



Woodcote

Vol 33 No 8
October 2021

CORRESPONDENT

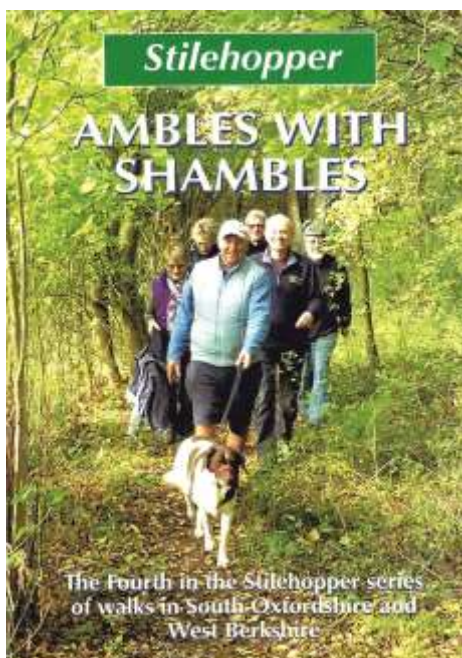
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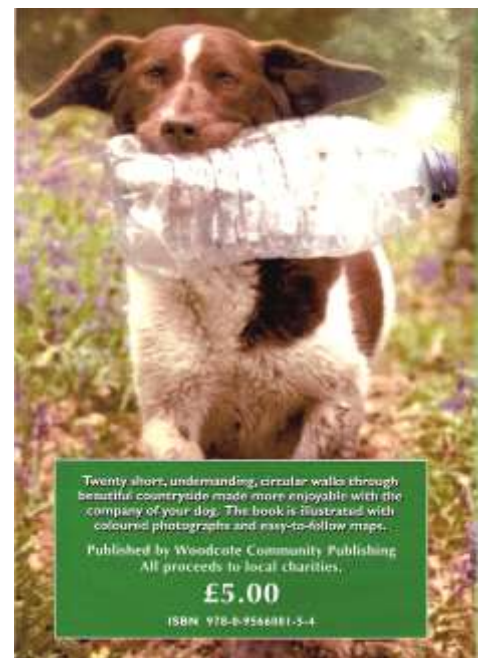
Stilehopper is pleased to announce the publication of his fourth book of walks in South Oxfordshire and West Berkshire. It is dedicated to his constant walking partner, Shambles, and released to coincide with the first anniversary of his death. 'Ambles with Shambles' has 20 short walks, easy-to-follow maps and colour photos throughout. The cost of the book is only £5.00 and it is available from Woodcote Library and the Red Lion, or you can make direct contact, (sampeates@gmail.com) to arrange to collect a signed copy.

Stilehopper writes, *'The Covid-19 pandemic has put a strain on all our lives, with the fear of contracting the disease foremost in everyone's mind. Other restrictions, such as those on travel, have caused us to look with new eyes at our locality and to enhance our awareness and enjoyment of our natural surroundings. Going for a walk has acquired a new significance for almost everyone, especially those people whose previous lives did not encompass this form of exercise. Indeed, much has been said about the benefits of taking a walk to physical health and, increasingly, to mental health.'*



The lockdown periods certainly caused an upsurge in demand for 'Woodcote Walks', 'Walks Near Henley and Wallingford' and 'Walks Short and Sweet' and provided time and impetus for the publication of 'Ambles with Shambles'. This publication brings to 62 the number of walks published by Stilehopper since 2010. Again, I am much indebted to Rob Spencer for the layout and graphics. As Stilehopper has been known to say, *'I hope you love these walks as much as I do'*.

SP



COMMENT FROM THE VICARAGE

Have you been out picking blackberries? I gather that it is a good year for them and although my husband really doesn't like them, I do and so I've been asking friends for good spots for picking. Apparently, there are plenty in the woods, but the berries tend to be small, whereas if you can find a quiet lane, the harvest is much more promising. I shall be going out this afternoon in the hope of finding some in order to make some *Creme de Mure* in time for Christmas! A bit of steeping and stirring and keeping in a dark place will hopefully yield a delicious fruit liqueur just right for adding to some fizz or a cocktail. It's all about the right conditions. Light and warmth for berries, dark and cool for liqueurs. If we get the conditions right, then the outcome should be good.

Every Sunday, whether in church or online, we pray for peace in the world, for the end of conflict and division, for healing for the sick and hope for the despairing. At times I can't help but wonder what people think when we are praying for these things. Do they wonder, as I do, that it can sometimes be rather like the call to recycle and reuse for the sake of the planet – can my small efforts make any difference, do my prayers really help to change anything? We know that we can and do make a difference even with our small efforts and our individual prayers. As Christians we know that we don't pray in our own strength, rather that our prayers arise as a prompting of the Holy Spirit and that in joining with the purposes of God, we are playing our part in change. We are also affirming within ourselves our desire for positive changes, for health where there is sickness and for peace to reign in the hearts of all people. This changes us; prayer does much of its work by changing us and thereby our influence in our homes, workplaces and communities. Just like the berries in the hedgerows, my liqueur and even the crumble cooking in the oven, the conditions must be right for good things to flow. As for us, if we think good thoughts, if we use kind words, if we pray for people, for peace, for more tolerance and compassion, then we affect and perhaps even change our state of being, our 'conditions', so in part we become the answer to our prayers! That's not to deny or lack hope that God will do wonderful things, and often there will be healings and changes that we could never have envisaged or hoped for. That's because God is God, and we can't know what God will do. But in our prayers, we align ourselves with that awesome power and depth of love – we do all we can to create the right conditions and we trust that the harvest will be good!

With all blessings and prayers for your safekeeping,

Linda

Rev. Linda Smith, Tel. 01491 680979

Email: woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com

Services at St. Leonard's

Sunday 3rd October

8.00 am Holy Communion in church

9.45 am Holy Communion in church

Sunday 10th October

8.00 am Holy Communion in church

10.00 am 'Worshipping Together' online

Sunday 17th October

8.00 am Holy Communion in church

9.45 am 'The Open Door' in church

Sunday 24th October

8.00 am Holy Communion in church

10.00 am 'Morning Praise' online

Sunday 31st October

10.30 am Team Service details TBC.

4 pm 'In Loving Memory' Service in St. Leonard's.

This will be a service of hymns, readings and prayers as we remember our loved ones and light candles in their memory.

Online Services

We will continue with our online service of Night Prayer every Wednesday at 8.30 pm.

We'd love people to feel that they can join us at any time – we are a very friendly and relaxed bunch! So please do email me if you would like details of how to join an online service.

We use the Zoom app for our services which is free for you to use. If you are not on the internet, it is possible to phone into a service. We are happy to advise you on how to access this.

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Applications Granted by SODC

P21/S2581/FUL Application proposal, including any amendments: Variation of conditions 1(Amendment to internal layouts of Houses 2 & 3 to include consequent changes to chimneys, windows and doors, porch and roof dimensions) & 4 (Change to specified & previously approved finishes) on application P17/S1690/RM (amended plans received 15th July 2021 locating house 3 further to the southwest, as set out in agent's covering letter amended plans received 27th July 2021, removing the flue on house 2 and amending the porch on house 3) Site Location : Red Lane Bungalow Red Lane Woodcote RG8 0PD.

P21/S2957/HH Application proposal, including any amendments: Proposed single storey extension and loft conversion Site Location : 1 Long Toll Woodcote RG8 0RR

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in this paper, the Editor and Committee cannot accept responsibility for the contents of advertisements or any errors that may occur. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or Committee.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



Gosh is it really October already? I hope you all managed to get a decent summer break despite the unpredictable weather. My flowers have barely bloomed this summer and our beehives

have also suffered as a result. But now autumn is upon us and hopefully, all the usual things we celebrate in the last three months of the year will be able to go ahead as 'normal'. Fingers crossed!

Well, the Village Fete was very well attended, wasn't it? I think we can all agree that it is such a relief to be able to put social events back in our calendars again. No doubt the Fete organisers will send us photos for the next issue!

Did you know that our Woodcote volunteers are still looking for people to join their team? Can you spare an hour or two a week/fortnight to take calls or transport someone to a medical appointment? Give them a call if you can.

In this issue we have school, library, sport and film/theatre updates for you, as well as some more book reviews to inspire you as the nights get colder and darker. It's good to see activities starting up again, isn't it?

Until next month

Yvette

PUBLISHER INFORMATION

Editor: Yvette Decmar *[via email]*

Articles for inclusion: to the editor by email to: wood-co@runbox.com, or letters may be handed in at the library. To be received by the 12th of the preceding month.

Advertisers: To place an advertisement, please email wood-co@runbox.com for details of prices and how to produce your ad in our house style. The deadline for payment and your finished advertisement is the 12th of the preceding month.

Small Ads and Announcements: £5 for three lines.

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The Woodcote Correspondent is on the Village website at tinyurl.com/Woodcote-Correspondent

Note: The Woodcote Correspondent is edited, produced and distributed by volunteers.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



I wanted to let the local community know that I will be leaving the Goring & Woodcote Medical Practice at the end of December. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the team here for the past 15 years and being able to help and support so many of our patients and local groups. I have, in particular, been honoured to be associated with local Carers group and the PPG (I set up this group when I first joined the Practice). It is, however, now time for me to start a new chapter in my life. I have given the Partners sufficient notice of my intention to leave the Practice to hopefully allow a good handover period. The Partners are currently recruiting my successor and I know they will be introducing the successful candidate to you in due course.

I wish you all good health and happy times going forward.

Julia Beasley
Practice Manager



FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME 2021



We are now taking bookings for flu vaccinations for those eligible for an NHS vaccine. The next clinic will be on Saturday 9th October 2021 at our Woodcote Surgery from 0830-1600 outside in the car park. Please book online or by contacting the surgery. When booking online, please take care to book into the correct slot - an OVER 65-year-old slot or UNDER 65-year-old slot.

WOODCOTE VOLUNTEERS HAVE A NEW OFFICE!



The Woodcote Volunteers moved to a new office in The Woodcote Community Centre, The Old School House, on the 20th of September. The service remains as before, the office is open 9.30 to 11 am each weekday. The telephone number remains as before 01491 681171.

Messages can be left out of these hours; please state your name and telephone number and a short message of what help you need and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We desperately need new volunteers to either be a driver or help in the office. If you can spare some

time to help with community, please contact the office.

Any necessary training will be given and free DBS certification will be provided if needed.



IS YOUR HEAD ALWAYS FULL OF IDEAS?

Would you like to see changes to Woodcote that could benefit our local children, the elderly and everyone else in between?

If so, then we may have the perfect opportunity for you! We are looking for Parish Councillors to join our team; all you need is a positive outlook and a can-do attitude.

Absolutely no experience is necessary. Training can be provided and you will get lots of support from the rest of the Parish team.

The typical level of commitment is attendance at two Council meetings a month, and possibly occasional other meetings (with plenty of tea/coffee/biscuits provided of course!)

If you are a British Citizen, over 18 and live in or within 3 miles of Woodcote (or own a business in the village), then why not give us a call to have an initial chat about the role?

As a Councillor, you could become a real voice for the community and make a huge difference to the local area.

For more details, contact the Clerk on clerk@woodcoteparishcouncil.org.uk or call 01491 681861. We look forward to hearing from you!



THE WOODCOTE VILLAGE FETE: A GREAT SUCCESS!

Wow, what an afternoon the Woodcote Village Fete was!

There were definitely more people there than in previous years. It was lovely to see everyone out enjoying themselves and supporting the local community.

The refreshments stand did fantastically well - so much so that we ran out of cakes to sell!

It couldn't have happened without my marvellous team. I am going to try and name everyone as they all deserve a mention: Natalie, Georgina, Isabel, Lillian, Caroline, Mia, Sophie, Lara, Rorie, Rachael, Sarah, Blake, Thomas, Samuel, Helen, Beth, Morgan, Levan and not forgetting Linda and Andrea!

After expenses and a donation to the village hall, they helped to raise a staggering £410! This is going to the 1st Goring Heath Scout and Girl Guiding Group.

Thank you to all who bought refreshments from us - it wouldn't have been a success without you!

Special thanks to Schoolhouse Cafe and The Witches Kitchen for their cake donations. Thank you so much!

Charlie Nash

Volunteer for

1st Goring Heath Scout & Girl Guiding Group.

EXCITING NEWS FOR WOODCOTE!



From Monday 16th August, Woodcote library opened its doors for additional days including a Saturday morning.

From 6th September we have now increased our opening times further to include a late night on a Monday.

It has been a busy time in the library over the past few months with the Summer Reading Challenge in full swing and running throughout the school holidays.

Many Primary and Pre-School children visited the library to take part and it has been lovely to see so many children visiting the library once again.

Many have now completed the challenge and have received their certificate and gold medals.

It is not too late to finish the challenge and pick up your medal and certificate from the library. Please pop in to collect your rewards!

From September, library lessons also returned for students at Langtree School.

Students were very excited to visit the library once again and are enjoying choosing new books and discovering new authors.

If you are thinking of visiting the library soon, a reminder of what is available in addition to books:

- free computer use
- photocopying and printing facilities
- audio books
- the option to download e-books, e-audio books and e-magazines for free

We look forward to seeing you soon! You can also contact us on 01491 682323 or email: Lisa.Trood@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL SNOOZE



The crisp mornings and fall of leaves herald the end of summer. If you're lucky enough to see a hedgehog in the autumn, it's probably a female. After raising their hoglets, females stay out of hibernation for longer than

males in order to give themselves time to feed and build up fat reserves which will have been depleted when they fed their offspring.

What is hibernation?

Hibernation is a remarkable adaptation. Few mammals hibernate in Britain – dormice and bats are the others. Stimulated by changes in temperature and food availability, the hedgehog builds a more robust and secure nest than either the day nest or maternity nest used over the summer. It is known as a *hibernaculum* and is crucial to the success of this challenging time of year.

Animals' ability to ride out the roughest weather in what appears to be a deep sleep is a capacity that has fascinated people for many years. But hibernation is not sleep. While sleeping, a hedgehog's body temperature might drop a degree or two, but in deep hibernation it drops to match the environment and a hedgehog's breathing and heartbeat almost stop as it reduces its metabolic activity by around 98%. Only when the weather becomes cold and frosty does the body kick in to produce a little heat to keep the animal from freezing. This explains why one of the most crucial components of a successful hibernation is a good and sturdy hibernaculum.

The hibernaculum

A hedgehog's hibernaculum is amazing! The walls, made of layers of tightly packed leaves, are often up



A hedgehog's hibernaculum

to 20cm thick – so don't be too 'tidy' in your garden. Not just any leaves will do – too small and they do not provide the insulating cover, too large and they do not compact so easily. Leaves from oak, hazel, beech and lime are about right. The layering is achieved by the hedgehog pushing into the bundle of vegetation and then rotating, the spines acting as a comb to pull the leaves into order.

The other key feature is a structure under which the winter nest is built. This will usually be a patch of brambles or the bottom of a hedge, but might be under a shed or even in a specially made hedgehog house.

The hibernaculum insulates the hedgehog from the extremes of winter weather, both hot and cold. That might seem counterintuitive, but it is important that hedgehogs do not get too warm while hibernating. A poorly insulated nest that gets warm on a mild winter day can trigger the hedgehog into waking up before the winter is truly over. The more often this happens, the more likely their fat reserves will be depleted and the hedgehog will not make it through the winter.

How much does a hedgehog need to weigh to survive hibernation?

To survive the winter, hedgehogs need to enter hibernation fit and healthy. Hedgehog experts believe that any hedgehog entering hibernation weighing less than 450g is unlikely to survive. But it's not just about body weight; a hedgehog weighing 800g will die if it is unfit or in poor condition. Hedgehogs which are too fat are unable to roll up properly to defend themselves.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society advice is simple: if you find a hedgehog which weighs less than 450g out and about between November and February it should normally be taken to a hedgehog hospital like Tiggywinkles.

While hibernation is vital in ensuring hedgehogs survive winter, there is increasing evidence that they do not stay locked in hibernation the whole winter through. Recent research has shown that most hedgehogs change their hibernaculum at least once during the winter. Scientists are not sure if this has always happened or if it is connected with our changing climate, but our milder winters mean hedgehogs emerge from hibernation in spring earlier nowadays.

How can you help?

Consider what makes a perfect hedgehog home – a large bundle of dried leaves surrounded by a supportive structure of sticks, covered by larger

pieces of wood. So protective, so secure, so warm ... but this is a bonfire waiting to be lit on Bonfire Night. To avoid incinerating hedgehogs and other wildlife sheltering in bonfires, the easiest solution is to build the bonfire on the day it is to be lit, while hedgehogs are sleeping elsewhere. If the bonfire needs to be built in advance, consider putting a barrier around it, tight to the ground to keep hedgehogs out, or lift the structure with a rake and use a torch to see if any life has taken up residence.



A house made for a hedgehog

If your garden is already wildlife friendly with a patch of brambles and a log pile, there is probably no need to have a hedgehog house. If your garden is tidier, then a hedgehog house will work. Hedgehogs seem to prefer homemade houses over bought ones. Position hedgehog houses in a shaded spot out of the way – and remember to put leaves inside. Hedgehogs are quite happy to take up residence less than 5m from our houses, indicating how accustomed they are to human activity and the presence of pets.

And between now and winter, remember to offer wildlife a drink by leaving a shallow plant saucer of water on the ground in your garden.

Thank you on behalf of Woodcote's hedgehogs (and the Woodcote Conservation Group).

(Editor's note: we are also very fortunate to have Hog's Haven in the local area who will try to rehabilitate injured hedgehogs. Her number is 07475 805926 or search for her on Facebook. She also welcomes donations to help support the costs!)

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OWL UPDATE (OUR WOODCOTE LIBRARY)



On Saturday 2nd October the library is celebrating its 30th birthday! Please come along from 11am and raise a (non-alcoholic) glass, look at our archives and current displays and perhaps sign

on for the Book Club, or hear about the chance to be an OWL volunteer.

Since it opened in 1991, the library has played an important role in the life of the village. Housed in the old school, it replaced a once-a-week mobile library for residents and also the library at Langtree School. It was the first joint use library in South Oxfordshire.

Its success was instant and over the years has been the focal point for many activities. Looking at the archives, there are many photos of Storytimes, often involving dressing up as pirates (especially the staff).

There were science talks, art and history sessions by staff of the Ashmolean, displays of work by local artists, and Jan Clegg's quilts, hanging from the beams.

The Langtree connection brought children's authors to the library such as John Foster and Geraldine McCaughrean, and the shadowing of the Carnegie award – usually involving a disagreement with the official result.

The library was where the condolence book for the Princess of Wales was placed in 1997, and in 2000 an internet terminal appeared for general use, at 50p for half an hour.

Despite its outstanding success, it has been threatened with closure as Council funding has declined. The 1997 threat was resolved with a small reduction in opening hours but the 2011 crisis was more serious. OWL was inaugurated in January 2011 to campaign against closure and then became a "Friends" group in 2014, committed to volunteering in support of the staff. Only the pandemic has closed the library!

The good news is that the library's opening hours are now fully restored, and activities are set to begin again. Would you like to be part of the library's future? Have you a few hours a month to volunteer in a friendly, safe and interesting environment? Please talk to the library manager, or ring 01491 682323. Lisa.Trood@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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WOODCOTE FOOTBALL CLUB



It is good to report perhaps our best ever start to the season with three consecutive and comprehensive wins in the Hellenic League Division 2 (East). We began the season with a 5-1 win at Hazlemere Sports, with goals scored by Toby Nowell 2, Sam Green 2 and Will Thomas. The following week it was another journey, this time to play Chalfont Wasps and a 5-0 victory with goals scored by Toby Nowell 3, Daniel Boateng and Alec Curtis. The first game at home on September 4th saw us score five again as we defeated Aldermaston 5-1. Goals in this game were scored by Daniel Boateng 2, Joe Webber 2 and Will Thomas. Not surprisingly, Woodcote sit at the top of the League and new manager, Andy Silver and his assistant Rob Wytchard have certainly got off to a good start seeing their new look team hit the ground running.

SP

WOODCOTE CRICKET CLUB



Woodcote Cricket Club are Berkshire League Champions

In a tense, nail-biting encounter at Stratfield on Saturday 4th September, with good travelling support, Woodcote inched over the line to secure the BCL Premier title for the first time in their history. They were made to battle all the way for their two-wicket win by a very able and committed home side. Woodcote's captain, James Worsfold, won the toss and elected to field, but after an early success for Olly Nicholson (1 for 34), a second wicket partnership of 50 put Stratfield in a strong position at 60 for 1.

Change bowlers, Paul Knox (3 for 24) and Rakesh Patel (2 for 19) bowled decisive spells to reduce the home team to 77 for 6, before Steve Henderson (3 for 25) and Mark Pearson (1 for 3) mopped up the tail. With a very slow outfield and a strong bowling attack, Stratfield's total of 126 proved a difficult target for the away team.

After twenty overs, Woodcote were reduced to 37 for 3. The turning point was the arrival of Paul Knox (45) who played just the innings the situation required. He hit three huge sixes, but also defended well against some accurate bowling particularly from Nufail (3 for 27) and Chakrapani (3 for 14). Good support was provided by Jonny Clark, Mark Pearson and Olly Nicholson. When Knox was out with the score at 122 for 8, Olly Nicholson (14) steered Woodcote home to their historic victory.

For Woodcote to win this league is made all the more remarkable by the fact that, in contrast with all other clubs in the league, the team members are all locally based and, with no second team, the club relies heavily on a core of only around fifteen players.

The following day there were lots of sore heads as the Cricket Club hosted the annual Red Lion match for the Pete Aldridge Memorial Shield and the Picnic on the Green. Any local doubts about interest in village cricket in Woodcote would have been dispelled by the large numbers of spectators on a glorious early-September afternoon. The Aldridge family was well represented and Jonny, a regular Woodcote player for over 30 years, turning out for the Red Lion, distinguishing himself with bat and ball.

There was also a good contingent from the WADs for which Pete and Joy were long-serving members. The Red Lion, with mainly occasional cricketers forming their team, performed extremely well. Chasing Woodcote's total of 179 they reached 163, but the result was irrelevant to the enjoyment of the day for all who played or attended. Ryan Van Heerden, Martin Henderson and Jonny Clark had an extremely busy afternoon coping with a large demand for burgers and hot dogs. All-in-all, it was a great day for all concerned and for the village as a whole.

SP.

WOODCOTE BADMINTON CLUB



We are a friendly small group of Badminton players who play at the Woodcote Village Hall on Monday evenings. If you have a knowledge of the game and would be interested in joining us between 7.30 and 9.30pm please either come along or contact Ken Rook on 01491 680472 should you require more information. We restarted our evenings in September and will play through until March next year.



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WOODCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL



It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back this Autumn. We are delighted to have parents and families back onto school grounds and it is great to see the children

running in through the gates in the mornings. Welcome particularly to our new families this September, both in Oak class and across the school. We hope you will be very happy at Woodcote Primary.

We are looking forward to returning to St Leonard's Church and sharing our harvest festival celebrations with Reverend Linda. After presentations from the children about harvest around the world and the opportunity to, once again, sing some harvest songs, we will be gathering all the offerings to take back to school. Once there, our year 6 children will organise them into harvest boxes that they have beautifully decorated and, along with a personal letter, they will be delivered across the village. This is one of our favourite times. The children adore coming round to see everyone and love receiving replies to their letters. Thank you to everyone involved.

Very excitingly we have just had a whole school photograph taken. These large photos are taken roughly every 5 years. With coronavirus blocking out a large amount of time we are a little late but are delighted to have had this taken now. This is a fabulous record of the history of the school over time and hopefully will make a wonderful keepsake for our families.

Sadly, we say cheerio to Mr Thorne who has been caretaker at the school for the last 12 years. He has been amazing at helping the school with small maintenance jobs, unlocking and locking up and also digging us out of the snow and ice each winter. He has decided that he needs to concentrate on his other job running his own building business which keeps him incredibly busy. Thank you for all you have done for the school Graeme. If you know anyone who is interested in a caretaking role, please let us know.

Mrs L. Hunt

CABIN PRESCHOOL



What an amazing start to the year! Lots of new, smiling faces, as well as our older Cabin children that all seem to have grown so tall over the summer - nearly as tall as our amazing sunflowers! The children planted these last term and have managed to keep them growing throughout the summer.

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We have lots of new children to get to know, so what better than to start the year off with a topic of All About Me? We have taken hand and foot prints and made a new picture board with all their families together. As Woodcote Fete falls at the beginning of term, we have also been very busy making veggie print pictures, decorating stones and plan to make a fairy garden for the children to exhibit at the show.

At the end of the summer, we had our delayed Leavers' ceremony. We met on the Rec to celebrate a great year and send the leavers off with a Big School card and certificate from us ladies at Cabin. Each key worker group took it in turns to be presented by their key worker who said a few meaningful words.

Then we had two amazing cakes. Zoe's mum made a gorgeous chocolate cake filled with rainbow cream and Matthew's mum made a huge iced cake with each child's name on it, which of course each child wanted to find their own name and have a bit from it. Silly races followed, with much laughter and fun. Thank you so much for all our lovely cards, kind words and gifts, the staff all felt very spoilt.

This term we will be celebrating Harvest Festival. We are so excited to be going out to Church! It will be so lovely to go on a village outing again and see our friends at the other preschool.

We are organising a Bingo night on Friday 15th October 2021 at the Village Hall. We have run two of these before and they have been immense fun. It will be a fish and chip supper, games and a bar, everyone is welcome. Look out for more info and hope you can join us.

Our AGM is planned for 18th October. It will be held at Cabin starting at 8pm.

Our photographer is booked for the 19th October, as usual this is open for anyone to use. We will have sessions available after school and times need to be booked through Jayne at the Cabin or via our face book page. Watch out for the post.

We do have spaces available, and we start children at any time of the year. We accept children from 2 years until they start school. We are on the school grounds which makes for a fantastic transition to school – we have loved waving to our new Reception children over the fence on their way to lunch! Please call Jayne on 01491 680854 or email us on info@thecabinpreschool.co.uk for more information.

WOODCOTE PRESCHOOL



welcome to Keianna, Roana, Jacob and their families.

Our first few days back has been about welcoming the children and finding out what they have been doing during the holidays. We then moved onto making crafts and baking for the Woodcote Fete. The children picked lots of vegetables they have grown in their own allotment and entered them into the

competition. We made some vegetable print pictures, painted Woodcote rocks, made a fairy garden, baked and decorated some gingerbread men and fairy cakes.

We were very successful with our entries into the Fete and received lots of first prize certificates, a very well done to the children! A massive thank you to all the committee members and staff for all your help on the day, we couldn't have done it without you and a big thank you to everyone who donated bottles and sweets for the event.

We will be going to St Leonards Church for our Harvest Festival and the children have been busy practising our songs for the Harvest Festival and are very much looking forward to visiting the church again.

We still have spaces available at preschool and take children from 18 months to school age. If you are interested in your child starting with us, please contact Wendy Powell on 01491 682300 or email woodcote.pre-school@hotmail.co.uk. You can also download our forms from our website www.woodcotepreschool.co.uk

CHECKENDON PRESCHOOL



We have had a wonderful start to the new term, settling in to our new routine, exploring, learning, and having fun; meeting new friends and reuniting

with old ones. We would like to welcome Phoebe, Emilia, Rosie, Max, Wilfred and their families to preschool.

We will be getting to know the children, helping them settle in, building up their confidence and supporting them as they become familiar with their preschool environment.

We will be exploring their interests and learning about what they enjoy doing as well as making new friends and bonding with their key person. Developing these bonds help to form good relationships, which are crucial for development in the early years.

We have been celebrating Harvest, reading the story of the Little Red Hen, using the vegetables to do paint printing and enjoying the fruits of our labour, eating the tomatoes we have grown in our gardening bed. The children have been thoroughly enjoying the responsibility of looking after their garden, watering the tomatoes and learning about how they grow.

We are delighted to be back after the summer holidays and are looking forward to a fun-packed term full of enthusiasm, creativity and learning.

To find out more about Checkendon preschool, do visit our website www.checkendonpreschool.co.uk, call us on 01491 682589, e-mail preschoolcheckendon@gmail.com or just pop in – we always look forward to welcoming you!

Kelly Mullins

Pete Aldridge Memorial Cricket Match



Teams applaud Pete Aldridge before the game



The Aldridge family enjoying the game



William Gordon bowling for the Red Lion



Olly Nicholson hits out for Woodcote



Enjoying the cricket and the sunshine



Jonny Aldridge presents the trophy to Archie Clark



Woodcote and Red Lion teams at close of play

Fruits of labour at the Cabin Preschool



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WADS ARE BACK

Enjoy a night of free entertainment!

As promised many moons ago, WADS are back! We invite you, our wonderful audience to an evening of comedy and a Christmas singalong. And what's more it's FREE!! That's right, to celebrate our return we want to give you an evening to remember, with laughs a plenty!

We've especially chosen for your delight two very funny pieces of entertainment. One is a one act comedy called 'I Don't Think I'll Be Here Next Christmas' by Dawn Cairns. This is an award winner too! The other piece is called 'All by Myself' by Robert Scott. This is a tried and tested bums on seats winner!

To add to the mix, one or two of us shall be singing a few songs before we all join together at the end for a jolly Christmas singalong, accompanied by our resident pianist Carol. How does that sound for a great night out?!

Here are the details: An Evening of Comedy and Song: November 11th/12th/13th 7.45pm (Doors open at 7pm) Free entry by ticket only.

Bar and nibbles will be available.

There will be a maximum of 50 tickets per performance to make everyone feel safe. Seating will be on tables with free nibbles provided. Why not book a table for you and your friends. Look out for the posters coming soon. We can't wait to see you all once again! The box office will be open from Friday 1st October. Box office number: Linda Burton 07956136750; Email: dla.burton@btinternet.com See website: www.woodcotedrama.co.uk



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ON BICYCLES

By David Sutton

Watching a cycle race in Woodcote recently I was moved to reflect on how much we take for granted the human skill of being able to whiz round the roads at twenty miles an hour while balanced on two narrow wheels. Indeed, I suspect that most people nowadays start cycling early enough to have no recollection of not being able to ride a bike. Not so in my case: if I now cannot imagine not being able to ride a bike, I remember very well a time when I despaired of ever being able to do so, and my exhilaration when I finally acquired the long-sought mastery.

I don't think this is down to any unusual degree of incompetence on my part. It's just that back in those frugal days of the early nineteen-fifties, my permanently impecunious parents firmly believed in getting everything for a child at least one size too big, to allow 'growing room'. This was bad enough with shoes. Breaking in a pair of new shoes was an ordeal that saw me limping home from school at the end of the day with two florin-sized circles of raw skin on the back of each heel, stuffing the toes of the shoes with paper having proved ineffective. The same philosophy applied to bicycles was even more unfortunate. I didn't get my first bike until I was nearly nine, long after most of my contemporaries, and it was a hand-me-down from a much older boy next door. With the saddle at its lowest, I could just about reach the pedals with the tips of my toes. This does not give good control. At that age you tend not to query things: I assumed this was just how learning to ride a bike had to be. To be fair to my father, he did spend a lot of one Easter holiday walking behind me holding the back of the saddle as I made my wobbling progress, punctuated by falling off every ten yards. And one April morning it suddenly clicked. Whether I had grown that vital half inch I don't know, but I suddenly found myself sailing off for a hundred yards or more quite unsupported. 'Jolly good, you should be able to manage on your own now', said my relieved father.

Unfortunately, this was only partially true. Yes, I could ride in a straight line, but any attempt to turn saw me lose my precarious balance and the handlebar come round to strike me smartly on the inside of the thigh. Nonetheless I persisted doggedly and each day when I came home from school would take the bike up to a quiet flat stretch of road at the top of our hill and practise riding round in a circle, trying to increase the sharpness of the turn. This resulted in a good deal of bruising, and I remember my class teacher, having seen the spectacular black and purple thighs emerging from my short trousers, coming to ask me what on earth I'd been doing, clearly suspecting some form of child abuse. 'I'm learning to ride a bike', I said proudly. 'Well, I should hurry up and learn!' she said.

But as the weeks went by, I finally mastered the brute, and then I had all that summer to revel in my new-found freedom. At first, I cycled only around my local estate, but that grew limiting, especially as one was always going up a hill or coming down one, and soon I was exploring the network of country lanes in our quiet corner of Hertfordshire, riding out through Felden to Chipperfield and Flaunden, and even as far as Latimer and Chenies about eight miles away. My mother did worry slightly when I was gone all afternoon with, of course, no means of communication in those days before mobile phones, or in our house even a landline, not to mention that cycling helmets were unknown, but children did this sort of thing back then, and no parent wanted to be accused of 'mollycoddling'. And often in the evening I would ride out with my father, and maybe stop at a pub to sit outside and drink a glass of lemonade, then come back home as the darkening air cooled in the hollows of the lanes and the green sappy smells of summer night began to rise from the fields.

I have never forgotten that first summer of freedom, nor lost my gratitude to the inventor of that noble, pollution-free, health-giving machine, the bicycle.

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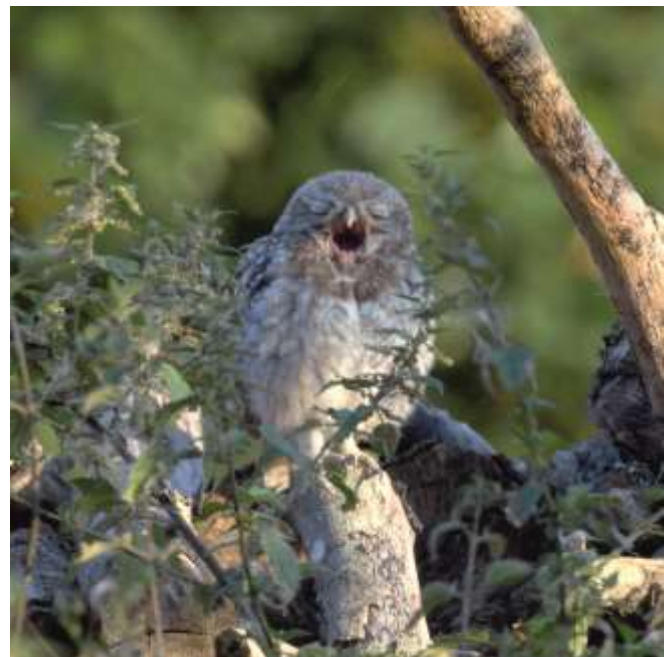
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IT'S A HOOT!



We already know we are incredibly lucky to live in such a beautiful location of scenic countryside and amazing wildlife. Many of us might hear the evening and night time calls of different evening creatures, the most recognisable for some being the *Tawny Owl*.

We hear them very loudly and actively in the area around February time when they are starting to look for a mate. Some will refer to the “twit – twoo” of an owl; in fact, this is actually two different owls calling: the high pitched “kee-wick” of the female Tawny Owl which is responded to by the long note of the “twoooooo” of the male.

This dating ritual has kept many of us awake at night during early Spring!



This is just one of the interesting facts guests of the *Owl Walks* over the last two Summers’ have been learning, as part of the *GG Wildlife Experiences guided Owl Walks*. We are really lucky to live in an area which has four different types of Owls, all sighted in a small radius. Whilst the Short-Eared Owls and Barn Owls are a less common sight for most, it’s been delightful to show a number of local residents the families of Little Owls we have nesting and breeding here in Goring and Streatley, and to help them learn more about the Little Owls we see, and the Tawny Owls we hear and sometimes also get to see too.

Steve Gozdz started *Goring Gap Wildlife Walks* back in 2019; with a background in wildlife photography and a love of wildlife, most notably birds, the career move into providing guided walks was a natural step. This has now broadened into Experiences, hence the re-name; “We now offer guided Wildlife Spotting Boat Trips, and even Nature Breaks, so expanding the business and rebranding made sense, to show we now offer so much more”.



So why is it great to help people learn about wildlife whilst exploring our countryside? “The more people understand about our local wildlife, the greater their interest, and then a lot of people want to know about how to

protect it, how to create good habitats in their garden or on their land to allow wildlife to flourish – which is a great way to protect and grow those species we really want to see thrive”, says Steve.

So much so, that last year following popular demand after the Owl Box, Steve turned his Woodwork skills to good use and began creating and installing custom handmade Owl Boxes for those in the local area. “You can’t just put any box up and hope for the best. Different owls require different habitats and very different homes; it also depends if you are creating just a roost, or are creating a nesting location”. This is why you can’t just purchase a box; Steve will first come and survey your garden or land and advise on the most appropriate box for the owl type you are likely to have frequent your garden. And in some cases, he has advised against buying one, as the habitat just hasn’t been right. “The environment needs to be suitable for a long-term habitat in order for the wildlife to flourish, and so I want to ensure we give the right advice, and give the wildlife the best chance”.

A new request at the end of last year was Bat Boxes, and Steve began installing these for customers who have enjoyed seeing them in the garden and wanted to provide a safe haven for them.

As the Owl Season comes to an end regarding guided walks, Steve is now busy with a series of Owl Box orders as we head towards the roosting wintering period, and ready for the next year’s mating period when new pairs will need to find new homes.....

You can contact Steve at info@ggwildlifeexperiences.co.uk or visit www.ggwildlifeexperiences.co.uk for guidance or advice on your garden’s suitability for different wildlife, or if interested in Guided Wildlife Experiences, which run all year round.



NEED A GOOD READ?

The Wallingford bookshop team is on hand to help!

This month we’ve chosen some wonderful darkly humorous books for you to enjoy as the evenings draw in.

For adults:

Making Nice by Ferdinand Mount



Ferdinand Mount’s astonishing ‘Kiss Myself Goodbye’, was one of our most popular memoirs in hardback last year. His new novel is an amusing, ascerbic take on London’s Public Relations industry. The ‘Making Nice’ is a ‘relationship management’ firm created by the charming but elusive Ethel (short for Ethelbert, if that is, in fact, his real name). Journalist Dickie Pentecost and his family initially cross paths with Ethel on a ‘champing’ trip, but soon he has inveigled himself into all aspects of their lives. The hapless Dickie lurches from disaster to disaster as Ethel’s Director of Public Affairs, first hitting the campaign trail in Africa, and then taking on responsibility for funding an election campaign in the US. UK politics isn’t left out by any stretch and the book takes a darker turn at this point... This is an enjoyable satire on society and politics, with a host of memorable (if mostly unlikeable) characters.

For children:

Grimwood by Nadia Shireen



We love Nadia Shireen’s picture books and so we were thrilled to find out that she’s written a new series for middle grade (8 up to 108) readers. Trusting Ted and his streetwise sister Nancy are two city fox cubs who are forced to go on the run after Ted mistakes the ruthless cat, Princess Buttons’, tail for a delicious looking hotdog. Cue their arrival at Grimwood, where they meet a whole host of crazy characters including a dramatic duck and a badger barbershop quartet. The humour is dark so may not appeal to younger, more sensitive readers (don’t get too attached to Binky Snuffhausen), but we think it’s a laugh out loud gigglefest! Our favourite character has to be Titus Crazyhorns - mayor, memoirist and smoothie mogul, although the treebonk loving squirrels aren’t far behind...



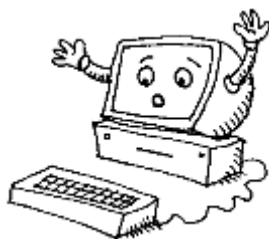
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WALLINGFORD GARDEN CLUB



Over recent times, despite the lockdown, Wallingford Garden Club has not been in hibernation. Many of our members have been very active in our gardens enjoying the energising peace and well-being that comes from horticulture. This year we started meeting again with two garden visits.

At Bledlow Ridge, a great NHS garden, we had a rainbow on arrival and another on departure!

Our first in person meeting will be on Thursday 14th October at 7:30pm at Ridgeway Community Centre, Wood Street, Wallingford OX10 0BD. Aleck Harrison will take us on a journey of 'How Plants Got Their Names and The Their Meaning'. Before this we will have a short AGM (the first in two years!)

Visitors are welcome, £3.00 per meeting.

For more details please either email gardenwallingford@gmail.com or visit www.wallingford-gardening-club.com.

RBL POPPY APPEAL



Woodcote & Goring Heath Area

Thank you to everyone that came to the Village Fete back on Saturday 11th September and frequented our stand. You were very generous with your donations and we raised £204!

This year the Royal British Legion celebrates 100 years of supporting the Armed Forces community. This year is more important than ever, as Covid-19 continues to leave some people we support in urgent need of help.

This year's Poppy Appeal launches on Thursday 28th October. House-to-house collections will start on Saturday 30th October. And Remembrance Sunday is on the 14th November.

If you would like to help as a house-to-house collector (you can choose a road or number of roads whatever works for you) or you are a local business that doesn't usually have a collection tin and poppies, then please get in touch with us. Even if just for a chat to discuss what is involved. We would welcome all help – every little helps.

Please note that if we don't get a house-to-house collector for your road and you would like a visit then please contact Linda and we can ensure you get a personal visit.

All local businesses that have had collection tins and poppy boxes in previous years will be contacted to see if you will be happy to have one again this year. Thank you as ever for all your previous support – especially last year with lockdowns and a reduced collecting period!

School packs will be available for our local schools and will be with you for Monday 1st November latest. You will actually get a full 2 weeks this year – no half term to clash with collecting dates!



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For those that like getting the collectable poppy pins, and don't want to miss out on getting one (or even want to find a previous year one that you have missing from your collection), then please get in contact with Linda and we can ensure you get one (stocks still being available of course). We also have a lovely 100 year pin this year, and VE Day pin (from last year).

Thank you

Linda Burton and David Jennings
(On behalf of The Royal British Legion)
David Jennings: 07804 433989 or 01491 681162
Linda Burton: 07956 136750 or 01491 680680
Email: dla.burton@btinternet.com



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Cinema

All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise.

Tickets £8 for adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

We would respectfully ask patrons to still sanitise their hands, leave their contact details for the Track and Trace system and wear a mask especially when moving around the building. We're grateful for patrons for their observation of all the Covid rules that we have implemented in the theatre. Please look out for new announcements on any changes after 7th September.

No Time to Die (James Bond) 12A:

Thursday 30th September, 7:30pm

Friday, 1st October, 7:30pm

Saturday, 2nd October, 2:30pm

Saturday, 2nd October, 7:30pm

Sunday, 3rd October, 2:30pm

Sunday, 3rd October, 7:30pm

Monday, October, 7:30pm

Tuesday, 5th October, 7:30pm

Wednesday, 6th October, 2:30pm

Wednesday, 6th October, 7:30pm

Thursday, 7th October, 7:30pm

Friday, 8th October, 7:30pm

Saturday, 9th October, 2:30pm

Saturday 9th October, 7:30pm

Sunday, 10th October, 7:30pm

Monday, 11th October, 7:30pm

Tuesday, 12th October, 7:30pm

Wednesday, 13th October, 7:30pm

Thursday, 14th October, 7:30pm

Respect 12A:

Friday, 15th October, 7:30pm

Saturday, 16th October, 7:30pm

Green Knight 15:

Sunday, 17th October, 7:30pm

Monday, 18th October, 7:30pm

The Servant 12A:

Wednesday, 20th October, 7:30pm

Live Screenings

Cliff Richard: The Great 80 Tour:

Wednesday, 27th October, 7:45pm

Broadcast live from the Royal Albert Hall, London. Sir Cliff's 80th birthday tour (rescheduled from 2020) broadcast live from the Royal Albert Hall. Featuring a selection of his greatest hits, the show is sure to have you dancing in the aisles (government regulations permitting!) All Tickets £10

Live Theatre

Arthur Smith is SYD:

Friday, 30th October, 7:45pm

New date after the postponement in September due to illness, Arthur Smith's show SYD follows a highly successful season at Soho Theatre and a sell-out and critical acclaimed run at the Edinburgh Fringe. Packed with big gags, hilarious stories and poignant reflections about an ordinary man who lived through extraordinary times; Arthur, accompanied by the mellifluous Kirsty Newton tells the story of his own father. All tickets booked for the September show have been transferred to the new date but refunds are available for anyone who can't make that date. Tickets £15.

Coming Soon

Under Milk Wood:

Saturday, 20th November, 7:45pm

Performed solo by Guy Masterson, celebrating a day in the life of 'Llareggub' – a small sea town somewhere in Wales – all 69 ebullient inhabitants in Dylan Thomas' timeless masterpiece are assiduously recreated in an amazing feat of memory and virtuosity. Complemented by a stunning original soundscape, it's bawdy and beautiful, sad and sensual and, through the music of language, leaves indelible, unforgettable images of humanity.

This is Jess

Thursday, 25th to Saturday 27th November, 2:30pm (Saturday) and 7:30pm (all evenings)

'This is Jess' is a new musical - with a twist... Billing itself as 'half gig, half musical theatre, and half stand-up comedy' (*Jess is better at geography than maths!*), the one-woman, two-act show follows a year in the life of local girl, Jess. But it isn't just any year: this is the year she meets Gino Corsetti, and a roller-coaster romance ensues. You're certain to fall in love with the hapless Jess (*think Bridget Jones, without the celebrity glamour and fake snow!*) and leave the theatre singing any of the 16 plus strong numbers from this whimsical, uplifting and touching musical.

Tickets £14 (Adults) £12 (Under 18s)

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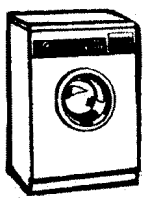
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GORING GAP PHOTO CLUB

Now we are back (hopefully!) to meeting in the Free Church Hall in Goring, we have an exciting new programme for 2021-22 which includes many creative, talented and well-known speakers.

The first of our outside speakers is a photographic artist, Andy Small, who will be talking about Macro Flower and Nature Photography. Andy sells his prints on a wide range of media and he also runs flower photography workshops for the Royal Horticultural Society at RHS Wisley.

Andy studied Fine Art at Bristol and his art college background meant he spent as much time painting and drawing as he did developing his photography and this has had a profound influence on his style.

Andy's images are described as being "very painterly" in their appearance, and he has become one of the UK's most original flower photographers.

He says "The natural world is my lifelong passion and provides inspiration for my drawing, painting and photography. The macro lens is like a window that transports me into another world. In this place I observe details, shapes and patterns that are not usually seen even though most of the subjects are right under our noses. "I am fascinated by the intricate structure and design found in nature and my photography celebrates this diverse but orderly world that sometimes goes unnoticed."

Since he and his wife designed their first garden, flowers and plants have become the inspiration for his art. They now have a very prolific cottage garden which provides him with most of his subject matter.

He says "A lot of my images focus on nature's patterns and fractals in particular. Fractals are geometric motifs that are repeated at different scales in the same structure. Examples that we can see easily are ferns, tree branches, clouds and shells. These patterns are also revealed when we look even closer at nature using a macro lens. The structure of leaves, rocks and bark are all examples of Research has indicated that looking at Fractal patterns in nature has the same effect on the brain as listening to music. This can make us feel relaxed or stimulate creativity.

Above all else it seems to me to be the driving force in the creation of the vast majority of my images."

For more of Andy's work look at his website at www.andysmall.co.uk

Andy's talk will be at the Free Church Hall at Goring at 8 pm on Tuesday 19th October – all welcome!

Goring Gap Photo Club www.goringgapphoto.co.uk

Look forward to seeing you there!

Janet Phillips

THE BRITISH MODERN MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY



Forthcoming Talks

It is planned that the first of two talks will be on Zoom, and the second in Woodcote Village Hall. This may change – please check www.bmmhs.org for the latest

information.

Our afternoon Zoom meeting on Tuesday 5th October at 2pm will be about The Blitz in London, December 1940 from a German and British perspective. German historian Katherine Quinlan-Flatter and British researcher Linda Parker will present their research and answer questions.

On Wednesday 13th October at 7.30pm, Gareth Glover will give a talk on Waterloo: myths and the quest for the truth. Probably more has been written about the Battle of Waterloo than any other subject in history and yet we actually still don't understand it that well. This has occurred, because the story has been confused by national bias (with four nations involved, all claiming the glory of gaining the victory), myths and false accusations.

Historians have also (either wilfully or mistakenly) misread eyewitness statements and twisted them to make them agree with the 'accepted version' of events. From all of these various influences a narrative of the Battle has emerged, which became accepted and this 'traditional version' has held sway for the best part of 190 years.

However, a major search of the archives across Europe and even the world, has in the last decade, uncovered literally hundreds of previously unknown eyewitness accounts, which have caused us to question many aspects of the accepted story and has also caused us to re-evaluate those eyewitness statements we have known about for years, in the realisation that the story they told was very different to what we had all understood in the standard histories.

After studying and publishing these newly discovered accounts for the last fifteen years, Gareth Glover had discovered that so much of the traditional story was wrong that he decided that the history of the battle needed completely rewriting and he published a highly acclaimed new history entitled 'Waterloo, Myth & Reality' in 2014 ready for the 200th anniversary. However, his research has continued and even more accounts have been unearthed and the story continues to be altered with each fresh discovery. Gareth Glover will bring the story right up to date, showing the true story of this great battle.

It is planned that this meeting will take place in Woodcote Village Hall. Due to COVID please note that we are likely to have a reduced number of places and also that the meeting may change to a Zoom talk at short notice. Please check www.bmmhs.org for the latest information

Check out our website on www.bmmhs.org for details of all our talks, and to register for talks, email us on zoom@bmmhs.org Thank you to everyone who

has supported us and made donations to help keep us going.

PUSS IN BOOTS VISITS GORING HEATH

It's not every day that a cat strolls into your garden, having been missing from Purley for 18 months.



When 4-year-old Peggy turned up at our property a few weeks ago, she seemed very keen to move in and sleep on our beds. *Nothing unusual about that*, I hear all you cat lovers say. Of course, we didn't know her name was Peggy at the time. We just called her *Cat*. She was extremely good at killing mice (very handy when you keep chickens) so we initially suspected she was a stray. But the pet shop people told us that cats like to catch mice just for fun. Even if they are well-fed.

We tried various tactics to put her off us. We tried to simply ignore her (very difficult); we even went away for a couple of days and hoped that she would decide we were useless to her after all.

But no. Upon our return, she greeted us with open paws. So we moved on to plan B: we put word out locally and on social media that a cat had been found. We assumed someone would recognise her. *But no one came forward to claim her.*

So then we moved to plan C: my daughter and I took her to the Goring vets to check for a microchip. Now I think my daughter was secretly hoping that Peggy wouldn't have one and that we could keep her. After all, she was such a friendly little thing.

But she did have a microchip and her owners lived in...Purley! How did she travel from Purley to Goring Heath? How did she cross the river? Did she even pay the toll fee?

Joking aside, the owner was flabbergasted but delighted that his beloved cat was safe and sound after having been missing since March 2020: the beginning of lockdown one! Apparently at that time, there had been a spate of cat thefts in the Purley area as more people were seeking pets. Could that explain the distance the cat had seemingly covered? Or had she simply decided to pack her bags and go on a journey? We will never know. But at least she is now safely back in her home...until the next adventure!

Yvette Decmar

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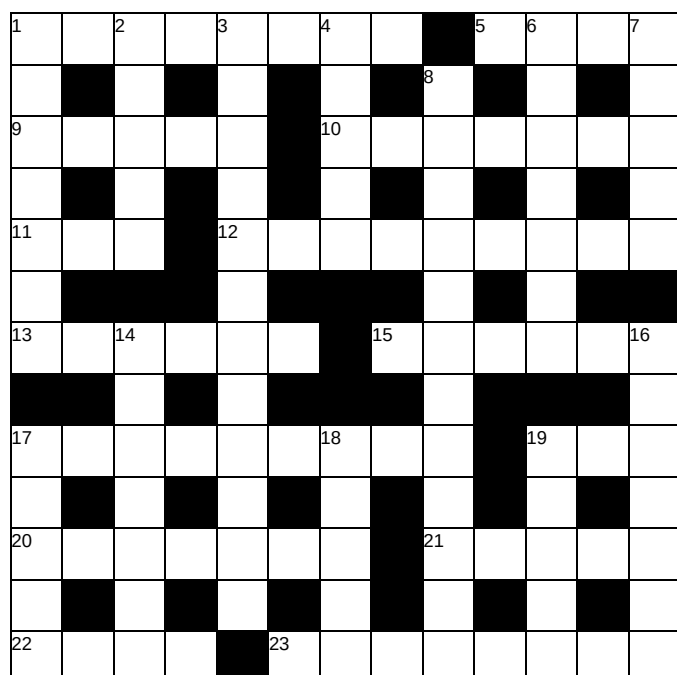
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OCTOBER CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Heavenly celeb transport (8)
- 5 To even embarrass is coloured red here (4)
- 9 Popular relief back here (5)
- 10 Hover flier hold races (7)
- 11 Pip has, at last, taken you out (3)
- 12 Transfers to rotate bowling (9)
- 13 Relief for those embracing accomplishment (6)
- 15 Serial killer drops right for 1000 fish (6)
- 17 Risky playing tune in car (9)
- 19 Seal international award (3)
- 20 Endorse first (7)
- 21 Foreign article about an untruth (5)
- 22 Zero, no-one loses nothing (4)
- 23 A drug beyond 5 (8)

Down

- 1 and 14 Chaotic, if nice conceits, of things to come (7,7)
- 2 Review trial lacking charge (5)
- 3 Nitwit broadcast to Britain when losing it! (12)
- 4 Gather for a blaze? No no!
- 6 Place for a fool around November (7)
- 7 South African state's dresses
- 8 Confuse when date is muddled about the East (12)
- 14 See 1 down
- 16 Aged writer in dire mess (7)
- 17 Fusion of uranium, nitrogen and iron combining right away (5)
- 18 A sailor sent back for maps (5)
- 19 Vehicle takes one first off to capital (5)

SEPTEMBER CROSSWORD SOLUTION



PANGBOURNE ART GROUP

Come to our annual exhibition!

Several Woodcote artists will be showing their work at Pangbourne Village Hall on Saturday 16th October and Sunday 17th October from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm.

We are delighted to be able to present our work again after a break of two years. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be available.

HENLEY AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

If you are one of the many people who have taken up stamp collecting or returned to their old school collections during lockdown. we would be delighted to see you at our meetings. Belonging to a stamp club makes the hobby more interesting, friendly and fun, and covers all aspects of philatelic subjects, stamps, covers (envelopes), postmarks and postcards etc.

The Henley club has now gone back to face-to-face meetings and we hope to have a guest speaker at one of the meetings.

We will be meeting on the 13th and 27th October, further information will be on our website. Hope to see you then, so that you enjoy your collecting even more!

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th week of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Visitors and new members are welcome. Further details can be obtained by phoning 01491 681739 or on our website: - www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk

DATES FOR THE DIARY – OCTOBER

Fri 1st	* Jeremy Nicholas presents: 'One Man on the Bummel - The Life and Works of Jerome K. Jerome'. The Catholic Parish Church, Goring. 7pm
Sat 2nd	* Woodcote Library 30th birthday celebration. Woodcote Library. 11.00am
	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 8.00am
Sun 3rd	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 9.45am
Tues 5th	* BMMHS Zoom Talk: 'Battle of Britain - Eagle Day and the London Blitz'. Email zoom@bmmhs.org. 2.00pm
	* St. Leonard's open for private prayer. St. Leonard's Church.
Wed 6th	* St. Leonard's online Night Prayer. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 8.30pm
Thur 7th	* Wallingford Photographic Club Zoom talk: 'Japan Olympics'. www.wallingfordphoto.club. 7.30pm
	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 8.00am
Sun 10th	* St. Leonard's service 'Worshipping Together' online. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 10.00am
	* St. Leonard's open for private prayer. St. Leonard's Church.
	* BMMHS Talk: 'Waterloo'. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm
	* Henley & District Stamp Club meeting. Bix Village Hall. 7.30pm
Wed 13th	* St. Leonard's online Night Prayer. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 8.30pm
	* Wallingford Garden Club AGM followed by talk: 'How Plants Got Their Names and Their Meaning'. Ridgeway Community Centre, OX10 0BD. 7.30pm
Thur 14th	* Wallingford Photographic Club Zoom meeting: 'Members Critique Evening'. The Pavillion & online www.wallingfordphoto.club. 7.30pm
Fri 15th	* The Cabin Pre-School Bingo night. Woodcote Village Hall. 7.30pm
Sat 16th	* Pangbourne Art Group Annual Exhibition. Pangbourne Village Hall. 10am-5pm
	* Pangbourne Art Group Annual Exhibition. Pangbourne Village Hall. 10am-5pm
	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 8.00am
Sun 17th	* St. Leonard's service 'The Open Door'. St. Leonard's Church. 9.45am
	* Wallingford & District Art Club AGM followed by illustrated talk. Email admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk. 7.30pm
Tues 19th	* Goring Gap Photo Club talk. Goring Free Church Hall. 8pm
	* St. Leonard's open for private prayer. St. Leonard's Church.

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Tues 19th	* Woodcote WI meeting. Woodcote Village Hall. 2.30pm
Wed 20th	* St. Leonard's online Night Prayer. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 8.30pm
Thur 21st	* Wallingford Photographic Club meeting - details TBC. 7.30pm
	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 8.00am
Sun 24th	* St. Leonard's service 'Morning Praise' online. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 10.00am
	* St. Leonard's open for private prayer. St. Leonard's Church.
	* Henley & District Stamp Club meeting. Bix Village Hall. 7.30pm
Wed 27th	* St. Leonard's online Night Prayer. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 8.30pm
Thur 28th	* Wallingford Photographic Club competition: 'No Set Subject 1 (NSS1)'. Venue TBC. 7.30pm
	* St. Leonard's Team Service. Details TBC. 10.30am
Sun 31st	* St. Leonard's service to remember our loved ones - 'In Loving Memory'. St. Leonard's Church. 4pm

FORTHCOMING DATES IN NOVEMBER

Tues 2nd	* BMMHS Zoom Talk: 'The role of NCOs in the British and Dominion Armies'. Email zoom@bmmhs.org. 2.00pm
	* St. Leonard's open for private prayer. St. Leonard's Church.
Wed 3rd	* St. Leonard's online Night Prayer. Email woodcotevicarage@btinternet.com. 8.30pm
Thur 4th	* Wallingford Photographic Club talk: 'Walking About In The Dark'. The Pavillion & online www.wallingfordphoto.club. 7.30pm
	* St. Leonard's service of Holy Communion. St. Leonard's Church. 8.00am

CLOSING THOUGHT

Before you marry a person, you should first make them use a computer with slow internet to see who they really are.

Will Ferrell
(American actor/comedian)