PITSFORD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER September 2026

If you have any articles that you would like to submit, or an advert from your local company, please email maureeneholliday@runbox.com

Welcome Siljan Vramsmo



Katherine and Håkan Vramsmo, of Collyweston House, are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Siljan, born on 27th July.

Mother and baby are doing wonderfully, though father is rather tired. Siljan is the long-awaited new sibling to his brothers Benjamin and Hemming (2014–2023), whose biggest wish was to have a younger brother.

The family would like to thank the local community for their continued warmth, kindness, and support.



Deaf First is a small CIC based in Northampton and set up by Carol Spencer to provide social events and interactions for deaf people. It is a much-needed service to prevent deaf people from being isolated. A group of volunteers are undertaking a sponsored walk around Pitsford Reservoir on 20th September 2026 to raise funds to keep this vital service open and flourishing following the recent closure of another deaf service, Deaf Connect, due to lack of funding. **If anyone would like to sponsor Chivonne Altena please contact Pam Altena on 07969 810 073/ altenap@aol.com. The smallest amount would be appreciated to keep this vital service going.**

In **July**, we enjoyed our **Annual Summer Garden Party**, with wine, nibbles, a raffle and a lovely evening in Georgina and Tony's beautiful garden. **Thank you both for your wonderful hospitality**.

Our next meeting is **Tuesday 15th September**, when we'll hear about the **"Pensioners' Pilgrimages"**, organised by Nick (84) and Kerstin Banham (74) in support of **Harry's Pals**, a charity helping families of seriously ill or disabled children. We meet at **Pitsford Village Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm**, unless otherwise advertised. Visitors and new members are always very welcome. **For more information, contact Sandie Bamford on 01604 881662.**





During the summer months the **Community Breakfast** continued to be a great success with both **July and August being fully booked**. The next breakfast is the **6th September** so please book early if you are intending to join us. We will be offering our **takeaway service of tea/coffee and freshly made bacon, sausage or egg sandwiches.**

MONTHLY EVENT

FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST SERVED BY THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH (EXCLUDING JANUARY).



LOCATION: PITSFORD VILLAGE HALL

2026 DATES: 6TH SEPTEMBER, 4TH OCTOBER, 1ST NOVEMBER, 6TH DECEMBER.

SERVICE RUNS 9:30–11.30AM (LAST ORDERS 10:45AM).

THE COST PER BREAKFAST IS £6.50, INCLUDING REFILLABLE TEA/COFFEE AND EXTRA TOAST. TO HELP KEEP COSTS DOWN, PAYMENT IS CASH ONLY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED FOR TABLES OF 4+. BOOK VIA WENDY BIGGS (07903 511 572).

WE'LL ALSO BE SELLING TAKEAWAY HOMEMADE CAKES, TEA, COFFEE, AND BACON, SAUSAGE OR EGG SANDWICHES.

As summer draws to a close, we have a busy few months of fundraising events ahead.

Saturday 19th September, 2pm – Jumble Sale

Our popular Jumble Sale returns with stalls, cakes and tombola. **Donations** can be dropped off **Friday 18th, 11.45am–1pm**, or **Saturday, 10–11am**.

Friday 2nd October, 6–9pm – Vintage in the Village

Returning after last year's success, raising funds for Cancer Research, Riding for the Disabled and Deaf First.

Saturday 24th October – Maria Pie & Mash Quiz Night

A fun evening with great food, drink and a refreshed quiz format. Save the date.

Saturday 21st November – Bottomless Brunch

A brand-new event. Bookings open in early October, watch this space.

The newly refurbished Village Hall is also available to hire, with discounted rates for Pitsford residents.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH PITSFORD



Sunday 6th September, The Rt Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough, **Deborah Sellis**, will be joining our congregation at our **Holy Communion service at 11am**. All, of all faiths or none, are very welcome to join us.

Saturday 12th September, 11.00am–4.00pm – Ride and Stride 2026 and Cream Tea at All Saints Church. More details below.

Saturday 26th September, 7.00pm for 7.30pm – Harvest Supper and Quiz Night at Pitsford Village Hall. Tickets £15 (Available from Monday 7th Septemebr). **Contact Keith Isaacs 07921 468 366 or email isaacskeith@sky.com.**



All Saints ForgetMeNot Pitsford – Coffee Mornings

ForgetMeNot offers a warm and welcoming space for people living with dementia, their carers, those they care for, and anyone who may be feeling isolated. Everyone is welcome from both within and beyond the village.

Tuesday 8th & 22nd September from 10.00am to 12.00pm at All Saints Church. For more information, please contact Carol and Keith on 07921 468366 or email isaacskeith@sky.com. With many years' experience in health and social care and care management, together with DBS certification, they provide a safe, friendly and supportive environment for all.

Ride, Stride & Drive 2026
Saturday 12th September, 11am-4pm
Please support your local church.

RIDE+STRIDE for Churches

Ride, Stride & Drive is an annual sponsored event supporting churches across Northamptonshire. Take part by cycling, walking, jogging, horse riding or driving, visiting as many or as few churches as you like and planning your own route.
In Northamptonshire, 50% of money raised goes to your chosen church, with the remaining 50% supporting the Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust.
Please sponsor All Saints Church local organiser Keith Isaacs, who also has details of participating churches and events.
Cream Teas at All Saints Church, Pitsford.
To Sponsor: 07921 468 366; isaacskeith@sky.com



Pitsford Parish Council

The first point of contact is always our Parish Clerk, Sarah Stock: clerk@pitsfordparishcouncil.org.uk

Grants Awarded

Two grants were awarded to Pitsford Village Hall: £790.76 towards annual insurance and £650 for roof tile repairs and ridge repointing.



Village Spaces

Maintenance continues across the village, including the wildflower strip, Tumulus, Millennium Spinney, The Green, The Island, The Square, Cemetery and Churchyard. Reported issues are being addressed.

Churchyard Wall

A big thank you to Martin Palmer for his excellent workmanship repairing the churchyard wall.

Street Lighting Consultation

The Council agreed to formally consult residents on the proposed overnight switch-off of street lighting. Information will be delivered to every household, with a consultation evening planned for September. **Responses can be sent to clerk@pitsfordparishcouncil.org.uk.**

CCTV Proposal

A proposal for CCTV near the zebra crossing will be discussed in September, following concerns about speeding and vehicles approaching the Primary School crossing. Estimated installation cost is £6,000, plus around £40 per month for connectivity.

Churchyard Storage Shed

Following pre-planning advice, the proposed shed will be reduced in size and installed on slabs to avoid disturbing the burial ground. Planning permission will be sought.

The Oaks, Moulton Road

Concerns regarding possible business use have been referred to West Northamptonshire Council Planning Enforcement for investigation.

Did You Know? – The Electoral Register

Being on the electoral register doesn't just mean you're registered to vote, it can also help confirm your identity when applying for credit, a mortgage, car finance, a phone contract or rented accommodation.

Registration can be particularly helpful if you have a limited credit history. It may also help organisations confirm who does, and doesn't, live at your address.

Registering takes around five minutes. You'll need your National Insurance number and, if you're a British citizen living abroad, your passport.

To register or find out more: West Northamptonshire Council Electoral Services
Tel: 0300 126 7000; **Email:** electoralservices@westnorthants.gov.uk;
www.westnorthants.gov.uk/elections-and-voting





Pitsford School Site Update

The Pitsford School site is now being openly marketed for sale as a “Development Opportunity”, comprising approximately 67,511 sq ft of buildings on 29.92 acres, with vacant possession. The particulars list the existing use as Class F1 but highlight “scope for redevelopment”. No asking price has been published.

This suggests the administrators are seeking to sell the whole school estate, rather than solely finding another education operator. However, no alternative or residential redevelopment currently has planning permission.

Pitsford Hall remains Grade II listed, with associated heritage and planning protections. The earlier application for up to nine houses (2026/2191/PIP) was withdrawn on 25th June.

The Parish Council will retain the sales particulars and continue to monitor developments, including any future planning or heritage applications.

Philip Watkins and Philip Armstrong of FRP Advisory were appointed joint administrators on 14 July 2026.



Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Bench



The finish on the Jubilee Bench backplate has deteriorated since its installation in 2022. C.F.S. Brixworth Ltd have done a fantastic job of refinishing it, and the bench will be back in place this coming week.



Northamptonshire History Podcasts

While gardening this week, I discovered a fascinating collection of podcasts exploring the history of Northamptonshire.

One that particularly caught my attention was **"Watford Gap: More Than Just a Motorway Services".** Long before becoming a famous M1 stopping point and celebrity haunt, Watford Gap played an important part in British history. Many locals will remember its heyday in the 1960s.

I have a personal connection too, my mother was Catering Training Officer for Blue Boar at the services. She was a big Cliff Richard fan, and whenever he visited, he would apparently ask, **"Is Millie here?"**

There's plenty more local history to discover in the podcast collection, perfect for popping in your headphones and exploring the area on foot. **MH**

www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/p0j93q2x



Community Speedwatch is a police-supported scheme where local volunteers use approved equipment to monitor speeding vehicles in the village. The scheme aims to encourage safer driving and reduce road casualties. It does not issue fines, but repeat offenders may be referred to the police, while information collected can help support requests for future traffic-calming measures.
Training and ongoing support are provided. **Please contact Jo Woolard at JoWoolly@hotmail.com.**

Bridge Repairs – Road Closure

Pitsford Road, Chapel Brampton / Brampton Lane, Pitsford. West Northamptonshire Council will be carrying out embankment and bridge repairs opposite The Halt.

The road will be closed 24 hours a day from 14th September to 30th October 2026, with a diversion in place. For further information, contact Alex Munro on 01604 529700.

Safer Driving for Over 60s

The Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance is holding a friendly session to help drivers aged 60+ stay safe, confident and independent.

Monday 21st September
Sedgebrook Hall, Chapel Brampton
Sessions: 8am or 12.45pm

Places are limited and must be booked in advance.

www.carkraft.info/events

Take the Next Step in Your Career

Looking for work or a career change? Discover free, flexible Skills Bootcamps designed to build in-demand skills and help you into employment.

Courses include construction, welding, scaffolding, groundworks, green skills, logistics, warehousing and food manufacturing. You'll also learn about current job opportunities, interviews, career coaching and support available during training.

Thursday 10th September
The Guildhall, Northampton
11am–12.30pm or 1–2.30pm

Choose your preferred session and book your place today.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/get-job-ready-discover-skills-bootcamps-that-lead-to-employment-tickets-1992761299691?aff=oddtdtcreator

BR Bamford
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- Self Assessment
- VAT
- Company Services
- Payroll & CIS

brian@brbamford.co.uk
01604 881 662 www.brbamford.co.uk

Free initial consultation for all new clients

NIMBLE
STUDIO

New Wellness & Fitness Studio, Pitsford

Nimble Studio is opening at Spring Hill, Pitsford in October 2026 and will be open to the public by appointment.

This new physio-led wellness studio will offer physiotherapy, reformer Pilates, personal training and sports massage, bringing expert boutique wellness care to the Northamptonshire countryside. Whether you're recovering from injury, improving your fitness or simply looking after your wellbeing, the studio will offer personalised support.

www.nimble-studio.co.uk
info@nimble-studio.co.uk



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info@countrysideaesthetics.com

PITSFORD VILLAGE HALL
CHARITY FUND-RAISING

BOTTOMLESS BRUNCH & DRINKS

£40 PER PERSON

90 MINUTES OF PURE INDULGENCE

SATURDAY
21st NOVEMBER 2026

1.00pm to 2.30pm
& 1.30pm to 3.00pm

CHARCUTERIE GRAZING BOARD • BREADS • DESSERT SHOOTERS
PROSECCO • RED WINE • WHITE WINE • ROSE WINE
SPRITZER TABLE TO MIX COMBINATION DRINKS
VODKA & GIN BASED COCKTAILS • BEER • NON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS
DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BUY AFTER THE 90 MINUTE PERIOD HAS EXPIRED.

LIVE MUSIC WITH
STRING AND TONICS



THIS IS A TICKET ONLY EVENT AND PLACES ARE LIMITED.

PAYMENT MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE.

BOOKING FORM TO BE OBTAINED FROM
BEV FLANAGAN 07870 516961