Hambleden VALLEY Group Magazine



Oct 2021

The Hambleden Valley Group of Churches "To see our lives and communities transformed by the love of God"



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Weekday Services

Wednesday - 9.30am, Zoom Daily Prayer - 10.15am, Holy Communion, Turville

Emergencies:

If you are unable to contact the Group Priests, please get in touch with your churchwarden.

All contributions are welcome, to the Editor, Penny McLeish hambledenvalleyeditor@gmail.com (please note change of email address) 3 Abbey Cottages, Ferry Lane, Medmenham SL7 2HB Telephone 01491 571288

Please keep articles within 350 words. Copy deadline is 15th of the month.

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GROUP LETTER

Group Letter: October 2021



Many of us are delighted to be singing once again in church, the lack of communal singing during lockdown having been a great challenge. Knowing

the importance of hymns and songs, a small band of singers was determined not to be defeated by lockdown and refused to allow the country to be left in this silent desert, unable to raise our voices heavenward in songs of praise to God.

And so, the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, began a mammoth project by recording hymns each week for use on Zoom. Undaunted by not being able to meet, 10 members of the choir individually recorded music at home; the music was edited and, in partnership with the Royal School of Church Music, made available to churches everywhere. Since May 2020, the Hambleden Valley Zoom Church has been blessed weekly by music and hymns from a hitherto unseen group.

But now we have the wonderful opportunity to see, hear and meet singers from St Martin's Voices! On Saturday 30th October, 7pm, Hambleden Church is hosting a concert, led by Director of Music, Andrew Earis. Look out for details inside the magazine!

Earlier in October, on Saturday 9th at 3pm, a quite different group will be meeting to make a joyful noise to the Lord. On Turville Village Green, dogs, cats, hens and horses will join in a merry throng as we give thanks to God for all living creatures as we gather for the Animal Blessing.

With these events - and others - taking place, I cannot help but be reminded of the Psalms: that wonderful collection of poetry and song at the centre of the Bible. The variety found in these poems reflects wherever we are in life whether we are struggling through a silent desert, surrounded by beauty and song, or in a more chaotic setting. As we enter October you are warmly invited to join any of our events and services and may I encourage you to dip into the book of Psalms for songs of sustenance for joy or sorrow; they are a reminder that God is always with us.

God bless you,

Sue

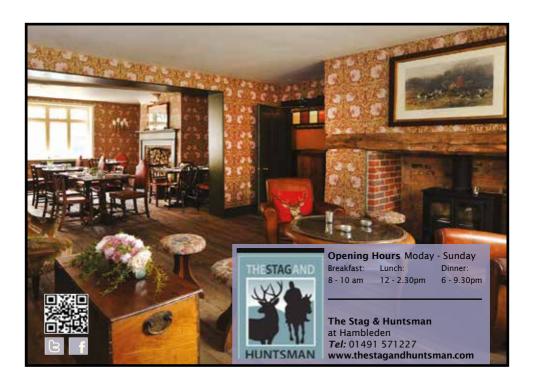
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GROUP NOTES AND NEWS

Thank You

I am an Ordinand (trainee priest) and from the start of May until the end of July this year, I was on a placement in the Hambleden Valley to get some experience of rural ministry.

The intention of this brief article is to say a big thank you to everyone I met and who gave me their time during my placement. I did not know what to expect when I came on placement in the Hambleden Valley but what I experienced was wonderful. The thing that most strikes me, now I have finished, was the warmth and genuineness of the welcome I received. So many people took time to explain how things worked and what was going on. I have had to write an assignment (7,000 words!) on my placement and one of the questions was where I saw God at work in the Benefice. The first thing I wrote about was the welcome I received from everyone and the genuine love and acceptance I felt from everyone.

I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I must give a special thank you to the Revd. Sues (Lepp and Morton) for their patience, their generosity and wisdom. I have learned so much from them, which I will carry into my future ministry. On behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone for the time you gave us and the welcome you extended to us. My children particularly enjoyed the outdoor church initiatives, which are great fun whilst being deeply spiritual and genuinely innovative. I speak for us all when I say that the Hambleden Valley now has a special place in our hearts. We will certainly be back to visit you and worship with you and will always remember our short time as part of your community with great affection.

Steve Marsh



Sunday 12th September 2021

We had a lovely afternoon at the bottom of Ferry Lane, Medmenham along the river front. The outdoor service led by Reverend Sue Morton, with the Wild Choir, was well attended by adults and children. We planted several daffodil bulbs around the bases of the trees in the shape of a cross and a fish prompting new life and new beginnings. If you would like to join us at future Wild Church please see below for further dates and locations.

Liz Wilks



I have lived in Medmenham all my life. I was christened in the village church and have grown up trundling down Ferry Lane to the river, whether that was pushed in a wheelchair, on my tricucle and even on roller skates. Mu sister and I would save froglets, feed the ducks and collect hundreds of conkers at the riverside. Last year the Horse Chestnut tree which stood proudly by the Ferry Memorial, had to be taken down as it became rotten and dangerous. With permission from Medmenham Parish Council and help from Suzanne Phillips, my family replaced the Chestnut tree with two new trees, a Pin Oak and a Liquid Amber. For my family these are more than a replacement. To us they commemorate my grandparents who would often visit and join my sister and I in collecting conkers and sitting beside the river. We shared many memories there and I was so pleased to join in with Wild Church and share our appreciation of this special place with others. Thanks to Rev Sue Morton's endeavours and some budding volunteers, in the Spring, the trees will hopefully be surrounded by the Narcissi we planted during the service. Another wonderful reminder of God's creation!

Amy Dring

Join us for Seed-gathering Sunday on Sunday 10th October at 3pm in Jill and Phil Dean's field, Chequers Lane, Fingest. The Wild Church signs will direct you! We'll be making our own pots, planting our own seeds to grow into trees

Continued on page 7



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for rewilding next year and generally enjoying God's marvellous creation. Do come along and see what it's all about – there is something for all ages!

At Wild Church we also sing a couple of well-known hymns, listen to a Bible reading and have a simple prayer. To get in touch with one of the Wild Church Team please contact: Revd Sue Morton 01491 639286 or suemorton131@gmail.com; Mary Campbell grandma. marycampbell@googlemail.com Mardi Wilkins mardi43@btinternet.com

Sue Morton

Information about

COMMUNITY MATTERS



Community Matters, set up in 2011 by Judy Taylor whom many of us will know from helping us out with services here in the Valley - is currently supporting 22 families in Lane End with its food bank. Nearly all the families have been referred by the Red Kite Housing Association, Health Visitors and Social Workers; all families are experiencing severe hardship. Unfortunately, Community Matters' usual food suppliers - who were sending 10-15 boxes per week - are not currently able to help them out and Community Matters is quite desperate; they have turned to us, their neighbours to ask for our support. If you are able to donate any of the items on the list below, or make a financial donation. Community Matters would be very grateful. The Hambleden Valley is supporting Community Matters with our Harvest donations this year.

FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

Pasta sauces Tins tomatoes Baked beans Tins hot dogs Meatballs in tomato sauce Coffee/ tea Squash – any flavour Tins/cartons custard

Tins/cartons custard Microwaveable rice Jams

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS NEEDED Laundry powder/capsules

Washing up liquid Shower gel Toilet rolls Kitchen rolls Shampoo Fabric conditioner Cleaning products

ACCOUNT DETAILS

Barclays Bank, Account Community Matters, Account no. 53787737Sort code 20-40-71

Thank you so much for your generosity

The Hambledon Valley Group of Churches

Skyscape: The limitless art of the sky 30th Sept 2021 to 16th Jan 2022

This exhibition, curated by Katherine Wodehouse, Carol and John Kimberley's daughter, who works in the Print Room at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, is beginning at the River & Rowing Museum in Henley on 30th September. Katherine will be giving an **online talk about this on 12th October**, the time is not yet finalised but there will be details on the River and Rowing Museum's website in due course.

Across a wide variety of media including engraving, etching, ceramic, mezzotint, watercolour, graphic sketches and oil, the exhibition features masterpieces of some of history's most celebrated artists including Albrecht Dürer, Rembrandt, J M W Turner, Samuel Palmer, John Ruskin and Paul Nash. Skyscape: The limitless art of the sky explores aerial landscapes as a symbol of the divine, as a subject of scientific interest and as means of emotional escape and expression for both artist and viewer.

Inspired by Constable's famous statement of 23rd October 1821 that 'It will be difficult to name a class of landscape in which the sky is not the key note, the standard of scale and the chief organ of sentiment', Skyscape is an wonderful chance to view the popular art of landscape from a new perspective, through a succession of masterpieces that span 500 years of European art. We think it is a great exhibition, but then we are her parents! Do go and visit if you have the opportunity.

Carol and John Kimberley

St Martin's Voices in Concert

St Mary the Virgin, Hambleden Saturday 30th October 2021 at 7.00pm Tickets from www.smitf.org/tour £10 adults / £5 under 16s

The Concert

The night before lockdown in March 2020, members of St Martin's Voices gathered in St Martin-in-the-Fields for one final time to record the music for a service led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, broadcast to the nation on the BBC.

WILDLIFE

The service opened with the hymn 'Lord of all hopefulness'.

This hour-long concert reflects on themes of love, hope, joy and peace drawn from this much-loved hymn, and includes music drawn from over four centuries of choral masterpieces, including works by Thomas Tallis, Hubert Parry, John Stainer, Amy Beach, Ola Gjeilo and James MacMillan.



St Martin's Voices is one of London's most versatile professional vocal ensembles, resident at St Martin-in-the-Fields. They sing for concerts, broadcasts and special services at St Martin's and beyond, perform alongside the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, London Mozart Players, Southbank Sinfonia and Will Todd Ensemble. and have toured to the USA and South Africa. They regularly feature in BBC broadcasts including Radio 3 Choral Evensong and Radio 4 Sunday Worship. In response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, St Martin's Voices have extended their digital recording projects, sharing regular online Great Sacred Music and concerts, as well as featuring in the Church of England online worship resources that have attracted more than 1 million downloads across digital platforms.

Sue Morton

Hambleden Valley Garden Club

Plans are made to reconvene face-to-face meetings of the Hambleden Valley Garden Club in Skirmett Village Hall, starting on Tuesday 5th October when Helen Yemm will again be our speaker. Helen is an author, horticulturist and a popular speaker. The evening will be a lighthearted look at gardening, with Helen bringing us up to date on gardening advice and her experiences of lockdown. By way of marking our return to 'near normal' Fizz will be served.

Current covid protocol will be followed (hand sanitisers and masks). We ask that anyone who has been in very recent contact with Covid or does not feel well not to come.

For information about the Gardening Club and for those of you who may like to join then please contact me.

Celia Warren 01491 638691

WILDLIFE Barn Owls



The lovely photograph of the Barn Owl was taken by a visitor to the Hambleden Valley, Stephen Rappitt, earlier this year. We are fortunate that there is suitable habitat for foraging to support a healthy population of these

magnificent birds. Landowners can help conserve this species by providing rough grassland habitat and suitable roosting and nesting sites and, indeed, many have done so as there are already a good number of owl boxes in our neighbourhood. This is largely thanks

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to the efforts of the Bisham Barn Owl Group (https://bishambarnowlgroup.blogspot.com) who are happy to give advice and supply and install nest boxes where there is suitable habitat. Through their monitoring activities over a number of years, they have built up a detailed picture of Barn Owls in this area whilst collecting valuable scientific data to support their conservation. Their annual reports, available on their website, make interesting reading. The Barn Owl Trust website (https://www.barnowltrust.org. uk) also has a wealth of fascinating information on this charismatic species.

Charles Hussey

Thoughts on hedgehogs and hibernation.

Hedgehogs are enigmatic, independent little souls who literally spend their every waking hour searching for food and water. They drink surprising quantities of the latter. If you put out a low but heavy bowl by your back door and keep it filled with fresh water, I can pretty much

guarantee they will find you, become dependent upon it and return every night; especially during dry spells. Hibernation time approaches and Pat Morris explains it perfectly. "Hedgehogs do not hibernate on a particular date because 'it is time to go'. Instead, they do so in order to resolve the dilemma that being warm blooded costs energy, but food energy becomes increasingly hard to get as the weather worsens in the autumn. It's a flexible behaviour and likely to adjust to whatever the climatic circumstances require". During hibernation, their temperature drops, their heart rate slows and their breathing is reduced to a minimum but this still requires energy; it's the slow burn of their precious stored body fat which keeps the creatures alive. For the males it's a doddle because they play no role in rearing the young and unhindered, they concentrate on themselves and are the first to bury into a pile of leaves possibly around late September. Life is a lot tougher for the females who often have a second litter in the autumn. As winter approaches,

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underweight autumn babies, ditto first litter young and exhausted females are wandering about anxious to fatten up to maximise their chances of hibernating successfully; the caterpillars and other grubs are long gone. Hedgehogs would starve if they didn't hibernate but when temperatures plummet, they are left with no choice and many don't survive the process. Long cold winters mean fat reserves run out and mild spells also wake them early when the only food available to sustain those little legs as they charge about is left out by helpful humans. If anyone would like information on the perfect cat/fox/magpie proof hedgehog feeding station and what to put in it, (please nothing containing mealworms, peanuts, dried fruit or sunflowers seeds but just simple kitten biscuits with meat - not cereal - as the first listed ingredient), please do get in touch. It's been a battle, particularly with the Fawley feline population but I have emerged victorious.

Sarah Ronan September 2021 (sarahronan575@gmail.com)

HAMBLEDEN



Race for Life

I would like to thank everybody who sponsored me when I did the Race for Life in August. I raised £1,160 so thank you very much.

Pat Eldridge

Hambleden WI - September 2021

Our WI Summer Party took place towards the end of July, with a group of 26 members meeting at Hambleden Village Hall for a most convivial and enjoyable afternoon. With the sun streaming in through the open double doors we enjoyed a delicious tea of sandwiches, scones and cakes, made by various WI members and accompanied by a glass or two of Prosecco. It was wonderful to get together once again and a big thank you to all those who donated such a great array of raffle prizes.

Our first face-to-face meeting of the year took place with 20 members on Thursday 9th September. The Committee had invited BFWI

Adviser, Judith Forster to explain the options for the future of Hambleden WI. Sadly, our President is stepping down at the November AGM and, at present, nobody has volunteered for the position. Judith confirmed that every WI must have in post a President, Treasurer and Secretary in order to run and without these 3 positions being filled there are two options for consideration by the branch: 1) to suspend and follow the closure procedures and 2) to 'enlarge' with another WI. Following Judith's departure the group agreed the matter should be further discussed at the October meeting. In the meantime, there will be a follow-up discussion between Judith, Sarah and the Committee. On a lighter note, our September meeting continued with a game of Bingo, accompanied by a delicious tea served by Bernie Beavis, Angela Detsiny and Gay Doggart.

The Walking Group meet at 10.30am on October 20th at The Rainbow Inn, Middle Assendon and our first WI outing for many months will be a tour of the Leander Club, followed by lunch, on October 13th.

The next Members' meeting will be in Hambleden Village Hall on October 14th at 7.30pm when Katherine Alcock, a Blue Badge Tourist Guide will talk about 'The Dreaming Spires of Oxford'. Katie will explore the story of Oxford 'Town' and 'Gown'. Its glorious buildings, and the people who have shaped it over the centuries; from Christopher Wren to Thomas Cromwell, Thomas Cranmer to C.S. Lewis, finding out why this magical city has secured such a strong place in the nation's heart and imagination. Additionally there will be further discussion regarding the future of Hambleden WI

Website www.hambleden-wi.org, email Hambleden.wi@gmail.com

Sally-Ann Roberts

Village Hall Quiz

A gentle reminder that the quiz will take place in the Village Hall on November 26th at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale from November 1st at the Stores. £10 each/£60 a table. Supper is provided, but please bring your own pens, nibbles, wine and glasses.

Continued on page 17

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Church Services and Events

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From The Registers

Holy Baptism

Sept 12	Maxim Renwick-Forster	Turville
Sept 12	Matilda Eleanor Rose Priestly	Hambleden

Holy Matrimony

HOLY MALFI	mony	
Aug 27	Richard Peters and Philippa Woolven	Hambleden
Aug 30	Paul Smith and Nicola Smith	Hambleden
Aug 31	Andrew Dunnington and Holly Marston-Weston	Hambleden
Sept 4	Edward Emmett and Victoria Bull	Hambleden
Sept 4	Kyle Tackley and Hannah Curzon	Frieth
Sept 4	Hector Sants and Emily Gill	Turville
Sept 11	Jonathan Butt and Beatrice Heller	Hambleden

Rest in Peace

Aug 25	James Hirst (Jim)	Funeral and Burial, Fawley
Aug 27	John Shaw	Funeral and Burial, Frieth
Sept 10	Dorothea Giddy	Funeral and Burial, Fawley



Phone: 01628 484509

Hambleden Valley Prayer Group

We have formed a contemplative listening and confidential prayer group, forming a circle round the valley with God at the centre. If you would like prayer please send a request to the email below:

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CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2021

Pattern of Worship Oct 2021

Please see below for Sunday services. There will also be Zoom services at 9:30am and the 10.15am midweek Holy Communion at Turville on Wednesdays. The calendar here is subject to change. The well-being of staff and members can cause last minute adjustments to our scheduled services. Please refer to our website for the most up-to-date information or contact Jenny Neagle on hambledenvalleyadmin@gmail.com (07769 599616).

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville	Zoom
3rd Oct			3pm Harvest Service			10am Group Service	None
Sat 9th Oct						3pm Animal Blessing	
10th Oct	11am Holy Communion	9am Holy Communion		11am Holy Communion			9.30am
17th Oct	11am Harvest Communion	9am Holy Communion	9am Holy Communion/Zoom	8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Lay-led Morning Worship	11am Harvest Communion		9am
24th Oct		6pm Evening Communion	9am Holy Communion/Zoom	11am Holy Communion		9.30am Holy Communion	9am
31st Oct			8am BCP Holy Communion		11am Holy Communion	3pm All Souls Service	None

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All funds will be donated to the Hall as a contribution to the ladies' loos rebuilding fund. (Have you seen the cracks in the walls?)

Looking forward to seeing you there for a fun evening.

Chris Whitehead

FAWLEY

A Huge Thank You to Patricia Williams

Over the last 18 years or so. Patricia Williams has raised many thousands of pounds (a guestimate of 15-20k) for Fawley Church from running her boutique for unwanted gifts. clothes - vintage and contemporary - and many items that were difficult to categorise. A huge range of preloved items. She, and her team of helpers from her personal friends as well as villagers, took part in many varying events over the years - from the Village Fete, the Christmas Fairs as well as the annual Trad Boat Festival which was the most profitable, this year raising over £2.000. However, all this came from a lot of work behind scenes, storing, cleaning and mending items so they would fetch the best prices. All this came about when Patricia retired and felt she and her husband Russell would like to put something back in the village that they had been a part of for so many years through the McAlpine family. Many of us will remember Russell, who was chauffeur to the McAlpines. Because of his and Sir William McAlpine's love of vintage vehicles, he started the Fawley Collection of vintage cars including a Bentlev belonging to Sir Edwin McAlpine, Bill's father and a Rolls Royce Phantom 1, which Lady McAlpine still owns. These were let out for weddings and events with Russell, Harry Sloper and their team of drivers, who had to be taught

to double declutch, at the wheel. The revenue helped maintain the vehicles. Patricia has many happy memories of running the boutique, especially when a Boat couple at the Trad Boat Festival gave her a trip in their 1926 narrow boat Malaya as a 'thank you' from the Boat Folk, many of whom looked forward each year to bagging a bargain from the Fawley Boutique. However, Patricia feels it is now time to hang up her stallholder apron, so, at the end of the Festival, all the team took home bags to give to their favourite charities. She would be delighted to think someone younger would take over as she has had a great deal of fun as well as raising much needed money for our beautiful Church.

Hilary Beck-Burridge

Dorothea Giddy



Dorothea was born on 25th August 1944 to an East Prussian Red Cross nurse and an Austrian Evangelical Lutheran Rector, in Nachterstedt, Germany (later becoming East Germany). Dorothea's childhood rectory home was not only full of love, laughter and music, but

also her mother's displaced East Prussian family who fled from the advancing Russian army as refugees.

As a Lutheran rector, the family faced persecution under the Nazis, and then the Soviets, so in 1950, Dorothea's father attempted to escape East Germany and take the family back to Austria to find a new position in the church. Dressed as blueberry pickers, a 6-year-old Dorothea and



Skirmett Village Hall

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FRIETH

her father, tried to cross the border, however, they were captured by Russian soldiers and imprisoned overnight. Assisted by a guide on their next attempt, the family was successful in reaching Austria. The family settled in Rust, a picturesque winegrowing town on the edge of Lake Neusiedl (on the Austrian-Hungarian border), and Dorothea could remember hearing the gunshots ringing out across the lake during the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

Dorothea was very academic, gifted at playing the piano, attended grammar school and a hotel business and management school, before working as hotel secretary in the world-famous Austrian ski resorts of Kitzbühel and St Anton. To improve her French and English, she studied in Paris and worked as an au pair in England, where she met her future husband, Bruce, in 1969. They married in 1971 in Austria, with their only child, Camilla, being born in London in 1980.

Dorothea moved to Rotten Row in 1998 where she spent 3 years as part of the Hambleden congregation. In 2002, Dorothea moved to Fawley where she became churchwarden, a position she was dedicated to, even when moving to Henley in 2012.

In 2018, Dorothea was involved in a car crash,

but was always sustained by her faith. After many months in hospital, she moved into a nursing home to be nearer to Camilla, and her three grandchildren – Henry, Lucinda and Annabella. Dorothea was on dialysis for the last $2\frac{1}{2}$ years of her life and died in Stoke Mandeville Hospital on 17th August 2021.

Camilla Coleman

FRIETH Frieth Lunch Club



Our first lunch in a long time was enjoyed by 17 locals at the Yew Tree at the end of August.

Delicious food and good company what more could you ask for? Our next lunch will be on the 30th September, more

details from Judy at ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com. all welcome.

Judy Hunt

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TURVILLE Ruby Wedding



Many of us from the Valley and hills, old friends and new, helped Sue and Mark celebrate their Ruby Wedding, 40 years of wedded bliss, on the 5th September in the garden at the Vicarage. It was a glorious day and wonderful to see old friends again, to dress up and mingle informally and enjoy delicious cakes. So, thank you Sue and





Mark for letting us all share your special day. Sue, you are our beloved Rev. Priest, hopefully for more years to come, and Mark for coming when we cry 'help' with the internet.

Pam Harper

Thank you so much for helping us to celebrate our 40th Wedding Anniversary and for all your good wishes. We really appreciate them! We received a number of donations, amounting to over £1000, which will be shared between the Hambleden Valley Group of Churches and the One Can Trust.

With love and thanks again, Sue and Mark

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- If you own a business or a share of a business, your spouse/partner and children may not necessarily inherit your share.
- $\bullet~$ An estimated 70,000 people per year have to sell their homes to \boldsymbol{pay} for $\boldsymbol{care}.$
- Effective planning can also protect the inheritance of future generations from divorce or separation settlements.
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My decision to get involved in Wills and Estate Planning was a result of personal experience. I learnt first-hand how unpreparedness adds to the stress of dealing with long-term illness and death. Get in touch for advice that can guide you to make informed decisions that suit your needs.

Visit www.personalestateplanning.co.uk for further information.

Judy Bonfanti, FCCA, STEP Affiliate judy.bonfanti@hotmail.com 0781 0642 505

MEDMENHAM

46 years in Turville

In August 1975 John and I arrived at Turfelde with 2 little girls aged just 4 and 5 and a black labrador. I fell in love with the house at first sight and subsequently came to love Turville village and its inhabitants.

We happily joined in so many special events - May Day selling ice cream from my kitchen door, wonderful garden parties at the Old Vicarage, many village get togethers from simple barbecues on the green and gatherings at the village hall to large celebrations and street parties. I have so enjoyed being a part of such a close community and have formed lifelong friendships over the years.

We celebrated 2 beautiful weddings in Turville church and Turfelde where villagers played a great part, arranging flowers, helping with the organisation and attending. So many memories in a lovely house and village, lots of laughter, a few tears but always the knowledge of support and friendship nearby.

It is so good to know Turfelde is once again a family home and I hope Beatrice and Jon and their baby son Sasha and dog Bonus will be very happy there.

It was lovely to see so many people at the drinks on the green, which Angela organised for me along with Dave's birthday celebrations, an evening of mixed emotions, sadness at leaving, excitement at starting a new phase in my life close by. Skirmett people have made me very welcome and I love this house, especially when all the boxes have gone!

As at Turfelde, my door at Cobb Cottage is always open and I love to see people, do please stop by.

Wendy Duerden

MEDMENHAM

WATCH the ball!!

I am delighted to report that after.... some forty years of practice, I won the men's senior singles and doubles grass court tennis championship at Wimbledon for the over 85s last month. The semi-final singles match score was 6/1 6/0, after

my losing the very first game. The final was a bit tougher, but nonetheless the score was $6/1\ 6/1$. I am now to my surprise, ranked number 1 in the UK for my age group.



Leonard Phillips and Gordon Oates

I started to play tennis in my forties, after watching Bjorn Borg beating John McEnroe, which was so exciting and lots of fun to watch. This encouraged me to take up tennis, plus I was lucky enough to be coached by a friend who actually had played for the Sri Lankan Davis Cup tennis team, he taught me the basic skills. The secret message he always gave me was... 'WATCH the ball'! This I have tried to do for thirty years after practising with him, for eight hours per week, but though I was a fairly slow starter, it finally paid off. I was then selected to play for Bucks County and even eventually for the GB seniors' team some ten years ago. This meant travelling to Turkey and Croatia representing GB, which was so much fun, but also something I am rather proud of. In 2019 just before the lock down, I finally won the National GB indoor championship in Birmingham. My endearing motto therefore has been for young or old aspiring players....WATCH the ball!! Fondest wishes.

Leonard Phillips



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for more information on walking or for advice on equipment and home adaptations for independent living.











HAMBLEDEN SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB



Have you ever ventured inside the Hambleden Social Club?

Hambleden Sports and Social Club is a community organisation providing sporting facilities on the Dene in Hambleden, as well as a Social Club in the village centre. The current sporting sections are cricket, tennis, football and pool.

Take a look at our website at hambledenssc.co.uk for more information.

The **Social Club** is situated in the centre of Hambleden Village, to the left of the Post Office/Shop. The club is a members club which allows us to provide alcohol and soft drinks at low prices, for consumption by our members and their guests. The Social Club offers fruit machines, pool table, darts, TV, comfortable seating and a friendly atmosphere!

Membership:- £25 per year or £13 for OAPs and Students **Opening hours:-** 8pm - 11pm (Tuesday – Saturday)

You can also hire the Social Club for meetings during the day and functions in the evening. Please contact **Pat Eldridge 01491 576067** for more information.

We are lucky to have this facility in our wonderful valley, please do pop in and take a look for yourself!



CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

Hambleden Valley Group of Churches

Priest-in-Charge: The Revd. Sue Lepp, 07930 520562, revdsuelepp@gmail.com

Associate Priest: The Revd Sue Morton, 01491 639286, suemorton131@gmail.com

Director of Music and Choir:

Christine Wells BEM, 01491 571588, c@wells.vnworks.net

Group Treasurer: David Napier, 01491 574230, david_napier@btopenworld.com

Group Administrator: Jenny Neagle, 07769 599616.

hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

Baptisms: Vicky Hollier, 01491 638760, vickyhollier@aol.com

Weddings and Blessings: Paul and Lynda Marston-Weston 01494 883188 hambledenvalleyweddings@gmail.com

Tea Club: St. Katharine's, Parmoor, Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm Sue Brice, 01494 882084, sue.brice@btconnect.com or Gillian Loveridge,

Barney's Toddler Group: Frieth Village Hall, Usually 2nd Fridays during term time 1.30-3pm with Café in last half hour. Revd Sue Morton 01491 639286 or

01491 638895, mail@dandgloveridge.plus.com

Website:

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

Sarah Hunt sarahhunt 76@hotmail.co.uk

Fawley (St Mary the Virgin)

Churchwarden: David Napier, 01491 574230, david napier@btopenworld.com

Clerk to Fawley Parish Meeting and Village Hall booking:

David Burton - davidburtn83@hotmail.co.uk

Fingest (St Bartholomew)

Churchwardens:

Brian Barnes, 01494 882613, brianbarnes346@gmail.com

Jill Dean, 01491 638678, iill@sundawn.uk.com

Frieth (St John the Evangelist)

Churchwarden: Judy Hunt, 01494 882227, ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

Village Hall Bookings:

website www.friethvillagehall.org email friethvillagehall@gmail.com Tel 01494 880737

Brownies:

Jennie Batt leads Frieth Brownies. Brownies meet on a Monday evening from 5.30 - 7.00pm at Frieth Village Hall. Friethbrownies@hotmail.com, 07422 377858

Frieth Natural History Society: Alan Gudge, 01494 881464

Frieth Village Society: Caroline Walker 01494 882333

Frieth Cricket Club:

Ben Smiley friethcricket@btinternet.com

Frieth Lunch Club: meets on last Thursday of the month at the Yew Tree Pub. Judy Hunt, 01494 882227 ajh.claypit1@btinternet.com

Hambleden (St Mary the Virgin)

Churchwarden:

Jill Steward 01491 571320 iillsteward@hambleden.com

Bell Ringing: Fri 7.45pm practice, Helen or Karen, hambledenbells@mycomputer.email

Village Hall Bookings: Jamie Baker, 01491 410669, www.hambledenvillagehall.org

Women's Institute:

Sarah Williams, 07817 120339

Pilates: Mondays 11 – 12 Fran Presho, 07951 019594

Bridge Club: Fridays 1.30 – 4.30 Frances Cugnoni, 01491 576409

Hambleden Social and Sports Club: Open daily from 8 pm Pat Eldridge, 01491 576067

Tennis Club: Heather Symons, 01491 577344, heathersymons16@hotmail.com

Tennis Coaching: Chris Marshall, 07801 999230, chrismarshall20@hotmail.com

Yoga: Monday 7pm-8.30pm Debbie Flavell, 01491 414403, debby@debbyflavell.com

Indoor Market: Hambleden, 2nd Saturday in Month (except January)

Circle Dance Thursday 7pm – 8.30pm Debby Flavell 01491 414403 debby@debbyflavell.com

Medmenham (St Peter and St Paul)

Churchwardens: Dennis Harwood, 01628 810143, dennis.harwood411@btinternet.com Angela Magee, 01628 484043, angela.magee@yahoo.co.uk

Village Hall Bookings: Emma Tentori, 07759 014396

Uniformed organisations: 1st Danesfield Scouts, Cubs and Beavers: leader Nick Currie, enquiries@danesfieldscouts.org.uk

Medmenham News:

medmenhamnews@icloud.com

Skirmett

Village Hall Bookings: Mandy Heller, 01491 638355 www.skirmettvillagehall.org

Pilates: Mon 11.15am – 12.15 pm Julia Farey, 07747 825 830

Hambleden Valley Garden Club: Meetings Oct-Mar on first Tuesday each month at Skirmett Village Hall 7.30. Contact Celia Warren, 01491 638691

Turville (St Mary the Virgin) Church Warden:

Anne Jones, 01491 639344, annejones.tur@btopenworld.com

Bell Ringing: Sat 4pm practice, Rachel Wallace, 01494 883025 rachel@markjwallace.com **Sunday School**: Sara Harman, 01491 639211

Turville Northend Village Hall Bookings:

David & Susan Faragher 01491 638960 or 07563 903678, davidfaragher@fastmail.fm smfaragher@fastmail.fm

Pilates: Tues 5.55pm - 6.55pm & 7pm - 8pm.

www.pilat-ease.co.uk

Yoga: Saturday 8.45-9.45am, Tiffany 07785 615583

Parish Council Contacts

Hambleden: Parish Clerk Lorna Coldwell 01494 881483, clerk@hambleden.org.uk, www.hambleden.org.uk

Medmenham: Parish Clerk Carole Burslem 01494 449215, mpc.clerk@gmail.com
Turville: Parish Clerk Lorna Coldwell, 01494 881483, turvilleparishcouncil@gmail.com, www.turvilleparishcouncil.org.uk
Fawley: Clerk to Fawley Parish Meeting Mr Ross McDonald, 07769 971252 r.mcdonald2007@yahoo.co.uk

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