



Warboys Diary

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EDITORIAL

This edition of the Diary is very different as we are devoting a large part of it to the coronavirus situation. We are including advice and guidance published by Public Health England and the NHS and the latest updates from the Moat House Surgery and Parish Council. Most importantly we are publishing information about what we are doing within Warboys to look after and support each other at this very challenging time.

Lastly to let you know that we will be producing the Diary at least monthly over for the foreseeable future as we are committed to keeping you up to date with what is happening. We would also like to hear from you with **feel good stories** and your **suggestions** for reducing the boredom and staying cheerful.

Val & Andrea, - your editorial team

NOTE: All information is correct at the time of going to press

Headline

WARBOYS UNITES

The current situation is unprecedented and as a community it is vital that we all pull together in making sure that everyone is safe and cared for. The statutory organisations that provide care in the community are coming under great strain, so we, as the people of Warboys must **unite together** and collectively look after each other.

Over the past couple of weeks Berny Robinson, from the Waterside Practice and Mark Boucher have been distributing leaflets to every household in the village (and surrounding areas) and have been delivering food and essentials. Berny and Mark have also galvanised a whole army of volunteers who have offered to help in delivering food, donating food items or money (*for more go to page 2*).

Warboys Unites is a group within the village who will develop a web portal where individuals can volunteer their services or ask for help and we can then link people up in the most effective manner. This initiative will supplement the fantastic work undertaken by Berny and Mark, who are part of the group which is supported by Ciconi Ltd, Warboys Parish Council, Warboys Timebank the Warboys Diary team, the Parish Church, and Tracey-Anne Hancox

The web portal will go live on Saturday 28 March and the address is **www.warboysunite.co.uk** Anyone who does not have the means to access the website will be able to register by contacting Berny, Mark or the Diary Team by telephone

Springing out of Warboys Unites, we see a village community joined together with common goals. To adapt to changing needs as the coronavirus situation unfolds and to care, love, support and encourage each other during a time of real challenge.

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DIARY CONTACT DETAILS

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Support initiative for COVID-19 attracts Newspaper and local Radio attention!



Mark Boucher, a Warboys lad, started looking out for those vulnerable residents in the Warboys and surrounding areas amidst all the initial panic by going out to buy and stockpile essentials for those in need.

Berny Robinson, a well-known Osteopath at The Waterside Practice Warboys. Was inspired by Mark's selfless efforts and started brainstorming on social media about a possible scheme to pair up those high-risk residents in isolation who had no nearby family or friends, with those lower risk residents that were still able to buy groceries online or in shops.

The pair since then created quite a storm through social media, relying on the kind-hearted residents of Warboys and surrounding villages to print out and deliver slips (as below) to put through people's doors after soon realising the vulnerable were rarely in use of social media!

The response has been and continues to be of overwhelming kindness, the good people of our area have pledged to look after those that most need it by many means.

Special thanks (thus far) goes to:

- ★ Parrot Print Ramsey for printing thousands of slips
- ★ All the home printers out there providing and delivering slips
- ★ Davies Newsagents for opening their doors to use as a drop off and pick up point for slips
- ★ Countless wonderful people going out, in the rain, marching on to deliver to every single house
- ★ The generous Donators; food, essentials, paracetamol and money to purchase needed items
- ★ Donation stock & volunteer organisation by Laura Boucher
- ★ The donation deliveries as co-ordinated by Mark Boucher
- ★ Shoppers willing to take a vulnerable resident under their wing and get their shopping lists
- ★ Berny for co-ordinating slip deliveries and shopper pairing

Within a week, thousands of homes have been reached, many getting in touch to thank the pair's effort and pledge their support in many ways.

BBC Cambs Radio had Mark talking about the pair's efforts on Thursday 19th March, local newspapers are asking to write about it and now local community groups and businesses are getting behind the scheme

Need Help?

Lovely people in your area are concerned for the at risk and older age groups needing to isolate themselves to avoid being exposed to COVID.

We are pairing up those unable to go out for groceries/essentials with those who are able to add a list to their usual shop and are happy to be reimbursed.

If you have concerns over how to pay your helper, please get in touch and we will help to find an easy and secure solution for all.

Happy to Help?

If you would like to help a neighbour unable to go to the shops please get in touch, as a community we can help & protect everyone who needs it! 😊

Need Essentials Now?

Generous residents have donated essential items to those who are unable to source them of the at-risk isolating population. To donate or if you need something get in touch with Mark Boucher 07375510829

CONTACT: Berny Robinson 07731128717 or by email Bernitta@TheWatersidePractice.co.uk



LATEST INFORMATION from the MOAT HOUSE SURGERY

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IF YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAVE HAD A COUGH OR TEMPERATURE SYMPTOMS IN THE LAST 14 DAYS

DO NOT COME TO THE SURGERY

We are no longer making routine face to face appointments

Unfortunately, due to the unprecedented coronavirus national emergency and following the latest government advice we are no longer booking routine face-to-face appointments. This is for the safety of both our patients and our staff. Instead we are offering an enhanced telephone service from clinicians.

- ★ If you would like to receive a phone call please ring **01487 822230 (8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday)** or alternatively you can contact us with non-urgent queries via email on moat.house@nhs.net
- ★ We will still see patients where it is clinically essential, after we have done a telephone assessment.
- ★ We are working to keep all of our patients as safe as we can. This means "remote by default" including phone and email contact.
- ★ The dispensing of repeat medications will continue as usual. Please arrange for someone else to collect your prescription if you have any respiratory symptoms or feel unwell.
- ★ Appointments for all blood tests will continue as normal for now. **However**, you must not attend if you have any symptoms of fever (temperature), cough or other new respiratory symptoms. Please ring the Surgery to discuss your blood test appointment if you have any symptoms.

A couple of pleas

Do not request medication you don't need. Patients have been asking for medication, in particular inhalers, even when they aren't asthmatic or have not used them for many years. Inhaled medications are for patients with respiratory conditions if you don't have one it is useless and a waste of a valuable resource.

Please remember that staff on the frontline are human beings too with the same concerns, family worries, health worries etc as yourselves. We will do our best in what is an unprecedented situation. But that means people doing their bit too. Please listen to the advice you are being given. Everyone has to do their bit if we are to deal with this.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

As a result of the Government's advice to minimise social contact and self-isolate for those over 70 and anyone with underlying health problems, the Council has taken a number of decisions.

- ★ **Meetings of the Council** have been suspended for the next 12 weeks but the situation will be kept under review as advice is updated by the Government. Any decisions that would have been made by the Council or a Committee while meetings are suspended have been delegated to the proper officer (the Clerk) after consultation with the relevant Council or Committee Chairman and those Members with e-mail access.
- ★ The Council will also determine its comments on **planning applications** in this way. Details of all planning applications submitted to Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council that affect Warboys can be found on their websites. The Parish Council will take into account the information available on those websites at the time that it makes its own decision.
- ★ A record of decisions that would normally have been taken by the Council and its Committees will be published on the Council's website.
- ★ The **Annual Parish Meeting** due to have been held on 22 April 2020 has been cancelled.
- ★ **The Clerk will be working from home and can be contacted as usual by e-mailing clerk@warboysparishcouncil.co.uk or by writing to 2 Blenheim Close, Warboys, PE28 2XF (telephone 01487 823562).**
- ★ **The Parish Centre will be closed for 12 weeks**, subject to review as advice emerges from the Government. Individual hirers will be notified and all deposits returned. The Council apologises for any disappointment caused for people planning parties etc. and hopes that people understand the reasons for the decision.

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE continued

- ★ **VE Day 75:** Members of the Council have been working with representatives of other village organisations since July of last year to provide a host of events over the VE Day 75 weekend. These have been postponed and VE Day 75 celebrations nationally will not now take place in accordance with Government advice. It may be possible for them to be re-arranged for the 75th anniversary of VJ Day in August but this will be dependent on emerging Government advice.
- ★ **Play Areas** - there is no effective way of closing the playgrounds in Adams Lyons, Jubilee Park and Orchard Close in the same way as schools, leisure centres, pubs etc. have been ordered to close with effect from 20 March. Anyone thinking of visiting the playgrounds or allowing their children to use the play equipment are asked to be aware of and follow Government and NHS advice on the current situation which can be found at www.gov.uk/coronavirus and www.nhs.uk/coronavirus.

EMPTYING OF LITTER BINS

The Parish Council is following Government advice in terms of employees in the current highly unusual situation relating to the Covid-19 virus. Consequently, the Handymen are unable to be at work at the moment to carry out the many and varied jobs they perform to keep the village clean for everyone who lives here. This includes the weekly emptying of nearly 40 litter bins in the streets and playgrounds of Warboys.

Fortunately, several members of the Council have generously volunteered to empty the bins to ensure they continue to be available for use and are not overflowing. This will now take place over a weekend rather than the usual time of Monday mornings as most of the councillors who are volunteering have jobs themselves.

Another councillor has volunteered to clean and disinfect the shelter near the Jubilee Clock Tower on a regular basis.

Government advice on social distancing should result in fewer people being out over the coming weeks and therefore less rubbish in the litter bins. However, ***if you are out and about, please take your rubbish, litter and dog poo home with you wherever possible and dispose of it in your domestic grey bin to help the Council volunteers to keep the village clean.***

RAIL TRAVEL

These are exceptional times. Coronavirus is changing how everyone lives, works and travels. We know that Britain's railway is vital to keep the nation connected and we wanted to update you on what is happening to train services.

In order to keep trains running with fewer staff over what may be a prolonged period of disruption for the country, we have worked with government to switch to a reduced timetable from Monday 23 March. It means that essential workers will continue to be able to get to their jobs over the coming weeks and months, and that trains will continue to deliver the goods that keep our supermarket shelves stacked and our power stations running.

There will be around half the number of trains running compared to a normal weekday, with early morning and late evening services where possible to support those doing shift work. New train times will be available from midday Sunday 22 March. Please check National Rail for more information and before you set out.

GRASS CUTTING

The Council owns several parks, playgrounds and open spaces with grass that needs cutting regularly. The Council also cuts several of the highway verges in the village to keep Warboys looking attractive.

Contractors are engaged to cut the larger sites but the smaller areas and verges are cut by the village Handymen who are unable to be at work in the current situation. Discussions are ongoing to try to make alternative arrangements for the cutting of the smaller playgrounds and open spaces.

In the case of the highway verges in High Street and Mill Green, it would be very helpful in the current highly unusual situation if householders with verges outside their homes could cut the grass from time to time when they are cutting their own lawns.

This only applies of course if you are fit and able to do so. You will know if you have a grass verge outside your house that it is often used for dog fouling and although the great majority of people act responsibly and clean up after their dogs, some do not. If you are able to cut the verge, do please exercise care and use good hygiene by wearing gloves, washing your hands and using disinfectant where necessary.

There's a plea also therefore for dog walkers to please avoid allowing your pet to foul the verges but if they do, to pick up after them and take your bag home for disposal.

HMRC Coronavirus Scam

Criminals are also exploiting the current coronavirus situation. There have been reports of people receiving scam emails saying that they can claim a tax refund to help protect themselves from the coronavirus outbreak. HMRC advice is:

- Do not reply to any suspicious emails;
- Do not open any links in the message;
- HMRC will NEVER send an email notification about tax rebates or refunds.

STAGECOACH BUS SERVICES

Temporary changes to bus services in Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Peterborough are being introduced by Stagecoach from **Monday March 30, 2020** following new government advice around social contact and non-essential travel to help combat the coronavirus.

A reduced timetable will operate across the region until further notice. The timetables have been carefully created to ensure that critical routes are maintained wherever possible.

It follows extensive action by bus operators to enhance cleaning regimes and protect the safety and well-being of customers and bus worker

Please go to the service updates section of our website - www.stagecoachbus.com to find the most up to date information or follow them on twitter@Stagecoach East for the most up to date information.

GENERAL WARBOYS UPDATES**For the foreseeable future**

ALL regular and forthcoming events are cancelled, including church services

All venues normally available for hire are now closed

Warboys Primary Academy and the Warboys Under 5s Pre-school are closed until further notice. They are however providing a service for the children of key workers **ONLY**.

The Warboys & District Day Centre is closed; de Ramsey Court & Ashley Court are under partial lockdown

The White Hart, Royal Oak and Sports & Social Club are closed

The Windmill Bakery Café is closed, but the Bakery is open as usual

Library Services

From **Monday 23 March** all Library buildings will be closed, but the service is working to create an alternative offer including:

- Appointments to use IT for those who most need it
- A drop off/collection service for item reservations on an appointment basis – with items quarantined for 72 hours between loans. Details of how to book these appointments will follow shortly.
- An increased Library@Home Service – using more staff and volunteers to drop off and collect books and other resources/services whilst maintaining social distancing (a doorstep service)
- An Expanded Assisted Digital offer over the phone/online – increasing the amount of online resources for people to borrow and enjoy and with more digital alternatives to group sessions including online activities e.g. storytimes for families to take part in.
- We will also use the Library Service infrastructure to support the new countywide Co-ordination Hub, with
 - Library delivery vans and mobile vehicles available to provide transport infrastructure for the distribution of essential goods and services to communities, care homes and individual housebound as required – mobiles already distribute batteries and are in discussion with food banks about deliveries
- Library staff to be redeployed through The Hub and in support of the interim service outlined above

For more information go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk and search for library news

WARBOYS SPORTS FIELD TRUST: CORONAVIRUS POLICY

The committee of the sports field trust take the outbreak of coronavirus very seriously. It is affecting us all whilst socialising and we would like to make you aware of our policy. We are a body in the village that is responsible for the upkeep of the sports field on Forge Way and our responsibility is to provide pitches for organised sport such as adult and junior football and cricket.

Because of the coronavirus risk, we cannot allow any of our affiliated clubs or any other group within the village to take part in any organised gathering of people for the purposes of matches or training. In the current climate, we have decided to relax our normal rule that only permits organised sports on the field.

We will therefore allow members of the public/ small groups to use the field for informal activities sporting /exercise activities as long as:

- **all rules regarding social distancing applied by the government are adhered to at all times**
- any person/group who uses the field **clears away all rubbish/mess** that they might create - we do not want our groundman to be exposed to the virus by having to collect and remove rubbish
- **dogs must not be taken onto any part of the sports field** as we cannot risk contaminating it with faeces

We can take no responsibility for anything that should happen to those using the field from the effects of contamination. We ask you to leave the field clean and tidy and ready for when organised sports can start up again. We thank you for your co-operation. Look after yourselves

HOW TO AVOID CATCHING & SPREADING CORONAVIRUS**1. Hand Washing**

HM Government **NHS**

CORONAVIRUS
WASH YOUR HANDS
MORE OFTEN
FOR 20 SECONDS

Use soap and water or a hand sanitiser when you:

- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze or cough
- Eat or handle food

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

For more information and the Government's Action Plan go to [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

HM Government **NHS**

Coronavirus
Wash your hands with soap and water more often for 20 seconds

- 1** Palm to palm
- 2** The backs of hands
- 3** In between the fingers
- 4** The back of the fingers
- 5** The thumbs
- 6** The tips of the fingers

Use a tissue to turn off the tap.
Dry hands thoroughly.

CORONAVIRUS
PROTECT YOURSELF & OTHERS

In addition

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your hands, unless they are clean

NOTE: Soap and water are on balance more effective than off the shelf hand sanitisers. Also try washing your hands at least every TWO hours

2. Social distancing

Social distancing: What should I do?



Working from home

Advised
For anyone aged 0-69

Strongly advised
Anyone 70+
Those with an underlying health conditions
Pregnant women



Use less public transport

Advised
For anyone aged 0-69

Strongly advised
Anyone 70+
Those with an underlying health conditions
Pregnant women



Visits from friends and family

Advised against
For anyone aged 0-69

Strongly advised against
Anyone 70+
Those with an underlying health conditions
Pregnant women



Socialising outside home

Advised against
For anyone aged 0-69

Strongly advised against
Anyone 70+
Those with an underlying health conditions
Pregnant women

Those with serious underlying health conditions: as above but further guidance will be provided by the NHS

Source: Public Health England

BBC

If, for whatever reason, you are out and about, please

- Avoid close contact with everyone
- Ideally maintain a distance of at least 2 metres (6 feet) between yourself and anyone else
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

REMEMBER ACT RESPONSIBLY

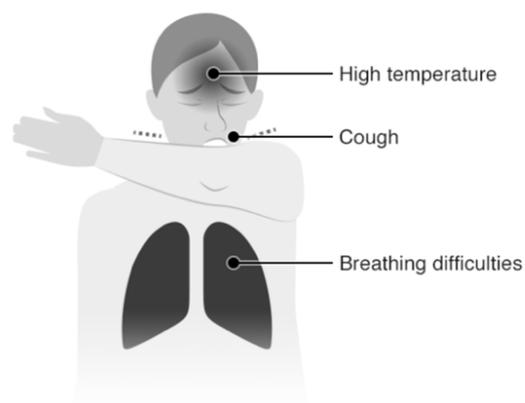
- you need to protect yourself and everyone else around you
- NONE of us are invincible - this is a hidden infection and can be transmitted in a variety of ways

We all need to take sensible precautions – it we don't we put other people at risk

For further advice about coronavirus and how you can prevent the spread please read the advice on the NHS website.

Possible Infection?

Coronavirus: Key symptoms



Source: NHS

BBC

- a high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

Only use the NHS 111 online service if you think you might be infected and

- you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
 - your condition gets worse
 - your symptoms do not get better after 7 days

Only call 111 direct if you cannot get help online

STAYING AT HOME & BEING IN ISOLATION - some general advice

Staying at home can help stop coronavirus spreading.

You will need to stay at home if you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or live with someone who does.

- ★ If you live on your own, the minimum period of self- isolation is 7 days
- ★ If you live with someone who has symptoms, live with someone who is 70 or over, has underlying long term health problems, is pregnant or has a weakened immune system you need to stay in isolation for a minimum of 14 days
- ★ For some individuals who are considered highly vulnerable, the recommendation will be a minimum of 12 weeks in the first instance (these individuals will be contacted personally by the NHS by 29 March)

Staying at home means you should NOT:

- go to work, school or public areas
- use public transport or taxis
- have visitors, such as friends and family, in your home
- go out to buy food or collect medicine – order them by phone or online, or ask someone else to drop them off at your home
- use shared spaces, such as kitchens or bathrooms, at the same time as each other
- share a bed, if possible
- share towels, including hand towels and tea towels

Things you can/should do:

- try to keep at least 2 metres (3 steps) from other people in your home, particularly older people or those with long-term health condition
- open windows in shared spaces if you can
- clean a shared bathroom each time you use it, for example by wiping the surfaces you have touched
- use a dishwasher if you have one – if you do not have one, use washing-up liquid and warm water and dry everything thoroughly
- ask friends and family and delivery services to deliver things like food shopping and medicines – but avoid contact with them
- sleep alone if possible
- regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- drink plenty of water and take everyday painkillers, such as paracetamol to help with your symptoms
- use your garden, if you have one and leave the house to exercise – but stay at least 2 metres away from other people.

Please go to the NHS website for further advice

Looking after your own health and wellbeing

To help yourself stay well while you're at home:

- drink plenty of water to stay hydrated – drink enough so your pee is pale and clear
- try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals
- try to avoid smoking, alcohol and drugs
- keep your windows open to let in fresh air, get some natural sunlight if you can, or get outside into the garden
- do light exercise, if you feel well enough - look for ideas of exercises you can do at home
- you can go for a walk outdoors if you stay more than 2 metres from others
- take paracetamol to help ease your symptoms
- stay in touch with family and friends
- try to keep yourself busy – you could try activities like cooking, reading, online learning and watching films
- spend time doing things you enjoy – this might include reading, cooking, other indoor hobbies or listening to the radio or watching TV programmes

STAYING AT HOME & BEING IN ISOLATION - some more general advice

Staying Connected with others

- Draw on support you might have through your friends, family and other networks during this time
- Think about how you can stay in touch with friends and family while you are at home – by post, phone, messaging, video calls or online – whether it's people you usually see often or reconnecting with old friends or neighbours.
- Let people know how you would like to stay in touch and build that into your routine

Maintaining your own mental health well being

Understandably, you may find that social distancing can be boring or frustrating. You may find your mood and feelings are affected and you may feel low, worried or have problems sleeping and you might miss being outside with other people. It's important to remember that staying at home may be difficult, but you are helping to protect yourself and others by doing it. At times like these, it can be easy to fall into unhealthy patterns of behaviour which in turn can make you feel worse. There are simple things you can do that may help:

- Plan practical things
- Stick to daily routines as far as possible
- Look after your body
- Keep your mind active
- Carry on doing things you enjoy if possible and if it is safe
- Maybe learn something new
- Take time to relax and keep to your regular sleeping pattern
- Talk about your worries
- Don't stay glued to the news

REMEMBER

THE COMMUNITY OF WARBOYS IS HERE TO HELP YOU AND SUPPORT YOU IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. YOU JUST NEED TO ASK

If you are having to self-isolate at home and require a "sick note" you can request an Isolation Note from NHS 111 - <https://111.nhs.uk/isolation-note/>

Guidance for employees, employers and businesses can be accessed via the www.gov.uk website

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION- SNIPPETS

- Most supermarkets are opening early specifically for key workers and all those considered vulnerable
- Cambridgeshire County Council has temporarily relaxed the bus pass rules allowing travel before 9:30am to enable pass holders to take advantage of some supermarkets opening early for older and disabled people.
- The Windmill Bakery in Warboys is offering free deliveries on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for orders over £5 - has be paid over the phone with a card - 01487 208338
- Think about what you are ordering online. Amazon are prioritising food, drink and medical supplies before other products. Your products could arrive maybe a day or so later than advertised if things get busy.
- **Please shop sensibly and do not panic buy** - this creates shortages for others, including vulnerable groups and key workers.
- There is enough of everything if everyone is sensible. Companies are still making and producing food, drink and other necessities and deliveries are still being made.
- Shop locally, but don't be greedy, there are people in the village that cannot drive or have decreased mobility. They will need to rely on local shops more than ever.
- Cook sensibly, make food last longer and don't be wasteful. Cut back on portion size and make use of leftovers
- Think ahead, do you need prescriptions, give the Doctors and Chemist more time to prescribe and dispense your tablets.

BACK TO NORMAL– GROUP & CLUB NEWS**WARBOYS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION VE75 MAY DAY RAFFLE - £100 cash 1st prize**

Even though all our VE75 weekend events are cancelled/postponed, the Community Association is carrying on with the planned raffle.

Tickets can be obtained via various local group/club leaders or you can contact

- Angela on 01487 823041
- Andrea on 07778 672447
- Val on 01487 822967 or 07825 551975

<p>0001 Warboys Community Association</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Tel: _____</p> <p><small>All counterfoils, monies and unsold tickets to be returned to the promoter before the draw date</small></p>	<p>Warboys Community Association</p> <p style="text-align: right;">0001</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">VE 75 MAY DAY RAFFLE</h2> <p>1st Prize: £100 Cash 2nd Prize: Wine Hamper 3rd Prize: Indian Food-Drinks Hamper 4th Prize: Domestic Goddess Hamper Plus many more great prizes</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>The draw will take place at 1400 on Friday 8 May at Warboys Sports Field</p> <p><small>Promoted by: VJ Musson, 16 High St, Warboys, PE28 2RH Registered under The Gambling Act 2005 with Huntingdonshire DC -SSL 1793 Printed by www.raffleisdirect.co.uk</small></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tickets £1.00 Each</p>
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A bit of cheerful optimism. Tickets can be delivered and exchanged safely in the open air

Warboys Christmas Lighting Group – from Mary Bucknell

Immense thanks to everyone who attended our St Patrick's Day themed quiz on 14 March. This provided an evening of light relief during the stressful onset of Covid-19. Every member of the Lighting Group supported this event in a variety of ways for which we are extremely grateful.

The event was run in accordance with latest government criteria, involving lots of cleaning and additional hand washing provisions. My personal thanks were as given on the night, but I wish to reiterate how proud I am of every group member for their continued dedication and co-operation and it is a privilege to work alongside them all.

The Lighting Group were all dressed up and the hall was decorated in a St Patrick's Day theme. There was much amusement and a good time was had by all! Special thanks go to all our sponsors, namely Linda's Gel Nails; Morrisons; Royal Oak; Spar Supermarket; Waterside Practice; WCA and personal raffle donations by many attendees on the night.

This was our first event of the year and we raised £261 on the raffle. Our maximum capacity is for 17 teams and we still had 16 teams competing on the night. Fortunately, our other fundraisers are planned for later in the year when hopefully our community will be in full circulation once again. The Thursford Spectacular trip in December is already sold out so thank you everyone for supporting this bi-annual excursion. We will have a Halloween themed quiz on the actual date (31 Oct) and are in the process of planning an expanded Switch On in November for which we will need to write to Father Christmas asking for a longer attendance, so please all be good this year!

Our 2020 project will be to replace the troublesome Boa lights at The Weir (funds permitting) and to try and achieve satisfactory resolution with Balfour Beatty for their two malfunctioning lighting columns near Kim's in the High Street. We are already seeking sponsors for our 28th November Switch On and would love to be contacted by any interested parties willing to offer financial assistance.

Sadly the St. Patrick's Day quiz might have been a final village social event before movement restrictions came into force, but all the volunteers of Warboys Christmas Lighting Group were delighted to provide you with lots of community enjoyment and will strive to continue that ethos, so watch out for our future advertising via all forms of media.

Thank you for the Warboys clean-up.

On behalf of the village, many thanks to the Warboys Timebank and their band of volunteers for giving up their free time to clean up the streets, verges and especially the kerb gutters over the weekend of 13/14 March.

The weather was cold and breezy but that didn't stop the hard workers shovelling and bagging the muck up off the road, leaving many sacks lined up and down the High St.

With cleaning the gutters, the drains won't get blocked, this causes water to drain away safely when we get heavy rain falling over a short time instead of creating surface water laying on the roads causing puddles and possible dangers to road users.

Current status of the CHP and WWT plant on the landfill site.

Some of you may have seen or are aware that the land for which planning permission for a combined Heat and Power – Waste Water Treatment plant is up for sale with the planning permission. **The landfill site itself is not for sale** and the restoration programme for the site should be completed by December.

The background to this is that the company which prepared the planning application (Sycamore Planning Ltd) has now gone into liquidation, and the other company involved –Larch – appears to be in financial difficulties with accounts currently overdue at Companies House. In addition the similar, but slightly smaller plant in Daventry, now fully built with an Environment Agency permit, has never been operating since completion in December 2018. The company, Silvertree Environmental Ltd, who were to operate that plant went into administration in November 2018 and were dissolved on 1st January 2020. A similar situation has occurred at another CHP-WWT plant at Meriden (near Coventry).

It is clear that such plants, at present, are not operating and according to the Environment Agency are unlikely to be operational in the near future due to “commercial reasons”. Consequently the sale of the land at the landfill site and its associated planning permission suggests that does not appear to be a viable proposition for the original investors who were to buy, build and operate the proposed CHP-WWT plant.

Warboys can now relax for the moment – whilst keeping a watching brief. The proposed plant and its associated hazards have receded into the distant future.

Any further developments will be notified as and when details become available.

The Moat House Surgery would like to say a huge thank you to the:

★ de Ramsey Court Charity Craft Group for raising £2,877.00 in 2019 for the practice. We have purchased a Pulse Oximeter for very small babies and children which has already been put to great use. We will spend the rest of the money on equipment to improve patient care in the near future.

★ Warboys Community Bonfire and Firework Group for their donation of £500. This is going to be put towards renovating our patient toilets and our baby changing room.

Warboys Cricket Club

Thanks to the generosity of the Postcode Community Trust, a grant giving charity funded by players of the People’s Postcode Lottery, St Ives & Warboys Cricket Club have been able to purchase a brand new bowling machine. Martin Croucher said *‘Receiving such support like this makes a real difference to our club and the training facilities we can offer. The new bowling machine will be a great addition for both indoor and outdoor training as we prepare for the coming season’*

WI

The January 2020 meeting saw the new year in with a speaker well known in the local community. Capt Victor Lucas RN (retd) gave a wonderful talk about his year as Cambridgeshire High Sheriff. He went into the history of the post of High Sheriff before talking about how he and his wife Diana prepared for the year. He then talked about the organisation involved throughout the year and the various events they either attended or held themselves. He talked about the various items he had brought for people to view and throughout the talk he gave little antidotes which caused much hilarity. This was a wonderful start to the New Year and we can only thank Capt Lucas for making it so.

At our February Meeting we had two speakers from the British Red Cross: Alyson Cheng, Vice-Chairman for Cambridgeshire, who lives in Warboys and Caroline Hudson, Senior Community Fundraiser for Cambridgeshire. They gave an informative talk, highlighting the work of the British Red Cross. Whilst the organisation is involved in overseas, it also does a lot here in the UK. Just two of the many schemes they provide in the UK include the supply of equipment to help the elderly or disabled and services for refugees in 58 towns and cities. They also have vehicles fully equipped and staffed ready to go into a crisis situation in the UK when they are asked by the Police or Fire Service for help. For example they provided welfare support at the Manchester bombing, Grenville Tower and terrorist attacks in London. Members found this talk very enlightening and Alyson and Caroline answered more questions during refreshments.

55Plus

55Plus members began 2020 with a Bring and Share supper at the January meeting and excellent talks by Andrew and Peter Sugden and Sebastian Davies. Three young Warboys men who have given their time volunteering in Borneo and India.

Our February speaker, Carol Evans, a mental health nurse told us about the pioneering methods at Fulbourn Hospital and an overview of nursing from Florence Nightingale to the present day – 2020 celebrates 200 years of nursing.

**LOOKING FORWARD
TO THE NEXT DIARY**

**This is likely to be
distributed at the end of
April latest**

**If you have any useful
snippets of information,
suggestions for being
active, and staying
cheerful and feel good
stories please send
them to us at the Diary**

**Let's also give a big
thank you to all our local
key workers, wherever
they work –**

**every one of you is
doing a fantastic job**

The children at **Warboys Underfives Preschool** have been very busy during Spring term. They have been learning about Pre-school routines, how to take turns and to share with their friends. They have been encouraged to show kindness to one another and reminded of using good manners, especially at snack time. The children have also been developing an understanding of how to look after the environment, by learning about recycling, upcycling and re-using materials. Our older children visited the clothing bank to recycle some of their old clothes and one of our weekend family challenges encouraged the children to identify recycling symbols on packaging at home. As the Spring weather approached, they enjoyed exploring and observing growth in plants, and talking about what seeds and plants need in order to grow. One of our activities this term has been learning about different occupations; the children have been pretending to be police officers working in the preschool police station. They also used the iPad to find out information about the role of police officers.

The children have been using different size vocabulary such as big, middle sized and small. They have learnt to identify hard and soft materials using their sense of touch, and have been learning to compare by length, height and weight, whilst playing with items such as the multi links. The children have also been gaining an awareness of capacity by experimenting with coloured water. They have been introduced to the concept of floating and sinking, and ice has been used to explore and observe changes as it melts. Both the children's safety awareness and fine motor skills have been developed by using tools such as scissors, hammers and nails and balancing blocks; their gross motor skills practised when using the wooden climbing frame. The children have had fun using their imaginations whilst playing in the preschool supermarket and they have also been thinking about caring for animals and pets whilst playing in our preschool vets. There has been lots of experimentation with playdough, sand and paint to develop creativity, and the children have also been working on their mathematical skills by playing dominoes; counting the spots and finding matching numerals. The children have learnt to sing 'I can sing a rainbow' using Makaton sign language. They have been listening to a range of stories including 'The Bear who wouldn't share' and 'Ten in the Bed', and celebrated World Book Day by talking about their favourite books with their friends at story-time.

Chinese New Year provided a great opportunity for the Children to learn more about cultural traditions. They celebrated with Chinese dragon dancing; by making lucky money bags and lanterns; and by taste-testing interesting foods. In February, they also tried pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and had lots of fun joining in with pancake races.

Following the recent government announcement regarding school closures, Warboys Underfives Preschool will be closed for the foreseeable future. We are currently putting together a strategy for the provision of children whose parents are Key Workers and we will continue to update families on our position as guidance and information evolves. If you have any queries, please contact the Pre-school directly on 01487 823190.

Preparations for our Summer Term fundraising events are also postponed at present.

Warboys and District Day Centre

The past month has seen a varied programme of activities here at the Day Centre. Our first visit was by Nigel Sutton, the Fraud and Cyber Security Advisor with Cambridgeshire Constabulary. As in his previous visit, all members and volunteers found it really helpful to have advice and discussion around the issues of scams that are currently being used, and in particular, those targeted at the elderly and vulnerable. Nigel produced some insightful information about how to keep safe, access help and support as well as reporting concerns where necessary. As in his previous presentation, Nigel was an excellent speaker, who engaged well with the whole group, we were unanimous that this was useful to us all and is no doubt a visit we would like to have again at regular intervals.

Another returning guest was the St. Ives Uke Troupe, as in their previous visit, they provided an afternoon of good music and humour which saw great participation from our members, particularly with singing and dancing. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this afternoon, albeit at the end, we were all worn out, but very, very happy.

One issue that is of great concern to our members, is the talk of cuts to rural bus services, for many of our members, this is a vital lifeline for them. As a result of these concerns, we invited Anna from the Ramsey Neighbourhood Trust to come along and talk to us about the current situation, as well as discussing our concerns. Anna advised everyone of the action being taken by the community, she then gathered comments and personal stories regarding the hardship that changes to bus services would cause. Anna advised us that she was meeting with the local MP on the 13 March and planned to feed back to him the concerns raised by local people about planned changes. All members await with interest the outcome of this piece of work.

As in the case of the majority of the country, the issues around the spread of Coronavirus has been a great concern to us all. Our Trustees and volunteers have been working with members to develop plans to ensure that they remain safe, informed and supported throughout this difficult period. Due to the ever-changing developments in this area, and advice from the Government, the reluctant decision was made to close the Centre until further notice at the end of the session on Wednesday 18 March. We are working in partnership with the statutory services to continue to ensure that all our members and volunteers remain safe and supported throughout these uncertain times.

Finally, the good news is that 2020 sees our charity celebrate its 25th Anniversary, and plans are well progressed for our celebrations in July. Further news on this will be available in the coming months, again dependent upon the coronavirus situation.



**WARBOYS
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**
UPDATE March 2020

A big thank you goes to Simon and Ulla for being the collection point for all your foodbank donations over the last 2 years.

We have now sorted out alternative arrangements. From 1st April, you can leave your donations in the outside storage box by the front door of 16 High Street (opposite the Windmill Bakers).

The box will be emptied at least twice a day, so we think this an accessible and relatively secure way of accepting your donations.

ALSO – thank you for your continued support for the Ramsey Foodbank – your donations are very much appreciated by both the volunteers who run the Foodbank and the recipients.

Ramsey Foodbank Update

The Foodbank is finding these coronavirus times challenging as they are having difficulty sourcing a number of core food items,

Also demand is likely to increase given the economic consequences for many people in our locality.

Particular needs at the moment include the following:

<i>rice</i>	<i>tinned fish</i>	<i>pasta sauces</i>
<i>rice pudding</i>	<i>custard</i>	<i>tinned fruit</i>
	<i>jams</i>	<i>coffee biscuits</i>
<i>loo rolls</i>	<i>cleaning materials</i>	<i>baby wipes/nappies</i>

Please leave in collection box at 16 High St

If you need help from the Foodbank you can contact them directly on 01487 812648 or you can contact the Warboys School Office on 01487 822317 or Natisha Everett, Warboys, Timebank Coordinator via warboys.timebank@gmail.com or ring on 07557 400625

All conversations are confidential