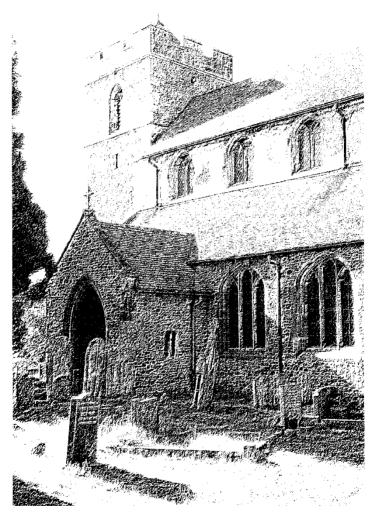
# Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



**December 2023** 

#### **Village Diary**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 6.30pm Pu Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 1 – 1.30pm Li

Pub Night in the Village Hall Library Van at the crossroads

Tuesdays at 10-11am Wednesdays at 10.30am Fridays at 10.00am Boogie Tuesday at the Village Hall Village Hall Coffee Morning Pilates at the Village Hall

#### Wheelie bin collection dates

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 21st December

FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> December Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue bin only

#### **Editorial**

I am writing this from the comfort of my recliner chair after hip replacement surgery on 7 November. Things are going in the right direction and I'm back at home in the care of my lovely daughter. My world has shrunk a bit for the time being and lots of planning and re-arranging is going on. Seems like Covid lockdown all over again.

As we approach Christmas, the magazine is full of news of the Christmas Fair. Please do support this major fund-raising event. It's a great social gathering and raises money to keep our Village Hall going, something we all benefit from. Also, and very importantly, we have the news of the church re-opening. Carolling round the village should also happen as usual. Look out for information on all of this in all the usual places. All welcome to these events.

Miki Ellar miki.ellar7@gmail.com 07568 706106

Cover picture from the magazine cover in 2005.

#### Vicar's Letter:

#### Did you know?

There is always more to people in the public eye than we are aware of. The funeral of the late Sir Bobby Charlton is taking place as I write this piece. He is rightly and widely acclaimed for his achievements as perhaps the greatest footballer to have represented England and Manchester United. What is less well-known is the laudable charitable work and interests he gave himself to in later life; also, who, again in later years, had fallen out with two members of his own family. We all have our Achilles' heel; a point of weakness that can leave us and others vulnerable, unless exceptional care is taken to guard against the impact of such frailties.

An inability or unwillingness to forgive and be reconciled can be an example of what I mean. These same sentiments manifest themselves in the global conflicts seen in the wars between Palestinian HAMAS and Israel as well as between Ukraine and Russia. In matters we understand very little about – particularly over strained relationships between people we hardly know – reconciliation requires both parties to a dispute to come together. I am responsible for doing all I can to mend something broken I am associated with, but I can't answer for the other party. Forgiveness is something different, whether our 'issues' are small or significant.

Without forgiveness we can't be reconciled and restored in relationships that have fallen into disrepair. Forgiveness is the gift of someone who has been hurt or offended, towards the perpetrator of wrongful behaviour. It is not dependent on whether forgiveness is received and embraced. Part of the challenge can be in knowing I may forgive someone and still the breach between us is not healed — because the other person is unwilling to see the relationship restored. It may be even more daunting when both parties are perpetrators of wrongs, and the only difference may be in the degrees of forgiveness needed on either side!

Christians ought to be top notch forgivers of others. This is because we believe we are beneficiaries of God's unconditional and unmerited forgiveness to us, expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This casts a new light on Christmas and preparing for a new year.

Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came to secure our forgiveness by God and to model what forgiveness and reconciliation looks like among us. Let's use this season to leave no stone unturned in choosing to forgive and making sure the other party knows they have been forgiven.

We may feel very gloomy right now about the prospects for peace in Ukraine and between Israel and HAMAS; also, whether our own 'issues' will ever be sorted. God sees them differently. He has not given up on us or on what can transpire in today's

global conflicts. That's why He is described in the Bible as 'the God of hope', for whom nothing is impossible. The Prince of peace invites us to be peace-makers for our times and circumstances.

**Nigel di Castiglione**, Team Rector

#### **Church Services for December**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December CHURCH REOPENING 3.00pm Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December CAROL SERVICE 6.00pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS EVE Family communion service 6.00pm

#### **Papworth Team Services**

The website <u>papworthteamchurches.org</u> has up to date service information for all churches in the team. It also has the Zoom link for the Morning Prayer.

**ZOOM Chapel Morning Prayer** (Mon – Sat) at 8.15am (Zoom) **Telephone service** on Mondays at 5.00pm on 4, 11 and 18 Dec

#### **Christmas 2023**

All, without exception, are very welcome to attend the re-opening of the church on the 9<sup>th</sup> December, and our Carol and Christmas Eve services. We wish all parishioners and friends a very Happy Christmas! Let us all pray for a peaceful New Year.

#### **Carol singing**

Arrangements for the village carol singing have yet to be finalised but will be advertised soon.

#### **Church cleaning**

**Please note** there will be **special cleaning sessions** of the church over the weekend of **2**<sup>nd</sup>/**3**<sup>rd</sup> **December** from 9.30am: contact Peter Reynolds if you are able to spare some time to get the church back into order before Christmas.

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday vacant

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Donal and Monica O'Donnell

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Peter Reynolds 4th Sunday Janet Clear 5th Sunday Linda Rimmer As previously noted, Peter and Suzy Stokes, after more years than anyone cares to remember, have resigned from the cleaning rota, leaving a vacancy for the first Sunday in the month. Is there anybody or bodies in the parish who might be able and willing to step up to the plate? It entails a commitment of a couple of hours a month. Please contact any member of the PCC if you might be that/these person(s).

#### Church flowers and brasses

3<sup>rd</sup> December

10<sup>th</sup> December Janet Clear 17<sup>th</sup> December Linda Smith 24<sup>th</sup> December Miki Ellar

31st December Christine Allison

#### Nave ceiling, south clerestory and south aisle roof repairs

Because the works were going beyond Natural England's deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> November, the PCC was obliged to commission a bat survey which was carried out by greenwillows associates, of Warboys, on November 6<sup>th</sup>: they found plenty of evidence of bats in the church, but their assessment was that we weren't causing any undue disturbance to them. As we go to press, the date for completion of the works is November 24<sup>th</sup>, but there have been further delays and it is likely to be the week following before everything is concluded.



Inspection for bats: greenwillows ecological consultants 6.11.2023

The clerestory windows have been cleaned and repaired internally, where necessary, including repointing the stonework. The redecoration of the nave arcade walls wants only one more coat of casein distemper, which was chosen in preference to limewash, because of the presence of an earlier powdery substrate. Mark Perry of Perry-Lithgow is

due to attend to clean and repair the chancel arch wall painting whilst the scaffolding remains in situ. The roofers have had to contend with a lot of wet weather but more than half of the south aisle has been finished. The PCC now has about 2,000 reclaimed peg tiles to sell: is anyone interested?



Roofing of south aisle in progress 10.11.2023 (Mike Riddell)



Above: Old tiles and battens Right: New Burwell clay peg tiles





# BOURN TO RUN

Join us in 2024 on 15<sup>st</sup> September!

#### THANK YOU!

With huge thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers, and over 380 runners, we're delighted to share that Bourn to Run 2023 has raised just over £10,000 to support our village primary school and wider community.

Register to take part in 2024 at www.bourntorun.com

## **Richard Lithgow**

We were saddened to hear of the sudden and unexpected death of Richard Lithgow on October 9th. Based in Oxfordshire, Richard formed the Perry-Lithgow partnership with Mark Perry in 1983, and they became the pre-eminent specialists in the conservation of wall paintings throughout the British Isles. Over the last forty years they have carried out more than two hundred projects, including several cathedrals and the palaces of Westminster, Kensington and Hampton Court. In 2010 they won the Pilgrim Trust Award for Conservation. Both have been very much involved with the Institute of Conservation (ICON). Here, at All Saints and St Andrew, after decades of neglect following the treatment of our murals by Professor Tristram in the 1920s, they began their work in the chancel in 1989, proceeding to the north aisle in 1993, the chancel arch in 1998 and, in 2020, the late C16/early C17 black letter texts above the nave arcade. In all cases their painstaking and meticulous work followed detailed surveys and concluded with exemplary reports and advice on maintenance. Richard and Mark have always been a pleasure to work with. Mark now continues as the sole Director of the business.

## Films in the Village Hall

The screen and projector in the large hall and the TV in the small hall have proved popular for viewing sporting events and the Coronation. Without a film licence we can only screen live broadcasts, but the committee will consider purchasing a licence for around £300 if there is sufficient interest within the community. Contact me if you are interested in forming or participating in a film club, or something less formal such as get-togethers to watch films or catch-up TV.

#### **Paul Wright**

paulwright8@btinternet.com

Mob: 07803 237751



# Roll up, Roll up! It's Kingston Christmas Fair!

# Sunday 3 December 10am-12noon

The catalogue and full details of how to buy will be distributed on the village emailing list a few days in advance.

Contact Peter Stokes

(pandsstokes@gmail.com, 07740 053247) if you are not on the village emailing list or you need a printed catalogue.

- Christmas puddings and cakes, mince pies, fudge and chocolates, biscuits, flapjacks, pastries
- Jams, chutneys, patés, quiches, sausage rolls, Christmas wreaths, plants, tree and table decorations
- Wines and spirits plus home-made sloe gin

Buy your goods between 10am—12noon by telephone, collect and pay for your purchases from the Village Hall between 3pm—5pm. Card payment preferred. Bring the children—there will be a chocolate tombola and refreshments including mulled wine, tea, coffee, mince pies, biscuits etc.

# Jacqui's Gardening Services



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#### **Quiz and Chips Saturday 20 January**

Mark and Katherine Stalham have kindly agreed to do our annual quiz. Entry will be £6 per head, plus food which is likely to be around £9 to £11, depending on the type of order, but we will not get firm prices until January. As usual, we are looking for nine table captains to build their teams, take orders for food and collect money. Please contact me (not the Stalhams) if you wish to be a table captain.

#### **Paul Wright**

paulwright8@btinternet.com

07803 237751

#### **Steamroller Ironing Services**



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The members of Kingston Parochial Church Council warmly invite you to join them on

# Saturday December 9th at 3.00pm

for the purposes of celebrating the RE-OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH of *All Saints and St Andrew*, CB23 2NG, following the completion of the recent programme of repairs (the most extensive in one hundred years);

to thank all the various contractors involved in carrying out the works;

and to express our heartfelt gratitude to the eight charitable trusts, and the many parishioners and other friends, who have made grants and donations, funding this project to its successful conclusion

Refreshments will be served

Kay Forsythe, Nigel Pearson, Peter Reynolds, Linda Rimmer, Lee Steele

## Village 20 MPH Speed Limit Application Update

Unfortunately, our initial application to have Kingston included in the initial allocation for the 20 mph traffic calming scheme was unsuccessful. The scheme has proved to be highly popular with many villages and sadly only 20 were selected to benefit initially.

There is however a new application period due to open from 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 until 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 therefore the Parish council will be submitting a further application which we hope will be successful.



# Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

Lower Pendrill Court Ermine Street North Papworth Everard CB23 3UY

#### Email:

papworth team ministry of fice @gmail.com

Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Revd. Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

- > The Revd Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector
- -07770 697240 -01954 267241



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- www.pennfarmpodiatry.co.uk





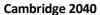
#### **District Councillor News**

#### **South Cambs Magazine**

Every household in the district receives a copy of the quarterly SouthCambs magazine. The Winter edition should land on doorsteps from 20 November to 2 December. Please email

scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk or call 0800 6444 01 if it does not get

to you. The last edition is available online at: <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/">https://www.scambs.gov.uk/</a> your-council-and-democracy/the-south-cambs-magazine/.



This is the Michael Gove grand plan to build 200,000 houses in the Cambridge area between now and 2040. Mr Peter Freeman (Homes England Chief Exec) whom he has selected to head the Cambridge Delivery (super)Group has started to have meetings with the main stakeholders in Greater Cambridge to understand the area better and the work that is already being done here.

A Water Group has also been set up to look at the solution to the water challenge that the area faces. The Cambridge 2040 plan is going nowhere if the water issue is not resolved.

#### **South Cambs Hall Ground Floor Project**

The District Council is converting an area of the ground floor space at South Cambridgeshire Hall into an attractive space for hire for use by individuals, businesses, and community groups who are looking for "meanwhile" desk, collaborative and meeting space. There will be facilities such as standard desk and meeting room space and a podcast room. The aim is to make this space into a hive of entrepreneurial activity which has support, collaboration and idea sharing at its heart. The work is well underway, and we expect the space to be open April 2024

#### **Visiting Support Team**

The District Council offers a visiting support service to residents who are 65 years or older. It is a short-term support service providing confidential, emotional, financial and practical support and promoting independent living in the community. Referral can be through family or friends, GP or someone else in the community. They also support younger adults living in supported or sheltered housing, providing assistance with managing money and health, helping tackle loneliness and social isolation, and staying safe. Here's a video explaining more <a href="https://bit.ly/VisitSupportTeam">https://bit.ly/VisitSupportTeam</a> or call the Council on 01954 713000.

#### **Cost of Living Support**

South Cambridgeshire residents are being encouraged to ensure they take advantage of all the cost-of-living support they are entitled to this winter. As weather gets colder and more is spent on heating, the District Council is urging residents and organisations to

make full use of assistance available. Apparently 25% of benefits are going unclaimed. Check what you are entitled to at <a href="https://www.entitledto.co.uk/">https://www.entitledto.co.uk/</a>. A list of local foodbanks is at <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/foodbanks">https://www.scambs.gov.uk/foodbanks</a>. Also get energy saving advice, find out about grants to improve home insulation to cut energy bills. More details on the council's webpage at <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support/">https://www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support/</a>.

#### **Draft Homeless Strategy Consultation**

The Council is consulting on its new draft Homeless Strategy (2023-2028) from now to 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2024. A review of homelessness within the district looked at the numbers and trends relating to homelessness as well as factors affecting this. The strategy sets out how the Council plans to respond to and tackle homelessness within the district over the next five year period and how to provide suitable housing options. The consultation documents can be found on the council website https://www.scambs.gov.uk/homeless-strategy where you can also give your feedback.

#### **Four Day Week Trial**

As I've stated in monthly reports, the District Council has been trialling a four-day week to try and resolve staff recruitment and retention issues. This area is very expensive to live in, and public sector pay and conditions cannot compete with the private sector. However, the Minister Lee Rowley took a dislike to the trial and continues to make overreaching decisions instructing the trial be stopped because he "doesn't think it will work" without hearing the real facts. He has refused to accept the invitations of the Council Leader for a face-to-face meeting and issued "Government guidance" instructing councils not to take up 4DW. Furthermore, a Best Value Notice has been issued and Government is now asking the Council to provide weekly reports of every type of performance data and kitchen sink they could come up with. The trial results so far show Council performance is maintained, great savings are being made as the council has filled 14 out of 23 hard-to-fill posts previously covered by agency staff, so slashing costs to the taxpayer by hundreds of thousands of pounds. Staff turnover has reduced by 36% and sickness levels down by a third. Staff motivation, health and wellbeing is boosted leading to fewer staff wanting to leave and greater consistency in service delivery to residents. The latest performance reports can be found on the council website for the recent Cabinet and the Staffing & Employment Meetings. The trial is continuing. South Cambs offices remain open 5 days a week, and the Contact centre is open longer hours than before the trial. The out of hours emergency response officers are available 24/7 and a new webchat service is available.

#### Weather Issues - Flooding advice and sandbags

Following recent heavy rains, the Council is reminding residents about the importance of being prepared for possible flooding as we go into the winter months. This is especially the case for residents whose properties have flooded before. The flooding

page of SCDC website at <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/flooding">https://www.scambs.gov.uk/flooding</a> has a useful list of things residents can do in advance of rainfall, including signing-up for Flood Warnings, using the Government's Flood Information Service to check if a property is at risk of flooding and preparing a flood plan. It also has a list to ascertain what would need to be reported to which organisation in the event of a flood.

#### Tax-Free Childcare account

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is reminding families to open a Tax-Free Childcare account to save on their yearly childcare bills. The scheme provides working families, with children up to the age of 11, or 16 if their child has a disability, up to £2,000 a year per child or £4,000 a year if their child is disabled. Go to <a href="https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare">https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare</a> to register and start saving. The Tax-Free Childcare guide for parents is at <a href="https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/providers/guidance-and-resources/">https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/providers/guidance-and-resources/</a>

guidance-zone/parent-guide-to-tax-free-childcare.

#### **Regular Updates**

Don't forget to check out my monthly reports to the parish councils on my blog at www.tumihawkins.org.uk/caldecoteward/reports for full details on these and more. Follow my Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi/ where I post up regular public information posts from community groups and other local authorities.

Here to Help You so contact me if you need help with SCDC services (planning, housing, housing repairs, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health, noise nuisance, etc) by phone 01954 210840 or 07802 323269, email tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk, @CouncillorTumi on Twitter.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2024.

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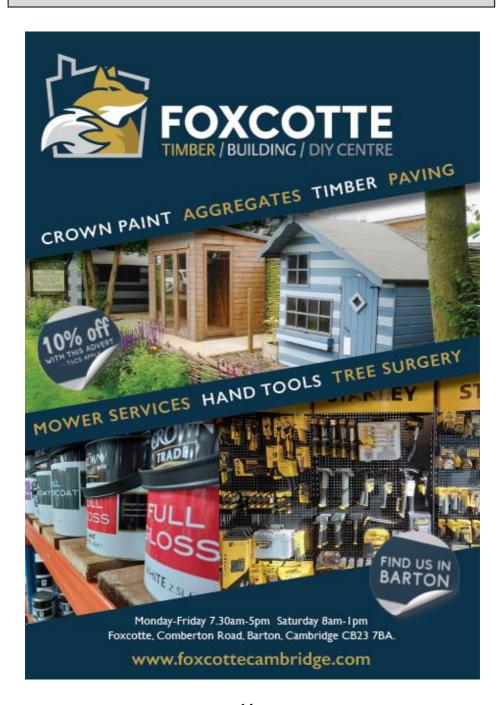
Hire charges per hour

Kingston residents: Before 7pm - £5. After 7pm - £7

Non residents: Before 7pm - £10. After 7pm - £13

Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary) kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com

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#### Bourn Surgery Opening Times tel. 01954 719469

#### Reception

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www.bournsurgery.nhs.uk

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#### **Comberton Surgery Opening Times**

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#### EMERGENCY 01223 464242

#### Dispensary

Mon-Fri 8:00-12:30 & 2:00-6:30 Sat 8:30-10:30 (Pre-ordered only & not bank holiday w/e)

#### Commercial advertising rates in this magazine:

Full page: £10 (£90 for 12 issues)
Half page: £7 (£70 for 12 issues)
Quarter page: £5 (£50 for 12 issues)

Other sizes by arrangement. Reduced rates for Kingston residents

# Telephone numbers

Addenbrooke's A&E		01223 217118
Addenbrooke's switchboard		01223 245151
Age UK (Information and Advice line)		0800 1696565
Anglian Water (sewage)		08457 145145
Ashcroft Vet Surgery 169 St. Neots Rd, Hardwick		01954 210250
Cambridge Rail Station general inquiries		0845 7484950
Cambridge Water		01223 706050
Councillor Michael Atkins (Cambridgeshire County Council)		07968 264637
Councillor Tumi Hawkins (SC District Council)		01954 210840
Camdoc (out of hours)		01223 464242
Chinese, Fish and Chips 2 High St. Toft		01223 263337
Citizens Advice Bureau		01223 222660
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reporting)		0800 555111
Comberton Surgery		
58 Green End, Comberton	appointments	01223 262500
	prescriptions	01223 262399
Dr. Redwood & Partners, Bourn Surgery		
	Appointments	01954 719469
	Emergencies	01954 719313
Electricity (emergency)	J	0800 3163 105
Health-Child & Family Team (Community Health Office)		
Comberton Road, Toft		01223 264460
Indian, The Hoops Gt.Eversden		01223 264443
Italian, The Pergola, Harlton		01223 260005
Jetlink (to Stansted, Heathrow, Luton, Gatwick)		08705 747757
Magazine Editor (Miki Ellar)		01223 262887
National Rail Enquiries		08457 484950
Neighbourhood Watch (Peter Stokes)		01223 262207
NHS 24hr health Advice Line (talk to a nurse/doctor)		111
Parish Council Chairman (Sue Dalgleish)		07799 602103
Parish Council Clerk	kingstonpc.cambri	dge@gmail.com
Park and Ride		01223 845561
Police non-emergency (our PCS	SO)	101
Road repair		01223 833717
Rosie Maternity Hospital		01223 217617
Samaritans		01223 364455
South Cambridgeshire District Council		01954 713000
Stagecoach (Cambus) information 8am to 8pm		0870 6082608
Stansted Airport		0870 0000303
Streetlight failure reporting		0800 7838247
0		

#### **Papworth Team**

Rev Nigel di Castiglione (Team Rector)01954 267241nigel.dicastiglione@gmail.comor 07770 697240Rev Nigel Pearson01954 719637

#### Churchwarden

PCC Kay Forsythe (Treasurer) 01223 848742

Kay4cy@gmail.com

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chair@kingstonvillage.org.uk

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kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com

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Village Hall Management Committee representative)

Mark Nicholls (Councillor, Open Spaces)

Paul Wheeler (Councillor)

Village Hall MC Paul Wright (Chair) 07803 237751

**Chris Reid** (Treasurer)

Sarah Wright (Vice Chair and Secretary) 01223 263500 kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com 07879 991068

Committee members: Brett Barnes, Pat Draper, Louise Gaffney

Isabelle Nett, Mark Stalham, Peter Stokes, Suzy Stokes.

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