



Hanneys News

Number 576 December 2023



Wishing all our readers a very

Happy Hanneys
Christmas



and welcome to our super soaraway, special, seasonal, sumptuous, smashing, stunning, saucy 36 page edition of the best parish magazine in the whole of Hanneys!

The Hanneys Holly Fair....

is happening again this year in the wonderful Barn at Philberds Manor, Hall Lane, East Hanneys, on **Saturday 9 Dec from 10.30 - 1pm.**

It's the perfect place to get unique and special gifts as well as stock on goodies for your Christmas festivities.

A carefully curated selection of individual small businesses to purchase from - all with links to our community. A tempting range of refreshments will be available.

Mobile phone signals aren't always reliable there, so bring some cash as well to be sure you can secure your purchases.

Free entry.



The Hanneys 2024 calendar is available - makes a great Christmas present!

It features some beautiful photographs by East Hanneys resident and very talented photographer Barry Wheat.

Copies are available in our Community shop, or direct from me, and cost just £10. (My contact details bottom of page 2.)

Big thanks to Chris French, our Treasurer for 10 years, as he hands over the reins - see page 4.

Editorial

Our first ever 36 pager, simply cos there is such demand for space.

So, a quick heads-up on some of what awaits dear reader

I've got a few snaps of the recent-ish floods on page 8. I'm reliably informed that years back the flooding was much worse. We live in Hanney and the 'clue's in the title' as they say...it means 'hen island', the 'ey' meaning island, i.e. it floods a lot! Same for all places ending ey... Goosey, Charney etc. More Flood Group stuff on page 16.

Much stuff on the reservoir this month, including a thought-provoking piece on page 14. Don't miss it if you're good with sums and happen to have a few spare £bilions. If so, I'm sure Thames Water would like to hear from you!

Their recent event at the Village Hall, and the accompanying 'protest demo' is covered on page 17, along with a slightly silly piece on page 13.

Remember how Hanney Spice used to be? Well, I'm pleased to say that it's back to that high standard. Paul the chef is back, and now managing the restaurant as well as cooking the delightful dishes. They're currently offering discounts - see their ad on page 25 - and I can heartily recommend this fine 'jewel' in West Hanney's crown. This month's letter from Mr Jay - page 15 - is on a topic that I've heard much discussed of late. I've canvassed many views on this, and I'm yet to find one that doesn't chime with his. As we in the trade say, this one's got legs, as indeed has the subject of our other letter writer, so do feel free to chip in with your two pennyworth, on either subject.

A young West Hanney gentleman is offering baby-sitting services, his ad on page 27.

A very interesting story on page 9, and some snaps from the annual Memorial Parade and Service on page 10.

Sadly we have three obituaries this month, on pages 20 and 21.

The fox on the playground has now been inspected by ROSPA and has been given a clean bill of health, but our Parish councillors are not so sure and more assurances are needed before we can play with/on/in him/her. ROSPA have also cast their beady eye over the MUGA...yet to hear back on that one.. And apparently they are due to come out to inspect the BMX cycle track. I also hear that defibrillator is soon to be fixed to the Sovereign Housing building on the A 338 in East Hanney.

As well as copies of the 2024 Hanney calendar, the Historical Calendars of this year, 2023, and last year's, 2022 are still available here at Hanney News Global HQ. Ring me if you want either, or both, or all 3! I can deliver. No charge for the 2022 and 2023 copies if you can stretch to a tenner for 2024! I'm hoping to be at the Holly Fair on 9th Dec with copies of all our calendars and some of Mrs Editor's fab pottery.

A quick apology to our great team of distributors for the extra pages...some of them are delivering 50+ copies...we're very grateful indeed.

Finally a warning...a few truly awful jokes in this issue...you've been warned.

Till next year dear friends, I wish you all a...



We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles or letters.

Please submit items to the Editor, preferably by email, or use the Hanney News post box in the Community Shop. Contact me, the Editor, Jim Stagg, on 01235 867500, or by email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month...

Fri 1st, 4pm - 9pm, Dickensian Evening, Vale & Downlands Museum, Wantage. If you would like a stall in the Vale & Downland Museum, contact hconder@valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk. (Income from the hire of the stalls goes towards the ongoing upkeep and improvement of the museum.)

Fri 1st. Hanney Film Night in The Owen Wright Cinema, HWMH, "OPPENHEIMER" "A brilliantly layered examination of a man's life, his incredible accomplishments and his fundamental flaws."

Bar and Doors open 6.45 for 7.15, please note early start! Tickets £7, £6.
conc. parental guide 15, 180 minutes

Sat 2nd, Wantage Band: The Snowman Live, The Beacon, Wantage.

Mon 4th - Village Hall. Hanney Gardening Club Xmas Party

Thurs 7th: see panel →

Saturday 9th. 10.30am - 1pm. Hanney Holly Fair - in the Barn at Philberds Manor, Halls Lane, East Hanney. See front cover and panel. →

Weds 13th, 7.30pm, Village Hall, East Hanney Parish Council Meeting,

Thurs 14th. Village Hall, Hanney WI - Tastes of Italy with Mariella Bliss.

And further ahead ...

Tues 9th Jan, 7.30pm, Village Hall, West Hanney Parish Council Meeting

Mon 22nd Jan, 2024, Hanney History Group, 'Mary de Bohun of Hinton Waldrist and her royal family' a talk by Paul Whitton.

Mon 26th Feb, 2024, Hanney History Group, 'More than three men in a boat - trends in Thames travel' a talk by Simon Wenham.

Mon 25th March, Hanney History Group, 'Holmes of Hanney and Birth Control, 'The most useful man in England' - David and Kath Gahan

The man who invented predictive texting has just passed away. May he Restaurant In Peterborough

We had Lionel Ritchie round for Sunday lunch today. He asked once, twice, three times for gravy!

Come and Join ✨ Something Crafty ✨ for an evening of Adult Christmas crafting at The Black horse, Hanney 🎄❄️👩🏻
Thursday 7th December- 6:30-8:30pm
🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟

Just in time for Christmas you'll make a series of beautiful Christmas decorations to take home, with all materials included and a warming drink and tasty cake to enjoy by the roaring fire 🔥

Spaces are limited so book online now to secure your place 😊👩🏻🎁



Hanney Lottery

November Winners

1st - Debbie Poole

2nd - Mr & Mrs Hailey

3rd - Peter Scott

Not got a number yet or want additional numbers?

Just call Hilary on 868590.

Over the last few years many of us will have enjoyed reading the weekly columns in the *Herald* newspaper, penned by Julie Maberley of the **Wantage and Grove Campaign Group**. (I received mine by email...saved having to buy the paper.) Her column often focussed on planning and infrastructure-related issues as well as explaining the often bewildering decision-making processes within our three tiers of local government and any number of other boards and organisations - health, planning, policing and all the rest - who seem to

chip in with their two pennyworth! The *Herald* has recently announced that they will no longer be publishing Julie's 'pearls'. This is a great shame, as they were always informative and thought-provoking, if occasionally causing the old blood pressure to rise! However, Julie's organisation, 'WaGCG', continues its good work, and you can keep up to date by signing up to their newsletters via their website... www.wantageandgrove.org/

We at Global HQ bid fond farewell to our Treasurer of the last almost 10 years Chris French. He took over in Feb 2014, when Jenny Corps was Editor, immediately changing the billing system from letters to email.

He commenced the collection of sums due from advertisers, some over two years outstanding. This enabled all Hanney News bills to be paid and he leaves us with a very healthy bank balance which augurs well for our future, i.e. we'll be able to pay our printer's invoices for a good while yet! But Chris was much more than just the Treasurer...he willingly listened to my ramblings, random thoughts, rants and ideas



on the mag ever since I took over as Editor in May 2015, providing helpful advice, urging caution and warnings where appropriate. I am sure that you'll all join me in thanking Chris for his loyal and largely unsung service to Hanney News. We'll miss him...he was a real treasure! (Geddit?)

Meantime, we welcome our new Treasurer Mark Whittington. (He's the happy bridegroom on page 5 of last month's issue!) We wish Mark every success in the role and look forward to working closely with him. **See also page 22.**

As I write, more floods are threatening. Did you know that it is possible to get flood alerts? You won't be overwhelmed by messages, but they could help you be better aware and prepared.

Here's the link: [Sign up for flood warnings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

The link below gives the Letcombe Brook levels in Wantage and surrounding area.

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/7004>.

Worth checking them both out.

Ever heard of a Nerf Club? No, me neither, but worth having a quick peek at their website here: www.activefuture.info/nerf-club

They're all about... **"Instilling a lifelong love of movement in our young folk."**

Sounds fair enough....may even be a bit of fun? Check out the website.

GARD'S latest newsletter

"GARD has written to the Secretary of State for DEFRA (Therese Coffey) to ask her to confirm the timetable for her decision on the Thames Water (TW) plans, and particularly for the Mega-Reservoir. Our information on the grapevine is that this will be around the end of November. Until then, GARD will continue to send in our list of **Unresolved Issues** about the Reservoir plan, which TW refuse to answer properly. Looking at their "Statement of Response", GARD finds that they did not actually answer criticisms properly. If you feel that they have not answered complaints you made to them in the consultation, you can write to the Environment Agency and/or Ofwat and complain. This should be done as soon as possible, so it can inform the Secretary of State's decision. Email your complaint to one of these and please **Copy** to your MP and to GARD : **Environmental and water quality issues:** water.resources@defra.gsi.gov.uk, and Water-Company-Plan@xn--environmentagency-0z2j.gov.uk **Costs to customers, leakage and water efficiency issues:** wrmpp@ofwat.gov.uk **In the meantime, TW are on a 'charm offensive' trying to sell the Reservoir plans to local residents.** They were met by protesters at their 'Drop-in event' at



East Hanney Village Hall on 10th November, when Councillor Sally Povolotsky and Helen Marshall (Oxfordshire Director for CPRE) were interviewed by Press and TV. Thanks to all protesters, including other Vale and Parish Councillors from Steventon, East Hanney and East Hendred. TW gave the usual PR-based presentation (not a bulldozer in sight on any of the posters, one assumes the work will be done by birds and butterflies). We are promised 'leisure facilities' (which we already have, and which they have no idea how they will provide, after devastating the area), but our questions on disruption, pollution, flooding, and safety of the structure were brushed aside. **We must keep up the pressure for the Reservoir plans to be scrapped!**

Details for contacting your MP: make your voice count: David Johnston, david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk Please copy gard.secretary@gmail.com into any correspondence and see the website for developments <https://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk/> Derek Stork - Chairman, GARD

The 'Grove Gateway' website is now live.

'What's the Grove Gateway Mr Editor?' Well, it's a new development proposal for land to the north of Grove, south of both Hanneys, which the proposers claim... "could provide sustainable, environmentally friendly, new and affordable homes, along with areas of employment for local businesses, a two form-entry primary school, and the opportunity to reopen Grove Railway Station."

Full details are on their website: <https://grovegateway.co.uk/>. Worth checking it out. On it you'll see that this development, though not actually on Hanney Parish land will be very close indeed, to the south of East Hanney, straddling the A338 as it wends its busy way south towards Grove, Wantage and beyond.

There is, apparently, to be a public consultation before plans are submitted for approval, so hopefully we'll all have a chance to chip in with our views.

East Hanney Parish Council

Hopefully many of you took the opportunity to meet with representatives of Thames Water presenting their view of the proposed reservoir on our doorstep.

Regrettably they still are unable to answer straightforward questions from the PC on your behalf, nor technical questions from our technical representative GARD.

The Climbing Fox in the playground is nearing completion, and the viewing areas have been seeded.

The cycle track is currently closed owing to flooding, but hopefully the plan will allow

the ponding to be alleviated.

The second cricket net will be installed, the single net is incredible popular, and we'll benefit from a second. This is a Parish facility and open to all.

Around 30 fruit trees will be planted in Kings Leases and the future bounty will be for all to enjoy.

The fitness/gym trail will also be installed which emphasise on improving cardio and balance.

There is still a place on the Parish Council if you feel you'd like to be involved.

Our next Parish Council meeting is at 7.30pm on Weds 13th Dec at the Village Hall. All are welcome.

East Hanney Parish Councillors - Chair: Stephen McKechnie - sme-hpc@gmail.com. Vice Chairs: David Kirk - david.kirk@btinternet.com; Paul Aram pvaehpc@gmail.com; Councillors: Dickon Green - dgehpc@gmail.com; Rosie Reed - rrehpc@gmail.com; Garth Dennill - gdehpc@gmail.com; Hamish Gowen - hgehpc@gmail.com Clerk: Wendy Bates, tel: 07859 924655, email: clerk@easthanneyparishcouncil.org.uk Website: www.easthanneyparishcouncil.org.uk

East Hanney's Community Speed-watch team announced their latest results as part of the review of the fairly new - and not universally popular it must be said - 20mph speed limit.

The results are produced by the SIDS, i.e. the speed indicator devices that stand on the side of the road and tell us how fast we are going. But, not only do they indicate your speed, they also measure and record speeds of all vehicles approaching the SID from both directions.

The SIDS have 4 sites and results from the one on the Causeway show that in April and May 23, prior to the introduction of the 20mph limit, the average speeds were 24mph and 23.8mph. In Sept and Oct the speeds dropped to 20.9mph and 21.5mph. The stats of those who break the speed

limit are also interesting. When it was 30mph, 2.7% exceeded it. Now the limit is 20mph, the % figures are 18.9 and 22.2. What about those who still exceed 30mph? Well, that's gone from 2.7% down to 1.6% Comparable figures are available for the other three sites, Summertown, the A338 and the Steventon Rd.

Two further quick points...as I understand it, our Speedwatch teams will only report drivers who exceed the 'National Police Chiefs Council' limits which are plus 10% plus another 2mph on the stated limit. That gives 35mph in a 30mph limit, and 24mph in a 20mph limit.

And what happens if you're reported to the Boys in Blue? Well, you get a letter. A mate of mine who lives in Hinton Waldrist, has received three such letters and remains a free man!

Jim, Editor

West Hanney Parish Council

You may have heard of Ash Dieback? Sadly many of the ash trees in our community woodland and at Headings Pond are affected by it. The ash trees in the community woodland can largely be left to decay and in the process become a habitat for beetles that attract woodpeckers. Woodpecker holes can then become nesting sites for birds and roosts for bats. However, the ash trees at Headings Pond need to be more actively managed in the interest of public safety. Some tree work will be done over the winter on the two worst affected ash trees. The felled wood will be available for residents to collect and season at home.

Further tree work is required on the land to the south of the tennis courts and we intend to replace the diseased tree that is removed with a sweet gum, Liquidambar.

On the subject of trees we are very grateful to EHPC and to Dickon Green for continuing to provide a Christmas Tree recycling point.

Wishing all of our residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Next meeting : Tuesday 9th Jan 2024 at 7.30pm in the Olde Hanney Room at the Hanney War Memorial Hall

**Councillors: Chair: David Corps - 867454. Graham Garner - 868684.
Peter Packham - 868038. Vicki Ruston, Ahmed Farrag - 07388 816079.
Barbara Martin (Clerk) - 412742
Email: parishclerkwesthanneypc@gmail.com
Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk**

I attended the November West Hanney Parish Council meeting where full and frank views were exchanged! I try to get to all of West and East's public meetings, and most are demure, genteel affairs to which you could safely bring your maiden aunt. This one was not... a phrase which 'caught my ear' used during the heated discussion about the Speedwatch team was that the duties they were being asked to perform were 'distastefully Orwellian'!

Wow! That's not a phrase often heard at Parish Council meetings I'll wager! Well done to Chair David Corps, for at least trying to keep order, and perhaps now is an opportune moment to remind ourselves

that our Parish Councillors are all volunteers who work very hard for their community. If you feel they're not doing a good job, there's an easy remedy...stand as a Parish Councillor yourself!

Their next meeting is on 9th Jan 2024, so a couple of updates before then...the feasibility study recently commissioned regarding the reintroduction of ponds continues, and tho' it's yet to be confirmed, it looks highly unlikely that the North Green option will proceed.

The Speedwatch team now have 6 recruits, and if you'd like to join them contact councillor Ahmed Farrag, his details above.

Jim, Editor

What to do if waste collections are affected by bad weather. If trucks and crews can't make their usual rounds due to ice/snow etc., leave your bins out for two more days. If after 3 days they haven't been emptied, take them back in and they'll be emptied next time they're due, when you'll be able to leave extra waste out beside your bin. For the latest information on any disruptions and what to do please visit the Biffa website, call them on 03000 610 610 or follow their social media channels.

T'was ever thus!

A couple of snaps from our recent floods, and the top one shows residents of the Causeway doing their best to keep their house dry.

They look remarkably happy, but the gent in the snap assures me that he had occasion to *"shout aggressively at those who selfishly drive around the 'Road Closed' signs as they send bow waves up our drive that crash against the front door."* He added that the *"black thing with yellow markings is a flood snake barrier, actually two, one on top of the other. The bins are an attempt to stop them being washed backwards by the force of the bow waves caused by the 4x4s, vans and lorries that insist on driving through as 'they can make it' without a second thought for the damage their waves do."*

The middle pic shows a view along the Causeway towards the village hall, and the bottom one is of a flood barrier being fixed to the village hall.

And what accounts for your headline Mr Editor? Well, I'm assured by the longer term residents of these parishes that the floods used to be much much worse years ago.

The raised footpaths leading down to St James Church from the green in West Hanney - hundreds of years old btw - serve as a reminder of that. (Sorry little Greta, you can't blame this one on Climate Change).

And I'm sure our fab Flood Group can take some of the credit for the floods being far less severe than they were way back! Their regular, targeted efforts at keeping the Letcombe and Childrey Brooks free of blockages and flowing well are crucial. See the article from their main man Clive Manvell on page 16.

Here in Hanney we also have a joint East and West Hanney Volunteer 'Emergency Group' charged with assisting in whatever way when a major emergency arises. They differ from the Flood and Woodland groups in that they do not meet regularly, but only in an emergency. They are supported by the Parish and County Councils, and here's what their main man David Stubbington told me...

"As a volunteer you could be asked during a major emergency anytime throughout the year 24/7, to undertake a role as a lifter and shifter, co-ordinator, administrator, minder of vulnerable people or refreshment provider. There will be a role for everyone no matter your physical ability. At no time will volunteers be put at risk.

If you would like to know more or are interested in volunteering to support our lovely villages in a time of need, please contact David by email: djstubbington@icloud.com"



One of the many joys of editing this humble mag is to hear about and learn of diverse, wonderful and largely unsung members of our community who always have fascinating stories to tell. Often I get to meet them - itself an honour - and go on to become friends, as in this case. In fact I've known this very special gent Martin Trowell and his wife Alison for many years. Now read on dear reader...

"Over 65 years ago, a 19 year-old National Serviceman in the RAF found himself on Christmas Island in the middle of the Pacific witnessing the fearsome explosion of a Hydrogen bomb.

That person was West Hanney resident Martin Trowell who, along with numerous other unwitting 'guinea pigs' from the Army, Navy and Air Force, plus of course the scientists from AWRE Aldermaston, were exposed to four nuclear tests in August and September of 1958. Two Atom bombs were exploded from balloons over the Island, and two Hydrogen bombs were dropped from aircraft about 30 miles offshore.

In subsequent years, the effects of radiation from explosions like these were to take the lives of a fair number of those present. Martin puts down his survival as being due in part to his dislike then (as



now) of shellfish and his dislike then (as now) of swimming. The major part he accepts as just being good luck.

Like most of his compatriots from the Pacific, he subsequently joined the British Nuclear Test Veterans Association who campaigned for years (unsuccessfully) for the government to provide financial support to widows and families of those afflicted.

More recently, as the number of Veterans decreased with age (it is estimated that of the 22,000 service personnel who took part in the 1956-58 tests, only about 1,500 remain),

emphasis switched for a medal in recognition of what they all went through.

Following, albeit belatedly, in the footsteps of the American and French authorities, a medal has finally been awarded. Although his wife Alison was slightly hoping for an invitation to the Palace, the recipient was content to open the brown paper package that came via the GPO, in a private ceremony round their kitchen table."

We offer our congratulations to Martin on this award...many many years too late of course, but very well deserved indeed!

‘When you go home, tell them of us and say ‘For your tomorrow, we gave our today.’

One of the many things I’m proud of living here in Hanney is our magnificent annual Memorial service to honour the dead of both world wars. In spite of some pretty grim weather it was held again this year, a parade from the Royal British Legion in East Hanney to St James Church, led by the Wantage Silver Band, and I popped down with the box brownie. Sincere thanks to the band, the Legion, St James Church and all involved in organising the event.





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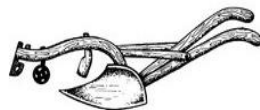


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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Dear Friends

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter. It will be my last as Vicar and I am writing to say goodbye and God bless.

I also want to say thank you for all the wonderful memories, your kindnesses, the pleasure in meeting you lovely people and the tremendous hard work so many of you have given in the St James the Great church, St James school and the Hanney villages. Such events like the Michaelmas Fayres, Live Nativity, Remembrance parades, the pantos and British Legion club have been a delight. It has been a privilege to contribute to this illustrious publication which I know goes beyond the Hanneys and I have enjoyed the excellent village concerts and events in Denchworth too. So many memories and you are blessed to live in such a thriving community.

Yes, I have regrets and I am disappointed we were not able to install a toilet in the church while I was vicar, but I have genuine hope such facilities will eventually be in use to enhance the many gatherings in St James. Having 4 parishes to serve meant I had less time than I would have liked in each, even so I have really enjoyed my last 10 years with you.

I hope I have been faithful in making Jesus' love known to you whether celebrating the birth of a child, rejoicing in the joy of a wedding or remembering with thanksgiving loved ones who have died within the comfort of Christ's peace.

St James the Great has been my church in the sense that I have come to serve here but it is much more God's church and indeed your church where I pray you will find truth, meaning and refreshment when you come in for silent prayer and encouraging fellowship when you worship our Heavenly Father together. I leave confident that Alec and the churchwardens will lead you as you appoint the next Vicar, knowing you are blessed with many gifted church members but ultimately assured that The Lord, the Good shepherd, will guide you when you trust in him.

As I write I am uncertain what my future will hold so I have to commend to myself as I do to you the words of Psalm 13 : 7 trust in the LORD's unfailing love.

For the last time God bless

John Durant

Vicar : Revd John Durant : 766484 - vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894 - vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Office : (10 – 12 Mon – Fri) 771479 - office@valebenefice.org.uk

Church Wardens: Stuart Cakebread: tel - 868590 - stuartcakebread@mac.com

Chris Reason: tel - 868375 - Chris_Reason_Hanney@hotmail.com

SERVICES in Dec. 2023 at St James

3rd – Revd Alec Gill, 10th - No service at Hanney – Patronal at St Nicholas East Challow at 11.00am, 17th - Revd Geoff Maughan, 24th - no service in morning.

Eucharist is celebrated at 9.30am each Sunday.

Midweek Said Eucharist – every Tuesday at 10am in the Chancel.

Christmas Services

Sunday 17 December at 4pm – Village Carol Service behind HWMH

**Christmas Eve at 5.30pm – Carols round the Crib at The Barn,
Philberds Manor, Halls Lane, East Hanney.**

Christmas Eve at 11.30pm – Midnight Communion, at St James Church

Christmas Day at 9.30am – Christmas Eucharist at St James Church

**All Collections at the Christmas Services will be given to Grove & Wantage
Foodbank and the Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal**

I was sent a photo

taken at the Thames Water (TW) event at the Village Hall last month.

As well as the big display boards and tv monitors inside the hall, TW went to



the trouble and expense of creating a model of the proposed reservoir outside the hall to give us an idea of how it will all look when it's finished in 2087 or thereabouts. I'm surprised that TW didn't publicise their display a little more enthusiastically. Many thanks to Steve Kendall our eagle-eyed photographer for the snap.



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Back in the Oct issue, on page 18, I mentioned the local charity **Riding for the Disabled** and their need for £15k to get their electricity supply sorted.

I'm sad to report that only £1,500 has thus far been raised.

Please please, if you can help, this is a very worthy local cause with an attainable goal.

Their Crowdfunder page is the place to donate and is easily reached via their website....

www.rda-abingdon.org.uk

My very obese pet parrot just died. Yes, of course I'm very sad, but to be honest, it's a huge weight off my shoulders.

I am pleased to be able to follow last month's story about how the County Council very promptly sorted Picasso's efforts on our 20mph speed signs with another about the little footbridge at the top end of Winter Lane here in West Hanney.

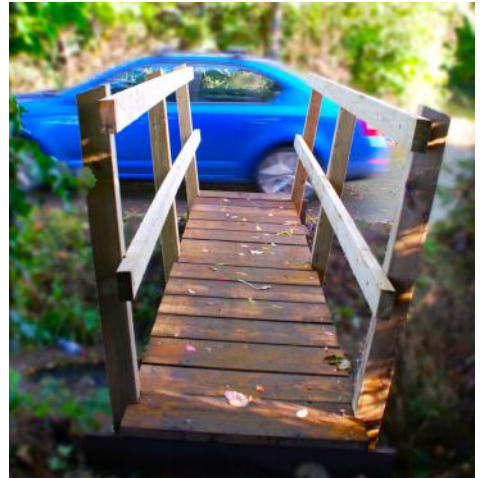
It was rather sad and partially rotten little structure and had been wobbly for a long time - I'm sure it fell well short of the modern 'Elf and Safety' requirements - see top photo.

The good news is that it's been replaced with a new one, sturdy and smart ...see lower photo, in

which, by the way, I've tried to be a bit arty by capturing a blurred image of a car as it drove up Winter Lane.

It's not really very blurred is it, probably cos it was adhering to the 20mph limit.

Not everyone does!



You might recall that back in the Sept issue I published a letter from a Mr Timothy Wellington Boot, (he may well be a Sir or a Lord of course) in which he voiced a less than complimentary opinion on our chums at Thames Water, or Thames Sewage as he renamed them.

Well, he's been in touch again, this time with a press cutting from a recent copy of the Times.

I understand very little of the world of finance, and much of the article goes way above my head, but some basic facts do stand out loud and clear.

We learn that Thames Water will pay an eye-watering 8.25% interest on a new £300 million bond.

Well, I'm lucky...my eyes water occasionally, but only due to old age and being a silly, over-sensitive old fool! I cry easily and frequently, as do the board at TW, I suspect! The article claims that TW have debts of £13 billion, and will need another £2.5 billion shareholder injection during the 2025 - 2030 period.

Hang on...doesn't that sound about the time their little project the 'Abingdon Reservoir' may kick off? Hmm, very interesting!

LETTERS

Dear Editor

I write to express my concern at the current state of the churchyard at St. James Church, which the Church Wardens have described as a wonderful display of flowers with mown paths, Hanney News No 574 p 14.

While I appreciate their effort to highlight the natural beauty of the churchyard, it may be that its poor state is due to the lack of volunteers to regularly mow and maintain the churchyard, or is the overgrown look Church policy?

Are those responsible for the area using 'environmental responsibility' as an excuse? Being a retired 'Holy Mower,' I appreciate the importance of maintaining the sacred grounds in a way that honours the memory of those buried there while ensuring the churchyard remains a place of respect and reverence. Regular mowing and strimming would be an improvement. We should all take pride in the area surrounding the church, rather than allowing it to resemble a neglected wasteland.

There are Commonwealth war graves in the cemetery and these areas are well maintained, so why can't the whole churchyard look the same? These brave individuals deserve a resting place within a well-maintained churchyard, which reflects the gratitude and respect of our community. If there are people in the village who are

willing to volunteer to restore and maintain the churchyard so that it becomes a source of pride, I am sure that the Church Authorities would not refuse the help.
Christopher Jay

Dear Editor,

I attended the 'softening-up-for-the-inevitable-reservoir (never mind democracy)' meeting arranged by Thames Water at the Village Hall. Our hosts were unflustered, smiling and well-briefed in their responses to the predictably vociferous audiences that gathered around various repetitive sideshows. I confess I could only bear the noise for a short time.

But I was struck that none seemed to have an answer to the catastrophic possibility that the retaining mound might give way. In their booklet, those of us on the wrong side of the A338 find ourselves in what is described rather wittily, (if sotto voce) as 'wetland/floodplain compensation' (whatever that is...). Are we being 'compensated' for the risk? Our house insurance premiums will presumably rocket, but we shall be drowned anyway. BTW, I didn't see our MP there.....but then he doesn't answer e mails on the subject either.

Maybe it's time to buy an inflatable...

Geoffrey Bourne-Taylor
Dandridge Close

Table Football. Premier League version.



I used to love this game...still got a really good table here at Global HQ, hidden from the staff of course, else they'd never get any work done, but it's not the Premier League version depicted on the left.

Is it just me being ever more grumpy in my old age, or is the diving and writhing around as if they've just been shot getting worse each week?

Our magnificent Flood Group often get a well deserved and hefty pat on the back from me in these pages...see page 8 of this issue.

Some folk in our community believe it is the Flood Group's responsibility to keep our drains and ditches clear, however their main man Clive Manvell recently told me that in fact the responsibility lies with homeowners, OCC Highways, Housing Associations, landlords, etc.

Clive asked me to include the following request... *"You can help the Flood Group by keeping ditches, drains and road gullies near your homes clear. In particular at*

Big ups to Anne Taylor, a very talented West Hanney resident, who recently made some little hedgehogs out of wool and sold them in the community shop. She told me....*"Delighted to say that all the hedgehogs have now sold and, helped by Gift Aid, £87.50 is on its way to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital. Thanks to all those who bought them!"*

And whilst I'm handing out 'Big ups', I'm also sending some to **Clive and Cathy Ward**. Clive - our fab and groovy Community Shop head hombre - and his Mrs look after the flowers outside the shop and a lovely job they do too! Many thanks Mr and Mrs W!

this time of year, keep grass verge cuttings, hedge trimmings, plant and tree prunings out of the ditches., where they obstruct the flow and cause blockages. Rather than rotting down they poison the wildlife. Anyone wishing to learn more about their activities please visit their web-site www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk where you can also find a 'Donate' button to support the funding of equipment. If you would like to help in a practical way, contact me, my details on page 30."



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Well, that was a first, certainly since I've lived here! A proper protest demo like wot you see on the telly outside our very own sleepy little village hall - banners, home-made placards, some chanting... well a bit anyway!...a camera 'crew' etc. And the reason? Thames Water (TW) were holding a 'Community Information' event to tell us their latest plans for the so-called 'Abingdon Reservoir'. The 'anti faction' had wheeled out the big guns, viz Derek Stork, he's GARD's brain, and Sally Povolotsky, our District Councillor. (Sadly no sign of our MP or County Councillor.)

Both were interviewed by the ITV Meridian News folk. The rain held off, with the odd short spell of bright sun, and whilst not exactly 'Caribbean' I sensed a mild carnival atmosphere, tho' rum punch in short supply. Meantime, inside the hall were to be found big panels full of info, videos playing and many smiley, friendly TW folk eager to present their side of the story and make us feel welcome. Also present a 'medic' and a 'safety officer', i.e. a security man, he a West Ham supporter. We talked footie.... Fortunately no 'safety' issues to deal with, at least not whilst I was there.

You'll have your views I suspect; it's been a topic since about 1993 I think, but here at HQ we're determined to be neutral. Nonetheless, big ups to all the protesters, for such a good-natured affair.



This from Age UK...

“Winter can be tough at any age, but it’s particularly challenging for older people who face additional health risks, and increased feelings of loneliness and isolation. In addition, the cost-of-living crisis with rises in food and energy prices, is causing many local older people to worry about staying healthy and keeping their homes warm.

We are asking please for your support in supporting older people this winter. We have brought together some useful information and resources in the form of an online Winter Hub - please share this resource with both older people and those supporting them this winter. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/about-us/winter-hub/>

We are also aware that not everyone has or wants access to the internet so we have created physical Winter Wellbeing packs which we can post out. These contain an introductory letter, our ‘Little Handbook of our Services’, a Live Well Oxfordshire Bookmark, a Winter Wrapped up Guide (from Age UK), a Oxfordshire Talking Therapies leaflet, and our Cost-of-Living Payment Grid.

Please get in touch via contactus@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk or 0345 450 1276 if you would like a pack. Just a reminder too that we have a Cost-of-Living Hub on our website with lots of useful information www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/about-us/cost-of-living-hub/

Volunteer as a Phone Friend.

We currently support over 375 people with a free, weekly telephone call, and there are thousands more who could benefit from the service.

With 1 in 5 older people in Oxfordshire reporting feeling lonely, and as we move into winter with colder and shorter days heightening feelings of loneliness and isolation, our service really is needed more than ever.

Volunteering as a Phone Friend requires a minimum commitment of 1 hour per week which enables you to call up to 3 people and can be at a regular time that suits you. Calls can be made from the comfort of your own home and any expenses for call costs are covered.

If you’re friendly and feel comfortable talking whilst also providing a listening ear, you could bring comfort and friendship to local older people this winter.

To register your interest in supporting us to reduce loneliness amongst local older people please call 01295 234 850 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/get-involved/volunteer/telephone-befriending-volunteer for more information.

And whilst we’re on older folk, have a read of this...interesting stuff from the BBC News website.
www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-67367051

More fake news in Hanney News. Remember last month’s little piece about Plough shares....page 10, ‘Back in biblical times’? I credited the very clever word play to David Gahan of West Hanney when in fact the originator was Steve Kendall of East Hanney. Both these gents are highly skilled wordsmiths, and apols to both for my cock-up!

A mate of mine failed his exam in Aboriginal Music. “Did ‘ya redo it? I asked.

Have you heard? NASA is launching a new mission to say sorry to the aliens ...they’re calling it Apollo G.

Great news from the recent bingo fundraiser

organised by Laura Lolly Bligdon. Here's what she told me... *"The family bingo night that raised some much needed funds for the local 'Wantage White Horses Swim Club' was a HUGE success !! It was so thrilling to see the RBL full to the brim - A Full House. I'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone who came and made the evening so successful, WWHSC members, villagers and their extended families, to Sue & Karl for letting us use their venue, to Vic Carter for being our amazing bingo caller and not being fazed by the number of faces staring back at him. And to Jim at Hanney New HQ - I needed your booklet to advertise! The donations of prizes we received was incredible, local businesses, individuals from the villages and even some businesses slightly further afield, we really did have some Fabulous items - Getting such a large amount of goodies just made making the hampers even more special. In total we raised a*



whopping £1601 - £365 of that was made on the Adam Peaty signed postcard. I've already handed over the funds to WWHSC and they have asked me to express a huge Thank you to you all - I've also been asked if there's the possibility of me organising another one next year... watch this space!!!"

Well done Laura say we here at

Global HQ - she's the happy lady in the snap. And big thanks to all the local businesses who donated prizes... Pet Patrol, Handy Guy, MJM Electricals, The Fox at Denchworth, The Black Horse, TFD, The Bottle Top - Grove, Blenheim Palace, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Wantage Nails, Toy Planet, Segais in Wantage, Millets Farm, Junkyard Golf - Oxford Hunter Field Equestrian Centre, Leanne's Travel - Hayes Travel, Halfords, The Hanney Community Shop and Adam Peaty's management team. Many individuals within the village also donated amazing prizes, and of course not forgetting the fab and groovy Carl and Sue at the Royal British Legion for donating the hall for the night!

To me this is our community at it's best and we send our congrats to all involved, particularly of course the truly amazing Laura herself!

Opportunities to work at the May 2024 election – register your interest now!

We need people to work at the May 2024 Police and Crime Commissioner Election. If you are interested in either of the following paid roles, please get in touch as soon as possible and encourage your friends and family to do the same:

Polling station staff – locations across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse, Thursday 2 May (from 6am until finish – likely to be around 10.30pm)

Postal vote staff – Abingdon, 22 April to 2 May (various shifts available)

To register your interest, simply email electionstaff@southandvale.gov.uk.

For more information, visit whitehorsedc.gov.uk/electionjobs. But please note, we are unable to offer roles to people that work for or are connected with a political party

In the Oct issue I

included a quote from our local fire brigade regarding the 20 mph speed limit. They suggested that the introduction of the limit in Wantage would...

"in all likelihood cause the Wantage Fire Station to close." At the time I queried the assertion - tactfully I hope - asking if it was,



maybe, a bit of an over-reaction?

Well, we've now had an update from the Fire Brigade, and it's good news...

Chief Fire Officer Rob

McDougall has stated that **there is no intention to either close or downgrade Wantage Fire Station.** Glad to hear it!

These are difficult times for many folk, and here in Hanney we have a charity, **'The Hanney Parochial Trust'** that may be able to help.

It is an amalgamation of several local charities that have been set up over hundreds of years, the first of which was back in 1604!

I am the Chairman of the board of eight Trustees, which includes both current Parish Council leaders and our Vicar John Durant.

If you know anyone who is in genuine financial need, please ask them to contact me directly, in strictest confidence.

We are now also working closely with **'Vale Community Impact' (VCI)**

(previously the Wantage Advice Centre) so feel free to approach them first if you'd rather. Their website is here:

www.vci.org.uk , **tel: 01235 765348.**

As well as knowing broadly what we at the Hanney Parochial Charity may be able to help with, the VCI has a wide variety of other ways to assist folk through difficult times. (I published an article about VCI in the June 2023 issue of Hanney News.)

Our charity here in Hanney also considers applications for grants to anyone aged 18 - 25 who is starting full-time further education.

Tel: 01235 867500 - or email: jimstagg@btinternet.com.

The Hanney Parochial Charity Trust's Charity Commission number is 205792.

Obituary

Sandra Baker and Christopher Baker 1943-2023

Chris and Sandra first moved to Long Acre, East Hanney in 1978 with their two oldest children, Heather and Philip. Here their two younger children Alison and William were born.

Sandra became very active in the village community, helping to run the playgroup and it was in the garden of Long Acre the Hanney Cookbook was created, a joint collaboration with Shelia Powell.

Sandra became leader of the Hanney Guides for many years and the gardens of Long Acre were often filled with guides and brownies camping and singing around a campfire.

Continued on page 21.....



Chris was also an active member of the village community. He was the lighting engineer for the annual Hanney pantomimes, he was very involved in the Hanney Flood Group, and the History Group. He was a well-known visitor in the village pubs and became a frequently spotted dog walker throughout the village in later years with his beloved dog Zeus.

In 2016, Sandra was diagnosed with the degenerative illness PSPA. Chris remained her devoted carer to the end. Sandra died at home on July 19th 2023 as she wished, with her family by her side. Chris died suddenly not long after her funeral, on 17th August 2023, followed closely by Zeus, always his loyal companion. They are buried together at St James Church, West Hanney.

Their family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support. Chris and Sandra will be greatly missed.

Obituary - Trevor Herman. Hanney has lost one its oldest - and finest! - residents, and I've been asked by his widow Mavis to include the following.... *"Trevor was a true Hanney country gentleman, and was born in the cottage 'Sunnybank' in Main st East Hanney eighty six years ago. Although well travelled with holidays etc. he always lived in East or West Hanney.*

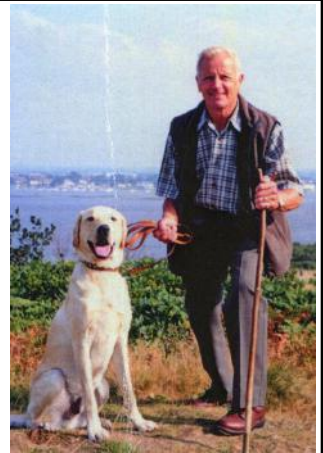
As a boy he knew every household in Hanney and Garford as he would accompany his father Jack Herman to deliver coal on the horse and cart. They would collect the coal from Wantage Road station and deliver to the villages. Over the years Trevor was involved with many village clubs and activities, including bell ringing, the Hanney School, Cubs and Scouts and drama club to name a few.

He was a busy helpful person always helping out family and friends which he enjoyed. He always enjoyed family life with his children and grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In later life he was a member of the Senior Citizens club and helped in the community shop. Sadly as he developed the Dementia his life really changed but thanks to wonderful family, friends and neighbours he was able to stay at home. The family have been so grateful to receive flowers, many cards and messages, and especially the lovely tributes to Trevor which have been a huge comfort. Thanks so much to all. Thanks also to Rev. Alec taking the lovely services and to everyone who attended Trevor's funeral. The collection in Church amounted to £460 for Dementia UK.

Thanks also to La Fontana for the lovely wake. Thank you so much to everyone."
Mavis, Stuart and Alison.

The photos are of Trevor as a toddler sat on his father's horse-drawn coal wagon, and a recent one of Trevor with his dog Ollie. Trevor will be sorely missed.



Hanney News' is produced each month by the Hanney News Association (HNA), an 'unincorporated', i.e. 'not for profit' organisation.



Three of us put it together, myself as Editor, Chris French...soon to be Mark Whittington... as Treasurer - see page 4 - and Paul Haines as Chief Distributor. 'Hanney News' is totally independent, not sponsored by anyone, be they Parish, District or County Council, church, political or commercial organisation, global crime syndicate or whoever.

We've all been at it for a while - I myself since May 2015, Paul since Dec 2015 and Chris, longest of all, since Feb 2014. As well as Chris 'retiring', Paul also wants to step back at some point in the future, and tho' there's no rush, we need to find a replacement. Without a Chief Distributor, Hanney News would cease. Paul reckons his total time spent on the role is about 7 hours per month, except the

one month when we hold our 'distributors lunch' - this a modest thank you to all our distributors for their hard work. It's a social occasion with some tucker and modest

libations at a local establishment, and organising it, Paul reckons, adds about another 5 hours of his time to his regular 7. If you are interested in getting involved with Hanney News, and joining Mark and I in the 'Association', give me a ring here at Global HQ - 01235 867500 - and we can have a chat, maybe over a swift half in one of our fine local hostelries?

PS: At some point I too will of course have to give up, but I'm still enjoying it very much, and Mrs Editor is quite happy for me to spend the amount of time I do - a lot!! - hunched over my computer putting each issue together. For now, I intend to carry on, buoyed by the fact that even after over 100 issues, I have yet to receive threats of litigation, death or even personal abuse!

Our political chums...

David Johnston is our MP. Contact him here: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, or phone: 0207 219 3000. His website is here: www.david-johnston.org.uk, and his email: david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk.

Juliette Ash is our County Councillor...her contact details: c/o County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND. Email: juliette.ash@oxfordshire.gov.uk. www.julietteash.co.uk but see below.

Sally Povolotsky is our District Councillor: Sally.Povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

Every month I provide the contact details of the political folk whom we elect to represent us at District, County and national level.

However, I'm having some problems contacting our County Councillor Juliette Ash. Recent attempts to reach her have failed. My first email to her got the almost instant and obviously automatic response...

"If it is urgent, please do reach out to County Hall directly using the contact details below and they will be happy to help." I then sent a Facebook message on 28th Oct

as follows... 'Hi Juliette, I understand you're taking a break from Councillor duties ...hope I've got that right? Whom should my readers (I still edit Hanney News!) contact in your absence? ...presumably a deputy is taking over? Best wishes, Jim'.

As of today, 13th Nov - I've had no reply at all to it, nor to the two follow-ups I sent on 2nd and 9th Nov.

Please let me know if you hear anything from her, and if you happen to be reading this Juliette, please give us a quick buzz. I know you're busy, I promise not to waffle!

This month's calendar

is a view along Main St, West Hanney. My guess would be taken in the very early 1920s. Don't let the colour fool you, that was added many years later I suspect. Do you prefer the colour to the b/w that's in the calendar? -

The thatched property further from camera is no more, replaced by a house built in the 1920s or thereabouts. The nearer thatched property still exists, but as is often the case, the roof is now tiled, and is a private house.

At the time of the pic it was a village shop, probably run by two sisters, Miss Boots and Miss Lonnen... I might not have the names exact.

A lady stands by the wooden fence between the two buildings, in front of a thatched cottage that still exists called Carters Close.

Note the cow, meandering up the road, seeming to be minding its own business, though she may have been responsible for the odd pile of dark matter visible on the road surface.

Apparently when sheep or cows from the local farms were driven through the village, kids would run in front of them shouting 'Gates!' This was to warn people to make sure their front garden gates were shut, because the curious creatures would happily wander in if able, and sheep in particular could inflict major damage to the rhododendrons and veg patches!

Back to the shop...the large yellow sign visible above its front door - see photo bottom right - reads "Off Licence Beer House Belcher and Habgood Fine Ales & Stout". (Belcher & Habgood were a brewery company who began in 1894, based at the Tower Steam Brewery, Ock Street, Abingdon.)



Another sign below it advertisers Lyons Tea, but I can't make out the blue and green ones on the right of the pic. Back then you could go in the shop with an empty jug, get it filled with ale and then consume it at your leisure at home.

In about 1938 a Mr and Mrs Edwards took over the shop. One of their daughters Betty helped run it with her mum whose name I think may have been Alice. Anyone know different? Betty married a Mr Partridge. Their other daughter, Peggy married Dick Paignton who worked at the MG car factory in Abingdon. Peggy ran the canteen there and was not involved in the business.

The shop was very much the centre of the community.... there was a large bench in it at which folk would sit and chat whilst waiting for Mrs Edwards to prepare their orders, cutting bacon and the like.

Gossip, rumours and local news was shared ...no Hanney

News or Facebook back then!

Old age and ill health caused the shop's closure in the 1980s.



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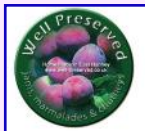
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HANNEY BELLRINGERS 'Learn the Ropes'. Wonderful mental and physical exercise with a friendly mixed group. Why not come along and watch a ringing session at St. James church. For more information contact Chris Surman 868749

HANNEY BOOK CLUB - 8pm, 1st Thurs of the Month, Plough, W. Hanney.
hanneybookclub@yahoo.co.uk

HANNEY BOWLS CLUB - Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm. Contact 868145

HANNEY BROWNIES AND GUIDES (for all girls aged 7-14) meet on Mondays in HWMH 6:00-7:30pm during term time. **RAINBOWS** (aged 5-7) in Grove on Thursdays. Girls and volunteers always welcome. Contact Clare Green 07845 047990/ districtcomgrove@gmail.com / girlguiding.org.uk

HANNEY COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING in the Village Hall, Tuesdays, 10.00-11.30am. Everyone welcome for tea or coffee - a chat and a raffle. Just turn up!

HANNEY COMMUNITY WOODLAND WORKING PARTY...contact Paul Sayers by email pksayers@btinternet.com or 01235 868146

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Occasional Sunday friendly games. For details ring David Johns on 07770 456147 or 01235 868519, or email hanneycricketteam@gmail.com

DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB meets every Wednesday in the Olde Hanney Room 2-5pm. New members welcome. Contact Lyn Morton lynmorton89@gmail.com

HANNEY FLOOD GROUP hold a monthly working party. Contact Clive Manvell for details - clivemanvell664@gmail.com, or 01235 868216. www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk/

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the first Monday of each month, Sept to April, in the HWMH. 7:30 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk. www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. Meets 8pm on the 4th Monday of every month in the main hall of the Village Hall. For further details and programme visit <http://hanneyhistory.org.uk/>

HANNEY OCCASIONAL GOLFERS SOCIETY (HOGS) was formed in 1996, and meets four times a year plus Christmas. HOGS is very much about social golf with all standards welcome. Non golfers/spouses usually join for the evening session when prizes are awarded and 'fines' imposed! Contact 'Poppy' at andrew.fletcher@rer.co.uk for further details.

HANNEY SCOUTS,CUBS & BEAVERS, Contact Steve Houseman stevehouseman@kascouts.org.uk

HANNEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB meets on the 4th Thursday of every month except August, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Tea, cake, chats, talks and activities. For more details, ring Marcia on 01235 867461

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS in the Village Hall, every Friday at 10am. Also every Thurs eve, 6.30pm - 7.30pm. Just turn up to either, or both!! £2 a session.

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB is a very friendly village tennis club and always welcomes new members. For more info email Jenny at membership.htc@gmail.com

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING We meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 10.00 am prompt at the Hanney WMH. New cyclists warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Adrian on 868340 or email adrianbodimeade@hotmail.com

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

HANNEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (W.I.) meet the second Thursday of the month (except in Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room, Village Hall. New members are welcome. Contact Kate Tyler on 07446 364859

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB trains at the rec. on Thursday night. We 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

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.**

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BINGO every Sunday, R.B. Legion Hall 8pm. Cash prizes. 18+ welcome.

SJS THURSDAY SINGING, East Hanney, a cappella male-voice group, 8-10pm. Join us for our new season of 4-part Folksongs from the 'Home Nations', Australia, Finland, Slovakia, Peru & more! And a pint at the Black Horse later? David Gahan 868933

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 767408, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION : 10am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

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 a dozen or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249), www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk.

WANTAGE U3A: Visit our website detailing current activities - www.u3asites.org.uk/wantage

PILATES CLASS Wednesdays 9.15am - 10.15am, and 6 -7pm (term time only) at the HWMH, aka Village Hall, in 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

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PURE STRETCH - Every Tuesday 3pm at the Village hall with Debs (after the FITSTEPS class). Easy and relaxing stretch class to music, combining elements of Yoga, Pilates and Tai Chi. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Props and cushions provided, please bring your own mat. Please contact Debs: 07968 948007 or email info@workoutwonderful.com

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In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. Both are accessible 24/7 Hopefully we'll have a third one soon!

Hanney War Memorial Hall

To book the Hall, the Committee Room, or the Olde Hanney Room, contact Graham Garner on 01235 868684, email hwmh.hanney@gmail.com

Join the 'West Hanney and East Hanney Community', 'The Hanneys Buy and Sell Group', and the 'East Hanney Parish Council' Facebook groups.

