

# THE LINK

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE  
SEVEN PARISHES IN THE SOUTH  
WARWICKSHIRE 7 BENEFICE

JUNE 2025

£1.20



■ BARCHESTON with WILLINGTON ■ BARTON-ON-THE-HEATH  
■ BURMINGTON ■ CHERINGTON with STOURTON ■ LONG COMPTON  
■ WHICHFORD and ASCOTT ■ THE WOLFORDS

# EVENTS DIARY

Contact the Editor:

[editorswlink@gmail.com](mailto:editorswlink@gmail.com)

## June Events Update (VH = Village Hall; Ch = Church)

<b>Thurs 5</b>	Farmer's Market	The Hall, Stourton	18.00
<b>Sat 7</b>	Village breakfast	Burmington VH	09:00
	Strawcraft Workshop	The Hall, Stourton	09:30
<b>Tues 10</b>	CAMEO lunch	Burmington VH	12:00
<b>Weds 11</b>	Wildlife talk: Swifts	The Hall, Stourton	19.30
	Compton History Society	Long Compton VH	19:30
<b>Sat 14</b>	Coffee Shop	The Hall, Stourton	10.30
	Social Saturday	Long Compton VH	11:00
	Open Day	House of Bread, Burmington	11:00
	Film: ' <i>Complete Unknown</i> '	Brailes Picture House	19.15
	Theatre ' <i>Into the Breach</i> '	The Hall, Stourton	19:30
<b>Sun 15</b>	Open Gardens	Whichford	13.30
<b>Tues 17</b>	Garden club visit	Moor Wood Roses, Woodmancote	10:30
<b>Weds 18</b>	Comptonians	Long Compton VH	14:30
	Feldon Valley Mil & Naval Soc	The Hall, Stourton	20.00
<b>Sat 21</b>	Churchyard Clear Up	Wolford Ch	10.00
	Summer Fete	Barton on the Heath	14:30
	Bellringing Taster	HSBC Shipston	10:00
<b>Thurs 26</b>	<b>Concert:</b> <i>The Pavilionaires</i>	The Hall, Stourton	19:00
<b>Fri 27</b>	Carers4Carers	Kineton VH	10:30
<b>Sat 28</b>	Greek Night	Burmington VH	18.30
	Summer Fete	Long Compton Recreation Ground	13:00

## Save the Date

**Sat June 21 Summer Fete Barton on the Heath**

**Sat June 28 Long Compton**

**Sat Aug 2 Cherington & Stourton Show**

# The LINK TEAM

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# EDITORIAL



Welcome to the June edition of The Link. Buckle up, it's fete season! The time of year when it is nigh on impossible to get an appointment at the dog groomers and when our drinks cabinets swell with dubious and strangely coloured concoctions acquired at tombolas. I can hardly wait!

I know that the farms and gardens need rain but if it can avoid Saturdays from mid-June until August that would be most appreciated. All the upcoming fete details can be found amongst these pages, opening, as usual with the wonderful Barton on the Heath on June 21 and continuing the following Saturday 28th in Long Compton at its new venue in the recreation ground and promising to be the best yet with live music well into the evening.

A great and affordable day out for the whole family and a wonderful feature of village life. Support your fete!

Happy reading.

**Sara Billins**



**Cover photograph:** Red Kite by Steve Lavelle [www.stevelavelle.com](http://www.stevelavelle.com)

(Apologies for forgetting to credit Emily Cook for her wonderful bee photograph in the May edition)

LINK cover and artwork produced by Kopyrite, Chipping Norton

The LINK welcomes contributions for the front cover or elsewhere. Portrait orientation and good quality photographs or artwork preferred. Please send items to [editor@swlink.org.uk](mailto:editor@swlink.org.uk)

**Please note the copy deadline for July 2025:  
June 12th**

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## Carers4Carers

Meeting at Kineton Village Hall, Friday 27th June from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon. We'd love to welcome you to our carers' group for refreshments, chat and mutual support. Come along and discover the multitude of disability aids now available. Please bring along your loved ones - they can join our Companionship Group while we meet. For further details about our group or help with transport arrangements to/from our meetings contact Gillian on 07947 893504, email to [kcarers4carers@gmail.com](mailto:kcarers4carers@gmail.com), or explore our website [www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk](http://www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk).

**Lisa Barnett – Assistant Coordinator**





SHIPSTON MEDICAL CENTRE

SHIPSTON MEDICAL CENTRE  
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

### Meeting for Shipston Medical Centre patients

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 at 7.15pm**  
Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, Shipston




*Working for the Future of our Community*

To include information and updates from..  
Shipston Medical Centre Partners and PPG  
The Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership  
Shipston Home Nursing

Any prior questions? Please contact:  
Carole Nossiter, PPG Chair [shipstonppg@gmail.com](mailto:shipstonppg@gmail.com)


*No need to book - just turn up on the night!*



## SHIPSTONLINK

...bringing Shipston and the rural community together

**Shipston Link** runs scheduled local bus services, Tuesday to Saturday, from surrounding villages into Shipston Town Square, via the Medical Centre, plus weekly shopping trips to Banbury, Moreton-in-Marsh, Chipping Norton and Stratford-upon-Avon.



Our friendly drivers can take you right to your destination; so relax and let us worry about the parking. Bus Passes are accepted on all our Services, with flat-fares for cash customers.

We also provide a very reasonably priced Private Hire service, seven days a week, using our comfortable 16-seater mini-buses.

For more information about our scheduled Services call the Travel Line on 0871 200 2233, or click [www.shipstonlink.co.uk](http://www.shipstonlink.co.uk)

# Bellringing Taster Session

Hosted by Shipston Ringers

Join us for an exciting opportunity to learn more about this amazing hobby

## Event Details

Date: Saturday 21st June 2025

Time: 10am to 2pm

Venue: Old HSBC building, Shipston High Street



## An ancient art

Bellringing is a traditional English activity that dates to the Middle Ages. Once a religious activity it is now secular and attracts people from all walks of life.



## You don't need to be strong to do it

Bellringing provides gentle exercise for the body and a workout for the brain.

## To find out more about bellringing

Email: [shipstondistrictringers@gmail.com](mailto:shipstondistrictringers@gmail.com)

Facebook: Shipston Bellringers



## Practice sessions by arrangement

Email: [shipstondistrictringers@gmail.com](mailto:shipstondistrictringers@gmail.com)



## Happy Birthday!

June 2025



Isobel Jones  
Isabella Parsons  
Alexander Banner

Barton  
Long Compton  
Willington

14  
17  
18



The next lunch, held as usual in Burmington Village Hall, will be on Tuesday 10th June at 12:00 noon for 12:30 pm. Please book with Brenda Fitch on 01608 664313

### Pet of the Month



In the absence of any June submissions here is the wonderful 8-year-old Bertie.

Bertie has been extremely poorly recently, so, I felt she deserved to feature having suffered numerous trips to the vet and the indignity of a shaved tummy. Happily, she is much better now and back to her old self, patrolling the garden perimeter, demanding table treats and doing her utmost to raid the butter dish.

Many thanks to Sam and Amy at Hook Norton vets for her prompt diagnosis and excellent care.

**Sara Billins**

# Developmental Play Classes in Oxfordshire & The Cotswolds

Nurturing Your Little Ones Growth and Development.



- Enjoy quality bonding time with your baby in a fun, supportive and friendly environment.



- Meet and connect with other new parents in your community.

- High quality teaching, activities and carefully chosen resources.



- A weekly theme designed to stimulate and engage your little one and entice their sense of curiosity.

- Our classes grow with your child and, depending on their age, classes include a mixture of: tummy time activities, baby yoga, sensory play, messy play, baby sign language, music and movement and physical development activities.



Try your first class FREE! Use Promo Code TRY25

🌐 [www.gurgleandco.com](http://www.gurgleandco.com) | @gurgleco1 | ☎ 07738223193





Even the word "dementia" can be daunting...  
but we believe it's better to get the practical advice  
and emotional support you need as a family carer

**Please visit one of our dementia friendly cafes locally**

Tuesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm

Wednesday from 2pm - 4pm

Thursday from 10.30am - 12.30pm

Friday from 10am - 12 noon

1st Tuesday of each month  
from 10.30am - 12.30pm



Shipston on Stour CV36 4QG

Wellesbourne Village Hall CV35 9NH

Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0DS

Tysoe Village Hall CV35 0SE

Compton Verney House CV35 9HZ  
(contact us for entrance tickets)



**talkdementia.uk**

Advice and support for carers of loved ones  
living with dementia in South Warwickshire

**Contact** Paul and Heather Dowler  
**Phone** 01295 688376  
**Email** [talkdementia.uk@gmail.com](mailto:talkdementia.uk@gmail.com)



## **Moreton-in-Marsh Country Market**

For everything homemade, home grown, home cooked and home crafted.  
Every Thursday, 10.00 am to 12.00 pm, WI Hall, New Road, Moreton in Marsh.  
All of the food we sell is cooked in the home, not processed in a factory, using  
locally sourced, seasonal produce and you can speak directly to the producers.

We also have some wonderful crafters with unique, creative products.

*Have you thought about getting involved with the market? We are  
always in need of new producers and volunteers to help with  
selling our lovely produce. Contact details below:*

**07933 141410 / [mimcountrymarket@gmail.com](mailto:mimcountrymarket@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook**

**A big thank you to all our customers for your continued support.**





GILES SHENTON PRODUCTIONS PROUDLY PRESENT  
THE WONDERFUL COMEDY

# INTO THE BREACH

GEORGE CROCKER  
JOINS HIS VILLAGE

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED  
BY MARK CAREY

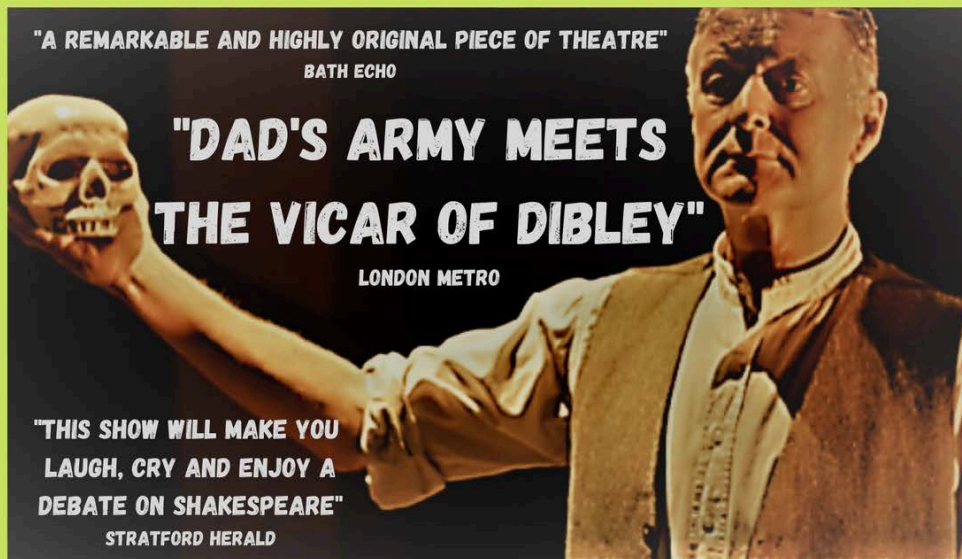
DRAMA CLUB TO LIVEN UP HIS LIFE.  
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT TURNS HIS WORLD UPSIDE DOWN.

"A REMARKABLE AND HIGHLY ORIGINAL PIECE OF THEATRE"  
BATH ECHO

"DAD'S ARMY MEETS  
THE VICAR OF DIBLEY"

LONDON METRO

"THIS SHOW WILL MAKE YOU  
LAUGH, CRY AND ENJOY A  
DEBATE ON SHAKESPEARE"  
STRATFORD HERALD



The Hall, Cherington, Stourton and Sutton

Saturday 14th June 2025, 7:30pm

Tickets £15 / £8 U16's : Tel- 07775 765572 Email - [info@thehallevnts.org.uk](mailto:info@thehallevnts.org.uk)

Online Box Office at [www.buytickets.at/gilesshentonproductions](http://www.buytickets.at/gilesshentonproductions)

# INFO LINK

editor@swlink.gmail.com

*The Post Office van is in the car park by the village shop in Long Compton from 9.30 - 11.30 am Monday and Wednesday, and from 12.30 to 2.00 pm Tuesday and Thursday.*

*Shipston 'tip' is open - to book <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recyclingshipston>.*

## **Local Catholic Church Services**

### ***Chipping Norton***

Holy Trinity, London Road. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 11.00 am Tel: 01608 642703

### ***Stow-on-the-Wold***

Our Lady and St. Kenelm, 5 Back Walls. Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 9.15 am Tel: 01608 674354

### ***Shipston and Brailes***

Shipston, Our Lady and St. Michael, Darlingscote Road. Sunday 9.15 am.

Brailes, SS Peter and Paul, Friars Lane. Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm (for Shipston and Brailes Tel: 01608 685259)

### ***Chipping Campden***

St Catharine's Lower High St. Sunday masses: – Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm. Sunday 10.30 am Tel: 01386 84026

## **Local Quaker Meetings**

Local Quaker Meetings for worship:

Broad Campden, Quaker Meeting House, GL556US - Sundays at 10.30 am.

Ettington, Quaker Meeting Hse, Old Halford Rd, CV377TH -Sundays at 11.00 am.

Sibford, Quaker Meeting House, Sibford Gower, OX155RX - Sundays at 10.30 am.

Shipston on Stour, in St Edmund's Church - last Thursdays (not Dec) at 2.30 pm

## **Local Congregational Services**

Services at the Ebenezer Chapel, Long Compton bi-monthly Sunday at 3.30 pm.

Chair Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778 Sec/Treasurer Sally Franklin

# PARISH PEOPLE

## Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

	<b><i>Barcheston St Martin</i></b>	<b><i>Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence</i></b>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	David Hodges 07767840857	Walter Sawyer 684755
<b>Secretary</b>	Alice and Tom Murray 238755	Penny Mead 674595
<b>Treasurer</b>	David Cleave 666002	Kay Sonneborn
	<b><i>Burmington St Barnabas &amp; St Nicholas</i></b>	<b><i>Cherington St John the Baptist</i></b>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Michael Macdonald 662483	Roger Maycock 686404
<b>Secretary</b>	Graham French 239032	Paul Levitch 686353
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Boulter and Mary Scott ( joint treasurer) 07968 450331	Sherry Gasson-Barker 686420
	<b><i>Long Compton St Peter and St Paul</i></b>	<b><i>Whichford St Michael</i></b>
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Jill Kirby 684923	Sophia Corlett 684369
<b>Secretary</b>	Zoë Wrigley 650404	Mandy James 684479
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Nye 684363	Jenny Scrivener
	<b><i>Wolford St Michael and All Angels</i></b>	
<b>Churchwarden</b>	John Wrench 674389	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ann McKenna 674009	

## Parish Council

<b>Parish</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Clerk</b>
Barcheston	David Sutton	Lindsey Walker (663567)
Barton-on-the-Heath	James Coker (674601)	Julia Hicks
Burmington	Robert Hutchings (661496)	
Cherington	Philip Townsend (686529)	Sara Cole (686250)
Long Compton	Simon Bing (684827)	Sam Weller (684897)
Whichford	Ed Law	Nicky Aldenton
The Wolfords	Pippa Lines (01608 674035)	Elizabeth Gilkes (684336)

# CHURCH NOTES

## Do you know what SW7 is?

It stands for South Warwickshire Seven and is the name for our group of churches, sometimes called a Benefice. Our goal is to give everyone the opportunity to get to know the God who made us and who loves us through his son Jesus.

In our Benefice we have opportunities outside our beautiful church buildings as well as inside.

The logo for 'Giggle Tots' features the word 'Giggle' in a multi-colored, rounded font (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) and 'Tots' in a solid blue, rounded font.

Baby and Toddler Group

At Wolford Village Hall

Thursday Mornings 10-11:30am

Come and join us for fun, friendship and playtime.

For all care givers with children 0-4

*(Term time only)*

more information Kim Petty 07949949215

Organised by South Warwickshire Seven Churches

serving our communities

We have a free Toddler Group for all caregivers held in Wolford Village Hall on a Thursday morning 10:00-11:30am.

We have Connect, a family style café meeting at Long Compton Village Hall every second Sunday of the month 3:00-4:00pm.

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 4.00pm, we have an informal family service

called GAP (God and People) followed by drinks and pizza or hot dogs.

On the 4th Sunday of the month in Long Compton church at 10:30am there is a service with a children's group.

See your churches notice board for the many varied services and celebrations that are on across SW7.

If you would like to know more, we would love to hear from you, contact Kim Petty, (family outreach worker) 07949949215 [kimpetty@btinternet.com](mailto:kimpetty@btinternet.com)

**Kim Petty**

**SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE CHURCHES – SW 7 - Seven Parishes ~ One Church**

June 2025 CHURCH SERVICES						
SW 7 Sunday Worship	St Martin Barcheston	St Lawrence Barton	St Barnabas & St Nicholas Burmington	St John the Baptist Cherington	St Peter & St Paul Long Compton	St Michael Whitchford
1 <sup>st</sup> June 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)				4pm GAP Informal (BD)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD)
8 <sup>th</sup> June Pentecost					3pm Connect At the Village Hall (KP)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (CLW/AW)
15 <sup>th</sup> June Trinity Sunday Father's Day				10:30 BCP Morning Prayer (Rst/LM)	4pm GAP Informal (MH/DC)	
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity					10:30am CW Holy Communion (AD)	
29 <sup>th</sup> June 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity		9am BCP Morning Prayer (TBC)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (AW/CLW)			

**South Warwickshire Benefice**

Reverend Ben Dyson      Tel: 01608 628229   email: vicarsw7@gmail.com (off duty Friday)  
Benefice Administrator: Liz Clarke    Tel: 07425868855   email: officesw7@gmail.com  
www.southwarwickshirechurches.co.uk      facebook.com/sw7churches

LM = Liz Maycock/AW = Anthony Wells/CLW = Clare Wells/Rst = Richard Stevens/ KP = Kim Petty/ /MH = Matthew Harcourt/Daniel Corlett/AD = Andrew Dow  
BCP = Prayer Book/CW = Common Worship/GAP = Informal Service



Time for another Farming Notes. It's the 2nd of May, a lovely sunny day and a bit cooler. Yesterday broke all records for temperature in the UK for the first day of May. I went round the farm today and I was, on the whole, pleased with what I found. On the 23rd of April, Dan measured 18mm of rain. Prior to that, from the 23rd of February till then, our grand total was 8mm. That 18mm was a godsend, it took whatever fertiliser Dan had put on the crops down into the soil, so growing plants could start to make use of it. This year, unlike the last two, was much drier and spring sowing was done into much better seed beds, and earlier. All came up really well and seemed to be doing well till early April when cold frosts and cold winds held it back, and then no rain to speak of put it under some stress. All this had started to show till the nice rain of the 23rd. It was like a blood transfusion, everything looked better overnight. Mind you, looking at the long-range forecast for the next 14 days, there appears to be little more, if any to come.

As I've written before, if a crop is well rooted it can stand whatever the climate throws at it a lot better. In the last couple of days, Dan started topping off the clover crops we planted in our Mid-Tier, and later, Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) schemes. I took a photo on my phone, and it shows a wonderful cover of black grass amongst the clover. Blackgrass is now our worst enemy to crop production. One plant can, I'm told, produce 30,000 -40,000 viable seeds. Not all will turn into a plant but now a lot of the chemicals we use to control it are gone or the blackgrass has become resistant. I see it as a real blow, the present government stopping SFI overnight. The scheme we have taken advantage of ever since it came out, was a way to rest ground and add natural nitrogen to the soil. It needed no artificial fertiliser and must have provided pollen nectar, cover for all ground-nesting birds, and is looked pleasing to the eye. It must have had a carbon footprint of close to zero.

Normally when a scheme comes to an end, they have always in the past come up with a better idea. Of all the schemes, we have taken part in, going back over 20 years, I think the so-called '2-year legume fallow' had the most going for it. It may be of interest in the future if it all goes to plan. The little field first, the first one up the farm track, has been drilled with mustard. Our plan, or Dan's plan was to plant it, let it go to seed and I'll combine it. Our idea being, that all the wild bird plots we plant contain mustard, plus a lot more different seeds, and if we can grow our own, we can cut costs a bit and also use it as a green cover crop in the future.

Back in a time long gone by, in days of straw burning, we used to burn a winter barley stubble around the middle of July. I would fill our little Vicon Vari spreader with a mixture of nitrogen fertiliser at 1 cwt per acre and 8 pounds of mustard seed and broadcast it on the burnt stubble. I would put a set of disc harrows over it and usually in 4-5 days it would all come up. We would leave it to just start to flower, and I'd plough it all in and grow a very successful crop of wheat on the field. I can't find them at the moment, but I have some photos of our old - well - new, then, county 4 wheel-drive, and 4 furrow plough burying mustard 4-foot high, and the soil a mass of roots. Now, the idea is to direct drill into the cover crop after it's been sprayed off.



I'm pleased to say all the plots of overwintered cereals; the photo shown in the last link of it being drilled, are all showing a full drill. Barring a natural disaster, it should provide the birds with plenty to fill their hungry crops next winter. Dan has drilled most of the wild bird strips with a mix of barley, wheat, mustard, sorghum, buckwheat and fodder radish. The idea being different birds like different things to eat. If all the things do what they are supposed to do, none will go hungry next winter.

**John 'Tufty' Richardson**

# GARDENING NOTES

Editors: Margaret Welsh  
and Miranda Arnold

May has certainly been a month with abundant blossom, with hawthorn in the hedgerows and cherry and apple blossom in orchards and gardens. The very warm spring weather has brought many plants into flower early. The once -and -only flowering roses are blooming and as I write in mid-May the shrub roses are also coming into flower. Peonies have also come out. In June more will follow, including philadelphus and honeysuckle and I think that gardens look particularly beautiful during this month.

Prune the early flowering shrubs such as philadelphus, deutzia and weigela after the the blooms have faded. They flower on the previous years wood so keep most of the older wood but to encourage new growth remove one third of the older stems to the base and then shape as required. Feed with fertiliser after pruning eg with blood, fish and bone and then mulch.

Soft wood cuttings can be taken from some of the new growth which has started to harden but is still pliable. Sand trays of damp horticultural sand can be used for cuttings of plants such as salvias, lavenders. penstemons and dianthus. Remove the lower leaves and any flowers or buds and cut just below a node. Plunge two thirds of the stem into the sand and place them in a warm place but out of the direct sun.



Keep feeding and tying in sweet peas and once they are flowering cut them regularly to maintain the flower production. After perennials such as lupins and delphiniums have finished flowering cut back the stems and some foliage and they will produce new leaves and may flower again. Also keep dead heading roses and other flowering plants to encourage new

blooms. Trim back spent aubretia flowers to keep the plant compact.

Bearded irises can be divided in late June a few weeks after they have finished flowering. Dig them up and keep the younger rhizomes to replace the older growth. When replanting, trim the leaves to about three inches to prevent wind rock and leave the rhizome surfaces above soil level so that they are exposed to the sun. Divide about every three years.

In the vegetable garden keep sowing lettuce and other salad leaves. It is safe weather wise to plant out all crops after they have been hardened off (initially brought in at night).

Continue to earth up potatoes and water well. Some early varieties may be ready to harvest by the end of the month. Brassicas can be sown ready for autumn and

winter. Regular watering will no doubt be necessary paying particular attention to lettuce and spinach which tend to bolt if too dry. Peas and beans also need plenty of water for their pods to develop.

Tomatoes should be fed regularly with liquid tomato food



high in potassium so that the fruit develops and side shoots should be removed.

Feed container grown flowering plants to keep them flowering and dead head regularly. If it continues to be hot and sunny green houses will need to be ventilated and may need shading put up.

Although lawns will need to be cut, it is a good idea to raise the blade in a drought as this encourages the grass roots to grow deeper.

As ever, gardeners will no doubt be watching the weather and acting accordingly.

**Margaret Welsh**



## Long Compton and District Garden Club

Our final speaker meeting of the season was held in April when Colin Rogers, Head Gardener at Adwell House, near Thame, Oxfordshire gave us an overview



of "*A Year in the Gardens at Adwell House.*" He explained that the aim was to have something of interest all through the year starting with bulbs early in the year with a succession of snowdrops, daffodils and tulips. There are trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants and he has a special interest in Salvia of which he grows many, providing colour and interest later in the season.

He explained about an interesting method of propagating plants by using a hydropod. This consists of a box, into which you insert

### **Salvia 'Royal Bumble'**

the cuttings in the top and sprays of water underneath ensure a quick method of rooting the cuttings. The results looked impressive.

Staff wise there are just one and a half, plus a few volunteers which is basically not enough for the size of the garden.

Lots of events are held there, car rallies and weddings, plus quite a lot of filming is carried out, all of which is interesting and brings in a good income but takes away from work in the garden and is generally somewhat disruptive. The garden also hosts a Rare Plant Fair in September.

The garden club now has various garden visits to look forward to during the summer months with the next speaker meeting being held on Wednesday 22 October when we hold the AGM followed by a talk by Avril Hughes on "*Salvias and late summer colour*", this will be part slides and a practical propagation demonstration.

**Celia Sawyer**





## **LONG COMPTON & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB**

### **Do you love roses?**



Our next visit offers the opportunity to see the National Collection of rambler roses. When we visit, they will be at their flowering peak. We will be able to appreciate their colour and scent in an orchard setting with accompanying wildflowers.

**Moor Wood Roses, Woodmancote, nr. Cirencester GL7 7EB**

**Tuesday 17th June, 10:30am**

**£35.00 per person which includes a tour by the owner and delicious two course lunch**

**[www.moorwoodroses.co.uk](http://www.moorwoodroses.co.uk)**

Garden Club members will receive more details soon. If you are not a member and would like to join us for this visit, contact [secretarylcgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:secretarylcgardenclub@gmail.com)

Dates for your diary further details to follow –

**July 17th** Dean Manor [www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/dean-manor](http://www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/dean-manor)

**August 13th** Bourton House [www.bourtonhouse.com](http://www.bourtonhouse.com)

**September 8th** Chivel Farm [www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/chivel-farm](http://www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/chivel-farm)

**Contact Walter Sawyer [secretarylcgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:secretarylcgardenclub@gmail.com)**

Firstly, because I know everybody's been holding their breath, the good news is that Wilfred the cuckoo did make it back to the UK. He hit our shores on April 22nd and incredibly he's in exactly the same place where he was ringed and tagged last year. A reserve in Suffolk. Even more incredible is that he will only hang around long enough to find a mate and feed up. By the end of June his restless spirit will find him heading south again, a true 'rolling stone' of the avian world. The offspring that he will never meet will leave a few weeks later in July and August which begs the question, how do they know which way to go? Science suggests an inbuilt sat nav that relies on the earth's magnetic field, the night skies and genetic pre-programming to determine distance and direction. Just ponder that for a minute the next time you get lost in the car!

It can't have escaped anybody's notice that this spring has been phenomenal for blossom. The hedgerows have, at times, looked like they were blanketed with snow. Fruit trees have been smothered in flowers and wisterias positively dripping with blooms. Climate change is the main culprit with some plants now flowering up to a month early. Last year I wrote that May blossom might soon be renamed April blossom, and so it was this spring with hawthorns starting to flower in mid-April. Aside from being a visual treat this is good news for our insects. The early availability of pollen and nectar along with a lack of late frosts will set them up nicely for a bumper year, which of course benefits anything that feeds on them. It's all a far cry from last year's wet, cold and miserable spring. Of course, Yin and Yang comes into play and the price is a mini drought with no rain forecast for the next two weeks at least. Which means, come June, civil war might be breaking out at the allotments as we all vie for the limited water supply!

With all this blossom and the lack of frosts I'm wondering if 2025 will prove to be a '*masť*' year. When trees such as beech, oak and chestnut produce absolutely vast amounts of seed. Science is still a bit hazy on why this happens, but spring weather clearly plays a part as more flowers than usual are pollinated. Let us see what happens!

I've recently taken on the renovation of a Victorian water garden complete with a 12ft waterfall and a fabulous grotto, all created many years ago using probably 50 tonnes of local stone. My first task was to strip out and rebuild the waterfall because much of the stone has now laminated and needs replacing, and while doing this I chanced upon a creature I haven't seen for over 40 years. To all

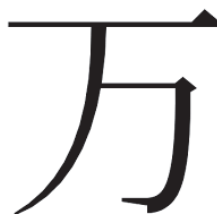


intents and purposes a miniature snake, exquisitely marked in subtle brown with a long black stripe down the length of its spine. A slowworm. In fact, there were two slow worms that I carefully relocated nearby away from the prying eyes of potential predators. Slow worms are in fact legless lizards and live out their gentle lives in cool dappled shady areas just like the water garden I'm working on. A bit of research suggests they aren't uncommon in Warwickshire, but our area hasn't had any records since 2000. They like the warmth of a good compost heap and gardens are vital for their conservation. If anybody has seen one locally, I would love to know!

**David Sewell**

## 10,00 steps a day

We appear to be enjoying the most astonishing spell of good weather so that the usual references to mud and threatening skies have not been appropriate for some time and our thoughts must instead turn to the plight of farmers and possible impending restrictions on the use of waters for gardens.



A trip abroad meant Imogen and I missed April's walk around Broad Campden under sunny skies, passing the River Cam (still flowing well) and fields heavily populated with newborn lambs before lunching at the Baker's Arms. Fortunately, we will be present for May's outing to Snowhill.

Our absence was explained by a 2 weeks trip to several Northern Italian cities where, at the end of each tiring day, we collapsed onto the bed with two questions prominent – was city walking so much harder on the knees than Cotswold paths and second by how much had we exceeded our 10,000 steps?

A quick google search confirmed the former, with concrete being the least forgiving surface especially for those with even minor pre-existing knee problems, and cobbles posing additional dangers.

The 10,000 steps Google search proved illuminating. The idea has, I learned, its origins in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics when a step counter company launched the campaign using the Japanese character for 10,000 (pictured above) which resembles a person walking. Since then, countless scientific studies have researched the health benefits of following the programme.

Those benefits include reduced risks of cancer, heart and circulatory diseases as well as lowering the risk of dementia. 10,000 steps, or around 5 miles with an average stride, is perhaps too much for many of us to repeat every day but studies show that risks of heart and circulatory disease reduce markedly with lower figures. For those over 60 years old (and I should be careful not to guess the average readership age) the biggest improvements in health are amongst those regularly "managing" 6-10,000 steps each day.

So do join the local group for your health, good company and hopefully continued good weather.

**Stuart Brown** [scbqc1@gmail.co](mailto:scbqc1@gmail.co)

# SCHOOL NOTES

## News from Acorns

### Developments across the school:

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL): children from Classes 1 to 3 are thoroughly enjoying having a range of spaces to play in, with the orchard being an ever-popular choice. We have also had our Grounds Development planning meeting with our OPAL mentor, and we are full of ideas for further developments in the coming months. Our wonderful PTA chairs have offered their time to support with scrubbing the running track in the orchard, which is now looking sparkly clean!

Thrive Room: developments inside the school are also underway to create a welcoming nurture space for groups of children and individuals to use throughout the school day. Again, we have an excellent group of PTA members and volunteers who have given their time and resources to the school to support with these developments and are very excited about this new space. We look forward to sharing photos of our Thrive Room in the near future.

### News from across the classes



Since returning to school after Easter, children in Little Acorns, have started their new topic, *Sunshine and Sunflowers*, with their usual gusto! They have begun by exploring seasonal change and thinking about all the lovely activities they enjoy doing outside in the nicer weather. The children have been enjoying the sunnier

weather in our garden, looking for signs of spring and finding out more about the plants and animals that live there. They have identified and named different parts of a plant, and the children have created careful observational artwork of plants and flowers using watercolours, pastels and pencils. To conclude Class 1's Spring topic *Bright Lights, Big City*, there was an exciting trip to Warwick where children and staff enjoyed a tour around the town to learn all about The Great Fire of Warwick. It was a beautiful, sunny day and Class 1 pupils were absolutely fantastic at showing respect to our guides and the public, listening to the





information, filling in their task sheets and doing lots of walking! The tour began at Market Hall Museum where the guide helped with a magical jump back in time to 1694 and the adventure began! The walking tour took children to 5 buildings around Warwick which had been affected by the fire, where they learnt about the property owners, their jobs and how much money they were trying to claim for fire damage.

Class 2 children have also been out and about, visiting the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford to launch into their exciting new topic, *Invasion*, which will explore the lives of the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons. The day began with a fun and educational treasure hunt around the museum, followed by a fascinating workshop led by a



museum curator. Pupils enjoyed handling real artefacts, creating Anglo-Saxon-style brooches, and researching historical information to deepen their understanding.

In DT, Class 3 pupils donned their aprons and got cooking for a *Sow, Grow and Farm* end of topic treat! The children worked incredibly hard to prepare a delicious homemade soup, using a variety of seasonal ingredients and showcasing their cooking skills. From safely chopping vegetables to carefully simmering the soup, everyone played their part. The result was a scrumptious soup! The children were lucky enough to have a special visitor who shared their expert knowledge on mushrooms. The children were fascinated and asked brilliant questions as they learned about different types of fungi and how they grow.

**Vacancies:** We are still recruiting for a play leader, so please do encourage any suitable applicants you may know to pop into school for a visit and informal chat about this role, to see if it is something they may like to apply for (link below to DfE vacancies).

We also still have a vacancy for one Community Governor to help set the direction and ethos of our school and be a valuable part in the future success of Acorns Primary. If you know anybody who might be interested, please ask them to come and talk to me (Mrs. Young) or to contact Gary Stokes, our Local Academy Council Chair via the school email address [admin2639@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2639@welearn365.com). To ensure that the Local Academy Council is properly balanced, these positions cannot be filled by any of our current parents as all our Parent Governor positions are full.

<https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/organisations/acorns-primary-school-shipston-on-stour>

## News from Brailes School

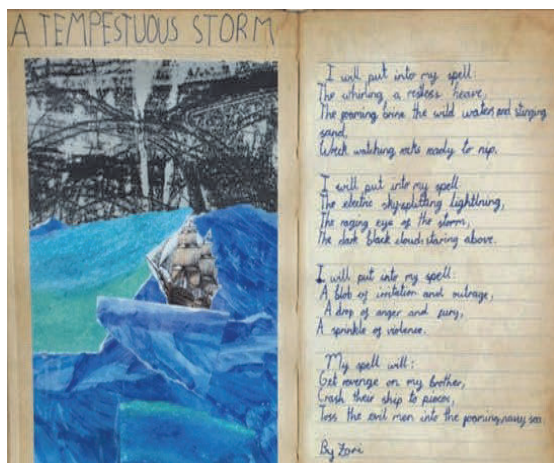
### Shakespeare Special

As part of Brailes School's Reading through the curriculum week, the whole school has been immersed in Shakespeare. Learning began with a magical assembly led by Mrs Smith and Year 6 who introduced the play *'The Tempest'*. The aims of these learning experiences, which were brilliantly accomplished, were to:

To promote a lifelong love of reading and books.

To give children an enriching and enjoyable early encounter with Shakespeare which promotes oracy.

To provide exciting and engaging English lessons in which children produce work they are proud of.



We have all thoroughly enjoyed exploring Shakespeare's play *'The Tempest'*. We have read and performed extracts from the script, dressed up and designed our own costumes for different characters, written poetry, taken part in workshops led by Play Box Theatre, found out about the different characters, written magical spells, sent messages in a bottle from the mysterious island and much more.

Owls Class also enjoyed a jam-packed trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon to join in with the national Shakespeare Week celebrations. We took part in a costume making workshop with Shakespeare Birthplace Trust before heading over to Holy Trinity Church to see the Elizabethan church register which included the baptism and death register for William Shakespeare and several members of his family. We then had a wonderful picnic lunch in Shakespeare's New Place before participating in a music workshop at the Guild Chapel. Finally, we paid a flying visit to *'The Play's the Thing'* exhibition at the RSC Theatre before catching the coach back to school.



The children across the school have produced fantastic work in response to these creative opportunities. We would like to thank Brailes Drama Society and Shakespeare Birthplace Trust for generously supporting these activities and enabling us to offer them to all pupils free of charge.

**Heather Childs**

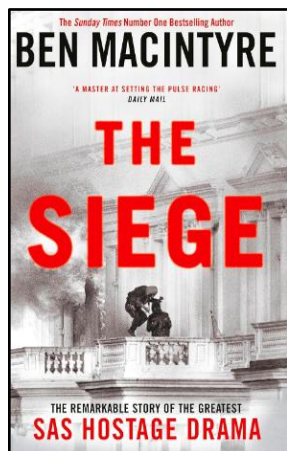
## VILLAGE NEWS

### Barton-on-the-Heath

Editor: Cathryn Aitken



### Book Club



We much enjoyed meeting to talk about 'The Siege' by Ben Macintyre.

This is the account of the hostage drama which unfolded over six long days in the Iranian Embassy near Hyde Park in 1980.

As the author says in the book's preface, '*No one knows how they will respond to lethal jeopardy until they have to.*'

Ben Macintyre's meticulous research provides detailed backgrounds of all hostages, terrorists and the heroic efforts of all involved in such a way that the reader is swept along. It made for a great discussion.

**Gillian Cathie**

Barton-on-the-Heath

Village

# FETE

Saturday 21st June

2.30-6pm

on the village green

LIVE  
**Jazz**

FREE  
ENTRY  
&  
PARKING

Barton Village  
**PRODUCE**

TEA & CAKE  
AUCTION

stonebaked  
**pizza**

**BAR**

book stall

PRE-LOVED  
DESIGNER CLOTHES

Childrens'  
toys  
& games

Brocante

RAFFLE

TOMBOLA



@bartonontheheath

## Campden Home Nursing

After last year's fete, the fete committee donated some unsold items to Campden Home Nursing Charity Shop who have kindly written thanking the village saying: "*Your contributed items have raised a total of £388.78 (after deducting commission and VAT). This enables us to claim an additional £ 97.19 in Gift Aid for the tax year ending 5 April 2025.*" A great result!

## VE Day

Thank you to all who organised, contributed and came to the 80th anniversary celebration of VE day on 5th May.

Bunting, gingham and flowers decorated the Coach House, whilst music of the era played and picnics were eaten. It was a wonderful event and only a tiny bit of SPAM in sight!

## Village Green

There was once a scheme to beautify the village green by planting trees. The photos were taken by Frank Packer who set up as photographer in Chipping Norton in Edward VII's reign (1901-1910). There are several of the green taken between 1910 and 1930.

This one shows the trees on the green in winter. Of the trees, only one survives today.



Oxfordshire History Centre POX0179719

Christopher Fan



# VILLAGE NEWS

## Burmington

Editor: Graham French



The House of Bread

# Open Day

**Saturday 14 June**  
**11am - 5pm**  
**All welcome**

- Cream teas
- Book sale
- Plant sale
- Art exhibition
- Guided tours
- Craft sales

Lots to see - relax in the gardens and grounds or take a riverside walk.



The House of Bread • The Mill  
Burmington  
Shipston-on-Stour  
Warwickshire CV36 5AF  
[thehouseofbread.org](http://thehouseofbread.org)  
t: 01608 663952  
e: [contact@thehouseofbread.org](mailto:contact@thehouseofbread.org)



A Christian retreat centre in the heart of England

## St George's Day and VE Day Celebrations

CAMEO members celebrated St George's Day (23 April) in style with a special tea party.



Colin Beckett (pictured, seated) recounted the history of our patron saint born in Turkey in AD27. He became a high-ranking officer in the Roman army and was martyred in Israel in AD303 for refusing to renounce his Christian faith and bow to pagan idols. In 1415 he was officially adopted as England's patron saint by declaration of King Henry III.

Colin told those of us who think that Saint George was a somewhat mythical character, that his dragon slaying exploits were an imaginative addition only emerging some 500 years after he died, and that many other countries have also adopted this Christian martyr as their patron saint.



John Boulter (pictured) performed with gusto Shakespeare's memorable lines from Henry V of the king's inspiring address to his gathered knights on the eve of the Battle of Agincourt, which include: *"We few, we happy band of brothers.... And gentlemen in England now a-bed shall think themselves accurs'd they were not here."*

Joyce Lackey, just to prove that CAMEO's senior members are all masters of IT, recited a lengthy poem produced entirely by AI (Artificial Intelligence for younger readers). The poem described Good Queen Bess' impact on our deadly smoking habits after an initiation by Walter Raleigh who first brought tobacco to the UK. By way of explanation for IT illiterates, only the following five simple text instructions were entered into the family's basic AI App: Queen Bess; Walter Raleigh; tobacco; funny; rhyming. The PC's output was a 12-verse stanza, one typical verse of which read:

*"Thus ends this tale, as history notes,  
Of how Queen Bess despised the smokes.  
And Raleigh's fate? Well, that's the drag.  
A headless man can't smoke a pipe or fag!"*

**Dennis Cummings**

## **Celebrations of VE Day**



CAMEO marked the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day with a special lunch in Burmington Village Hall on 13th May. Guest speaker was Sue Roe (pictured), the daughter of the valiant RAF pilot, Flight Lieutenant Charles Dallas, whose remarkable exploits throughout the six years of WWII were described in the May Link.

She gave a vivid, extremely moving, accomplished and detailed account of her father's four brushes with death as a wartime pilot on Hurricane and Wellington aircraft,

the subject of her book to be published shortly: crashing his Hurricane fighter in Libya and surviving a three day trek across the desert; being shot down by a German Ju88 off Tunis and surviving a three hour swim in the Mediterranean before being rescued by an Italian vessel; surviving years of captivity and supporting perilous escape bids in an infamous German POW camp, Stalag Luft III; finally, surviving the 1,000-mile forced 'Long March' in lethal temperatures down to minus 20 degrees as his captors fled the Soviet advance. ....

In response to her invitation to ask questions, several CAMEO members themselves offered equally moving accounts of the bravery displayed by their relatives in their WWII service.

Members afterwards declared this to be one of the most successful lunch meetings in the Club's 18-year history.

**Dennis Cummings**

## VILLAGE BREAKFAST at BURMINGTON VILLAGE HALL



**Saturday 7th June 9:00am – 11:00am**

To book please call / text Robyn 07966 849 149  
Book early to avoid disappointment  
Special dietary requirements catered for.  
Please state when booking.



### **Burmington Greek Night**

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**6:30pm**

#### **Mezze**

Tzatziki, Keftedes, Kolokithokeftedes

Garlic & cucumber dip, Meatballs and Courgette and Feta Fritters

#### **Mains**

Lamb Kleftiko

Slow cooked lamb with lemon and herbs

Sort of Chicken Souvlakia

Chicken in a yoghurt and herb marinade

Spanakopita

Spinach and feta pie with crispy filo pastry

Horatiki

Greek salad

#### **Pudding**

Baklava, Fruit and Honey Labneh

Sumptuous nut pastry, roasted fruit and thick sweet honey yoghurt

£15 per adult £7.50 for children

Please book on 01608661418



# Bingo Night

**31** **15** **60** **77** **40** **8**

**£10 / 6 Games + Flyer**

**Raffle £1 Ticket**

**B.Y.O.B**

**29**

**Sat July 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 for 7pm**  
**Burmington Village Hall**

**Teas, Coffee + Juice for sale**

Limited spaces, reservation line: 07966 849149

## VILLAGE NEWS

### Cherington with Stourton

Editor: Christine Dudfield



### Coffee Shop

Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>

10:30am-12 noon

The Hall, Stourton

CV36 5HG

Bacon baps, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cakes

Come along and have a cuppa in our lovely hall, meet new friends or catch up with old ones.

There will be a Bring and Buy stall in aid of the village playing field funds

We are always looking for people to help out, so if you want to get involved, please contact me on 07866 127409.

**Christine Dudfield**



## Brailles Picturehouse

Doors open 7.15pm for 7.45pm Start

### **Saturday 14th June - A Complete Unknown**

1961 is a key moment in modern musical history when 19-year-old Bob Dylan hitchhiked to New York with his acoustic guitar to meet his idol, Wood Guthrie. Dylan performs a song he wrote for Guthrie and Pete Seeger impressing the two folk musicians. Pete introduces him at an open mic night attended by several influential people in the industry.....

June is Festival time, so we invite you to bring a picnic

July and August Holiday time

Have a lovely Summer and see you in September

**Deirdre and Team**

## Village Lottery Draw

1st Peter Kenealy £80 2nd Jo and Doris Lewis £45 3rd Chris Owen £30

Congratulations to our winners and thank you for your continued support.

**Averell Kingston** aap.kingston@gmail.com 07984 003675



## **Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Feel Good Friday Social Afternoons**

Social Afternoon dates for your diary are Fridays 13th and 27th June 2:00pm to 4:00pm at The Hall.

**Save the Date** for the Summer Family Prize Bingo, Saturday 9th August at The Hall.



Doors open at 7:00pm, eyes down at 7:30pm. Please bring your children and grandchildren We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information, please contact me on 01608 663320.

**Vanessa Compton**



Feldons Wildlife Group invite you to an illustrated talk on how  
***'Swifts are Making a Comeback'***

Jacey Jackson, lifelong enthusiast and founder of Shipston Action for Swifts  
 will be sharing her passion for these birds

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June @Cherington Village Hall

Doors open at 7:30pm with talk beginning at 8pm

Refreshments will be available and donations towards  
 the cost of the talk would be much appreciated

For further information please contact Sue Williams 01608 686414



Tony Wells

## The Hall, Cherington, Stourton and Sutton-under-Brailes

**Be sure Saturday 14th June is in your diary and tickets for "*Into The Breach*" are in your pocket!**

The Hall will again be transformed into ***The Hall Pop-up Theatre***, with the Lobby Bar open at 6:30pm for sociable pre-show drinks, coffees, popcorn, ice-creams and more.

Doors open at 7:00pm, show starts 7:30pm.

Tickets £15 / £8 u-16's

The brilliant comedy play, "*Into The Breach*" is written and performed (all 17 parts!) by Mark Carey. Set during WW2, we watch on as George Crocker join his village Drama Club to liven up his otherwise dull life..... what happens turns his world upside down!

Please join us for a fantastic night of entertainment, which also raises funds for your Hall.

Get your tickets now, direct from The Hall at [info@thehallevnts.org.uk](mailto:info@thehallevnts.org.uk) / 07775 765572 or from the online Box Office at:  
<https://buytickets.at/gilesshentonproductions>

### **The Hall Dates for your diary:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> June:** Farmer's Market, 6:00-8:00pm  
**7<sup>th</sup> June:** Traditional Strawcraft Workshop, 9:30am-12:30pm  
**14<sup>th</sup> June:** Coffee Shop, 10:30-12noon  
**14<sup>th</sup> June:** "Into The Breach" theatre night, doors 6:30pm, show 7:30pm  
**18<sup>th</sup> June:** Feldon Valley Military and Naval History Society Talk  
**26<sup>th</sup> June:** *The Pavilionaires* - a Shipston Proms concert. Bar open from 7:00pm, concert at 7:30pm. Tickets £5.00 on the door.  
**29<sup>th</sup> June:** Broughton Castle Sportive charity bike ride, The Hall is one of the stop-off points. For information:  
<https://broughtoncastlesportive.co.uk/>  
**3<sup>rd</sup> July:** Farmer's Market, 6:00-8:00pm  
**11<sup>th</sup> July:** Flooding and sewage meeting, Manuela Perteghella MP, 9:30am  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Aug:** Cherington and Stourton Show  
**9<sup>th</sup> Aug:** Family Prize Bingo, Bar from 7:00pm  
**16<sup>th</sup> Aug:** "*Three Men In A Boat*", The Hall Pop-up Theatre with GSP – Outdoor Performance (weather permitting)  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Nov:** The Cantamus Choir Concert, 2:00pm  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Nov:** "*Dead On Cue*", The Hall Pop-up Theatre with GSP  
**29<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Christmas Family Prize Bingo, Bar from 7:00pm

Events Team: we want to provide a varied and busy calendar of events at The Hall, for the benefit and enjoyment of all of us! If anyone is interested in helping out with anything, from inputting ideas, organising a fundraiser, delivering fliers, manning the refreshments, or anything else, do get in touch (no expectation to commit!!).

Contact Erry, Hall Bookings Manager: [info@thehallevnts.org.uk](mailto:info@thehallevnts.org.uk) / 07775 765572

# ***Feldon Valley Military and Naval History Society***

the next meeting will be at  
The Hall, Pinfold Lane Stourton,  
CV36 5HG

on Wednesday, **18 June 2025**  
at **8.00 pm** for a talk by  
Simon Marsh of the Battlefields Trust on

## **The Battle of Edgehill, 1642**

This was the first major field action between  
the Royalist and the Parliamentarian forces  
in the First Civil War

*contact: Peter Stoddart*

*at:*

*[petercstoddart@gmail.com](mailto:petercstoddart@gmail.com)*

# VILLAGE NEWS

LONG COMPTON

Email: [editor@swlink.gmail.com](mailto:editor@swlink.gmail.com)



Our VE day-themed Social Saturday was well attended and people came in to be served our legendary selection of homemade savouries and cakes. We had some cakes made to original 1940s recipes too. All the refreshments were served by a land girl army and all our wonderful helpers dressed in red, white and blue (well almost all!). There was a fascinating talk by the First Responders in our community and some excellent questions and answers.



The Village Hall AGM was short and sad for us on the committee. Mo Read stood down as Chairperson after 12 years of running the Hall. Alison Haine stood down as Health and Safety and Maintenance Officer. Mo and Alison have been the cornerstones of our committee and of our community. They

have contributed so much and will be very much missed. Our new Chairperson is Billy Corbyn, whose expertise in AI at Google, will lead us into a new era as we celebrate our 70th anniversary of the creation of our Village Hall. If anyone is interested in helping us with our charitable work, and especially our events, then please contact us via email on [lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk). Thank you so much to all the people who have offered their assistance already. We can always do with more help!

Keep a look out for the Shipston Town Band event and Race Night coming in the summer. In July, we are holding a 1980s Disco Night; for those of us who remember that era or those who just enjoy the music; so, dust off those leg warmers and join us for, what promises to be, a fun evening.



Our Fact or Fake Quiz Night is being postponed. It was due to be held 16th May but will be rescheduled.

Finally, a big thanks to everyone for continuing to support the Village Hall. If you would like to join our committee, or to offer help, we'd love to hear from you via our email [lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk).

**Long Compton Village Hall Committee**



**Grab your leg warmers, it's**  
**1980s Disco Night**  
**19th July 2025**  
**7.30pm Long Compton Village Hall**  
**Dress in an 80s style or come as you are**  
**Licensed bar**  
**DJ Keith Lane plays 80s dance tracks**  
**Entry fee £5 in advance**  
**Phone Karen on 07815 300645**  
**or email [lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk)**



**100 Club**

The May Draw was done at the Village Hall Social Saturday on 10 May and the winners were:

1st	Alison Haine	2nd	Desmond Brown
3rd	Mr & Mrs Williams	4th	Mr Battersby

**Chris Galloway 684234**

**Parish Council AGM**

Will take place on Weds 12th June at 7:0pm. Come along to hear updates on flooding and highways and share ideas for village projects.

**Sam Weller (Clerk)**



## Join us for **Social Saturday**

**11am—1pm, 14th June 2025**  
**Long Compton Village Hall**

**Free entry**  
**Home made savouries and cake**  
**Catch up with friends and newcomers**



## Can you lend a helping hand? **Long Compton Village Hall** **Needs Your Help!**

Are you able to help with our events?  
Do you have ideas for new events?  
Interested in joining our committee?  
Or just lending a helping hand?

**We'd love to hear from you**  
**email: [lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk)**



## Compton District History Society

There will be a meeting on Wednesday 11 June when Dr Alan Wadsworth will give a talk entitled '*Farms and Farmers: a history of one farm from historical documents*' at 7:30 p.m. The village hall will be open from 7:00 p.m.

Members are asked to pay £1.00 and visitors £3.00 each. Refreshments, as always, will be provided after the talk.

**Christopher Fance 01608 674207**

## Comptonians

On June 18th we shall meet at the Village Hall at 2:30pm for an afternoon of musical entertainment. Tea and cakes will also be served.

All welcome.

**Margaret Welsh 684238**

## Long Compton Chapel



The Chapel once again ran a stall as part of Shipston Home Nursing Plant Sale. Some generous donations were received and thanks to plants being rehomed to us from other villages after the weekend it has been well stocked. To date, the stall has raised £450.00 and overall, the total from all the village stalls exceeds £13,000. The stall at the chapel will remain in operation as long as there are plants so if have any excess do, please drop them off. June sees Chapel members running the dog show and agility classes at

the village fete. The schedules for the August Plant and Produce sale will shortly be available from the Village Shop and outside the chapel

**Elizabeth Gilkes (07791 621778) and Sally Franklin (07870 545431)**



**Join us for Community Coffee**  
at  
St Peter and St Paul's Church , Long Compton

Wednesday 2nd July 2025

All are very welcome  
Young, old, families, dog walkers and newcomers to the village



## Fete Tombola – bottles needed, please!

Donations of bottles for the tombola will be welcomed. Please phone 077 0326 1026 or email [annemolloy10@gmail.com](mailto:annemolloy10@gmail.com) or phone 079 0022 5145 or email [sarabillins@hotmail.com](mailto:sarabillins@hotmail.com) and we will collect. Alternatively, please leave your bottles at, Honey House, Vicarage Lane or 22 Crockwell St. Many thanks and we hope we will see you at the Fete.

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**Celebrity Guest Opening!**

## Long Compton CC Fixture List 2025



- Bank Holiday Weekend
- Midweek Fixture
- Club Family Fun Day (TBC)

### May

20<sup>th</sup> April 2025  
**Ascot Under Wychwood CC – 40 Overs**  
(A) Ascot Under Wychwood – 1.30pm

● 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Enstone CC – 40 Overs**  
(A) Enstone – 1pm

18<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Great Tew School Parents – 35 Overs**  
(A) Great Tew – 1.30pm

● 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Sibcliffe CC – 35 Overs**  
(A) Sibford School – 1.30pm

● 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
**Alpine F1 CC – 20 Overs**  
(A) TBC – 6pm

### June

1<sup>st</sup> June 2025  
**Far From The M CC – 35 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

8<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
**Busby & Goodfellow's XI – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

15<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
**Streatham CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

● 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
**Moreton CC – 20 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 6pm

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025  
**Barford CC – 40 Overs**  
(A) Snitterfield CC – 1.30pm

● 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
**TNC CC – 20 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 6pm

29<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
**Swinbrook CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 2pm

### July

6<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
**Swinbrook CC – 40 Overs**  
(A) Swinbrook – 2pm

● 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
**Alpine F1 CC – 20 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 6pm

13<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
**Milton CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

20<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
**Sibcliffe CC – 35 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

27<sup>th</sup> July 2025  
**Barford CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

### August

● 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025  
**President Nelly's XI – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

10<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
**Busby & Goodfellow's XI – 35 Overs**  
(A) TBC – 1.30pm

17<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
**Moreton CC – 35 Overs**  
(A) Moreton – 1.30pm

● 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025  
**Oxhill CC – 40 Overs**  
(A) Oxhill – 1pm

31<sup>st</sup> August 2025  
**Wytham CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

### September

7<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
**Ascot Under Wychwood CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1.30pm

14<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
**Enstone CC – 40 Overs**  
(H) Long Compton – 1pm

We are a village side and play friendlies, mainly on a Sunday afternoon, with some mid-week evening fixtures. Anyone who is interested in playing or helping with the cricket contact: [LongComptonSportsClub@outlook.com](mailto:LongComptonSportsClub@outlook.com). Spectators are also always welcome to come and support the village team.

**Paul Parmeter**



# VILLAGE NEWS

## Whichford and Ascott

Editor: Melanie Arnold



### The Reading Room Draw

The Reading Room draw winner for May is Dinker Patel.

Jenny Scrivener



### Whichford & Ascott Gardens Open

**Sunday 15th June 1.30 – 5.00pm**

Nine gardens will open:

*Ascott Lodge • Ascott Rise • Belmont House •  
Lenticulars • Murton Cottage • Plum Tree Cottage •  
The Old Rectory • Whichford Pottery • Wood House •*

Combined entry: Adults: £7.50 and Children free.

Home-made teas in aid of St Michael's Church, plant stall,  
raffle – win a Whichford Pottery voucher.

# VILLAGE NEWS

## The Wolfords

Editor: Lynn Mathias



### **The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club**

The May winners were as follows;

1st Lucia Palmer    2nd Henry Warriner    3rd Gillian Ablewhite

Many congratulations to the above. Please let me know if you would like to have more shares as the club is still short of 100 shares. Of course, multiple shares do increase the chance of winning! All proceeds go to help with the upkeep of the village hall.

**James van Helden**

### **St Michael's Church: Annual Churchyard clear up Saturday 21 June**

We are holding our Churchyard clear up on Saturday 21st June as there are many jobs that need to be done to make it an even more beautiful place for people to visit.

The work involved does not require specific experience or tools and will involve things like cutting back greenery, clearing ivy off gravestones, picking up fallen branches, strimming, clearing brambles.

We hope that as many as possible of you can join us at 10am on Saturday 21 June as many hands will make light work! Coffee drinks and cakes will be provided for volunteers

### **Wonderful new kneelers for Great Wolford Church**

Please note the New date for this service

**On Sunday 13 July** there will be a dedication service in St Michael and All Angels Church Great Wolford for the new church kneelers which have been stitched by women in Little and Great Wolford and Toddtenham and sponsored by parishioners in memory of their loved ones

The kneeler tapestries were worked by: June Dyer, Jenny Henderson, Sarah Franklin, Marion Hill, Pippa Lines, Marilyn Roberts, Shirley Wrench, Roz Warriner, Deborah Wolverson, Sue Rew, Rose Yates and Jane Baker

Sponsors of the kneelers in memory of departed loved ones included: Wendy Veale in memory of John Scott-Lees, tapestry worked by Rose Yates; Bob Large



in memory of Shirley Large tapestry worked by Sue Rew; Sue Elliott to remember one hundred years of the Women's Institute.

Wolford PCC would like to say a huge thank you to Jane Baker for organising this for the Church, to all the women who worked the tapestries and the sponsors and we do hope you are all able to attend the service of dedication.

**Photo: Pippa Lines**

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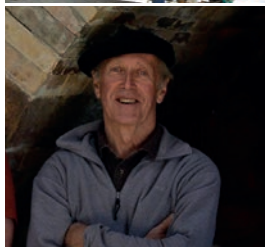
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# Whichford Pottery Open Day

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June - 10am to 4pm



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### Special highlights on the day

- Adam Keeling demonstrating how to throw two-piece pots in our workshop.
- Dominique Keeling in her studio demonstrating freehand decorating of her glazed sgraffito ware.

## See Whichford's New Woodfired Kiln

Something new and exciting is happening at the Pottery! Jim, Adam and the team have built a game-changing woodfired kiln - big, bold and bursting with potential. Our new six-metre behemoth will be alight and for the first time our customers are invited to see her in action!

### A Talk by Jim Keeling

#### 'Firing Up Tradition'

In his talk, Jim will share the story behind our iconic flowerpots, why keeping traditional skills alive is so important and what the future holds for Whichford.

Expect fire, clay and plenty of garden inspiration!

**Talk time: 11.30am for 45 minutes plus time for questions**

**Free talk. Advance booking essential.**

## Jim & Dominique's Garden Open with A Trail of Jim's New Sculptural Work

Jim & Dominique's much-acclaimed and romantic private garden at the Pottery will be open. Our visitors will also be able to enjoy a first look at Jim's new pieces.

**Plus... Special Offers on Pots, Courtyard Garden, The Straw Kitchen and More!**

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