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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 it's also the
wittiest parish mag in
Hanney!

The Hanneys

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

Hanney Lottery

September Winners
£100 - Penny McCall
£50 - Richard Clayton,
£25 - Stuart Cakebread
Not got a number yet or
want to have additional
numbers? Just call Hilary
on 868590.

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

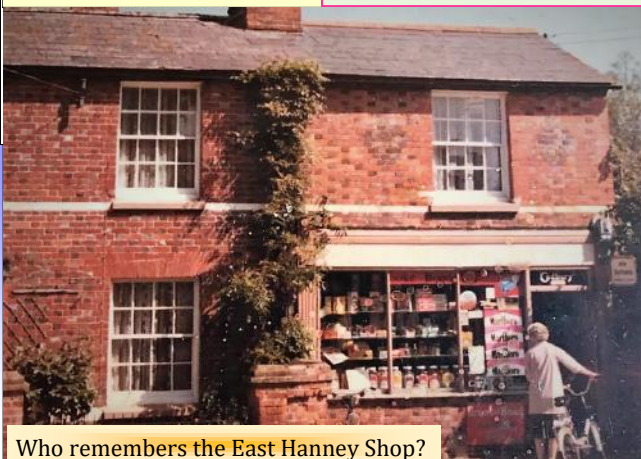
Post Office - 868320

Hanney War Memorial Hall



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

Sue Garner on 868684
hwmh.hanney@gmail.com



Who remembers the East Hanney Shop?

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. 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. To advertise please ring or email the Editor. Contact details below.

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Hanney News

Number 503 Oct 2017



The Flood
Group...flinging
stuff around and
playing in the
mud...join 'em!
See page 10

We are all
invited
to a leaving party
to bid a fond
farewell to Stuart,
the landlord at
the Black Horse.
Page 12 for
details.

Community Shop Latest....this from Hazel...

'Regrettably, the Marco Polo bread has not sold well and I have had to cancel our order. Sorry about that, but we cannot make a loss on anything.

We still need more volunteers to serve in the shop - it's good fun and you meet lots of nice people, so please ring me - 868145, or Ann - 868440 if you can spare a few hours. Grateful thanks to all our good customers, you make it all worthwhile.'

Drop-in Flu Clinics

Sat 7th and 14th Oct, 9am - 12 noon.

Available to all eligible patients of the Church St and
Newbury Street Practices.

You are eligible to receive a free flu jab if you:

- * were born on or before March 31 1953.
- * are pregnant
- * have certain serious long-term medical conditions
- * are living in a long-stay residential care home or other long-stay care facility
- * receive a carer's allowance, or you are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if you fall ill
- * are a front-line health and social care worker



Dude...we ain't talking
man-flu here...no siree,
this Winter's flu bug
gonna be the real deal,
so get yerself a jab right
now y'all hear me!

**Even if you're not eligible you can still get a jab from a
pharmacy or supermarket...should only cost around £10.**

Editorial

Friends, welcome to our October issue...another busy month, and as well as all the jolly stuff going on in our community, did you know that Oct 9th is Mother's Day in Malawi and Independence Day in Uganda? It's also National Pizza Month in the United States, though after what they've been through I dare say their efforts will be on recovering from the dreadful hurricanes and floods many of them have suffered rather than scoffing a quattro formaggio with extra anchovies - my favourite by the way! Talking of floods, we feature our very own Flood Group this month...they do a great job and there's some snaps of them hard at work on page 10. Also their contact details if you may be able to help. I've just seen an interview on the news with a clever doctor chappie...he strongly recommends a flu jab for everyone this year. The medical folk are confident that the vaccine will do the job - already been very successful in Australia apparently - so even if you're not eligible for a freebie, do think about paying for one...only about a £10.



As I write this, the Michaelmas Fayre is eagerly awaited, but as you read, it will have been and gone. Print deadlines mean I have not been able to get any snaps of the event into this issue, but expect some next month.

I'm hoping that our Nov issue will also include photos of our new footpath here in Winter Lane, as well as details of the

official opening party and a hint at which member of the Royal family has agreed to come and cut the ribbon. Work is due to start on 2nd Oct, so orange-clad folk will - hopefully - be busy with paving slabs, sand and a spirit level as you settle down with a nice hot cuppa and a toasted buttered crumpet, to peruse the pearls and silliness contained within our humble mag,

Actually, it's not all silly.....this month I've included a couple of articles about bridges and speeding that I hope you'll find interesting, but not silly.

I'll tell you what is silly, but in an annoyingly serious way, is the breaking news that the estimates for the number of houses that Oxfordshire needs, made in 2014, were grossly inflated and hence have now been drastically reduced. You couldn't make it up. The Oxford Times ran the story on 18th Sept, so it may be old news by now, but I suspect this one's got 'legs' as we hacks say.

Last month I welcomed Nick and Trish, the new tenants at the Plough to our community. This month I'd like to extend that welcome to everyone who's new to the villages in our community...we circulate in both Hanneys, Denchworth, Charney Bassett and Lyford.

I'm pleased to announce that we now have another village that has just joined us, that of Garford, familiar to many I'm sure, and lying a little to the north of Hanney. Welcome Garfordians and new Hanneyites...we here at Hanney News Global International hope you find our efforts useful and interesting, if occasionally silly. Please feel free to comment, send letters, gifts, home-made cakes and jams as you see fit.

Till next month....

THURSDAY EVENING SINGING WITH SJS, Hanney's small consort male-voice group, 8-10pm in East Hanney. 4-part settings from medieval to Now! And a pint in the Black Horse afterwards. Call Mike Jones on 751656 or David Gahan 868933 for details.

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY rehearses every Tuesday at C of E 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.

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

WHITE HORSE CROQUET CLUB within the grounds of Wantage Cricket Club. We offer up to 3 FREE sessions to potential new members and all equipment is available on site. Playing sessions are each Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 am and Thursday from 2 pm. The playing season is from April to September. For more information visit our website at whcc.webplus.net.

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

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 pippa@thrive-nutrition.co.uk

HANNEY CHAPEL Sunday Services; 10:30am (with crèche & 'Explorers') and 6pm, all welcome. Lunch & Listen 1st Thursday of month at 10:30am. In term-time; "Jumpstart" for 6 to 10 year olds at 6pm Thursdays; Friday Club for 10-13 year olds 6:30pm & Friday Club Plus for 13-15 year olds at 7:45pm. Contact Mark Fisher on 867105 / mailmarkfisher@gmail.com.

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.hanneywinecircle.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. Just turn up and play! Cadets, juniors and seniors, £2 per night, league matches every week, just turn up 6.30 every Thursday.

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.

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

Coffee morning... if you're reading this **after 30th Sept**, then please move on...nothing to see here, though I'm sure a post-event donation would be very welcome. If however, that day is still one waiting its turn to be labelled 'today', then do please read on, grabbing your diary at the same time, because you may not have already noted in it the Coffee Morning that I detailed on the front page last month. It's a Macmillan Cancer fundraiser, starting at 10am at the village hall, and it's essential that you go, enjoy a cuppa, a sticky, yummy cake or several, and help the very special folk in our community who've organised this event to raise some serious dosh for this most worthy of charities.



Notices...what's happening this month.

Sundays, 1st, 15th, 22nd and 29th Services at St James...see page 14

Fri 6th, Harvest Tea-time fun....see page 15

Sat 7th & 14th Oct, Drop in flu clinic, see front page.

Sat 7th, 10am, West Hanney Village Green...plant daffodils, see page 7.

Sat 7th, 1.30 to 4.00 pm. Climb the Wantage Parish Church Tower.

Sun 8th, Harvest Festival at St James....page 14

Sun 8th, 3.30pm, Masai Warriors perform at Wantage Parish Church, tickets: Vale Museum, Brett's Grove, or the Church

Thurs 12th W.I. 96th Birthday Meeting

Fri 20th, 8pm, Bingo at the R.B.L Hall. Children welcome.

Sat 21st, Hanney Flood Group, see page 10

Sat 21st, evening, R.B.L. Hall, Live music: Dave Whitmore, 60's /70's

Tues 24th, 8pm, Village Hall, History Group, 'Living with the White Horse Ridgeway Excavations', a talk by Gary Lock

Thurs 26th 2.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Senior Citizens. 'From Guns and Roses to Hearts and Flowers', a talk by Kate Lace



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



**Yes friends,
lovers of the
occasional libation,
and connoisseurs of a
good time, please be
assured that during
the ongoing
maintenance work at
the Plough, the pub is
open. Nick and Trish
will be extending
their usual welcome.**

(Photo by Dave Bratley)

CRY FREEDOM

Hanney Film Night in the Owen Wright Cinema, HWMH
Friday 6th October

'Cry Freedom'

Richard Attenborough's 1987 epic starring
Denzil Washington, Kevin Kline & Penelope Wilton.
The multi award nominated film described by Time Out as
'An Implacable work of authority and compassion,
Cry Freedom is political cinema at it's best'.

Please note the start time of 7.30pm.

Doors and bar open 19.00. 157 minutes PG

The Hanney Parochial Charity

welcomes applications for grants from young people embarking on,
or already taking further education courses or apprenticeships.
The grant must be used to help towards the costs of books or equipment
needed to assist with your studies.

**To apply, you must be under the age of 25 on 1st Oct 2017, and live in
East or West Hanney or Lyford.**

Please contact John Gunn via email: jgunn@btinternet.com for application
details.

The Hanney Parochial Charity is registered with the
Charity Commission, number 205792

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Email: enquiries@octoberclub.org.uk

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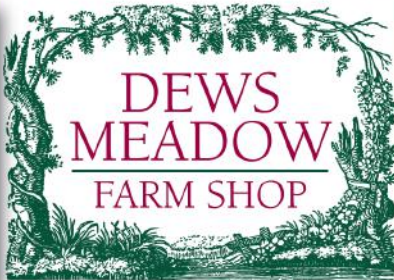
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OPENING TIMES

Mon-Fri 8.30am - 6pm
Sat 8.30am - 5pm
Sun 10am - 4pm

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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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Someone asked me recently

whether I have an unhealthy interest in bridges. I denied it, but forgive me for two more bridge-related stories this month. The first concerns the Halls Lane bridge to Poughley Farm. I had a minor rant last month about the grotesque blocks that Oxfordshire County Council have used to stop vehicular access to the bridge. I hinted that the expense was also something I was concerned about and I printed OCC's response to my query. They have since expanded their response, and in a spirit of fairness, I would like to tell you that James Blockley, the OCC gent, offered a fully detailed account of why the method used was the cheapest and best available to the OCC. I'll not bore you with the details and I'm no expert on local authority finance, but I'm prepared to take his word for it. I still maintain it's a hideous eye-sore and I will be nominating it for a Turner prize next year.

Though not in our village, the Steventon road bridge is regularly used by many of us. Journeys to Milton Park, Didcot, including the station, and the A34 south would be a good deal less easy were Network Rail allowed to knock it down. Sadly that is their intention, as they need to build a new one just an teensy weensy bit taller in order to be able to run electricity cables through it. The bridge - a listed structure - is currently high enough to accommodate the trains and their pantographs - that's the bit on the roof of the train that picks up the electricity from the overhead cables - but not the cables themselves. The bridge does need some maintenance work, but demolition and the construction of a new one would close the road



Pantograph

for a long time...estimates vary from 6 months up to one year. Network Rail have just announced that they will not now demolish the bridge until at least 2019. This is not an altruistic gesture on their part; more I suspect, that they've broken open the piggy bank and found that they are in debt to the tune of £46.3 billion, yes... billion(!) (figure according to Private Eye, issue 1451) so there's not much spare dosh slopping round to spend on projects such as this. Perhaps between now and 2019, some bright spark (geddit?) will come up with a way of solving the problem. That said, I should add that there are wise folk in our community who argue that if the job ultimately needs to be done, the sooner we get on with it the better, since with an ever increasing population in this area, the longer it's delayed, the more disruptive it will eventually be. 'Bring back Thomas' we say here at Hanney News Global International.



East Hanney Parish Council

You will have noticed that the lights on Brookside have been replaced. The Parish Council has invested in new low energy LED lamps to help people see along the path by the Hall. Rather than the two tall lamps that are obscured by the trees, two bollard style lamps have been installed to ensure the best light spread. Whilst on the subject of the path along Brookside to the iron bridge, the County Council has done a temporary repair where tree roots have broken through. The path remains uneven but the County hopes that it will be able to relay the path in the future without damaging the trees, which are protected. The Parish Council has met with Origin3, the architects engaged by Bovis to prepare the proposed development for Dews Meadow (known to the Vale as *'the land north of Summertown'*). The Council will be discussing the outcomes from this at its October meeting and expects an application to be submitted to the Vale in due course.

The Parish is in the final stages of planning the layout of the field it has

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 4th October and 1st November 2017.

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/>

leased to the north of the playing field – 'Kings Leases'. Feedback from the Neighbourhood Plan survey, and in response to notices in recent editions of this august newsletter have been considered and the final plans will be presented to a Council meeting in the near future.

The Parish Council has now taken the title for the green space with the large walnut tree on Ebbs Lane by the new houses. It has submitted an application to designate the space as a 'Centenary Field', recognizing the part played by erstwhile East Hanney resident, George Ingle Finch. The Council hopes this application will be successful. Delivered in partnership with The Royal British Legion, the Centenary Fields programme is proving to be a unique way to commemorate the World War I centenary, and to remember those who lost their lives during the conflict, by protecting outdoor recreational space in perpetuity for the benefit of future generations.

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or email - lucykpalmer@gmail.com



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Contact Ruth Haynes ruth@karibuni.cc 07948 293034

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West Hanney Parish Council

We are well into Autumn now but your parish councillors are already thinking about the Spring. Yes it's bulb planting time again. So many residents comment on the lovely displays of daffodils in March and April that we are determined to keep planting. We would however appreciate some help. If you can find an hour or so on Saturday 7th October please bring a spade and meet us on The Green at 10am. We would be so grateful for your help.

The work to build road retaining walls along Botney Lane towards Denchworth, in order to stop the highway collapsing into Childrey Brook, was put back again. If they are to blame, those Water Voles must be more important than us mere humans. Perhaps they are complaining about the protection being offered or the choice of alternative accommodation whilst the work is ongoing! The start date is now scheduled for early this month, October.

Similarly, the date for start of the work to provide us with a footpath along Winter Lane has slipped a little. However the contractors have advised that the work will at long last commence on Monday 2nd October with completion around October 20th. Thanks must be given here to our ubiquitous Editor who has spent countless hours pushing and prodding to ensure the footpath will eventually appear. Well done and thank you Jim.

A small piece of useful information. If you suffer a power cut there is now a national help number to call - 105. It should save us all time searching for our supplier's telephone number, probably in the dark!

Please note our next two council meetings will start at 7pm not the usual 7.30.

Next Meeting - Tuesday 10th October - 7pm. St. James Bell Tower

Chris Surman (Chairman)	868749	Edward Wilkinson	867316
Kay Sayers	868146	Trevor Brettell	868459
Graham Garner	868684		
Dawn Hutcheon (Clerk)	869151		

dawnwhpc@gmail.com

Developing Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk

Footpath Update...Chris Surman and I had a meeting on 19th Sept with a representative of Mostrim, the ground-work contractors who are going to build our new footpath. He assured us that the job will start on Mon 2nd Oct. Expect slight disruption for the following couple of weeks or so, but no matter...it'll be worth it when we have a shiny new footpath where there's never been one before! Meantime, thank you Chris for your kind words regarding my part in this rather protracted project.

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Letter

Dear Editor

I would like to thank everyone who kindly sent me cards on the loss of my Dear Husband Tony Carrington-Ough. God bless you all.

Daphne

Flooding...much in the news of late, and it struck me that many of the newer members of our community would not have been here back in 2007 when we had major floods in our villages, - there have been others since, but not as widespread - so here's a couple of snaps I took at the time.



Following that flood our very own **Flood Group** was set up and in my humble opinion they are one of the most worthy of all the voluntary groups and organisations we have in our community....mighty big ups to them. Here they are hard at work last month on the Childrey Brook, downstream from the iron bridge. If you can give them a hand any time, please ring Clive on 868216.



Obituary

Jim Cottrell 9th June 1928 - 15 Aug 2017

Jim or 'Jammy' as he was commonly known, was born on the 9th June 1928, one of nine children, to Alice and Albert Cottrell at Wick Green Farm in Grove.

He attended Grove Church of England School until he was 13 years old, he then left to work full time on the family farm, having worked on it part-time from a very early age as was the norm in those days. His father's philosophy was 'if you can walk you can work'.

Jammy loved his football and played for Grove Rangers for many years. After the games he and his team mates would often go to the Black Horse pub at East Hanney where he met Heather Walters, the daughter of the Landlord Arthur Walters, who he went on to marry. They settled into married life in Grove where they raised their four children.

He was a hardworking man having continued to work well into his eighties on the family farms in West Hanney and Lyford with his two sons and Grandsons.

He was a very sociable man and would often stop to have a chat with people, his wry observations on life and humorous conversation made all who spoke with him walk away with a smile.

He loved life and loved the area in which he lived, having never lived more than 100 yards from where he was born. He had never left England or seen the sea, and would proudly say 'I don't need to go on holiday or see the sea, because nothing is as good as what I have here'

The Cottrell Family

(I'm sure many folk will miss Jammy and we send our sincere condolences to his friends and family. Jim Stagg, Editor.)

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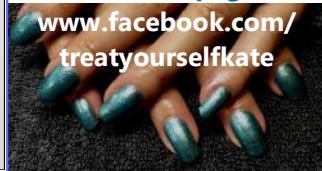
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The subject of speeding

through our villages has always been of great concern to me. I mentioned it briefly last month and it appears that I am not alone. Whilst the legal limit is 30mph, on some stretches through our villages a limit much nearer 20mph is a safe speed, in my view. Various statistical studies show that if a pedestrian is hit by a vehicle travelling at 20mph they have a 90+% chance of survival. At 30mph it's about 55%, but at 40mph it's just 5%. Why am I quoting the stats for 40mph? Well, a survey of traffic on Winter Lane carried out in 2012 revealed that of approx 1,000 journeys a day - up or down Winter Lane - over 350 were travelling at more than 30mph. Of those, 100 were driving in excess of 35mph, and of those, 20 were exceeding 40mph. That's every day. One option is a 20mph speed limit. It would not of course solve the problem, and may not be universally popular - much local consultation has to happen before it can be introduced - but in my view it would certainly help. In practical terms it would mean that a journey from one end of West to the far end of East Hanney would take less than a minute longer...a minor inconvenience. I contacted Oxfordshire County Council about the possibility of introducing such a limit. It's not good news I'm afraid - no surprise there. They tell me that between 1999 - 2003 they reviewed speed limits within villages, assuring me that it '**involved very extensive local consultation.**' (It resulted in the introduction of a 30mph limit on the A338 through East Hanney.) Funding is not currently available for any further reviews or speed calming measures, and anyway, my view is that

OCC have a reactive rather than proactive policy, i.e. they won't do anything until something serious happens. The zebra crossing outside the Co-op in Steventon and the traffic lights at the junction on the A415/B4449 south of Witney were only installed following road traffic fatalities. A very wise gent in our village who knows the machinations of OCC, told me that they seek to always avoid change, especially if that change may face opposition. Put simply, they want to keep the status quo. Some Parish Councils - e.g. Islip, Brightwell cum Sotwell and Shiplake - have gone ahead and self-funded the introduction of a 20mph limit, but it's stupidly expensive - bewildering legal fees alone cost £2,600! The overall figure can reach well over £10,000. Many - I suspect most - Parish Councils have very little money, and whilst OCC are suggesting that PCs could self-fund, they are at the same time asking PCs to take over various tasks, e.g. maintaining the verges, from the County, thereby incurring yet more expense. I'm not sure where we go from here. Wearing my optimists hat, I hope that, in the longer term, speeding will become as socially unacceptable as drink driving already is, but in the meantime, let's all be cool and cruise nice and slowly through our lovely villages.



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Stuart, the Landlord of the Black Horse in East Hanney is moving on to pastures new, and we are all invited to his leaving party on Sat 7th Oct. I mentioned last month that Stuart has done a lot for our community, and it would be great to give him a good send-off. Hope to see you there....chickens and face-paint optional.

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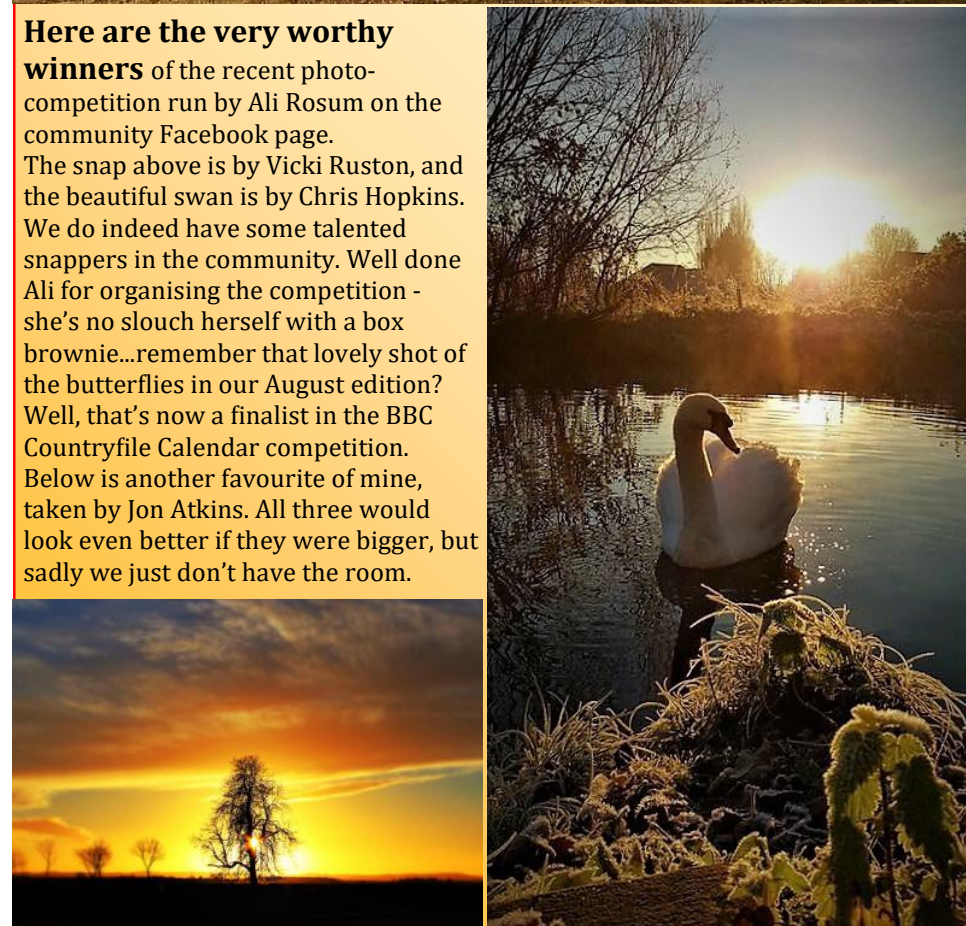
Here are the very worthy winners

of the recent photo-competition run by Ali Rosum on the community Facebook page.

The snap above is by Vicki Ruston, and the beautiful swan is by Chris Hopkins.

We do indeed have some talented snappers in the community. Well done Ali for organising the competition - she's no slouch herself with a box brownie...remember that lovely shot of the butterflies in our August edition?

Well, that's now a finalist in the BBC Countryfile Calendar competition. Below is another favourite of mine, taken by Jon Atkins. All three would look even better if they were bigger, but sadly we just don't have the room.





THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Dear Friends,

There are times when my memory kicks in and I find myself taken back to a different time and place; past thoughts, feelings and experiences suddenly come back to me. Our memories are important to us; they help shape who we are. It is also good to be reminded of important events and the lessons learnt by others, as we go through life.

October is a month full of remembering. As we celebrate harvest, we are reminded to be thankful for this amazing world that God has created and for those who work hard to produce our food, as well as being mindful of those who struggle to find enough food to eat.

At the end of October we celebrate All Saints day, remembering those Christians whose lives the Church holds up as examples of how to follow Jesus. The next day, All Soul's day, we remember all our Christian brothers and sisters who have God before us. Then, in November comes Remembrance Sunday on 12th November. This is an important time to commemorate the cost that so many have paid due to war and conflict, and to learn the lessons of history.

Remembering the past can be joyful and painful, uplifting or sorrowful. But doing so helps us to be aware of how we fit into the greater story of human history and God's work throughout the centuries. Just before Jesus went up to heaven he told his disciples to remember "that I am always with you, to the end of the age." In the uncertain times that we live in, these are important words to remember.

God bless,

Alec

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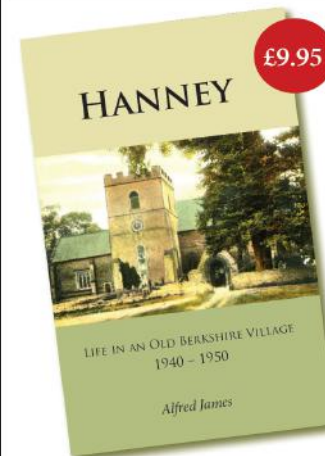
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HANNEY

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Alfred James takes us on an amusing and nostalgic journey along the highways and byways of that part of Oxfordshire that was formerly part of north Berkshire.

Focussing on the villages of East and West Hanney, to where he moved as a child in 1940, we experience through his enquiring eyes a wartime boyhood, an education at King Alfred's School, and postwar employment at the fledgling A.E.R.E.

With fascinating background historical descriptions of people and places in 'old north Berks', this book will be sure to delight anyone who lives or has lived in the area or who has an interest in social history from a bygone era.

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