

Hambleton VALLEY

Group Magazine

Hambleton
with Frieth
& Skirmett
Fawley
Findest
Medmenham
Turville

Annual Subscription £16

For Payment please see inside front cover

£2.00
Mar 2023



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



Cover: Hedge Laying, Colstrop Farm, photo Sarah Ronan. This page: Orange Tip Butterfly (one of the first to be seen in Spring).

In This Issue

Group Letter	1
Group Notes and News	4
Wildlife	11
From the Registers	14
Calendar	15
Hambleden	17
Skirmett	17
Frieth	18
Fingest	21
Medmenham	22
Classified Advertisements	24
Church and Village Activities and Contacts	26

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.

**Annual Subscription £16: Please
pay by bank transfer to the account
'Hambleden Valley Group of Churches
Executive Committee'.**

Account 70439002.

Sort Code 20-39-53.

**As reference show your name and
location. eg. WSmith/Hambleden**

**OR a cheque payable to Hambleden
Valley Group of Churches Executive
Committee or in cash and hand to your
magazine distributor.**

All contributions are welcome, to the
Editor, Penny McLeish
hambledenvalleyeditor@gmail.com (please
note change of email address)
3 Abbey Cottages, Ferry Lane,
Medmenham SL7 2HB
Telephone 01491 571288

Please keep articles within 350 words. Copy
deadline is 15th of the month.

Printed by Higgs and Co., Henley.
Tel. 01491 419429

Dear Friends,



If Thomas Fuller's 1732 Compendium is anything to go by, and March comes in like a lion (the weather is roaring) then it should go out like a lamb (with good weather).

The lion and the lamb are very interesting visuals from a Christian perspective and something to reflect on during the season of Lent.

The lion is seen as a predator, waiting to devour the innocent. Looking at the state of the world at the moment, there are prowling lions. Closer to home the fields of the Hambleden Valley will soon be filled with new baby lambs jumping about. Jesus is described by John the Baptist as the Lamb of God and refers to himself as the Good Shepherd whose sheep know his voice. In C.S. Lewis' Narnian stories, Aslan the Lion represents Jesus who is powerful and dangerous yet gentle.

What voices are we going to listen to in the Lenten season? I hope that we can all find some time to reflect and pray in this season, to deepen our relationships with each other and

with God. There are many things that need prayer! Including but not limited to...

The Hambleden Valley Group of Churches has begun the search for the next Rector. This is a very exciting time for the churches. We are asking people to pray (please see the Vacancy Prayer on page 4). We are also asking the question 'what would we like our next Rector to be? Please send your answers to hambledenvalleymagazine@gmail.com

I have decided not to apply for the position. This was not an easy decision to make! While I have loved living and ministering here, I also feel called to explore other ministry opportunities elsewhere.

Tea with the Vicar. On the Saturday mornings through Lent, I will be in St Mary's, Hambleden from 9:30-11:30am ready and waiting to talk and pray with whomever comes along.

As ever, we have an array of services throughout Lent. There are also great resources online via the Diocese of Oxford if you prefer more solitary activities.

Bless you as you walk through this season.

Yours faithfully,

Revd Sue Lepp

HIGGS PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPLIES

Booklets • Brochures • Magazines • Leaflets • Business Cards • Letterheads
Banners • Posters • Pull up Banners

Design • Print • Copying • Office Supplies • Publishing

Publishers of the *Henley Standard*

Printers of the *Hambleden Valley Group Magazine*

Caxton House, 1 Station Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1AD

T: 01491 419429 E: henley@higgsgroup.co.uk W: www.higgsprinting.co.uk



Opening Hours Monday - Sunday
 Breakfast: 8 - 10 am Lunch: 12 - 2.30pm Dinner: 6 - 9.30pm

The Stag & Huntsman
 at Hambleden
 Tel: 01491 571227
www.thestagandhuntsman.com



Hambleden Sports & 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 www.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)

HIRE the Social Club for meetings during the day and functions in the evening

HIRE the Dene & Pavilion – funerals, weddings, christenings, meetings, events etc.

Please contact **Pat Eldridge 01491 576067** or email hambledenssc@gmail.com

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

BLOCKED EARS?

Lucinda is a qualified NHS audiologist with over 20 years experience. Now providing a home service for Earwax Removal. Let her visit you in your own home to help relieve the symptoms of blocked ears.

Full PPE equipment used to comply with recommended Covid safety measures.

07795 268866

Lucinda@hearingscreening.co.uk

facebook.com/blockedear

instagram.com/blocked_ear

HPCP registered. Registered NHS Audiologist. Professional indemnity insurance
Hearing Screening and Testing Limited. Registered in England No.07810066



LUCINDA
HEARING
SCREENING
& TESTING
ELLIS


OAKEN GROVE
VINEYARD



Open for tours & tastings,
drinks on the terrace,
Sunday jazz afternoons
and available to hire for
private events.

For full listings of our
events, to book tickets or to
purchase our wines, please
visit our website.

We look forward to welcoming
you to the vineyard soon!

oakengrovevineyard.co.uk
info@oakengrovevineyard.co.uk

**Benhams Lane, Fawley,
Henley-on-Thames RG9 6JG**

GROUP NOTES AND NEWS

Hambleden Valley Vacancy

PRAYER

Loving God, we pray for our churches here in the Hambleden Valley. For those preparing profiles in preparation for advertising for a Rector. Be with them and guide them.

Open our eyes to new opportunities and possibilities, give us clear minds and open hearts. That we may trust in your will for us.

We pray that you are already preparing a Priest with a deep sense of calling to follow where you lead.

We thank you for the Revd Sue Lepp as she guides and supports us in your name.

We keep in prayer the Revd Sue Morton and everyone she will meet and encounter on her sabbatical at this time.

We offer you these prayers in Jesus name and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen



Tea with the Vicar

Throughout Lent I will be in St Mary's Hambleden on the following Saturdays from 9:30am - 11:30am

February 25

March 4, 18 and 25

April 1 and 8

Come for a cup of tea & a chat!

Revd Sue Lepp 07930520562
revdsuelepp@gmail.com

Tea Club returns

Yes, the Hambleden Valley Tea Club is back in action.

We met once again after a long intermission due to Covid restrictions. Thanks to the kindness of Stewart the warden at St Katharines, we were able to return there for our weekly gathering.

What a joyous thing it was to be back together and to have so many new members and so many new helpers. It was a beautiful sunny February afternoon as we returned to St Katherine's warm dining room. Soon that room was filled with the lively chatter of voices greeting and laughing.

There was a wonderful atmosphere of gentle chaos as we all worked out where to sit and with whom. We chose a games afternoon for our return, so Whist skills were dusted off along with Scrabble and the option of dominoes. Old hands helped new hands and the afternoon seemed to whiz by.

We were treated to wonderful homemade cakes and heart shaped biscuits in honour of Valentines Day. Huge thanks to Sue Dawkes who may have set a very high standard for our teatime fare.

Thanks also to everyone who provided transport and helped with serving the teas and myriad other jobs which enabled the club to begin again.

If you think you might like to join us, we run most Tuesdays in term time, beginning at 3pm and having tea at 4pm. We will do our best to provide transport if you need it and whatever we do we seem to have fun doing it. There's always lots of laughter and also time to catch up with friends old and new.

We also aim to arrange some outings in the better weather and some interesting

Continued on page 7

Hambleden Village Hall

The perfect venue in the middle of the beautiful village of Hambleden.

Large hall, full kitchen facilities, patio, WiFi, hearing loop, parking.

Hire by the hour or by session.



For more details and prices contact Jamie Baker on 01491 410669 or email: enquiries@hambledenvillagehall.org visit www.hambledenvillagehall.org



HAMBLEDEN VILLAGE STORES & POST OFFICE

**Local Artisan Produce - Freshly Ground Coffee & Teas
Filled Rolls & Toasties - Homemade Sausage Rolls
Organic Cakes - Fresh Bread & Pastries - Ice Creams
Seating Area - Post Office**



**That groovy little store!
All locally sourced and made with love!**

**Mon 8am-4pm
Tues-Sat 8am-5pm
Sun 8.30am-4pm**

58 The Village. Hambleden. info@hambledenvillagestores.com. 01491 571201

The Pedestal

Henley-on-Thames' auctioneers with world class expertise, local and international reach we offer a calendar of specialist and single owner auctions as well as our 24/7 online Shop

Inviting consignments for our forthcoming auctions of Fine Interiors and Design For Living



For a free auction valuation please contact:

Guy Savill or Sally Stratton MRICS on: +44 (0)1491 522733 or email: valuations@thepedestal.com

The Pedestal

The Dairy, Stonor Park, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 6HF

www.thepedestal.com

talks. If you'd like to know more, please give me a call or email me. Tel: 01491 638788 Email: mail@suebrice.com

Sue Brice



Wild Church coming up:

The Wild Church Team is on sabbatical!
Our future dates are:

Sunday 14th May 2023 at 3pm

Sunday 11th June at 3pm

Sunday 9th July at 3pm

At Wild Church we will sing a couple of well-known hymns, hear a Bible reading and simple prayer. 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
Mardi Wilkins mardi43@btinternet.com
Rev Sue Morton 01491 639286 or suemorton131@gmail.com

The Passion Flower

Many years ago, I was told a story about the flowers of this plant which connects it to Christ. In the 1600's Spanish Christian Missionaries in South America looked around for the presence of Christ, and found it in the beautiful flower of the passion flower. A climbing plant that now grows well in England.

It is also recorded that Roman Catholic priests used the flower to illustrate the story of the Crucifixion to the Indian Tribes they converted to Christianity.



The prominent colour of the flower is purple. The colour of the season of Lent. The flower has 5 sepals and 5 petals remembering the ten apostles present with Jesus during his passion (Excluding Peter and Judas).

The prominent stigma, symbolizes the three nails that held Jesus to the cross.

The 5 anthers, the five wounds of Jesus (Hands, feet and side)

The numerous filaments being the crown of thorns.

While the plant produces leaves with three points – The Holy Trinity.

The vine or plant itself, reflecting God's attachment to the earth.

Christine Walkden

New Chilterns Women Festival will celebrate work done by women of the Chilterns

Chalk, Cherries and Chairs presents 'Chilterns Women' - a conference on International Women's Day Wednesday 8th March 2023 taking place at Missenden Abbey, featuring keynote speakers, craft demonstrations, exhibition of 'exceptional invisible' Chilterns women, panel discussions and local craft stalls.



*Women rushing or matting chairs,
courtesy of Brian Robertson*

- Tickets are available now at www.chilternsaonb.org/ChilternsWomenConf
- A series of online videos revealing ordinary working peoples' accounts of what it was like at work in the old local craft industries of chairmaking, beading and lacemaking will be released through February, giving us an eyewitness account of past events, places and people of the Chilterns.
- A new book, 'In Their Own Words' will be launched at the conference, to accompany the videos.
- An exhibition, 'Hidden Hands: Women and Work in the Chilterns' will open for six months at Wycombe Museum on 7th March 2023. The exhibition will explore the traditional crafts and skills in Chilterns villages through stories uncovered in new research undertaken by the Woodlanders Lives and Landscapes group.
- A series of participatory events associated with the exhibition will include engagement sessions for young people, talks and workshops from Lacemaking to straw plaiting, A Bodgers Pub Tour and Memory Day.

Anna Foster 07779 643849

Accommodation wanted

We have now sold my mother's house in Medmenham and so our two lovely lodgers are looking for alternative accommodation preferably in this area from the end of March.

Vincent is in his late 50's and works doing up classic cars. He has been a wonderful lodger for over two years - very considerate, quiet, completely trustworthy and very helpful and good at doing handy jobs around the house and garden. He's looking for a room (his room at Merlin House was very small - it doesn't have to be big), and use of a shared bathroom and kitchen (usually just using the microwave). He is out at work all day. Cost is negotiable. If you think you might have a spare room he could rent please ring Vincent directly on 07881 592292.

Rosie (who is in her 30s) came to live at Merlin House 6 months ago and has had free accommodation in return for helping to look after mum and later for helping us to sort out the house. She is an excellent communicator and a wonderful carer - always thoughtful and positive. She is a great organiser and very reliable and trustworthy. She is looking for a room it doesn't have to be big), and use of a shared bathroom and kitchen (usually just using the microwave). If you think you might have a spare room she could have in exchange for some help ring her directly on 07391 722360.

You're also very welcome to ring me, Emma, on 07896 851973 to discuss having Vincent or Rosie

Continued on page 11



Your **local** experts

If you're thinking of selling your home, or require any advice on the current market in the Hambleton Valley, please get in touch. We'd love to help you.

Nick Warner
Office Head, Partner
nick.warner@knightfrank.com

Matt Davies
Partner
matt.davies@knightfrank.com

Jason Applebey
Associate
jason.applebey@knightfrank.com

Knight Frank Henley
20 Thameside
Henley-on-Thames RG9 2LJ
01491 818416
henley@knightfrank.com

knightfrank.co.uk



Your partners in property

Graham Blake soft furnishing

- Loose Covers • Curtains •
- Re-Upholstery • Tracks and Poles •

TEN YEAR GUARANTEE

For personal, helpful service, please call

Tel: 01844 261769 • Mob: 0780 1182 400

grahamblake123@btconnect.com

www.grahamblake.com

Midway Chimney Sweeps and Linings

Chimney Sweeping and Boiler Cleaning

Member of National Association of Chimney Sweeps

Recommended by Coal, S.F.A.S. and Gas Board

ESTABLISHED OVER 30 YEARS

TELEPHONE: HIGH WYCOMBE (01494) 564321

Mobile 07850 196616

G M PAGE FURNITURE RESTORATION

**ALL ASPECTS OF FURNITURE RESTORATION
UNDERTAKEN, BOTH ANTIQUE AND MODERN**

DINING TABLES REFINISHED
FRENCH POLISHING AND MODERN FINISHES
RE-UPHOLSTERY
CANE AND RUSH WORK
SPECIALIST VENEER REPAIRS
DESKS RE-LEATHERED

INSURANCE WORK UNDERTAKEN

TELEPHONE: 01494 511234
MOBILE: 07754533128
EMAIL: page1830@aol.com
WEBSITE: gmpagerestoration.co.uk



EST. 1988

as a lodger. Please pass this on to anyone else who might be interested. Thank you so much.

Emma Beresford

Handel's Messiah for choir, orchestra and soloists, performed by The Chiltern Camerata and Camerata Consort. All Saints Church, Marlow SL7 2AA at 7.30pm on 4th March 2023



Please buy your tickets in advance, if possible, from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chiltern-camerata> Full price £12. Free tickets are available for 18s and under. For ticketing enquiries, please call 01753 889519. Tickets will also be available on the door (subject to availability) with card payments preferred. Doors open 6.45pm

WILDLIFE

Frieth Natural History Society

Frieth Natural History Society will be holding their AGM at Frieth Village Hall on Thursday 2nd March at 7.30pm. This will be followed at 7.45pm by an illustrated talk 'Fungi around the Hambleden Valley'. Professor Richard Fortey OBE FRS FRSL is an excellent and very knowledgeable speaker and we are sure he will inspire everyone to look more closely next time they come across 'mushrooms' in the countryside.

On Saturday morning, 18th March, we will be organising a short walk from Marlow to observe signs of Spring in our local flora and fauna. The leader will encourage participants to share observations and help with identification if needed.

Anyone is welcome to join either event and for further details, please make contact.

Mary 01494 881501, Andy 01494 881586, FNHS2023@gmail.com

Mary Webb

In praise of hedge laying

Early February, I threw myself enthusiastically into a hedge with a dashing stranger called Nick Warner and it turned out to be a memorable and bonding experience. We were paired up on a hedge laying course, hosted by Maria Spink at Colstrop Farm, led by Nigel Adams and with the additional support of his apprentice Jeff. The majority of hedges are cut back to the same height year upon year but over time a large percentage of the rootstock dies with little or no regeneration. Surveys on

England's remaining hedges have shown only between 12% and 48% are in good structural condition which has become a concern. Rather wonderfully, the centuries old art of hedge laying is gathering momentum again and fresh examples of varying excellence are crisscrossing forth across England's green and pleasant land. The skill initiates a new life cycle for the hedge by encouraging fresh growth from ground level. This in turn creates a stock proof barrier and at the same time is suddenly more beneficial to thousands of organisms from hedgehogs to micro moths and beetles of all sizes. Areas and/or counties have different characteristics to their laid hedges and we come under the South of England style which is essentially a double brush, stakes spaced evenly along the centre and bindings. First, we had to untangle the mass of intertwining stems. Once one was free, with the aid of a whetstone sharpened billhook and taking into account the angle we wanted it to lie, the directive was to detach the stem from the majority of its base but ensuring some bark and sapwood remained attached. The stem is carefully laid across the central line of the hedge followed by some weaving in of the brash; and repeat. I found the hardest part was making a sharp point for the stakes. With a stake balanced against their thigh with one hand and clutching a billhook in the other, Jeff and Nigel were three or four slashes away from a sharp point. My attempts left a mess akin to something beavers might make felling a tree twenty times the diameter. The stakes are hammered into position with a beadle; a tool somewhat resembling an extra-large croquet mallet but crafted from a section of tree where a

suitable branch protrudes at a right-angle for a handle; very clever. Lastly, pliable hazel whips are woven around the stakes and a bow saw is used to cut the stakes off at the same height and at an angle which is very pleasing to the eye. It was a wonderful and hugely satisfying day and along with others, Nick and I made a small contribution to the welfare of local fauna. I forgot to photograph a billhook or a beadle either of which would of course be more useful at this point so instead I give you 'our' section of hedge which is the front cover picture of this magazine.

Sarah Ronan

The Bumble Bee

I'm glad I am a Bumble Bee,
For children love to fondle me.
They think I've no sting in my tail
And treat me as a furry snail.
Of course they are completely wrong
I have a sting which can do harm.
But as they trust and love me so,
I am their friend and not their foe.
I'm glad I am a Bumble Bee,
For even grown-ups are kind to me.
When by chance I enter a house
They shoo me out like a frightened mouse.
They never squash me on their
windowpanes,
Like flies and wasps who leave their stains,
Instead I am treated for all to see
Like a humble tumble Bumble Bee.

Canon Wilfred Watts

Past Rector of Hambleden and Frieth,
and then the other Valley churches, too.
(from 'A Country Parson')

Absolutely Fabulous

CARPET, RUGS, UPHOLSTERY & STONE FLOOR CLEANING

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF YOUR CARPETS, RUGS, UPHOLSTERY & STONE FLOORS

The most thorough cleaning you've ever seen... or it's FREE.

For Absolutely Fabulous cleaning of your carpets, upholstery, rugs or stone floors, give us a call today **01491 540005**



We have our own dedicated rug wash facility
Free collection and delivery of all rugs.



All floor tiles and grout cleaned, full restoration of
all natural stone floors (incl. marble floor polishing).



"Excellent time keeping, very courteous, excellent workmanship" ★★★★★

"Honest, friendly, efficient and reliable" ★★★★★

"Thorough, prompt, friendly, knowledgeable" ★★★★★

"I would definitely recommend this company to all my friends and family." ★★★★★

www.abfab.uk.com

Henley based plumbing, heating and bathroom specialist



**ALLHEAT
SOLUTIONS**

07596 018344

PAUL@ALLHEATSOLUTIONS.COM



FOLLOW US



**Oil Boiler Servicing,
Breakdown & Repair.**



Oil Boiler Installations.



**Bathroom Design &
Installation Service.**



Full Tiling Service.



**General Plumbing
Maintenance & Repair.**



**Heating System Power
Flushing.**



**Underfloor Heating
Installation & Repair.**



SCAN ME

Church Services and Events

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

From The Registers

Rest in Peace

Feb 1	James McConville	Cremation and Thanksgiving Service on Feb 21, Turville
Feb 10	Sheila Brittain	Funeral and Burial, Hambleden
Feb 15	Keith Gordon	Funeral and Burial, Hambleden
Feb 17	Betty Wardman	Cremation



Hambleden 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:

hambledenvalleyprayergroup@gmail.com

Telephone
01491 574644



Established
1906

FAMILY RUN INDEPENDENT MEMORIAL MASONS

36 READING ROAD, HENLEY ON THAMES, RG9 1AG
www.etsheppard.co.uk info@etsheppard.co.uk
Private Car Parking

Sunday Services

Pattern of Worship March 2023

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 and 12noon Prayers at Fawley on Fridays. Currently, the calendar is subject to change so please check our website www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk for latest updates or contact our administrator Jenny Neagle on 07769 599616 – hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com with any query

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville	Zoom
5th March Lent 2		10am Group Service					none
12th March Lent 3	11am Holy Communion	9am Holy Communion		11am Holy Communion			none
19th March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday		9am Holy Communion	3pm Mothering Sunday Service	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Mothering Sunday Service	11am Mothering Sunday Communion		none
26th March Lent 5	11am Holy Communion	6pm Evensong	9am Holy Communion/Zoom	11am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion	9am
2nd April Palm Sunday			10am Palm Sunday Group Service with Procession/Zoom				10am

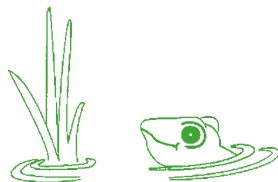
The Frog at Skirmett, Henley-on-Thames

(Closed Sunday Evening — November to May)

Non-smoking Restaurant with an unusual selection of New English,
French and Mediterranean style food.

Food is served for LUNCH and DINNER 7 days a week, May to November

Family room for children. En-suite accommodation. 36 seat function room



Tel: 01491 638996 Fax: 01491 638045

Gerrards Cross

38 Oak End Way
Tel: 01753 891892

Slough

273 Farnham Road
Tel: 01753 535556

High Wycombe

891 London Road
Tel: 01494 472572

Marlow

21 -23 Little Marlow Road
Tel: 01628 898866

Beaconsfield

32 Gregories Road
Tel: 01494 685000

www.arnold-funerals.co.uk

Traditional, Alternative & Green Funerals
Pre -Payment Plans ~ Stonemasonry ~ Floristry



6 Generations of Service in the Community
24 Hour Service

ARNOLD FUNERAL SERVICE

INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Whatever you want to store...

...for whatever reason - house sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, house building work, paperwork overload or even “de-cluttering” to sell your house more quickly - we offer a friendly and flexible local service.

With competitive rates, secure storage and hassle free 24/7 access, contact us now!



01189 404163 www.barn-store.co.uk

HAMBLEDEN AND SKIRMETT

HAMBLEDEN

Hambleden Cinema



Hambleden Cinema is showing *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*, rated PG, on the 18th March. An endearing film set in 1950s London about a widowed cleaning lady who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, deciding she must have one of her own. After working to raise the funds to pursue her dream, she embarks on an adventure to Paris that will change not only her own outlook, but the very future of the House of Dior.

Doors open 7pm, programme begins 8pm. 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 30027

The Hambleden Cinema team

GOODS urgently required please to:
Teresa 01491 571451

SKIRMETT

Quiz Night

On Saturday 18th March there will be a Quiz in Skirmett Village Hall. The evening kicks off at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. A hot meal will be provided and there will be a bar. Tickets cost £12.50 a head. Make up a table of 8 or we can make up one for you. Contact mandysheller@gmail.com 01491 638355

Mandy Heller

FRIETH

FRIETH

Frieth School

I can't believe we are already half way through the academic year! It's been a super half term and with the evenings getting lighter, I'm looking forward to resuming our sports fixtures after the break.

This term it's been great to see the children enjoy some school trips. Eagles had a fantastic time on their visit to Maidenhead Mosque. In class, the children have been learning about Islam and it was great to take their education beyond the classroom. Huge thanks to Maidenhead Mosque, and in particular Zia, who very kindly gave us a guided tour.

Kites Class had a brilliant time at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. Whilst there, they had a self-guided tour where they learnt about Robert Ashmole who founded the museum. The class also looked at some of the original exhibits including Guy Fawkes' lantern. In addition, the pupils took part in a workshop on the impact of the Romans on the British population, where they had the opportunity to handle Roman artefacts. As always, all the children from Frieth let their light shine by behaving brilliantly and asking some super questions.



One of the highlights of the year is always the Young Voices Concert. Along with thousands of children from other schools, our forty-strong choir headed up to Wembley Arena where they performed a plethora of classic songs to an adoring audience. Miss Steventon, the school's choir teacher, has been working tirelessly alongside the children to prepare for the event which was clear to see in their performance. A highlight of the evening was definitely when the children got to perform Proud, official theme song of

Continued on page 21



Skirmett Village Hall

A bright lovely hall with fully equipped kitchen in the Hambleton Valley available for meetings, workshops classes and parties.
Website: Skirmettvillagehall.org. For bookings Contact Mandy Heller 01491638355



J & D Mooney

In Association with Henley Chic Decor

YOUR "CLEAN" RELIABLE QUALITY PAINTERS & DECORATORS DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

Family run business for over 30 years!
Summer bookings being taken



- NVQ qualified
- Many references available in and around Henley
- No job too small!
- Interior & exterior work done!
- Free competitive quotes! No obligation
- Prompt and friendly service!
- C.I.S registered business
- Full public liability insurance
- Specialist in rural run down property

T:01189 344230

M:07961 366535

darrenjomooney@hotmail.com henleyschicdecor.com



Over 150 years of River and Boating Service

- Luxury Passenger Boat Charter
- Self Drive Adventure
- Luxury Boating Holidays
- River Trips
- Moorings and Storage
- Edwardian Chauffeured Launches

For bookings and enquiries
please contact Hobbs of Henley
on 01491 572035
or boats@hobbsofhenley.co.uk





Danesfield Gardens

Henley Road, Medmenham, Near Marlow, SL7 2EU

Your local nursery for bedding and patio plants for spring and autumn
Baskets filled, compost, chimney pots and ornaments

Phone: 01628 484509

Betty Ryan
and Isabel McCrindle




Denning Montessori Nursery and Forest School - Fawley
www.DenningMontessoriSchool.com - Tel: Jenny 07982 620710

T&S

Tomalin & Son

A Family Run Independent Funeral Service

24 hours service | Private client parking | Private chapel of rest
 Free home visits | Pre-paid funeral plans | Full written estimate



Tel: (01491) 573370

www.tomalins.co.uk office@tomalins.co.uk
 Anderson House, 38 Reading Road, Henley-On-Thames, RG9 1AG




W. J. Webb & Son Ltd.

(Established 1968)

BUILDERS and DECORATORS

CONVERSIONS and GENERAL REPAIRS

Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames

Tel: 01491 571366

e-mail: wjwebbandson@googlemail.com

the 2012 Summer Olympics, alongside world-renowned artist Heather Small. Check out our facebook page to see a video of the day.



Martin Gosling
Headteacher

FINGEST

Fingest Past

World War II: The Home Front (1)

– During the Second World War a number of annual events were organized by the National Savings to raise funds for the war effort e.g., Wings for Victory (RAF), Salute the Soldier Week (Army) and Warship Week (Navy). Local authorities, villages, organisations etc., would hold a number of events to raise the money. Villages in the Hambleton Valley made their contribution. The following is taken from a publication called The Marlow Review

“Skirmett Women’s Institute Group”

“To collect £750 (Ambulance) the villagers of Fingest, Turville and Skirmett are having four events of interest, a Garden fete at 3p.m. on the 15th (by kind permission of Mrs. Montefiore) the first for over 20 years in Fingest. A dance at 8.30 – 1 in Fingest on the 18th (R.A.F. Band).*

At Skirmett on the 20th, a Whist Drive and Auction and a Grand Concert to finish the week with, at Turville (7.30 p.m.). If the enthusiasm of the public is a gauge of their intention to save and spend, we shall do well.”

*Held on the lawn at Tingehurst (now known as Fingest Manor), Chequers Lane, Fingest.

Frieth set a target of £2,000 for their Wings for Victory week. The committee organised a children’s parade, a concert, whist drive, a dance and to end the week an auction sale *“a number of surprises are promised at this function”*.

At Fawley Green the Army Mobile Unit arranged to show a newsreel followed by a film in the Village Hall. The village postmistress sold national saving stamps to gain entry instead of tickets. There was an afternoon sale with committee members each giving half a dozen articles. Also, some of the stores in Henley donated groceries and other goods for the sale. The schoolmistress and schoolchildren made posters and notices. Does anyone remember making the posters? The Fawley Wings for Victory week ended with a whist drive.

At school we bought national savings stamps and attached them to a savings card. When our savings reached a certain amount, we received a card with a badge showing the sleeve rank slides of an officer in the service we had chosen. As the savings grew the higher the rank achieved e.g., my choice was the R.A.F; pilot officer, flying officer, flight lieutenant, squadron leader etc.

Don Boreham

MEDMENHAM

MEDMENHAM

Article 7 – After the War



The war years I know little of. The Guttridge boys all survived. Ron served in the 8th Army, Dad in the RAF, Arthur in the Navy.

After the war, Mr Bendir embarked on unsuccessful tax liability litigation, losing

heavily. Expenditure on the Abbey was reduced. Daughter Janine married American film director John Reed and they remained at the Abbey well into the 1950s.

In the village, veteran postmistress and Harry's distant cousin, Charlotte Sartin, had died during the war. But the village school remained in the capable hands of Miss West.

Harry's sons did not return to live in



Healthy Ovens
HEALTHY, HAPPY OVENS IN A JIFFY
www.healthyovens.co.uk

Professional Oven Cleaning Services
A CLEAN OVEN IS A HAPPY OVEN!

Healthy, Happy Ovens In A Jiffy
Get Your Oven Cleaned TODAY!

☎ **01491 714012**

✉ **info@healthyovens.co.uk**

Medmenham after the war. However daughter Hilda Coleborn and family came to look after Harry and remained in Medmenham into the 1950s.

The 1947 floods were, if anything, worse than those of a decade earlier. Harry was reputedly brought out of Abbey Cottages by a 'duck' (DKW). But he stuck with the ferry into the 1950s. By then, dad had started a smallholding near St Albans.

As Grandad's health failed, he increasingly stayed with us there, I think he found it difficult sharing Abbey Cottages with daughter Hilda's young family.

On our visits to Medmenham, Grandad and I, the oldest and the youngest, were inseparable, often sitting together in his old sheds by the ferry.

Harry had been a strict father. But with us he mellowed. My mother could do no wrong in his eyes, I suspect because, as a nurse, she had helped Emily in her last years. And he doted on me. He showed me how to tie my laces, comb my hair, defended my misbehaviour even.

Strangely, what most sticks in my mind is the pungent smell of his "thick twist" tobacco. Carefully carved from the plug with a pruning knife, rubbed between the hands. Hard to find by then. Kept in a coil, wrapped around the tobacconist's hand, cut with a guillotine and sold by



the ounce, we walked miles to get it.

So, my last memories of him are like the photo, with pipe, flat cap and national health glasses, with that ghost of a smile he so often wore. Grandad died, like Mr Bendir, in 1957, in, as they used to say, the seventy ninth year of his age.

But that was not quite the end of our involvement with Medmenham. As I hope to explain in my next and final article.

Joe Gutteridge

All breeds of Dogs and Cats • Long Coats a speciality
Collection or home service by arrangement

MAIDENHEAD-MARLOW-HENLEY
PROFESSIONAL & CARING
With 35 Years' Experience
Clipping/Hand Stripping

Rotten Row Farm • Hambleden
Henley-on-Thames • Oxon
Tel: 01491 636140

www.coatandtails-Hambleden.co.uk



COAT & TAILS

ADVERTISEMENTS

Corfu — comfortable sea-edge villa in Durrell country to let privately. Between Kassiopi and St Stefanos. Direct BA flights from LHR Ter.5. www.corfubeachhouse.co.uk Armstrong 01491 571324

North Cornwall, Harlyn Bay Padstow 4 miles. Family cottage with garden. Sleeps 6. Quiet lane with footpath leading to huge sandy beach. Excellent surfing, walking, golf. Very reasonable rents. Beck- Burridge 01491 413171.

Computer Problems? Local help in fixing problems, selecting systems and personal tuition including email/ internet. Contact Matt on 01491 575998 or 07821 592928.

Mulberry Flooring. Specialists in wood floor restoration. Please call for free quote 01494 535348.

Rock, North Cornwall. Modernised, traditional cottage by the beach, sleeps 8. Available for holiday lets. Contact Mandy Heller on 01491 638355 or johnheller@poynattscottage.com

Salcombe, South Devon. Three bedroom cottage, recent refurb, stunning estuary views, quiet & close to town centre, sleeps six, easy access beaches/walks, holiday lets

throughout year, 01491 577344

The Pet Feeders - We look after your pets when you can't. Local firm, insured/CRB checked. www.thepetfeeders.com. Mobile: 0753 100 7419. Email: info@thepetfeeders.com

Valencia Large Luxury Family Villa with Pool and Tennis Court. 15 mins from the City Centre, 10 mins from the Airport. Sleeps 14 comfortably, 6 bedrooms / 4 bathrooms. Visit www.homeaway.co.uk/p1029900 to see our reviews. Contact Virginia or Andy Coombes for more information on 01491639419/ 07860847256

Snowdonian Cottage. Cosy and comfortable traditional 3 bed stone cottages sleeps 6, wood burner and wi-fi, in coastal village, Llwyngwrl on the Welsh Coastal Path. An ideal base to enjoy and explore 'the most dramatic and alluring region in Wales'. Beaches, mountains, River Mawdach and Dyfi Estuaries, lakes and so much more. Dog Friendly. Contact Euan McCrindle 07713 952495 / 01628 475644 or email euanmccrindle@hotmail.com for more information and detail.

Music Teacher! - Qualified musician offering great value Piano and Vocal lessons. 5 Years Experience, Fun and engaging lessons for all ages and abilities.

Contact Sasha Steventon (BMus) on 07740 289467 or bluemusic@outlook.com
www.bluemusic.co.uk

Isle of Mull. The Bothy sleeps 4, available for weekly holiday lets, and The Studio sleeps 2, available for 2-5 nights. An ideal peaceful location for exploring this beautiful island. Wonderful panoramic views, walks, beaches, wildlife. Visit www.thesmithymull.co.uk for more information.

Dairy Lane Dog Grooming Hand-stripping, Clipping, Scissoring, Bathing, Nails. Louise McTeague, 4 Dairy Lane, Hambleden, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 3AS Tel 01491 579442 Member of British Dog Groomers Association and Pet Care Trust

Snowdonia Holiday cottage in Snowdonia National Park. Elegant home situated in Dolgellau available for holidays. Great walking, cycling and the beach are all on the doorstep of this refurbished four storey traditional Welsh stone house. Full weeks, short breaks and weekends all available. Sleeps six, three bedrooms. Pet friendly. Two cosy wood burners. Full details at www.dioni.co.uk/cottage/ty-gobaith Contact Charlotte Digby for further information charlottedigby4@gmail.com 07771576856.



Turville Northend Village Hall

Large Hall, Committee Room, Kitchen, Private Terrace, Parking.
Available for: Meetings, Workshops, Parties, Weddings, Classes.

For further information & bookings visit: www.thevillagehall.co.uk
Turville Northend Village Hall, Northend, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 6LJ

Protecting your wealth and loved ones

- Everyone should have a Will, but 2 out of 3 people have not yet made one, and those that **have may not have the correct Will** in place.
- If you own a business or a share of a business, your spouse/partner and children may not necessarily inherit your share.
- 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.
- By setting up **lasting powers of attorney** you can rest assured that your finances and personal welfare are in safe hands.

In association with Countrywide Tax & Trust Corporation Limited, I provide a professional, tailor-made service to help individuals to safeguard assets, regardless of their value and protect their loved ones.

My decision to get involved in Wills and Estate Planning was a result of personal experience. I learnt first-hand how unpreparedness adds to the stress of dealing with long-term illness and death. Get in touch for advice that can guide you to make informed decisions that suit your needs.

Visit www.personalestateplanning.co.uk for further information.

Judy Bonfanti, FCCA, STEP Affiliate

judy.bonfanti@hotmail.com

0781 0642 505



Are you getting over an operation?

Do you struggle with your mobility or balance?

Are you getting stiffer and losing flexibility?

Or just worried about aches and pains?



The physios at Physiologic are experts in both pain and movement.

They will find out why you are in pain or not moving well, help address this as quickly as possible and get you moving and doing what you love again.

We are open 7 days a week with free parking at the Henley Rugby Club.

Call 01491 598043 or book online at physiologic.co.uk
Dry Leas Sports Ground, Marlow Road, Henley, Oxfordshire, RG9 2JA

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: Stephen Sidders,
01491 639271 stephensidders@sky.com

Group Administrator: Jenny Neagle,
07769 599616,
hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

Weddings and Blessings: Jenny Neagle,
07769 599616,
hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

Tea Club: St. Katharine's, Parmoor,
Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm
Sue Brice, 01491 638788, mail@suebrice.com

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

Frieth Natural History Society:
Mary (01494 881501), Andy (01494 881586),
FNHS2023@gmail.com

Frieth Village Society: Caroline Walker
01494 882333

Frieth Cricket Club:
Ben Smiley
friethcricket@btinternet.com

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

Hambleden (St Mary the Virgin)

Churchwarden:
Jill Steward 01491 571320
jillsteward@hambleden.com

Deputy Churchwarden:
Sharon Smith 01628 487458 sharon-
smith0505@btinternet.com

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

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

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

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

Medmenham (St Peter and St Paul)

Churchwarden:

Vacant. Please contact Rev. Sue Lepp,
07930 520562, revsuelepp@gmail.com

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:

Caroline Sants, 01491 638994
turvillechurchwardens@gmail.com

Deputy Churchwarden:

Vicky Hollier vickyhollier@aol.com

Bell Ringing: Wed practice,
Rachel Wallace, 01494 883025
rachel@markjwallace.com

Sunday School: Sara Harman,
01491 639211

Artists' studios: Turville Studios open the
first Sunday of every month 11am-4pm.
Angela Fois turvillestudios@aol.com
www.turvillestudios.co.uk

Turville Northend

Village Hall Bookings:

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
r.mcdonald2007@yahoo.co.uk

Magazine details

Editor: Penny McLeish,
01491 571288,
hambledenvalleyeditor@gmail.com

New subscriptions: Penny McLeish,
01491 571288, penny_mcleish@hotmail.com

Advertising Manager: Stephen Sidders,
01491 639271 stephensidders@sky.com

Distributors:

Fawley: Hilary Beck-Burridge, 01491 413171;
Fingest: Brian Barnes, 01494 882613;
Frieth: Tony Parkins, 01494 882170;
Hambleden: Samantha Webb, 01491 414418;
Medmenham: Jim Tilbury, 01628 487135;
Mill End: Robert Spicer, 01491 577747;
Northend: Susie Phillips, 01491 639584;
Elizabeth Arnott, 01491 638337,
Sarah Evans, 01491 639240;
Pheasants Hill: Kate Hussey, 01491 576913;
Skirmett: Bessie Webb, 01491 638574;
Southend: Valmai Pickett 01491 638523;
Turville: Anne Jones, 01491 639344;
Woodend: Helen Balkwell, 01628 471403.

Postal Distributor: Stephen Sidders,
01491 639271 stephensidders@sky.com



ROWLANDSCAPES

CREATIVE LANDSCAPE GARDENING

- Patios & paths • Brickwork • Planting & hedging
- Fencing • Driveways • Wildflower meadows
- Lawns • Garden maintenance • Tree surgery
- Woodland management • Agricultural fencing

Telephone: 01844 351919 **Mobile:** 07718 257104

Email: rowlandscapes@googlemail.com **Website:** www.rowlandscapes.com

YOGA IN YOUR HOME

Qualified and experienced yoga teacher at reasonable prices

- 1 to 1 teaching
- Small Groups
- Seniors welcomed
- Hambleden Valley based

Please contact:

Susannah Trombetti

Email: susannahtrombetti@gmail.com

Mobile: 07917 683162

▲▲ D. J. Macleod ▲▲

Tree Surgery, Felling, Planting and Hedge Cutting

Fencing and Gates Supplied and Erected

Quality Firewood for Sale

Producer and Supplier of Wood Chips

Cedar Cottage, Parmoor, Henley-on-Thames RG9 6NN

Mobile 07850 724023

01494 882901

www.donlogs.com

e-mail: donlogs@hotmail.com

Peter Freebody & Co

BOATBUILDERS OF THE THAMES EST[®] OVER 300 YEARS



BOATBUILDERS • RESTORERS • BROKERS

TELEPHONE: 01628 824382 WWW.PETERFREEBODY.COM
THAMES BOATHOUSES, MILL LANE, HURLEY, BERKSHIRE, SL6 5ND

greens
catering



We are special event caterers in
Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and
the surrounding areas.

Have an event coming up?
We love to chat food.

Call us today on 01865 400341.

01865 400341 | events@greencatering.co.uk
www.greencatering.co.uk



Advice you
can trust,
experience you
can depend on.

Local people, looking after Local people.

Tel: 01491 411066

sales@timpeers.com | lettings@timpeers.com

Tim Peers Estate Agents | 19 Duke Street
Henley-on-Thames | Oxfordshire | RG9 1UR



www.timpeers.com