



Hanney News

Number 482 Jan 2016

Hanney Community Association(HCA)

A membership organisation promoting the community interests of East Hanney and West Hanney (The Hanneys) by acquiring assets, supporting organisations and events and maintaining facilities for community benefit in The Hanneys. For more information or to become a member visit www.hanneycommunityassociation.co.uk

Hanney Lottery Dec Winners

£100 Wendy Nathan
£50 Mrs Rawlings
£25 Mair Williams
Christmas Extra £100 Brain Tumour Trust
Not got a number yet or want to have additional numbers? Just call Gill Parry on 868490 or email jasminecott@madasafish.com
(If you may be able to help run the Lottery, please contact Gill)

Hanney News Association

Due to a generous gift of shares, **Hanney News Association** is now a shareholder in **Hanney Community Pub Ltd.** The objective of holding shares in village organisations is to ensure the pub remains in perpetuity for the benefit of all villagers. If you wish to donate shares to Hanney News Association, please contact Chris French, our Treasurer



Editor - Jim Stagg 867500, jimstagg@btinternet.com.
Treasurer - Chris French 868876, chris-french@hotmail.co.uk
Distributor - Paul Haines 868811, paul@hainesp.plus.com

Final Thought: If I was asked to describe myself in one word, I would answer 'not someone who understands instructions well.'



Photographer Sue Tyack

'And the Winners Are....'

Four Hanney residents were the recent recipients of 'Community Awards' from the Vale District Council, in recognition of their...well, er... services to the community! (Clue's in the title as they say.) From left to right in our pic is Hazel Abrahams who, the citation reads has... 'successfully managed the shop, expanding the range and extending the opening hours'. Next to her is Kate Anstis who has been volunteering for 5 years with the Oxfordshire-based charity ARCH, which does great work with primary school kids who struggle with their reading. Hilary Cakebread Hall received her award as 'the organiser and driving force behind the hugely successful Michaelmas Fayre, and last, but by no means least (!) is Chris French, whose story we told last month. Ever the bashful, Chris is hiding his certificate behind his back! Big up congrats to all of them and sincere thanks for all their time and effort serving their community.

Meet the new Headteacher...

Janice Peacock takes over at St James School on 5th Jan. See page 12 for an in-depth interview by our top investigative journalist.

The Grove Medical Centre merges with Newbury Street Practice

The Grove Medical Centre in Wantage will become part of Newbury Street Practice from 1st February 2016.

This merger will provide Grove patients who move to Newbury Street Practice with improved GP access, as well as an increased range of enhanced services.

Michaelmas Fayre

Details of the Grants made to village organisations following the 2015 Fayre will be on our website - www.hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk later in the month.

Save the date

Next year's Fayre will be on **Saturday 17 September 2016**

Submissions & Advertising

To submit an item to HANNEY NEWS, please send it to the Editor, preferably by email to hanneynews@gmail.com or via the box in the Hanney Shop by the **15th of the month** for inclusion in the following month's issue. Feel free to contact me directly at jimstagg@btinternet.com or by phone on 01235 867500.

Charges

Organisations are charged £12 pa for an entry into the Regular Events / Clubs and Societies section each month. Four line adverts in 'Business Ads' are charged at £2 per month or £20 per annum. Block adverts are available for £5, £10 or £15 per month, £50, £100 or £150 per annum. Inserts – A5 only - are subject to a £15 delivery charge. Please contact the Editor to discuss your advertising requirements.

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Editorial

As you read this, Christmas will be a fading memory - for some, the end of that hangover will be in sight! - so I hope you all had a great one...Christmas, not hangover...and can't wait to do it all again next year!

Meantime, life goes on...many villagers were astounded, amazed, shocked, stunned, staggered and flabbergasted -you get the idea, I'm sure - by the Vale Planning Committee's decision to turn down the applications for the two 200 house developments that have been proposed but stoutly resisted in some quarters, not least by the very hard working members of the East Hanney Parish Council...a couple of items inside on the reaction to this most unexpected decision.

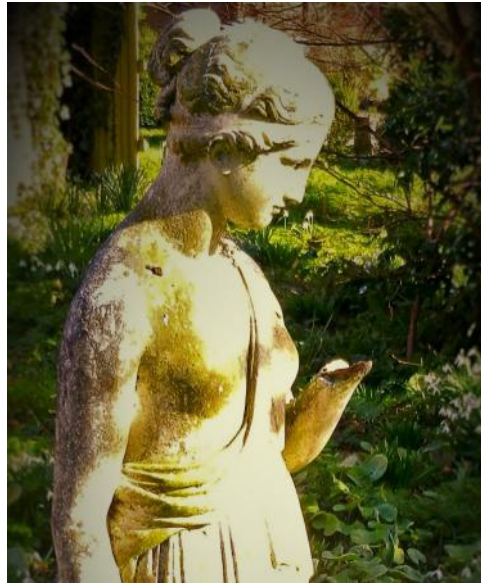
We at Hanney News Global HQ Inc. have changed printers this month, and I hope you notice the difference! We are now printed on coated paper - well, it is winter. Winter...coats...winter coats...oh never mind - and if you look closely dear readers (and also assuming that I haven't misunderstood the printers claims!) you may even spot the odd splash of colour. Pretty eh? Feedback very welcome.

Fancy starting the New Year by learning something new? Dancing - see page 14; Drawing - also page 14; Ding-donging, (well, bell ringing actually, but I wanted to keep the 'D's' going for a bit) - page 25. The Plough are looking for folk to join their Aunt Sally (pub game, not person!) team.

Since I started editing Hanney News back

in May, putting it together has become similar to packing the boot of your car when you know that there's more stuff to get in than will fit. This month I have had to leave out a few items, including Ed Vaizey's page, and edit a couple more, so apols to those affected. Meantime here's Ed's contact details if you need him urgently - House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 dicksonce@parliament.uk.

I'd like to finish this month with a plea...if there are things you don't like about Hanney News, do please tell me, as well as your friends and neighbours! I won't take offence, even if that is the sole purpose of your complaint!



PS: I have no idea who this long-time East Hanney resident is; she may be someone's Aunt Sally for all I know.

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY rehearses every Tuesday at CofE School, Newbury St. (next to Comrades Club) at 7.30pm. New voices always welcome. Contact Judy Gibbons 868516, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION shop 9am-12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. Located in the Scout Nissen Hut situated in Icknield Lane, Wantage, adjacent to the Air Cadets. Access also from Springfield Road, along the footpath between the Scout buildings and the Firing Range.

WILTS & BERKS CANAL TRUST/EAST VALE BRANCH First Wednesday in the month, Social Meeting at the Hanney British Legion 8pm. Details contact Brian Stovold on 763072 wbct.org.uk

NORDIC WALKING CLASSES WITH LISA FROM OXFORDSHIRE FITNESS daytime, evening and weekend classes available please call Lisa on 07885635367, email lisa@oxfordshirefitness.co.uk or visit www.oxfordshirefitness.co.uk for more details or to book a free taster session.

HANNEY WI (WOMEN'S INSTITUTE) meet the second Thursday of the month (not Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room. New members are welcome, contact Angela Morris Tel. 223245, Email: angie.m@ntlworld.com or Helen Evans 868542

Regular Events

DANCING CLASS, Tuesdays, 3.30-4.30pm during term-time. Children from 31/2. Ballet, tap, acrobatic dancing, department. New pupils welcome. Nancy Becker on l.becker@virgin.net

OXFORDSHIRE FITNESS CLASSES Mondays 6.15 - 7.15pm Legs, Bums & Tums at the British Legion; Thursdays 6.15 - 7.15pm Circuits at the British Legion. Call Lisa on 07885635367

YOGA (HATHA) – MIXED LEVEL at Hanney War Memorial Hall, Fridays 9.30-11am. £36 for 6 sessions; £7.50 for drop-in. Ring Eleanor on 01865 863316 or email eleanorwadge@yahoo.co.uk to book or for more information.

HANNEY CHAPEL. Every Sunday, Morning Service at 10.30 (and "Explorers" for children) - creche available. Evening Service at 6pm. All welcome. "Jumpstart" club for 6-10 year olds, Thurs 6pm. Friday Club for 10-15 year olds at 7.30pm, both in term time. Thursday Lunch & Listen first Thurs in month 10.30am. Contact Bob Pritchard on 868864.

HANNEY PRE-SCHOOL meets term time, in the Elliott Building in the grounds of St James School. For 3+ year olds: Monday - Friday 9am – 2pm, For 2+ year olds: Mon - Fri 9am - 2pm. Contact Hanney Pre-School on 07759181330 or see www.hanneypreschool.co.uk

OLDE HANNEY ROOM COFFEE SHOP, Tuesdays, 10.00-11.30am. Everyone welcome for tea or coffee - chat and a raffle.

MOBILE LIBRARY visits alternate Thursdays at West Hanney Bus Shelter, 1.30-1.50pm only.

BINGO every Sunday, RB Legion Hall 8pm. Cash prizes. All over 18 welcome.

Clubs and Societies

HANNEY BOWLS CLUB Wednesdays 7.30-10.00pm, and Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm. Contact 868145

RBL WOMEN'S SECTION MEETINGS are held at 8.00pm on the second Monday of the month in the RBL 66 Club. New members very welcome.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCH meets bi-monthly on the 4th Wednesday of September, November, January, March, May and July in the RBL Club. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

HANNEY BADMINTON CLUB meets every Thursday in the HWMH, 8-10pm. We welcome new members. Call 868256 for details.

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB New members welcome. Club sessions Sunday 10am onwards, Tuesday 7pm - just turn up. For coaching adult or junior contact andy.aitken@growingthegame.co.uk More information www.hanneytennisclub.org.uk or call 868261.

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. meets 8pm every 4th Tuesday. New members and visitors welcome, non-members £3. For further info ring Bill Orson 868859.

HANNEY BELLRINGERS meet every Wednesday St James' Church West Hanney from 7.30 pm until 9 pm. Beginners very welcome. Contact Jean Hazard for more details (868883).

HANNEY GUIDES meet on Mondays 6.30 -8.00 during term time. All girls welcome, aged 10+, contact Sue Clarke 765885. HANNEY BROWNIES (aged 7+) meet on Tuesdays in British Legion Hall from 6.00 - 7.30. RAINBOWS (5+) in Grove on Wednesday and Thursday. Further details and waiting lists: www.girlguiding.org.uk

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the first Monday of each month in the HWMH. 7:45 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk. Visit www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month at 9.30am prompt at the Hanney WMH. New cyclists, you will be warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Bob Wilson 868389 or bobwilson300@hotmail.com

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month: www.hanneywinecircle.org.uk

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Indoor nets available in March & April followed by outdoor training every Wednesday evening throughout the summer from 6.15pm at the rec. League fixtures every Saturday, occasional friendly Sunday games & mid week T20. Contact: Secretary Jerry May 07714 033651, Chairman Richard Green 07765 648638.

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB trains at the rec. on Thursday night. We play in the Oxford Mail Youth League and have teams from age 5 up. If you would like to join us please contact Paul on 07510 435 508, hyfcfooty@gmail.com or visit our website hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS meet every Thursday from 6.30pm till 7.30pm at the HWMH. £2 entry. Richard Anstis 07908 673367 for details, or just turn up!

WANTAGE MALE VOICE CHOIR rehearses at HWMH on Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm. The Choir is looking for more men who enjoy a good sing to join their existing number of 30 or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249), www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk

Notices...what's happening this month

Tues 5th Jan 2016: St James School Term 3 starts

Weds 6th Jan Quiz Night at the Plough, with Hanney's finest, Sir Nigel of Kilbey.

Thurs 7th Jan, 6.30pm: Hanney Table Tennis Club is not just for talented Juniors. Adults are also very welcome. **FREE** open session for new players.

Sundays 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st Jan. 9.30am, Services at **St James Church.** See page 7 for details.

Mon 11th Jan: Gardening Club 7.45pm Hall, a talk, 'Pondering ponds' (Clever play on words there gardeners! I like it. - Ed.)

Thurs 14th Jan, 7.30pm, W.I. Hall, talk, 'The Lives of Women in Victorian Times'

Tues 26th Jan Hanney History Group, talk by Ian Wheeler

Thurs 28th Jan 2.30pm Senior Citizens, Hall, Exercises to music with Christine Ewing

.....and further ahead.

Fri 12th Feb: St James School Term 3 ends.

Sat 13th Feb 2016 10am - 2pm Hanney History Group. Meet a 'Finds Specialist' Page 24 for full details.

Mon 22nd Feb: St James School Term 4 begins.

Sun 28th Feb: Hanney News: Editor's birthday - cards and gifts welcome.

Mon 14th March 8pm: Hanney Community Assoc and Hanney Community Pub Ltd AGM in Hanney Hall

Sat 19th March: Cancer Research U.K. Table Top Sale.

Sat 17th Sept: Michaelmas Fayre

HANNEY FILM NIGHT: FRIDAY, JAN 8th

THE OWEN WRIGHT CINEMA HANNEY WAR MEMORIAL HALL

7.30 for 8.00: Bar open 7.30 Tickets £6, £5 conc.

'October Sky' PG

January kicks off with a good old fashioned 1999 inspirational drama 'October Sky', starring a fresh faced Jake Gyllenhaal, and the always lovely Laura Dern and Chris Cooper. The made for TV movie has not been seen much (if at all) in the UK. Described as a 'coming of age story with a heart to match its Hollywood Craftsmanship'
PG 107 minutes.

NB The Change of Friday, we didn't think you would wish to come on New Year's Day!

East Hanney Parish Council

On the 25th November, the VWHDC Planning Committee considered the two large planning applications submitted for approval in East Hanney. Many local residents attended the meeting to see the Committee refuse permission for both applications. The Parish Council is pleased that all its work and the advice it has sought from professional and specialist consultants resulted in the outcome it strove for. The decision notices are available to view on the Parish Council's website (www.easthanneyparishcouncil.org.uk) or on the VWHDC planning pages in the paperwork associated with each development.

Whilst the Parish Council awaits notification of any appeals from the developers, focus has returned to the Local Plan 2031 (phase 1). The Plan is due to undergo the second stage of its Inspection, with hearings in early February 2016. The Parish Council has requested attendance at this inspection on the day East Hanney's site allocation will be considered. It will also be submitting written representation to the Inspector to reinforce the case for East Hanney being over-allocated housing developments.

The neighbourhood plan group, working to help the parish ensure that its community and facilities are appropriate for the future and to help protect against future development, has recommenced its meetings and will meet again on the 11th January 2016, for an update on the activities of the steering group. Please follow the updates on the PC's dedicated webpage (<http://www.easthanneyparishcouncil.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan.html>). The areas the group will be looking at include Ecology, Flood and Sewage, Housing, Business, Transport, Schools, Hall and Shop, Church and Chapel. Ideally we would like to set up small groups to look at each issue, obtain data and develop ideas that can then be discussed with the village as a whole. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you would like to help.

Your Parish Council meets monthly on the first Wednesday from 7.30pm. The agenda is available to view on the notice board outside the Community Shop, facebook and the website a week in advance. The next planned meetings are:

6th January 2016 Full meeting.
3rd February 2016 Planning sub-committee meeting.

Councillors: Chairman: Jim Triffitt 868314 (Allotments)
Vice Chairman: Stewart Scott 868503 (Neighbourhood Plan and Technical Issues)
Paul Aram 868858 (Playground and Playing field)
David Kirk 07740029059 (Neighbourhood Action Group)
Judy Long 868425 (Footpaths)
Stephen McKechnie 868823 (Village furniture and annual litter pick)
Clerk: Guy Langton 867403 gl-ehpc@outlook.com

Christmas Brownies?!

As the festive Season draws upon us, 1st Hanney Brownies have been celebrating the national Guiding Star Award being presented to Mikayla Beames. Mikayla was diagnosed with a brain tumour 4 years ago. However, this has not stopped her and the Brownie Pack from 'doing good turns' and 'thinking of others before themselves' in their efforts to raise money for Team Mikayla. This charity provides



fun days for poorly children in the Kamran Ward at the John Radcliffe Hospital, to bring a smile to their faces and help them cope with their illnesses. Well done Mikayla and the Brownies!!!

Hanney Brownies welcome all girls aged 7-11 from the local villages to join them on Tuesday evenings 6:00-7:30 pm at the Hanney Royal British Legion Hall. Our Brownies have an invitation for you!

"Hi, my name is Beau and I'm a Hanney Brownie. We have fun every week doing arts and crafts, treasure hunts, woodland adventures and much more. We do lovely things for special celebrations, like flowers for Mother's Day, rabbits for Easter and cards for Christmas. We have so much fun every week, so if you've got nothing to do on Tuesday I guarantee you will have so much fun with us. I look forward to introducing you to our Pack!" For more information please contact Jacquie Donald on [07919927832](tel:07919927832)

Hanney Bellringers

On November 21st, the first really cold day of winter, many of our loyal supporters braved the icy wind to come for a Soup, Cheese and Cake Lunch in the Church. In spite of other events taking place in the village on that day, we all enjoyed a happy, social occasion. A very big thank you to all who came along and helped to raise £282 for Church and Bell Tower funds.

We are a very friendly bunch of ringers and enjoy these lunches, as well as the ringing itself and new recruits are always welcome. We have three learners at present, who are all doing extremely well. If you are interested in taking up this great activity and making new friends, please come along to a practice night (Wednesdays 7.30pm) or contact Jean Hazard on 868883.

Hanney History Group - Finds Identification Day

13th February 2016 – 10a.m. to 2p.m. at Hanney War Memorial Hall

Come along with all the exciting items you have found in or around your Hanney home! There will be an archaeological finds specialist available to try to identify your finds.

All finds will be mapped and help to show the range of dates for cultural material from both villages.

Finds will be recorded and possibly photographed. A record of what has been found will be made available to the county HER (Heritage Environment Record). This will help understanding of the development of the villages.

So, bring along your discoveries – who knows, you may have something really exciting and exceptional!

More letters!

Dear Editor

The arrival of Hanney News coincided with the long-awaited and eagerly anticipated meeting of the VOWH Planning Committee at The Beacon Wantage that was so well attended on 25th November.

It is very late now to heap well-deserved praise upon the mammoth efforts of East Hanney parish councillors and all the hard work of the Hands Off Hanney Campaign, which made such an impact (and ultimately proved so successful) in at least delaying the enormous expansion of new housing in East Hanney.

However the arrival of Hanney News set me thinking about what a successful, stimulating and thriving village community is all about. The 40th birthday of Hanney News is followed closely by the 40th anniversary of our arrival in Hanney – and we thought we would be here for five or six years...

Reading through November's mammoth edition confirmed that our village community continues to show caring and sensitivity. One of the special things about living in the Hanneys is the natural willingness of villagers to show kindness and support to neighbours in times of need.

Village losses and joys are shared, whether it is an untimely death, or the birth of a long-awaited child. This is a huge bonus to anyone living in a small community.

So should those of us who are so lucky to live in the Hanneys deny that opportunity to others who need to live somewhere? That is the paradox, because a village cannot suddenly double in size without losing that special ability to make life so rich for those that wish to grab hold of the potential. In other words, if you enlarge a village too fast, the magic dies. At the same time, however, the villages need a constant gentle feed of newcomers to introduce new ideas for increasing and maintaining what Hanney has to offer (see the 'volunteers needed' page!). After 40 years here we have shared celebrations and sadnesses, supported some of Hanney's many organisations and done a little

volunteering. Our children, like their friends, consider themselves fortunate to have attended the village playgroup and school. Growing up in Hanney provided them with a secure package of life's experiences to carry with them into their future.

Life may not always be idyllic here, but we have a magnificent mix of people, interests and ideas. The result is a society that most would consider works well.

What would be the result on this society if all this were to be disturbed by a series of disproportionate mass housing developments?

It is a question we need to ask ourselves, because it may be that the Real Battle is yet to come.

Ann Fewins, East Hanney

Dear Editor

Thinking about the Cumbrian floods made me think whether we should be looking after our own first line of defence. I walk both Hanney villages most days and I see drains blocked with mud and leaves covering drainage outlets. If we wait for the Councils to clean up our villages, we may get flooded before it happens. If you want proof just look at the state of the drains in the road that goes from Dandridge's Mill to HWMH and along The Causeway.

Chris French

Has anyone else noticed the many sad, grubby old signs we now have in our villages? I suspect it's the County's job to clean them, but they clearly aren't going to, so maybe we need a bit of DIY? More pics on the back page....not pretty!
Ed.



West Hanney Parish Council

The new Cow Lane disabled access gate has now been installed by the Volunteer Group which will hopefully open up the whole Community Woodland area to anyone with mobility problems. The group have also been working in other areas to keep the rides free of obstruction and to make some areas which cross drainage ditches safer. Many thanks to them for their dedication and hard work.

There have been several complaints made to us this past month concerning the building site at Church Farm. The short section of road towards Church Street and at times the footpath have been closed by the developers. Comments have also been received in relation to the metal fencing erected on the north side of the site. The feeling is that this was unsafe and potentially dangerous as sections had already blown down towards the footpath in the recent high winds.

We approached Sweetcroft homes who have responded by explaining that they felt it necessary to close the road and, on occasions, the footpath for the safety of villagers whilst construction of the new entrance and excavations for drainage was being carried out. They apologised for any inconvenience but explained that health and safety was of paramount importance. With regard to the fencing they assure us that it is now supported from inside the site.

Comments are also still being received concerning the mess along the road edges. Now that the County Council rarely send a road sweeper around we were hoping to organise a working party on a Saturday morning but we had no response whatsoever for our request for volunteers in the October issue of Hanney News. If anybody is willing to help then please ring any councillor, meanwhile can we suggest that householders clean the immediate area outside of their property, in an attempt to make our village look a little more tidy.

Now that winter is with us the road problems are getting worse with potholes appearing frequently. Don't forget anyone can report a problem on the roads by going online to www.fixmystreet.com and detailing what is wrong. It's easy and it works. Help other motorists by getting action taken quickly.

Happy New Year to all.

Next Meeting Tuesday 2nd February 2016 7.30pm St, James the Great

Chris Surman (Chairman) 868749
Kay Sayers (Cllr. & Clerk) 868146
Graham Garner 868684

Trevor Brettell 868459
Edward Wilkinson 867316



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Dear Friends

I was hoping to announce the appointment of a new associate vicar to serve in the four parishes of the Vale Benefice but I'm disappointed to say that no appropriate candidates came forward. We will have to hope and invest in even more patience while we all wait to discover God's will. Please pray that we use this opportunity to cooperate as a Benefice and that the Lord provides a godly, enthusiastic and capable minister.

As we begin the New Year may I invite you to turn to the living God for his direction and guidance for the future. This is a time for hope not because things are going well but rather the opposite. Even in our relatively comfortable community we may have real concerns apart from the issues of global warming, terrorism, refugee crisis and conflicts around the world. We need hope.

There is hope for the future says Jeremiah the prophet (31 : 17) to people who had lost position, wealth and who were scared and sad. He invites them to turn to the living God in hope. For Christians we have the added incentive of Christ's presence to be with us now and his promises of a better eternal future.

So may I end by saying thank you for all the support and hard work so many of you have given in the past year and wish you a fruitful and peaceful New Year in 2016.

John Durant
Vicar of the Vale Benefice, which includes the Hanneys, East Challow, Denchworth and Grove

Perhaps you would like to use the millennial resolution of Churches Together as a prayer:-

*Let there be respect for the Earth,
Peace for its people,*

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"OH WHAT A NIGHT!"

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SERVICES in JANUARY

Sundays

10th - The Vicar, 17th & 24th - Revd Antonia Cretney, 31st - Revd John Hedges. All at 9.30am.

Tuesdays

10.00am Said Eucharist in the Vicarage, Winter Lane



A scene from our Live Nativity on 13 December

Vicar : Revd John Durant : 766484

vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Office : (10 - 12 Mon - Fri) 771479

office@valebenefice.org.uk

Church Wardens :

Stuart Cakebread 868590

cakebread@btinternet.org.uk

Chris Reason 868375

chris_reason_hanney@hotmail.com



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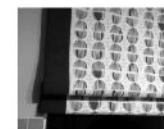
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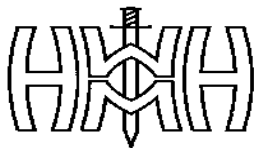
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Vale refuses planning permission for 400 houses in Hanney.

At the end of November the Vale of White Horse District Council planning committee refused two planning applications, each for 200 houses, both in East Hanney. There was a large turnout from both villages opposing the applications at the meeting. After a lengthy debate both were refused on the details of the individual proposals. It is anticipated that both applicants will appeal in due course. The Local Plan still allocates a strategic site of 200 homes for East Hanney, this will be considered at the next stage of the Examination in Public which will take place at the Beacon in Wantage between 2nd and 18th February. It is likely that this will be before any appeals are considered.

Honouring the Vale's volunteers

At the end of November the Vale welcomed volunteers and their guests from across the district for the annual Community Awards lunch. This is an occasion to properly recognise the contribution made by those people across the district who give up their time to help make our towns and villages such great places to live. [A list of the winners is available here.](#)

Top of the recycling charts yet again

Thanks to the hard work of local residents the Vale of White Horse is yet again in one of the top spots in the national recycling charts! The Vale came 2nd nationwide, recycling 65.6% of household waste, beaten only by neighbouring South Oxfordshire. The news comes after the successful launch of the small electrical and textile recycling services.

For details of changes to your bin collections over Christmas and the New Year and to find out how to dispose of your Christmas tree after the festive season [please visit the Vale's website.](#)

Autumn Statement paves the way for more infrastructure funding

In the wake of the Chancellors Autumn Statement there have been two announcements that are set to bring more infrastructure funding. The Vale is the first district to have been awarded two Enterprise Zones. These areas are intended to make it easier to attract new businesses to the area as well as retaining all of the business rates paid within those zones to help fund infrastructure. Earlier this week, Housing Minister Brandon Lewis announced the Didcot Garden Town. This initiative will enable local councils to bring forward bids for the funding of vital infrastructure such as new roads and bridges.

We are yet to find out what the Autumn Statement will mean for the overall Council finances. Details of the financial settlement is likely to be received from the Government in last few days before Christmas.

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Janice Peacock is the new Headteacher at St James, taking up her post at the start of Term 3 on 5th Jan. I caught up with her – well, she wasn't running away or anything you understand, I just mean she's a busy lady - a couple of weeks back and had a good old chinwag! Janice grew up in West London and following a gap year – during which she worked in offices and saved some money – she took a degree in 'Sports Studies with Biology' at the University of Surrey. She followed that with a PGCE teaching qualification at the same uni. Her first teaching job was in Guildford, Surrey. After the arrival of her son Oliver in 1995 and daughter Aimee in 1999, Janice worked part-time as a supply teacher. In 2000 she moved to Oxford with her husband Simon, a business consultant, and started back as a part-time teacher at Longworth school in 2005. After 5 years, she was promoted to the headship. Janice lived in East Hanney for about 5 years, before moving to Little Coxwell in 2006, where she now lives with her family and her two cats, Jasper and Mia. Janice is passionate about sport and she set up the Faringdon Netball Club, which currently has 55 junior members fielding 5 teams in the Oxford Junior Netball League, as well as 17 seniors whose team plays in the Swindon Netball League. Janice often plays alongside her daughter. She's a 'wing attack' or 'centre' for those who know about netball positions, and for those that don't, it means she runs around a lot more than most of the others. (Please be aware dear reader that your Editor, ie me, knows about netball and have personally played it to a very high standard.)



Janice is also a passionate reader and likes nothing more than to curl up with a good book. So why leave Longworth where Janice is clearly an extremely popular and successful Head, and confront a big challenge here in Hanney? Well, it's for that very reason - Janice feels that it's time to move on and welcome a new challenge, exactly what St James offers as its future expansion rolls out, with new buildings and a much bigger school at the end of it. Janice has many plans and ideas for St James, and an intention to offer wrap-around care is one of her priorities. It's currently available at Longworth, where parents can drop their children off at 8am for the 'Breakfast Club' – breakfast is available, including very healthy options – and collect them as late as 5.30pm. There's full staff supervision throughout that time of course, all structured, with opportunities for a wide range of activities including gardening, cooking, crafts, and a 'quiet time' when homework can be done. First priority at St James is to set up the breakfast club. I very much enjoyed meeting Janice and I'm sure she will make a great new Head for our school. We all wish her the very best of luck.

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Letters

Dear Editor

Hanney Fundraisers Update

We would like to thank everyone for their support during 2015 and wish you all a happy New Year.

Our Bazaar in November made £2,035, bringing the total for the year to over £6,000 which has already been forwarded to the Churchill Partners CRUK. We have set our target for 2016 to reach £100,000 - this is getting so close!! But we can't do it without all the help we get from our friends. We have started collecting any unwanted Xmas presents ready for our next Bazaar. Thank You. Marion, Lyn, Dulcie and Kath.

Dear Editor

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Mark Sacco and Roy Williams Aunt Sally Memorial match on Weds 2nd Dec at the Plough. It was a fantastic turnout, Plough versus Black Horse in aid of Mark and Roy's bench for the Plough garden. The match ended in a draw with the Plough winning the play-off. A Trophy Shield has been donated by Phil Spraklen and will be displayed in the pub. It is hoped that this will become an annual event. An amazing £585.40p was raised on the night, which, combined with the money donated at Mark's funeral for the bench, well exceeds the cost. The remainder will go towards a tree for the Plough garden and any further surplus to the Anthony Nolan Trust. There is a just giving page set up in Mark's memory - www.justgiving.com/mark sacco, which has raised £3,607.79 to date for the trust.

Special thanks to the Plough and Dews Meadow for donating food to sell on the night, the Black Horse for the raffle prizes and their season's 'blob' money, Kate Weston for the Hamper to raffle, Phil, Weggy, Shaun, Janice and Fletch for organising the event. Emma, Izzy and Mair.

Dear Editor

We would like to say a big thank you to the British Legion for such a wonderful afternoon on Saturday 5th Dec, fantastic food and drinks, all served with a smile. Thanks also to the organist for all the lovely tunes.

Those people who failed to turn up missed a great afternoon.

Thanks again to Maureen and Kim and their helpers and for keeping so cheerful during which must have been a considerable disappointment to them after all their hard work.

We are two very grateful 80+ Hanneyites!

Beryl King and Mary Dandridge

Dear Editor

I would like to thank all those in the RBL Ladies Section who organised the Christmas Tea Party on 5th December. Everyone who attended were more than impressed by the effort that had been made to make us welcome.

It was a very enjoyable afternoon but it was marred slightly by the fact that although 40 people had accepted only 23 turned up. Maybe it could have been because it was advertised as a tea party, whereas it was very much more than that. For those who were unable to attend I would say that you missed a veritable treat.

Thank you ladies, and the gentlemen, who worked so hard to make this such a successful event.

Tony Charles

We received other letters this month from Jenny Pratt and Alice Routledge, and another party-goer who didn't sign their letter, also thanking the RBL for the splendid spread and all their hard work. I am sorry we do not have room to print them. Editor

(More letters on page 24)

Volunteer

Remember last month's plea if you're into the old gee-gees - riding them, not betting on them! - 'Abingdon Group for the Riding for the Disabled Association' are in desperate need of additional volunteers. To find out more, 'visit our website <http://www.rda-abingdon.org.uk/index.htm>, find us on Facebook and send a PM, or email annps.barlow@googlemail.com'

Our front page story features winners of the latest Community awards, and amongst them is Kate Anstis who volunteers for ARCh, a charity that helps primary school kids who are struggling with their reading. If that type of demanding, but I'm sure very rewarding, work might be of interest, do check out their website. www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

If you fancy running the next London Marathon - I would but I'm washing my hair that day - then this may be of interest.....'Missed out on a place for the **LONDON MARATHON 2016**? Wantage Counselling Service is looking for a runner. Are you local and could you raise in excess of £1,000? Call Shaun for info on 01235 430251, email media@wantagecounselling.org.uk or visit our website at www.wantagecounselling.org.uk

Meantime, something a little less energetic, 'The Hanney Lottery' is still looking for a new promoter, see back page for contact details, and Hanney Hall still seeks a booking secretary, ring Nigel Kilbey on 07734 051258. And of course the Hanney shop needs folk to help run this jewel in the crown that is our Hanney community! Oh yes!

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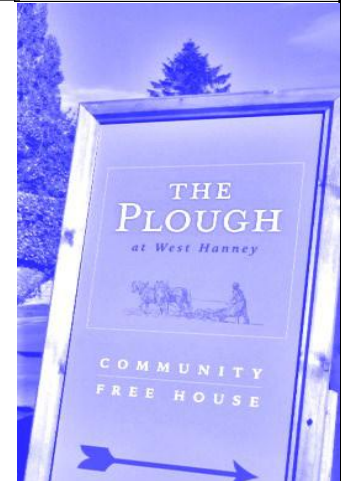
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