

THE LINK

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

OCTOBER 2024

£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

October Events Update (VH = Village Hall; Ch = Church)

Weds 2	Community coffee	Long Compton Ch	10.30
Thurs 3	Country Market	WI Hall, Moreton	10.00
Fri 4	FeelGood Friday	The Hall, Stourton	14.00
	Jazz in the Village	Long Compton VH	20.00
Sat 5	Village breakfast	Burmington VH	09.00
Sun 6	Harvest service	Wolford Ch	11.30
	Organ recital	Barcheston Ch	15.30
Tues 8	Cameo Lunch Club	Burmington VH	12.00
Weds 9	History Society	Long Compton VH	19.00
Thurs 10	Country Market	WI Hall, Moreton	10.00
	Barcheston PC Meeting	Burmington VH	19.45
Sat 12	Coffee Shop	The Hall, Stourton	10.30
	Social Saturday	Long Compton VH	11.00
Sun 13	Harvest Service	Whichford Ch	10.30
	CONNECT	Long Compton VH	15.00
	Piano recital	Famington Farm	15.30
	Charity Quiz	Red Lion, Long Compton	19.30
Weds 16	Comptonians	Long Compton VH	12.30
	Flower Show AGM	The Hall, Stourton	19.00
Thurs 17	Country Market	WI Hall, Moreton	10.00
Fri 18	FeelGood Friday	The Hall, Stourton	14.00
	'One Life'	Brailles Picture House	19.15
Sun 20	Harvest Service	Long Compton Chapel	15.30
Mon 21	Wolfords PC AGM	Wolford VH	19.30
Weds 23	Garden club and AGM	Long Compton VH	19.10
Thurs 24	Country Market	WI Hall, Moreton	10.00
Fri 25	Carers4 Carers	Kineton VH	10.30
Sat 26	Whist Drive	Long Compton Chapel	19.00
	Fish and Chips Supper	Wolford VH	19.00
Sun 27	Light of the World	Long Compton Ch	16.00
Thurs 31	Country Market	WI Hall, Moreton	10.00

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Little Wolford	Emily Majzub	07718955990

EDITORIAL



Welcome to the Halloween edition!

Autumn is really upon us now, but at present the sun is still out so let's enjoy it while we can.

I know some people dismiss Halloween as an adopted American tradition, but as far as I'm concerned anything that brings a bit of fun and brightens up the shortening days can only be a good thing. With that in mind, I have a particularly fine pumpkin on the allotment waiting to be turned into soup and carved ready for the Long Compton trick and treaters!

Harvest services continue throughout the month, but there is more than a whiff of Christmas creeping into this edition and I predict our diaries will soon be filling up with festive events to look forward to.

Happy Halloween!

Sara Billins



Cover photograph: by Christine Dudfield

Harvest display at Cherington Church

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

LINK cover and artwork produced by Kopyrite, Chipping Norton

**Please note the copy deadline for November 2024:
October 10th**

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Frankie and Charlie's Cakes

We have had a passion for cake making since we were young.

We would love to take orders for any cakes you might want – be it Christmas, simnel, lemon drizzle, coffee, chocolate. Or anything else you might want including cakes for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries or any other events.

To order please call us on 07767317385
Or email us at gbastable@me.com



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

*The inaugural meeting of the **Feldon Valley Military and Naval History Society***

will take place at The Hall, Pinfold Lane, Stourton

on Wednesday, 13 November 2024 at 7.30 pm

*wine and nibbles
all welcome*

contact: Peter Stoddart at: petercstoddart@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.

We have themed weeks featuring exotic cuisines, or focusing on a seasonal ingredient such as asparagus.

For more details of these, check out our social media – **Facebook, Moreton in Marsh Noticeboard, Shipston Noticeboard and Instagram**. We can also be contacted by email, mimcountrymarket@gmail.com or mobile, 07933 141410

A big thank you to all our customers for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming new customers.

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



Carers4Carers

Join us for the **monthly meeting at Kineton Village Hall on Friday, 25th October, from 10.30 am to 12.00 noon.** Chat

with fellow local carers over coffee, tea, and biscuits. We're excited to welcome Sharon Smith, a social care worker from

Warwickshire County Council, who will share her insights on hearing assist services. Feel free to bring your loved ones along -they can join our Companionship Group while we meet. We look forward to seeing you there!

For further details about our carer support group or help with transport arrangements, please contact Gillian on 07947 893504, send an email to kcarers4carers@gmail.com, or website www.carers4carersonthefosse.org.uk.

Lisa Barnett – Assistant Coordinator



Cameo Lunch Club

(Founded in 2007 as a benefice outreach initiative serving local communities)

CAMEO meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 12.00 for 12.30 pm in Burmington village hall. All are welcome. Transport can be arranged. Please book with Brenda Fitch on Tel. 664313

Next lunch: 8th October - with celebration of a special birthday

September Lunch Report



The special guest at September's lunch was Carole Nossiter, Chair of Shipston Medical Centre Patient Participation Group which represents patient views in discussions with the practice. Carole gave members an exceptionally informative presentation on major issues such as the pressures on the Medical Centre in 2024, changes to the appointments system, and vaccination plans for this Autumn. She also gave an update on the services confirmed so far to return to

the Ellen Badger Hospital, although the uncertainty around the provision of beds continues.

The key Medical Centre statistics she presented contained some surprises for her attentive audience:

The Practice receives £107.50 per annum per registered patient

12,000 patients are now registered with the practice

9.4% new patients in the last year

Around 8,500 telephone calls each month

An average of 1,372 booked appointments each week

250 additional requests dealt with without an appointment per week

Over 700 referrals to specialists in a month

Nearly 60 members in the Medical Centre team + PCN colleague

Carole took questions from members on their concerns over a variety of issues such as the Ellen Badger project, charges for services such as podiatry, and the cost of transport to medical appointments.

In conclusion, members were effusive in offering thanks to Carole for giving them this unique opportunity to discuss the Medical Centre’s plans and changes, and to relay their own concerns with some ancillary services.

Dennis Cummings



Happy Birthday!
October 2024



Walter Johnston
Gilbert Johnston

Great Wolford
Great Wolford

13
13

Save the Dates of the Summer Fetes
Dec 14th Winter Gathering Burmington
June 28th 2025 Barton on the Heath

Pet of the Month



Surely there could not be a more suitable candidate for the Halloween edition than Alfred the Mexican fire legged tarantula!

Do you have a pet you would like to see featured in Pet of the Month? Send a photo and short bio to editor@swlink.org.uk



Harvest Moon over Long Compton by Jonathan Watts

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 every third Sunday at 3.30 pm.

Chair Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778 Sec/Treasurer Sally Franklin

PARISH PEOPLE

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs)

	<i>Barcheston St Martin</i>	<i>Barton-on-the-Heath St Lawrence</i>
Churchwardens	David Hodges 07767840857	Walter Sawyer 684755
Secretary	Alice and Tom Murray 238755	Vacancy
Treasurer	David Cleave 666002	Mandy McPherson 674734
	<i>Burmington St Barnabas & St Nicholas</i>	<i>Cherington St John the Baptist</i>
Churchwardens	Michael Macdonald 662483	Roger Maycock 686404
Secretary	Graham French 239032	Paul Levitch 686353
Treasurer	Stuart Walsh, 07870 154425	Sherry Gasson-Barker 686420
	<i>Long Compton St Peter and St Paul</i>	<i>Whichford St Michael</i>
Churchwardens	Jill Kirby 684923	Sophia Corlett 684369
Secretary	Zoë Wrigley 650404	Mandy James 684479
Treasurer	John Nye 684363	Jenny Scrivener
	<i>Wolford St Michael and All Angels</i>	
Churchwarden	John Wrench 674389	
Treasurer	Ann McKenna 674009	

Parish Councils

Parish	Chair	Clerk
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

It usually happens sometime in September for me. I suddenly realise that it's getting dark a lot earlier – the nights are drawing in and daytime is becoming shorter and shorter. As someone who's been diagnosed with depression, the darker months of the year can be a difficult time. I often envy those animals who miss the winter months by hibernating until spring.



However, darkness does have its own beauty – think of the stars in the night sky – it's easy to understand why most of the world's literature and art associates darkness with evil and light with good. The bible is no different – In the Gospel of John Jesus says these words *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."* What does Jesus mean when he says he is the light of the world?

The greatest darkness that each of us face is the darkness of mortality. Our own mortality and the mortality of our loved ones. According to the bible we fear death, because far from being a normal and natural part of human existence death is in fact profoundly unnatural – it's an unnatural and alien intrusion into how things should be. In the Christian understanding of the world humans were not made to die, we were made for eternal friendship with the God who is life himself. Jesus is the light of the world because he drives away the darkness of death, restoring us to that life for which we were made,

At the centre of the Christian story is the resurrection of Jesus – Jesus is victorious

over death, driving its darkness away and offers to share that victory with all who follow him. Which means that however dark things get the Christian can always journey through life with hope. For Jesus is the light of the world and whoever follows him will never walk in darkness.

May you know that hope as the darkness of winter draws in.

Reverend Ben Dyson



CONNECT

Would you like to meet with other families in your community for an afternoon of friendship, fun, games and crafts and an opportunity to meet some of your local church family in a relaxed setting?

Come to

Long Compton Village Hall

Starting October 13th 3.00pm-4.00pm

(2nd Sundays of the month)

Refreshments provided

Connect is being organised by the

South Warwickshire 7 group of churches



Giggle Tots

Baby and Toddler Group

at

Wolford Village Hall

Thursday Mornings

Starting Sept 12th

10.00am-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

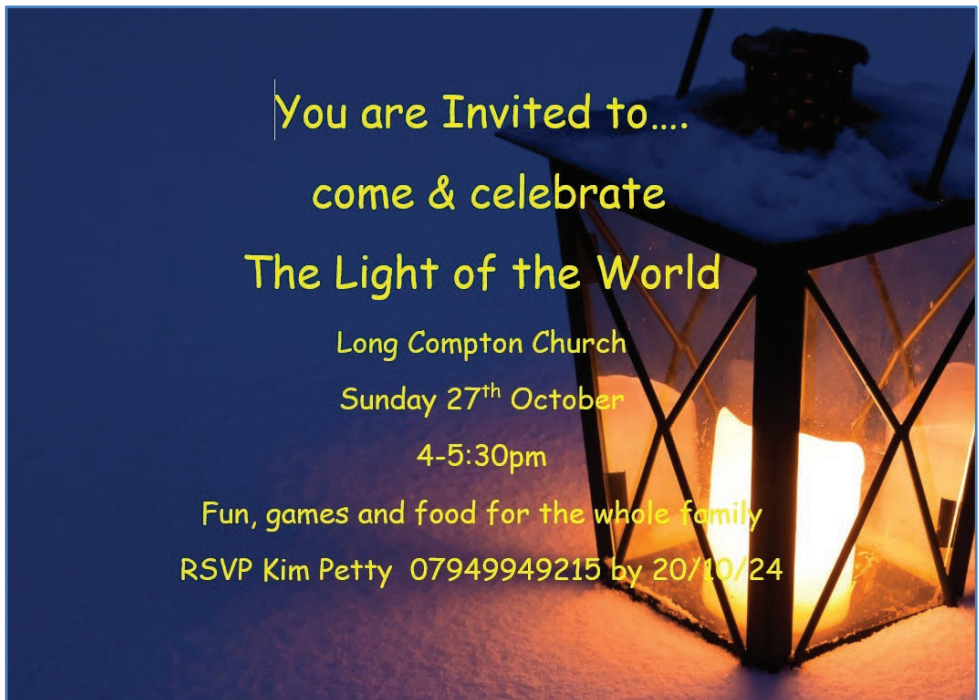
Organised by South Warwickshire Seen Churches

Serving our communities

HELP!

I'm looking for free, good quality toys to help start up a (non-profit) making Parent and Toddler Group.

Kim 07949 949215



SW7 Men's Breakfast

Wolford Village Hall

Saturday 9th November 2024 at 8am

Roger Simpson

Keeping

The Main Thing



The Main Thing

Full English Breakfast £10.00

Book Now

Roger Maycock 01608 686404 rmaycock287@btinternet.com

Nick Jackson 077990 57475 tamjackson52@hotmail.com

Paul Field 07976700763 epfield@gmail.com

SW7 WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

at WOLFORD VILLAGE HALL

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2024

at 8.30am

SPEAKER: DAVID BRACEWELL

£12.00 per person

Contact:

Sarah Scotter: sarah.scotter@hotmail.com

01608 686 303

Liz Maycock: lizzymaycock@gmail.com

01608 686 404

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

October 2024 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 Whichford
6 th October 19 th after Trinity					9:00am BCP Holy Communion (BD) 4:00pm GAP Informal Service (BD)	11:30am CW Harvest Thanksgiving (BD)
13 th October 20 th after Trinity	6:00pm BCP Harvest Evensong (BD)		9:00am BCP Holy Communion (BD/LM)		3pm Connect at the Village Hall (BD/KP)	10:30am CW Harvest Thanksgiving (BD)
20 th October 21 st after Trinity		9am BCP Holy Communion (BD)		10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD)	4:00pm GAP Informal Service (BD)	
27 th October Bible Sunday				9:00am BCP Holy Communion (BD/CLW)	10:30am CW Holy Communion (BD/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

BD = Ben Dyson/LM = Liz Maycock/AW = Anthony Wells/CLW = Clare Walker/HP = Heather Packer/AD = Andrew Dowd/RS = Richard Smith/RS+Richard Stevens/DEB = Ardelean Barry Dugmore
BCP = Prayer Book/CW = Common Worship/GAP = Informal Service

I think the last two farming notes I've written it's been raining. Yesterday, they forecast a wet day and it didn't happen. Today was forecast to be better and it rained for several hours. The truth is the weather is doing things that are both a help and a hindrance. For example, several days ago Dan direct drilled about 40 acres with one- and two-year eco clover mixes. Some has come up and been under attack from a nasty beetle, which we can do nothing about as we have gone insecticide free in our SFI agreement. However, even if we weren't, there is no available insecticide to treat the beetle affectively that would not also be harmful to other non-target insects. So, what's emerging and still there will be helped by some moist and humid days.

In the last notes I had just driven the combine down to our fields at the mill. Thankfully that and all the rest of harvest 2024 was completed by August the 19th, my 58th harvest here.



As far as the crops are concerned, the wheat was pretty much as good as I had expected. Of course, all the bare and thinner places affected the overall yield. The wheat itself was what farmers call '*pinched*', that means each grain didn't fill to its full size. Everyone I've spoken to in the area and read in the national farming reports, all say much the same. They, as I do, put it down to lack of sunshine at grain fill.

Our spring barley was a joy to cut, not as good a yield as last year, but taking in the difficult spring

conditions it could have been a lot worse. It was all standing and cut before it got over ripe unlike the barleys of our forefathers brackle. This happens in only a few days of ripening, the straw kinks in the middle and the ear hangs down to the floor. Then the cutter bar of the combine cuts through the straw and the ear falls onto the stubble and not onto the header of the combine so gets missed and left on the field. One of the old *Farmers Weekly* writers, Mr A G Street, a farmer from Wiltshire used to say when you think your barleys ripe go for a fortnight holiday. A lot has changed since he wrote that.

That left us with winter beans. They looked pretty good all season; I was pleased Dan and Chris (our agronomist) managed to keep them clean weed wise. I think the extra time and money spent on the crop was well worthwhile. One of the draw backs to beans as a crop is they can be very dirty a crop to grow. As my old and wise granddad used to say, '*one year's seeding is seven years of weeding*'. In those days, beans were often planted by ploughing them in. A bean box, a type of simple sowing device was fitted to the ploughs frame and dropped beans into the furrow as the plough turned the soil over.

I recall Rob Harvey telling me that he saw Carter Howse ploughing beans in with a horse below Yerdley barn. He said bad weather delayed him and some had come before he had finished the field. The beans have been hoed in the spring several times until they got too high to go through. I see some organic farmers are now planting a mixture of oats with beans. When harvested together, they sort out the 2 crops ready for use. Planting these two crops together, the oats grow in the bottom of the bean crop covering the ground and stopping a lot of the weeds from germinating. Anyway, our beans yielded ok, so several fields have been earmarked to be sown with beans this autumn.

Last week I topped off the two fields that have been clover for the last two seasons, and Dan made a good job of ploughing in a good mass of clover. It ploughed a lot easier than I expected. I partly worked the ploughing down and by the 3rd week of September, if all goes to plan, Dan can drill them with wheat.

My biggest fear for the past two years, the slugs have had a haven to lie in. I guess they will have their eyes on the wheat as it starts to chit. We do have one type of slug pellet left in our armoury, but I don't think they are very affective. So, by the time the next article is due the autumn planting should have gone well and I can relax.

John 'Tufty' Richardson

GARDENING NOTES

Editors: Margaret Welsh
and Miranda Arnold

October is really when we can start to feel properly autumnal. The trees have all turned, and the colours, at least until the leaves drop, can be incredible. The



hedgerows are filled with the scarlet of the hips and haws and the deep purple of the few elderberries remaining after pigeon attacks. A beautiful time of year.

October tasks fall mainly into the category of housekeeping, with a bit of preparation thrown in. Leaves can cause problems on your lawn, so rake them up and try making leaf mould by bagging

them up and leaving to rot for a year or so. They are not so damaging on your flower beds and borders and can provide useful frost protection for the slightly less hardy herbaceous perennials. They can be left to rot down in situ, adding organic matter to your soil. They also provide useful over-wintering spots for insects and other wildlife.

You should definitely skim leaves out of your pond or trough, to prevent a build-up of decomposing vegetation, which adds nitrates to the water and can cause it to turn green. For the same reason, tidy up the pond plants so they don't drop dying stems and leaves into the water and thin out overhanging plants so they don't shade the pond too much.

Empty your summer pots and containers, if they contain annuals, and add the waste to your compost heap, then give the pots a good wash, and get ready for winter planting. There's no shortage of suitable plants for winter containers: pansies and violas offer a wide range of colours and can look beautiful. Layer bulbs in the pots so you can get a sequence of flowers in the late winter/early spring. Start with tulips at the bottom of your pot, early flowering narcissus for the middle layer, and smaller early-flowering bulbs like snowdrops, crocus, or iris reticulata as the top layer. Make sure your pot is deep enough to accommodate all these layers with enough room for their roots to grow.

The vegetable garden needs to be prepared for its winter break. Remove plants after harvesting, although it can be useful to leave bean roots in the soil to fix nitrogen. Spread a decent layer of farmyard manure over the soil, giving the worms and other soil organisms time to take the manure into the soil before spring planting. You should plant hardy broad beans seeds or plug plants now, so that you get an early crop of beans next year. Onion sets and garlic can go in now too. Be careful with your garlic - choose a sunny, well-draining site. I lost every single garlic clove that I planted last year, due to the very wet winter. I think they all just rotted away.

Finally, clear the remains of herbaceous perennials, and put your plant supports away for the winter. Leave seed heads though for the birds and insects during the winter.

Miranda Arnold

NATURE NOTES

Editor: David Sewell

At this time of the year, I wonder why is it that the length of the summer seems to be inversely proportional to my age? It's a question I ponder with subtly increasing anxiety each autumn.

Whatever the answer, the end of the summer always engenders a strange feeling of melancholy and loss. The local swallows and house martins have been gathering on the telegraph wires as they congregate in readiness for their

astonishing migrations back to Africa. Most of the other summer avian visitors have already gone and the hedgerows are silent. The air has an autumnal bite to it. Once again, I've forgotten to pick and freeze any blackberries.

The cooler nights will soon start to destroy the green chlorophyll in our tree leaves, revealing other colour pigments like red and orange and depending on the weather conditions this will



hopefully create a riot of autumn colour. I know I bang on about Batsford arboretum but try to take a few hours out this autumn to wander the paths and

trails there, because the colours can be breathtaking. Check out their website for the best times to go.

As a birder, the autumn has its own special magic. Because not only are our birds on the move, but so are everybody else's. Which means overshooting migrants from the continent and from America can occasionally turn up, like that Cliff Swallow on Scilly last month. A few weeks ago, this was taken to the extreme as I approached the village and was confronted by an emu standing in the road, belligerently staring me down. This created a dilemma because I've never been to New Zealand, I've never seen an emu and therefore it's a gap in my world list. As I sat in my car, I reluctantly accepted that the possibility of self-assisted migration of a huge flightless bird from the southern hemisphere was slim. So, where the heck did it come from? I noticed a young lady further down the road who looked in charge, so I slowly trundled past the emu and down to her where I discovered that the bird was a Stourton resident but on the wrong side of a fence. Helpfully, I asked if she needed a hand and was guiltily rather relieved when she declined my offer. So, I carried on my way knowing that she had the situation in hand.



Another more expected late summer occurrence was a beautiful hummingbird hawk moth that was feeding on the flowers in Georgina's garden in Cherington. Large and striking in appearance, hawkmoths are common, but rarely seen. The largest locally is the privet hawkmoth with a colossal 12cm wingspan and stunning pink and black barring on the abdomen. The hummingbird hawk moth is, however, much smaller,

with a wingspan of 6cm, but it feeds during the day and it's distinctive hovering flight as it's long proboscis probes flowers will attract attention to its presence. Keep an eye out for them, they particularly love valerian, buddleia and honeysuckle but will feed on other flowers.



Finally, a small announcement. I've got a pal to accompany me on my walks. A wilful and delightful cocker spaniel pup called Bella. As I wryly commented to my teenage daughter, it feels nice having a living creature in the house that actually likes me.

Anyway, please do say hello if you see us out and about!

David Sewell

Acorns School News

Back to School

We've had a super busy and enthusiastic start to the school year, and it is lovely to welcome the children, families and staff back for another exciting year of learning, growing and succeeding together. Our theme of Belonging for this year fits perfectly as we welcome new children and families, new PTA Chairs, new staff and a new school to our Trust (Wilmcote C of E Primary School) to work alongside our existing community. We are passionate about hearing the voice of all members of our school community and our regular surveys throughout the last academic year were an excellent mechanism for tweaking practice and making changes for improvement. Liz Fosslien's definition of belonging, sums up our ethos perfectly: *"Diversity is having a seat at the table, inclusion is having a voice, and belonging is having that voice be heard."*

The children have already used their voice to vote for this year's School Council and we very much look forward to working with the children to raise funds, celebrate special occasions and listen to the ideas and thoughts of the young people with whom we work each day. We also look forward to the PTA AGM where we will thank the outgoing Chairs for their tremendous work during their time leading the PTA and welcome our new Chairs and any new members. This wonderful group of helpers has already hosted their first event with welcome drinks and cakes at the Meet the Teacher Information Evenings held in the

second week of term; thank you to everyone who came to the meetings and also for supporting our PTA.

In schools, we are fortunate to receive the Sports Premium Government Grant, and at Acorns, we are very pleased to have purchased an array of new equipment for both PE lessons and playtimes using some of this money. Some of the older Year 5/6 children have helped to set up the new





resource trolley to entertain children at playtimes, and our Onside Coaches, who teach PE and run our Wraparound Care, have been busy pumping up balls, sorting equipment, tidying PE sheds and generally being fantastic! Everything takes time and lots of pairs of hands, which

in a small village school can be hard to come by, but thanks to our dedicated team of staff, children and families we are very good at getting things done! Later in the year, we will be embarking on a very exciting playtime project known as OPAL: Outdoor Play and Learning, which is an award winning, mentor supported school improvement programme to help strategically and sustainably improve the quality of play opportunities for our children. So, watch this space for further developments with OPAL throughout the year!

A continued focus this year is the work we are doing on the Thrive Approach which started during the academic year 2023-24. We have two licensed Thrive practitioners in school and we are now further developing our practice to ensure that we can offer a trauma-informed, whole school approach to improving the mental health and wellbeing of all children. This relational approach aims to improve behaviour, attendance and learning outcomes and will be a golden thread which runs throughout our school to support all our young people. Each class has set up a calming corner with sensory toys, mindfulness colouring, emotions and feelings games/cards: a space where children can reflect and ensure they are in a good place for learning.

Open Mornings

This November, we open our doors, every Tuesday morning (from 9:30am – 10:30am) to invite prospective families into our school; this may be for new Reception starters for September 2025 or for mid-year moves. Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The applications process for Reception 2025 opens on 1 November 2024 and the closing date is 15 January 2025. Our admission criteria are on the school website and we are able to take children from neighbouring counties such as Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, in addition to Warwickshire.

Vacancies:

We are currently recruiting for a SEND TA and also an After School Club Co-ordinator. Please view DfE Teaching Vacancies and/or our school website for further information. If you know of anybody who may suit either of these roles, please encourage them to phone school to book a visit and find out more about these positions.

T: 01608 684654 E: admin2639@welearn365.com W: www.acornsprimary.co.uk

Brailes School News

The start of the school year unites our Brailes school community together to think deeply about what it means and feels to belong: being heard, included, welcomed, valued, known and connected. To be able to flourish is never an individual pursuit, but a collective endeavour, released in relationships and communities that live well together.

This year we are starting our journey as an OPAL school: an award-winning outdoor play and learning school improvement programme to help strategically and sustainably improve the quality of play opportunities for all our children. We have a fabulous, vast school grounds which will be fully utilised to support and enhance children's play provision through OPAL.

Our ambitious music provision for all children to support well-being, curriculum enrichment and as part of our core music curriculum offer continues to enable all Brailes children to learn an instrument during their time at Brailes. We look forward to our school choir singing in our Harvest Festival at the start of October, new exciting music and art opportunities for all working in partnership with Cotswold Arts Through Schools (CATS) and an invitation for our school and local community to join us for at an iSingPop concert, led by the children in Year 1-6 at George's Church, Lower Brailes at 6.00pm on 17th October.

We eagerly await planning permission from Stratford District Council so work can start on the £567,635 DfE Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) replacement mobile classroom project. This new building will provide an invaluable learning, nurture and Arts enrichment space for our school community.

Embracing the Thrive Approach which started during the academic year 2023-24, we continue to grow as a Thrive School. We have a licensed Thrive practitioner in school and we are now further developing our practice to ensure that we can offer a trauma-informed, whole school approach to improving the mental health and well-being of all children. This relational approach aims to improve behaviour, attendance and learning outcomes for all.

Open Mornings

This October, we open our doors on Tuesday 1st, 8th and 15th October (from 9:30am – 10:30am) to invite prospective families into our school; this may be for new Reception starters for September 2025 or for mid-year moves. Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The application process for Reception 2025 opens on 1st November 2024 and the closing date is 15th January 2025. Our admission criteria is on the school website and we are able to take children from neighbouring counties such as Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, in addition to Warwickshire.

T:01608 685253 E:admin3014@we-learn.com W:www.brailescofepprimary.org.uk

VILLAGE NEWS

BARCHESTON WITH WILLINGTON



2024 ORGAN RECITALS



6th October: Charles Matthews (St Catharine's, Chipping Campden)

3rd November: Rory Moules (The Oxford Oratory)

1st December: Colin Millington (St Mary's, Warwick)

Recitals are on the first Sunday of the month (May to December) at 3.30pm

Entry is FREE. Donations to St Martin's Organ fund are invited.

Barcheston Concerts October 2024

***13 October** A piano recital by Giulia Contaldo at Famington Farm at 3.30pm. Giulia took part in the masterclass weekend with Dame Imogen Cooper at Famington Farm in January 2024. www.giuliacontaldo.com

***20 October** A concert of cello and organ music at St Martin's Church, Barcheston at 3.30pm with Moshe Friedman (cello) and Charles Matthews (organ)

For tickets and information please email: david@famington.co.uk

*NB concerts marked * are in aid of the Fabric and Organ Funds at St Martin's, Barcheston*

Tickets are not issued but entry is by donation. To reserve a seat please email as above.

www.stmartinsbarcheston.co.uk

BARCHESTON WITH WILLINGTON PARISH MEETING ADVANCE NOTICE



The next Village Meeting for Barcheston and Willington will be held on

Thursday October 10th at 7.45pm in the Village Hall, Burmington.

This is an opportunity for you to keep in touch with Village and District affairs, to raise any concerns or opportunities you may have and to become part of the village discussion .

Points to be discussed will include: Matters arising at the last meeting including plans for the village Defibrillator, an update from your Local Councillors and village plans for Bonfire Night.

Please come and give your support. We look forward to seeing you all.

VILLAGE NEWS

Barton-on-the-Heath

Editor: Cathryn Aitken



Jazz on the Lawn in aid of Shipston Home Nursing

The evening of Friday 6th September saw Jazz on the Lawn taking place on the lawn behind Barton House. It was a wonderfully joyous occasion, with close to 200 people coming to listen to the wonderful Hot Fingers playing their unique blend of early jazz, blues, swing, ragtime and string band music from the 1920s and 30s - and many people were dancing by the end.

Some people brought picnics and others partook of the wonderful stone baked pizzas cooked to order by Twisted Kitchen. We also had a bar and an auction, and happily, the whole endeavour raised around £6,000 for Shipston Home Nursing. Wonderfully, the weather was almost quite nice - it wasn't raining!

The event was in memory of Hamish Cathie, who had created much of the wonderful 6-acre garden at Barton House, and who sadly died last October. Shipston Home Nursing provided such wonderful care at home for him in his last few weeks, and we couldn't be more grateful to them.



Enormous thanks to our generous sponsors - Gran Luchito, Todenham Manor Farm and Sheldon Bosley Knight. Also, to those who so kindly donated auction prizes - Charingworth Manor, Uplands House, Oxheart, The Fuzzy Duck, The

Cherington, The Red Lion, Long Compton, The Bell at Alderminster, L'Academie Shipston, Complexions Beauty Salon and Hayman-Joyce.

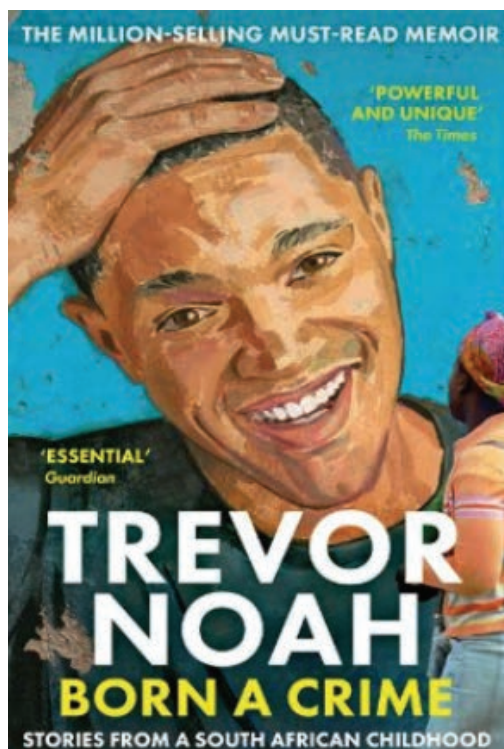
Thank you too to all who supported the event by buying tickets etc, and to all those who helped put up and take down tents etc.

Last, but not least, huge thanks to all those who worked so hard to organise and make the evening happen - Cathryn, Suzie and Jules, and to James, Ed, Alistair and Tom.

We all had such fun, perhaps it might be repeated?...

Helen Seymour-Smith

Book Club



We did enjoy meeting to talk about '*Born a Crime*' by Trevor Noah. He is the son of a black South African mother and a Swiss-German father (who played no part in his upbringing). This is the sin referred to in the title, as mixed relationships between black and white in apartheid SA were forbidden. The book is quite rightly dedicated to his mother whose determination and love nourished the wayward young boy.

Although not strictly academic, he immersed himself in local languages and accents, enabling him to fit into new situations. He has now become a wildly successful comedian and programme presenter in the U.S. Do look him up on YouTube!

Everyone enjoyed reading this autobiography and hoped he might come up with a second volume to explore his move to the U.S. and his huge popularity. It was fun to read.

Happy reading

Gillian Cathie

VILLAGE NEWS

Burmington

Editor: Graham French



Village Breakfast

The next breakfast is Saturday 5 October. Please note time: 9.00-11.00am

Please book with Robyn on 07966849149.

Big Village Sunday Lunch– Sunday 17th November 1.00pm

Menu

- Roast leg of pork
- Turkey and all the trimmings
- Lentil roast with lashings of gravy
- Crispy roast potatoes and Yorkshire puddings,
- Roast parsnips, braised carrots, cauliflower cheese, broccoli
- A variety of home-made desserts will be available

It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a Sunday roast without having to do the washing up!

Please book with Robyn on 07966849149.



Stir Up Sunday: Sunday 24th NOVEMBER at 10.30 am

St Barnabas and St Nicholas Church

Stir Up Sunday is a fun service in which children are invited to make a Christmas pudding. First the children put the ingredients into a mixing bowl and then take the bowl around the church and ask each person in the congregation to stir the mixture and make a (private) wish. Once well and truly stirred, the mixture is taken out of the church and “cooked” before being brought back into church – flaming as per tradition – for everyone to taste!

Sarah Parton will lead the service and Honor Fenton will be leading us in singing.

Refreshments will be available after the service.

Do join us in the fun

Harvest Festival Service



Our service was led by Revd Ben Dyson. The flowers at Burmington church were kindly donated and arranged by Fudge Ramsay.

Other flower displays (sadly, no room to show them all here) were kindly donated and arranged by Lorna Lancaster, Sonia Baker and Jan Lennon

VILLAGE NEWS

Cherington with Stourton

Editor: Christine Dudfield



Village Lottery September Draw

1st Jo and Doris Lewis £80 2nd Louise Weston £45 3rd Vicky Clark £30.

Averell Kingston

aap.kingston@gmail.com

07984 003675

Coffee Shop

October 12th 10.30am-12 noon

The Hall, Stourton

Bacon baps, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cake.

Come along and meet new friends or catch up with old ones.

Bring and Buy in aid of Playing Field Funds. Bizzy Bee Sewing Services will be there with all their lovely Bags, Hats cushions etc.

Thank you to everyone who has offered to be on the rota to help out, if there's anyone else who would like to be added or would be able to go on a cake making rota please contact me on 07866127409



Christine Dudfield



Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership – Feel Good Friday Social Afternoons

Social Afternoon dates for your diary are Fridays 4th and 18th October 2.00pm to 4.00pm at The Hall.

What an amazing turn out we had for the Summer Family Prize Bingo in August, thank you to all those that came and made it such a great evening.

As a result of the lovely feedback we received and the clear demand for another Bingo night we're pleased to announce that there will be a Christmas Family Prize Bingo on Saturday 30 November at The Hall, doors open at 7pm, eyes down

at 7:30pm. We look forward to seeing you then, don't forget to pop the date in your diary.

For more information, please contact me on 01608 663320.



Vanessa Compton

Brailes Picture House

Friday 18th October - One Life (a true story)

Doors open at 7.15pm

London broker Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton helps rescue hundreds of predominantly Jewish children from Czechoslovakia in a race against time before the Nazi occupation closes the borders. Fifty years later, in 1988, he's still haunted by the fate of those he wasn't able to bring to safety: to England - Always blaming himself for not doing more. It's not till live BBC *'That's Life'* surprises him by introducing him to some surviving children - now adults - Oh so moving and brave

Cast - Anthony Hopkins, Lena Olin, Helena Bonham-Carter

Next Showing - Nov. 15th - Wicked Little Letters

Deirdre and Team

Advance Notice: The Hall AGM

Will be held in The Hall on Wednesday 27th November 2024 at 7:00pm.
Please put the date in your diary.

Brenda Cowen (Secretary)

Christmas Greetings in support of St John the Baptist Church

We are running the Cherington and Stourton Christmas Card Amnesty again this year. If you would like to make a donation and are already on the Christmas Greetings List, which will be distributed with the December Link, we will assume that you wish to continue. If you would like to be removed or wish to be added please contact Pam Brookes on 07989644614 or Sherry Barker on 686420. Alternatively, you can email us on nsi_barker@hotmail.com

Replies by the 5th November would be helpful.

Pam Brookes and Sherry Barker

Bella

Bill and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the lovely people for their thoughtfulness and kindness to us in the loss of our beloved Bella. Not everyone knew us, but most people knew the little white Westie, usually trailing along after me on a walk. She was a wonderful little soul, and as my sister said, '*an honest little dog*', and we will miss her.

Anita and Bill Law

Flower Show AGM



Lois Dudfield joint chair

Obituary: Colin Horace William Empson May 9 1940- June 25 2024



Colin was an only child, born in King's Lynn in Norfolk. At the age of seventeen he moved to Chiswick in west London to live with his grandmother. He took a job as a tool maker but decided that was not for him so went to work at his uncle's garage in Isleworth where he met and became friends with my two brothers. The whole family had a great interest in stock car racing travelling all over the country with the brothers involved in the racing.

Colin and I started to go out together and married three years later at Bull Road Methodist church in Hounslow. Colin remained at the garage but then became a chauffeur specialising in limousine hires.

After ten years of marriage, Colin and I moved to Long Compton and bought the village stores and post office with Marianne and Andy. Andy sadly passed away from motor neurone disease 12 years ago.

Colin was our postmaster for Long Compton and the surrounding area for 33 years, the longest serving postmaster in the Cotswolds. Having fought a hard campaign to retain the post office, it was finally closed 14 years ago. It was something Colin never got over.

He was very much involved in village life, fund raising for village causes and supporting the Methodist chapel (now a residence) in East Street. He was also on the Parish Council for 12 years, service as chair for 10 years. He played for the village cricket team and supported the village hall, school and church in whichever way they needed.

Colin was recognized for his services to the community with an invitation to Buckingham Palace for his services which we were greatly honoured to attend. (see photo below)

Colin had the opportunity to attend three space shuttle launches and go on four Caribbean cruises.



He also loved animals. We had over 21 dogs though the years, mainly rough haired collies and over 200 rescue cats. Colin and his final dog Bella, adored each other.

However, despite continuing to work he had a fall and broke his hip. Over his last three and a half years there were many stays in hospital helped by many supporters who were all so good. Eventually, it was decided that Colin should take a short break at Southerndown but that was not to be and his time in Southerndown was his last, from September to his passing in June.

The last few months since Colin passed away have been full of love, kindness and support. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me with time, flowers, cards, telephone calls and visits. Many thanks to

Sally and Elizabeth for their hard work in arranging the chapel to seat so many people and to the village hall for being so accommodating. Thanks also to Josh from A L Sole and Son funeral directors who undertook to see that everything went smoothly. To Alison from Allium in Moreton in Marsh for the wonderful flowers she supplied. To my group of friends that helped out on the day all doing their different jobs. Thank you all so much.

There are two people who have been outstanding, Paul and Hazel Bird who have given endlessly and never expected anything, twenty-four hours, day and night, what they have given is exceptional. Thank you so much.

Finally, I would like to thank all who attended the lovely service and afterwards at the village hall. The service was taken by Rev Les Hann. He and his wife Jill are friends of over forty years, Paul had his first appointment at Shipston Methodist church. They now live in Lancashire, however, should they be this way they would always visit the shop to see Colin and myself. The last time they were down they visited Colin at Southerndown, we all kept in touch.

With winter coming, as for many others, things will be different. Colin and myself would have been married for 59 years on Oct 23rd, unfortunately, we didn't quite make it.

Christian blessings to all June Empson



Professional, accomplished and a lot of fun might be used to describe Shipston Town Band who came to play for us at Long Compton Village Hall on Sunday, 8 September. They had people literally dancing in the aisles with their big band sound which was a mix of swing numbers, classical, film themes and stunning duet pieces. It was a relaxed event with people having their picnics inside rather than out, but this only added to the relaxed atmosphere. Everyone who came along enjoyed the event so much we are thinking of repeating it next year, with better weather!



September has been a busy month for the hall, with the Shipston Town Band, our legendary Quiz Night and, of course, the regular Social Saturday; this time with Roger's wonderful second hand-book stall. Also, the Hall is provided a venue for the big Harvest Festival Lunch.

We are looking forward to an equally busy October with the Hall's Jazz in the Village on Friday 4 October at 8.00pm. Tickets are £12 available from the ticket hotline 07814 802814



Join us for
Social Saturday
12th October 2024

11am - 1pm

Long Compton Village Hall

Free entry - savouries - cake - chat

Plus talk from Act on Energy



Jazz in the Village

"Very cool music played in a magical atmosphere - this will appeal to jazz novices as well as hardcore enthusiasts." Three Weeks Magazine

from Scotland



Ian Millar

saxophone

Dominic Spencer

piano

"Beautiful soaring magic! I was blown away by your show, just breathtaking!"

"...expect warm, intelligent, reflective, human music..."

LONG COMPTON VILLAGE HALL



Accompanied
under 16s free

Main Street, Long Compton, CV36 5JJ

Fri 4th Oct 8pm £12

ticket sales number- 07814 802814



Ian Millar & Dominic Spencer
accessible, melodic jazz

www.millarandspencer.co.uk

We have Susan Needham from Act on Energy coming to the October Social Saturday; she'll be talking about the work that they do.

We hope to be offering an exercise class also to get you fit for the party season! You voted for yoga and Pilates as most wanted in our questionnaire, and we will do our best to provide some classes in the coming months.

Please contact us at lcvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested in running an exercise class at the Village Hall.

Long Compton Village Hall Committee

Compton District History Society

Our October meeting will be on Wednesday 9th October when Melanie King returns to give us her talk '*Blenheim: a Duke, a Palace and a Battle*'

As usual we meet in the Village Hall, the talk will begin at 7.30pm (doors open from 7.00pmpm).

Members £1.00 Visitors £3.00

Hope to see you all then.

Diana Cook 01608 684771

Comptonians

We shall meet at the Village Hall at 12.30pm on October 16th for a fish and chips lunch. All welcome.

Margaret Welsh 684238

Long Compton Chapel

Whist on 24 August saw six full tables playing. A great evening with a full house. Good fun and a teasing of the little grey cells. Next whist drive is on Saturday 26 October at 7.00pm. £7.00 to play (with prizes), refreshments and raffle.

Our Annual Craft, Produce Show took place on Saturday 31 August. There were many entries and all categories were represented. A good day enjoyed by all those who came and enjoyed the display and meeting with friends over the tea and cake!



Margot Haines with cup for Best Overall Entry for her embroidery of butterflies

Sunday 15 September saw our annual Macmillan Cancer Support event. We would like to thank all those who came and supported and donated cakes and items and a special thanks to those who helped on the day – it couldn't be done without you! To date we have raised £437.00 which includes significant donations. For those who missed this there is a donation box in the Stores; all donations gratefully received.

Sunday 20 October 3.30pm Is our Harvest service, everyone is welcome for this celebration of bountiful nature. As always refreshments will be served following the service.

As always, the collection point for aluminium cans and foil in aid of Katharine House Hospice is still located at the edge of the car park.

Sally Franklin 07870 545431 and Elizabeth Gilkes 07791 621778
longcomchapel@hotmail.com



Join us for Community Coffee



at

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Long Compton

on

Weds Oct 2 from 10.30am to 12.00
and the 1st Wednesday of every month

All are very welcome,
Young, Old, Families, Dog Walkers and Newcomers to the Village.

Bridge Club

The Bridge Club started again in September after the summer break, and we play every second and fourth Tuesdays each month. Beginners very welcome – contact me for details.

Chris Galloway 684234

100 Club

The September Draw was done at the Village Hall Social Saturday on 14 September and the winners were:

1st Prize: Mr & Mrs Heath

2nd Prize: David Castle

3rd Prize: Mr & Mrs Paul Smith

4th Prize: Wendy Bentley

Chris Galloway 684234

Royal British Legion – seeks volunteer marshals for Remembrance Sunday at Long Compton

As our familiar Remembrance Service around the war memorial in the churchyard edges closer, might I appeal for two or three volunteers to serve as ‘marshals’ for some 15 minutes around 11.00am on the day.

The marshals’ role is simply to wear a ‘high-vis’ reflective jacket and be positioned on the pavement either side of the memorial. Their presence typically has a calming effect on most vehicles who might be speeding through the village. Without such a presence, the reality for those gathered with the Rector around the memorial is that not a word of the short ceremony, nor the reading of the names of the fallen soldiers and sailor is heard by a single soul. As for the two minutes silence...

We have three marshals at present but two are now ‘non-resident’ and it seems prudent to take steps to grow our team from within the village. We do have cover for this year, but it would seem a good opportunity to ‘show the ropes’ to some new faces.

If anyone is interested, please get in touch with me. Many thanks.

Chris Galloway 684234



We have now introduced a waiting list for new members, in order to keep discussions manageable. If you would like to add your name to the list, please contact:

Imogen Brown 07710 129181 brownimogen@gmail.com

For those interested in reading along with us anyway, our October books are:

“Here We Are” by Graham Swift

“My Name is Why” by Lemn Sissay

Don't forget the Jaffé and Neale Book Club. The October meeting will take place on 2 October at 6.30, with their chosen book “Orbital” by Samantha Harvey.

For further details, go to their web page:

<https://www.jaffeandneale.co.uk/book-club/>

Long Compton Walkers

After “summer” (the weather did not match the season) walks based on Fulbrook and Deddington, September saw the group returning to the Oxford Canal and the Boat Inn at Thrupp (flooded on our previous visit). This time, albeit with only



occasional flashes of sun, it was dry both underfoot and overhead. We visited the three churches at Shipton on Cherwell, Hampton Gay (specially opened) and Hampton Poyle. The flat conditions were much appreciated but the sheer number of stiles less so with a number reduced to limbo dancing (or more

accurately hands and knees) at one fence. We again numbered 15 with most staying for lunch. New recruits always welcome.

Contact Stuart Brown at scbqc1@gmail.com



Long Compton and District Garden Club

Visit to Winterbourne House and Garden

A wet morning greeted the garden club as we gathered before our trip to Birmingham to see the gardens of Winterbourne house, but it was an easy trip into the suburbs 2 miles from the centre of Birmingham to start our visit.

We were welcomed by our guide, Dan Cartwright an enthusiastic, colourful speaker who had followed his father into gardening at Winterbourne and after 20 or so years became their head gardener, with so much experience to be drawn upon there was never likely to be a dull moment.

Joseph Lancaster Ball constructed the garden to unify with the house, an Arts and Crafts masterpiece with a grand terrace, sweeping lawns and a five-sided walled garden to the North. Dan chose the Dipping Pool to start from, a lily covered pond which was created to form a hub in the centre of what used to be



the vegetable gardens, so the gardeners could fill their watering cans with ease and provide the house with vegetables, encompassed with '*crinkle crinkle*' (wavy) walls which help keep the heat in, just for interest he also built the adjacent houses with wavy roofs.....all very Arts and Crafts.

John and Margaret Nettlefold built the house and designed this beautiful garden based on Gertrude Jekyll's design ideas with a surprise around every corner.



From the Dipping Pool, we passed through the crinkle crinkle walls to find scree beds, filled with tiny beautiful and highly coloured plants, the north facing Orchid House, with a brick wall facing South (could that be unique?), originally filled with plants specific to the Antarctic, then we passed on to the Carnivorous House with plants quietly digesting insects, yes even plants have to eat, the desert then beckoned, created in the Arid House with amazing cacti 2 metres high, and prickly bundles of fun in pots, then finally the Alpine House where flowers will burst into colourful life in Spring having survived the frosts if carefully kept.

We then moved on to the Wilderness through the Hazel Nut Archway, over a traditional Japanese Oak Bridge (now a Winterbourne icon) leading to a raised boardwalk over a water garden fed by 5 natural springs, (more of a bog really) and a woodland walk past rhododendrons, gunnera with huge leaves (useful as an umbrella possibly) and back to the sunken garden surrounded by vibrantly coloured Japanese acers. Now back up to the house with its formal lawns surrounded by herbaceous borders filled with a riot of colour reds and yellows, golden Turkish sage, scarlet montbretia (or crocosmia '*Lucifer*' for Latin lovers) all framed by a row of Irish yews standing like sentinels guarding this amazing Arts and Crafts garden.

We finished a wonderful day full of surprises guided by an enthusiastic, knowledgeable head gardener obviously passionate about his gardens and keen to pass that on to whoever will listen, as indeed we all did with enthusiasm and then enjoyed a good Lunch in the Tool Shed before completing the day having a look round the house itself.

Paul Field

AGM and 'Finding the Angle at Chelsea'

With speaker Mandy Bradshaw

Wednesday 23rd October, Long Compton Village Hall

Doors open 7:10pm ready for a 7:30pm start

Our regular autumn/winter meetings start again this month. Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month (except for December) right through to April. Our first meeting on October 23rd will combine a very brief AGM followed by a talk from Mandy Bradshaw titled '*Finding the angle at Chelsea*'.

Mandy is a Cotswolds-based journalist, specialising in gardening. In 2018, she was named Garden Journalist of the Year in the Property Press Awards, a title that went to Alan Titchmarsh in 2019. Mandy's talk will give a behind-the-scenes glimpse of press day at Chelsea, the world's most famous flower show.

There will also be an opportunity to sign up for membership of the club at this meeting and to hear all about our programme of events for the coming autumn/winter season.

Annual membership £14.00, guests £4.00 per meeting

All welcome, please do come and join us!

Contact: Julie Reardon, julielcdgc@gmail.com



What you need to know...

- Quiz starts at 7.30 (ish)
- Teams of up to 6 people (£2 per person entry fee)
- Each quiz supports a different charity - follow us on social media to be the first to know the charities we'll supporting this season
- Book a table to guarantee seats for your team
- There is a raffle with great prizes at each quiz

@redlionlongcomp

Quiz dates for your diary

SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER | SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER
 SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER | SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER
 SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER
 SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS QUIZ
 SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY - QUIZ OF THE YEAR
 SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY | SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY
 SUNDAY 16TH FEBRUARY | SUNDAY 2ND MARCH
 SUNDAY 23RD MARCH - LAST QUIZ OF THE SEASON

VILLAGE NEWS

Whichford and Ascott

Editor: Melanie Arnold

The Reading Room Draw

The Reading Room draw winner for September is Colin Tebbs. **Jenny Scrivener.**

Village Green Playground

The Whichford and Ascott Parish Council are thrilled that after delays caused by Covid, supply chain issues and endless rain, the newly redeveloped playground on Whichford Green is now open! This project, which has been a collaborative effort by the parish council, a wide range of generous local donors, and playground experts Sutcliffe's, has helped to update the playground into a wonderful inclusive space for toddlers and young children. With updated equipment around the long-standing, iconic Whichford slide, improved safety

features and set in our beautiful landscape, the playground is now welcoming families and providing a safe, fun environment for outdoor play. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ed Law, Whichford and Ascott Parish Council

Whichford and Ascott Flower Show and Fete

We were again delighted to welcome crowds of visitors to the Village Green on August Bank Holiday Monday to enjoy the afternoon's attractions. The weather was kind to us after several days of wet and windy weather buffeting the show's marquee.

'Walks with Hawks' provided an opportunity to see up close a variety of beautiful birds of prey and learn about their habits, habitats and how they fly and hunt – a real treat for owl enthusiasts.

The ever-popular Punch and Judy show gave a great opportunity for participation which could be heard all over the green! Having a go at one of the traditional sideshows or taking part in the children's races provided further activities. Entertainment was enjoyed with face painting, the teacup roundabout and vintage vehicle display, and our local band Wired returned to the show for live music during the afternoon.





There was plenty to refresh visitors too, from the delicious vintage teas, the pig roast, Mr. Rosetti's ice cream and candy floss from the sweet stall.

The green was also filled with a great variety of stalls for shoppers, including fantastic bargain to be found on the bric a brac and nearly new clothes stalls. Dogs of all shapes

and sizes challenged the judges for awards in the dog show ring.



We were thrilled to receive so many wonderful entries into the various Flower Show classes - a chance to showcase the many talents in our local communities. Cups and prizes were presented to the winners of the classes at the end of the show. Enormous thanks to everyone who contributed to making the show such a success. There are so many tasks where we need help to make the show happen and give everyone a great afternoon, not to forget a big thank you to all our visitors who come to enjoy this traditional village event.

Our thanks also to Henry from Hook Norton Butchers for providing the pig roast and sponsoring the raffle and to Matthew Cheney of Aylesmore Farm for donating the milk for the teas.

Initial proceeds have been published on the village noticeboards and the final accounts will be presented at our AGM, date to be advised.

We look forward to welcoming you to this event again next year.

The Flower Show Committee

Harvest Service for Whichford and Ascott

All are welcome on Sunday, 13 October at 10.30 am at St Michael's Church, Whichford, with refreshments and a children's harvest hunt.

Donations for the Shipston food bank appreciated

Whichford Christmas

Gift Fair

Saturday 9th November 2024

10am – 1.30 pm

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VILLAGE NEWS

The Wolfords

Editor: Lynn Mathias



The Wolfords Village Hall One Hundred Club

The September winners were as follows;

1st Hyden Jones 2nd Roz Warriner 3rd Dick Goodman

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

The Wolfords Village Hall AGM

The date for the Village Hall AGM has been set for Monday, 21st October 2024 starting at 7.30pm at the village hall. We look forward to seeing you then.

If you would like to become a Trustee of the Village Hall and join the management committee, please contact me as new ideas are always very welcomed. You would be very welcomed by the existing Trustees to carry on with much needed support to maintain the village hall and take part in fund raising activities. We look forward to hearing from you.

James van Helden (jamesvanhelden@hotmail.com) Tel no 01608 674244

Great Wolford Aluminium Collection

Many of you will know that there is a collection bin for recycling of aluminium cans and foil in the drive of *Glasfryn* in Great Wolford. The collection helps raise thousands of pounds locally for the Katharine House Hospice.

I have been running this bin for a number of years and villagers have been very good in using the facility. Unfortunately, I am no longer able to keep the bin in my drive. Unless I can find anyone to take this over, the bin will cease collections on Sunday 20 October. At the time of writing, I have been unable to find a volunteer.

The recycled aluminium needs to be bagged up and the bags are collected as and when required.

Please can you contact me if you think you can help keep this facility for the village. This will be good for Katharine House as well as helping to recycle that precious aluminium.

Keith Murphy - keith.murphy2@btinternet.com

Haikus about the Ridgeway, Great Wolford

Deer beds down in hedge
Leaving two-toed mark in clay
What does she dream of?

Thistles aplenty
Mauve, carmine and magenta
Poof away in wind

Sunny grasses wave
Feathery seeds, swish, droop
Is summer over?

Mind the nettles !
Feel the prickles sharpish
Fall down and get scratched

Lark swiftly swooping
Sing us your love songs high up
Fly fast and disappear



Carol Kerven

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For the takeaways

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Here's how it works: we need at least 50 orders to make the van's visit viable so now is the time to express an interest in either the Bingo or a takeaway by emailing Ann McKenna (see details below) with the number of meals you would like. Cost for the takeaway is £11.00 per portion

Cut-off date for pre-ordering is Saturday 12th October and to keep the delivery on the night quick and efficient we're asking for payment to be made in advance when we confirm your order. And of course, you don't need to be a Woldford resident to join in the takeaway – if you can come and collect then you're very welcome to place an order.

Once we have 50 orders confirmed we can take further orders up to 25th October

**To order please contact: Ann McKenna (email: annmckenna3@sky.com)
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Any contributions of flowers and produce to decorate the church will be very welcome - please bring along on Saturday morning. And we're also collecting for the local Food Bank. Can you spare any tinned, dried or packet food to help those who are struggling through these difficult times?

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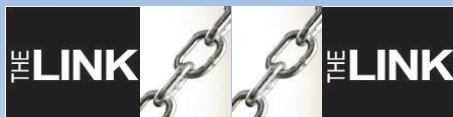
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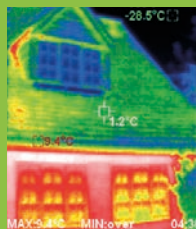



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