

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 February 2023.

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

£16.00 full page

£11.00 half page

£6.00 quarter page

Advertising Discount:

Book and pay in advance for four issues and receive one advert FREE.

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 52](#)), please contact Wendy Pearse 01993 831023 or wendypearse@btinternet.com. The cost is £5 per year but inclusion is free for our existing advertisers.

 Merry Christmas 



*A big thank you to all the villagers who have
contributed with donations, articles and
photographs*

And a Happy New Year



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

Priest: Fr Antony Joyce 01608 642703.

St Teresa, Charlbury

Priest: Fr Clive Dytor 07484158642

Mass at Charlbury 09:15

Services at the Chase Benefice 2022/3

All the Church buildings of the Benefice are open for personal prayer and reflection everyday between 10 am - 4 pm. Public worship as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 st Sunday of the month | 10 am BCP Communion Service at Spelsbury |
| 2 nd Sunday of the month | 10 am CW Communion Service at Ascott |
| 3 rd Sunday of the month | 10 am CW Communion Service at Enstone |
| 4 th Sunday of the month | 8 am BCP Communion Service at Ascott |
| 4 th Sunday of the month | 10 am BCP Communion Service at Chadlington |
| 18 th December | 4 pm Carol Service at Ascott |
| 25 th December | 10 am BCP Christmas Communion at Ascott |

Ascott residents are welcome at any of these services. Details will be posted on our website and notice-boards around the village.

For those unable to come to services, there will be a recorded weekly service of reflection and prayer on our website: www.thechasebenefice.org.uk or you can listen by phone on 01608 998955.

The Lenthall Concerts

Series 2022-23 - Celebrating 30 years!

Way back in 1992 a Burford School old boy, Michael Bochmann put on a highly successful concert in the school hall with his Bochmann String Quartet. It proved to be a seminal event. 30 years and around 170 concerts later the Lenthall Concerts, named after one of Burford's most famous benefactors, are still going strong!

Steeped in the musical profession, Michael has been able, over the years, to find many thrilling performers to come and play including famous names such as pianist Bernard Roberts, clarinettist Thea King, and guitarist Craig Ogden. Groups from Italy, Russia, Slovenia and the USA have played and more recently, local celebrity, Brian Kay. Sometimes performers about to play at the Wigmore Hall, who wanted to perform their programme in advance, took part. Performances have always been of the very highest standards and audiences have remained constant in their appreciation of having access to the very best musical talent right on their doorstep.

This year the Lenthall Concerts Series celebrates its 30th anniversary and, as ever, the concerts present an exciting and contrasting variety of great music and performers, concentrating mainly on classical music.

We kicked off in grand style with two of the greatest works for violin and piano by Mozart and Schubert performed by the concert's founder, Michael Bochmann, and the pianist, Esther Cavett. On Wednesday 2nd November, Klanglust, the popular chamber orchestra from Nuremberg will follow and the new Fiero Piano Trio play in December, including Peter Adams on cello.

2023 starts with the best known brass quintet in the West Country, Bristol Brass. In February Adam Khan (guitar) and Michael Bochmann celebrate new aspects of Paganini and his friends, and in March we bring the season to a close with the Amiel Trio from Slovenia, who last visited eight years ago.

Alongside bringing outstanding music to the community, the Lenthall Concerts have, in recent years, developed a strong partnership with Burford School's Institute of Music. This has taken the form of artists leading classes at the school and, on occasion, including the youngsters in part of the concert. With a profound interest in encouraging and developing young talent we are delighted to be able to facilitate this initiative.

This year's season promises to be as exciting as ever. Concerts take place each month at Burford School at 7.30pm on Wednesday evenings from now until March. Season and individual tickets can be purchased in advance via ticketsource (www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-lenthall-society). They will also be available at a slightly higher price on the door. All details of the new season can be found at www.lenthallconcerts.org.uk.

We hope you will join us and look forward to celebrating with you.

The Lenthall Concert Team



Michael Bochmann

LENTHALL CONCERTS

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PIAZZOLLA MOZART CORELLI BRITTEN

**A season of six outstanding concerts, from
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Artists from Germany, Slovenia and this country
bring thrilling music from across the world in an
intimate, friendly social setting.



www.lenthallconcerts.org.uk Venue: Burford School
www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-lenthall-concert-society

Fred's Christmas Thoughts

I am more of a Roundhead than a Royalist, but I am prepared to give King Charles III the benefit of the doubt, anyone who loved the Goon Show can't be all bad.

I am concerned over The Prince of Wales, is he a supporter of lost causes? I think he follows the fortunes of the same football club that I have for the best part of 75 years, look where I've finished up.

Because it is the season to be merry, I intend to dampen your enthusiasm by submitting some Christmas cracker jokes to make you moan.

Christmas cracker jokes

Q. What did Adam say to Eve on the first Christmas?

A. There won't be any snow this Christmas Eve, only some rain dear.

Q. What vegetables did the angels sing about on the first Christmas?

A. Peas on earth.

Q. Why should you always consult the local vicar on how to cook turkey?

A. Because only the parson knows.

Q. Where in England should you go if you don't want to eat Christmas dinner?

A. Nuneaton.

Q. Why did Santa choose reindeer rather than American bison?

A. There is no point in having a bison if you haven't hot and cold water.

Q. Why does Rudolf have a red nose?

A. Because if he had a red bottom Santa would have to wait too long for it to turn to green before he could go.

Q. When the holy family took flight into Egypt after Christmas did Pontius Pilot fly the plane?

Well, I have tried.

Merry Christmas.



Fred Russell

Ode to Putin

There can be no disputing
That wicked weasel Putin
Struts in arrogant pride
Across this precious world
His lies spew out from his spiteful mouth
From the dark dungeons of his soul
Where he calculates, then celebrates
The innocent blood he spilled
But death one day will come his way
May he go in terror to his end
Screaming in fear and haunted there
By the thousands he has killed
When history is written
In better days than this
Let the evil name of Putin
Be spat from people's lips
The name with other excrement
Washed quickly down the drain
And for the good of all mankind
In the sewers of hell remain

Fred Russell



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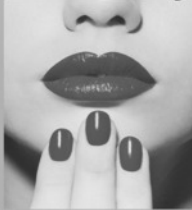
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TIDDY HALL

The autumn has been beautiful this year, not only with wonderful colours but mild temperatures lasting into November! Many of us have seized the chance to enjoy the outdoors but as the days draw in, we prepare to hunker down during this colder and darker time of year. So, do come along to **Tiddy Hall** for a bit of festive fun & cheer and meet fellow villagers to ward off any gloom you may be feeling!

Start your Christmas shopping at **Tiddy Hall!** Our **Christmas Craft Fair** on Saturday November 26th will have beautiful crafts made by many local artists and craftspeople. Osborne Books, Flamingo Stationery and Neal's Yard products will all be available. Refreshments served all day so please join us at our friendly festive village event, 10am – 4pm! Father Christmas will be there too with his lucky dip for the children!

Save the date – **Saturday January 28th** – we are in the process of organising a **dinner/dance**, look out for posters around the village early January for further details! Dust off those dancing shoes and dance off the January blues!

Other events planned for 2023 will be a **Film Night** and a **Summer Music Festival!**

On Sunday 18th December, Juliet Heslewood will be talking about **The Sea! The Seaside!** This illustrated talk reveals how artists have viewed the sea over the years, beginning with the Romans and includes Turner, Constable, Van Gogh & Monet among others and ends with artists working today. This is a fundraiser for **Sea Trust Wales**, a charity with three main aims, research, education & conservation of the marine environment in Pembrokeshire. Juliet's talk will bring us up to date with pollution issues through the remarkable work of contemporary artists. Tickets at the door, £10 to include a glass of mulled wine & Christmas treats. Doors will open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

The **Wychwood Folk Club** has one remaining gig this year:

Saturday 17th December

Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer

Many more gigs are planned for 2023, please see the website, wychwoodfolkclub.com for more information, but here are the artists who will be performing in the first months of the new year:

Saturday 21st January

Chris Fox

Saturday 11th February

The Sandy Denny Project

Saturday 4th March

Steve Knightly

Rachel Stokes Lovel's last Sound Bath session of 2022 will be held on Saturday morning, December 17th. These sessions use Tibetan singing bowls, gongs, zaphyr chimes and tingsha bells. Whilst cocooned in a blanket, either laying on the floor or sitting in a chair, the healing vibrations and an immersion in sound can bring huge benefits such as improving sleep patterns, lowering stress, activating self healing from within, increasing focus & learning, deepening meditative state, managing pain & headache relief, building resilience and self-esteem. Contact Rachel for further information: reikibyrachelsl@gmail.com

After a long break due to the covid pandemic, the Sunday Tea Dances are making a welcome return! Four Sundays are scheduled in the new year:

Sundays January 8th, February 5th, March 5th & April 2nd

Sessions will run 2pm – 4.30pm, tea/coffee & biscuits served, £5 per person.

Again, another chance to dust off those dancing shoes and dance away the winter blues!

Our hall is multi-functional so do please consider **Tiddy Hall** for your children's parties and other social functions. It's a wonderful clean space with a fully equipped kitchen, updated toilet facilities and plenty of car parking places. We also have a comfortable committee room upstairs which is available for hire, a perfect space for smaller meetings. Do look at our website for further information – www.tiddyhall.com

As of January 1st, after more than 15 years, I will be passing on the Booking Clerk's responsibilities to Mark Pidgeon. It's been a real pleasure doing this job for the village over the years. I was fortunate to have a really great team around me, we've had our challenges, but we've had lots of fun too! I will remain on the committee for a bit longer, but I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mark for taking over the role of Booking Clerk and wish him every success – I'm confident he'll do an excellent job!

Ingrid Ridley

In Memory of

Siobhan Marie Tustain known by all as Popsy

Mavis Patricia Wheatley known by all as Pat (Jo Wheatly's Mother)

Raymond Eric Barefield (Ray) Formerly an Ascott Resident living in Church View-
Now from Stonesfield- 18/03/1952 to 01/10/2022

May they rest in Peace

Ascott Pre-school

We have had a wonderful Autumn term at Ascott Pre-school

The children are having a great time being back at Pre-school and our new starters have all settled in well. We have been enjoying the weather this Autumn and making the most of it.

Getting out and about in the fresh air

Some of the children and staff had an enjoyable Autumn walk to the Ascott Village Shop where we dropped off our items for the North Oxfordshire Community Food-bank. Thank you so much to everyone who kindly sent in a food donation for this. We had a chatty journey and a good look around, noticing signs, numbers on houses, flowers and foliage, horses, and spider webs along the way. The children were great at holding hands and know to be careful near the road whilst very proudly wearing their high-viz jackets. We had a search for conkers on the village green too.

Other walks have taken us down the lane, during which we noticed and picked blackberries. We have had a few sessions at Ascott playing field and have also visited the Allotments, where we were able to dig up potatoes, see tomatoes on the vine, and sampled some apples and raspberries – delicious!

Yoga

Thank you to Beth Tibble (Yoga Bees) who visited Pre-school to run a yoga session for us. We sang songs and had great fun learning yoga poses in the shapes of a tree, tractor, rabbit, cow, and rooster! Following doing star jumps we felt how fast our hearts were beating, and then noticed how they slowed down when we lay down for a rest with some music.

Cooking and baking

In keeping with the season, making soup, bread rolls and apple crumble allowed us to learn and practice lots of skills. The children were keen to cut up cooked vegetables for the soup, and they learnt how to use the safety knives properly to have a go at cutting carrots, onions, potatoes, sweet potatoes, parsnips, and peppers. They also enjoyed seeing the soup being whizzed in the blender to make it smooth.

Kneading the dough for the bread rolls until it was no longer sticky was lots of fun. Whilst the shaped rolls were kept in a warm place, the children could see that they had risen before we popped them in the oven. Everyone agreed that the smell of the rolls cooking was delicious.

We were also given some apples, and everyone enjoyed the process of chopping them up and rubbing the butter into the flour to make the crumble topping.

Looking ahead to Christmas at Pre-school

We plan to have our Christmas party on the last day with Father Christmas dropping presents off the night before. We are very excited to be holding our concert again for the first time since 2019.

Find out more about Ascott Pre-school: for children aged 2.5–4 years

Pre-school runs at Tiddy Hall during term time from Monday to Friday. Activities include child-led learning through play, craft, messy play, singing, forest school and dance sessions with wonderful Dancing Sally. If you'd like to know more, please visit our website www.ascottpreschool.co.uk, or contact Pauline via email (ascott_pp@btinternet.com) or phone (01993 832671).



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Charlie Baigent (Baritone) • Rebecca Nicholas (Cello) • Bernard West (Organ)

St Mary's Church
Chipping Norton

17th December 7.30pm
tickets: www.cncs.org.uk

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music**

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Travel with Merv Bates

I thought I'd give you a few travel updates this month.

We are getting back to near normal and booking levels are picking up super-fast. More and more countries are lifting their restrictions which is great news.

When flying customers often ask if there is a huge difference when flying premium economy vs regular economy? I would say yes, smaller cabins, wider seats, more legroom & recline and a superior inflight service. There are some fantastic upgrades to be had. I was able to secure a customer premium economy upgrade to Washington DC and home from Vancouver for £150 per person! I can help you search for a great holiday and savings on flights can be used towards your hotels or extra spending money for cocktails! More and more airlines are now introducing a premium cabin into their fleet. The latest is with Emirates who have a brand-new product which is a little more expensive than the competition but on a ultra-long haul flight it's certainly worth it. Emirates Premium Economy seats are currently being rolled out across its fleet. Not every flight will have the latest cabin. If you would like to know more, please get in touch and I can help.

Some more savings are on offer! Boutique style cruising on a smaller ship, the Oceania Vista, is not yet launched but she is set to be a game changer - tasteful yet relaxed, no balls gowns or dinner jackets required and dine when you want with some of the best restaurants. The ship has stunning interiors and lots of deck space. Rome to Lisbon is an example of a fantastic cruise with them including stops along the way. Take a veranda cabin with all meals from £3898.00/person mid-September 2024 for 10 days including flights and transfers. You can also choose from one of 3 offers on board too. I have cruised with Oceania twice and can thoroughly recommend it. 5-star service all the way!

For the ultimate sea-going experience why not try Star Clippers a small fleet of beautiful sailing ships with 42 sails and around 134 metres long. These wonderful ships carry just 227 guests and have some fantastic itineraries around the World. In 2024 Star clippers have announced some great offers on short taster cruises starting at £782.00 per person for 3 nights or £1041.00 per person for 4–5-night duration. These itineraries are perfect if you would like to add on a pre or post stay cruise.

I hope this give you all a little taster of what's to come, there are lots of offers at the moment if you book early. If you would like a chat about planning your travel, please get in touch it would be a pleasure to help you. If you would like to meet face to face, why not make an appointment and come and visit my travel snug here in Ascott.

Travel with Merv Bates

travel counsellors



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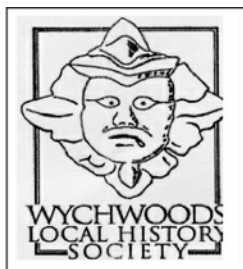


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Wychwoods Local History Society

Programme 2022 – 23

All welcome to join us on the second Wednesday of the month September through to May

Milton Village Hall at 7.30pm

- | | | |
|------|--------|---|
| 2022 | 14 Sep | Mark Bathurst – The Medway Queen |
| | 12 Oct | Julie Ann Godson – Oxfordshire in the Past |
| | 9 Nov | Tom Shannon – ‘Known unto God’ A Great War Detective Story |
| 2023 | 11 Jan | Trevor Jackson – RAF Brize Norton 80 years of Flying Operations |
| | 8 Feb | Sue Smith – Conscientious Objection, Religion, and the Public in Oxford in 1916 |
| | 8 Mar | Chris Pickford Bells & Bell Foundry, Burford |
| | 12 Apr | Simon Randall – The English Civil War in the Cotswolds |
| | 10 May | AGM and Jonathan Maisey
History of Windrush Stone Quarries |

Enquiries to Roger Watts mail@wychwoodshistory.uk

Website: wychwoodshistory.uk

SIQBHAN MARIE TUSTAIN
20.03.1949 - 18.09.2022

Siobhan or as most people that knew her, knew her as Popsy, a name which was given to her as a small child and it just stuck with her.

Popsy was born at Duns Tew Manor where at the time her mother Hazel worked.

The family came to live in Ascott under Wychwood when Popsy was about five years old, and like most of us that have lived here most of our lives we attended primary school in the village and then after the eleven plus we all went to Burford School on the bus every day.

Popsy left school aged 15 and had more jobs in her lifetime than most, some of which that come to mind are, as a care worker, the Gas board, the Co-op department store when it was in Chipping Norton and also on the railway.

Popsy retired to take care of her mother Hazel and when her mum passed away Popsy bought herself two pedigree British short hair cats, Razzle and Star who she adored and made sure they wanted for nothing.

Popsy loved the sun and up until the covid epidemic used to go on holiday to sunnier climes often, infact she was planning a trip in 2023 which sadly will now not happen.

In the past when she was able she was a volunteer helper to keep the churchyard clean and tidy. She loved gardening but that got more difficult in later years. But I think her favorite pastime was TV and the shopping channels who I am quite sure she kept in business. She loved and enjoyed all kinds of shopping!

Her death was a shock to us all but she is now reunited with her mum in

Ascott under Wychwood churchyard

Happy memories Popsy



FROM COLDSTONE TO HONEYDALE - 70 YEARS AGO



Honeydale Farm February 1959

Coldstone Farm at the west end of Ascott (now Coldstone House) was an ideal place for a young boy to live, the land reached from the Charlbury - Burford Road to the Shipton - Chippy Road - total 190 acres. Grandfather became the tenant in 1932 and we lived there until September 1952, grandparents, parents, younger sister and myself. The large house with long, dark passages and no electricity was quite interesting. I have been told that I was a two year old in the garden when six German bombs dropped in Ascott, the last one just outside our garden wall. A barrow load of mud landed by the back door and a chimney pot was taken off. I can't remember the event but the bomb crater made a good site for frog spawn.

Before D Day in 1944 the Army had manoeuvres and a mock battle in this area. During the dark night before Pancake Day convoys of Army tanks went along Gypsy Lane, under the now blocked up railway bridge and up through our fields to the A361 smashing through three field gateways on the way. The following day columns of tanks, armoured cars on tracks, jeeps and motor bikes came down through Ascott and along the Shipton Road. The authorities replaced the gates after the War.

Ascott Grapevine

Like the other farms in Ascott at that time we had a variety of livestock. There were milking cows, cart horses, calves, older cattle, pigs, hens and cockerels, geese, ducks and two dogs. There was also interesting farm equipment, carts, wagons, haymaking and harvesting machines, a tractor and cultivating machines, all available to play on and investigate. The barn was interesting with sacks of corn and cattle feed, a winnowing machine, root cutter, chaff cutter, and sack lifter, all with handles to turn, and a weighing machine. I had free access to everything including all the farm tools. The only adverse instruction I remember was when I was trying out a long handled hedge cropper and grandfather shouted, 'Don't you make gaps in the hedge Jim. We don't want the cattle getting out.' (As if I would!)

Winter often brought a small flood into the orchard; 25 cms would float a big log so I could stand on it and punt about. We had fruit trees and the Coldwell Brook stream in the orchard, old straw ricks to slide down in the rickyard plus patches of nettles and thistles to cut off with a hedge cropper or fagging hook, a type of sickle. The only fly in the ointment for me was having to go to school. The highlight of my time at Ascott School was the day I left, 27th July 1949. To add to the joyful day the oat crop was ready to harvest. A quick dash home after school and up the fields just in time to go on the first round with the binder my favourite job on the farm, and the start of a seven week holiday with all the harvest to look forward to.

I soon learned to do useful jobs on the farm. When I was nine, dad bought me a nice light axe to lop branches of willow trees. In those days before combines and pick-up balers the corn crop was harvested in sheaves and the hay was collected loose and built into ricks so there was a lot of work to do by hand. From the age of seven I could drive the tractor for loading hay and corn. I also helped move forkfuls of hay or sheaves across the rick when dad was unloading the wagon and grandfather was building the ricks. This made the job easier for both of them.

Grandfather had milked the cows by hand twice every day for as long as I could remember. Then the day suddenly came in June 1951 when he was ill with heart trouble and must not do any more milking. I milked two cows in the evenings and dad did the rest but about a week later grandfather died. I had three uncles with farms and cows so some of the cows went to them and they helped at harvest time.

The farm was then in vacant possession and the owner decided to sell it by auction in June 1952. The bids failed to reach the reserve but it was sold privately to Leonard Hill, a builder from Bourton-on-the-Water, who was just starting his attraction Birdland. My parents were not in a position to buy a farm of that size and were looking elsewhere. The most suitable seemed to be an 80 acre farm at Clapton-on-the-Hill. Then suddenly in August Coldstone Farm was for sale again, this time in six lots and my parents bought the two lots on the hill and named it Honeydale after the biggest field.

We had to be out of Coldstone by midnight on the 29th September 1952. So on that morning my sister and I caught the Burford School bus as usual at the entrance to High Street. At that time the bus went up Chippy Hill, down to Lyneham, back up

to the A361, stopped at Shipton Station, the Fiveways, Swinbrook, Widford and along Witney Street into Burford. This was perfect for us because when we came back along the A361 in the afternoon I was able to ask the driver to stop by the field corner which became our farm entrance. The only buildings on our land were two open fronted cattle sheds, a stone shepherd's hut and a small brick store shed. When we got down the road mother was there with a new caravan and a rustic garden shed which was to house the piano. They had only just been delivered. I walked down the fields to meet dad on his way up with the last load from Coldstone. I met him in Gypsy Lane with the tractor, the last wagonload of goods from Coldstone and the last two milking cows. Our move was made.

At Coldstone the house, stable, calf sheds and yard were bought by Chris Harries who converted the stable into pottery production. The kiln is still there. A couple named Price bought the barn, cowshed and cartsheds with the orchard and rick-yard and converted them into a nice house. Mr Cunningham of Chestnut Close, now Wychwood Manor, bought the 40-50 acres between the Ascott to Shipton Road and the Burford to Charlbury Road. He soon ran out of money and in 1955 sold everything to Jack Dunfee who called it Malplash Turkey Farm which still exists. The two fields between our land and the railway were bought by Harry Perkins of Fern Hill Farm. Those fields are now part of College Farm. So after many centuries, Coldstone Farm was no more.

Living in the caravan was a big change. Our drinking water was from a spring 200 metres away which we carried in buckets uphill across a ploughed field but we had bottled calor gas for lighting and cooking, a big improvement after paraffin and candles. We quickly built a couple of sheds with straw bales, corrugated iron and tarpaulin.

The weather was not kind. The rain was heavy in October. Mr Hill had reserved the 60 best elm trees and sold the trunks to Groves who were large timber merchants with a saw mill and a huge timber yard with stacks of tree trunks. The area is now taken up with houses, roads and Milton Village Hall. Their big, heavy timber carriages with heavy loads churned up our wet fields into a sea of mud. In November two falls of snow put four inches of snow on the ground and stayed there for three weeks. It was cold at night. Condensation ran down inside the caravan at night, by morning the bedsheets were literally frozen to the wall. We called it arctic training.

The wind then had a go. In January 1953 a large storm in the North Sea flooded large areas of land and drowned hundreds of people in both eastern England and Holland. It rocked us hard all night and blew the tops off four hay ricks.

By April 1954 Groves who was the main employer in the area at that time, and who had built many fine houses and Milton Church, had built for us a four bedroomed house, a milking shed and dairy, a multipurpose barn and a pumped water supply. The downside was we were then back to lamps and candles. In 1956 we had a telephone put in.

Ascott Grapevine

On Sunday 9th August 1959 a large thunderstorm came in over the forest with torrential rain. We heard a very loud bang and a stack of straw bales was on fire in the rickyard. Fire brigades from Chippy and Charlbury prevented the fire from reaching the corn ricks. We soon had a lightning conductor fitted to the house.

In 1961 a second hand diesel power generator was put up and we discarded the lamps and candles again. Christmastime 1962 brought a blizzard which put one and a half metres of solid drifts all over our farm road. It took us a full month to dig it out. The solid blocks of snow stayed there until Easter. Mains electricity came in 1970. Wendy and I were married and lived for nearly four years in a residential caravan on the farm. This had all the mod cons but was hot in the summer. We became a team. Basically I did the feeding and milking and the various seasonal jobs, and Wendy fed the young calves and did the tractor driving, ploughing, drilling, mowing and baling etc. Then we had a bungalow built to our design. It was perfect. Wendy's father was a skilled and enthusiastic builder and was a great help in improving buildings on the farm.

Dad retired in 1974 and the farm business was in my name from February 10th 1974. We worked very hard and had many good years and a few lean ones when a drought was about, but we did OK and after nearly ten years we had a holiday most years.

All good things come to an end and all too quickly it became time to call it a day. We had an auction on 30th September 2013, the hammer fell and suddenly the farm that had been ours for so long belonged to Ian Wilkinson.

We had to move home and hoped to stay in Ascott. Blenheim Cottage looked ideal, a quick call to Joe Gomm and everything clicked into place for us. A hard race against time for Joe and his craftsmen and it was all how we wanted it just ready to move in on November 5th 2013. We also gained many close neighbours, a bonus after our isolation in the fields.

Our very good friends Ian, Celine and their family have made many interesting changes and I have a look round as often as I can. Large numbers of people have been given access to enjoy the views and other delights of Honeydale; the pleasures of which have been mine for a lifetime!

Final thoughts. I was born in the right place at exactly the right time.

Jim Pearse

Community Bus Services

The 210 Bus Service

210 SERVICE LINKING THE WYCHWOODS, LEAFIELD AND CRAWLEY WITH WITNEY

Timetable operated by West Oxfordshire Community Transport Limited (01993) 630124

Effective from Monday 27th June 2022.

Wychwoods to Witney, Monday-Friday (except public holidays)

Milton under Wychwood, The Hare	08:00	10:00	12:50	15:55
Shipton under Wychwood, Post Office	08:04	10:05	12:55	15:59
Ascott under Wychwood, The Green	08:09	10:11	13:02	-
Leafield, Lower End	08:19	10:21	13:12	-
Crawley, The Lamb	08:28	10:31	13:22	-
Deer Park, Medical Centre	08:35	10:38	13:29	-
Witney Market Square (Bus Stop A)	08:42	10:44	13:36	16:40
Sainsbury's	08:45	10:47	13:40	-
Range Road	08:50	-	-	17:13
Fernleigh (* Request only)	09:07	11:00*	-	-

Witney to Wychwoods, Monday - Friday (except public holidays)

Sainsbury's	09:10	12:00	15:15	17:18
Witney Market Square (Bus Stop D)	09:13	12:05	15:20	17:22
Welch Way, Library	09:15	12:07	15:22	17:24
Range Road	-	-	-	-
Deer Park, Medical Centre	-	12:12	15:24	17:29
Crawley, The Lamb	09:24	12:16	15:27	17:35
Leafield, Lower End	09:33	12:26	15:32	17:43
Ascott under Wychwood, The Green	09:43	12:36	15:44	17:53
Shipton under Wychwood, Post Office	09:50	12:44	15:50	17:58
Milton under Wychwood, The Hare	09:55	12:47	15:54	18:00

The Villager

Contacts

Management Committee

Chairman and Operations	Keith Gowing	01608 811617
Operations	Paul Branch	07771 624578
Routes/Request Stops	Ken Ingamelis	01451 832114
Hiring	Pauline Jackson	01608 811370
	Keith Gowing	01608 811617
New Drivers	Roger Formby	01451 830439
Secretary (and Donations)	Richard Anning	01386 430129

For queries in the event of bad weather, any of the above contacts will be able to provide advice on possible cancellations or delays to services. Alternatively look on our homepage for news/weather updates, or tune to Radio Gloucester or Radio Oxford

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Shipton-under-Wychwood, Ascott-under-Wychwood, Leaffield, Crawley, South Leigh

v23

Thursdays only

TOWITNEY	Evenlode Village 0900	TOVENLODE	Witney Buttercross Stop 'C Northbound 1140
	Lower Oddington Village Hall 0905		South Leigh Village 1152
	Upper Oddington Horse & Groom 0907		Witney Sainsbury's 1204
	Bledington The Green 0912		Witney Buttercross Stop 'C Northbound 1205
	Lyneham Village 0920		Witney Hospital 1207
	Shipton-under-Wychwood Shaven Crown 0925		Crawley The Lamb 1212
	Ascott-under-Wychwood Village 0930		Leaffield Witney Lane 1219
	Leaffield The Green 0936		Leaffield Lower End 1222
	Leaffield Lower End 0938		Leaffield The Green 1225
	Leaffield Witney Lane 0942		Ascott-under-Wychwood Village 1231
	Crawley The Lamb 0948		Shipton-under-Wychwood Shaven Crown 1236
	Witney Hospital 0953		Lyneham Village 1241
	Witney Buttercross Stop 'A Southbound 0955		Bledington The Green 1249
	Witney Sainsbury's 0957		Lower Oddington Village Hall 1254
Witney Buttercross Stop 'C Northbound 1002	Upper Oddington Horse & Groom 1256		
South Leigh Village 1014	Evenlode Village 1305		
Witney Buttercross Stop 'A Southbound 1026			

Times shown in a green box are request stops only

If you wish to join or alight at these stops, please speak to the driver or call 01451 832 114

The Villager is proudly sponsored by...



Chipping Norton, Shipton Road

Wychwood Library Bulletin- Dec/Jan

Follow Wychwood Library on Facebook to keep up to date with library events!

Tuesday Craft Evenings

We have two fabulous craft evenings coming up in December. Pottery painting with the craft café on Tuesday 6th December (items individually priced) and Crochet your own Xmas Bauble on Tuesday 13th December (£10). Both sessions are from 7.30-9.30 in the library and include festive drinks and snacks! Email wychwood.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk to book. We have craft evenings every 1st Tuesday of the month so keep a look out in the library and on our Facebook page.

Wednesday Coffee Mornings

Coffee, tea and cake is still on offer at the library between 10 and 11.30 on a Wednesday morning. Everyone is welcome to attend. We ask for a voluntary donation of £1.50 to cover costs.

Puzzles

We have an excellent selection of puzzles at the library which are free to borrow. We welcome complete puzzles in good condition. We have recently acquired a puzzle mat and are trialling having a collaborative puzzle on the go in the library (except during Rhyme-time and Lego Club!). Pop in and see if you can help us complete it!

Home Library Service

If you would like to borrow books but are unable to visit the library, please do take advantage of our home library service. We will ask you what you'd like to borrow and a library volunteer delivers the books, audiobooks, music or DVDs to your door at least once every three weeks. It's all free of charge. Contact homelibraryservice@oxfordshire.gov.uk for more information.

On behalf of everyone at Wychwood Library, I'd like to wish you a very merry Xmas and new year!

Special Christmas gifts and cards at Forge Gallery at Wychwood

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Prints

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Handmade candles

Handmade quilts



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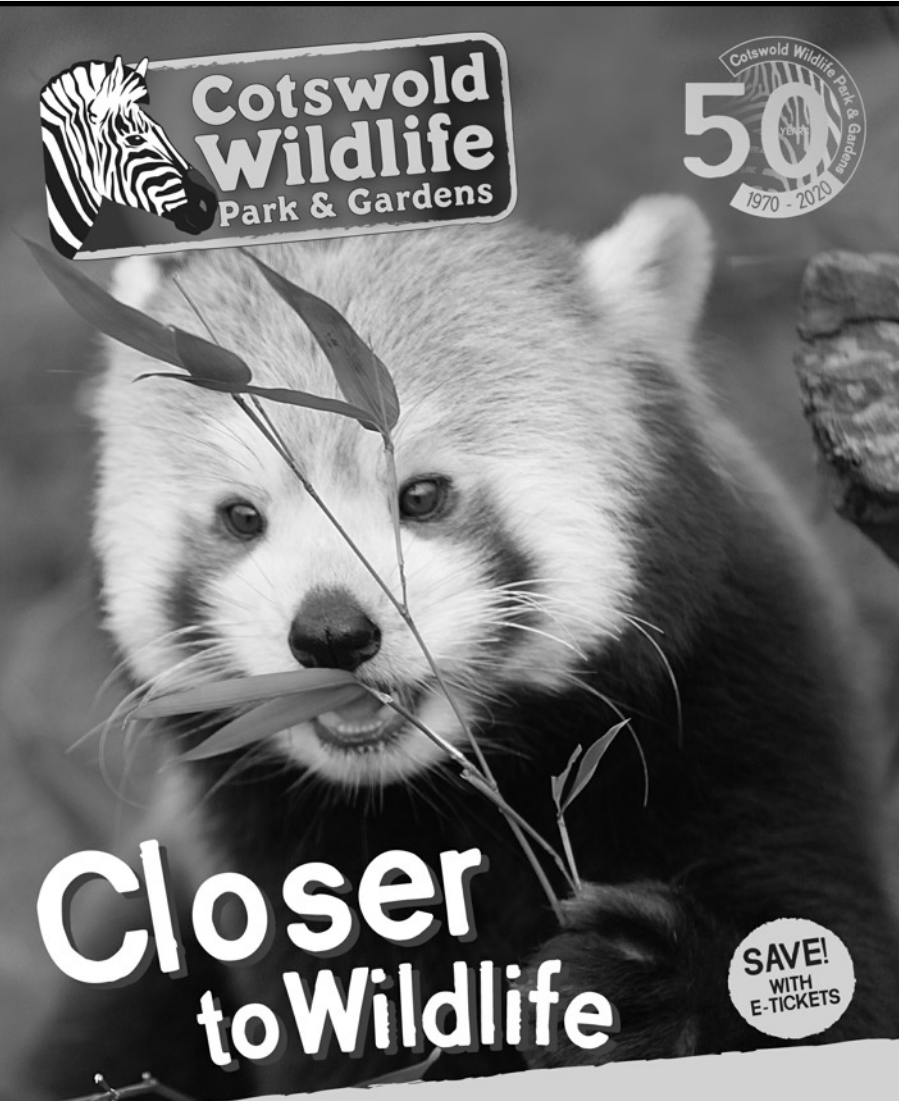
 [Forge.gallery.at.wychwood](https://www.instagram.com/forge.gallery.at.wychwood)

Dear Ascott residents,

Time flies and it is already time to celebrate Christmas and the end of 2022. We thank you for all of your support, advice and visits to the Forge Gallery at Wychwood. We hope to continue providing a welcoming experience in the gallery as well as the new art, gift items and cards with images of our beautiful village.

Season's greetings to all of you and we look forward to seeing you in the gallery.

Forge Gallery At Wychwood
The Green
Ascott-under-Wychwood, OX76AB



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FOOTPRINTS FROM ASCOTT PAST Part 19



John and Jane Honeybone

In 1861 the population of Ascott was approximately 460 living in 90 houses. The male population from infants to pensioners was approximately 240 and in the Census conducted that year 100 were listed as agricultural labourers. This included carters, cowmen, shepherds and plough boys. Plough boys were young lads from the age of ten upwards who led the horses or oxen as they worked at various tasks in the fields. Listed as boys they were generally paid very little. Six women were also classed as labourers, two of them widows, again paid very little. They would have been used to assist the men at such jobs considered suitable for women throughout the ongoing farming year. Eight farmers were listed in the parish of Ascott whilst Coldstone Farm (now Coldstone House) at the west end of Shipton Road, had most of its land in Ascott although listed in the Shipton Census because the buildings stood to the west side of the Ascott parish boundary. Excluding Coldstone the other 8 farmers employed 50 of the farm labourers, men and boys, so the rest must have worked as day labourers unless working in another parish. Some of these men who are listed as the head of a household lived in houses owned by Ascott Charity whilst the others rented houses owned by Lord Churchill of Cornbury.

The present Appletree Cottage at the west end of the village was owned by Lord Churchill and was lived in for many decades by the Honeybone family. In 1861 John Honeybone, a carter, was head of the household and it is possible that he worked for the Hiatt family at Stone End Farm (now Ascott Earl House) or Coldstone Farm. During the 18th century the Hiatt family had owned approximately 40 acres in the parish but following The Enclosure Act in 1838, possibly because

they could not afford the costs necessitated by The Enclosure Act, their property was bought by Lord Churchill and they became his tenants. In fact all farmers in the village were tenant farmers, the majority renting their land from Lord Churchill, one from the Crown and one from a private owner. Coldstone Farm was owned by Mary Anne Marshall an indirect descendent of the Perry family who bought it in the early 1700s. She lived in Iffley in Oxford where her father, the previous owner, had been the vicar.

Returning to the Honeybone family in Appletree Cottage. John Honeybone's grandson Harry came to live there with his grandparents after the death of his parents. A brother also lived there for a short while but sadly two of his siblings were sent to an orphanage in Bristol. In the latter part of his life Harry wrote what he termed his 'Life History' and this gives us a rare insight into the life of a labourer in Ascott in the last two decades of the 19th century. Harry was about five when he came to Ascott. Shortly afterwards his grandfather died so for a number of years only Harry and his grandmother Jane lived in Appletree Cottage. As a widow his grandmother took on whatever work she could find either at Stone End Farm, Coldstone Farm or Langley Mill.

As soon as children could help out in the fields, perhaps as young as five, they were set to work to add a few pennies to the family income or especially girls were left at home to look after their younger siblings.

During one summer holiday when nine years of age Harry worked for the Hiatts at Stone End Farm taking 30 or 40 pigs of all sizes to feed on the stubble fields after harvest, sometimes walking as far as a mile. This was from early morning to night and he was paid the grand sum of 1s 6d per week. Then at ten years he was engaged by the farmer at Coldstone Farm to lead the horses about the fields and back to the yard for 2s 6d per week. He enjoyed reading, arithmetic and geography at school but just before his eleventh birthday he had to leave and begin full time work. He was engaged by Mr Hambidge at Crown Farm for the wage of 2s 6d per week working from 5a.m. to 7p.m. Sometime later the wage rose to 3s 6d per week. The head horseman was paid 14s per week, the second horseman 9s or 10s and they worked from 4 a.m. until sometimes 8 p.m. After a few years at 3s 6d Harry asked for an increase to 4s 6d. It worked for a few weeks but then Mr Hambidge told him he could employ a boy for 3s 6d so Harry had to leave.

Even today despite all the health and safety measures, farms can be dangerous places. How much more so in past centuries with nothing in place. Working amongst the large shire horses and cattle, or newly calved cows and heifers must have been dangerous at times, especially for the young plough boys. Rev. York the vicar of Ascott in the 1880s recorded the fact that George Smith a worker on Mr Chaundy's Yew Tree Farm at the east end of High Street, was pulled towards a cutting machine and strangled when his working smock became entangled in the machine. He was the husband of Martha Smith. one of the Ascott Martyrs. She was left a widow with five mainly grown up children.

Harry Honeybone moved to Ascott about eight years after the affair of the Ascott Martyrs but strangely he makes no mention of it in his 'Life History'. This despite the fact that two of his aunts, Jane Moss and Fanny Honeybone were amongst those sent to prison. It seems things had moved on, Jane had died and Fanny had married and moved from the village. He also makes no mention of the Agricultural Workers Union. Not much seems to have changed regarding labourers wages in the years before his arrival.

Life was tough for all labourers. With few spare clothes they could spend all day in soaking wet garments. Rations were very basic and at times working alone in the fields, days became monotonous. But with little extra support this was the labourer's life, with little time for care or relaxation. One of Mr Hambidge's workers soaked to the skin went home to change his clothes and for leaving the job was docked a shilling from his 4s 6d weekly pay.

The last quarter of the 19th century was a horrendous time for agriculture. The weather, the greatest enemy, was totally against farming; snow, gales, rain, drought, everything that hindered the farming year appeared on the scene for at least two and a half decades. Rain and ruin as John Simpson Calvertt described it. He farmed for several years at Fairspeare Farm one of the more recently created Forest Farms following the disafforestation of part of Wychwood Forest. Many farmers had their rents returned because they were making so little money whilst many more gave up their farms. Frozen meat was coming in from New Zealand and corn from the North American prairies making the British markets more and more depressed. Animal diseases brought in from abroad became more endemic because British animals had little resistance to them. How could the labourers' lot have improved in such circumstances?

As time went by a number of the younger generation attended a night school which had been set up in the village, with hopes of a better life obviously circulating amongst them. The pull of the overseas colonies had an effect, a number of young men deciding to emigrate to Australia or New Zealand. Some decided to join the Army or Navy. Fred Smith whose family had moved into Appletree Cottage after the Honeybones, joined the Army whilst two of the Pratley boys from the bottom house in Church View joined the Navy. There was a slight improvement in wages for those who remained but with the advent of the 20th century an avalanche of change was approaching. Not too far into the future the outbreak of the First World War would have a significant effect on the lives of the majority of the agricultural labourers.

Wendy Pearse

The fun of Barn Dancing

Folk dancing in the nineteen eighties, in memory of our leader of the 'Beaker Folk', Ray Borrett.

That's it she said, you've had your chance, I will dance with you no more
You won't swing me like an old rag doll around the village hall
I did Virginia Reel with you but you behaved just like a clown
And when we did the dosey doe you kept jumping up and down
And another thing in Nottingham Swing you kept treading on my toes
Now my feet are sore, my tights are tore and you've ruined my new shoes
Your belt came lose when we did La Russe but you didn't seem to care
When your trousers fell you laughed as well, when we saw you standing there
In Grapevine Twist you hurt my wrist, it was like a rugby maul
Because in Bluebeards Fancy, you tried to swing me up against a wall
When they said 'progress' you tore my dress during Devil's Dream
But I might have guessed you would tare the rest from the hem right to the seam
In Waves of Tory it was the same old story when they called out 'dip and dive'
You caught one chap across the back, it's a wonder he's alive
You clodhop about, you laugh and shout, up and down the set
In the Dashing White Sergeant the Scottish wouldn't behave like that I bet
In Cumberland Square you pulled my hair when you swung me in the basket
My brassiere strap just went snap and I broke my nicker 'lastic
So don't ask me to come again to any folk dance night
It's plain to me and all to see you don't know your left foot from your right
Poor Cecil Sharp would have gone berserk if he'd seen the things you do
He'd have gone quite mad, I'm very glad he's not here still watching you
The E.F.D.S.S. would not be impressed in fact they'd get annoyed
It's a very serious thing, is English folk dancing and it's not to be enjoyed.

E.F.D.S.S. English Folk Dance and Song Society

Fred Russell

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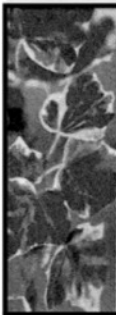
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With A Special Appearance By**

FATHER CHRISTMAS





Carols on the Green

Weather permitting there will be Carols on the Green at 6 pm on Christmas Eve.

There will be song sheets provided and most importantly there will be Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

Everyone is welcome, young and old

WYCHWOOD FOLK CLUB



Tiddy Hall, Shipton Rd, Ascott -u- Wychwood, OX7 6AG

Sat Dec 17th Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer + support by Mark Pidgeon

Tickets £12.00 in advance £14.00 on the door

Vicki and Jonny are two of the most versatile musicians of the folk circuit today, on stage – and now online, the duo are recognised for the high quality of their polished concerts; not only by their charismatic singing and playing but also by their involving, winning presence and easy rapport, their polished delivery that genuinely respects their listeners, and their lively, informed backstories. The whole package.

Their performances showcase new interpretations of old songs alongside original self-penned tunes and new contemporary songs that are entirely at home in the tradition

Sat Jan 21st Chris Fox + support by Fragile Hearts

Tickets £12.00 in advance £14.00 on the door

Chris Fox is a songwriter from Cambridge who has started to attract a lot of attention playing clubs and, increasingly, festivals. Whilst he is more than capable in holding an audience on his own, he has a real ability with the loop pedal, he can also front various combinations which gives him a great range and this is displayed to good effect on his new album 'From The Shadow'. The ten songs, all self-written, range from melancholy minimalistic to some real up-temp numbers that get the foot tapping.

Sat Feb 11th The Sandy Denny Project

Tickets £15.00 in advance £17.00 on the door

Fotheringay MkII members **Sally Barker** (The Poozies, BBCTV's "The Voice") and guitarist **PJ Wright** (TradArrr, The Dylan Project) are joined by frequent Fairport Convention guest **Anna Ryder**, multi-instrumentalist **Marion Fleetwood** (voice, fiddle, guitars) and the rhythm section of bassist **Mat Davies** and drummer **Mark Stevens** from folk-rock legends Little Johnny England to form The Sandy Denny Project. Sandy Denny's remarkable writing is approached not as a tribute band, slavishly copying the records, but as a tribute in its best sense - an interpretation of Sandy's wonderful work.

All events start at 7.30pm Doors 7.00pm

SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS - www.wychwoodfolkclub.com

Or call on 01993831427 / 07870563299 - E-mail: wychwoodfolkclub@zoho.com

Parish Council News

Cost of Living

As I write this, we are welcoming our third Prime Minister in seven weeks. Whatever political persuasion or affiliation you may have, the self-inflicted vandalism to the economy resulting from all the turmoil is having a real effect, and particularly on those who never thought to find themselves in straits: those with stable jobs, families and mortgages already facing rising costs and now sudden huge increases to their mortgage payments. People who would not come forward for help, but now are faced with circumstances outside their control.

As a Parish Council our ability to respond is severely circumscribed by law and by resources: we simply don't have the authority, knowledge or finances to help as much as we would wish. We are, however, very aware of the challenges facing residents and are reaching out to other local organizations, charities and councils to understand what we can best offer without getting in the way and becoming part of the problem. Milton and Shipton are both running 'warm space' initiatives to offer places and events for residents to come together. Organizations like Chippy Larder are stepping up their efforts to reach those in need. Chipping Norton Town Council have run their first Cost of Living event. OCC and WODC have both published pages of information.

What can we do? Our aim at this stage is to bring together the best information, contacts and direction for those newly finding themselves under pressure and to encourage us all to watch out for one another. Please keep an eye out for our leaflets and announcements. If you have not done so, and are in a position to contribute, I would also personally urge you to get behind the appeal by the Village Charity: they have the means to move more quickly than we are allowed and even small acts performed quickly may be profound.

Grate Watch

The rains and the leaf-fall have both begun again in earnest, and once more I have set to work clearing gulleys and standing in the beck pulling leaves and debris out of the pipework. Now before I get accused of virtue signalling - it is a good antidote to my otherwise cerebral workload. However, it does serve to make the point that so many of the things that keep our village safe are small jobs that thankfully require no specialist skills but do need to be performed regularly.

So next time you are walking around the village and see that one of the drainage grates is covered in leaves - and it doesn't take much for them to block up - don't wait for someone else to do it, but just take a moment to move them aside. Saturday night there was a standing pool right across the corner of Church View, because of a few leaves over the grate. It's tiny acts like this that make a difference.

Railway Community Garden

One area where we can assist, is in making a nice environment for us all. The 'railway garden' - that patch of land on the corner opposite the Signal box planted as a community garden - has been slowly but certainly reclaimed ready for the winter; and councillors and volunteers have done a wonderful job getting control over the ivy on the Church and Playing Fields walls. Many thanks to all those who have pitched in, and there is still plenty work to be done if you want to lend a hand.

Unfortunately, bureaucracy is never far away and it appears our Network Rail volunteer license to go onto the site has expired. No, we didn't know about it either! But as soon as it is reinstated, the volunteers will be back to finish the job.

Local Plan

On a wider front, this month we have given our responses to the West Oxfordshire District Council consultation on planning and services. This is a district wide survey into what we as residents want from the District and where the priorities will lie. These will feed into the considerations for the next iteration of the Local Plan, with a potential move towards more garden villages as a means of providing housing stock. The question of housing figures is always with us, as supply and demand means drawing more people into the county leading to inevitable increases in future demand.

The garden village concept divides opinion, but after much reflection our view is that, set against the backdrop of ever decreasing services and maintenance, the opportunities and increased scrutiny afforded by these forms of new developments when it comes to building in new infrastructure are the only practical way forward.

This is not a form of nimbyism, but a reflection of the reality that the existing infrastructure is already not fit for purpose and improvements and maintenance to services and facilities have lagged far behind the level of infill developments that have been the norm in West Oxfordshire. Our concern is, of course, that this further directs the limited resources away from existing settlements like ours and to challenge some of the naïve assumptions regarding these schemes.

We have not forgotten the Neighbourhood Plan and work continues on building our Parish Vision.

Dog Poo Bins

The PC is engaged in an ongoing struggle with WODC over the loss of two of our dog poo bins. The new bins have more capacity but are shared with general litter and the costs to the PC of emptying them have increased. In the meantime, please

be patient and take your bags home or make use of the other bins around the village.

Carols and more Carols

Christmas will soon be upon us, with a good number of residents rehearsing festive repertoires in local choirs. Please do what you can to support them and other music events around the area. We are blessed in West Oxfordshire in living in the midst of so much music making.

Once again, we expect to be running the annual Carols around the Tree on Christmas Eve. A reminder to existing residents, and an invitation to newer members of our community, that you are very welcome to come and join us.

On behalf of the Parish Council

Brian Leach, Chair

contact@ascottpc.org.uk

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Ascott-Under-Wychwood Cricket Club

In case you haven't heard - we are the champions! The league campaign began in May, and concluded in Sep with Ascott an emphatic 76 points clear at the top of Cherwell League Division 8B. We'd been vying with Hanborough 2nd XI for the top spot all season, until mid August, when we thrashed them in an exciting '1st vs 2nd' battle at Memorial Field. Ascott won a stupendous 15 of our 18 league matches, losing only 2, away at Hanborough, and away to Bicester, and being (just) held to a draw at Cropredy.

The wonderful field in Ascott is a real fortress for us - as we defeated every league team who came to visit - many of whom struggled on our sloping pitch. Our bowlers love it and opposition batsmen find it intimidating! I understand it's been like that since the ground was first played on in the 1950s.

In October we had an awards night at the pavilion, with a quiz and comedy slot by the talented Tom Gidman, and our President Don Barnes presented league winners medals to the whole squad. Next season we're promoted to tier 7 - which is a rise of three divisions, so this will be a real challenge.

Alex Vaughan won our 'Bowling Award' with 44 wickets, plus fittingly the 'Player's Player of the Season'. I'm pleased to report Stewart Moss took the 'Batting Award' with an aggregate of 363 runs.

Our treasured umpires John Cull and Simon Gidman also deserve much credit for their fine and very impartial contributions!

On Sunday / friendlies we played a terrific 28 matches, winning 13 and losing 15. Sam Barnes won the Batting Award with a colossal 588 runs, and teenager Josh Beasant scooped the Bowling Award for his 22 wickets. Our promising young fast bowler William Harvey played almost the entire season as a 13 year old, his first in adult cricket, and finished with a sensational 18 wickets! He deservedly scooped the 'Most Improved Player' Award.

We must thank our supporters from the village (and further afield) who often come to watch our home games on the benches provided, it really is appreciated by the players when we hear some applause and cheers!

On the August Bank Hol weekend, 16 of us enjoyed a fabulous club cricket tour to Devon. Blessed with glorious weather, we lost at mighty Sidmouth CC right by the sea front with many tourists spectating as Sam Barnes scored 89, and young Elliott Sabin made the 'catch of the season' with a breathtaking 1-handed on the boundary effort. We then lost to Honiton CC, and after an epic night out in Hawaiian shirt fancy dress, many of us were 'worse for wear' for the final match at lovely Tipton St John. But 11 Ascott heroes dug deep for that one to finish with a memorable tour victory.

Ascott Grapevine

After a rest, the 2023 Season will commence in late January when we'll start indoor net practice at Charlbury Community Centre, through to April when we can start outside at the field.

New local players, of all abilities and ages are most welcome - don't hesitate to get in touch. In fact, we've sadly lost a couple of players who've moved away to far flung destinations like Denmark and Yorkshire, and also have several away at University until late June - so we are in need of some reinforcements.

We are particularly keen on attracting more young budding cricketers from the village, so if your son or daughter is keen to play, and is aged at least 10, do message us, details below. All kit is provided and our coaches are qualified and DBS checked, overseen by myself (ECB level 2 qualified).

Stewart Moss

07866 278685

Email: AUWCricetClub@Hotmail.com

Twitter: [@AUWCricetClub](https://twitter.com/AUWCricetClub)

Instagram: [ascott_u_wychwood_cricket](https://www.instagram.com/ascott_u_wychwood_cricket)





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THE SEA! THE SEASIDE!

Juliet Heslewood repeats the popular fund-raising talk, given earlier this year, in support of SEA TRUST WALES conservation of the Pembrokeshire coast.

**SUNDAY 18th December at 7.00 for 7.30 pm
TIDDY HALL - ASCOTT UNDER WYCHWOOD**

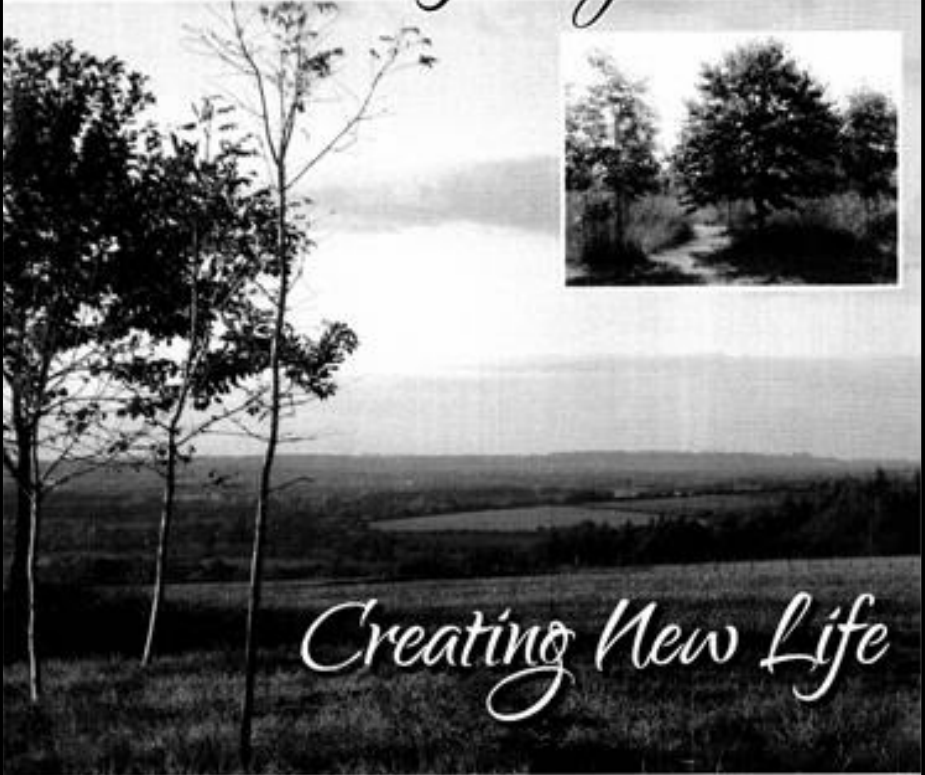


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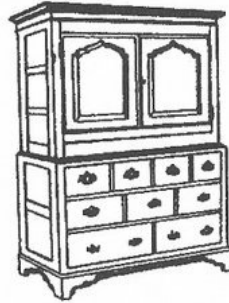


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The Ascott Village Charity



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

Further Education

The village charity is 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.

Financial Aid

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 john@greenascott.co.uk

Trustees

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

Keith Ravenhill keith.ravenhill@talktalk.net

Stuart Fox stuart.john.fox@gmail.com

Mark Dawbarn markdawbarn@outlook.com

Sandy Timms se.timms@btinternet.com

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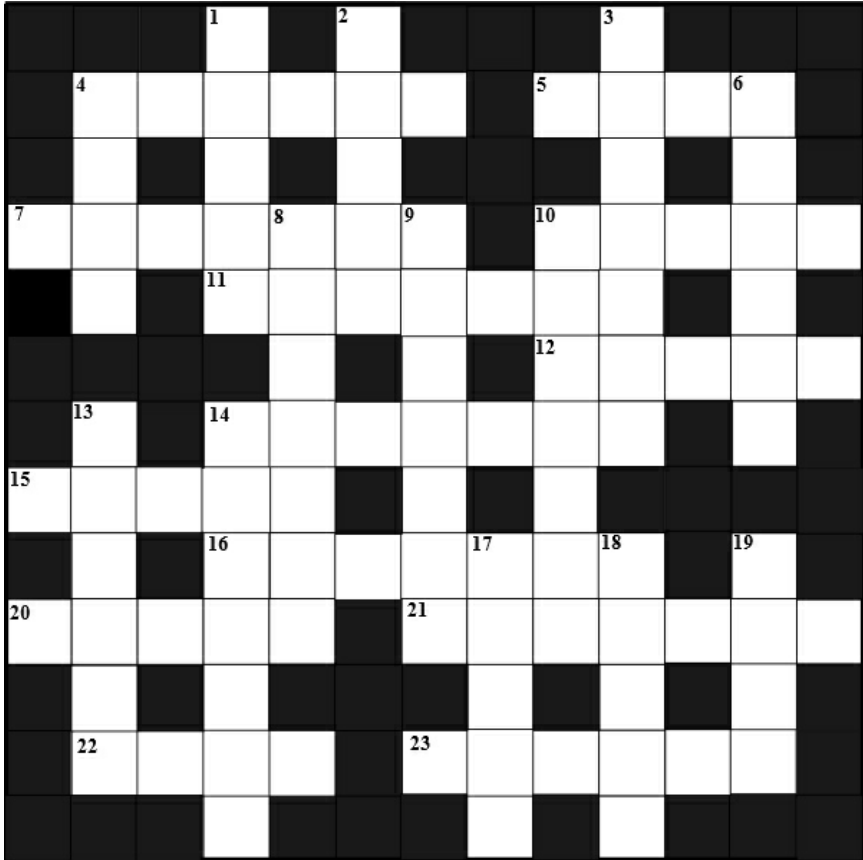
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Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 4 Trading centre (6)
- 5 Large shrub (4)
- 7 Not legally binding (7)
- 10 Nettle rash (5)
- 11 Outside (anag.) (7)
- 12 Acting platform; coach (5)
- 14 See (7)
- 15 French composer (5)
- 16 Sloth (7)
- 20 Small Scottish farm (5)
- 21 Inhabitant (7)
- 22 Dregs (4)
- 23 Compelled (6)

Down

- 1 Peter the — (5)
- 2 Icy (5)
- 3 Tears it (anag.) (7)
- 4 Intelligence (4)
- 6 Vim (6)
- 8 Merciful (7)
- 9 Strife (7)
- 10 Last Jordanian king (7)
- 13 Bay (6)
- 14 Fishing boat (7)
- 17 Male singer (5)
- 18 Aspirated letter (5)
- 19 Poverty (4)

**Solutions to
Crossword in
Edition 115**

Across

- 1 Pucker
- 4 Tucker
- 7 Slandered
- 9 Kapi
- 10 Feat
- 11 Peter
- 13 Tigris
- 14 Docile
- 15 Cherub
- 17 Lunate
- 19 Eerie
- 20 Data
- 22 Asti
- 23 Irascible
- 24 Exodus
- 25 Gusset

Down

- 1 Picket
- 2 Kili
- 3 Rinses
- 4 Tiered
- 5 Chef
- 6 Rustle
- 7 Spaghetti
- 8 Demitasse
- 11 Pique
- 12 Rogue
- 15 Caddie
- 16 Beasts
- 17 Living
- 18 Elicit
- 21 Arid
- 22 Alms

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Events Calendar - 2022/23

Date	Time	Event	Venue
2022			
December 17 th	am	Sound Bath	Tiddy Hall
	7.30pm	Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer	Tiddy Hall
December 18 th	4.0pm	Carol service	Holy Trinity Church
	7.30pm	The Sea! The Seaside!	Tiddy Hall
December 24 th	6.0pm	Carols on the Green	The Green
December 25 th	10.0am	Christmas Communion	Holy Trinity Church
2023			
January 8 th	2.0pm - 4.30pm	Sunday Tea Dance	Tiddy Hall
January 21 st	7.30pm	Chris Fox	Tiddy Hall
January 28 th		Dinner/Dance	Tiddy Hall
February 5 th	2.0pm - 4.30pm	Sunday Tea Dance	Tiddy Hall
February 11 th	7.30pm	The Sandy Denny Project	Tiddy Hall
March 4 th	7.30pm	Steve Knightly	Tiddy Hall
March 5 th	2.0pm - 4.30pm	Sunday Tea Dance	Tiddy Hall
April 2 nd	2.0pm - 4.30pm	Sunday Tea Dance	Tiddy Hall