

communion and lay-led services. But not until the virus is under control.

Meanwhile, the fabric of the Church continues to be worked on. The two porch roofs and the vestry roof have been refurbished with care and craftsmanship by Paul K of Wappenham. Thank you to him and, of course, to everyone whose donations have helped make this possible. Thank you also to all who continue to look after the churchyards outside, making it a peaceful and harmonious whole.

The Church is a beautiful building and we will get back to using it regularly as soon as it is safe to do so. It is open for private prayer on Sunday mornings only, from 10 till 12 noon – but please note that it will be closed for 1 day on Sunday 30 August, following a service there on the 29th.

Jane M/12.8.20
Church Committee

FROM WAPPENHAM CHAPEL

He who has the Son...

The story is told of a very wealthy art collector whose son tragically died as a war hero in Vietnam. One of the soldiers he had courageously saved had drawn a sketch of his son just days before he died and sent it to his father as a tribute to him. His father framed it and kept it on the wall alongside all of the works of art in his collection.



Sometime later the father himself died. In his will he left instructions for the sale of the art collection by auction to be held in the family home. Art dealers came from all over the world to bid for the various paintings. But the auctioneer began by asking the crowd if anyone would bid for the sketch of the son. No-one raised so much as an eyebrow. After a short while someone called out from the back of the room, "We haven't come here for that. We want to see the Rembrandt and the Picasso. Get on with the real auction." But the auctioneer persisted. "Who will start me off with \$10? Who will take this picture of his son?" No-one was interested. Eventually, someone in the crowd, impatient to get on with the rest of the auction, raised his hand and offered \$5. "Will anyone give me \$6? The crowd grew more and more restless. "Going, going, gone." And with that, the gavel came down and the sketch was sold. Then the auctioneer declared that the auction was now closed. There was uproar in the room. He motioned for silence and went on to explain that that there had been a secret stipulation in the father's will that stated that whoever took the sketch of the son was to be given the whole collection along with it! For just \$5, one man had just inherited millions.

That is what happens in the gospel whenever anyone believes in the Saviour who came to die for us. The apostle John wrote, "Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life" 1 John 5:12. What he is saying is so amazing that it has to be said both positively and negatively to make sure that no one will misunderstand.

In the gospel, God offers us eternal life in the Person of his Son, Jesus Christ. Whenever anyone believes and trusts in Him, they not only begin a new relationship with God, but countless blessings are added to them as well. Life, forgiveness, heaven, peace, joy, love... in fact every blessing that God has to give us is wrapped up in His Son. That's why life here and now can seem

so empty without Him. And ultimately, if we continue to refuse God's Son when He is offered to us in the gospel, we get nothing!

Chapel Life

Sunday mornings: 10.30am Wappenham Chapel.

Also available on You Tube.

Sunday Evenings 5pm – We meet for prayer at Wappenham chapel.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7.30pm. These meetings are currently held on Cisco Webex online.

There are no fortnightly ladies' meetings at present.

More details can be found on our website at:

www.towcesterevangelicalchurch.uk

Pastor Trevor T

A BUTTER-FUL SUMMER

Here's a photo of a rare Swallowtail butterfly taken by Anthony R in his garden. Note the shadow beneath it. Jane H also saw a silver-washed fritillary butterfly for the first time.



WARTIME WAPPENHAM MEMORIES

When war broke out in 1939, I was 3 years old. My brother (Roger King) was in Lincolnshire, staying with our aunt and uncle; apparently there was a rush to get him home safely. My father was in the Home Guard and my mother a member of the WVS (Women's Voluntary Service). I was given an identification document. Printed on it was my name, address and number RKL B654. My father's number RKL B651, mother RKL B652, Roger RKL B653.

All windows had to be blacked out with first of all sticky tape (criss-cross design) to save the windows from shattering and then black blinds. Gas masks were allocated (I still have my father's Home Guard gas mask). The children had to take them to school and time was allowed to practise wearing them.

Food rationing started in 1940 and finished in 1954; there was clothing rationing too. Nothing was wasted: leftover vegetables were kept for the pigs. Living in the village, our family benefitted as my father had a large garden with fruit and vegetables. My grandfather had cows, pigs and hens.

Soap was kept in a cupboard to make it last longer. Toothpaste was in a tin. Father looked after our shoes by adding 'Toe-taps' to Roger's shoes and rubber to mine. There were two types of sweets: I remember liquorice and barley sugar sticks. No bananas until after the war.

Clocks were turned back two hours (double summer time).

We were taught that if we were ever out in an air raid, to lie face down, preferably in a ditch.

My father went for rifle practice in the gravel pit between David W's farm and Syresham. I remember walking with my father over the fields towards Astwell to see the crater where an American plane had crashed.

The night Coventry was bombed (14th November 1940), we watched from a bedroom window – in the distance the whole sky was red.

A mock battle took place between Wappenham and Helmdon and I was taken over to the Beeches to watch, from the attic windows – I was terrified someone would be hurt! When we had the manoeuvres in the village, I was standing outside the shop: the tanks made the ground shake and it was all very noisy. Roger told me that some of the soldiers stayed in our workshop and slept on the coffin boards. Regarding Radar, silver paper floated from the sky.

Old Park Farm (between Wappenham and Syresham), the home of Richard and Sue W's parents, was bombed on the 23rd April 1943. I remember going to see the devastation: cattle killed, barns destroyed. My aunt and uncle were fortunate that they survived, but a terrible shock for them: see the photos overleaf.

Collecting rosehips was a must – made into rosehip syrup. Each child was paid by the amount collected. Cod liver oil and malt was taken from a spoon each day after breakfast.

Entertainment: radio (always called wireless).

8.15am - Radio Doctor

Lunchtime - Worker's Playtime. factory workers singing to popular songs.

4.15pm – Mrs Dale's Diary

Evenings – The Goons, Dick Barton Special Agent, In Town Tonight. Radio Luxembourg.

The radio accumulator had to be charged at a garage.

VE Day - I believe that the only celebration was a bonfire.

VJ Day – I was staying with my aunt and uncle in Lincolnshire. My uncle took me to the docks and I saw a boat arrive with bananas!

As this year marks 75 years since the second World War came to an end, may I mention a Dunkirk veteran, Ernie W from Lois Weedon, who started work with my father (F King & Sons) when he was 14 years old. At the age of 17 years he joined the Royal Marine Commandoes. The French government awarded him the Legion d'Honneur and also a medal (at a reunion) for liberating the town Port-de-Bessin. To him, and many more, we give our thanks for the peace we have enjoyed since 1945.

Rita H





TRUST TOWCESTER VETS

Advertising Editorial

Throughout lockdown, Towcester Vets followed government guidelines and the advice of our governing body to ensure we could continue to treat animals that needed our care. These guidelines have continually changed over the last few months and Towcester Vets has adapted to ensure the safety of both our staff and clients.

We are happy to inform you that we are now able to offer non-emergency and routine treatment for clients. This has come with some changes as we are operating on a reduced team in every department.

When you arrive for your pet's appointment, please call the clinic and inform them of the vehicle you are in. The treating vet will then come to collect your pet for their appointment. Clients will not be able to enter the practice, but the vet will discuss treatment options safely

from a 2-metre distance. This process is similar for any equine appointments at our Towcester or Onley clinics.

When out at yards and farms, our team respectfully asks that you keep at least 2 metres away. Each of our vets and nurses are practicing social distancing and will be wearing PPE where appropriate.

Please ensure you pre-book consultations where possible and always let the office know if you no longer need your appointment. Also note that we are happy to meet somebody on your behalf if you're shielding.

As one of the few remaining independent veterinary practices in the Midlands, we want to thank our loyal clients for your support during such a difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact our team on either 01327 350239 (small animal & farm) or 01327 811007 (equine).



Towcester VETS



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What's on this autumn

For help with groceries, chemists etc if you are self-isolating:
Contact your road's volunteer (on the form dropped through your door) or call Fiona on 0786 879400.

Regular Events –

Mumford's butcher/grocery van Meat, fruit, veg & groceries. Delivers Sat around 3pm. Order on 01295 760212

Dave's Fish Every Thursday 07886 553229

Duncombes Fresh fruit and veg, call 01295 768231 to order; collect from Helmdon

Takeaway food Tues-Fridays, also hot food Weds-Sats, New Inn/Kings Head, delivered, call 01327 857306

Wholefood and specialist foods Daily Bread - free delivery to Wappenham every two months, contact Jane H

Chapel service Sundays 10.30am (Chapel and online)

Chapel service Sundays 5pm (Chapel)

Bible Study Tuesdays 7.30pm (Currently held online by Chapel)

Space for private prayer 10-12 noon (St Mary's church) – See Wiz and church noticeboard for services