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**Articles for the March-April 2022 edition should be sent by
February 20th
to the Editor at 92 Station Road, Tempsford.**

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TEMPSFORD TIMES

The village magazine of Tempsford,
Bedfordshire www.tempsford.org

Issue 91
Jan-Feb 2022



**NEW EVENTS WITHIN THE VILLAGE ANNOUNCED
AT LAUNCH MEETING
See pages 6, 7 and 8 for details**

TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE WARD COUNCILLORS

Contact details: Adam Zerny adamzerny@hotmail.co.uk
Tracey Wye traceywye@icloud.com



JUNE 2022

In 2022, **Queen Elizabeth** will celebrate her Platinum Jubilee marking 70 years as Sovereign of the United Kingdoms of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, and as head of the Commonwealth of Nations. As it is the first time any British monarch has reached this milestone, plans are afoot to create a series of UK events to rival that of the proceedings in 2012, the year of the Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics.

In Tempsford groups are already working together to plan suitable events in our village. If you have any ideas or are willing to be involved please contact any of the leaders of the following:

Tempsford Parish Council
Stuart Memorial Hall Management Committee
Tempsford Museum and Archives

Contact details are listed throughout this issue.

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Advice Central is a central access point for telephone advice only available to residents of Central Bedfordshire. This is a service fully funded by Central Bedfordshire council and managed by The Disability Resource Centre.

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- staffed by trained assistants to assess and signpost callers to the most relevant referral partners
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-

It provides:

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- up to date, accurate and accessible **information** in a range of formats.
- **community navigation** around statutory, voluntary sector and independent agencies

Please access our website from the following link for more information on the service: <https://advicecentral.org.uk/>



NEWS OF THE DIG!

I would like to wish all of the Tempsford community, on behalf of National Highways A428 project, seasonal greetings and a prosperous New Year, and to provide a quick update on our archaeological work on the land to the West of Hills Farm, Station Road (Site 7 Field F44), and our work during the Christmas period.

We are on schedule, and expect to complete our archaeological investigations at the beginning of February 2022. We will be finishing on site for the Christmas period on the 22nd December 2021 and back on the 4th January 2022. We will have CCTV cameras to maintain site security and are not expecting to have any persons on site during this period.

Our thanks to the people of the Tempsford community, for being patient with us while we complete these archaeological investigations, and we wish everyone best wishes for the festive period.

Kind regards

Andrew Gosling
Project Manager
Complex Infrastructure Programme (CIP)
National Highways | Woodlands | Manton Lane | Bedford | MK41
7LW
Telephone: 0300 4707238
Mobile: 07738 263981

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN : BACK ON TRACK

The Steering Group sent the following report after the Parish Council asked for a statement of progress. *"The Neighbourhood Plan has been produced to a high standard and covers a great amount of detail and follows the required guidelines. A very detailed Character Assessment of the village goes alongside the plan to add further value to the importance of keeping the look and feel of our village as small developments may take place in the future."*

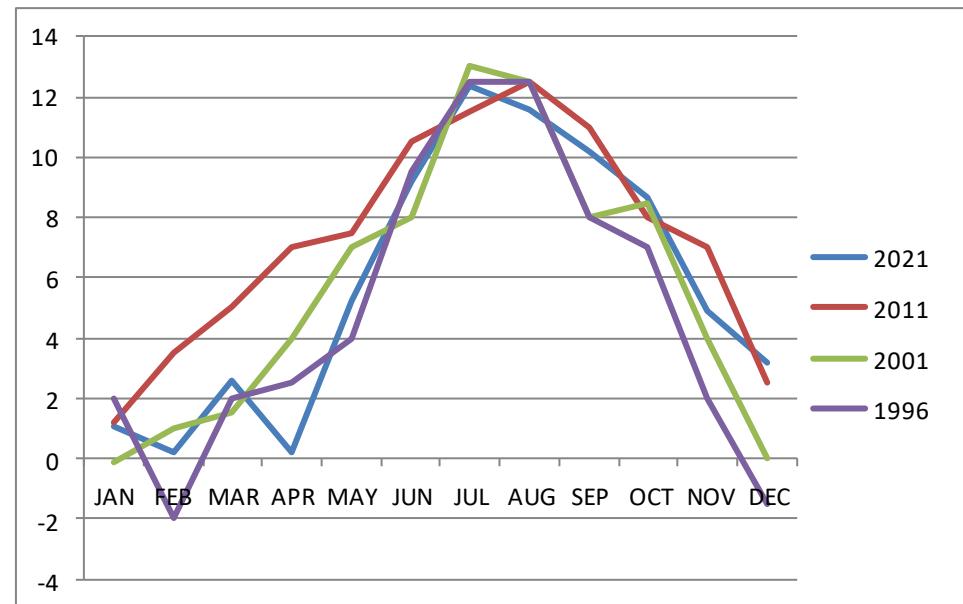
Appreciation: As progress had stalled by the effects of the pandemic and the resignation of the Steering Group chairman Andy Bennett due to business pressures and essential family commitments, the Parish Council sent its thanks and appreciation to him. Having seen and read the Plan, the Council believed it to be well researched, well constructed and well written. Therefore the Council in disbanding the Steering Group thanked them all for offering their interest, time and knowledge in the first instance some long while ago and for completing all the work of writing and producing the documents which the Council had now received and accepted.

Completion: The Parish Council set up an Implementation Group of Christine Creese and Phil Joyce, the original secretary and treasurer and Adrian Besant and David Sutton, the Parish Council's Chair and Vice Chair. This group was tasked with taking the Plan through all the necessary regulatory steps to complete the process and has already met once to plan the Consultation Period.

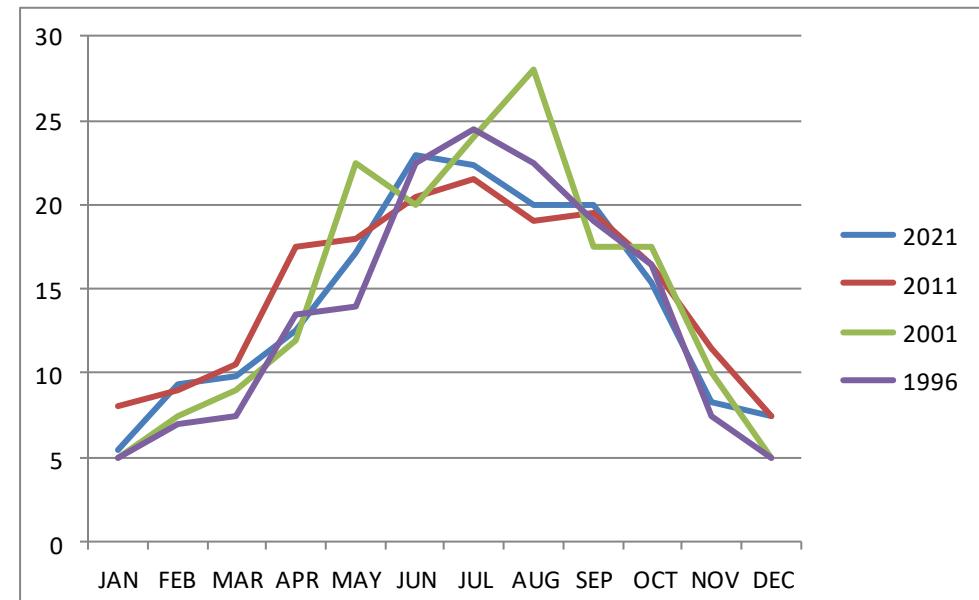
Consultation Period: In the coming few weeks the Plan and its associated website are being updated and checked and will soon be available for Tempsford residents to read. Please look out for flyers giving more details and asking you to give your feedback on the work so far done.



AVERAGE MONTHLY MINIMUM TEMPERATURES (°C)



AVERAGE MONTHLY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES (°C)



CLIMATE CHANGE IN TEMPSFORD?

2021 had few remarkable features, a wet winter, a cold dry spring, an unremarkable summer but thankfully a mild sunny autumn. Rather than just summarizing the year, I thought it might be good to compare the years to see if our weather really is changing. But you can't read too much into this data; to be more accurate you need to look at a wider range of years. Here you will see the years contain many similarities and many great differences!

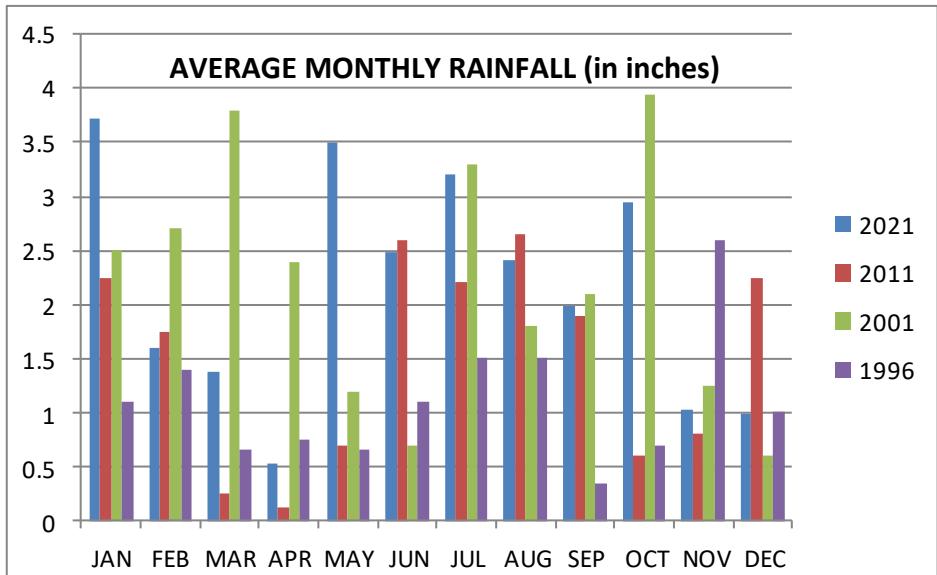
Rainfall varies most: 1996 was the driest year in my records with 12.91" in total. 2001 had 26.26", 2011 had 18" and 2021 had 25.76". If anything I would say that the climate has become slightly wetter, often with the wettest months in the summer.

I have recorded some very **high temperatures** on individual days in the last 20 years especially. Average maximum temperatures have not altered much.

Minimum temperatures have altered and there seems to be a general trend towards milder winters. I have rarely recorded any temperature below -7°C in the last decade whereas 25 years ago I would have had one or two exceptionally low night temperatures (-10 to -13 on a few occasions).

I feel too that the seasons have shifted a little. Winter seems to come later in recent years. 25 years ago my first recorded frost was in mid October now it's mainly at the end of the first week in November.

Meryl Besant



THE BIG BLUNHAM BOOK SALE IS BACK IN 2022

THE BIG BLUNHAM BOOK SALE

will be held on

Saturday 26th February 2022

10.00am to 3.00 pm

in Blunham Parish Church. MK44 3NQ



A huge selection of nearly new books, specialist and fiction sorted into categories. Home made soup with bread, homemade cakes, hotdogs, teas and coffee served all day. Plus a raffle.

All proceeds to Blunham Church Fabric Fund.



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Tempsford Meet Up Group

Love Tempsford, Love Your Community

Events and clubs for Tempsford residents organised by volunteers to help rebuild our community.

Join in by keeping an eye on

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First Team report by Manager Craig Spindle:
Mixed fortunes for the first team from the 3 games they've played in recent weeks, first off there was a trip to Stewartby to take on the Div 4 league leaders Denham Raptors in the County Cup. With a depleted side the boys put up a great fight coming in 0-0 at half time, this took its toll on the players and they eventually fell to a 5-1 defeat, Martin Faulkner scoring our consolation goal. The team returned to league action when we hosted

Langford Ivel, a very dominant performance from Tempsford secured a 2-1 win which in truth should have been a much larger margin, Jordy Hutchinson scored both goals on his return to the team after missing a few games through injury. Our most recent game was at home to Houghton Conquest which saw us slip to a surprising 2-3 defeat, despite being the better team, we didn't get our rewards from the game. The goals came from Jack Smith-Howell who netted his first goal of the season & from mApem Dako who put himself back at the top of the teams goal scoring table.

Reserve Team Report by Joe Lawrence: Despite a continued run of defeats, there is much to be cheerful about the squad that gives more depth to the Tempsford FC foundations. We lost 2-3 versus Stewartby with Fabio Gomes scoring a brace, but in all honesty it was a disappointment not to have racked up our first points of the season. The next match against Rushden Sargents saw a Scott Maxwell brace with a belter scored from the halfway line and a fired-up Taylor Nicholson coming off the bench to put a bobby-dazzler into the back of the net. It was a 3-6 defeat but it was a performance to be proud of. The final match of this report is a 0-10 defeat against BHB Rovers. You might think a trouncing of this magnitude with no goals scored would be a complete disaster for a club that strives to get better game after game, however on this particular Remembrance Sunday, with a host of unavailable players and those out injured, it was an achievement just to have completed the match. It didn't help matters having to use the opposition's manager as a referee until the appointed one finally arrived after 20 minutes, but such is life!

Final words: As always we welcome any support for the club, and why not make it a New Year's Resolution to come and watch one of our matches in 2022!

OUR COMMUNITY DIDN'T LET US DOWN

Have you noticed some of our Tempsford residents have been causing a bit of a stir and bringing smiles to lots of faces?

Tempsford Meet Up Group So what is T-Mugs all about? Our vision is to get that community spirit back by reaching out to everyone, from the young to the old, joining groups for like-minded residents, village events, and organised activities to bring us all together.

As an ice breaker and first introduction, we started with a Halloween lead event on 30th October at our wonderful village hall. After leaflet dropping, door knocking and sharing the event on social media, we kept our fingers crossed and hoped all the effort had been worth it! We were supported by local businesses with kind donations to help us fund the event and as you can see from the front cover photo, the children's activity corner picture here, and the others overleaf, we were overjoyed to see so many of you come and support us.

A second, superb, Wine and Cheese evening was held on 4th December. We had great fun trying to guess which wines we were drinking and also with a general knowledge quiz, which was quite competitive but in a nice way. Everyone seemed to have a very enjoyable time and great thanks and congratulations should go to Kay and her T-Mug team.

We have various groups already under way and many new ideas planned for 2022. Keep your eyes open for up-coming activities and events from the Parish notice board or Knotts Farm Shop notice board or following Tempsford Stuart Memorial Hall social media pages or simple call Kay on 07970 385354.





TMUG launch evening

Stalls around the room were offering information to new members about the chance to join new activity groups



and types of equipment, with the idea of purchasing one. Charity Field – Cllr. Fraser had heard from Highways England regarding the need to use the land that funds Tempsford Charity in their construction of the A428 extension. In fact they were only requesting to use a 3m wide strip of land down edge of the field for access during construction.. Cllr. Fraser will keep the Parish Council informed of progress.

Black Cat Planning Inspectorate: A notice had been put on social media regarding the hearings being held by the Inspectorate on the plans for the extension of A428 and Black Cat Roundabout

General report on Tempsford highways The road opposite No.69 Station Road had been resurfaced and drain cleared out; a new bollard had been put on refuge near Station Road entrance from the link road; CBC Highways has been shown the condition of the road edging between the level crossing and Station Farm, how the lorries had broken down its edges and therefore needs a lot of repairing. Much of this has been caused by vehicles avoiding over grown hedges in the other side of the road. Various street lights in the village and on the A1 are not working and had been reported.

Cemetery/Churchyard: Remembrance Day service will be held at 3pm at the Memorial Green, Church Street led by Rev Graham Buckle and Rev James Bamber and will continue in St. Peter's Church.

Work Party: it was decided to have another work party to just sort out the Church yard again. Date decided 27th November 10am – 2pm. Flyers and information to be put on Parish Council and Community Facebook pages to encourage residents to come along and help

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th January, and it will be held in the Methodist Chapel Schoolroom, Station Road at 7.30 pm.

Chairman hopes to complete the tasks in 6 months.
It should be explained to all residents, that the NP does not stop the new road or railway but should show how the plan will help the village.

Playground: New fence. The wooden fence in the small play area in Station Road needs repairing. Several posts have rotted, several rails broken, and the chain link is curling and breaking. Various quotes have been obtained and it was decided to have a completely new metal fence erected, keeping the gate and kissing gate. Church St., play area – “Springer” ride. Quotes were sent to all Councillors for the repair or replacement of the Springer. It was decided to get Kompan to repair the existing springer.

Footpaths: The Clerk has received maps from CBC indicating where footpaths/bridleways were around Tempsford to enable residents to use them instead of farmland. Cllr. Sutton mentioned it was difficult to navigate some footpaths to certain places as there were no signs. Clerk to send Cllr. Sutton maps so he can put them on social media for residents to have a look at.

Police: Clerk had sent round to Councillors the most recent PCC update/newsletter.

Planning: CB/21/04018/FULL – The Mill, Mill Lane. Change The Mill into one dwelling. After much discussion and surveys of plans and descriptions, the Council offered no objections. Resolution – No objections.

Highways: Speed indicating cameras. Cllr. Fraser had asked Gt. Barford Parish Council, if we could borrow their camera to see if it is a system we liked. But they were loathe to. Cllr. Fraser still thought it a good idea to consider this type of camera as we could use the data to lobby Highways in the future. The Council decided to obtain further information on various makes

TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH



TUESDAY 22nd FEB

4-15pm — 5-30pm

SINGING / ACTIVITIES / STORIES

**Children need to be accompanied
by an adult**

There is no charge



Open the first Sunday of the month 2pm-4pm

We send our grateful thanks to all our visitors and supporters over the past months and we hope you all had a wonderful

Festive Season and we wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The museum is now closed for January and will re-open on 6th February 2022

The Exhibition for February will be "FUN TIMES AT THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL"

with a selection of early to modern day photographs taken at various events in the Stuart Memorial Hall. Also a selection of film will be on show of events held in the hall & other items of film made over the years.

There will also be lots of permanent and portable exhibitions associated with Tempsford Village And RAF Tempsford on display.

Our tea room will also be open selling a Selection of Home Baked Cakes, Tea, Coffee and Fruit Juice.
We are open 2pm till 4pm

Entry is £2.00. Children under 16 and Members free.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

The following is a summary of the main points of discussion at the Parish Council meeting held on the 8th November 2021. Full copies of the Minutes are available on the village website www.tempsford.org or from the Clerk.

Present: - 7 Councillors, Clerk and 4 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Apologies received from CBC Councillors, Adam Zerny and Tracey Wye. The Chairman welcomed Joe Lawrence as the new Parish Councillor to this meeting.

Declarations of interest: - None were received.

Acceptance of Minutes: Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 14th September and the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting also held on the 14th September were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Central Beds. – No Councillor was present.

Finance: The Clerk presented payments for approval—agreed Grant Request – TMug, the new social group in the village, put in a funding request. A grant of £500 was awarded as a start-up grant as a one-off grant and not a regular yearly payment.

Budget: Cllr. Fraser reviewed the Budget that he and the Clerk had worked on. After a short discussion it was agreed that the Precept would be £15,000 this year. The Clerk would send this to CBC.

Neighbourhood Plan: The Chairman and Cllr. Sutton met with the Chairman of the NP to discuss the way forward as he had resigned from the position. The outcome of the meeting showed there were 10 steps to take to complete the process of producing the long-awaited Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman believed this was achievable, firstly because we have Cllr. Sutton who is able to complete the necessary website and the Parish Council controls the finances. It was decided to close the present group and form an implementation group to complete the final 10 “legal” hurdles. The Chairman would thank all NPSG members disbanding the group and thank them for offering their interest, time and expertise in the first instance. The

**BLUNHAM COMMUNITY CINEMA,
VILLAGE HALL, MK44 3NN, PRESENTS**

Friday 28th January

'The Last Bus' (Cert 12A)

starring Timothy Spall and Phyllis Logan.

A heart-warming tale of Tom (Timothy Spall), a pensioner whose wife Mary (Phyllis Logan), has just passed away who travels from Britain's most northerly point, John O'Groats to his original home town at its most southerly point, Land's End, using his free bus pass. He carries with him only a small suitcase, travelling the length of the country with it. Along the way, his adventures are recorded by the people he meets and helps, and by the end of his trip he has unwittingly become a social media celebrity. Film starts promptly 7.30 pm doors open 7pm. Adults £5.00. Children £3.00. Family (2A + 2C) £12.00. Sweets, Drinks, Ice cream and Pop-corn are available. For tickets or any further information contact Sue 01767 640572 or 07783 046020.

Friday 25th February.

'All about Eve'(Cert A 18)

starring Bette Davis, Anne Baxter and George Sanders.

Fish and Chip night to celebrate our 6th anniversary plus the black and white film.

A seemingly timid but ruthless ingénue insinuates herself into the lives of an aging Broadway star and her circle of theatre friends. Price £12.00 (cinema ticket, fish and chips plus a glass of bubbly) Cinema only £5.00. Doors open 6.00 pm supper served 6.30 pm. Bar and Raffle. For tickets or any further information contact Sue 01767 640572 or 07783 046020.

**CELEBRATING NATIONAL EVENTS
IN THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL**



Bedford Morris Men on St George's Day



Tempsford celebrates Burns' Night

STUART MEMORIAL HALL

It's been another year of ups and downs for the Hall. In the early part of the year, we were still locked down and unable to open but, in May, restrictions were relaxed and were able to open again. Bookings have steadily increased since then, although not quite back to pre-Covid levels yet. We just hope that the new Omicron variant doesn't force us to close again but we'll have to follow any restrictions that the Government imposes. For the moment, we are fully open but masks are now mandatory in the Hall except when exercising or eating and drinking.

During the early part of the year, we were able to complete most of the scheduled maintenance work and complete the works paid for by our CBC Community Assets Grant. There is still plenty to do but we have decided to defer painting of the kitchen and outside of the Hall until the warmer weather in the spring.

The Hall Committee has decided that, subject to Covid, there will be a Tempsford Show in 2022. The main focus, as with previous shows, will be on the produce and crafts exhibition in the Main Hall. We will be posting the categories for entries in the New Year.

It only remains for me to thank the Hall Committee for all their hard work during the year and to wish the whole community a peaceful and less stressful New Year.

Brian Harrison, Chairman, Hall Committee
b.harrison46@btinternet.com
www.tempsford-stuart-memorial-village-hall.co.uk



The smiling faces of those who were there show how much they enjoyed the occasion.



TEMPSFORD METHODIST CHURCH,

Station Road, Tempsford

(part of the St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Circuit)

Minister: Rev James Bamber 01480 453857

Church Steward: Stephen Gosling,

81 Station Rd, Tempsford 01767 641175

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL.

Congratulations and thanks to Liz Knott and her team for producing such an excellent meal at the Methodist Chapel on December 11th. The thanks comes from the many people who attended, and all expressed their enjoyment of the food and of the splendid community occasion. Liz sends her thanks to all those who worked hard at preparing and serving it.



A WINTER VIEW ACROSS THE FIELDS

Services

Sadly we at Tempsford are not able to hold “in presence” services yet, but there are other local Methodist Church Services being held in our area: (all at 10.30am)

2nd Jan at Berkley Street, Preacher Mrs L Charlton

9th Jan at Gt Barford, Preacher Mr Don Moorman

16th Jan at Eaton Ford, Preacher Rev Barbara Garwood

16th Jan at Berkley St, Preacher Rev Sue Baker-Maher

23rd Jan at Gt Barford, Preacher Rev James Bamber

You will be made most welcome at all of these services.



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A New Start?

I wonder if you remember my message from this time last year? As a reminder, I was looking forward to a year when we would see the back of the virus, and everything would be back to normal. Yet we are still in the midst of the pandemic, and you could argue that things are slightly worse, inasmuch that further restrictions beset us just before Christmas. Dare we look forward to a year when the pandemic is finally defeated, or will we continue to be self-isolating and wearing masks?

I suspect we will still be taking precautions against a number of variants of the virus for the foreseeable future. Whatever we face in the near future, our long term future will be affected for years to come. The virus has undoubtedly left a mark on our history, as well as what might happen in the future.

However, as we move forward, there is still hope that we can overcome whatever the virus might throw at us. We have lots of promises in the Bible, some of which have already been fulfilled. In Psalm 54 we find these words, "Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who upholds my life". Very often we mistrust what others tell us, and for some there is no truth in the Bible and its words that speaks to us. Here we have a

promise that God will help us through all that the world has to throw at us, and by putting our trust in Him he will uphold those who believe. We never know what situations or obstacles will beset us on life's journey, but a firm faith will help us through.

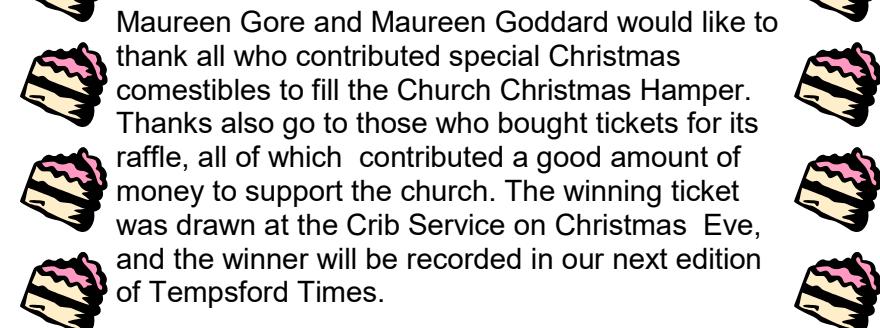
As we enter 2022, I pray for a time of liberation from the virus and a sure hope in the future.

With Christian love and best wishes for 2022,

Rev Graham



CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

A decorative border consisting of a repeating pattern of small, stylized cakes with pink frosting and white cream filling, arranged in a grid-like fashion around the central text area.

Maureen Gore and Maureen Goddard would like to thank all who contributed special Christmas comestibles to fill the Church Christmas Hamper. Thanks also go to those who bought tickets for its raffle, all of which contributed a good amount of money to support the church. The winning ticket was drawn at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, and the winner will be recorded in our next edition of Tempsford Times.

