

'Facebook'

See - and join! - the West Hanney and East Hanney Community Facebook page.

'Hanney News'

Be sure to read it, cover to cover, without fail, every month. It contains so much useful stuff it's quite scary and is also the wittiest parish mag in Hanney!

'The Hanney Website'

Visit the Hanney website regularly: www.thehanneys.org.uk

Hanney War Memorial Hall



To book the Hall, the Committee Room, or the Olde Hanney Room, contact

Sue Garner on 868684 or 07890 953101
hwmh.hanney@gmail.com



Join us on the Wantage and Grove Twinning trip to Mably, France,



Sun 9th - Sat 15th July 2017

Mably is in the beautiful Roannaise region of the Upper Loire valley. We will be flying from Birmingham to Lyon. All transport will be arranged. You will stay with a French family and will go out on trips most days with the whole twinning group. Total costs will be in the region of £375-£400. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact: **Simon Weston 01235 765620 westonsl@virginmedia.com**

Hanney Community Shop

Mon to Sat - 9am to 5pm

Post Office hours:

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
9am to 1pm

Tues 9am to 12 noon

Tel: Shop - 867408

Post Office - 868320

Hanney Lottery

March Winners
£100 - Martin Trowell
£50 - Gill Panton
£25 - Mrs Rawlings
Not got a number yet or want to have additional numbers? Just call Hilary on 86859

Final Thought

I believe a lot of conflict in the Wild West could have been avoided if the cowboy architects had just made their towns big enough for everyone.

Submissions, Advertising and Charges

To submit an article or letter, please send it to the Editor, preferably by email to: hanneynews@gmail.com or via the box in the **Hanney Community Shop** by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue. Organisations are charged £12 pa for entry into the 'Regular Events' or 'Clubs and Societies' section, pages 26 and 27. To advertise please ring or email the Editor. jimstagg@btinternet.com - tel: 01235 867500
Four line adverts in 'Business Ads' are charged at £3 per month or £23 per annum. Block ads are available for £6, £12 or £18 per month, £60, £120 or £180 per annum. Other sizes by negotiation.

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Hanney News

Number 497 April 2017

Plenty going on at St James Church over Easter - first event is on Palm Sunday 9th April, with a parade starting at the church at 10.00am. All are welcome to join in and follow the donkey round West Hanney. See pages 14 and 15.

Allotments

East and West Hanney Parish Councils are offering allotments for rental, and they're cheap as chips! WHPC are charging just £10 pa after the first year which is free, and EHPC are charging £5 pa. Of course if you grow some potatoes, you can make your own chippy chips for free!

Stop Press !
W.I. Fashion Show
sold out.
No tickets on the door.

'An ever increasing number of found items are handed in to the Village Shop. If you've lost something, please do call in to see if your item is amongst them. Also, we are desperately short of volunteers to serve for the occasional half day behind the counter. It's a wonderful way to meet people and make new friends so, if you can spare a little time to help the village, please get in touch with me, Hazel on 868145 or Ann on 868440.' - Hazel Abraham

"This year Christian Aid Week starts locally with the Coffee Morning on Saturday 13 May at HWMH. That means Fair Trade coffee and tea, delicious homemade cakes and of course the raffle! To keep up with the demands of our customers we need two or three extra volunteers to help with a range of duties on the day or perhaps before or after. If you are interested please phone Pam, 868783. 'New villagers' especially welcome. And of course, if you're a cake-maker...!"



Editorial

Can I start by thanking everyone for their good wishes over the recent problem with my ticker, which occasionally isn't quite as well behaved as I would like it to be.

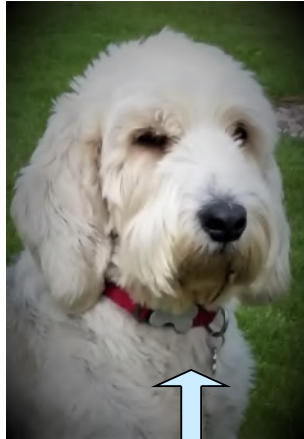
Whilst I'm about it, I want to mention the service I got from the NHS....one word - superb. My nurses, Ana, Heidi, Ria and Libby were lovely, the room was very comfortable, everything ran like clockwork, and even the food wasn't too bad. The NHS gets a bashing sometimes, and I know that's demoralising for all the staff, so I'm very pleased to say that my experience throughout was totally positive. Big up thanks to everyone.

Coincidentally, another villager has been under the weather lately and wants to say thank you for all the kindness shown to him; see his letter on page 11.



Now, a change of style this month, specifically a new font. It's called Cambria - you like? Let me know; experts tell me it's supposed to be easier to read, though some very sad news this month as we've lost two members of our community, Geoff Brooker, and Carole Owen. They will be

sorely missed. Geoff's obit is on page 19, and we will publish Carole's next month.



Now, please meet 'Elvis.' He ain't nothing but a 'Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen' ie a 'small, shaggy, hound dog - Elvis, hound dog, geddit? - from Vendee'. I thought the 'small shaggy' bit was a tad harsh, but no matter; he is a splendid chap as is his owner Claire, though she obviously not a chap! She is one of the many dog owners who not only picks up her own dog's poo - apols if you're eating breakfast - but also the solids from other dogs whose owners don't. To Claire and the other 'picker uppers' I say a massive thank you. To the few - and I'm sure it's only a very few - who don't, I say please stop being so thoughtless and irresponsible! In fact, write to me explaining why there is no need for you to pick up your dog's poo, and why you expect others to do it for you. I'll publish your letter(s) next month!! Till then.....

Hanney News Global International. West Hanney HQ. Oxfordshire, UK.

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Treasurer - Chris French 868876, chris-french@hotmail.co.uk

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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 : 9am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

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 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

HANNEY LITTLE RAINBOWS, Activity and fun for 0 - 3 yr olds meet every Monday, 9.30 - 11.30am. At the Village Hall Contact Hayley Aram for details 07900 696 921

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

YOGA (HATHA) – MIXED LEVEL at Hanney War Memorial Hall, Fridays 9.30-11am. £45 for 6 sessions; £9 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.

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

PILATES CLASS Wednesdays 6 -7pm and Fridays 9.15 - 10.15am (term time only) at the Royal British Legion, East Hanney. Novices and Improvers welcome. To book your place or for more details please contact Pippa Carey (STOTT Pilates teacher) on 07941 260427 or at pippa@thrive-nutrition.co.uk

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 Catherine Tysoe 867356. **HANNEY BROWNIES** (aged 7+) meet on Tuesdays in British Legion Hall from 6.00 - 7.30. Contact Jacquie Donald. **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 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 9.30am prompt (10am after the clocks have gone back for the winter) 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.hanneyywinecircle.org.uk

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Indoor nets available in March & April followed by outdoor training every Thursday evening throughout the summer from 6.15pm at the rec. League fixtures every Saturday, occasional friendly Sunday games. For more details contact David Johns on 01235 868519 or 07770 456147

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 CLUB qualified coaching to a high level, or just play. Cadets, juniors and seniors, £2 per night, league matches every week, just turn up 6.30 every Thursday. Richard 07908 673367

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.

Sat 1st, 9am. Meet at Village Hall. The Hanneys Annual Litter Pick.

Sat 1st, 7.30pm, Wantage Male Voice Choir, Annual Concert. Last month's issue, page 5, for details.

Sundays 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th, Services at St James, pages 14 and 15.

Mon, 3rd, Gardening Club, 'Propagation', a sideways look, by Bob Brown.

Fri 7th, 8pm, Hanney R.B.L. Bingo with raffle. Children welcome.

Sat 8th, Wantage & Grove Lions, Cash Bingo. Doors open 6.45pm, eyes down 7.30pm. Raffle, hope to see you there.

Sunday 9th, 1pm Tennis Tournament, see page 10 of last month's for details.

Thurs 13th, 11am - 2pm, Charlton Spring Festival, page 5 for full details.

Thurs 13th, 7.30pm, W.I. Village Hall 'The Decopatch Place'. Jazz up your junk.

Sun 16th, 10.30am, War Mem Hall, Hanney Chapel, Easter Praise. Page 13

Tues 18th, St James School, Term 5 begins.

Sat 22nd, R.B.L. Live music with the Saga Louts. (Superb band! - Ed) Dance and BBQ in memory of Gerald Sedgwick - 'Sedgie'.

Mon 24th, 7.30pm, Sustainable Wantage presents 'Tomorrow', an award winning documentary film. See page 18 for details

Tues 25th, History Group, 'Local Archaeology evening' 8pm, Village Hall

Thurs 27th, Senior Citizens, A.G.M. Village Hall, 2.30pm

...and further ahead

Sat 13th May, Gardening Club, Annual Plant Sale, 10am - 12 noon. Village Hall,

Sat 13th May, Christian Aid Coffee Morning, Village Hall.

Fri 26th May, St James School, Term 5 ends...sob, sob!

Mon 5th June, St James School, Term 6 begins...whoopie!

Mon 5th June, Hanney War Memorial Hall, AGM 8pm. See page 15.

Junior and Adult Tennis Tournament Sunday 9th April 1pm - 4pm

Hanney Flood Group meet every third Saturday of the month and do great practical work in keeping our villages flood free. If you can lend a hand, contact Stewart Scott: stewartscott.4@btinternet.com or 868503.

Contact details for our political chums.

Ed Vaizey MP -You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or dicksonce@parliament.uk.

Ed's website is www.vaizey.com

Vale of White Horse District Council leader **Matt Barber's** email and website address: councillor@matthewbarber.co.uk - www.matthewbarber.co.uk

The Hanney Youth Club

is now a well established part of our community, meeting every fortnight in the village hall, regularly attracting ten or more local youngsters who come down for one reason only - cos it's fun.

What's on offer?

Well, lots.....cooking lessons from Sam Lindsay - that's her in the group pic, third from the right. The youngsters gain a real sense of achievement, and then they get to eat the grub...win win! Table Tennis...always popular and not taken too seriously, tho' when I played one of the lads, I got well beaten!

The Police have visited....not because of trouble, but to chat with the kids and help break down barriers - oh, and also to eat some pizza.

There's traditional games - even Twister! - and of course arts and crafts. The Spiderman handprint was made by one of the boys as a birthday card for his little brother. Some of the artwork is incredible...it's great to see the creativity that goes into it.

There's always a cup of tea on offer, along with sausage rolls, pizzas and lashings of tomato ketchup.

It's an opportunity to let off a bit of steam, kick a small soft ball round and make some noise without being told to shut up. Kids like that; actually I'm sure many grown-ups would enjoy it too!

By the time you read this, all the youngsters will have completed an outdoor orienteering course under the strict supervision of Paul Gooding, who's experienced at this kind of thing! Well done Paul....brave man! I'm hoping to have a few snaps from the event in next months issue.

When asked why they come, the youngsters replied...

'Very friendly - you can be yourself with nobody to judge you'

'You get to talk to people you wouldn't usually talk to'

'You can learn new things' - 'It's decent and you get to cook'

'You make new friends' - 'You're able to express yourself'.

Spending just half an hour or so at the club makes you realise that Becci, Sharon and Sam have set up something quite special here - already the kids have developed a real sense of belonging. Long may it continue.

If you can help in any way, please contact Becci on 07970 684404, or by email: r.lawson27@outlook.com or Sharon: sharoon1@live.co.uk



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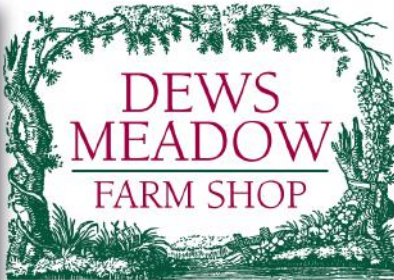
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"We are in the process of expanding our business. Now with more farm land just outside of Hanney, we have the space to produce more of our own lambs, even more space for our pigs as well as producing our own beef. We will soon be growing vegetables and rearing chickens and ducks (if we can find even more time). Thank you for your continued support." Andy, Jane, James, Harry and Tim Bowler

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World Book Day at St James.

Laura Quinton, one of the splendid teachers at our very own St James School, recently invited me to come and see a workshop that was given at the school as part of 'World Book Day', by Mini Grey who is a children's books author and illustrator. Mini held several workshops throughout the day, encouraging the children to get creative with drawings and words. I saw year 6 come up with pictures of many weird and wonderful creatures....an heroic multi-eyed tortoise, an annoying clock rabbit and a scheming parcel dog (!) to name but three. All had a great time letting their imaginations run wild and free, so well done Mini - a very talented lady indeed, check out her website at minigrey.com - well done kids, and thank you Laura for the invite.



On Thursday 13th April, our family friendly Spring Festival returns for another year at the Charlton Centre, Charlton Village Road, Wantage, OX12 7HG.

There will be kids' crafts, live music, cream teas, cakes and treats. Also, plants for sale, a bouncy castle, the ever popular East Egg Trail and lots more. Gates are open 11a.m. to 2p.m. £1 for adults, kids go free. Please note there is limited parking on site and no dogs are allowed.

Money raised will go towards the Wantage Market Garden Project which creates gardening opportunities for everyone.

Come and enjoy the spring flowers and bring a picnic.

Charlton Spring Festival

Wantage Market Garden Project

Thurs 13th April
11am - 2pm

- Easter Egg Trail
- Live Music
- Plant Sale
- Bouncy Castle
- Cream Teas, Cakes & Treats
- Kids Crafts & Activities
- Picnics Welcome
- £1 Adults | Kids FREE (Limited Parking)



The Charlton Centre

Wantage Market Garden Project - A partnership project providing gardening opportunities for everyone.

Daytime Support Services, The Charlton Centre, Charlton Village Rd, Wantage OX12 7HG
 Enquiries: 07527 201559 / Email: olwenbarlow@yahoo.co.uk

Site not suitable for dogs





East Hanney Parish Council

The Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part 2 is in its final stages of development. Part one dealt with the larger 'strategic' sites and policies in the Vale. Part 2 will set out strategic policies and locations for strategic housing for the agreed quantum of Oxford's unmet housing need to be addressed within the Vale of White Horse District. For more information, please see the Vale's website – put 'VWHDC Local Plan' in your search engine of choice. The PC will be holding information events regarding this, so look out for information about these on the PC's website, Facebook and in the noticeboard at the village shop.

On a more local note, the village's Neighbourhood Plan is gathering speed. The steering group have had the feedback from the village survey distributed just before Christmas and will be working on some policies in the coming weeks and months.

In response to many people asking when the skip will be in Hanney, the dates for the coming year (to March 2018) are on the noticeboard by the shop and on the PC's website. The rule of thumb is the skip is here on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 'odd' months at Snuggs Lane and 'even' months at the Hall. It arrives about 4.30pm and is usually full by 6.30!

Should you be hankering after season veg through the summer and autumn, you may be interested to know that East Hanney has a few vacant allotment and allotment pieces. Contact Jim Triffitt. It is also that time of year when the allotment rents are due, if you have not got round to paying yours yet, again contact Jim.

Parish Council meetings are open to the public and are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8pm. The agenda will be available to view on the notice board outside the Community Shop, on the Council's website and on Facebook a week in advance.

The next meeting dates are 5th April and 2nd May 2017.

The annual parish meeting will also be in May. If you have any items you would like to bring to the village's attention, please let the Clerk know.

East Hanney Parish Council

Chairman: Jim Triffitt 868314 (Allotments)

Vice Chairman: Stewart Scott 868503 (Neighbourhood Plan and Technical Issues)

Councillors: Paul Aram 868858 (Playground and Playing field)

David Kirk 07740029059 (Neighbourhood Action Group)

Judy Long 868425 (Footpaths)

Stephen McKechnie 868823 (Village Environment)

Clerk: Guy Langton 867403 gl-ehpc@outlook.com

Website: <http://www.easthaneyparishcouncil.org.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/436816943170450/>

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Looking for Childcare?

Why not use our **Breakfast and After-School Club** at St James Primary School? Breakfast Club opens at 7.45am and costs £4. After-School Club is open until 6pm and costs £10. We take regular & ad-hoc bookings.

We also offer all-day childcare for school holidays and Inset days when any children of primary school age are welcome.

Contact Ruth Haynes ruth@karibuni.cc 07948 293034
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West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors attended the recent presentation by the Vale planning team on the Local Plan 2031 Part 2. This sets out policies and locations for housing for the Vale's proportion of Oxford's housing need up to 2031, which cannot be met within the City boundaries.

No new sites are stipulated for West Hanney, but several have been listed in East Hanney. A consultation period runs from 9th March until Thursday 4th May 2017. There are several methods of making your views known. The easiest way is by going to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/llp2, which gives full details of the plan, and clicking on 'comment form'. You can also email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or write to Planning Policy Team, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, OX14 4SB. Of further interest to us is that Thames Water has confirmed that the Upper Thames Reservoir remains its preferred option to ensure sufficient water is available for the future needs of the region. Part 2 of the local plan therefore, even though the Vale Council remain opposed to the scheme, follows government guidance and safeguards the area between East Hanney, Drayton and Steventon for the possible future provision of a large reservoir.

The St. James Primary 'Forest School' has been so popular with pupils that the staff are looking at expanding this successful venture to two more groups, and extra areas which the parish council and community woodland volunteers are helping them select. It was so disappointing to learn therefore that large logs which had been taken to the forestry school site for the children to sit on had been 'removed' by persons unknown. Perhaps the guilty party did not realise the purpose of the logs but that is difficult to believe given the forestry school signs in the area.

A visit was made by the chairman to view

the waste incinerating plant at Ardley recently. This is an amazingly efficient means of disposing of Oxfordshire's 'grey bin' rubbish. The facility is an award winning architect designed building with a control room not dissimilar to an air traffic control centre! The plant boasts around a 95% rate of efficiency in utilising all forms of waste from domestic grey bins as well as from outside contractors, to produce electricity. Any items that cannot be burnt, such as metals, are automatically sorted and recycled. Some materials go to manufacture building blocks and insulation products for the construction industry. The plant runs 24 hours a day and produces enough electricity to power around 35,000 homes. Even the old landfill sites adjacent to the plant have been landscaped, capped with a membrane, and the methane gas that is produced, and will continue to be produced for several decades, is piped into the plant to further the power output. Emissions are constantly monitored and have to be reported daily to ensure the plant emits no toxins.

There is a visitor centre on site and the public and school groups are welcome to join one of the guided tours held throughout the year. The next tour is April 10th 3 - 5pm.

A revised Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) has been agreed between the Vale Planning Team and Sweetcroft Homes. Delivery vehicles and construction traffic will now be allowed to use the access off School Road and across the field, subject to a whole list of restrictive conditions including changes to the gate position and a ban on deliveries during school arrival/departure times.

Next Meeting - Tuesday 4th April 7.30pm - St James Bell Tower
Councillors: Chris Surman (Chairman) - 868749. Edward Wilkinson - 867316
Kay Sayers (Cllr & Clerk) - 868146.
Trevor Brettell - 868459
Graham Garner - 868684



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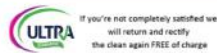
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Letters

Dear Editor,

I was more than a little troubled by Richard Broomhead's letter last month regarding re-marriage in the Church of England, particularly in St James. My concern is not with the very understandable issues he raises but the fact that we have clearly not got across accurately the Church's position.

Far from shunning those who have already re-married, or who wish to remarry in church, the Church positively welcomes them. The Vale Benefice, of which our parish is part, has set out a clearly defined process for second marriages in church. There has been understandable criticism in the past on the ambiguity of the Church's position so let me set out simply what it is.

First, anyone who has already remarried is completely welcome to join our church community and, unlike the position in some other denominations, there is no bar whatever to receiving

communion. Secondly anyone wishing to re-marry in one of the churches in our benefice should simply contact either of our priests, or the church office, and after an initial discussion they can meet one of our retired, and very experienced clergy who will talk it through with them. The emphasis of the Church is on the future, not the past, and so no interrogation. Our aim is to welcome a couple who are committed to each other into our church through the sacrament of holy matrimony.

Some couples prefer to remarry in a civil ceremony for whatever reason. They too are more than welcome and if they choose they can ask that one of our priests to perform a service of blessing of their marriage.

I hope this letter will lift some of the fog. If anyone would like any more information please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the clergy.

Stuart Cakebread - Church Warden

Dear Editor

East Hanney Parish Council is planning remedial action on the old circular metal seats around the chestnut trees at East Hanney crossroads which date from 1902. Since this was mentioned in Hanney News I have had people approach me with their memories of the seats.

- A place where the unemployed spent all day waiting for employment in the 1920s.

- Watching the early aeroplanes take off from the field opposite.

- American servicemen drinking up all the beer during the Second World

War, and Black US soldiers (unseen before in Hanney) being kept out the The Plough (La Fontana) by their officers.

- The regulars at the pub sitting out playing dominoes.

- The teenagers in the 1950s using it as a smoking spot.

How many more readers can add their memories? And is there someone out there who would be happy to bring the memories together for us all to share and put in the Hanney History Group archive?

Ann Fewins - East Hanney

Obituary

Geoffrey Allen Brooker.

5th November 1947 - 3rd March 2017.

Geoff was born in Aldershot, the son of a Sergeant Major in the British Army. The family moved to Germany and then in the early 1950s, to Tanzania or as it was then, Tanganyika. After boarding school in South Africa and a short time in banking, Geoff moved to Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe. There he served in the Rhodesian Army and worked in their Civil Service. In 1973 Geoff returned to England and worked in accountancy as Financial Director and Company Secretary.

As you would expect from the son of a Sergeant Major and with a boarding school education, Geoff had a disciplined upbringing. He possessed enormous charm and diplomacy, always polite and thoughtful towards all those he met.

He had a great interest in photography and a love of adventure. He travelled far afield - Georgia, Tibet and Mongolia, to name but a few of the countries he visited.

Geoff was a volunteer with the Probation Services and became an official visitor to Broadmoor Prison where he helped long-term and often dangerous prisoners. Following retirement, Geoff studied for 5 years to become a psychotherapist. He then worked for the NHS, providing counselling services.

Just over a year ago, Geoff was diagnosed with a life threatening illness. Thanks to the doctors and staff at the Churchill, they bought him another year, during which his adventurous spirit took him to Brazil. Sadly, despite a good fight, Geoff succumbed. He leaves 5 children, Elizabeth, Sally, Edward, Thena and Si.

Steve Brooker, Brother.

Geoff moved to Hanney 7 years ago where he gave willingly of his time and expertise to projects within our community. I got to know him as an able and enthusiastic steering committee member of the Community Association, and also through his dealings with Hanney News. Geoff wrote an article for us that appeared in the August 2015 issue. His main contribution to our community however, was his role in the setting up of the Community Pub, the Plough. Geoff provided the essential technical and legal knowledge, along with a much needed calmness and wisdom. It is no exaggeration to say that without his contribution, the Plough would not exist as it is today, and possibly not at all. Geoff's dedication to our community means we are all in his debt. Not for nothing does a photograph of him sit on the mantelpiece in the Plough.

I want to mention two villagers who helped Geoff in the latter part of his life, when things got very tough for him. Sheila and Diana's help was invaluable; they are folk who quietly get on with their good work. Our thanks to them and our deepest condolences to Geoff's many friends and large family on their sad loss. We will all miss him greatly and are very much the poorer for his passing. - ***Jim Stagg, Editor.***



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Dear Editor

Allen Talmage would like to thank all his friends and acquaintances for their cards, phone-calls, emails and prayers following his recent heart attack. He says 'I am now on the mend; it has been a very humbling experience with all the help I have received. So, 'Thankyou'.

Barbara Talmage

Vale Local Plan Part Two: The Preferred Options Consultation

went live on 9 March and will run until 5pm on Thursday 4 May 2017.

Please give us your feedback. You can take part by visiting our website:

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building from where you can participate in our online survey. If you'd rather, you can complete a paper-based survey, available at local libraries and council offices.

All our consultation materials will be available until Thursday 4th May. For more information on the consultation process, please contact Louise Rawlins, Community Engagement Officer at planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or call 01235 422600.

The New Field Update...

East Hanney Parish council have established a small working group to develop plans for the use of the field North of the playing fields. A popular suggestion from the community survey was for a wild flower meadow. The working group have been looking at how to implement this, along with some of the other suggestions such as ponds, open grassland and a sports area. Soil samples have been analysed to determine the nutrient level and pH as this has a major influence on what will flourish.

James Gillies, an expert in this area of Land Management, has been engaged to develop a concept layout and planting

plan which will then be available for comment.

An application has also been made to the District Council for change of use from Agricultural to Amenity.

The Hanney History group are also helping by conducting a survey using metal detectors, and by providing some history of the field and its past use. A notice board will soon be erected to provide additional information on progress.

Other suggestions for the field included an outdoor fitness trail. If anyone wanted to help investigate the practicalities of this or help in any other way please contact Guy Langton, the Parish clerk.



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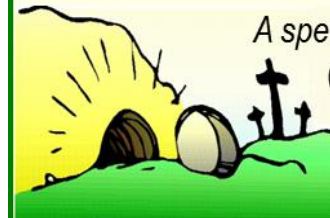
In the Hanney War Memorial Hall

10.30am on Easter Sunday (16th Apr) Everybody very welcome - crèche available

A special service organised by Hanney Chapel (in place of the usual morning meeting at the Chapel)

For more information or if you would like a lift call 867105 or email mailmarkfisher@gmail.com

www.hanney-chapel.org.uk





THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Dear Friends,

My parents told me how we were walking along the beach one day as a family, when I was young; I went ahead and ran straight into a patch of deep muddy sand.

I was stuck. I couldn't get out.

My Dad rushed over, picked me up and threw me to safety, before freeing himself.

My Dad literally got me out of a sticky situation!

At the heart of Easter, we celebrate Jesus' death and rising again, remembering that Jesus came to earth to get us out of sticky situations in life; freeing us and wipe off the mess that clings to us and weigh us down. That's what Easter is about for me, remembering that Jesus came to help us and inspire us, like my Dad did, to come to the rescue of others.

"The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them" John 15:13

Happy Easter!

Alec

SERVICES in April - Sundays at 9.30am

**2nd – Revd John Durant, 9th PALM SUNDAY Revd John Durant
& Revd Alec Gill,**

16th EASTER Revd Alec Gill, 23rd Revd Peter Rich, 30th Revd Geoff Maughan

Tuesdays at 10.00am Said Eucharist in the Chancel

FULL DETAILS OF ALL EASTER SERVICES WILL BE INCLUDED

WITH OUR EASTER CARD

Vicar : Revd John Durant : 01235 766484

Associate Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894

Office : (10 – 12 Mon – Fri) 771479

vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

office@valebenefice.org.uk

Stuart Cakebread: 01235 868590

Chris Reason: 01235 868375

cakebread@btinternet.com

chris_reason_hanney@hotmail.com

Come and join in the HOT CROSS FUN

**Good Friday 14th April, starting at 11.00am
at St James Church.**

**Families are invited to come and join in
craft activities, building the Easter Garden,
taking part in an Open the Book Story and
then to eat Hot Cross Buns!**



FLEXICARE FUNDRAISING WALK

Does the sound of a lovely walk of 5 or 10 miles on and around the Ridgeway, followed by as many (free) home made cakes and sandwiches as you can possibly eat, sound appealing to you? If the answer is "yes", read on!

Flexicare (a small local charity supporting families with severely disabled children in their own homes, and now in it's 32nd year) is holding it's annual fundraising walk on **Sunday 7 May** from Snells Hall in

East Hendred. Booking out is from 9 -10am and there is a 10 mile, 5 mile or a 2-3 mile wheelchair/buggy route to choose from. You can register, free of charge, at www.flexicare.org.uk where you will find access to registration and sponsor forms, also more information if required.



Hanney War Memorial Hall AGM

Monday 5th June at 8pm in the Olde Hanney Room

Interested in getting involved? Part of a club or group that uses the hall?

Did you know it's run by volunteers?

Please come along to our AGM to share ideas about how to develop our village hall for all residents of East and West Hanney.

Any queries please contact us at hwmh.hanney@gmail.com