

# **Contact Us**

Send us your news and photos:

# mvv@milton.org.uk

Mary-Ann Johnson, 1 Knights Way, Milton, CB24 6DE

Deadlines for articles are:

# 12th January 12th March 12th May 1st September 1st November

Issues will be published approx. 3 weeks after the dates above.

# **Online Archive**

Find back copies of Village View (back to 1991) on our website:

www.mvv.org.uk

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**Publisher's Notice** 

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy the publisher accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed in the Village View are not necessarily those of the publisher or the editorial staff. The publisher does not accept any responsibility for claims made by advertisers.

#### Letter from the Editors

Dear villagers,

Even a few weeks ago, I doubt any of us expected so many parts of life to change as radically, as quickly, as the times we are now living through. As the editors of Village View, we've always hoped that this magazine helps build community, by bringing news and information to every house in the village. This has been especially important (and hard!) for this issue, as so much changing and unreliable information has been circulating in recent days about what is best for each of us to do in our individual circumstances.

For this issue, we've tried to put together as much verified and helpful information as we can, but we expect some of it to get out of date very quickly as things evolve! Mary-Ann & Paul

# **Key Contacts:**

NHS Helpline: 111.nhs.uk, tel:111

Milton Surgery: 420511

www.miltonsurgery.co.uk

Cambs County Council: 0345 045 5200

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

South Cambs District Council: 0345 045 0500

www.scambs.gov.uk

Milton Village Website: www.milton.org.uk



News —

### No Events Planned

All upcoming events have been postponed or cancelled.

# What's Open (at time of going to press)?

- ✓ Local pubs are offering takeaways only
- ✓ Tesco is open from 6am-10pm Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm on Sundays
- ✓ Tesco: Mon, Weds & Fri 9-10am is priority time for more vulnerable and elderly customers. Please respect this.

To connect with your neighbours at this time, keep an eye on the Milton Community

Facebook group and the village website (www.milton.org.uk), which also includes the Milton News and Milton Chat email lists.

# What's Closed?

- No public services at All Saints' church
- No green bin collections
- Schools & nurseries (except for children of keyworkers)
- Pubs, bars, restaurants, gyms, leisure centres, theatres, cinemas & nightclubs
- Milton Country Park is closed
- Denny Abbey and National Trust sites (Anglesey Abbey, Wimpole Hall, etc.)

# MENTAL HEALTH AND COPING DURING CORONAVIRUS

# REACTIONS YOU MAY FEEL INCLUDE:

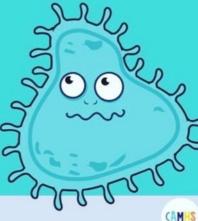
- Fear and worry about your own health status and that of your loved ones.
- · Changes in sleep or eating patterns.
- . Difficulty concentrating.
- · Worsening of chronic health problems.
- Increased use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

# THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT YOURSELF:

- Avoid excessive exposure to media coverage of Coronavirus.
- Take care of your body. Take deep breaths, stretch or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep and avoid alcohol and drugs.
- Make time to unwind and remind yourself that strong feelings will fade.
- Connect with others and share your concerns and how you are feeling with friends or family members.
- · Maintain healthy relationships.
- · Maintain a sense of hope and positive thinking.

# TAKING CARE OF YOUR WELLBEING:

- · Connect with people
- · Decide on your routine
- · Try to keep active
- · Keep your mind stimulated
- · Take care with news and information
- · Find ways to relax and be creative



# Self-isolating? Need support?

Representatives from the local councils, the village church, Milton Online, local parents, the surgery patient participation group & community café have formed the **Milton Covid-19 Support Group** to co-ordinate support for people in the village during the Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

We have been heartened by the number of people who have already volunteered to help, so we are now able to offer support in the following areas:

- a friendly phone call
- · grocery shopping
- picking up medications
- · posting mail
- dog walking

If you are ill or self-isolating, and you need support at this time, please

# call: 07933 550989 or email covidmilton@gmail.com

Please be ready to give us your name, address, contact number and what you need help with. We will try to put in you in touch with a volunteer who can help you.









Covid-19

Support Group.



#### The small print:

Please note that this is a volunteer-run effort, but we will do our best to help! To enable us to help those who need support the most, please only use this scheme if you have no other support available. By giving us your details, you agree that we can use your data for the purposes of administering the provision of support in these exceptional circumstances only. Thank you.





News 5



# Can't get out?

Many local shops and businesses are delivering during the coronavirus pandemic.

# www.cambridgelocalshops.co.uk

shops | food outlets | activities | delivery companies

# **COMMUNITY ACTION RESPONSE: COVID-19**

5 things you can do to make a positive difference in your community



#### Think of others, consider your actions & be kind

People in every community will face the challenges of Covid-19 in some way – from needing basic provisions to help while they are unwell.



#### Connect and reach out to your neighbours

As self-isolation increases, we need to find new ways to stay connected and check in on one another for our physical and mental wellbeing. Share phone numbers and stay in touch.



#### Make the most of local online groups

Keep up to date, share information and be a positive part of your local community



#### Support vulnerable or isolated people

communities are at increased risk and social isolation and loneliness are key concerns for all ages. There are things you can do like volunteering for local support services or donating to food banks to help.



# Share accurate information and advice

Support anyone who may be anxious about Covid-19. Sign post them to the correct advice from Public Health England and encourage people to follow the correct hygiene practices.













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### Dear friends,

We are facing an unprecedented challenge at the moment, and it is inevitable that many of us will feel worried, fearful and confused. We have had to suspend all public worship and other events and activities at All Saints' for now, however the work of All Saints' Church continues, but in different ways.

One thing that the Church can do is to pray. As Christians, we believe in a God who loves us, wants the best for us, who hears our prayers and answers. So I am committing to being in the church twice each day, morning and evening, to bring the community of Milton and all who live and work here before God in prayer. If you have specific requests for prayer - it can be about anything, not only virus-related - please email me at <a href="mailto:rector@allsaintsmilton.org.uk">rector@allsaintsmilton.org.uk</a> and I will undertake to include your request in these times of prayer. I will ring the church bell at the beginning of each prayer time, so (provided you're downwind!) you'll know when prayer is being offered.

There will be a weekly video offering prayer and a Bible reflection posted on the church website (<a href="www.allsaintsmilton.org.uk">www.allsaintsmilton.org.uk</a>) and the All Saints' Facebook page (<a href="www.facebook.com/allsaintsmilton">www.facebook.com/allsaintsmilton</a>) from either me or one of the other ministers at All Saints'. We will also be posting frequent 'thought for the day' and positive stories on the Facebook page. Do please 'like' our page so you can see what is there.

I will also be as visible as possible in the village, by walking our streets each day. I'll be praying quietly as I walk, but I'm more than happy to stop and chat (keeping approved distance of course!), so please stop me if you'd value a word. If you're not sure who I am, I can of course be recognised by the clerical collar. Equally, if you would like to speak to me, for any reason (prayer works over the phone too), you can call me on 01223 861511. If I'm not in, I'll respond to messages as soon as possible.

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.' *The Bible, Philippians* 4.6-7.

With my prayers and best wishes,



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TIMES FOR MILTON SCHOOL CLASSES
Tues 6.30pm - Mixed Ability Mat Class (Sch)
Tues 7.30pm - Mixed Ability Mat Class (Sch)
Fri 9am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (SArmy)
Fri 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (LVH)

Contact Liz on 07768 155278

Contact Liz on 07768 155278 or liz.dolman@lovepilates.co.uk NVQ Level 3 Pilates Instructor

Visit www.lovepilates.co.uk for further information on classes & venues

## Storm Ciara in Church Lane

In February, Storm Ciara brought some theatrically-timed drama to Milton, as the high winds blew down a tree just outside the church, blocking the road just half an hour before the main Sunday morning service.

Karen Ayms raised the alarm straight away via social media, and the village swung into action to clear the road, and re-open access to both the church and the children's hospice.



Steve Silvester arrived on the scene within half an hour with his classic Unimog, and quickly dragged the tree to the side of the road.

George Betson from the Waggon then chopped the tree up with his chainsaw into manageable logs.

Meanwhile, the church congregation were directed past Milton Hall into the back of the church grounds.

What a great example of the community in action!

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# **Spotted Flycatchers?**



**Spotted Flycatchers** – have you got this increasingly rare bird breeding in your garden? Let us know!

In recent years many Cambridgeshire community and parish newsletters, magazines and websites have helped with a County-wide survey of Spotted Flycatchers. These are attractive little migrant birds which are summer visitors to village gardens and churchyards. Although they breed with us, they spend up to nine months of the year travelling as much as 16,000 miles a year between here and their wintering grounds in Southern Africa – Angola and Namibia. This is an increasingly dangerous journey for them, and sadly they are in deep decline. Widespread losses amounted to a 50% decline during 1995-2010, continuing an 90% decline since 1970.

Only a few hundred pairs remain breeding in Cambridgeshire, but most villages still have a

pair or two; they rarely breed out in the wider countryside. We are continuing our work to find and monitor nesting pairs. It's almost certain that there are many additional pairs out there of which we are not aware.

Do you have flycatchers in your garden? Will you see one this year, or have you in recent years? The few that remain are here from mid-May to September. And there's lots more to read about our project and Spotted Flycatchers in general at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/SpotFly">bit.ly/SpotFly</a>

Please email: <a href="mailto:spofl@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk">spofl@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk</a> with any sightings.

# **Matthew Harney Ltd**

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Tel: 07962 398114

News ———9

# **A14 Opening Early**

Britain's biggest road project, the A14 improvement, is set to open to drivers more than half a year early, Highways England has announced. The £1.5 billion scheme to improve journeys between the East of England and the Midlands was originally planned to open to traffic by the end of 2020, but it is now planned to open ahead of schedule this spring.

The good news follows the recent December opening of a part of the 21-mile scheme – a new 12-mile bypass south of Huntingdon – a whole year early. Already, the bypass has been used to make more than five million journeys.

The spring opening date will mark the end of permanent roadworks and reduced speed limits on the new A14 and the A1307, but the project team will still need to carry out a number of completion activities such as landscaping, installing some of the new technology, and work in the verges. To carry out this work safely, some temporary overnight closures or off-peak daytime lane closures will be needed.

# Valentine's Day Bake Off



Once again the Milton School Valentine's Day Bake Off was a great success – thank you to all our fantastic bakers, your creations were very well received!

Thanks also go to Rev. David Chamberlin who had the difficult job of judging the winners, and also to those who volunteered to help run the event.

We raised almost £180, all of which will go towards projects which benefit the school and its pupils.





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# From the Archives

# 25 Years Ago: April 1995

#### V.E. Day May 1945

Fifty years ago I was at home in Liverpool when it was announced on the radio that the war in Europe had ended. After nearly 6 years of war, which had started when I was 19 I just couldn't take it in at first. It seemed unbelievable, but when I finally realised it was true, I felt a great urge of relief and terrific elation.

Our next door neighbours banged on our front door to make sure we had heard the wonderful news, and soon we were joining others in the street, hugging one another and jumping up and down for joy. After years of air-raids, separation and loss of loved ones and always the fear of German Invasion, it was just so good to know it was all over at last.

After years of Blackout, we delighted in turning on all the lights in the house and drawing back the curtains. The lights came on in shop windows and on tram-cars - the world seemed full of light once again.

The street parties began almost immediately. We dragged tables and chairs out into the street, and everyone contributed to the party food with anything they could find. We lit bonfires and brought out old wind-up gramophones, and even pianos, for music to dance to. We decorated the fronts of the houses with home made bunting and we had a wonderful time.

The centre of Liverpool City had been devastated in the Blitz but they managed to have some very spectacular military parades amongst the debris and the bombed out buildings and we crowded into the city to listen to the massed bands and watch the parades and join in all the celebrations.

There was an anti-climax for me however as my husband was serving with the Royal Navy in the Far East at that time, and the war with Japan was still raging, so I still had my anxious times and separation from him until Japan surrendered some months later, I had another celebration on V.J. Day.

I Chilton

# 10 Years Ago: April 2010

#### Milton Primary School



On Thursday 4th March we dressed as our favourite book characters for World Book Day. The children carried out a range of activities linked to books and authors and we all fully enjoyed the day.



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News — 11

# **Bus Changes**

- ⇒ Milton Park & Ride busses no longer serve the Grafton.
- ⇒ P&R busses now run every 12 minutes, Monday—Saturday, and every 15 minutes on Sundays.
- ⇒ Stagecoach have removed the 9.30am restrictions on bus passes. You can now use your bus pass at anytime, seven days a week.

## **Community Centre Break-in**



At around 3.30am on 27th Feb, the Annexe was broken into. Not much of value was stolen, but considerable damage was caused both inside and outside the building. If you recognise this image of the culprit, or have any information

which might help, please contact mcc@miltonvillage.org.uk or telephone 01223 862763.

#### **Defibrillators in Milton**

A new defibrillator unit is installed and working at **North Lodge Pavilion**. There is also a public defibrillator by the **Parish Council Office** on the Coles Road recreation ground, one at **Tesco**, and one at **Milton Country Park**.

In general, any Tesco, any national rail station or any police station should have at least one defibrillator, due to company policies.

Anyone can use the defibrillators — you don't need special training. There are clear instructions on how to attach the

defibrillator pads. It then assesses the heart rhythm and will only instruct you to deliver a shock if it's needed. You cannot deliver a shock accidentally; the defibrillator will only allow you to shock if it is needed.













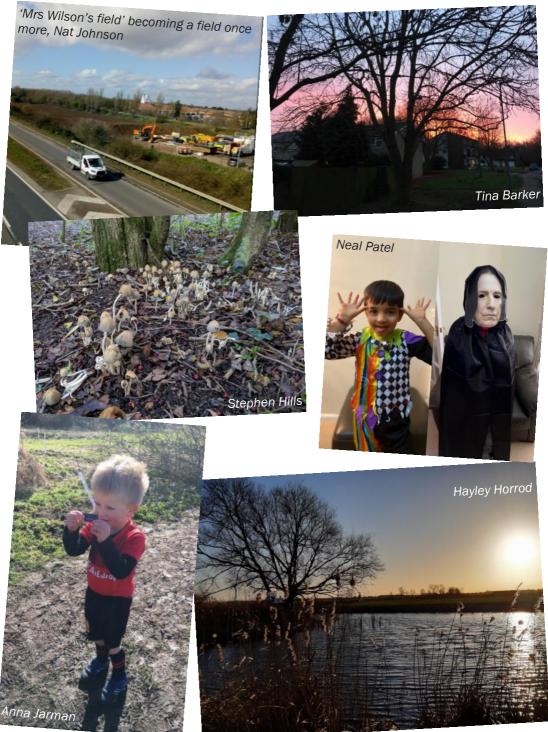


# Your Photos Could Be Here!

Photos taken in and around Milton always welcome — of places, people, events or just something that strikes you as beautiful. No lower or upper age limit!

Send them to <a href="mailton.org.uk">mvv@milton.org.uk</a>, and we'll include as many as we can.

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#### Milton Parish Council Survey regarding proposed changes within Milton

Please respond online at www.miltonvillage.org.uk. You may also reply by email to clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk or by returning this questionnaire to the Parish Council Office by end of April 2020.

<u>Scheme 1:</u> Would you support in principle the installation of junctions of The Rowans and Cambridge Road?	f double t bot
Please circle as appropriate. YES NO	
Comment:	
iunation of Fan Dood and Colon Doo	f double yellow lines at the nn Public House?
Please circle as appropriate.	
Please circle as appropriate.  Comment:	
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Many than the me in completing this survey. Your fe helping us associate proposals.	eedback is important in
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# Parish Council Chairman's report

#### **Parish Council:**

Welcome to our new Councillors Smita Bhayani and Paul Ellwood. Our Assistant Clerk has resigned as she has moved away from the village. We are working to appoint a replacement. The recent meetings have been mostly "must-do" administration and ongoing points that are covered in the minutes on the web page. The Annual Parish meeting will be on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

#### Village Maintenance:

Fortunately, the Village was not badly affected by the heavy storms. A large tree fell from private land blocking Church Lane. Volunteers quickly had the lane open again to the relief of the congregation who were in the Church. The tree that came down along Fen Road is on land managed by County. Council has accepted the offer from SCDC for a voucher valued at £60 for the purchase of up to 3 trees for planting on Parish land. We were also successful with our application for several free tree packs from Woodland Trust which will be delivered in November

# Traffic Calming:

We met with Highways in response to a request for a pedestrian crossing on Cambridge Road near to Barnabas Court. The number of access points and laybys in the area mean that the request cannot be taken further. Parking is an ongoing challenge around the Village. Many people have raised concerns about the junctions of The Rowans with Cambridge Road, and Fen Road directly opposite the junction with Coles Road. Double vellow lines have been suggested to visually reinforce the existing Highway Code restrictions. Please provide feedback through the questionnaire on the Parish web page www.miltonvillage.org.uk or by emailing clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk. If you are unable to respond online then please complete the form on the previous page.

# **Milton Surgery Status**

We are still here. We have not closed.

Our doctors and nurses are still dealing with health concerns over the telephone and this will continue.

ALL ROUTINE APPOINTMENTS ARE CANCELLED. If the clinician decides they need to see the patient they will be given an appointment BY PRIOR AUTHORISATION ONLY ON THE DAY.

Please use the surgery email address admin.miltonsurgery@nhs.net for enquiries and in particular prescription requests. We need to minimise patient footfall in the surgery so please choose a designated pharmacy for your medication. At present we are still dispensing for our dispensing patients.

Please take notice of the reception desk if you must enter the surgery the chairs are there to protect you and our staff.

Please call or email the surgery with your queries. Please follow the NHS 111 online website for all self isolation queries.

Thank you and please take care of each other.

**MILTON SURGERY** 

# Milton WI

At a recent meeting, Kaye Rooney gave an interesting talk on Acupuncture. She treats the person, not just the condition or illness they have, so each patient's treatment plan will be different. Acupuncture can find calm and restoring balance as well as the easing of pain.

At our upcoming meetings, we'll be welcoming Charles Garland: "Dad's Army: The Nation's Favourite"; Tony Arnold: "Gardens of China"; and Kate Kirk: "My Amazing Aunt Cicely Sanders and The Modern Hospice Movement".

During the last month, we have enjoyed 10 Pin Bowling, and a walk through town and along the river to the Fitzwilliam Museum to the "Feast and Fast Exhibition" which provided an interesting novel approach in explaining the history and culture of food and eating.

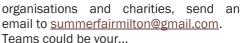
We would like to invite new members, and our President Gill Offley (01223 293231) or Secretary Bridget Crow (01223 441755) would be very pleased to hear from you to provide further details, or if you prefer, just come along for a free 'taster' We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

Anne Newman

#### Milton Summer Fayre Tug Of War

If the summer fayre can go ahead as planend on July 11th, we're planning to hold an 18+ Tug Of War Competition, and are asking you to register your interest.

If you would like to take part in giving this a go and raise some money to go into our community fund to help local



Local Pub Group · Sports Club · Teachers
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REMEMBER, IT'S JUST FOR FUN!
Anyone and everyone is welcome to join.

Milton Summer Fayre Committee

# Walking Frame & Crutches Returns

You can return walking frames and crutches to Addenbrookes Hospital at any of the Cambridge Park & Ride sites. Or you can request that they are collected from your home by calling NRS Healthcare on 0345 121 3456.



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### **Phoenix Trust**

Spring has sprung and at Phoenix we have a wide range of products for sale to beautify your garden. Everything is made by hand by our talented team, from paving slabs, to planters, and from benches to mud kitchens.

We are going to open until 6pm for four successive Thursdays (30th April; 7th, 14th and 21st May). Access, as per usual from both the industrial estate, turn right at Dulux and follow the road to the very end, or the Country Park, turn right at the Wild Place. We also will have a stall outside the Country Park on Maundy Thursday, April 9th, 10am-2pm, so do visit to see our products, meet our coworkers and learn a little bit more about Phoenix Trust.



Phoenix Trust is a registered charity and social enterprise founded in 2006, with a mission to help young people and adults with learning disabilities, mental health and/or behavioural issues, by offering meaningful experience of the work environment.

Our supported placements greatly improve the confidence, quality of life and self-fulfilment of our trainees, within a safe, welcoming and empowering environment in which they develop practical work and life skills, within a real manufacturing and sales setting.

We are still on the lookout for volunteers, particularly to help in the garden – we have lots of plans, and just an extra person a few hours a week will make a real

difference. If you are interested in volunteering, then please call us on 01223 420669 to arrange a visit and learn more or come and talk to us on April 9th outside the café.





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The LION & LAMB will operate a full DELIVERY and TAKE-AWAY service – including Roasts on Sundays. You can also add on wine, beer and soft drinks. Our menu will constantly change depending on available supplies so do check back regularly for menu updates. We will also post new menus on the Milton Facebook page.

www.lionandlambmilton.co.uk/take-away-deliveries/

Following our closure at 6pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March in line with Government advice, we want to take this time to thank you all for your incredible support over the last 14 years and we look forward to welcoming you all back home to the Lion & Lamb as soon as we are able.

Lawrence & Sally

# White Horse

Tel: 01223 860327 www.facebook.com/whitehorsemilton

We can do takeaway drinks/ale if people bring empty containers. Call ahead. We are looking into take away menu for collection or delivery for people in the village. Especially to help people in need.

Ava, Alan, Adam

# **Brewers Inn**

Tel: 01223 861349 www.facebook.com/thebrewersinn

The Brewers Inn are planning to provide takeaway food. Please call 01223 861349 or visit the website for menu.

# Waggon & Horses

Tel: 01223 570471 www.waggonandhorsesmilton.co.uk

The Waggon & Horses are hoping to provide takeaway pizza and burgers. For the latest information, please call 01223 570471.

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#### Landbeach and Milton Baptist Church

Landbeach and Milton Baptist Church was founded in 1798 and loosely associated with Chittering and Milton. After closure of the latter in 1993, it took its present name in 1999. The building on High Street Landbeach dates from the early Victorian era, with the inscription on the façade:

Built in 1851 by voluntary subscription

i.e. at the expense of the fellowship; and still maintained by them.

Recently updated facilities make a cosy space for a variety of week-day uses like line dancing, crafts, chair-based keep fit, and movies as well as our chapel services. Due to the current coronavirus restrictions all activities are suspended at the moment, but to learn more and to find out when they will restart, contact Mo (01954 202402) or Maureen (01954 250118).

Maureen Clark



# MiltonWatch

#### MiltonWatch

MiltonWatch is the new Neighbourhood Watch scheme for Milton.

We are a passionate group of residents aiming to come together and align on reducing crime in the area. We do this by encouraging group followers, conversation, product recommendations and regular features to get us all engaged with our wonderful village.

Find out more at www.facebook.com/groups/MiltonWatch/



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# Knit for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

Did you know that Arthur Rank Hospice Charity (ARHC) is able to use knitted and crocheted items to help with seasonal fundraising activities throughout the year? In December hundreds of tiny knitted Christmas stockings were donated and filled with chocolates,

enabling funds to be raised.



This Spring, the Charity is appealing for help to create Easter Chicks to raise vital funds for the Hospice.

Chick knitting patterns can be downloaded from arhc.org.uk – type 'Easter chick' into the search at the top right-hand side of the homepage and click into the news story that pops up. If you do not have a printer to print the pattern, please call Alison Pinney in the Charity's fundraising team on 01223 675888 or email <a href="mailto:fundraising@arhc.org.uk">fundraising@arhc.org.uk</a>. Copies

of the pattern can also be picked up at the Hospice Receptions. If you're not a yarner, you can still get involved by donating egg-shaped chocolate treats such as Creme or caramel eggs.

Your knitted chicks and chocolate donations can be dropped off 9am-5pm Monday to Friday at the reception desks of ARHC at Shelford Bottom (Cambridge) or at the Alan Hudson Day Treatment Centre (North Cambs Hospital, Wisbech) or at any of the Hospice's Charity Shops (Burleigh Street, Mill Road and Regent Street in Cambridge, High Street in Cottenham and Woollards Lane in Great Shelford). Happy yarning!

#### Landbeach & Milton Baptist Church

All are welcome to our small but friendly fellowship. Further details from Maureen Clark, tel 01954 250118

#### **Regular Events**

Sunday 10.30am Family Service Tuesday, 6.30pm, Line Dancing 1st Tuesday, 2pm, Film 2nd/4th Weds 2.30pm Exercise Class Wedsm 6.30pm, Craft Club

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# Sunday services



Midweek groups & events

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A quiet, reflective way to start the day.

10.30am Morning Worship with Children's Groups Caters for the whole

church, ages 0-100+. Refreshments served.

6pm Evening Prayer Said service with short reflection Little Rainbows Toddler Group, Parents & Under 1s, Lunch Club, Mothers' Union, Stitchers' Club, Reading Group ...

For full details of all these and more please visit:

allsaintsmilton.org.uk

## Wildlife Notes

It seems to me that although some signs of Spring are possibly early, others aren't or are roughly the same time as other years. The willows along the river have been starting to show green since fairly early in February. That's about the time that the first batches of blackthorn were beginning to flower. Most of the blackthorn is over by mid-March as I write this, although there are still a few pockets in fine flower along the river; it must be some kind of genetic difference to those plants as they seem to flower at least two-three weeks later than the rest every year. Those bushes are beginning to come into early leaf however, much the same as the ones whose flowers are totally over. The snowdrops were in full flower by the end of January and over before the end of February.

I'm seeing the great spotted woodpecker on the seed feeders in the garden regularly. It's interesting that this species didn't use bird feeders, especially sunflower seeds, years ago but it was worth the effort learning how to, given how many of us feed the birds. A new one for me is a dunnock, whose normal behaviour is grubbing around on the ground under bushes, and occasionally under the feeders to pick up dropped seeds. I'm now seeing one regularly coming to our domed bowl seed feeder; presumably if this bird breeds successfully, it will train its young to do this too and I'll see more dunnocks using a feeder. I wonder if they will ever get around to using the standard hanging seed feeders? In mid-February, I had a lovely experience while cycling home from work. I stopped and watched the barn owl hunting over Milton Fen below the railway for several minutes. A nice delay to my journey compared to getting stuck in traffic! Things like that make the ghastly journeys against strong winds I've had recently worthwhile.

At the beginning of March there were still little grebes at Baits Bite lock. About a week later, I heard two yellowhammers calling to each other across Fen Road. I'm sure I also heard a lapwing. I've definitely heard a skylark a couple of times from Fen Road. On my commute on Monday 16th March, I clearly heard at least two chiff-chaffs along the river from Baits Bite Lock. They are back! Much yaffling from a green woodpecker in the last few days. I did see several bats above the river around dusk on 10th March; maybe I'd better start putting hedgehog food out in case any hogs are around?

Heather Coleman





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## Milton Outdoor Bowls Club

The new outdoor bowls season runs from April through to September. The Milton Club plays in various leagues and is well respected, friendly and thriving.



The green is in Coles Road. You do not have to be a member of the club to play. If you would like to give the game a try or play occasionally we would be very happy to welcome you. Phone me on 07952 536477 and I can arrange a time to suit you.

If you decide that you would like to be a member we charge £40 per year. This entitles you to play in leagues and competitions. We also have a social member's rate at £10 per year. This entitles you to play at any time during the season. Social members do not play competitive bowls nor play in leagues or competitions.

We can supply bowls. You will need flat shoes/trainers. For more information see our website: <a href="https://www.mobc.org.uk">www.mobc.org.uk</a>
<a href="https://www.mobc.org.uk">Jim Daniels</a>

## **Walking Netball**

Walking Netball is played at a slower pace with no running or jumping. It can be enjoyed as part of a fun and social exercise session. Your first session is FREE so you have nothing to lose by coming along and giving it a go.

Mondays 2-3pm at Milton Community Centre (outdoor netball courts), Coles Road.

Cost is £4 per session for members (£5 non-members)

For further information contact Carolyn tel: 07578 338 086

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# Local Business ESA Sponsors Milton Rangers FC

Milton Rangers Football Development Squad (pictured), who are the younger players from Milton Colts FC, are pleased to receive their new kit from sponsor Ed Williams of Elite Swimming Academy (ESA).



Head Coach Simon Evans stated, "it's great to receive support from the local business community without which clubs like ours wouldn't be able to provide a football development platform for the children of our village in a fun & safe environment. Aligning with an organisation like ESA who also promote and support healthy active lifestyles for children is a great opportunity"

Ed Williams of ESA added "As an Academy that really values youth development, this felt like a very natural move for us! We always want to support local community and clubs and we love the message that Milton Colts project, equality, fair play and development. We mirror their message in our weekly swimming lessons and look forward to a long relationship with the club".



# 10 Years of Parkrun at Milton Country Park



Milton Country Park has been hosting Cambridge Parkrun for ten years! The Country Park is a rare facility for Parkrun in that it is not a councilrun or council-funded park. Thank you to the Parkrun team. who message on our behalf, and a special thank you to all the runners who understand this and support us through using our car park or donating on the way in.

Happy birthday Parkrun!

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