

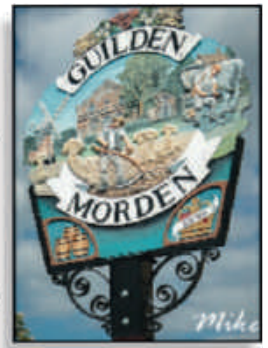
# gamut

THE GILDEN MORDEN VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



**Editorial:** A belated happy new year to you all and I'm sure, like me, that you are more than fed up with this lockdown. However, as more of us in our community have the Covid vaccine, things can only get better - honest!

On a lighter note, **The Mordens Art Trail** is on all month - details and trail maps are available on the respective village Facebook pages. Judging by early photos, people have been incredibly creative and I'm sure that this will be an amazing event. Please respect social distancing rules when visiting the art. Have a good month and stay safe.



The image shows three vertical NHS posters. Each poster features a close-up of a person's face wearing a clear plastic face shield. The top left of each poster has the NHS logo and 'HM Government'. The text on the posters is as follows:

- Poster 1 (Anthony):** "LOOK HIM IN THE EYES" and "AND TELL HIM YOU ALWAYS KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE." Below the image, it says "Anthony Covid-19 patient".
- Poster 2 (Lorna):** "LOOK HER IN THE EYES" and "AND TELL HER YOU NEVER BEND THE RULES." Below the image, it says "Lorna Covid-19 patient".
- Poster 3 (Tony):** "LOOK HIM IN THE EYES" and "AND TELL HIM THE RISK ISN'T REAL." Below the image, it says "Tony Covid-19 patient".

At the bottom of each poster is a yellow and red striped banner with the text "STAY HOME • PROTECT THE NHS • SAVE LIVES".

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Cover Photo: White Pond Woods

**Guilden Rocks** are painted stones which have been hidden around the village. If you find one whilst you are out and about in the village, please re-hide them and why not add you own as well. You can post photos of them on the Guilden Rocks Facebook page for everyone to enjoy.

The rocks below will be hidden around the village in the next few days, good luck with finding and re-hiding them. Many thanks to Gina Ferrari for this latest bunch of fabulous rocks!



# PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE –JAN/FEB 2021

## **The Parish Council Meeting dates:**

The Parish Council continue to meet as usual, using Zoom. Any parishioner who wishes to attend the Zoom meeting, please contact the clerk who will provide details. Minutes will be published on the website as normal. The next full meeting will be 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 19:30 prompt.

## **Community Orchard**

The Parish Council would like to extend its thanks to both Charles Paget-Wilkes and Trevor Osborne for all their hard work on this community project. At the time of writing it is understood that some trees are still available for sponsorship and should any parishioner wish to sponsor a tree, they should contact Trevor Osborne to arrange.

## **Royston and District Community Transport Scheme**

Ashwell patients who need transport assistance to attend a clinic for their COVID-19 vaccine can contact the Royston and District Community Transport scheme on **01763 245228**. Assistance can be provided by this group for a modest cost.

## **Temporary Traffic Order: Potton Road, Guilden Morden; March 2021**

Please be aware that a temporary traffic order has been received to reduce the speed limit on Potton Road to 30 mph. This speed reduction will start on 1<sup>st</sup> March and is planned to end on 19<sup>th</sup> March, to enable essential works to the railings on the bridge.

## Book Exchanges in the Village

Both book exchanges will remain closed until we are provided with further guidance. Please can we request that parishioners **DO NOT** leave donations outside the exchange as these items will be left to the fate of the weather and unlikely to be in a useable condition, once the exchanges open again.

## Volunteers Welcomed for the Position of Dog Wardens

Are you fed up with the dog fouling problem in Guilden Morden? If so, would you like to help the Council to try and stop this happening? The Parish Council are looking for volunteers – dog owners preferred (but not essential) – who would be prepared to act as volunteer dog wardens in the village, there are no set hours, you could do one hour per month, or more. This could also be a shared role.

As all dog owners should be aware, we are covered by the Fouling of Land Act (1996), meaning that those owners who fail to clear up after their dogs can incur a fine of up to £1,000 in the courts, or an £80 fixed penalty notice.

**Romanian Children Shoe Box Appeal.** We are collecting new and used items to help fill a shoe box to give to children in Eastern Europe who have no toys, educational equipment or even warm hats, scarves and gloves.

Any small toys, (such as cars) or cuddly soft toys (we can wash these), pencils, erasers, note books, hair accessories, toiletries etc. The charity is called **Teams4U** and last year's trip to Moldova and Belarus is featured on their web page. Thank you.

Contact: Gill Stevenson, 01763 853996

[stevensongel@hotmail.com](mailto:stevensongel@hotmail.com). I can collect locally or items can also be left on the table at the top of Swan Lane or on the bench in the porch of Swan Cottage

# CYBER-HOOD WATCH UPDATE

Last year, several events were held with Neighbourhood Watch members and Cyber-hood Watch Ambassadors whose feedback was gathered regarding the most important cyber security and privacy topics in their local communities.

The responses helped to prioritise the development and distribution of content toolkits, which are aligned with government advice thanks to the support from Neighbourhood Watch partners NCSC. You can find these guides **at [www.avast.com/uk-cyberhood](http://www.avast.com/uk-cyberhood)** and download them to share with family and friends.

Examples of topics covered include:

- What are password managers?
- Popular threats on iOS and Android and how to avoid them
- What is the internet of things?
- What is two-factor authentication?
- How to fight phishing
- Cyber security terms and metaphors

Throughout 2021 further guides will be published. Upcoming guides include advice on how to manage cookies, how to become a cyber-savvy parent, and how to deal with cyber-enabled crime.

## **Alert - Coronavirus Vaccination Scams**

As of 7 January 2021, Action Fraud had received 57 reports from members of the public who have been sent text messages claiming to be from the NHS, offering them the opportunity to sign up for coronavirus vaccinations. The texts ask the recipient to click on a link which takes them to an online form where they are prompted to input personal and financial details. In some cases the online form has looked very similar to the real NHS website.

## **Pauline Smith, Head of Action Fraud, said:**

*“Remember, the vaccine is only available on the NHS and is free of charge. The NHS will never ask you for details about your bank account or to pay for the vaccine. If you receive an email, text message or phone call purporting to be from the NHS and you are asked to provide financial details, **this is a scam.**”*

## **How to protect yourself:**

In the UK, coronavirus vaccinations will only be available via the National Health Services of England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. You can be contacted by the NHS, your employer, a local GP surgery or pharmacy, to receive your vaccination. **Remember, the vaccinations are free of charge and you will not be asked for a payment.**

## **The NHS will never:**

- ask for your bank account or card details
- ask for your PIN or banking passwords
- arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ask for documentation to prove your identity, such as a your passport or utility bills

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, please forward it to **report@phishing.gov.uk**. Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726, which is free of charge.

If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling **0300 123 2040** or visiting [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk).

Please submit any articles to:  
[gamut.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:gamut.newsletter@gmail.com)

By the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Thank you.

# TRANSPORT TO COVID VACCINATION CENTRES

For residents who do not have access to their own transport. Both Royston & District Community Transport and North Herts Community Transport have drivers carrying out transport to vaccination appointments.

Both are chargeable (Royston 55p per mile, N Herts 45p per mile with a minimum £5 per journey). Both cover our area and Bassingbourn to Letchworth.

## **Royston & District Community Transport**

<https://www.roytrans.co.uk> 01763 245228

## **North Herts & Stevenage Community Transport Scheme**

<https://www.nhcvstransport.org.uk> 01462 689402

### **Heron Scheme**

If you require transport to your Covid-19 vaccination centre, then the local Heron Scheme may be able to help.

The scheme operates with volunteer drivers and their cars. Full Covid-19 safety procedures are followed. There is a small charge of 30p per mile, no more than for public transport.

Bookings and enquires to Christine Furmston: 01763 852125



**PLEASE REMOVE YOUR DOG'S WASTE  
KEEP GILDEN MORDEN CLEAN!**

## DO YOU SHOP IN A LOCAL CO-OP?

The Co-op is what is known as a co-operative, where the store is owned by its members (staff, customers and individuals) rather than by big investors.



The company was originally founded in 1863 by a group of business pioneers who believed in ethical trading, and that company profits should be shared in a fair way amongst its members.

We have two Co-ops within the Home-Start area (Station Road, Buntingford and High Street, Melbourn) plus of course the many stores around Cambridge itself, and if you haven't been in lately (or ever) now is a really good time to pay a visit and become a member.

When you take out a Co-op membership card ([Register your Co-op card - Co-op membership - Co-op](#)) not only do you get access to some pretty excellent deals (the £5 freezer meal deal is always a winner!) but you also get to support good causes in your local area.

The Co-op runs a campaign called Co-op Local Causes, which allows its members to select a local good cause. Every time you shop at Co-op, and buy Co-op branded products, the Co-op donate 2p out of every £1 to your chosen good cause.

We are really pleased to be one of the local causes supported by the Co-op Campaign, and we're asking our friends, supporters and local residents to sign up for Co-op membership (if you haven't already done so) and to shop at your local Co-op whenever you can, to help fund our work in the community.

You can find out more about the Co-op's local causes by clicking here: [Co-op](#), or if you'd like to know more about our work and how to support us, please get in touch: [admin@hsrsc.org.uk](mailto:admin@hsrsc.org.uk).

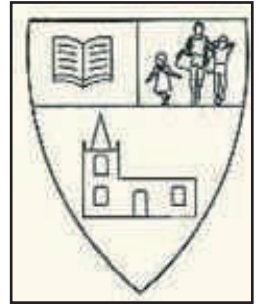
Guilden Morden School has a 'Hotbin' compost bin which we used for a project about 18 months ago. Sadly, it has not been continued and therefore the project was unsuccessful!

We do not intend to re-use this bin, but it is still in good condition. It has a 200ltr capacity.

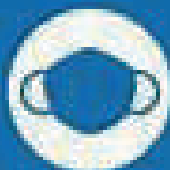
It was purchased for £200 and has now been emptied and cleaned up.

If anyone is interested in owning this Hotbin compost bin (you would need to have transport to collect it, as it stands about 4ft tall), please contact the school office administrator on 01763 852318 or email [Office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:Office@guildenmorden.cambs.sch.uk) First come, first served. All we ask is that you make a contribution or donation towards our PTFA school funds.

For Hotbin information: <https://www.hotbincomposting.com/>



**HANDS**



**FACE**



**SPACE**



Government  
Counter Fraud  
Function

GOV.UK/coronavirus



Counter Fraud Authority

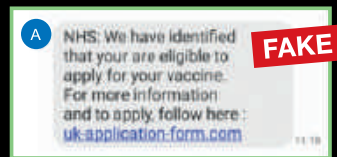
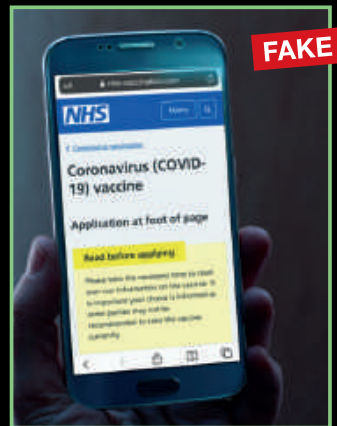
# BE ALERT TO VACCINE FRAUD

Criminals are using the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to target the public by tricking them to hand over cash or financial details. They are sending convincing-looking text messages letting people know they are eligible for the vaccine or phoning people directly pretending to be from the NHS, or local pharmacy.

**PEOPLE ARE WARNED TO BE ALERT TO THESE SCAMS**

The **NHS** will:

- ⊗ NEVER ask for payment - the vaccine is free
- ⊗ NEVER ask for your bank details
- ⊗ NEVER arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ⊗ NEVER ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport



## FURTHER GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



National Cyber  
Security Centre

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number **7726** which is free of charge.

**ActionFraud**  
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre  
[actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk)

If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft, you should report this directly to Action Fraud either online; [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) or via phone **0300 123 2040**.

**CrimeStoppers.**

If you have any information relating to vaccine fraud you can stay 100% anonymous by contacting CrimeStoppers COVID Fraud Hotline online; [covidfraudhotline.org](http://covidfraudhotline.org) or phone **0800 587 5030**.

# DOG THEFTS – BE VIGILANT

The demand for dogs has soared across the country due to more people working from home and having extra time on their hands.

DCI Chris O'Brien said: "Dogs are often part of the family and having them stolen can be absolutely devastating. Whilst we are not currently seeing an increase in dog thefts in Cambridgeshire, we'd urge pet owners to consider taking extra precautions to help deter thieves and protect your pets. You can never be too careful."

Extra precautions include: Keep an ID tag on your dog at all times; lock gates using bolts at the top and bottom, along with a heavy-duty padlock; ensure there are no places where dogs or other animals can escape or be pulled through, if they are left in a back garden. Never leave your pet in the garden unattended; fit a bell or gate alarm so it makes a sound when someone opens it. Purchase a driveway alarm so you are alerted to any visitors, these can also be used in rear gardens. Make sure your dog is microchipped and their details are updated so that they can be returned if they are stolen and subsequently found. Avoid leaving a dog tied up outside a shop or left alone in a car, even for a few minutes; and take lots of photographs of your dog to prove ownership if it's stolen and then subsequently found. **Always report stolen dogs to us, as sometimes officers have been able to reunite owners and pets.**

Anyone with information about a stolen dog, or suspicious behaviour, can report it via our chat service: <https://bit.ly/2D9KFKH> or by calling 101.

For more advice, visit the force's dedicated dog theft page: <https://bit.ly/3iDogWH>



# GOOD NEWS FOR PEOPLE WITH SIGHT PROBLEMS

Herts Vision Loss (previously known as the Hertfordshire Society for the Blind) is a charity based in Welwyn Garden City which supports local people of all ages who have visual impairment. Its aims are to increase independence and reduce social isolation.

They offer such assistance as:

Home visits and befriending

Eye clinic support and information

Counselling

A telephone information service

An advocacy service for people with vision loss to enable them to make their voice heard.

School visits

Social clubs for people with sight loss

In order to provide these services, they need volunteers. They are currently looking for willing people to do home visits as befrienders, help in eye clinics (with training provided), help with demonstrating equipment; and help with regular social events.

Although a Herts-based organisation, people living in other counties (but registered with a Herts GP) are equally eligible. There is also an equivalent service in Cambridgeshire. To find out more either as a person with sight problems or as a potential volunteer here are some useful contacts:

HERTS VISION LOSS - 01707 324680 - [hertsvisionloss.org.uk](http://hertsvisionloss.org.uk)

CAMSIGHT - 01223 420033 - [camsight.org.uk](http://camsight.org.uk)

A warm welcome is guaranteed! Thanks you.

# GUILDEN MORDEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH DIARY

[www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com](http://www.guildenmordencongregationalchurch.com)

Given the current situation and the lack of certainty concerning future regulations, the following is a diary of events and services we would like to plan for February. Although the regulations permit face to face services we are aiming to provide online services. Please refer to our website (link above) or our Facebook page for more up to date information.

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb**    **10.30** Men's Guild Zoom Meeting
- Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb**    **10.30** Family service via Zoom
- Sunday 14<sup>h</sup> Feb**    **10.30** Zoom service joined by Litlington
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb**    **TBC am** Joint zoom service with St Mary's.  
**14.30 – 15.30** Sunday School via zoom
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb**    **10.30** Zoom Communion Service, led by Tony Frost.

Measures to enable the start of other activities in the Chapel and schoolroom are now in place, and the buildings will be available for general use once the strict regulations have been relaxed.

