



Nowton Newsletter – Spring 2022

Looking at the weather forecast, it seems as though Spring may have truly arrived. Frosts may still do their usual damage to magnolias and other flowers. But with the arrival of Spring, we can hopefully look forward to bright and positive few months ahead here in Nowton. (With the current cost of fuel, we might not be travelling too far anyway!) Aren't we lucky to live in such splendid surroundings? Who would wish to be anywhere else but here? And we have plenty of opportunities to meet, as you'll read about in this newsletter.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

As a community many may wish to celebrate this landmark event together. It is hoped that Nowton will mark this special occasion in various ways.

- On Sunday 5th June, 1pm, we will have a tea party gathering where everyone is invited to the Village Hall.
- This fun occasion will be presided over by a competition winning "Scare-Queen" – more to follow...
- We will be dedicating a tree in Nowton Park.
- In the autumn of this 70th Jubilee year we hope for every household to receive 70 flower bulbs to plant.
- ...And any other ideas you may have (please contact Abi)

For all these events to occur, volunteers are required. Would you be able to spare a little of your time to help with bunting, baking, tidying and general assistance? Community events do need volunteers.

If you are able and willing to help, please contact Abi on 07468 883297

Social Events

Over the winter months and with covid still lingering, we took a break from some of our social events. In April we will recommence the "Second Saturday" walking group. The "Last Friday" social at the Village Hall will have a one-off gathering in April, with fresh air and open doors, admiring the improved open space. These are fun ways to meet neighbours in the village. (Dates at the end of the newsletter). In early June we will then have Jubilee celebrations in place of the "Last Friday" socials in May and June.

You may have noticed that around the parish a few small projects have begun, to further enhance the beauty of our village. Notably the areas around the Village Hall and the Bus Shelter have received the start of some TLC. There is still much more which could be done with a little help. This includes all abilities from enthusiastic loppers and diggers to more sedate seed sowing and tea provisions. It can be another good opportunity to spend time with neighbours.

If you are interested in a little light gardening and tidying around the village, please contact Abi or Henry.

Free Litter Picking Equipment

Many of us enjoy walks around the village and might pass the occasional piece of litter. Did you know you can be provided with free litter-picking equipment by West Suffolk Council? A Hi-Viz vest, waste bags and a grabber are all provided at no charge.

You can Google "West Suffolk Litter Picking Equipment" or go to...

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/lwyl/arrangelitterpick.cfm

Nowton Cricket Club – social membership

Nowton Cricket Club in Overway Meadow has very generously offered to provide all residents of Nowton free social membership. This will allow you to sit and enjoy watching village cricket in the beautiful setting of Overway Meadow, whilst enjoying use of their bar and facilities. It is recognised that NCC and Overway Meadow are important to community life in our village. It is a very English pastime, but village cricket is a traditional and important way to bring communities together in this rural setting of ours. Thank you Nowton Cricket Club.

In due course, the club will be sending out application letters to all households who might be interested in taking up this offer of free social membership. There will be a register of members to ensure only those rightfully entitled have access to this facility.

There are other activities at the club which might be of interest you, beyond watching the main teams play their regular cricket matches. For example, there are opportunities for junior cricket training and a women's softball.

Taxi vouchers in place of bus service

Whilst it is a shame that the bus service through the village is greatly reduced, did you know that if you are entitled to a bus pass you can receive taxi vouchers to use instead? It does require you to surrender your bus pass, but if you apply you can claim up to £100 in travel vouchers. Specific local taxi firms accept these as a form of payment. Search online for "West Suffolk Travel Vouchers" or contact Henry (767777) if you would like a form printed for you.

General Volunteers

With these ideas and initiatives, some do require a few volunteers. It would be very helpful to know which aspects of village life are of particular interest to you. Are you interested in gardening? Can you provide a lift into town on a regular basis? Are you handy with a paintbrush? Can you bake some cakes for the Jubilee?

Please get into contact with Henry (767777) if you would like to be involved as a volunteer.

----- *TEAR OFF HERE* -----

Key date summary

Sunday 3 rd April	-	Morning Prayer - St Peter, Nowton - 11am
Saturday 9 th April	-	"Second Saturday" walk - Village Hall car park - 10am
Tuesday 12 th April	-	Mobile Library - Village Hall car park - 3pm
Sunday 17 th April	-	Easter Sunday joint parish service - All Saints, Hawstead - 11am
Friday 29 th April	-	"Last Friday" village social - Village Hall - 6pm
Sunday 1 st May	-	Morning Prayer - St Peter, Nowton – 11am
Tuesday 10 th May	-	Mobile Library - Village Hall car park - 3pm
Saturday 14 th May	-	"Second Saturday" walk - Village Hall car park - 10am
Sunday 15 th May	-	Communion Service – St Peter, Nowton – 11am
Wednesday 18 th May	-	Annual Assembly of the Parish – Village Hall - 8:15pm
Sunday 5 th June	-	Morning Prayer – St Peter, Nowton – 11am
Sunday 5th June	-	The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Party - Village Hall - 1pm
Tuesday 7 th June	-	Mobile Library - Village Hall car park - 3pm
Saturday 11 th June	-	"Second Saturday" walk - Village Hall car park - 10am

All information also on:
www.Nowton.info