



Keeping In Touch



Edition 74

Date 01/10/21



Harvest Festival 2021.

There was a good congregation for our café style Harvest Festival this year. Everyone came with bags of food for the Foodbank.



And a rather different harvest of talents.....

A huge thank you to Andrew who offered his pharmacist skills to give NHS flu jabs to those eligible after the service. Thank you Andrew—and also Nell and Jack for your patience!

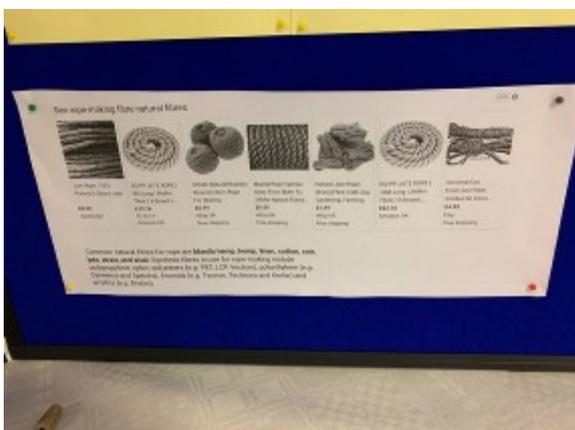
Heritage Open Day 18th September from Sally Runham

On Heritage Open Day, several places in town were open that are not normally available to the public. One such place was the old Fellmongers' Cottage on the Broadway; many people enjoyed this rare treat. Now a private dwelling with river frontage, workers removed fur or hair remnants from pelts before cleaned skins could be made into useful items.

Access to the Free Church is not such a rarity but, even so, there was a steady stream of visitors into Tookeys, Just Sharing, to go upstairs to see how the church had been altered, and to chat at the foyer display. Catherine had set up an interesting exhibit, using material kindly donated by Jenny, the daughter of Betty Yeandle (nee Robb). The display featured artefacts from the Robbs Rope industry. Rope made from jute and other natural fibres is degradable. Sustainable materials could be used again to replace some plastics which derive from fossil fuels and can be a scourge in watercourses. This exhibit was part of St Ives Eco Action "Eco-Fair", with more stalls in the Methodist Church.



Catherine set up an interesting display and had string and bead crafts for children to make friendship bracelets.



Right—Sally showing a hand-mounted thimble used to protect the palm when sewing with this large needle.

Thanks to Nev for the photos.

A message from Chloe Bletsoe.....

On Sunday I will be running the London marathon (26.2 miles) to raise money for Mind, the mental health charity, in memory of my friend Lisette who died by suicide in 2019. If anyone would like to read a bit more about my story or donate I have added the link to my fundraising page.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/ChloeBletsoe1/1>

Right—Chloe and Lisette

If you would like to support Chloe but can't access her Just Giving page then please contact Alan or I and we will find a way!



Joy to the World!

Festival of Readings & Carols

Sunday 12th December 2021 6.00p.m.

Dear All,

This is just to find out how many of you would be willing and able to sing with the Christmas Choir this year.

Rehearsals are after service for about 30 mins, dates TBA.

This last year has tested many aspects of our worship, singing being one of them so if you feel you are or will be in good voice please let me know a.s.a.p. then we can decide if the choir is viable for the 12th.

Many thanks

Irene

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Babs in the news!

Babs had been looking forward to an easier journey to the station after the new link road opened - BUT when she arrived there were only two "usable" spaces left! As you can see from the photo below it required skill to get into the space. The question is "How did she get out of the car?"



Readers of the Hunts Post will know that the only way she could catch her train was to climb out through the boot!

Good thing you keep yourself so fit Babs!

A postcard from Suffolk from Chris and Alan.....



Woodbridge, Aldeburgh and Sutton Hoo.



Irene Calling.....

BEDLAM

Jump on the Roundabout,
So much to tell,
France has been kicking up
Their Sub Pact - it fell!
They thought it was sewn up
A tidy done deal,
But AUKUS has surfaced
Which made french France squeal!

Australia, England,
The U S of A,
Said business is business,
So please go away!
They did and they're sulking
We've held out a stick,
But given the chance,
They'd have been just as quick!

Boris complete with a haircut,
A trim,
Met up with Biden
Who looked, stroked his chin,
Said "The Trade Deal you want

Must wait my young man
Sort things with Ireland
Then I'll do what I can!"

Meanwhile at home
Andrew's hiding away,
Man up! You're a Prince
Just go, have your say!
If you are so innocent
Why be afraid?
Prove it you doughnut
And stop this tirade!

We'll manage without you
As Gas firms close down,
Root out woolly jumpers
And thick nightie gowns.
This chaotic bedlam
Keeps us on our toes,
So wrap up, sit tight dears
What else? No-one knows!

cc. IRENE CARTER

September Nature Notes 2021 from Char.....

Lovely Naked Ladies by the pond.

As beautiful as they are deadly.

Other names ,Meadow Saffron , Frog Lilly or to be correct Colchium autumnale, and all of it is poisonous. No antidote. Used to treat rheumatic complaint. Not mine!.

Its not a crocus at all but a colchicaceae and the spring crocus are iridaceae.



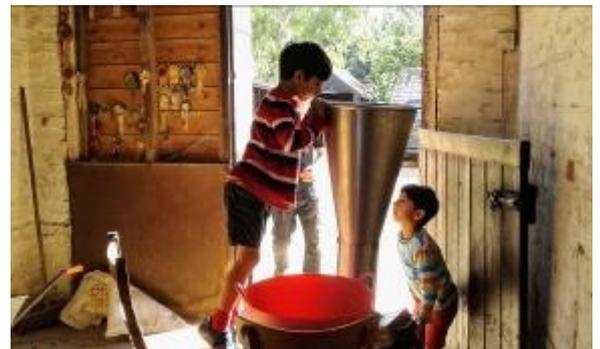
How are your apples? I have next to no Bramleys, wheel barrow loads last year, but other varieties are breaking their branches under the heavy crop.

The swallows have gone, but they successfully produced two broods of four chicks.

They fly about 200 miles a day at 20 mph. Over W France, E Spain into Morocco then the Sahara Desert, the Congo and finally South Africa. 6,000 miles, twice a year.

Do you think we humans got the idea of house building from the mud nests of the bright barn swallow?. When we were cavemen we would have shared the same caves.

Cider pressing has begun in Oakington, work for everyone.



Lots of love

Charx

Ed. And do remember Char has honey, jams and chutney for sale in aid of refugees.

Babs writes.....On Saturday 18th I went to Fenstanton Hobbies, Crafts and Collection day, always a very enjoyable event. Some who are reading this know I use photographs I take to make calendars every year, usually a wildlife one and a more fun one with some of the cuddly friends that live with John and Isome of which have been to church services in the past when props were needed. Any way this event is a great photo opportunity and Gill Burgess and others joined in with great enthusiasm to help and make suggestions for possible photos. I was frequently asked if these were for a charity calendar and perhaps that will be a retirement project for me sometime in the future! As you can see the bears had a great day out!



A childhood memory from Chris.....

Philip's article last time on "largesse" prompted a childhood memory for me, not of harvest but of Christmas. In our Gloucestershire village there was a tradition that toys were collected and taken to the orphanage in nearby Stroud. We were exhorted not just to give what we had grown out of toy-wise but also to give at least one toy we still loved and used. More sacrificial, I suppose! So when I was about four my beloved handmade wooden horse Dobbin made the journey to Stroud to this mysterious place behind high gates where lots of children lived.

Of course, we now know that these were not always happy places but as an only child in a tiny rural village it seemed a wonderful place to go—and they had all those lovely toys including Dobbin! So in the spring I was found by my parents sitting on the kerb of the main road with my doll's suitcase packed and waiting for the bus to take me to the place where I would be reunited with Dobbin.....

I don't remember being told off though— I think my parents were just pleased that I was safe!