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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. (see pages 26 and 27)

All contributions are welcome, to the Editor, Penny McLeish

hambledenvalleyeditor@gmail.com

3 Abbey Cottages, Ferry Lane, Medmenham SL7 2HB Telephone 01491 571288

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

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Group Letter



In September I have made a new friend. His name is Pino, and he runs an ice cream van that can be privately hired. This means he is paid for the whole day and makes as many ice creams as required and gives them out for no cost to the 'customer'. He has an outgoing personality and loves his job. His ice cream van is immaculately clean and colourful. He has set up an amplified music system so that he can play, at an appropriate volume, music to suit the clientele queueing to have his ice creams. Weddings might get dance music; older folk smooth jazz. Each person served is blessed by his cheery spirit as well as their free ice cream!

What a job! I know Pino doesn't take it for granted. He appreciates how lucky he is to dispense happiness in such a simple way as his daily employment!

October is a month in which the nights draw in, the harvest festivals conclude, and Halloween ends the month. Although many do love the autumn season, it can also be disheartening as winter approaches. Wouldn't it be wonderful to dispense happiness on a daily basis the way Pino does? We might not be able to offer free ice cream - that is guaranteed to brighten everybody's face - but we can offer people our own

smiles, words of encouragement, and a bit of loving attention.

Our Harvest festivals remind us of how much God gives us through the land, despite this year's poor rainfall; our regular services remind us what Christ has done for us on the Cross; our weddings and baptisms cheer us with the ongoing cycle of life; and our All Saints and All Souls services, at the start of November, remind us of the loved ones who we have been privileged to know. We have much to be grateful for, let us spread the joy we have to those around us - as if we were distributing free ice cream!

Andy Storch



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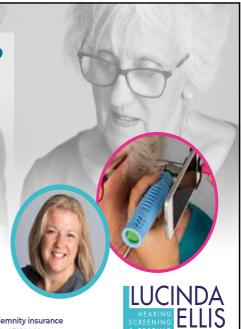
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GROUP NOTES









Wild Wheatsheaf Making



We had a lovely. interesting visit to Colstrope Farm hosted by Maria Spink. Maria explained all about her farm 110 acres that she has had for 5 years. She farms in a bio diverse way

using animals for fertilisation. We had 22 adults and 6 children join us for Wild Wheatsheaf Making.

Andrew and Jack Hawes are Maria's contractors who grow and cut the sheaves at the right time of the year. They usually harvest the wheat at the end of August. Andrew showed us how to tie the sheaves and bang the end so that they stand up when they are placed in the churches for harvest. We sang some lovely hymns including We plough the fields and scatter, everyone's favourite for harvest.

We made some mini sheaves with 2 stalks of wheat and a prayer tied to them to go in the churches, too.

Then it was time for cake!! Everyone loves cake after Wild Church.

Looking forward to the next Wild Church at Frieth on Sunday 12th October at 3pm - wild bread and jam making.



Liz Wilks



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GROUP NOTES



Wild Church Opportunities Coming Up!



Sunday 12th October 3pm:

Wild Bread-baking and Jam-making, Harvest on the Village Green, Frieth



Sunday 9th November 2.30pm:

Wild Church at Remembrance Pullingshill Wood, Medmenham/Frieth



Sunday 14th December 2pm:

Wild Nativity, Northend Common



At Wild Church we meet outdoors at different venues on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Everyone is warmly welcome!

Wild Church Team:

Rev Sue Morton 07808 517347 or suemorton131@gmail.com

Mary Campbell grandma.marycampbell @googlemail.com

Magdalena Dabrowska somd10206@gmail.com

Community Matters

Children are now back at school and of course that often means new school uniforms. We have been able to help with the purchase of uniforms for ten children from the families we support. Most of the items came from supermarkets such as ASDA and Sainsbury's and we took advantage of the school shops where little-used uniform items have been donated. We also gave cash to the parents towards the purchase of shoes and/or trainers.

Some of our parents have got to know each other through Community Matters and have met up socially. This has led to them exchanging uniform items for their children which has also been a great help.

We have received some lovely donations of bedding (always needed) as well as large amounts of baby food and nappies, again so helpful and both expensive items.

During the summer school holidays we have managed to respond to requests for extra food on occasions; children have a lot of energy and that means hungry appetites and more food needed.

Thank you all, as always, for your support because all the above could not continue without your help.

With thanks and blessings, **Judy Taylor**

Concert in aid of Community Matters

The Great Barn, Fingest, so generously donated for the evening by Charles and Sylvia Crowther, was the perfect venue for a concert of glorious music, from J. S. Bach to Howard Goodall. It was performed by Richard and Janet Simpson from Skirmett, who spent their musical careers playing oboe and piano with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and The Halle Orchestra; soprano Daphne Fleming,

GROUP NOTES







the Crowther's granddaughter; and guest tenor Robyn Evans who joined us hot foot from Covent Garden.

All the performers donated their talent and time to the cause and the applause showed the appreciation of their spellbound audience. A very memorable evening to raise funds for a very deserving cause.

Veronica Stuart

Community Matters Help at Harvest Time



Items needed please:

Washing Powder, Toothpaste,
Toilet Rolls, Kitchen Rolls, Soap,
Kitchen/Bathroom Cleaning Products,
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Tea/Coffee, Sugar-free Squash,
Baked Beans, Packets of Angel Delight,
Smash (powdered potato), Nutella (or similar),
Tins, Frankfurter Sausages
Cereal (Weetabix or Shreddies),
Tinned/Cartons of Tomatoes.

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Visiting Rwanda, a trip beyond the Valley

In August I returned from my third trip to Rwanda, the land of a thousand hills. It's a country and people that I have fallen in love with. When I first visited in 2014 it was the 20th anniversary of the genocide and I was amazed how the country had managed to bring back a community so guickly. There were 400,000 recorded orphans at the time but I am sure the number is much higher. My friend, Bizi, was orphaned, he doesn't know how old he was at the time and the government gave all who were too young to know their age, new birthdays. Bizi is a photographer and journalist. He has just made a documentary about the founder of the orphanage he grew up in who was 84 when she started it, not ever having children of her own! There are so many stories of reconciliation but I have always thought there must be so much pain and suffering



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GROUP NOTES AND WILDLIFE



buried beneath the surface. Rwanda is a predominantly Christian country, with about 75% Christian and 5% Muslim. These people are really trying to rebuild their country. Their crime rate is low, they go out and clean the streets of Kigali because they are proud of their city, they do not understand the term 'homeless people', there are more women in parliament than in any other country and, not to get too political, they have enough problems of their own without introducing refugees into the mix. Having travelled extensively with a ministry called Fatherheart Ministries before Covid, I really felt God was calling me back to talk to people about how he is a loving father who considers all of us as sons and daughters, his love is unconditional for everyone. Because many Rwandans have not known their earthly fathers, and males who represented fathers to them were often harsh and cruel, many identify God in the same light, as unapproachable. Bizi put me in touch with a lovely female Reverend, Annonciata, who is also head of the Mothers Union for the area. She asked if I would talk to a group of women which was a great privilege. I showed that we all have stories that can be passed down from generation to generation, and how we can break the cycle of fear and hatred by learning to forgive those who have harmed us. It's not an overnight fix but a process and a journey. Rwanda is a beautiful country, its people warm and welcoming and I have always felt



safer there than in any other African country I have been to. I would encourage you to explore it for yourself!

Sue Dawkes

WILDLIFE

Frieth Natural History Society

Our October walk will take place on Tuesday 21st October, meeting at 10am. Penny Cullington, or a member of her team from Bucks Fungus Group, will lead us on a Fungus Foray through local woodland.

BFG is an independent group of enthusiasts for mushrooms, toadstools and other fungi. They organise informal, family-friendly walks in Buckinghamshire woodland and countryside to find, learn about and record fungi. They do not forage; the focus is on learning how to identify fungi and recognise the commoner species in the field. Both edible and poisonous species are covered but collecting to eat is not one of their aims.

WILDLIFE AND HAMBLEDEN

Recognizing and recording the fungi, as part of a network of recording groups, helps to support the conservation of these vital organisms.

Anyone is welcome to join us, but for non-members we make a small charge. For full details and to book your place, please contact; Mary 01494 881501, Andy 01494 881586 or FNHS2023@gmail.com

Mary Webb

Royal Golden Guernsey Goats (cover photo)

Golden Guernseys are a rare dairy breed from Guernsey in the Channel Islands distinguished by their golden skin and hair, which ranges from pale blond to deep bronze, and pleasant temperament. They are smaller and more fine-boned than other British milking goats, and there is great variety in coat length. The males are usually horned. They also have a unique history, dating back at least two hundred years.

One hundred years ago, Miss Miriam Milbourne rediscovered golden goats among the scrub herds on the island and started her own herd in 1937. In the 1940s, when German forces occupied Guernsey, she had to hide them indoors for years to protect them from being taken and slaughtered, ensuring their survival. She then began a breeding programme in the 1950s, and after her death, her animals passed into the care of a trust. From 1967 a small number were exported to England and the USA.

Golden Guernseys are really efficient milk producers, and the milk is great for making yoghurt or cheese. The breed also excels in conservation grazing which supports biodiversity. Being choosey in what they eat, their grazing can provide very specific environmental benefits The Golden Guernsey Goat breed was granted its Royal title by King Charles in 2024 becoming formally known as the Royal Golden Guernsey Goat.

The two shown in the cover photo are 16 years old and came from a petting zoo. Since they have been upgraded to royal status they have been given names - Lady Di and Camilla, oh... and they are very naughty and try to climb into their owner's car whenever the opportunity arises!

Penny McLeish

(from www.royalgoldenguernseygoat.org)

HAMBLEDEN

News from Hambleden Parish Council

Our recent questionnaire highlighted how much we all value our natural environment. In response to this, we've put together a PDF on 'Lending Nature a Helping Hand in the Garden' which we hope you will enjoy and find useful. It gives an overview of how to help wildlife thrive in our gardens, top tips, and links to websites. You can find it on the 'Climate Change' page on our website which also has links to lots of other useful information: http://bit.ly/3UdqcbR

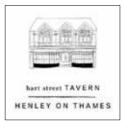
The Parish Council, as a statutory consultee, routinely reviews all planning applications (and may conduct a site survey, if deemed necessary). Occasionally we may submit an objection and rarely, with particularly contentious applications, we may request that the application is decided at a meeting of the local authority planning committee. We always like to take into consideration the views of local residents, both positive and negative. Up until recently, comments by interested parties have been visible online but recently Buckinghamshire Council have decided not to show comments by members of the public.

Continued on page 17



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Church Services and Events

From The Registers

Holy Baptism

Sept 7	Hugo Chester Capability Burton	Hambleden
Sept 7	Harry Arthur Chiltern Burton	Hambleden

Holy Matrimony

Aug 29	Ranulf Orr and Stacey Hunter	Hambleden
Sept 6	Alexander Watson and Lucy Court	Hambleden
Sept 13	Patrick Driessen and Hannah Chambers	Turville

Wedding Blessing

Sept 6 Jack Rogers and Molly Hawker Turville



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



CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2025

Pattern of Worship October 2025

Please see below for Sunday services. There will also be Zoom services at 9:30am on Wednesdays with Churchyard Prayers at Fawley at 12noon on Fridays. The 10.15am midweek Holy Communion on Wednesdays is at Turville. 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.

Sunday Services

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville
28th September	12noon Harvest		9am Holy Communion	11am Harvest and		
Zour Gepternoer	and Village Lunch	6pm Evensong		Holy Communion		3pm Harvest and Village Tea
Saturday 4th October						3pm Animal Blessing
5th October			10am Group Service			
		6pm Harvest Evensong nibbles and wine				
12th October		9am Holy Communion				
	11am Holy Communion		3pm Wild	11am Holy Communion		
			Church Harvest	8am BCP Holy		
19th October			9am Holy Communion	Communion		
				10am Lay-led Morning Worship	11am Village Harvest Service	
26th October	44 17 1		9am Holy Communion	44 17 1		9.30am Holy Communion
	11am Holy Communion	6 0 1		11am Holy Communion		
		6pm Compline				
2nd November			3pm All Souls Service to remember the departed			10am All Saints Group Service



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HAMBLEDEN

It would be of great help to us if anyone submitting a comment on a planning application sends a copy to the Clerk of the Parish Council (clerk@hambleden.org.uk). Members of the public are always welcome to attend our meetings air their views on an application in person. All planning applications for the Parish can be viewed on our website (https://www.hambleden.org.uk) with links to the relevant page on the Buckinghamshire Planning Portal. Our website also gives further details on the planning process together with our Planning Policy Statement which is used as a guide for our councillors when assessing planning applications.

Lorna Coldwell.

Clerk Hambleden Parish Council 01494 881483 www.hambleden.org.uk

Hambleden Cinema



We are excited to launch our new season with *Sully, Miracle on the Hudson*, rated 12, on Saturday 18th October at 8pm. A true story of Captain Chesley, a commercial pilot, who makes an emergency landing on the Hudson River after his plane gets hit by birds. However, an investigation into the matter might prove to be fatal to his career.

Hambleden Cinema Team

Farewell and Thank You

As our dedicated readers know, when you come to Hambleden you join a community. Hopefully! On arrival you may not be immediately aware of this but you become quietly, calmly, absorbed and involved, it is a delightful experience. You join a family, many characters; some differences of opinion(!), but there is a bond, a sense of belonging and a wish to contribute in some way.

Our church is a beautiful, visible prominent hub for our village and Church Teas are a long standing, much admired and loved tradition which provides invaluable support for its maintenance and our new 'kitchen and loo project'.

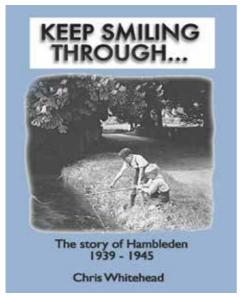
Like our community and our church, 'The Tea Team' need fresh support. Sadly, the current 'sign masters' are stepping down this year. Chris Howgego understudied Alan Armstrong in the tea era of Joy and Charles Grey in about 1996 and after 30 years he and Mike Wortley are moving aside for the next generation of helpers. If just four gentlemen could step forwards to enable Church Teas to continue next year, it would only involve approximately two hours one Sunday in four. We sign them out with many grateful thanks and look forward to welcoming new volunteers.

Penny Wright

(but really credit due to Chris Howgego!)

HAMBLEDEN, SKIRMETT AND FRIETH

A Date for Your Diaries



I will be giving a talk on how Hambleden fared during WW2 in the Village Hall on Friday 28th November at 7.30pm. It will be based on my recent book *Keep Smiling Through*.

Tickets are £5 each, from the Village Stores. They will be available from 1st November. The Cinema Club will be providing a bar.

Numbers will be strictly limited to 80, and there will be no 'walk-ins'.

All proceeds are for the Village Hall Restoration Fund

Chris Whitehead

SKIRMETT



FRIETH Frieth School Bake Sale

Massive well done to Willow, Tabby, Isla, Bluebell and Millie who let their light shine by organising a bake sale during the school holidays! Their hard work and

Continued on page 21

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FRIETH

kindness raised money for the PTA - what a super effort!



Lady Ryder Memorial Garden

Linking to their topic on plants, Kestrels enjoyed two wonderful visits to the Lady Ryder Memorial Garden. They learnt about all the things plants need to stay healthy and enjoyed making bird feeders, planting seedlings and tasting some of the delicious produce!



Kites Trip to Windsor Castle

Kites class had a brilliant trip to Windsor Castle. They saw the Dolls' House, St George's Chapel and explored the State Apartments. They also took part in an action-packed workshop! A fantastic way to finish off a cracking year.



Summer Queen

What a wonderful event Summer Queen was. We really are so fortunate to share such a unique and special occasion in such beautiful surroundings. As always, the children looked exquisite in their outfits and



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FINGEST

performed with the confidence we have come to expect from Frieth pupils. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did!



Martin Gosling Headteacher

FINGEST

Fingest News

On Bank Holiday Sunday, 24th August, Fingest Church celebrated the feast of its Patron Saint, Bartholomew the Apostle, with a boundary walk and teas in the churchyard for all comers.

Led informatively by Brian Barnes, the walkers traced the parish's ancient pathways and discovered local history on the ground as we relived an old tradition. Refreshing tea and cake welcomed us an hour or so later when we returned in good spirits to the churchyard and the day ended reflectively for everyone with Evensong in the peace of St Bartholomew's Church.

This year the day fell on the Bank Holiday Sunday when we annually serve tea and cake to all our visitors. As a result, we raised the magnificent sum of £320 for church funds due to the generosity of local residents and visitors from far and wide.

With many thanks to Brian and Margaret Barnes, Jill Dean and all the Church Teas team.

Laura Wortley





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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

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Need your chimney sweeping or stove installed? If so, then please contact Terry - a member of the National Association of Chimney Sweeps with over 30 years of experience working in the Hambleden Valley - on 01494 564321 or mobile 07850 196616.

Tip Top Dog Training.Puppy School is held on Saturday mornings at Lane End Youth

and Community Centre followed by Dog Club which is open to graduates of Puppy School or following 1:2:1 assessment. www.tiptopdogtraining.co.uk 07711 807109 melanie@tiptopdogtraining.co.uk.

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CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

HAMBLEDEN VALLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

Rector: The Revd. Andy Storch,

07811 430898, Revandystorch@gmail.com

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

Director of Music: Jo Hutchins 07909 608654 johutchins27@gmail.com

Organist Emeritus: Christine Wells BEM, 01491 571588, c@wells.vnworks.net

Group Treasurer: Stephen Sidders, 01491 639271 stephensidders@skv.com

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

Weddings and Blessings: Jenny Neagle, 07769 599616.

hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

Tea Club: St. Katharine's, Parmoor, Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm Wendy Duerden, 01491 638297, wendy.duerden@techademic.net

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

Hambleden Valley Garden Club:

Meetings October-March on the first Tuesday of the month, Frieth Village Hall. Clair Honnor 07773 387195

Website:

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

FAWLEY (ST MARY THE VIRGIN) Churchwarden:

Vacant

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)

Verger: 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:

Vacant

Deputy Churchwarden:

Vacant

Bell Ringing: Fri 6.45pm 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 8pm Pat Eldridge, 01491 576067

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

Tennis Coaching: Chris Marshall,

07801 999230, chrismarshall20@hotmail.com

MEDMENHAM (ST PETER AND ST PAUL)

Churchwarden:

Vacant.

Village Hall Bookings: Emma Tentori, 07759 014396

Uniformed organisations:

1st Danesfield Scouts, Cubs and

Beavers: leader Nick Currie, enquiries@danesfieldscouts.org.uk

Medmenham News:

medmenhamnews@icloud.com

SKIRMETT

Village Hall Bookings:

Bookings via the website: skirmettvillagehall.org Other enquiries: skirmettvillagehall@gmail.com

TURVILLE (ST MARY THE VIRGIN)

Churchwarden:

Caroline Sants, 01491 638994 turvillechurchwardens@gmail.com

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

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: Tuesdays 7pm, Andrea 07496 281341

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: Amanda Bucknill, 07718 860064; Parmoor: Gillie Scott 01494 881408; Pheasants Hill: Kate Hussey, 01491 576913; Skirmett: Bessie Webb, 01491 638574; Southend: Valmai Pickett 01491 638523; Turville: Anne Jones, 01491 639344; Turville Heath: Charlotte Stuart, 07712 077675; Woodend: Helen Balkwell, 01628 471403.

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



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