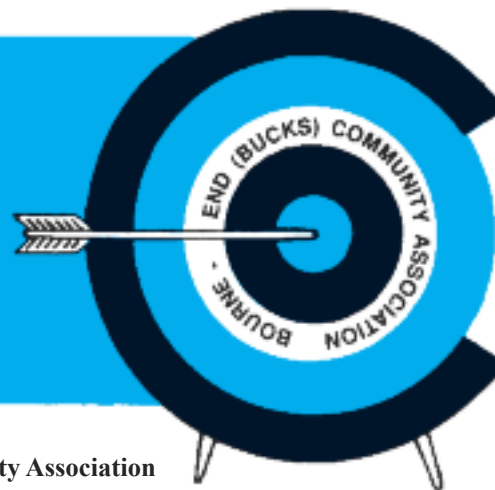


target



VOL.48 No1

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The Journal of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

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D-day for library

The future of the Bourne End Library is likely to be decided in March. As part of funding cuts it has been threatened that the library service will be transformed into a community model, dispensing with full-time staff and run by volunteers. No specific date has been set for the decision by Buckinghamshire County Council but it is expected to come in March – more coverage in the next edition of *Target*. See page 32 for the latest news and activities at the library.

Golden celebrations in 2012

A series of events is planned throughout 2012 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Bourne End Community Association, which was founded in October 1962.

The activities will kick off with a 1940s-style Blitz Ball on Sunday 11th March, quickly followed by an afternoon tea dance on Easter Monday 9th April. There will also be a royal picnic on Bank Holiday Tuesday 5th June in the Recreation Ground off Furlong Road, with a history walk, treasure hunt and a black tie dinner all scheduled for later in the year.

Barrie Penfold, a member of the anniversary's organising committee, explained that the rapid post-war growth of Bourne End ultimately led to the formation of the community association and the building of the community centre – as well as the launch of *Target* magazine. "There was a period of austerity immediately after the Second World War but this was soon followed by a longer spell of growth and development," said Barrie.

"As a result, Bourne End grew from small clusters of cottages into a vibrant village community. During the 1950s the council housing estate was finally completed, development on the Chalklands Estate was resumed, and a number of orchards and allotments were dug up to make way for new housing."

Recognising that the expansion of the village had generated a need for improved leisure facilities and activities, a dynamic local lady named May Woollerton was the key figure behind the foundation of the community association.

Barrie continues, "Mrs Woollerton had already pioneered the provision of housing and a meals-on-wheels service for the local elderly, and when she heard that a library was planned on the far side of the new car park, she started a campaign to build a

community hall alongside the library and provide local people with a place to meet, form activity groups and stage shows or concerts.

"The first meeting was held in 1962 and after a lot of hard work to raise funds, five years later the new community centre opened its doors. Another part of that process was the launch of *Target* in 1964, with the name of the magazine referring to the money that was required to build the centre."

The activities planned for this year are intended as a celebration of the last fifty years, but also with an eye to the future and the ongoing success of the community centre. Barrie concluded, "We want to pay tribute to those who are already part of the community centre's life, but at the same time anyone who hasn't previously pushed their way through the doors will be welcomed with delight. We can be proud of what was achieved fifty years ago but now we have to continue the good work, so please join us!"

Anybody interested in taking part in the celebrations or with ideas for events is welcome to email 50years@bebca.org.uk or pop into the community centre office.



Planned events (all dates provisional)

- Saturday 11th March: Blitz Ball
- Monday 9th April: Afternoon Tea Dance
- Tuesday 5th June: Royal picnic
- Early September: History walk, treasure hunt and barbecue
- Sunday 7th October: Annual concert
- Monday 8th October: Short mat bowls open evening

- Wednesday 10th October: Forum
- Players special performance
- Thursday 11th October: Historical photographs display
- Friday 12th October: Afternoon tea and On Target Quiz
- Saturday 13th October: Black tie dinner with a band



The community centre shortly after construction in the late sixties, and as it is today





Target magazine is published by Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association and distributed free to over 4,800 homes in the local area. The distribution network includes Bourne End and Wooburn Green as well as the outlying hamlets of Hedsor, Well End, Little Marlow, Cores End, Upper Bourne End, Wooburn Common and Wooburn Moor.

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BULL'S EYE

According to the Oxford Dictionary, 'community spirit' can be defined as 'a feeling of involvement in and concern for one's local community'.

To flesh that out a little, I suppose you could add that it's about people showing an active interest in the lives of people around them, and being prepared to make an effort, which may well be unsolicited and unrewarded, to help their near neighbours.

These days, considering the increased pace of our lives, the tendency for the majority of people to live a car journey away from their place of work and the recent proliferation of digital communication (emails, social media, mobile phones etc) – not to mention the 'me-first' mentality encouraged by our capitalist, consumer-driven society – it's more difficult to maintain the same kind of community spirit that sustained towns and villages in days gone by. And that shouldn't necessarily be lamented; it's just how we live.

But even in our busy modern lives we cannot escape the fact that people need people. We are social beings; our ability to work together in large numbers is one of the most important things to set us apart from other animals. And however you choose to define it, I think everybody would agree it's nicer to live somewhere that has a healthy community spirit.

So we are fortunate that, fifty years ago, a group of local people led by the energetic May Woollerton decided to combine forces and form a new community association for Bourne End.

Ever since their successful efforts to build new facilities for community use – which became known as the community centre – local people have been able to come together and take part in an impressive range of activities and events, all encouraging people to care a little bit more about each other and thus contributing to the growth of community spirit.

In the pages of this issue, you'll read about some of the people who have followed in Mrs Woollerton's footsteps by maintaining our community spirit. The people who organised the pre-Christmas fun night; the people who run the community association; the people who are campaigning to save Cherwell Green; the people who serve on local residents' associations; the people who get involved in the community market; the people who give their time, money and expertise to raise funds for charities...

Most of them wouldn't ever consider that they're doing anything special, but they actively embody 'community spirit' and bring it to life by, as the Oxford Dictionary puts it, showing concern for the people around them. They don't have to do it and they're not getting paid to do it; they just want to contribute to their local community and make it a better place to live. And, surely, the world would be a better place if we all followed their example, even if just a little.

Finally, as we approach the end of this first month of the new calendar year, it's a good opportunity for me to express a sincere thanks to two groups of people, without whom *Target* could not survive.

Firstly: the local shops and businesses who advertise within our pages. Their support just about covers our production costs and means that we can continue to distribute a free copy of the magazine to nearly every household in Wooburn, Bourne End and Little Marlow. Please repay the favour by supporting our advertisers in return – and don't forget to mention that you saw their ad in *Target*!

And secondly, a huge thanks to the small army of volunteers who distribute copies of the magazine once every two months. Come rain or shine, these invaluable people can be relied upon to faithfully collect their bundles from the community centre and deliver them to those who, just as faithfully, pop them through your letterbox. And they haven't even complained (well, not much) when we've piled an additional weight onto their burden by adding another four pages. Thanks to you all and I promise: no more extra pages in 2012.

Andy West, editor

ABOUT TARGET

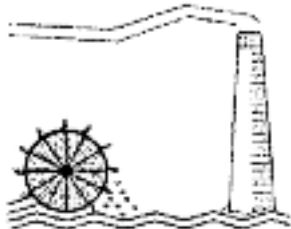
Target magazine was launched in 1964 to provide information about the new Bourne End Community Association, with the name referring to the money required to build a new community centre. Over the years the magazine has grown, and its distribution area has been extended as the population has expanded through Bourne End, Wooburn Green and the surrounding villages.

Bourne End Community Association was formed in 1962 by local people who wanted a social centre to meet the needs of a growing community. Fund raising and determination saw the Community Centre open in Wakeman Road on 28th October 1967. Another hall was added a few years later and constant improvements have been made over the years.

See pages 36-39 for more information on the facilities and activities available at the Community Centre.

WOOBURN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By John Kegg



Planning for another successful year

Last year was a lively and progressive one for the Wooburn Residents' Association, with successful involvement in a number of local issues.

Firstly, the environment of the Green has been improved with protective fencing, and heavy waste lorries no longer make routine trips through our conservation areas.

The Christmas lights installed in 2010 were enhanced towards the end of last year by the illumination of the ash tree outside the dental surgery, which eliminated a 'dark zone' in that particular corner of the Green.

In conjunction with the splendid Christmas tree outside the working men's club, this seemed to complete the overall design, making an attractive approach from the Holtspur Hill direction. We shall continue to encourage residents and businesses to participate in tastefully decorating the Green at this darkest time of the year!

On Saturday 26th November the lights were switched-on following a ceremony at the club attended by over 200 local people, with mince pies and mulled wine, fireworks, children's films, and an appearance by Father Christmas.

The association had produced its own Christmas card with the generous support of a local company, and these cards sold well to provide funds for various projects such as the routine maintenance of the lights.

The working men's club has now completed its first year of operation since re-opening, during which time it has appointed a full time steward and is dealing with its accumulated debts from the past. Some refurbishment of this fine old building has taken place, and the residents' association fully supports the club's efforts to introduce regular community events such as dances and film shows for members.

Away from the Green, almost a decade has passed since the parish council first made a public proposal to build a new two-storey sports pavilion on Wooburn Park; and it is a relief to many of us that, following several variations to that initial concept, they have returned to the simple solution of refurbishing the existing building where it stands. A pitched roof will be added, and internal facilities greatly improved.

Work is now well underway with a target date for completion of early April 2012, and there has also been an assurance that the damage done to the turf by building vehicles will be made good. Maintaining the pavilion in its present location retains the integrity of the park for all users, and minimises disturbance to wildlife.

The residents' association looks forward to continuing development in the year ahead, and is planning 'A Big Lunch' to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This is scheduled to take place from midday on Sunday 3rd June in Wooburn Park, and it will be a quintessentially English event of fun and activities. Offers of help will be gratefully received by Jane Anderson, who can be contacted on janetandbert@hotmail.com

Residents of Wooburn are welcome to attend our meetings, and the next will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 12th March in the working men's club.



Crowds gather as The Green's Christmas lights are switched on

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Little Marlow Parish Council

By Gloria Barclay, parish clerk

Finance

We have now finalised our budget for 2012/13 and we are pleased to keep our precept at £39,500 for a second year.

We have budgeted for improvements to the driveway at Fern Lane cemetery and for new fencing around our ashes extension area. At the pavilion the floor needs to be sanded and treated, and further work to the boundary trees is required along with treatment for the grass.

We have reviewed our donations policy and have also earmarked funds with a view to taking on the Coldmoorholm Lane car park from Buckinghamshire County Council. If you would like to see our full budget, it can be viewed on our website.

Town Bus

The parish council continues to help finance the Marlow Town Bus with Marlow Town Council and Marlow Bottom Parish Council. This bus is now operated by Red Eagle and its route is between Little Marlow, Marlow Bottom and Marlow. We urge you to use this bus.

We have some timetables in the office, or you can look online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport or ring 0871 200 2233. The bus number is 160 and there is also a weekly service to Maidenhead on Wednesdays, route number 155.

Fern Lane cemetery

We are planning to hold a working party at the cemetery on Saturday 11th February. Volunteers are most welcome to come along. Starting time will be 10am and you can stay for as long or as short a period as suits you. Contact the clerk for further details.

Advertising boards

Please be aware that if you wish to erect advertising boards for your event, you must request permission from us. This is for all sites within Little Marlow parish boundaries, including the popular advertising area at the bottom of Sheepridge Lane at its junction with Marlow Road.

The parish also covers the east side of the C100 Wycombe Road. Please be aware that the area of the A4155 east of the junction with the A404 (by Westhorpe) is a no-advertising area. Permission to erect your signage can be sought from the office. There is no charge, but if your signs are not authorised, they will be removed and may be destroyed.

Parish council meetings

Meetings are held at The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Little Marlow. You are very welcome to attend and will have an opportunity to speak should you so wish. Our next meeting is at 8pm on Tuesday 28th February.

Contact us

Little Marlow Parish Council, Community Office, The Pavilion, Church Road, Little Marlow, Bucks, SL7 3RS

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Email: clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

Website: www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

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Marina Life with Peter Osborne



So far in January there have been no floods and the weather has been mostly mild – boats have even been navigating on the river. Maybe this is an omen, although I've no idea for what. Time will tell!

I mentioned in my last missive that we had started recycling. Well, after bins were not being emptied we have reverted to not recycling. I made a phone call but was told that the recycling bin was contaminated and therefore was not being emptied. This confused me because it was not glowing at night and I had not witnessed an army decontamination unit on site...but I was informed that it was contaminated with glass. Glass? Wow! Glass cannot be put in a commercial recycling bin.

Why, oh why, can this country not have a common policy on something as basic as refuse? Bring back common sense please! So we are now piling everything into landfill sites again as I cannot guarantee a bottle-less bin unless I sit guard 24 hours a day, and our refuse company said many other companies have experienced the same thing.

We have renewed all the light bollards on the pontoons which is a great improvement for our boat owners, especially in some areas of the marina where demand for power sockets was greater than the number we had, because the new bollards have also increased the number of sockets. It has saved us a lot of hassle as we now don't have to run power cables all over the place.

Contracts

Currently we are organising all our mooring contracts. As usual demand is excessive, and

this is a great testimony to Matty, Chaos, Jack and the Rottweiler for their dedication and enthusiasm. We are grateful that we are busy, and in the current climate it is important to take all the work you can – however, I am very aware that this should not be to the detriment of our current customers.

In order to expand our mooring capacity we are considering dredging the river below the moorings and constructing submarine pens – due to the clean quality of the water we are anticipating a future market in small submarines. Think I'm joking? I have already ordered the boys some shovels with longer-than-usual handles.

Chaos and I entered the beard growing competition at The Bounty and won nothing! I went for the whitest beard and I think my downfall was spraying it white – well, very light grey. Still, a good time was had by all. I then went straight home and shaved it off, and I guess those who saw it agree I look better without it. I certainly feel younger!

Filming

We have been asked to assist in some filming. I will be skippering the tug to be used by the camera crew and the rowing boat will be used by a TV personality to row. It's only for a few hours but this it will be the first time since I arrived at the marina that we have been involved in any filming. I hope I will be 'spotted' and have a new career in Hollywood – I'm not too old you know, so watch out Clooney!

As is usual at this time of year we have organised a large crane to lift out some boats that are too big for our crane. It will have to

be done in separate sittings because we have a

shortage of space, and I totally blame OTT for this due to their popularity and need for parking. Mind you, as a regular there myself I shouldn't complain.

The boys have checked the nuts and bolts that hold the pontoons together and tightened up those that needed it. Without such checks the marina might possibly relocate to the railway bridge, which would probably be inconvenient for the boat owners. It is surprising how much movement the pontoons are subjected to, with the wake from passing boats and the boat owners constantly walking along them with trolleys stacked with wine and beer. And I'm sure another reason is a few boat owners who have not quite mastered the art of stopping!

So it's upwards and onwards. The winter maintenance is being sped though, the new mooring agreements for April are well underway and provisions needed for the new season are being built up. At this time of year I look forward to the boating season and the river awakening for another year; as for the boys, I'm not sure whether they've worked out that the last season has ended. But they'll realise the new season is on its way when the cost of a pint goes up in the March budget – it's the only way they know what time of year it is!

Until the next time.

Peter Osborne, Marina Manager

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Pavilion work underway

Work is well underway on the long-planned refurbishment of the Wooburn Park sports pavilion. As reported in the last edition of *Target*, the project is being led by the parish council with the particular support of the Wooburn Narkovians Cricket Club and the Bourne End Junior Sports Club – the two main users of the pavilion – that have provided financial contributions to the £143,000 project. Work is scheduled to be completed in the spring.

Best Shopfront award

This competition was judged early in December with a new format after the parish council decided there should be two awards – one for Bourne End and the other for Wooburn Green.

All shops in the parish are entered and they were advised by letter that, on this occasion, the judges would be looking for a festive display. In the future the criteria could change and the judging could take place at other times.

Councillors Michael Garrido and Mike Balbini were the Bourne End judges and were joined by Barrie Penfold from Bourne End Residents' Association. In Wooburn the judges were councillors Herman Bleekendall and Sue Jeffreys, who were helped by John and Candy Kegg from Wooburn Residents' Association.

Before setting out to look at the shops, all the judges spent time discussing what they would be considering and decided they would be awarding points for presentation, festive significance and overall appearance. Then they added up all the scores to reach their final decision.

"In Bourne End just a few points made the difference," councillor Mike Balbini said. "And we were very impressed by many of the fabulous displays which added to the overall festive appearance of the village."

The winning shops will receive certificates and the results will appear in the next issue of *Target*.

Councillor Vacancies

There are presently six vacancies for new councillors on the parish council.

If you are interested in local issues then becoming a parish councillor could be for you. It is a very interesting role and can take as much time as you wish to give – the minimum requirement is attendance at the full council meeting one evening a month.

Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council is non-political, which means that councillors are able to consider all the facts and vote accordingly.

This means that you can make a difference. If you are aged 18 or above, on the electoral role, and living in or within three miles of the parish boundary, you are eligible to put yourself forward as a councillor.

If you would like more information or would like to discuss the possibilities in person, please contact either the clerk Lisa Witney on 01628 522827, or the chairman Janet Gould on 01628 524122.

Parish council website

If you have access to the Internet please take a look around our website to keep abreast of the latest parish council business.

You will find lots of useful information such as meeting dates, open spaces bookings, agendas and minutes, links to other authorities and organisations, and advice on common problems with street lights, potholes etc.

The website address is
www.wooburnparish.gov.uk

Meeting Dates

Full Council: 28th February & 27th March

Finance & General Purposes: 14th February

Open Spaces, Allotments & Burials: 7th

February & 6th March

Planning, Highways & Lighting: 15th

February, 7th & 28th March

All meetings start at 7.30pm.

Parish council office opening hours are from 9am-1pm each day. Please email clerk@wooburnparish.gov.uk or ring 01628 522827 if you have any queries.

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Hawthornden Surgery

New consultation group for surgery

By Alison Peach, PPG member

Hawthornden Surgery in Bourne End has set up a new Patient Participation Group (PPG). So is this just another set of initials as part of the NHS? Or will it be a group that serves a useful purpose? Who is it for? What does it do?

A number of local surgeries have set up (or are in the process of setting up) forums for the benefit of the patients, the practice staff and the wider community.

The PPG gives the staff and patients the opportunity to discuss topics of mutual interest, and provides a means for patients to make constructive suggestions. Patients will be able to benefit from improved communications with staff, and have a means for suggesting positive ideas and voicing concerns.

So what have we done so far at Hawthornden? The honest answer is probably not a lot, but we have only had a couple of meetings. And we can be much more effective if you – patients of the surgery – get in touch with ideas that could be discussed. Hawthornden's suggestion box has been moved to the foyer (one of our first actions – start small!) with pen and paper to hand, ready for suggestions or questions.

As a group, we have representatives from Bourne End and Flackwell Heath, and can be contacted through the surgery. We do need your help so that we can represent views from the wide cross-section of practice patients, whether you use the surgery regularly or rarely.

To capture your views we plan to hold a series of informal meetings where we can discuss what the surgery does well and where it might do better. All comments will form feedback from the PPG as a whole, or specific patient groups (such as diabetics) and no comments will be attributed to individual patients.

If you are interested in taking part, please let Christine Pow or Tina Bradley at the surgery know. We will soon be collecting names of those interested with a view to holding the first meeting sometime in March.



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Charity at Magnolia House

Alan Ford and Elaine Baudouin are organising another series of charity events at their Magnolia House home in Grange Drive, Wooburn Green, throughout 2012.

Up first are two garden openings from 11am to 2pm on Sunday 26th February and Sunday 4th March – the first event is part of the National Gardens Scheme programme, while proceeds from the second day will be given to Wycombe Scannappeal.

Elaine told Target: "Tea, coffee and soup will be available and, depending on the vagaries of the weather, you will see snowdrops, hellebores and perhaps even daffodils. At its peak, the garden contains more than 12,000 flowering snowdrops as well as two aviaries and two fish ponds for children to enjoy.

"The Scannappeal day is the first of 25 garden

openings in this area to celebrate 25 years of Scannappeal, which has raised more than £8 million for equipment at our local hospitals. Lots of Bourne End and Wooburn residents have already benefited from the equipment supplied, so it's a very worthwhile charity to continue to support."

Look out for other Scannappeal garden openings, including three gardens in Grange Drive on 1st July, and the welcome return of the Orpheus Choir and celebrity singer Julie A Scott on 14th July.

For more details on any of these events, email alan@lanford.co.uk or call Alan on 01628 525818 or 07836 236584.

Yuletide festivities at bowls club

By John Palfreyman

Members of Glory Mills Bowls Club ended 2011 with a wonderful Christmas party. Top of the entertainments was a violin and flute recital by a member of the Bucks and High Wycombe youth orchestra, Chihi Zamorano Osorio. In a memorable half-hour performance, she played pieces by Mozart, Fauré, Masséna and Abreu, to great applause

The concert was followed by a quiz devised by the club president Sid Rose, followed by a round of pass the parcel organised by Joyce Berry with Len Rogers on the stop-start music.

As always, the club is happy to welcome new members – particularly ladies. At £45, our 2011 membership fee was one of the lowest in Buckinghamshire. Roll ups and club nights are on a Tuesday and coaching and woods are supplied free of charge for two sessions, upon the completion of which you would be expected to join the club.

In the coming season we have entered two teams

in the Bucks League and one team in the Chiltern and Thames League, as well as having more than 30 friendly matches mainly at weekends and Thursday afternoons. For further information please contact john.palfreyman@talktalk.net or 01628 810023.

Bourne End and Cookham Rotary club

Local Member of Parliament and Attorney-General Dominic Grieve was the guest speaker when the Bourne End and Cookham Rotary club held its annual Christmas dinner at the Winter Hill Golf Club in December.

Dominic gave a very entertaining discourse of his role and duties of office. In addition to advising the government on legal matters, he can also be asked to advise the Queen – to whom he has to apply if he wishes to go on holiday!

The Attorney-General and his wife Caroline were greeted by the president of the club, Richard Monger and his wife Catherine. The host for the evening was past president Stuart Hyde, who was accompanied by his wife Diana, president of the Inner Wheel club. The master of ceremonies was past president Bill Cleere and the vote of thanks was given by Rotarian Harry Midgley.



Dominic Grieve (left) and Richard Monger with their respective wives Caroline and Catherine

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Ethan Cole is congratulated by parish council chairman Janet Gould



Ethan Cole's entry won the 2011 children's competition to design a light



Young businessmen from John Hampden School - Ben Kocic and Gavin Seegoolan - printed t-shirts on the spot



Karen and Izzy Case from Flackwell Heath tuck into a famous hot dog



Getting personal with a real life reindeer



Nicola Kelly from Wooburn Green was a winner on the tombola



Phoebe, Fin and Ben had their faces painted in the library

Record-breaking Fun Night

The annual Christmas Fun Night in Bourne End on Friday 9th December was a huge success, attracting record numbers into the village centre.

A total of 1,012 people passed through the doors of the Bourne End Library over the course of the event – the highest total since the library's electronic sensor doors were installed. In addition to getting everyone into the festive spirit, this allowed the evening to raise £1,480 for local charities, including the Air Ambulance, St John's Ambulance, local schools, the Rotary club and the Community Association.

Organiser Nick Pink told Target: "We would like to thank everyone for coming along, as well as the business community, the Rotary club of Cookham Bridge, the Community Association, and everyone else who helped to make this year's event such a success.

"This includes several donations to ensure all the money from the 'Famous Bourne End Hot Dogs' went into the charity fund: Colliass butcher's gave us the sausages, Lee's Bakery supplied the buns, the onions came from Kongs restaurant and LG Hardware provided the barbecue coals.

"As always, the evening got underway when the winner of the children's light design

competition, Ethan Cole of St Paul's school, switched on his light as the choirs of St Paul's and Claytons schools sang Christmas carols. Please let us know if you'd like to register an early interest in sponsoring this year's competition!

"We also had two new arrivals that – to our knowledge – have never been seen in Bourne End before. They were Holly and Ivy, two Scandinavian reindeer that greatly added to the seasonal atmosphere; it was clear that young children in particular were entranced by these gentle creatures. We very much hope that they will be returning for 2012."

Flooding – your views

Local resident Steve Payne's article in the last edition of *Target* (page 34 pictured right) has prompted quite a response.

Steve wrote about the difficulties he has encountered in updating insurance for his house on Cores End Road, which according to insurance companies is "at extremely high risk of flooding."

A selection of readers' responses is below, with the common conclusion being that any flood risk from the River Wye is a historical issue that no longer carries any threat, and that the flooding we regularly encounter is a result of inadequate drains rather than an overflowing river!

However, one anonymous reader did point out that a serious blockage in the River Wye – a large tree, for example, could present a genuine flood risk.

This issue probably won't go away, so please feel free to share your views by emailing editor@targetmagazine.org.uk

I moved to Cores End Road in 1984, and my garden backed onto the River Wye. At about that time Jackson's paper mill had closed down and the land cleared for redevelopment. But before any work began, a group of travellers moved onto the land and started throwing their rubbish into the river. The rubbish eventually became clogged up in the weed traps, so when it rained it overflowed and there was some flooding.

However when the travellers moved away and the building work began, they took the weed traps out and widened the bend in the river, which immediately lowered the water level by two or three feet. We've never had any more flooding, even in the worst of winters.

The surface water often seen on the corner of Cores End Road and Bridgestone Drive is more likely to be caused by the council's lack of cleaning and maintaining the drains than by the river.

TI Merritt

I experienced a similar problem when trying to find more competitive house insurance in 2005. The company in question refused to quote on the grounds that we were at risk of flooding. I live halfway down Claytons Meadow and the Wye is about 200m away. I've been here since 1973 and there has not been any flooding during that time.

I also contacted the Environment Agency who confirmed that my property was NOT at risk from flooding but that the insurance companies decide based on the postcode, which covers the length of the road. A couple of houses at the end of the road back onto the Wye and the EA said there was a slight risk that a small part of their gardens might flood. The risk was put at 0.1%.

The construction of the Thames Relief Scheme some years ago does not seem to be taken into consideration. Whatever risk there was previously is probably irrelevant now.

I think we are all fed up with insurance companies, who seem to be able to put prices up by enormous amounts willy-nilly. Considered risk seems to be a thing of the past, as does any valued client relationship.

John Marshall



My house is on Cores End Road and we experienced flooding at least four times last year. Heavy rainfall causes the water levels to rise above the pavement and flood the drive, and when this eventually drains away it leaves silt and floating rubbish which could become a health risk. Twice I have reported this to the highways department at Wycombe District Council, whose argument is that these are exceptional weather conditions and as long as the water drains away within 24 hours there is no emergency – the drains are very old so they cannot cope and probably need cleaning!

WDC have employed contractors to pump out the drains, but the workmen said this was a short term measure as the real problem lies with the drains at the junction of Furlong Road and Cores End Road – and until these are repaired flooding will continue.

Audrie Hook



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George Parker, originally from Scotland, has lived in Bourne End since 1964 and plays an active role in local community life. He was chairman of the community association for 18 years and now serves as chairman of the bar committee, as well as chairman of Bucks County Chess.

Appearances can be deceptive, but would it be correct to assume from your attire that you are a golfer?

Yes, indeed! I started playing when I was 14, growing up near Hamilton in Scotland, and then devoted more time to the game when I did my National Service with the RAF, representing the air force in a number of championships. It was a great time – for a while, my weekly routine was to spend the weekend at home in Scotland, return to base on Monday to pick up my expenses, catch the train to a golf course somewhere in the country on Tuesday, practise on Wednesday, play in a match on Thursday and go back to Scotland for the weekend on the Friday. Not a bad way to spend my National Service – it was all a bit of a jolly!

You must have been pretty good, then?

I became good, yes. I was a scratch golfer for many years and, after finishing National Service, I went to university in Glasgow and continued to play regularly in tournaments. I won the Scottish university championships twice, and won the international students trophy at St Andrews once, which was a proud achievement because it attracted entrants from all over the world. I played in a few British Open tournaments as well.

Did you ever consider turning professional?

Yes, I did consider it, but it was a very different game back in those days, the mid-fifties – not at all lucrative. There were very, very few professionals in the country, and before turning pro you had to serve a five year apprenticeship at a club shop – even then there were no guarantees that you'd end up playing professionally. So that would have meant at least five years without really earning, and a very haphazard wage after that. The prospect of doing that with a wife and young family wasn't practical for me.

The sport was totally transformed a few years later because of two main factors: firstly Arnold Palmer, who was a very charismatic figure and really captured the public's imagination, and secondly the advent of colour television which took golf to a much wider audience. But that all came too late for me.

So instead of playing golf professionally, how did you end up in this part of the world?

I worked for a heating and ventilation company called Robert McLaren & Co. I ended up working for them for 37 years but started in Glasgow, then three years in Manchester, and then I was moved to the London office. We decided to build our own house and spent a while looking around the perimeter of London for a suitable plot of land.

One day we were in Maidenhead and bought a copy of the Advertiser, which had an

advertisement for some land in Bourne End, up Kiln Lane. We'd never heard of Bourne End but it looked interesting, so we came along on a very snowy winter's day, saw the land covered in snow, went to Cookham for lunch in the King's Arms and decided to buy the plot straight away. That was 1963, and the house was built the following year.

What was Bourne End like in those days? Was it much different than it is today?

It had been going through a period of very rapid growth. For many years the area had been totally dominated by the mills along the banks of the River Wye, especially Jackson's, and although they were still active, a whole host of new people had moved into the area to commute into London. A lot of houses had been recently built, as had the shops on the northern side of The Parade, but you could still stand on The Parade and see nothing but fields beyond the shops.

A lot of people who live here now probably don't know much about the mills and how integral they were to the life of the village – before the post-war expansion, most people who lived here worked in the mills and didn't travel far afield. I'll always remember one of our elderly neighbours telling us how she had once been to London, for just one day – that was the only time in her life that she'd been to London! But that was normal in those days.

One little thing I remember was the strong accent that local people had. You don't often hear it these days beyond the occasional twang that has been passed down! It was quite rural, almost like a west country accent. Some people will remember the actor Sir Bernard Miles – he had the accent.

How did you first become involved with the community centre?

We'd been here for a few years. It was during the famous chess matches between Bobby Fischer and Boris Spassky, which got a lot of media coverage and reignited my boyhood interest in chess. Someone told my wife there was a new chess club at the community centre, so she suggested I should get involved.

One of my daughters was attending the Jeannine Greville dance classes at the centre – which amazingly enough are still going strong. One day, I arrived to pick her up a few minutes early so I thought I'd find out about this chess club. There was a chap in one of the rooms called Fred Day, who was a member of the club, so I had a chat with him and ended up joining.

Gradually I got more involved and became the chess representative on the main committee. That only involved attending four meetings a



year, but that's how it starts...they suck you in! A few years later there was a big argument about chairs in the main hall – it was all rather petty and I said a few things in the meetings, which seemed to end up with me being nominated as chairman! And then I was stuck in the job for 18 years. Actually I didn't mind it; there was a lot happening and it was interesting.

And this year the community association is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary; what are the main challenges to ensure it prospers for another fifty?

Well, simply finding people to get involved. When I started, the average age of the committee was at least ten years younger than it is now, and in recent years we've struggled to attract new volunteers. There's a tendency to think that the whole thing runs itself, but it doesn't – it needs volunteers. I know that people have busy lives these days and it's difficult to find spare time, but we need new, younger people with new ideas. I'm too old now – I know what I like and I can't think in the same way as a younger person!

But from the bar's point of view, hopefully we're in a stronger position than many pubs to withstand the current economic problems. Pub sales have been falling drastically and many of them are struggling to stay open, but we have much lower running costs and that should help protect us.

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Restaurant: OTT because of its lovely location by the river.

Thing to do: Walking along the river from the marina to Spade Oak – often ending up in the pub for a pint or two!

Place to go: The community centre, of course!

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Have you travelled on a train from Bourne End to Marlow or Maidenhead recently? Was your ticket checked? If not, the Maidenhead & Marlow Passengers' Association (MMPA) would like to know!

Rob Latham from the MMPA explained to *Target*: "Ticketless travel has been an issue for the Marlow-Maidenhead branch for a while, and continues to be so. Anyone using a branch train who is not invited to purchase a ticket or show their ticket is requested to inform the association of the details of the service so we can raise this with First Great Western (FGW)."

"This is important because, if the number of travellers is incorrectly counted, the FGW accountants may consider the branch is not paying its way and take action to reduce the service or worse, close the branch. So please tell us of any instances by emailing info@mmpa.org.uk."

The MMPA also reports that passengers in the Thames Valley are set to benefit from extra seats. There will be nearly 4,500 additional seats each day into and out of London Paddington, with the majority of these services also providing additional capacity into Reading.

The extra seats are being added due to government funding for an additional 48 carriages on First Great Western services which run through Reading and the Thames Valley and into London Paddington, as well as to Bristol and the far south west of England.

These extra carriages will see 15 buffet-car carriages (currently stored) converted to standard class to provide longer high speed trains on services into Bristol, Reading and London Paddington. The total cost of providing these services until the expected end of the First Great Western franchise in April 2013 is £28.9m.

The extra carriages will create a total of 2,266 additional seats in the morning three-hour peak, and 2,233 extra seats in the evening three-hour peak into and out of London Paddington. Reading will see 1,483 extra seats in the morning peak, and 1,731 new seats in the evening peak.

With regards to the Great Western refranchise process, the Marlow and Maidenhead Passengers' Association (MMPA) is compiling a 'wish list' of items and issues to be addressed during this process, which will take place this year. If you have any ideas for inclusion please submit them as soon as possible by emailing info@mmpa.org.uk or through the MMPA website at www.mmpa.org.uk

The recent competition to find a name for the Marlow-Maidenhead branch, suitable for promoting travel in the 21st century, has now closed. Some thirty entries were received and these have been reviewed by the working group without a satisfactory option being chosen. FGW has now engaged a marketing agency to consider further options. The final decision on a name has been postponed until early this year, at which time the result of the agency's work can be added to the mix already received.

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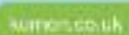


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All that jazz!

For the last eleven years, the monthly Tuesday jazz evenings in the community centre bar have been a labour of love for Mo Hazael.

She found the bands keen to play in Bourne End, she booked them, negotiated great deals and then, on the night, did all the interval snacks. "The bands were never a problem," she laughed. "But doing the catering and then sorting out the bar afterwards has just proved too much." There are always others willing to help but Mo eventually decided that she had to retire.

"I'll still be organising the bands," she's keen to explain. "I know so many musicians that it's no problem. But on the night I'll be able to sit down and enjoy the music instead of trying to hear it from the kitchen." Members of the Community Association's activities committee have sorted out the other jobs but the interval snacks, a Mo speciality, have ended.

At centreJAZZ in December, Mo received a cut glass vase and flowers in recognition of her hard work – and the great snacks – over the last decade and more. Into 2012 and it's jazz as usual on the first Tuesday in the month. On that evening it will be Pete Davies and the Jazz Quintet, who start playing at 8pm. Entry is £5 to include a free raffle.

If you enjoy jazz music and have never been to centreJAZZ in the bar, why not go along on Tuesday 7th February?



Trefoil Guild members
Beryl Britt, Nancy Roe, Jenny Wade, Ethne Hawkins and Pat Havers

Ring the bells

Ring in the start of Christmas delighted members of the Bourne End and Wooburn Trefoil Guild. They had invited Cookham Handbell Ringers to their Christmas meeting and part of the deal was a chance to try your hand at ringing.

Beryl Britt, who has been part of the guiding movement for almost 50 years, admitted that ringing one bell was difficult enough, adding: "I certainly don't know how they manage to ring two in each hand."

The Trefoil Guild is an organisation of more than 20,000 members nationally, mostly made up of women and men who have been and still are connected with guiding and scouting. The local guild was restarted over 40 years ago and is still going strong, although they would welcome new members. "We do lots of interesting things during the year," local secretary Sue Weston explained, "And, when necessary, we provide support for Girl Guiding UK."

They meet on the fourth Monday in the month in the hall at Cores End United Reformed Church, from 7.30-9.30pm. Sue said there's always something to do. "It might be a speaker or an activity, and we're keen to encourage new ideas." So, if you were involved in scouting or guiding as a youngster and would like to be part of a support organisation, find out more about the Trefoil Guild by calling Sue on 01628 520728.



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National award for local gym

The Exercise Clinic is celebrating after picking up an award at the prestigious National Fitness Awards ceremony at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham.

The boutique gym, based in New Road, Bourne End, was nominated for two awards – the Best Rehabilitation Facility and the Member Achievement award.

The latter was consequently won by Alex Field, who became the star of the gala event when he was presented with the winning trophy by Katherine Kelly ('Becky' in Coronation Street).

Alex is a 21 year old with Down's Syndrome who lives locally and attended Wye Valley School. He has trained regularly at The Exercise Clinic over recent years; last year he completed a million

metre row on the indoor rowing machine and is now well on his way to his next million. Alex also climbed Snowdon, canoed 150 miles down the Thames, completed the Coast to Coast walk from Cumbria to Yorkshire, and achieved his Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. He is now working at the gym gaining work experience.

Jason Croucher, gym manager and fitness expert, said: "It is a tremendous achievement for Alex to have reached his peak of physical fitness and a very popular decision that he has been recognised in the way. He put so much hard work into achieving his own personal goals at the gym and we are immensely proud of him."

According to competition judge Liz Lee, The Exercise Clinic was also a strong contender for the best Rehabilitation Facility award and was only narrowly beaten by the winning gym in this category.

Run by Jason and two members of staff, Sharon Coenen and Wendy Chaplin, The Exercise Clinic offers members a range of rehabilitation classes that help local people restore their levels of fitness following surgery or ill health. The specialist fitness team work very hard to develop tailored programmes to suit all levels of fitness and disability. They have created a friendly environment so that even the most timid feel comfortable and welcome, gain confidence in their own abilities and grow in fitness and self-esteem at the same time.

For further information about The Exercise Clinic, call Jason on 01628 528226 or 07958 616496 or email him at jason@exerciseclinic.co.uk



L-R: Mark Turner (award sponsor), Wendy Chaplin, Jason Croucher, Alex Wood, Sharon Coenen and Coronation Street actress Katherine Kelly. (Photo by e4creative photography)



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SCAN

Sports Club Activities and News

ABOUT BOURNE END JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB

Founded in 1970, Bourne End Junior Sports Club (BEJSC) is a registered charity run by volunteers, many of whom are highly qualified in their own sport. The New Road Sports Hall was built in 1982 and later extended to include a climbing wall and a club room. The multi-sport centre is used extensively by club members and throughout the whole community. Please visit our website for more information: www.bejsc.co.uk

FUN DAY FOR CLUB MEMBERS

It has long been the policy of BEJSC to encourage our senior members to "put something back" into our club or another community organisation, and to this end we have encouraged many over the years to take part in Young Leaders courses to develop their skills. It was really rewarding then to see a group of seven young people from the junior committee planning and delivering a fun day for younger members at our sports hall in December.

The participants, aged between five and ten, were mostly from our swimming and football sections, and therefore children who rarely get together at the club. The whole aim of the event was to help members feel they belong to BEJSC as a club, and not just one section.

The planning paid off, resulting in a very enjoyable two hours of fun for everyone. One young member even said it was the best party he had ever been to! All agreed it was a very successful event and they now plan to stage it on a regular basis.

It was brilliant just to watch whilst these lovely young people did all the work of managing the event with such enthusiasm – a big thank you to you all!



The parachute game was a big hit at the fun day

WOOBURN PARK Pavilion refurbishment

Yes – work has begun (see picture on page 8) and we wait eagerly for the finished result so that local clubs can offer these excellent facilities to their members next season. Thank you to all of those who have worked so hard to achieve this: Wooburn & Bourne End Parish Council, Wooburn Narkovians Cricket Club and the football section of BEJSC.

2012 – Olympic year

As excitement mounts for the Olympics later in the year, we know that many of our members are eagerly awaiting their opportunity to attend one of the events. Schools will also be encouraging students to enjoy the atmosphere in

the first Olympics to be held in this country for 64 years.

We will be cheering loudly for athletes who are personally known to us: Clare Strange and the wheelchair basketball team members who train in our hall; Paralympics rower Naomi Riches; Olympic hockey player Natalie Seymour, and others like these who have given their time to attend our prizegiving awards over recent years. If they are selected we wish them every success. We also send congratulations and best wishes to those volunteers who have been selected as Games Makers; it will be an exciting and memorable year for all who are involved, whether carrying the torch or helping in many other ways. Watch this space for more information as the year progresses.

BADMINTON

We have a new leader for Badminton on Monday evenings so we are increasing our capacity within the seniors; if anyone would like to join please contact Sue Jeffries on 07919 564141 or Matt Hayward on 07768 975161.

There are about ten additional spaces on a first-come first-served basis. Ages range from 12-18 years and all ability levels are welcome. The session takes place from 6.30-7.30pm.



CLIMBING PARTIES

Did you know you can book a climbing party at the BEJSC Sports Hall? We cater for ages six and above; participants need no experience as they will be guided by our instructors. Visit our website – www.bejsc.co.uk for more information, and please phone for details on 01628 528110 or email office@bejsc.co.uk

WHAT ELSE IS AVAILABLE AT THE BEJSC SPORTS HALL?

For information on the adult clubs that use our premises please contact the sports hall – there is badminton, basketball, football and wheelchair basketball.

Pilates Class – don't forget this class is on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6.30-7.30pm. This gentle form of exercise is suitable for all ages. Please contact us for more details.

Treatment Room – for all your aches, pains, and sports injuries contact Jason on 01628 528226.

For information on clubs using our premises please contact the Sports Hall www.bejsc.co.uk
email: office@bejsc.co.uk. Chairman & Editor: Liz Hutton 01628 478168
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Cherwell Road open space: update

By residents Kate Haven & Charlotte John

Following the announcement by Wycombe District Council last October of their intention to transfer several local plots of land to Red Kite (the organisation which has taken over the remaining WDC housing stock), local residents have been investigating options for securing the open space in Cherwell Road for the enjoyment of future generations.

This land is the last remaining piece of open space on the old council estate which is large enough for a decent game of football or to give the dogs a good run, and is widely used on a daily basis for a variety of activities. There was very real concern locally that once out of the hands of the council, the land would be a target for developers – despite WDC's repeated assurances that this would not happen.

A petition against transfer of the land attracted more than 400 signatures and

was submitted to WDC along with individual letters of complaint from concerned residents; unfortunately this did not sway the decision.

Local opinion was then sought on the possibility of registering the land as a Village Green, and on Monday 19th December a completed Village Green application was submitted to Bucks County Council.

Bucks CC have advised us that they have a considerable backlog in the relevant department, so it may be some months before our Village Green application is determined, but their initial 'sanity check' of our paperwork hasn't revealed any obvious problems.

The collation of the application and the number of individual contributions resulted in a sizeable task for those involved; the support from the local community was

beyond anything we could have imagined, and as relative newcomers it was really lovely to hear all the stories of families using the land over the generations and changes to the estate over the years.

Everyone who contributed to the effort receives our very heartfelt thanks and should be proud to have been part of this drive to protect our green environment.

When WDC first announced their intention to transfer the land, we approached the parish council to see if they could consider taking it over rather, than it transferring to Red Kite. We are grateful to the parish council for their efforts thus far and await with interest the outcome of their discussions.

So it's now a case of 'wait and see' and we hope to bring you good news in the next few months.

Dance for charity

The Bourne End Community Centre will host another 'Strictly Dance' evening on Friday 24th February, with proceeds going to the Wycombe Scannappeal.

The fun begins at 7.30pm and live music will be provided by organist Richard Keeling.

Tickets are priced at £7.50 and are available now from Alan Ford on 01628 525818 or 07836 236584, or email alan@lanford.co.uk – places are limited and this event is always popular, so book now!

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New facilities at Westfield School

IBBC rugby commentator James Burrige was on hand to open new play-based learning facilities at Westfield School shortly before Christmas.

James was attending on behalf of Wooden Spoon, the charity of British and Irish rugby that supports disadvantaged children who experience learning, social and emotional difficulties. Wooden Spoon contributed £15,000 to the installation of the facilities, partly thanks to funds raised from last year's 'Let's Rock the Moor' event in Cookham.

Children who attend the BESD school (Behavioural, Emotional and Social Development), located in Highfield Road in Bourne End, experience a range of severe and profound difficulties which prevent them from being able to use their talents and abilities.

Within its overall work, Westfield specialises in addressing some specific neurological and learning difficulties, with the ultimate aim of improving pupils' behaviour to such an extent that they are able to return to mainstream schooling.

Head teacher Geoff Allen explained to *Target* that his school's work carries long-term social and economic benefits to the wider community. "If the children who attend our school continue down the path that has led to them being referred to us, they could ultimately end up costing society lots of money throughout their lives, as a consequence of their needs continuing to go unmet.

"The best chance of providing a long-term solution for their difficulties comes from working with them at a young age; if these issues are allowed to continue unchecked into adulthood, they can become almost impossible to manage and have negative consequences for the wider society."

Although government funding is provided to Westfield, it alone is not sufficient to carry out the necessary work to the best of the school's ability, and Geoff explained: "Pupils at our school have very specific needs, and the regrettable truth is that we probably attract less funding and charitable support than many other special schools because of the unique nature of our children's needs.

"So any support we receive is gratefully accepted, and this funding from Wooden Spoon is very welcome. The facilities we've been able to invest in are far more than just somewhere for our children to play; they are also vital learning aids and will significantly help to improve our children's social interaction and physical skills, which is an extremely important part of their development."

Wooden Spoon's involvement is intended to assist a psychological research project jointly run by the school with UCL and Goldsmiths College of London University. The project has proved so successful that it is being adopted by local secondary counterpart special schools,

with future plans for a national briefing of similar schools.

Dr Barrie Mair, chair of the Chilterns region of Wooden Spoon, said: "We aim to support worthy schemes that might otherwise founder and Westfield, although a state school, does not receive sufficient funding to support some aspects of its ground-breaking work. We believe their innovative techniques will help children nationally in the years ahead, and we intend to monitor this as a possible benchmark project for other regions."

Any local businesses who would like to find out more about how they can get involved with Westfield School can contact Geoff on 01628 533125.



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Evening of celebration at Wye Valley

More than 100 present and past students were honoured by The Wye Valley School in Bourne End at their graduation celebration of excellence evening on Thursday 5th January.

Certificates were presented for achievement during the 2010/11 academic year by special guest Mrs Terry Kenyon, a former Rotary district governor, with many former pupils returning from university to attend the event and meet up with old friends. A series of special



awards was also handed out for specific achievements.

The evening also featured a musical interlude from Andrew Gallacher, (left) who left the school last year after winning a government scholarship to attend the Purcell School of Music in Bushey, Hertfordshire. Andrew, 16, showed exactly why he was awarded the scholarship by performing beautifully on the piano, playing pieces by Chopin and Poulenc.



Year 11 special award winners

Christopher Cassidy: outstanding effort and application in English; overcoming special educational needs to win silver ASDAN award

Shannon Corcoran: health and social care award

Rebecca Eaton: motivation award

Alex Evans: overcoming special educational needs to win silver ASDAN award

Andrew Gallacher: student of the year & musician of the year

Carrie-Ann Holmes: student of the year



Year 13 special award winners

Callum George: outstanding dedication to dance

Joseph Gleeson: Rotary club award

William Hiles: student of the year

Kate Hill: student of the year

Daisy Jacob: commitment to Inspire, Motivate and Achieve project

Emma Jinks: Rotary club award

Lucy Ridley: commitment to Inspire, Motivate and Achieve project

Rebecca Walker: outstanding dedication to dance



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Our future: have your say with new questionnaire

**By David Davis, chairman,
Future of Our Village**

Thank you to everyone who kindly took part in the surveys that were conducted in the village and in the library during August and September, and at the open meeting in November. Future of Our Village (FoOV) received more than 500 comments and suggestions as a result of these surveys.

All the information has been collated and has been put into a form that will allow local residents to give views on their priorities.

The charity Impact Bucks, which works to assist communities to prepare village plans, has been most helpful and has given FoOV access to Survey Monkey, a tool to gather and analyse feedback.

From Monday 6th February until Sunday 5th March a questionnaire will be available for people to complete – online or on paper – so that the priorities of local people can be highlighted. The questionnaire will take about 15 minutes to complete.

The web link to the questionnaire is www.surveymonkey.com/s/BourneEnd and, if you do not have access to a computer, library manager Inka D'Agostino and her staff will be happy to offer the library computers – assistance can be arranged if requested in advance at the library.

If you would prefer to complete a paper version of the questionnaire, they will be available from either the library or the community centre.

During the surveys we held in the autumn, it was noted that a number of the issues highlighted could be handled directly and rapidly by Bourne Enders just by contacting local authorities or agents. To this end, during the next few months FoOV will prepare and distribute a list of relevant contact details in an easily accessible format.

Please take this opportunity to have your say by completing this important survey on the future of our village.



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Sue Wagner and Dave Kimber collect views



More than just a cupboard

Visitors to Orchard House have talked about it; residents bring in friends just to see it; one could even say that it has become a symbol of how something ordinary can be turned into a work of art. It's Dave's cupboard.

Dave Masson just shrugs and smiles. His artistic talents didn't come to light until he retired from being a Bourne End postman. Then he and wife Janis decided to do something completely different and enrolled for a number of drawing and painting classes. "It was a new world for both of us," Janis says. "But it certainly made a huge impact on Dave."

Dave's new enthusiasm rubbed off on other residents at Orchard House, the sheltered housing accommodation in Spring Gardens, Bourne End. Soon he had a weekly art class and the work was displayed around the lounge walls. When there were special themed evenings, members of the art group helped out to create the right setting – anything from a pirate ship to an Egyptian palace.

After each class or creative session the paints, pencils and paper were put away in a very ordinary cupboard along the hall. When regulations required that the cupboard was moved into the lounge it didn't blend in very well. So Dave was asked if he would paint a picture on the cupboard to make it look more interesting.

Lots of ideas were suggested but eventually Dave decided to feature a gloriously plumed and top-hatted kingfisher alongside a river with lots of little creatures making their presence known. And if you search for it there's always a shadow of a dog in any of Dave's pictures.

First came the drawing, and then Dave set to work on the cupboard itself. On one side there's a Scottish piper reminding Dave of his family in Stonehaven, south of Aberdeen. Then there are more pictures down the other side. It's fun, different and original. People stop and look. Any artist would love to attract such interest.

At the end of the day, it's still the art cupboard in Orchard House; but an artistic cupboard might be a more accurate description.



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Inner Wheel ladies

Inner Wheel Club of Bourne End & Cookham *By Ann Bown*

Our annual Christmas tea party was a great success, and president Diana Hyde was pleased that almost £1,000 was raised for the Coming Home Appeal.

Our guest speaker, the artist, Irene Tysack spoke about the hardships of her country upbringing and how she put her talent for drawing into practice by creating the 'Yellow Hat Tribe', which turned her life around. Her humorous paintings show at least one member of the 'tribe' and are now sold worldwide.

To celebrate Inner Wheel Day on 10th January members visited the Thames Valley Adventure Playground to help prepare a mail drop for their charity fun run. The annual charter night dinner will be held at Winter Hill Golf Club on Friday 3rd February, when the speaker's subject will be the Olympics.

This year will see us collecting the usual items for joy bags, toy bags and baby bundles to be sent to Kosovo; all this while enjoying plenty of fun and friendship.

The picture shows some of our Inner Wheel ladies preparing for the Christmas tea party. From left to right: Pat Ball, Barbara Hills, Ann Bown, Wendy Mander, Valerie Hamer, Jean Cocks, Diana Hyde, Eileen Chalfont, Lizzie Yeeles, Elaine Morris, Sheila Hudell, Rena Rookard and Margaret Maskell.

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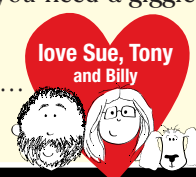
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Mother's Day is
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18th March**

Bourne End WI By Jenny Boas

Our first meeting took place on 1st December at Bourne End Library. It took the form of a social evening and after the business had been dealt with, everyone mingled and got to know each other over nibbles and a glass of wine.

We received a card from Jean Morris, chairman of the Buckinghamshire Federation of the Women's Institute, welcoming us and promising any support we may need.

Two members attended the Little Marlow and Well End Christmas tea party in the community centre on 6th December and enjoyed their first taste of WI hospitality.

Our suggestion box is proving very informative and helps the committee keep in touch with the members' wishes for future activities and interests, such as forming flower arranging, handicrafts and other interest groups. A sub-committee has been set up under the leadership of Margaret Butler to take on the responsibility for planting out the boxes on The Parade in Bourne End; please look out for them in the spring!

In January we held an open meeting, giving members an invitation to discuss events for the coming year and to put forward their suggestions. We also held a bring and buy sale at this meeting to bolster our funds and, as we are a new venture, we need to hold various events to enable us to go on outings.

Our speaker for the January meeting was from the South Bucks Hospice in High Wycombe, and February's speaker will be advising us on the art of bee keeping.

Join us in the library at our next meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm and be assured of a warm welcome.

Little Marlow & Well End WI By Diana Spokes

President Judy Wilson welcomed members to the January meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

This was an informal meeting when members were able to discuss and suggest events for the coming year. It was decided that the monthly competition this year would be letters of the alphabet which will spell out 'Little Marlow', and at the February meeting, therefore, members can bring an object beginning with the letter L. Points will be awarded for interest and ingenuity.

Judy Wilson and county archivist, Sue Norton, gave a highly amusing presentation of the history of the WI at the meeting, which members greatly enjoyed.

It was agreed that Little Marlow & Well End WI will man a table at Penn & Tylers Green's WI annual trash & treasure morning, selling unwanted presents and bric-a-brac. This takes place on 25th February.

Val Clarke has organised a theatre trip to see Giselle in February, followed by another outing to the Swan in Wycombe to see Sister Act in March. She is also planning an outing to the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Barbara Ramshaw and Barbara Wallis have agreed to organise the annual summer show, held in August, where members have the opportunity to display their craft and cookery skills.

The February speaker, Alan Copeland, will be telling members of his 16 days in New Zealand, and in March Judy Tipping will talk on the local history of the Farnhams.

Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month at the Little Marlow Pavilion on the recreation ground in Little Marlow. Guests are always welcome. For further details ring 01494 523998.

Wooburn WI By Isabel Swain

At our December meeting, Bob Sacco presented 'Comedy Greats' which was excellent entertainment and a lovely way to start the build-up to Christmas.

Our current programme, apart from the usual formal business, includes on 1st February a talk from Brian Clews about birds in Buckinghamshire, and on 7th March we'll hold

our 74th birthday celebrations and be entertained by the Belmont Duo with their Life of Ivor Novello.

We meet on the first Wednesday in each month at St Mary's Pastoral Centre, Glory Mill Lane, Wooburn Green, at 2.15pm. There is ample parking and it is also on the bus route – Arriva No 37 or Carousel No 1. We are a small and friendly WI and would love to welcome you – just come along.

Probus By Howard Fitzer

Our after-lunch speakers on 16th November were Tony Brown and Gordon Casbeard who gave us a second presentation featuring magic lantern slides.

It was interesting to note that some of these forerunners of modern projectors, using light sources such as oil, gas and ether, were quite complex and capable of producing motion which was eccentric, panoramic, diagonal or circular. This produced remarkable and beautiful moving patterns, a good example of which can be seen at the website magiclantern.org.uk

The Christmas ladies' lunch, held at our usual venue the Grovefield House Hotel on 7th December, was notable not only as commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the formation of the club but also for the personally made and superbly artistic contributions to the occasion by the ladies. These, as always, were generously presented as gifts to the club.

The artists concerned were Patricia Vanryne, who presented a special celebration cake, and Patricia Kingswood, who contributed highly attractive individual table nameplate cards. Additionally, Sue Baldwin and Mary Pickett jointly demonstrated their expertise in the form of beautiful table flower arrangements. An added bonus, much appreciated by club members, is the refreshing touch of glamour that the ladies bring to these twice-yearly events.

Finally, the club committee after much deliberation offers the following prediction for 2012: the two so-called 'washing machines' now circumnavigating the moon in search of rare mineral deposits will establish beyond any doubt that what lies beneath the surface is... err... cheese.

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Surprise farewell for Phyllis

Surprise, surprise! Oh my goodness. And again: "Oh my goodness!" That was the moment the party organisers knew they had done it.

Plans by teachers at the Meadows School in Wooburn Green to organise a surprise farewell party for departing headteacher Phyllis Carr had not leaked out, and Phyllis was astounded to see so many familiar faces cheering as she walked through the curtain into the school hall.

It proved to be an informal and happy party with tea and delicious cakes. Former teachers and others associated with Phyllis's time at the school had come back to say goodbye.

Phyllis was delighted to see her husband and daughter-in-law with her young grandson grinning in delight – that made everything truly perfect. Councillor Mike Appleyard made a presentation on behalf of the governors, thanking Phyllis for her dedication to the school and its students.

"I felt at home the moment I walked through the door of this school," Phyllis told her friends. "I never wanted to be anywhere else, and the staff and the children made it perfect for me."

Party organiser Julie Garland shows Phyllis the book of memories prepared by the school

Celebrating 80 (and a bit more)

There's always something to be celebrated at the Wye Valley Volunteers (WVV) annual 'thank you' party in December.

This time it was a total of almost 500 years – although those involved would be horrified by the number. A special cake prepared by Pat Vanryne was cut to celebrate six volunteers – Beryl Mannering, Sid Rose, Jean Peasley, John Anderson, Sybil Luckett and John Pressney – who had reached the magical 'eighty'...and for good measure an extra ten years were added with Sybil celebrating her ninetieth.

Unfortunately, many of that sextet were volunteer drivers for WVV who had to give up that role when they reached 80. "We would like to recruit more drivers," was the plea from WVV's Sandra Garey, "as people are finding they have to travel further for appointments and even to London hospitals on occasion." Sandra added that those being celebrated had given wonderful service over many years. "All our volunteers fulfil such an important role – they all make a difference to someone who needs help."

If anyone has some time to spare, on a regular basis or occasionally, or would like to make a difference in some way, then call into the portakabin alongside the community centre, Monday to Friday, from 10am to midday. Alternatively call 01628 521027. See the back page for more pictures from the annual party.



Celebrating almost 500 years - Beryl Mannering, Sid Rose, Jean Peasley, John Anderson, Sybil Luckett and John Pressney

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Bourne End Library News

By Inka D'Agostino, library manager

We were all delighted with the attendance at Christmas Fun Night. A record number of people – more than 1,000 – visited the library to participate in the celebrations. This is our highest ever number of visitors. Many thanks for helping us to make it so successful.

Another success story over the past year has been the community market, which on average brings between 500 and 700 visitors to the library. The market will continue every second Saturday of the month – see separate story on this page.

This year we have two new ventures: regular Internet taster sessions will be held on the third Friday of the month at 10.30am (please book to reserve a place) and on the last Friday of the month we have a morning Lifestyle Club for the over 50s.

Please come along and join us for a cup of coffee and find out

When in Rome...

Shortly before Christmas, library manager Inka D'Agostino and her counterpart from the day centre, Helen Birkett, embarked upon a Christmas shopping break in Rome – and took their copies of *Target* with them in case any suitable photo opportunities arose. Inka laughed, "You might think that a shopping break in Rome would attract only ladies, but on our first evening Helen and I found ourselves surrounded by men! They were from the Pontifical Beda College in Rome, which trains postgraduate and mature students for the priesthood. The group were celebrating their first year of study.

"After giving us a beautiful impromptu rendition of the hymn *Salve Regina* the students were persuaded to pose for our photo. A good time was had by all in the bar; and we felt it was our duty to help them celebrate!"



what it is all about.

Finally, in March the decision will be made about the future of the library. There will be two options: remaining a County Library as at present, or being handed over to the community to be run by volunteers (unless funding through grants and sponsorship can be found to retain the staff). In the meantime please continue to give us your support.

If you are looking for venues to hold meetings, seminars, courses or even children's parties, we have available for hire the Soho and Jackson Mill Rooms with AV facilities as well as a smaller meeting/classroom. Please apply to the library for hire rates.

Regular activities

Action Kids: Mondays 9.15-10am;
10.15-11am; 11.15am-midday
Stories and crafts (interactive session): Tuesdays 10.45am
Bounce and rhyme: Thursdays 10.30-11am

For further information on any library activities please contact us on 0845 2303232 or email lib-boe@buckscc.gov.uk

Purely local with Purely Local

As the Bourne End Community Market prepares to celebrate its first anniversary in February, Purely Local is one of the regular stall holders that are looking forward to another successful year for the monthly market in the Bourne End Library.

Colin Cox (pictured), one of Purely Local's partners, explained to *Target*: "The community market is the only regular market we have chosen to attend.

"Although we run a home delivery food business, we jumped at the chance to get involved in the Bourne End Community Markets because we saw a great opportunity to support the library whilst also promoting our business, offering local people the

chance to taste our range."

Purely Local is a family business which is unique for the fact that everything they supply is grown, reared or produced no more than 35 miles from Bourne End. Their range includes everyday staples such as eggs, bacon, mince and potatoes as well as luxurious items such as cakes, quiches and joints for more special occasions.



Colin added: "Our aim is to make it easy to get really fresh food and to help reduce food miles by working with local farmers, growers and producers. We support low intensity farming practices and much of what we supply is free-range and organic. Our range changes every week based on what's good and what's in season, and we deliver weekly to local homes with no minimum order or delivery charge."

If you'd like to find out more about Purely Local, their product range or fundraising programmes, you can call 0844 3511053 or email info@purely-local.co.uk

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Olympic year at Dorney Lake

By Tony Evans, British Rowing Council

Now we are in Olympic year, athletes in all sports are very conscious that the next six months could shape the rest of their lives. Recently, I've heard Sebastian Coe and Amir Khan talk about how their Olympic gold medals influenced their future. Admittedly, it took five gold medals for Sir Steven Redgrave to gain the same prominence!

In December, all British rowers attended the open trials, raced over a 5,000m course, as a race against the clock at Boston in Lincolnshire. This venue was chosen since it is one of the few places in England where there is this length of absolutely straight water.

The trials were open, meaning that anyone could turn up with their single sculling boat and race against the current squad members, so all places in all the crews were up for grabs. The weather was cold, wet and windy, but at least it was the same for everyone!

Notable absentees due to a winter virus were Peter Reed, from the hitherto top men's pair, and Zac Purchase from the top men's lightweight double scull. Most of the big names came through into the leading places, although the pecking order has shifted in some cases.

In the light of these results, our coaches now have the difficult task of finding the best combinations to form the fastest possible crews. Further formal trials will take place at Dorney on 10th-11th March, and from now on every training session has increased importance and is closely monitored by coaches.

We have very strong men's and women's squads in both heavyweight and lightweight classes. But whilst the motivation to win in one's home country is strong, so must be the desire of all the visiting crews to 'put one over the Brits' on their home water. Nothing can be taken for granted!

On the domestic front, the next event at Dorney is the Thames Valley trial head, on Sunday 29th January, where many of the local clubs will be represented. This is similar to the squad trials referred to above, being a race against the clock. More than 500 boats usually enter, and are raced in three divisions starting at 9.30am.

Dorney Lake, six miles from Bourne End, is the 2012 Olympics Rowing and Flat Water Canoeing venue. Visitors are welcome.



Prime timers with members of the Olympic rowing squad

Prime time for fitness at Bisham

A group of 'prime time' local people are enjoying regular fitness sessions alongside future Olympians at Bisham Abbey.

Fitness instructor Jane Mannering explained, "I started the Primetimers group in September 2010, for people aged 55 or above who want to stay fit. We meet at the National Sports Centre in Bisham Abbey, where we are privileged to train alongside our Olympic hopefuls in rowing, canoeing and hockey.

"We meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 11am and our current age range is 55 to 84. The Tuesday session is gym-based, and the Thursday session is an exercise class in the form of a circuit. The aim is to make the group fitter and healthier, to enable them to carry out everyday tasks with ease. We also take into account any specific medical conditions – for example, two members suffer from Parkinson's and they have improved greatly since starting the classes.

"Our last task in the gym was to walk, cycle or row the length of the Thames from Henley Bridge to Windsor Bridge – not all one go I hasten to add! I wanted to encourage the group to push themselves with a little more effort in the cardiovascular department and they were amazing – most of them completed all three disciplines.

"The class has been growing; we started with six members and now have 19 who meet twice a week. But I would love to welcome more members to the group, which is perfect both for getting fit and making new friends. You don't need to be fit to start off, just willing to try new things. Anyone who might be interested can contact me on 07766 017261."

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OUR LOCAL CHURCHES KEEP IN TOUCH

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, LITTLE MARLOW

We had a very busy Christmas with a full church for several of the services, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the visiting clergy, old friends and new who have helped and supported us over the past year.



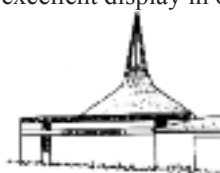
We are delighted to welcome the Reverend Dave Bull, along with his wife Helen and children Thomas, Lauren and Josh, to the Marlow team. The Reverend Bull took up his position as rector at the end of January.

Please keep in touch via the website www.marlowanglican.org, which will have details of events and special services for Lent and Passiontide – which will be organized by Dave Bull once he's had time to get his feet under the table. Very best wishes for the new year.

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

We wish Target readers a belated Happy New Year.

Looking back over the last year, our virtual village in aid of CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) was a great success. The excellent display in our front porch is a major feature and now also appears on our diocesan website.



What better way to start the new year than with a Thanksgiving Mass? On Monday 2nd January, a special service was held at St Dunstan's for all the volunteers, past and present, who have helped the Mother Teresa group. This group has been part of the parish for over 30 years, with members working diligently in many ways to support those in need at home and abroad.

Last month was the beginning of the confirmation programme for young people from both St Dunstan's and St Teresa's churches, to conclude when Bishop Peter Doyle celebrates the Confirmation Mass at St Dunstan's on 29th May.

Our usual Lenten lunches in aid of CAFOD start at 12.30pm on Friday 24th March, after the usual midday mass.

These lunches are very popular and provide a good means of socialising and meeting friends. Newcomers are very welcome.

CORES END UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On 21st February, Shrove Tuesday, between 10am and midday, there will be a coffee and pancake morning at Fair Winds, Grange Drive, Wooburn. Proceeds will be donated to the churchyard fund, and all are welcome.

Our fortnightly LinkUp Club meetings for February and March will include a quiz and talks on the subjects of Three Voices for Women; Norway; and the valuable work of bio-detection dogs.

Study groups for Lent have not been finalised at date of going to press, but times and venues will be available on our website at www.coresendurc.com.

Other activities during February and March will include joining with St Mark's Church on 11th February for a prayer workshop, and a spring concert on 17th March.



Further details of these events and our usual activities including the home fellowship group, table tennis, and monthly prayer time can also be found on our website.

Family worship with junior church and crèche for the under 3s continues every Sunday morning at 10.30am, with holy communion on the third Sunday of every month; all are welcome. Our praise group prepares for worship at 10.15am on the last Sunday of each month.

ST MARK'S CHURCH

We start the month of February with a celebration of sixty years of the women's fellowship at St Mark's. This will take place from 3-5pm on Saturday 4th. Cream teas will be available so come along and join in the celebration.



Our all age service is on Sunday 5th at 10.30am. All are welcome and refreshments are served afterwards so there is time to stay and have a chat.

On Saturday 11th February there will be a prayer workshop, held in our church hall between 10am and 12.30pm. This will be a joint event with Cores End United Reformed Church. For more information please contact Reverend Ann or Reverend Rosemary on 01628 523046

or 01628 523034.

On Wednesday 22nd February we will be holding our Ash Wednesday service at 8pm.

Our next monthly market will take place from 10am-midday on Saturday 25th February in the church hall. Nearly new clothes, second hand books, teas and coffees plus some delicious homemade cakes will all be on offer, so pop in for a browse or just to say hello. Everyone welcome.

Moving into March, our all age service will be held on Sunday 4th at 10.30am; all welcome. The Tuesday morning group will meet after morning prayer on 13th March.

On Saturday 17th March we are planning a quiet day from 10am-3pm. You will need to bring a packed lunch. For more details please call 07949 059187. Our monthly market in March will be on Saturday 24th, from 10am-midday in the church hall.

Details of all our weekly events and services can be found on our website www.parishes-of-hedsor-and-bourne-end.org.uk or in our parish magazine The Bridge.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH AND ST MARY'S CHURCH WOOBURN

St Paul's Church is looking forward to the spring months, with an exciting year ahead.

Our Sunday club for children is currently focusing on exploring people of the Old Testament, and we will soon be thinking about Easter activities. All children are welcome to join in the fun from 9.30am each Sunday other than the first in the month, when we have family service at 10.30am.



Following some enjoyable and successful fund raising events in 2011, we are embracing new ideas for 2012 in addition to some old favourites, so please do keep an eye on our website for details.

Our church hall is kept busy each week with the popular toddlers group on Tuesdays at 9.30am, and tots' praise on Fridays at 9.45am.

St Mary's hosts our short communion service at 12 noon on Fridays, followed by a shared lunch.

The church hall and garden in Town Lane, Wooburn, are available for bookings which can be made via the website or through the office on 01628 525512.

For full details of all our regular services and events you can visit our website at www.stpaulswooburn.org

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COMMUNITY

About the Community Centre

The Bourne End Community Centre in Wakeman Road offers excellent facilities which are enjoyed by a variety of groups which meet to enjoy their chosen sport, activity or recreational hobby. There are regular music and drama events in the theatre hall, and a comfortable bar is open every day.

Sections of the Community Association with weekly bookings include Forum Players, Chess, Short Mat Bowls, Darts, Petanque, Wedmorn Badminton and Musical Players – you can read their latest news on these pages. And turn over to pages 38-39 for updates from the affiliated groups which meet every few weeks.

FOCUS ON...



Forum Players

Father Christmas came early for us in the form of Cookham Dental Practice (www.rodericksdental.co.uk) – after hearing that the name of our pantomime was The Tooth Fairy, at the inspired suggestion of our wardrobe mistress Wendy Keeble, they decided to sponsor us. We are very grateful and have put the sponsorship money to very good use.

Thanks also to everyone who came to see The Tooth Fairy, to all our members who were involved and especially to Anthony Deacon for his great panto, simply based on a childhood tradition. And don't forget – brush your teeth twice a day and keep decay away!

We now have a very active youth group, whose members are very keen to help and to learn all the skills required to put together a production. They have enrolled for the Maidenhead Theatre Festival so look out for more information and please support them.

If you say "Farndale Avenue Townswomen's Guild," to certain people, they will immediately start to giggle. Twenty years ago we did two of these plays, written by David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jnr, with great success, and now we're planning to bring back the gloriously funny Murder Mystery as our spring show.

In the safe hands of director Brenda Phelps, who knows good comedy when she sees it, show dates are booked in May and auditions take place on Wednesday 1st February. The biggest problem with rehearsing Farndale is trying to play it straight and not collapse into heaps of giggles at every turn. We are in for a hilarious time.



Fester Abcess and Phil Macavity (Georgia Fisk and Ros Bartlett) cause mayhem in The Tooth Fairy

BOURNE END (BUCKS) COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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SINGLE LIFE MEMBERSHIP	£30

Annual subscriptions are payable on or after 1 January each year.

Family membership carries one vote. Associate and Junior Membership carry no vote.

Area of Benefit – includes Bourne End, Cores End, Hedsor, Northern Woods, Little Marlow, Well End, Wooburn, and Wooburn Green.

CENTRE NEWS

Short Mat Bowls

Bourne End Short Mat Bowls section is a non-league club playing for our own enjoyment plus a few friendly matches throughout the year. We had an excellent year culminating in our annual Christmas party where bowling games were followed by an excellent meal.

We have welcomed several new members recently, but we have room for more players especially on Tuesday evenings. We meet at 7.30 on Mondays and Tuesdays. Tuition will be provided for beginners.

We are also considering starting a new session on Thursday afternoons if people are interested. If you would like to come along, please ring Bill Hudson on 01628 528596.

Our AGM will take place on Monday 13th February at 7.00pm in the Community Centre.

Darts

The team captains are a verbal lot and usually regale me with the glory of their successes when they win, and their dreadful bad luck, dart by dart, when they lose.

For two months now they have been so eerily silent that I decided, at the risk of a diatribe, of asking them how they were doing in their respective leagues.

The Tuesday captain was the first I encountered. He was brief and to the point, answering with just one word: "Rubbish". No further explanation was forthcoming, even though I know that they are due to play in the next stage of their League Cup and have high hopes.

The Wednesday captain was equally brusque but not quite so polite. No further comment.

The Friday captain was nowhere to be found; no doubt in hiding. However, I believe they are doing rather better than the other two and when she returns to the surface I will get a pleasant surprise.

All of the above confirms that we are having a bad start to the winter league season, which just demonstrates that when you play first class darts you don't always win.

Practice nights are the best nights, because at

least some of our players win. Why not come and join them?

Chess

A date for your diaries: Sunday 1st April for the 38th Bourne End Rapid Play Chess Congress. As ever it is a whole day event, beginning at 10 o'clock. Players are slotted into divisions according to ability. They play five games of chess lasting up to an hour and a half for each game. There are prizes awarded in each division and last year we had five divisions, each of 16 players. If you'd like to get back into playing competitive chess or already play, contact David Langford on 01628 520065 for more details and an entry form.

Meanwhile the first and third club teams are doing well in their respective divisions of the Bucks League. As ever, the second team struggles against the best teams in Bucks but it enables the team to compete against those players. In the Berkshire League, both teams have had a fairly successful season so far.

Musical Players

The 34th Annual Carol Concert at the community centre was filled to capacity at the end of last year. We were joined by the festival brass and children from Claytons School choir, all under the direction of John Timewell, with Judith Timewell at the piano and keyboard. It was a lovely event and provided an excellent start to the Christmas season.

We continue to put on cabarets; our next one is in February and we are still hoping that someone, or a group of people, will take it upon themselves to revive the society with a full show. Any offers please contact Elaine on 07836 236584.

Petanque

After a quiet winter season, our petanque players are now preparing for the start of the new league season in March. New members are always welcome – contact Peter Webb on 07765 415077 if you're interested.

President's Challenge



Number 67

Answer these questions, set by Community Association president Penny Walsh, and hand in the form at the Community Centre (along with your £1 entry fee) for a chance of winning Penny's special mystery prize. Funds raised go to the Community Centre.

All the answers begin with 'S'.

1. Prehistoric ruin on Salisbury Plain.
2. Capital of New South Wales.
3. Local restaurant near the river.
4. Another name for Lilac.
5. Large town in Berkshire.
6. Royal Engineers made this local play area.
7. You play this game with alphabet tiles.
8. First name of Community Centre Manager.
9. The Scottish cross.
10. Sign of the Zodiac (Oct-Nov).
11. 45th wedding anniversary.
12. The chemical symbol for this metal is Ag.
13. A relative of the octopus.
14. You get this from a lack of Vitamin C.
15. Small fish of the herring family.
16. Highest adult female voice.
17. King of Israel, credited with great wisdom.
18. Ball-game, 2 teams, 11 players each.
19. Bony skeleton of the head of vertebrates.
20. A rapid drawing or painting.

The closing date is Tuesday 6th March.

NAME:.....

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TEL:.....

ANSWERS TO QUIZ 66

1. Roman Way. 2. Reading. 3. Rudyard. 4. Red Admiral. 5. Reykjavik. 6. Renoir. 7. Rolls Royce. 8. Rosemary. 9. Rhodes. 10. Raven. 11. Ravioli. 12. Runnymede. 13. Red Wood. 14. Regina. 15. Rattlesnake. 16. Rage. 17. Robin. 18. Richard 1. 19. Rome. 20. Rooster. Winner: Elaine Baudouin, Grange Drive, Wooburn

Membership costs and application form

APPLICATION FORM

Cut out and send or hand to:

The Manager, Bourne End Community Centre,
Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

Email address:

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP..... AMOUNT PAID.....

OUR GROUP MEMBERS KEEP IN TOUCH

1st Bourne End Scout Group

We would like to start the year by complimenting the village on the display of Christmas lights, which were on full view for the Fun Night on Friday 9th December. The weather was kind, and roasting chestnuts kept our scouts very warm. Thanks to the hardware store for donating the charcoal, and the fruit & vegetable shop for the chestnuts at cost price. One person deserving a particular mention is David Davis, who works so hard for our village by organising and taking an interest in so many things.

Before Christmas our explorer scouts did their usual pantomime, and on Tuesday 13th December the beavers held a fund raising evening, with the proceeds of nearly £300 being used to buy toys for the children's ward at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford (where our beaver leader Emma had spent many days with her two daughters).

Our collection of toys was added to by one of our parents, who went back to work at Toys R Us and promptly received three large bags of toys; then John Lewis offered to gift wrap all the presents free of charge. Such generosity at Christmas time shows the warm hearts of some large companies.

On 10th December three coach loads of beavers, cubs and scouts and their parents went to Wembley Stadium to see a Heineken Cup rugby match between Saracens and Ospreys. Part of the occasion was to form the biggest-ever rugby scrum of children, and our children formed part of the 720 scrummers who will now be entered into the Guinness Book of World Records! See the back page for pictures from the day.

The last scouts meeting of the year took place on Friday 23rd December, and at the start of the evening we invested our first two girls into the troop. There was then a tasty supper of sausages, beans and chips, followed by judging of table decorations and sketches from each patrol.

What a busy year 2012 will be, with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games! The scout group is part of village life and our aim is to support local boys and girls, and offer a good start in life. In our next report we will have more scouting news; if you would like to join us please contact Roy Harris on 01628 526805.

RNLI Bourne End & District

Our financial year ended on 31st December 2011, and the branch is delighted to announce that through the hard work of the committee, collectors and helpers, an amazing total of £17,461.25 was raised. Within this total, static boxes made more

than £1,675 and Christmas cards just over £900.

This is our best ever result, and a very hard act to follow this year. We were fortunate to be able to have three two-day collections at supermarkets and two days outside the Beaconsfield M40 service station and, of course, the annual door-to-door and Flag Day always raises a lot of money.

There are already several dates in 2012 for fund-raising. The door-to-door collection will take place from Monday 30th April to Saturday 5th May, and a stall has been booked for the Flackwell Heath Cherry Fayre in July. There will also be a National Lifeboat collection at Tesco on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th May, and the annual general meeting will be held on Thursday 12th April, 7.45pm for 8pm. In addition, the branch has been invited to give a talk on the local work of the RNLI by the Link-Up Club at Cores End United Reformed Church on Tuesday 17th April.

We hope to have further collections this year at Sainsbury and the service station in Beaconsfield, so there is plenty of work for the committee to do!

The usual plea: help is always needed so if readers feel they can spare an hour or two please ring 01628 523736 to discuss future plans.

Bourne End (Bucks) Twinning Association

The annual general meeting and reception for the Bourne End (Bucks) Twinning Association (BEBTA) will take place on Saturday 3rd March at St Dunstan's church hall. The evening will include a two-course buffet supper for all members who would like it (price £9 per head to include the first glass of wine).

There will also be a licensed bar and entertainment. Members are reminded that their annual subscription, of £3 per person or £6 per family, is due by 1st March.

The official twinning visit to Bourne End by our twinning partners from Octeville sur Mer in north-western France will take place from 11th to 13th May.

Our visitors are expected to arrive early afternoon on Friday, and on Saturday we are planning to take an all-day coach trip – it is expected that BEBTA will be hiring a coach for hosts to accompany the visitors.

The Soirée will be held on Sunday evening, where a dinner will be served, followed by a barn dance. Visitors will leave mid afternoon on Monday.

If you are not a member, why not join and then you could host someone from Octeville sur Mer?!

Becoming a member of the association couldn't be easier – just call 01628 520065 or email bebta@ukgo.com. Further details can be found on our website at www.bebta.ukgo.com, including

newsletters and photos of our past twinning events.

Other scheduled events for 2012 include our quiz night on 23rd June, our garden party on 25th August and our autumn dinner on 27th October.

Upper Thames Sailing Club

Santa Claus had a hard time of it visiting the Christmas party at the Upper Thames Sailing Club (UTSC) in December – he had to set his reindeers to graze across the river on Cock Marsh while he completed his journey by boat; the poor creatures are of a sensitive nature and news of venison on the menu at the club's New Year's Eve bash had made them understandably nervous.

But alas, later, as Santa hiked back to his boat along the tow path, his trousers fell down – to the general delight of onlookers. Fortunately, his attendant elf restored Santa to his proper dignity with a mighty heave. One can only ponder on the effect this might have had on young minds.

But why was Santa having to trudge to a distant boat in the first place? Why couldn't he just have moored in front of the club house? The answer is that UTSC is currently fixing its river frontage after decades of wear and tear.

The club has been saving for years; slowly the pot grew and finally last year a decision was made to go ahead: a request to tender went out and a contractor was chosen. This concentrated fund-raising minds even more: grants were obtained, members made loans or gifted money and Lafarge made a magnificent donation. The cost of the project is well over £100,000, which the frontage fund can now meet.

Rebuilding the frontage has given the club the opportunity to rethink its layout, which could well have been a century old. The club is fortunate in the amount of professional experience it has to hand and this, together with the practical experience of club sailors, has, we hope, given us a layout of slips and pontoons fit for another hundred years.

The work has proceeded well. Cooks, the specialist contractors, have done all work from the river with hardly a need to step ashore. To achieve this they have a number of specialist barges, one with a large crane which led one person to observe that a boat with a jib that size would have to go in the Handicap Fleet. The work continues on track and should be finished for the start of spring sailing, now only a few weeks away.

Though most boats are snuggled down in the boathouses away from the weather there are some hardy souls who sail right through the winter – generally on Sunday mornings.

To give their life some purpose, apart from dodging riparian impedimenta, there are a number of cups and trophies to be won over the Christmas break, and the winners on Boxing Day and New Year's Eve were Simon

Davies, John Shaw, Alan Markham and Matthew Kite. Congratulations to all.

Bourne End Horticultural Society

The horticultural society's AGM took place on 19th January and we're looking forward to another year of activities, with the highlight being our annual show in August. New members are most welcome so please contact Penny Hampson on 01628 521482 if you are interested.

Bucks Family History Society

The Family History Society meets on the second Tuesday in each month at 7.15pm at the community centre. On 14th February one of our regular speakers, Brian Horridge, will tell us about some lesser-known websites, and on 13th March we'll hear about some strange-sounding Victorian occupations from Kirsty Gray.

Soroptimist International

Thames Valley members of Soroptimist International, the worldwide organisation for women in management and the professions, meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm in the community centre. For more information on our activities and membership please visit our website www.sitv.org.uk

Flower Club

The Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society meets every month at the community centre, with regular appearances from national demonstrators; please contact Liz Payne on 01628 476641 if you are interested in membership.

Townswomen's Guild

The Townswomen's Guild meets on the second Wednesday in every month at 1.30pm in the Bourne End Community Centre. Please call 01628 527931 if you'd like more details on our meetings or membership.

Bourne End Video Camera Club

We have room for new members whether they wish to improve their film-making skills or simply join in the fun of an enjoyable hobby. We meet in the Target room at the community centre on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7.30pm. For further details contact our Secretary John Zammit on 01628 520779 or look on our website www.bevcc.co.uk

Marlow & District Railway Society

Another busy year of events is in store for members of the Marlow & District Railway Society, which meets on the third Thursday of each month at the community centre. Visitors are always welcome – for more information contact Malcolm Margetts at mandw.margetts@btinternet.com.

CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

Events in the community centre unless otherwise stated

FEBRUARY

- 2 Thu** Quiz night in the community centre bar – why not enter a team? The fun starts at 8.30pm.
- 5 Sun** Magpie's Nest antiques fair from 9.30am-3.30pm.
- 7 Tue** CentreJAZZ: live music from 8pm in the community centre bar with Pete Davies & the jazz quintet. Admission £5.
- 10 Fri** Charity quiz night organised by Bourne End & Cookham Rotary club at Wye Valley School. Email richard@regnom.co.uk for tickets – all proceeds to campaign to eradicate polio.
- 11 Sat** Bourne End Community Market in the Bourne End Library. Support local stallholders from 10am-1pm.
- 11 Sat** Cliveden gardens reopen at 10am after winter closure. Trails for the children, challenge the maze and a new addition to the children's storybook play area.
- 17 Fri** Social dance with Barbara and David at 8pm. Good dancing in friendly company.
- 24 Fri** 'Strictly Dance 7' featuring live music from organist Richard Keeling. Tickets £7.50, available from Alan Ford on 01628 525818. Proceeds to the Wycombe Scannappeal.
- 26 Sun** Open garden at Magnolia House, Grange Drive, Wooburn Green from 11am. Similar event to be held on Sunday 4th March – see page 10 for details.

MARCH

- 1 Thu** Quiz night in the community centre bar – why not enter a team? The fun starts at 8.30pm.
- 4 Sun** Magpie's Nest antiques fair from 9.30am-3.30pm.
- 6 Tue** CentreJAZZ: live music from 8pm. Admission priced £5.
- 10 Sat** Bourne End Community Market in the Bourne End Library. Support local stallholders from 10am-1pm.
- 10 Sat** Juniper Hill art exhibition, craft, gift & food fair from 11am with junior art gallery and lots more. Also on Sunday 11 March. Just up Blind Lane and into Churchill Close – well signposted.
- 11 Sun** Blitz Ball featuring Five Star Swing. See page 28 for more information on this special event to launch the community association's fiftieth anniversary celebrations.
- 16 Fri** Social dance with Barbara and David at 8pm. Good dancing in friendly company.

APRIL

- 1 Sun** Annual chess congress at the community centre from 10am. All day event. Contact David Langford on 01628 520065 for more details and entry form.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of Target will cover April and May. Please email editor@targetmagazine.org.uk by Monday 5th March if you'd like details of your event to be included. The magazine will be published on Friday 30th March.

Please call into the centre and pay for your copy of Target

AROUND & ABOUT... The last two months in pictures



Bourne End scouts at Wembley and joining in a record-breaking scrum at the stadium

The children's Christmas party at the Community Centre



Sunset in Wooburn



WVV - Sally Williams receives flowers with thanks for driving the minibus on supermarket shopping trips, above right Sybil Luckett celebrates being 90 and right, WVV party organiser Sandra Garey

Cookham Handbell Ringers Jeanne Turner and Monica Harris visit the Trefoil Guild



Young Forum, l-r, Rachel Hufflett, Jacob Deacon and Charlotte Robinson; fairies with attitude in The Tooth Fairy



Work taking place at UTSC and the Boxing Day racing that took place around it



Send your local stories and pictures to editor@targetmagazine.org.uk