**Holme Parish Council News**

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Speeding. June’s highest speed when the Speed Indicator was at Holmewood was 82mph! The average was over 40mph. PLEASE slow down. The 30mph limit applies all day and night every day of the week. We have been granted some funds for increased signage and some coloured tarmac to highlight the speed limited area, this should be appearing in the autumn, and the Police have indicated that they intend to do some speed monitoring too.

 I have been informed that in the autumn Holme Lane & Glatton Lane (the road between Glatton and Church St/Station Rd junction) is to be closed for resurfacing for a few days. I will keep you posted, here and on Facebook, about the date, and signs have to be put up in advance. The official diversion will be via Norman Cross. I also understand that the road over to Holme Lode crossing is to be patched and further afield the B660 at Great Gidding is being closed for resurfacing too. All information on the Cambs County Council website.

If restrictions are lifted – the next planned full Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday 15 September 2020 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, appropriate social distancing measures will be in place of course. If the government dictates that we are still not able to meet in person then another virtual meeting will be held, and if anyone wants to attend you are welcome – see noticeboards, website or contact me for details nearer the time.

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Mrs J Osborn - Parish Clerk. 01487 831451 holmeparishclerk@gmail.com

Holme WI July

Well, at least the summer is progressing, as unfortunately Holme WI hasn’t met up again yet and doesn’t look like it will for some time.  Our Committee has been busy keeping in touch with all our members and keeping them occupied.  Our Zoom coffee mornings are very well attended and keeping members in touch during these challenging times and our Book Club has even managed to meet in a socially distanced garden meeting, which is good news.  Committee recently arranged a card drop to our members with lovely positive wordings giving our members a much needed boost.  Our weekly quiz is still going strong, organised by one of our Committee members, luckily she hasn’t run out of themes for the quizzes yet.  Lovely e-cards are sent out on the day of what would be our actual WI monthly meeting which are lovely to receive and very much appreciated.  Members are still baking, knitting and sewing, we will have a lot of knitted squares to stitch together for blankets when we do get together.  Now we are keeping occupied and waiting for the day when we are able to meet up safely.  Our thanks go to all of those working tirelessly to keep us safe, all the emergency workers and NHS staff, as well as all key workers.  So, enjoy the summer, please stay safe and let’s hope things continue to ease and we will meet again soon.

Alison McGuinness
President

HOLME YOUTH CLUB

Sorry folks but we are still closed until further notice.  I am hoping we may be able to restart after the next half term in October but it will all depend on the social gatherings situation.

HOLME COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

We are back in business!

The suspension of Speedwatch was lifted on 6th July so we have sessions underway with volunteers eager to get back on duty as the speeding situation has not improved over the past few months.  Our fixed sign shows 51% of traffic coming into the village from Glatton direction were exceeding the speed limit with the highest speed being 82 mph.

Community Speedwatch is run by volunteers under the guidance and instruction of Cambridgeshire Police.  All those extra people who have enjoyed walking around the village and were horrified at the speed of the traffic rushing past them despite the increased number of pedestrians, may feel an urgent need to assist in slowing the traffic down.  If this is the case please get in touch with reneemitcham@btinternet.com who will arrange your training with Cambridgeshire Police and get you on the rota with the rest of our volunteers.  You would only need to give up an hour or so whenever you can to take part and it would make our campaign more effective if we have more sessions going on – but of course for that we need more volunteers so give it some thought and come and join us.

**Holme Church of England Primary Academy July update**

This has certainly been an extraordinary term. The children and staff have adapted to each new challenge admirably.

 Since the beginning of June some of our youngest pupils have returned to school. We have extensive cleaning and hygiene protocols in place to keep everyone safe.

The children have been taught in small groups called bubbles. We have staggered start and exit times as well as separate break times. The children eat their lunch in their classrooms and each bubble have their own toilet. We are currently not allowing visitors in the building.

The rest of the children have continued to access their education with tasks set by teachers via the school’s website. This situation has certainly challenged us to be creative to continue to ensure we provide excellent support for children and their families. This year’s transition between classes has looked very different. Our new reception starters have been unable to visit the school before the summer, so have had video calls with Mrs Banner instead.

For two days we will be allowing our Year 6 children on site so they can complete their time at Holme School properly. We have lots of fun activities planned for them. This year the Year 6 leaver’s assembly will not have a live audience- although we are planning to record this. I'm sure it will be as humorous and emotional as usual!

 We are looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to school in September.

Mrs Thomas

Interim Headteacher

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 **Holme Guides**

Hello again

We are very much hoping to return to face to face meetings in September and are beginning to make preparations at Commissioner level for how to assist leaders to handle this safely. Ultimately the decision is out of our hands and we await guidance from Government and from Girlguiding UK. In the meantime we are still here and the girls are keeping in touch with each other. Holme Guides joined with 1st and 2nd Yaxley Guides last week for a District-wide Zoom meeting and everyone enjoyed it from the 10 year olds to the leaders – you’d never believe the amount of different yellow items we had all found in our houses - the idea was to play “Snap!”…..it didn’t work!

The bad news is that Holme Guides are struggling to maintain numbers and I hate to say that the future of this Unit is at risk. If your daughter is (or will be soon) 10 to 14 and is thinking of joining in the next 6 months or so, please do either let Linda and or me know or register them on the website so that we have a good idea of the expected numbers which will inform our planning for the future. The Guides meet on Mondays 7.15 till 9pm at the village hall. Holme Guides was started under Viv Hempsell’s leadership in the 1970s – it would be so sad to have to close and I am reluctant but we may have no choice. It’s possible we might be able to make some changes to age range to include Brownie age (7-10) if I can attract additional leaders - I need your input please as to what Girlguiding could offer for Holme girls.

Holme Rangers (for age 14+) has already become a 2-centre group catering for girls in both Holme and Yaxley and meeting alternately in each village when they are able, and virtually when they are not. This is an active and fun loving group and if your daughter is 14-18 and would like to join please get in touch with Moira or register online.

You can find out more on the website [www.girlguiding.org](http://www.girlguiding.org) and when you’ve had a look there is a link to the registration site for girls to join at any age from 5 to 18, and also for adults to volunteer for whatever you have time for.

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

Janice Osborn District Commissioner, Yaxley Distric

email janiceo.girlguiding@gmail.com

:

janiceo.girlguiding@gmail.com

Linda Browning (Guides) ljbing.girlguiding@gmail.com

Moira Bussey (Rangers) moira.girlguiding@outlook.com

**The Benefice of**

**St. Giles Holme (with Conington), St. Nicholas Glatton**

**and All Saints’ Sawtry**

Hello Everyone,

I know this finds you all in different spaces of comfort, with many celebrating the continuing easing of Lockdown and many fearful of it. At the beginning of lockdown I used the analogy of us all being in the same storm but with different boats to navigate it with. This remains true, especially as we look to set anchor or moor our boats while the storm is still something unescapable. For some the storm is a force 12 hurricane and the pandemic very present and all-consuming with boats battered and in need of much repair, for others it is a very different experience and their boats intact. We have seen heartbreak, death, illness, loneliness, redundancies. We have also seen immense kindness, generosity, care, love and hope. As Christians in the church have held firmly onto the hope of Jesus and His light as a beacon to keep our focus and encourage forward momentum as we have journeyed together.

Kindness, a simple smile, a polite hello has gone a long way in providing a glimpse of light in very dark times. I have heard of people having a really tough day but had it brightened when walking someone stopped for a chat (socially distanced of course) or brought the bin in, or knocked to check in on them. These simple acts have made a huge difference. As lockdown continues to ease it would be great if these acts of kindness are not lost and the hustle and bustle of life not distract us from the community we can make a difference in.

You may have noticed that our church buildings have been opened for Quiet Prayer and Peaceful Reflection Monday - Saturday each one taking it in turn to host. The church buildings are set out marking appropriate social distance, prayer prompts displayed and candles to light. Many of those using the space have commented on the comfort being in the buildings has been. As we move into the school holidays the timing of opening may change and you can see the latest programme at [www.allsaintssawtry.org.uk](http://www.allsaintssawtry.org.uk)

Speaking of school holidays it is my hope and prayer that all the teachers, support staff and those working behind the scenes are able to take an opportunity to rest and be fully restored for what I am sure will be an interesting start of the new school year. What incredible work our school staff have been doing under these extraordinary circumstances- THANK YOU.

Our services remain online and take place using Zoom, we have Sunday 10:30am service, Monday morning prayer, bible studies and weekly coffee times. You can also find out talks and prayers online at [www.allsaintssawtry.org.uk](http://www.allsaintssawtry.org.uk) or to can Dial-a-Sermon by calling **01487 800141** (standard network rates apply). We are in the process of accessing and planning our return to church services in our buildings and hope to have more news on this by the next edition.

Every blessing, Becky