



# gamut

THE GILDEN MORDEN VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY'23



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## GM Parish Council Update

Our next planning meeting will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome.

## Parish Council Vacancy

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact the clerk, who would be happy to provide further information.

## Village Website – Can you help?

The Parish Council would be most grateful for a volunteer to oversee our village website and check that information is current and up to date, by liaising with the page owners etc. This is a voluntary role, however full training on the back office will be provided.

This would not be more than a couple of hours per quarter. If anyone is interested in helping, please could you contact the Clerk.

## Ashwell's Famous Flea Market

"Weird and wonderful things for sale"

**Saturday 4 March 2023**



09.30 to 13.00 at St Mary's Church, Ashwell  
Free Entry - Tea and Coffee will be available

## Guilden Morden Congregational Church Diary

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

Following the fire in the Chapel there are no services or meetings able to take place on the premises at the time that this newsletter is published. The information below is our best forecast at this moment, but please visit our website (see above) for the most up to date information.

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Feb</b>     | 09.00 to 11.00 Baby and Toddlers Group, meeting in the village hall.                                                                                   |
| <b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>  | 10.30 Café style service, to be held at Guilden Morden Primary School. Come and join us for refreshments in our relaxed style of worship. All welcome. |
| <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>  | 10.30 Men's Guild TBA                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb</b> | 14.00 COGS TBA                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>     | 09.00 to 11.00 Baby and Toddlers Group, meeting in the village hall.                                                                                   |
| <b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b> | 11.00 Joint service at Litlington.                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>    | 09.00 to 11.00 Baby and Toddlers Group, meeting in the village hall.                                                                                   |
| <b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b> | Time TBA Joint service at St Mary's                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb</b>    | 09.00 to 11.00 Baby and Toddlers Group, meeting in the village hall.                                                                                   |
| <b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb</b> | 10.30 Joint communion service with Litlington                                                                                                          |

Other group meetings: Locations TBA

|                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Bridge Club         | Mondays at 19.30                 |
| Knit and Natter     | Alternate Tuesdays at 10.00      |
| Local History Group | Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February |
| Film Club           | Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February |

Home group Zoom meetings - Tuesdays at 20.00  
Contact Amanda for details: [ajgenieman@gmail.com](mailto:ajgenieman@gmail.com)

## Editor:

[gamut.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:gamut.newsletter@gmail.com)

## Village Website:

[www.guildenmorden.gov.uk](http://www.guildenmorden.gov.uk)

## Parish Council Clerk:

[clerk@guildenmorden.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@guildenmorden.gov.uk)

## Editorial

February always seems to be a stepping stone month as we see traces of spring start to emerge.

This month we have Neighbourhood Watch info as usual plus an update from Ashwell surgery.

Have a great month.

**Mike Allton - Editor**





County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas.

They exploit vulnerable people, including children and those with mental health or addiction issues, by recruiting them to distribute the drugs, often referred to as 'drug running'.

## Signs to look out for

There are several signs to look out for that may indicate someone is involved in county lines:

- repeatedly going missing from school or home and being found in other areas
- having money, new clothes or electronic devices and they can't explain how they paid for them
- getting high numbers of texts or phone calls, being secretive about who they're speaking to
- decline in school or work performance
- significant changes in emotional or physical well-being
- 

## Ways OCGs use social media

- advertising drugs by sharing photos, videos
- statuses showing money, new drugs or when the dealer is open for business
- dealers sharing 'stories' to followers, using social platforms to expand their network with 'suggested' friends
- using hashtags linked to drugs
- using emojis as code for drug, violence and sexual activities, e.g. the snowflake emoji (for buying cocaine), 8-ball emoji (for buying an eighth of an ounce) or the rocket emoji (for purity of drugs)

## Cuckooing

OCGs often use high levels of violence and intimidation to protect the 'county line' and control them. One of these forms of control exploits vulnerable people by using their home as a base for dealing drugs, a process known as cuckooing. Dealers often convince the vulnerable person to let their home be used for drug dealing by giving them free drugs or offering to pay for food or utilities.

Often OCGs target people who are lonely, isolated, or have addiction issues. It's common for OCGs to use a property for a short amount of time, moving address frequently to reduce the chance of being caught.

There are several signs to look out for that may indicate someone is a victim of cuckooing:

- frequent visitors at unsociable hours
- changes in your neighbour's daily routine
- unusual smells coming from a property
- suspicious or unfamiliar vehicles outside an address

## Contact us

If you're concerned about drug-related crime in your area or think someone may be a victim of drug exploitation, **please call us on 101. If it's an emergency, please call 999.** If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000.

## Report it

You can also report it online, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org).

No personal details are taken, information cannot be traced or recorded and you will not go to court or have to speak to police when contacting Crimestoppers.

## Further information and support

- The National Crime Agency County Lines [website](#) explains more about county lines and indicators of exploitation in your area.
- [Safe 4 Me](#) has details about support services nationally for young people impacted by Child Criminal and Sexual Exploitation. They also have lots of information regarding specific forms of exploitation, understanding trauma, rights and the law and much more.
- [The Safeguarding Network](#) have helpful tips for understanding indicators of exploitation and what may make a young person more vulnerable to being exploited.
- The [NSPCC](#) offers guidance on understanding specific apps and platforms that young people may be using.

COPY TO THE EDITOR BY THE 25<sup>TH</sup> PLEASE

**Neighbourhood Policing Week** was an opportunity to recognise and shine a light on the work the South Cambs team do, alongside the wider policing family, to help prevent crime, bring offenders to justice and keep people safe, especially the most vulnerable in our communities.



Through our social media we demonstrated the variety of our work which includes working closely with residents, councillors and partners and using a range of problem-solving skills to address community issues.

Activity across the week included:

- Patrols on foot and in vehicles across the district
- Visits to primary and secondary schools and a Cubs group
- Checks on vulnerable people at risk of being exploited
- Arrests of people wanted on recall to prison and for offences committed in our community
- Catalytic converter theft patrols
- Seizing suspected stolen vehicles and drugs
- Working with some of the most persistent and problematic offenders in South Cambs – checking the compliance of those released from prison through a ‘buddi tag’ and addressing their drug use which often underpins their offending

Neighbourhood policing is at the heart of everything we do. It plays a pivotal role in keeping the communities we police safe as well as building trust and confidence in policing.



The Mordens WI are a small, friendly group of ladies meeting on the third Thursday of the month, usually in Guilden Morden Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

We have a wide variety of activities to choose from and interesting speakers throughout the year.

**We will hold our Annual Meeting in February.**

If you would like to join us, or to know more about The Mordens WI, please contact Joyce on 01763 852087. Transport can be arranged.

## BECAUSE BEER WON'T DRINK ITSELF.....

At the beginning of 2022 North Beds, South Beds and East beds CAMRA combined, voted the March Hare as their County Pub of the Year 2022 for the whole of Bedfordshire. Since then John and Janice Pritchett have installed a small brewery and are now known as the March Hare BrewPub.

You now have real ale being brewed in a pub right on your doorstep, where John delights in serving real ale of the highest quality.

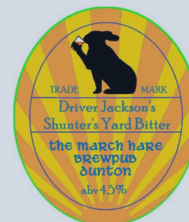
Although more expensive than British brewing equipment, John went for an American brewing system, which should have been delivered in July 2021 but only arrived on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Because of the pandemic, BREXIT and problems with international freight delivery, it took three months to get the brewing equipment from Toledo (manufacturer) to Detroit (container depot) to Halifax (yes Canada) to Manchester (UK) to Rotherham to Dunton!

There are five core beers:-

### Core real ale brewed by John at The March Hare BrewPub, Dunton



**Bitter No. 1**, abv 3.8%, easy drinking light brown hopped traditional bitter made from Maris Otter pale malt, crystal malt, wheat malt, flaked maize, East Kent Goldings, Nottingham Ale yeast.



**Mr Sedgewicke's Stout**, abv 3.5%, thirst quenching stout with a light touch made from Maris Otter pale malt, mild malt, roasted barley, black malt, chocolate malt, wheat malt, crystal malt, torrified wheat, East Kent Goldings, Nottingham Ale yeast.



**Driver Jackson's Shunters Yard Bitter**, abv 4.5%, strong medium to darkish brown best bitter with a strong hopped finish that stays with you provided by East Kent Goldings in the boil and late addition of Northdown hops for a memorable taste experience. Made from Maris Otter pale malt, crystal malt, wheat malt, flaked barley, flaked maize, Nottingham Ale yeast.

**BGB (British Golden Beer)**, abv 4.4%, a nice thirst quenching golden beer lightly hopped with flavours of soft fruit. Fuggles, First Gold, Waimea and Northdown hops.



**Triple Star**, abv 4.2%, very light golden beer made with lager malt and generously hopped with centennial and summit. Reasonably bittered to reflect a fruity, citrusy pithy long lasting finish.

### March Hare BrewPub Opening Hours

|                 |              |                                |              |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Monday</b>   | 6pm-11pm     | <b>Tuesday &amp; Wednesday</b> | Closed       |
| <b>Thursday</b> | 6pm-midnight | <b>Friday</b>                  | 5pm-midnight |
| <b>Saturday</b> | 6pm-midnight | <b>Sunday</b>                  | 1pm-10.30pm  |

*Bedfordshire CAMRA County Pub Of The Year 2022*

**Still the Best traditional beer pub in the area**

Real Ale Real Music Real Pub

The March Hare BrewPub 34 High Street, Dunton, Bedfordshire. SG188RN, 01767 318121, [janice.pritchett@outlook.com](mailto:janice.pritchett@outlook.com)





## ASHWELL AND BASSINGBOURN PATIENTS' GROUP

### NOTES FROM OUR JANUARY MEETING

There was a long discussion concerning the recent resignation of all the GP partners at one of Biggleswade's surgeries. This has also occurred at two of our local Herts practices. In the latter cases both have

continued to function thanks to support from other North Herts surgeries, but the prospect of such occurrences is alarming. Newly qualified GPs are in short supply, and those who remain are reluctant to take on the financial and managerial responsibilities of partners, preferring to work on a salary basis.

However, there is good news for our surgery. We have managed to recruit a female doctor - Dr Geraldine Odor - who undertook the final part of her medical training here at the Ashwell surgery. This means we now have four permanent GPs plus a long-term locum doctor. In addition, we currently have three registrars - qualified doctors who are completing their GP training.

Sadly, we are losing Nurse Laura and we wish her well for the future. Our nursing team, led by Nurse Sarah, should be up to strength shortly. Following a period of shortages in reception, we now expect to be fully staffed by the end of January and we continue to urge the surgery to restore the position of 'window receptionist' in Ashwell surgery.

There is not much to report on the ongoing telephone situation. We were expecting a new system funded by the NHS, but the funding for this has not appeared. There may possibly be a new round of funding but for the moment we shall just have to wait.

eConsult (our online booking service) has been replaced by Accurix. At present it's not clear how to access this via the website, so we have asked the surgery to make this pathway more obvious to users. There is also to be a new, more user-friendly message on our phone system.

Our surgery is committed to maintaining good relationships with our village pharmacies. We are carrying out a survey about appointments, and work on the "Patient's Guide" has been suspended until this survey has been completed.

You can find this survey on the surgery website under "Administration", on certain Parish Council websites and in paper form in our local pharmacies.

# THE THREE TUNS

Guilden Morden



## POP UPS



**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

'Pimp my Fish' - Fish & Chips Van  
Pub and food from 5.30 pm

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

'BB Pizza Van' from Ashwell  
Pub and food from 5.30 pm



**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Two or three-course food evening  
Catering by 'The Stove' in Bourn  
Pub open from 5.30 pm  
Food from 6.30 pm

**email bookings only**  
[sarah@thekitchenbakery.co.uk](mailto:sarah@thekitchenbakery.co.uk)

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March**

'Pimp my Fish' - Fish & Chips Van  
Pub and food from 5.30 pm



**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Italian filled focaccias  
Pub and food from 5.30 pm