

Celebrating Target's 60th volume in 2024

target

60

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The Journal of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

60

VOLUMES OF TARGET

A LOOK BACK AT SLATE MEADOW'S INCREDIBLE HISTORY

READ ALL ABOUT IT IN OUR FREE FOUR-PAGE ILLUSTRATED PULL-OUT

As *Target* celebrates its 60th volume here's a gift for every reader. Turn to the centre pages and find a humorous and well-researched history

of Slate Meadow through the ages written by Geoff Britt.

Geoff has lived alongside the meadow all his married life and seen it through countless seasons. His humorous style of writing will have you giggling while learning much about this well known area lying on the border of Bourne End and Wooburn Green.

The delightful Illustrations are by Lauren Robinson with a modern take on the meadow's historic periods. Keep it safe to show the next generation.

We've looked back elsewhere in this issue with another 'I remember...' feature. This time local car dealer Nick Pink talks about the cars in the picture from 1968 that hangs in the community centre foyer.

Then Nick goes on to talk about the motor traders from that period and the models they sold.

Did any of them expect to see electric cars or vehicles the size they are in 2024. And who still has a St Christopher from Bourne End Motors back in those days?

Celebrating its 60th volume is important for *Target* and proves that the community magazine is still part of our villages and important for local residents.

While places change, *Target* has been a constant reminder of what is happening locally. It remembers those who have died and it celebrates a new generation of residents.

And, in case we should forget, there are events to remind readers of the past. Read about an exhibition of Ken Townsend's old postcards on page 10.



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Checking out a Bourne
End market stall
Page 31



Thank you litter pickers
See page 8



Paddling for charity
See page 6



Churches ring in changes

Changes will be taking place for two local churches as they have struggled through the last few years without their own minister to take services or officiate at weddings, christenings and funerals.

Congregations at both churches have supported their church wardens and the church councils while fully appreciating the amount of work involved in arranging ministers from week to week as well as for special church events including Christmas and Easter.

Where possible the Diocese of Oxford provided guidance, but the important role was to keep church doors open, provide support for congregations and hold regular services. At both churches their belief and support has been tremendous as they faced months, then years, without a regular minister.

Recently St Nicholas Church at Hedsor was delighted to announce that the Rev Adrian Manning would be joining their parish as an associate priest and you can read about his Licensing on page 26. It marked the end of a long period without a regular priest.

At St Mark's Church in Bourne End they have taken the bold step to secure their future by partnering with St Andrews Church in High Wycombe. Rev Simon Dust will be licensed as associate priest on Sunday 16 June.

To enable Rev Simon to continue to be involved in both St Andrew's and St Mark's services, from Sunday June 16, there will be a new regular Sunday service at 2pm.

Working together with St Andrews will provide regular ministers for services and offer a wider range of exciting church activities and support. Future plans are to develop a new Missional Community to inspire the congregation and serve the local community.



Rev Simon at St Mark's



Rev Adrian at St Nicholas'



Target magazine is published by Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association and distributed free to over 5,000 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, Wooburn Moor and parts of Flackwell Heath.

The association is a registered charity (No. 300236). It is financed by fundraising, donations and income from the community centre and is managed entirely by volunteers.

Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

The Centre, Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX
Telephone: 01628 522604
Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9am to 4pm
Centre Manager: Paula Riley
Visit: www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk
for current information or email
office@bebca.org.uk

Editor

Debra Aspinall
Tel: 07881 558027
editor@targetmagazine.org.uk

Managing Editor & Distribution

Barrie Penfold
Tel: 01628 525415

Advertising & Production

Barrie Penfold
Tel: 01628 525415
advertising@targetmagazine.org.uk
Our advertising rate card is on
www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk
Click on Community Association, then
Target.

Additional proofreading

Meriel Riseley

Printers

Gpex, Pinstone Way,
Gerrards Cross SL9 7BJ
Telephone: 01753 887450



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TARGET COMPETITION PAGE 36

Terms and conditions: Entrants must be aged 18 or over, only one entry per person, no cash alternative to the prize, our decision is final, no correspondence can be entered into. The meal must be booked in advance and is subject to availability. Drinks not included.



WOOBURN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Caroline Meechan

Hopefully by the time you read this it will be a little warmer and drier. What a very wet start we have had to this year.

Despite the cool weather and the almost constant rain, planning has been going on in the background for Wooburn Fête which is happening on Saturday June 22 on the Green.

It should be in your diaries/on your fridge planner and we look forward to seeing you there: noon to 4pm.

The usual activities will be available with fairground rides for the children, the Scouts providing a barbecue, local schools singing and dancing, music from local stars and a Bourne End-based dance school performing.

There will be some stalls from the community market so you can pick up some of their goodies and other shopping opportunities offering jewellery, honey from bees kept in the area and other surprises.

We have previously been grateful to local businesses for sponsorship to cover the costs of the fête but this year has been difficult for many businesses and we have not had anyone to take on headline sponsorship.

A big thank you to Buckinghamshire Heating & Plumbing who have contributed for the first time this year, but we are still

looking for help. The fête costs almost £2,000 to put on with expenses such as the first aid cover and insurance being a big part of the total bill.

If you are working locally, own a local company, or have any influence over local businesses who you think would like to contribute in the way of sponsorship please contact secretary@wooburnresidents.org and let us know. Any amount would be gratefully received – thank you.

Looking forward to our next free talk. Simon Coles, a keen amateur historian, will present *People and Places of Wooburn* on June 10 in The Wooburn Club.

Simon was our speaker last October, presenting on local history and this talk was to a packed house with many requests for a repeat.

He has refreshed his material and has included information on ancient archaeological finds in Wooburn (so do not feel that you have heard it all before)

June 10 at 8pm in the private room at Wooburn Club. Free of charge.

Wooburn Residents' Association Next Meeting:

**Monday July 15th
8pm at**

The Wooburn Club

www.wooburnresidents.org

We are also ready for the annual duck race which we will hold at Parkfest in Wooburn Park on Saturday August 31.

We are making preparations to ensure all the ducks are 'captured' this year and none sail off down the river causing confusion to our feathered variety.

If you would like to meet your neighbours, hear what is happening in our villages and stay up to date with planning applications, building works and traffic issues, come along to the next Wooburn Residents' Association meeting which will be held on Monday July 15, 8pm in the private room of Wooburn Club. Everyone is welcome. www.wooburnresidents.org



Last year's musical treat at our fête

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Marathon star Meg!

Meg Willis is a Production and Product Development Assistant for Sweaty Betty and works in a very active office for this leading women's sportswear brand. In October last year, in partnership with Sweaty Betty, she ran the Royal Parks Half Marathon, previous to this she had never run long distances, but with the offer of free leggings thought 'why not'?

Meg had a blast doing that and loved the training so thought: "I'm halfway there so why not see if I can get a place for the London Marathon as I have always wanted to do it."

As the ballot was closed, Meg went down the charity route and got a place to run for the Berkshire MS Therapy Centre which is a charity very close to her boyfriend's family's heart as his dad is a long term sufferer of MS. "Being able to run for them was all the more exciting and meaningful" was Meg's thought.

She started training at the beginning of the year. "I have learned it is quite hard to avoid hilly runs around here, but I managed to get all of my long runs done with the company of my Dad on a bike. The longest run I did was 34km or around 21 miles and, I have to say, that that run was far harder than the marathon in terms of willpower and carrying on," she told *Target*.

Meg was nervous on marathon day, but as soon as she started running the nerves disappeared and she genuinely had a really fun time. She said: "The crowds were incredible and really helped distract you from what your body was doing (which is a good thing) and it was amazing to see all of the signs of



Meg at the finish and, inset, at 24 miles

support people had made. It was definitely tough in some places, but the atmosphere made it hard to give up."

Speaking to us just days after her run, Meg says that she would do it all again as she had such a great group of friends and family supporting her and managed to raise just under £3,000 for the charity which is what it was all about.

"I have just entered the ballot for 2025 and I would be very keen to travel to other cities to run in their half or full marathons," she grinned then added that she had just about recovered and that stairs were getting a little less difficult.

Rowing to movie success



Nick Harding, a Bourne End riverside resident, was the man recruited to make actors become rowers for the film of *'The Boys in the Boat'* released at the end of 2023 and proving to be a hit with cinemagoers. Directed by George Clooney many of the

racing scenes were shot locally and will be easy to recognise.

Getting Nick to talk about the challenge, working with a GB rowing coach and getting to know a great bunch of actors along with skilled rowing crews from Oxford colleges has been the scoop of the summer for the Friends of Bourne End Library.

Now this can be shared when Nick talks about rowing, himself, his screenwriting and coaching actors on Friday 28 June at 7 for 7.30pm.

'The Boys in the Boat' is the story of a rowing team from the University of Washington who, in 1936 during the height of the Great Depression, get thrust into the spotlight as they compete for gold at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. The book

by Daniel James Brown is a factual account of how it was possible to mould a team from different backgrounds through teamwork, trust and leadership.

Carefully chosen the cast list was packed with movie talent who knew nothing about rowing and rowing very competitively. Nick worked with Terry O'Neil, ex GB rowing coach, and initially they sat the actors at rowing machines and started training.

"We accepted that we might have to use film skills to achieve the racing shots, but we found that the group of actors were enthusiastic and worked to make the rowing scenes as authentic as possible," Nick told *Target*. "They surpassed all our expectations."

Nick's screenwriting experience was a plus along with his previous work with actors. This, along with being a rowing coach, was the ideal combination for the film.

Read the book *'The Boys in the Boat'* as it's a fascinating story about the world of sport in 1936 set against a world fearing for a future and predicting a war. Then call into the library and book your ticket for a very special talk.



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Paddlers invited to join Mankind barbers

Pictured here are Kirsty, Jayne, Gillian and Hannah. So far they know they will be joined and supported by Neil, Russell and Dave who paddled with them last year.

These will also be available on line and will include teeshirts and hoodies. You can also

BRIDGE PLAYER'S BIDDING QUIZ

Bourne End Bridge Club has compiled some of the best quiz questions which have appeared in *English Bridge*. Try this one set by **Julian Pottage**

You are sitting West. What should you bid on the given auction at match-pointed pairs, love all?

♠ Q 5	W	N	E	S
♥ A K 10 8				1NT
♦ 6	?			
♣ A K 7 6 5 2				

*English Bridge is published by
the English Bridge Union.*



Arrival at The Bounty in Bourne End is scheduled for around 1pm on Bank Holiday



To support their fund raising the Justgiving page is at [BigPaddle ThamesChallenge](#).



Children + creatures = an unforgettable afternoon

One World Animals made a welcome return to the community centre during the Easter holidays. Their talented and friendly team brought exotic animals to a wide-eyed audience of children who don't normally get up close and personal with these animals and reptiles.

"It's a mouse!"

And again it was a magical occasion as a snake or a spider was laid on a small, outstretched hand to feel the softness and texture.

As the children arrived they could get close to an owl or watch tortoises feeding – which they seemed to do all the time. Where does a huge cabbage leaf go so quickly?

"I held a tarantula!"

Then it was time to make a big circle shape around the presenter and listen as he talked about the exotic animals they would see during the next hour. He promised that the excited children would get their chance to touch and feel them.

It was an unforgettable experience for everyone as little ones saw real creatures and not pictures in a book or on a television. Older children could relate

the creatures to their science curriculum and they learned about habitats, food chains and lifestyle.

Parents watched in amazement as their offspring boldly held out hands to hold, touch and feel the creatures.

"Feel how heavy this large tortoise is?" was the invitation and hands were ready to take the weight.

"That's me with a boa constrictor around my neck!"

Owl flight was an unexpected diversion, but he was attached by a long lead and returned for a treat.

The iguana blinked then set off to investigate the children and they were able to marvel at the various skin textures. He had obviously done this many times before and loved being the centre of attention.

But the sight of the boa constrictor wrapping itself around young shoulders was a delight for everyone. And holding a tarantula was no problem as the spider totally filled young hands.

It was over all too soon as the creatures were carefully put back into their boxes to be taken back

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BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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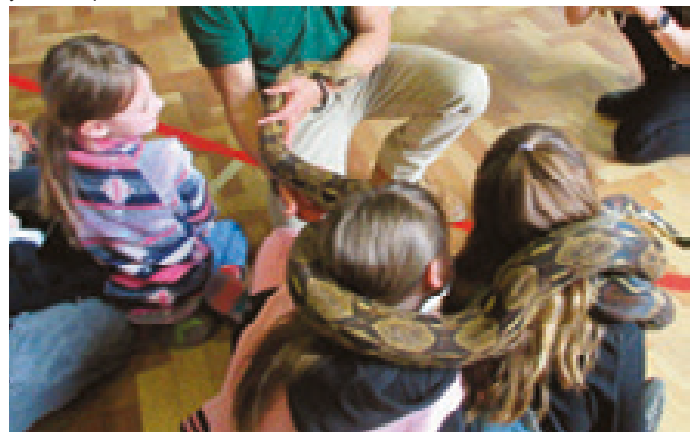



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to the security of their homes. Children wandered off bearing their sticker to say they had been to One World Animals and there were plenty of photos taken during the afternoon to provide something for 'show and tell' when they went back to school. And the message from the children was a huge 'thank you' and 'please come back'.





PHONE BOX BOOK EXCHANGE – WASH HILL

Thank you to all who continue to use our book exchange outside the car park to Wooburn Park. It is in fact so popular that books are not fitting on the shelves and are being left on the floor or in the doorway.

While this is a fantastic testament to the initiative, we are asking please that you don't leave books anywhere but the shelves.

If there is no space left, please bring your book donations to the Parish Council Office on Town Lane. We have decided to put any surplus books we still have on display at Parkfest for you to help yourself to or swap with ones you no longer want/need, so do look out for the PC stall and our book swap posters.

COUNCIL VACANCIES

Our newest councillor was co-opted last month, therefore there are currently four vacancies on the council. If you'd like to know more about what it means to be a parish councillor or would like to put your name forward, please contact the office or view our website for more information.

KING CHARLES III CORONATION SLATE

As you may have seen on The Green, we have now installed our Welsh slate to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III.

The slate is a natural product from his



principality, indicating his love of nature. The stone was set in resin, so we allowed this resin to set to make sure it was secure before attaching the plaque.

PARKFEST



The organisation of Parkfest 2024 is in full swing.

If you would like to attend as a stallholder, please scan the QR code to register your interest.

All money raised from the event will be distributed between local charities, so we're hoping for our community to come and have a fantastic day.

BOURNE END COMMUNITY MARKET

We continue to attend the market every second Saturday of the month, so please come and speak to us.

Alternatively, we will once again be opening up the office for our Open House evenings. We'd love to hear your opinions and ideas on all things Wooburn and Bourne End. If you are able to attend any of these meetings with your local PC team we'd be extremely happy to welcome you.

The next Open House of 2024 will be held at the Parish Council Offices on Tuesday June 18 from 5pm to 7pm. Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

Please continue to report any issues you see within the parish to us as we can only help if we are made aware - either email (clerk@wooburnparish.gov.uk), contact us via our website

(www.wooburnparish.gov.uk) phone on 01628 522827, or drop in to the office with details. We are happy to help. Scan this QR code to reach our website.



A great day to litter pick!

writes Karen Savage

Good weather made Sunday April 14 an ideal day to join in our village litter pick.

With so much rain of late many chose to take the opportunity to enjoy the rare sunshine. Fifteen locals joined in and many thanks go to them. Your efforts really made a difference with feedback saying that, on the whole, the village was clean.

A number of people have also been in contact to say that they couldn't attend on the day, but they have been out on other days.

The improved appearance could be due to two teenage boys from Bourne End who are currently carrying out their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award by spending one hour a week for three months litter picking the villages. Goes to prove that regular litter picking does keep the litter at bay and our local roads look so much better for their care and attention.

A delight of the day was young litter pickers Lucy (8) and Ellie (6) from Wooburn who go out regularly with Mum Natalie to clean up around their home and school at Wooburn Green Primary (pictured far right). Many thanks to them for being aware of how important it is to keep litter at bay.

Despite the villages not having too much litter,



Left: Karen Savage with volunteer Derek Milsom and the young litter pickers Ellie and Lucy. Right, the girls with mum Natalie



residents reported lots of dog poo hanging in bags and a small amount of drug paraphernalia and small gas canisters.

Many thanks again to the parish council for collecting the rubbish bags. With budgets tight at county level, litter picking is something that the council can no longer afford to support. So it's even

more important to volunteer and take a bag with you on your next walk. The parish council offices have a number of pickers and hoops available to borrow if you want to take up this rewarding hobby.

There's a Facebook group called Litter Picking - Bourne End & Wooburn, where you can follow events and report areas that need picking.

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Exhibition of postcards of old Bourne End and the surrounding area

Step back in time at our exhibition of old postcards of Bourne End and the surrounding area, *writes Dave Foster*.

Nestled along the banks of the River Thames, Bourne End has long captured the hearts of residents and visitors alike. Prepare to embark on a journey through the annals of time at this

exhibition from Ken Townsend's postcards which have been collected over 40 years. Come along and step back in time at the community centre on Saturday June 29.

In an age where digital communication reigns supreme, there's something undeniably magical about the humble postcard. Each one tells a story — a snapshot of a moment frozen in time serving as a window into the past, offering a glimpse into the village's history.

As you wander through the exhibition you will be transported back to a bygone era, where life moved at a slower pace with each postcard capturing the essence of Bourne End in its own

unique way.

The vintage postcards feature landmarks such as Old Claytons School, St Mark's Church, The Parade, Abbotsbrook and of course the River Thames.

In a world where change is constant and the future is uncertain, preserving the past becomes more important than ever. This exhibition serves as a reminder of the importance of heritage preservation, ensuring that future generations can continue to learn from and be inspired by the stories of those who came before them.

Whether you're a history buff, a photography





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♥ A K 10 8				1NT
♦ 6	?			
♣ A K 7 6 5 2				

Dble. The double of 1NT says you have at least 15 HCP and says nothing about your shape. If you bid 3♣, that would not (for most pairs) show a strong hand since 2♣ would be conventional – and you might miss a heart fit doing that anyway.

Julian Pottage.
English Bridge is published by the English Bridge Union.



enthusiast, or simply curious about the heritage of Bourne End and the local villages, this exhibition offers something for everyone.

Doors open at 10am until 3pm with tea and coffee available between 11am and 1pm. Entrance is by donation.

Put Saturday 29 June into your diary for a trip down memory lane.

- 1 Old Claytons School
- 2 The Parade from Oakfield Road
- 3 Station Road including the level crossing and the Railway Hotel (later The Firefly)
- 4 The shops at Furlong Road

APOLOGIES:

To Clarice for getting her age wrong in the story about Kiddie Crafts in the Library. Clarice is not four but five – Nana should have known better. Sorry Clarice.

BOOK NEWS:

Apologies to author Peter Charlesworth for not mentioning that copies of his book 'The Tricky Bit' are on sale in The Lemon Tree gift shop. It's a good read.

Allotment clearing ready for planting

Cubs, Scouts and Venture Scouts, along with leaders and parents, from 1st Bourne End Scout Group worked wonders on the new community garden plot in Peggs Allotment over the May Day Bank Holiday weekend.

Working on the Saturday and Sunday they prepared the ground for the Monday rain to get deep into the soil. Any gardener will say that makes perfect growing conditions.

Ian Blazey and his team of volunteers provided hot dogs and refreshments for the workers and other allotment holders came to support the young people.

Students from Bourne End Academy lent

a hand over the weekend and Ian told *Target* that it was a great success. He added: "The Scouts will also use the experience towards their gardening, volunteering and community badges."

The community plot was donated by Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council to create space for local groups to come to Peggs Allotment in New Road, Bourne End and be part of a productive area with flowers and vegetables.

But the groundwork needed to be done before any planting could take place.

Ian explained: "We are looking to build a community group where people can socialise, meet and garden together, with guidance, tools, seeds and support provided."

There is also a wellbeing community

group who are volunteers from Peggs Allotment and other groups and individuals who have come together to supervise and support the community plot in the future. If anyone would like to get involved they can contact Ian on igblazey@gmail.com

He would then create a rota and timetable when the plot would be available.

Ian is a parish councillor and also a teacher at Bourne End Academy as well as an enthusiastic grower.

For the second year running he has been responsible for the 'Plant a Potato' in a bucket competition which will be judged at Parkfest on Saturday August 31.

Our photos show the bank holiday helpers proudly displaying the raised beds, now ready for planting, and the volunteers hard at work.



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UPPER THAMES SAILING CLUB report by Tony Ketley

Those of you who regularly walk the Thames Path through Bourne End will have noticed that Upper Thames Sailing Club has had its annual regatta, which has become known as Bourne End Week.

This event has taken place every year since 1893 (with the exception of the war years). In 1893 Queen Victoria presented a cup to be awarded to the winner of a chosen race for the Thames A Raters. Many of those Raters who competed the first time are still competing today. The cup is affectionately known as the Queen's Cup, and though several other cups are awarded during the week, the Queen's Cup is the pinnacle for the Rater crews.

The crews from the early days probably wouldn't immediately recognise the Raters of today.

Sailing on a river is very different from sailing on the sea, besides the requirement to tack quite a bit, there are no trees or buildings at sea. Perhaps the odd lighthouse. Because of the size of these boats, they require a fair bit of

sail area to carry them along. A taller mast was introduced to catch the wind above the trees and buildings. However too much sail area would be a problem, keeping the same area the sail became much taller, as we see it today, almost like a quill.

Other developments have happened along the way, new materials have improved performance; the masts and booms, once wood, then aluminium, are now carbon fibre, which is much lighter. Sail technology plays its part, no longer simple cotton ones, today's materials are varied but Dacron is probably the most used material.

Upper Thames is home to several Raters and most Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings they can be seen on the river. It is easy to recognise them, they are about eight metres long with a mast height of around 13 metres. These craft are inspiring, come and see them, and be inspired. New members, both sailing and social are welcome. For more details find us at <https://www.utsc.org.uk>



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Bourne End Library

The Friends of Bourne End Library.

Our talk on April 10 started off with an afternoon tea and delicious cakes which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

This was followed by an illustrated talk from Quentin Falk presenting Graham Greene, *Greening - the Cinema*. It was entertaining, extremely informative and appreciated by all.

Quentin inspired us to want to re-read Greene's books (reserve your copy at the library).

Seeing the clips and hearing the music of *The Third Man*, *The Quiet American* and several others brought back many memories and encouraged us to want to look out for the films on TV channels such as Talking Pictures.

Quentin's talk, and many anecdotes, made this a memorable afternoon.

Our next event in the library is Friday June 28 when we have Nick Harding presenting an illustrated talk on the film *'The Boys in the Boat'*.

Nick will be giving us an insight on Daniel James Brown's book, and now a major film based on this true story. *'The Boys in the Boat'* is directed by George Clooney. It is an inspired story of the 1936 American Olympic gold medallist team and their success in Berlin. Nick was the rowing instructor and coach for the actors in the film, so will have interesting stories to tell of the filming. See page 4.

Tickets £10. Cash only from the library. Doors open at 7pm talk at 7.30pm includes Prosecco and nibbles.

The Friends have now had The Lantern Room

re-carpeted, and it looks a lot more inviting and ready for hiring for groups, meetings etc. One of our committee, Dave Kimber, has now obtained a new PA system making a big improvement to the sound quality for the future events.

The committee has recently added a plant together with a plaque in the garden in memory of Jean Peasley, a very well-known lady who worked tirelessly on many projects in the village.

On a fine sunny day the library garden is an oasis to sit in, read books, pass some quiet time or meet with friends.

Look out for details of further events on our posters, social media and in the library.

We are urgently looking for volunteers to join our team at the library, helping us behind the counter on Thursday and Friday afternoons (12:20 to 2:30pm or 2:20 to 5pm) and Saturday mornings (9:20am to 2pm) serving customers and helping with their enquiries.

We need volunteers who are polite, friendly, reliable and willing to learn new skills, with a 'can do' attitude and interest in helping the local community while having a good time and socialising with new people. In short, we need YOU!

You could volunteer to work just one shift a week, or more than one if you wanted.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please get in touch by email lib-boe@buckinghamshire.gov.uk or just pop in to the library and have a chat with one of the team.

The Bourne End Library team



Full Steam Ahead for Bourne End Junior Craft Show 2024

Preparations are underway for Bourne End Junior Craft Show which takes place in Bourne End Library on Saturday October 5. Now in our 12th year we are offering the usual mix of classes for all ages from four to 16 inclusive. Entry is completely free of charge and once again we have some fantastic arty crafty prizes for the winners, along with our coveted rosettes and trophies.

Our drawing and painting classes are always very popular, as is photography. Recent years have seen an increase in collage/mixed media entries and also in crochet. The decorated cupcakes always look too good to eat so perhaps it is just as well that we only judge on decoration and do not actually taste them! Every year we have some more unusual craft entries too, such as fused glass or handmade lace.

American author Stephen Pressfield said "Creative work is a gift to the world and every being in it. Don't cheat us of your contribution. Give us what you've got." We agree, we absolutely love seeing everybody's entries and are constantly amazed at the level of vision and attention to detail. In these days of increased pressure and squeezed budgets we are glad to be able to offer an enjoyable opportunity for some creative escapism that doesn't cost the earth.

Full schedule and entry details are on our website www.bejuniorcraftshow.co.uk or scan the QR code. Start planning your entries now. We look forward to seeing you in October.



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MEET UP AT HEDSOR FAIR

Says Stuart Fletcher

When the weather is fine you know it's a sign for messing about by the river.

So here's a note for your diary; Hedsor Fair falls, this year, on Saturday, June 29.

And once again, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Callingham, the main fund raising event for the 12th

Century St Nicholas Church (the one that looks down, over the Thames, from its Hedsor hilltop) will be held at their riverside garden at Orchard Dean, Riversdale.

Every year the fair proves to be a very popular local occasion, with families and friends meeting up for a unique and traditional fun afternoon.

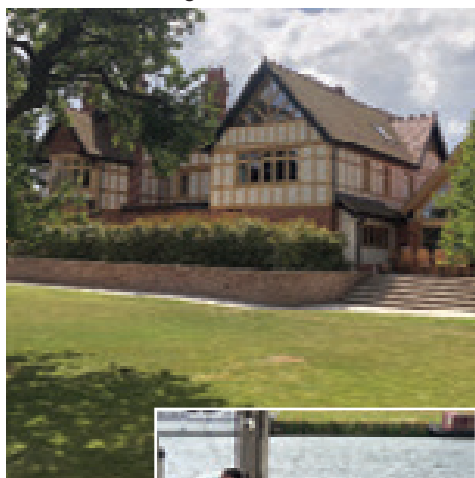
With our boat rides, barbecue, freshly picked strawberries with cream, teas and exclusive home-made cakes, it is the ideal English garden event.

We've got the ever popular tombola and bottle stall, plus those unique family games you will not find anywhere else, not to forget the second hand books. Come and hunt out that rare first edition bargain.

Live music will be provided throughout the afternoon by local Marlow Bottom band, The Bottom Line.

And of course, after a two and a half year wait, we are now very thrilled to have our own priest taking our Sunday services again so come and meet Rev Adrian at the fair.

Hedsor Fair, Saturday June 29, noon until 4.30pm, at Orchard Dean, Riversdale, Bourne End, SL8 5EB.



Little Marlow Parish Council

By Cllr Kath Acres

We are delighted to welcome our new parish clerk, Jennie Phenix, who started with us at the end of March. Jennie is a Pregnancy Yoga teacher in the area and it seems that she has already met many local mothers.

Since acting as parish clerk it has become obvious to me that the role is hugely important. It is legally complex, challenging and interesting and most importantly requires outstanding communication skills and a commitment to making our parish the best it can be.

The key thing I discovered was that there is never one solution to local issues that will please everyone and everything takes longer than you might imagine. I urge everyone reading this to be kind to both our parish clerks at Little Marlow and Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council.

The poor water quality of the River Thames has been rightly highlighted lately and we are pleased that we can contribute to the water testing project that Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council has initiated to regularly monitor for pollutants.

Exciting news in Little Marlow is that we have installed two new dog poo bins. One at Abbotsbrook Hall and one at the recreation ground. We have also taken over looking after the dog bin in Coldmoorholme Lane car park.

Less cheerful news is the state the bin in the car park was left in following the only sunny day we have had for months. I am at a loss to understand why people think it is appropriate to take general litter and leave it around a dog bin (photo).

On the subject of the car park in Coldmoorholme Lane this is maintained by volunteers from Coldmoorholme Lane Residents Association who litter pick daily and keep hedges under control. Many thanks to all of them and to the Spade Oak pub who annually make a cash donation towards its upkeep.

Please take care driving round the bend by the Crooked Billet in Sheepridge Lane - we are working on getting the Vehicle Activated Sign repaired.

Down at the cemetery (looking beautiful in May with bluebells) work has finally been completed on the chapel roof. The chapel was built in 1900 with money donated by

Braddish Ellames who lived at The Manor House and who also bequeathed the cricket pavilion at the recreation ground which now hosts Little Marlow's parish office and various community events and Little Marlow pre-school.

Finally we have gone out to tender to replace the storage shed on the recreation ground and fingers crossed it will be finished in time for Little Marlow Annual Fête on Monday August 26.

I am pleased to report that, thanks to Jennie's efforts, the Chapman Lane Allotments are fully occupied just in time for the growing season. We have some hall hire slots for Abbotsbrook Hall during the summer (availability can be checked on the hall bookings calendar on our website).

Contact Details

www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk
Email: clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk
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When did you last go ten pin bowling? If you are retired or semi-retired (like members of the Bourne End and District u3a) it may be some time since you did.

But a group of our members are doing just that, twice a month.

I joined the group in Wycombe recently, and try as I might, I could only come third in the table.

The game was won by Derek Clench, the convenor of the group - apparently he always wins.

Bee tucked in the right hand corner alongside her picture of Henley



Melvyn Lewis was the only person during the game to score a strike!

As Derek says: "The bowling group typifies what the u3a is all about.

"It's a meet up once a fortnight for bowling and a chat."

Our u3a branch now has some 50 groups meeting on a regular basis.

One of the newest is the Coins and Medals group for those who collect or are interested in coins, banknotes, medals and tokens.

Have a look at our website at Bourne End & District u3a where you can find information about all of our groups, our monthly talks and the outings and theatre trips that we organise.

If you would like to know more, are thinking of joining us, or would like to suggest another group, please contact chair@bourneendu3a.org.uk

L to r: Brian Taylor, Derek Clench, Jan Biggs, Audrie Hook, Melvyn Lewis, Rosemary Lewis

Making it big in Henley

Bourne End artist, Bee Skelton, was commissioned to produce a picture for Henley Town Hall Information Centre. That was almost a year ago. The commission requested the inclusion of various

Henley Council assets so Bee visited all the locations to make sketches and take photo references. Then it was back to the studio to include everything into one of her colourful and lively paintings. While the end result would be huge, Bee's original painting was done to roughly quarter scale.

Then modern technology took over when Bee's son, Ian Skelton, took a very high quality photo and the image was converted onto a printed material and installed on the wall of Henley Town Hall Information Centre.

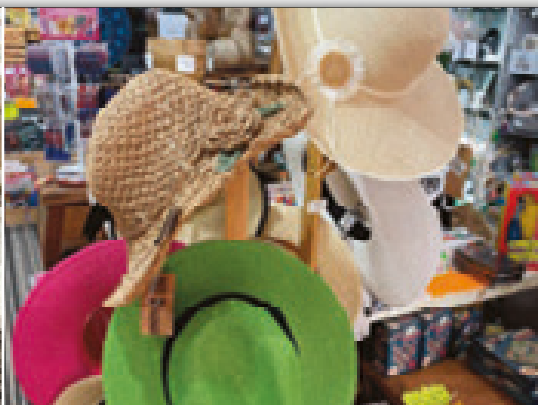
Ian is a professional photographer so Bee knew the work was in good hands. If you are in Henley check out Bee's picture and delight in how it fills the wall of the information centre. As always her pictures are joyful and you cannot resist smiling at her delightful interpretation of our lovely world.

There are more of Bee's pictures in the Lemon Tree Gift Shop on The Parade in Bourne End or visit her website.



Selling cards, gifts, jewellery, various wines and spirits, accessories for pets, hampers and homeware. Our gift shop stocks a large amount of locally sourced products from Bourne End and the surrounding areas.

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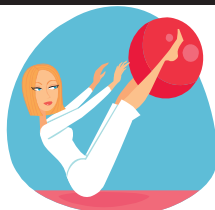


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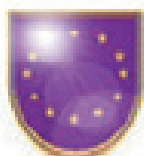
Stella Halpin BSc.(Ost.)
David Turner B.Ost.
Morag Rowle M.C.S.P.M.H.C.

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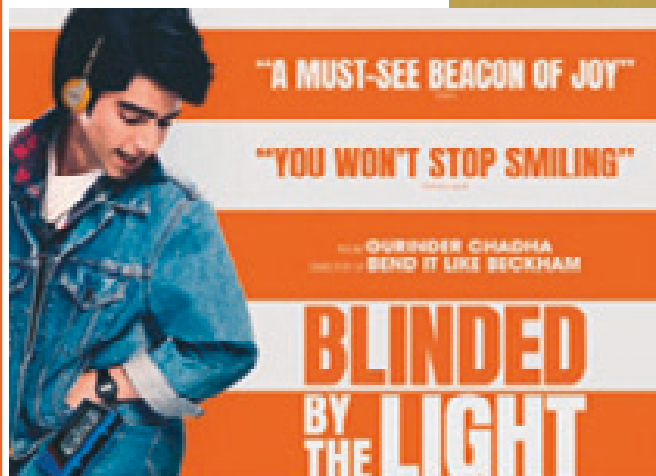


Sunday 16th June 16:00

Doors open 15:20 for coffee, tea and cake

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk



Inspired by the true story of journalist Sarfraz Manzoor, *Blinded by the Light* tells the story of a Asian teenager in 1987 who learns to live his life, understand his family and find his own voice through the music of American rock star Bruce Springsteen.

Starring Viveik Kalra, Hayley Atwell and Rob Brydon.



At Bourne End Community Centre

The New Royalty Cinema is a fundraising event for Bourne End Community Association Charity No. 300236
Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5SX

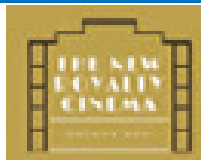
Sunday 21st July 16:00

Doors open 15:20 for coffee, tea and cake

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk

or from the Centre Office 01628 522604



When people in Littlehampton - including conservative local Edith - begin to receive letters full of hilarious profanities, rowdy Irish migrant Rose is charged with the crime. Suspecting something is amiss, the town's women investigate.

This film contains explicit language.



At Bourne End Community Centre

The New Royalty Cinema is a fundraising event for Bourne End Community Association Charity No. 300236
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One Life

The screening of *One Life* in May was a complete sell-out and many people who wanted to come were disappointed. It's possible that we will arrange a second screening for later in the year, so if you would like to see this film, please call the centre office (details on page 2) and leave your name and phone number to go on the waiting list. Thank you.

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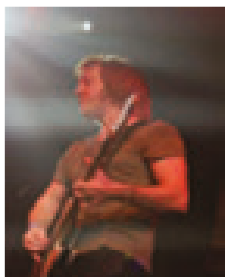
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Bourne End Community Centre

CENTRE ROCK With MATT BONE



Matt, lead singer from the Small Fakers, will be joining us for an intimate evening of music and song.

Live in the Centre Bar

Tuesday July 16th 2024 from 19:45

Wakeman Road SL8 5SX

Tickets £7 members/£8 non-members

Online at bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk, or
from the Centre office, Tel: 01628 522604
(On the door subject to availability).

centreRock is a fund raising activity of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association
a charity registered in England and Wales No. 300236



Bourne End Community Centre

CENTRE ROCK With GARY ROMAN



Elvis and Legends

50s 60 70s

Live in the Centre Bar

Tuesday June 18th 2024 from 19:45

Wakeman Road SL8 5SX

Tickets £7 members/£8 non-members

Online at bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk, or
from the Centre office, Tel: 01628 522604
(On the door subject to availability).

centreRock is a fund raising activity of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association
a charity registered in England and Wales No. 300236

ANGLING CLUB *FROM THE WATER'S EDGE*

We fished Royal Berkshire at the beginning of April and first was Henry Rimmer with 39lb 12oz, second was Jim West 31lb and third Chris Payne 24lb 12oz. We had a prospective new member guest with us and some of you will remember Eric Leuzinger who was a member for a while and hopefully will return this coming season.

In May we had a 'float only' match. This is a match where you can only use rod and reel, no ledgering, no poles. It isn't the most popular of matches — probably why it hasn't been part of the matches for a while, but it does have a trophy so we decided to reinstate it this year.

Especially as a few members only float fish. We fished at Iwer for this match. It was a really wet morning and a couple of people decided not to fish once they arrived. The afternoon dried out and it wasn't actually cold so those who remained had a reasonable end to the day, but the fish were somewhat elusive. Neil Townsend was first with 14lb 8oz, second was Michele Smith 13lb 8oz, third was Bob Smith with 7lb 7oz.

Those who know me and read these fishing tales will know that I am not one of the best fishing persons in the club. However when I achieve anything I am always so humble about it and never brag. However please note that I actually came second and only a 1lb behind Neil and I was an hour late starting. I also beat hubby. Not that I am at all competitive you understand.

For our final match of this season we returned to Royal Berkshire with glorious sunshine. First was Neil Townsend with 84lb 8oz, second Henry Rimmer with 25lb and third was Bob Smith with 22lb 8oz. We were joined by Steven James, a welcome new member.

We have sadly lost two members through ill health - John Chapman and Geoff Hunt. We enjoyed your company on matches and sincerely hope things will improve health-wise for you both.

Many thanks to those of you who have helped with carrying gear, weighing in and helping pack up over the season, especially when we have been struggling. We are forever grateful.

If you wish to join or guest with us, you will be most welcome. You don't have to match fish and we are affiliated to the Thames Valley Angling Association so by being a member with us you can pleasure fish their waters for FREE. Please get in touch.

Until next time, Tight Lines

Michele Smith secretary
Tel 07802 711141

Email Raemichelsmith@yahoo.co.uk



Bourne End Community Centre

Coffee Morning

at Bourne End Community Centre

Saturday 29th June

11:00 - 13:00

for tea, coffee, cake and a chat

Free entrance - All welcome

Running alongside

A Postcard History
of Bourne End

10:00 - 15:00

Entrance by Donation



Wakeman Road, Bourne End, SL8 5SX - 01628 522604
Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association. Charity No. 300236



Now you can donate to the One Trust whenever you call into the community centre. It's simple and you'll know that what you donate will be helping people who rely on the charity and the help it provides. Look out for the cage in the foyer.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Bourne End Community Association will be held on Wednesday June 5 at 7.30pm in the Eghams Room at the community centre. All members are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

The agenda is available at the centre office and on bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk

Centre Bar Quiz

The next dates are 6 June, 11 July and 1 August.

The quiz will be held in the May Woollerton Hall (unless otherwise advised on the evening). Doors open at 7.30; please arrive by 7.45 for an 8pm start. For information call Diane on 07521 656413 or email secretary@bebca.org.uk

SHORT M

Every year the Short Section holds a friendly competition between the high members of our M bowlers and Tuesday. Throughout the year their scores tallied and a running total. At the end of the scoring man and evening then played for the Winners Section. Our end of year Round Competition.

This year Paul Butler Monday night's game. Hudson from Tuesday and after a hard-fought was the overall winner. The ladies with Tuesday were Janet Gould and Pat Williams nights. This again but Janet was the second year in.

We are a friendly actively looking for you wish to try so please follow the pop in when we are enquire. We play Tuesday evenings Woollerton Hall at Community Centre Tuesday each month. Alternatively you Gould on 01628 5 Thomas on 01628 email on besmbo



Paul Butler (left) and



Pat Williams (left)

A brief history of

SLATE MEADOW

Written by Geoff Britt

Illustrations by Laura Robinson

For eleven thousand years or so, since the end of the last ice age, there has been a little water meadow nestling alongside a small chalk stream running through a valley between rolling green hills. For millennia it methodically soaked up the excess rain-water which poured down from the surrounding hills so that the local inhabitants living by the side of the little river didn't get their mud huts washed away every time it rained.



When the locals could talk instead of grunt, it became known as Slaed* Meadow. Later, when the locals learnt how to spell, the name changed to Slate Meadow.

Aurochs munched contentedly on the succulent variety of flora here, apart from when being chased by Beaker Folk after a supply of ribeye. The meadow also served the useful purpose of providing many medicinal plants, used to treat a wide range of conditions, including stomach and liver complaints, diabetes, heart problems, anaemia, sore eyes, cuts, nervousness, constipation, and to increase urine production, to name but a few. All this was before the days of so-called civilised society when it took four weeks to get a doctor's appointment by which time the annoying little rash had gone away, or you had conveniently died.

This useful little meadow also supplied the locals with wood from Elder trees to make whistles, pipes, chanters, and other musical instruments to entertain the in-laws. In addition, Ash trees provided tool handles, furniture, plus wood for long bows for deterring approaching in-laws. Hazel trees produced wood for making wattle fencing (to keep the in-laws out), thatching spars, and basketry. Hazel wood was also handy for making fishing rods for use in the days before one needed a license to do anything near a river, and before the local water company killed off all the marine wild-life by dumping copious amounts

of human excrement into the rivers every time it drizzled. Even the common Ryegrass was particularly useful as livestock grazing. Added to which there was a plentiful supply of clean running water from the little river running by. All this made our little meadow a wonderful asset for the few people that had the good fortune to live nearby. Life was good.

Occasionally this tranquil existence was interrupted by visitors. The Celtic tribes of Catuvellauni and Atrebates used our little meadow as part of a convenient boundary between their two kingdoms (Bucks county councillors please note). In addition it provided a ready supply of Creeping Cinquefoil needed to treat infected wounds suffered on the occasions that members of the two opposing tribes decided to spend a weekend knocking seven bells out of each other (modern football wasn't invented until the early 1860s).

The Romans, when tired of slaughtering the numerous little upstarts who had the nerve to stand in the way of their pastime of building roads in a straight line wherever they went, found a serene oasis in our little meadow which could be reached by just a few minutes march (in a straight line) from their wharf on the River Thames opposite Cookham.

This route was used many centuries later when workers from the

hamlet of Cores End used to commute (walk) to their work at Cookham, on stilts when the fields flooded - developers building on flood plains please note.

Back in Roman times, our little meadow provided the delights of bramble tea and dandelion salads, served by the friendly locals who decided that handing cups of tea out was preferable to having their heads lopped off. Willow herb was also available for those greedy soldiers who over-indulged in the local culinary delights.

Such were the



delights of this part of the world that a few Romans decided to put down roots around what is now Bourne End, handy for work at the local wharf, which was used to load corn and livestock for shipping down the River Thames to Londinium, handy for the culinary and medicinal abundances to be found in our little meadow, and just far enough away from the main straight highway from Verulamium to Calleva (St Albans to Silchester) and Londinium to the West, to avoid hearing the tramp of the sandals of over-weight legionaries.

Plus there was a nice plot of land, where Roman Way Bourne End is now, to provide a graveyard for their dearly departed, as was evidenced many, many centuries later, when a Roman sarcophagus was found there. A few bits of pottery were also found around the Eghams Green area. BUT, a Roman Villa in Bourne End has not been found yet.

In the middle of the triangle formed by our little meadow, Roman Way, and the wharf site near Cookham Bridge sits one of the football pitches of Bourne End Academy. If Year 7 start digging up one of their sporting facilities looking for buried valuable artefacts and pieces of mosaic, don't blame me.

After the sound of sturdy Roman sandals tramping across our green and pleasant land in a straight line had faded into a distant memory, visitors from across the Channel decided to settle among the peaceful farming community dwelling around our fertile meadow.

These Saxons and Jutes quickly discovered the benefits of the medicinal herbs of Hawthorn, Hedge Roundwort and Red Clover, all of which could be found growing in our productive little meadow. In return these visitors from the East brought the skills required to make various objects of bling to adorn, and placate, ever critical mothers-in-law.

During this time, other parts of the country, which over the centuries had endured the skirmishes and battles between warring factions, were also undergoing a period of relative calm and prosperity, as had already been experienced by the good folk living in the vicinity of our little meadow.

All this peacefulness, though, could have been brought to an end by the arrival of men in funny hats with horns in futuristic ships from a place far away called Scandinavia.

These fearsome warriors rowed up the nearby River Thames and stopped briefly every so often to ravage the local maidens and massacre a few peasants in revenge for not being able to capture the City of London.

However, the friendly locals along the little river by our meadow continued their tradition of offering the delights of bramble tea and dandelion salads, obtainable of course from - you know where - to these latest visitors.

Ribwort Plantain was also offered to them for relieving the pain of blistered palms caused by having to row up the mighty River Thames against the current and prevailing winds instead of using their brightly decorated square sails.

All this hospitality had the effect of calming these mighty warriors down, who now introduced themselves as Vikings. They also made plans to bring their wives and kids over (plus the odd cow and mother-in-law) to settle in this tranquil setting of plenty when all the raping and pillaging got boring.

When the Vikings and Saxons had stopped trying to kill each other, our little meadow again became close to a dividing line, separating the kingdoms of the Saxon Edmund (not Blackadder) to the south, and that of the Scandinavian Canute to the north (Wycombe District, now Bucks County, councillors please note).

Edmund didn't last long, however, as he didn't live near enough to

our little meadow to avail himself of its medicinal flora (not the margarine). Canute, therefore, found himself ruler of a united kingdom, overseeing a period of relative calm. Peace and serenity filled the air, even when King Canute finally got swept away by the sea of death, and Edward came to the throne.

He was the king who kept confessing to being responsible for everything that was wrong in the country at that time. Things would not stay this way for much longer though. Once Edward had died and an upstart from the West Country called Harold had jumped onto the throne at Westminster, the peace and tranquility of our green and pleasant land was threatened. This threat became a blood-thirsty reality after Harold got his eye poked out near a quaint little fishing village called Hastings. A ruthless so and so named William, having wiped out the Saxon nobility and soldiers of Merry England, swept through the country, making the raping and pillaging by the Vikings look like a Women's Institute outing. You may wonder what all this historical rambling is about.

The parish of Wooburn had been under the ownership of the recently deceased King Harold and the parish of Little Marlow (no Bourne End at this time) was owned by Edith, sister of King Harold and widow of King Edward (the Confessor). Right between the two parishes lay our little meadow.

Edward and, later, his wife Edith, had spent many of their earlier years on the other side of the English Channel sucking up to the descendants of the Vikings (Normans) who had settled in Northern France. King William, in his raising havoc among the Saxon peasants around the country, paid particular attention to the lands owned by deceased Harold. This included the unfortunate inhabitants of Wooburn who, if they survived this venting of William's spleen, found everything they had owned flattened, burnt, or stolen.

However, William wasn't totally evil and spared the lucky folk of Little Marlow as he had a soft spot for Edith, who he had probably got to know during her time spent in Normandy. Entries in the Domesday Book of 1086 would seem to confirm this. So, yet another time in history that our little meadow became an important separation zone.

By this time, the benefits of the variety of the flora of our little meadow were being exploited by monks and nuns. A lucrative business for the clergy emerged. For example when a local peasant, milking his cow, sustained an injury from the beast kicking him in the middle of February because he had forgotten to warm his freezing hands first, he could then trot along to the local monastery, receive a herbal remedy for the painful lump on a certain part of his anatomy and also receive a penance of x number of 'Hail Marys' for the outburst of disgusting language which immediately followed the cow's blow. An early form of BOGOF - buy one, get one free was readily available.

The religious orders were raking it in (before Martin Luther came along). Church services were still being held in Latin so nobody could understand what was going on. The local priest could deliver a whole sermon on 'Ut de prato meo' which loosely translates as 'get out of my meadow', and nobody would be any the wiser.



Catherine of Aragon, before she was divorced from Henry VIII, visited Wooburn Manor House in the 16th century, and wandered along to our nearby meadow to avail herself of Creeping Cinquefoil, to treat her pricked fingers caused when lace making. She

introduced lacemaking to the local women.

The amount of land available for use by the average peasant was starting to be eroded by now. This gradual decline continued until the 'I must have' brigade decided to deprive the landless of the custom of grazing their odd cow or pig on the patches of open fields and common land that were left.

The Land Enclosure Acts meant that, after this, virtually every single blade of grass in the country was owned by some portly gentleman who suffered from gout. The rich got richer and the poor got poorer. This part of the country was renowned for being known for dissenters of the established church. Not sure why, any ideas?

Just outside one corner of our meadow stands a small chapel. This was founded by one Thomas Grove who, while studying to be a preacher in the established church, got slung out of college at Oxford for 'offering extempore prayers' to the Almighty. Religious worship at this time was held in English and basically followed the same format every week.

This had the unfortunate result in one church of some of the congregation saying the responses before rather than after the vicar's bit. Very funny, or annoying. Being a haven for free-thinkers, this chapel thrived. It became the centre of the Temperance Movement in this area in the beginning of the 20th century, when it was socially acceptable to come home on a Friday night having spent a week's wages on the evil liquor in a local hostelry (and there were plenty of them), then knock the daylights out of the long-suffering wife if she didn't submit to the man's amorous advances.

The following morning he would then expect sympathy from the aforesaid wife for his terrible hangover. Society has moved on a bit since then, fortunately.



The little chalk stream on the south side of our little meadow rises in a field to the west of High Wycombe and has been a source of clean water, trout and power for the numerous mills which have sprung up along its length, for centuries.

Many a youngster developed their fishing skills here by the clear shallow waters before moving on to the more treacherous dark waters of the River Thames. As the river drops about 220 feet in its eight mile length, it flows quite fast, eminently suitable for powering the mills which have stood on its banks for more than a thousand years.

Starting with corn mills, fulling mills for producing itchy clothing to keep the wind out, then paper mills. At some stage our little meadow fell into the hands of the local paper mill, serving the purpose of storage, a playing field, and somewhere for the mill workers to hang out at lunch-time and tickle the odd trout (fish, not wife) for dinner on the way home.

From 1854 the railway line from Maidenhead to Wycombe ran past our little meadow, until Beeching wielded his axe in 1972 to close most

branch lines and put more traffic onto the roads. Before this disaster, children on their way to school would wave out of the carriage windows to the mill workers enjoying 'down time' before mobile phones led to most children looking down at a screen the whole time rather than at the world around them.

In the mid 1970s our little meadow became home to a few ponies which provided mounts for some of the local children as they aimed to be budding Harvey Smiths or Lester Piggotts. The teaching methods in this little oasis of calm were totally different from one local riding school where an unfortunate little chap, who was trying to learn the finer points of horsemanship, had the raucous tones of the riding instructor ringing in his ears – 'Burke by name and burke by nature.' Hopefully he wasn't scarred for life.

Also at this time, the course of the river bordering the southern edge of the meadow was straightened out. According to the establishment this was to avoid the adjacent road flooding.

More likely is that, as the new route provided a few yards of grass opposite Grange Drive, so the inebriated patrons driving from Wooburn Grange Country Club (used for the outside shots for Fawley Towers) would not end up in the river. Soon this building was set on fire (allegedly) and a few non-affordable houses were built. And so Fawley Towers became history (sorry Basil).



Then something awful happened to our little meadow. Men on comfy chairs in a sumptuous office decided that our little meadow would provide a useful place to build lots of houses. They proposed to take away the Green Belt status and call it a 'Reserved Site'.

Local uproar ensued, including a threat from the locals to strip off and hold a protest meeting in the meadow. Fortunately for the continued existence of the local paper which printed the picture, only a half monty was attempted.

Even so, the expression on the face of a seven year old standing behind an aged gentleman who was wearing nothing but a pair of dirty old pants and a strategically placed tin plate, produced many a chuckle at this otherwise sad time. Protest songs were sung by the local wandering minstrel, letters written by the more intelligent section of the local community, all to no avail. Needless to say that this change of use was passed so our little meadow became a 'Reserved Site'.

So called travelling communities used it as storage for members of the lower end of the horsey spectrum. These bedraggled specimens were designated to go to small children in Gerrards Cross, after de-burring, a shampoo and a hair-cut (horse not child) where they had the dubious pleasure of becoming models for Thelwell. Alternatively they could end up as a delicacy on the table of a zero star Michelin restaurant in Paris.

Real Travelling People leave no trace of their passing (like canoeists and cyclists), not fields full of old fridges in their wake. By this time, the local villagers had won a small victory over the octopus of development, which was spreading its tentacles and gradually turning the green areas of our country into building sites, by getting the part

of Slate Meadow adjacent to the disused railway line declared a Village Green. Thank heaven for small mercies and the caring section of the local community.

Time passed and the threat of urban expansion seemed to fade slightly. Soon events started to speed up and the plans to destroy our little meadow started rolling in. More songs, more letters and public meetings were held in which sensible objections and comments were raised, then ignored by the local council.

All sorts of promises and provisos previously made by those in the comfy chairs were swept aside. The required infrastructure - extra school places and medical facilities, road junction improvements, cycle paths, all to be in place before building can start - gone. Green space separation between Wooburn and Bourne End to be maintained - gone.

There was, however, space for a pond the size of a small puddle and a patch of grass smaller than the average front lawn shown on the plans. Direct line of sight from the main road to the hill behind to be maintained, gone, unless you're an eight foot six tall basketball player. Proposed dwellings to be compatible with the surrounding houses - gone - these were described as two and a half storeys high.

The Environment Agency, once a staunch supporter of common sense, began to lose interest in any potential flooding issues caused by building on our little meadow. Thames Water hid behind the Data Protection Act when asked whether their important letter to the local council had been answered. This letter (in the public domain) raised issues about water supply and sewage disposal which needed to be addressed before any of the proposed homes could be occupied.

Perhaps Thames Water had more pressing matters to attend to, such as leaky pipes, illegal discharges of sewage and irate shareholders demanding higher dividends.

Then the unthinkable happened to our little meadow. Diggers moved in, scattering deer, badgers, foxes, adders and the odd slow worm. The

confused deer were forced to munch their way through the begonias, marigolds, and other delicacies of people's gardens instead of unobtrusively feasting on the amazing variety of edible foliage previously available in our little meadow. Badgers in their setts adjacent to the building site started to complain of headaches caused by all the noise and to dig holes in the site itself, and in people's lawns, just to make a point. Trees that were to be part of the green screen to separate the residents of Stratford Drive from all the dust and noise of bulldozers with dodgy exhausts were cut down, thereby halving Chris Packham's quota of trying to re-forest Britain in one fell swoop. When trenches were dug to lay some more gas pipes, they immediately filled with water - surprise, surprise, but if you dig a hole in a flood plain what do you expect?

Then everything stopped as finds of archaeological interest had come to light (including a 4,000-year-old

aurochs bone). Probably the houses will be built but one day nature will take over, as it always does, and our little meadow will rise again through the rubble.

The seeds of the 29 species of plants and trees, which will have lain dormant for such a long time, will start to grow again. Who knows who will be around to appreciate the usefulness of nature's bounty growing in this part of the world. One thing is certain; the "I want brigade" on the comfy chairs won't be.



Bibliography and References

Brian Brenchley Wheals -

'Theirs were but human hearts'

Cores End U.R.C. records

Wycombe District Times Issue 15

Various Documents attached to Planning Application
18/05597/OUT

1 year Latin tuition (1956/57)

The odd history teacher

Memories from living 55 years next to Slate Meadow

*Slaed = from the valley

Geoff Britt has lived alongside Slate Meadow for 56 years. With wife Beryl they moved into their Stratford Drive home on their wedding night. They have three children and now five grandchildren. Over the years Geoff's musical abilities have been used as part of the many campaigns to protect the meadow from development. His protest songs have echoed out on local radio and at many gatherings. There was a photo of Geoff in the local paper as he played guitar with a horse nibbling his right elbow.

Running is another passion with marathons, half marathons and other distances. Geoff has competed in triathlons and quadrathlons. He also attends and supports Cores End United Reformed Church. And, with Beryl, he delivers *Target* around Wooburn Green every two months. This story about Slate Meadow has been a labour of love, along with all the protests over many years, and his hope is that *Target* readers will smile as they move through the years.

Lauren Robinson is from Herefordshire in the West Midlands. She is an aspiring illustrator and placeholder to study a BA in Illustration at Falmouth University. This is one of her first published pieces where she has used a digital medium. She usually works in traditional mediums. Lauren told *Target*: "Professionally, I mainly create pet portrait commissions, but print making and illustration are my passion in my personal time." Lauren hopes that readers will enjoy this history of somewhere very special to so many people.



This insert is a gift for *Target* readers as the magazine celebrates its 60th volume

SPORT MAT BOWLS

Port Mat Bowls
friendly competition
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Monday night
day night bowlers.
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can ring Roger
524122 or Chris
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and Bill Hudson (right)



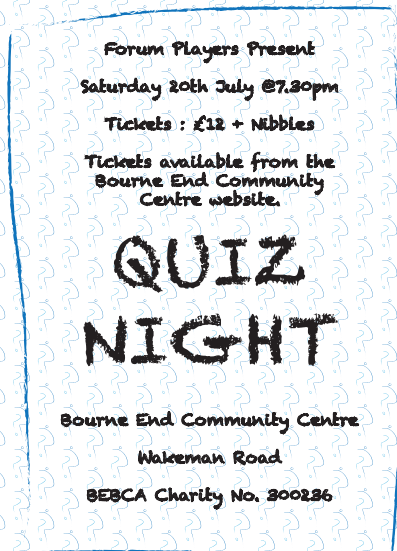
and Janet Gould (right)

FORUM PLAYERS

Our plans are going well for a quiz night on Saturday 20 July and tickets will go on sale shortly. All the details will be on the community centre website.

This should be a fun night as the quiz is being organised by Peter who has great experience of quiz events.

Then, later this year, there will be a variety performance called 'Forum's Got Talent' on Saturday September 7.



Sam Parker (who has played Dick Whittington and Queen Avarice) is writing the script and will be the director for this show. It's in the very early stages of planning but we are aiming for song, dance,

comedy and lots of fun.

Anyone in the local area is welcome to get involved either on stage or off. Any budding entertainers can get in touch.

Moving onto the January 2025 panto which Gavin Mills will direct and produce. Traditionally we have a couple of script readings in July and August, then it will be auditions.

If you are interested in being involved contact Emily on 07787 115905.

HAPPY TO HELP

Dave Horton's evening at the centre was a nostalgic one as his repertoire was known to everyone who packed the May Woollerton Hall.

'The Beatle' was the title of Dave's show and all the numbers were familiar, well loved and it transported you straight back to the 1960s. You also knew all the words and there was room for a dance. Although most people just sat back and remembered why the Beatles have remained so popular and how good it was to sit and chat with friends.

In the interval Dave came out to say 'thank you' to everyone who had helped organise the show and below he is pictured with Dave Kimber, Tracy Greenfield, Diane Hall and Marilyn Finch. Their hard work had got everything ready for the show. As volunteers some are members of the Events Committee while others just turn up to help on the night. Thank you to them all.



June 4th The Dixieland Swing Kings
No jazz in July

Music starts at 8pm in the bar. Entrance is £8 at the door or buy tickets online at www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk


Bourne End Community Centre



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Barbara & The Beatles

Now living in Bourne End but with fond memories of a childhood in Liverpool, for Barbara Hughes 'The Beatle' concert at the community centre was a must. And she loved it. All those familiar memories brought back thoughts of schooldays when her girls school was close by the boys school where Paul McCartney and John Lennon were also studying. Since then she has screamed them on, danced to their music and read everything about them. It was their era and it was Barbara's era.

Remembering all the words, still happy to dance to the music and then, at half time in the concert, Barbara got a visit from performer Dave Horton who knows all the words, can play the guitar music to backing tracks and has a real passion for the 'fab four' and their impact on the world of music from the start of the 60s.

Dave was delighted to meet a Liverpool lass from the same era as his heroes.

"Although I'm a bit younger" he delighted in saying, "it is just as good every time I start to play their music."



vineyard secrets

By Penny Heyes

How to read a wine label

Wine labels can be confusing –but the label tells us a lot:

Country of origin and region

These details should be stated. Certain wines can only be made in one region to claim that it is what it says it is. For example: Rioja needs to be made in La Rioja region in Spain and, most famously, Champagne. Often the wine takes its name from the region.

Name and/or producer

This should be on the front label. Every producer makes a slightly different wine and takes pride in their product.

Bottled in...

Wines bottled at the winery associated with the vineyards in which the grapes were grown are often considered of a better quality than those bottled elsewhere. Smaller wineries may sell their grapes or 'juice' to a 'négociant', a company (or individual) who buys wine in bulk from a number of wineries or vineyards and bottles the wine elsewhere.

Grape variety

Historically, the French did not put the grape variety on the label, assuming the consumer would know, by the Chateau name or the region, what the wine was. Increasingly wines from other countries state the grape variety, so the French have started putting the varietals on the label.

The grape variety helps when choosing a wine as it indicates how the wine tastes: Cabernet Sauvignon: flavours of dark fruits, Sauvignon Blanc; grapefruity, lemony.

The appellation

This is the legally defined and protected geographical area where the grapes, used in that particular wine, were grown.

Vintage or non-vintage

The 'vintage' is the year in which the grapes were harvested. Depending on the weather, the quality of the vintages may vary. The vintage shows how much ageing the wine has had and can be a guide

to quality. Non-vintage (NV) wines can be drunk young.

Alcohol level (ABV)

The Alcohol by Volume has been getting higher over the years - so beware. In the UK, wines under 15% ABV attract one level of excise duty (at the time of writing £2.67 plus VAT per bottle of still wine). This tax increases for wines over 15% ABV.

Sulfites/Sulphites

These reduce the risk of bacterial infection and oxidation and naturally occur in wine-making as in other food.

Indication of dryness and sweetness

Sugar in the grape juice turns into alcohol during fermentation. Depending on how long the wine is left to ferment the drier the wine and higher the level of alcohol. In determining how sweet a wine is, the biggest factor is residual sugar.

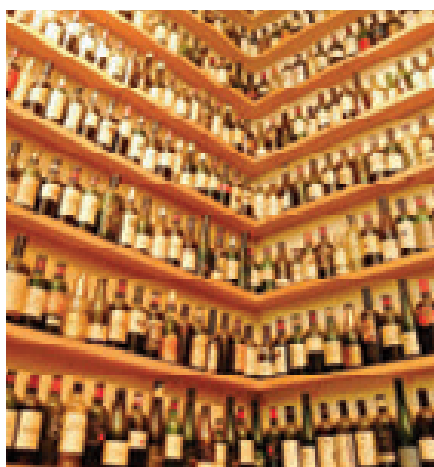
Additives

Producers don't have to declare if fish, egg or dairy products have been used for fining the wine, making it clearer and brighter. Many producers state if the wine is vegan or vegetarian, but only if they have not used these ingredients.

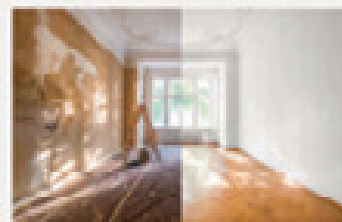
Production Methods

Organic wine is made from grapes farmed and vinified organically. Biodynamic wines are wines made employing the biodynamic methods to grow the fruit and during the post-harvest processing.

Once you have read all this you will be ready to uncork the bottle and pour a glass. A longer version of this article is available on our website <https://greatwineonline.co.uk/reading-the-wine-label/>



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BOURNE END JUNIOR SPORTS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1970 Bourne End Junior Sports Club is a registered charity run by volunteers to provide sport and recreation for children and young people, with many being 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 members of the whole community. Please visit our website for more information www.bejsc.co.uk

CLIMBING SECTION

We are looking to hire a certified climbing instructor for the club. This is a PAID position, part time, minimum 8hrs per week. Please get in touch on 01628 528110 or email office@bejsc.co.uk

TABLE TENNIS SECTION

The Intermediate Juniors group, aged eight to 14 years, meets on Saturdays. The photo (bottom of page) shows the group with their new assistant coach on the left back row - Hayden Gruby, who is a great addition to the section - and Tony Jackson the lead coach on the right. The second picture is of Harrison Hamilton, our most improved player.

As always, we had teams playing in the National Junior League, National Cadet League, and

six teams in the Heathrow League, winning Division 1, plus our young guns gaining promotion to Division 5.

New players are always welcome.



Harrison Hamilton



Intermediate Junior Group

COMING SOON

The Community Benefit Scheme offers local people, families, supporters and companies the opportunity to invest in our club to help us move forward with the modernisation and upgrading of the hall as well as creating our Thunderbirds Project - where people can invest in the pool project.

This will give an opportunity for local people and supporters to feel 'ownership' of this fantastic and exciting resource which is so much needed within our community.

Check our website <https://bejsc.co.uk/> and link to <https://bejsc-swimmingpool.co.uk/funding-and-support/> to see how you can donate or help with funding.

Together we can achieve these amazing goals.

If you work for a local organisation or company who would like to be involved with our fantastic, successful charity please get in touch for more information, we would love to hear from you.

GOOD NEWS

This has been a very positive couple of months for our club thanks to our very generous local organisations including Bourne End Fun Night and an unexpected,

but much appreciated, donation of £1,000 from the Rotary Club of Bourne End & Cookham. Thank you very much. This will go towards the bursary fund and storage equipment area improvements that are desperately needed.

We have been chosen to receive £1,000 from the Let's Rock the Moor charity fund which will go towards the Bursary Fund.

In March we received the first six months funds from the Co-op Community Fund for the Bursary Scheme totalling £833.22. The scheme runs until October 2024; a big thank you to all the shoppers at the Co-op who have chosen us, and please keep up the good work.

EASY FUNDRAISING

Every time you shop online with over 8,000 brands, they will donate to us for free. All the big names like John Lewis & Partners, Expedia, Argos and Just Eat are ready to donate. Every donation will make a difference. Plus, when you sign up today, we will get a £5 bonus. Sign up here:

<https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/.../SE801/facebook/>

WANT TO ADVERTISE?

We have a vacant advertising space in the hall for a 3m x 1m banner for a local company.

The cost is £500 a year if anyone is interested. Please contact us on office@bejsc.co.uk

REMINDER

Don't forget to choose BEJSC in the Co-op Community Fund. Our cause is to help to improve people's mental wellbeing. This is contributing to the Bursary Scheme to help children and young people to play sports at the sports club.

The funds can support families that are experiencing cost of living issues meaning that children are unable to attend. You can help by becoming a member of the Co-op and choosing Bourne End Junior Sports Club as your chosen cause - Cause ID: 77408.

Visit our website – www.bejsc.co.uk Email: office@bejsc.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook – <https://facebook.com/bejsc/>

Follow us on Twitter – <https://twitter.com/BEJSC1970>

Chairman: Matt Todd 01628 528110 (answerphone) Editor: Liz Hutton 01628 478168



Personal trainer's advice on cardio exercise

Ben Broadhead is a Bourne End-based personal trainer and he specialises in working with seniors both in care settings and privately. Here he answers another reader's question:

I'm in my 60s and do a Pilates class twice a week which obviously helps maintain some flexibility. However I do no cardio exercise at all. How important is cardio exercise at my age?

It is indeed important to stimulate the cardiovascular system, regardless of age. Cardio will strengthen your heart muscle in the same way that your Pilates strengthens your core muscles. It will also improve your respiratory function, regulate your blood pressure, and decrease your risk of cardiovascular disease.

It's important to note that, while it wouldn't generally be classified as cardiovascular exercise, you will certainly yield some cardiovascular benefit from practicing Pilates. The components of fitness (strength, cardio, and flexibility) are not mutually exclusive.

If you want to improve your cardiovascular fitness further, I would recommend weight-bearing activities such as walking or jogging which are beneficial for bone health, killing two birds with

one stone. The most important factor however, is that you enjoy whichever mode of cardio you choose. This will ensure sustainability and continued adherence to your exercise routine.

Keep in mind that as we age, the extent to which we can safely push ourselves decreases. The calculation to determine a safe maximum heart rate to reach during exercise is 220 minus our age. So if you are 60, you shouldn't exceed a heart rate of 160 bpm, whereas a 20-year-old can safely reach a heart rate of 200 bpm.

In summary, engaging in cardiovascular exercise is important to our health and something I would recommend. Prioritise safe and fun execution, and of course, good luck!

There will be more questions in future issues of *Target*. For now, you can access Ben's articles and videos at www.benbroadheadpt.co.uk
Email: info@benbroadheadpt.co.uk
Social media: [@benbroadheadpt](https://twitter.com/benbroadheadpt)
Tel: 07900204001

Second edition, five languages and thank you Portugal

Diana Hudson's book *Specific Learning Difficulties* was published in 2015. Nine years on it has been translated into five languages Spanish, Portuguese, Croatian, Estonian and Polish. Of these the Portuguese version sold particularly well and her second edition will be translated into Portuguese straight away.

This new edition *Specific Learning Differences* reflects the greater acceptance of neurodiversity. There is now a greater understanding that thinking differences often come with advantages and skills as well as disadvantages. Diana, who lives in Bourne End, has updated the book throughout to reflect the changing attitude and also put in three new chapters.

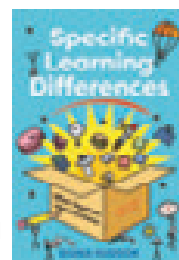
The book covers common conditions such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, ADHD, ASD and OCD but adds PDA (Pathological Demand Avoidance) a condition sometimes shown by autistic children, SPD (Sensory Processing Disorder) and Tics and Tourette Syndrome.

Support organisations, useful websites and books have been listed and there is a tick list to help teachers identify some of the indicators of the different conditions. This could help identify children who may have specific differences and would benefit from extra support or a formal diagnosis.

Supporting this second edition Diana is happy to talk to parents of children who have dyslexia as she is trying to reach out to parents, teachers and health professionals who may be able to offer greater support to young people who think differently.

Here is the link to the publisher:
<https://uk.jkp.com/products/specific-learning-differences-what-teachers-need-to-know-second-edition>

Diana has a PhD in Zoology but struggled at school. She was diagnosed as having dyslexia a few years ago. As a mother of four children, three of who were diagnosed with dyslexia during their school years, she is used to trying to approach homework in different ways to help make it easy to understand. Her children are now all graduates. Diana now focuses on enabling teachers and parents to understand how 'outside the box' thinkers can best be supported to learn effectively, gain in confidence and succeed both at school and as adults.



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Plus more to be announced:
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River Wildlife

By Cindy Smulders

A very quiet river

As I write this, the river has gone down and the flow is less, although stronger than normal for this time of year. It's also cold. There are very few boats out although the rowers have begun to appear. The recent publicity about Thames Water has not promoted the river well, although it needed to be said, but let's remember the wildlife that don't just visit and use the river but who live on it and in it.

There are a few lone cob (male) swans so hopefully the pens (female) are on their nests, but the river conditions haven't helped them. Thankfully they are strong birds and I'm hopeful they've found safe nesting sites although probably not the same as last year, as they were under water.

The ducks are constantly fighting over the few females around. The

drakes give the females such a hard time. So far I have only seen five ducklings who sadly disappeared after a few days. The only thing there seems to be an abundance of is Herring Gulls.

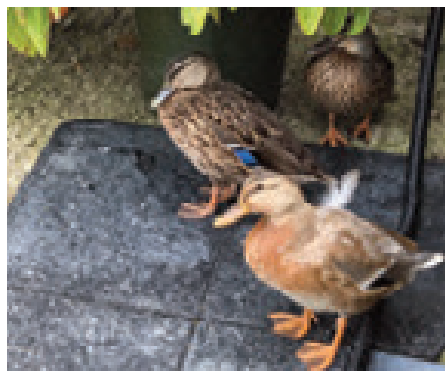
At Swan Lifeline we have many ducklings in already, most from people's gardens. Ducks do tend to nest in the oddest places and then cannot get their little brood to any water. On a recent rescue in Windsor half the street had come out to protect a mallard and her eight newly hatched ducklings until we got there.

They can be tricky rescues; mum will fly off if spooked so it's important to catch her first and the ducklings will follow. I'm pleased to say it all went well and the family was released to the nearest bit of water to applause from the local community.

I've also befriended a Moorhen. He's been around awhile. Moorhens are very nervous and shy but this male I have called Marty Feldman, he just reminds me of him. He will take grain in his beak back to his mate on the nest. They've successfully hatched before but the chicks are so tiny they often don't make it onto the main river.

There is now a rural crime team in Windsor, with trial bikes, to help to combat the increase in harm against the wildlife. Sadly catapults seem to be a craze now so please report any incidents.

But it's not all gloom and doom. Spring means the river is bouncing back so here's to a warmer, sunnier and busier river over the next few weeks, perhaps as you read this it's already happened.



My pictures show ducks settling on a door mat – how silly – a swan with cygnets and a close up of the fluffy cygnets



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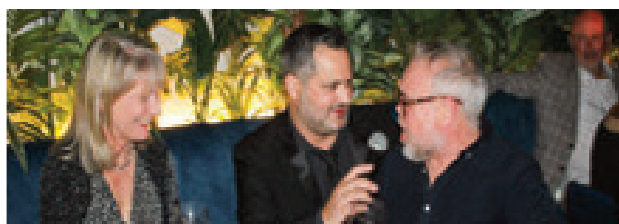
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LYNN MARGARET THOMAS REMEMBERED

Lynn Margaret Thomas died peacefully on April 26 aged 67 years. Born in Morecambe in 1956, Lynn grew up in the north of England and moved to Perthshire Scotland in the late 70s. This is where she met her husband Alan and together they moved to High Wycombe and finally settled down in Bourne End in 1987.

Bourne End became her beloved home for over 35 years, in that time raising three children who all attended primary school in the village.

Lynn was an active member of the community, volunteering at Clayton's Combined School, volunteering at the annual St Dunstan's Church Charity Christmas Card Shop, and latterly volunteering at the Rennie Grove Hospice charity shop.

A big fan of coffee and chocolate, she could often be seen in brightly-coloured clothes enjoying both at Bourne for Desserts, her favourite local café. She loved playing and watching tennis, and was a keen motorcycle rider before the birth of her three children — something which she would often remind them.

Small in stature, but large in personality, Lynn was warm-hearted and kind (with a particular fondness for children and dogs). She had a spirited side too and enjoyed dancing and singing. She is survived by her children Euan, Stuart and Isla, along with three grandchildren, who she adored.

The family welcome any charity donations in memory of Lynn to be made to The Alzheimer's Society.

If you would like to contact the family call 07825 872275.



At Home with The Bourne Again Shadows



In 1960 The Shadows emerged as an instrumental act performing some of the greatest instrumental music the UK has ever produced.

The Bourne Again Shadows have performed their tribute show at various venues for the past fourteen years and now return to the Bourne End Community Centre for informal evenings of instrumental music for their local followers.

'This band's tribute to the Shadows is not only faithful, but immaculate. Close your eyes and it could be 1960. It's the real deal, and shouldn't be missed'

Mike Hurst - The Springfields, Record Producer for Cat Stevens, The Move, Showaddywaddy, Manfred Mann and PP Arnold.

Thursday July 25th - 8pm
Tickets are available at £10
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Bourne End & Cookham Probus Club

By Bill Leftwich

Probus is a club for retired businessmen and we meet every third Wednesday of the month for a few drinks, an enjoyable lunch, and an invited speaker.

You may have met and even chatted to Chris Hurley who works as manager in Bourne End Library. But how many know that his alter ego is as a 20-year veteran operation team leader volunteer working for SARAID – Search and Rescue Assistance in Disasters, an independent NGO?

He is one of 50 unpaid volunteers on standby 24/7 providing free emergency disaster response and humanitarian assistance following natural and man-made disasters around the world.

There was no nodding-off as Chris came along to our March meeting and gave a powerful visual review of their work, including examples of the miraculous rescues in the recent earthquake in Turkey as well as the Asian tsunami and the Beirut port explosion.

Dramatic, disturbing, horrific yes, but the audience was grateful to receive this interesting and informative talk and happy to add their bit to the funds of this excellent UK charity. So, next time you are in the library...

As a complete contrast, the club invited Mark Lawson and Giles Oakley to come and tell us 'The Story of Tea from Bush to Cup'. Both had worked for Tetley and had become professional tea-tasters and friends. Then, two years ago, they set up their own-brand tea company called Two Spoons.

We began with a hilarious quiz guessing which of the 30 countries produced the most tea - China, India, Kenya, Sri Lanka - and which consumed the most tea individually (Turkey surprisingly).

They then took us on a very amusing journey through the whole story from growing, picking, ethical issues, auctions, trading, blending, Chai, tasting and, finally, the best dunking biscuits.

Moving to the practical, we individually 'slurped' our samples - with and without nose-pinching (to improve the taste).

What a highly amusing and informative way to learn about a most common product and the 14 million people worldwide who produce it for us. The audience showed their appreciation... and purchased samples.

If you would like to join our friendly club please contact Roger Gould on 01628 524122 or view our website: The Probus Club of Bourne End & Cookham.org

Bourne End WI

By Lynne Nicoll

First and foremost, we must announce our new president, Eloise Clark, and thank the outgoing president, Wendy Farmer, for all the effort and work she has put in to maintain the vibrancy of our WI.

At our meeting in March, we heard an interesting account from Caroline Wigley: 'A weekend to pack! Life in the Far East in World War II and a family story'.

In April Ian Merry talked on 'How natural is your

skincare?' while mixing up skin cream which was full of wonderful natural ingredients on his small stove.

Our WI catering team produced Easter treats for us to enjoy with our coffee. Matthew Todd, from Bourne End Junior Sports Club, told us all about the Bursary scheme which we have adopted as our annual charity for this year.

Our plethora of interest groups continue to be a huge success. Craft and Chat meets each month to share Heidi's creative and talented ideas. Last month they made Easter bunnies for display on the tree at Spade Oak. Our Book Club is currently reading 'Demon Copperhead' by Barbara Kingsolver, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and 'The Go Between' by L P Hartley.

Keeping us all fit and having fun is the Walking Netball Club and our Walking Group remains popular with those who love to marry up chatting with free fresh air. The local pubs and restaurants are enjoying hosting our Ladies who Lunch and our cinema group is finding new films to watch together, 'Wicked Little Letters' particularly tickled their humour.

Many members are enjoying our monthly outings. Some went on a guided history tour around Little Marlow while others visited the Swan Theatre to watch 'The Mousetrap'. A day making silver jewellery was planned for May. For any information on our WI please contact Eloise at bourneendwi@yahoo.com or call 07939 231331.

Cookham Bridge Rotary Club

By Ron Phelps

May was a good month and included our charity give-away night. As part of our normal Wednesday club evenings held at the Odney Club, we had a May Day celebration, and also a 70's evening, with a number of interesting outfits.

We held our second 5K and 10K Cookham Run on May 19 with an increased number of enthusiastic runners.

We are now concentrating, together with the Rotary Club of Maidenhead Thames, on the organisation of the Cookham Regatta, to be held on Saturday September 7.

At present we are looking for Dragon Boat teams from organised or makeshift groups to enter, such as rowing, sailing and running clubs, PTAs, groups of friends, etc.

All that is required is 10 paddlers plus a drummer. Boat, paddles, safety gear, drum and an experienced helm will be provided. No previous experience is required. All teams will have at least two races and depending upon the number of

teams entering, and how they progress, this could increase to four or five races or more. For online race entry please go to entry@cookhamregatta.co.uk

It is a fun regatta, and as well as the waterside, there will be many attractions for all the family, including a dog show, classic car display, food and drink stalls etc. More details in the next issue of *Target*.

Coming up in June at our weekly meetings we will be having talks on Churchill's Secret Airfield and Medical Detection Dogs. Our President's Night is at the end of June with a handover to our new incoming President, who starts the new Rotary year in July with a barbecue provided by the Scouts. Also in July we have a speaker from Smile Train charity which we recently supported, who will be telling us about the fantastic work they do.

If you would like more information about our club, about Rotary, or about joining us, contact membership@cookhamrotary.co.uk

Bourne End and Cookham Rotary Club

By John Dunsterville

This month I thought you might like to see one of Rotary's best projects. You are no doubt well aware of the local community projects, but our club also has an international committee, run by Rod Markham.

Because there are so many man-made and natural



disasters in the world, we invest in ShelterBoxes. ShelterBox is a cutting-edge charity that provides emergency shelter to families who have lost their homes to disaster, enabling them to rebuild their lives.

Costing around £590 these tough green boxes are tailored to meet the demands of a family of six. The photo shows the contents of one of these wonderful boxes.

Do contact our club and find out how you can make a real difference to your community and your world. www.beac-rotary.org.uk and www.facebook.com/beacrotary



St Mark's Church looks forward with a vision for the future

On Sunday June 16 at 2pm Rev Simon Dust will be licensed as associate priest at St Mark's Church in Station Road.

For the church it will mark the end of a long period without a regular minister and it will allow the church to move forward.

Rev Simon is Vicar at St Andrew's Church in High Wycombe and will also take on the role of leading St Mark's Church.

Particularly important for St Mark's will be a major change to the time of the regular Sunday service. "We are asking our congregation at St Mark's to join us for a regular Sunday service at 2pm," he told *Target*. "This will be part of a plan for the worshipping life at St Mark's that we hope will attract new families to the church."

Together with his wife, Debbie, Rev Simon is looking forward to a return to the village where his father was a local copper back in the 1960s. Then a move to High Wycombe meant the family left the familiar police house on The Parade, now the site of a Tesco supermarket.

Rev Dust's plans for St Mark's include the creation of worship communities in local homes that will build deep community and to help form missionary disciples.

It has worked at St Andrew's and is part of a plan to help revitalise churches to meet the needs of today. "I feel that we should be communicating God's love with those who want to find a place at St Mark's," he explained.

After school Simon studied agriculture then made a career move to be a landscape gardener. He recalls working on gardens in Bourne End and Wooburn Green.

Then came a call to the church with Simon and Debbie working together before ordination. They experienced church life in Nottingham, Chesham Bois and Luton where they set up a new church.

Although Simon knew St Andrew's in High Wycombe from his school days it was 16 years ago that he moved there to be the vicar and be part of their spiritual life.

The couple's three children are grown and there are three grandchildren to spoil. The family is widely stretched from close by in Hazlemere to Australia.

Simon enjoys golf, gardening and walking in the Chilterns. He recalls watching Wycombe Wanderers playing at Loakes Park and he always looks out for their results.

Our photo shows Rev Simon with Jane Cotterell (left) from St Mark's church council and church warden Linda Jolliffe.



Hedsor Church welcomes their new associate priest

In Spring sunshine, with clear views out over the river valley, Rev Adrian Manning was licensed as associate priest at St Nicholas Church. The church had been without a regular priest for a number of years so with great delight members of the congregation turned out to welcome him on a perfect day in the beautiful setting



high above the valley of the River Thames. Representing the Diocese of Oxford the Venerable Guy Elsmore, Archdeacon of Buckingham, led the Service of Licensing with the Rural Dean, Rev

Canon Dave Bull, assisting. It was a beautiful service with readings and hymns along with welcome messages to the minister who would provide a stable future for the church.

Later there was time for everyone to gather in the afternoon sunshine and meet the priest who would be part of church life for this ancient and historic church in a special setting. Rev Adrian would now be there for their future services along with baptisms, weddings and funerals. There was time for photographs with the churchwarden, members of the church council and the congregation.

Rev Adrian is currently teaching Maths and Computer Science part-time at Dr Challoner's Grammar School in Amersham. At the end of this summer term he is retiring. He was Vicar of Ivinghoe from 2015 until 2020 and has been a school chaplain in secondary education.

Married to Becky they have three children. Katharine is a junior doctor in Sheffield, their elder son Michael, works in the media and their younger son Chris is a chemical engineer. They also have a dog called Stanley.

Our photo shows Rev Adrian with Alexander Shepherd from the church council on the left and church warden Maura Carr

Talented Scout group

A local Scout group held a talent show for its young members and not only raised the roof, but also vitally needed funds for the group.

On March 28, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Young Leaders from 1st Bourne End Scout Group came together at the Scout Hut on Furlong Road, Bourne End for a display of talent to entertain and amaze its audience.

There were comedy acts, martial arts demonstrations, singers, musicians and dance acts, among many more. Performing to around 100 parents, leaders and supporters and a panel of judges including James Palin, Scout's South East regional lead volunteer, Paul Cleaver, District Commissioner for Marlow and Gary Staff, presenter and station manager at Bucks Scouts Radio. James Palin described the talent on show as amazing.

It was extremely tough competition, but winners needed to be selected and prizes were finally awarded first to Roderick Bowler (Beavers) for his rendition of *Green Green Grass*, second to Eleanor Sullivan (Scouts) playing and singing *Time of your Life* and third to The Besties (Cubs) for their self choreographed dance routine.

The highly enjoyable evening was organised by Glenn Bowers, one of the leaders from the Thursday night Jungle Cubs. Special mention of support from other leaders: John Samuel for set up and sound on the night, Neil Strong for compering the evening and other leaders and volunteers for helping on the bar, door and raffle. It is estimated around £500 was raised in total as a result of the evening.

1st Bourne End is an all-inclusive, very active Scout group based in Furlong Road. They have

sections for Beavers (6 to 8 years old), Cubs (8 to 10½ years old) and Scouts (10½ to 14 years old). There is also a local Explorer Unit in Little Marlow (14 to 18 years old).

The groups provide brilliant

experiences for all children (girls and boys) from life skills, adventures, games and overnight hikes and camps, at incredibly reasonable termly subs of just £45 (sibling discounts also available).

This is only achievable through amazing volunteer leaders, fundraising and support. If you are interested in finding out more, offering support, donating, becoming a leader or enquiring about a place for your child, contact Sam Samuel, Group Scout Leader gsl@bourneendscoutgroup.co.uk



Some of the prizewinners Far left Eleanor Sullivan next to Roderick Bowler then two of 'The Besties' Maya Norris and Jess Badcock (missing from the photo are Myla Doddington and Martha Edkins).

Filmgoers meet the son of renowned wartime hero



Nick Winton, son of Sir Nicholas

A sell-out movie and a packed auditorium for the New Royalty Cinema's screening of *One Life* in May had an extra special visitor — Nick Winton who arrived to introduce the film. Nick, the son of Sir Nicholas Winton

told the audience that this was his father's birthday so there was a special connection with the man who featured in the film as he saved hundreds of threatened children from the menace of Nazi rule in 1938.

Nick said that his father chose Maidenhead to live then joined Rotary, committing to their cause for the rest of his life. This was just one more life decision that endeared the imaginative and resourceful hero of *One Life* to the many Rotarians in the auditorium. Rotary hon secretary, Chris Wibley, had spoken earlier about how the organisation was continuing to save lives around the world.

Urging the filmgoers to look at how Sir Anthony Hopkins portrayed his father Nick said that the interpretation was uncanny: "He looked just like my father, even down to the clothes he wore, including the old mac. So much research must have gone into creating the screen character and Anthony Hopkins was my father. It was just superb."

Remember that there are monthly screenings at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre and details can be found in *Target* and on the website.



BIG SHOUT OUT & THANK YOU

On behalf of everyone who uses, lives or works around Wooburn Green, a big thank you to Simon Crompton, Tesco Express Manager.

Simon stepped up after Buckinghamshire Council ordered removal of their council bin due to inappropriate rubbish being placed in it.

School age children, seniors and everyone in between were having to cross the busy road, dodging traffic, in order to place their rubbish in a parish council bin. Some, of course, didn't bother so bottles, cans, packaging and cigarette butts were making Tesco and nearby shop forecourts unsightly.

At the beginning of May Simon located a bin from elsewhere and has taken on the responsibility of emptying it. Here's a pic of Simon (left) and colleague Adam New joining in a toast to the new bin and saying goodbye to unsightly rubbish.

TAKE YOUR TARGET

Taking the community magazine to the sunshine was a must for distributor Maggie Blakeslee as she had just delivered her copies of the April/May issue around Berghers Hill above Wooburn Green.

Booked into a small hotel in Nice it was then days of exploring and taking trips to other locations within reach.

Here she is enjoying the Italian sunshine and a cocktail at Bordighera — just 50 minutes by train from Nice.

Known as the City of Palms, scenic seaside Bordighera is the proud supplier of fronds to the Vatican every Palm Sunday.

Just a few miles from the borders of both Monaco and France, floral Bordighera has been a favourite resort destination for British visitors since the 19th century, when Queen Victoria herself was a guest.

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Just look at the colour of the sky and dream of the summer ahead.



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Bourne End Motors complete with fountain at the front



St Christopher



Taken after the community centre was built, probably late 1960s

I remember... I remember

Nick Pink from Bourne End Motor Company remembers the cars and the motor traders

Many of the regular users of the community centre have probably walked past this photo (right) without giving it a second glance. But here is an insight to not only the cars but to motor traders of Bourne End back in the 1960s.

It features a number of vehicles of the day and makes me recall some memories from the 60s and 70s as far as garages and cars are concerned.

When I first came to the village in the mid 1960s there were a number of car dealerships in the village. The primary one was Bourne End Motors where the M&S/BP now stands.

It was owned by a lovely man John (Johnnie) White and featured an ornate fountain in front of the main building. Back in the 50s John had a VW franchise and there are even comments on the internet of people hiring the newly produced VW Beetle from him back in 1954.

Later it became Bourne End Service Station and

specialised in Humber, Hillman, Sunbeam and even Commer vans.

Back in the late 60s my father purchased a Sunbeam Alpine from Johnnie for my mum and, with no health and safety legislation then, both my brother Tim and I would travel in the single front seat; it is debatable if the car even had seat belts in those days.

I recall one day, as we went around a bend by the old Gate Hotel in Cookham, Tim disappearing out the side door onto the road having lent on the door handle.

Fortunately, bar a few cuts and bruises, he was OK. The car was swiftly sold after that.

Some years later my father purchased Johnnie's old house in Bourne End and among a mass of auto memorabilia we came across about 50 enameled St Christopher medals (pictured). These would have been neatly pinned to wooden dashboards of cars in the early days. The precursor to rear window stickers.

The other garage that was a feature in the village was Gaylors Garage (currently ATS) run by Ron Gaylor. It specialised in Fiat and Ford, continuing into the early 1980s with just Fiat. We had a number of Fiats from Gaylors. Back in 1972 my father

purchased a Fiat 500 for my late grandfather who, by the way, used to run G P Supplies - the hardware shop next to Lees Bakery. We still have the car in storage to this day and it has still only done about 50,000 miles.

There was also a BMC (later British Leyland) garage on The Parade where Remenham House is now. This was a large showroom with a workshop at the rear and was owned and run by a proper old school 'Wheeler Dealer' called Ron Atkins. His nickname was 'Howsuluck' as he would always greet his customers with the phrase 'You alright, How's Your Luck'.

My dad purchased my very first car from Ron in 1978. It was a shiny black Mini Clubman PUD 707T. I still have the invoice for it somewhere in my file archives at home and remember it cost £2,177.

In years gone by, garages were not controlled by strict franchising agreements which is why many garages had multiple manufacturers.

Looking at the photos of the community centre it is clear to see that there were not that many different cars in the car park. If you took the photo today there would be a much greater variance. The prominent makes are Ford, Austin and BMC/British Leyland and Triumph probably in part because these were the local dealerships.

Two cars stand out for different reasons. The first is the car second from the left and I am 99.9% certain this is an early Renault 4, first launched in 1961 it was the first mass produced hatchback car. The other car was the Vauxhall Victor FB Estate launched in the early 60s by GM and was one of the first luxury large estate cars and could be purchased from £861.

Triumph Heralds also feature with both the saloon and the estate on show, it's hard to tell, but the one next to the white Ford Anglia might actually be the sportier Vitesse model. Another rare car in the line is the biggest one. An Austin A40 Devon Countryman from the 1950s. It was designed by renowned Austin car designer Ricardo (Dick) Burzi, he was a colourful gentleman who with his Argentinean/Italian background saw him interned on the Isle of Man when Italy entered the Second World War, but he was released in 1943 which was when he started working on the Austin A40.

I am sure many of you, like me, will have so many memories of Bourne End and the vehicles we saw around the village all those years ago and I am grateful for the chance to make some comments on this iconic photo as *Target* celebrates its 60th volume and Bourne End Motor Company its 30th year.

One thing is for sure, line up those twenty-odd cars today and there would now be close to half a million pounds worth of collectors' cars there. Cars that back then were probably around the £500 - £800 mark. If only!




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BUCKS COUNCILLORS UPDATE

By Councillor Penny Drayton

Three years in and on May 9, Stuart, Sophie and I hosted a meeting to discuss the workings and structure of the council, all we'd learnt over the last few years, what we'd achieved and what lays ahead. Thank you those who attended and we hope you found it interesting and helpful.

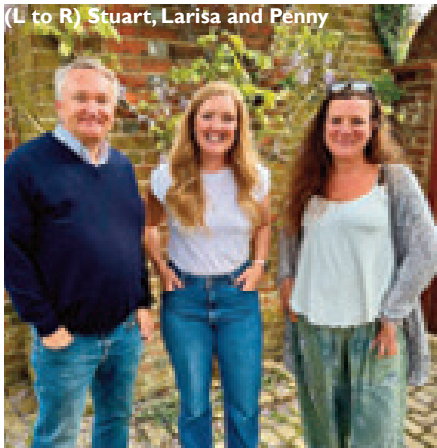
In May 2025 Buckinghamshire will have its next local election. It won't just be (some of) the elected councillors changing however, there are also major boundary changes coming into play and a reduction of councillors across the whole county reducing from 147 to 97. In our area there are a few big changes we would like to announce:

* Our ward boundaries are changing and as of the next election in May 2025 the ward will also include Flackwell Heath and it will be called 'Flackwell Heath and the Wooburns'. The change of boundary and the new name were both decisions made by the Boundary Commission. As a result of the increased size, we will still be a ward that has three councillors representing it.

* Sophie Kayani has made the decision to not run in the next election. She has worked extremely hard during her time as an elected member and, of course, will continue to do so for the next year.

Sophie works full time in education and will continue to advocate the right for everyone to reach

(L to R) Stuart, Larisa and Penny



their full potential through her national role working for a large multi-academy trust and her work with neurodiversity charities.

* Stuart Wilson and I (Penny Drayton) will be running again in the next election.

* Very excited to announce that Larisa Townsend (resident and chair of the Flackwell Heath Residents Association) has decided to run alongside us as an Independent. Larisa's background in Law and interest in all community matters and local politics makes her an excellent choice for local representation and we very much look forward to working with her.

We continue to give The Wooburns, Bourne End & Hedsor the best representation we can. Please contact us at any time on email or visit us at our open surgery every month at the Bourne End market.

penny.drayton@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

stuart.wilson@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

sophie.kayani@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

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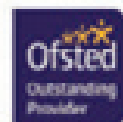
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Contact details page 2

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OUR LOCAL CHURCHES KEEP IN TOUCH

St Dunstan's Church

We have had a busy period renovating our hall with a coat of paint and new carpets. We have already had lots of gatherings in the hall with the celebration of our First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates and our very popular barbecue in May.

Regular monthly coffee mornings take place after Mass, an opportunity to showcase baking skills and any donations are used to help the various charities that the parish supports.

For our weekly newsletter and information on all parish events visit www.saintdunstans.co.uk



Cores End United Reformed Church

The church has been raising funds for Water Aid which provides clean water and decent toilets for many of the world's poorest. Through individual collecting and a successful coffee morning the church raised more than £750 in the lead-up to Easter.

As well as Sunday worship (10.30am each Sunday with activities for children), members of the congregation have been meeting up to share what inspires them in music, artwork, literature, Bible and song. The last of the current series is on Wednesday June 12 at 7.30pm at church.

For more details contact the minister Terry Hinks on 01628 525076.

The beautiful church grounds are well maintained and open to all to come and enjoy this peaceful place. There will be a Strawberry Afternoon Tea in aid of the churchyard maintenance fund on Saturday June 15, 3pm to 4.30pm. All are welcome, especially those who have family here.

Work parties continue on the Cores End Meadow on Saturday June 1 and July 6 (10-11.30am) - all are welcome to come and help.

The church was given some small service trees as part of World Earth Day in April and these have been added to the growing collection of trees on the meadow, including a variety of fruit trees. We are hoping for a harvest of apples this year to add to the many blackberries.

On alternate Tuesday afternoons, 2pm to 3.30pm, Link Up Club provides afternoon tea and home-made cakes with either a speaker, games, occasional outings or simply time to sit and chat with friends. New members are always welcome.

St Paul's with St Mary's Church, Wooburn

While we were catching our breath after a busy Easter week, we had several fundraisers for the church, including the ever popular Quiz Night.

A concert was given by the Chiltern Concert Band, for which our Holy Bakers team provided refreshments to raise funds for a new sound board for amplification in the church.

The Holy Bakers also supply cakes and scones



for our stand at the monthly community market.

Are you young at heart? Do you have young(ish) children? If so, come along to our inspirational Messy Church which takes place on June 9 and July 14 in the church hall. Kids and adults alike will find some fun arts and crafts to do around a theme, or just read a newspaper and enjoy the breakfast baps and coffee or tea and a chat.

Please consult our website stpaulswooburn.org for information about events in June and July, including Men's Night at the Falcon, Community Breakfast, Coffee and Conversation mornings, Lunchtime Communion services on Fridays at St Mary's which include a jacket potato lunch and seasonal Forest Church. As you might have noticed, we enjoy creating opportunities for community to happen.

The Community Church

It's amazing that this year sees us celebrating our 40th anniversary.

It was April 1984 when The Community Church was born, having been 'planted' from what was then Beaconsfield Baptist Church (now Hope Church Beaconsfield).

A number of families initially gathered in Holtspur at the youth centre before moving Sunday Services to Clayton's School, Bourne End Community Centre, what was then Wye Valley School, Wooburn Green Primary School, Bourne End Academy and now at the Chapel in Wooburn Green.

As we continue to grow in number, we are again thinking and praying about what we do, whether to have two services at The Chapel, extend our hall or meet at a different venue.

We have loved our journey and love being part of the local village community, helping to serve where we can. For more information about The Community Church, do visit our website thecommunitychurch.online



St Nicholas' Church Hedsor

Hedsor Riverside Fair returns on Saturday June 29 to Orchard Dene, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Callingham (see page 14). The fair runs from midday to 4.30pm and will include all the favourites of boat rides, barbecue, teas, some fantastic raffle prizes and a variety of stalls. We should add that this is a cash-only event, with free entry for children.

We have been delighted to welcome our new Associate Priest, Rev Adrian Manning, who began his ministry with us by conducting our Easter services. See page 26.

For details of our activities visit www.parishesofhedsorandbourneend and www.achurchnearyou.com. See also our Facebook page.

For information on weddings, baptisms and funerals contact our churchwarden, Maura Carr, mauracarr300@gmail.com



St John the Baptist, Little Marlow

We said our official goodbye to our Children's Worker at the informal service in April. The good news is that Abbey will continue to worship here.

We are therefore looking to appoint a part-time Children's Worker. This role is ideal for anyone interested in building relationships among local families with children aged 0 to 8 at Little Marlow

School and St John the Baptist Church. To find out more or to request a role description please get in touch with the Rev Fiona Ellingham, 07931 162494.

We are delighted to be holding Music at the Manor in Little Marlow again on June 15 by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Jason Downes between 4.30pm and 8pm. There will be games and a disco for the children and entertainment provided by the Maidenhead Concert Band, The Blend Choir and Cantata Conviva. Details and tickets are available from Jeffery Smith: 07775 957090 or jefferysmith170@gmail.com

On Sunday June 16 our informal service at 11am will be a pet service followed by refreshments.

The weekend of June 29/30 will be the St John the Baptist Church Festival - a celebration to mark the birth of our patron saint. This will be a combination of flowers and art exhibition, with the opportunity to view and take part in a variety of community creative activities.

The church will be open from 11am to 5pm on the Saturday with teas served from 2.30pm.

On Sunday there will be a special service for everyone to come together to celebrate and give thanks. Teas will again be served from 2.30pm with another opportunity to view the exhibits.

For more information on this weekend and other services go to <https://bit.ly/StJohnFest>, which will take you to the 'a church near you' website.

July will follow our normal pattern of services with Olympics being the theme for the informal service on July 21 which, weather permitting, will be held outside.

St Mark's Church

If you are hearing rumours about great changes coming to St Mark's, it is true. The problem is we are still working on the final details so cannot yet say anything.

Suffice to say we are working closely with the local Deanery through All Saints Marlow and St

Andrews Hatters Lane whose clergies are enthusiastically helping us to plan the way ahead. So watch this space.

In the meantime we are progressing with a slowly but surely increasing congregation, to which we would like to welcome even more people for our regular Sunday services.

Most of us stay on for coffee or tea and a chat. Do come and join us.

Our social and fundraising events also continue, with our OneCan collection and support for the 'Open the Book' series of Bible story enactments at St Paul's and Claytons Schools.



Bourne End Quaker Meeting

A Quaker Meeting for Worship takes place in the Target Room at the community centre at 10am on the first Monday of every month.

Everyone is welcome; we stay seated in shared silence until about 10.40am.

Anyone present may share their thoughts during this period of worship, as in any Quaker meeting. We chat briefly over tea and coffee after the meeting. For more information please visit www.caqm.org.uk

Andrew has an eye for colour and skilled fingers

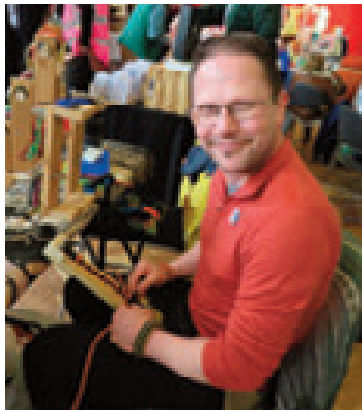
Moving away from upcycling and restoring, Andrew Goodman has let his skilled fingers create colourful bracelets, dog collars, key tags – in fact anything that looks better with bright colours.

Taking a stall at the community market in April he soon had commissions, plenty of customers and hardly had time for a cuppa.

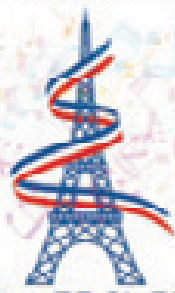
When a Wooburn lady wanted a larger bracelet Andrew said he would make it on the spot “so just wander around and come back later”. Julie Stallwood did just that and came back to find her bracelet ready and a good fit. A young lad from Hazlemere bought a bracelet then found another use for the shape as he smiled for the camera (see page 1).

Look out for Andrew’s stall at future markets on June 8, July 13 and August 10. You’ll love the colours and the original ideas that he creates while relaxing in the evenings.

At the community market there are around 70 stalls outside or in the library and community centre. You also have a chance to catch up with all the news from a team of parish councillors and enjoy the tasty snacks at the cafe.



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Past times by Barrie Penfold

Coincidences prompted Barrie Penfold to investigate the lesser known members of a famous papermaking company. So who were the Greens of Thomas & Green who owned Soho Mill?

It's 1860 and, at Soho Mill, changes were planned with the formation of Thomas, Stephens and Green.

William Thomas was the most important member of the firm and a well-known papermaker. It was his idea to buy Soho Mill, which could be acquired cheaply and was well suited to the manufacture of paper from straw.

He had been involved in the development of a new process for boiling straw and had been allowed to use the process free of royalties. This induced Mr J B Green to consider the purchase of Soho Mill and forming the company.

From the start profits were made and divided although there were struggles. Then illness struck William Thomas and he was diagnosed with a severe heart problem. Suddenly this young business had to make changes as William Thomas was the moving spirit of the concern.

John Thomas moved into the house at the mill and the business went on as before. William Thomas attended when he felt equal to it while his energy and vitality were much as before. He was not prepared to let his illness stand in his way.

In those days the mill produced large amounts of News which was a lower quality paper. One of their main contracts was with the Bucks Free Press.

Supplies arrived via a railway siding with a weighbridge under the shade of a large tree. Local farms sent in wagonloads of straw that had to be weighed. Each truss had to be 36lbs and they were all recorded. Princes Mill was added to the business sometime between 1866 and 1873 and the mill did a number of early processes before being shipped across to Soho. Then Esparto grass was introduced as the regular material for papermaking.

In 1874 William Thomas died and Roland Green, working with John and Edwin Thomas, carried on the business. Then strained relations arose between John and Edwin Thomas that had been bubbling for many years.

Their father, William Thomas, thought they might get on better if they lived next door to each other and he built Brook House for John and Chestnuts for Edwin with no fence between the properties. Strained relations continued with occasional problems when one had to be called back from Henley Regatta to sign the wages cheque.

Soho Mill became known for the quality of its stock

papers in a range of different colours and they produced the Combination Pattern Book making it the first British papermaker's attempt at publicity.



The mill started up at midnight on Sunday with 12 hour shifts working until 6pm on Saturday. Roland Green was the dominant personality and he started sharp at 9am and worked until 5.30pm or later. Nothing but the best was good enough for him. On Saturday he would visit any of the workers who were sick and he had genuine concern for them.

Roland Green and his wife Jemima celebrated the birth of their son Bernard on 23 December, 1887. Between 1903 and 1907, while at Clifton College in Bristol, Bernard was a Royal Engineers volunteer before going to Trinity College, Cambridge to read theology.

At the start of the First World War he was commissioned and went to France in March 1915. Bernard was married at the parish church in Wooburn Green before returning to France. He was awarded the Military Cross. In 1919 he was appointed managing director of Thomas & Green, Soho Mill, Wooburn Green, Bucks. Roland Green died in 1927 and in St Paul's Church, Wooburn Green, there is a plaque in his memory.



At this stage the coincidence arrived in the form of a book written by Laurence Green, grandson of Bernard Green, about the wartime experiences of his grandfather through two world wars. While the book has been a gripping read it was important to know that this man from Wooburn Green carried the family name and was part of a papermaking dynasty.

Laurence starts by explaining that, in March 2024, it was 80 years since the boldest and most tragic escape from a German Prisoner of War camp during World War Two. Called the Great Escape in 1963 it inspired a major film.

Flight Lieutenant Bernard Green MC RAFVR was a Bourne End man and, aged 56, the oldest man to escape through the tunnel known as 'Harry'.

But long before then Bernard joined the family business and instead of becoming a country parson he became an agnostic, working at Soho Mill, until joining the Bucks Battalion, Ox and Bucks Light Infantry in 1914.

He went to Belgium with the regiment in March 1915. In April 1915 Bernard's Lance Corporal was killed next to him on a night patrol. In May 1915 Bernard was wounded in the upper groin by a rifle grenade and came home to Bourne End for two

months to recover. Returning to France he fought at the Battle of the Somme then the Battle of the Ancre and later at Messines and Passchendaele.

At the start of the Second World War Bernard joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve as an aerial gunnery instructor at the age of 52. His nickname was 'Pop' due to his age and being more of a father figure.

In late July he volunteered to fly a sortie as belly gunner in a Handley Page Hampden when the plane was hit by flak over the Danish port of Fredrikshafen and crashed into the North Sea soon afterwards.

After being captured, Bernard was sent to a number of officer PoW camps in Germany and Poland ending at Stalag Luft III. There Bernard helped disperse sand as the escape tunnel progressed under the thin soil of the camp. By March 1944 the plan was for 200 prisoners to break out through the tunnel on a moonless night; names were drawn out of a hat and Bernard was chosen.

Disguised as Czech workers their group emerged from the tunnel in the freezing darkness, walked five miles through the dense forest, and caught a local train which went to the Czech border.

Bernard got off the train at the village of Boberohrsdorf, 49 miles from the camp. He had to cross the village in the snow and was stopped by a German private who asked him why he hadn't taken the train all the way to the destination on his ticket.

Limited German eventually resulted in Bernard's capture. Of the 76 air force officers who escaped through the tunnel three eventually made it home, 50 were murdered, and 23 returned to various camps, Bernard was one of them.

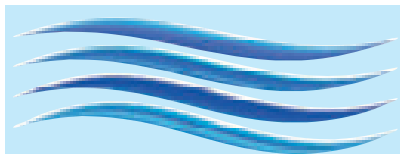
He was liberated on May 2, 1945 and returned to an uncertain future back in Bourne End. He died on November 1, 1971 at the age of nearly 84.

It would have appealed to his great sense of humour that he died on All Saints' Day and was cremated on Bonfire Night November 5.

READ: Green A.L. 'Great War to Great Escape: The Two Wars of Flt Lieut Bernard 'Pop' Green MC' published by Fighting High Publications, 2011

Our pictures show: Roland Green, Roland's plaque in St Paul's Church, Wooburn Green and Bernard 'Pop' Green in the First World War





River Life

with Peter Osborne



What an extraordinary winter period. The river has been red boarded for some six months, meaning that boats were not permitted to use it. I've not known this in all my time working on the river.

I've almost finished building my boat the 'Ark' and I will scout the world gathering two animals of each species. Saying that, it could be a problem as I am unsure how many genders there are in the animal world, I may have to obtain more than two of each type. I will be prepared for next winter; hopefully I won't need it this summer.

I am hoping it will be a great summer and that we will get much use of the river. There may be a blot of the landscape though. The Environment Agency is going to have fewer lock staff and some lock keepers will have to look after more than one lock.

The river is strewn with fallen/overgrowing trees, sunken boats and there are fewer non-marina moorings due to an increase in live-aboard boats.

There has also been talk of locks breaking down already this year, a lack of maintenance? I fear that there will be more such incidents. The EA seem quite powerless as they state that they do not have the resources to deal with all the issues due to budget constraints.

Unfortunately, problems with the river are making some boat owners consider leaving it,

or even to get out of boating all together. Owners are depressed as they pay increases in their river licences and get nothing in return other than seeing a deterioration of the river and its facilities, it's very sad.

Another pressing situation is the amount of sewage being discharged into the river from places like Henley, Marlow and Little Marlow. Evidence of this can be found at places like marinas where you can notice the crapachino on the surface around the boats.

Also, there have been cases of dogs becoming ill after entering the water; please keep them away from the water and I would not advise swimming in it unless you have a desire for hospital food.

A local resident, Steve Backshall, has championed the cause and appeared on the telly making the salient points to Thames Water and making their representative look like a bit of a Charlie. Hopefully Steve's efforts will help reduce the amount of sewage being discharged.

There is a resident swan at Woottens Boatyard, Cookham Dean. Last year her eggs were devoured by otters. This year she was unable to build her nest in its usual spot due to the high water level.

However, once the water receded, she built her nest and laid her eggs only for the water

to rise again and wash her eggs away. It is very sad but it's nature at its worst.

Next year I think we should build a tower with some sort of gated security so that she can hatch her eggs and give them a chance of attaining adulthood.

There is an olde English saying 'Cometh the good weather, cometh the crane inspector'. Chaos had to endure the annual crane inspection to maintain the insurance coverage.

It was a bit of a mixed bag for him. The positive news is that the crane passed with flying colours, the not so good news is that he is going to work in overdrive to complete the work on peoples' boats who wished them painted and polished a month or so back. Good luck on that one Chaos.

Bourne End Marina tend to work on fibreglass boats with a few wooden hulls, whereas Woottens tend to deal with wooden boats besides a few fibreglass ones. One main difference is that fibre glass hulls can be launched on completion of works carried out and immediately be moved away from the crane base whereas this is not always true about a wooden hull.

When wooden boats are stored out of the water for the winter the hulls tend to dry out. The consequence of this is that the wood shrinks and when launched the hull can leak water through the gaps between the planks because of drying and therefore shrinking.

To overcome this the boat is held in the water with the bilge pump pumping out any ingress of water.

This process allows the hull planking to expand and therefore close the gaps and hence seal the hull making it watertight again.

This process works and keeps the boat afloat, so long as you switch the automatic bilge pump on. We discovered this critical point having launched a boat and sometime later noticed that she was sitting lower and lower in the water. Just prior to the water damaging any of the workings the bilge pump was switched on and we watched her rise majestically higher out of the water.

The season has started very late due to the prevailing weather, but we can only hope there will be a vast improvement in the conditions.

It's not just the boating businesses that suffer a loss of revenue during these times, it's also the likes of The Bounty pub and other retail outlets in Bourne End that attract river users to purchase their wares. I'm just going up the village to buy some sunscreen just in case the sun makes a meaningful appearance. Come on summer.

Until the next time
Peter Osborne,
River Thames correspondent

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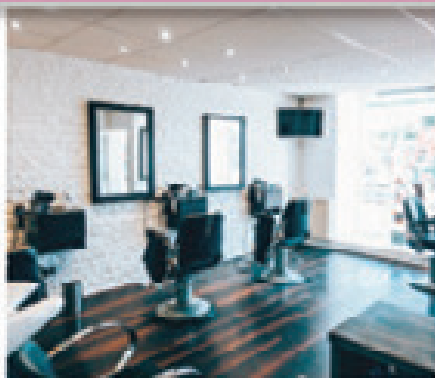


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OUR GROUP MEMBERS KEEP IN TOUCH

1st Wooburn Scout Group

Over the last couple of months we have been very active, with the arrival of drier, warmer weather. We all went to the St George's Day Parade in Marlow on April 21 - overcast, but mostly dry. Everyone looked fantastic.

Beavers went on a scavenger hunt through Bourne End on May 15, and enjoyed orienteering in Wooburn Manor Park the following week.

Cubs have been both shooting and axe throwing at Paccar Scout Camp.

Scouts did an international cook-off, shooting, and gadget building (in practice for the Camp Cook competition later this month - results in the next issue).

Coming up, we have the Scouts District Camp Cook, June 14-16, when the Scout group design, cook and present a menu to a judging panel, competing against other groups. I had the dubious pleasure of being a guinea-pig (I mean taster) last year. There are some seriously inventive menus and I hope to be in the judging chair again.

At Wooburn Fête on June 22, come and visit us for games like 'smash a plate'. We may be holding a barbecue too, to be confirmed.

The week-long summer camp at Braggers Wood near Bournemouth begins on July 27. This is just a quick drive to Poole and a short ferry trip across to Brownsea Island, the 'home' and birthplace of worldwide Scouting. A real highlight that is offered to all Scouts at least once in their time with us.

If that sounds like something your young people would be interested in, why not join the group? We meet at Watery Lane Scout Hall, HP10 0NE. All our sections are open to both boys and girls, with ages being Beavers (6-8 years old), Cubs (8-10 ½) and Scouts (10 ½-14). To contact us, go to <https://wooburn.wixsite.com/wooburnscouts>; come and speak to us at the Scout hall; or email wooburngreengsl@gmail.com

If you have a young person who needs to do volunteer work for their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme or similar, we can assist with this.

All of our section leaders are showing young people practical skills for life, from how to read a map, to how to cook a three-course roast dinner on an open fire, as well as many more weird and wonderful skill sets, all done with fun in mind. So please, don't miss out on this opportunity.

Are you in need of a space for up to 100 people? Maybe a child's birthday party, family gathering, gender reveal, or similar celebration?

Our very well-kept, spacious hall is, we like to think, the best hall hire in Bucks and available for hire at very reasonable rates. Get in touch through our website <https://wooburn.wixsite.com/wooburnscouts/hall-hire> or www.Hallshire.com (search Wooburn Green Scout Headquarters).

Soroptimist International of Bourne End

At our club meeting in March, we were delighted to welcome our new member Smita, who has been busy attending our meetings in Bourne End Library which we hold every third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. She was also present at our recent successful Orangeing of the Ark Café in the Methodist Church in Marlow where we highlighted one of our many projects, Wycombe Women's Aid. To hear more about our projects and what else we

do, you are very welcome to come along to a meeting. For more information visit www.sigbi.org/thames-valley.

Marlow and District Railway Society

Our regular monthly meetings at the community centre continue, and a real highlight came in March when the Reverend Brian Arman concluded his 'Broad Gauge Journey from Paddington', finally reaching Penzance. Brunel championed the idea of the broad gauge, of course, building the Great Western Railway with the rails seven feet apart, much wider than the other railways. However his visionary idea ended in 1892 when the majority won the day. Not many people were out taking photographs before 1892 so the collection that Brian has amassed is priceless and we felt very privileged to see them.

On Thursday June 20 we look forward to one of our members, Tim Speechley, presenting 'An Enthusiast's Journey through the Last 60 Years'. Then on Thursday July 18 we welcome Jeremy Harrison, giving an illustrated talk about 'Railways before the Great War'. This too promises to be a real treat, with more really historic photographs.

All our meetings start at 7.30pm, with some members adjourning to the bar afterwards where you would be made most welcome. Entry for members is free, but visitors are always encouraged; it's just £3 on the door, where you can also join the society if you like (cash or cheque). Members receive regular online updates, as well as our long-running quarterly magazine *The Marlow Donkey*.

For more details visit our website www.mdrs.org.uk or ring Martin Stoolman on 07954 849390. Our talks are not entirely about railways, and a variety of other transport often features. Our April event seemed to involve as many boats as trains.

Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society

Titled 'Cocktail Hour' our meeting in April showed the skills of our own flower arrangers as they were challenged to create cocktails with flowers. Dressed in pink Sherry used the ingredients for a rum punch as her inspiration and by end you could smell the oranges and see the exotic flowers on some far flung tropical island. It was wonderful and great fun.

Pat regaled members with her stories about a recent trip to New Zealand and what a treat it had been. Then she dished up the cocktails that symbolised all she had seen and done. It had been unforgettable and was packed with memories to live on whenever Pat talked about the trip. And her furry brown creature got in on the scene to the delight of members.

Finally Tracy arrived with golden cocktail shakers, wide glasses and orchids, among other flowers and greenery. She talked about being 'shaken not stirred' and provided suitable arrangements on the theme of



cocktails. It glittered under the lights and was an inspiration for members as well as a delight for the lucky prizewinners in the raffle.

We meet on the first Tuesday in the month for a demonstration in the May Woollerton Hall at the community centre from 7.30 for an 8pm start.

On 4 June we welcome Vivien Withers with 'My Floral Journey' then on July 2 it will be Robin White with 'Looking Back'. Why not come along and join us at a demonstration - for details contact our secretary on 01628 476641.

At the end of May we held a delightful tea party at the community centre and it did include some flower arrangements. Many thanks to everyone who made this happen and to all the lovely people who supported us by coming along to enjoy a lovely afternoon among friends and flowers.

Bourne End (Bucks) Twinning Association

We celebrate our 21st this year. Bourne End has been twinned with Octeville-sur-mer, near Le Havre in Normandy, since 2003. Do come and join us to welcome the Octevillais and discover twinning - no French necessary - it's about sharing, fun and friendship. To find out more, contact chairman, Wilma Johnston Ball, will6j@virginmedia.com, 07801 600 253, or Wendy Langford, langfordw22@gmail.com, 07428 004417.

Upcoming events are a Cake and Quiz Afternoon on Saturday July 6, 2pm to 4.30pm; Games Afternoon on Saturday August 17, 2pm to 4.30pm; visit of CJO members from Octeville-sur-mer from Thursday-Monday September 19-23; Skittles with Fish and Chip Supper at Flackwell Heath Bowling Club, Friday October 18.

We look forward to welcoming two new members and we thank David Davis and Mike Hill, who currently jointly manage the finances.

Our committee (Wilma Johnston Ball, David Davis, Peter Willingham and Wendy Langford) has been planning for the big event of the year, the visit of the CJO in September.

Thanks to various splendid efforts, particularly by hosting secretary Liz Yeeles, no fewer than 28 French visitors will be welcomed into our homes for the long weekend - nearly double the number who came two years ago.

Plans include the Welcome Reception, a free day to take guests out, an excursion to Bletchley Park (where in great secrecy the Enigma code was cracked during the Second World War), free Sunday morning, and a short concert by the Heath Singers before the closing dinner.

All members are welcome to join in but there will be charges for those not hosting, to help cover expenses.

If members are not receiving news of our events, get in touch with Wilma or Wendy (see above) so that we can resolve any problems.





Bourne End Horticultural Society

We invite you to a social evening at St Dunstan's Hall on Thursday June 20 at 8pm. This is our popular Bring a Rose evening. Please come with a favourite rose you have grown together with a plate of food, sweet or savoury, to share.

John Massey will be sharing his interesting gardening talk with us on Thursday July 18. Please come along as a visitor at a cost of £5 or contact us through our website www.behorticultural.co.uk if you are interested in joining our friendly society. You do not need to have any prior horticultural experience.

We will not be having a meeting in August but will resume on Thursday September 19.

Bucks Family History Society

Meeting regularly on the second Tuesday in the month, for our meeting on June 11 Julian Hunt will talk about the 'History of Marlow'. This is an interesting talk for anyone with local ancestors or who lives locally and wants to know more about the history of the area.

Then on Tuesday July 9 we have a meeting which will include a number of short talks with the focus being your family history in the newspapers. All welcome and you can give a short talk or hear the diverse stories that will be told. It should be an interesting night.

We meet in the Eghams Room at the community centre starting at 7.45pm with doors open at 7.30pm. All welcome - free for members, £2 for non-members. Check out our website at bucksfhs.org.uk

CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

JUNE

- 1 Sat Repair Café in the Sarney Room of Flackwell Heath Community Centre 10am to noon
- 3 Mon Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – and every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month) New Members Welcome. Contact details on story page 18
- 4 Tues Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society presents *My Floral Journey* by Vivien Withers. See their report page 34
- 4 Tues CentreJazz: live music from 8pm in the community centre. Admission £8. See poster p18
- 5 Wed Bourne End Community Association AGM at 7.30pm
- 5 to 8th and 12th to 15th Chiltern Shakespeare Company and Fourways present *The Comedy of Errors* at Hall Barn, Beaconsfield. Matinees and evening performances. Grounds open for picnicking. www.chiltern-shakespeare.co.uk See poster page 7
- 6 Thur Community Centre Bar Quiz. Doors open at 7.30pm; please arrive by 7.45pm for an 8pm start. For more information call Diane on 07521 656413
- 6 Thur The Hedsor Jazz Club every Thursday, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £10, The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End
- 7 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 8 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am – 2pm in and around the community centre
- 8 Sat Summer Fair at Wooburn Green Primary School. Stalls and activities from noon til 4pm. Free entry. See poster this page
- 9 Sun A social with a great mix of salsa, cha cha cha, Cuban and other Latin rhythms. At community centre, £10 starts at 7.15pm with three levels of salsa followed by a social until 11pm. Call 07595 397184 or 07956 122505 info@dance2salsa.co.uk www.dance2salsa.co.uk
- 10 Mon Wooburn Residents' Association present a free local history talk 8pm at the Wooburn Club. See page 3
- 11 Tue Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – and every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month). New members welcome. See poster page 18
- 14th to 16th Beer Festival at The Falcon pub, Wooburn Moor. See page 36
- 16 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema at the community centre is *Blinded by the Light* at 4pm. See poster p17
- 18 Tues Wooburn & Bourne End Parish Council Open House 5pm to 7pm. See their report p8
- 18 Tue Centre Rock Gary Roman presents Elvis & the legends 50s 60s & 70s music 7.45pm in the community centre bar. See page 18
- 20 Thur Bourne End Horticultural Society social evening at St Dunstan's Church hall 8pm. See their report page 35
- 21 & 22 The Heath Singers present *Fete de la Musique*, a celebration of music from France and the UK at 7.30pm Christ Church, Flackwell Heath. See page 31
- 22 Sat Wooburn Fete 12-4pm See page 3
- 28 Fri Talk at Bourne End Library presented by Friends of the Library. Nick Harding talks about training actors to be rowers for a film. 7 for 7.30pm. Tickets on sale at the library. See page 4
- 29 Sat Exhibition of Ken Townsend's postcard collection from 10am to 3pm. See page 10
- 29 Sat Coffee morning from 11am to 1pm running alongside exhibition (above). See poster page 18
- 29 Sat Hedsor Fair, from noon to 4.30pm at Orchard Dean, Riversdale. See page 14
- 29 & 30 St John the Baptist Church Festival. See times and details in their report page 30

JULY

- 1 Mon Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – And every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month.) New members welcome. Contact details on story page 18
- 2 Tues Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society presents *Looking Back* by Robin White. See their report page 34
- 4 Thur The Hedsor Jazz Club every Thursday, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £10, The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End
- 5 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 6 Sat Repair Café in the Sarney Room of Flackwell Heath Community Centre 10am to noon
- 9 Tues Short Mat Bowls in the community centre 7.15pm – And every Monday and Tuesday (except first Tuesday of each month). New members welcome. See info page 18
- 11 Thur Community Centre Bar Quiz. Doors open at 7.30pm; please arrive by 7.45pm for an 8pm start. For more information call Diane on 07521 656413
- 13 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am – 2pm in and around the community centre
- 14 Sun Salsa at the community centre (see details above, June 9)
- 15 Mon Wooburn Residents' Association meeting at the Wooburn Club. See page 3
- 16 Tue Centre Rock Matt Bond, lead singer from the Small Fakers 7.45pm in the community centre bar. See page 18
- 20 Sat Summer Fete at Bourne End Community Centre from 10.30am to 2pm. See poster page 19
- 20 Sat Quiz Nite with Forum Players at the community centre. Tickets £12. See report and poster page 19
- 21 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema at the community centre is *Wicked Little Letters*. See poster p17
- 25 Thur At home with the Bourne Again Shadows at the community centre at the community centre. See poster page 24

The next issue of *Target* will cover August and September 2024.
Email editor@targetmagazine.org.uk by Monday July 1
to get your event included in the calendar.

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

THE FALCON QUIZ

Set and sponsored by The Falcon Pub, Wooburn Moor

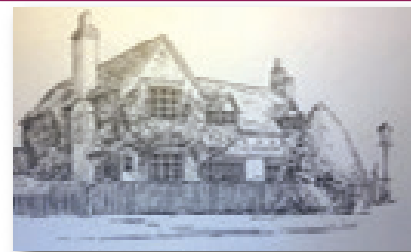
Quizmaster Steve set this quiz and landlady, Katie Lamb, generously offers a meal for two at the pub (or a takeaway) as a prize for the winner. For your chance to win, send in your answers to the questions below by email to editor@targetmagazine.org.uk (with the subject line Falcon Quiz) or write down your answers and drop them in at the community centre. Don't forget to include your contact details. The winner will be picked at random from all the correct entries on the closing date Monday July 1. Have a go... if nobody gets all the answers the winner will be the person with the most correct answers. Check out your geography – the answers are from around the world...

- 1 What is the official language of Uruguay?
- 2 The Atacama Desert is on which continent?
- 3 Which is the most northerly of the Channel Islands?
- 4 The Klondike gold rush took place in which country?
- 5 DXB is the code for which international airport?
- 6 In which range of hills are the Cheddar caves?
- 7 Accra is the capital of which African country?
- 8 Manchego cheese originated in: Italy, Holland, France or Spain?
- 9 In which city is Britain's largest cathedral?
- 10 Where would you find the Barbary Coast?
- 11 In which English county is the Royal Forest of Dean?
- 12 Which is the largest of the Caribbean islands?
- 13 Which range of mountains separate France and Spain?
- 14 The 1992 summer Olympics were held where in Spain?
- 15 Which singer once played in goal for Real Madrid reserves?
- 16 What is a Francophile?
- 17 What is the capital of Malta?
- 18 What is the oldest recorded town in the UK?
- 19 What runs from Chicago to Santa Monica?
- 20 What is the world's largest island?

Answers to the April/May quiz

1 Song of the South 2 Pinocchio 3 Cinderella 4 Peter Pan 5 Aristocats 6 Frozen 7 Bambi 8 Robin Hood 9 Sleeping Beauty 10 Jungle Book 11 Dumbo 12 Lion King 13 Toy Story 14 Pocahontas 15 Aladdin 16 Snow White 17 Alice in Wonderland 18 Little Mermaid 19 Hunchback of Notre Dame 20 Mulan

The winner is Darren Reid, Clapton Approach, Wooburn Green



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Market.