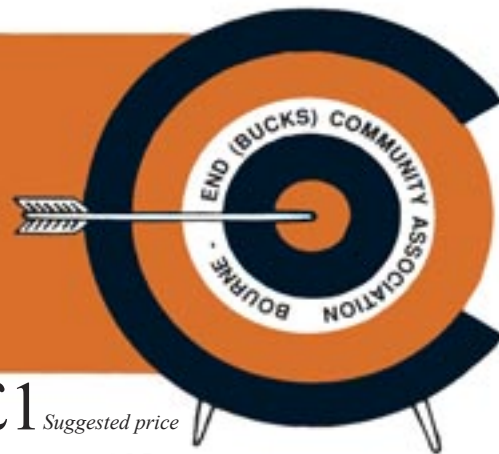


target



VOL. 61 No 3
JUNE/JULY 2025

The association is a registered charity - number 300236

£1 Suggested price

Finds of national importance in Wooburn

8,000-year-old secrets have been unearthed beneath Slate Meadow as the archaeological excavation in Wooburn yields significant prehistoric discoveries...

Slate Meadow is revealing extraordinary secrets from deep in the past. Recent archaeological excavations, carried out in advance of planned development, have uncovered evidence of human activity dating as far back as the Mesolithic period, around 8,000 years ago, making this one of the most significant early prehistoric sites in the region.

More than 9,500 pieces of flint have been recovered with around 2,800 identified as deliberately struck tools. Some long blades measuring over 10cm indicate both late Glacial and early Mesolithic technology. Some flints indicate butchery or craft activity.

What makes Slate Meadow special is the rare combination of flint tools and faunal remains — animal bones showing cut marks resulting from hunting or food preparation. It suggests early humans repeatedly returned to the site near the River Thames.

While two radiocarbon dates place activity firmly in the Mesolithic period (between 5210 - 4440 cal BC), further discovery of Bronze Age pottery hints at later prehistoric

use of the area. Human remains were also excavated and are being researched and dated.

Well preserved Mesolithic faunal assemblages are extremely rare in Britain. Sites like Slate Meadow help researchers piece together how early communities lived, moved through the landscape and adapted to changing environments at the end of the last Ice Age.

Further excavations will focus on identifying activity zones and hoping to understand seasonal migration patterns of these early inhabitants.

The archaeological team will also work to ensure the findings are made available to the public, with the potential for local exhibitions.

Slate Meadow may soon be known as a nationally important window into Britain's deep past. Excavation work and studies of the Wooburn site are expected to continue for the next 8-12 months and no building work can start until these excavations are complete.

However, it is not expected that any findings will affect the long-term plans for development.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:



Photos from
community centre
events pages 18 & 19



Readers share their
Take Your Target photos
page 26

HARRY SMASHES HIS FUNDRAISING TARGET (and takes his Target)

Target sends congratulations to Bourne End's Harry Kimber on completing a fund raising walk which was very close to his heart and for remembering to take his Target along for this great photo.

Harry's proud dad, Dave, wrote in to Target: "On Saturday April 19, Harry completed a 6.1K (3.7 mile) walk from Bourne End to Marlow along the River Thames (the Thames Path) to fundraise for the National Autistic Society - a charity which is close to our family — Harry is 31 and is autistic himself.



"Harry finished the walk in one hour and 18 minutes and raised a total of £400 for the charity - his original target amount was £300.

"The photograph was taken when Harry crossed the finish line - Marlow Bridge -

where all the family greeted him to celebrate."

Here's what Harry had to say about his achievement: "This year, for World Autism

Acceptance and Awareness Month 2025, I wanted to do something that really meant something. Not just a post online or a badge on my jacket — something real. So, I signed up for a fundraising walk, hoping to celebrate the autistic community and make a genuine difference for people like me.

"I had one goal in mind: to tackle the loneliness and isolation that so many autistic people experience. I wanted to help autistic individuals and their families feel seen, heard, and truly celebrated for who they are.

"My own story? I wasn't diagnosed as autistic until I was 28. For years, I had this feeling that I was somehow 'different' — but I didn't have the words for it. Getting my diagnosis changed everything. It gave me answers, yes, but it also gave me the language to understand myself and how I connect with the world. Suddenly, so much that once felt confusing just... clicked.

"Crossing the finish line at Marlow Bridge was emotional in a way I didn't expect. Every step I took felt like a step towards change. And beating my fundraising goal just made the whole experience even more special.

"To everyone who supported me — whether you sent kind words, cheered from afar, or donated to my fundraising page — thank you. Honestly, I can't put into words how much it means. You made this journey unforgettable."

STAMPS ARE A STUNNING FUNDRAISER

'Helping Target' was the aim and first-class pictorial stamps did just that. To date more than £2,000 has been raised for the community magazine thanks to the generosity of a Target supporter. A big 'thank you' for this fundraiser that proved to be exceptional — and this stamp offer is still available.

It was a fundraiser that exceeded original predictions and, as more people clamoured to buy the packs of 10, extra supplies were needed. This fundraiser captured the imagination and the Target supporter was happy to provide what readers wanted. These pictorial stamps offered first class post with memories from the past.

Now there's a new offer with limited supplies so it's a case of 'first come, first served'. Stamps for worldwide letters usually cost £3.20 at the Post Office. Now these pictorial stamps are offered to Target readers at 5 for £10 — a saving of £1.20 for each stamp.

You can also use them for large letter posting which costs £3.15 or put them towards the cost of sending small parcels (up to 2kg in weight) by first or second class.

Another great stamp offer that can be bought from the community centre office with cash, credit card or cheque. See our poster on page 11.



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.

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www.thamesvalley.police.uk

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Email: joy.morrissey.mp@parliament.uk

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Flackwell Heath 4.45pm 01628 520524
Wooburn Green 5pm 01628 522939

DOCTORS

Bourne End & Wooburn Green Medical Centre
Hawthornden, Wharf Lane, Bourne End SL8 5RX
The Orchard, Station Road, Bourne End SL8 5QE
Pound House, 8 The Green, Wooburn Green HP10 0EE
www.bewgmc.co.uk 01628 530 997

HEALTH VISITORS' SERVICE 01628 482788

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NHS 111 or www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

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Wycombe Hospital, Queen Alexandra Road,
High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2TT 01494 526161
Stoke Mandeville Hospital
Mandeville Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8AL
www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk 01296 315000
St Mark's Hospital, 112 St Mark's Road,
Maidenhead SL6 6DU 01628 632012
Wexham Park Hospital, Wexham Street, Slough SL2 4HL
www.heatherwoodandwexham.nhs.uk 0300 614 5000

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Station Road, Bourne End SL8 5QF 01628 523353
www.bourneenddental.co.uk

Southern Electricity Emergencies 08000 727282
Or 105 for power cuts

Thames Water Supply Emergencies 0800 714614

North Thames Gas Emergency (Slough) 0800 111999

DAY CENTRE, Wakeman Road, Bourne End SL8 5SX
01628 527024

WYE VALLEY VOLUNTEERS,

Portacabin, Wakeman Road Bourne End SL8 5SX
enquiries@wyevalleyvolunteers.org.uk
01628 521027

BOURNE END LIBRARY

Wakeman Road, Bourne End SL8 5SX 01296 382415
Open Tuesday 9.30am to 7pm, Wednesday 9.30am
to 1pm, Thursday and Friday 9.30am to 5pm,
Saturday 9.30am to 2pm. Closed Sunday and
Monday.

www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/libraries/
Email: lib-boe@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

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www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk

Transport for Bucks: 01296 382416 (office hours)
01296 486630 (out of hours emergencies)

Housing emergencies: 0800 999 7677

Social care: 01296 387021 (to report abuse)
0800 999 7677 (out of hours emergencies)

WOOBURN & BOURNE END PARISH COUNCIL

Council Offices, Town Lane, Wooburn Green HP10 0PS
www.wooburnparish.gov.uk 01628 522827

LITTLE MARLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Community Office, The Pavilion, Church Road, Little
Marlow SL7 3RS
www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk 01628 890301

SCHOOLS

Claytons County Combined, Wendover Road,
Bourne End SL8 5NS
www.claytonsp.sch.uk 01628 525277
Little Marlow School, School Lane,
Little Marlow SL7 3SA
www.littlemarlow.bucks.sch.uk 01628 473316
St Paul's School, Stratford Drive,
Wooburn Green HP10 0QH
www.st-pauls.bucks.sch.uk 01628 521553
Wooburn Green Primary School, School Road,
Wooburn Green HP10 0HF
www.wooburngreenprimary.co.uk 01628 521634
Bourne End Academy, New Road, Bourne End SL8 5BW
www.bea.bucks.sch.uk 01628 819022

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.

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

See our cinema listings here and turn the page for more activities and events at your community centre

Sunday 15th June 16:00

Doors open 15:20

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk

or from the Centre Office 01628 522604



It's 1960s Baltimore, and in this romantic musical comedy gutsy teenager Tracy Turnblad pursues stardom after landing a place on a popular dance show, while rallying against segregation and sizeism.

Starring John Travolta, Michelle Pfeiffer, Christopher Walken, Queen Latifah, Zac Efron and Nikki Blonsky.



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 20th July 16:00

Doors open 15:20

Tickets £6 Members - £7 Non members

online at TheNewRoyalty.org.uk

or from the Centre Office 01628 522604



Self-reformed petty criminal Terry is a financially struggling car dealer, when he is offered the chance to lead a lucrative and foolproof bank heist. He soon discovers there are other powerful players who have designs on the vault's contents.

Starring Jason Statham and Saffron Burrows, The Bank Job is based on the 1971 burglary of Lloyds Bank safety deposit boxes in Baker Street.



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

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SHORT MAT BOWLS

Bowlers enjoy competitions but, sometimes, a friendly game provides a very relaxing evening. Bourne End's bowlers (left) play regular friendly matches against other clubs and this picture shows the victorious team that played Charvill and won. They celebrated afterwards with a fine tea provided by the host club.

New bowlers are always welcome and all you have to do is turn up on a Monday or Tuesday evening when they will be in the May Woollerton Hall at the community centre from 7.15pm. However not on the first Tuesday in the month when another group meets there. Wear soft soled shoes is the only requirement.

Short Mat Bowls held an Open Morning at the end of March and people came along to try their hand at bowling. Pictures are on page 26. If you want more information call Roger Gould on 01628 524122 or Chris Thomas on 01628 520361 or email: besmbowls@gmail.com



FIRST REPAIR CAFÉ IS A GREAT SUCCESS

Before the 11am opening time on the April 19 organisers and repairers smiled at the camera to mark the start of the first Repair Café in Bourne End (left).

Although a few were concerned by the challenging two hours ahead, they needn't have worried.

Everything from sewing repairs to watches that didn't work and china that

had been hidden away in pieces for many years arrived and were repaired. It was fun, the repairers relaxed when they knew they could cope and the ladies on the desk asked for more forms to be photocopied.

At the end they had 28 items for repair, five of which were either taken home by repairers or put back to next month, as there wasn't time to do them.

Of the remaining 23, 16 were fixed, meaning a success rate of about 70%. These items included a vacuum cleaner, handbag, jeans, sewing machine and a Royal Worcester vase.

Comments included: 'very good repair', 'brilliant service', 'so happy my coat zip is mended', and for a couple of unsuccessful repairs: 'he worked very hard – tried, tried, tried', 'very happy with attempt'

Now they are looking forward to the next Repair Café in May and there are dates in the diary for the rest of the year.

Community association secretary Diane Hall was delighted and very grateful for the skilled repairers who promised to return and looked forward to further challenges.

She told *Target*: "We need general and textile repairers. General meaning household, small items of furniture and electrical.

"If you have those skills and would like to join this group of friendly repairers then please contact the community association and leave a message with your name and a contact number. Someone will get in touch."

There are photos from the Repair Café on pages 26 and 27.

Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association

Wakeman Road, Bourne End, Bucks, SL8 5SX



LACE & CRAFT DAY

Bring your lace/embroidery/cross stitch etc. for an enjoyable day and meet up with friends and make new ones

Saturday 2nd August 2025



10.00 to 4.00pm



Bourne End Community Centre

Wakeman Road, Bourne End, SL8 5SX

Tickets £5 (to include tea/coffee biscuits and cake) in advance from the Centre Office, ring 01628 524214 or book online at <http://bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk>

Please bring a packed lunch

For more info ring 01628 524214



Lace & Craft Day is a fund raising activity of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association - a charity registered in England and Wales No. 300236

REPAIR CAFE NEXT DATES: June 21 and July 26

Centre Bar Quiz

The next dates are 3rd April and 8th May. The quiz will be held in the May Woollerton Hall (advised on the evening). Doors open at 7.45 for an 8pm start. For information call 01628 524122 or email secretary@bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk

centreJAZZ in the bar

June 3

Henri Harrison and the Rockin' Chair Band

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

www.bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk

ANGLING CLUB *Tales from the water's edge*

Our last two matches of this fishing season and we went to Royal Berkshire fishery. Our April match was sunny but still with a bite to the wind. First was Jim West with 30.8lb, second was Johnny Taylor with 15.8lb third was Chris Payne with 14.8lb.

Our last match in May had Henry Rimmer first with 35.12lb, second was Wayne Richardson with 13.12 lb and third was Chris Payne with 21lb. We had a lovely sunny day. The overall points for the season winner is exciting as three are very close to one another. You will have to wait till the next write up for me to tell you who won and who was the runner up.

As always the guys mucked in with the weigh-in and helped getting ready. We have a great club with great people and the camaraderie and 'banter' is what makes it so special. I am proud to belong to our fishing club. Long may it continue.

Although these are the last results of the season, do not worry. In June we start all over again with the new season.

As always if you wish to join us we are always happy to welcome new members. If you are not sure if this is for you, you are welcome to be a guest and see what you think of us. If interested please see details below.

Until next time, tight lines.

Michele Smith, Secretary

Bourne End Anglers Tel 07802 711141

Email Raemichelsmith@yahoo.co.uk

Bourne End Community Centre Counting Colours

Saturday 14th June

'Retro Night'

Singing your favourite vintage covers from
the 60s through to the 00s



Bar open | Doors 19.30 | Showtime 20.00

Wakeman Road, SL8 5SX

Tickets £10.00 members/£12.00 non-members

Online at bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk,

or from the Centre office. Tel: 01628 522604.

This event is a fund raising activity of Bourne End (Bucks) Community Association Charity No.300236



Annual General Meeting reminder

The BE(B)CA AGM
will be on

Wednesday June 4 at
7.30pm. All members

are welcome.

Light refreshments
will be served.

This meeting will
look at 2024

achievements and
finances, will elect

officers and
members of the

council. We look
forward to seeing
you there.

Bourne End Community Centre

CENTRE ROCK with



Singing music by : Ed Sheeran, Lady Gaga,
Elton John, Queen, Johnny Cash and many more.

Live in the Centre Bar

Wakeman Road SL8 5SX

Tuesday 17th June from 19.45

Tickets £7 members/£8 non-members online at
bourneendcommunitycentre.org.uk, at the centre office, or
on the door.

(subject to availability - book in advance to avoid disappointment).

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

SUMMER FETE



SMALL BUSINESS MATTERS

with Sylvia Bourhill

Identity Checks Are Coming to Companies House What You Need to Know

You might've heard rumblings about changes to UK company law — and one of the big ones is identity verification.

It's part of the government's effort to tighten up company registration and reduce fraud.

Here's what it means for you.

Who has to verify their identity?

Under the new rules, anyone involved in running or owning a company will need to prove who they are. That includes:

- Company directors (yes, even if you've been a director for 20 years)
- People with Significant Control (PSCs) –

usually anyone who owns or controls over 25% of the company
- Anyone who files information on behalf of a company, like an accountant or company secretary

How do you do it?

There'll be two ways:

1. Via Companies House, using the new GOV.UK One Login system
2. Through an Authorised Corporate Service Provider (ACSP) — like your trusty accountant, as long as they're AML supervised and registered

It should be a quick process, and once you've done it, that's it — no need to repeat it for every company or filing.

When is this happening?

From 8 April 2025, identity verification will be open on a voluntary basis.

It'll become mandatory later in 2025 for new Directors, though the exact date hasn't been confirmed yet. For existing Directors it must be completed by Autumn 2026. The sooner it's done, the smoother things will run when it's no longer optional.

What if you don't do it?

If someone who's supposed to verify their identity doesn't do it, it could be a criminal offence. Companies House could reject filings or even block appointments. It's definitely not something to ignore.

What should you do now?

If you're a director, PSC, or file on behalf of clients, start preparing.

I'll be in touch with my clients when it's time to get verified — and I'll make the process as painless as possible.

As always, if you've got questions or need help understanding how this affects your business, just give me a shout.

sylvia@anotheranswer.co.uk

Source: Companies House –

<https://changestoukcompanylaw.campaign.gov.uk/>

Sylvia Bourhill

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Covering Marlow, Marlow Bottom, Flackwell Heath and Bourne End

SEE THE TARGET STAMP OFFER ON PAGE 11



WOOBURN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Caroline Meechan

What a glorious spring we have enjoyed! All the sunshine has turned our minds to Wooburn Fête and we have been busy working behind the scenes to ensure this annual event is a resounding success.

The objective of the fête is to showcase our community and everything available; therefore we invite youth groups, local charities, churches and small local businesses to attend, giving them the opportunity to raise funds for their activities, recruit members and also let residents know of the many volunteering opportunities available within the Wooburns.

The date of the fête is June 21, from midday until 4pm and it will include local school children dancing, the Blend Choir

singing as well as a couple of small fairground attractions, games provided by the Scouts and a tasty barbecue (at extremely reasonable prices).

Please put the date on your calendar, into your diary or stick a note on your fridge and make sure you come along to enjoy the afternoon.

The fête costs money (as does everything) and we rely on sponsorship.

We are delighted that this year's fête is being sponsored by G Smith Funeral Directors who have a presence on the Green. Thank you very much to G Smith for this financial support which means we can continue to offer this event free of charge to all.

The Residents' Association will be running a tombola stall which is to raise funds to support our Christmas Event – please do support us, come and have a conversation about what we do and perhaps get involved.

In addition to our events and bi-monthly business meetings we offer free

information talks throughout the year.

Our next speaker will be talking to us about how to avoid being scammed; whether online or physically.

This is a big issue at the moment so come along and ensure you and your loved ones know what to look out for. Monday June 9, 8pm in the private room of the Wooburn Club.

Our next business meeting will be on Monday July 14, 8pm in the private room of the Wooburn Club.

We welcome everyone and there is a subsidized bar so come along, have a drink, meet your neighbours and hear what is happening in our beautiful area.

Wooburn Residents' Association

Next Meeting:

Monday July 14

8pm at

The Wooburn Club

www.wooburnresidents.org

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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?
♠ A765 W N E S
♥ J7 1♥ Pass
♦ 1084 1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass
♣ Q852 ?
Julian Pottage gives his answer on page 24
English Bridge is published by the English Bridge Union.

AFFILIATED CLUB
Bourne End Bridge Club



We are pleased to welcome two new councillors coming into 2025 as part of the committee, taking us up to a constitution of 15.

If you'd be interested in joining us as a councillor, feel free to get in touch for an information pack or look at our website for more details.

Wildflowers will be planted at designated wildflower areas around the parish throughout April, and as we gear up to enter the Best Kept Village competition we hope that you will all do your best to make Wooburn and Bourne End flourish with bursts of colour and personality (See page 1).

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be on Tuesday May 20 from 7.30pm in the church hall in Town Lane. We will be receiving a report from each of our committee chairmen and reviewing the last 12 months of activity within the parish.

With a full schedule of meetings, community market events, Parkfest and the rest, there's plenty to talk about.

Complimentary nibbles and soft drinks will be available and we hope to see you there.

We will continue to attend the community market every second Saturday of the month, so please do come and speak to

us. We will also continue to open the office for our Open House evenings between 5pm and 7pm every other month. The next one is being held on Tuesday April 15.

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 informal meetings with your local parish council team. We are always extremely happy to welcome you.

In addition to these Open House evenings, the parish council meeting schedule for the upcoming year is available to view on our website and Facebook.



We hope to welcome many more members of the public through our doors this year, so please come along to any meetings that may be of interest to you.

Parkfest has been confirmed this year for Saturday August 23, so make sure you add this to your diary.

If you are interested in attending as a stallholder, please email reception@wooburnparish.gov.uk find out more about booking in.

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

or call on 01628 522827, or drop into the office inside Wooburn Cemetery. We are happy to help.

GET GROWING

We will once again be running our Flower & Produce show at Parkfest, which includes the competition for heaviest crop of bucket-grown potatoes! Don't forget to bring along your buckets to be emptied and weighed on the day to be in with a chance of winning a £10 Flowerland voucher.



SEVILLE ORANGE MARMALADE



Seville Oranges are still in season and in local green grocers now, so what better time to channel your inner Paddington and make some marmalade to enter in to the Parkfest Produce Show! Full show details and entry forms will be announced soon...keep an eye on our website and Facebook for more information.



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Charity Calendar – A Year in Focus

By Phil Laybourne

Back in 2021, I produced a charity calendar, with sponsorship, of local landscape shots to raise money for Thames Hospice in memory of my wife Gail.

The calendar was a huge success and my initial plans to raise £2,000 quickly turned into £10,000 in just 3 months!

This year, thanks to very generous sponsorship from Pegasus Homes, Pegasus Wooburn Bales, I have decided to produce a 2026 calendar – “A Year in Focus”.

The calendar will consist of six local landscape shots and six local wildlife shots, alternating each month. All the pictures have been taken by me over the past couple of years and, where possible, are seasonal.

The cost of the calendar will be £15. They will be on sale from August 1 from my website: www.phillaybournephoto.com from where we can ship worldwide.

They will also be available from The Lemon Tree, Bourne End, Bourne End Motor Company, Wakeman Road, The Old Bell, Wooburn Town and The Fat Fish, Wooburn Green. I will also be selling them at Bourne End Community Market each month from August to December.

Please do come along and say hello!

As this calendar is fully covered by sponsorship, the entire £15 will go to Thames Hospice in order for them to continue the outstanding work they do for the community.

I would dearly like to raise £15,000 this year and with your help and support we can achieve this. Thank you.





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UPPER THAMES SAILING CLUB

report by Tony Ketley

Late beginner...

My wife had read that once you turn 50 take up something new every year. It was supposed to help the ol' grey matter.

Learning to play bridge came first, then Italian lessons, after that learning to sail. Sailing was so absorbing we didn't need anything else new to study. Bridge and Italian can be learnt from books, but sailing is physical and to learn you need to be in a boat.

We qualified at a sailing school for our RYA 1 certificate, the next thing was to find a sailing club. We settled on UTSC, it had much to offer.

We wanted our own boat, but didn't really know what we should be looking for. A club member had a Firefly for sale, it was in good condition with all the necessary ropes and pulleys. It was late in the season when we bought the boat, and it was soon in



the boathouse for the winter. So, we only sailed it a few times before the winter break came along. This was unfortunate, all the stuff we had learnt was ebbing away.

The following year a new sailing season was upon us and we were keen to get the boat back in the water.

Rigging it required some assistance from helpful members, but it looked about right, so it was time to launch. The intention was to sail upstream, but despite my best efforts the boat seemed intent on a

steady course straight across the river. As we approached the far bank the penny dropped, I asked my wife, "Is the centre board down?" No, it wasn't. She released the securing rope, and the heavy aluminium centre board dropped through its housing and embedded itself in the riverbed.

A degree of panic came over us, the boat was capsizing, but we were relieved of that fear when we realised the water was so shallow that we could safely step out of the boat. Lesson learned the hard way, don't forget the centre board.

It's been a lot of fun, but don't take my word for it, come and join us. For details visit <https://www.utsc.org.uk>



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MORE FOR TENNIS...

Wooburn Park Lawn Tennis Club celebrate the opening of Court Number Five reports David Algar

The tennis club has been a big part of Wooburn Green and Bourne End since it first started in 1960. It has adapted to our changing world, but at its heart it is a community club where all are welcome.

In recent years membership has grown steadily, especially after the pandemic where we gained and kept many new players. This, and our base of enthusiastic members, has meant that the club was running beyond its full capacity.

The Lawn Tennis Association recommends a target of around 270 members for our court capacity and yet we currently have more than 350. This was the primary reason for the proposed building of the fifth court, which officially opened in May - though it has been in the planning for over three years.

The court development proved to be very complex as we, correctly, had to be aware of any archaeological issues. Then the court had to be built without too much disruption to other park users and at a time of unpredictable weather. We hope that we did this sensitively as the club is determined to be good neighbours. We would like to formally thank Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council and Bucks LTA for their help in making it a reality.

Closer to home we would also like to thank Keith Tompkins for seeing us through the planning and scoping work and Peter Hatch who managed the complex building work through to completion. We are delighted with the outcome.

More generally the club has a simple mission to 'Play More Tennis, Have More Fun'. This involves running many high quality teams throughout the year, a strong social tennis structure, a vibrant youth section and a penchant for a party. We have recently refurbished the club house, put in a new IT system (which was scary), and applied to improve the junior court, which can double up for pickleball - all within the current footprint.

Finally we have removed the recent membership cap and are now welcoming new members again - of all standards. We don't take ourselves too seriously and you will play some great tennis, so to join please contact Caren at tomkinscaren@gmail.com



(l-r). Keith Tompkins and Peter Hatch who did all the work and committee member Chris Gilbert

A wooden sign for 'THE WALNUT TREE BOURNE END'. The sign features a silhouette of a walnut tree. To the right of the tree, there is a large pink rectangular box. Below the tree, the text reads: 'OFFERING FRESHLY PREPARED PUB FAVOURITES, SUNDAY ROASTS & WEEKLY SPECIALS', 'G/SUMMER MENU', 'NE ALFRESCO', 'NING ARRANGEMENTS', 'LY SMALL PLATES', 'COLLECT AVAILABLE', 'OPENING HOURS', 'TUES - THU: 12NOON - 3PM, 5PM - 10PM', 'FRI & SAT: 12NOON - 10PM', 'SUN: 12NOON - 6PM', 'MONDAYS - CLOSED', '01628 532417', and 'WALNUTTREEBOURNEEND.CO.UK'.

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A background image showing a stone archway with the words 'BOURNE END' in a serif font. In the foreground, a man and a woman are standing and smiling. The man is wearing a blue blazer over a black shirt, and the woman is wearing a blue blazer. To the right of the image, the text reads: 'K Kingshills ESTATE AGENTS', 'Partner Agents', 'David Pering & Susan Allen', 'Marlow | Maidenhead', 'Bourne End | Wooburn Green', 'Property Valuations', 'Including Probate', '01628 561222', and 'www.kingshills.co.uk'.

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Little Marlow Parish Council

By Cllr Kath Acres

We continue to wait for the Secretary of State's ruling on the proposed Marlow Film Studios. Meanwhile we have been working on gently developing our cemetery.

We have planted more hedging whips and are levelling ground to extend the burial area. We have also started the process of mapping the cemetery which will enable us to produce a searchable database that will help us and family history researchers to properly track and record this essential local history information. Bat, bird and bee boxes have been installed by Wild Marlow.

The updated Hall Bookings calendar on our website (under facilities) means that you can see when we have availability at both Abbotsbrook Hall and at the Pavilion for 2025. They are both lovely halls suitable for a variety of uses and we are always happy to show prospective hirers around. Both venues have wifi access.

We have just a few allotments available at

Chapman Lane. If you are interested please contact the clerk (details below).

The election for parish councillors was uncontested (there were eight candidates for nine places). This means that we have one seat available to co-opt a new councillor.

You can see a complete list of current councillors and contact details on our website. Please contact our clerk if you are interested in discussing this.

We are now part of Chiltern Villages Ward and we welcome Mark Turner (Independent) as our new Buckinghamshire Councillor. Many thanks to ex Bucks Councillors David Johncock and David Watson for all the support they have given to Little Marlow Parish Council over the years.

Congratulations also to Little Marlow Parish Councillor Anna Crabtree who was also elected as a Bucks Councillor representing Marlow.

All Council meetings are open to the public and it would be lovely to see you there. Details of times and dates of meetings are on our website.

www.littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

Email: clerk@littlemarlowparishcouncil.org.uk

Tel: 01628 890301

Mob: 07377 424998



Bourne End Library

During the Easter break. Sue Croall once again hosted craft sessions for children, which, as ever, were well attended. We are very lucky to have Sue and very much value her creative sessions.

We're now getting closer to the summer holidays, so let's see what your library can offer you.

Coming up: 2025 Summer Reading Challenge Join in from July 5 to September 30.

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading during the summer holidays, ensuring they are ready for a great start to the new term in the autumn. Children can set a reading goal and collect rewards for reading anything they enjoy.

Children can take part in person at the library. We'll give them a special sticker booklet and other incentives, and help them to find books to read for their challenge.

Do encourage your children to join up – and maybe introduce them to books and/or subjects with which they are not familiar.

Has anyone joined in to solve the community jigsaw in the library? A few minutes (hours?) 'Just To Be' And, thanks to The Friends we now have a junior jigsaw table – and puzzles – for the little ones to solve.

Jigsaws may be borrowed (free of charge) but let us know whether there are any missing pieces when you return them. And we welcome jigsaws if you have finished with them. Again, if you know that there's a piece or two missing, please label the box before donating.

The library will be hosting a cinema event on the last Friday of each month. Tickets will be available in advance from the library or at the door on the night of screening. Look out for the posters.

As you see from the above, your library is just SO much more than books. Obviously we want to encourage the community to enjoy reading, but we like the residents of Bourne End to sample what their library also offers.

Fancy trying your hand at lace making? Or quilting? Scrabble? How about meeting up with someone to practice your foreign language skills prior to jetting off on your holidays? Talk to the team to see who's available.

And talking of jetting off... Our team of lovely volunteers all need a summer break just like the rest of us, which can, on occasion, cause some issues with staffing the library. We need a minimum of two people to man the library at all times – or else we simply cannot open.

Are you able to help us out, either on an ad hoc basis, or with regular shifts? All you need is a 'can do' attitude, a willingness to work the (basic) computer system – but, above all, an enjoyment of communicating with our users, young and a bit older. There is usually a free parking space available outside the library.

Did I mention that there's usually a supply of cakes and/or biscuits as a reward in the staff room?

If you are interested in joining us – please call in at the library and speak to a member of staff or email lib-boe@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Friends of Bourne End Library

In May we were delighted to welcome the return of author Vaseem Khan being interviewed by fellow writer, Quentin Falk.

Quentin reminded the members that he had interviewed Vaseem some years ago at the launch of his earlier book series featuring a female detective in India.

"As a writer of non-fiction I am in awe of authors like Vaseem. Non-fiction is very structured and the writer knows how the book will progress. I cannot imagine how a fiction writer can work out the plot and keep a reader's interest through to the final revelation," Quentin told *Target*. Vaseem laughed then explained that his latest book called 'The Girl in Cell A' is a stand-alone story with a challenging ending.

We are hoping to build on the success of the author event and organise more of these in the future. We need more volunteers on the Friends team, which would ease the pressure on just a few. Please let the library know if you might be interested in joining the team.

Our next event in the planning stage is an afternoon tea in aid of Cancer Research which will take place during July. Details will be in the library and it promises to be an enjoyable occasion. Funds raised support the library and provide extra facilities in both the adult and children's library.



Crime writer Vaseem Khan with Little Marlow resident and author Quentin Falk

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The World Faiths group

The World Faiths group is one of the newer ventures of the Bourne End and District u3a, and is one that has attracted a lot of support.

There are so many different religious systems in the world and it is an endlessly fascinating subject.

The group started by looking at Judaism – their history, beliefs, customs, festivals and dietary requirements.

Much of the information was provided by a Jewish member of the group. That section ended with a visit to a Synagogue in Maidenhead.

Our next focus was to look at Sikhism, another faith with millions of members worldwide.



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We again looked at important aspects of their beliefs, and then went to the Sikh Gurdwara in Southall.

We were given a tour by Manohar Singh, and at the end were treated to a very tasty lunch.

Several thousand of these lunches are prepared every day by an army of volunteers and distributed free of charge to anybody who cares to call in at the Gurdwara.

We are now moving on to look at some of the many Christian groups, particularly pertinent after the recent death of Pope Francis.

This is yet another of the Bourne End &

District u3a groups, open to all local residents who are retired or semi-retired.

Have a look at our website (bourneendu3a.org.uk) for a list of interest groups, or send an email to chair@bourneendu3a.org.uk if you would like to join us.

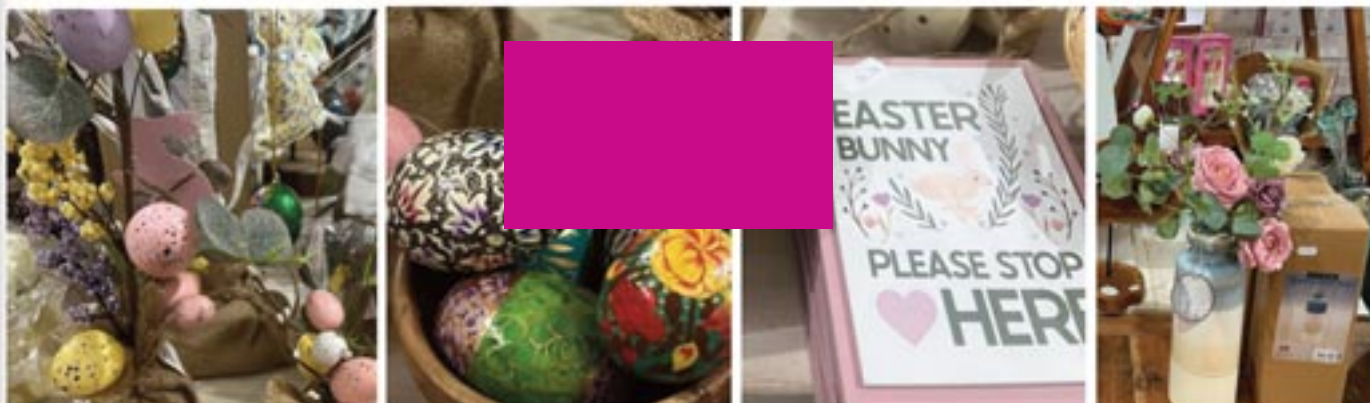
My photo shows: Back row, left to right - Manohar Singh, Gill Burston, Maureen Keane, Julie Over, Sheila Pikulski, Miriam Hagan, Patricia Jarrett. Front row, left to right - Vivienne Strayton, Jan Moorhouse, Sue Weston, Andy Becker



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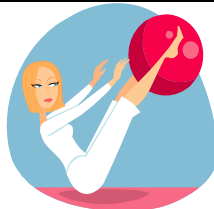
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MEET AT HEDSOR FAIR

A note for your diary; Hedsor Fair falls this year on Saturday, June 28.

By kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Callingham, the main fund raising event for St Nicholas Church will be held in the gardens of their riverside home, Orchard Dean, Riversdale.

This, the church's main fund raiser of the year is always 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 a quintessential English garden fete. We've got the ever popular Tombola and Bottle Stall, plus those unique family games you won't 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, fresh from their sell-out May concert in Medmenham. "Meet at Hedsor Fair", Saturday June 28, midday to 4.30pm, at Orchard Dean, Riversdale, SL8 5EB.

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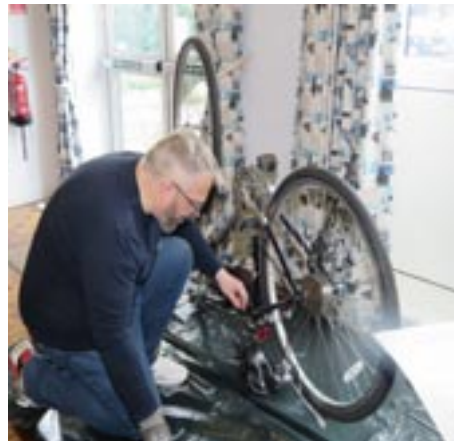
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School choir entertains residents of Wooburn Bales

All the arrangements had been made and now all they needed was a sunny afternoon.

Apollo is often considered the god of music, including singing, as well as arts, poetry, and prophecy. He was also known as the god of the sun and light. And he was on the side of the school choir from Wooburn Green Primary and the residents of Pegasus Wooburn Bales Residential Home.

Enjoying the sunshine the residents were entertained with music and movement by the school choir who knew all the words and all the moves to provide a stunning performance.

"They were very good," Phil Laybourne told *Target*, "and they enjoyed performing to an enthusiastic audience."

Combining music and movement was entertaining and earned the choir applause at the end of the show.

It earned Wooburn Green Primary School, headteacher Sam Kay, along with all the children grateful thanks from everyone at Pegasus Wooburn Bales.



TRACEY WALKS UPDATE

MINDERS offers peer support for mental health recovery

Welcome to minders – a safe, supportive and inclusive peer-to-peer mental health support group for Bourne End and the Wooburns.



The group believes in the power of connection, togetherness and lived experience. Whether you're navigating your own mental health journey or supporting a loved one. Minders is here for you.

Minders offers a safe and non-judgmental space that can be shared, where you can listen, be heard or just be. Monthly peer support meetings take place once a month at Bourne End Library on Thursday mornings. There's no charge - just bring your own hot or cold drink in a travel mug if you wish.

In addition, there is signposting to local resources where you can find helpful services and support networks. So why come along?

Remember - you don't have to go through this alone – we're a community that cares. There is no pressure, no judgment, just understanding and support providing a chance to heal, feel normal again, give back and grow together.

The next peer session is on Thursday 12 June then Thursday 24 July, 10-11am, Bourne End Library, Wakeman Road, Bourne End SL8 5SX. Remember: It just takes one small step.

Message rosieohagan@me.com or call 07989 716635 for more information or drop into one of the meetings to find out more.



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

THANK YOU

Thank you very much to all the generous supporters of our club who have contributed by purchasing shares in our share offer helping us to reach our target. Your help is much appreciated in aiding us to successfully reduce our carbon footprint, at the same time as making the energy bills significantly more manageable.



PROGRESS FOR OUR CLUB

At the time of writing, contracts have been let for :

- *replacement double glazed windows,
- *new re-enforced fire doors,
- *replacement flooring in the foyer, stairs and landing (the current flooring has long since worn out),
- *LED lighting which replaces the outdated tubes – using less electricity and giving better lighting, and
- *hot water / heating designs to replace the outdated and inefficient one.

By the time your read *Target*, some of these changes will be visible.

Regular users of the hall will feel and see the effects of these improvements.

During the summer months work will be undertaken to insulate the roof and to add solar panels. We will be hoping for a dry spell of weather then.

The creation of a new kitchen area will

also be underway over the summer, as we are only £4,000 away from reaching the level needed to press the button on it being done. This much needed facility will be available to all users of the hall.

It's not too late to donate to help us to achieve our goals -

<https://bejsc.co.uk/donate-shop/>

APOLOGIES

Apologies to all our users of the sports hall and to our close neighbours for disturbance and disruption. Our builders, fitters, and suppliers are aiming to cause as little noise and inconvenience as possible. We know that the premises will be so much improved once the work is done, and we are confident we are helping to make a greener environment, at the same time as preserving the our sports club for generations to enjoy the local provision of sports and activities.

Once all the work is completed we will be inviting all our supporters, friends and neighbours to come and see what has been achieved

PICKLEBALL

We have a new Pickleball Section. The new equipment has been delivered, and the first sessions will be starting soon, check on www.bejsc.co.uk for the details.

FOOTBALL TEAMS

Bourne End JSC Jaguars are looking for players as we head towards U15 football next season.

We understand that it's coming to the end of the U14 season (Year 9) but we are now looking ahead to the next with the view of increasing the ability level of an already developed team.

We want to increase our squad size and are looking to play in the WSBMFL U15 Division 4 for the upcoming

season (Year 10).

For further information or if interested please email us at bejscjaguars@icloud.com

Bourne End JSC Bears & Buccaneers are looking for Players. As we come to the end of the football season at U8 (Year 3) and 5v5 format, we head into the summer tournaments and then onwards into U9 (Year4) football next season.

From next September we progress to the next phase of Grassroots football, 7v7.

Therefore, we are now looking to increase our squad size and for several players with equal ability to that of the current group, in preparation for the new season ahead in the SBMSC

Green Division / Division 2 and this new playing format.

For further information or if interested then please email us at bejscbearsbuccaneers@icloud.com

If there are any youngsters who are looking for a new challenge, a change of team for whatever reason and want to start with a new team, or anyone looking to play with their current school friends or just interested to see if they would enjoy being with our current team, get in touch.

If any of those options sound like your child, then we'd love to hear from you. Contact Justin Coles for information about BEJSC U8 Bears/Buccaneers & U14 Jaguars



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Parkfest at Wooburn Park - August 23.

We have a stand and an exciting event to take part in. Watch for more information – come and join us!



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



WITH
BEN

Ben Broadhead is a Bourne End-based personal trainer and he specialises in working with seniors both in care settings and privately. Here he talks about strength training in later life.

As a personal trainer specialising in working with seniors, I've encountered numerous misconceptions regarding strength training. Most notably, the simple idea that it's not relevant to seniors.

This point has intrigued me from the beginning of my career. We all subconsciously harbour the belief that fitness isn't applicable to older adults. The mental image of a 90-year-old doing a bicep curl, for example, may raise eyebrows.

Why is that? Maybe because we think of weightlifting as a vehicle towards a particular physique as opposed to a means of achieving and maintaining functionality?

Muscle atrophy accelerates in later life. It's also true that each muscle in the human body has a functional purpose that is necessary for our independence. For these reasons, resistance



training is more applicable to seniors than it is to any other group.

Many of us falsely believe that we cannot increase our strength once we've passed a certain age. While we do experience decreased levels of protein synthesis and growth hormone with age, we still maintain the ability to make significant improvements to our strength. This is particularly true for those starting from scratch. Noticeable results can occur early on in a strength program due to neuromuscular adaptations, which cause more muscle fibers to be recruited than previously.

Beyond this initial adaptation, we can continue to advance by remaining consistent and implementing progressive overload.

This means gradually increasing the intensity of a workout, either with more repetitions, using a greater resistance, or adding another new element of challenge.

Fears and apprehensions are common among beginners. One that stands out is fear of injury. My response is simply to work within your limitations. If an exercise is not suitable, seek out a variation that is more appropriate.

In addition to this, ensure that your progress is both incremental and sensible. There's no harm in using the same weights for several weeks until you feel comfortable increasing the load.

Scan this QR code to read my full article about how to get started with strength training and the benefits it brings.

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Bourne End river residents have their ways of identifying boats, know where they moor, have cameras and will report them.

Some would be very surprised to know how vigilant Bourne End River residents can be. The lovely Peter Osbourne and I once suggested fire hoses from the bridge to target offenders, that idea was rejected, apparently because of 'health and safety'. Peter thought cow slurry from Cockmarsh would be ideal ammunition in the hoses!

One of the most secretive river birds is the moorhen, but as some of you will remember I have been honoured to get to know Marty who lives in a willow tree near Bourne End Bridge.

He has the same mate each year, this is common, he collects food,

Last year it was Mini Mart who remained with them for most of the year. Moorhen chicks are even smaller than ducklings and very susceptible to pike, mink, rats and the herring gulls, they can also be overwhelmed by boat wash.

Moorhens play a part in the rivers eco system, eating insects, weeds, river snails but their habitat along the bank is disappearing as vegetation is being cut back, more people are about, and riverbanks have been eroded due to constant flooding.

It's not often we get called out to rescue moorhens, they are almost impossible to catch, very flighty and quick, but we do take in the odd lone chick, usually found abandoned. They are very hard to look after as stress will kill them so we always try to put them with ducklings of a similar size. As soon as they have a little strength they need to be separated as ducklings can attack them.

The spring ducklings got a bit of respite due to the work on the railway bridge in April. It kept the herring gulls away for ten days and this gave them a chance to grow. But sadly, many have not made it again. Spadeoak Reach ducklings have done better as have the marina and Hedsor Water, but it seems anywhere near bridges is never going to be successful anymore.

Unfortunately it is in their nature to nest in the same area each year but they must adapt. Swan Lifeline have already rescued more than 30 ducklings this year, many due to nests in gardens.

We just take mum and ducklings to the nearest bit of safe water and release them. However we no longer release onto the Bourne End reach due to the gulls. It is important that the ducklings survive and keep the duck numbers up.

Enjoy summer on the river. Remember that following the rules or river etiquette really doesn't take the fun out of it.

Picture captions:

Left: Volunteers from Bray Marine Sales, Swan Lifeline, Environment Agency, Racecourse marina, French Bros of Windsor, Tom Jones, Kris cruisers, Windsor yacht club, Runnymede boat yard, AM Marine trimming, River Thames trust, Boat hire co, Thames river works, Lowland search and rescue, Bray marina, Windsor marina, Bray cruiser club and JD riverside construction get together before starting the river clear and tidy.

Top left: Heaps and heaps of rubbish mount up by the end of the day

Below: The Marty brood of moorhens and a resident male swan on the slipway.

Teamwork

In April the Thames Traders, local boat and marine businesses on the River Thames, the Environment Agency, Swan Lifeline and 60 volunteers decided to do something positive for the river between Bray and Old Windsor lock.

With boats, tugs, tools and people they spent a day clearing the river of debris and rubbish, cutting back overgrown areas and checking on the wildlife, particularly the swans.

The Environment Agency was there to check for unlicensed boats and there at the start, for the press photo, but left not long after that. You can imagine how that was perceived by the river businesses who willingly gave their time, tools and vessels to ensure the day was a success.

Regardless we cracked on and were able to fill a tug and several vans with rubbish, mostly left over the years by humans. It was astonishing how much there was.

It was a great day; it promoted positivity about the river and those who love it and run their businesses on it and will now be a yearly event.

We're hopeful other marine businesses and organisations will do the same on every reach of the river. Watch this space.

It never ceases to amaze me how many boats remain unnamed and are noticeable by going way too fast, particularly in the spring with nesting birds.

It's harmful to the river and the wildlife and with no boat name it's tricky to report.

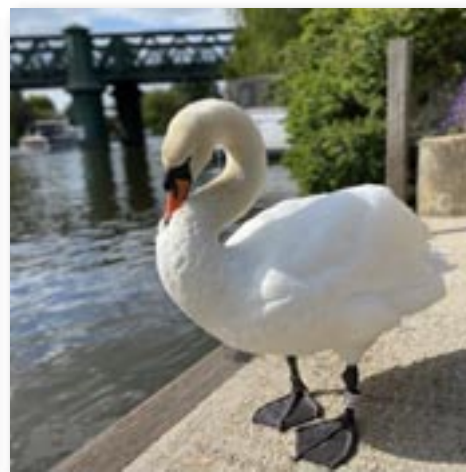
But beware as



carefully stacking it up in his beak to take back to her while she sits on the nest. It's a clever balancing act and he always puts her needs before his own.

In late April he and Mrs Marty brought their six chicks to visit, so tiny and probably just hatched and their first time in the water. They weren't put off by the resident cob (male) swan on the slipway.

It's not unusual for moorhens to only let one chick survive. If food is scarce or there are too many predators to parent them all then the parents make a choice to try to ensure the survival of at least one.



♠A765	W	N	E	S
♥J7			1♥	Pass
♦1084	1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
♣Q852	?			


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Services

SEE THE TARGET STAMPS OFFER ON PAGE 11

Bourne End & Cookham Probus Club

By Bill Leftwich

Probus, our club for retired businessmen, meets every third Wednesday for a few drinks, an enjoyable lunch and an invited speaker.

On March 19 the speaker was the current Chairman Trevor Jones who gave a fascinating talk on Photographic Restoration and Manipulation. Trevor has been a professional photographer all his life so is highly qualified to demonstrate how to restore old black and white photographs provided by club members to their former glory and to go even further and add colour.

By the use of sophisticated software and even AI he could correct our personal digital photographs to improve and give the best tonal range and colour separation.

Trevor then amazed his audience by demonstrating how he could join different photographs together to create a new photograph – fake or what?

On April 16 John Field from the Magic Circle spoke on The World of Magic. With a plethora of amusing stories and tricks John took us on a historical journey back 3500 years to the Egyptians using the oldest trick in magic, namely the “three-cup-trick” - probably using sea shells at that time!

He described the links to witchcraft in the Middle Ages and the famous “Pillars of Solomon” trick of 1584 which is still available today as a children's trick. Later, he described how in 1900 the famous “Catch the Bullet in the Mouth” trick worked and failed and the famous tricks of Harry Houdini.

As a finale John showed some close-up magic using ex-Chairman Mike Appleyard as his fall-guy with the infamous “three-cup-trick”.

If you would like to join our friendly club contact Roger Gould on 01628 524122, email bourneendprobus@gmail.com, or visit The Probos Club of Bourne End & Cookham.org

Ladies Probos Group

By Helen Heard

(including Maidenhead, Cookham, and Bourne End)

This has been a busy year so far, having welcomed Two Spoons for an informative and amusing afternoon of tea tasting, and history- “from bush to cup”; then a spine-tingling talk from Mervyn Edwards on his life as a senior police officer dealing with anti-terrorism and fire arms incidents. In

contrast, a poignant and vibrant commemoration of VE Day with memories drawn from family stories remembered and relayed by our membership. We now look forward to our Summer lunch

and a BBQ going forward.

We are a small group of like-minded women, who enjoy the fellowship of a tasty lunch, good conversation and interesting speakers. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at The Pines Hotel in Burnham from 12-3pm and on the third Tuesday at 11am for coffee at The Feathers (opposite Cliveden). If you would like to know more or think you would like to join us for a coffee

or lunch, please contact Helen Heard (Chairman) on 07789 504267.

Cookham Bridge Rotary Club
By Ron Phelps

Our third Charity 5k and 10K Cookham Run on May 18 was a success so many thanks to all those who participated and all the volunteers who helped to make it all happen and raise money for charity. We are hoping that those runners, and anyone else who is sort-of-fit, will consider talking to a few of their mates to have a go at Dragon Boat Racing at the Cookham Regatta on September 6. We are looking for teams of 10 paddlers and a drummer. No experience is needed as instruction and all the equipment is supplied. You never know which local celebrity you may be competing against or is watching you. Have a word around your friends, PTA, gym, church, running, rowing or sailing club. For entry details go to www.cookhamregatta.org.uk. We are making sure our Wheel of Fortune is ready to take to the local summer fetes and fairs where the wheel spins to determine the level of prize won. At a recent club night we had a fascinating talk on The Secret War which turned out to be about the Oman war, 1965 to 1975, in which our speaker

Wing Commander (Rtd) John Field, a former RAF officer in the

RAF officer was in the Army was head of the world. After a time and running as a leading Arabic communist-bait

A week later P... another fascina... as the Lord High

Maundy Service of The Last Supper washed the feet

Maundy ‘alms’ with a presentation

On June 4 we... The President

AGM, handover President's Night

Rotary year start. We meet each week at the Sunny Club for a two course meal and if you are interested please

contact membership@cookhamrotary.co.uk.

Little Marlow & Well End WI

By Veronica Kay

Ladies celebrated their 65th Anniversary at the April meeting in style, when a delicious Birthday Tea was enjoyed by all.

The meeting began with a few minutes of contemplative silence to remember June Baxter, who had been a long-standing member of the WI and a former President.

Mike Brearley gave a talk on Ancestors In My Closet. When exploring his ancestry he found that a wealth of information is available online, although nothing can replace the delight of discovering a beautifully hand-written entry in a bound ledger or examining the clothing worn by ancestors in old photographs to try to establish when they were taken.

Interest groups continue to meet every month. The Ramble will take place along the Jubilee River, followed by lunch at The Pineapple Pub.

The President, Pauline Clitheroe, welcomed members and our visitor, Rebecca Mistry, to the May meeting. Rebecca gave an inspiring talk about The Baby Bank, a charity that she founded in 2015 and whose ethos is ‘working with families’.

Recipients - newborns to teens - are provided with essential equipment and clothing. The charity was recently awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service and Rebecca has received the British Empire Medal for Services to the Community. The

charity has been visited twice by the Princess of Wales who attended with her children, to the delight of the 35 -50 volunteers.

Bourne End WI By Carolyn Judge

At our AGM in March, Sue Roberts was voted in as President. To ensure the meeting wasn't all business, Jeff Rozelaar came along to give a talk on Princess Margaret - A Controversial Life. There was certainly a lot he was able to tell us about Queen Elizabeth's sister.

April saw our Easter themed meeting, when members of our hospitality team put our taste buds to the test as we sampled hot cross buns, simnel cake and Easter eggs from various outlets. In each category there was always one run-away winner and members thoroughly enjoyed sampling the goodies on offer.

The gardeners among us were delighted that in May, Rachel Platt would give a talk on Behind the

Show Garden. Even if we standards, the talk will aim for.

utings. April saw members d Place, the home of was off to Kew to visit the r treasure trove of on to the gardens. ue to enjoy each other's ng, reading, crafting, playing netball. There is

come along to one of our day of each month at St End at 7.30pm. (The July here this year and there is ail



YOU TOOK YOUR TARGET!!!



From England to Thailand and Australia, here are three lovely pictures of people who took their *Target* with them on their travels.

1. Gardeners on a day out

Members of Bourne End Horticultural Society took their *Target* on a great day out and here they are with the magazine. It was Wednesday April 2 and their annual day out to enjoy a spring garden. Arriving at Ashwood Nurseries in the West Midlands the weather was perfect and the garden was bursting with spring colour. So glad they took their *Target* magazine with them to capture the moment.

A final message from the members: "We would be delighted if you could include the photo in the next issue of *Target*."

Done!

2. Return to Australia for Target distributor

Pauline Jordon distributes *Target* along part of Blind Lane and she organised son Michael to do her delivery when she went down under to see her sister who lives in Australia.

Pauline grew up locally and remembers Soho Mill from her daily bus route to work which went past its huge buildings on Town Lane, now demolished.

Over in Australia Pauline and her husband Chris took *Target* magazine to the

top of Mt Kosciuszko which, at 2228m, is the highest mountain in Australia. It's in the Snowy Mountains, a three-hour drive from Canberra, where they were staying.

3. Thailand treat

Three weeks back packing around Thailand was a wonderful experience for Denise Knibbs who helps with *Target* bundling every two months. Accompanied by daughter Amelia, the duo love travelling the Far East and have already covered Sri Lanka, Singapore, Bali, Gili Islands, Vietnam and Cambodia.

After seeing the highlights of Bangkok, including the Grand Palace and the Flower Market they moved onto Chiang Mai to visit the Elephant Nature Park (making food, feeding and walking with the elephants). Then there were countless experiences including boating, walking and rafting.

Denise took her *Target* to the top of John-Suwan viewpoint in Koh Tao and she had to climb up to the view point by negotiating rugged rocks and stones to encounter the stunning views in temperatures of 34C that felt like 40C due to the humidity. But it was well worth the effort.

Amelia planned the itinerary for them both using a limited budget and Denise admits that the tan is already starting to fade. "No problem with that," she smilingly told *Target*, "we still have the memories and the photos."



Cllr Penny Drayton
Cllr Stuart Wilson

We are now approaching the ninth anniversary of the launch of Keep Bourne End Green in 2016. For those new to our villages, Wycombe District Council sent out a consultation document for the draft Local Plan which set out to build an additional 800 dwellings in Bourne End and Wooburn, including removing almost 24 hectares of land from the Green Belt at Hollands Farm. This would increase the population of the area by 30-40%.

Penny Drayton launched a campaign to oppose this unsustainable level of housing development, not least because of the loss of publicly accessible open space, the impact on roads and parking, as well as the knock-on effects on services such as GPs and pharmacies. She was soon joined by Stuart Wilson and others, along with terrific support from residents.

After much battling in the Public Examination and a Judicial Review, the Wycombe Local Plan was finally adopted in 2019 with two allocations in Bourne End and Wooburn - Policy BE1 Slate Meadow (up to 150 dwellings) and Policy BE2 Hollands Farm (up to 467 dwellings) - as well as a policy BE3 to improve the provision of health care facilities in the area based on an assessment of infrastructure. To date, not one house has been built or even started to be built on either of those two sites.

Slate Meadow, off Brookbank and Stratford Drive, received outline planning consent in 2019 and full planning consent in 2023, but all pre-commencement work has been halted due to archaeological investigations.

There has been no news on the archaeological works. The hoardings have become something of an eyesore, but at least the wildlife can continue to enjoy the area for now. And who knows what stories the archaeological works might tell us about the past?

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Belinda

End Road areas, continues to move forward very slowly. This has been out for consultation again following the submission of a new Environmental Statement, principally new transport reports, from the applicants. Again, for those new to the area, there are two land parcels split between Catesby Estates 80% and Capreon 20%. The latter has two alternative applications: one with full transport access from Princes Road; and one with full transport access from Bridgestone Drive. Transport has always

been the Achilles heel of the Hollands Farm allocation. Policy BE2 requires a link road through the site to alleviate traffic through Bourne End. The applicants are trying to demonstrate that this is not necessary to save money and to enable each application to operate independently with both accessing their land parcels via Millboard Road. Even with the new transport information, there continues to be a number of questions being asked by the council's highways team.

Stuart Wilson has also been heavily involved in two other significant aspects of the applications. Firstly, the Hollands Farm applicants have to provide Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on Burnham Beeches. This is proposed for Little Marlow Lakes, but has proven somewhat problematic based on the council's own decision to restrict the greenspace to council-owned land.

The development will have a big impact on our GP Practice and we are working closely with the NHS Integrated Care Board for Oxfordshire & Berkshire and Bourne End & Wooburn Green to develop the case for improved facilities. We are continuing to protect the Green Belt, campaigning for development with the appropriate infrastructure.

We will not cease in our efforts to speak on behalf of the community.



COUNCILLORS' UPDATE

On May 1, 2025 the Local Elections will be held for Buckinghamshire Unitary Authority. We encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote.

If you live in Bourne End, Hedsor, The Wooburns or Flackwell Heath you will be voting within the ward of

'Flackwell Heath & The Wooburns'. You will get three votes to vote for three candidates. If you live in Little Marlow you will be voting in the ward of 'Chiltern Villages'. You will get one vote to vote for one candidate.

If you are registered to vote, polling cards will have been sent out on March 18 so you should have received yours by now. If you are a postal voter and were registered before March 24 then your postal voting card will be sent out around April 11. If you are a postal voter and were registered after March 24 then your postal voting card will be sent out around April 17.

If you are not currently registered, please take note of these important dates:

Last date for registration - April 11.

Deadline for receiving new postal vote or postal proxy applications (or changes to existing ones) - 5pm April 14.

Proxy vote application deadline - 5pm April 23.

Receipt of emergency proxy vote applications - 5pm May 1.

Your polling card will have information on your polling station, but as a guide it is likely to be as follows: Bourne End and Hedsor - Bourne End Community Centre Any of The Wooburns - St Pauls Church Hall, Flackwell Heath - Flackwell Heath Community Centre, Little Marlow - Abbotsbrook Hall.

A reminder that everyone will need photo ID in order to vote. You can go to the polling station without a polling card (if you are registered) but you must take photo ID or will not be allowed to vote.

Local elections are only every four years so do make sure you use the opportunity to vote for who you wish your councillors to be.

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This leading provider of Bikeability training, is looking for keen cyclists in the local area to sign up to become paid instructors. Training can be completed in BOurne End or Wooburn Green.

Bikeability is a nationwide scheme equipping the next generation with the skills and confidence to cycle on today's roads.

The programme offers lessons to all ages, from reception to secondary school and adults. It aims to make cycling accessible and helps beginners by progressing them from learning to ride to basic bike handling skills to their first experiences of riding on the road.

For schools, the course starts in the playground or a similarly traffic-free environment and then progresses to the skills required for road riding.

Bespoke Cycling Instruction is the largest registered provider of Bikeability in Buckinghamshire, Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead.

They deliver Bikeability Levels 1, 2 and 3 training as well as the Bikeability Plus



programme for younger riders.

Local schools in the region can appoint Bespoke Cycling Instruction to deliver the course to their pupils.

In 2024, Bespoke Cycling Instruction delivered Bikeability at 175 schools in the region to more than 6,000 riders – 3,800 of these were trained on the road.

Outside of schools, the youngest rider was just two years old and the eldest was 72.

With demand for the course steadily increasing, Bespoke Cycling Instruction now need more instructors to sign up to help deliver Bikeability. Instructors are paid and it is a great way to give back to the community.

Instructors will receive full training that results in gaining a Sport 4 Life qualification. They will have a hands-on role in helping the next generation of cyclists learn a skill they will have for life. Being an instructor is also a great way to keep fit, meet new colleagues and enjoy the outdoors.

Ian Murdoch has been an instructor for Bikeability for nearly a decade and now leads the delivery of the course in the region. He says:

"Being an instructor is incredibly rewarding. We only have about six hours of road work with the riders, but watching them progress from hesitant and unsure to a point where they are confident and making decisions for themselves just never gets old. They are also great fun to work with. They learn at an astonishing rate; they're having fun and ten-year-olds have a wicked sense of humour."

If you would like more information about becoming an instructor or to learn more about the course, visit Bespoke Cycling Instruction at www.spokesci.com or call 07999 210032.

OBIT????

OUR LOCAL CHURCHES KEEP IN TOUCH

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

We celebrated Easter with quiet services during Holy Week and record numbers of attendees on Easter Sunday. All services are available on our Facebook Page to watch. Or if you prefer you can read our vicar Paul's sermons on various topics. Paul's blog with expanded sermons is at <https://medium.com/@paul.cudby>

Looking ahead to the summer, we will be participating in the Wooburn Fête on June 21, come and see us for some calm among the chaos.

Our summer barbecue and family fun afternoon at St Paul's is on Sunday July 13.

The Church Summer Open Afternoons will be from Sunday July 20 to August 31, 3-5pm, with tea/cake and musical entertainment.

We were saddened to hear that the Rev'd Derek Burden passed away on Easter Saturday. Derek was Vicar at St Paul's from 1997 to 2002, and was heavily involved in the 'new' St Mary's building in Glory Mill Lane.

The next Forest Church will be on June 22 at 3pm in the garden of the vicarage. Please consult our website (stpaulswooburn.org) and our Facebook page (St. Paul's with St. Mary's Church) for information about regular and special services and events that will be happening, 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.

Please join us for any and all activities. As you might have noticed, we enjoy creating opportunities for community to happen. SAVE THE DATE: 'A Symphony of Flowers' Festival featuring beautiful floral displays with music and cream teas will take place at St Paul's Church, Wooburn Green from August 29 to 31 — presented by RHS Chelsea Flower Show award winner Susie Barwick from Bourne End along with her team of talented flower arrangers

The Community Church, Wooburn Green

Did you know that behind the Community Church chapel building on the Green (what was once the Methodist Church), there is a lovely hall? This is used for a variety of community activities including children's birthday parties, Pilates, our very own Friday Youth Club and our lovely 'Connect' Coffee Morning (Mondays 10am to midday).

One of the reasons we purchased the chapel and hall, way back in 2009, was to help bless the local community. If you would like to hire the hall for any community-based ideas or projects that you might have, or simply arrange a children's birthday party or other family event, email office@thecommunitychurch.online or phone 07709 154724.

Cores End United Reformed Church

The Easter Charity Coffee Morning was well attended and raised almost £500 for Water Aid. This will be added to monies raised at Terry Hinks' retirement service and donations made during Lent.

On May 11 we have a Christian Aid Lunch, then on Saturday June 21 at 3pm we are hosting a Strawberry Tea in aid of Cores End Churchyard. Everyone is welcome and it would be especially nice to see anyone who has a loved one in the churchyard.

The churchyard, the meadow and our Quiet Garden are open to everyone and offer peaceful spaces to pause and reflect.

Link Up Club on alternate Tuesdays, 2 to 4pm, has a full programme of activities plus tea and homemade cake. Dorothy, one of our members, turned 103 in May and everyone celebrated with a special cake. She blew her candles out in one puff to much applause.

Sunday services are at 10.30am with Communion on the third Sunday of the month.

St John the Baptist Church, Little Marlow

We are delighted to welcome Audrey as our new Children and Families' Minister. The role was made possible by a grant from the Diocese of Oxford with funding for three years.

Regular activities with Audrey include Little Saints, and these sessions bring together little ones, parents and care home residents to share in free play, singing and conversation over a cup of tea and cake. They meet at Cliveden Manor Care Home at 10.30am on the second Friday of the month.

The next meetings are on June 13 and July 11. Pre-register at <https://bit.ly/Little-saints>

Audrey is at Little Marlow School every Thursday at Collective Worship and at the weekly lunchtime Christian Club, a wonderful opportunity for children to explore faith in a fun and age-appropriate way.

Children aged three to 11 are invited to Light Club which meets during part of the 11am service on the first Sunday of the month. Each session includes a Bible story and fun activities to take home. Next dates are June 6 and July 4.

Our monthly All Age service is an informal opportunity for children, parents, grandparents and everyone in between to come together to worship, learn and grow in faith in a relaxed and welcoming way. Next dates are June 15 and July 20.

With the kind permission of Mr and Mrs Jason Downes we are again able to hold Music in the Manor on June 7. Visit the beautiful gardens of the Manor House at Little Marlow, listen to the Jam Theatre 70s choir and other musicians, take part in a Circus Passion workshop and see the performance, enjoy Beat the Goalie and other children's games. Gates open at 4.30pm, tickets £12.50 and £2.50 for children, bring your own refreshments.

More information from Jeff 0777 595 7090 or jefferysmith170@gmail.com

On June 15 we have our outdoors Pet Service, a short family service at 11am with the blessing of pets. All pets welcomed (on leads or in carriers please).

As part of our Patronal weekend we will be celebrating and serving tea and cakes, with the church open from 2.30pm on June 22.

On July 5 there will be coffee and cakes in the churchyard from 10.30am to 12.30pm for anyone passing by.

At Hymns and Pimms on July 20 at 6pm we will be

singing favourite hymns so do get in touch with Rev Fiona and let her know your choice and the reason why. Book at <https://bit.ly/Hymns-Pimms> or contact her at Fiona.ellingham@4u-team.org (to help with catering).

Details of our normal programme of worship are on our website: 4u-team.org/chuches/

St Nicholas' Church, Hedsor

It's that time of year again! On Saturday June 28 and by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Callingham, their garden will be hosting Hedsor Fair at Orchard Dene, Riversdale, Bourne End, from midday to 4.30pm. Enjoy all the favourites of boat rides, barbecue, teas, some fantastic raffle prizes and a variety of stalls. This is a cash only event, with free entry for children.

This year was Revd Adrian's second Easter with us. We attended services on Maundy Thursday (with a simple supper in the church), the Service of Light on Saturday and Easter Sunday service followed by an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard for the children.

Following a talk at the church about the Cookham Abbey dig, we are working to arrange more talks and events over the next few months.

We are looking for someone to help us maintain our beautiful churchyard by cutting the grass. We have all the equipment, but not the manpower, and are hoping that someone will come forward, perhaps a student wanting to earn some money during the summer break?

Anyone interested, please contact Maura, our Churchwarden, contact number below.

Our Sunday service is always at 9am and we welcome visitors to join us for coffee and refreshments afterwards.

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

For information and help on weddings, baptisms and funerals contact our Churchwarden, Maura Carr, mauracarr300@gmail.com or 01628 530181.

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



Judging route for Best Kept Village Competition

Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council has now provided the judges of the Best Kept Village Competition with a route, details of outstanding places, environmental features and lots of information about our villages, their history and their good points.

Fourteen pages packed with information on a range of criteria and the parish council believe they have listened to comments from residents and adjusted their submission document accordingly.

With judging in June and July the parish council hopes that residents will play their part by making sure that roadside verges, pavements, community buildings, churches, schools, pubs, green spaces, play areas, riverside walks and shopping areas will look at their best to impress the judges.

Starting at Watery Lane their green space and children's play area have a range of play equipment along with a large pond surrounded by trees. And the Falcon pub gets a mention as a character building with a garden that attracts wildlife.

Moving on the route follows the boundary of Glory Mill, producing paper for many years. Few features of that remain today, but one is the River Wye with its fast flowing stream.

Wooburn Green is packed with interest and is the centre of a conservation area with two pubs, a war memorial and shops that can date their premises back to the 1800s. It is a typical village green where regular events have taken place for many years. Wooburn Manor Park boasts a cricket square, tennis courts and football pitches while dogs love the space and the freedom.

Close by Wooburn Town has the parish church, an old graveyard and an old pub. The cottages have

history, while the red telephone box is a popular book exchange.

Following the River Wye the judges will arrive at the current cemetery, allotments with fact sheets about the wildlife and seats in a peaceful location. At Cores End they can continue up towards Hedsor then down Hedsor Road with its cottages, Garibaldi pub, Hedsor Social Club and Flowerland Garden Centre.

Moving towards Bourne End there are two rivers – the Wye and the Thames. Lots to enjoy on the waterfront of the River Thames with boats and riverside open space. Moving up New Road judges can see both the Junior Sports Club and Bourne End Academy. Then a route through will take the judges into the village centre with its community centre, day care centre, library and churches.

A huge amount of work has been done in preparation of the judging. Some residents suggested that there should be flower display troughs underneath road signs around the parish. Open Spaces at the parish agreed to support an initiative and they are asking for volunteers to plant and maintain a flower trough.

Please contact the Parish Office on clerk@wooburnparish.gov.uk or 01628 522827 to



discuss the details. The planter sign will state 'Planted and maintained by residents of this street'. Photo: Some parishioners on Elms Drive had

already decided to buy a flower trough and put it under their road sign. Now their action has prompted the idea with the parish council who see it as community engagement and adds to the strong community that already exists in the parish.

Family memories create history

Looking into the history of a town or village is helped when there are families around who are able to say 'my grandmother told me', 'my grandfather worked there and often talked about how it was', 'my dad went to that school', my mum worked in that shop' It brings history alive, especially if photos have been kept, and it provides a detailed picture of an area.

Locally there are many families who can trace their relations back to the early days of the papermills, rail workers who stoked the fire and kept the steam engines going, farmers who remember the arrival of machinery to speed what would have been a long job, along with people who have memories of local shops and schools.

As part of their research into local history the One Place Study Group hopes to invite family generations to a get-together at the community centre where memories can be recorded and referenced. So if you can look back and recall parents, grandparents, family members or friends with something to say about how life used to be 100 or 150 years ago then please come along to add your voice and bring local history to life.

You can become a member of the One Place Study Group, attend their regular meetings – like the Ken Townsend talk with postcards on Marlow to Bourne End (see page 34) - by contacting info@bourneendbucksops.org.uk

If you have memorabilia you feel might be useful as part of the Bourne End historical collection please contact the above email.

Bourne End Community Market

Food **plants**
JEWELLERY **ART** **TOYS**
crafts **collectables**
Café & Bar **clothing**

Sat 14 June & Sat 12 July, 10-2

FREE ENTRY Wakeman Road Bourne End SL8 5SX

Call Target advertising on 01628 525415

Past times

edited by Barrie Penfold



Barrie Penfold has been looking back in the archives and she was reminded of *Target* stories that were featured and then forgotten.

This is one of the delightful ones that still questions who commissioned a timetable for a line due for closure and who wanted part of the line to remain open.

It was originally written by Dave Henwood, railway historian, so thanks to him for this railway timetable puzzle.

When British Rail published its timetable for the Western Region during April 1970, its commencement date was May 4 and scheduled to run until May 2 of the following year.

As timetable publications go, this one was of particular interest as it showed on Table 18, the full service scheduled to operate between Maidenhead, Marlow and High Wycombe. Nothing unusual until you re-read the dates.

Creating a timetable is complex, even today, and depends on a host of other bodies supplying information and yet, the finished article can be described as a work of art, enabling as it does, an ever-increasing volume of trains to operate on a network that is just a shadow of what it once was.

It was all very different in 1970, we had just witnessed the wrath of Dr Beeching's Axe with many routes and hundreds of rail miles being closed; with the towns and villages along their length being left without a railway, and often, many miles from an alternative route.

At some point during 1968 - 1969, the wheels would have been put in motion for the closure of the railway between Bourne End and High Wycombe, it had after all seen a general run down of service for some years prior to the final nail in the coffin which occurred on May 5 1970.

Why then, did BR publish a timetable commencing just a day earlier advertising to the prospective passenger that they would be able to travel by train to Wooburn Green, Loudwater and High Wycombe for the rest of that year, when the reality would be very different?

The service was indeed sparse, with Wooburn Green scheduled to see northbound departures,

Monday to Friday at 6:56, 8:09, 9:59, 12:56, 14:56, 16:32, 18:05, 18:41, 19:03, 20:00 and 20:33. Saturday would see just nine trains a day compared to the 11 on weekdays. This compared with the 18 trains shown Monday through Friday between Maidenhead and Bourne End, with 19 on a Saturday!

Southbound, Wooburn Green should have seen trains at 7:33, 8:00, 8:33, 11:08, 14:08, 15:45, 17:24, 18:32, 19:46 and 20:56. The three-hour gap in the morning, northbound and after lunch southbound being remarkable.

Saturdays were similar with southbound departures from Wooburn scheduled to be at 7:08, 8:08, 9:08, 11:08 then 14:08 16:08, 18:08, 20:08 and finally 21:43.

So you see, it was going to be far from busy north of Bourne End in the year of closure but, in the event, it transpired to be even worse, with the line succumbing to final closure on the day after the timetable was published.

You could conclude quite easily that having walked onto the platform at what would have been by then, an unstaffed halt, the sparseness of service would have given you second thoughts.

You turn round and walk away from the station, only to come across the bus stop at Wooburn Green providing you with a regular service every 30 minutes to and from High Wycombe, quite a contrast I think you'll agree.

The leading question then is this, if the bus service was a viable alternative and it also ran thorough to Maidenhead, with hourly extensions to Windsor, how then did the other part of the line survive?

Someone wanted it to, simple as that, and that someone may have been an MP or other significant figure.

But whoever they were, they carried enough clout to save the south end, but seemingly had no

influence, or perhaps, had no interest in retaining the rest of it.

Moving forward in time to the present day, we still have a regular bus service between Wycombe and Bourne End with certain services extending through to Maidenhead.

The branch line is hourly for the bulk of the day, half hourly during the weekday peaks and operates seven days a week, providing Bourne End with a service to Marlow and Maidenhead. With all this public transport, isn't it strange how the roads through Bourne End just carry on getting busier?

I think at this point I'm supposed to come up with some really detailed, well thought through argument to support the facts, but the reality is, I haven't got a clue why we are in this position today but I do know one thing. There are some really great alternatives to the car out there and they're well worth looking into.

Drinking and driving may be illegal, but keeping your village local in business and using public transport to visit it, now that is a great idea

Dave Henwood



Bourne End Railway Bridge

Pictured on this page are two views of this bridge – one is at sunset as a blazing red sun disappears into the horizon – captured by Phil Laybourne. The other is current, as at Easter 2025, when Andy Annable's drone shows the extent of the necessary work on railway track that had reached the end of its working life.

It closed the line through to Maidenhead. Network Rail said it would be noisy and it was.

So a short history of Bourne End Railway Bridge; originally constructed in wood by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, as part of the Wycombe Railway it opened in 1854 and operated in broad gauge until 1870. The narrow spans were unpopular with river traffic and it was reconstructed in steel in 1895.

After some controversy a footbridge, cantilevered out from the railway bridge, was added in 1992, to take the Thames Path across the River Thames.

In 2013 the bridge was restored and repainted in green. A large number of rivets which had rusted away were replaced.

Leap forward to 2025 when track renewal inspired Andy's picture.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Townsend cousins replied to the poem from 1965 published in the April/May issue of Target.

Kaye told us that she had been pleased to see 'Dorothy's Quiet

Corner' on page 31.

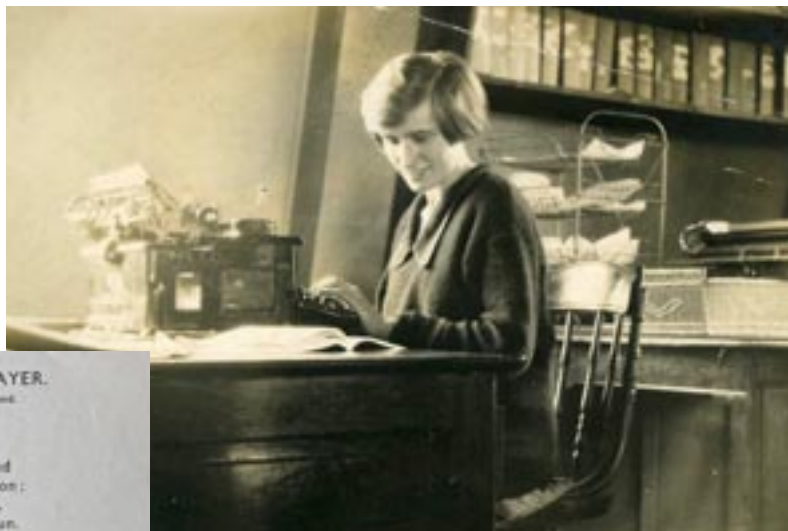
Kaye went on to say: "My Grandmother, Dorothy Enid Townsend, used to write and always signed D.E.T. at the bottom of her poems, rhymes and stories. She sent many into Target".

Then Karen followed with details of Dorothy and a couple of photographs.

"Here's a photo of my grandmother (below). She also wrote this Victory prayer (right) 80 years ago for VE Day".

Karen said that Dorothy lived in Beaconsfield and her Grandad worked at Beaconsfield Film Studios with Edgar Wallace. Edgar had a boat called Lady Penelope which he kept at Townsends boat yard. Dorothy also worked for Sir Barnes Wallace (of bouncing bomb fame who lived in Little Marlow).

During the Second World War she set up the Children's Victory League and got residents to collect paper to sell to Jacksons Mill. The money raised helped to build Mosquito planes for use in the war effort.



VICTORY PRAYER. By Dorothy Townsend.

Victory at last is Ours, and
Freedom has been Won;
A People's war has ended,
A People's peace begun.

Dear Lord, in thy Great Goodness,
Hear this, our simple prayer;
May we imbued with Glory,
Ne'er forget those in despair.

And we who stood alone,
Backs hard pressed against the wall;
Who heard the shriek of crashing bombs,
And saw our dear homes fall.

Remembering, gain new life and strength,
Determined to ensure;
That lasting peace, prosperity,
For all, may now endure,

Lest we forget our Gallant Sons,
Who gave their lives that we;
Might live in peace and plenty,
Hear this our heartfelt plea.

Give unto King and Government,
And Ministers of our Realm;
Good courage, sense, and insight deep,
Lord, be Thou at the Helm!

FROM THE ARCHIVE

On page 26 of the April/May issue there were details of a book chronicling the history of Andrews Boathouses. Author Brian Thompson probably has this one but Target thought readers would love the old van with the message on the back and the old telephone number. Not forgetting the van's registration number. Does anyone have that lying in their garage and forgotten?



The history of Marlow's half marathon

Mike Thompson delivers the community magazine through Well End and along the Marlow Road. When not delivering, he is a keen runner and has been a member of Marlow Striders for more than 25 years.

He told *Target*: "Having been both club chairman and race director for the Marlow Half Marathon, I am delighted that they continue to thrive. I still continue to serve in less demanding ways on both committees".

Mike is proud that the half marathon donates to those charities that are local to Marlow, Bourne End and associated communities.

Now Mike is keen to promote the event on Sunday November 2 and encourage more runners to take part. "With three races, varying challenges and a whole heap of fun along the way this is your local running event," is his message. "A costume is not compulsory, but makes great pictures" Mike laughed.

And as light reading during the summer months Mike gives *Target* a brief history of the Marlow Half Marathon since it started 37 years ago...

Back in November 1988 the first Marlow Half Marathon was organised by some members from the Marlow Rowing Club, one of who wished to raise money for the Thames Valley Hospice. The event was highly successful raising £2,900 for the hospice along with £100 for St John's Ambulance

and £30 for the Red Cross. Since then, Marlow Striders, (the local running club who now organise the event) has raised more than £300,000 for a large number of charitable organisations, most of them local to the area.

Every year the event becomes larger and more complex and includes the use of modern technology to ensure not only the safety of the runners, but also the smooth running of the event overall. This has allowed the event organisers to add two further races which would not have been possible in its early days.

Back in 1989 certain footpaths were considered unsuitable while in 2023, with the help of modern telecommunications technology and improved trail running kit, 'The Frankenstein' route could be added.

In 1990 Marlow Striders were asked to supply volunteers for the half marathon. Then in 1991 they formally took over the organisation of the event. The club has organised it every year since, requiring the majority of its two

hundred plus members to be available over the race weekend.

This is a community event with all profits going to support local charities. The past couple of years has seen in excess of £50,000 raised for these organisations. With more planned this year.

Entries are already open for this year's event with three races - the Marlow Half, 'The Frankenstein' and Marlow 7 all being available. Enter today at www.marlowhalfmarathon.co.uk



Please call into the centre and pay £1 for your copy of Target

OUR GROUP MEMBERS KEEP IN TOUCH

Bourne End Horticultural Society

On Thursday June 19 we will be having our 'Bring a Rose' social evening where members and visitors are invited to bring a rose from their garden. The people's choice will determine the winner. There will be a rose themed raffle and fun quiz.

We ask for a plate of food, sweet or savoury to share with everyone and please bring a glass and drink of your choice.

We are very fortunate to be able to enjoy a wonderful talk by Vanessa Berridge about Borde Hill garden in Haywards Heath on July 17. We are hoping to organise a visit there soon.

We welcome visitors as well as members to all our meetings held at St Dunstan's Hall, Bourne End at 8pm on the third Thursday of the month. For more details please email behorticultural@gmail.com

Check out our website
sites.google.com/view/bourneendhorticulturalsoc/home

Marlow & District Railway Society

Many readers will be aware that our local branch line was closed for two weeks around Easter to allow the track to be relaid both at Bourne End itself and northwards towards Cookham. With no trains running, the society was honoured to be entrusted by Network Rail with the task of repainting the 'staff'. This is a vital piece of Victorian signalling equipment which ensures the safety of the branch; it had received no TLC for many decades we believe.

The driver of any train between Bourne End and Marlow must be in possession of this vital piece of signalling equipment which is kept in the hut at the end of the platform at Bourne End.



These are our before and after photos.



Meanwhile we continue to meet monthly at the Community Centre. On April 17 we welcomed Chris Ardy, who updated us on progress with the building of a brand new steam engine 'Prince of Wales'. It will be the biggest and most powerful steam locomotive in Britain.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday June 19

when Frank Bagshaw will tell us all about Derbyshire's major tourist attraction, the Crich National Tramway Museum.

Crich is no static museum; it includes a fantastic recreation of a Victorian street scene, with working trams through its centre. Then on July 17 we will learn all about the work of the Rail Accident Investigation Branch, an unsung organisation which is nonetheless vital for the safe running of our railways.

Avoidable accidents should never happen of course, but one thing that the railways have always been good at is learning from mistakes, hence the important role of the RAIB. And the now refurbished Marlow Donkey signalling 'staff' is a great example of how trains are kept safe on a single line.

Meetings start at 7.30pm and are free to members. Non-members are welcome - it's just £3 on the door.

Bourne End (Bucks) Twinning Association

Just a brief article this time to keep you up to date, as we prepare for our visit to French friends in Octeville-sur-mer, Normandy, in May, on which I will report next time.

The friendship between our towns is now in its 22nd year and we have been glad to be joined by several new members over recent months. More always welcome, you do not have to speak French - contact us for enquiries (see below).

Future events for your diary:

Saturday July 5 - Quiz Night at St Dunstan's Hall. Friends welcome.

Saturday August 30 - Games Afternoon in the Target Room, £5 including a cuppa and cake.

Saturday October 11 - Autumn Dinner at St Dunstan's Hall.

Friday October 31 - Skittles Evening with fish and chips at Flackwell Heath Bowls Club.

Further details will be sent out to members, so make sure you are on our mailing list by contacting Wendy Langford (chairman) langfordw22@gmail.com 07428 004417, or Pearl Hill (secretary) pearl.hill@bopenworld.com 01628 527142. Membership is currently £5 a year, £10 for a family (£5 postage charge if necessary), but will be rising.

Bucks Family History Society

On Tuesday June 10 we have a short talks meeting when we invite people to give a short - five minutes - talk on the subject of 'How I got started in Family History'. You are invited to come along and give a talk or just to hear the varied reasons and circumstances that caused people to start this fascinating hobby.

Then on Tuesday July 8 Kirsty Gray makes a

welcome return with a talk entitled 'Searching for Surnames, the challenges, pitfalls and the downright ridiculous'. There's likely to be a fair amount of laughter at this meeting.

Meetings are at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday in the month at Bourne End Community Centre, in the Eghams Room. Bar facilities are available. Entrance is free for members and £2 (bargain) for non-members.

Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society

'What a lot of rubbish' was the title of the May demonstration and Theresa Rodrigues showed everyone how rubbish can be adapted to be a fascinating floral feature.

It didn't seem possible that a huge tree root and an



old broom head could be a flower arranger's inspiration. But they were, and more besides. While the flowers were great the presentation was true genius.

Looking forward on Tuesday June 3 we welcome Lorraine

Saunders with 'All kinds of everything' then on Tuesday July 1 it will be 'Flower Mission' with Renata Petrauskas.

We meet on the first Tuesday in the month in the May Woollerton Hall at Bourne End Community Centre. There's refreshments after the demonstration then lucky raffle winners get to take home the displays created during the evening.

For more information ring our secretary on 01628 476641.

Pictured: Find the broom head and broken chair among the flowers

Bourne End One Place Study Society

REPORT TO COME

Looking back on river life (PHOTOS KEN) 'From Marlow to Bourne End' was the title of Ken Townsend's trip down memory lane for the members of the One Place Study Group in April. Ken's amazing collection of postcards showing river life from the 1900s through to the end of the Second World War came with Ken's memories and the applause at the end was deserved. Ken, wearing his yellow Abbey Road sweatshirt, spoke about life in the family boatyard, houses alongside the river and events that health and safety would no longer allow.

Fifty plus members of the study group came along to learn more about a very different river scene. Boat building has been replaced by a marina where boats are moored and used for recreation. The Quarry Hotel no longer has customers flying in for lunch or an overnight stay. Fire demolished the hotel and a riverside pub sprang from the ashes. Laden ferry boats took trippers across to the Berkshire bank where they could paddle or bathe on a riverside beach. Something they continue to do

CHESS LESSONS FOR CHILDREN

Learn to play or improve your chess.

Children accompanied by a responsible adult are welcome.

Where: Bourne End Community Centre - Eghams Room.

When: Wednesday evenings 6pm to 7pm

Cost £5 per session.

Class hosted by Andrew Smith
(British Seniors Chess Champion 2024/2025)
and members of Bourne End Chess Club



Contact details:
apstubs@aol.com
Tel: 07962 580349
(phone, text or WhatsApp)

Adults wishing to learn/improve can be accommodated separately.
Experienced players also welcome at Wednesday evening club nights 7.30pm.
Our club plays in both the Berkshire and Buckinghamshire Chess Leagues

but today a footbridge makes it easier to cross the river.

Afterwards there was a chance to chat with members who could look back over a couple of generations as they recall parents and grandparents who had stories to tell about those days. Their memories make local history. For information about the One Place Study Group contact: committee@bourneendbucksops.org.uk

Pic caps

Ken could remember the family boatyard and saw granddad Ernest and great uncle Victor in the picture with the workers

Ken, with Christine Downing who was born and raised in Wooburn Green, chat with Trevor Barnett (not pictured). They all have different memories of those days and one subject sparks another after an evening of river nostalgia

+

JUNIOR CRAFT SHOW TURNS TEENAGER



This year sees the 13th annual Bourne End Junior Craft Show taking place. As in previous years (apart from 2020 when Covid necessitated a move online) the venue will be Bourne End Library in Wakeman Road.

Show day is Saturday October 4 so mark that date on your calendar now.

Open to children and young people aged four to 16 inclusive from Bourne End, the Wooburns, Flackwell and the surrounding area, the show is completely free to enter, and you can enter as many different items as you like.

We have some lovely arty crafty prizes up for grabs, as well as rosettes and even trophies for some lucky winners.

The usual range of classes is on offer including painting, photography, needlework, clay models, decorated cupcakes, and many more.

New for this year, to celebrate our 13th birthday, we have a special rainbow themed class. For this you can enter any piece of artwork that you like, as long as its main component

is one or more rainbows. We look forward to seeing what entrants come up with.

See future issues of Target for further updates and keep an eye on the Facebook page for Bourne End Junior Craft Show, and our website www.bejuniorcraftshow.co.uk



CALENDAR OF VILLAGE EVENTS

APRIL

- 1 Tues CentreJazz: live music from 8pm in the community centre. Admission £8. See poster p5
- 1 Tues Flower Arrangement Society presents an in-house demonstration in honour of the day at 8pm. See their report on page 34
- 3 Thurs (and every Thursday) Fitsteps at the community centre 11am to midday
- 3 Thur Centre Bar Quiz at the community centre. Doors open at 7.30pm; please arrive by 7.45pm for an 8pm start. For more information call Diane on 07521 656413
- 3 Thur The Hedsor Jazz Club every Thursday, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £10, The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End
- 4 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 5 Sat Flackwell Heath Repair Café 10am to midday at Flackwell Heath Community Centre.
- 7 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 poster page 5
- 8 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 5
- 9 Wed Chess lessons for children in the community centre every Wednesday 6pm to 7pm. See page 4
- 10 Thur Movie at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre at 7.30pm. The Prestige. See poster p3
- 12 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am to 2pm in and around the community centre. See advertisement page 31
- 12 Sat Bourne End and Wooburn Medical Centre will be at the community market offering wellbeing advice from 10am to 2pm. See page 17
- 13 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
- 15 Tues Open House at Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council Offices from 5pm to 7pm. See their report page 8
- 18 Fri Art Exhibition by West Wycombe Art Group over the whole Easter weekend from 10am to 5pm. See details page 17
- 19 Sat Bourne End Repair Café at the community centre from 11am to 1pm. See page 4
- 26 Sat Open Day for Upper Thames Sailing Club from 11am to 4pm. See page 12
- 26 Sat Spruce Up Day at the community centre 10am to 4pm. See poster page 4
- 29 Tues Centre Rock from 7.45pm with Matt Bond. See poster page 4

MAY

- 1 Thur Local elections. See page 18
- 1 Thur The Hedsor Jazz Club every Thursday, start time 8pm (until 10.30pm), admission £10, The Hedsor Club, Hedsor Road, Bourne End
- 2 Fri Bingo in the community centre. Every Friday. The fun starts at 1.30pm and 8pm
- 3 Sat Flackwell Heath Repair Café 10am to midday at Flackwell Heath Community Centre.
- 4 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre is Thelma at 4pm. See poster p3
- 5 Mon 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 5
- 6 Tues Flower Arrangement Society demonstration in the community centre. See their report page 34
- 6 Tues CentreJazz: live music from 8pm in the community centre every Wednesday 6pm to 7pm. See page 4
- 7 Wed Chess lessons for children in the community centre every Wednesday 6pm to 7pm. See page 4
- 8 Thurs (and every Thursday) Fitsteps at the community centre 11am to midday
- 8 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
- 9 Fri Friends of Bourne End Library present an evening with crime writer Vaseem Khan. See page 14
- 10 Sat Bourne End Community Market 10am to 2pm in and around the community centre. See advertisement page 31
- 11 Sun Tea Dance at the community centre 3pm to 5.15pm. See page 4
- 11 Sun A social with a great mix of salsa, cha cha cha, Cuban and other Latin rhythms. See all details April 13.
- 13 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 5
- 17 Mon Plant sale by the Horticultural Society outside the library
- 17 Mon Wooburn Residents' Association meeting 8pm at the Wooburn Club. See page 7
- 18 Sun Afternoon movie at the New Royalty Cinema in the community centre is Thelma at 4pm. See poster p5
- 20 Tues Annual Parish Meeting Wooburn and Bourne End Parish Council 7.30pm in the church hall, Town Lane. See page 8
- 24 Sat Skandinals at the community centre 8pm. See poster page 5

The next issue of Target will cover June and July 2025
Email editor@targetmagazine.org.uk by Tuesday 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 Tuesday July 1. Have a go... if nobody gets all the answers the winner will be the person with the most correct answers. This quiz is all about the Beatles...

- 1 How many UK No1 albums did the Beatles have, 9, 11, 13 or 15?
- 2 What song did Paul write after a dream he had about his mother?
- 3 What was the Beatles first UK hit single?
- 4 'It's a dirty story of a dirty man' is from which song?
- 5 Which Beatle wrote the single 'Something'?
- 6 How many films did the Beatles make?
- 7 Who picks up the rice in the church where a wedding has been?
- 8 How many times has Paul married?
- 9 Who wrote 'Octopuses garden'?
- 10 Whose middle name is 'Winston'?
- 11 Who is out of step on the Abbey Road crossing?
- 12 What kind of bird was singing in the dead of night?
- 13 What was the Beatles first UK No1 single?
- 14 What was their last UK No1 single?
- 15 Which Beatles song is about Mia Farrow's sister?
- 16 Who sang lead vocals on 'With a little help from my friends'?
- 17 'Oh please say to me you'll let me be your man' is from which song?
- 18 True or false. The Beatles met Elvis Presley three times?
- 19 What was the last album by Lennon, released a month before his death?
- 20 Which band did Ringo leave to join the Beatles?

Answers to the April/May quiz:

1 Sydney 2 Doha 3 Olivia 4 Emperor Hirohito 5 Maggot 6 Freddie Flintoff 7 7 Man Utd, Man City, Chelsea, Arsenal, Liverpool, Leicester and Blackburn 8 Berlin 9 Nautical mile 10 Billy Joel 11 Spandau Ballet 12 John Noakes 12 years from 1965-1978 13 Richard Harris 14 Edinburgh 15 Martin Peters 16 Leaf 17 Robin the boy wonder 18 Jarvis Cocker 19 Relax 20 False. Her first No1 album was in 2015
The winner is Jennifer Gardener, Westhorpe Park, Little Marlow.



The Falcon Pub

Watery Lane,
Wooburn Moor, HP10 0NE
Tel: 01628 522752



Live music

Harmonia Ky

May 3
Glenn

May 30
Leech

Follow our Facebook
page for more info

THE FRUIT MARKET

01628 521403

Providing our community with seasonal produce, fresh cut flowers and garden plants

The Fruit Market's story began over 60 years ago. Starting as barrow-boys in High Wycombe before setting our roots in Bourne End over two decades ago. Throughout the years we have been GRAPEful to welcome customers both local and from afar who have become friends. We are renowned for the quality of produce and always source with taste as a top priority. Our shop staff and florists are one in a MELON, always offering a personal service, which has been recognised through becoming double award winners of 'Independent Retailer of the Year.'



Last BUD not least....

We have top florists on hand to make up anything you desire...
from beautiful blooms to embrace spring, to wedding and funeral arrangements.

Currently we have a large array of
summer bedding plants at sensible prices.
A vast majority of our plants are sourced within
a 20 mile radius, supporting local growers.

We welcome all customers, both old and new,
so why not come along and discover for
yourself why so many of our valued regulars
travel out of their way to buy from The Fruit
Market.