

# Boughton Village Matters

Deadline for the May issue is 20 April

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## Welcome to April's BVM

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### FIRST FORTNIGHT OF SPEEDWATCH: DATA IS SPEEDING IN

In the first two weeks of Boughton's Community Speed Watch, volunteers have sent the details of 142 vehicles to Northamptonshire Police. The average speed detected so far has been 27.5mph (with some small variation between locations) and the highest speed 41mph. It is also reported that at least four of the vehicles speeding were from the village. There are still 33 weeks to go of this monitoring, which provides invaluable information. There are seven active volunteers but more are needed. Please contact Malcolm Sanderson at [malcolmsanderson@bitinternet.com](mailto:malcolmsanderson@bitinternet.com) if you can help.

### BOUGHTON WINS WNC's 'BEST ROADS' AWARD

Seeing off hot competition from other villagers and areas of West Northamptonshire, Boughton has won the title of 'Best Road' thanks to the quality of its pot holes, excellent workmanship exhibited in the installation of the traffic calming measures and the law-abiding way cars pass through the village.

### PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO LOCAL PLAN

As reported in last month's BVM, the Parish Council has instructed a consultant to assist with responding to WNC's draft local plan. It has produced a robust 56-page response. A draft copy can be found on the Parish Council's website [www.boughtonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.boughtonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### CHESTNUT TREE WALL DAMAGED

At the end of February the wall around the chestnut tree at the top of Butchers Lane was damaged by a vehicle. The Parish Council has had this repaired but would be interested to hear from anyone with CCTV or who might have information about the incident. Please email [clerk@boughtonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@boughtonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### BYE BYE TO BOUGHTON'S LOVED POSTBOX TOPPERS?

Residents have been shocked and saddened by the sudden replacement of the old post box on Humfrey Lane. Although the new electronic post box has some useful functions, including allowing people to send parcels, its solar-panelled top could spell the end of the glorious toppers created by villager Fiona Frost.

### POCKET PARK EASTER TRAIL

Born To Shine's free Easter trail in Boughton Pocket Park runs until 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026. It is the perfect way to enjoy some fresh air with the family. There is a trail to follow with six Easter stops each with a question. Simply unscramble the letters to make a final word. Once you've completed the trail, email the [saffy@borntoshine.org.uk](mailto:saffy@borntoshine.org.uk) with your name and contact details to be entered into a prize draw.

## **'ALL ABOUT BOUGHTON' HITS THE BOOK SHELVES AFTER LAUNCH**

If you've not got your copy of Judy Shephard's 330-page book: 'All About Boughton', there are still some copies left. It is available direct from the author for £15. Email [judy@windbreck.co.uk](mailto:judy@windbreck.co.uk) or call 07889 123039 for more information.

## **DON'T FORGET BOUGHTON FAIR**

Look out for more information about Boughton Fair in next month's BVM. This community event will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> June, earlier than originally advertised.

## **LOCAL BROWNIE PACK HAS SPACES**

Kingsthorpe Brownies is looking for new members on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesday. To find out more, please email [office@girlguidingnorthamptonshire.org.uk](mailto:office@girlguidingnorthamptonshire.org.uk)

## **EASTER SPECIAL TRAINS AT LOCAL RAILWAYS**

Northampton and Lamport Railway is running Easter Egg Specials on Easter Sunday and Monday. Trains run every hour from 10am until 3am. Each child can go on a Easter bunny hunt, meet the Easter bunny and will receive a crème egg. Tickets can be booked at [www.nlr.digitickets.co.uk](http://www.nlr.digitickets.co.uk)

## **COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNINGS**

Because of the delay to the Village Hall renovation (more news in next month's BVM), the community coffee mornings on the first Wednesday of the month will be in the Hall in April and May: 1<sup>st</sup> April and 6<sup>th</sup> May from 10am until 12pm. All are welcome.

## **NEWS FROM PITSFORD SCOUT GROUP**

The group is looking forward to the Easter break after a busy few weeks including Beavers making sourdough for St Patrick's Day and Cubs learning about the Battle of Naseby, while the Scouts have been working on their first aid badge. If you would like to learn more about Pitsford Scout Group, please contact Sue McTagart via [pitsfordleadvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:pitsfordleadvolunteer@gmail.com)

## **GEORGE LAUGHON'S GREEK STUFFED PEPPERS**



### **Ingredients**

500g passata	2 medium red and green peppers
250g pouch instant rice	1 tin sweetcorn, drained
1 block of feta cheese	2 medium tomatoes chopped
1-2tbsp olive oil	3tbsp smoked paprika
1 handful basil, chopped	

Heat the oven to 200C/180fan/Gas Mark 6. Cut off the top of the peppers. Take out the seeds and pith. Tip the passata into an oven-proof dish. Stir the smoked paprika through and season with salt and pepper. Sit the peppers on top of the passata and bake for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, tip the rice and sweetcorn into a bowl. Mash with a fork until the grains are separated. Combine the cooked passata with the rice and cubed feta, and carefully spoon this into the cooked peppers. Return to the oven and bake for another 10 minutes. Then mix the finely chopped basil, chopped tomatoes and olive oil as part of a side salad to serve with the peppers.



## **BARKING MAD: observations of a spaniel**

I'm a rather confused spaniel today. I'm not sure where I should be living.

As you know, when my dad Tony went into hospital at first I was looked after by our Kerry and then taken to Surrey where our Richard's family is now looking after me.

Twice now they've brought me back to Boughton to see dear old dad, and we had a lovely birthday party for Kerry at her house at Great Houghton. But then I went back to Surrey. So where do I belong?

Anyway, in Boughton I heard lots of news. Our friend Judy Shephard has launched a brilliant book called *All about Boughton*. It's 330 pages with 16 pages of photographs telling you everything about the village.

It starts in what they called 'pagan times', tells about the lords of the manor, how a King of England bathed in our Grotto, how an elephant is buried on Boughton Green and how the village was plagued with wild rabbits (it wouldn't have happened if I'd been around).

It describes the follies, the fair, the murders, the fires, the evictions ( I'm not sure what some of these words mean) and we meet war heroes, rectors, millers and publicans. Plus a notorious film star who came to visit us. The book is only £15, and you can get it directly from Judy. My dad says every house should have one

By the way, he's getting a bit better and he's thrown away his crutches and can drive again. And he's got plenty to say about the village speed humps, which are making our lives a misery - and the potholes. He swears they've doubled since he went into hospital and he's had to learn again where the worst ones are.

He's not strong enough to have me back at home just yet but it's a pretty good life at Richard's with two good walks a day from Julia. And there's always the chance of grabbing yum yum biscuits and snacks off young Jack and Freya.

Heidi



## **HIRE BOUGHTON VILLAGE HALL**

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

Email: [boughtonvillagehall01@gmail.com](mailto:boughtonvillagehall01@gmail.com)