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#### **Weekday Services**

and Contacts

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

#### **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

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**



I have joked previously about Pheasants Hill being a suburb of Hambleden, as if Hambleden were some big city. Well, for all of July, Hambleden will have its own bypass – like all our biggest cities! July will see plenty of filming activity in Hambleden – and there is another film crew in Lower Fawley, too – making July a month of inconvenience to many of the local residents. Added to that we have the Henley Regatta, the Festival,

and summer weddings – although thankfully, and unusually, none in July. It is a time you might resent all the visitors that come this way: too many people, too much traffic.

Perhaps you will take your holiday in July. We all need holidays; we were designed to work only six days out of seven and sabbaticals draw their very name from the Jewish Sabaoth. We need to restore our energy, wind down properly, perhaps visit distant lands or catch up with distant relations.

Going away is a good solution to the inconvenience of all the activity of July. But another solution is to re-frame the disruption. We need to count our blessings for all we have here, the beautiful landscape, the friendly communities, the attractions of the Thames. We need creativity and good films can lift us in spirit, especially when filmed in fabulous countryside.

Let us not forget the conflict that rages in parts of the world, the hardship and poverty that many have to live with. We should pray for, and support practically, those who suffer thus. But for us, in our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, let us thank God for all we have, and not grumble about the traffic.

**Andy Storch** 



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#### **GROUP NOTES**





## Wild Pottery at Turville Studios, 9th June 2024

Reverend Sue did an introduction when we all said a prayer, looked at the countryside and sang a song. Then Jenny told us how she became a potter and gave us all some clay. She told us whatever we did was right. People made many weird and wonderful creations. I saw a picture of a snail, a mushroom, pots with and without lids, imprints of flowers and leaves, a snake and a rose. We went into the studios and talked to the artists and we saw ponies and goats. We learnt how to use the potters' wheels and then we sang another song and had cake.





Thank you to all the Wild Church team and the Turville Artists for a lovely afternoon.

#### Frances Dean, aged 8











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# Sunday 14th July 2024 at 3pm Wild End of Term Party!

In the field by the bridge in Skirmett look out for the Wild Church banners! (nearby post code: RG9 6TG)



#### Join us for an end of term party by the Brook in Skirmett! Cooking and toasting marshmallows on the firepit and celebrating a Baptism!

\*\*We meet outside, so please do dress for the weather please bring <u>a fold up</u> <u>chair</u>, <u>flask of tea/coffee/drinks</u>; and **there will be cake!** \*\*

Parking available – look out for the Wild Church banners!

#### **Future Wild Church:**

August – Wild Church takes a holiday Sunday 8th September: Wild Church returns!

Wild Church Team: Rev Sue Morton 07808 517347 or

suemorton131@gmail.com
Mary Campbell grandma.
marycampbell@googlemail.com

Mardi Wilkins WhatsApp 07988 030519:

Magdalena Dabrowska magda@rmb.london

#### **Community Matters**

Hello again from Community Matters operating through Holy Trinity Church, Lane End. It is lovely to have this opportunity to pass on to you some of the stories involving the families we support in the village, because it is only through your generosity that we are able to continue to help those whose lives are pretty much a constant struggle. It is worth just remembering also that all of our families are referred by professionals such as the Housing Association, Health Visitors, the local school and Social Workers.

Recently we were given a quantity of bedding, duvets and mattress covers, and we were able to distribute these to several families. We have paid the lunch fees for a young boy attending nursery. He was not eligible for free lunches but in September he will have reached the age when he will qualify for them. A teenage boy is undergoing some fairly tough chemotherapy and has lost his appetite but he suddenly announced that he craved a pizza with a few friends at his house so we ordered a pizza delivery – he was delighted!

Once again thank you for your kindness and generosity it is such a blessing to us.

**Judy Taylor** 

# British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer

On a recent trip to Normandy, I was able to visit the British Normandy Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer the day after King Charles, Queen Camilla and other dignitaries had paid their respects and laid wreaths. It is

#### **GROUP NOTES**





such a wonderful and beautifully cared for memorial to all those who lost their lives during and after the D-Day landings, but so sad and emotional for everyone who visits when you see the names of all those men and women who were so young and gave their lives for our future. I particularly wanted to see the new 1,475 silhouette figures to honour the men and women who died on the 6th June 1944 created by the charity Standing With Giants and titled: 'For Your Tomorrow: The People's Tribute'. These silhouette figures had crafted poppies added to the bases of their plinths, many made by WI members.

It was amazing and very emotional for me seeing the wonderful memorial and I really recommend a visit if you are ever in that part of France.

#### Angela Magee



#### The red of rose, the green of oak

A car is waiting for her now outside.

The time has come, she knows, when she should go.

She wants to please them, let them be her guide,

not fuss or make a scene or let them know her doubts, how much she needs to shield her pride.

She looks out on the garden he has made: the sunflowers turning gently to the sun, their crown of seeds aglow as if inlaid with gold, as if in thanks for all he'd done to give them life and light above the shade.

She sees him standing there beside the pear he had planted when they first arrived, his hair still dark, his smile without a care, no hint of all the pain that had deprived him of his strength, his desperate need for air.

How can she leave where they have been so long –

this garden where their love at first awoke, a love that grew with planting, deep and strong,

the curving red of rose, the green of oak, this garden where they'll always both belong?

No, she cannot leave what he has grown, Leave what he loved to strangers or decay. He needs her here, not far away alone, to carry on, resist their words, and stay to sow again the seeds that he has sown.

Jane Mann

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

Judy Bonfanti, FCCA, STEP Affiliate

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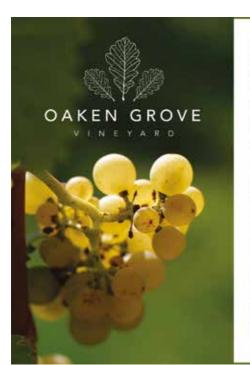


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#### **GROUP NOTES**

#### Embracing the Art of Life: My Journey and Inspiration for Starting Henley Academy of Art



As we journey through life, we often discover passions that transform our paths in unexpected and fulfilling ways. My name is Lisa Paddon, and I am delighted to share my story with you.

Twelve years ago, I attended a weekend oil painting workshop for beginners in Sonning Common, South Oxfordshire. This simple course ignited a passion that forever changed my life. Enthralled by the process of painting, I began practising diligently at home, eager to improve my skills.

Seeking inspiration, I visited the National Portrait Gallery, where the luminous portraits of the great masters left me in awe. I yearned to understand their techniques, materials, and processes. Realizing my paintings lacked the depth and radiant

light of these masterpieces, I decided to bridge the gap between my aspirations and abilities by learning directly from the masters of old.

Determined to pursue this dream, I made significant sacrifices. I gave up my job, took on lodgers, and worked as a film and TV extra to support myself financially. Despite the challenges of being a single mother, my passion fuelled my determination. I attended specialized workshops at the Prince's School of Traditional Arts and Atelier Schools in London. I flew to Florence to stand before the great masterpieces I had admired in textbooks.

As my skills improved, I began selling my paintings at art fairs and in magazines such as *World of Interiors*. When I reached a certain level of experience, I felt a sense of duty to share my knowledge and passion with others. My mission became clear: to inspire future artists through the mastery of classical techniques.

Two years ago, my husband and I moved to Nettlebed after finding a house with a large room I could convert into an art studio. The house is grade two listed, where Kings and Queens once stayed as it was a former coaching inn on the route from London to Oxford.

The Henley Academy of Art will



Classes are held at: Lane End Youth and Community Centre, Edmonds Road, Lane End HP14 3EJ

For further details of Puppy School and other dog training services, please go to the Tip Top Puppy and Dog Training website or contact Melanie direct.

Melanie Mathews Member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (01569)

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#### **GROUP NOTES AND WILDLIFE**

open for beginners in drawing and oil painting techniques from September 2024. Please get in touch at **info@henleyacademyofart.com** or visit **www.henleyacademyofart.com** for more information.

I would like to leave you with this inspirational quote from Sir Ian McKellen: "Practice any art, music, singing, drawing, painting, sculpture, dancing, acting, poetry, fiction, or script. No matter how well or badly, not to get money or fame, but to experience, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow."

Lisa Paddon

#### **WILDLIFE**

#### **Frieth Natural History Society**

This year, FNHS will be holding their annual moth session in a garden close to Frieth on 12th/13th July. Traps will be set on the Friday evening and members are invited to help with counting and identification on the Saturday morning.

Moth traps use a light source to attract flying moths which are caught in the main body of the trap. Moths can then be identified and counted before being safely released. The range of moths seen will depend on the date, nearby habitats and weather conditions. The date and venue of this event changes each year in order to see a different selection of moths.

Anyone is welcome to join us, but for further details of the start time, where to park and to book your place, please make contact.

Andy 01494 881586, Mary 01494 881501 or email FNHS2023@gmail.com

**Mary Webb** 

#### A Naturalist's Reminiscence No.8

In my previous reminiscence I reminded you that I had just arrived in Calcutta without a word of Gurkhali en route to be a recruiting officer in Nepal.

Calcutta I had been In allocated temporary accommodation in a ground floor flat where, when I arrived, I found the bearer (house servant) busily swatting a lot of poisonous snakes which had fallen down through a hole in the ceiling. I then reported to GurMov (Gurkha Movement Control) which was a system of offices around the world responsible for posting military personnel. When I mentioned Dharan, the new training camp in Nepal I was informed that work on it had not yet begun. I was then instructed to go to Sealdah Station, the equivalent of Euston for those travelling north.

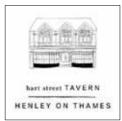
GurMov had allocated a whole carriage to me without an explanation and instructed me to keep all the doors locked when I was in it. I soon found out why. I had put my camp bed in the centre of the carriage and installed my mosquito net over it. On the first night we had stopped at some remote station when I was woken by seeing a large pole with a hook on it coming through the window and attempting to remove my mosquito net. I struck the hand with my boot and then went to sleep. At another station there was a rattle on one of the doors and a loud shout "I am a 1st Class passenger, let me in." Looking out of the window I saw about 20 so called 1st Class passengers trying to climb in. I kept guiet and the train finally reached Jogbani on the Nepalese frontier which was about 200 miles from

Continued on page 17



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#### **CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS**

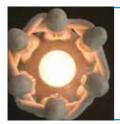
#### From The Registers

#### **Holy Matrimony**

May 18	Benjamin Stafford and Natalie Martin	Hambleden
June 6	Gary Ashworth and Mary Pratt	Medmenham
June 8	Tobias Ward and Katya Nelson	Hambleden
June 12	Nigel Page and Anita Stubbs	Hambleden
June 15	Thomas Rowe-Jones and Chloe Smith	Hambleden

#### **Rest in Peace**

May 17	Peta Bird	Burial of Ashes, Hambleden
May 20	Peter Watts	Funeral, Hambleden
June 7	Rod Simm	Funeral and Burial, Hambleden



#### 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 JULY 2024**

#### **Sunday Services**

#### Pattern of Worship July 2024

Please see below for Sunday services. There will also be Zoom services at 9:30am, Wednesdays and 12noon, Churchyard Prayers at Fawley on Fridays. The 10.15am midweek Holy Communion on Wednesdays has moved, temporarily, to Fingest, and there are no services at Turville for 3/4 months owing to ongoing conservation works. Please check our website

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk for latest updates or contact our administrator Jenny Neagle on 07769 599616 – hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com with any query.

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.uk

	Fawley	Fingest	Frieth	Hambleden	Medmenham	Turville
30th June			8am BCP Holy Communion			
					11am Holy Communion	
7th July					10am Group Service	
		9am Holy Communion				
14th July	11am Holy Communion			11am Holy Communion		
				3pm Wild Church Party, Skirmett		
21st July			9am Holy	8am BCP Holy Communion		
			Communion	10am Lay-led Morning Worship	11am Village Service	
			9am, Holy Communion			
28th July	11am Holy Communion			11am Holy Communion		
		6pm Compline				
4th August		10am Group Service				



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#### WILDLIFE

Calcutta. There fortunately, I met a British Sapper Officer (Engineer) who informed me that I would have to walk 50 miles to Phusri where a temporary camp had been set up. So, I hired a bearer to carry my kit. En route we heard gibbon (monkeys) calling from the jungle, saw deer and even a leopard. After an awful experience in Calcutta (not recounted here), I felt I had arrived in paradise.

#### **Alfred Waller**



#### **Special Delivery - Baby Great Tits**





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#### WILDLIFE AND HAMBLEDEN

running up to the gate and barking loudly. Previous tenants arrived early May, laid beautiful eggs, fed chicks until they flew the post box.

Cats, squirrels and Jays need not apply.

**Maddy Field** 

#### **HAMBLEDEN**

#### Musicians are back at Hambleden Church Teas - Dates for your diary

Teas in the churchyard of St. Mary The Virgin Church in the centre of Hambleden have started again for 2024, and again this year on some Sunday afternoons we will have live music.

Sunday 21st July - **Frieth School Choir** will return to delight us by singing at Teas. Aged 5 to 11, they were a joy to see and listen to last year and everyone is thrilled they are returning again this July.

Sunday 28th July and Sunday 11th August - the extremely talented Violinists, **Adrian Shaw and his son Matthew** have agreed to return and play for us. Last year Adrian and Matthew played some wonderful music that Adrian had composed, along with other well-known pieces, so it'll be interesting to see what they play this year.

Aperfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon, and no matter what the weather decides to do Teas on these dates will still happen, they will just take place inside the church instead of in the Churchyard. Teas start at 2pm, and finish at 5pm.

So do come along to Hambleden Churchyard, support the musicians, have tea and cake, relax and listen to some music - it is great fun!

Karen Musgrave Hill



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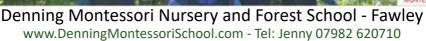
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#### FILMING DATES (14 days, no weekends)

Wed 3rd July - Wed 17th July + Tues 23rd July - Thurs 25th July

#### During filming, businesses will remain open as usual.

As there will be Traffic Management in the village during our filming hours, we ask that visitors and residents use the free, 24hr temporary car park or the "Stag & Huntsman Inn" car park for your ease. If you, or your visitors, need assisted access into the village, please speak to security - the green S points on the map below.

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#### **FRIETH**

#### **FRIETH**

#### Frieth School

It's been a great few weeks at Frieth with many of the classes taking their learning outside the school and enjoying field trips linking to the topics they are studying. It's so important to take education beyond the classroom and make learning memorable and it looks like they've had a fantastic time...

#### **Hughenden Manor**

The wet weather couldn't dampen Eagles' spirits as they explored Hughenden Manor. They discovered some beautiful walks, a secret WWII map-making bunker and learnt about the home of Victorian PM Benjamin Disraeli.



#### **Roald Dahl Museum**

Kestrels ventured out to the Roald Dahl Museum for an action-packed day of creative collaboration. They found out about how illustrators and authors work together to create stories before having a go at their own character creation and also learnt about where Roald Dahl took his inspiration from.



#### **Parmoor Park Farm**

Kites had a fantastic trip to Parmoor Park Farm, supplementing their topic on Land Use. Bella talked about the different crops they grow; they saw where the huge mountains of grain are stored; realised how enormous a combine harvester is up close and met a baby calf that was just hours old! The children loved every minute and we are so lucky that Bella gave up her time to share her knowledge and love of farming.



#### Forest School at Hill Tree Cottage

Buzzards had an amazing time joining Ms. Clio and Ms. Catherine at Forest School. They roasted marshmallows on the fire, used mallets (very carefully) to create wonderful flower/leaf prints and went on an excellent treasure hunt.

#### **FRIETH AND MEDMENHAM**



Kites' class also had a cracking Forest School Day at Miss Clio's stunning setting. The children loved exploring the woods, butterfly hunting, trying out tools, potato printing, Hapa Zome (transferring the imprint of plants onto fabric by bashing), cooking in the mud kitchen, swinging in the hammock and last but not least... roasting marshmallows over the fire!



#### Lady Ryder Memorial Garden

There is so much to see and do at Lady Ryder Memorial Garden! Half of Kites' class had such a great time. We are extremely grateful to Robert and Shuna for providing this learning opportunity.



Martin Gosling Headteacher

# MEDMENHAM Lovely Wedding Flowers



Photos Magdalena Dabrowska



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#### CHURCH AND VILLAGE ACTIVITIES AND CONTACTS

### HAMBLEDEN VALLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

**Priest-in-Charge:** The Revd. Andy Storch, 07811 430898, Revandystorch@gmail.com

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

Organist Emeritus: Christine Wells BEM, 01491 571588, c@wells.vnworks.net
Group Treasurer: Stephen Sidders,

01491 639271 stephensidders@sky.com

**Group Administrator**: Jenny Neagle, 07769 599616.

hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

**Weddings and Blessings**: Jenny Neagle, 07769 599616,

hambledenvalleyoffice@gmail.com

**Tea Club**: St. Katharine's, Parmoor, Tuesdays, 3 - 4.30pm Wendy Duerden, 01491 638297, wendy.duerden@techademic.net

Barney's Toddler Group: Frieth Village Hall,

Currently suspended

#### Hambleden Valley Garden Club:

Meetings October-March on the first Tuesday of the month, Frieth Village Hall.
Clair Honnor 07773 387195

#### Website:

www.hambleden-valley-churches.org.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, jill@sundawn.uk.com

#### FRIETH (ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST)

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

#### Village Hall Bookings:

website www.friethvillagehall.org email friethvillagehall@gmail.com

Tel 01494 880737

#### Frieth Natural History Society:

Mary 01494 881501, Andy 01494 881586, FNHS2023@gmail.com

Frieth Village Society: Caroline Walker

01494 882333

#### Frieth Cricket Club:

Ben Smiley

friethcricket@btinternet.com

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

#### HAMBLEDEN (ST MARY THE VIRGIN)

#### Churchwarden:

Jill Steward 01491 571320 jillsteward@hambleden.com

#### **Deputy Churchwarden:**

Sharon Smith 01628 487458 sharonsmith 0505@btinternet.com

**Bell Ringing**: Fri 6.45pm practice, Helen or Karen, hambledenbells@mycomputer.email

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

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 8pm Pat Eldridge,

01491 576067

Tennis Club: Heather Symons,

01491 577344, heathersymons16@hotmail.com

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

## **MEDMENHAM (ST PETER AND ST PAUL)**

#### Churchwarden:

Vacant.

Village Hall Bookings: Emma Tentori,

07759 014396

Uniformed organisations:
1st Danesfield Scouts, Cubs and

Beavers: leader Nick Currie,

enquiries@danesfieldscouts.org.uk

Medmenham News:

med men hamnews @icloud.com

#### **SKIRMETT**

Village Hall Bookings: Mandy Heller, 01491

 $638355 \ www.skirmettvillage hall.org$ 

**Tai Chi**: Friday 9.30am - 10.30am. Contact: junekingsburytaichi@gmail.com

#### **TURVILLE (ST MARY THE VIRGIN)**

#### Churchwarden:

Caroline Sants, 01491 638994 turvillechurchwardens@gmail.com

**Bell Ringing**: Wed practice, Rachel Wallace, 01494 883025 rachel@markjwallace.com

**Artists' studios:** Turville Studios open the first Sunday of every month 11am-4pm. Angela Fois turvillestudios@aol.com www.turvillestudios.co.uk

#### **TURVILLE NORTHEND**

#### Village Hall Bookings:

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

**Yoga:** Tuesdays 7pm, Andrea 07496 281341

#### **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, <a href="mailto:mpc.clerk@gmail.com">mpc.clerk@gmail.com</a>

**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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