

Hambleden VALLEY

Group Magazine



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Mar 2022



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



Cover: Great Crested Grebe. This page: Crocus tommasinianus.

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Weekday Services

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

Emergencies:

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

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Dear Friends,



As preparations are taking shape for the season of Lent, the voice of my father has been ringing in my ears. He was highly-organised in his professional work, voluntary roles and in

our family life. Any task would often start with the declaration of his '6 P's of Planning: Proper Planning Prevents P___ Poor Performance.' This sentence would end with a firm but loving nod and his trademark huge grin.

Lent is often described as a journey; like all good journeys some degree of planning is involved. A Lenten journey is meant to take us to the darker parts of ourselves, confronting our sins and short-comings where repentance is needed. It offers us time and space for reflection and amendment of life. We are invited to deny ourselves through fasting which has both an outward and inward part. Outwardly, we may give up food or drink or telly, etc. Inwardly, the greater purpose of fasting is prayer. Self-denial is not particularly popular in wider culture; but should make us more aware of our dependence on God.

More recently there is a move to add things to our lives in Lent, rather than only give up. Activities like giving to charity (we will be highlighting the needs of Community Matters

in Lane End), attending church or setting aside time to pray and reflect more regularly. Any addition or subtraction to life takes planning and preparation.

Across the Hambleton Valley we have been planning many services through the month of March. Everyone is warmly invited to join us. More details in the magazine.

Wednesday March 2, 10.15am - Ash Wednesday Communion in Turville with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion

Sunday March 6, 11am - Buckinghamshire Council Civic Service in Hambleton.

Sunday March 13, 2pm - Wild Church Lent Pilgrimage (starting in Fingest and ending in Turville)

Sunday March 20, 3pm - Footprints in Hambleton. This is our annual service for anyone who has lost a child at any stage of life from pregnancy to adulthood.

Sunday March 27 - Mothering Sunday - there are a range of services in the churches across the Valley.

The prophet Jeremiah reminds us, 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'

Wherever you journey in this season of Lent I hope that your planning and preparation is successful.

Revd Sue Lepp

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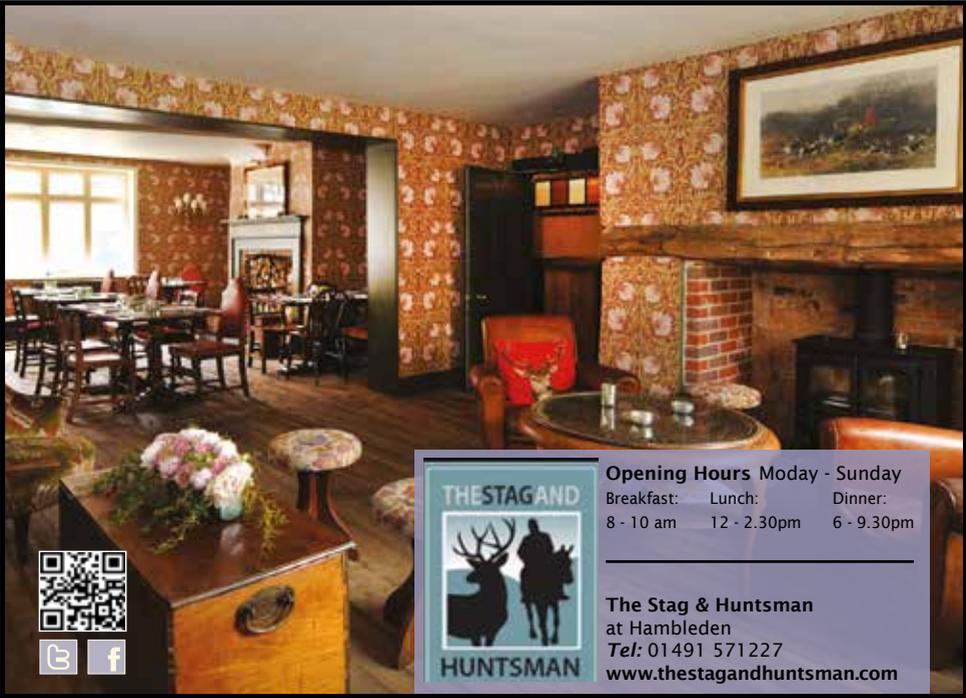
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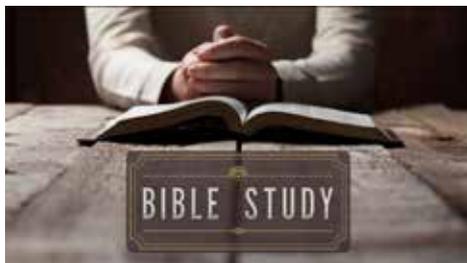
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GROUP NOTES AND NEWS



We are ready to begin! We will be meeting for a regular, gentle bible study and discussion each Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 pm-4.00pm at Cobstones, Turville, starting on Tuesday 22nd February but it's fine to join in later if you would like to.

We're going to be reading Mark's gospel, and will be using a guide by Tom Wright: *For Everyone Bible Study Guides: Mark* (NT for Everyone: Bible Study Guide) It is a straightforward guide and Mark's gospel is the shortest, as well as being the first to be written, so a good place to start.

If you would like to try this but are worried about committing the time it would be fine to come along whenever you can, if you can't manage every week. The study itself can be done in your own time as well and aim to be as flexible as possible. If you'd like to come, or would like more information please contact Sue Dawkes on 01491 638221 or dawkessue@gmail.com

Vicky Hollier, Sue Dawkes and Caroline Sants

Take up the Adlent Calendar Campaign!

In Lent, many of us may choose to 'give up' or 'take up' something as part of this period of reflection. This Lent you are invited to 'take up' the Adlent Calendar Campaign as an alternative or as well as 'giving up' something.

The Adlent Calendar follows on from the Reverse Advent Calendar Campaign we held a few years ago to help support the local foodbank. For the next 40 days of Lent we are asking for your help once again: to donate food items, or financially, for Community

Matters the foodbank in Lane End. The Adlent Campaign runs for the next six weeks from Ash Wednesday, 2nd March, to 17th April, Easter Day.

Community Matters - started by Judy Taylor, Licensed Lay Minister at Holy Trinity Church Lane End, whom many of you have met - currently supports 24 families in Lane End who are in need. The supermarket that had been supporting Community Matters is sadly no longer able to do so and the Foodbank relies on local donations from ourselves and other churches. Judy and her team are very grateful for all the support they receive and have received from the Hambleden Valley.

The Adlent Calendar Campaign supports *Live Lent: Embracing Justice* which is the Church of England's theme for Lent 2022 – booklets are available in our churches.

A list of items needed for Community Matters is below:

Collection points: There is a box in each church/church porch. In Turville, please leave items on The Vicarage doorstep.

Pasta sauces, tins tomatoes, hot dogs
Meatballs in tomato sauce
Peanut butter, baked beans
Microwaveable rice
Jams, tins/cartons custard
Squash - any flavour
Coffee/ tea
Fabric conditioner
Laundry powder/capsules
Kitchen and toilet rolls
Washing up liquid
Shower gel and shampoo

Rev Sue Morton



Lent Pilgrimage:

Sunday 13th March 2pm, Fingest Churchyard RG9 6QE

Enjoy the lovely countryside in the Hambleden Valley! Our inclusive Lent Pilgrimage will

Continued on page 7

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involve walking cross-country from Fingest to Turville, with pauses to reflect on God's beautiful creation, to sing and to pray. Short reflections will be led by ministers from across Wycombe Deanery at points along our walk.

For those who prefer not to walk, there will be space available in Fingest and Turville Churches and an opportunity to do a finger walk, using the Pilgrimage reflections.

Refreshments will be available afterwards!

The walk is mostly flat with one or two short inclines, is just under 2 miles and will last for about an hour and a half in total. The Pilgrimage will go ahead come rain or shine, so please dress for the weather and wear sturdy boots – it may be muddy!

Everyone is welcome! For more details contact: Rev Sue Morton 01491 639286 or suemorton131@gmail.com Mary Campbell grandma.marycampbell@googlemail.com Mardi Wilkins mardi43@btinternet.com

Parking: Jill and Phil Dean's field, Chequers Lane (signposted)

Footprints



A service of remembrance for the loss of a child:

20th March 2022 at 3pm in Hambleden

On Sunday 20th March 2022 at 3pm, we will be holding our annual Footprints Service; this year it will take place at St Mary the Virgin, Church, Hambleden, RG9 6RS. As in previous years the service will take place the weekend before Mother's Day, a time when the loss of a child can be particularly difficult. It may be a time of year when the pain of losing a child is difficult to bear, whether that loss is recent or many years ago. It may also be a time when remembering is important and a significant part of the pathway through grief.

The Footprints Service is a service for anyone

who has lost a child during pregnancy or at any age or stage of life or has been affected by such a loss, whether parent, grandparent, teacher, friend or family member. All are welcome.

Footprints will offer space to remember your child or children and the opportunity to light a candle in their memory if you wish. There will be music, readings and prayers included as part of our time of remembering. Refreshments will be served after the service.

For more information please contact:

The Revd Sue Morton Tel: 01491 639286/07808 517347

Email: suemorton131@gmail.com

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Hambleden Valley Garden Club

At the February meeting, Russell Bowes, Garden Historian, spoke about the characters and influences on gardening of several horticulturalists over the past 200 years. Russell's talk was full of factual content, colourful anecdotes and skilfully presented illustrations.

Alicia Amherst wrote the first scholarly book on the subject of Garden History in 1896. She took part in the campaign to preserve the Chelsea Physic Garden when it came up for sale.

Ellen Willmott was a wealthy lady, thanks to cheques from her godmother. She was a lady of formidable intellect but could also be prickly and scathing. She poured herself into the gardens at Warley Place, employing 104 gardeners working from 6 in the morning to 6 at night (5 in the winter) at an unchanging rate of 18 shillings a week. She collected and bred daffodils, and there are very many plants with the willmottiae and warleyensis names.

She was the first person to be awarded the RHS Victoria Medal of Honour.

William Robinson was born and employed in Ireland before moving to England. He campaigned against the style of bedding plants. He was insistent on his own opinion but was also full of contradictions. He contributed to the *Gardeners' Chronicle* before starting his own magazine *The Garden* in 1871. In 1870 he published his book *The Wild Garden* promoting a naturalistic style of planting. He became wealthy enough to become the owner of Gravetye Manor.

Gertrude Jekyll was accomplished at many forms of artistic handwork. She then gained a reputation as plantswoman and garden designer, with an encyclopaedic knowledge of plants and appreciation of colour associations learned from the artistic colour wheel. She met Edwin Lutyens in 1889 and the unlikely pair formed their renowned partnership designing over 100 gardens. With firm opinions, she wrote 23 books and an abundant number of articles. She lived at Munstead Wood, designed by Lutyens.

Christopher Lloyd, the youngest son of his formidable mother Daisy, inherited the Lutyens designed house and garden at Great Dixter. He contributed articles to *Country Life* for 42 years with incisive writing on a wide range of subjects, but with no illustrations. He wrote many books including, in 1970, *The Well-Tempered Garden* and went on lecture tours. He cleared away his mother's rose garden and replaced it with exotic planting. In 1993 Fergus Garrett came as Head Gardener, and their famous joint aims for drama in the garden flourished.

Monty Don is a self-taught and intuitive gardener. He and his wife Sarah, a costume jewellery designer, had a successful business until it failed and they were bankrupt. To recover he was advised to turn to gardening and created the Jewel Garden at Longmeadow. He had a column in *The Observer* and wrote books. In 2003 he joined *Gardeners World*. He has recently recorded a TV series visiting gardens worldwide.

Russell briefly referred to Alan Titchmarsh, who sourly dissed Monty when Monty succeeded him as presenter on *Gardeners World* and at The Chelsea Flower Show.

Russell Bowes then described his own 131½ foot garden of neglect he acquired on moving to Mottingham in Greenwich in 2015. His design of circles was created with laid bricks he found in skips! He struggles with planting in solid clay and the effects of the 2017/18 cold wet winter and the scorching heat in the summer of 2019 were pretty disastrous!

In March, Helen Moorcraft will talk about the Plant Heritage Society. For more information, please ring Celia Warren, 01491 638691.

Lizzie Arnott

Pace BIG Walk

PACE are an Aylesbury based children's charity that transforms the lives of children and young people with neurodisabilities, such as cerebral palsy.

This year's Pace BIG Walk routes will take in the infamous Ridgeway Trail on Saturday 23rd April.

There is a choice of 18m, 12m, 6m or The Superhero Mile routes. There is something to suit all ages and abilities. This is a great opportunity to set yourself a challenge for 2022 and have some outdoor fun. By taking part in the BIG Walk, you will not only have the opportunity to explore this beautiful countryside in a completely unique way, but you will also be helping us to provide life changing support to the children and young people who access Pace services.

To sign up visit <https://thepacecentre.enthuse.com/cf/the-big-walk-2022>

Kelly Houghton

In the steps of John Piper

I was born too close for comfort during the Plymouth Blitz and one of my earliest memories of that city was the shell of St Andrew's Church, standing proudly above

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the devastation all around it. For a decade, it was left as it was, the floor a beautifully kept lawn surrounded by bright flower beds, a memorial to the fallen citizens of that famously strategic and historic naval port. In the early fifties, restoration started, culminating in a glorious stained glass window at the west end, designed by John Piper. Probably better known are his windows of Coventry Cathedral, especially the great and magnificent baptistery window, also a memorial to the people of that great city.

More recently, I was asked by a friend if I would take her in search of 'Piper', she having developed an interest in his paintings and windows. I have to confess that I knew very little about him or that he had spent the last sixty or so years of his life in this part of the world. We drove up to the small church of St Paul's on Bledlow Ridge with its beautiful west window, full of Ascensiontide symbolism. I have it on first hand authority that when the Vicar of the time congratulated John Piper on his meaningful symbols, the artist said, "Oh, really? I just did it because I like all those colours jumbled together"!

John Piper was a great friend of many well known people of his times and as a result, there are frequent examples of his memorial windows in the Oxford diocese, mostly in small out of the way country churches. Farnborough, near Wantage, is one which springs to mind, in memory of John Betjeman who lived in the Old Rectory for five years. This church is best visited when the Old Rectory garden is open to the public for the NGS, when a cup of tea is assured and the church is unlocked.

More recently we spent a glorious April day out in the Hambleton Valley tracking down more of his windows. Some are quite elusive, the villages really tucked away in the most lavish scenery this part of the Chilterns has to offer. Narrow lanes over flown by red kites predominate and a good map is essential. Even when you get there, some of the windows are not obvious, but the give

away, even on a dull day is the rich colour, unsurpassed by any other windows in the building, which splashes across the aisle.



John Piper Window in St Mary's Turville

If you are looking for an enjoyable day out, I recommend a tour which includes the churches of Nettlebed, Pishill, Turville and Fawley (where he and his wife are buried). There are ideal picnic spots, footpaths abound and pubs which are open all day make coffee, lunch and tea stops possible. *Post Covid it is best to check that the churches are open before visiting!*

Priscilla Shaw

WILDLIFE

In praise of... Mouldiwarps

March is the start of the mole (*Talpa europaea*) breeding season. I have noticed more molehills this year than ever before and my knowledge about the creature is limited so I have been doing some digging and un-earthed.. (Apologies but irresistible). It is thought their name comes from mouldiwarp derived from the Old English, molde meaning earth and werpen meaning to throw. They are approximately five to six inches long, covered in short, soft dark fur that lies well in any direction and they live almost entirely underground in tunnels and chambers dug by very powerful limbs with long claws using a breast-stroke action. They have tiny eyes and poor vision but acute hearing. Their snouts and multiple whiskers are very sensitive touch receptors. They are insectivores, loosely related to hedgehogs and shrews, live mainly

HAMBLEDEN

off earthworms, insect larvae and slugs and enjoy a life span of two to three years. They are solitary and only come together for mating and this is where it gets interesting. It has recently been discovered the females have a hybrid of ovaries and testes called ovotestes which can't produce sperm but do generate high levels of testosterone. This allows the females to be proficient diggers and feisty defenders of their territories from the slightly larger males. At the start of the breeding season, the females' testosterone levels drop, their sex organs are formed to allow for mating and giving birth, after which these organs disappear completely and testosterone levels rocket once more. In the Spring, a litter of three or four naked and blind babies is born. They are weaned at four to five weeks after which they crawl out of the nesting chamber and make their way above ground and head off in different directions to find territories of their own or an empty one. This is the moment they are usually picked off by owls, buzzards and stoats. Their complex tunnel systems are at varying depths and are reused after the death of an occupant. Those near the surface are temporary and usually made by males searching for a mate. The deepest tunnels are for times of drought and low temperatures because the worms head deep down too. Mid-level tunnels are where the nesting and sleeping chambers are located along with larders. Live earthworms, immobilised by a bite to the head are sometimes stored in these larders in their hundreds. Nice.

Sarah Ronan February 2022

Hammants, Harrods, Heartache

Upstairs in Hammants of Henley we listened to *The Sound of Fury*. Yes, Billy Fury, NOT *The Sound of Music*. Moonlighting from St Mary's, Hambleton, Christine Wells, with kindness and forbearance, spun us tracks from this and similar LPs. As well as records, Hammants sold musical instruments, lawnmowers, bikes and electricals - but not white mice.

These cost 1/3d in Church Street Market and 2/6d in Harrods. The market had record stalls. Harrods had booths with armchairs - speakers in the wings and turntables in the armrests. You could play 50 singles before deciding on *Poor Me* so it was worth paying double for a mouse.

When Skirmett was just for weekends, every Friday's diary entry was "Worried about mice". Banned from the car, left behind and bored, they chewed their way out. When pretty piebald mice appeared they were unappreciated by other residents.

So, then it was budgies (allowed to commute). On top of a sash window carelessly left ajar, the last one weighed up its life chances and chose freedom over millet - a splash of yellow, safe from sparrows, in a sea of London pigeons who considered it a trophy.

But Skirmett was *full* of them. Consolation was found at the Frog (then *The King's Arms*) where Mike Smith had an aviary with hundreds in every hue. A blue one (no relation) kept escaping so was taught its name and address: "Tiny Bird, Hatchet Wood, Skirmett. Please return." It also said "Johnny's gone to London" (not *Johnny Town-Mouse* but an eminent gynaecologist) and "Don't shout Darling. It goes right through me". Sometimes it said a mixture of all three which was confusing for rescuers.

Caroline Davis

HAMBLEDEN

Lent Lunches Hambleton Village Hall

Welcome back to lunches in Hambleton Village Hall on March 5th, March 26th and April 9th.

From 12 noon to 2pm, a chance to spend time with friends and neighbours enjoying soup, bread and cheese, fruit, coffee and tea provided by a great team of wonderful volunteers.

Mardi Wilkins

Continued on page 17

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From The Registers

Holy Baptism

Feb 6	Agnes Hamilton	Fawley
Feb 13	Isla Elizabeth Rose Thomas	Hambleton

Rest in Peace

Jan 25	Joan Hearne	Cremation
Feb 9	Wynyard Wallace	Cremation



Hambleton 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 MARCH 2022

Pattern of Worship March 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 (07769 599616).

Sunday Services

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville	Zoom
6th Mar Lent 1		9am Holy Communion		11am Group Civic Service			None
13th Mar Lent 2	11am Holy Communion	9am Holy Communion 2pm Wild Church – Lent Pilgrimage		11am Holy Communion			9.30am
20th Mar Lent 3			9am Holy Communion/ Zoom	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Lay-led Morning Worship 3pm Footprints Service	11am Holy Communion		9am
27th Mar Mothering Sunday	11am Holy Communion	6pm Evensong	3pm Family Service	11am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion	None
3rd April Lent 5		10am Group Service					None

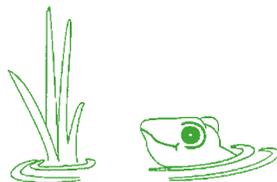
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Tradition slipping



Paul Webb hanging a swag

For years past Hambleden church's central arch has been decorated with an enormous swag of greenery to mark major royal milestones. There is no swag for the Platinum Jubilee. To make an evergreen swag to hold together, hang and impress for a month is an adept physical skill which resided in a handful of older ladies. Have we now lost the skill or lost the will?

Traditions coming

Church-going and non-churchgoing parishioners in Hambleden have for years past donated lilies for Easter in remembrance of those who have been especially loved, who have departed this life. It makes a stunning display for Eastertide services. Because the church is cool the lilies attract the admiration of parishioners and visitors for a month.

You can add your name to the list in the church porch until Tuesday April 5th, noting how many lilies you want at £4.50 each. Elspeth Armstrong will place an order with a florist who supplies long stem lilies. They will be timed to open on Easter Eve. They will be set out by the flower arrangers. Instruct Elspeth on 01491 571 324 or elspetharmstrong@outlook.com. Cash or cheque to Elspeth Armstrong. Pheasants Hill, Hambleden R9 6SD

Lent lunches: Hambleden Village Hall on Saturdays March 5th and 26th, April 9th, each from noon-2pm. They need a post pestilence customer revival by habitués who remember

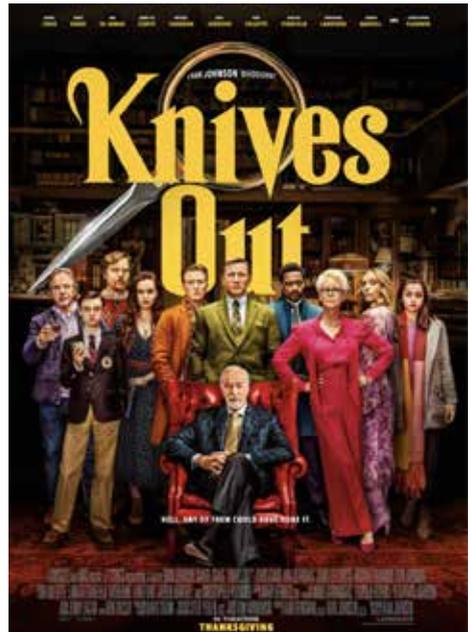
how communally and gastronomically good they were. Put the dates in your diary. Invite several friends to join you there. Help rebuild numbers.

Knives Out

On Saturday 19th March Hambleden Cinema will be showing Knives Out, rated PG-13. The circumstances surrounding the death of crime novelist Harlan Thrombey are mysterious, but there's one thing that renowned Detective Benoit Blanc knows for sure - everyone in the wildly dysfunctional Thrombey family is a suspect. An exciting whodunnit film!

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



Church Teas

It is extremely sad that there was no response to the article in the January magazine and quite worrying. The money raised by the teas goes directly to our church and has been a tradition in the village for over fifty years. Last year we struggled to find enough volunteers and we were unable to fill six Sunday afternoons, resulting in the income dropping to £2,500 where it is usually £5,000 - £6,000.

I am quite happy to work with someone to organise the teas, though I have to point out I am waiting for a new hip which limits me a little. If anyone out there can help please contact me, we cannot let another tradition disappear.

Thank you

Penny Wright

01491 571135

penny.hurtley@gmail.com

Hambleden WI

January 2022

For our first meeting of 2022 writer Susanna Beard kindly stepped forward to replace, at very late notice, our scheduled speaker who had to withdraw due to illness. Claire will now be with us for our March meeting.

Susanna engaged members with a fascinating and highly moving account of how her passion for writing took her on a journey, from initially attending a writing course at the Faber Academy to now being a published author of 5 books. With a family background involving Bletchley Park and GCHQ, and, Susanna admits, being fascinated by the psychology of relationships, it is no surprise that she is a psychological crime writer.

Susanna provided insight into the writer's world of Editors and Publishers and described the highly challenging path along the way, full of trials and tribulations. Quoting Elena Ferrante: "I discovered that

the slope of writing to order is a slippery one and the descent is in fact pleasurable," Susanna shared that her chosen path has, at times, had a negative impact on her own health. Nevertheless, her sheer passion and dedication to her chosen field shone through.

Sally-Ann Roberts

February 2022

As we edge closer to spring and all its promise of new beginnings, it is with heavy hearts that we recognise Hambleden WI's February meeting marked the official suspension of our group.

Judith Forster, our WI Advisor, was present to officiate, alongside President, Sarah Williams. The formalities were followed by a journey down memory lane for many members as they explored the archive material on display. Photograph albums and year books enabled us to revisit many past events and celebrations and to recall happy times spent with WI friends.

We will be holding a March meeting to bring our membership year to an end. The start time for Thursday 10th March, will be at the earlier time of 6.30pm as Claire, who was originally scheduled for our January meeting, will be with us. She will share with us the benefits of Pawanmuktasanas which are exercises synchronised with the breath. The rest of the evening will give us all time to catch up with one another over tea and our famously splendid refreshments! Should you need a lift to the meeting, please do contact any of us on the committee and we will be happy to arrange it. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Jo Martin

Date for Diary

June 3rd, Platinum Celebrations in Hambleden. More details in May Magazine.

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FRIETH

Frieth School

Last month I wrote about our plans for our Maths Week and I'm thrilled to report it definitely didn't disappoint! The children absolutely loved the inspiring learning opportunities we planned and the week was a roaring success. In particular, I would like to thank our wonderful parent community. We were very fortunate to welcome in mums and dads who delivered sessions on Maths in engineering, veterinary, painting and decorating and product development. Understanding how the things they learn in school will help them in the future is obviously absolutely crucial to the children's development so I am extremely grateful to these parents. Please visit our Facebook page and enjoy the Maths Week video which will give you further insight into what a superb week it was. Our next theme week is Science Week which begins week commencing 28th May. If any members of the community would like to come in and speak about how you use science in your profession or if science is a passion of yours, please contact the school office.



Sport continues to thrive at Frieth. I couldn't be prouder of our netball team after their recent 11-8 win against Bledlow Ridge. Not only was the teamwork, skill and determination exceptional, the girls were an absolute credit to the school in the way they conducted themselves. I would like to



publicly extend my thanks to Miss Rackstraw and the netball mums for giving up their Thursday mornings to coach the team. Not to be outdone, our PTA have entered a mums netball team into a tournament on 26th March at Braywick in Maidenhead. The winning prize is £750 which we can use to enrich the children's education. No pressure then! I'll certainly be along to support, so if you're free why not come along and cheer on our locals too.

We've had a strong focus on staying safe online recently and were very fortunate to welcome in a specialist in Internet Safety who ran workshops with all pupils across the school. In addition, parents and caregivers were invited to attend workshops guiding them on how to ensure their children stay safe online. In this digital age, it is crucial that the children know how to navigate the wonders of the internet wisely and safely.

Martin Gosling
Headteacher

Fred Simmons Article 4

Sometime in the 1930's my Grandparents retired and the family moved from Frieth to Lane End. My grandfather, Charles, had a horse and cart and a terrier called Spot. Fred, home in 1934, married Gladys Burt and moved to Wheeler End, much closer to work at Norths. His sporting activities continued with cricket.

FINGEST

During WW2, Fred commanded the Lane End Platoon of the Home Guard with Battle HQ in The Clayton Arms. Sadly, his only son Roger, then 5, was killed by a dispatch rider at the end of WW2 leaving us three sisters.

Fred continued working at North's until retirement in his 70's. He even went back to the factory canteen when it moved to Sands for its signature dish - "bacon badger". He died at 84, Grandfather Charles at 79 and Annie at 83.

Brother Walter married and moved to Liverpool where he died aged 69. Charles married and lived in Lane End becoming part owner of Simbeck furniture, High Wycombe, and living to 85. Hilda married, lived to 86, and lived in Maidenhead. Beatrice married, lived to 91, living in Sands. Eric was an Engineer Millwright, married and died aged 82. Percy was a manager at Ellam Duplication. He married and was 78 when he died. Cecil married, lived to 87 living in Epsom.

As for the church, my father was baptised in Frieth church. But, as a boy, was caught doing a headstand in the churchyard, got told off and said he would not go to church again (his excuse)! One of my fond memories of my father was of a walk through from Wheeler End to Hambleden in the 1970s. En route, we were in the Old Crown at Skirmett when my father looked at his watch, said he would be late for cricket. So, he buttonholed an old acquaintance telling him he was owed a favour for a badly bowled ball from years before. The favour was to drive Fred to

cricket at Wheeler End, leaving the rest of us to walk back! Another memory was of him riding bareback on a horse in Dorset. The old cavalryman! Happy days.

Margaret Gutteridge

FINGEST

Tradition upheld

Warm thanks to Fingest for the 186 candle Candlemas Evensong. In the small but beautiful Norman church this annual evening service has been maintained almost unchanged since medieval times. A full-voiced 'west end' choir sung an anthem in Latin. With Jim Tilbury as cantor, the congregation was joyfully taken back to a liturgical excellence of centuries ago.

Fingest Past

The Fingest Bourn - The Fingest Bourn, is the rarest tributary of the Brook that flows through the Hambleden Valley joining the River Thames at Mill End. It rises from springs north of the church and at one time ran in a ditch down to the churchyard where it forms a large pond. It now runs in drains under Chequers Lane and under the road into a drainage gully at the side of the Chequers Inn carpark. The Bourn emerges in the Copper Beech field flowing down the valley through Hespers joining the Brook in Skirmett.

In 1937, in an interview with the Bucks Free Press, grandfather William Prince said that his father Thomas told him that he would



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see it flow twice in his lifetime. However, it flowed three times in William's lifetime.



The first was during his father's final illness. William recalled how, in May 1846, his father was carried to his grave in Fingest on planks supported by bricks laid across the flooded churchyard. The Bourn flowed again in 1928 and nine years later in 1937. In recent years the springs rose in 2001, 2005 and 2014.

The Brook and its tributaries are chalk streams fed by groundwater rising up through springs from aquifers in the chalk below. A dry winter results in a groundwater level that is too low to cause the springs to rise. The stream or a part of the stream will dry up and is known as a winterbourne.

Don Boreham



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HAMBLEDEN SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB



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 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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Hambleden Valley Group of Churches

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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@btoopenworld.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@btoopenworld.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

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

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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
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Tennis Coaching: Chris Marshall,
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Yoga: Monday 7pm-8.30pm
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Indoor Market: Hambleden, 2nd Saturday in
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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@danefieldscouts.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: Wed practice, Rachel Wallace, 01494 883025 rachel@markjwallace.com

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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 r.mcdonald2007@yahoo.co.uk

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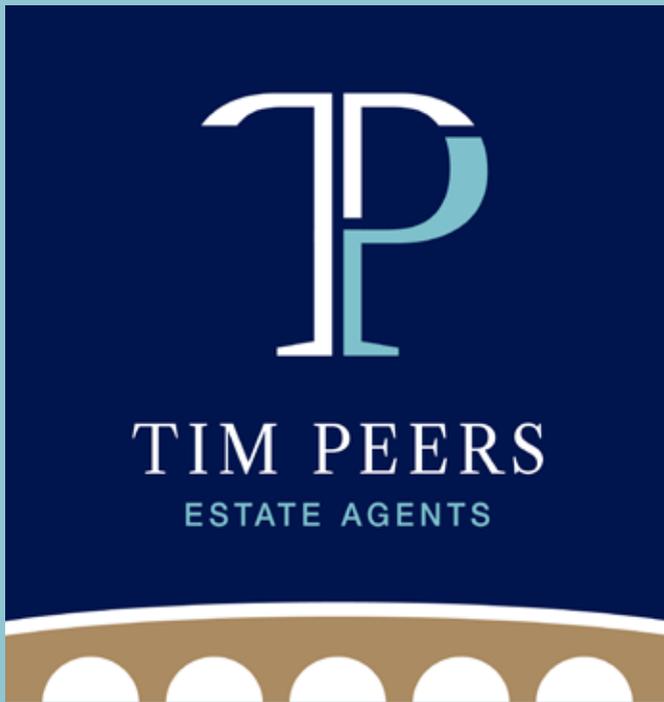
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