



News from Abthorpe

November 2009

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

About 3 years ago, a survey was carried out by South Northants Council to determine if there was a need for affordable housing in the village. Affordable housing is designed to allow people with strong connections to the village, e.g. they have grown up here, to continue to live in the village once they need their own home. The survey showed the need for only a couple of houses, too small to justify any development.

However, there are adjacent villages with similar requirements, so a scheme has been drawn up where one development will serve the needs of Wappenham, Bradden and Slapton in addition to Abthorpe. Initially sites in Wappenham were examined, but none was found to be suitable. Slapton and Bradden were too small but a site in Brackley Lane has now been identified for possible development. This is the un-used field opposite the garages. It is, of course, outside the village envelope so is not available for commercial development. The current owner would be paid a price above agricultural land but well below housing land, a condition which is essential to make the housing affordable. Although the field extends behind the existing houses in Brackley Lane, the development will not use that part of the field.

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The houses will be owned by Northamptonshire Rural Housing Association and will be either wholly rented or part owned/part rented. In the latter case, houses can only be sold back to the Housing Association (at market rates). Houses will be allocated by South Northants Council to a restricted list of those in need of housing who also satisfy local residence criteria. A perpetual covenant on the development will maintain these arrangements. The proposed development will be of about 10 units, a mixture of 2 bedroom houses and flats. A developer to build the properties has been identified and an option to purchase the land is in place.

The next step is for the developer to draw up detailed proposals. Villagers will then have an opportunity to give their views on these plans before the formal planning application is made. The Parish Council has given their preliminary views – a welcome for the proposal in principal in the belief that the village either grows or dies, concern about the size of the development in relation to the existing village and a need for adequate off-street parking of at least 2 cars per house. It has also been suggested that the part of the field which is not going to be built on could be used for a play area.

No firm dates can be given for the next step, but there could be further consultation in a few weeks time and everyone will be invited to have their say. The next Parish Council meeting on 14th December may be a suitable opportunity; if not a special meeting will be arranged. As well as commenting on the plans themselves, our views will also be sought on the criteria by which occupants are selected.

MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE

Liz and Barry Haycock have done it again. Their day-long 'At Home' has raised over £6,000 for this deserving charity. With their friends and supporters to help, a range of produce, crafts, gifts and good things to eat were on sale at their home from 10am to 9pm. This is the 27th year that Liz and Barry have opened their home in this way and this year's contribution has swelled the total raised in that time to almost £70,000. Liz would like to thank everyone who came and contributed to their success.

So make a note of the last Thursday in October on your calendar for next year.

CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES

New bus times apply from the beginning of November when Heyfordian Travel take over with a Banbury to Northampton service. The major gain is a new

bus, on Tuesday, to Towcester. It leaves Abthorpe at 10.25am and returns from Towcester at 12.45pm. The Northampton buses will now run at later times. On Wednesdays the bus leaves Abthorpe at 10.25am and reaches Northampton at 11.13am, leaving again at 1.30pm to reach Abthorpe at 2.30pm. This will help people in villages to our west, since it will serve them after 9.30am allowing older passengers to use their free bus pass. The Saturday bus now leaves at 11.05am, reaching Northampton at 11.53am. The return leaves at 3pm and gets back at 3.40pm. Times of the Thursday bus to Banbury are not altered (9.44 from Abthorpe, returning at 13.30 from Banbury), but Heyfordian is also taking over this service. The Friday shared taxi to Towcester is also unaffected. This leaves the village at 10.15 but must be booked in advance by ringing SMS Executive Travel on 01327 353118 by 6.00pm on the preceding Thursday. There are other changes in the area, including the loss of through buses from Towcester to Oxford and most of those to Brackley.

BONFIRE EVENTS

We've found two local bonfire and fireworks displays in the area for those who enjoy celebrating November 5th at a safe public display: The Old Crown at Ashton, near Stoke Bruerne, 6.15 and at Pattishall Parish Hall - well, in the field - School Road, Astcote, 6.30 for the bonfire to be lit around 7pm.

NEWS FROM THE NEW INN

TEL: 857306

A deserved accolade for Rob and his happy helpers is the return of the New Inn to the pages of the *Good Beer Guide* for 2010. Real ale pubs seem able to withstand the attrition rate of closures better than most. CAMRA has praised this 'quintessentially English pub', and the return of a dining service is much welcomed.

Chef Andy Houghton and his partner, Jackie Ayre, have really enjoyed their first few months at the pub and are keen to express their thanks for all the support they have received. As is probably well known now, Andy previously worked at the Fox and Hounds in Whittlebury and at John-Christophe Novelli's restaurant in Northampton. These skills are showing rewards as he is rapidly gaining a reputation for high quality, reasonably priced food, much of it locally sourced. Andy and Jackie live in Whittlebury, where their garden produces herbs and some vegetables for the restaurant. As well as supporting Andy and serving diners, Jackie has a 'day' job as an occupational therapist. They must both thrive on hard work.

The Christmas menu is now available either from the pub or at www.newinnatabthorpe.net. Although the restaurant will be closed on Christmas and Boxing days, Christmas Eve service will be as normal. It will also be open at New Year, with full plans to follow - the website will have the details.

And the good news is that the bar will be open for Christmas Day lunchtime this year.

The quiz evenings remain popular whilst raising funds for a local charity selected by the winning team. On 27 October the Runners Up (incidentally their team name, not position) squeaked home and donated £90 to Willen Hospice. The remaining £30 raised that evening was donated to the church in memory of Shen Kendall (see *People*). The next opportunity to stretch your brains will be on 24 November, and a bumper Christmas edition of the quiz has been arranged for Tuesday 15 December, when teams are invited to don seasonal fancy dress. Should be a good occasion for some pictures for Abtalk.

CAROL SINGING

For the last few years a hardy bunch has braved the December weather to sing carols around the village, finishing up serenading (interpret the term loosely) drinkers in the pub. They will be out again this year on Friday 18 December. The more people the

merrier, so do come and join in. This is no choir, so just bring your enthusiasm for a lusty sing - in tune or not - 6pm outside the Old School. The money raised is donated to the charity Crisis.

FILM ABTHORPE

After a break over the summer, Film Abthorpe returns to the Old School on Wednesday 18 November with a showing of Cinema Paradiso, Giuseppe Tornatore's heartwarming, nostalgic look at one man's love affair with film, and the story of a very special friendship. All welcome - bring a drink, a friend, or just turn up at 7.30.

NEWS FROM ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

The good news from the Church is that, for the first time for a little while, there will be a Remembrance Day service on Sunday 8 November at 11.00am. During this time without a vicar, John Riches will be leading the service which he intends should be a mix of tradition and a reflection of how Abthorpe people have been involved in two world wars and more.

[And a related event on 11 November itself is a concert given by The Para Band (Band of the Parachute Regiment) culminating with an act of remembrance at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Sheep St, Northampton.]

Harvest was a two-day celebration over the weekend of 3rd and 4th October,

with a supper in the Old School on Saturday evening attended by over 50, followed by a lively service in Church on Sunday. It followed a slightly different format this year, being led by Alison Robbins and Jan Miles in the interregnum. Apart from the six traditional hymns, there were modern intercessions of thanksgiving, a poetry reading by Angus Dyckhoff and a discussion on farming, sparked by a video, when Liz and Barry Haycock responded to questions about their work. Alison's quiz brought home the importance of bees to our food production. And not only was homemade bread topped with local honey from Alison's bees on offer, the service was rounded off with coffee and cake. The harvest gifts were destined for the soup kitchen in Northampton.

After the success of Cameo Opera's visit, The Watling Singers will be presenting a programme of Christmas music in the Church on Saturday 12 December at 7.00pm. Tickets will be brought round shortly.

And on Christmas Day itself Holy Communion will be celebrated at 9.00am.

The search for a new vicar is moving forward, if slowly. The vacancy is attracting some interest; the information pack about the parish which is sent to interested parties is on display at the back of the church.

The lucky tote winners since our last issue are: July, Graham Foster (£227.50); August, David Darling (£227.50); September, Rob and Barbara Smith (£230); and October, Bet Rush (£230).

DOG FOULING - ANOTHER APPROACH

BBC Radio Northampton's Drivetime presenters Richard Savage and Annabel Amos are waging war on dog mess with their campaign The Big Scoop.

They have created five thousand biodegradable poop scoop bags bearing their faces - and they want you to use them. Please help them clear up the county by using these bags when you walk your dog - and tune into Richard and Annabel between 4 and 6pm every weekday to hear more about the campaign. The bags are available from Bob Carter; give him a call on 857753.

The observant among you may have noticed that the dog fouling notices which were displayed on telephone poles and lamp posts warning against allowing your dog to foul the footways have been removed. This has been done by the District Council because the Post Office demanded £100 per annum to fix these notices on their poles. Notices continue to be displayed on lamp posts and the rules about dog fouling remain.

VILLAGE FUND NEWS

Another year has gone by, and the AGM will be held on Thursday 19 November, 8pm in the Old School. Do go along and help shape the future activities of the Fund.

What a successful evening the Cameo Opera performance in September turned out to be. It was a very different offering for the village, much enthused over by the 70 or so people who gathered in the church. The atmosphere was enhanced by the beautiful white and orange floral decorations, much greenery and gentle candlelight. During the interval the audience moved across to the Old School which had been given a similar decorative treatment to continue the mood. After a cheese ploughmans served with local village apples and grapes (unfortunately not from Abthorpe), accompanied by a glass of wine, the second half was equally enjoyed. And a small surplus of around £200 was an added benefit to the evening. Hopefully Cameo Opera will be invited back to the village.

Christmas activity planning is well under way, with the lunch for older residents arranged for Thursday 17 December. Fortunately, Andy and Rob are happy to host it again in the pub, and invitations will be sent out within the next couple of weeks. The carol singing this year will be combined with the carol service in the church on 21

December at 4pm. The usual mulled wine and mince pies will be on offer to soothe the larynges during the socialising after the singing.

TELEPHONE KIOSK

Following the purchase by the village of the telephone box on the Green, Bob Carter our Parish Clerk explains that BT has provided the RAL standardised paint colour number so that the correct shade can be purchased as well as the names of the suppliers of glass, door springs and other spare parts so that the box can always be maintained in first rate condition. Tenders are now being obtained for its repainting and renovation.

WAR GRAVES MYSTERIES

Richard Tomalin in his position as churchwarden has been updating the inventory of our parish church and checking the details of the war memorial. The name Albert Charlesworth is inscribed on Abthorpe's memorial but a search of the records of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's web site reveals only one First World War casualty with that name. He came from Derbyshire and served in the Liverpool Regiment. The Roll of Honour web site jointly operated by the Ministry of Defence and the Royal British Legion suggests that the Charlesworth engraved on our

war memorial was in fact 34 years old Edward. Although born and enlisted in Sheffield he was a resident of Towcester and the husband of Kate Charlesworth of Abthorpe. Richard would be very interested if anyone undertaking genealogical research could help: richard.tomalin@abthorpe.net.

The second point Richard raises is why Harold Charles Matthews, a Royal Navy Petty Officer Motor Mechanic, was laid to rest in a war grave in Abthorpe church yard extension when his name is not inscribed on the war memorial. Mrs Rene Balderson, who was born in the village and has a long memory, explained that Harold Matthews was in fact her cousin and lived across the fields in Bradden. Like all the children from that village in the years before the second world war Harold attended Abthorpe School and spent a great deal of time here playing with his friends. He went on to study at Towcester Grammar School and then worked for Phil Kingston at his garage in Blakesley. Rene attended Harold Matthews military funeral back in 1944 and felt that her Uncle Vardy and Auntie Maud chose Abthorpe as their son's final resting place as he was so happy here. Bradden church was opened to reveal that Harold Charles Matthews RN is one of only two WW2 names recorded on St Michael's memorial plaque.

NOTHING TO REPORT

The retrospective planning application for the caravans on Mini Farm is still being considered by the District Council officials and has not yet been put forward to the Planning Committee. More next time, perhaps.

MILEOAK ROMAN VILLA

With thanks to John Riches, on whose article the following is based.

Few people who drive from Abthorpe to Towcester realise they are passing through the middle of one of the largest Roman villa excavations in England.

Although there were vague reports of the site in the mid-nineteenth century, it was not until 1954 that one of the fields on Mileoak Farm, which belonged to Jack Barford, was ploughed for the first time and revealed a potential archaeological site. Excavation was carried out over the summers of 1955 and 1956, led by archaeologist Charles Green under the auspices of the Ministry of Works. The evidence uncovered showed a huge building, 40 x 16 metres, constructed around AD65-75. It was substantially stone with indications of half-timbering, although the excavated walls were at most 30cm in height. It was a sophisticated building, containing a hypocaust, mosaics and complex internal decoration. It had no obvious parallel either locally or nationally.

Many interesting finds were uncovered including a coin dated AD49-50 bearing the head of Claudius I. Considering that the Roman occupation of Britain only began in AD43, six years before the coin was minted, it suggests that Mileoak Villa was one of the earliest settlements to be built close to Lactodorum.

Other finds confirm that grain was grown on this land, as it continues to be today, and international trade was flourishing with the discovery of Samian ware manufactured in the south of France. Other pottery seems to have been produced locally, probably in the Nene Valley.

The full report of the dig was finally published in the mid-70s. Unfortunately neither Charles Green nor Jack Barford, a most enthusiastic supporter of the enquiry, lived to see its publication. The foundations of the villa remain below the fields which have been returned to farming.

So next time you're driving to Towcester on the straight stretch of road before the Handley bends, remember the history beneath your tyres.

TOWCESTER AREA DOOR TO DOOR

TADD arranges for voluntary drivers to take local residents to and from medically related appointments. Drivers are urgently needed in Abthorpe and Greens Norton, for which remuneration at 40p per mile is given. Can you help, or do you know anyone who might be interested? If so, please get in touch with TADD on 01327 810300, Monday to Friday between 9am and 1pm, or email tadd@btinternet.com.

SOUTH NORTANTS VOLUNTEER BUREAU

On 25 September SNVB held an event at the Racecourse to bring together advice, funding providers (or at least those with a knowledge of where application may be made) and those seeking money and skills for their projects, as well as generally sharing information by way of workshops and open sessions. Those attending were enthusiastic over the event, which will be repeated in the future, so if you are involved with a voluntary group watch out for more information.

RUNNERS OF ABTHORPE

The Berlin Marathon in September is a significant event in the European racing calendar attracting around 40,000 runners, two of whom were Helen and Tim Pope. The run around the sights of Berlin was enjoyable, perhaps for Tim more retrospectively. They performed to their usual high standard, completing the course in 3hrs 52mins and 4hrs 35mins respectively. *(continued on page 10)*

ABbA

In this issue we will address an issue which concerns everyone who uses wireless broadband, not just those connected to Abthorpe Broadband. Quite a few people now have their own broadband connection with a wireless hub in their home. BT Wireless Home Hub is one of the most common products.

Wireless broadband uses unlicensed frequencies which we all have to share, so there is a problem if too many transmitters try to use the same frequency at the same time. We need to co-operate to avoid interfering with each other. However, before you get concerned, the wireless system is designed so that the equipment in one home cannot decode the signals being sent over the equipment in another home. Each home's network is secure.

The only consequence of the interference is that delay can occur. You could find, for instance, that there is a delay in accessing a web page or video streaming is interrupted. In some circumstances everything could come to a stop for a few seconds.

Of the available wireless channels, ABbA generally used channel 11, but some use is made locally of other channels. So if you have your own home wireless and have experienced what you think is interference, please have a chat with ABbA - our contact details are on the web site.

And if you are planning to install your own wireless network why not talk to one of us first to avoid any problems. We can also tell you about alternatives to wireless in the home for connecting computers together.

Photoshop course

The beginners Photoshop course mentioned in the last issue will be run shortly after Christmas. If you would like to learn more about manipulating this programme, please get in touch with Keith (keith.fenwick@abthorpe.net).

AGM

Another year has gone by and the AGM rolls round again. It will be held on 12 January again in the pub - a very informal occasion, so please do come and hear the latest.

Andrew Gough also took to his trainers for a good cause on 25 October, completing the Great South Run in 1 hr 54m and raising around £250 for the Forces Children's Trust. The support and donations were a great encouragement, for which he is grateful.

VILLAGERS AT WORK

- AN OCCASIONAL LOOK AT WHAT OUR NEIGHBOURS DO FOR A LIVING

Ruth Spalding from Rozel is the Recruitment & ID Manager for easyJet

(And I had to ask what ID was: it's being responsible for the identification badges.)

"This is my second tour of duty with easyJet, having worked with them before on a contract basis helping to re-organise their cabin services business area. So when they contacted me again and asked if I would be able to come back and help them out, I had no hesitation.

The role I now do is based at their main offices at Luton Airport and is focussed on the management of recruitment, but also on managing the team which complete the 5 year referencing process which allows the provision of high security airside passes for all easyJet staff. easyJet has 19 bases across Spain, Italy, France, Germany and the UK, has 175 aircraft and flies over 400 routes across the network from Glasgow to Marrakech. From being a UK-only airline, over 50% of passengers now originate in Europe.

For 2010, I and my team have a target to recruit approximately 800 cabin crew and 100 pilots across the UK and Europe. The recruitment that we do will predominantly be to staff up for the summer flying schedule which really picks up in April. All crew are recruited on six- month contracts, which means we get to do it all again next year, although a number do return every year. The recruitment of 800 crew means that we will screen in the region of 5,000 application forms and assess 2,000 candidates to achieve the required number. My role involves managing the team which will deliver these numbers: eight permanent staff and 70 crew assessors, but also in the decisions over how and where these crew need to be recruited. All candidates experience a one day assessment centre with individual and group exercises, and an interview. We look for evidence of their ability to work as a team, their appreciation of the importance of safety and their desire to be cabin crew - needless to say we don't always make the right decisions, but with 3,500 crew flying out there at the moment, we can't have got it all wrong!

Pilots are a very different group to crew as they have to be highly skilled and already possess the necessary minimum flying hours on the type of aircraft they will be required to fly. We recruit pilots using an assessment centre approach, as with the crew, but they are also expected to demonstrate their ability in a simulator. The standard is very high and a lot of pilots don't make the grade.

Working for an airline is not always fun, and for easyJet the current climate means we are all very focussed on cost and quality - every penny counts! But there is still something different about the airline industry that I haven't managed to replicate in any other business sector. My job means that I get to visit the bases, meet the teams there and visit different countries - but I found out quickly, flying for business is very different from flying for pleasure!"

Rock Success

Eleanor Gough plays bass guitar for Intro Out, a Towcester Rock School band which has been together for a few years. Along with the other members of the band - Josh Prestidge (vocals), Sam Pitchfork (lead guitar), Simon McGurk (lead/rhythm guitar), Joshua Hope (rhythm guitar/keyboards) and Connal Bower (drums) - they are building an impressive reputation, culminating in third place in the Buckingham Idol contest.

They have notched up considerable performance experience, from being invited to entertain hundreds of campers on the eve of this year's Grand Prix, to playing at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. Their style of music is broad from the 1970s to the present day, including some of their own compositions. So if you want party entertainment or are running a charity event, they could well be worth considering, although from next year they will be going their separate ways as university calls. More information at www.myspace.com/introout.



THE BUS

The Bus is a new initiative from a range of partners who have come together to form the South Northants Bus Company. The Bus is a smart double-decker, previously used to ferry pop groups around Europe, which is now equipped with laptops, games consoles and other entertainment facilities, a quite lounge, library and kitchen. It's available for hire by any organisation or parish council within the district to support local events or be an event in itself. Another option is a workshop provided as a complete tailor-made package on issues relating to young people, such as health, careers or personal development.



For details information contact the company at the Town Hall in Towcester, 01327 352220, email: thebus@towcester-partnership.org; or see their website www.thebussouthnorthants.org

PEOPLE

Mr Charles Edmund Kendall, born and bred in Abthorpe, has sadly died at the age of 87. He was best known in the village simply as Shen, a nickname he acquired when he was a pupil at Silverstone Secondary School (now the Infants) and insisted on repeatedly singing a shanty entitled Shenandoah that had been made famous on the wireless by baritone Peter Dawson. Shen left school at the age of 14 and after farm labouring he was appointed as a junior porter for the London Midland and Scottish Railway company based at Helmdon station.

In 1940 after the Battle of Britain, although senior railway employees were in a protected occupation, Shen a junior was called up. Following an aptitude test he was recruited into the Royal Regiment of Signals and after an initial posting to Northern Ireland trained as a wireless operator at Catterick Camp in Yorkshire. After training he found himself on a troop ship that sailed down the River Clyde and out into mid-Atlantic in a bid to avoid German submarine patrols based in occupied France. Shen had little idea of where he was going. Some days later under cover of

darkness, the convoy slipped through the Straits of Gibraltar and on the 8th November 1942 it anchored in the Bay of Algiers. There, amazingly, he bumped into his Abthorpe friend Harry Hinton who was serving with the 5th Northamptonshire Regiment. They remained life long friends and often shared a pint of Hooky in our pub.

After his ship was dive-bombed by enemy aircraft he joined the American led 1st Army which was pushing east whilst British General Montgomery's 8th Army was pushing west from its base in Egypt in an attempt to encircle the Axis armies. After hospital treatment for dysentery Shen was attached as a signaller to a Royal Artillery anti-aircraft battery that landed on the Italian mainland to defend the port of Naples. The volcano Vesuvius promptly erupted! Although the Italians capitulated Shen always insisted that the Germans remained a potent fighting

force right up to the date of their surrender - 7th May 1945.

The dropping of atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in early August 1945 signalled the end of the war and Shen and his comrades' fears of being posted to the Far East never materialised. When reflecting on his war time experiences, Shen always insisted that he was no hero and was perhaps lucky because as a signaller he was often unaware of how close he was to the type of action experienced by infantrymen. His grateful country awarded him four medals that he wore with pride at parades of our local



branch of the British Legion.

He was demobilised in February 1946 and returned to work for the LMS as a signaller at both Blakesley and Towcester boxes. However, shift work on the railway interfered with football on Saturdays, so he left and obtained work with a road construction company.

Shen enjoying Christmas lunch at the New Inn, 2005



He studied for an advanced certificate in road works at Southfields College of Further Education in Leicester and became a Technical Engineer. He worked on road maintenance in a supervisory

capacity for both Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire County Councils until he retired in the late 1970s. But he still remained active and maintained an immaculate garden, although the suggestion that his grass was cut with scissors was not quite true. He was also keen on the *Telegraph* crossword, displaying a knowledge which put many of us in the shade. Shen had spent the last year in Duncote after breaking his hip.

Shen is survived by his sisters Mrs Rene Balderson and Mrs Elsie Kelcher plus his elder brother John - known locally as Bill. Our sympathies go to them and the rest of the family.



A welcome addition to the village arrived at Yew Tree Cottage on 7th August in the form of Toby Francis Oliver Spier. Annabel, Ed and Poppy are enjoying their baby, who at 12 weeks is settling in to being a delightful and easy member of the family.

Toby Spier

A warm welcome to the village is extended to Val Goodyer who has moved into Middle Cottage, Main Street, from Great Horwood in Buckinghamshire. Val teaches maths at Akeley School.

And Val's neighbour in Main Street is Frank Osborne who has just moved in to Primrose Cottage from Wood End.

Stuart Pape, the chef from the New Inn, has been moved to hospital in York where his parents can visit frequently. He remains in a coma but is making slow progress after his accident earlier in the year. Our thoughts are with him and his family.

For those of you who are wondering why there is a 'To Let' sign is in front of Eileen Vielvoye's house on Wappenham Road, Eileen is now working mainly in Oxford and wants to avoid travelling every day. She is quite flexible about a short-term let if anyone is interested.

The funeral took place recently in our church of Thomas Edward Smith. Tom was aged 103 and a real link with Abthorpe's past. His parents Charles and Sarah married at Abthorpe church in 1899. Sarah was at that time a barmaid at The New Inn where her father George Henson was landlord. Charles and Sarah, who had five children, subsequently became landlords in their own right. Tom's daughter Mrs Patt Boocock described how during the war she attended Abthorpe School, her family living at Fir Tree Cottage. Grandmother Sarah lived in what is now Cerreto Cottage in School Lane. Although the family moved to Yorkshire shortly after the war, Tom was determined to be buried in our village.

POPULATION GROWTH

A recent document circulated by South Northants Council showed that the population of the District has increased by 15% since the last census was taken in 2001. Further expansion of another 5% is predicted for the next four years.

NEXT ISSUE OF ABTALK

This will be the last issue of Abtalk this year, so we have included as many Christmas events as we can. The next issue will be in January, so if you have any contributions, please send them to Jill.

EVENTS

Sunday 8 November

Act of Remembrance, St John the Baptist, 11.00am (11.45 at Wappenham War Memorial).

Wednesday 18 November

Film Abthorpe, the Old School, 7.30pm.

Thursday 19 November

Village Fund Committee AGM, the Old School, 8pm.

Saturday 21 November

Film Night. 'Kinky Boots', shot in and around Northampton. Wappenham Village Hall. £5 including refreshments. For details enquire at village shop.

Tuesday 24 November

Quiz at the New Inn, 7.45.

Saturday 12 December

The Watling Singers, St John the Baptist, 7.00pm.

Monday 14 December

Parish Council meeting, the Old School, 7.45pm.

Tuesday 15 December.

Quiz at The New Inn, 7.45.

Thursday 17 December

Christmas lunch for older residents, The New Inn.

Friday 18 December

Carol singing around the village, 6pm, outside the Old School.

Sunday 20 December

Carol Service, St John the Baptist, 4.00pm.

Christmas Day

Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, 9.00am.

Tuesday 12 January

Abthorpe Broadband Association AGM, The New Inn, 8pm.