

# Hambleden VALLEY

*Group Magazine*

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**Feb 2022**



The Hambleden Valley Group of Churches  
"To see our lives and communities transformed by the love of God"

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with Frieth  
& Skirmett  
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Findest  
Medmenham  
Turville*



Cover: Frosty morning, photo Emily McLeish. This page: Snowdrops at The Rectory.

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## Weekday Services

**Wednesday - 9.30am, Zoom**  
**Daily Prayer - 10.15am, Holy**  
**Communion, Turville**

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

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### Group Letter February 2022



There are some weird and wonderful things in my study. A sheep and a monkey nestle happily together reading some minutes of a past meeting (OK, they're puppets...); a parade of baptism candles stands shoulder to shoulder on top of some ancient files awaiting the next call out and some natural objects brought in from Wild Church have sprouted something. Yes - my study needs a good spring clean and a tidy up. In fact, no one (except me) is allowed in until this happens!

If you, like me, are grappling with some things that need doing but haven't quite got to them yet, let us take heart from some of the God-filled things that are happening this month in the Hambleden Valley that might encourage us along the way.

February's Wild Church (13th at 2pm, Fingest) will offer special encouragement in cleaning, requiring a bucket and your (old) toothbrush! We are taking the theme of loving our environment by focusing on

the care and conservation of memorials in our churchyards with an expert to guide us, plus adopting a gravestone for the afternoon and churchyard quizzes for all the family.

If you are thinking of spending more time exploring the Bible, but haven't quite got there yet, there is a new Bible Study Group starting on 22nd February, 2pm where you will be most welcome

And, to start it all off, is the beautiful Candlemas Service at Fingest (6<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm) – if you haven't been before, do join us for this special time of worship with hymns, prayers and candles.

As February draws to a close, we will be preparing for the season of Lent, a time when we are all invited have a bit of a spring clean in our lives and hearts, creating room to spend time with God in the lead up to Easter. Areas of our lives that we might keep hidden - rather like untidy studies - we can offer safely to God, knowing that he longs for us to make space for him and that he will help us to do so.

God bless you,

**Sue Morton**

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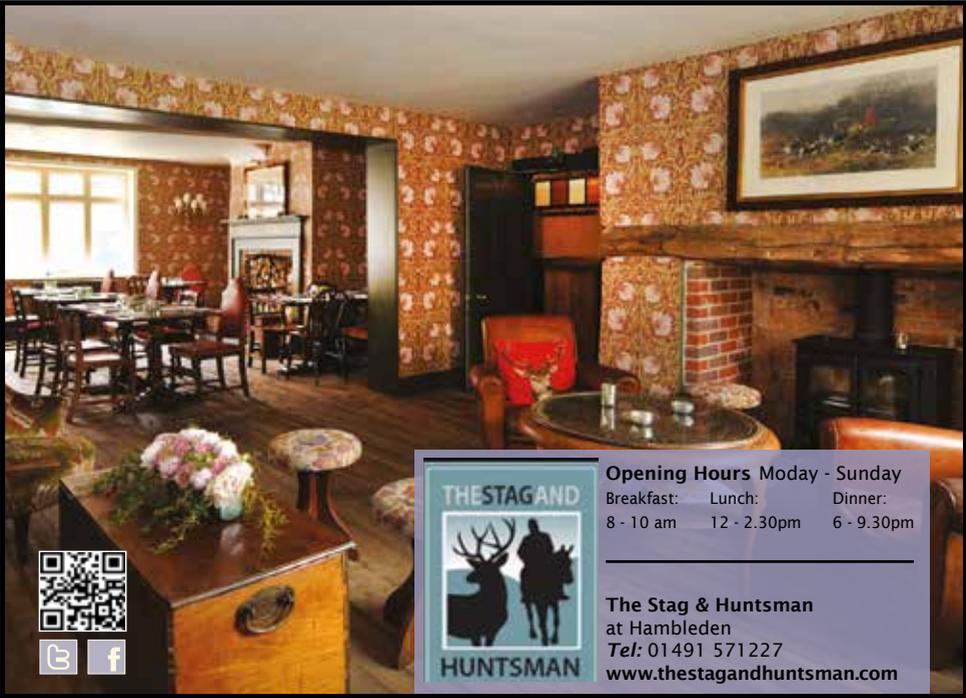
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## GROUP NOTES AND NEWS

# Wild Church!

### Wild Church Walk



How Lucky we were with the weather. After an extremely wet day on Saturday the sun shone brightly upon us as we gathered in Hambleden Churchyard on Sunday afternoon for the first Wild Church of 2022.

The theme was “An Epiphany Walk” whilst constructing a “Journey Stick” and this was reflected in the hymns sung by the Wild Church Choir and prayers said by the Rev. Sue Morton. The photo of the Journey Stick tells the “journey of Wild Church” since it began in May last year. Twenty-one of us then set out on our journey with

“Journey Sticks” in our hands to which we were asked to add items we collected on our travels.

The Journey began with a walk through the churchyard, along the road and into the meadow collecting items as we went. Once in the meadow we crossed the brook, made friends with the horses and then walked back to the church. Stops were made along the way to take in the beauty of the Hambleden Valley and the peace it brought to us.

We then arrived back at the church for a final hymn and blessing given by Sue. Epiphany Cake and Star Biscuits plus a welcome hot drink were then enjoyed by all the “Journeyers” before departing for home clutching their Journey Sticks. A lovely way to spend a warmly wrapped up sunny afternoon in January.

**Angela Magee**

### **Valentine’s Day Wild Church 13th February 2022 2pm Fingest Churchyard**

#### **Bring a bucket and toothbrush!**

In February Wild Church is celebrating God’s love for the environment as we focus on conservation and care for the memorials in our churchyards, under the expert care of Kris, a senior conservator.

Come along and adopt a grave stone for the afternoon, enjoy family quizzes and roll your sleeves up for some action! Please bring a bucket and soft nylon brush/old toothbrush/washing up brush and help preserve our monuments for future generations. All ages and stages welcome!

Fingest Church will also be open and heated for anyone who would like to gather and do some gentle inside spring cleaning.

Tea and heart-themed cakes and biscuits will be on offer at the end and we’ll sing a couple of well-known hymns, with prayers.

Continued on page 7

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There will be the opportunity to speak with our Wild Church guest Kris Zykubek, Senior Conservator with Cliveden Conservation. Kris has wide experience working in the conservation of stone and architectural details and has led conservation projects for The National Trust, English Heritage, ecclesiastical and listed buildings.

You are warmly welcome to join us! As always do **dress for the weather** – we will meet come rain or shine!

\*\*To find out more, please get in touch with one of the Wild Church Team: Mary Campbell [grandma.marycampbell@googlemail.com](mailto:grandma.marycampbell@googlemail.com)  
Mardi Wilkins [mardi43@btinternet.com](mailto:mardi43@btinternet.com)  
Rev Sue Morton 01491 639286 or [suemorton131@gmail.com](mailto:suemorton131@gmail.com)

Wild Church takes place every second Sunday at a different outdoor venue each month

**Date for your diary: Sunday 13th March, 2pm – Wild Church Pilgrimage**

### **Community Matters wins an award!**

For several years Community Matters has had a positive relationship with Red Kite Housing Association who are the main owners and landlords of the social housing area in Lane End where the families that we support live. Our main contact is Geoff Keene, the Relation Specialist in Community Housing, and last year he recommended Community Matters for an award to be given by Red Kite. The award would be in recognition for the work we do with the Food Bank at Holy Trinity Church, Lane End, as well as the ongoing support we offer when finances do not run to providing essential items and escalating fuel costs. We were delighted to have been nominated and were encouraged by Geoff to apply. Community Matters won the Red Kite award and received a certificate in recognition of the work we do in the community.

We send our most grateful thanks for

the amazing generosity shown by the churches from the Hambleton Valley who have provided food - including wonderful Christmas treats – and financial support; you have all been an answer to prayer.

God bless all of you and again our sincerest thanks,

**Judy Taylor LLM  
Community Matters  
Lane End**

**If you would like to donate, any of the following items would be gratefully received**

Squash  
Hot dogs  
Jam (not marmalade)  
Chocolate spread  
Shampoos  
Laundry powder/capsules  
Tins of fruit cocktail/peaches/pineapple  
Tins/cartons of custard

### **Hambleton Valley Garden Club**

In January members enjoyed a delightful talk by John Anderson, Keeper of the Royal Gardens, which comprise the Savill Garden, Valley Gardens and the private garden at Frogmore, all part of the Crown Estate attracting six million visitors a year. The gardens have an exceptional number of ancient and champion trees and several National Plant Collections including Magnolias, Rhododendrons and Ferns. John gave a brief history of the garden established by Eric Savill, the Valley Gardens which were cleared of undergrowth mainly by ex-servicemen after the Second World War and the acquisition of the Rhododendron Collection of J.B. Stevenson of Tower Court which took five years to move.

John showed a wonderful and extensive array of photographs of trees, plants, themed borders and specifically designed gardens, giving a very detailed and interesting commentary. Issues that were also raised were imported pests and diseases, notably the

## WILDLIFE

caterpillars of the Processionary Moth, and the effect of climate change on present and future plantings.

On February 1st, Russell Bowes, Garden Historian, will be giving a talk titled 'Miss Jekyll's Gardening Boots' which features seven gardeners whose careers cover the last 250 years of gardening in England.

For more information, please telephone Celia Warren 01491 638691.

**Lizzie Arnott**

### WILDLIFE

#### Gift from the Sky



*photo Stephen Southgate*

He came when our hearts were dark,  
confused, constrained by covid.  
He flew past rules of distance,  
defying, unexpected.  
And there he was that morning,  
outstretched upon my raspberry bed,  
assured as if he owned it,  
his train of feathers widely spread.

I'd never seen such feathers  
glowing in sun with such green;  
I'd never seen a neck of blue  
so deep intense in its sheen.  
I felt a strange new joy, of life  
suddenly lifting in lightness,  
a gift from the sky in that bird  
with its colours and brightness.  
I stood still a while just staring,

then went inside for my phone.  
But when I came back he was gone  
off down the road on his own.  
I didn't expect to see him again  
but there he was later that day  
resting beneath my mulberry tree,  
his feathers once more on display.

Then his owners came to claim him.  
But he was not so much inclined  
to peahens now and a cage.  
He had freedom on his mind.  
They tried to encourage, entice him,  
to catch him in a special net.  
But he flew up to my roof, poised  
on its ridge as a silhouette.

Unmoved by pleas, by shouting, cries,  
he looked down, it seemed, with disdain,  
refusing to budge from that ridge,  
regarding their efforts in vain.  
They left at last when darkness came.  
Next morning he was gone.  
I had no idea where he went  
but it seemed as if he had won.

Later I heard he was captured  
in a garden two miles away,  
lured back then to his peahens  
but at least he'd had his day.  
And I shall always remember  
that moment his colours broke through  
like a wave, lifting my heart with  
the glow of his green and his blue.

**Jane Mann**

#### Frog Marching through Fawley

It is February and thousands of amphibians will be slowly stretching their limbs beneath the leaf litter in the woods alongside Benhams Lane. They are ectothermic creatures which means they don't generate their own body heat and to get through winter they bury themselves into the soil and hibernate. Fawley hosts one of the largest annual amphibian migrations in the UK with a total of 8820 toads, 344 newts

*Continued on page 11*

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and 234 frogs recorded in 2020. Their route is downhill through Benhams Woods to Oaken Grove, straight across the Marlow Road and onto their spawning pond on the other side. To ensure most of them make it,

a barrier several hundred meters long and half a meter high is erected just inside the Oaken Grove boundary fence beside the Marlow Road, running from Benhams Lane into the show ground field. The barrier and road are patrolled for several weeks by eagle-eyed, torch wielding volunteers from Henley Toad Patrol clutching buckets, who tread carefully while gently gathering up every clammy individual. When the bottom of the container is obscured by sprawling limbs, it's off to the pond where each species is counted and recorded. Male toads frequently leap atop a female en-route often guaranteeing a lift all the way to the water. As dawn breaks, they crawl under leaves or logs to hide from daytime predators such as pheasants, kites or buzzards and someone checks the barrier for any creatures stranded after the previous evening's volunteers departed. The trigger for this astonishing wildlife event appears to be the approach of Spring, an evening temperature of 7 degrees or above, darkness and preferably the heavens opening. They don't dawdle, they race, particularly on nights when the undergrowth is awash with rainwater and their path is in effect 'oiled'. Their urge to procreate is strong and usually takes them back to the place they were born. Once spawning is completed the adults return via the same route back to the woods. Incredibly, in July the Marlow Road is covered in thousands of newly

emerged teeny tiny baby amphibians who somehow know which direction it is back to Benhams Woods from the pond – HOW? Female frogs often have a crimson blush during the breeding season as my photograph shows in contrast with the toads next to it. The term frog-marching heralds from the late 19C when four police officers would each hold a limb of drunken or disorderly prisoner effectively moving the detainee belly-down!

**Sarah Ronan. January 2022**

### **A Nature Note**

The eye is suddenly aware of a flash of movement - no, not a brightly coloured bird in the garden but a dark torpedo shooting across the floor.

It's Timmy Willie. The timid hero of *The Tale of Johnny Town-Mouse* falls asleep in the carter's hamper and, after terrifying adventures in town, declares he prefers country living. It seems he prefers country living in my house.

Quite why his preferred route is from the back door to the vintage speaker in the sitting room is unclear. Perhaps he's hoping for a quick spin of Adam Faith or Roy Orbison after a satisfying lunch beneath the bird table.

My mother wrote Nature Notes for this magazine and loved all wildlife. When she eventually needed a carer, a despairing entry in the journal read: "Molly put food down for the mice in the dining room again tonight". If only Timmy Willie were house trained, he would be most welcome. As it is, there is nothing for it but *traps*.

The method is effective but not carbon neutral: "humane" plastic tubes containing peanuts are set along his route. It's no good taking captives all the way down Watery Lane for release in the morning. They're back by teatime. They must be taken further afield in a windowless van.

## HAMBLEDEN

Timmy Willie is not actually a mouse but a Field Vole. We all love Barn Owls but I hope he will evade them. As I open the trap, he is reluctant to leave. With a little encouragement he braves the bank. His fur is in fine condition and glistens in the sun as though each filament were tipped with gold.

**Caroline Davis**

## HAMBLEDEN

### CHRISTMAS IN HAMBLEDEN 2021

Everyone was looking forward to Christmas this year, given that last year's services had to be held remotely. When the omicron variant began surging only a week before the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, hearts sank. However, with thought, care, compromise, and the good fortune of a larger church, we were able to hold our services inside. Social distancing, masks, smaller congregations, shortened services, and the support of the two Sues enabled this, and we in Hambleden appreciate this very much.

#### Service of Lessons and Carols

Our first Christmas service was the Service of Lessons and Carols. The church had been decorated by a happy team of people a day or two earlier. The crib was in place and the Altar Christmas trees lit up. A wonderful preparation for the joy of the Christmas season.

The music for the service was put together by Christine Wells, and led by The Revd Sue Morton. The well-loved traditional carols, and choir solos, beautifully sung, fitted with the readings, and the service moved forwards without distraction. The traditional readings began with the Old Testament prophets foretelling the coming of the Messiah, and ended with Luke's account of Jesus birth in the stable in Nazareth. They were read by various people representing different parts of our parish, and congregation. Ben Allen sang the solo part in 'Three Kings' most beautifully. Finally, Revd Sue Morton thanked Sarah and

Brian Helweg-Larsen for their commitment and work for Hambleden church in the last 20 years, and prayed for them as they move house to Oxford.

**Jill Steward**

#### Christingle Service

The Christingle service took place in Hambleden on Christmas Eve. During the service Sue Morton recruited volunteers to help her construct a giant Christingle! Along the way, Sue explained the meaning of each component making this a fun and engaging activity for all. Christmas carols were sung, and in time honoured tradition, when it was time to sing Away in a Manger, the church lighting was replaced by the gentle candlelight of the Christingles – together with those beautiful voices, a wonderfully moving atmosphere was created.

Many thanks to the volunteers who very kindly provided the materials and made the Christingles - £182.70 was raised in support of The Children's Society.

**Sharon Smith**

#### Midnight Mass – December 24th 2021, 11.30pm

Despite being a cold and stormy night, it was a delight to again be together to celebrate Midnight Mass at St. Mary, the Virgin, in Hambleden.

The church decorations gave much cheer and the congregation, whilst much smaller than in 'normal' years, was clearly in good heart and happy to be celebrating 'in person'.

Sue Lepp officiated and cheered us with an inspiring and stirring sermon. The choir sang beautifully with the usual wonderful accompaniment by Christine Wells. In all of this, the congregation were in very good voice too, albeit muffled behind their masks

*Continued on page 17*

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# Church Services and Events

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## From The Registers

### Rest in Peace

Dec 22 Bryan Collis  
Dec 30 Stuart Wright  
Jan 15 2022 Michael Earle

Burial of ashes, Hamleden  
Funeral, Hamleden and Cremation  
Funeral and Burial, Hamleden



## Hamleden Valley Prayer Group

We have formed a contemplative listening and confidential prayer group, forming a circle round the valley with God at the centre. If you would like prayer please send a request to the email below:

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# CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2022

## Pattern of Worship February 2022

Please see below for Sunday services. There will also be Zoom services at 9:30am and the 10.15am midweek Holy Communion at Turville on Wednesdays. The calendar here is subject to change. The wellbeing of staff and members can cause last minute adjustments to our scheduled services. Please refer to our website for the most up-to-date information or contact Jenny Neagle on [hambledenvalleyadmin@gmail.com](mailto:hambledenvalleyadmin@gmail.com) (07769 599616).

## Sunday Services

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville	Zoom
6th Feb		6pm Candlemas Evensong		10am Group Service			None
13th Feb	11am Holy Communion	9am Holy Communion 2pm Wild Church		11am Holy Communion			9.30am
20th Feb			9am Holy Communion/ Zoom	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Lay-led Morning Worship			9am 11am Holy Communion
27th Feb	11am Holy Communion	6pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion/ Zoom	11am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion	9am
6th Mar		10am Group Service					None

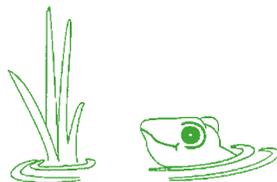
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but, in reality, it didn't seem to matter: we were all together and celebrating and singing. Wonderful.

At the end of the service the infant Jesus was found to be laying in his manger and the bells rang out joyfully to send us out in good heart and spirits to spread the great news.

Happy Christmas indeed!

**Gareth Morris**

### **Christmas Day Service**

Having worshipped in Hambleton Church for over 30 years I couldn't help but feel a twinge of sadness at the Christmas morning service. The congregation was masked and socially distanced and rather diminished compared with past years. There were however many things to feel joyful about: the familiar faces around one, the beautifully decorated Church, the music – not to mention Rev Sue Lepp's fabulous vestments, and, of course, the eternal message of Christmas: that Jesus was born to save us all.

Happy New Year

**Thelma Hayton**

### **Janis Downey (nee Piggott) 1938-2022**

Those of you who remember Janis will be sad to hear that she died peacefully in Sharon, Connecticut, on January 3rd, 2022.

Janis had lived in America since her marriage to Doctor Jack Downey in 1985.

Janis's parents Commander Arnold Piggott (Pog) and Joyce Piggott (Dordie) lived at Hillside, Pheasants Hill, Hambleton and after her mother's death Janis and Jack loved to come back to Hillside to visit Pog.

Janis died after enduring Parkinsons for many years. Latterly, her mobility had declined considerably and her life had become very restricted. In her last years

she was well looked after in a Care Home near Sharon and Jack's family and other friends visited regularly when Covid permitted.

For Janis, her death was a blessing and a happy release into a Freedom so long denied her.

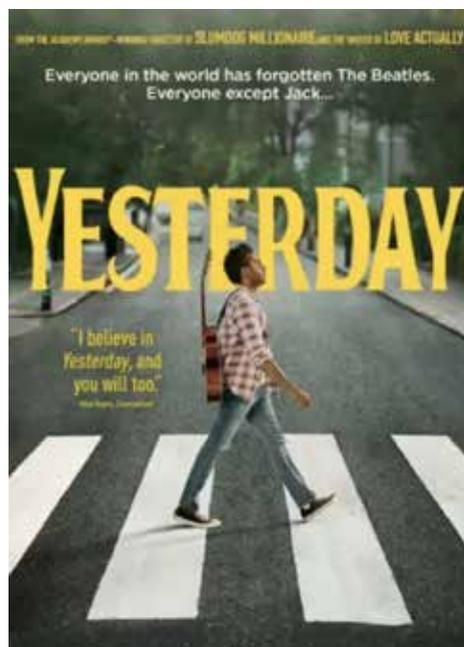
**Juliet Woolcombe**

### **Hambleton Cinema**

On Saturday 19th February Hambleton Cinema will be showing Yesterday, rated 12. Jack, a struggling musician, meets with an accident during a blackout and wakes up to find out that only he remembers The Beatles. Later, he starts singing the band's songs to gain fame. A wonderful warm hearted film!

Have a peak at the trailer!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uqvqPm8U4c>



Doors open 6.30pm, programme begins 7.30pm. Tickets £8 each can be bought

## FRIETH

from [www.hamblendeninema.co.uk](http://www.hamblendeninema.co.uk) and from Hambleden Village Stores. There will be a bar selling soft drinks, wine, beer and tempting delicious cinema snacks! In aid of raising funds for Hambleden Village Hall Registered Charity 300275

### **The Hambleden Cinema Team**

### **From the Hambleden Parish Mag archives**

#### **Hambleden Parish Magazine January 1892**

##### **Report on the influenza epidemic.**

To many in this parish the Old Year closed very sadly, and the New Year opened upon much sickness and anxiety. There has not been for many years such a time of universal sickness, chiefly caused by the epidemic through which we are now passing. In numberless cases the serious results attending it will not be quickly forgotten. It has found an entrance into every home; old and young, rich and poor, have alike fallen victims to the ravages of the disease. It is quite right to give all attention to the causes and to take every precaution against the further spread of disease. In some cases it has been impossible to find nurses to meet the need as in and around the village especially, there has been sickness in well-nigh every house. We sincerely trust that we have seen the worst of it. We hope in the end for our good and that another week will brighter and happier days.

## FRIETH

### **Help needed for a Lady in Frieth**

She has severe ME and needs help with domestic tasks, but not personal care. She lives upstairs and has carers coming in twice a day for an hour at a time to assist with meal preparation, washing up, filling water bottles and the kettle etc. The tasks vary on different days. Reliability, hygiene and punctuality are essential. Vacancies have arisen in her team

of carers for someone to come in the morning around 10.30am as well as someone in the afternoon around 4pm weekdays and weekends to be arranged. The rate of pay is £18 per hour.

If you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact me in the first instance - Telephone 01491 571288 and email [penny\\_mcleish@hotmail.com](mailto:penny_mcleish@hotmail.com)

### **Penny McLeish**

### **Frieth School**

Despite a number of staff and pupils' absences at the start of term due to COVID-19, the school has adapted well thanks to our fantastic staff who continue to go above and beyond to ensure the children get the best possible education whether this is learning online or face to face. I'm also hugely appreciative of our supportive parent community who are always proactive in testing the children and supporting home learning.

With children having missed so much education and other valuable learning opportunities, I welcome the Government's stance on not closing schools. My absolute priority is to keep Frieth CEC School open and I will be making all the adjustments I can to ensure this is the case. With the children also missing out on so much extra-curricular enrichment over the past two years, I also plan to continue to offer as many opportunities for them as possible. With that in mind, a number of sporting fixtures have already been arranged for our rugby, football and netball teams. We are also offering additional after school activities this term with a new dance and gymnastics club which have proved to be hugely popular.

It's not only extra-curricular sporting opportunities that continue to grow, we also

*Continued on page 21*

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continue to build on our curriculum and this term the children will enjoy Frieth's inaugural Maths Week. During this theme week, pupils will be immersed in a range of exciting cross-curricular activities all related to maths. These include creating maths artwork; using their maths knowledge to cook and/or bake; learning about famous mathematicians; P.E lessons linked to maths and much more! We also welcome in The Puzzle Company and Explore Learning who will be running workshops across the school. Furthermore, some of our wonderful parents will be leading sessions with the children on how they use maths at their work places. What a week we have in store!

**Martin Gosling**  
**Headteacher**

### **Fred Simmons Article 3**



*Frieth Cricket Team 1928 believed at their ground at Parmoor*

My father would never talk about his experiences in the First World War. I still have his well-thumbed photo of his mother taken at Sweetlands in High Wycombe. On the back is written "If this card should get lost or anything happen to the bearer, please return to Mrs C Simmons 'The Gables' Frieth, Henley on Thames". Like so many, in August 1918 he was diagnosed with influenza. But a month later he was back

in action, His younger brother, Charles, also then joined the RAF on 4th October 1918. On 15th November Fred was home on leave, only to then suffer a recurrence of the influenza, complicated by bronchial pneumonia. By early December he was in the Canadian hospital at Taplow, later convalescing in Devon prior to being judged "A1 fit" in March 1919. The last record of his war service was of the Household Battalion dinner in June 1919 for which I still have the menu.

Following war service, Fred returned to North's as a cabinet maker. Brother Walter retrained as a teacher; Charles became involved in the aircraft industry as a woodworker. Fred recalled that his pay packet went straight to his mother, Annie, who would then return him his "pocket money". Annie also worked to supplement the family income, possibly as a "chair matter", as she was before her marriage. Youngest brother, Cecil, became the only child from the family to go to Grammar School later training as a teacher.

Then, in the 1920s, Fred's sporting activities took off. He and brother Eric were part of North's relay team winning the 1920 chairmakers' cup. They had cycled to Loakes Park for the event. He is also pictured with Wycombe Harriers and a shield for 1922-1923. He had seven Henley & District Football League medals including runners up in 1926-1927 and winning the Henley six-a-side tournament the same year.

His brothers were also sportsmen, for the 1928 Frieth Cricket Club photo includes Percy, Walter, Cecil and also Fred as Vice-Captain.

But the Simmons family's time in Frieth was drawing to a close, as the next article will reveal.

**Margaret Gutteridge**

# FINGEST

## FINGEST

### Fingest Past

**Fingest Farm Photos (3)** – Rick building and threshing.



Jessie Prince on the wagon throwing the sheaves onto the rick. Albert Prince on the right building the rick. The chap in the middle holds a hook ready to pull the sheaf to Albert.



Oxford wagon – made by Long Haker, Aston,

Oxfordshire and purchased by Thomas Prince in 1896 – entries in Thomas's Farm accounts –

June 8th Paid for wagon £7 11s 0d and

Oct. 22, 1898 Paid for painting wagon £1 13s 0d



Threshing – the threshing machine was manufactured by Marshall, Sons & Co., Gainsborough, Lincolnshire – seven people were required to do the threshing – a sack of wheat, to carry to the granary, weighed 2¼ cwt

### Don Boreham

### Fingest Carol Service 2021

Plan A was scuppered by Covid so Plan B swung into action!

On the evening of Sunday 19th December Fingest folk gathered in number in the Churchyard to enjoy the familiar carols and readings which mark the start of Christmas



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week. There were many garlands of lights, lanterns, a wonderfully turned out tinsel tailed horse, courtesy of Emma, and an age range from 9 to 90 plus! Sue Brice complete with sparkling halo, conducted the service with confidence, joy and laughter. Charlotte and Ellie Dent each sang a solo verse from “Once in Royal David’s City“, quite beautifully, and Gill Green skilfully accompanied us on a keyboard placed rather precariously in the Church Porch. Fingest ingenuity at its best.

The Church had been beautifully decorated by a talented team of volunteers led by Sue Dawkes, and many people took the

opportunity to walk through and admire their work at the end of the service.

A collection in support of the work of Community Matters, raised a grand total of £407.31, a fantastic sum, which was handed over in time to help the families they support over Christmas.

Thank you all for making this year’s carol service so memorable. Plan A (which features mulled wine and mince pies) is prepped and ready for this year...

**Jill Dean**

*Photos Willie Jackson*



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### Have you ever ventured inside the Hambleden Social Club?

**Hambleden Sports and Social Club** is a community organisation providing sporting facilities on the Dene in Hambleden, as well as a Social Club in the village centre. The current sporting sections are cricket, tennis, football and pool.

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 Hambleden 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:-** £25 per year or £13 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.

***We are lucky to have this facility in our wonderful valley, please do pop in and take a look for yourself!***

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- An estimated 70,000 people per year have to sell their homes to **pay for care**.
- Effective planning can also protect the **inheritance of future generations** from **divorce or separation** settlements.
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## CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

### **Hambleden Valley Group of Churches**

**Priest-in-Charge:** The Revd. Sue Lepp,  
07930 520562, revdsuelepp@gmail.com

**Associate Priest:** The Revd Sue Morton,  
01491 639286, suemorton131@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, 07769  
599616,  
hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

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

**Tea Club:** St. Katharine's, Parmoor,  
Currently suspended

**Barney's Toddler Group:** Frieth Village Hall,  
Currently suspended

**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:**  
David Burton - davidburtn83@hotmail.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)**

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

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

**Brownies:**  
Jennie Batt leads Frieth Brownies.

Brownies meet on a Monday evening from  
5.30 - 7.00pm at Frieth Village Hall.  
Friethbrownies@hotmail.com, 07422  
377858

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

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

**Frieth Cricket Club:**  
Ben Smiley  
friethcricket@btinternet.com

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

**Pilates:** Mondays at 2pm - 3pm. Wednesdays  
at 2pm - 3pm. Lauren Owen  
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### **Hambleden (St Mary the Virgin)**

**Churchwarden:**  
Jill Steward 01491 571320  
jillsteward@hambleden.com

**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

**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  
Debby 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 News:**

medmenhamnews@icloud.com

### **Skirmett**

**Village Hall Bookings:** Mandy Heller, 01491  
638355 www.skirmettvillagehall.org

**Tai Chi:** Friday 9.30am - 10.30am.  
Contact: junekingsburytaichi@gmail.com

**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 Warden:**

Anne Jones, 01491 639344,  
annejones.tur@btopenworld.com

**Bell Ringing:** Sat 4pm practice,  
Rachel Wallace, 01494 883025  
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### **Turville Northend**

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David & Susan Faragher 01491 638960 or  
07563 903678, davidfaragher@fastmail.fm  
smfaragher@fastmail.fm

**Yoga:** Saturday 8.45-9.45am,  
Tiffany 07785 615583

#### **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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## Your local experts

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.

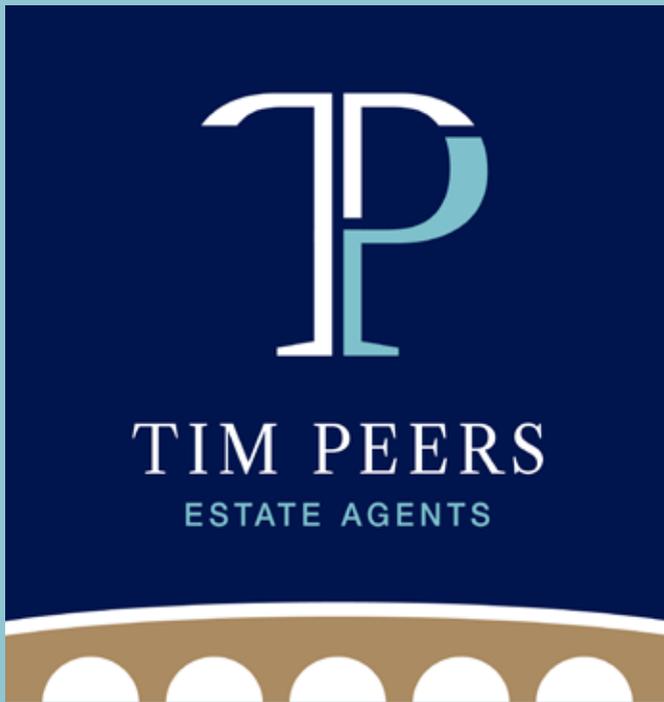
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