



May 2024

Flore News

In memory of John Hodgkinson

John Hodgkinson's funeral will take place in Weedon St Peter & St Paul Church on **Friday 3rd May at 2.00pm**. There will be a collection for Alzheimers Research.

Important Butterfly research

In a big boost to our rewilding efforts in Flore, a recent analysis of 6 years of butterfly sightings across 600 British gardens has provided the first scientific evidence that wilder lawns boost butterfly numbers (Hordley & Fox, *Science for the Total Environment*, March 2024). The benefits of leaving areas of grass long were most pronounced in gardens in rural, farmed areas like ours, with up to 93% more butterflies and a greater range of species. People may think rewilded areas in urban areas would be more important, but there was only an 18% boost there. Since the demise of meadows, the butterfly (and other wildlife) numbers have been in steep decline, so every little helps! Long grass attracts more butterflies for breeding habitats as well as the nectar from the wildflowers that will also grow in a patch allowed to grow wild. For further discussion of such topics, come along to Flore Climate Group, May 23rd, Chapel Schoolroom (enquiries: emmiew@live.co.uk).

Post Office Returns

When you go to print of a return label, Flore Post office is not an option given for posting. Having checked, Post Office return items are accepted at our post office. Please support our village service. — John Boast

Flore Scout Group news

**IT'S YOUR
TIME TO
Shine.**



Whether you can spare an hour a week or a day a year, we have roles working with young people or helping behind the scenes. With full support and training, you can experience the fun, friendship, and adventure of Scouting.

FLORE SCOUT GROUP runs Scouts for boys and girls each Wednesday (6.30pm – 8.30pm) during term time. We are looking for volunteers to help our Scout Leader with these sessions and make a positive impact for our young people.

Please contact Richard on 07887 952713 or email richandhay@gmail.com

Cancer Support Group — Weedon

A new Cancer Support Group is starting up in Weedon. The group is for adults living in Weedon and the surrounding areas who are affected by any type of cancer, whether you are a patient, relative, carer or friend.

A self-help group for anyone who is newly diagnosed, going through, or has finished treatment, living with and managing cancer or part of the valuable support network of carers, relatives & friends, you are all able to share information which will help others. The group is a place to come and talk about whatever you want and have time to relax with others. If you don't want to come alone, bring a friend. Refreshments provided.



The Cancer Support Group will be held in the Chapter House at the rear of St Peter & St Paul Church, Weedon, on the **2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month**, 2.00–4.00pm, **starting on the 8th & 22nd May**. Access to the room is flat with no step. Parking is either under the railway arches at the side of the church or in Church Street.

For anyone who would like more information, who has time to help out with refreshments or chatting with people, please contact Libby Hart on 01327 341816 or email csg-weedon@btinternet.com.

Lunch Club (formerly Meal-a-Month)

Our Lunch Club is an opportunity to meet with old friends and make new friends with plenty of time to chat. It's held once a month on the second Friday.

There is no obligation to come every month, but we would love to see you as often as possible. We can assure a warm welcome! Our only requirement is that you are retired and/or living alone.

All our meals are home-cooked, main course, pudding, tea or coffee, **all for £3.00** per person. At the end of the meal we have an outside volunteer who gives a short interesting talk on a subject of their choice.

Unfortunately, numbers have declined over the past year for a variety of reasons, and it would be very sad if we have to close due to lack of support.

If you or someone you know might be interested in joining, please contact Daphne Chaplin on 01327 340368 to find out more.

In order to prevent food wastage, we just need to know if you can or cannot come two days before (Wednesday).



Flore events



Christian Aid Week — 12th-19th May

12th-19th May. **KEEP THE ENVELOPE ENCLOSED IN THE MESSENGER** and support major humanitarian disasters when they occur.

Christian Aid always supports numerous projects throughout Africa but also has reserves to react immediately when there is urgent need e.g., the war in Ukraine and the crisis in Gaza. Your help is needed!



PLEASE pop a donation into the envelope and drop off by Sunday 25th

May at the following addresses: The Croft 23 Kings Lane, 27/29 Sutton

Street, 46 Spring Lane, 34 Larbourne Park Road and 34 & 32 Bliss Lane. Also bring your donation to any service at the Chapel or the Church.

OR come along on Friday 17th May, 10-12 noon, Chapel School Room to the Coffee Morning and donate to this amazing charity and enjoy meeting up with friends old and new.

Thank you for your support! Sue Raven Tel: 340183 .



Coffee Morning — 17th May

Friday 17th May 10.30-12.00. Chapel Schoolroom. Please come along to the Coffee Morning and enjoy some delicious cakes and good company with friends old and new! There will also be a Raffle. We look forward to seeing you. **Proceeds for Christian Aid.**

WI Fashion Show — 11th June

Flore WI are holding a Fashion Show presented by Jackie Allen on Tuesday 11th June at 7.00pm in the Millennium Hall. **Tickets are £5** which will include a glass of wine or soft drink. There will be lots of bargains.

Tickets available from Jill Hodgkinson, 01327 341429 or 0796 988 1913

Flore Flower and Garden Festival — 22nd-23rd June

Can you help with Plant Stalls? If you are busy dividing perennials, potting on seedlings or growing flowers and vegetables from seed please remember the plant stalls.. donations of plants, shrubs and seedlings etc. will be very welcome next month!!

Would you like to come along to the Festival Supper on Friday 21st June? Enjoy viewing the Flower arrangements in the Chapel and then the Church followed by a light supper. Tickets £12 including first drink. Please contact Jane tel:340778 or Jackie tel:349103

Also, have a go at Flower Arranging! This year's theme is 'Books by Women Writers'. If you would be interested in doing a flower arrangement this year, please don't wait to be asked or hesitate to take the plunge contact Jane tel:340778 (church) or Chris tel:340918 (chapel) to find out how to get involved!

Programme of events and lots more details to follow next month! Support your village Church and Chapel with their fundraising weekend!

Flower & Garden Festival Committee

Flore Arts events

Our two Spring events are nearly here...

The Ben Holder Trio — 18th May

Saturday 18th May 18th, Flore Millennium Hall. If you came to one of the trio's previous electrifying Flore shows you'll know what to expect: dazzling virtuoso violin playing with an innate sense of swing rhythm, breathtaking technical ability and true showmanship on stage. The Ben Holder Trio is a stellar line-up of incredible musicians, blending an energetic mix of traditional jazz and gypsy swing with Ben's own infectious original tunes. Harking back to the fun and swing of the 1920s and 1930s, Ben's virtuoso playing is supported by phenomenal musicians Jez Cook on guitar and Paul Jefferies on double bass.



Time to "get your feet tapping and your jaw dropping at the speed of his fingers. Top quality musicianship and utter entertainment." Jazz violin as you've never seen it before!

Tickets: £15 (Under 18s £5). Call Rosemary Read for tickets on 01327 341026 (between 9am and 6pm).

Poetry Please — 12th May

Sunday 12th May, 6.30pm. White Hart Pub, Flore. Meanwhile, our next Poetry Please session has a "Breath of Spring" theme. Here's an opportunity to join a completely informal evening where you can read your chosen poem (or two) or just sit and listen to others. Funny, sad, evocative, historic, modern, ancient... the choice is yours... but something seasonal would be nice! Meet in the White Hart on Sunday May 12th, 6.30pm.

Our later activities

As for our later activities, here's a reminder of our two firm diary dates for the second half of the year:

- **Sunday 14th July:** Jazz in the Garden: Rock Springs, Sutton St, Flore.
- **Saturday 19th October:** Budapest Café Orchestra: All Saints Church, Flore.
- **Saturday 16th November:** Folk Fiddle evening featuring accomplished fiddle player Jenny Newman, guitarist Andy Glass and the Big Fiddle Band. All Saints Church, Flore.

Please keep watching this space for details - or keep up to date with our plans on our website at www.floreartsevents.com and our Flore Arts Events Facebook page. We hope to see you soon.



Brodie Lodge Playing Field news/events

The New Season of the 200+ Club

There is still plenty of time to subscribe for the new season of the Brodie Lodge Playing Field 200+ Club for everyone who hasn't got around to it yet. We have already received over 200 subscriptions (hence the "plus"!) but there is no particular limit. Last year we had 336 subscriptions, and remember that no matter how many we get, every year we pay out exactly half of the money received in prizes.

If you have lost your form, or it's been eaten by the dog, the cat, or the children, just drop me, Geoff Fellows (Brodie Lodge Playing Field 200+ Club Organiser), an email or give me a ring and I can easily supply a replacement. Mobile: 07843 309902. Email: Geoff-Fellows497@gmail.com.



200+ Club Draw — 16th May

Thursday 16th May, 7.30pm. White Hart Public House, Flore. As always, everyone is welcome to attend and join in with this convivial event!

This draw will be the last one using the current subscription numbers. The June 2024 draw will use the new numbers which are being issued right now. There is still plenty of time, though, to send in your subscriptions for the 2024-25 season. We can accept them up until around the 10th June.

The April 2024 200+ Club draw took place at the White Hart Pub on the 11th April. The winning numbers were drawn by Andrew Dobson:

- **First prize** – £80.00 – Mr and Mrs P Mayne (Subscription number 125)
- **Second prize** – £40.00 – Linda Bailey (Subscription number 36)
- **Third prize** – £20.00 – Margaret Clarke (Subscription number 224)
- **Fourth prize** – £10.00 – Mr and Mrs K Martin (Subscription number 292)

25th Charity Trust Status Anniversary Celebration Event on the field — 21st July

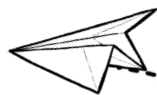
Sunday 21st July. Brodie Lodge Playing Field. A day of enjoyment of the lovely green open space, with BBQ, refreshments, bar, Flore Park Rangers old boys football match, classic and touring car show in progress. Join in the celebration, learn about the donor of the field Mr Francis Brodie Lodge, and his father Mr Oliver Lodge, the inventor of the electric spark plug for internal combustion of the car engine.

Flag flying in May

2nd HRH Princess Charlotte of Wales. 6th Coronation Anniversary of King Charles III & Queen Camilla. 9th Guernsey, Jersey. 10th Sark. 18th Ascension Island Day. 20th Cameroon. 21st St Helena Day. 26th Bermuda Day, Guyana. 28th Turks & Caicos Islands & Hon JAGS McCartney Day. 30th Anguilla Day.

Clubs & organisations

- Afternoon Tea Dance** 4th Friday of each month, 2—4pm (doors open 1.45pm). Millennium Hall. Ballroom and Sequence. Entrance £5. Hosted by Jane and Alan Rouse (0781 328 3119).
- Art Classes** **Mondays** 2pm—4pm (afternoon class) and 7pm—9pm (evening class). Chapel Schoolroom. Contact **Fiona** (01327 341065) or **Chris** (07969 759105).
- Bible Groups** **Bible Discovery Group:** 4th Wednesday of each month, 2.30—3.30pm. 3 Capell Rise, Flore. All are welcome. For more info, contact Wendy on 07816 156876.
Informal Bible Study: 2nd and 4th Thursdays on each month, 7-8pm. We are currently looking at the book of Luke. For venues and more details, contact Wendy on 07816 156876.
- Brodie Lodge Playing Field (BPLF)** Contact Chair, Sue Kerrison email: suekayy@live.co.uk.
For all bookings, email: enquiries@brodielodgeplayingfield.co.uk, mobile: 07786 843206.
- Coffee & Company** **Last Monday** of each month 10.30am. Chapel Schoolroom. For anyone living alone.
- Flore Climate Group** **Thursday 23rd May**, 7.30-9pm. Chapel Schoolroom. Quarterly discussion group for those concerned about the climate crisis. £2.50, includes wine/soft drink. Queries: **Emmie** (emmiew@live.co.uk).
- Flore Craft Hub** 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7.15pm. Millennium Hall.
- Flore Guiding Group** **Rainbows:** Tuesdays 5pm - 6pm at Flore Primary School. For girls aged between 4 and 7 years old (must have started school). Contact Sally Redfern: florerainbows@gmail.com
Brownies: Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm at Flore Primary School. For girls aged between 7 and 10 years old. Contact Sally Redfern or Amy Jones: florebrownies@gmail.com
Guides: Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9pm at Flore Primary School. For girls aged between 10 and 14 years old. Contact Amy Jones: 1stfloreguides@gmail.com
- Flore Scout Group** **Beavers:** Thursdays 6pm - 7pm at The Cabin, Kings Lane. Open to boys & girls aged 6yrs - 8yrs. Contact Hannah (07789 312142).
Cubs: Mondays 6pm - 7.30pm at The Cabin, Kings Lane. Open to boys & girls aged 8yrs - 10.5yrs. Contact Stacey (07887 982827).
Scouts: Wednesdays 6.30pm - 8.30pm at The Cabin, Kings Lane. Boys & girls aged 10.5yrs - 14yrs. Contact Ben (07889 321405).





Flore Library

2nd Wednesday of each month, 10am—12pm. Millennium Hall. All welcome from Flore and surrounding villages. Many books ranging from who dun it's to gardening, autobiographies, plus a quantity in large print and jig saws. Pop in for a browse or just have a chat! **Dates for 2024:** May 8th, Jun 12th.

Come, save us!

Flore Lunch Club
Garden Society

2nd Friday of each month, 12.30pm. Chapel Schoolroom.

2nd Wednesday of each month, 7.45pm. Chapel Schoolroom. Next meeting 8th May: **Afternoon visit to the garden of Jenny Spencer**, Clifton Hall Farm, Lilbourne Road, Clifton upon Dunsmore, Rugby. CV230BB. Travel by car-sharing.

Come, save us!

Heritage Society

1st Wednesday of each month, 7.45pm. Chapel Schoolroom. Next meeting 1st May: **Mary Channell**, a woman who worked in our village in the war years, opening small factories in Flore and employing a lot of the women from the village. Visitors £3.

Kerry School of Irish Dance

Thursdays 6-7pm. Millennium Hall. Irish dance classes (www.facebook.com/kerryschool). Contact Sam (sam@thekerryschool.co.uk).

Park Walking for Health

If you want to start walking to improve your health then contact Tina on floreparkwalk@gmail.com and we will find a mutually suitable time to walk, at a place that suits you in or around Flore.

Flore Craft Hub

3rd Tuesday of each month, 7.15pm. Millennium Hall.

Phantom Close Allotment Group

Chair: Sue Kerrison email: suekayy@live.co.uk
For **plot availability** email: geraldine.rayner@btinternet.com
Find **Flore Allotments** on Facebook.

Physio-led Pilates

Fridays 10—11am. Millenium Hall, Flore. £8/session. Most abilities are catered for. If you are interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact Katy Briggs via email (kjphysio@hotmail.com) or text/WhatsApp (07779 312181).

Short Mat Bowls

Tuesdays 9.15am—12pm. Millennium Hall. New members warmly welcomed. Refreshments provided. For further information call Morris Freeman on 01327 342607 or 07709082231.

Table Tennis Club

Thursdays 1.30pm—2.30pm. Millennium Hall. £3.00 per week with no ongoing commitment. New players very welcome. Call Linda on 01327 563035 for further information.

Tots and Tea

1st Tuesday of each month, 10.00—11.30am. Chapel Schoolroom. Mums-to-be, parents, carers and grandparents are all welcome to enjoy free tea/coffee and talk whilst the children play, sing songs, and enjoy storytime. Call Hilary for information 07900 676006.

W.I.

2nd Tuesday of each month, 7.30pm. Millennium Hall. Details: florewi56@gmail.com.

Flore Parish Council News

Northamptonshire Police - Keyless Car Thefts

Over recent weeks Northamptonshire Police has received reports of cars being stolen in the areas of Flore, Braunston and Kilsby. These vehicles have been cars with keyless entry, with Range Rover and Land Rover vehicles stolen. Three persons connected to these thefts have been arrested and the investigation is still ongoing. Northamptonshire Police is repeating its crime prevention advice to car owners to help them protect their vehicles. Reports from people who have had their keyless entry cars stolen, usually overnight and often with the key fob still in their possession. It's likely offenders are using a 'relay attack' method, where the signal from the key inside a property is amplified to make the car think the fob is with the vehicle so it can be driven away.

The Police would encourage anyone with a car that can be entered and started without using a key in the ignition, to review and improve their security measures. The simplest and most effective way to reduce the risk of keyless car theft is to store your vehicle's key fob in a faraday pouch, which prevents would-be thieves from using relay attack on the fob to steal the car."

Advice for reducing the risk of keyless car theft:

- Always keep the fobs for keyless entry cars in a faraday pouch overnight – the Defender Signal Blocker - RFID Faraday Pouch is a police-approved product and costs around £6 for two
- Store the pouch and all house keys well away from your front door
- Review physical security measures, including using a steering lock on the vehicle
- Consider installing home CCTV and/or a smart doorbell
- If you can, park your car in a secure garage, or a behind a secure gate if you park your car on a driveway
- Make sure your car is parked under good lighting – this means potential offenders can be easily seen, increasing the chances of putting them off trying to steal your car, and of them being caught if they do

Any suspicious activity which may relate to keyless vehicle thefts should be reported by calling Northamptonshire Police on 101. Always call 999 if a crime is in progress or life could be at risk. If you'd like advice on preventing vehicle theft, please email: crimeprevention@northants.police.uk

Public forum

There is a break early in the meeting to enable the public to speak and raise any issues. It is a great way to see how your council works and appreciate the decisions that are made on your behalf. We would love to see more people attend and encourage anyone to join in. At the last meeting we discussed a report from WNC Cllr. Bignell, which covered the topics of the local plan, litter, housing allocations and community spaces.

(1) A resident had raised an issue of a tree impacting the stability of a lamppost in Nether Lane. (2) A resident queried the consultation for West Northamptonshire Local Plan. The Core Strategy sets out the long-term vision and objectives for the whole of the area covered by the former Daventry District, Northampton Borough and South Northamp-

tonshire Councils for the plan period up to 2029, including strategic policies for steering and shaping development. It identifies specific locations for strategic new housing and employment and changes to transport infrastructure and other supporting community facilities, as well as defining areas where development will be limited. It also helps to ensure the co-ordination and delivery of other services and related strategies. This then forms the basis of Flore's neighbourhood plan. Flore Parish Council will be commenting on WNC's proposed plan at the meeting in May. (3) A resident raised the concern of people sleeping overnight in the layby, by The Holiday Inn. This has been reported to National Highways.

Planning

Application 2024/1525/TCA Beech Hill, 27 High Street. Work to trees in conservation area. No objections from the Parish Council.

WNC – Local Governance Review

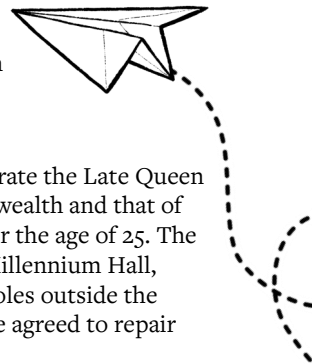
As a part of this review, WNC have suggested a possible absorption of Brockhall into the parish of Flore. Although not against this proposal in principle, the Parish Council have requested further information to understand the implications of this and WNC are now undertaking a consultation with Brockhall residents.

Parish Council Assets

The Parish Council reported on their asset list and their current condition. Assets include: Bus shelters, closed churchyard, various planters throughout the village, benches, notice board, dog and litter bins, street lights, the war memorial, flagpoles, village sign, village map and gateways.

Ram Bank Handrail

The Parish Council is currently seeking quotes for the viability of an extension to the existing handrail.



Broken Flagpole

The Flore Commonwealth Flag Project was started in 2005 to celebrate the Late Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. The Work of today's Commonwealth and that of the Overseas Territories have 2.5 billion members, 70 per cent under the age of 25. The Commonwealth flags and information on our notice board by the Millennium Hall, provide more detail. Unfortunately, amongst the collection of flagpoles outside the Millennium Hall, one is currently damaged. The Parish Council have agreed to repair and replace this flagpole.

Come and Join Us

The next full Parish Council Meeting is on the 14th May 2024 in the URC Chapel Schoolroom, Chapel Lane.

Clerk contact details: Mrs Susan Halkett, 16 St Mary's Way, Weedon Northants. NN7 4QL. 01327 341057. Email: florepc@btinternet.com.

Chairman: Kathryn Baines. Email: kathrynsbaines@hotmail.com

Agendas for all meetings is posted on the Council Notice Board outside the Flore Newsagents & Convenience Shop. Minutes are available for all meetings on www.florevillage.co.uk/ with links to various other organisations within the village.

Letter from the Laity

A walk around Flore and Nether Heyford reveals our rich agricultural heritage: fields growing grain; the old mill in Heyford, and numerous houses in Flore called “The Old Bakery”. This part of the Nene valley was very much the bread basket of Northampton: wheat grown, milled and baked into bread here fed the burgeoning industrial town.

It is right that we should celebrate our farming culture, and perhaps we should do so more often than just Harvest Festival. Plough Sunday, which represents the start of the agricultural year in January, is creeping back onto the calendar, and Rogation Sunday is coming up on 5th May.

Rogation is all about asking: the word comes from the Latin ‘to ask’. Traditionally Rogation walks and Rogation prayers were to ask for God’s blessing on the crops to ensure a good harvest. The practice goes back to very early in the Christian era, taking over a Roman spring festival of walking through the fields to pray that the crops be spared from mildew and blight.

But Rogation is not just about asking, it is also about generosity, because we are not simply asking for ourselves but for others too, especially those on whom we depend for our food and wellbeing.

Rogation reminds us that God longs to bless us and to bless the world through us.

Yours in Christ,

Paul



General information & contacts

Flore Parish Council

Mrs Susan Halkett Clerk florepc@btinternet.com 01327 341057
Kathryn Baines Chairman kathrynsbaines@hotmail.com

Welcome Packs for newcomers

Newcomers moving in near you? Recently moved to Flore but have not received a welcome pack? Contact **Nigel Strang**: cornsayl@me.com, 01327 340403, or 27/29 Sutton St.

Defibrillator locations in Flore

One is positioned on the wall at **Brodie Lodge Playing Field**. The other is next to the door of the **Millennium Hall** on the High St. If someone has collapsed dial 999.

List of Flore Businesses and Services

Find a list of business and services here: <https://tinyurl.com/FloreBusinessList>

If you have a business/service offering and live or work in Flore, please add it to the list by completing this very short survey: <https://tinyurl.com/FloreBusinessServiceSurvey>

Church contact details

Parish Church

Revd Stephen Burrow	Rector	01327 344436
Sue Raven	Churchwarden	01327 340183
John Boast	Churchwarden	01327 341225

United Reformed Church (Chapel) — www.floreurc.org.uk

Revd Jay Phelps	Minister	01327 340282
Lis Nye	Secretary	01327 342002
Daphne Chaplin	Elder	01327 340368
Wendy Pittman	Elder	01327 342302
Chris Littlewood	Elder	01327 340918
Hilary Crane	Elder	07900 676006



Information for the Messenger

Please send signed entries for the Messenger by the **22nd** of each month to appear in the following month's publication, to **Andrea Gauthier** (email preferred):

Andrea Gauthier flore.messenger@gmail.com 07496 186633
(Editor) Barn Cottage, 34 Sutton Street

Church Services in May

Flore Christian Partnership and the Anglican churches of
Heyford, Stowe-Nine-Churches and Brockhall

Weekend services

Sunday 5th	10:00am	Holy Communion Church Stowe
	11:00am	United Service Flore Chapel URC
Sunday 12th	10:00am	Benefice Service Brockhall Church
	10:00am	Morning Worship at Flore Chapel URC (led by Claire)
Sunday 19th	10:00am	Holy Communion at Heyford Church
	10:00am	United service at Flore Chapel URC (led by Hilary Crane) - Pentecost
	6:00pm	Ante-Communion at Upper Stowe
Sunday 26th	10:00am	Holy Communion at Flore Church
	10:00am	Come and find the lost coin! Flore Chapel URC (led by Lis Nye and Hilary Crane)
	10:00am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	4:00pm	Café Church at Heyford Church

Mid-week services

Fridays	9:00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom. All Welcome. Contact the Rector by email: s_p_burrow@yahoo.co.uk to get an invitation that will enable you to connect.
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Flore Church is temporarily closed for building works. Services due to be held in the church are being held in Flore Chapel or Brockhall Church. Wednesday morning services are cancelled during the Rector's absence. Thursday morning services are cancelled for the duration of the building works.

Praying for our villages by street

The Streets we shall be praying for during May are: Flore: Bricketts Lane & Springfield; Heyford: Watery Lane and Playing Fields, Brookside Place; Upper Stowe: Main Street; Brockhall: Hall Apartments.