



Hanney News

Number 606 May 2026



Thank you to everyone for passing us 'Slow and Wide' ...page 7.



Michaelmas Fayre

Thanks to all who supported this very special Hanney event.
Details of donations on page 13



Why Aunt Sally doesn't need a 'C Section'... page 14

Saturday 16th May 2026, 10:30AM to 3:30 PM
Hanney War Memorial Hall, East Hanney OX12 0JL
Free entry • Free parking

Editorial

Let me start this merry month with an apology...the April issue contained a few typos and the one on the front cover that missed the vital letter E from Hanney (!) was unforgiveable! There were also a couple of boobs on page 3...please note that the joint Parish Councils meeting is on the 20th of May, and did not happen in April. Oh dear... proof reader duly dismissed.

Now for better news....thanks to Paul Sayers and his willing team of volunteers, our Community Woodland remains a thriving place for many of our feathered friends, and is well worth regular visits. More on page 15.

The annual Artsweek is coming up, check out page 5.

On page 22 I wax lyrical over a papadum and a rudely named cocktail.

Apols to our Carnival fans...no room this month for the piece on the 1969 event. Hopefully next month.

Fancy a nice walk whilst raising a few quid for a very deserving cause? Check page 14.

This month we welcome three new advertisers... Martyna Stagg - her ad is on page 8 - 'The Game Cruizer' page 20 and RL Cleaning, page 26.

We thank them all for supporting Hanney News. To pay our printing bill we need our commercial advertisers, since we receive no grants or donations.

In fact, since 2016, we have been making donations to others, totalling almost £7,000. Our magnificent Treasurer, and his predecessors have always run a tight ship! If you are looking to raise funds for a

genuine good cause in the Hanneys, Charney Bassett or Denchworth, do get in touch...we may be able to help.

A recent tractor rally at the Legion was a great opportunity for Seb, a little fella mad on tractors including these delightful old machines, to sit on one! This shiny red example was a 1946 David Brown, and yes that's the same David who was involved in the production of Aston Martin cars.



Our Parish Councils hold hands and declare their undying love for each other at the 'Annual Joint Meeting' on Weds 20th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Always interesting affairs, and certainly worth a visit. Also this year the first Community Award winners will be announced.

I can't remember where the rather pensive young lady lives who's pictured on page 35. If you know, do tell.

Ok, that's it till next month my friends....

We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles, letters, photos, in fact anything you feel may be of interest to our readers.

If you have something you would like to be included, please contact me, the Editor, Jim Stagg, on my mob: 07762 239681, or landline - 01235 867500, or email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month....

Fri 1st, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Film Nights proudly presents 'Song Sung Blue', a 2025 musical drama Lightning and Thunder, a Milwaukee husband and wife Neil Diamond tribute act, experience soaring success and devastating heartbreak in their musical journey together. Doors and Bar open 7.30pm, film starts 8pm. Contactless payment only...no cash. £8, £7 concessions.

Sun 3rd, Live music with the fab and groovy Ryan Clayton at the Plough!

Mon 4th, Early May Bank Holiday. The Black Horse is open - bar from noon till 7pm, serving food till 2.30pm. It's a 'BurgerFest'...prices from £10.

Sat 9th and Sun 10th, 2-4pm, The opening of the Charney Bassett Mill, see page 23

Sun 10th, Wantage Silver Band in the Market Place, Wantage. Live music in the centre of Wantage throughout May, June and July. Concerts start at 2pm. See page 23.

Sun 10th May, 4pm. Black Horse Quiz, with Sir Nigel of Kilbey. No limit on team numbers. Raising money for Charity.

Sat 16th, W.I. Craft Fair. Village Hall. Hope to see you there. A popular event for all the family. Note: we are full for stalls. See front cover.

Mon 18th, 8pm, Village Hall - Hanney History Group, a talk by Timothy Walker, former Director of the Oxford Botanic Garden - 'History of Oxford Botanic Garden'. See page 15. Visitors very welcome - £3.50.

Weds 20th, 7.30pm, Village Hall - Annual Parish Meeting, when both PCs get together and are nice to each other! The Hanney Community Awards to be presented!

Sat 23 May – 13 Sept - Lee Miller: 'A Woman at War' exhibition at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock, see page 23.

Sat 23rd, 8pm, Black Horse, Live Music with the 'Soul Seekers'. 'Pop -up Thai Kitchen'!

Sun 24th, The Plough's 4th Birthday Party!...all are welcome! See page 4 for details.

Sat 29th May 'Boogie Bingo' at the Black Horse!

And further ahead

Sunday 7th June 1.00pm to 5.00pm Hanney Hidden Gardens, 17 gardens will be open for you to look around. Programmes and wrist band £5 per person, available from the Village Shop, children under 12 free. *'This is a community event with the money raised going to local good causes.'*

Sunday, 7th June, 1pm-5pm:Garden Opening for Flexicare, 10 Eynsham Road, Botley, OX2 9BP. Entrance free but donations to Flexicare. Teas, cake & sale of plants Beautiful organic garden, wildlife pond and bee habitat. Disabled access (with car)

Thurs 11th June, Footie World Cup starts. The Plough is showing all the matches.

Sat, 13 June - Grove and Wantage Extravaganza. Community celebration email Volunteering@groverfc.co.uk or join the Facebook group. Full details next month.

Tues 16th June - 20th June, Ascot Races, The Plough showing all the races. On 20th, Tom Wells plays live.

Sun 28th June - Sat 11th July: Wantage Summer Arts Festival. Details next month.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* FAT TUESDAY *

- 3 small plates *
 - 2 chips *
 - 2 drinks
- ALL FOR £30

GRAND NATIONAL

SAT 11th APRIL SHOWING ALL RACES! BURGER + BEER

£15

LIVE MUSIC

3rd MAY TOM WELLS FROM 7pm

THE PLOUGH TURNS 4

SUNDAY 24th MAY LIVE MUSIC ALL DAY + BBQ!

FIFA WORLD CUP

1st JUNE SHOWING ALL MATCHES IN PAVILLION



Some great stuff going down this year at the Plough in West Hanney...

Fat Tuesday happens every week....delicious grub, a drink, and just £30 for two!

There's a regular Quiz every month....remember to bring your brain as you'll certainly need it! Quizmaster is Hanney's finest, Matt Barber, and the winning team get a £75 gift voucher!



Live music on 3rd May with Tom Wells...trust me, he's one very talented dude! Check him out.

Do not miss the Plough's '4th Birthday party.'

Now, our lovely Landlord Owain - OK, he's not quite as lovely as Patience the beautiful barmaid in the photo - is claiming that the Plough is 4 years old.



THE PLOUGH

AT HANNEY

Of course it's a lot older than that, but has truly been reborn by the Big O and fab chef Luke who together took over 4 years back.

Boy, have they changed the place! It used to be dull, dour and miserable with hopeless and/or drunk landlords!

Now it's the best, and so are Owain, Luke and their fab team. Long may they run! No invite needed.... just turn up on Sun 24th May, ready to 'party'.....BBQ and live music!

There's loads more coming up... Wimbledon, World Cup, Father's day... the list goes on. Hanney News will endeavour to keep you updated, even if it means we have to make regular visits! It's a tough life being an Editor.



WEST OX ARTS GALLERY
PRESENTS



OXFORDSHIRE ARTWEEKS 2026

25 APRIL - 30 MAY 2026

West Ox Arts Gallery
Market Square
Bampton
OX18 2JH

Above is a beautiful painting by Sally Middleton, whose art classes here in Hanney every Tuesday morning are immensely popular.

Sally is exhibiting at the West Ox Arts Gallery, Market Sq, Bampton, where a reception will be held on 25th April, starting at 12 noon.

We also have two more very talented local artists locally, Jill Smith and Patsy Jones...see below, whose paintings can be seen at the Museum in Wantage.



“LIGHT and the LANDSCAPE” Jill SMITH and Patsy JONES

venues 39 & 40

5-9, 11-16 and 18-23 May 2026

at the Vale and Downland
Museum
Church Street, Wantage, OX12 8BL

open 9.30am to 3.45pm
with exceptions:

open from 12.30 on Tues 5th
closing 2:30pm on Sat 23rd
(museum closed Sundays and
Bank Holidays)

'Meet the Artists' sessions
Fri 8th May 10am-noon
Sat 9th May 11am -1.30pm
full info at www.artweeks.org



East Hanney Parish Council

Paul Aram: Chair: cllr.paul.aram@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Dickon Green: cllr.dickon.green@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

David Kirk: cllr.david.kirk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Garth Dennill: cllr.garth.dennill@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Laura Lolly Bligdon: cllr.laura.bligdon@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

James Newsome: cllr.james.newsome@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Alexis Pratsides: cllr.alexis.pratsides@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Website: easthanneyparish.gov.uk - **Clerk:** clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Next meeting is on Weds 13th May, 7.30pm, Village Hall.

Annual Parish meeting: Weds 20th May, 7.30pm, Village Hall

Firstly, thank you to the members of the community

who attend the Parish Council meetings, these are open to the public and held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm at the village hall.

Many topics are discussed and decided each month - so please feel free to attend, there is no obligation to stay to the end. There is also a public participation section at the beginning of the meeting when you can raise concerns, requests, feedback etc.

This month we discussed the adoption of the road at The Nurseries road junction with the Steventon Road, potential to improve the playground at the Nurseries and the water supply to the allotments - all raised by residents of the village.

Council topics this month included:

Ongoing support to improve the road surface of the Hanney to Steventon road, the need for Thames Water to improve the sewer provision in the village, repairs and

improvements to the playground and foot-paths across the village and finally the Hanney Community Awards for which we have received many nominations.

The winners will be announced at our Parish Meeting on 20th May, 7.30pm at the village hall. Everyone is welcome to attend to meet your councillors, discuss the many activities that have happened and are planned, and learn a bit more about your Parish Council and what they do, as well as congratulate the Award winners.

Parish Agenda and Minutes can be found on the Parish noticeboards (Village Hall) and online at www.easthanneyparish.gov.uk

The Hanneys Website

www.thehanneys.uk - not run by the Council but lots of useful links to clubs and organisations.

Facebook Page - East Hanney Parish Council - ongoing info and useful links.

May I briefly mention again the group recently set up by West Hanney's Sue Rogers. For more info on this great group,, search Facebook for "**Ladies who socialise in West & East Hanney and local areas**" If you would like to join, go to the Fb page or use their WhatsApp number - 07840 968736.

West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors:

Chair: David Corps - cllr.david.corps@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 867454.
Graham Garner - cllr.graham.garner@westhanneyparish.gov.uk- 01235 868684.
Peter Packham - cllr.peter.packham@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 868038.
Vicki Ruston - email: cllr.vicki.ruston@westhanneyparish.gov.uk
Ahmed Farrag - cllr.ahmed.farrag@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 07388 816079.
Barbara Martin, Clerk - email: parishclerk@westhanneyparish.gov.uk
07793 556352. Website: www.westhanneyparish.gov.uk

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 6th May and the Joint Annual Parish Meeting with East Hanney is on Wednesday 20th May.
Both meeting are at 7.30pm in the Hanney War Memorial Hall.

Would you like to grow some fresh and tasty fruit and veg?

The Parish Council has some vacant allotments available to rent. These could be divided into half or quarter size plots to suit, and raised beds could be constructed to make them even more manageable. Water is provided from a standpipe, and the allotmenters are always happy to provide advice. If you are interested, please contact Barbara, our Clerk, details above, for further information.

Last month I mentioned the road signs that were recently put up, asking us drivers to pass horses 'slow and wide'.

Good news...I understand from Amanda Curtis - the lovely lady in charge at Poughly Farm - that driving behaviour has much improved since! The pic on the front cover - including the horses! - shows, left to right

Cody, Lacey, Dizzy, Jennifer, Amanda and Rusty. They're very grateful for the consideration drivers show them. I'm sure all the folk who ride in our lovely village feel the same!

A quick aside....it's not till you get up close that you realize what magnificent creatures these horses are. I'm sure they have a great life in Amanda's stables.

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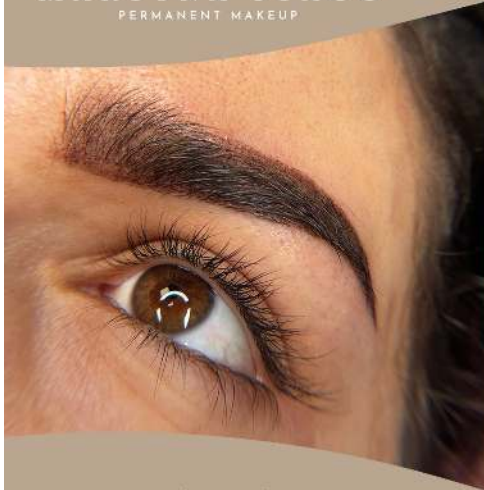
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GARD News update May 2026

GARD's summer campaign is beginning. See this as a NEW CAMPAIGN, as Thames Water move towards their Planning Application in November. We can still stop the Reservoir, as our banners state.

JOIN GARD and work towards a full opposition at the DCO hearings early next year.

We can show them that democracy works – three MPs, Oxfordshire County Council, the two District Councils, the town and parish councils: all these oppose the Reservoir plans.

Add your name to the list of GARD mem-

bers and be part of that opposition. The joining link is on the website: [Group Against Reservoir Development | GARD](#)

Come forward and volunteer – we shall be delivering leaflets to all the affected villages and we are planning events too. There are jobs small and large, active and more routine. Please get in touch at gard.secretary@gmail.com

Show that people matter. Join GARD to stop the Reservoir.

Advance notice of the AGM: this will be on Friday July 3rd.

Derek Stork, May 2026

Are you starting Uni, or any other further or higher education this year? If you live in Hanney, the 'Hanney Parochial Charity' may be able to help you with a grant towards purchasing of books, equipment and such like.

Contact me, Jim Stagg, on 01235 867500 or 07762 239681.

Email: jimstagg@btinternet.com.

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

We currently have space for local businesses to advertise with us in this space.

(Apols, but nothing bigger currently available.)

We deliver to every house in the Hanneys, Lyford, Denchworth and Charney, a total of nearly 1,300 copies. This size costs just £80 for 12 issues!

If you run a business based within or serving our distribution area, ring me, Jim, anytime, on 07762 239681 to discuss placing an ad with us.



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Family Activity Day, 'Boogie Bingo, Sat29th
May!

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Tues to Sat - Food from 12pm - 2pm, & 6pm - 9pm,

Bar from 12pm -2.30pm & 5.30pm - 11pm

Sunday - Food from

12pm - 3pm.

Bar from 12pm - 7pm

See page 3 for events this month!

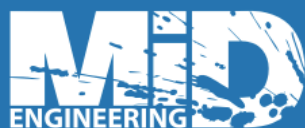


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The Church of England



18-year-old Megan was leaving school and getting ready to go back-backing round South America. Her Dad Dave, steady long-term member of staff at the Bodleian Library, said he had one bit of advice for her: "Trust the people you are with".

Dave knew something of what his daughter was about to do. He had been a research anthropologist in central Africa for a few years back in the day. He had not forgotten that life was a big adventure.

Dave knew that the best way to let local people help you on your way was to trust them. They would sense your respect and would honour it. So "Trust the people you are with".

At a similar age I went off to be a volunteer teacher in a secondary school in Kampala Uganda. One sunny morning in May we were woken by gunfire not very far away. What was going on? Our school was in the palace grounds of the tribal king of Buganda. He was fed up with President Milton Obote and declared independence for his tribal area (most of central Uganda). So

Colonel Idi Amin was sent to knock some sense into him. Hence the dawn gunfire round our school.

We were confined to the house. There was a curfew; some bodies in the streets; some stray bullets hit the roof of our house; our school became an army camp; my teaching days suddenly ended.

My parents in London heard about all this on the BBC News the day it happened. My cousin in Kenya sent a telegram: 'Are you still with us?'

My old Granny sent me a verse from the Bible – the first one I had ever been sent. It read: 'in returning and in rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength' (Isaiah).

I had not yet got around to finding faith in God, but I had a sense of being looked after – by the people I was with, and by the God who was quietly looking for me.

Geoff Maughan

Retired minister living in West Hanney

Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894 - vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk
Associate Vicar : vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk
Office : (10 – 12 Mon – Fri) 01235 771479 office@valebenefice.org.uk
Church Wardens: Stuart Cakebread: tel - 868590 stuartcakebread@mac.com
Chris Reason: tel - 868375 Chris_Reason_Hanney@hotmail.com

**The Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday
at 9.30am in St James – all are warmly welcome.
Freshly brewed coffee or tea is served after the service**

Hanney Lottery - March Winners
1st - Eddie Wilkinson, 2nd - Elizabeth Zanker, 3rd - Sandra Whittingham
Not got a number yet or want additional numbers? Call Hilary on 868590.

Dear Editor

I have never written to you before. I do however object to the quote you have included by Christopher Hitchens, on page 22. As far as I am aware the Hanney News is a news magazine. I do not think it should be making political or religious comments, or endorsing those raised by others, by including them.

Peter Packham, West Hanney

Following the receipt of Peter's letter and in view of his comment that he wished me to no longer include political or religious material, I asked him if I should remove the regular St James Church piece that I include every month on page 12, and have done so since my first issue back in May 2015. You'll have noticed that it often includes more than a hint of 'religion'! Peter replied 'No', since he saw our Church as an integral part of the community. I'm sure many share that view, and just to be clear, I have no intention of removing it. Where I struggle with Peter's letter, is his objection to my inclusion of what I consider to be a mild, amusing and - somewhat bizarrely - very topical piece with its reference to the 'mullahs' of Iran. Given that the author Christopher Hitchens died some fourteen years ago, it's remarkably prescient I think.

The quote is certainly one of his most restrained. Does it insult or offend those of a religious persuasion? Maybe the Iranian mullahs, whom he describes as 'stone faced'.... hardly the most severe of criticisms is it?

I should advise that whoever the author is of pithy, clever and beautifully written

pieces such as the one Peter objected to, will continue to appear in the mag whilst I remain Editor, even if it could be seen as taking a mild dig at religion, individual politicians, political parties, institutions of government, figures of authority, corporate organisations etc. etc.

If you feel sufficiently angered by any of the above, feel free to demand my instant dismissal and possibly, my incarceration! (You will need to find a replacement Editor of course!)

And finally, to be serious again for a moment... if your interest in this Christopher Hitchens chappie has been piqued, check out Wikipedia. It's also worth visiting 'Reflectorium' a Facebook page which has video clips of him giving his views on a wide range of topics. Even if those views do not concur with your own, do admire his eloquence....he is surely one of the most articulate men or women who ever walked God's green earth, though he may not have particularly liked my reference there to God's green earth!

If you're up in heaven Christopher (unlikely) and Hanney News is available there (highly likely I hope) let me explain that it's just a colloquial expression we lesser mortals occasionally use!

The money raised at this year's Michaelmas Fayre went to the following good causes in our community.....

The Early Years Foundation Stage department at St James CE primary school, toward the purchase of a complete set of

waterproof clothing for use during their Forest School sessions.

Supporting an Event for Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers to celebrate World Thinking Day.

St James the Great Church for the current building programme.

Our fab Plough Aunt Sally team had a great season last year in the 'Abingdon and District Aunt Sally Association', which is divided into eight 'Sections'.....kinda like leagues.

As a result they have been promoted from the D section to the B section! And yes, there is a 'C section' (!) but due to their bewildering achievements last season, they get to skip that one...hence my rather shocking headline on the front cover.

Last month they played a friendly against the biggest of the big boys, the top team from the A section, 'The Abingdon Conservative Club'

It matters not in which political direction you lean in order to belong to this very friendly and jolly club.

T'was a fab tussle, with a surprise result.....

The Plough Won!!!

A very large feather in their cap. See snap below.



Flexicare Community Walk

Sunday 17th May 2026



Walk, run or cycle your choice of circular routes across the Ridgeway. A range of lengths to choose from. Wheelchair and buggy routes available. Dogs on a lead are welcome. Delicious refreshments provided!

**Starting at Snells Hall, East Hendred
OX12 8LA from 8.30am**

Raising funds to support Flexicare, an Oxfordshire based charity providing a free, specialised sitting service for families with a severely disabled child.



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www.flexicare.org | 01865 321881 | admin@flexicare.org

Meantime, the Black Horse at East Hanney run two Aunt Sally teams, and if you fancy having a go, here's an idea....get a bunch of mates and book a 'social night.' Grub, ale, and chuck a few sticks. You never know...you might find some undiscovered talent you never knew you had! Contact Ian at the BH for more details, Their ad on page 11.

Hannay History

Group presents a talk by Timothy Walker on 'THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN – 400 years of gardening and botany.'

"The Oxford Botanic Garden is the oldest in Britain. Since 1621 it has stood on the banks of the River Cherwell in the centre of Oxford. It has evolved from a collection of medicinal herbs for seventeenth century physicians into the most compact, diverse collection of plants in the world.

In 4½ acres 4,500 species can be seen. This talk details where the Garden came from and what it was up to for four centuries." Pic shows the Victoria Lily House in the 19th and 21st Century

Our thriving Hanney History Group hold regular talks that focus on the history of the Hanneys, the Vale of the White Horse and Oxfordshire. They meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 8pm, up to and including May 2026.

New members and visitors are always welcome. A £14 subscription covers eight evenings - £3.50 per talk for visitors

The group organise visits and walks in the Summer at venue / guide cost price.

Our Community Woodland - one of the jewels in the Hanney Crown - welcomes the Summer... and hopefully you!

Paul Sayers - the Woodland main man! - tells me that already visiting are the migrant birds, with both chiffchaffs - that's the pretty little birdie in the snap - and blackcaps to be heard.

I'm sure they are very grateful indeed for Paul and his team's efforts in the woodland who have been replacing nesting boxes damaged by grey squirrels, in order to provide a warm welcome to our visitors.

West Hanney Parish Council (WHPC) purchased some 'Woodstone' boxes made from a mixture of cement and wood fibre that are said to be squirrel resistant. David Corps (WHPC Chair) and Paul have in-



stalled eight of these in the Woodland.

As the birds have now started nesting, there will be no more routine Community Woodland working parties until September. This will allow Mr and Mrs Chiffchaff to do what they gotta do in the privacy of their new luxury nesting boxes.

Once again, the topic of the very stupid new rules

regarding our Waste Disposal sites has come up.

Oxfordshire County Council - in overall Lib Dem control - explain in their latest regular email that...

"We have introduced a new booking system at our household waste recycling centresto help Oxfordshire recycle even more..... we are also asking people to sort their recyclable items from their waste either before they arrive, which will speed up their visit or they can use the sorting area on site."

Note the quote.... **"...to help Oxfordshire recycle even more."** A noble and worthy ambition indeed!

So how's that going OCC? Read on....

I'll start with my non-scientific evidence. As I drive around our otherwise rather picturesque county, I have seen a few piles of what is obviously 'fly-tipped' rubbish on our highways and byways.....certainly more than I used to.

This can be dismissed as coincidence of course - I suspect that might be OCC's swift repost - but here are some facts backing up my rather blunt claim that these new rules are 'stupid'.

Of the 7 Waste Disposal Sites in Oxfordshire that are listed on the OCC website, the following percentage figures illustrate the drop in usage they have experienced since the new rules were introduced..

Now listen up Councillors, please pay attention... 'drop' means 'less', not 'more'

Drayton is our nearest, and it shows a 38% drop in usage, whilst Ardley's is 32%.

Oakley Wood's is 35%, with Redbridge's the smallest...a mere 28%!!

Alkerton's drop is a massive 48%!

Listen again Councillors....for those of you who struggle with maths as much as you



clearly do with common sense, 48% means that almost one half of the previous number of visits are now being made! If this is OCC's idea of 'more use', I beg to differ. Do people simply now have less rubbish

they need to dispose of? Mm...I'm struggling a bit with that!

I find it stunning that OCC can simply ignore the above figures. It makes me wonder what other aspects of local government that they undertake on our behalf, paid for by our not insignificant Council tax of course! - that are also so grossly and obviously counter-productive?

As if to illustrate the above, here's a pic and some text that was posted on the Church St GP Practice Facebook page...



"On 29/03/26 items were dumped in the skip we have hired here at the Church Street Practice. This is very frustrating as the skip is now over-full and the skip company will not take this, thereby adding more cost for the Practice to pay. We feel very disappointed that somebody would take advantage of this. We would of course be very grateful if the items (garden furniture and exercise bike) were removed, but feel doubtful of this, and we will be reporting this to the authorities in the correct way as well as reviewing the CCTV footage that covers this area for supporting evidence."

I rest my case.

Update on the St James Church refurb,

from Hilary Cakebread...

“Work continues apace - although some not always visibly as the joinery is being constructed in the joiners workshop and the new bell rope guide at specialist contractors, Whites of Appleton.

During the works, it was discovered that the ‘clerestory’ window in the west wall was in poor

condition and it has now been removed for specialist repairs by a stained glass expert - you can just see the scaffolding to the left of the organ and also outside by the Ashes Garden.”



Many thanks Hilary, and if like me, you don't know what a 'clerestory' window is, a quick investigation online reveals that it is a 'high, vertical section of a wall containing windows positioned above eye level to admit natural light, fresh air, and maintain privacy. Originating in ancient Egyptian temples, these windows are common in Gothic cathedrals and mid-century modern homes to brighten interiors without sacrificing privacy.'



Dickon Green is a well known and much loved member of the Hanney Community.

In his role as Parish Councillor he displays his vast knowledge of everythingyes, I mean literally everything! ... Hanney-related.

Dickon has just received an award from the High Sherriff of Oxfordshire which reads....*“The Award recognises Dickon Green for his exceptional commitment to vulnerable young people.*

Through his work with ‘Sweatbox’ he has built trust with those often written off or overlooked.

His patience, consistency and respect are guiding young people towards safer, more hopeful futures.’

Sweatbox added “Congratulations to Dickon, our Senior Youth Worker at Sweatbox, who has won an award from the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire for his amazing youth work. We are so proud of him and the work he does for us and for our community.”

Amazing stuff, and from us here at Global HQ we add our congrats. In the snap, Dickon is the smart one..... sensible shirt with no frilly bits or medals, though he deserves several!!

Keeping phones out of the classroom

Mobile phones are ubiquitous, and bring many benefits in life, but they also create real problems, particularly within schools. Most schools will have some kind of “phone free” policy; but how effectively these are enforced varies hugely.

Last month I met with teachers and governors from several schools at Aureus Secondary School to talk about their approach to banning phones in school.

They have adopted a particular system, using lockable pouches, but there are lots of those things used by schools, such as lock boxes. For most of us a mobile phone is a useful - sometimes indispensable - addition to our lives, but during the school day they distract pupils, disrupt classes, can lead to poor discipline and lower attainment.

There are a number of perceived barriers to implementing a proper phone free policy in school - phones connected to medical devices, and young carers for example - but the experience of schools that have embraced a proper ban shows that these problems can be overcome.



The benefits of removing the distraction can hugely outweigh the costs, reducing disruption, truancy and bullying.

I've already been in touch with other schools and discussing how we can spread best practice to all schools in Thames Valley and will hopefully be launching a new project later this year.

As well as increasing the number of neighbourhood police officers locally, as part of my Education Strategy, every secondary school in Thames Valley now has a named schools police officer - and primary school also have access to local support.

The important role these officers play can be both dealing with incidents involving children - as either victims or perpetrators; but also working with teachers to educate children - and parents - about some of the risks facing them.

Our MP is Olly Glover. olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk www.facebook.com/

Ron Batstone is our County Councillor: Phone: 01235 763564, Mobile: 07941 801479, Email: Ron.Batstone@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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

Warning.....bad joke! I lost money today on three horses called Sunshine, Moonlight and Good Times. I blame it on the bookie !

Anyone For Tennis?

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Our new membership season has just opened with options for adults, children and families. Adult membership costs just £1.55 per week! Scan the QR code or email membership.htc@gmail.com for details

Saturday 30th May 2026 at The Beacon, Wantage. Welcome to the very first Wantage Children's Books Festival, a joyful celebration of

stories, imagination and community. With a busy programme of exciting events from some of the UK's best loved authors and illustrators, there's something on offer for families with children of all ages, from babies up to teens. And the good news is that it's all completely FREE!

We hope the festival will entertain, engage

Wantage
Childrens Books Festival

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and inspire you and your family to get reading - and to keep reading!

We owe a huge debt of thanks to the Wantage Literary Festival and to

our many sponsors and volunteers for supporting this exciting initiative. This is our first year so we're starting small - but our hope is that the festival will grow to become a permanent fixture in Wantage's annual calendar and that all our children feel the benefits that enjoying reading brings. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 30 May!



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Mrs Editor and I, along with our chums from the East, Liz and Dave, rounded off a delicious meal we had recently enjoyed at **'Hanney Spice'** with these delightful cocktails.

I can't tell you what they're called, since this is a family mag and the name was rather rude! Nor can I advise on exactly what was in them.

No matter.... as I supped, the truly delightful and mysterious mixture performed a delicate dance on my tongue before slowly sliding down my throat to join the two papadums, garlic mushrooms, pilau rice and chicken Korma - mild, creamy and delightful - that had taken up temporary residence in my ever expanding belly.

Thanks indeed to Paul, Gaffi and the team at the finest Indian restaurant in Oxfordshire.



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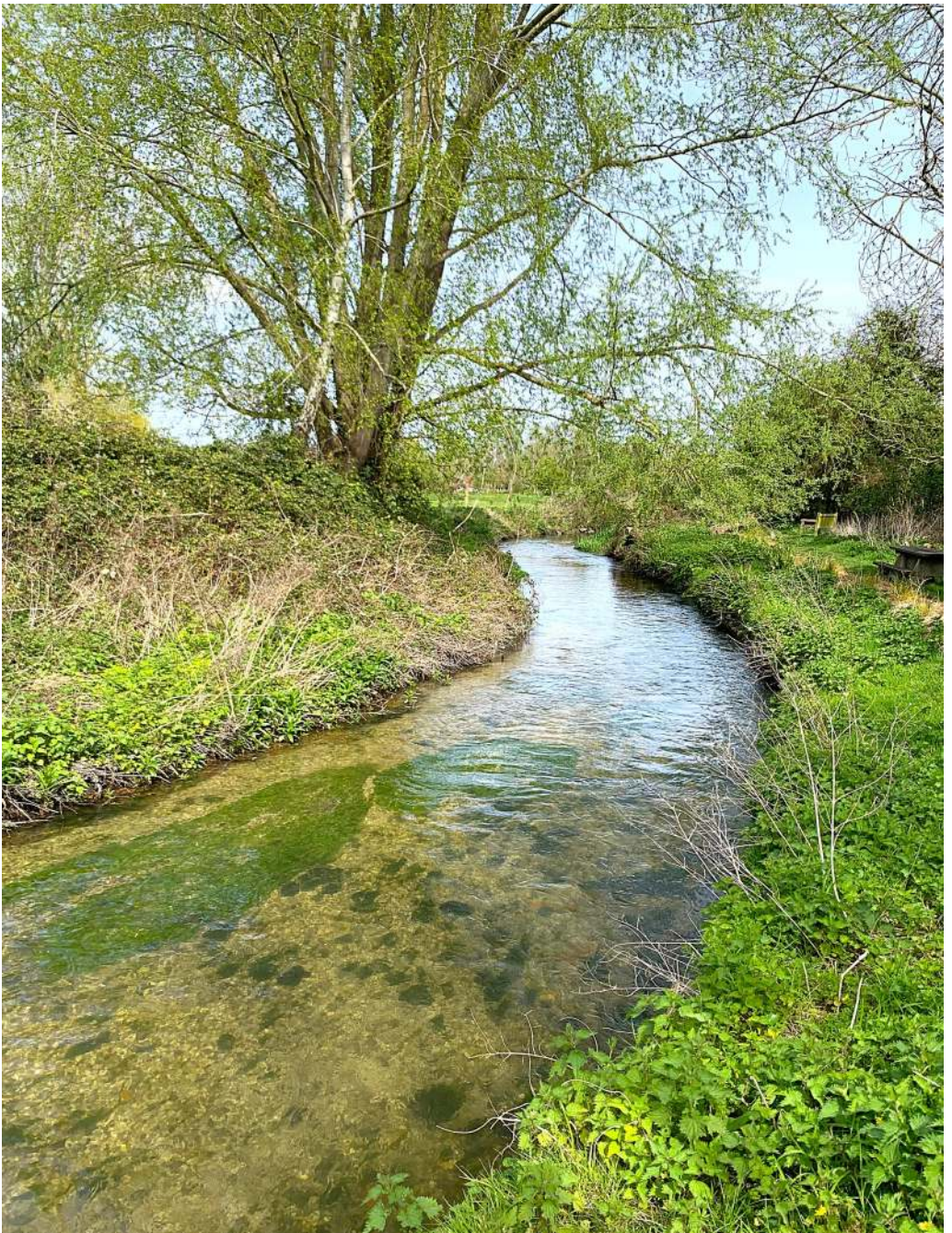
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This is a snap of our beautiful Letcombe Brook, and not a turd in sight!
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(Excuse the language!)

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 ill Hospital Oxford, her first wartime
 assignment for *Vogue*.
 Alongside many iconic photographs taken
 in wartime Britain. Miller accompanied US
 troops into Europe, a correspondent on
 battles and the liberation of concentration
 camps

If you went to this year's Panto, you'll know that our very own luvvies the 'Hanney Drama Group' excelled themselves, putting on a great show, enjoyed by all who got to see it.

Their efforts have been recognised by the Oxford Drama Network, and in their Winter Festival Awards, our 'Group' did very well indeed, being nominated in the following categories:

Best Comedy Duo – Grabbit & Run (Sarah Strange and Emily Browne)

Best Baddie – Squire Squeezum (Andy Bell)

Best Chorus / Ensemble – Hanney Drama Group

Best Rising Star – Purminator (Zak Strange)

Best Actress – Queen (Maggie Weston-Hearne)

Massive big ups to all involved and especially to Maggie. Her certificate below.



More great news from the Panto!...

Sarah McGowan has been in touch...*"Thank you Hanney - A huge thank you to all the lovely Hanney folk who donated so generously to Marie Curie, at the recent Hanney Drama Group performances of "Puss in Boots".*

The amount collected was way beyond what I hoped we would raise, and my special thanks go to the lovely "Grabbit" and "Runn", two of the stars of the Panto, who managed to be charming and persuasive in equal measure, and encouraged the audience to open their wallets!

If you wish to support this wonderful, vital charity further, you can pop into the Community Shop or The Plough and purchase one of the daffodils, or log on to mariecurie.org.uk and click on the blue "Donate" button, and either donate the sum of your choice, or commit to a regular sum - every penny counts. Thank you all."

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Hanney Drama Group

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The Church runs **School Term-time Children's Clubs**:- Toddlers, Discoverers, Adventurers, and Friday Clubs which are for infants through to Year 13s.

For adults, Coffee Mornings and Men's Breakfasts occur monthly, Ladies' Breakfasts and other events as announced.

**Contact Mark, or, see the website for more
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Please check out my testimonials on Google and my website for more information.

Mobile: 07747 630 202 (texts preferred)
Email: davemsearle@aol.com
Google Search: Searle School of Motoring
Website: www.davidsearledrivingschool.co.uk

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Clubs and Societies

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

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 Nicky Kauert 07795 571558.

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 Alan Savage on 07757 394776

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 pkayers@btinternet.com or 01235 868146

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 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 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. £2.50p a session. Also every Thurs eve, 6.30pm -7.30pm. Just turn up to either, or both!

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

HANNEY WALKIE TALKIES...organised by Cheryl and Sue, we meet at the junction of Meadow Way with School Road at 12:30 lunchtime every Thursday (weather permitting) for a walk in Hanney of approx. 50 minutes and chatting along the way. New faces are always welcome to our friendly group.

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING Meets on 2nd and 4th Sats of each month, 10.00, at 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 and enjoy wine tasting evenings from a variety of presenters. We maintain a waiting list for potential new members. hanneywinecircle@gmail.com
Facebook: Search "Hanney Wine Circle"

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 - all ages from 5 to seniors. For more details visit www.hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - All welcome to come and join us. Become a member. Pool Table & Darts. Bingo and Music quiz once a month. Please check out our Facebook Page for details. (Hanney RBL Sports & Social Club)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCH meets monthly, NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

SJS - HARMONY SINGING on Thursdays with SJS, one of Oxon's oldest male-voice a cappella groups.(6 of us) Rich treasury of 4-part songs; learn from the inside and make a difference. East Hanney, 8-10pm; pint at the Black Horse later. David Gahan 868933

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

ST JAMES SCHOOL HELPING HANDS:
helpinghandshanne@gmail.com

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 on 01235 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



Hanney



A Guide for Newcomers

Revised and updated January 2024

Hanney Community Shop

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Post Office hours:
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Tues 9am to 12 noon

Tel: Shop - 867408
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Our Defibrillators?

In East Hanney, on the left wall of the porch in the Village Hall and on the fence between the Sovereign building and Motovation entrance on the A338. In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. All are accessible 24/7

New to Hanney? Get your free 32 page Guide from the Community Shop. It's also on the Hanneys website - see below - as a PDF.

Hanney War Memorial Hall - To book the Hall, visit our website hwmh.thehanneys.uk and click on the 'Book Now!' link.

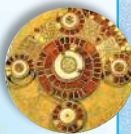
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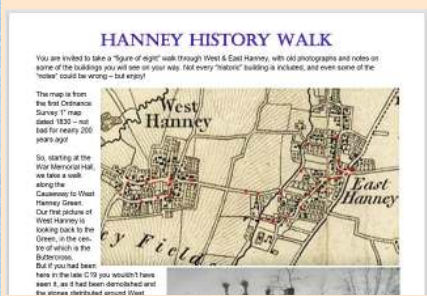


If you are thinking about advertising in these hallowed pages, contact Jim the Editor by phone - 01235 867500 or email: hanneynews@gmail.com to discuss your requirements.

Hanney News...be sure to read it cover to cover, without fail, every month. It contains so much useful stuff it's quite scary. Feedback always welcome...to me Jim Stagg, Editor, 01235 867500



Join the 'West Hanney and East Hanney Community', 'The Hanneys Buy and Sell', and the 'East Hanney Parish Council' Facebook groups...good fun, most of the time!



This 8 page A4 brochure...clue's in the title....is available free from the Community Shop, the Hall foyer, the Plough and me!

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