## Quinton and Preston Deanery Stop Press! (Jan '25)

Happy Christmas and all good wishes for 2025 to everyone ...and a special 'Thank You' to all the contributors and distributors who help to make Stop Press happen each month.

## 1. Events: in the Village Hall unless shown otherwise

24 Dec (Tues)	Carols by Candlelight, 5.30pm	
Christmas Eve	St John the Baptist, Quinton	
24 Dec (Tues)	Carol Concert, 7pm, Drinks before at 6.30pm	
Christmas Eve	Preston Deanery Church	
<b>4 Jan (Sat)</b>	Community Coffee Morning: Church	
(usually every 1 <sup>st</sup> Sat)	10.30-12 noon All welcome	
<b>7 Jan (Tues)</b> (usually every 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues)	WI: 7.30pm, Games Evening	
<b>14 Jan (Tues)</b>	Trefoil Guild: 1.30pm,	
(usually every 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)	meal at 'The Boat', Stoke Bruerne	
18 Jan (Sat)	Book Swap and Coffee Morning, 10.30-midday	
21 Jan (Tues)	Parish Council Meeting: 7pm	
Every Mon	Power Pilates: 11am	
**short break after	Classes cost £8 drop-in and new joiners welcome	
10 Dec until 6 Jan**	Contact Anna for more info: <u>krivenko.pam@gmail.com</u>	
Every Thurs	Short Mat Bowls Club: 7-9pm All welcome (contact Ken Feakes or Val Core for more info)	

## 2. Church News

Date	Time	Service	Leader
22 Dec	10am	Parishes Communion	Rev Mark Hurley
<b>24 Dec</b> (Tues)	5.30pm	CHRISTMAS EVE Carols by Candlelight	Major Mike Crouch
<b>25 Dec</b> (Wed)	10am	CHRISTMAS DAY Parishes Communion	Rev Mark Hurley
29 Dec	11am	Benefice Service Holy Communion	Hardingstone
12 Jan	10am	Parishes Communion	Rev Mark Hurley
26 Jan	10am	Parishes Communion	Rev Mark Hurley

St John the Baptist, Quinton is open for private prayer/reflection **by appointment**. Please contact:

Julia Javes (07903 506771) or Andy Bailey (07905 202004)

# 3. Quinton Church, Carols by Candlelight Tues 24 Dec (Christmas Eve) 5.30pm

Perfect to get your Christmas Eve started with your family and friends and be transported to a realm of beauty and joy.

## 4. Preston Deanery Church, Carol Concert and drinks Tues 24 Dec (Christmas Eve)

6.30pm for Festive nibbles and drinks.

7pm Carol Concert.

(By kind permission of the Churches Conservation Trust.)

## 5. Food Aid Far Cotton: next deliveries Thurs 9 Jan

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated for our December deliveries. Your response to the Facebook and Stop Press requests was JUST FANTASTIC! 2 car boot loads were taken to St Mary's.

They were getting a bit low on several items, so your donations came just in time to restock the shelves. Your donations contained so many goodies for the children the lovely people at St Mary's were making up goody bags for the families.

I am planning a Food Bank run on **Thursday 9 January**.

They are particularly short of:

- UHT milk and packets of cereals
- tinned meat, fish, vegetables or fruit
- pasta/rice/noodles, jars of sauce or any other non-fresh food
- any household cleaning or personal hygiene products

Please drop your donation off at 3 Church View Quinton.

Every single item you donate is always very much appreciated. Thank you

Julia

## 6. Village Hall news

## Happy New Year from the Quinton Village Hall Committee!

We hope you've all had a wonderful start to 2025. It was unfortunate that we couldn't go ahead with the Christmas Community Night as planned, but we're excited for the year ahead and the events we have in store to support our Village Hall.

We're kicking off the year with two fantastic events:

## Race NightBingo Night

We can't wait to see you there and look forward to hearing any ideas you may have to support our Village Hall

## Charity Race Night: Friday 7 February, 7 for 7.30pm

'Come and try your luck on the horses' join us for a fun Community Night whilst raising some funds for the hall Entry £2.50 Bets 50p Raffle Bring your own drink and snacks Tickets from: Kathey Bailey (<u>kathey.bailey@outlook.com</u>) (event limited to 60 tickets)

#### BINGO: Friday 7th March, 7 for 7.30pm

Our very own bingo host Val Core will be running another fun night. Buy a Bingo book there, £1 single game, £5 a book of 5 games. Cash Prizes Bring your own drink and snacks

## **Book Swap and Coffee Morning**

Don't forget to join us at this monthly event: January 18<sup>th</sup> February 15<sup>th</sup>

## 7. Village Hall Website and Bookings

All bookings need to be made via the website at: <u>www.quintonvillagehall.co.uk</u>.

For paid bookings (those not covered by the stipend paid to the hall by the Parish Council to cover the use of the hall by village organisations), you pay your hire charges online as you book.

## 8. Quinton Parish Council

#### Waste & Recycling Collections over festive season

You may already know about the arrangements for the Christmas period, details can be found on the Council website in the "Noticeboard" section, here is the link. Noticeboard | Quinton Parish Council

#### Speeding

The council is gathering data regarding vehicles speeding on the Wootton Road, if you have witnessed any events, please let the Clerk know so it can be added to the information we already have.

#### **Road Closure**

Washbrook Lane will be closed between 13-15<sup>th</sup> January for cabling work.

#### Parish Elections 2025

In May 2025 there will be Parish Council Elections, if you are considering standing for election, please contact the Clerk if you need any information regarding eligibility or the process.

#### Parish Council Budget 2025/26

At the November meeting the first stages of the Budget process began, this will be where the council considers the potential expenditure and potential projects for the coming year. If you have any ideas on how the council funds should be spent, please contact the Clerk.

#### Next Council Meeting 7pm, Tues 21 January

This will be a face-to-face meeting and will start at 7:00pm. If you have any items you wish to be discussed at the meeting, please let me know 4 days in advance of the meeting if you want it on the agenda.

Stay safe. John Scott <u>Clerk@quintonparishcouncil.gov.uk</u> (07738 760618)

## 9. Quinton Farmers Diary – Winter 2024

What do they say, "one step forward two steps back," that seems to summarise farming quite well at this moment in time. I look back at what I wrote last December and commented on the 357mm of rainfall we had since harvest, well this year we have beaten it with 390mm of rainfall, 200mm of that falling over a five-day period at the end of September.

This has made establishing the autumn sown crops a big challenge, the reasonably dry weather in August hampered our oilseed rape establishment and drilling did not take place until early September, the weather stayed dry hampering germination of the small rape seed, then at the end of September the heavens opened and the small plants were drowned and had endless attacks from slugs, the end results - total failure of the crop.

The weather in October did dry for a few weeks allowing us to start drilling the winter wheat crops by the middle of the month and completing them by early November. The winter bean drilling then took place in reasonable conditions, finished just before the heavens opened again.

The fields along the Preston Deanery Road are back into winter wheat, the variety called Crusoe which is a bread making wheat. They were all drilled at the end of the drilling period in early November and over the last couple of weeks have started emerging. We are currently fighting a never-ending battle with slugs which are grazing the newly emerging wheat plants. We have just applied the 3<sup>rd</sup> application of slug pellets, but due to the constant wet weather and high slug numbers it may not be the last application we need to make.

Elsewhere on the farm we have just had our SFI application approved by Defra/RPA (Rural Payments Agency). SFI stands for Sustainable Farming Incentive, it financially rewards us for the various things we do to look after the land we farm.

Things covered in our application are management plans for all or soils, testing our nutrient levels and organic matter levels, management plans for all our hedges and trees, signing up to not apply insecticides to our crops, being rewarded for our variable rate application of all our fertiliser, so its only applied where there is a "need" by the crop. The scheme has been rolled out over the entire country, but as with other government departments the application process was not very straight forward and took nearly 3 months from submitting to getting approval.

Winter is fully here now with the dark mornings and early sunsets, time for field work is limited and my team is now starting to go through all the farm machinery to undertake maintenance, repair any broken kit and replace worn wearing metal which cultivates the soil.

It is very pleasing to see the farmland birds feeding off our wild bird seed mixture plots which we have established around the farm. Hopefully in a few weeks the days will start getting longer and the fields will start drying out and the crops will start their spring growth.

## 10. Websites

#### **Quinton Parish Council**

#### www.quintonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Covers a lot of information about our village, its history, societies and groups, the council's work and how to access government info and services, photographs and things that are going on.

#### West Northamptonshire Council

www.westnorthants.gov.uk For all council information and services

## 11. Overnight roadworks – Towcester Relief Road, 6-8th Jan

I have noticed that on 6th January the A43 northbound carriageway will be shut from 10:00pm-6am to install the contraflow on the northbound carriageway.

And on **7th January the A43 southbound carriageway will be shut for one night from 10:00pm-6:00am** to install the contraflow on the southbound carriageway. The southbound diversion route includes using the A5 to Bletchley and then joining the A421 back to the A43.

Please check this information and other updates on: <a href="https://resident-portal.co.uk/towcester/updates/">https://resident-portal.co.uk/towcester/updates/</a>

Kathey

## 12. Roade and Quinton Old Folks Fund

#### **Tote results**

Date Drawn:	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2024
Drawn By:	Margaret Smith & Janice Bullwright
	at Roade House Cafe

Winning numbers	Name & Village	Prize
08 07 01	Mr K Luck, Roade	£150.00
03 03 09	J Rolfe, Roade	£90.00
08 13 09	S Loveridge, Roade	£65.00
07 06 00	P Edwards, Roade	£60.00
00 04 09	Mr A Strudwuck, Roade	£55.00
12 04 13	Mrs C Ward, Roade	£50.00
02 04 06	Mrs E Dyke, Roade	£45.00
05 07 04	Mrs J Bracher, Roade	£29.00
12 03 10	C Frost, Roade	£12.00
06 11 01	Mr W Spokes, Roade	£12.00

Total raised	£1136.00
Total prize money	£568.00
Total paid to fund	£568.00

Money to Promotor: Date of next Draw: Time & Location:

Tuesday 7<sup>h</sup> January 2025

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 12.00 (noon) The Roade House Cafe

## 13. Future dates

(all events are in the Village Hall unless shown otherwise)

1 Feb	Community Coffee Morning: Church,10.30-12 noon	
4 Feb	WI: 7.30pm, finding out about the Woad Farm Project with Clare and Beth	
7 Feb	Race Night: 7 for 7.30pm, see details p3	
15 Feb	Book Swap and coffee morning: 10.30-midday	
25 Feb	Trefoil: 2pm, our Thinking Day meeting	
7 March	rch Bingo: 7 for 7.30pm, hosted by Val, see details p3	
25 April	Quiz Night: with Louise	

## 14. Join our villages' Facebook Group to keep up-to-date

...and ask for or offer help. Only open to residents in Quinton and Preston Deanery (or a nominated representative) and is 'private' and 'hidden' – so you won't find it on Facebook.

Ask a current member, or 'Andy Quinton' (profile pic is Quinton church with the remembrance poppy cascade) to be a friend – they can then invite you onto the site.

...and if you don't get a quick response, just email me. Kathey

## Deadline for items for the next Stop Press

Sunday 26 January

to <u>'kathey.bailey@outlook.com'</u>

## ...and remember that Stop Press is also available by email

- You'll get it quicker
- You'll be able to access website links easily
- You'll have it with you on your smart phone!
- ...and you can always change back to having a delivered 'hard copy'.