



Hannee News

Number 498 May 2017

'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

Hannee War Memorial Hall



To book the Hall, the Committee Room, or the Olde Hanney Room, contact Sue Garner on 868684 or 07890 953101 hwmh.hannee@gmail.com

Hannee Community Shop

Mon to Sat - 9am to 5pm
Post Office hours:
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9am to 1pm
Tues 9am to 12 noon
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Post Office - 868320

Final Thought
Where do cats go when they die?
'Purgatory'.

That's not funny.
Where's my dinner?



This might be a bit of fun... the 'Abingdon Air and Country Show' at Abingdon Airfield on Sun 14th May Something for everyone apparently, family fun day and all that good stuff. Full details on their website: www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk

Submissions, Advertising and Charges

To submit an article or letter, please send it to the Editor, preferably by email to: hanneenews@gmail.com or via the box in the **Hannee 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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The Forest School - What goes on? See page 4.



'YOU FORGOT TO GO TO THE PLANT SALE YOU IDIOT!!!!!!'

BETTER NOT MISS IT! - SAT 13TH MAY, 10AM - 2PM, VILLAGE HALL.

Monday 15th May, 7.30pm
Hannee Village Hall
You are cordially invited..... to a presentation of the results of the Neighbourhood Community Survey and the draft objectives for the East Hanney and West Hanney Neighbourhood Plans. The objectives will then generate policies such as protecting green spaces, housing design, traffic calming, improved village facilities, and many more.

Pat's Birthday, a Haircut and Cake! See page 5.



Table Top & Car Boot Sale in aid Of Cancer Research
Sat 10th June, 10am till 2pm
at the Hanney War Memorial Hall
Raffle & Refreshments
Tel: 01235 868527 to book a table.
Hanney Fundraisers in aid of Cancer Research

Editorial

Well, doesn't time fly when you're having fun? I have now completed 2 years at the helm of Hanney's finest parish newsletter. Who'd have thought it? Only seems like last month I was sobbing and cursing with frustration as I tried to deal with the technicalities of producing my first edition! I still have the odd wobble, but this issue is my 25th - yikes! - so big up thanks for your company and support along the way. Some good news... Hanney Village Hall is doing well; continuing improvements are planned, and a merry - and very able - team run it! Big ups to them.

I'm ashamed to admit that the April Film Night was the first one I had ever been to, though it's been running for over 6 years. We saw 'I, Daniel Blake' - not exactly a 'feel-good' movie, but no matter, it was an enjoyable evening, with some witty repartee from Sirs Nigel of Kilbey and Mark of Weston to lift the mood. Somewhat embarrassingly, I won the raffle prize - embarrassing cos my wife Anna - no Nigel, not my daughter! - drew the winning ticket! The film night pulls in a good crowd, represents excellent value for money and significantly boosts the Hall coffers, so do go whenever you can. The screen's big, the sound's great and a constant supply of popcorn is the only improvement I could suggest. Another saucy film this month....see page 11.

More big ups, this time to the Lord of the Litter Pick, Sir Bobby of Wilson. Another splendid effort from you and your team,

your Bobliness!

May I urge you to check out the Oxford Science Festival details on page 15. It's happening next month, and what a refreshing change to find something that will appeal to the enquiring mind - young or old - that's seeking truth and genuine, provable facts, and not just the dreadful fake news, lies and nonsensical mumbo-jumbo with which we get bombarded these days. More details on the Festival next month.

Less good news...the Hanney Community Association has folded. For more details on that, with a preachy bit thrown in, see page 13.

Somewhat to be predicted, alas, I have had no response to my request last month to the folk who leave it to others to pick up their dog's poo, to contact me to explain why. Facebook postings suggest it's still going on, but word from those responsible, there is none.

That's enough prattle for now...till next month.

**Darling,
have you
heard? This
year's
Michaelmas
Fayre is on
Saturday the
23rd Sep!**



**Of course I have you silly sausage.
I read about it in Hanney News!!**

Hanney News Global International. West Hanney HQ. Oxfordshire, 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, hvfcfooty@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 6th, 10am - 1.30pm, Wantage & Grove Lions: A Grand Plant Sale, also 2nd hand garden bits & pieces at R.B.L. Hall. Cake stall & refreshments.

Sat 6th, Live Opera in Wantage. See page 13 for details.

Sat 6th - Sun 14th. Oxford Artsweek.... page 13 again

Sun 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, Services at St James - page 14 for details

Sun 7th, 6.30pm - 9.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Youth Club.

Thurs 11th, 7.30pm, Village Hall. W.I. 'Resolutions to the National Annual Meeting; have your voice heard, your opinion matters.

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

Sat 13th, Christian Aid Coffee Morning, 10am - 12 noon, Village Hall.

Weds 17th, Charity Cream Tea at Black Horse, see page 17 for details.

Sat 20th, Live music at the R.B.L. Hall - 'Move It' - 60's and 70's beat combo!

Sun 14th, 10.30am, Village Hall. Hanney Chapel morning service, then lunch.

Sun 14th, Abingdon Air and Country Show. Back page for details.

Sun 21st, 6.30pm - 9.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Youth Club.

Tues 23rd History Group visit to Stonor Park. Bill Orson - 868899 - for details

Thurs 25th, 2.30pm, Senior Citizens, Village Hall. A talk, 'Myths and Legends in the Stars' by Val Calderbank.

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

...and further ahead

Sat 3rd June - R.B.Legion. - Summer Prom, with the Wantage Silver Band.

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

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

Sat 10th June, 10am - 2pm, CRUK table top sale, Village Hall

Friday 16th June - Weds 21st June, Oxford Science Festival...see page 15

Sat Sept 23rd - Michaelmas Fayre. Details next month and on the Fayre website and noticeboards.

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 Forest School is the part of St James where the youngsters of all ages get out in the fresh air and get down with nature. It's an opportunity to learn about the seasons, the environment, ecology, and practical life skills. It's a great initiative and big ups to the two Sharons - Geraghty and Wilkinson - who run it. I was recently invited to visit - here are some of my snaps.

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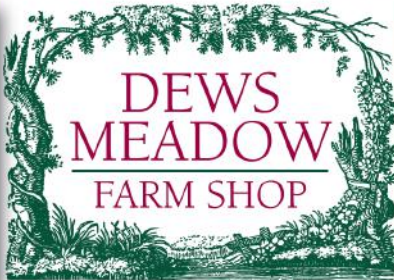
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The 6th Hanneys Annual Litter Pick

...was richly attended by a very enthusiastic group - this was not an April Fools joke but the person who left some false "Boobs" and a ladies wig in a ditch may have thought otherwise!!! We had some of the usual enthusiasts along, some new Hanney villagers and some youngsters. **A big thank you to all who attended.** Litter is sadly a very depressing feature of modern society - "Why Chuck It - Why Not Bin It?". I am hoping that the smaller heap of rubbish we collected this year means the Hanneys are going in the right direction and respecting where we live. A big thank you to Biffa who provided hi-viz jackets, picking sticks and rubbish bags. If you wish to be included in next year's event - your details please to me, bobwilson300@hotmail.com.

Bob Wilson




Some of the litter pickers!!

Big up congrats

to Pat Beach and her magnificent team of helpers who raised £832 (!) at her recent birthday haircut in the Black Horse. Stuart and Natalie wielded the scissors, then passed them to the very talented hairdresser Lisa - see her website: www.beautifulee-beauty.co.uk - who gave Pat a stylish new cut. It was certainly an unusual, but very agreeable way to spend a Monday morning - I've never seen so many cakes gathered in one place! Well done to all. (See letters page).



Great news regarding the Hanney Table Tennis Club.....

it's expanding, with new members joining nearly every week. It currently runs two District teams, in divisions 3 and 5. The 'A team' - no, not that bunch who used to drive around the streets of L.A. and jump out of their van to beat up the bad guys - but rather the highly talented folk who have just been crowned champions of division 3 and have earned promotion!

Big up congrats all round, but especially to Bertie(12) and Arthur (16) Anstis for some outstanding doubles performances. The club always welcome new members, particularly those with ambitions to join the County players and compete nationally. Contact Richard Anstis for more details: email richard@nstis.com or call 07908 673367.

East Hanney Parish Council

A number of your suggestions have been received for possible preservation, at another location, of the ancient seats around the two trees near the cross roads at the Main Street entrance to East Hanney and these will be considered further. The replacement new seats will follow similar but more modern designs as commissioned by the VWHDC Arts Development Officer and reviewed by parish councillors. The metal design artist, Julie Grose of Wallingford will have a more detailed, revised design and all those interested in further information are invited to attend her studio during Art weeks (6th -14th May) at Unit 2, Warren Hill Farm, Nuffield Lane, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 6QN (Tel: 07960 192475).

A well-attended public meeting was held last month to learn the feelings of parishioners regarding the potential inclusion of two additional major housing development sites in East Hanney in the VWHDC Local Plan Part 2 Consultation. The sites are North of Ashfields Lane for up to 80 houses and North of Steventon Road for up to 50 houses. Comments indicated that none of these specific sites was welcomed. The written responses received were completely opposed to any development on the first of these sites, with a very large majority also opposed to the second. By the time of publication of this newsletter the Consultation period deadline will have passed, so we trust that direct representation by many parishioners reflecting their views will have been made to the Consultation. They were certainly emphasised by parish councillors at a subsequent meeting with the VWHDC Planning

Policy Team to discuss all aspects of the draft Local Plan Part Two in relation to East Hanney Parish.

Please note that there are a number of other items. A few allotment pieces are still available for this year. We still need volunteers interested in helping plan and effect future development of the Kings Leases fields. We need further help with specific aspects of our Neighbourhood Plan and please consider how you can assist us to complete the Plan as rapidly as possible. Regarding the latter, there will be a full presentation of the results of the Neighbourhood Plan Community Survey on 15th May in the Hanney War Memorial Hall starting at 19:30hrs. Please contact the councillors with responsibilities as specified below for further information regarding any of these items.

Meetings are open to the public, held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8pm. The agenda will be available 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 3rd May, 7th. June and 5th. July

EHPC Chairman: Jim Triffitt 868314
 Vice Chairman: Stewart Scott 868503
 Councillors: Paul Aram 868858
 David Kirk 07740029059
 Judy Long 868425
 Stephen McKechnie 868823
 Clerk: Guy Langton 867403
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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

The saga with the electricity pole on School Road has been further complicated after Scottish and Southern Electricity diverted the supply underground and removed the cables and stabilisers. Before the team had arrived with the necessary hoist and lorry to finally remove the post however, British Telecom saw an opportunity and cleverly connected a supply to a nearby property by fixing their cables on the post. So, yet another delay. You couldn't make it up!

Over 20 volunteers responded to Paul Sayer's invitation and turned out on Saturday 25th March to carry out further cutting back and clearance work in the community woodland. Thank you to each and every one. There will be no more clearance work now until the Autumn to leave nesting birds in peace, but to get involved in the future, and to enjoy the scrummy cakes provided by Kay at coffee time, give Paul a ring on 868146.

After comments from villagers about the state of some of the footpaths in the village, we are asking for volunteers to help councillors clear the footpath from Main Street through to Church Street and also Main Street to The Meads.

Please come along at 9am for a couple of hours max on Saturday morning 13th May. We shall need spades/shovels, wheelbarrows, rubbish bags and of course gloves. Any help would be much appreciated. If enough volunteers turn out we may be able to cover other areas as well.

The daffodils on 'Tony's Bank' in Main Street, planted as a tribute and memorial to Tony Day, who was a parish councillor for many years, have given another

lovely display this year leading to many comments of delight from residents. We will try and increase the displays by planting further bulbs around the village each autumn.

Councillors are delighted to learn that the recently formed Youth Club is proving successful and have therefore agreed to give support to the organisers by paying for the equivalent of a further three months village hall hire costs. The volunteers have worked really hard to get the club off the ground so if you have teenage children do persuade them to go along and have some fun.

Signs have now been obtained, and probably by now erected, on the recently acquired Church Farm Meadow, and once again we thank Sweetcroft for agreeing the transfer of this land to the parish council.

We are still desperately short of volunteers to help with the Speedwatch camera. Help us keep our village safe by discouraging speeding motorists. Please, if you have a couple of hours to spare maybe just once a month it would be so helpful. Contact Gerald Chaffey on 868627 for more information.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in The Bell Tower St. James the Great commencing 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th May. All welcome.

- Councillors:
- Chris Surman (Chairman) - 868749.
 - Edward Wilkinson - 867316.
 - Kay Sayers (Cllr & Clerk) - 868146.
 - Trevor Brettell - 868459
 - Graham Garner - 868684.

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Letters

Dear Editor

Having noticed the removal of large, mature chestnut trees and sections of hedgerow on the boundary of the Bovis development site in Summertown, I wrote to Adrian Butler, the main contact for this site in the Vale's planning office. I wanted to find out whether Bovis had permission for this work.

This is the reply that quickly came back: "I visited the site on Tuesday and saw the hedge and tree removal in the location of the site access and hedge removal in the south east corner of the site at the Summertown/A338 junction. Removal of the sections of hedge and felling does not constitute development. The trees are not protected by a preservation order and are outside the conservation area. I do not consider a breach of any of the conditions associated with the outline permission has taken place, as development has not commenced on site and there is no approved detailed scheme to commence."

This disappointing but not surprising answer got me wondering how trees acquired a preservation order and who could apply. So, I went to the relevant web site: [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas)

[trees-in-conservation-areas](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas).

To quote from this site: "Authorities can either initiate [this process](#) themselves or in response to a request made by any other party. When granting planning permission, authorities have a [duty](#) to ensure, whenever appropriate, that planning conditions are used to provide for tree preservation and planting. Orders should be made in respect of trees where it appears necessary in connection with the [grant of permission](#)." "Orders should be used to protect selected trees and woodlands if their removal would have a significant negative impact on the local environment and its enjoyment by the public. To summarise, it seems as though anyone can ask a Local Authority to consider making a tree preservation order, though the many conditions that apply before give lots of wriggle room to avoid granting one. Obviously, the planning authority considered that the loss of any of the trees in connection with the proposed Bovis development won't have a significant negative impact on our environment or it's enjoyment. I beg to differ on this, having for many years thoroughly enjoyed the sight of those statuesque trees on my approach to the village. Gill Parry

Dear Editor

I would like to thank everyone who helped with my birthday celebration and fund-raising haircut last month. My hair was donated to the Little Princess Trust, and the money raised went to Sobell House and IAPWA.

A huge thank you to Stuart of the Black Horse for allowing the use of the pub,

and for the beverages. Thanks also to Lisa the hairdresser 'Beautifulee', and all those who donated prizes or sponsored the event. I would also like to thank Marion, Margaret, Liz, Dulcie and Pam for all their help and to everyone for coming and supporting me. Pat Beach

Obituaries

Carole Maxine Owen

24 January 1944 – 20 March 2017

Carole was born in Watlington; her father was in the Royal Air Force. As a child, Carole lived in Iraq, Cyprus, Germany and various parts of the UK – by the age of 11 she had been to 13 schools.

After further schooling in Germany, Carole, aged 19, returned to England to Bury St Edmunds. She lived in Benson, Didcot and Steventon for a while before moving to West Hanney when North Green was built.

Carole worked at Exxon Chemical at Milton Hill until her retirement in 1999 at age 55. There was then the time to enjoy walking in and around the village - often accompanied by her neighbour's border collie dog - and holidaying with her mother and friends in the UK and abroad.

Over the last two years, Carole's health deteriorated and during the last few months of her life she stayed at The Sanctuary, Wantage and the JR Hospital, Oxford. Carole will be sadly missed by all those who knew her. *Kate Baker*

Jane Wakefield Christie-Miller

1922 - 1st April 2017

Jane Christie-Miller lived in Morlands, East Hanney for at least 10 years, before moving to Drayton to live with her niece, approx 4 years ago. She died, aged 94, on the 1st April. Although a very private person, she was very involved with the Gardening Club and was extremely knowledgeable about plants. She also volunteered in the community shop for a spell.

Jane was very generous and supported a variety of charities.

As a young woman she was presented at court as a 'Debutante'. She was the youngest daughter of Charles & Christine Christie-Miller, and a much-loved aunt and great-aunt. I'm sure all who knew her from her time in our community will be saddened to hear of her death.

Evidence For God

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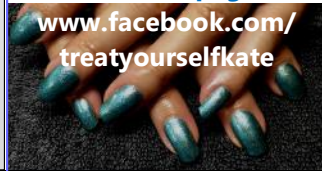
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Dear Editor,
 'Thames Water revives proposal for a major reservoir near Hanney.'
 Thames Water has issued a report with a list of options for its 2019 Five-year Water Resources Management Plan. Amongst the options is the massive 'Abingdon' reservoir, on land adjacent to East Hanney. At the 2010 Public Inquiry, following opposition led by GARD, the Inspector ruled against Thames Water's previous plans. Thames Water will develop their plan to select new water resources in early 2018. The government will then put that plan out to public consultation. Alternative water resources include: Re-use of treated water; new desalination plant; reducing demand by tackling leakage losses; and

transfer of water from the River Severn. *It is GARD's view that these other water sources are less costly, less damaging to the environment, less disruptive to local communities and more robust against climate change than the reservoir.* GARD will oppose a reservoir and will demand a new Public Inquiry. Recently 83% of respondees to the Steventon Neighbourhood Plan opposed the reservoir, and we will seek the help of all affected villages in mobilising this opposition.

Derek Stork,
 Chairman, Group Against Reservoir Development. Your readers can contact GARD at chair@abingdonreservoir.org.uk, www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk.

Dear Editor
 Once again, on behalf of EHPC, can I send a big thank you to Bob Wilson for arranging the annual litter pick and his team for all their efforts on Saturday. The whole village should be grateful to Bob and his team; it is only when you see the enormous pile of sacks do you realise how accustomed we become to seeing rubbish in our village. Discarded rubbish from cars is ever increasing, and with the

proposed housing developments outside our villages this is likely to increase as the Hanneys are more and more becoming a commuter route. So if you see rubbish and you're walking past a bin please pick it up and deposit it. Some people obviously don't care but we should. Thanks again Bob and your team. Steve McKechnie

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The recent W.I. fashion show was a great success. Thank you to all who supported it, and to the lovely W.I. ladies who modelled the clothes so beautifully. 120 ladies had a really enjoyable evening and purchased some excellent bargains to add to their Spring wardrobe. A fantastic amount of over £1200 was raised for the 'Save Denman College' appeal. Ann White

It's Artsweek time again... our local, talented arty friends, including Jill Smith of West Hanney, will be strutting their stuff from **6th - 14th May.** www.artswweek.org for more info.



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More culture this month, with **Live Opera on Sat 6th May, 7.30pm**, as students of the City Lit Opera School present **'Gianni Schicchi'** and favourite Operatic Arias in Wantage Parish Church. Also Kennet Opera present **'Requiem for Mozart'** on **Sun 21st May, at 4.30pm**, Letcombe Regis Village Hall. Tickets for either event are £12 from the Vale and Downland Museum, tel. 01235 771447, or direct from Jim Mitchell - 01235 767975.

The Hanney Community Association is no more.

Set up a couple of years ago, in part to simplify the purchase of shares in the Plough, the Hanney Community Association has also completed various other useful projects during its life. The Steering Committee, of which I was a member, tried continually and unsuccessfully, to recruit members to join us. That, combined with various other factors, led us to conclude that the Association should now be closed.

Warning... 'Preachy' bit coming up..... Some may mourn its passing, but perhaps there is a small lesson to learn here.....a timely reminder that whilst we live in a very vibrant community - a quick skip through this humble mag will attest to my claim - and we all enjoy, to a greater or lesser extent, its benefits, much of what's on offer exists only because of volunteers. From the great and the good of the Parish Councils, the Flood Group, the litter pickers, the folk of the Community shop, the Youth Club, the numerous clubs, organisations and societies, right through to the them bad 'ole boys of the Hanney News Association, all do their bit. As our villages expand, let's assure all our 'new' residents that if any would like to get involved in the community - and I know many already have - they will be made most welcome. Oh yes, and it's a lorra lorra fun, as our Cilla would have said.



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Dear Friends

The weather was so lovely, I decided to walk from Grove to Challow where I was to take a service. Most of my route was beside the canal, but it did give me the opportunity to see some of the new houses that have been built and are still being built in our area. It also gave me time to reflect.

My thoughts included being grateful that I can walk; being surprised at how swiftly the houses were going up; appreciating the many beautiful walks we do have in our parishes; and, when I met a member of our church on the way, how much quicker it felt to walk with a companion.

On my return journey, the story of the risen Lord Jesus, joining his disciples on the road to Emmaus, came into my mind. After they recognised Jesus, they seemed to run back to Jerusalem.

I also recalled E. P Hood's hymn *O walk with Jesus*, which ends with these two lines, *Come to us now, in converse stay; and O, walk with us, day by day.*

As I write we have just finished our Lent series encouraging us to pray specifically this Ascension tide, which is later this month, that God's kingdom will come. One form of prayer could be a Prayer Walk. Either praying for the people in your street as you walk along it or joining me as I walk to each of the 4 churches in our Benefice, which I plan to do on June 3rd, more details will be announced in our newsheet and you would be very welcome to walk with us.

In the meantime I hope you are able to enjoy the many walks around our lovely parishes and know the presence of Jesus walking with you daily.

God Bless - John

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Palm Sunday 2017 was in stark contrast to the same day in 2106 – this year we enjoyed a heat wave as ‘our new donkey’ Chocolate, led the Palm Sunday procession around West Hanney as the children with a few adult helpers re-enacted the story of the first Palm Sunday. It was a great way to feel how it must have been in Jerusalem – finding a donkey, laying down palms and clothes on the road, the shouting and cheering and then Jesus throwing the moneylenders and opportunists out of the Temple. (Photo : Andy Clarke)

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Science Oxford

The Science Festival takes place across Oxford from Friday 16th to Wednesday 21st June 2017, with discussion, events and entertainment to inspire debate and celebrate some of the research and creativity in Oxfordshire. Alongside talks and performances, over 30 hands-on research exhibits will present innovations from Oxford on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 June at Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1BX.

www.oxfordshiresciencefestival.com

www.OxSciFest.com

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MICHAELMAS FAYRE 2016 - and the winners are!

The Fayre Committee were delighted to award Grants to –

Hanneley Brownies for High Viz Vests to make their outdoor activities safer.

Hanneley Guides – a substantial contribution to a Canal Boat Holiday.

Hanneley Pre-School – a new laser printer and contribution towards inks.

Hanneley St James Church – contribution towards the installation of a loo.

Hanneley St James Primary – a keyboard (with weighted keys) to replace the piano.

Hanneley Community Shop – upgrading their security camera.

Hanneley Tennis Club – contribution towards two new nets.

Hanneley Youth Club – art materials.