

Report to the Parish Council, 2025

The LINK magazine has continued to be produced throughout the year, with double editions in August-September and December-January. While it is primarily a church magazine, it also informs villagers of what is happening throughout the area, and reports on events that have been held. We get articles from the school, local clubs, the community shop as well as Parish Councils, Village Halls and the churches and chapel. The children of Somersham School continue to take up our competition for the Christmas cover picture, which is much more appealing in colour. The front letter spot is taken in alternate issues by our Rector, Revd Dan Harrison, with the other writers being chosen to highlight varying areas of general interest. The memories of primary school leavers took the front letter spot in July and we hope to be able to do this again at the end of the current academic year.

While we do not aim to make a profit, when the cost of paper & printing goes up we do have to make sure we have enough funds. Advertisers remain our chief source of funding but this year it was also necessary to make a general appeal for donations to combat rising printing costs; the generous response to this from many individuals and some organisations was very encouraging. A small increase in charges, beginning with new advertisers, to bring more into line with other publications, will also help our finances. Each issue, depending on size, currently costs nearly £450. Our current print run totals 800 copies, including a few copies available to visitors in the shop. The LINK is distributed free of charge to every house in Somersham and our 3 neighbouring villages. Additionally there are 19 postal copies, mostly to past residents who are glad of this means of keeping in touch with local events and happy to pay the postage. It is also available on-line.

The 10 magazine distributors in our village (plus more in the others) and editorial team of 6 are all volunteers, who do it to help this community outreach and communication continue into the future.

Kate Dines,
Chair of committee