

Boughton Village Matters

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Welcome to December's BVM



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LATEST ON TRAFFIC CALMING

At a well-attended Parish Council meeting last month, many residents raised concerns about the adequacy and positioning of traffic-calming measures. The Council has a working group, which has tried hard to put forward many of these issues. The North West Relief Road is expected to open imminently. Villagers should report any concerns or incidents to the Parish Council.

MEET YOUR LOCAL MP

Stuart Andrew, our local MP, will be coming to a coffee morning held in the Church Rooms on Friday 16th January at 11am. He will be staying for about an hour, so please attend if you wish to meet him or have any issues you would like to raise.

COME ALONG TO VILLAGE CAROL SINGING

The Boughton Pocket Park committee is once again organising the annual carol singing around the Pocket Park Christmas tree – found at the Park entrance on the corner of Humfrey Lane. Please come along on 14th December at 5pm. Just bring a torch and your best singing voice - all in the name of charity and festive togetherness. Everyone is invited to the Village Hall afterwards for mince pies and mulled wine. If possible, please take a look at Facebook, look up the Pocket Park's 'event' and hit 'going' as this helps with catering.

CHRISTMAS CERAMICS SALE

Boughton artist Carol Kimbell is holding her annual sale of ceramics on 13th and 14th December at 51 Humfrey Lane from 10am until 4.30pm. Carol's pieces make super Christmas presents! For more information, call 847911.

CAROLS AT DECEMBER COFFEE MORNINGS

There will be two community coffee mornings in the Village Hall this month at which the children from Boughton Primary School's choir will be singing sing carols. These will be 3rd (10am until 12pm) and 10th December (10.30am until 12pm). All are very welcome, plus any contributions of cake/biscuits would be gratefully received.

EVENTS AT BOUGHTON SCHOOL – ADVANCED WARNING

Thank you to Mary James, head at the primary school, for letting BVM know of some dates on which there could be congestion on Moulton Lane. Firstly, coaches will be taking the children to the pantomime on Tuesday 9th December leaving around 9am and returning to school at approximately 1pm. The Christmas production takes place on 16th and 17th December at 3.30pm. It lasts about an hour and the school has planned staggered pick-ups. There is a further performance on 18th December at 1.30pm.

THANK YOU TO SPEED WATCHERS

Some 16 volunteers participated in the recent Speed Watch operation. The highest recorded speed was 50mph on Moulton Lane on a Sunday afternoon. In total 100 vehicles were reported by volunteers to Northamptonshire Police. Many thanks to them, and coordinator Paul Mabbut, for giving up their time.

BUCKTON FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Parish Council is to instruct solicitors to prepare a seven-year lease with Born To Shine (the group that organised the planting of flowers in the village last month) to run the community centre at Buckton Fields. It is hoped that the building will be completed and opened in spring next year.

LOCAL SCOUT GROUP NEWS

All the sections of our local Scout group have had a busy few weeks. If you are interested in learning more about the Scouts or how you might help, please contact Sue McTaggart Pitsford Group Lead Volunteer via pitsfordleadvolunteer@gmail.com

GET YOUR TICKETS TO SANTA SPECIAL TRAINS

Tickets are selling fast for the Northampton and Lamport festive Santa Specials, which run from 6th until 21st December. For more information, visit www.nlr.org.uk

BVM ON ITS CHRISTMAS BREAK

A reminder that, as usual, there will be no village newsletter in January. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteer deliverers for their hard work over the year. We wish them and everyone in Boughton a Merry Christmas.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

All are welcome to Christmas services at Boughton Parish Church. Sunday 21st December at 7pm is the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Then on Christmas Eve there is a 4pm Crib Service for younger children, with a Christmas Day Holy Communion at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome at every service at the Parish Church For more information, contact Reverend Stephen Trott revstephentrott@gmail.com

ROSIE MCDONNELL'S LEMON YOGHURT ICE CREAM



Ingredients

1 jar lemon curd
1 large pot of full-fat, Greek yoghurt (approx. 500g)

Although this recipe is super-easy, I find it works best with Waitrose's own-brand lemon curd. I think this is because it contains eggs, so look for a curd with similar ingredients. Simply mix the Greek yogurt and lemon curd together really well and then pour into a plastic container and put into the freezer. Remove from the freezer about 10 minutes before serving. Voila!



BARKING MAD: observations of a spaniel

Barking Mad: observations of a spaniel

I've just encountered something entirely new in the garden and I did not like it one little bit. It wasn't actually in our garden. We were on our morning walk when we saw it on somebody's lawn at the top end of Howard Lane – a beast I'd never seen before.

It was going backwards and forwards, and making a kind of growling sound. I gave it a jolly good bark but it didn't run away. It just kept on going up and down, up and down. My dad Tony pulled me away on the lead and explained: "That's a robot lawn mower, Heidi."

Later I heard him telling friends his 'lawnmower story'. You've probably already heard it but apparently he was going to buy a robot mower six years ago until they explained to him that they're guided by underground wires. They bury them all around the edge of the lawn. I was very young at the time and, back then, one of my favourite hobbies was digging holes in his lawn. He told my mum Marie that the mower men would be coming back to repair the wires every week so he decided to get a sit-on mower instead.

That didn't go too well either. His machine broke down so often it spent more time down at the repairers than on his lawn. Finally, the chap who sold it to him said: "I'm raising the white flag on this one and replacing it with a new mower."

Since then my dad seems to be at his happiest when he's trundling around our lawn on his noisy petrol mower, so I suppose all's well that ends well. But I have nightmares about that robot job. Robots where will it all end? Luckily, they won't find one to write a column for *Boughton Village Matters*. Or will they?

Heidi



HIRE BOUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

**MEETINGS, REHEARSHALS, CHILDREN'S
PARTIES, DANCES AND FUNDRAISERS**

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