

NOTICES

Ravensden Community Cuppa is on **7th August at Ravensden Village Hall at 2.30 p.m.** £2 entrance to include tea and cake. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee Stop in Colmworth Church on Wednesday 11th July & 8th August. Come and join us for a coffee and a chat - 10.30 a.m to noon. All welcome.

Colmworth guided walks will continue at 10 a.m. on **Wednesday mornings**, meeting at the triangle near the church. All welcome.

Colmworth Community Lunch takes place on **25th July & 27th August** in church at 12 noon. Contact Heather on 376513 to book.

Hymns with Memories - Colmworth on Sunday September 2nd at 3pm. A sing of your special hymns in the church followed by tea and cake in Colmworth Park. Do let Eunice or Heather have your choice of hymn soon and then come along and enjoy the singing.

St Denys Church Garden Party will take place on Sunday **July 8th** at Manor Farm Colmworth from 2-4pm. With teas, lots of fun activities-welly wanging, maggot racing, fishing for ducks and more, stalls with children's books and jigsaws, cake and produce, white elephant, plants etc. The Friends of St Denys, the Scouts and Perennial will also be there. Do come and enjoy a fun afternoon in a lovely garden.

Wilden May Day: A very big thank you to everyone who helped and contributed on May Day. A profit of £4,200 is shared between the Church, the Village Hall and the School and this is a wonderful help to all three benefactors.

Dates for your Diary

The Historic Churches Trust Bike and Hike will once again take place on **8th September** when the churches will be open. This annual fund raiser provides necessary funds for the preservation of our historic village churches. Volunteers are needed on the day to either ride or help man the churches and welcome visitors. Please get in touch with **Eunice (771583) or Sue (376765)** for the necessary sponsorship forms for this event if you are interested in taking part.

Are you interested in Machine or hand knitting. The Putnoe Club is moving to **Wilden** on Friday **7th September** in the Village Hall. 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. New members very welcome. Contact Sheila Day 771328.

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Wilden, Ravensden & Colmworth Newsletter

July/August 2018

Here are some thoughts shared by a colleague, Revd Richard Clarkson, who knows more about football than me!

One of the big talking points in this year's World Cup has been the introduction of the "Video Assistant Referee", or VAR. This means the referee is able to review incidents to make sure that they make the correct decision. This is supposed to make the game fairer although maybe fans will only agree with VAR when it goes their team's way...

I wonder how the referees feel about this new system. It must be a really difficult, high pressured position where every decision is scrutinised by millions of fans around the world, every mistake is noted for what must seem like forever.

Now, though, they not only have that pressure but they also have a little VAR voice in their ear saying "actually you got that wrong", or "you missed something there", or "I think you should check that again".

I wonder if we live our lives with that little VAR voice in our ear pointing out our mistakes, our flaws, our failures. It's very easy for us to let that voice dictate how we feel about our lives, or about ourselves. But it is important for us to remember that, just because the voice is there, that doesn't mean that we have to listen to it.

Paul, one of the great characters in the Bible, grew up striving to be the absolute best and yet still struggled with those feelings of inadequacy. He learnt, though, that without God we can never be perfect. "If anyone thinks they have reason to put confidence in themselves, I have more", he writes and "whatever advantages I thought I had, I now count them as worthless compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus"

Paul goes on to acknowledge that we all make mistakes but that God loves us anyway. He suggests that "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about these things."

Don't focus on your flaws and failings, don't dwell on your mistakes, focus instead on what is good and, he says, "God's peace will be with you".

In fact that might be wise advice for anyone watching this World Cup too—don't dwell on the mistakes! Instead focus on what is good, enjoy what is enjoyable, and if it does all go pear shaped in the quarter finals there's always the Cricket World Cup or Rugby World Cup next year!

Peace be with you, Madeleine

