

The Oaks



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Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

The pundits tell us that the autumn colour will be very good this year, so, living here, in this beautiful area, that is something to which we can all look forward. We will probably rival Canada!

The Annual Assembly was well attended. Alex Cruikshank of the Berks Bucks and Oxen Wildlife Trust gave a very interesting talk on the history of the local commons and how BBOWT now manages them.

A very successful celebration for the Queen's ninetieth birthday was held for the parish in the Farm Park, by the Bucklebury Events Committee. It was a wonderful family occasion, with three generations of many families there. We would like to thank Rupert and Elizabeth Hartley Russell for hosting the event and Anne Ryder, and the committee for such a successful and memorable occasion.

The Events Committee have also donated £500 from their profits to the defibrillator fund, for which we are extremely grateful.

The other huge success story in the parish has been the purchase and running of the mini bus to take pupils to Kennet School. Steve Manson and his trustees have worked extremely hard throughout the summer and it is proving very successful. We are very lucky to have such dedicated people prepared to put in so much effort to help parishioners. Mr Manson will bring you up to date in this edition.

BPC have been concerned about old cottages, built in the vernacular style, being lost through over development. Following a great deal of research from Simon Till, the archaeologist for WBC, BPC applied to Historic England to have "Vanners" listed.

We are pleased to report that it was awarded a grade two listing.

Vehicles illegally on the common causing damage continue to be a problem and Hilary Cairns is working hard with the police to put cameras in place to catch the culprits. The usual plea: take photos if possible and report incidents to the police as soon as possible.

We are trialling thirty mile an hour stickers on wheelie bins on the road alongside St. Mary's church, since there is concern about traffic speeds in that area. If they are deemed to be successful, we may consider purchasing more to use elsewhere in the parish.

An application for the Cottage Inn to become a Community Asset has been applied for by CAMRA. Hilary Cairns and Lindy Clarke have also written supporting

Parish Council Chairman
Wynne Frankum

Parish Council Clerk
Helen Pratt

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Bucklebury Parish Council

Saturday 15th October 2016

COMMON CLEARING

Please come to help clear rubbish from
Bucklebury Common.

Plastic sacks, gloves and litterpickers
will be provided.
SKIPS at the Memorial Hall
and Chapel Row.

Meet at the Memorial Hall from 2.00pm.

Free refreshments afterwards.

"Keep Bucklebury Beautiful"

the application.

BPC are discussing with the Memorial Hall Committee, the possibility of taking over responsibility for the playpark and BMX track. When we have all the figures, a decision will be made.

Unfortunately the legal work for the Meadows is still not complete. Helen Pratt has been working hard with DWH and our lawyer, and we hope the last problem will soon be resolved. Then we can sign the transfer document.

Mrs Clarke has completed her SID training which means she can now join other trained councillors to use a speed device to monitor traffic in the parish.

We have noted the burst water pipes in the parish recently. Please report any problems or burst pipes to Helen Pratt, with if possible, dates and times.

It was with much sadness that we heard at the last council meeting that Alan Dunkerton is resigning for personal reasons. He has been a most hard working councillor. He possesses not only a great deal of knowledge and expertise, but has skills, too numerous to mention, which have been invaluable. He represented BPC on both the Memorial Hall Committee and the Commons Advisory Committee. His presence and sound common sense will be sorely missed and we are very grateful for his invaluable contribution over the years.

This means, of course, that we have a vacancy. If you are interested in parish matters, then you would find being involved with the parish council both interesting and rewarding, so please consider joining us.

Wynne Frankum - Chair of Bucklebury Parish Council.

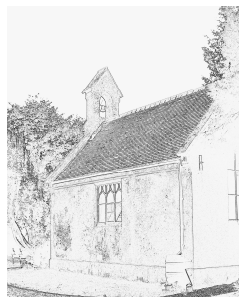
Parish Council Matters Arising

Parish Council Grants

Applications are invited for grants from charities and organisations which can demonstrate a specific benefit to the local community and which are in line with the objectives of the Parish Plan.

All applications must be received by Helen Pratt, the Clerk to the Parish Council by Wednesday 30th November 2016.

Bucklebury Cemetery



A walk in the cemetery this summer was a delight, with the harebells, moon daisies, the deep orange fox and cubs and heather all showing up well.



We have a few structural problems. The back wall around the cemetery has caused concern, but a qualified surveyor has suggested we monitor it for a year before making a decision. Apparently the felling of the trees when the cemetery was last extended has probably caused subsidence.

The cracks in the chapel wall are being investigated by Chris Willet, who lives in the village. He is kindly giving us his expert opinion on the structure and the best way to deal with the cracks.

After research at the Berkshire Record Office BPC ascertained that the parish bought the cemetery from the Bucklebury Estate in the 1880s, it has now been registered with the Land registry.

Carols by Candlelight will be held again this year on Monday 19th December at 6.00pm. Wrap up warm and come and enjoy mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas music.

Wynne Frankum – Chair of Bucklebury Burial Board



Carols by Candlelight



Cemetery Chapel,
Byles Green

Monday 19th December

At 6pm

Mulled Wine and Mince
Pies

All welcome



Defibrillator Update

We now have three defibrillators in the parish. Our third unit has been placed at The Bladebone. Thanks to Ritchie Sanderson for his support and for having the defibrillator on his premises. The other two are outside the Victory Room in Bucklebury Village and on the side wall of Peach's Stores in Upper Bucklebury. Please familiarise yourself with the locations of these units so that if an emergency occurs, you are able to find a defibrillator quickly.

Training courses have been arranged (see below) for those of you who would feel more comfortable using a defibrillator if you'd had some experience of using one. However, I'd like to remind everyone that a defibrillator can be used by anyone, without any training.

In an emergency, when a cardiac arrest is suspected:

- phone 999
- give the postcode of the patient's location
- get the defibrillator's access code from the call handler
- one person stay with the patient performing CPR (call handler will talk you through this)
- person with code go and get the defibrillator without delay
- follow the defibrillator instructions until the ambulance arrives

The Chapel Row defibrillator has been funded by the Parish Council but should you wish to contribute a donation, we'd be delighted. Gift aid can be claimed back if you are a tax payer, and information on donations, and a gift aid form can be found on the parish website as well as in this edition of The Oaks.

Anne Hillerton - Bucklebury Parish Council

CPR & Defibrillator Awareness

Defibrillators have been installed in Bucklebury recently. Come and learn CPR and defibrillators. A 1 hour practical session for you to try CPR and using a defibrillator.



**HEARTSTART
THATCHAM**

The Victory Room
27th October 2016
- Session 1 - 6pm - 7pm
- Session 2 - 7.15pm - 8.15pm

Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall
24th January 2017
- Session 1 - 6pm - 7pm
- Session 2 - 7.30 - 8.30pm

PLEASE contact us to reserve a space.

T: 07810145690

W: www.heartstartthatcham.info

E: getinvolved@heartstartthatcham.info

Heartstart Thatcham is a registered charity. Charity No. 1161990

Gift Aid declaration - for a single donation

Name of charity or Community Amateur Sports Club:

HEARTSTART HATCHAM

Please treat the enclosed gift of £..... as a Gift Aid donation.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/ or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6th April to 5th April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Donor's details:

TitleFirst name or initial(s)

Surname

Full Home address

.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Date

Signature.....

Please notify the charity or CASC if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration
- Change your name or home address
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/ or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

Please return this form to: Dorothy Dugdale, 45 Berry's Road, Upper Bucklebury, RG7 6QL.

Planning

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
15/00296/OUTMAJ	<u>Land at Siege Cross Farm, Bath Road (Adjacent Parish).</u> Outline application for the phased development of up to 495 dwellings; up to 250sqm of Use Class D1 floor space; a new primary school of up to 2 forms of entry; vehicular, pedestrian and cycle accesses; public open space; children's play areas; landscaping; structural planting; new woodland planting; sustainable urban drainage measures including water detention basins; associated ground modelling; and all associated works. Means of vehicular access into the site proposed in full. Matters to be considered: Access – Into the Site	Object	Refused by WBC. Taken to appeal
16/00432/FULD	<u>Acres Farm, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).</u> Conversion of workshop element of barn (54 sq.m) to residential use and creation of new office. Extension of storage/packing and dispatch building to provide relocated workshop with display/demonstration suite above.	No Objection	Approved.
16/00638/HOUSE	<u>27 Broad Lane.</u> Demolition of existing single storey side extension and erection of new two storey side extension, front façade renovation and replacement of existing conservatory single storey lean-to extension.	No Objection	Approved
16/00605/HOUSE	<u>39 Roundfield.</u> Proposed two storey rear extension creating larger ground floor living space and 2 new bedrooms and bathrooms at first floor level. New front access and parking. Remove brick built garden store and reposition oil tank.	No Objection	Approved
16/00789/HOUSE	<u>39 Hillfoot.</u> Single storey extension to bungalow plus adding ½ storey.	No Objection	Approved
16/00859/HOUSE	<u>Indala, Burdens Heath.</u> Proposed rear conservatory.	No Objection	Approved
16/01056/FUL	<u>Ivinghoe, Stanford Dingley (Adjacent Parish).</u> Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of replacement dwelling.	Object	Invalid
16/01063/AGRIC	<u>Fifield Farm.</u> Proposed new agricultural building.	Commented on site history	Full application required.
16/01116/AGRIC	<u>Land at Bushnells Green Farm.</u> Agricultural barn.	No comments	Full application required.
16/01159/HOUSE	<u>Whingate, Hatch Lane.</u> Loft conversion and demolition of existing garage to enable single storey side and rear extensions.	Object	Approved
16/01219/FUL	<u>Greenwood, Hatch Lane.</u> Section 73: Variation of Conditions 2: Approved plans, of planning permission reference 16/00336/FUL (Section 73: Variation of conditions 2: Approved plans, 3: Materials, of permission 15/02274/FUL: Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) and Condition 7 (Ecological mitigation scheme) of approved application 13/02860/FUL). To enlarge plantroom required to accommodate low energy heating and heat recovery system equipment.	No Objection	Refused

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
16/01380/HOUSE	<u>The Paddock, Midgham Green.</u> Section 73A: Variation of condition 4 – Samples of tiles and timber cladding and 6 – Tree Protection, of planning permission 15/01678/HOUSE (Single storey side extension and new roof construction to provide additional first floor accommodation). To vary wording of the conditions.	No Objection	Approved
16/01371/PACOU	<u>Broad View Farm.</u> Notification for prior approval for a proposed changes of use of agricultural building to a business use (Use Class B1 (c)).	Object	Approved
16/01193/OUTD	<u>Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).</u> Outline application for the demolition of Glenvale Garden Centre and associated buildings and replace with 5 x self-build/custom build houses with associated garages using existing access. Matters to be considered: Access.	Object	Refused
16/01151/HOUSE	<u>Wayside, Hatch Lane.</u> First floor extension, single storey front extension, internal alterations.	Object	Approved
16/01318/HOUSE	<u>Stag Cottage, Zin Zan.</u> Proposed single and two storey rear extension and single storey side extension. Amendment: Reducing size of single storey extension and removing second floor extension.	Object	Approved
16/01363/FULD	<u>Fifield Farm.</u> Demolition of existing outbuildings and barn and replacement by proposed erection of a new dwelling, as already approved by West Berkshire Council reference number 15/02340/FULD, but to include basement.	Object	Approved
16/01393/FUL	<u>4 Broad Lane, Upper Bucklebury.</u> Section 73: Removal of Condition 4 – CSH of approved application 13/00449/FUL – Demolition of bungalow. A new replacement dwelling with detached garage.	No Objection	Approved
16/00123/FULD	<u>Manor View, Hopgoods Green.</u> Use of first floor annex as a separate dwelling.	Object	Refused. Dismissed on appeal.
16/01328/HOUSE	<u>Sunridge, Bucklebury Road (Adjacent Parish).</u> Additions to form two first floor bedroom extensions.	Object	Approved
16/01504/HOUSE & 16/01505/LBC2	<u>Fairchilds, Sadgrove Lane.</u> Proposed two storey extension to create two additional bedrooms and re-arrangement of room names to Fairchilds, relocation of new garage block after demolition of existing garage utilising existing access to supersede previously approved two storey extension.	Object	Withdrawn
16/01511/FULD	<u>Kings Copse Bungalow, Southend.</u> Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 – Plans Approved, of approved application 16/00172/FULD – Replacement bungalow.	No Objection	Approved
16/01526/FULD	<u>Marlston Farm, Marlston.</u> Conversion of an existing barn into ancillary residential accommodation. A dining room extension and remodeling of front porch to the main dwelling.	Object	Refused

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
16/01548/FULD	<u>69 Roundfield.</u> Proposed new dwelling and new front dormer to existing dwelling. New front vehicular access for shared off road parking.	No Objection	Approved
16/01835/HOUSE	<u>4 Woodside Close.</u> Single storey rear extension.	No Objection	Approved
16/01771/FUL	<u>1 Sellwood, Long Grove.</u> Dismantling of existing derelict bungalow with purpose of recycling brick on site for new construction. Erection of a new single private low carbon 2 storey family dwelling by way of self build by owner of the site. Erection of new garage by way of self build by owner to act as site office and secure garage.	Object	Refused
16/01782/FULD	<u>Bushnells Green Farmhouse.</u> Retention of existing timber lodge as farm worker accommodation. Non compliance with condition 12 of approved 13/03014/FUL.	Object	Refused
16/01784/FUL	<u>Bushnells Green Farmhouse.</u> Erection of a new agricultural barn.	No Objection	Approved
16/01926/HOUSE	<u>Osgoods Gully.</u> Two storey rear extension.	Object	Refused
16/01949/HOUSE	<u>The Dell, Windmill Lane.</u> Construction of open swimming pool and retrace surround.	No Objection	Approved
16/01724/HOUSE	<u>Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue</u> Section 73A: Variation of condition 2: Plans approved, of planning permission 12/01439/HOUSE – Relocation of main entrance, new link to garden room and removal of outbuilding (REF 11/01230/HOUSE consent 4.10.11; partially implemented).	Object	Awaiting decision.
16/02318/HOUSE	<u>Ingleside, Hopgoods Green.</u> The existing 4 bedroom dwelling will be converted into a 5 bedroom house and the existing garage will be demolished. Parking spaces will be provided in front of the house, with a large timber frame garage to the side of the dwelling.	Object	Awaiting decision.
16/02529/OUTD	<u>Land Adjacent to Summerfield, The Ridge (Adjacent Parish).</u> Outline application for change of use of part of existing agricultural field to residential and the erection of 5 no. detached dwelling houses with ancillary garages, access, parking, landscaping and associated works. Matters to be considered access and layout.	To be considered by BPC on 10/10/16.	Awaiting decision.
16/02423/FUL	<u>Land at Hartshill Copse.</u> Gas fuelled capacity mechanism generation plant to support the national grid.	To be considered by BPC on 10/10/16.	Awaiting decision.

Community

Libraries at Home

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the Libraries *At Home Service* across the district.

Description of Role:

The West Berkshire *At Home Service* is a free service for West Berkshire residents. We deliver books and other library materials to people who find it hard to get out of their homes without help due to disability, illness, mobility or frailty. *At Home Service* customers have access to the same range of materials and services as library users, and the service is delivered every three weeks, by specially trained volunteers.

The role:

We are looking for individuals or pairs to volunteer for the *At Home Service*. As a volunteer you would come to Newbury Library on a Wednesday to select books and other items requested by customers.

Visits would take place at a time suitable for the volunteer and customer on a 3 weekly commitment.

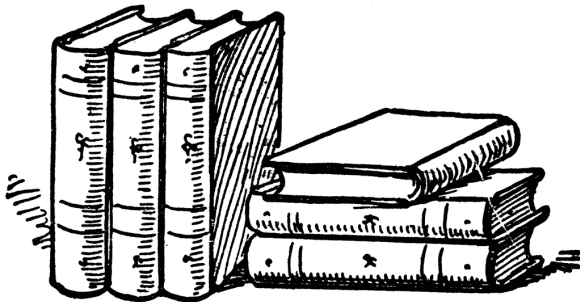
As part of the role, volunteers are free to socialise and befriend customers if they like, or simply to drop-off the items from the library. It's up to each volunteer how they want to approach the role

Qualities:

Our volunteers need to be aged a minimum of 18. They need to have good "people skills", and be able to empathise with the needs of people who can't get out and about. It's helpful to have a good interest in books, but we'll offer guidance and support to help you.

Volunteers need their own car with business use insurance (you can normally add this to an existing policy without an increase to your premium). We'll pay you a mileage allowance and training will be given. Two references are required and a *DBS check will be carried out before you can start volunteering.

**The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) helps employers make safer recruitment decisions and prevent unsuitable people from working with vulnerable groups, including children. It replaces the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA).*



Bucklebury Community Bus (BCBC)

During the school holidays the trustees worked very hard in achieving an objective many thought was almost impossible. I'm immensely proud of what they have done in such a short timescale. The process of securing the funding, maintaining contact with parents who were on holiday, the asking for donations, amongst many other small but necessary tasks to result in running a bus service for the school children of Upper Bucklebury is amazing. We are now getting children to Kennet School in a timely and safe manner.

Now that our primary objective is secure and our paid driver is in place we can focus on the next tasks for the team. We are looking at other opportunities or gaps in the current transport provision of West Berkshire which is again going to be reduced by cutting the number of 101 buses. Also the bus can be made available to the many groups in the village from the Girl Guides to the Mah-jong group. To that end we have created a web page where bookings can be made (<https://buckleburybus.youcanbook.me/>). We will confirm any bookings made, with costs before it can go ahead. This is to ensure availability of the bus, also the driver if needed and avoid any potential clashes with the school run times.

Due to West Berkshire cuts we are unable to offer free transport to holders of concessionary cards.

If anyone is interested in making a donation towards the running costs of the vehicle, please contact me by email for details as we are still awaiting charitable status from the Charity Commission.

Also there is potential for regular runs to either Thatcham / Newbury for the markets and there is a questionnaire section below that can be filled out and returned to me either by post or email to: Stephen Manson, Bus Questionnaire, Bucklebury Community Bus, 38 Roundfield, Upper Bucklebury, RG7 6RA or: buckleburybus@gmail.com

I would be interested in the following trips:

To Thatcham on Friday for the market with a return time of ____ hours.

To Newbury on Saturday for the market with a return time of ____ hours.

To Tesco on Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun for ____ hours.

To Sainsbury's on Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun for ____ hours.

Trips to _____ on Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun for ____ hours.

Name:

House No:

Post Code:

Contact No:

Chapel Row Surgery

The Care Quality Commission Inspection Visit to the Chapel Row Surgery took place on the 15th June 2016.

The official CQC Report will be published in Autumn 2016 and the doctors are delighted to advise our patients that the practice achieved an overall rating of "GOOD" with each area inspected by the CQC also being rated as "Good".

On the day of the inspection, the CQC Team spent time with each area of the practice and also spoke to many patients and key representatives from our Patient Participation Group.

Patient Comment Cards were completed by 118 patients on the inspection day and the comments recorded were largely complimentary.

The doctors and staff will be reviewing the findings of the CQC report and will aim to build on and continually improve the service we provide to our patients.

Our Patient Participation Group is an ideal forum for patients to discuss the healthcare services available in our area and the group meets at regular intervals during the year.

The next meeting date is always displayed in the patient waiting room above the PPG noticeboard (to the left of the television information screen).

New Doctor Starting

The Chapel Row Surgery is very pleased to announce that we have recruited a new female Doctor to enhance our clinical team.

Dr. Taylor Wylie joined the practice on 5th September 2016. Dr. Wylie is working on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Surgery New Opening Hours

We would like to advise our patients of the new opening hours of the surgery with effect from 1st September 2016:

- Monday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Tuesday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Wednesday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Thursday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Friday 8.00am to 6.30pm

We also provide two Saturday morning surgeries each month and appointments can be booked via our Reception Team.

The Practice Dispensary hours from 1st September 2016 are:

- Monday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Tuesday 8.00am to 6.30pm

- Wednesday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Thursday 8.00am to 6.30pm
- Friday 8.00am to 6.30pm

The surgery and dispensary will remain open across the lunch period from 1st September 2016.

Surgery Website (www.crsurgery.co.uk)

The surgery website has recently been re-designed and now contains a wide range of information for patients, including advice and self-help for various medical conditions.

The home page features boxes for different rooms within the practice.

Patients can:

- Ask a Doctor a Question
- Request a Sick Note or Referral
- Order Repeat Medications
- Obtain advice and help with a range of medical problems

Patient Participation Group

The Chapel Row Surgery Patient Participation Group meets regularly at the surgery and discusses a variety of healthcare related topics which affect our patients.

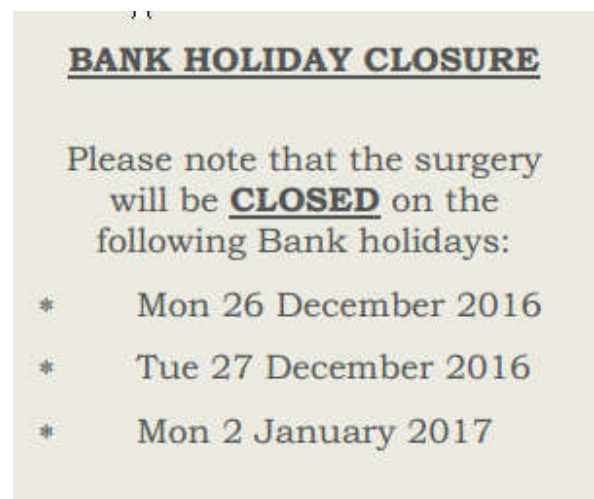
The meetings are an opportunity for patients to influence local healthcare issues and discuss the practice services available. Anyone is welcome to attend the PPG meetings and the next meeting is displayed on the notice board to the left of the television information screen. Minutes from previous PPG meetings are available on the surgery website under "Practice Information" - left hand side.

Chapel Row Surgery

Tel: 0118 971 3252

Fax: 0118 971 4161

Website: www.crsurgery.co.uk



Family

West Berkshire Ballet School



The summer term ended with Claire's amazing production of Shrek The Musical with a talented and colourful cast of 42, playing to three packed houses. The Newbury Weekly News gave it a rave, and justly deserved, review and our performers will take away a host of wonderful lasting memories.

Shrek wasn't the end of WBBS performances for this summer. Once again we had two consecutive weeks of the ever-popular summer school where Claire and her trusty team managed to produce a potted version of The Lion King in 4 days! Complete with singing, acting & dancing to the astonishment and delight of their audience.

At the end of our summer term, 38 ballet students took their exams, ranging from Pre-Primary to Intermediate – with 100% pass rate. We were delighted to discover that 18 were awarded Distinction (over 80%) – with 3 Distinctions for the Intermediate students. Intermediate is a vocational level exam, intended for those thinking of a career in dance. One of these students, William, who has been with WBBS for over 6 years, has gone off to become a vet – we wish him all the very best – we are sure he will 'dance' his way through his training!

We return to class in September to begin rehearsals for our next major ballet production, The Nutcracker, which we shall perform on 3rd & 4th June next year at Arlington Arts Centre. Over 90 dancers will take part and the sewing machines are already warming up in the background.

The autumn term will also be busy with a new Modern & Tap class for the 6-8 year olds; practice and preparation for our Cecchetti Ballet awards at Sadlers Wells in November and yet more exams in December.

We look forward to welcoming our new dancers and catching up with the summer news from our current students. Further WBBS news can be found on www.wbbs.org and our facebook page.

Jane Scholl, Claire Bowden, Holly Unnuk, Lucie Dale & Jenny Bennett.

Bonfire and Firework Night

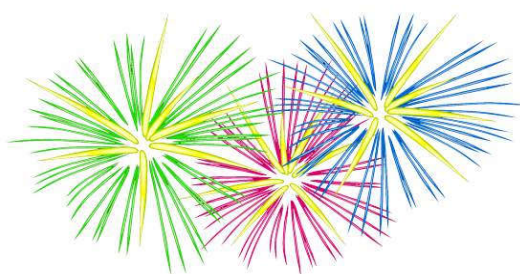
The Cottage Inn will be holding their 5th annual Bonfire and Firework Night on Thursday 3rd November 2016.

Join us for a lovely family evening with a spectacular firework display, outside bar and BBQ.

Family Ticket in advance £12.00 / £15.00 on the gate

Single Ticket in advance £4.00 / £6.00 on the gate

Under 5s Free. Tickets non refundable



West Berkshire Ballet School Cast of Shrek the Musical.



As a relatively young mother and teacher it has been a pleasure to be involved with Bucklebury Pre-School in 2016. As soon as people found out about my background in education it seemed to be written in the stars that I would become Chairperson of this fantastic little pre-school. Having such an involvement with the pre-school has helped me make like-minded friends as well as allowing me to see first-hand how well the staff care for, nurture and develop these young minds.

Since we last wrote in The Oaks the children ably supported, and often encouraged and led, by the staff have immersed themselves in a range of activities aimed towards developing their social, moral and cultural education. Learning about different cultures played a very important role during the last academic year with the children learning about the Chinese, Welsh and Scottish cultures to name but a few. There was a fiery atmosphere as the children learned a dragon dance and sampled stir fry in celebration of Chinese New Year. Parent helpers lead activities such as making Welsh cakes in order to mark St. David's Day and staff lead activities such as mixing porridge oats, collaging west highland terriers and learning about Burns Night in celebration of the Scottish culture. This also coincided with Bucklebury Community Week and we were lucky enough to receive a visit from Mrs Thom's Year 6 class, who assisted the children during café time, helped the children to make a Scottish flag and read stories to the group. There was great fun to be had in celebration of Shrove Tuesday when the children participated in pancake flipping and tasting.

As well as learning about their own and other cultures, the children have also been given plenty of opportunity to experience the world around them. We were lucky enough to receive a visit from local police officers who taught the children more about keeping safe in society. We were also able to make use of close links with The Cottage Inn in order to arrange for our Little Acorns children to take a walk down to visit the animals. World Book day provided the opportunity for children to bring in their favourite book and dress up as a character. The children enjoyed this experience and it provided plenty of opportunity for book talk.

The staff and committee have once again been busy this year

organising events for the children and parents to enjoy. As a charity organisation we rely upon a group of volunteers and the generosity of our parents and other members of the community in order to continue to operate. We are fortunate enough to have the support of a number of local organisations when it comes to donations for raffles and are very grateful to these for their support and generosity. We already have a number of events planned for the coming academic year in order to raise essential funds. Our Halloween Party is sure to be as successful as last year and we are delighted once again to be opening this up to children from outside the pre-school as well as to our own children.

Pre-school currently has a few spaces available: if you are interested and would like to find out more or to arrange a visit, please email chair@buckleburypreschool.co.uk. Alternatively why not check out our website www.buckleburypreschool.co.uk or our Bucklebury Pre-School Facebook page for further details of our past, present and future events.

Samantha Hillerton - Bucklebury Pre-School Chair



Places now available

Based at Bucklebury Memorial Hall and open Monday to Thursday, Bucklebury Pre-school is open to children 2 1/2 years and over from Thatcham and surrounding villages.

We offer:

- award winning Pre-school
- fun and friendly atmosphere
- experienced and committed staff
- enhanced learning experience
- safe, secure and stimulating environment
- semi-rural location with lovely outdoor area
- casual sessions for existing attendees

To enquire about a place and sessions available for your child then please contact our Pre-school Administrator at admin@buckleburypreschool.co.uk / 07919 421822 or visit our website at www.buckleburypreschool.co.uk.





Bucklebury Pre-school is a UK Registered Charity, registration number 1018868. BP5_PST_5/16

Photography courtesy of Jo Richards Photography.



Organisations

Bucklebury Events Committee

The focus of the Events Committee this summer was for Bucklebury to celebrate, with the rest of the nation, the Queen's ninetieth birthday.

Luckily, after gloomy forecasts, the evening was dry and warm for the celebrations on the evening of 10th June, allowing for an al fresco event kindly hosted by Bucklebury Farm Park for the parishioners to mark the Queen's 90th birthday.

A large turnout of all ages, many families bringing three generations, gathered for an evening of fun, with Graham's Hog Roast, pizzas, hot dogs, cake, and live entertainment. The crowds were entertained by live music from "Jazz Menagerie" to set the mood. Later there was a toast to the Queen accompanied by a slice of birthday cake and bubbly. The cake, provided by Georgie Sturt, had 3 tiers, with edible bunting of Union Jacks and topped with an edible crown. The 1st Bucklebury Rangers did a sterling job helping to serve the

bubbly and cake to the guests. The top tiers of the cake were later donated to Donnington Hospital.

For the remainder of the evening the crowd was entertained by "Catch 22", with guests dancing on the stage! It was a very fine sociable evening enjoyed by all, marking the Queen's birthday as intended!

The committee was very happy to be able to donate five hundred pounds from profits raised at parish events, to the Bucklebury defibrillator fund.

Last year the larger Christmas Tree Festival was successfully held for the first time in the Memorial Hall, but unfortunately it was not available this year. However, the first Sunday in December is booked for 2017.

Unfortunately the Wine Quaffing Evening arranged for September, had to be postponed. It is hoped to arrange something in February.

Bucklebury Events Committee

Tuesday Ladies' Club (TLC)



We have had, so far, another successful and varied year, with wide ranging talks covering Turkish cookery, skin care, local history, and a fascinating insight into the history of Canary Wharf. This month we had a riveting evening with the chief guide at Highclere Castle on the making of Downton Abbey and the interesting history of the castle.

In October we have a demonstration by Tilly's Chocolates and in December, our Christmas party, with for a change, a Turkish twist. We are planning an equally varied programme for next year.

We are very informal and everybody is welcome. We pay by the month, £3.00 per session and a £1.00 raffle ticket if you wish. We meet in the Oak room of the Memorial Hall on the second Tuesday in the month and talks start at 7-45. We look forward to seeing you there. If you would like to join our email list to be reminded of our programme, please contact Karin Warne karin.warne@btopenworld.com

The TLC committee

Bucklebury History Group

An interesting meeting was held in The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury in September (advertised in the previous edition of The Oaks) where 30 of us looked at old photographs of Bucklebury. Lots of discussion took place and memories revived. There will be another evening of photos in the early part of 2017 – look out for details in a future edition of The Oaks.

Helen Relf, 01635 867619 – grannyrelf@btinternet.com.



Bucklebury WI and the Memorial Hall Tympanum

Halls

Bucklebury Memorial Hall

This has been a busy summer for the hall. We had the BMX track resurfaced, repaired damage to the rubber surface in the playpark, repaired the hole in the tarmac as you come off the road and the one as you enter the car park. We redecorated the main hall, improving the lighting and restoring the loop system to working order. We had the ramps at the back of the hall rebuilt and installed an access ladder to the Oak Room attic. And we installed a donated picnic table in the playpark.

It is wonderful how popular the BMX track is. Children of all ages use the track and although it is expensive to maintain, costing about £2,000 per year, over the time it has been in, it represents a great asset to the village and really good value for money.

We are planning to sand and reseal the wooden floor in the main hall during the Autumn half term.

Your hall is now looking really good, ideal for your next family party. The Hall diary is available and bookings can be made on our website <http://www.buckleburymemorialhall.org.uk/>

Mike Scholl - Chairman of Bucklebury Memorial Hall.

Bucklebury Beer Fest and the Victory Room

Just a reminder that the Bucklebury Beerfest will be held on Saturday 8th October 2016 from midday to 6pm at the Bucklebury Village Recreation Ground.



A fun day out for all the family, the Beerfest boasts a great selection of regional beers and ciders, local food cooked on the BBQ, a wide variety of trade stalls, an artisan food market and traditional tea tent, plenty of children's entertainment and the Bucklebury Fun Dog Show, all accompanied by live music.

Now that planning consent has been granted for the new Victory Room, all profits from this year's Beerfest will go towards its redevelopment. Entrance to the Beerfest is free of charge as usual, but there will be a team of collectors wielding donation buckets for any visitors wishing to make contributions. For those preferring to make a more formal donation, methods of payment will be advertised later this autumn.

If you would like to find out more about the Victory Room development plans, please visit www.buckleburyparish.org/the-victory-room-redevelopment-plans.

For more information on the Beerfest, please see the Bucklebury Beerfest website – www.bucklebury.beer

Victory Room Bookings

The Victory Room is a great venue to hire for parties, clubs, classes, meetings, dances and functions. For more information and lettings, please contact Dini Hunt on 0118 971 2597.

West Berkshire Countryside Society
Invites you to join us to launch our new book

'What's in a West Berkshire Wood?
And how did it get there?'
by
Dick Greenaway

150 pages in full colour – the IDEAL Christmas present for
anyone who loves our beautiful countryside!
An evening of **Books, Beer and Music**
in
Yattendon Village Hall
Friday 21st October from 6pm

Sports

Bucklebury Tennis Club

www.buckleburytennisclub.com

CLUB ACTIVITIES CONTINUE THROUGH THE WINTER

The Winter leagues are now getting under way. Bucklebury TC will be running at least two men's teams, one ladies team and two mixed teams. In addition to the leagues we do have regular sessions of mix-ins for Men's, Ladies and Mixed doubles as Club activities, so don't forget to let the Club know of your interest in playing either social or competitive tennis. The team captains are always looking for additional players to fill the gaps!

THE CLUB IS OPEN TO ALL

A note to all non-members!

If you are interested in a casual game of tennis we welcome all those who either would like the odd game or who would like to try their hand at a little gentle exercise for an hour or so. We make a small charge for court hire of £5 per hour, and it is possible to book the courts in advance for a specific time if available.

Contact the undersigned for details.

JUNIOR COACHING

The new winter term brings more opportunities for the younger tennis enthusiasts. Coaching for the Under 13 is already underway. (Regrettably this term we have withdrawn our teens coaching as we temporarily have run out of **teens**.) The sessions are for one hour from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. on every Monday. They will stop at the end of October until the weather warms up next spring. There are still places available so we would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested. Contact Karen Pegg k.p.pegg@btinternet.com

DRILLS

Drills & Skills sessions are already up and running after the summer break. Every Monday evening from 6.30 p.m. our coach, Damian, puts together 2 sessions of drills/fun challenges. Session 1 is for those who want to improve their game at a more sedate pace, while the second session at 7.30 p.m. is for the more dedicated and offers one and a half hours of tips and more strenuous exercise.

The sessions are open to all including non-members and you are welcome to join in. There is a small charge of £8 to non-members.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER ENQUIRIES

If you would like to join the Club, or if any of the above is of interest please contact: Mike James (01189712285) on m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk or go to our website: www.buckleburytennisclub.com

Mike James - Chairman of Bucklebury Tennis Club

Bucklebury Badminton Club

Following on from GB's success at Rio we are expecting more people to become involved in this fun sport. Maybe you're new to the area, maybe you used to play a long time ago or maybe you've never played at all – whichever, you are very welcome to come to club night on Tuesday from 8 to 10 p.m. Our members are a variety of ages and abilities. If you wish to play matches, we have teams in the local leagues. We would be particularly keen to hear from ladies wishing to play for us.

The club handicapped tournament at the end of the season was well attended. The winners were Alan Arnold and Sam Shum who beat Cara Brims and John Holloway 21-16 in a closely fought and exciting final.



Cara Brims, John Holloway, Sam Shum and Alan Arnold

For more information check our website or Facebook. If you prefer you can phone for a chat before you come along.

VENUE: Elstree School, Woolhampton, RG7 5TD
DAY: Tuesday 8 to 10 p.m. September to mid July
COST: £5 for visitors (deducted from subscription which is £110 per annum **pro rata**. £50 for students)
CONTACT:

Margaret Neville 01635 873811 margaretnev@yahoo.co.uk
<http://buckleburybadminton.intheteam.com>

Country Life

Memories of an Evacuee in Bucklebury

It was 1940 and the Battle of Britain raged in the skies above London. I was five years old then and can still remember those days more clearly than I can of events from a week ago. Being a child living in London during those dark days I was evacuated into the countryside with my mother and younger sister. On arrival in Bucklebury a social worker drove us all around the district looking for someone to take us in, and we ended up in The Slade with a woman locally called "Granny Paulin." I never knew her first name - we called her "Auntie." She was a widow, had married into the Paulin family and lived with her brother, Frank, a bachelor who became "Uncle" to us, at the house in The Slade at the top of Stony Path and on the edge of the Common. My mother told me that when Frank returned that first evening he knew nothing of us staying with them and stomped in, sat in his chair and glowered at us. But it did not take too many days for him to be a friend to me and fall in love with my little three year old sister.



Frank Paulin with Maurice Robson and

The house (long since demolished) had no utilities: no electric, water or sewer. Lighting was by oil lamps and there was a paraffin stove for cooking. A huge open fireplace in the kitchen provided the only means of heat and was equipped with a blackened kettle on the hob for heating water. Drinking water was obtained from a well that was opened once a week and the water was stored in galvanized tubs in the large flagstoned pantry. The toilet was

located in a corner of the garden.

The nearest neighbours were Will and Kate Paulin who lived in Rose Leaf Cottage at the bottom of Stony Path. Frank and Will were woodcutters and ran a small sawmill located in the meadow next to the house. The saw was powered from the chassis of an old truck with a belt running from the rim of one rear wheel to the saw bench. I was not allowed inside but

would watch them from the doorway. The two dray horses, that hauled the logs to the sawmill, were stabled in a small structure on the common nearby.

Next to the horse stable was a pigsty and I was banished from there when a pig was slaughtered. Sides of bacon were air dried on a rack suspended from the kitchen ceiling. Occasionally we would go onto the Common to gather acorns for the pigs. We would also all go out onto the Common and gather kindling and we would drag huge bundles of branches and twigs back to the house. I remember being impressed by Auntie because she really knew how to tie the bundles - a method I still use.

Uncle Frank had a potato cooker that he used to make mash for his chickens. During my whole lifetime whenever I ate a small, unsalted, boiled potato, those days flash back into my mind. When Uncle Frank was not working he was not allowed into the house but sat back on a padded and tilted wheelbarrow in a shed next to the sawmill and gazed out of the doorway while smoking his pipe. His dog, Bingo, was chained up nearby next to a kennel.

Once a week it was market day and an ancient bus would arrive in The Slade to take us into Newbury for shopping. On the way back the bus could not make it up Hart Hill so we all had to get off the bus and the adults helped by pushing the bus up to the top of the hill. Another weekly event was to walk the path through the Common to The Pheasant Pub (more recently: Pheasant Cottage) in Cold Ash. I liked that because I could play with other kids in the garden there while the adults had a beer inside. For some unknown reason everyone had to have a walking stick for that walk, so I found a short broken one in the shed, and was properly equipped for the walk just like everybody else.

If I behaved myself, two comic papers, Beano and Chips, would miraculously appear in the pantry each week.

One evening Uncle Frank and I stood on the Common and watched a glow on the southern horizon. "That's Southampton getting it," he said. I had no concept of Germans, to me they were some sort of aliens who flew over London, dropped their bombs, and then returned to wherever they had come from.

I went to school in Bucklebury, and have strong memories of walking alone along Tyler's Lane to get there, and I do not remember ever seeing a vehicle on that road. A small child walking alone on a country lane is unthinkable these days - but those were different times.

There was a gaggle of geese that ruled The Slade, and I was always very careful when I opened the gate from Stony Path into the hamlet. When the gander saw me he would rush at me hissing and squawking. I was terrified - he was bigger and taller than I was. I would sometimes go into The Slade to buy biscuits or a stone bottle of ginger beer at the tiny shop located there. On the Common, goats were tethered on a long chain and I always gave them a wide berth because they watched me malevolently with their glassy eyes.

While we were there, a small, wooden, barracks building was erected on the Common near to the house by the Army for a platoon of soldiers who manned a searchlight and a Bren gun platform there. While talking to a soldier he offered to make a piece of toast for me. He propped the bread up against the barracks' cast-iron stove, then slathered butter on the toast, but became angry when I showed more interest in the inside of the barracks than I did for the toast he had made for me.

I am eighty years old now, retired, and I travel extensively, but still deep, deep down inside me is that small boy who bravely walked alone along Tyler's Lane to school each day in that wondrous place in my heart called Bucklebury.

Maurice Robson, Santa Monica, California. 2016

NOTE: 'Granny Paulin' was (I believe) Tryphena Paulin nee Lyford, died 1950, who was married to John Paulin, died 1928, 'Uncle Frank' was Tryphena's brother, Frank Lyford, born 1868.

West Berkshire Countryside Society

Events Diary October – December 2016

The events below give you the opportunity to come out on practical tasks, learn new skills, meet new people and, above all, enjoy yourself. The tasks usually begin around 10am and finish by 3pm but you are very welcome to come for as much time as you wish to give during these hours. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing, and bring a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. Hot drinks are usually provided, as are the necessary tools.

For further information please see the website - www.westberkscountryside.org.uk

Saturday 15th October

10.30am Bucklebury Common, heathland management

Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688. For regular volunteers please note this task is a week later than usual.

Friday 21st October

6.00pm Books, Beer and Music. Join Dick Greenaway to launch his new book, 'What's in a West Berkshire Wood?'

Venue Yattendon Village Hall. Near the church in Yattendon. RG18 0UE. Parking at the hall and in the Square.

Sunday 23rd October

2.00pm What's in a West Berkshire Wood? An exploration of Hampstead Norreys' woods.

Join Dick Greenaway and Hannah Piekarz to look at some of the things in Dick's new book. Meet at Hampstead Norreys village hall.

Tuesday 25th October

10.00am Bucklebury Common heathland management.

Cutting and clearing silver birch and scots pine saplings. Hopefully bonfire. Parking at Angels Corner SU550 688

Sunday 13th November

10.30am Bucklebury Common, heathland management

Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688

Saturday 10th December

10.30am Bucklebury Common, heathland management

Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688

Contributions

Material to appear in The Oaks should be sent neatly typed for scanning or as a word-processor document (e.g. MS Word), attached to an e-mail and sent to "lindy.clarke@live.co.uk". Don't worry about layout as it will be re-formatted to the house-style. Please supply any pictures or artwork as separate files, as they are not usually recoverable from word processor files and don't forget to include captions for the pictures.

All contributions appertaining to the Parish are very welcome but the Parish Council reserves the right to adapt or omit submissions.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month of publication.

Wynne Frankum

Published in February, May and October

By Bucklebury Parish Council.

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(Printed by The Alpha Xperience, Newbury

Telephone 01635 523240)

Distributed free to all households in Bucklebury Parish,
and on the web:

<http://buckleburyparish.org/publications/the-oaks>

Parish Diary Dates

October

10th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room at The Memorial Hall
11th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	The Oak Room
15th	Bucklebury Heathland Group	10.30am	Meet at Angels Corner SU550688
15th	Common Clearing	2.00pm	Meet at The Memorial Hall
17th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
24th	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Victory Room, Bucklebury
25th	Bucklebury Heathland Group	10.00am	Meet at Angels Corner SU550688
31st	Pre-school Halloween party	4.30pm	Memorial Hall (advance tickets only)

November

3rd	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am	Meeting at The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
7th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
8th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	The Oak Room
13th	Bucklebury Heathland Group	10.30am	Meet at Angels Corner SU550688
14th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room at The Memorial Hall
21st	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
28th	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Victory Room, Bucklebury

December

1st	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am	Meeting at The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
5th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
10th	Bucklebury Heathland Group	10.30am	Meet at Angels Corner SU550688
12th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room at The Memorial Hall
13th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	The Oak Room
19th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
19th	Cemetery Carols	6.00pm	Cemetery Chapel

January

5th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am	Meet at The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
9th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room at The Memorial Hall
10th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	The Oak Room
16th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
23rd	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Victory Room, Bucklebury

February

2nd	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am	To be confirmed.
6th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room
13th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room at The Memorial Hall.
20th	Mahjong	2.00pm	The Oak Room