

# Hambleton VALLEY

## Group Magazine

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Cover: Beautiful Field, Shogmoor Lane, photo Jo Tilbury. This page: The Egyptian geese all grown up, photo Emily McLeish

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## Weekday Services

### Wednesday 10am Zoom

### Daily Prayer

### Emergencies:

If you are unable to contact the Group Priests, please get in touch with your churchwarden.

All contributions are welcome, to the Editor, Penny McLeish  
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*Over the coming months I have invited a few of the many people who support the Hambleden Valley Churches to write the Group Letter. This month we*

*hear from Sue Brice who, as many of you know, has been one of our Licensed Lay Minsters for many years. Sue Morton*

Writing this towards the middle of June, we're considering the possible effects of the relaxation of the restrictions around the Corona Virus Lockdown.

I wonder how isolation has felt. Lonely, worrying, or restful and restoring? Probably a mix of emotions? Have you begun new hobbies, routines, embraced new technology or been busier than ever as a carer or key worker?

An old edition of a daily prayer journal held this exchange between Gandalf and Frodo in Tolkien's *The Fellowship of The Ring*.

*'I wish it need not have happened in my time,' said Frodo. 'So do I,' said Gandalf,' and so do all who live in such times. But that is not for them to decide.*

*All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.'*

It seemed particularly apt for our times and if life before lockdown was particularly demanding, this may have been an opportunity to step back from the fast pace of modern life.

I've long been fascinated by the story of Martha and Mary, the sisters who opened their home to Jesus. I have often struggled with the balance between being at Jesus feet, paying attention to Him and the desire to be actively doing something for Him. Does that sound familiar?

Walking daily around my garden the phrase 'Unforced rhythms of Grace' often came to mind. It is from The Message translation of the Bible passage about Martha and Mary. There is merit in both Martha and Mary's approaches but being still and paying attention to Jesus is often the harder path. As in Gandalf's words, 'All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.' Food for thought!

The book of Esther 4:4 contains this, "God comes to you disguised as your life,"

*God is always with us and within us and in Him 'We live and move and have our being'.*

**Sue Brice**

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## GROUP NOTES AND NEWS

### Prayer Circle

We are starting a contemplative listening and confidential Prayer group.



With God at the centre as we form a circle round the valley .

Matthew 8. v19,20

(More to follow next month)

### Mary Campbell

*Rachel Wigram, whom many may remember, has written some reflections on self-isolation and kindly agreed to share them with us*

In these strange and bewildering times, I know that many of us are reeling as life shifts into a different gear and we face an uncertain future. I knew very little about coronavirus, but I do know something about life suddenly moving onto a different footing, about not being able to be out and about doing the things I expected to be doing, and about needing to be separated from people I love and care about. It's been nearly two years now that a resurgence of severe CFS/ME has meant that I have been mostly housebound living in one room, one chair and one bed, with an occasional foray outside or an occasional visitor. I'm wondering whether some of the things that I've been learning through this last couple of years might be helpful to some of you, particularly if you are self-isolating. Here are a few things from my own experience:

'Normal' life may be on hold but life is not on hold. As illness overtook me and stripped me of the ability to do most of the normal things of my life, it felt like I'd fallen off the road I

was travelling along into a layby and I was stuck there. It was tempting to think that my life was on hold, waiting until I was able to re-join the road and get back to it. However, it gradually dawned on me that I was still alive(!) and that my life was continuing even if it looked very different to what I was hoping for or expecting. I realised that if I persisted in thinking that my life was on hold until it got back to 'normal', I would be missing living the life that is gifted to me here and now in this moment. I am a pilgrim on a journey and this is part of my journey not an interruption...

*We will hear more from Rachel next month*

### Farewell to our Group Administrator, Penny McLeish

We want to publicly thank Penny through the pages of this month's group magazine for her great and long contribution as administrator to the Hambleden Valley Group of Churches. Some 25 years is a lengthy career these days in any occupation and over that time she has gradually taken on more and more responsibilities. Back in 1995 the Rector was Mark Fitzwilliams followed by Malcolm MacNaughton, John Wigram and Stephen Southgate. She has supported each incumbent with enthusiasm, joined our Group meetings as the clergy and churchwardens come together and maintained careful minutes throughout.

Duties nowadays include dealing with correspondence, phone and email enquiries, participating in staff meetings, arranging organists for Sunday services and briefing visiting clergy ahead of a service, sending marriage returns to the Registrar and ensuring each of our churches has supplies of wine, wafers, candles etc. Penny also quietly and calmly took on the editorship of the Group Magazine two years ago following on from Nigel Snell. She has flourished in this role and as her own contribution sometimes provides nature notes much as did Nigel before. A little known fact; at a younger stage in life, as a

*Continued on page 7*

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student Penny studied Zoology.

We are pleased that Penny will continue as our magazine editor and be there, too, to advise her successor, Jenny Neagle, as administrator over the coming months. Thank you again, Penny, for all that you have calmly and efficiently contributed to the Group over this quarter of a century.

**Hambleden Valley Group  
Churchwardens**

### **The Christian Message**

The Christian Message is one of hope, not that difficult times will not happen, they happen to everyone, but that with the help of God there is always the prospect of resurrection.

The following is a prayer from Chile which has helped to sustain me when times are hard, and I would like to share it.

I believe that behind the mist the sun waits,

I believe that beyond the dark night it is raining stars.

I believe in secret volcanoes and the world below.

They will not rob me of hope, it shall not be broken...

I believe in reason, and not in the force of arms;

I believe that peace will be sown throughout the earth.

I believe in our nobility, created in the image of God,

And with free will reaching for the skies.

They will not rob me of hope, it shall not be broken,

it shall not be broken.

**Carol Kimberley**

## **WILDLIFE**

### **Orchid Trumping**

At the end of April, I was very pleased to find four White Helleborine orchids (*Cephalanthera damasonium*) in my garden; I hadn't noticed them here before. Research reveals they sometimes take up to eight years to germinate and a further two to three to flower. They are self-pollinating so there is no requirement for their beautiful white flowers to open up completely to enable pollinators to



*White Helleborine*

enter. They like growing under beech trees in dappled shade. I carefully protected the 'fab four' from the deer and proceeded to brag about my find to anyone who would listen. To cut a long story short, it transpired that my neighbours have a whopping seventy-two of these orchids in their garden and much to everyone's amusement, rendering my four somewhat paltry! I did find another eleven



*Bee Orchid*



*Pyramidal Orchid*

bringing our combined total to eighty-seven which is astonishing.

'No Mow May' here at Kits Close has also yielded three, Broad Leaved Helleborines (*Epipactis helleborine*) which have yet to flower and three Pyramidal Orchids (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*). The former can be up to 80cm in height with thirty to a hundred flowers on each spike; the hearts of the flowers are pink with a chocolate brown throat and green wings. The latter has appeared right in the centre of my lawn and is a stunning beacon of bright pink. My neighbours, also adhering to 'No Mow May', discovered this week they have a single Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*) but I am secretly hoping there might be more. 'No Mow May' has certainly produced a collection of treasures this year and the proliferation of dandelions, daisies, clover, trefoil and buttercups has given the insect population a boost and justification for my laziness, which will be continuing into June.

### **Sarah Ronan**

So sorry to trump you, Sarah, but there are at least 100 pyramidal orchids in the garden of The Rectory! **Penny McLeish**

### **A tweet from Fawley's feathered friends**

In the May issue of this magazine I reported the arrival of Fawley's first spring migrant from Africa, the Wheatear, on 4th April. Since then there have been a few swallows, several Blackcap and Garden Warblers, and

a sprinkling of Whitethroats but sadly no Cuckoo.

A welcome return to my garden on 26th May was the Spotted Flycatcher. In my experience it is the last migrant from Africa, never arriving until late May, early June. A pair have decided to nest in the grapevine just above my study window. I have just seen one catching a flying insect as I sit typing this article.

The resident garden birds all seem to have bred successfully in this hot Spring weather. Further afield at least two pairs of Skylarks have bred locally as have Barn Owls. Sadly, the Tawny Owl population is much reduced. However, Red Kite are everywhere in evidence. The pair I have nesting in my garden, however, never seem to miss a trick. They even cruise over me when I am having lunch in the garden to see whether there is a chance of a pork chop bone. Then, before depositing it on the front lawn I give them a food call whistle. Wow! They swoop down immediately and, without landing, snatch it as they are aware that there are usually two or three other Kites moving in.

The local Buzzards and Ravens also appear to have bred successfully. Their call notes are distinctive. The former's call has been described as 'mewing' though it never seems to resemble the household cat. The latter's call (more a croak) is much lower than a Rook or Crow. Nobody seems to know where they came from. There was some speculation that they had escaped from the Tower of London but more likely, I think, they have come from the sea coast where they nest on inaccessible cliff ledges. In Fawley they nest in the tallest Spruce Pines in a nearby wood. Nigel and I failed to ring the first brood. A local tree surgeon nearly killed himself because just as he reached the nest all the young birds flew out in different directions and he nearly lost his grip on the rope. We never attempted the exercise again.

**Alfred Waller**

Continued on page 11



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**Hedge Sparrows**

In reply to Alfred Waller's query of hedge sparrows I'm very pleased to say quite a lot live in my garden, though to be honest not so many this year. They live in my front hedge and in a large bush in the back. They have their own drinking water, all mod cons, away from my other birds, except a robin. I have greedy jackdaws, two magpies that reside in my apple tree, a couple of pigeons who foul the bird bath, red kites who swoop down before I can put out any crumbs and I have to make a run for it, a pheasant who walked into the green house and played havoc before walking out again and a nice blackbird that sings to me. But I'm very envious of my friend Rosie who has two woodpeckers on her bird table. So lockdown hasn't been all bad and the garden has been brought up to standard. Aren't I lucky to be able enjoy this lovely part of the countryside, and I'll never forget the kindness of people who live here.

So very humbly yours,

**Pam Harper**

**HAMBLEDEN****Obituary:- Oliver Bowden**

Oliver Bowden aged 57, son of George and Marion Bowden died on 5th May at Mill End Farm. His unexpected death came as a great shock to the parish and to his wide circle of friends and business colleagues. He was a true personality of the Hambleden Valley's farming community. It is difficult to imagine anyone else more engrained and deep rooted in our rural life, except for his mother who still is active on the farm. Ollie was a farmer from birth, focusing even as a boy in the 70s on what was his love – hands-on farming, top-class farming. Taking over in the early 90s when he was 32, the excellence of Mill End Farm livestock was evidenced at successive Henley Shows. A joy for us all was to pass the farm and to see the new born foals in Brook Leys.

Ollie was a larger than life character, a family



*Chris Whitehead*

man who, forever in trade mark colourful broad braces illustrated with tractors, was a lovely personality, positive, gregarious and agreeable in every way. Whenever he entered the public bar at the Stag and Huntsman, he walked into a wall of warm affection. His roar of laughter endeared him to everyone. He possessed a wisdom, and shrewdness especially in agromechanics which he willingly used to help others in the way of a kindly mentor.

Ollie regularly carried two corn stooks, one under each arm in the procession of farmers entering church for the Harvest Festival service each September. He always managed to escape from the parish church with a grin, before the opening hymn. For the annual car-wash on August Bank holiday, when men from the parish wash vehicles to raise funds for the church, he would predictably and intentionally choose his dirtiest farm pick-up, presenting it joyfully to groaning car-washers. His eldest daughter Izzy, herself a successful



*Mary Campbell*

*Continued on page 14*

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## HAMBLEDEN

local farmer, was 'given away' by her father at her marriage in the parish church in 2018.

The agricultural community, not much given to public display, formed a 43 farm vehicle 'escort of respect' from Mill End to Henley.

It passed the Henley Showground at Ten Acre Field where many who knew him lined the road to say their final farewell.

He leaves his partner Anita, daughters Izzy and Rosie, sons George and Archie, grandchildren Ralph and James, and his mother Marion.

A full obituary appeared in the Henley Standard Friday May 22nd p.6.

### **Alan Armstrong**

### **Sue Hunt**

Sue Hunt was born Susan Davidson in Nairn in the North East of Scotland in 1926. She was one of four children born into a family of teachers and soldiers and farmers, growing up in the Highlands. The family had farms and land and in many ways it was an idyllic childhood and certainly the air, the light, and the colours of that landscape never left her. As well as lives of service, hers was an artistic family - one uncle trained as an opera singer in Vienna, and two other uncles wrote and designed on the fringes of the Hogarth Press and the Bloomsbury Group in London. Her father and brother were competition level bagpipe players. Sue always said she also inherited her artistic talent from her Huguenot ancestry on her mother's side - they were descended from the Gobelin tapestry family - and to the end of her days she loved to paint. Her house in Hambleden is crammed full of paintings - on canvass, on paper and on stone.

When she left school she wanted to train as an actress but, as for so many, the war was to change everything. She was very close to her brother Duncan and, when he was killed in Burma in 1944, she felt the loss deeply. Leaving school she worked as a nurse

in Ayrshire, at a rehabilitation hospital for wounded pilots.

In 1947 She married Niall Baird, like her father and brother an officer in the Cameron Highlanders. Together they raised their family of four boys, moving between very numerous military postings from occupied Germany after the war to Singapore in the 1960's. And here is a clue to her personality, throughout all these many moves she had a natural gift for making every house a home, and new acquaintances soon became lifelong friends.

In Edinburgh, Niall became the first CO of the Queens Own Highlanders. One officer wrote recently remembering how Sue typically helped - she was 'endlessly kind to young officers... but above all she was a wonderful influence on the regimental families both in Edinburgh and in Singapore. She set a tone of friendship and tolerance that remained in place permanently.'

The family moved to Pheasants Ridge in 1963. By then her two sisters and her sister-in-law were based in the Henley area. Family was always very important to Sue, and of course as the years passed she came to embrace the whole village as her Hambleden family.

Sue became part of the community. For a period of time she worked at a dress shop in Bell Street called Simpatico, and she loved the camaraderie of the Bell Street shopkeepers, and going to London to help buy the next season's fashion. In the Pheasants Ridge years she also enjoyed working at the Little Angel in Henley and The Chequers at Fingest.

In 1978 Sue bought Yard Cottage and so moved from the hill to the very heart of the valley. The same year she married Peter Hunt, then recently retired as Chief of the General Staff, and newly appointed Constable of the Tower of London. Peter Hunt had a cottage in Cornwall, and for a very happy decade they moved between Hambleden, Portloe in Cornwall and the Tower of London with their two much loved dogs. When Peter died

# Sunday Services This Month

[www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk](http://www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk)

Zoom Church (online Church) will continue to take place for the time being in the Hambleden Valley Group of Churches each week as follows:

Wednesdays 10am: Daily Prayer followed by coffee

Sundays 10am: Zoom Church, followed by coffee

Do join us – we would love to see you!

For more details of Zoom Church look out for the weekly Group Emails or contact Vicky Hollier [vickyhollier@aol.com](mailto:vickyhollier@aol.com) 01491 638760

The Church continues to be active and alive in many and varied ways as we explore the on-going process of churches gradually opening; please do look out for details on the website.

We will continue to follow guidance as it is received from the Diocese of Oxford.

Let us not give up meeting together...but let us encourage one another *Hebrews 10:25*

in 1988, as wife of their Colonel in Chief, Sue was made an honorary Gurkha.

Sue was a Hambleden villager for over 57 years. She adored the fact that she had known three generations here. That is village life, as much as her peaceful moments spent in the Lady chapel at St Mary's; her time on the Village Hall committee; visiting young offenders at Nuffield; the Over 80's lunches in the Frog; visiting friends in Care Homes locally, sometimes going with the vicar to take communion to a parishioner. Her nursing instincts never left her.

Her family and friends made her life. Sue was still in touch with school friends from long ago as much as she was with new friends in the village. She was a 'constant' in so many peoples' lives - nurturing, never judgemental, and always interested. People felt this. She had time for them. It is no accident that her front door at Yard Cottage is a stable door - Sue would keep the top open winter or summer, allowing her to be fully part of the life of the village she had made her home.

As Mother Theresa said: 'It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.'

## Verging on...perfect gardens

This is written for the as yet unborn researcher seeking in 2120 to find how Hambleden fared in the pestilence 2020.

How lovely are thy dwelling places (Psalms and Brahm's). Hambleden's Spring gardens looked their best due to the indulgent attention of the locked-down. Glorious weather with azure skies prevailed from the last week of March to the end of the first week of June. One overnight heavy rainfall mid-term brought flowers and blossom to bloom and buds to leaf. It was ironic that gardens looked their best when garden centres were closed. All that there was left to do when they opened on May 12 was to visit and buy gnomes. In the village centre the multiplicity of hollyhocks were giving a strong promise of extravagant summer displays. The village hall garden of lupins, delphiniums and foxgloves

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## From The Registers

### Rest in Peace

June 2

Lady Susan Hunt

Cremation

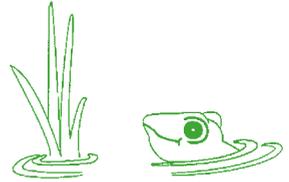
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had successfully overwintered in the ground. Above us all, in our surrounding woods, the piercing lime green of new beech leaves in juxtaposition with ancient evergreen yews made a tapestry. The towering Wellingtonias of Great Wood seemed to look down on the Spring beech and say “we’ve seen it all before. It doesn’t last”.

In the beginning of May it was accepted that Covid 19 was not about to go away. An easing of restrictions conditional on keeping everyone at arm’s length allowed a modicum of restrictive outdoor socially distanced encounters. The BBC’s livestream of doom meant we still felt doomy and gloomy. The Stag and Huntsman, the Hall, the Sports Club, the Garage, the church, the bell tower and the car parks remained closed. On May 12 Homo Urbanus was allowed to drive to Hambleden, to exercise from wherever they abandoned their shiny-clean vehicles. Homo Rusticus viewed this with apprehension, fearing a summer long invasion of staycationers. Hambleden Stores closed on Sundays. With valley pubs and restaurants closed, a small luxury was to have quietly provided Frog and Chequers meals to take away, with safe distancing.

Did things change for Hambleden in the Spring? Yes. A multiplicity of simple human kindnesses increased in our already strong community. Charles Lamb the essayist (1775-1834) wrote, “The greatest pleasure I know is to do a good action and to have it found out by accident”. Geoffrey Fisher an Archbishop of Canterbury memorably wrote, “In cities no one is quiet but many are lonely; in the country people are quiet but few are lonely”.

So it was and is. It became quicker to see a doctor than to get a Tesco delivery slot. Will we go back to hairdressers after washing our hair and putting the head out of a moving car window to dry it, who knows?

The churches of the valley started Zoom services on Wednesday May 13th, with 25 on-line. Sunday services for the valley followed. Zoomchurch may replace small-number weekday services in necessarily preheated churches in winter – a clear financial saving and an ecological no-driving gain. You can attend church in your gardening rig if you sit close enough to the screen to offer a head shot only.

My ‘erbacious border unusually is ecclesiastically themed around large old clumps of Bishop of Llandaff and Bishop of Canterbury dahlias. You can buy revs and bishops on-line for very little. An order for David Austin’s newest rose ‘Country Parson’ received a reply saying ‘not available for six months’ Very ecclesiastical.

It has been a blessing being isolated with my wife these past ten weeks. We’ve caught up with everything I’ve done wrong in the garden over the last 25 years.

### **Alan Armstrong**

### **Bank Holiday car wash**

Maybe it’s on, maybe it’s off. It’s likely to be a last minute decision based on the health of the nation. If it’s off it will not be for lack of willingness of the gentlemen to wash, but denied by instruction. If it’s on, as the car washers do want it to be, it may for their good health that it will be outsidies only this year.

*Continued on page 21*



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Our glorious parish church is managed on a shoestring by a small handful of parishioners. Merely to survive, it needs continual care. There is neither Diocesan, nor dedicated government funding for the upkeep of our parish church. If we fail to support our precious church, we will undo centuries of careful stewardship, at an irreparable cost to the village and parish of Hambleden, itself part of our wider national heritage.

Support the car wash if it happens. The car wash donates £1,000 + to the church. Ring 01491 571324 nearer the bank holiday to find out if it will be operational.

**Alan Armstrong**

### **Hi Hambleden brook followers, A lockdown dawn.**

I have been woken each day by a dawn chorus (no planes) of pigeons, woodpeckers, lapwings, partridges, blackbirds and others. I am not a fan of the wood pigeon as they coo, with a most unattractive noise, on the roof top just outside many a bedroom window, and ..... sadly, they poo copiously all over the place.

Alternatively, a delightful pair of ring neck doves sneak through all barriers on the bird feeder and guzzle their chosen sunflower seeds. Well, while one proudly stands guard looking into the kitchen window, whilst the other fills its gullet. They are lovely, quiet, a little shy, and it would be preferable if they picked up the seeds that the smaller birds drop at will all over the lawn. That would possibly deter the pigeons too.

Then the greater spotted woodpeckers, with their distinctive, squeak, squeak, nearly always double barrelled, zoooooom in for the peanuts, scattering all other birds in site. They are beautiful bullies and very welcome. Cautious, alert, dashing - rather like a pair of sergeant majors in their mess kits. Hungry too.

They have two other rather smaller, but just

as smart, nuthatch mates who I refer to as our garden kingfishers. Very elegant. Again, very quick feeders, but with lovely lines and colouring and they can forage at all angles, even upside down.

The lapwings are aerobically distant and sky dance just above our watercress brook in yonder field, with their very strident pip, pip, pip calls. There are four so far. They nest on the ground, frightening off the marauding red kites with their noisy cartwheeling flights, rather like spittfires clawing their way up to rapidly gain sufficient altitude to counter the attacking enemy.

The partridges land on the roof with a veritable thud; scampering after their would be mate with scrapping, pattering noisy, clawed feet and their rather rattling, machine gun call. Bearable but, apart from their splendid coats, they bring little to the party, however, very preferable to those silky dark, sinister, hooded carrion seeking crows and those thieving, cackling loudly, magpies.

The blackbirds compete with our robins for both volume and tune. We have two pairs of parent blackbirds who must have large families in waiting judging by the food they take home daily.

The team of robins show off, fight playfully and keep everyone's eyes open for the neighbouring cats who opportunely prowl for their morning fun.

The squirrels have attempted to butt in but have been frightened away and await the plentiful walnut fruits to come. Judging by the blossoms scattered across our drying lawn, we should have a large crop this year.

A couple of Peter rabbits have attempted to approach the little vegetable plot and have been rudely reminded that it is a lot safer to stay in their field.

So ... that's a little brief on our birds' morning activities. Life potters along in lockdown, mending and planting, painting and jigsawing, scoffing homemade sourdough whilst waiting for the delivery from Tesco, or gathering our welcome prizes from the Hambleden shop. Happy in a privileged and

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### **Hambleden native**

## **FAWLEY**

### **Rustic Fence**

The picturesque rustic fence has been renewed around Fawley Green by Nick and

Wendy Sargent.. It is constructed of riven Sweet Chestnut timbers sourced from woods just south of Petworth in Sussex. There is a similar one round the Village Pond. Sadly, these lovely railings need to be protected from oversized lorries who cause immense damage on the corners.

### **Hilary Beck-Burridge**



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Take a look at our website at [hambledenssc.co.uk](http://hambledenssc.co.uk) for more information.

The **Social Club** is situated in the centre of Hambleton Village, to the left of the Post Office/Shop. The club is a members club which allows us to provide alcohol and soft drinks at low prices, for consumption by our members and their guests. The Social Club offers fruit machines, pool table, darts, TV, comfortable seating and a friendly atmosphere!

**Membership:-** £20 per year or £10 for OAPs and Students

**Opening hours:-** 8pm - 11pm (Tuesday – Saturday)

You can also hire the Social Club for meetings during the day and functions in the evening. Please contact **Pat Eldridge 01491 576067** for more information.

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## CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

### Hambleden Valley Group of Churches

**Group Rector:** The Rev. Stephen Southgate, Currently attached to Wendover Deanery pending his move to the Benefice of Ripponden.

**Associate Priest:** The Revd Sue Morton, 01491 639286, suemorton131@gmail.com

**Licensed Lay Minister:**  
John Kimberley, 01491 413155  
lordkimberley@gmail.com

**Director of Music and Choir:**  
Christine Wells BEM, 01491 571588,  
c@wells.vnworks.net

**Group Treasurer:** David Napier, 01491 574230, david\_napier@btopenworld.com

**Group Administrator:** Jenny Neagle, 01491 638433,  
hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

**Baptisms:** Vicky Hollier, 01491 638760,  
vickyhollier@aol.com

**Weddings and Blessings:** Paul and Lynda Marston-Weston 01494 883188  
hambledenvalleyweddings@gmail.com

**Tea Club:** St. Katharine's, Parmoor, Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm  
Sue Brice, 01494 882084,  
sue.brice@btconnect.com or Gillian Loveridge, 01491 638895, mail@dandgloveridge.plus.com

**Barney's Toddler Group:** Frieth Village Hall, Usually 2nd Fridays during term time 1.30-3pm with Café in last half hour.  
Revd Sue Morton 01491 639286 or Sarah Hunt sarahhunt76@hotmail.co.uk

**Website:**  
www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

### Fawley (St Mary the Virgin)

**Churchwarden:** David Napier, 01491 574230,  
david\_napier@btopenworld.com

**Clerk to Fawley Parish Meeting and Village Hall booking:**  
Mr Ross McDonald, 07769 971252  
r.mcdonald2007@yahoo.co.uk

### Fingest (St Bartholomew)

**Churchwardens:**  
Brian Barnes, 01494 882613,  
brianbarnes346@gmail.com

Jill Dean, 01491 638678,  
jill@sundawn.uk.com

### Frieth (St John the Evangelist)

**Contact:** Judy Hunt, 01494 882227,  
ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

**Village Hall Bookings:**  
website www.friethvillagehall.org  
email friethvillagehall@gmail.com  
Tel 01494 880737

**Uniformed organisations:** Lesley Ansell, 01494 882665 (after 4 pm)

**Rainbows and Brownies:**  
Mrs Lesley Ansell, Rainbows now meet on Mondays from 5pm - 6pm  
friethrainbows@hotmail.co.uk, 01494 882665  
Miss Katherine Gomme now runs Brownies  
Brownies now meet on Mondays from 6pm - 7.30pm  
friethbrownies@hotmail.com, 07545549910

**Frieth Natural History Society:**  
Alan Gudge, 01494 881464

**Frieth Village Society:** Caroline Walker 01494 882333

**Frieth Lunch Club:** meets on last Thursday of the month at the Yew Tree Pub.  
Judy Hunt, 01494 882227  
ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

### Hambleden (St Mary the Virgin)

**Churchwarden:**  
Michael Tebbot, 01494 882261,  
m.tebbot@gmtw.co.uk

**Bell Ringing:** Fri 7.45pm practice, Helen or Karen, hambledenbells@mycomputer.email

**Village Hall Bookings:** Jamie Baker, 01491 410669, www.hambledenvillagehall.org

**Women's Institute:**  
Sarah Williams, 07817 120339

**Pilates:** Mondays 11 - 12 Fran Presho, 07951 019594

**Bridge Club:** Fridays 1.30 - 4.30  
Frances Cugnoni, 01491 576409

**Hambleden Social and Sports Club:**  
Open daily from 8 pm Pat Eldridge, 01491 576067

**Tennis Club:** Heather Symons, 01491 577344, heathersymons16@hotmail.com

**Tennis Coaching:** Chris Marshall, 07801 999230, chrismarshall20@hotmail.com

**Royal British Legion:** Gillian Loveridge (Secretary), 01491 638895

**Yoga:** Monday 7pm-8.30pm  
Debbie Flavell, 01491 414403,  
debby@debbyflavell.com

**Indoor Market:** Hambleden, 2nd Saturday in Month (except January)

**Circle Dance** Thursday 7pm – 8.30pm  
Debbie Flavell 01491 414403  
debby@debbyflavell.com

### **Medmenham (St Peter and St Paul)**

**Churchwardens:** Dennis Harwood, 01628 810143,  
dennis.harwood411@btinternet.com  
Angela Magee, 01628 484043,  
angela.magee@yahoo.co.uk

**Village Hall Bookings:** Emma Tentori, 07759 014396

**Uniformed organisations:**  
**1st Danesfield Scouts, Cubs and Beavers:** leader Nick Currie,  
enquiries@danefeldscouts.org.uk

**Medmenham Matters:** Jo Baxter, 01491 573901, medmenhammatters@yahoo.co.uk

### **Skirmett**

**Village Hall Bookings:** Missy Davies, 01491 639 297 www.skirmettvillagehall.org

**Pilates:** Mon 11.15am – 12.15 pm  
Julia Farey, 07747 825 830

**Hambleden Valley Garden Club:** Meetings Oct-Mar on first Tuesday each month at Skirmett Village Hall 7.30. Contact Celia Warren, 01491 638691.

### **Turville (St Mary the Virgin)**

**Church Wardens:**  
Anne Jones, 01491 639344,  
annejones.tur@btopenworld.com  
Caroline Sants, 01491 638994  
cobstonesbarn@gmail.com

**Bell Ringing:** Sat 4pm practice,  
Ann Lazur, 01491 638039

**Sunday School:** Sara Harman,  
01491 639211

**Turville Northend**  
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David & Susan Faragher 01491 638960 or  
07563 903678, davidfaragher@fastmail.fm  
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### **Parish Council Contacts**

**Hambleden:** Parish Clerk Lorna Coldwell  
01494 881483, clerk@hambleden.org.uk,  
www.hambleden.org.uk

**Medmenham:** Parish Clerk Carole Burslem  
01494 449215, mpc.clerk@gmail.com

**Turville:** Parish Clerk Lorna Coldwell,  
01494 881483, turvilleparishcouncil@gmail.com,  
www.turvilleparishcouncil.org.uk

**Fawley:** Clerk to Fawley Parish Meeting  
Mr Ross McDonald, 07769 971252  
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If you are thinking of selling your home, or would like some advice on the current market in the Hambleden Valley, please contact the Henley office.

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