while, as public services are suspended until further notice but this is far from us shutting up shop. Church is often referred to as the building but is far more importantly a group of people of all different ages, traditions, backgrounds and understandings. We are a higgledy piggeldy bunch of humans who share in our love of Jesus. In the coming weeks and months know that we are still operating, we are more scattered than usual but we seek to creatively find ways to serve in our community, to equip people with resources to worship and share joy and light where ever we can.

To keep up to date on church activities, get your hands on resources including: online services, some helpful prayers, fun resources to keep the whole family entertained and the latest church information locally please visit: [www.allsainstsawtry.org.uk](http://www.allsainstsawtry.org.uk) or get in touch with me:

Email: revdyball@gmail.com

Mobile: 07444 574039

Office: 01487506217

Address: The Rectory, Church Causeway, Sawtry, PE28 5TD

**Journey to Easter**

As we approached Easter we find ourselves journeying through Holy Week with its many ups and downs. The roller coaster of Holy week has its climax on Easter Sunday but before we get to that joyful celebration we journey through the heartbreak of Good Friday. On that first Good Friday the hopes and dreams of Jesus’ believers, had everything they held dear crushed and taken away. Many of us may feel similar at this time, where are plans, expectations and normal life have changed dramatically, however just as it was then it is now and the story continues. On Easter Sunday we celebrate the risen Jesus which gave those first believers renewed hope, joy for the future and excitement of what was possible. What ever life holds for us currently we have that same Easter hope and assurance that Jesus is with us, in every circumstance no matter how challenging it feels.

I encourage everyone able, to help where they can, to look out for each other and in a world where hugs and handshakes are a no no, be reminded how powerful a smile is. 🙂

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

May the blessing of God almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and all those you love now and ever more. Amen

With love and continued prayers for you all, Becky

**Can They Find You in an Emergency**

Could I make a plea at this time,  that we consider our overstretched emergency services;

How fustrating to be called out to an address and arrive at the location not to be able to find the property. In an emergency minutes matter.

Please pause for a moment and ask yourself,  can my house number be seen?  We have some very strange numbering in the village and anything we can do to assist the emergency services, would be helpful.

Jan Weatheritt.

**A message from the Editor**

In these rapidly changing times nothing is certain. We may yet have problems getting even this copy of the Holme Parish News printed.

Please remember that information in this issue was correct at the time of printing and so you may need to check details with the various organisations and individuals involved, a list of their contact details is on the back page.

We are all doing our best and so please be patient with us as we cope with very unusual conditions. All the people involved with Holme Parish News are volunteers, many of us well within the age range of those considered vulnerable. So please, if you are unhappy or annoyed by anything, please treat us gently.

Thank you Barbara Lawes