

CONTACT

Church & Community Newsletter

BLEDLow RIDGE • BRADENHAM • PIDDINGTON • RADNAGE • WEST WYCOMBE



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CONTACT TEAM

Treasurer:	Lucy Stupples - 01494730937 lucy@autumncottage.net
Advertising:	contactmagadverts@gmail.com
Design	Susie Chester susie@theyetis.com

CORRESPONDENTS

Bledlow Ridge	Bob Simmons - 01494 481402 ridgenws@gmail.com
Bradenham	Peggy Ewart - 01494 565969 pegwat1066@btinternet.com
Piddington	Paul Thomas - 07939 384970 prt97@hotmail.com
Radnage	Peter Hague - 01494 484003 peterradnagenews@gmail.com
West Wycombe	Susie Chester - 07957512803 westwycombecontact@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAM - www.achurchnearyou.com

Parish Office - 07927 775442
admin@westwycombebenefice.org.uk

Permission to Officiate:	Revd. Veronica Beaumont 01494 523697 veronica.beaumont@virgin.net
	Revd. Anne Cooper 07721 338030 anne.cooper9@btinternet.com

CHURCH WARDENS

West Wycombe:	No Churchwardens at present
Bledlow Ridge:	Eileen Maunder - 01494 481371 Geoff Ley - 01494 481527
Bradenham:	Peter Baldwin - 01844 275813 Richard Langridge - 07711 053845
Radnage:	Rosy Oliphant - 01494 482356 Jennifer Stringer

Letter from your church

When I sat down to write this , a car fitted with one of those gun exhausts, thoughtlessly blasted its way up the A40. Which got me thinking about silence, or to be more precise, different types of silence, what it might mean, and why meaningful silence seems so hard to find.

There was for me, two weeks ago, the silence, for example, that greeted the final switching off of the plane's engines, that moment of relief when one's holiday flight has landed safely, before that mad dash of standing up and fighting to get things out of the lockers. Then there is that odd, almost cloth-like silence you get in the middle of the night, when you wake up and can't get back to sleep. Probably the worst silence of all is that moment when a loved one finally passes away, when suddenly the breath stops, the mouth falls open, and they are gone.

But there are wonderful silences too. A frosty night, being somewhere without the noise of cars or planes, or more profoundly, the silence of peace after war. Something longed for in Gaza, Ukraine or Sudan - the silence of peace - something also held in our national memory as we commemorate soon

Remembrance Day.

We've been trying an experiment at St Botolph's church in Bradenham, recently. Called the 5.48 Space, it's a meditation hour at 48 minutes to 6 every Sunday in which we value silence. An hour in which people can come in, say a prayer or simply gather themselves for the week ahead, and go, spending 5 minutes or 50. It's not always silence; sometimes we play a little music or use the Calm app to do some guided meditation. It hasn't always worked; sometimes I'm there by myself for the whole hour but at other times people pop in. I say "alone" but of course, there's always someone else there, hovering about. Sometimes he speaks; sometimes he doesn't. Sometimes I forget to listen.

Occasionally, I'm cross with him for being so silent – why, when there is so much wrong, won't he speak up? Then I realise he's probably cross with me too – for the same reason. Then, sometimes, when I don't expect it, He or She or It does speak. I don't always understand but I listen.

In 1942, firemen uncovering the ruins of a bombed out house in Coventry found a family that had been trapped underground in the cellar for three days. As the mother, father and child were taken out alive, a fireman noticed the words they had scratched on the wall "We believe in the Light, although it be Dark. We believe in Peace although it be War. We believe in God although He be silent."

I suppose that's what it's all about really, believing there is something in the Silence.

The 5.48 Space.

Every Sunday night, 5.48pm
St. Botolph's Church, Bradenham

An hour set aside for silent meditation, private prayer and a recharging of the spirit before the busy week begins ... stay as long, or as little, as you wish, amongst the candles, gentle music, and peace of our 12th Century Church.

Open to all religions and none. Everyone welcome.

From the Registers



Baptism

Edward Page
St Botolph's, Bradenham

Weddings

Michelle Glenister and Thomas Saliba
St Paul's, West Wycombe
Denise White and Euan Macintyre
St Paul's, West Wycombe

Funerals

Robin Saunders
St Mary's, Radnage

Burial of Ashes

Alan Ball
St Botolph's, Bradenham

If you are looking to get in contact for a Baptism or Wedding within the Benefice churches please contact our Benefice administrator by emailing admin@westwycombebenefice.org.uk

In the case of funerals, if the funeral director is unsure of who to contact please pass on the details above.

Benefice News

We are thrilled and delighted to be able to announce that Revd Lance Sharpe has agreed to become the next Rector for the West Wycombe Benefice.

Lance served his Curacy at Morrision, Swansea, before moving to become Ministry Area Leader for the West Radnor Ministry Area in the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon, with particular responsibility for six rural churches centred on the market town of Rhayader. He is also Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Chaplain to Gwent and

Powys Army Cadet Force. He was formerly a Head of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care at Swansea Bay University Health Trust.

He will begin his ministry in the Benefice on Advent Sunday 1st December.

Please pray for Lance, his wife Alison and their family as they prepare to come among us.



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Bledlow Ridge

News from St Paul's Church

After our long wait, it has been especially good that we have been able to announce That Revd Lance Sharpe has accepted our invitation to be the Rector of our benefice. He plans to join us in December in time for all the carol services and Christmas services which will give him the opportunity to meet as many as possible and for many of us to meet him. He brings lots of experience, so the future looks bright. We are especially honoured that it will be at our St Paul's here in Bledlow Ridge that the Bishop of Oxford will come for a service of licensing and welcome on Advent Sunday 1st December at 6.00pm.

It is a pity that I have to write this before we hold our Pulpit swap Sunday at the very end of September. It is an excellent opportunity to get to know our neighbourhood benefice, the South Chiltern Group which covers the churches at Stokenchurch, Ibstone, Lane End and Cadmore End. I am looking forward to being with the congregation at Cadmore End. There are many possibilities of working together which will open up as we become closer.

On a personal level, October will be special for me as I celebrate the 30th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood. I am thrilled to have been invited to Lambeth Palace for a reception to celebrate the 30 years of women's ordination followed by a Festal Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral with both Archbishops. Until 1994 many

women were denied the right to fulfil their vocations, but we give thanks that now many have been able to serve the church as Bishops and Priests.

Our service at Bledlow Ridge will be on Sunday 20th, the 21st Sunday after Trinity and will be taken by Revd Ivor Cornish who has been such a great help to us during our vacancy.

We begin to look forward to the times of remembering that come in November with a service for All Souls on Sunday 3rd November at 3.00pm. We come together to remember those who have been close to us who have died, some recently and others that are still missed despite passing years. Please give names of those who you wish to be remembered to Eileen or on a list to be left in church.



Bledlow-cum-Saunderton Parish Council News

The next meeting will take place on Monday 14th October 2024 starting at 7.30pm at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall.

The Parish Council met on Monday 9th September 2024 at Bledlow Village Hall - draft minutes of the meeting can be found on our website.

- Planning applications were discussed and comments approved
- The External Auditor Report was noted and has been published on the Parish Council website

Meeting Minutes and Agendas • Local Information • Club information
Visit our website for www.bledlow-cum-saundertonparishcouncil.org.uk

If you have any comments, queries or questions then please contact our Parish Clerk: Tracey Martin clerk@bcspc.org.uk or 07843 975097.
Please note that the clerk works part-time hours.

Planning Applications with Parish

24/06805/FUL Druels Cottage Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge

Householder application for insertion of windows and doors to existing residential outbuilding

PC Comment: Objection due to a previous application for change of usage to residential being refused.

24/06907/ADRC Crofters Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge

Application for approval of details subject to Conditions 02 (Materials), 10 (Ecological enhancement) and 11 (Lighting design) of Planning approval 23/06864/FUL

For information only, no comment required

24/06895/FUL Vicarage Cottage Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge

Householder application for replacement roof and frames to existing conservatory

PC Comment: No objection

24/06989/CLE Crofters Chinnor Road

Certificate of lawfulness (existing) to demonstrate that the demolition works undertaken from 1 July 2023 can be taken to have lawfully commenced the development for which planning permission was granted under planning references: 21/08241/FUL and 22/05043/FUL

PC Comment: No objection



- headaches
- neck pain
- postural problems
- trapped nerves
- muscle strain
- tendonitis
- back pain
- sciatica
- tennis elbow
- frozen shoulder
- sports injury
- knee pain
- tension

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Planning Applications with Buckinghamshire Council Decision

**24/06133/FUL Ashridge House
Chinnor Road**

Householder application for demolition of single storey utility room and addition of two dormer windows together with internal alterations and changes to windows and doors (part retrospective)

Application Refused

**24/06023/FUL Morlands Farm
Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge**

Householder application for provision of new access to existing dwelling from public road, including new length of drive inside site, closure of existing access and removal of some existing hardsurfacing within the site

Application Permitted

**23/08061/FUL Yewdsen House
Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge**

Householder application for construction of part single, part two storey rear extension and insertion of 1 x dormer window to rear following demolition of existing conservatory and dormer windows to rear

Application Withdrawn

**24/06522/CLE Rose Cottage The City
Bledlow Ridge**

Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land as residential garden used continually since 1995 by the occupiers of the land and the previous owners of Rose Cottage

Grant Certificate of Lawful Use

**24/06411/FUL Higher Croft The City
Bledlow Ridge**

Householder application for change of use of remaining part of existing outbuilding for use as an annexe ancillary to the main property, with associated fenestration alterations

Application Permitted

**23/07420/CLE Druels Cottage
Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge**

Certificate of lawfulness for existing use to regularise building works to existing residential outbuilding

Grant Certificate of Lawful Use



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Bledlow Ridge Village Hall

A New Look for Our Village Hall!

If you've visited the village hall in the past two years, you may have noticed a series of improvements that have transformed this valuable community asset. Thanks to generous funding from the North West Chilterns Community Board and Bledlow cum Saunderton Parish Council, several major projects have been completed to refresh the hall's fabric.

Key Improvements:

- 1. Complete Redecoration:** The hall has undergone a full redecoration, giving the interior a fresh, inviting appearance.
- 2. Roof Replacement:** A new flat roof has been installed at the front of the hall, ensuring better protection from the elements.
- 3. Car Park Resurfacing:** The car park has been resurfaced, providing safer and more accessible parking for visitors.

In addition to these major projects, other enhancements include cleaned curtains throughout, new hardware on doors and cupboards, improved lighting in both the committee room and kitchen, and a refreshed small outdoor area at the rear of the hall. This area has been cleaned, landscaped with a variety of plants, and made safer for small children with the

installation of a gate and fence, creating an enclosed, secure space.

We encourage you to visit our village hall and explore the newly refreshed website at bledlowridgevillagehall.co.uk for more details on regular events and the booking calendar.

The committee is always looking for new members who can bring fresh ideas to help with the running and upkeep of this valuable community resource. Currently, we have a vacancy for the role of secretary, and we would love to hear from anyone interested in contributing. Please get in touch via the website, or come along to our Annual General Meeting on November 13th.

Our village hall is a vital part of the community, and with your support, we can continue to make it an even better place for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you soon!



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theWI The Ridge Evening WI

INSPIRING WOMEN At our August meeting, Mike Dewey gave us a presentation on four "Ordinary people of High Wycombe who did extraordinary things"!

Aleck Stacey came from humble beginnings but at a time when social mobility was improving. He was a successful coal merchant, sharp enough to realise the potential for the empty returning coal lorries to have an additional use. He arranged for them to collect offcuts of timber from numerous furniture factories which he turned into sawdust, wood flour, which he then had made into the popular linoleum. His successful entrepreneurial business ventures enabled him to generously invest in many local projects - the Electronic Cinema, Public Swimming Baths and as Mayor to give in perpetuity to the mayoral office an 18ct gold and jewel chain.

Frank Adams had to overcome the tragic loss of his father leaving his widow to rear their six children alone. Leaving school at 12 and while completing a photographic apprenticeship, Frank began successfully playing football both here and abroad. However, he returned to his beloved Wycombe Wanderers; with time out forced by WW11, and continued to play until his 1928 retirement. Equally successful in his sports goods and photographic business, and working as a land agent for Lord Carington, Frank purchased Loakes Park from him and subsequently donated the grounds to Wycombe Wanderers.

Jacob Ivanovitch Popp was born in Estonia, then Russia, to wealthy parents. Sadly his mother was shot during the revolution and he moved to England at age 18. An educated man with eight languages, he was a courier for Thomas Cook. He set up a newsagent, sweet and tobacconists shop in High Wycombe and after six years began Sunday Trading, breaking a law of Charles II. The police chose to prosecute Mr Popp and for eight years he traded on a Sunday and every Monday received a summons and paid a fine. The free publicity boosted his business as did the sale of some 12,000 comic postcards he had printed illustrating his experiences as a cheerful martyr!

Frederick Youens, born 1892, won a scholarship to the Royal Grammar School where he excelled at his studies and drama. Awarded a scholarship to attend Oxford University his plans were interrupted by the outbreak of war. He was posted as a second lieutenant and was serving in this capacity when, out on patrol, he was wounded and had to return to his trenches to have his wounds dressed. Then, regardless of his injuries, he set out to rally the team of a Lewis gun. A bomb fell on that position without exploding and Lieutenant Youens picked it up and threw it back to German lines; a second bomb then fell and he picked it up, intending to throw it too, but it exploded in his hand and he subsequently died from his wounds. At the tender age of 24, he became High Wycombe's only home-grown holder of the Victoria Cross.

The talk was very well received as were the many photographs of old Wycombe and its people.

For our October meeting details please enquire at theridgeeveningwi@gmail.com

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Bledlow Ridge Horticultural Society

Started in the early 1950's, the Annual Bledlow Ridge Horticultural Society Show is a traditional fixture in the Village calendar. It's not a case of winning a class or a trophy but of taking part, and we are very encouraged that members and others are keeping the tradition alive by putting in exhibits..... but we could always do with more !

This year the Show on 7 Sept had almost 200 exhibits with 24 people entering something, and both of those numbers are a slight increase on last year. It really was a very pleasant surprise for everyone given this year's erratic weather.

Refreshments were provided by the Bledlow Ridge WI who took just shy of £200 for their funds thanks to the attendee's consumption of tea/coffee and homemade cake.

The trophies were encouragingly spread out this year, showing that if you enter, you can win. Rosemary Harding won her first trophies with her Vegetable Collection, Sandra Claydon won with her Roses and Mags Terry with the best exhibit in Floral Art. Malcolm Gascoigne won the overall Fruit Classes, but Robin Eycott took the trophy for best Fruit Exhibit, and Les Terry took the Vegetable trophy. Julie Stringfellow won Domestic and she shared the trophy for Floral Art with Ros Hilborne who also won the overall Flower classes and the highest points in the combined Flower and Veg classes.

That left the trophies for the Fuschia classes and the "Best in Show" award which were won by Wendy Newell, the latter for her Aeonium in the Cactus/ Succulent class.

As always, our sincere thanks goes to all of those who supported the Show and it's preparation in some way, but especially to those who put in exhibits. Without them we would all have been standing looking at empty tables and the four independent judges sitting and twiddling their thumbs !

Dates and details of our next 8 events, i.e. to June next year, are now on our website (www.bledlowridgehortsoc.org.uk), together with reports on our last 10 events. Our next meeting is a presentation of "Late Seasonal Colours" by Kerrie Lloyd-Dawson, a new speaker to us, on 17 Oct at 8pm in the Village Hall.

20 Years Experience

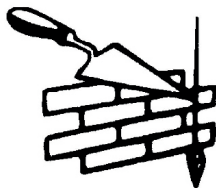
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Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club

The club is embarking on three projects. Our outdoor nets are old, worn, dated and uneven. We need to raise in excess of £50,000 to have the best quality replacement facility for years to come; much of our fundraising activity will be 'badged' with the nets project. Two other projects to run alongside, are those to improve the car park and to replace our two hardworking large mowers. We hope everyone associated with the cricket club will support our efforts to raise the necessary funds. If anyone reading this has particular expertise in applying for grants please contact me.

For the playing future, the outlook is positive. Sunday cricket has returned and we now have playing strength in depth. Our ground is excellent, and our groundsman Charlie Carter was invited by the Lords Head Groundsman no less, to spend a day with his team at Lords preparing for the test match v Sri Lanka in August. Among other tasks Charlie cut the Tes match pitch and the square and assisted in cutting the outfield .

The playing season ended satisfactorily for both teams. After a poor start to the season, had the 1st XI won their last game they would have finished 4th not 6th of ten teams. The 2nd XI did win its last game and finished 5th in their division. Bearing in mind how many cricketers as young as 13 have played this season this was some achievement. The Junior section has been a great success once again and their season was rounded off with a rousing Presentation Evening in early September.

In late August the club hosted a Presidents Day to which vice-presidents were invited. Some such as Chris and Lorna Newell travelled a long way to be with us. Although

it rained all day and there was no cricket (!) our guests thoroughly enjoyed their day and the excellent spread provided from the café by Martina.

By the time you read this we will have remembered James "HairBrear" Goodband at the club on 21st September, sharing great memories within the legacy of a refurbished pavilion gifted us by Nicky and Dom four years ago. The Annual Club Dinner and Prizegiving will take place at The Boot on Friday 18th October.

Thank you to all who have supported our club in various ways this summer. At the risk of omitting too many, this includes all the bar and BBQ teams, the café, umpires, scorers, those who work on the ground and many volunteers (including Humphrey who has set up the popular "Frogbox" live screening system each week).. The work never stops and we are already looking at what needs to be done for next season, in particular the projects mentioned in the first paragraph. If you have ideas or can offer help in specific areas, please contact me as below or via the website bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk



Bledlow Ridge Tennis Club

We held our men's and women's doubles tournaments in early September, and we reused the successful handicap format so that all players got a good game. We had a fantastic turnout with twenty-four players altogether, and enjoyed delicious sandwiches, cakes and drinks afterwards provided by Jane Lawrence and Jo Lucas. We were pleased to see so many friends and family turning out to watch as well, and we just managed to dodge the thunderstorms.

The women's doubles tournament was won by mother and daughter pairing Eleanor Cave and Annie Chalmers. The men's doubles tournament was won by Ben Lawrence and Stefano Tomaselli. The runners-up were Sara Evans and Harriet Gresty-Evans, and Chris Palmer and Ben Smith. Congratulations all! The winners received trophies, medals and tennis balls and JWT Coaching kindly donated lessons and racket restringing vouchers as prizes.

We've now finished the summer league matches, and the winter Aylesbury and District league starts soon. We have men's, ladies' and mixed teams entered. We're always looking for new players, so if you'd like to play some matches, get in touch!

We're delighted to report that during September we reached a record total of 200 members. It's lovely to see so many people - of all ages and abilities - out on the courts, enjoying the game and making new friends.

The club gets through hundreds of tennis balls every year, as new balls must be provided for each match and tournament. We reuse them for our social sessions, but they have a limited lifespan. The company we would have liked to use for recycling is at capacity. Would any schools or charities like some of our used tennis balls? If so, please get in touch via the website.

We held a send-off for our coach for the last five years, Sam Frost of JWT Coaching, and were pleased to present him with six golf lessons as a result of the generosity of our members. We're delighted to welcome our new coach James Smith, also from JWT.

If you'd like to get back into tennis, or want to start, or already play and would enjoy an inclusive and friendly club, please visit www.bledlowridgetennis.co.uk for more information.



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Bledlow Ridge Primary School.

It was wonderful welcoming the children and families back to school and hearing all about their enjoyable summer holidays. The children joining the school in Reception have settled in very well and are enjoying life at Bledlow Ridge School. As always the new term is packed with exciting learning opportunities, trips including a walk to Fiona's Garden just down the road from school and Year 3 are also going to be visiting the Chiltern Open Air Museum. The children also always look forward to the Harvest festival and donate much needed items to The One Can Trust.

All children also have the opportunity to take part in the wide range of extra curricular activities that are on offer these include: netball, cross country, art and choir to name a few.

Over the summer the school was lucky to have some exciting projects completed, the library received a wonderful revamp thanks to a team of parents, the kitchen

was fully refitted again by a parent team, and this means the children can enjoy cooking lessons and carry on learning about healthy eating. The school is also lucky enough to have a new running track installed, this was thanks to the Community Board North West Chilterns, BRSA and Parish Council. The school would welcome the community using the track so please get in touch with the school office to find out how you can access the track.

Country Notes

A hawk dragonfly emerged from the pond plants, rested a while, then was gone in a flash of silvery gossamer wings. Dragonflies were one of the first winged insects to evolve and fossils show them looking much as they do today but with giant wingspans. August brought sunny weather and a flurry of harvesting. Deer ran across the fields hurdling the lines of straw and a hare loped along the stubble, until balers gobbled up the straw and turned it into giant gold bars.

This year we saw more Jersey Tiger moths than usual, a sign that winter was mild so the caterpillars survived. They have exotic striped wings and rosy orange underwings which are revealed when they fly. Bullfinches made regular visits to our garden to feed on honeysuckle berries.

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Bradenham

News from St Botolph's Church

5.48 SPACE

An hour every Sunday in which the church hosts those wishing to find solace and meditation, although the church is open 24 hours and can be visited at any time. Coffee and tea always available.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Blue In Green: October 19th October at 7.30. A concert of autumn jazz, blues and poetry. Tickets free but donations welcome.

Bots Books Tuesday November 19th at 7pm. All welcome.

Bradenham Village Fete

It has been traditional that Bradenham has had a village fete dating back to 1893 but with Covid and the absence of a permanent vicar, plus the uncertainty over the future of the Manor, this tradition unfortunately lapsed. Now, a small, robust group of Bradenham Residents are reinstating this important event bringing charities, community groups and businesses together in a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

A dedicated events team consisting of residents are now working towards their goal of organising this important village fete for everyone to join in and enjoy. Already occasions such as car boot sales, afternoon tea and other fund-raising events have been held, with contributions also coming in from events such as last Spring's TIMELESS concert in the church and last Sunday's runners event, the Bradenham Blast. The Bradenham calendar too has proved an important and valuable project for the residents of Bradenham. Open to residents only, the best photos of Bradenham are selected to form a prestigious calendar on sale to the public. Last year's was aptly titled The Spirit of Bradenham. Income raised went to the beautiful St Botolph's church. This year, the calendar is entitled: Memorable Bradenham, with funds going to both the church and the fete. The team

are working hard to coordinate ideas and opinions so a continuous schedule of fundraising events can be held, leading up to the first fete in the summer of 2025 and hopefully into the future. Although not possible to be held at the moment in the grounds of the Manor, the National Trust have given permission for the Fete to be held on the Village Green and everyone is coming together to make the fete a terrific success

Look out for posters. If anyone would like to have a stand or activity in the 2025 Bradenham Village fête there will be a contact number to enquire about availability. Anyone able to guarantee permanent sunshine will also be granted a prize!

News from Parish Council

The Council met on September 9th in the Cricket Club. The following items may be of interest.

In addition to parish councillors, Cllr. Adoh from BCC was present, together with Neil Harris from The National Trust, and Squadron Leader Paul Armstrong from the RAF.

There will not be a town council in High Wycombe but the present arrangement with a town Committee will continue. The consultation indicated that residents did not wish to pay extra precept to cover running costs. People who need support during the winter months are advised to access the Bucks Council Website to find support.

Neil Harris (Countryside Manager) advised the PCC about progress on a number of local issues. The track on the way past the Cricket Club needs considerable funds spent to put it in good order. These are not available at present. Some levelling at the bottom of the track may be undertaken. Neil Harris agreed to deal with overhanging hedges of vacant properties on Bradenham Woods lane. The RAF is considering timers

on the existing street lighting when the lights are repaired/renewed.

The clerk has written to Country Supplies twice asking for the hedges to be cut back to allow wheelchairs and pushchairs to pass. If the latest deadline is exceeded, the Highways Enforcement Team will be informed.

The Council reviewed its policies for training and Financial regulations and adopted them. All policies are available on the Council's website.

BPC had objected to the demolition of Willow Barn but BC permitted it.

The accounts for the year to 09/09/24 were reviewed. The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday November 11th at 7pm. All welcome.

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Piddington



Robin Saunders – A Tribute



Robin was a big believer in community. His litter-picking was legendary, enhanced by the abandoned bag of marijuana that he managed to sniff out on one memorable outing. He set up the weekly Piddington lunch club to bring people together and is many bread makers and slow cookers were fired up together to supply hot food and loaves for the lunches. Sizewell B power station was put on red alert for the expected surge in demand!

Working with the Piddington Horticultural Society he helped to organise many charitable fundraising meals at the village hall. A long-standing and most active member of the village hall committee, Robin was always willing and able to hang doors, fix lights, service the boiler and ensure the hall's smooth running, giving his time so freely.

Robin also helped to organise the annual Seniors' Christmas meal, was central at all of the street parties and was "Santa's body-double" for the Children's Christmas Party. He was the DNA of the community, always generous with his time and love. Perhaps all of this, combined with his incredible loyalty and adventure, is why he had, in his own words, 'so many beautiful friends'.

Robin has left a hole in his family, a hole in the community but most of all, a hole in our hearts.

The cohesion of small village communities such as Piddington is invariably cultivated and maintained through the selfless efforts of a small number of individuals, who are well known to all. Very sadly, we recently lost a person who made such a key contribution to village life for so many years, with the passing of Robin Saunders who left us in July.

Annabel, Robin's daughter, sometimes called him the King of Piddington because he always seemed so involved in everything and knew everyone. But he said that he wasn't the King, he was just the caretaker. And he was probably right, he has always fixed things and rushed to help those who've needed it. Neighbours' burst pipes and other plumbing problems, broken down cars, fallen trees, leaking rooves, even medical emergencies.

Horticultural Society - Piddington Village Show 2024

The Village Show took place on Saturday 31st August and despite the vagaries of this spring and summer's weather, the Village Hall was once again, filled with an amazing selection of flowers, fruit and vegetables, along with cakes, pastries, jams and handicrafts. The winners at the Annual Show were as follows:

The Frank Redrup Memorial Cup

– Flower Section: - Maya Dodds

Mr & Mrs H Martin Memorial Cup

– Fruit & Veg Section: - Simon Digby

Mrs Picton Cup

– Domestic Section: - Sharon Henson

Ken Drower Memorial Cup Red Ribbon best overall exhibit:

- Terry Cockerill Floral Art Cup

- Debs Digby

Rose Bowl – Dahlia: – Maya Dodds

The Lady Dashwood Ladies Cup for the best presented Piddington Allotment:

– Plot 4

Children's Cup: – Charlotte Curzon

The Jack & Joan Robertson Cup for the family winning the most points collectively: -The Pitcher Family

Rosette in memory of Alf Plumridge –

First prize in the Gladioli Class:

- Carrie MacDonald

Rosette in memory of Ken Stone:

- Ros Hilborne

After the presentation of the prizes the surplus exhibits were auctioned with all proceeds going towards the Piddington Seniors' New Year Dinner. Yet again, Simon Digby demonstrated his mastery as an auctioneer, with any slight physical motion interpreted as a bid! A huge thank you to everyone who came and supported this annual village fixture.



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Piddington Village Hall

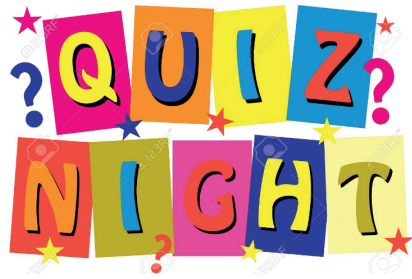
After the relative quiet of the school holiday period, activity in the Village Hall is ramping up as we head towards the Christmas period, with the key events outlined below. We will be holding the Hall's Annual General Meeting on 5th November at 7pm, which is open to all. We have made significant strides in modernising the organisation of the activity of the hall over the past 12 months

Lunches have restarted after the summer break and will continue on the second Monday in the month at midday. Everyone

and we are looking to take this forward over the next 12 months. To do so, we are very keen to attract more members of the village onto the committee, particularly if you have a practical bent and could help with ensuring that we can maintain the hall and its environs to a good standard. So please come along to the AGM to get a better feel for what we are about!

Village Lunches

is welcome, so come and join us for a bowl of soup + bread, a pudding or cake and tea or coffee. £3.00 per person.



Come along to
PIDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL
on **FRIDAY 1st NOVEMBER**

for a light-hearted general knowledge quiz (with prizes)
Ideally teams of no more than 8.
If you can't make a team, we can join you in with others.
There will also be a raffle

TIME: 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start

ADMISSION £7 per person – bring your own drinks and
“nibbles”

TO BOOK: Call Maureen on 01494 268167
or email Maureen on benandsky@hotmail.co.uk

The Horticultural Committee look forward to welcoming
YOU.

Proceeds in aid of Piddington Seniors' Christmas Dinner

Forthcoming Functions:

Functions In the Planning Stages for Later in the Year

Friday 11th October:
Painting Party 7-10pm - £25 pp..

Friday 1st November: Horticultural
Society Quiz Night

Friday 29th November:
Wreath Making

30th November:
Christmas Bingo

Sunday 1st December:
Christmas family event :
3pm – 5pm - £3 per child

Sunday 15th December:
**Annual Carol Concert with the West
Wycombe Brass Band.”**

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council

Biodiversity Policy

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council adopted a Biodiversity Policy in June 2024. The objective of the Policy is to work towards conserving and enhancing the biodiversity in the parish.

The wildflower areas on Chipps Hill and Piddington Green are part of the support for the biodiversity policy. The Parish Council has been managing both areas for many years and wildflowers are flourishing.



Essex Skipper Butterfly on Piddington Green

There are three monitored wildflower areas on Piddington Green and 31 species have been identified. Very few of these species would be able to survive in a mown environment and they support an array of moths and butterflies.

A survey of Chipps Hill in July 2024 confirmed an incredible 103 different plant species.

The species list indicates that the site is classed as g2a lowland calcareous grassland. The site will need to be cut and collected again in autumn to further lower the nutrient levels and to remove encroaching scrub.

Dark Mullein and Kidney Vetch were in evidence, and these are the larval foodplants of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species, the Striped Lychnis Moth and Small Blue Butterfly. UK BAP priority species are those that were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action.

Wild Marjoram was far more abundant than last year especially in areas where dense scrub was removed last year. It is a very important plant in supporting pollinators.

Generally herbaceous wildflowers were more abundant this year at the site, this is likely due to the removal of encroaching scrub.

Some of the areas can look a bit scruffy at times, but they are vitally important to a multitude of flora and fauna species and there is enormous beauty within.

Please contact Hayley Glasgow, clerk@piddingtonandwheelerend.org.uk if you have any questions or comments.



Pyramidal orchids on Chipps Hill

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Radnage

News From St Mary's Church

This is Heidi taking a joyous leap into the pool at Open Garden on 17th August. This sums up how we all feel about the good news that we have a new Rector coming to us in December. I'm sure Rev. Lance Sharpe will make a splash that will send ripples throughout our community. Every appointment is a leap of faith in a God who provides an answer to prayer but usually in His own time frame. This appointment has been a long time in coming but we can look forward to it with great joy. Like Heidi, we welcome Rev. Lance and his wife Alison with open arms and will pray for them as they prepare to dive in here (sorry) for their move from Wales.

Another bit of good news is that the Open Garden event raised £3,000 for the church and school. The PCC were delighted to present a cheque to Sam Browne, Head of Radnage C of E Primary School on Monday 9th September.

A big thank you to all who made cakes, ran stalls and looked after children in the pool. It takes a whole team to make something special happen.



Our Harvest Festival this year will be on 6th October at 10.00am with Rev. Andi Chapman leading the service. You are all invited to bring as many donations as



Supporting your local foodbank makes a big difference to so many.

We need donations of:

- Tinned meat meals (e.g. minced beef & onion / chicken in sauce)
- Tinned ham/corned beef
- Tinned potatoes & veg
- Pasta & cooking sauces
- Peanut butter & honey
- Tinned soup
- Rice (ideally brown 500g)
- Tea & coffee
- Baked beans
- Oats & healthy cereals
- Tinned fish (ideally oily: sardines / mackerel / salmon)
- UHT milk
- Cooking oil (e.g. olive oil)
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned pulses
- Tinned tomatoes
- Shampoo & shower gel
- Toilet roll
- Washing up liquid
- Laundry detergent

Please give as generously as you can so we can continue to help vulnerable families in this community.

Thank you

possible for the One Can Trust which is our charity for the month. List of items below which are always welcome.

At the end of September we came together with South Chilterns Ministry Team to celebrate Rural Forum Sunday on 29th – this is always a special occasion and well attended. We hope friendships and fellowship ensued. Thank you to all who took part and shared food.

Dates for you to note: Rev. Veronica Beaumont celebrates 30 years of ordination to the priesthood on Thursday 3rd October. We all send her our best wishes and for the next 30 years! I think she will have something to say about that.

Don't forget to put in your diaries – Autumn Teas on Sunday 6th October from 2 – 4pm at St. Mary's. A walk is included this year which will raise an appetite for the mouth-watering cakes. All are welcome

October 27th – British Summer Time Ends and we get an extra hour in bed as we turn the clocks back. As we move into Autumn, stay warm, stay well, trust in God.

Long Term Save the Date – Rev. Lance Sharpe will be licensed on 1st December, St. Paul's Bledlow Ridge at 6pm by Bishop Stephen Croft. All are invited to attend this special service.

St. Mary's is a peaceful church which offers a welcome through the year. Sit and enjoy the countryside – you are invited to come and have a drink from the tea station while you meditate. The first Sunday in the month is a 10am service. All are welcome to join us.

AC



At our SEPTEMBER meeting our speakers were TuTu Chocolate of Watlington. Milissa delivered a great talk and tasting! TuTu have a small chocolate shop in Watlington and make their own chocolates there. Milissa took us through all details chocolate, and then let us taste some of her choccies! Which were delicious. Future Meetings

OCTOBER is our Birthday Meeting, so there will be cake! We welcome back Sarah Slater, whose talk is entitled Secrets, Scandal and Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court. All the secrets of ladies of the royal court. Sarah comes in costume, and is extremely entertaining and informative.

NOVEMBER is our AGM meeting. Our speaker will be Emily Breen, who will give us a talk entitled All Things Compost.

DECEMBER we shall have an evening of live 70's music and the usual delicious Christmas mince pies and mulled wine.

Radnage Womens Institute

OTHER NEWS:-

Lift Share. Cath suggested a car share for ease of getting members to meetings on dark winter evenings. Cath is happy to coordinate lifts especially in the winter – please let her know if you would like to be part of this or would prefer to be picked up when dark. Cath will organise. If you would like a lift to a meeting or be part of group that can travel together, please let Cath know at wayyblonde@googlemail.com or make a note on the clipboard at the next meeting.

Our regular walking group is led by Mavis Towell. 2 Walks a month, one short, one

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longer, finishing with lunch. Walks start at 10.30 am and should finish around 2.30pm. There is a £2 charge for non-members and everyone is very welcome. If you are interested in joining, please contact Mavis by email, mavis.towell668@btinternet.com. Please check beforehand in case of unforeseen circumstances.

Tanzania Charity - PLANT STALL AND TEA - Friday 21st June, 10am to 4pm at Wood Furlong, Bledlow Ridge

BRING AND BUY TABLE

This raises additional funds and is always popular. Have a declutter and bring along anything that you no longer have a use for, books, kitchenware, sewing/ knitting odds and ends, or general bric-a-brac. Remember one woman's junk is another woman's

treasure!

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US!

We are a thriving and social group, and our numbers are growing. There is always a cup of tea (sometimes wine!) and delicious cakes. We have interesting speakers, and there is always a lively discussion after the meeting. If you are new to the village, come along to one of our meetings to see what we are like before you join! There is a nominal charge of £5.00 for non-members. Our meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month, we meet in Radnage Village Hall. Please aim to arrive at 7.15 for a 7.30 start.

Radnage Parish Council

Speeding

Please Remember

- Know the limits and look for signs (Speed limits are a maximum)
- 20's plenty when kids are about
- Concentrate – Distracted drivers speed
- Slow down when entering any village

Please help us by driving slowly.
Thank you.

Please Keep Dogs Under Close Control & Pick Up After Your Pooch!!!

It is especially important for the many children and families who use the village hall playing field for sport & recreation.

Walking Your Dog By A Road

The Highway code states that dogs should not be let out on a road on their own and that your dog should be kept 'on a short lead when walking by a road' While there is no countrywide blanket ban on walking dogs off-lead along roads and some of the smaller roads in our village seem quiet, you should keep your dog on a lead, as stated in the Highway Code, when walking along any road to avoid accidents. Please look out for the Dog Warden in our area. Thank you for being a responsible pet owner.

Please look out for the Dog Warden
in our area.

Thank you for being
a responsible pet owner.

Planning Applications

All Planning Applications received will be considered by the Parish Council. RPC will assess the merit of an application based on our set criteria before commenting, taking into account valid concerns of local residents.

Residents with views on a particular application are strongly encouraged to respond individually (on Public Access) with their own comments (in addition to any from RPC). You can keep up to date with all local planning cases via Public Access.

We are Looking for New Councillors to Join Us!

Please do consider joining us to help make a difference to the community and the wonderful place in which we live. If you are interested in applying or finding out more, please contact the Clerk (parish.clerk@radnage.net) with a few details about yourself and your reasons for wanting to become a Parish Councillor. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Next Meeting of the Parish Council -

Our next meeting, The Ordinary meeting of The Parish Council at 8pm on Wednesday, November 14th 2024.

Meetings are held in the Village Hall.

You can contact the Council at parish.clerk@radnage.net and information can be found via the website at www.radnage.net

Your Parish Council:

Chair: Cllr Mr Darren Ungless
Vice-Chair: Cllr Keith Mathews
Cllr Mr Aidan Hancock
Cllr Mr Cris Everett
Clerk: Ms Lisa Stibbs

Useful information to cut out and keep -

- **Planning:** Visit: www.publicaccess.wycombe.gov.uk and click the Planning button
- **Fly Tipping:** Visit: <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/waste-and-recycling/fly-tipping/> or Tel: 01296 480771
- **Potholes:** Report a problem and view information at: <https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk> Telephone 01296 382416 for urgent pothole issues.
- **Rights of Way problems:** (footpaths and By-ways maintenance and access) www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/report-a-rights-of-way-issue/

- **Dog fouling:** Contact the Wycombe District Dog Warden Tel: 01494 412 247
- Find out about matters relating to your property at My Wycombe: <http://mywycombe.wycombe.gov.uk/myWycombe.aspx>
- **Waste & Recycling:** Find out more about the recent changes at: www.buckscc.gov.uk/hrc Check the recycling centre webcams at: www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres

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SATURDAY 9th NOVEMBER



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Tables selling fast so book now! Email Susan on:
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Opening Times

Fri. 6:00 to 11:00pm

Sat. 8:00 to 11:00pm

Sun. 12.30 to 5.30pm

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 12th October - Bingo

Saturday 19th October - Race Night

Saturday 16th November - Bingo

Saturday 23rd November - Music Night
with Radio Generation

Saturday 14th December -
Christmas Dinner

Remembrance Sunday

With November on the horizon, the most important day in the Royal British Legion calendar is rapidly approaching. The annual Remembrance Day Parade will take place on Sunday 10th November 2024. The Radnage Branch of the RBL will be open from 9:30am, where we will be offering bacon sandwiches for sale. Any profit will be donated to the Poppy Appeal. Members of the Radnage Branch, along with the Scouts and

The Royal British Legion



Guides, will form up and march to the War Memorial for the Ceremony of Remembrance and the 2 minutes silence at 11:00am. This event is well attended by members of the local community, as we gather together to honour the memory of those who gave their lives for the freedoms that we enjoy today.

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Bledlow Ridge

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£7 Adult, £4 Child, £19 Family (2+2), 3 & U Free
"On the night" prices: £9 Adult, £5 Child, £24 Family (2+2), 3 & U Free.

For information call 01494 481524 or bledlowridgebonfire@gmail.com

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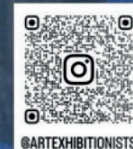
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West Wycombe

Roger Seymour – A Tribute



It was with great sadness that we learned that Roger died on August 1st 2024. He had borne his illness with great fortitude.

Roger has been a huge part of our West Wycombe Community, a West Wycombe lad through and through.

He loved rugby and played when he was younger. He remained a member of High Wycombe Rugby Club.

He played cricket for West Wycombe and became life member after his playing days were over.

He loved horse racing too and would go to race meetings as often as he could.

Roger and his wife Joyce ran The Plough Public House for many years. Every year through The Plough patrons they raised money for The West Wycombe Senior Citizens Christmas Party. The party was held in West Wycombe Village Hall. It was a grand affair with a lovely Christmas Lunch (Roger always cooked and carved the turkey) entertainment, and everyone went home with a present. This involved a great deal of organisation which Roger thoroughly enjoyed, he had a loyal band of helpers, and he would start planning the next year's party as soon as one party was over!

After he retired Roger organised Coffee Mornings for The Senior Citizens Christmas Party Fund and continued the parties until he became too poorly to continue.

Roger was a valued member of West Wycombe Parish Council.

He was on the West Wycombe Village Hall Committee too where he was Chairman for a few years, he knew the building inside out and was the person to go to if a something needed attention.

He was also member of The West Wycombe Events Team and worked hard helping at The Christmas Fayres, Summer Fayres and the Bonfire Events on West Wycombe Hill.

Roger's never-ending enthusiasm and energy was always appreciated.

Roger organised day coach trips for locals and holidays too.

He went on the last holiday he organised to Whitby in April this year.

Roger loved to see people enjoying themselves.

He was an amazing man and will be much missed.

We send our sincere condolences to Roger's family.

May he rest in peace.

*Cllr Mrs Vicki Smith BEM
West Wycombe Parish Council*



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News from St Paul's Church

I hope that everyone has enjoyed, at least, some warm sunshine and relaxation over the summer.

Anyway - here is the good news. It was with great joy, hope and expectation that, we finally learnt that an applicant for the post of Rector in the Benefice of West Wycombe, Bledlow Ridge, Bradenham and Radnage, had been offered and had accepted the post, and that Revd. Lance Sharpe will commence his ministry on Sunday 1st December, Advent Sunday.

Revd. Lance and his wife Alison have been living in a very rural area of Wales for the last 12 years, where Revd. Lance has been ministering and overseeing the work of more churches than we have here in our

Benefice. His wife (incidentally restoring our consignment of 'Alisons'!) has parents living in Chinnor, which will be handy for them. Alison is also keen to get involved with local events. So I'm sure we have much to look forward to, and will be able to move forward with things that can only be sanctioned by an incumbent.

Now for various news of things that have happened, or are work in progress, concerning St. Paul's, West Wycombe. We have new lighting in the church which, thanks to Sharon Henson, makes a very pleasing difference.

All plans for the vestry have been submitted, as has a faculty application, but we await quotes for the project.

Our idea to modify the front entrance path, for safety reasons, is under consideration, and work on the organ box and repair to the bellows is to take place in November.

A planning application and Faculty have been submitted for a shed, on a concrete base on the right side of the track, just before the Rectory gate. We expect to have a response to this by 6th Oct.

Many changes to the chancel area have been carefully considered and satisfied by the P.C.C., to make it safer, on a single floor level, with easy access for wheelchair users. This will take some time as we need to find out what lies beneath the current floor levels before any work can commence.

We are also looking to tidy and improve the churchyard and drive area, and are pleased to report that the giant hogweed has been safely abolished.



We are delighted with the splendid bench in loving memory of dear departed church members which, by kind permission from Verne and Andrea Grinstead has been firmly fixed on their portion of land beside our driveway.

We will also consult Revd. Lance, once installed, about possibilities for disabled parking. Layout for the updated noticeboard is next on the list, as we hope to add the details of the new incumbent at the initial production stage. There are many more items to be discussed at our next P.C.C. meeting on 1st. October; but I'm sure you have enough to swallow for the time being!

Now for some upcoming events to add to the calendar:

Harvest Festival on Sunday, 13th Oct. at 10.30 with Revd. Anne.

Craft and Coffee mornings, from 11am - 3pm in the Village Hall on the 2. and 3rd of Nov.

All Souls service at 10.30am on 3rd. Nov. leader t.b.c. and

Remembrance Sunday service at the War Memorial on Sunday, 10th Nov.

With blessings for a happy, healthy Autumn to all readers.

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West Wycombe Weather Station
 Chorley Road - Eileen Chapman

Week ending	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm	Sunshine hours
July 7 th	12	24	60	10
July 14 th	7	21	20	14
July 21 st	9	29	27	46
July 28 th	11	25	4	19
Aug 4 th	10	29	12	49
Aug 11 th	10	25	7	23
Aug 18 th	8	31	8	47
Aug 25 th	7	21	37	18

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News from West Wycombe Parish Council

We all hope that our neighbouring Parish Councils and their residents have had a really enjoyable summer and have had time to enjoy some well deserved rest and relaxation during some very

warm days of summer! The allotment holders of our parish have certainly not been in a supine position during the balmy days of summer as they have been hard at work toiling on their allotments to produce an amazing variety of flowers, vegetables and fruit !

As the new Clerk for West Wycombe my 'learning curve' has been exponential as I grapple with the myriad of issues that Parish Clerks deal with and manage on a continual basis. However, I felt reassured that I wasn't alone as I struggle to come to grips with the role and its responsibilities when I read an article in the July edition of 'Clerk' published by the Society of Local Council Clerks and entitled 'A day in the life of' I would recommend reading the article to all Clerks

and their Councillors. One aspect of the article focuses on the unlimited amount of work solely undertaken by the role of Clerk and the summer months do not offer any respite to the volume of local issues that are dealt with on a continual basis by Clerks as lone workers.

The last news from the Parish Council described the theft and vandalism of our Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs within the

parish. Neighbouring Parish Councils have reported exactly the same type of thefts and vandalism of this type of equipment within their own parishes. In our individual case, the cost to replace the stolen batteries and the additional security measures for the vandalised units will be in excess of £600. The Parish Council now has to decide if using such equipment which may mitigate the problem of speeding vehicles on local roads versus the significant costs to replace batteries and undertake additional security measures for the equipment, offers value for money for our residents.

We are pleased to report that the churchyard of St Lawrence at the top of West Wycombe Hill has received some long overdue care and attention from the grounds contractor engaged by Buckinghamshire Council.

At the time of writing the pavement closures and the traffic control measures in the High Street in West Wycombe to allow for the external redecoration and restoration to some of the National Trust properties, will start to be withdrawn in late August, much to the relief of business owners who have been affected by the necessary restrictions on parking and access that were created. The Parish Council made the burial ground car park behind St Paul's Church available as alternative parking for residents during the period of the closures but this arrangement will cease to be in place after Monday 2 September 2024.

The Parish Council and its residents are understandably proud of their parish and one way that we continue to try to maintain the appearance of the parish and to protect the environment is to undertake regular 'Community Clean Up' litter picks which we would encourage residents and their families to take part in. **The next litter pick is on Saturday 5 October 2024**

starting at the West Wycombe Village Hall from 0930 with refreshments available at the end of your efforts !

Concern was expressed by Councillors at our September meeting with regard to the potential impact on some of our senior citizens as a result of the restrictions on some pensioners no longer being eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment. Age UK's Advice Line is a free, confidential national telephone service for older people, as well as their families, friends, carers and professionals. The Age UK team will give our senior citizens information that's reliable and up to date and help them access the advice they need if they're concerned about meeting the cost of heating their homes this winter or any other challenges they may be facing.

Age UK Advice Line:
0800 678 1602

Lines are open 8am-7pm,
365 days a year.

Future Parish Council meetings

Please note that from September 2024, our meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month, in West Wycombe Village Hall, rather than on Thursdays.

Dates of forthcoming Parish Council meetings are: 11th September, 9th October, 13th November, and 11th December. All meetings start at 8pm and the agenda is issued a week before the meeting and is available on our website (see below) and via our Facebook page.

FixMyStreet

The FixMyStreet website and app is there for you to report potholes, damaged kerb stones, broken signs, etc. – please visit fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk or download the FixMyStreet app from Google Play or Apple's App Store.

Please remember, to get the latest information on Parish Council activities; social events; Buckinghamshire Council;

Thames Valley Police; government legislation; footpaths; and many other things that may affect our community go to www.westwycombeparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The Clerk only works part-time for the Parish Council; however, we are always happy to receive emails or messages on the answer machine and these will be replied to as quickly as possible.

*Steven Marshall, Clerk to the Parish Council,
clerk@westwycombeparishcouncil.gov.uk or on 01494 448048.*

West Wycombe Village Festive Fayre FRIDAY 6th December 5-9pm

West Wycombe Events Team have pleasure in announcing that the West Wycombe Festive Fayre is back, but on a different day – Friday 6th December from 5-9pm!! Come and enjoy a delightful evening in the beautiful setting of West Wycombe village.

- Late night shopping • Artisan/craft stalls throughout the village
- Festival of Trees at St Paul's Church • Food & refreshments
- Stories with Father Christmas • Fairground rides, and so much more...

Make this event the start of your Christmas celebrations! A must for all ages!

Visit [West Wycombe Village Events on Facebook](#) for more information

West Wycombe Community Library

Our opening times are as follows

Monday - Friday 10am - 12 noon
Phone number 01494 449389

Thank you to those who visited our lovely Library during the summer.

The Library is available for rental for a small charge. Tea & coffee is included in the price.

The Library is available: Wednesdays - Friday mornings and Monday- Friday afternoons

We still have lots of crochet blankets for sale at £5. Perfect for a cold day...

Please do visit the Library. It's a lovely quaint building and very colourful inside.

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Charmaine Gallagher



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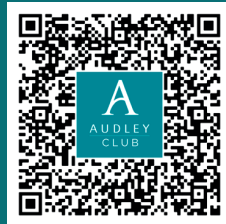
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West Wycombe Chamber Choir

A 60/70/80 Social, a Tour to Italy, the Radnage Walk and Cream Teas and a Concert. What a Summer Term!!

Did we have a summer or not! We certainly had a Summer Concert at St Lawrence's and the weather was kind to us. The church was packed and everyone seemed to enjoy going back to the 60's and 70's with us. Our audience were able to join in and sing some of the songs with us, and years of nostalgia just skipped by. A rousing rendition of Hey Jude at the end sent everyone home very happy. Thank you to our wonderful audience, the choir and our helpers who made it such a good evening's entertainment.

The choir did very well to put on this concert as we had only returned from our tour of Tuscany, Italy, in May! It was a very successful tour and we sang in some beautiful churches which had wonderful acoustics and atmosphere. We were well received and welcomed by the friendly and knowledgeable Italian audiences, and received standing ovations for our singing. We stayed in a lovely family run hotel in Montecatini, where the staff were friendly and helpful, especially in keeping the bar open for us. From there we went to two different venues to sing, Empoli and San Gimignano, but the final concert we performed in the beautiful Basilica at Montecatini itself. We also managed to fit in visiting Florence and Pisa. It has become our tradition to sing on whatever mode of transport takes us on tour, and this time we sang 'You Raise Me Up' on the aircraft at 30,000 ft; must be a first for most of us! The choice of song was fairly apt as well! Many thanks must go to Michèle who organised this huge event with her usual efficiency and cheerfulness. Of course, we now want to know where is she taking us to in 2026? Watch this space.

Our annual 60/70/80 Social was once again a huge success plus helping to raise much needed funds for the choir. Thank You's go to Charmaine and Michèle for all their hard work.

This was followed again by another of our annual social events, the Radnage Walk and Cream Teas, organised by Linsay, Caroline and helpers. We are so lucky to be able to walk in the magical Chiltern countryside and then be rewarded with eating scones, jam and cream in the beautiful grounds of St Mary's Church, Radnage. And no rain once again!!

We have now started our Christmas program and although Christmas music does not vary much, we have managed to fill the concert with the majority of songs not having been performed by us since 2017 or earlier! Our charity this time is St Lawrence's church itself! We are trying very hard to keep this beautiful place open and in good repair, so please come along and support our concert and help us in this worthwhile project. The concert is on Saturday 7th December at 7pm at St Lawrence's. (Please note the date may have changed since you last heard).



It is not too late to join our choir. We meet on Wednesday evenings at the West Wycombe School, at 7.30 p.m. during school term time. There is no audition, you do not need to read music but must have a love of music and singing and a commitment to choir practices and concerts. As you can see from the above, we are a very social choir, so not only singing but also having fun together where family and friends are included.

For more information please see our website westwycombechoir.org.uk or phone Michèle 07795 680253

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West Wycombe Preschool

Welcome back to preschool. The Autumn Term has started with a such a positive vibe & the children have found their feet & friendships are forming already. The team worked their socks off to make some changes to the setting including to the outside spaces & the craft room.

We spent a wonderful afternoon celebrating preschool turning 50 with a very well attended garden party. We welcomed friends from the community, families & staff who have been with us over the years. The sun shone & the atmosphere was perfect. Thank you to all those who celebrated with us. Our 50th montage will be displayed soon.

A waiting list is available for anyone hoping to join us in the next academic year, simply pop Jo, our manager, an email (wwpspg@gmail.com) or pop to our website & complete an enquiry form.

There has been some work on the driveway too where we have installed a new buggy shelter that holds a community library space at the far end. Please feel free to borrow a book or two & leave one if you like. This is open to all of our villagers & those who pass. It is safely on the driveway so there is no need to knock for assistance & the children can continue their play undisturbed!

We are looking forward to celebrating all things Autumnal, including muddy puddle walks, visits to the village, recording the seasonal changes & embracing all things preschool.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Village Treasure Hunt over the Summer Holidays it raised £170.

Sarah Gowers,
Deputy Manager

West Wycombe Village Hall westwycombevillagehall.co.uk		
Mon	Morning	Pip - Phonics with Robot Reg • pip@robotreg.co.uk
	Afternoon	Exercise & Mobility class 1pm, • ollyreedfitness@gmail.com
	Evening	West Wycombe Art Group • wwag.secretary@hotmail.com
Tue	Evening	Jennifer Zumba • jennifer.morais.zumba@outlook.com Masque Player • masqueplayers2022@gmail.com
	Morning	WW Toddler Group • wwbabytoddler@gmail.com
Wed	Afternoon	Crochet Club 4.30pm, • ga.watkins@yahoo.co.uk
	Evening	Cycle club (first Wed of every month)
	Evening	Masque Player • masqueplayers2022@gmail.com Happy Hounds Dog Training • www.huntshappyhounds.co.uk/
The hall is available for private and regular hire Please email Emma at emma009797@icloud.com for further information.		

West Wycombe FESTIVE FAYRE

Friday 6th December
5pm-9pm



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Free Parking • Santa's Grotto
Food & Drink • Carol Singing
and lots more!

West Wycombe
EVENTS TEAM

Church Services

Sunday 6 Oct <i>Trinity 19</i>	Harvest Eucharist 10am	St Mary's, Radnage	Rev 21.9-14 1 Pet 2.1-10 Jn 10.22-29
Sunday 13 Oct <i>Trinity 20</i>	Harvest Eucharist 10.30am	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Amos 5.6-7, 10-15 Heb 4.12-16 Mk 10. 17-31
Sunday 20 Oct <i>Trinity 21</i>	Harvest Eucharist 10.00am	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Isa 53.4-12 Heb 5.1-10 Mk 10.35-45
Sunday 27 Oct <i>Bible</i>	Harvest Eucharist 11am	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Isa 55.1-11 2Tim 3.14-4.5 Jn 5.36-47
Sunday 3 Nov <i>4 Before Advent</i>	10.00 am Eucharist	St Mary's, Radnage	Deut 6.1-9 Heb 9.11-14 Mk 12.28-34
	2.00 pm All Souls	St Paul's, West Wycombe	
	3.00 pm All Souls	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	
	3.00 pm All Souls	St Botolph's, Bradenham	
	4.00 pm All Souls	St Mary's, Radnage	
Sunday 10 Nov <i>Remembrance</i>	10.15am Remembrance	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Jon 3.1-5, 10 Heb 9.24-28 Mk 1.4-20
	10.40am Remembrance	West Wycombe War Memorial (St Lawrence's churchyard)	
	10.45am Remembrance	Radnage War Memorial	
	10.50am Remembrance	Radnage War Memorial	
Sunday 17 Nov <i>2 before Advent</i>	10.00am Eucharist	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Dan 12.1-3 Heb 10.11-14(15- 18) 19-25 Mk 13.1-8
Sunday 24 Nov <i>Christ the King</i>	11.00am Eucharist	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Dan 7.9-10, 13-14 Rev 1.4-8 Jn 18.33-37

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