

The Ascott Grapevine



Grapevine Appeal

The Ascott Grapevine is provided **FREE** to every household in Ascott and we wish this to continue for a long time to come.

Although 'The Grapevine' does receive support from the Parish Council and the PCC, it only raises a limited amount of revenue from advertising. The Ascott Grapevine survives mainly on donations. If you would like to help The Ascott Grapevine continue, any donation large or small would be appreciated. You can give a donation to any member of the editorial team.

If there is an aspect of village life not already covered in The Ascott Grapevine please contact a member of the team to discuss your ideas.

Articles for the next issue of The Ascott Grapevine should be submitted by 1st May 2018.

Articles submitted after this date may not be included.

Call 01993 831023 or email: wendypearse@btinternet.com

The Editorial Team:

Stuart Fox, Elaine Byles,
Wendy Pearse, Keith Ravenhill

Content & Editorial Policy

If you have an article, story or poem you would like to submit for publication The Ascott Grapevine editorial team would love to hear from you. Material for publication is gratefully accepted. Due to space considerations material may not be used immediately but may be held over to be included in a later issue.

The Grapevine editorial team reserve the right to shorten, amend or reject any material submitted for publication.

Opinions expressed in contributions are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

Advertising Rates

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Only if possible, any adverts submitted for publication should be in any of the following formats: .jpg .tif .png .bmp .emf .gif .svg .wmf but other formats can be used.

To advertise in our Local Business Directory (see [Page 64](#)), please contact Wendy Pearse 01993 831023 or wendypearse@btinternet.com. The cost is £5 per year but inclusion is free for our existing advertisers.

SERVICES AT ASCOTT CHURCH 2018

Sunday 11 th Mar	10.00	Holy Communion C
Sunday 25 th Mar	08.00	Holy Communion BCP
Sunday 1 st Apr	18.30	Holy Communion C
Sunday 8 th Apr	10.00	Holy Communion C
Sunday 22 nd Apr	08.00	Holy Communion BCP
Sunday 13 th May	10.00	Holy Communion C
Sunday 27 th May	10.00	Holy Communion C
Sunday 10 th Jun	10.00	Holy Communion C

Ascott Church is part of the Chase Benefice, comprising the parishes of Chadlington, Ascott-u-Wychwood, Spelsbury and Enstone. For enquiries please contact the Rector: Rev'd Mark Abrey, The Vicarage, Church Road, Chadlington. OX7 3LY. 01608 676572 or rector@thechasebenefice.org.uk

Follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/chasebenefice

Local Churches

Holy Trinity, Ascott-u-Wychwood

Rev'd Mark Abrey Tel: 01608 676572

St Mary's Shipton

Churchwarden James Walmsley
01993 830842

SS Simon & Jude, Milton

Churchwarden Mike Hartley 01993 830160

St John the Baptist Fifield, St Nicholas, Idbury

Churchwarden Pat Yaxley 01993 831385

Society of Friends (Quakers), Burford

Nigel Braithwaite 01993 831282

Wychwood Baptist, Milton

Pastor John Witts 01993 832865

Burford Methodist

Minister Rev'd Peter Goodhall 01993 845322

Westcote Methodist

Tony Gibson 01993 830699
Mairi Radcliffe 01993831472

Roman Catholic

SS John Fisher & Thomas More, Burford

Our Lady and St Kenelm, Stow-in-the-Wold

Holy Trinity, Chipping Norton and St Teresa, Charlbury

Priest Fr Antony Joyce 01608 642703.

Mass at Charlbury 09:15

From the Rector

Dear friends

I recently heard someone comment that their waistband had begun to feel just that little bit tighter in recent weeks. 'But it's okay', they mused, 'Lent is soon and I'm sure that will help.' I'm sure it will! For in our modern times, Lent has become this somewhat secular season of slightly smug self-improvement. We cut back, we resist those little temptations, and all being well we may even lose a pound (lb) or two!

Lent is certainly not (I say a little thankfully) the season of intense catechism, fasting and spiritual preparation that it once was. But I think we can still seize it as an opportunity to stop and reflect upon our faith and spiritual wellbeing.

You may still like to keep some tradition and give something up. I often still do, but whatever we might gain (or indeed lose) with it, when we face the temptation its worth trying to see that as a reminder of our humanity, our weakness and frailty, and ultimately a sign of our dependence upon God for His strength, grace and salvation.

But then you might instead rather take something up! How about at the end of each day, writing down one thing - or more - which has been a blessing to you during the day? Christian Aid are encouraging people to do that and have produced a simple reflection for each day - both for adults and children. You can download this from the Benefice website [www.thechasebenefice.org.uk] or pick up a copy from the back of church.

You might this Lent, simply like to take up the opportunity to come to the seasonal activities and events here in the Benefice. Full details of these can be found elsewhere in the Grapevine or on our website or FaceBook [chasebenefice] and absolutely all are most welcome. On Mothering Sunday [March 11] we are holding a special service in Ascott for the whole Benefice at 10 am - why not come along? Whatever you decide to do - to give up or take on - to mark this rather distinctive and special Christian season, may I wish you a very spiritually fruitful and reflective Lent.

With all good wishes

Mark Abrey

Leaffield C.E Primary School

Community and Foundation Governor Vacancies

As you may know, Ascott under Wychwood is within the catchment area of Leaffield C.E. Primary School, an ODS Academy. We currently have a vacancy for a Community Governor and from May 2017, we will have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor.

All governors need a commitment to improving outcomes for children and useful attributes are a willingness to question and to learn. Training and support will be available to help you develop into the role.

The Governor's role:

- Being a Governor is a rewarding and effective way of making a voluntary contribution to your community and to the lives of local young people.
- The governing body's main tasks are:
 - to ensure that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction
 - to hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school
 - to oversee the financial performance of the school and to ensure its money is well spent

Foundation governors have a very special role in supporting the Christian ethos of Church of England schools: they may belong to any Christian denomination and need not be regular churchgoers, as long as they support the Christian ethos of the school, which welcomes those of all faiths or none.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please contact Leaffield C.E Primary School office, tel: 01993 878273.

Recipe

BLUEBERRY CUSTARD BAKE

225g blueberries
150g plain flour
1tbsp white sugar
150g vanilla yoghurt
80g brown sugar
55g butter
Half teaspoon nutmeg

2 eggs

Place blueberries in a lightly greased 20cm dish about 7.5cm deep or slightly smaller.

Combine 30g of the flour, white sugar, yoghurt and eggs. Beat well and pour over the blueberries.

Combine remaining flour, brown sugar, nutmeg and butter. Rub in until crumbly. Sprinkle over yoghurt mixture.

Bake in a preheated oven 180° for 30 minutes until golden and puffy.

Serve warm with vanilla ice-cream. Yum!

Serves 4 with large appetites.

Avril Rance

ASCOTT OPEN GARDENS

Save a date in your diary! Holy Trinity Church is planning an open gardens event on Sunday June 10th. More details of the gardens that will be open, times and stallholders will be published in the spring.

Keep an eye on the notice boards for more information.



Pilates with Ursula

Mat-based Pilates classes at All levels for both men and women

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Tues 18:30 - 19:30

Additional classes are also held in The Wychwoods, Fifield and Burford.

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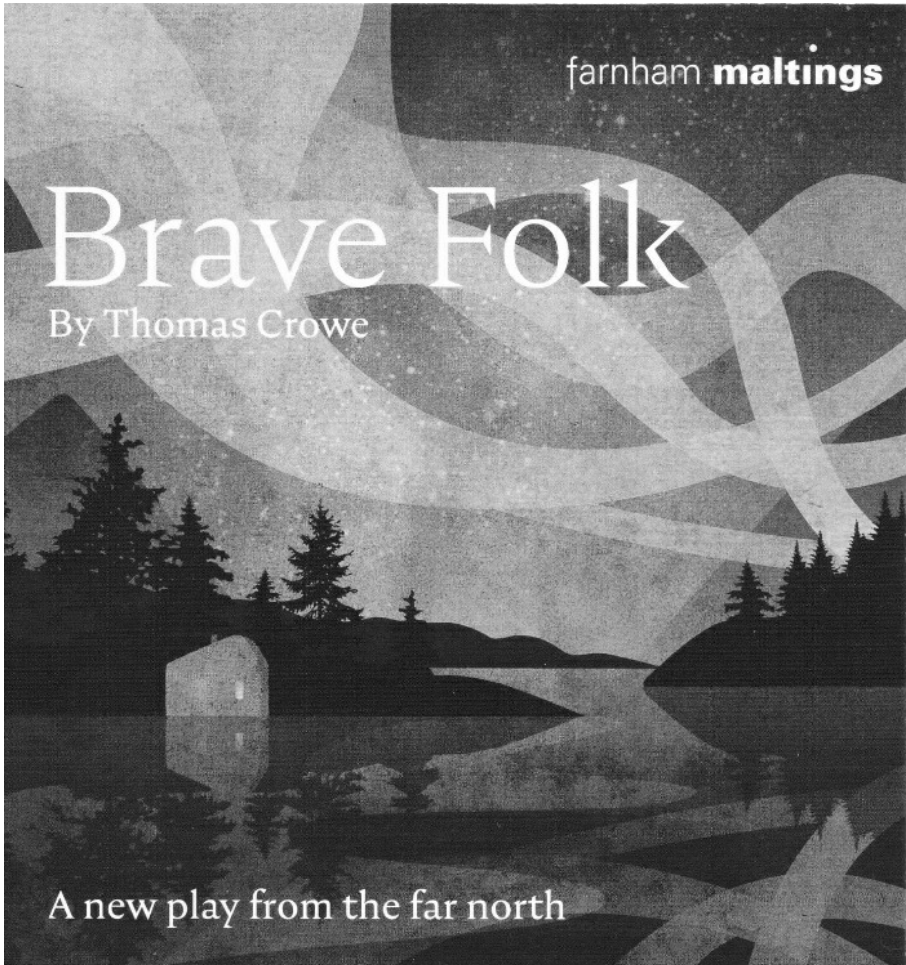


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Tiddy Hall Trustees & Farnham Maltings are proud to present

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Writer	Thomas Crowe
Director	Gavin Stride
Composer	David Ridley
Designer	Mary Drummond

As part of their national tour, Tiddy Hall Trustees are delighted to welcome back another superb production from Farnham Maltings, who brought *Launch Party* to us last year! *Brave Folk* has been especially made for audiences in village halls and intimate spaces, where people feel included and go away feeling they have spent the evening in the company of friends! This is a tale of soggy nights, brave mice and the joys of being alive! Yorgjin Oxo is a Marchlander who can tell a person by the sound of their squelch and is unlike any hero we might actually need. A carefree young man, Yorgjin Oxo, has been taught the sounds of storms and how to sing in-to the rain, until one day the next village disappears and everything changes. This is a Nordic tale about love and courage and knowing when to act. Thomas Crowe's script fizzles with humour, has larger-than-life characters and explores places quite unlike our own! Suitable for ages 8+.

Tiddy Hall, Ascott-u-Wychwood

Friday March 16 at 7pm

Tickets - £10 adults, £5 students, Family £25

Please ring: Simon Gidman 01993 831479 or Ingrid Ridley 01993 830612

The Wychwood Project

"The Wychwood Project's aims, to conserve and restore the rich mosaic of landscapes and wildlife habitats of the Royal hunting Forest of Wychwood were given a boost by planting nearly 1,000 trees at Pudlicote in mid-January.

The planting took place at a section of the river which was the focus of an Evenlode Catchment Partnership restoration project completed in winter 2016/17, in which deposited material on the river bed was removed, stones and gravel added, and banks stabilised. Approximately 5 hectares of wet grassland was created from marginal, unproductive arable land.

Wychwood Project volunteers and staff were joined at the tree planting by students from Abingdon and Witney College, Environment Agency Staff, Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and the Evenlode Catchment Partnership. Despite wet and muddy conditions the team made great progress, planting around 950 native trees in just five hours.

The Wychwood Project is a registered charity that uses the focus of the Royal hunting Forest of Wychwood to encourage local people to understand, conserve and restore its rich mosaic of landscapes and wildlife habitats.

www.wychwoodproject.org.uk<<http://www.wychwoodproject.org.uk>> for more information on the project - and how to volunteer with us!

The Evenlode Catchment Partnership, hosted by Wild Oxfordshire, has a vision for an Evenlode with improved water quality, enhanced flood management, enriched biodiversity, with greater community engagement with rivers, at local and landscape scales.

www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/evenlodecatchment<<http://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/evenlodecatchment>> for more information."

Helen Datson

Project Assistant

Wychwood Project

Hosted by Oxfordshire County Council and West Oxfordshire District Council
WODC Elmfield New Yatt Road Witney

OX28 1PB

M: 07584 262 437

(My usual office hours are 9.30-3.30 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday)

See page 10 for further details of voluntary work schedules.

Ascott Grapevine



Wychwood Voluntary work schedules

Get Active in the New Year – Volunteer with the Wychwood Project In 2017 volunteers helped us plant over 1,500 trees, coppice woodland, lay hedges, repair dry stone walls, and monitor Barn Owls and Flora to improve West Oxfordshire's habitats and landscape.

Wychwood Project volunteering is on offer every month, why not come and join us to get some exercise and fresh air, meet some friendly fellow volunteers - and help the Wychwood Project.

Here's what's on at the start of 2018:

Thursday 4 January - Woodstock water meadows. Logs for Labour - tree work and possibly a bonfire, meet at the garages at the foot of Brook Hill (by the A44).

Saturday 6 January - Hedgelaying at the Saltway Charlbury Thursday 18 January - Tree planting at Pudlicote Saturday 3 & Thursday 15 February - Coppicing at Beevis Farm, Charlbury Thursday 1 March - Hedge planting near Ascott-under-Wychwood Saturday 3 March - Hedgelaying at the Saltway Charlbury.

Thursday 15 March - Woodstock water meadows. Logs for Labour - tree work and possibly a bonfire, meet at the garages at the foot of Brook Hill (by the A44).

Drystone walling happens every Monday and Tuesday (weather permitting).

You are welcome to join any day and stay as long as you wish. All tools and training needed are provided, but bring your own gloves and refreshments. The work is often away from any shelter so be prepared for all weathers. If you decide the drystone wallers' life is for you and you join us regularly you will need steel toe cap boots....stones can be heavy!

Or join our Bird Aid, Flora or Barn Owl Groups who meet regularly to protect species across West Oxfordshire.

No experience is necessary for any of the tasks (full instruction is part of the day) but you should wear appropriate clothing for outdoor work including stout boots and gloves; tools are provided but you can bring your own (hand tools only); activities usually take place with 'behind the hedge' loo facilities only!

Activities run from 9.30am to 3pm unless otherwise stated. There is normally no need to book (the listing will say if booking is required); but do check the website or our facebook page before setting out in case of any last minute changes due to weather conditions or other circumstances beyond our control. You don't need to stay for the whole session if you don't have time (or energy!) For more information and to get involved with the Wychwood Project

visit: www.wychwoodproject.org or

www.facebook.com/WychwoodProject

phone: 07584 262437 (Mon, Wed, Thur)

email: info@wychwoodproject.org.uk

Safari Supper

The village donned their pith helmets and sallied forth to the church where they were greeted by Rachel and her delicious starters. The church was candlelit and the heaters kept everyone warm while the wine and conversation flowed. This was a new event for Ascott under Wychwood and everyone was expectantly waiting for their next instructions as to where they would be moving on to for the next course!

Torches and candles lit the way to Debra and Sarah's houses and warm fires and shepherds pies awaited them.

No sooner was everyone seated, glasses topped up and plates emptied then it was time to get coats back on and wend the way up to Margaret and Ash who were hosting the puddings!

It was thanks to all of the generous body of helpers who made food that everyone was so well fed.

The raffle was drawn and everyone made their way home although I did hear that the party went on with some until 1.30 am!! £1100 was raised for our little church and the PCC all agreed that it was fun and easy to host. Thank you to everyone who supported the evening.

We heard whispers that could we do a safari supper in the summer as well!?!
Watch this space.....

Sarah Tribe

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Rotary Club of Burford & Kingham News



As the end of 2017 approached the club donated towards the repair of the fire damaged Central Beacon Mountain Rescue Team HQ in recognition of support from one of their number with our 2017 charity cycle ride to Paris and also had two interesting talks. The first was about “40 years as a vet”, given by Peter Aylmer who spoke about his fascinating experiences both in the UK and far-flung lands. A truly remarkable story. The second, by Robert Llewellyn, who started as a bespoke Leicestershire shoemaker, went on to a famous acting career (Red Dwarf, to mention only one!) and progressed to environmentally friendly energy production. Sprinkled with amusing asides and anecdotes, he was a splendid highlight for the club's Christmas Dinner & Charter night, finally generously donating his honorarium to the NSPCC.

Incidentally, we hope you enjoyed the Christmas & New Year good wishes illuminated sign by the Gateway Hotel!

In January, we changed our meetings venue to the Bay Tree Hotel where former Rotarian Kay Shortland is scheduled to talk about a 5 week visit to Nepal setting up sewing classes in villages using donated sewing machines, and teaching sewing skills to Nepalese women in order that they can start sustainable businesses. In February, Edith Sim is to speak about “Parkinson's UK charity”, while in March David Eagles of Taynton will enlighten us on the thrills and spills of being a Fleet Air Arm pilot and defence industry test pilot.

Fund-raising in 2018 will include the annual **May-time Bluebell Walk** through Cornbury Park (including areas usually off-limits to the general public) and we plan to participate in the **Burford Fire Station's charity walk** when they will be filming the walk for Google Street maps. We shall also co-ordinate the annual **Christian Aid Week door-to-door collection** again (13th -19th May). **Please, anyone living between Kingham to Lechlade (or beyond) volunteer to help!** The club's major fund-raising event of former years, the annual Kingham Duck Race is at time of writing, sadly, in doubt since the site is no longer available.

Having planted many crocus corms at the A40/A361 roundabout in Burford last autumn, we hope to have a display of flowers advertising **Rotary's worldwide efforts to eradicate Polio** – but sadly, the local rooks, crows and possibly squirrels were seen feasting on the corms...so the result might be disappointing!

Later in the year, we plan to visit club member Laith Reynold's Bell Foundry in Loughborough & we have invited Graham Short, the micro-artist, who engraved Jane Austen on our new £5 notes to talk to us.

Finally, if you would like to visit us, please contact secretary Terry Best at terry.a.best@btinternet.com.

Mark David

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Mark Long, Owner and Director

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FOOTPRINTS FROM ASCOTT'S PAST.

Part 3

Rape today is a very emotive subject. Understanding of these situations may have improved in the last few decades and women as a whole are given more sensitive attention than past history would show. But rape has always been a serious offence and surprisingly in Ascott's past, nearly eight hundred years ago in 1241, a rape case from the village was presented before the justices of the Eyre.

The justices of the Eyre were judges sent from the Central Courts at Westminster to all counties in England to preside over local courts. The counties were grouped into circuits with a group of judges assigned to each circuit. In theory these Eyres were supposed to happen every seven years but this could vary. They took place between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries until new forms of justice took over.

The justices sat over various kinds of legal cases known as pleas, including lawsuits, criminal offences and offences against the king's property. The Eyres generated a large amount of revenue for the Crown because all fines known as amercements were paid straight into the Exchequer. These pleas were recorded by clerks on rolls of parchment as the cases were tried before two or three judges and a jury of twelve local men, freeholders or leading men from the district.

This rape case is the first known instant when villager's names are recorded in Ascott's history and the appeal of force and rape was brought by Gillian of Ascott against John, son of Nicholas of Kingham. However they both attended the Court and Gillian indicated that she did not wish to proceed against John. Having brought the case it seems that someone would have to pay the Court costs and as surety for the expenses William the son of Simon of Ascott and Henry the son of Stephen of Ascott are named. So now we have the names of five actual people who lived here in the village nearly eight hundred years ago.

Was it a case of losing face and the family shamed? Or is there more behind this than we can see?

Today we are not in a position to read the medieval mind or the customs of the times. We can never know the true details about the offence. A type of crime which has always been part of the history of mankind!

Nevertheless perhaps somewhere amongst the earliest graves dug in Ascott's churchyard, well below the surface of today's grass covering, are some small remnants of the bones of Gillian, William, Simon, Henry or Stephen, Ascott's earliest known villagers.

Wendy Pearse

DID YOU KNOW

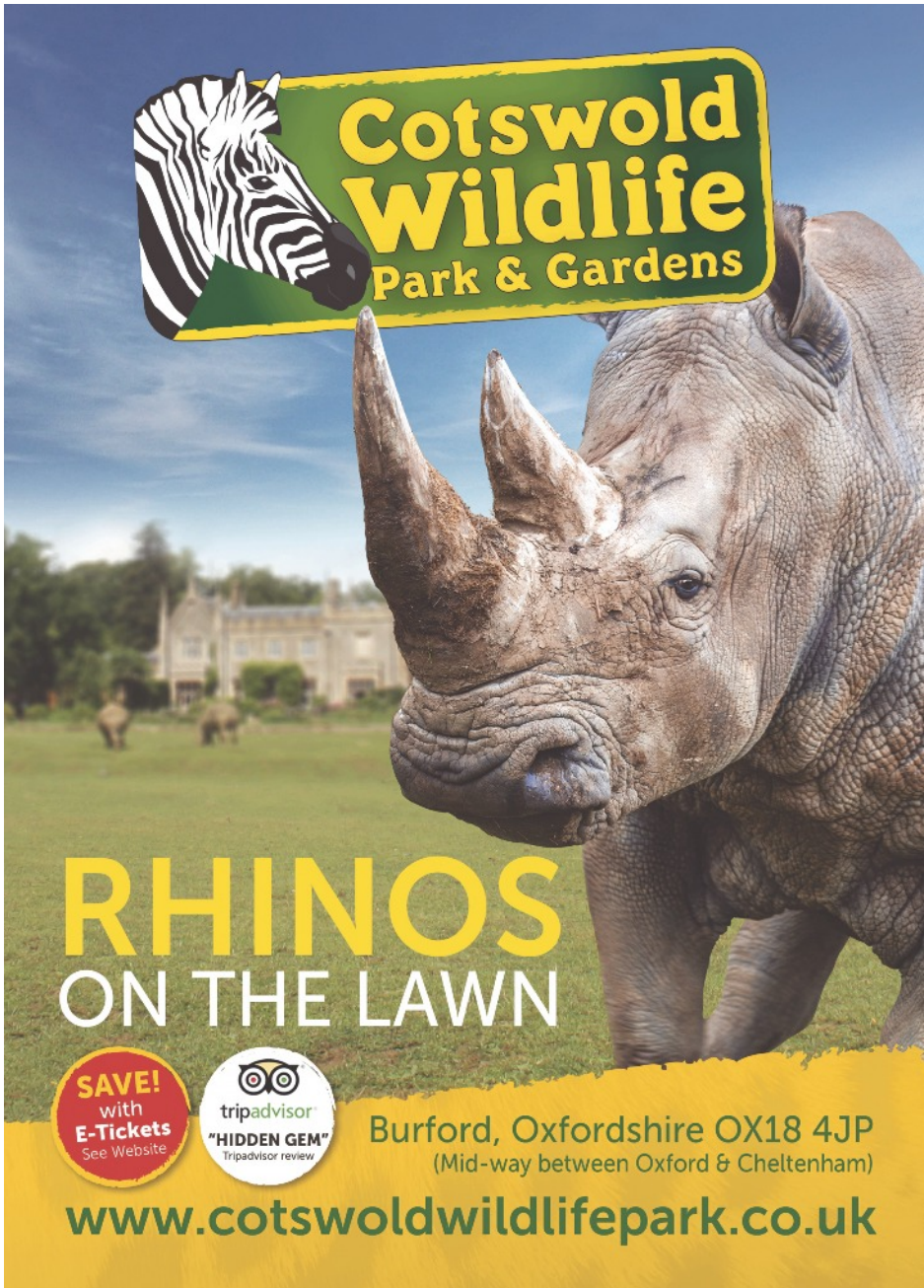
that in World War Two big tree trunks (as large as possible) were used as anti-tank barriers to prevent the enemy, should they invade, making progress up country by using bridges and routes through villages? Erected by Oxfordshire County Council they were placed at strategic points ready to block routes as necessary. One such was placed by the river bridge on Chipping Norton Hill.

The tree trunks reached from hedge to hedge or wall to wall. They were pivoted near the butt and had a wheel at the other end. The pivot was embedded in a large concrete block and a strong post was embedded at the other end in a similar concrete block. The tree trunks once wheeled across were attached to the post by strong chains.

The rather blurred photo shows one such tree trunk near the church at Kingham. Barbed wire was added as reinforcement and the Home Guard is shown lined up at the rear.

Wendy Pearse






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COLDSTONE ANGLING CLUB

March the 14th sees the close of another season for the club. This season the club has undertaken a major project installing otter fencing all around the perimeter of the lake. The decision to do this was made by the committee after we undertook a stocking of carp which due to their size cost a considerable amount of money. In view of this it made sense to do the fencing to protect our stock. Over several weekends and evenings we completed the fence construction using new posts, brackets, straining wires and gates. The fence should now serve several purposes, not only keeping otters out but also foxes and deer. This should enable the wildlife to flourish within the confines of the fencing.

Club membership remains quite consistent regarding numbers over the past few seasons. One good thing is the increase of juniors which is very encouraging.

There are now signs of improvement on the river with juvenile fish being seen and caught and we have received stockings of fish from the Environment Agency which should improve things even more. Riparian landowners are now making improvements to the river which will make the river much better in the future.

On the 18th November the club held its annual race night at the Tiddy Hall. This year was exceptional

with fantastic support for the event. It was not only a record attendance but also a record profit totalling £2,003.34 which for a village event was incredible. Many thanks to those of you who supported this evening.

The club's AGM will be held in the Tiddy Hall on the 27th of April at 8.00 pm. Anybody wanting to attend this meeting will be very welcome.

P. Moss.



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at

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on

Saturday 14th April

Saturday 12th May

Saturday 9th June

Saturday 14th July

Saturday 11th August

Saturday 8th September

Saturday 13th October

Saturday 10th November

EVERYBODY WELCOME

JUDY MOSS

Through The Ascott Grapevine I would like to extend my grateful thanks to those of you who visited the Hospice, for the many cards and letters I received, also for all the support you have given me at this difficult time.

Many thanks,

P. Moss.

PS. On 30th June I am organising a fundraising evening for Katharine House Hospice at the Tiddy Hall.

FUND RAISING FOR REPAIRS TO ASCOTT CHURCH BELLS



We have raised £15,000 which will enable us to repair our tenor bell and stabilise and make safe the metal frame that holds all six bells. We still have several fund raising events planned for this summer and the money raised will enable us to have the bell frame cleaned of 100 years of rust and repainted to protect it for the next 100 years.

Thanks to all who pledged financial support and attended the various events that we organised.

We are now waiting for Whites of Appleton, our contractors, to fit us in their busy schedule.

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LEFT RIGHT EYE FRONT

I wonder, do most galaxies in the universe spin in an anti-clockwise direction. If this is so, is eternity dominated by right-handedness? If there is a God and he played cricket, would he be a right arm leg brake spin bowler? But I suppose if he is omnipotent, he wouldn't get anyone to play against him.

Throughout history those born natural lefthanders have been given a very hard time, many being forced to write with their right hand. I feel very sorry for those poor wotty handers. Over the centuries if I had been them then I would have been revolting.

In 1953 I was fourteen years old. Only a year before I had my first pair of long trousers and I was beginning to count the hairs appearing on my chin. One summer's evening during that year I went for a swim in the river in part of the village called Ascott Earl, which my grandmother called 'Stump End'. She had lived in Ascott since 1884. Sliding into the river near a willow tree, which is still there today, I felt a sharp pain in my right big toe. Dragging myself to the bank I saw my toe had been cut to the bone by broken glass. Dripping blood I was taken back home on the back of Tony Brooks' motor bike. The doctor was called, and later that evening Doctor Gordon Scott called in, examined the toe and gave me an injection against lockjaw.

Most clouds have a silver lining. For the next week I found it difficult to walk. I missed most of the school exams. Later that summer I spent alone on the newly

opened playing field teaching myself to kick a football with my left foot. By the autumn I had become quite proficient at this. What football pundits today would say - I had an educated left foot. Unfortunately this didn't extend to my brain. I failed my 11 plus Exam and from that failure, I and millions like me, would be treated second class for the rest of our lives.

During the years that followed I enjoyed playing football but never became a complete left footer. So I never became a Roman Catholic. I have often thought if those of us who failed their 11 plus Exam had been treated with a little more equality, then the chip I have on my shoulder and the suspicion I have over those better educated than myself, that are looking to put one over me, then maybe I would have been even more charming than I already am.

Full of bonhomie and generous thought. But I am none of these so you might guess I could never vote for Mrs May who would like to increase grammar schools and fill them with unpleasant little snobs.

P.S. Did anyone notice the satellite picture from space showed the hurricane that devastated the Caribbean Islands was spinning in an anti-clockwise way? If hurricanes were to spin in a clockwise direction would they spin across the Atlantic to the shores of Europe or Africa? We should be told!

Fred Russell

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Carols on the Green

This annual village event on Christmas Eve raised £500 for the Laurence Home Nursing Team and the Wychwood Day Centre.



Councillors back balloon and lantern ban

The release of sky lanterns and helium balloons from West Oxfordshire District Council land could be banned after Cabinet members backed the proposal.

Having reviewed a range of evidence suggesting the potential harmful effects of lanterns and balloons to wildlife and livestock along with the fire risk, councillors supported the move.



Cllrs A Coles (left) & T Morris

Cllr Toby Morris, Deputy Leader of the Council, said: "There is growing evidence of the dangers to wildlife and the environment presented by the use of these apparently harmless items, the use of which has grown in recent years.

"We are sending a statement that highlights these risks and hope residents will follow our example and prevent their use."

As well as the recommendation to not allow the release of balloons and sky lanterns on land owned or controlled by the Council, officers will be asked to contact Town and Parish Councils in the District asking them to introduce the policy on their land.

Cllr Andrew Coles, who sits on the Council's Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, added: "I am delighted this recommendation has gone forward and look forward to the policy being enforced in the near future."

The recommendation was made at the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday 10th January. All decisions made by the Council's Cabinet are subject to the usual 10-day call-in period.

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Ascott Martyrs

History repeats itself!

As the current group wrestle with the problem of bird muck on the seats (which means they are not used) and the desire for a stone memorial or at least more information on the green, we are grateful for Pippa Carter finding the information below in the archives. History does indeed repeat itself.

Annual Parish Meetings

27th March 1972 minutes recorded that 'It was suggested that the 1973 Riots commemoration should take the form of a stone erected on the village green between the trees with a name-plate with the names of the women who were sent to prison.'

8th May 1972 it was recorded 'The Annual Meeting decided that the Riots Commemoration should take the form of a stone on the village green with the names of the 16 women who went to prison engraved upon it. Mrs Tait (PC Chairman) said she would phone Lee, stonemason of Taynton and ask the cost of such a stone.'

12th June 1972 'Riots commemoration - Mr Warner said that an offer had been made to provide seats on the village green bearing the names of the 16 women of Ascott involved in the 1873 dispute. These to be donated and installed instead of the proposed stone which would turn out to be a costly undertaking according to available information. It was decided to invite parishioners to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council so that the feeling of the village

may be obtained as to which would be the better commemoration'

10th July 1972 'Parishioners were given details of the cause of the 1873 riots by Mr I Warner. He explained that 16 women from Ascott were sent to prison for picketing Crown Farm and trying to persuade men to join the farm-workers union. A discussion followed and it was the unanimous wish of all present that we should accept the very generous offer by Mr and Mrs Warner to place seats on the village green bearing the names of the women who took part in the 1873 picketing. The Parish Council agreed to take the necessary steps to maintain the seats after erection. It was thought that it may be necessary to move two of the trees on the green and Mrs Tait said she would see the donors of the trees and explain the matter to them.'

12th February 1973 - 'It was decided to accept Mr Woodley's offer to move the flowering May tree to the point of the green near the garage for a sum of £5. The Clerk read a letter from SEB saying that should the Chestnut grow to a size that it overlapped the wires the supply would be re-routed and the tree would not be lopped or cut about. It was suggested that this letter be kept for future reference'

12th March 1973 'Mr I Warner gave brief details of the 1873 Riots which it is hope to commemorate on 9th June 1973 and the Chairman thanked Mr & Mrs Warner for the generous gift they proposed to make to the village - seats round the chestnut tree on the village green with the names of the women who took part in the 1873 Riots. A committee

was formed to try and arrange some form of celebration to take place on 2nd June - Mr Woodley, Miss Walkenshaw, Mrs Tucker, Mr R Franks and Mr Tait forming the Committee.'

April 9th 1973 'Ascott-u-Wychwood Riots (*later crossed out and Riots changed to Martyrs*) of June 1873. Firstly the date to commemorate the Riots (*again, later crossed out and Riots changed to Martyrs*) would be on June 9th starting at approx 4pm - different types of Dancing was proposed and tea arrangements to be organised by Mr Tait through the Ascott WI and other Parishioners. It was also mentioned that a younger member of one of the descendants be asked to present a bouquet at the official opening - this was a special request from Mr & Mrs Warner. It was then proposed by Mr E Moss and seconded by Mr I Warner that the Secretary of the National Union of Agricultural Workers and representatives be asked to attend. The BBC Midland Television and Radio Oxford was to be informed and remaining arrangements would be made by the special committee that had been appointed by the Parish Council.'

June 11th 1973 'A lively discussion then took place regarding the celebrations held on June 9th. It was understood from the local papers that the Banner of the NAAWU was to be present, this being brought to the Council notice by Mr E Moss. Afterwards the Council was then informed that it was not at the celebrations on June 9th, the Banner was being brought to the village during week ending June 16th. Mr Ivor Warner then informed the Parish Council that it was his wife's and his own wish that they did NOT want a Presentation Plate put on the MEMORIAL SEATS in their honour.

Also it was their wish that the seats be handed over to the Parish Council who would be responsible at all times for the maintenance and general upkeep of the Memorial seats and the Plaques. It was then requested that it be recorded in the minutes thanking all members of the special celebrations committee including Mr H Mortimer and Mr Woodley and helpers in making June 9th a most successful day and that the future maintenance costs etc be included in the agenda of the July Meeting.'

July 9th 1973 'Mrs Tait then mentioned that a small Balance was in hand from the Ascott Centenary celebrations which was to be included in a fund to be set up for the maintenance of the Memorial Seats. A discussion followed later regarding the memorial Seats and result was as follows.

1. A separate fund be made in the Oxford Trustee Bank. The clerk to obtain the necessary application form for the next meeting
2. Mrs Tait proposed that a Trustee Committee be formed from The Village and from friends outside this to be decided at the next meeting.
3. Mr E Moss offered to pay £2 yearly towards the Fund.'

The PC then went on to create an 'Ascott Memorials Fund' and a deposit account opened at the Midland Bank. The memorials included the Martyrs Seats, the Great War Memorial tablet and the Church Gates which the PC had restored. The PC also took out insurance on these for the first time.

These days the maintenance and insurance costs of all these items are included in the single PC budget and all matters dealt with by the Parish Councillors. Mrs Tait

and Mr and Mrs Warner are featured on the home page

www.ascottmartyrs.org.uk

Where are we now?

There appears to be 4 options being discussed and it is proposed to hold a presentation during Martyrs' Day June 23rd on the green to allow any residents/descendants to voice their views.

Options:

- A) Do nothing except set up a weekly cleaning rota
- B) Option A plus information boards on corners of seats
- C) Move seats and concrete slabs over roots to:
 - 1. A foursome away from tree with information stone table in centre providing information or
 - 2. Split 4 seats to 2 pairs (L shaped) each with stone table and information.
- D) Build mini-roofs in Cotswolds tiles over seats with information boards on corners of seats.

The cost will mainly be borne by the Martyrs Trust but it is hoped that the Parish Council and village residents will contribute?



More seats!

Chipping Norton Police Station is moving to the Fire Station and we have been offered 3 19th century benches that we believe were in the Court House in 1873 and therefore used by the martyrs, we are checking! It is hoped that places in the village can be found for them the larger one is 2.1m.

Martyrs Day Saturday June 23rd

Preparations are well underway to include a play by Wychwood Players, folk singing and a BBQ on the green, a report on our research so far and the unveiling of the tapestry being made by the villagers and Martyrs descendants as well as placing memorial plaques on some of the cottages where the martyrs lived. The event is open to all so put the date in your diary now!! Beverley McCombs author of the definitive book on the Martyrs (available in the village shop) is coming from New Zealand with some of the descendants from New Zealand so let's make them very welcome.

Textile Group

The textile group (local residents and descendants) continue the creation of this community tribute to recognise the sixteen women who in 1873 helped to improve the wages, working conditions and rights of agricultural labourers nationwide as well as leading to picketing being allowed and Magistrate selection reviewed. They are meeting for a further six sessions to complete the hanging ready for Martyrs Day on 23 June.

All twenty-two panels are completed so it is now time to assemble them together with the lettering and border.



tyr Rebecca Smith and researched the history of how she came to be in prison in Oxford and what life might have been like for her. She called her tour “the woman who invented the picket line.” Picture shows Rebecca Smith descendant Christine Cole (from Watford) with “Rebecca” in front of the wall where photos were taken of the new arrivals. We are trying to find the pictures of the martyrs.



Oxford Jail in 1873

Several of the Martyrs’ support group were invited to the Oxford Jail recently to a play by the City of Oxford College (set in 1873 when the women were imprisoned), each student chose a character from the site’s past and in the role of that character also took visitors on a guided tour. One student had chosen Ascott Mar-



Ann Renton, Sue Richards and Marylyn Baker

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Pippa Carter and Vicki Robb

Paul Jackson 0199383196797

PC News

Happy New Year to everyone – we hope that you had a very happy festive season.

Carols on the Green - The Parish Council is thrilled to report that the Carols on the Green was a great success. Many records were set – more people attended, every drop of mulled wine drunk, every mince pie devoured and a record amount collected at the end. So this month we had pleasure in donating 2 cheques of £250 each to Lawrence Home Nursing and the Wychwood Day Centre on behalf of all the Ascott-u-W Carollers. Many thanks must go to the whole team involved in organising the event, starting at the beginning of December with the tree being erected, monitoring the various power cuts, straightening the rather drunkard Wise Man and finally reaching the big event without forgetting anything. But particular thanks must go to Elaine, Mark and the young newcomers in the brass band – they give us so much confidence to sing out and there were many compliments, the best being ‘For our family this means that Christmas has really started’.

Planning - Just before Christmas we were extremely disappointed to hear that permission had been granted on Appeal for 5 houses to be built on Crown Farm land between 12 and 18 London Lane. This PC and many residents considered the application extremely carefully and decided to object. From the PC point of view, whether A-u-W is able to sustain much development is questionable, especially when it is of a size and design not required within the community, and we are concerned that this will lead to speculation on a larger scale. WODC officers believed that the application should be

rejected on grounds that it is inappropriate and particularly in the AONB but the Inspector overruled all objections. We believe that he sometimes used completely false premises and we are currently taking advice. Anyone who wishes to know more, please contact Philippa Carter, PC Chairman.

Emergency Planning, Snow and Power Cuts - We have been updating our Emergency Plan which is something we and all Parish and Town Councils were asked to write following the UK floods of 2006 and 2007. Our Community Plan is designed to offer self-help when the Emergency Services are very stretched and it is for all types of emergencies – for example, we have activated it in snow and flooding situations; one local village had a major fire where residents needed refuges and firemen food and drink; a rail disaster is possible here and certainly if power had been out for much longer in December then we would have officially checked that all residents were warm and properly fed. Ascott-u-W is a very caring community and we were aware that a lot of informal checking had been taking place.

We must thank the team of snow clearing volunteers for their hard work in clearing and salting snow on pavements and roads. It was particularly hard this time as the snow continued to fall and it was wet as well as very cold. There were new volunteers this time including Mike Tucker who is taking over from Laurence Mellor as lead for the pavements and Tim Hook from Crown Farm, who kindly ploughed the roads. Chris Badger is continuing to salt the roads. We appreciate some residents taking the trouble to stop

and thank us and we hope it made your walking and driving on those snowy days a little easier.

However..... I would like to register our real disappointment that so few of you have returned the pink volunteer slips delivered to your doors before Christmas. We hope that this article helps you to understand how many and varied jobs are needed during an emergency. We understand that Ascott residents are very caring but if, on a rare occasion, help needs to be seriously and quickly co-ordinated then it would be extremely helpful to have names and contact details at our fingertips. The volunteer form is re-printed in this edition of the Grapevine and we really would be grateful if you could read it carefully, fill it in if you and others in your household can help in any way and deliver it according to the instructions. This also applies to those who have volunteered before because that was a while ago and your circumstances may have changed what you are able to offer.

Thank you to Laurence Mellor - Returning to snow briefly – I must take the

opportunity to wish Laurence Mellor well in his retirement from running the snow team, organising the Christmas decorations on the Green and chairing the Sports Club. Without Laurence the village would have no snow clearing at all as he was the one who single handedly obtained the grant to buy the equipment, assembled the team, liaised with OCC and kept everything together for many years. Equally he has been Chair of the Sports Club and heavily involved in the playground and playing field schemes over the past 8 years. He has given the village huge amounts of time and effort and I would like to say an equally huge thank you.

Parish Finances - Last but not least, the Parish Council were able to agree a reduction of 10% in our precept for Financial Year 2018/19. We hope that it will help a little to offset County Council rises in their share of Council Tax.

Snowdrops, aconites and hellebores are flowering already - what a glorious part of the country this is in early spring. Enjoy the birdsong and the developing light!

Pippa Carter

Parish Council:

Philippa Carter (Chairman)	830344
Peter Rance	831113
Sandy Timms	831870
Mark Tribe	359769
Graham Ranson	
Angela Barnes (Parish Clerk)	01608 641045



REQUEST IS TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

Dear Resident

We are updating our Emergency Plan and list of volunteers who would be willing to help in an Emergency. There could be so many ways to give help and the community would be very grateful. The list is kept in confidence by the Parish Council. We could be in need of -

General Help

Look outs

Accommodation

Comforters

Caterers

Drivers

Administrators

Specialist Help

Doctor

Nurse

First Aider

Vet

Vet nurse

Pharmacist

Dentist

Equipment + Operator

4 x 4

Vehicle with tow bar

Tractor

JCB

Chain Saw

Water Pump

Generator

Waders

Blankets and pillows

Counsellor

Administrator

Builder

Carpenter

Electrician

Plumber

Tree Surgeon

Handiman

Any other?

Anyone who volunteers **and is given instruction by the Parish Council** will be covered by the Parish Council Insurance Policy.

PLEASE LET A MEMBER OF THE PARISH
COUNCIL/PARISH EMERGENCY TEAM KNOW IF
YOU OR ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSE CAN VOLUN-
TEER.

Either:-

1. E-mail – pippa.carter2@gmail.com
2. Approach or phone any member of the Team (phone numbers on the Community Emergency Plan and in the Grapevine)
3. Fill out this form and return to the shop.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Phone/Mobile.....

How can you help?.....

.....

Name.....

Phone/Mobile.....

How can you help?.....

.....

Name.....

Phone/Mobile.....

How can you help?.....

.....

Wychwood Library

REGULAR EVENTS AT WYCHWOOD LIBRARY MARCH/APRIL/MAY 2018

TAI CHI on Monday mornings at 9.30am

Tai Chi is excellent for improving balance, lowering blood pressure, memory skills and “quietness”. Beginners and returners are always welcome.

Evening Reading Group – first Monday of the month at 7.30pm

Late Spring run by Age UK – first and third Tuesday of the month at 10.30am. Late Spring is a group for the recently bereaved.

Afternoon Reading Group – second Thursday of the month at 1.30pm

Coffee mornings – every Wednesday from 10 – 12pm. Meet up with friends and make new ones

Wychwood Circle – look out for posters on the village notice boards. Either first or second Sunday of the month at 7pm

Knitting group – second Monday of the month at 7pm. Beginners welcome and tricky patterns happily discussed!

And now it is time for me to retire from the best job in the world! I have absolutely loved my ten years at Wychwood Library. To celebrate we will be having an “all day” Coffee and Tea party on Wednesday 28th March. All welcome.



SATURDAY MAY 26TH at 1.30PM

GRAND AUCTION SALE

Household Items & Antiques



GUEST AUCTIONEER - T.V.'s:

Mark Stacey

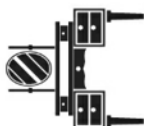
'Bargain Hunt', 'Antiques Road Trip', 'Flog It!'



Viewing: Friday 25th May - 5pm to 8pm &
Saturday 26th May 10.30am - 12.30pm



SALE: SATURDAY MAY 26TH at 1.30PM
TIDDY HALL, ASCOTT u WYCHWOOD



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A Village Councillor



Hello Ascott, my name is Graham Ranson and I am your new (ish) parish councillor. I started in June 2017, I think, and have been diligently taking photos of potholes and reporting them to the council ever since.

I'm 32 years old and moved to the village with my wife Lianne in October 2016, having briefly lived here for a few years as a child in the early to mid 90s.

I run a 2-person indie game studio, Glitch Games, making puzzle games for iPhone, Android, and PC. We've been doing it since 2012 having started the company to avoid getting a real job for as long as possible. Outside of work I don't really have much time for hobbies, attempting to look after our two dogs takes up what little time I have and from June this year I will be even busier as Lianne and I are expecting our first child.

It may seem silly but the main reason I wanted to join the council was that having recently moved to the village with our dogs, a Beagle and a Pug named Alice and Cooper, we didn't like the state of the dog waste bins and wanted to do something about it. We also thought it would be a good way to get to know the village and its people.

Then, at the opening of my first meeting, the current councillors were signing off on the replacement of all the waste bins and I figured, job done. I then decided to stick around to continue getting to know the village and see if there was anything else I could help with.

So in short, if I was asked to write an advertising slogan for the parish council, I guess I'd go with "come for the waste bins, stay for the people" - which I guess is why they haven't asked me to do that yet.

TIDDY HALL

Piano Lessons

Pauline Carter

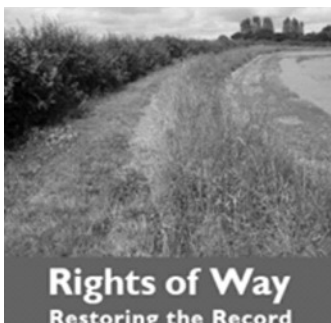
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Rights of Way: Restoring the Record



There are just 8 years left to apply for your old paths to be recorded. Unrecorded paths, subject to some minor exceptions, will be extinguished on 1 Jan 26 at the stroke of midnight. New Year's Day 2026 will be the last day such unrecorded paths can be used by right.

Help stop the extinguishment! Find out if the routes you walk ride or cycle are shown on your council's definitive map. If in doubt ask the council! For any unrecorded routes, make an application to have the route added to the map.

People are generally unaware of this mass extinguishment of paths so please share this information with any interested parties.



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Run by the community

LATEST NEWS

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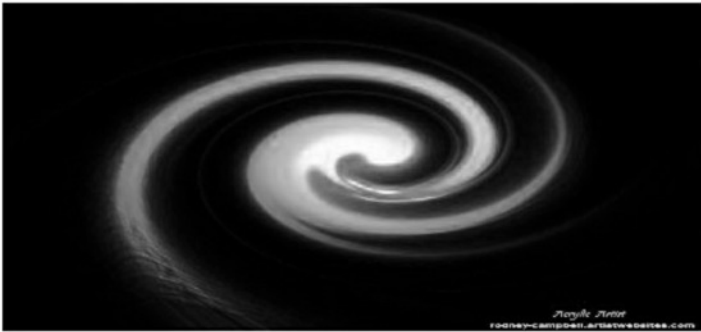
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7.30pm – 8.30pm

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Fees: Advanced payment for the 6 week course is £30 = £5 per session
If you wish to drop in for a session the fee is £7.00

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Tel: 07780 572283 for more information

WYCHWOOD FOLK CLUB



In association with the Wychwood Brewery
At Tiddy Hall or The Swan Inn Shipton Rd, Ascott -u- Wychwood

Sat March 3rd Ian W Brown + support by *Pete Watkins* **The Swan Inn**
Ian Brown returns to the club after a successful opening performance for Chris Leslie last year. Tickets **£8.00 in advance** **£10.00 on the door.**

Sat March 24th Mike Silver + support by *Linda Watkins* **Tiddy Hall**
Revered as one of this country's most accomplished singer-songwriter-guitarists, Mike Silver also returns to the club, this time playing solo after a great performance last time alongside Johnny Coppin. Tickets **£10.00 in advance** **£12.00 on the door**

Sat April 7th Julie Felix + support by *B.W. Pike* **Tiddy Hall**
The legendary Queen of Folk comes to the club for the first time. The first solo folk artist to be signed to a major British record company back in the 60's, she went on to become a household name with numerous TV appearances amongst other achievements. Tickets **£10.00 in advance** **£12.00 on the door**

Sat April 21st Chris Ronald Trio + support by *Sian Magill* **The Swan Inn**
Ronald's music has been described as "Canadian folk with British roots" and likened to "the country and folk that came out of Laurel Canyon and the British Isles in the mid-seventies." Tickets **£10.00 in advance** **£12.00 on the door**

Sat May 5th Clive Gregson & Liz Simcock + support by *Leon Gormley* **Tiddy Hall**
Clive and Liz first toured together in 2015 in a series of shows performing songs from the Gregson & Collister back catalogue. The tour was a resounding success. So much so that Clive and Liz decided to keep the train rolling. Tickets **£10.00 in advance** **£12.00 on the door**

Sat May 19th Dave Gibb + support by *James Moore* **The Swan Inn**
Hailing from the village of Wanlockhead in Dumfries and Galloway Dave describes himself as a left-handed, balding, middle-aged songwriting folky from Scotland's highest village. Tickets **£10.00 in advance** **£12.00 on the door**

SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS - www.wychwoodfolkclub.com
Or call on 01993831427 / 07870563299 - E-mail: wychwoodfolkclub@zoho.com

House Plants

Houseplants are literally good for your health!

Houseplants have been going in and out of fashion ever since our early ancestors started bringing their plants in from the outdoors. Easy to care for, resilient and a quick way to inject some greenery into your home, the benefits houseplants provide should make us consider them a necessity rather than a object of fashion.

Every year over 4 million people worldwide die prematurely due to indoor air pollution. Pollution levels are even higher indoors than outdoors. Opening the windows and naturally ventilating our indoor spaces can remedy these problems; however, during winter months people are less likely to do so and given that people spend more than 90% of their time indoors at this time of the year, it is important to ensure that air quality is of a high standard, something that houseplants can help achieve. In short, air quality matters. Paint, lacquer, wood-varnish, wallpaper, furnishings, upholstery, synthetic materials, fireplace smoke, cigarette smoke and common cleaning products that we use in our homes can emit a variety of toxic compounds that can be a cause of headache, drowsiness, dizziness, confusion, sore throat, coughing, eye irritation, an increase in heart rate, liver and kidney damage. To combat the presence of what we are breathing in it is recommended to have at least one plant per 100 sq feet of our home or office space.

Plants purify the air by absorbing and removing airborne contaminants as they take in carbon dioxide, which is

then processed into oxygen through photosynthesis. Indoor plants can help to remove the pollutants by increasing the oxygen in the air we breathe and removing pollutants, plants can improve concentration and memory, heighten our attention and improve creativity. Research has also shown that the presence of indoor plants leads to reduced stress and anxiety, increased feelings of calm, a marked improvement in mood and self-esteem and increased feelings of optimism and control. They also help ease feelings of depression and promote a general sense of well-being.

Most of us know that traditionally houseplants have been gifted as housewarming or get-well presents, but there is more than just tradition behind this gesture? There are real benefits, both physiological and psychological to having plants in your home or by your hospital bedside. Houseplants can help fight colds and have been shown to reduce cold-related illnesses by more than 30%. This is due to their effect of increasing humidity levels and decreasing dust. By filling your home with plants you can decrease or eliminate headaches completely as you are much less likely to be breathing in the stale air that contributes to headaches. People with plants in their homes have less stress, and plants have been known to lower blood pressure. Houseplants are natural humidifiers. Instead of buying a humidifier to soften the air, just bring in a plant or two. They can also negate cigarette and fireplace smoke by removing airborne chemicals. Houseplants can improve your sleep. Certain plants give off oxygen at night so introducing these into

the bedroom can dramatically improve your nights sleep.

In 1989 NASA conducted a Clean Air Study, in an effort to find the most effective indoor plants for filtering harmful toxins and pollutants from the air. It revealed that houseplants can remove up to 87% of toxins in 24 hours. Their results have stood the test of time, and the top ten most effective air filtering houseplants can be found below; please note however that some of these plants are known to be toxic to cats, dogs and other pets. Please check the toxicity of plants before introducing them into your home.

1. Chrysanthemums:-In the NASA research this plant was an air-purifying champion removing the highest amount of indoor pollutants. Popular and inexpensive at garden centres, they can be planted outside after they have finished flowering.
2. Spider plants are among the easiest houseplants to grow. They combat carbon monoxide, xylene found in petrol and rust preventers, and formaldehyde emitted with vehicle exhausts, making them the ideal choice for garages and sheds. They prefer cool temperatures and indirect sunlight.
3. Draceana:-This soft leaved spikey plant is one of the most effective at removing pollutants including formaldehyde found in paints, wallpaper and smoke from fireplaces; and benzene found in dyes and synthetic fibres. There are more than 40 varieties of Draceana making it easy to find one that's a perfect fit for your home or office. They are however toxic to cats and dogs.
4. Ficus benjamina:- Weeping figs fight formaldehyde, xylene and toluene found in furniture, fire-place smoke and common household products. Sensitive to drafts, this plant is best kept out of hallways but is ideal for living rooms.
5. Peace Lily plants are relatively small so are ideal for smaller rooms. They are easy to grow and have major air cleaning abilities even extending to removing the pollutants contained in cigarette smoke. If you are a smoker or if you live with a smoker and want to reduce the effects of cigarette smoke on others in the house, then this is an excellent choice.
6. Snake plant:-Also known as mother-in-law's tongue gives out oxygen at night. Place one in your bedroom and you'll breathe better while you sleep and hopefully get a really good night's rest. Phalaenopsis or Moth Orchids also do the same.
7. Aloe Vera:-This succulent fights benzene found in detergents and plastics, and formaldehyde found in varnishes and floor finishes. The gel inside also treats burns so keep this sun-loving plant on your kitchen windowsill.
8. Rhapsis excelsa:-The broadleaf lady palm is one of the few houseplants to filter out ammonia, a chemical found in cleaning products. As they're also good with humidity and thrive

in low light, they are best placed in the bathroom.

9. English Ivy:-As well as filtering out the formaldehyde found in cosmetic products, Ivy reduces airborne faecal particles making it the ideal plant for bathrooms and toilets.
10. Aglaonema modestum:-The Chinese evergreen thrives in low light and humidity. It also fights benzene found in detergents and

the formaldehyde in cosmetic products making it the perfect plant for bathrooms. If the air is too dry the tips of the leaves turn brown so occasionally mist its leaves.

Beyond air quality, houseplants just make people feel better. In fact introducing houseplants into your home, or work space could well be the best decision you ever made for your health!

Juliet Ingram

Nature Notes

Lock-up your chickens! Now is the peak time for Red Fox activity. Foxes mate during the period Christmas to February, with most activity in January, with a gestation period of 52 to 53 days the first cubs will be born in March. Four to five cubs will be produced, usually in an earth or some other convenient man-made or natural shelter. At birth the cubs have blue eyes and a dark brown coat, with their fur starting to acquire the adult reddish brown colour at 8 weeks. Whilst the vixen is suckling her cubs the Dog Fox will hunt and bring food back to the den for her.



Foxes are usually considered to be solitary animals, but research has indicated that they often form family

groups consisting of a Dog Fox, a dominant vixen and several subservient vixens that usually don't breed. Once the cubs are weaned these barren vixen, who may

be the daughters from last year's mating, will actively help in feeding the current youngsters caring for them whilst the mother is away foraging.

Not all Foxes form family groups. There appears to be two distinct social categories, residents and itinerants.



Residents occupy territories shared by other members of their group, but from which other Foxes are excluded. These may differ in size from 50 acres to 3,000 acres, depending on the availability of prey and the distance between areas where prey is abundant. These territories may include up to 6 adult Foxes. Itinerants, which are mostly male, do not defend a territory, but travel in irregular patterns over large home ranges. In work that was done in Oxford City Fox populations were monitored and it was found that on the outskirts, where there was a mix of large gardens adjacent to farmland, territories

varied between 25 and 170 acres, nearby on mixed farmland this rose to 240 to 600 acres, but within Wytham Woods this could be as little as 50 acres. Within the City itself territories averaged 120 acres, but unlike their country cousins the boundaries were less clearly defined with territories overlapping.



Although classed as a carnivore the Red Fox enjoys a very varied diet which includes;

Rabbits, Beetles, Fish, Pheasants, Mice and Voles and in an urban environment food left out for birds and Hedgehogs and any scraps that can be scavenged. They will also eat fruit and in the autumn Blackberries are an absolute favourite, sometimes leaving their droppings solid with Blackberry pips. Rabbits may be overhauled at break-neck speed (a Fox can run at 30 miles per hour, in short bursts), or ambushed as they leave their burrows. Mice and Voles are jumped up-on with a characteristic leap high off the ground. Earthworms are harvested on damp nights from the surface of grass-land as the Fox picks his way across pasture. All hunting is done at night, during the day a suitable, well hidden, resting place is chosen.

Red Foxes are resourceful and adaptable and of the 21 species of Fox found around the world the Red Fox is the most numerous and widespread. It is also the largest of the Foxes, the smallest being the Fennec Fox of the North African deserts which weighs 1.5kg. Red Foxes can be found throughout most of the Northern Hemisphere. In North America

they span the continent and are found as far north as Ellesmere Island, which is inside the Arctic Circle and as far south as the Caribbean coast of Texas. In the Old World they are found from Ireland to the Baring Sea in Siberia and thrive from the Russian Tundra to the deserts of the Middle East. They thrive in Alpine passes up to 13,000 feet and in the concrete jungle of London. Red Foxes found in the North tend to be bigger and heavier whereas those found in the desert regions of the South have larger ears and are more light weight. In the UK the male weighs up to 6.5kg and the female 5.5kg whereas those found in the far North of America can average 9kg.

In the Southern Hemisphere they are only found in Australia having been introduced by man for sport. The first pair arrived in 1855 followed by further imports of small numbers between 1864 and 1871. By 1893 they had bred so successfully they had colonised 8,000 square miles of the state of Victoria and a Fox bounty scheme was introduced to reward their control and destruction. This was not effective in stopping their spread and today they occur throughout Australia except in parts of Northern Territory, Queensland and Tasmania. Just what impact they have had on native Australian fauna is not known.

Almost everywhere that Red Foxes are found they have been hunted and subjected to



attempts to control their numbers, but these have usually been unsuccessful. The cunning Fox still thrives. In Britain we have eradicated the Wolf, and other

large animals that were seen to threaten our livestock, but the Red Fox still survives and has adapted to our urban environment, especially the cities and coastal towns in the south of England.

Red Foxes are particularly despised by those keeping poultry or breeding game birds because of their ability to kill many birds in a short time apparently for no reason other than an insatiable blood lust. These multiple killings occur when the prey cannot escape. In the wild prey quickly disperse so there is no danger of killing too many. It has been suggested that all predators, like the Fox, are so ge-

netically programmed to take advantage of any opportunity to obtain extra prey that they cannot 'switch-off' the killing response when a chicken or duck flutters in front of them with no means of escape. This is no comfort to the person who suffers losses. There is no evidence that they will take new born lambs although they will scavenge afterbirth and the stillborn.

So, whether we love or loathe them the Red Fox is here to stay taking advantage of every opportunity that man and nature can offer.

Stuart Fox

Transport

Buses

Here at least we have very welcome, perhaps even unexpected, good news! In the aftermath of the Oxford County Council withdrawal of grant aiding services for our community, we have to date, only been saved from a complete loss of buses, by the volunteer run Villager Bus provision, upon which a small number of our parishoners wholly rely. The Parish Council has provided a modest grant towards this service, based upon our usage and which is annually reviewed. Villager services are understandably limited in their frequency and routes, but they are certainly highly valued.

However, you will find in this edition of the Grapevine, the timetable for a new 210 service provided by the West Oxfordshire Community Transport (WOCT) community benefit society, which will have commenced on Monday 12th February, running 5 times a day,

weekdays only, from Chippy to Witney, via the Wychwoods and Leafield. The significance is the daily frequency and that they provide early morning and late afternoon runs of benefit to both students and for those whom the Villager bus cannot provide.

We are assured that the two bodies, WOCT and Villager, are constructively liaising in a cooperative manner.

WOCT have run a service focussed upon Witney for the past year, so their drivers have already established a supportive rapport with users. At present, the 210 bus, which like the Villager ones, will be a 16 seater, will call at the Village Green, but its volunteer drivers are mindful of requests for other drop off points in Ascott to suit genuine needs.

Trains

Well to begin with a positive, the additional stop at Ascott of existing trains to allow villagers to travel to Oxford and

beyond, and return by two trains mid & late afternoon, on three pre-Christmas Saturdays, was very successful and much appreciated. GWR operators who arranged this service have been duly thanked.

Sadly, it is quite another story, especially for those Ascott (and indeed Combe and Finstock) users who rely upon our one train each way on weekdays only, referred to by GWR Franchise staff as the “Halts” service. Ironically appropriate as we can explain!

The explanation for the cause and effect, that follows, had to be gathered at length by me and the Cotswold Line Promotion Group (CLPG) who for their sins, have consistently pressed for modest additional train services for Ascott, without of course any movement from the GWR Franchise. Indeed, in a written reply, to a letter from an Ascott resident, forwarded by our MP, Robert Courts, the GWR General Manager, Mark Hopwood stated that GWR have no plans for any service improvements! I should add here that the Parish Council and I personally are CLPG members, and if only more Ascott residents were members, CLPG would strengthen their impact. Membership leaflets are in the Village shop!

So, in the period before Christmas and more so after the introduction of the revised Train Timetable on 2nd January (alongside fare increases) the “Halt” service became a badly run lottery. Whilst getting into Oxford in the morning was pretty, reliable, if sometimes late, and only occasionally cancelled, the evening return became a mixture of 5 carriages of passengers crammed into 2, or not stopping at Combe or Finstock, or complete and all too regular complete cancellation. Taxis were provided but not

100% of the time. The lack of staff at Oxford station giving a coherent cause for the problems, understandably led to real fears that this was a managed process to drive passengers away and so declare the service unviable, ie get rid of it. Those in charge on GWR say this is not the case at all.

The actual reason? Though the much vaunted IEP, dual electric/diesel trains were planned to take over services, and that meant GWR transferred away some of the “turbo” and all the Adelante 5 car units in anticipation, it was finally revealed that insufficient driver training on IEPs combined with that loss of spare Turbos and Adelantes, simply doomed the “Halts” service to be the preferred hostage to cancellation fortune.

We are advised that GWR now plan an interim service for this train, commenced 29th January to run on to 23rd March, which means a 4 car train to Malvern, becomes a 2 car “Halts” train from Oxford. Hopefully, driver training for IEPs will then mean an assured, comfortable and guaranteed retention of the service. Well, anything is better than nothing, but the overall impact on commuters has been a petition that has been addressed to Robert Courts on 29th January expressing all the impact upon them and asking him to seek answers from Mark Hopwood of GWR.

By the time you receive this Journal, by complete unconnected coincidence, Robert Courts will have hosted an “Ask the GWR” open session at the Memorial Hall, Charlbury on 8th February. Its rationale is open consultation on HMG’s proposal to extend the duration of the existing GWR Franchise, and allow GWR to explain their service proposals for our line, and to allow the audience to

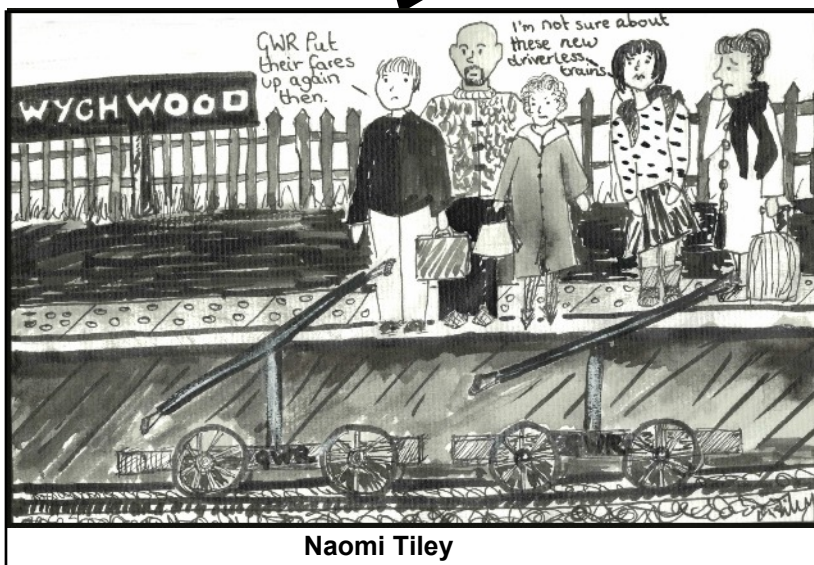
raise issues. Naturally, a number of Ascott residents aim to attend, including me, your Parish Councillor holding the Transport Brief.

Steam Train Specials

A number of villagers have shown their enthusiasm to see, hear and smell the few steam engine specials that occasionally pass through Ascott. Please study the unofficial website www.uksteam.info for

regular indications. But beware! Not only are such specials vulnerable to pathing problems, causing late running, but of course the engines are like this author, getting very old, so they can fail on inspection, which can be too late for a standby loco to replace them. So on the day, and the time, be prepared for any eventuality. If however you see a chap or two with an expensive camera, it is probably running!

Peter Rance



Naomi Tiley

FC Ascott

The football club is now making full use of the Ascott recreation ground now that the new drainage scheme is preventing water logging. Both of our teams are doing well, but we would like to increase our squads for the men's team that play on a Saturday. We would also like to recruit more 6 to 10 year olds to join our training sessions and matches that are held on Sunday mornings.

Would anyone or any organisation like to become a sponsor for FC Ascott. This would bring much local publicity and enhance the prospects of the team.

If you would like more information about sponsorship or joining our adult and youth teams please contact Mike on 01993 830170 or finalgoal7@aol.com.

Village Pantomime

A big thank you to all the people who came to see the show, you either were not interested in Strictly Come Dancing final or you recorded it, your support was really appreciated as the cast and backroom crew worked hard to make it a good show.

Your total donations of £133, was split £41 to the village charity and £92 to the Grapevine magazine. This money is important to maintain the charity fund, which is avail to any villager for assistance on request. This magazine relies on financial support to carry on bringing news, articles of interest and lets everyone know what has happened and what will happen within the village.

The cast and backroom crew yet again produced a great evenings entertainment.



Anthem for Doomed Christmas Trees

What passing bells for trees who lie in gutters?
Only the monstrous rumble of the vans
will drown out their silent cries. No muttered
prayers, no roadside eulogies or thanks.

But I shall pine for you.

Doorstep-dumped trees no longer spruce,
naked, unbaubled, untinseled of use,
await the Great Wood Chipper in the Sky;
a passing dog sniffs then lifts its leg high.

How long has it been - two or three weeks? -
since we laid out our gifts at your feet?
How quickly the present becomes the past
and time sweeps all needles from its path.

Brian Bilston



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Come and see our fabulous range of traditional and modern lighting.

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saving 90% off your lighting electricity bill

My story

Part 1

I am a dog and I was born in a country called Cyprus. My earliest memories are of being shut in a wooden shed with about 50 other dogs. There were no windows so it was always dark. I had hardly any food and was always hungry. The only time I was let out it was night time and always dark so I never saw daylight. I could live in this shed for days, weeks or months and when I was let out I was supposed to go “hunting”. I didn’t really know what this meant and I didn’t know what to do. All I know is I wasn’t very good at it so I got beaten and then returned to the shed to wait for the next time. One time when I was let out I had no energy to run so I collapsed and could run no more

Part 2

I was picked up by the “pound man” who took me in his van to Dali pound. Here I was put in a cage with other dogs. I didn’t know if they were friendly or not. I was so frightened. The volunteer ladies called Stalo, Marilena and Evi came to see me and gave me as much food as I could eat. I couldn’t believe it! I gobbled and gobbled until I was full. I heard words like “skin and bones” and petrified “when they talked about me. They held out their hand to me but I was too frightened to go to them in case they might hit me. My life got better although as I saw daylight for the first time it made my eyes sting, I always had food to eat and I started to trust the ladies who came to see me. They gave me a name, although I never realised it was me, at last I was somebody. One day the lady called Stalo came to see me and took me in her car to

a place called the vets. I liked the cuddles I got on the way but not so sure I liked the vets. They stuck needles in me and I went back to the pound half the boy I was when I left it.

Part 3

Another day a few weeks later in the middle of night they came to get me and a couple of other dogs. They took me in their car to a busy place called an airport. I was soooooo scared. Where was I going? What was going to happen next? I was put in a crate and then loaded onto something called an aeroplane. They loaded me and my friends onto the underneath of the aeroplane. It was cold and noisy and I was petrified. I couldn’t understand what was happening. After 5 hours we were put on a trolley and taken into another airport where all the suitcases were. We were handed over to a kind man called Ash who was waiting for me with something called a croissant. He put me on a van in another cage but it had a carpet in it. We drove and drove and even went on a train.

Part 4

Eventually we stopped and some strange people put me in their car. They wanted to cuddle me and seemed to really like me. I went to a place called home. I didn’t understand what home was but believe me it is an amazing thing. These people took me inside and for the first time I slept in something called a bed. It was soft and warm and boy did I like it. Over the next days and weeks I learnt what playing and toys were. Also something else called walks. They are amazing. I now have a mum and a dad who I love with all my heart. I feel safe for the

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first time ever and although I had a lot to learn about where I could pee and where I couldn't and maybe I shouldn't sit on the worktops or table I'm going to do my

very best to be the perfect dog. I am sooooooooooooooooo happy and so grateful to all the people who helped me to get here.

The above story was written by Jan Appleby to give a voice to the homeless dogs of Cyprus. Jan lives in the UK and works tirelessly on their behalf.

Some of you will know that after a lifetime of wanting a doggy companion, I finally have one, her name is Naomi. She is an absolute delight. She came from Cyprus.

Naomi was found about a year ago in very poor condition, badly injured and abandoned on a Cyprus street. The lady who found her looked after her and returned her to full health but because Naomi is black nobody in Cyprus wanted her. Black dogs have a harder time getting adopted due to superstitions equating black dogs with death, evil or bad luck. The cruelty suffered by animals in Cyprus is indescribable, they are butchered and burned alive, poisoned and worse.

All of the D.O.G. Rescue Cyprus dogs ready for adoption have a pet passport, are fully vaccinated, blood tested, microchipped, neutered and flea and worm treated prior to adoption, the cost of which (plus transport to the UK) is covered by the adoption fee. The adoption process is straightforward and the home checks thorough.

Naomi is perfect with cats, dogs and children, is house trained, really calm and has no behavioural issues which is a big plus for a first time dog owner.

Rehoming is not a competition, a life saved is a life saved whether it's an animal from the UK, Romania, Cyprus or elsewhere. I always thought I would adopt a dog from the Dog's Trust when the time was right because I sponsor several of their dogs, but I saw Naomi's photo. and it was love at first sight.

There are many excellent animal rescue centres locally and throughout the UK, but if you are interested in helping Cyprus Dog Rescue with fostering, adopting, donating, sponsoring, fundraising or transporting dogs (within the UK), the details can be found at:

www.dogrescuecyprus.com D.O.G. Rescue Cyprus (Dali Organised Group)

UK

adopt@dogrescuecyprus.com

Units 24 & 25, Hallmark Trading Centre, Fourth Way, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9



0LB, UK

Cyprus

Dali Dog Pound, Dali Village, Nicosia, Cyprus

Elaine Byles.



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TIDDY HALL

As the New Year unfolds, we are pleased to say that **Tiddy Hall** seems to be busier than ever! Not only have our regular users – **Ascott Pre School, Roseneath School of Music, Windrush Valley School, Qigong, Pilates, Circuit Training, Fun Fitness, Post Office** and various groups of **Dancers** returned to their normal time slots, but other bookings are on the up! **Wychwood Folk Club** has a bumper year ahead and there seems to be an increase in Children's Parties and other private bookings. As a relatively small village, we are indeed lucky to have such a beautiful village hall. As booking clerk, I often receive lovely emails saying what a wonderful village hall we have here in Ascott, how well-equipped it is, clean and generally what a pleasant atmosphere it has!

The New Year did start with a bang in the village hall! A group of 75 villagers and friends celebrated the arrival of 2018 with a good old knees up! Our very own **Three Piece Sweet** provided great music for everyone to dance to and thanks to you all for providing such lovely food. It was a great, fun night and plans are to do it again at the end of this year!

Wychwood Folk Club had a great crowd on 23rd December with its final performance of the year as **15 String Trio** and **Fotheringay** performed their magic to start the Christmas festivities.

And in January, the first gig of the year saw the youthful, energetic **Goat Roper Rodeo Band** come all the way from North Wales to perform their wonderfully executed acoustic country blues!

Upcoming gigs as follows:

Saturday February 3rd – **Phil Beer**

Thursday February 22nd – **Fisherman's Friends** – SOLD OUT!!!

Saturday March 24th – **Mike Silver**

Saturday April 7th – **Julie Felix**

Saturday May 5th – **Clive Gregson & Liz Simcock**

Please see the website www.wychwoodfolkclub.com for further information.

The **Sunday Tea Dances** have returned to **Tiddy Hall** for another year. These are usually held on the first Sunday of every month, 2.30pm – 5pm. They are a friendly bunch and would like to welcome some new members, especially those living locally. Cost is only £3.50 per person which includes a cup of tea, or two, and home-made cakes! Don't be shy, please come along and have a go, no matter what your level of dancing is, beginners are more than welcome!

The **Coldstone Fishing Club** will hold their AGM on Friday April 27th at 8pm.

The **Tiddy Hall Trustees**, in conjunction with **Farnham Maltings**, are proud to present **Brave Folk** on Friday 16th March at 7pm. A play written by Thomas Crowe, especially for village halls, music & sound composed by David Ridley, this will be an evening of story & song from the lands of the far, far north. Doors open 6.30pm,

Ascott Grapevine

£10 adults, £5 children & students, family £25 (2 adults, 2 children). For further information, see separate advertisement in this edition of **The Grape Vine**.

Tickets from Simon Gidman 831479 and Ingrid Ridley 830612.

What a fantastic line-up for 2018!!!

Ingrid Ridley

Regular Activities:

Monday – Friday Mornings

Pre-school

Contact: Mrs Pauline Plant 07968006451

Monday Afternoons

3.30pm – 6pm Piano Lessons

Contact: Pauline Carter 01993 774568

Monday Night

7pm - 9pm Dancing

Contact: May & Terry Cox 01608 810721

Tuesday Night

6.30pm-7.30pm Pilates

Contact: Ursula Beale 07917 090346

Wednesday Night

6pm – 6.45pm Circuits

Contact: Simon Gidman 01993 831479

7.30pm – 8.30pm Happy Fitness

Contact: Andrea Forrester 07747 853989

Thursday Night

7.30pm – 8.30pm Qigong

Contact: Pam Quirke 07780 572283

Friday Afternoons

3.30pm – 6pm Piano Lessons

Contact: Pauline Carter 01993 774568

1st Sunday of each Month

2.30pm – 5pm Sunday Tea Dance

Contact: Jess 07827 235457

Post Office runs every Friday afternoon 2pm – 4pm

Special Events:

March 10th Evening of Remember for Michael Angless Tickets from Jennifer Angless – 01993 709513

March 16th **Brave Folk** – doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start Tickets from Simon 831479 or Ingrid 830612

March 24th Folk Night – Mike Silver

April 7th Folk Night – Julie Felix

April 27th Coldstone Fishing Club AGM – 8pm



Do you want to get involved in the community? Meet new people, make friends, and help us provide an essential facility.

The Ascott Village Shop has been serving the whole village since 2003. We are always looking for new volunteers of all ages over 16 to help us keep the shop open 7 days each week.

Run by the village, for the village.

If you think you can spare a little of your time, please contact Bridgette in the shop or by telephone. She will be pleased to tell you what is involved.

The shop relies on volunteers to:

Serve our customers

Stock the shop

Promote and market our produce

Organising and carrying out maintenance

Administration

Pudlicote News

At this time of the year we are all starting to look forward to the arrival of Spring. The snowdrops are in bloom, and the daffodils are starting to poke their way through the increasingly muddy ground. The weather has been incredibly wet following a fresh fall of snow a couple of weeks ago, on top of an already very saturated ground. Last week, the Evenlode burst its banks properly for the first time this winter, spilling water onto the fields on the Chilson and Shorthampton banks. We have been very encouraged that this is the first proper flood that we've had all winter. As many readers will know, we have undertaken some major restoration work to the river Evenlode, from Ascott Mill right down to almost Shorthampton. When we first arrived at Pudlicote in 2013 we took on a rather neglected river which had been subjected to many years of dredging, resulting in steep inaccessible banks, slow flowing water devoid of anything but American crayfish, and bordered by many trees which had not been maintained for a few years.

Motivated by a personal love of nature and a desire to restore the landscape both aesthetically and environmentally, we set upon a plan. We have worked closely with various generous grant-making bodies such as the Cotswold Rivers Trust, the Evenlode Catchment Partnership, Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE2), the Environment Agency and the Wychwood Project all of whom have been incredibly supportive as well as a pleasure to work with.

Primarily we have graded back the banks of the Evenlode to create more gently shelving, accessible banks, which has

proved to be important in the flood-management of the river. Essentially we have returned some of the land back to being more natural flood meadows. We have planted trees in some of these areas and returned much of the land bordering the river to pasture. In addition, we introduced some gravel into the river bed, and created some riffles, areas of shallower, faster flowing water. Not only are these beautiful to look at, and listen to, with the gentle bubbling of water over stone, but create invaluable breeding grounds for indigenous fish.

Coupled with a large amount of tree planting and some less intensive farm management methods we hope that the landscape is being improved visually and environmentally for everyone, whether it be from the train window, looking down from the 'top' road, or walking through the landscape on some of the footpaths and bridleways that cross over Pudlicote and the vicinity.

We have already seen a noticeable difference in the kinds of wildlife that are making the landscape their homes. Much to the annoyance of our boys, who loved the instant gratification of fishing for crayfish, these pests have become more scarce, and we have seen the return of some brown trout, albeit very small ones! These in turn have encouraged some otters to make Pudlicote their home. We have only seen evidence of them in the form of otter scat but they are definitely there.

The bird life is also becoming increasingly rich and varied. A publication called "Birds of Conservation Concern" allocates species of UK birds to Red, Amber

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or Green lists according to their vulnerability, with Red being the highest level of conservation concern. We are delighted that we have seen the following red-listed species here at Pudlicote:

Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Starling, House Sparrow, Skylark and Yellowhammer. Amber-listed species which are present and likely to be breeding are:

Bullfinch, Duncock, Reed Bunting, Kingfisher, Kestrel and Stock Dove.

As well as these we have a healthy number of thrushes, tits, woodpeckers, house martins, swallows and the beautiful barn owl which is regularly seen hunting down by the river early in the morning.

Brad and Katherine Wickens



Ascott Pre-School

The children delight at the Day Centre

We were thrilled to make two very special trips to the Wychwood Day Centre at the Beaconsfield Hall just before Christmas. All children were present the second time we visited and it was wonderful to see the two age groups engaging with each other, chatting and playing together.

Play-doh, Lego and colouring-in proved to be the most successful activities, which both age groups could get involved with. There was a wonderfully relaxed atmosphere as the children chatted happily to the visitors from the Day Centre on both occasions. On the second visit, which was just before the Christmas break, Sally Elderfield (aka Dancing Sally) organised a special song set, featuring Christmas favourites by the likes of Bing Crosby and the children performed their dancing on the stage.

After such successful visits, Kate Gidman from the Day Centre and our Supervisor, Pauline Plant have decided to make it a monthly arrangement and we hope to be back visiting again in February.

In other news

We are really pleased to announce that our new shed has now been built. Not only does it provide valuable storage space for our outdoor toys, sports and Forest School equipment, it also keeps the outside area much tidier. We are incredibly grateful to the Doris Field Charitable Trust for their kind donation, which helped us to reach our fund-raising target and make this possible.

On Wednesday 14th February we are hosting our Pop-up Pancake Café, which is open to all families with school-age children. Last year's event was a huge success with over 60 children visiting with their parents, grandparents and carers. This year we will be hosting a wide range of craft activities, as well as singing and dancing fun with Sally's Songtime. There will also be homemade cakes, tea and coffee in abundance and all children will get a drink, a pancake and their choice of toppings free with their entry. The price is £3 per child and we hope to see as many of you there who can make it!

Space available

We currently have spaces available for children aged two and above across our sessions, which now run from 9am – 3.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and from 9 – 12.45pm on a Thursday. These sessions include child-led learning through play, craft, messy play, singing, Forest School, Cooking Club and dancing sessions with the wonderful Dancing Sally.

For more information, or to find out about availability for your child or children, please visit www.ascottpreschool.org.uk, telephone 01993 832671 or email Pauline at ascott_pp@btinternet.com.

The Ascott Village Charity

The Charity received £41 from donations by the audience at the pantomime, a big thank you to you all.



Thank you to all those who put money into the Charity Collection Box in the village shop, the sum collected was £206.90.

Your Village Charity- What does it do, and who does it help?

The village charity is still in the position to offer help to any person in the village who is embarking on further education and is in need of books or equipment for the course. They can apply to the charity to assist with the cost. All applications are dealt with in strict confidence.

If any villager feels that the Charity could help anyone in the village with financial aid then please contact one of the trustees to discuss the application procedure. The trustees will review all applications in full confidence to determine if they are within the Charity's power to assist.

Chairman

John Cull johncull@wowmatters.com

Trustees

Elaine Byles elaine.byles@bioch.ox.ac.uk

Stuart Fox stuart.john.fox@gmail.com

Sandy Timms se.timms@btinternet.com

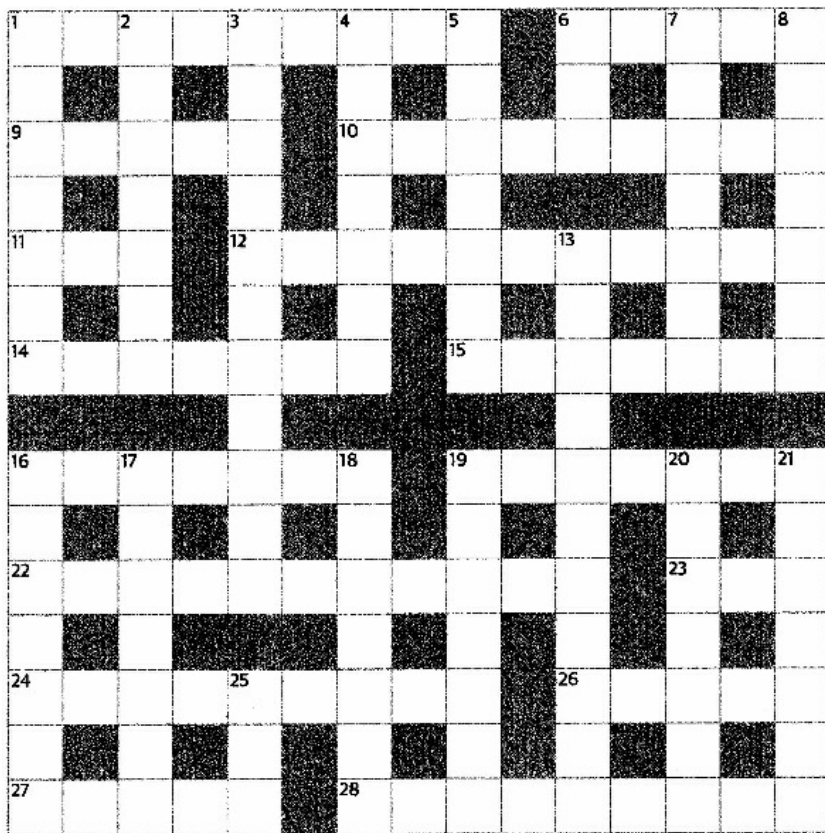
Mark Abrey rector@thechasebenefice.org.uk

Keith Ravenhill keith.ravenhill@talktalk.net

Mark Dawbarn mark@dawbarn.co.uk

Pauline Marshall pollymarshall@gmail.com

Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. Beaten about at noon, took a brief rest (9)
6. One's up for an amendment (5)
9. Corporate Scotland welcomes big business (5)
10. Born again, I survived after a renaissance (9)
11. Spring plant (3)
- 12, 26. Wife - Sagittarius, for example, should I be able to count on her? (11,5)
14. Even parts of soup turned over three times is soup (7)
15. Silent hiding place for pipe (7)
16. Dope and heroin in film like Women In Love? (7)
19. Ultimately ear piercing to arouse a tiny part of the ear? (7)
22. Finish puzzle in another language? (5,6)
23. Reptile like python, primarily (3)
24. Back of lorry, where dog and pig died (9)
26. See 12
27. Dog caught in bear's clutches (5)

Down

1. Get the latest gossip from malicious woman, friend not entirely pleased (5,2)
2. Throw prize in boozer (7)
3. Accelerator in order going into hamster as swerving (4,7)
4. Bad man following good in canoe (7)
5. Stop welcoming platform for the art of incongruity (7)
6. Vicar's cycle (3)
7. Irregular green semicircle turns up on top of table (7)
8. Pinned up in epaulettes, ornate badge of honour (7)
13. An 11-2 win ordered with chips? (7,4)
16. Convertible, piano to piano (4,3)
17. Stipulation for and against one's opinion, at first (7)
18. One leave location shivering - what made the temperature drop? (7)
19. Fiddle only, nothing less, eclipsing trumpets and flutes etc. (7)
20. One driver blocking another, reportedly drove over corner (4,3)
21. Prepare cracks, one covering surface with fine material (7)

Solutions to Crossword in Edition 96

Across

1. Go Away
4. Slap Up
9. Olio
10. Self-Esteem
11. Sterol
12. Root Crop
13. Parchment
15. Golf
16. Some
17. Represent
21. Galliano
22. See 2
24. Indisposed
25. Lean
26. Hot Air

Down

1. Galatea
2. Amour
3. Absalom
5. Lie Low
6. Put Across
7. Peel Off
8. Clarence House
14. Compliant
16. Staunch
18. Roped In
19. Nirvana
20. Taipei

Local Business Directory

ACADEMY/GB DOORS 01993 778836/01865 246444

www.garagedoors.org

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ANNIE'S CURTAINS AND BLINDS 01993830687 07989497253

www.anniescurtainsandblinds.co.uk

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ASCOTT MARTYRS 01993 831967

[Page 26](#)

ASCOTT VILLAGE SHOP 01993831240 shop@ascottvillageshop.co.uk

www.ascottvillageshop.co.uk

[Page 39](#)

BESPOKE VINTAGE TEA PARTIES 01608 642233

www.chippingnortontease.co.uk, tweet@chipnortears

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COTSWOLD WILDLIFE PARK 01993823006

www.cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk

[Page 16](#)

DRY STONE WALLING 01242263428/07980564508

drystonewalling@tomhazzledine.co.uk www.tomhazzledine.co.uk

[Page 11](#)

FARMHOUSE B&B 01993831900 sally@college-farm.com

[Page 39](#)

FOLK CLUB 01993831427 07870563299

wychwoodfolkclub@zoho.com www.wychwoodfolkclub.com

[Page 41](#)

GROVES SHOP 01993830302 Shop mobile 07970262425

info@alfredgroves.co.uk www.grovesdiyshop.co.uk

[Page 54](#)

INGRID RIDLEY B&B 01993830612/07952657906

ingrid@meadowbank--ascott.co.uk www.meadowbank--ascott.co.uk

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IVY'S FLORIST 01993830268	<u>Page 17</u>
JENNA SAUNDERS 01993831338 saundersjenna@hotmail.com	<u>Page 23</u>
LEAFIELD PICTURE FRAMING 01993878357	<u>Page 11</u>
LED Lighting Showroom 01993 704 105	<u>Page 51</u>
MARK DAVID ESTATE AGENTS 01993824800 www.mark-david.co.uk	<u>Page 13</u>
M.P.N Plumbing & Heating Services Ltd 07787434865 <u>mike@mpn-plumbingandheating.co.uk</u>	<u>Page 5</u>
PILATES WITH URSULA 01993 830267 07917 090396 <u>info@pilateswithursula.co.uk</u> <u>www.pilateswithursula.co.uk</u>	<u>Page 4</u>
ROBERT GRIPPER 01993831960 robgripper@btinternet.com	<u>Page 25</u>
ROSENEATH 01993774568 <u>www.roseneathmusicschool.com</u>	<u>Page 38</u>
THE SWAN 01993832332 <u>www.swanascott.com</u>	<u>Page 20</u>
TV AERIAL SERVICES 01993 608118	<u>Page 22</u>
WITNEY SHUTTLE 08000434633 <u>www.witneyshuttle.com</u>	<u>Page 23</u>
WYCHWOOD HEALING 07780572283 <u>pam@wychwoodhealing.co.uk</u>	<u>Page 40</u>
WYCHWOOD WROUGHT IRON 01993832850 <u>www.wychwoodwroughtiron.com</u>	<u>Page 22</u>

Events Calendar - 2018

Date	Time	Event	Venue
March 3 rd	7.30pm	Ian W Brown	The Swan Inn
March 8 th	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
March 15 th	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
March 16 th	7.00pm	Brave Folk	Tiddy Hall
March 22 nd	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
March 24 th	7.30pm	Mike Silver	Tiddy Hall
March 29 th	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
April 5 th	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
April 7 th	7.30pm	Julie Felix	Tiddy Hall
April 12 th	7.30-8.30pm	Qigong	Tiddy Hall
April 14 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
April 21 st	7.30pm	Chris Ronald Trio	The Swan Inn
April 27 th	8.00pm	Coldstone Fishing Club AGM	Tiddy Hall
May 5 th	7.30pm	Clive Gregson & Liz Simcock	Tiddy Hall
May 12 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
May 19 th	7.30pm	Dave Gibb	The Swan Inn
May 25 th	5.00-8.00pm	View auction items	Tiddy Hall
May 26 th	1.30pm	Grand Auction Sale	Tiddy Hall
June 2 nd	7.30pm	The Jaywalkers	Tiddy Hall
June 9 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
June 10 th	TBC	Open Gardens	
June 16 th	7.30pm	Winter Wilson	The Swan Inn
June 23 rd	TBC	Maryrs' Day	The Green
June 30 th	TBC	Charity Fund Raising Event	Tiddy Hall
July 14 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
August 11 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
September 8 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
October 13 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill
November 10 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning	The Mill