

The Oaks



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Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

Common and Village clearing was very well supported this spring. 40 people turned out which we think is a record. Fortunately, owing to our fine bakers, we didn't run out of cake.

Sadly, for the second time, after the skip on the Green at Chapel Row became full, people continued to leave large items of rubbish on the ground which then had to be removed by BPC. It is unlikely that there will be a skip there in the autumn.

After many meetings with Thames Water we hope the laying of the new pipe will go smoothly and will be laid more speedily than the worst case scenario.

The meadows have been keeping us busy. We have taken advice from BBOWT and the tree officer for WBC. The hay will be cut at the end of July and the management plan is being acted upon.

In a time when insect populations are declining in the UK and Europe, it is to be hoped that having organic unimproved hay meadows in our midst, we will be doing our bit for biodiversity and it will benefit the pollinators we all depend on for our crops, fruit trees and flowers.

A number of by ways have been closed this winter because of damage by 4x4s. They are also driving along the River Pang and breaking down the banks in places. Chalk streams are a rare habitat world-wide, with most of them found in the south of England, so preserving the river bed and wild life is obviously important. The usual plea; report details and if possible photograph the number plate of

vehicles acting illegally and send them to the police.

The play park has had its annual ROSPA inspection. BPC has a team looking after and mending the play equipment when required. The play park is inspected weekly by BPC. Ways of preserving the surface of the BMX track, which is very well used, are being explored.

We were saddened and very sorry to see the closure of Bucklebury Pre-school despite great efforts on the part of staff and the committee to keep it going. It is a great loss to the village.

Please let the Clerk know if you have any concerns relating to the parish and they will be investigated.

We hope you all enjoy the summer.

Wynne Frankum Chair BPC.



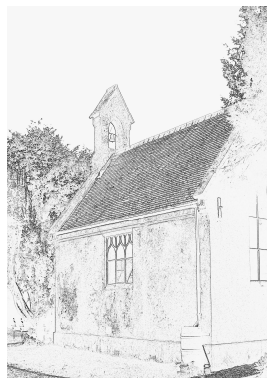
Parish Council Chairman
Wynne Frankum

Parish Council Clerk
Helen Pratt

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Parish Council Matters Arising

Bucklebury Cemetery



Workmen have been busy in the cemetery. The chapel has been repaired and the windows painted. Part of the wooded area has been cleared of scrubby growth and holly. We are obtaining quotes for clearing the remaining section in the autumn. Stone masons have given quotes for repairing the damaged grave markers and a decision on this will be taken at the BPC meeting in May. Shelia Kent, that

mine of local historical information was very helpful because she knew most of the people buried in the 1970s section, whose grave markers need attention. Unfortunately there are no families who can be called upon to defray the cost of mending the stones.

Carl Rivers has for many years now, done a splendid job of looking after the grounds. He will, as usual, leave the lovely wild flowers to seed before they are cut. Beauty is, as we all know, in the eyes of the beholder, and some people find the long grass left on the graves untidy, but cemeteries are, if managed correctly, important wild life habitats and we are lucky to find so many of our native wild flowers there and we hope over time, they will increase and give pleasure to visitors.

Wynne Frankum - Chair of Burial Board.

Fred Dawson Memorial Playpark

The playpark remains an important asset for local children and is well used. The equipment has an annual check by ROSPA and is checked weekly by me. I also pick up litter on a weekly basis. It would help if you could encourage your children to take litter home, or put it in the bins provided.

We have had some repairs done professionally but also have had the help of kind parishioners to fix other problems. Thank you Anoup Puri, Alan Dunkerton, David Southgate and Tim Banks. We are planning a work party to remove the rust from the blue climbing frame in the near future: if you would like to help, or may be able to give assistance in the future, please email me.

Some of you will have noticed that the horse is missing. The

story for your children is that it has gone to the horse hospital as it wasn't very well. Thank you Steve Beeson for taking on this project, taking it home and spending your time replacing the rotten wood and refurbishing the metal parts. We look forward to later in the year when it'll be reinstated in the park. Please deter your children from tearing down the tape as the metal brackets are still in situ.

Anne Hillerton (anne_hillerton@yahoo.co.uk)

BMX Track

The BMX track has suffered badly over the wet winter. The surface has been washed away exposing large stones. Maintenance is funded from the Parish Council Budget which comes from the precept, which comes from parishioners' council tax, so we are careful with our spending. We have been investigating our options, looking at expense over a ten year period:

- stick with a dirt track and have it resurfaced regularly (very expensive)
- cover in tarmac (much cheaper over time, but not the choice of some more experienced riders)
- cover the humps only with tarmac (potential problems where the two surfaces meet)
- use a surface made from recycled materials and try to negotiate a good price in exchange for advertising (being investigated)

In the meantime, if you have an opinion either as a user of the track or as a parent, please complete a questionnaire which can be found in Peach's Store, or The Cottage Inn.

The shelter at the BMX track is a regular meeting place for our teenagers but does not currently look its best. We'd like to give it a new lease of life and in the process encourage those teenage users to take pride in the place. The graffiti is being kept under reasonable control by our own youth, which I'm delighted with, but I'll only say 'litter' instead of having a rant! The plan is to host a summer evening where local teenagers with an artistic talent can come and Banksie the shelter. It would be great to have both genders and a mix of ages involved. Please keep an eye on the community facebook page for a date, which will be weather dependant. There will also be a poster in the shelter nearer the time.

Anne Hillerton

Planning

As you can see your councillors have been very busy looking at planning applications. The site of each application is visited by at least two parish councillors, who then present the application at a meeting. A decision is then made whether the council should object to an application or not. WBC then determine whether the application is approved or refused. If the application is refused, the applicant has the option to take the decision to appeal. A planning inspection will then determine whether the appeal should be upheld (approved) or dismissed (refused).

Helen Pratt - Parish Clerk

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. Refused on appeal.
16/02923/CERTE	<u>Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).</u> Retail garden centre.	Comments	Refused by WBC. Refused on appeal.
16/02922/OUTD	<u>Glenvale Nurseries, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).</u> Outline application for the demolition of garden centre and replace with 4 x custom build dwellings – Matters to be considered: Access.	Object	Refused by WBC. Refused on appeal.
17/02535/HOUSE	<u>Autumn House, Byles Green.</u> Garage roof extension.	Object	Refused by WBC. Refused on appeal.
17/02619/HOUSE	<u>Marlston Farm.</u> Single storey gable extension to the front façade with cat-slide ground floor extension to the west, east and south elevations with the associated removal of existing external stairway.	Object	Refused by WBC. Approved on appeal.
17/02859/FULD	<u>Wimbles Barn, The Wimbles, Harts Hill Road (Adjacent Parish).</u> Change of use and conversion of existing barns to a residential dwelling, ancillary store together with residential amenity space, landscaping, parking and associated works.	Object	Approved.
17/03052/HOUSE	<u>Wayside, Hatch Lane.</u> Single storey front extension, dormer roof alterations and first floor extension.	No Objection	Awaiting decision.
17/03299/LBC2	<u>Fairchilds, Sadgrove Lane.</u> Application for addition of low level brick plinth and repair replacement of roof tiles.	No Objection	Approved.
17/01787/HOUSE	<u>Nuttage House, Bucklebury.</u> Extension to annexe.	No Objection	Refused by WBC. Refused on appeal.

17/03504/HOUSE	<u>36 Roundfield.</u> Two storey rear extension.	No Objection	Approved.
17/03493/MINMAJ	<u>Hartshill Copse, Burdens Heath.</u> Section 73. Variation of condition 1 (time period of operations) of the appeal decision APP/U0300/A/88/93423 for Extraction of hoggin from Land adjoining Harts Hill Road, to enable a satisfactory restoration scheme to be agreed, implemented and completed.	Object	Approved.
18/00081/HOUSE	<u>Eliezer Cottage, Zin Zan.</u> Landscaping/regrading of rear garden, infill pond and relocation of garden outbuildings.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00143/HOUSE	<u>St. Roches Cottage.</u> Single storey kitchen extension.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00125/HOUSE	<u>Hawthorn House, Windmill Lane.</u> Conversion and extension of garage, with new roof. Construction of detached replacement garages.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00213/HOUSE	<u>Hytaville, Byles Green.</u> Proposed extension and refurbishment of dwelling	Object	Approved.
18/00171/HOUSE	<u>32, Berry's Road.</u> Single storey front and side extension.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00100/HOUSE	<u>7 Broad Lane.</u> Conversion of existing attic to additional bedroom with en-suite with internal alterations and additional parking.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00091/FULD	<u>82-83 Roundfield.</u> Demolition of two semi detached dwellings and replacement with 5 new two storey properties and 1 bungalow.	Object	Refused.
18/00295/FULD	<u>Land adjacent to Thatchers, Chapel Row.</u> Erection of one 4-bed dwelling with associated car parking.	Object	Awaiting decision.
18/00508/PACOU	<u>Broad View Farm, The Ridge.</u> Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for the Change of Use of agricultural buildings to business use (B1 and B8) to form five small business units.	No Comment	Approval required and approved.
18/00642/HOUSE	<u>Eliezer Cottage, Turners Green.</u> Side and rear extension with detached garage.	Object	Awaiting decision.
18/00548/HOUSE	<u>Barfield House, Chapel Row.</u> Installation of 11m x 5.5m in-ground domestic swimming pool complete with high quality automatic safety cover, surrounded by Indian Sandstone paving with pool filtration sited within a new 1.83m x 1.22m apex timer shed and heated by an air source heat pump.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00417/HOUSE	<u>Hopgoods Farm, Hopgoods Green.</u> Construct replacement garage.	No Objection	Approved.
18/00646/HOUSE	<u>Camplins Cottage, Turners Green.</u> Construction of single storey oak framed orangery.	No Objection	Approved
18/00667/HOUSE	<u>Corner Croft, Little Lane.</u> Erection of a summer house with decking and veranda to the side within the garden.	No Objection	Awaiting decision.
18/01054/HOUSE	<u>Woodside, Long Grove.</u> Demolish the existing conservatory and replace with a single storey rear extension. Build a chimney stack and a new front porch.	No Objection	Awaiting decision.

18/00866/FULD	<u>Site Of Former Abbey View, Paradise Lane</u> Proposed new dwelling with associated parking and amenity	Object	Awaiting decision.
18/00989/HOUSE	<u>Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue.</u> Section 73A: Variation of condition 2 'Plans approved' of previously approved application 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.
18/00953/FUL	<u>Travellers Rest Farm, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish)</u> Retrospective erection of 14 no storage containers.	No Objection	Awaiting decision.
18/00910/HOUSE	<u>Gamekeepers Lodge Farm, Hawkrigge Hill (Adjacent Parish).</u> Demolition of outbuilding, construction of house extension and garden store.	Object	Awaiting decision.

West Berks District Councillors

Bucklebury Ward contains the parishes of Bradfield, Bucklebury, Frilsham, Hermitage and Stanford Dingley. Our councillors are:

Graham Pask Tel/Fax: 01635 864023

Email: graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk

Quentin Webb Tel/Fax: 01635 202646

Email: quentin.webb@westberks.gov.uk

WBC Councillors' Report

Writing this report in May with gardens in bloom and several BBQs having been eaten, the winter seems a distant memory. It was however one of the coldest and wettest we have endured for several years and resulted in a lot more damage to our roads than in previous years. With the warmer weather, work to repair the potholes and larger areas of damaged surface is now in full swing helped by our successful bid of nearly £1 million from the national pothole money provided by the government.

This is also the season for surface dressing roads (the dreaded chippings!) which is designed to seal the road surface to

minimise damage in future years. Several people have asked why road markings have not been reinstated following large areas of resurfacing (such as Common Hill and on the B4009 between Newbury and Hermitage) and the reason is because these are roads due to have chippings applied and all white lines will be put back when this is done.

As always we ask for your help if you see a problem on our roads (or footpaths) by reporting the damage to the Council on their website (go to "report a problem" and enter the details on the map) and you will receive an email and, hopefully, a rapid repair.

Thames Water has started its major work replacing the 12" water main and providing new pumps complete with generators to back up the water supply in case of power failure. The temporary over-ground pipe is now in place and connected (not without a hitch that cut our water off for a few hours!) to enable work to begin on installing the pumps and pipe. It will, sadly, be inconvenient to access Thatcham using the diversion route via Cold Ash where traffic volumes are much greater than normal but we did manage to have several areas of poor road surface repaired in advance of the diversion starting. We have all emphasised to Thames Water the importance of keeping us informed of how the work is progressing especially when it seems nothing is happening although Harts Hill remains closed by means of signs regularly updated. We are told that occasionally works may not be obvious such as when pipes are being flushed but we all hope the work will be completed well ahead of schedule to give us the continuous supply of water we have been asking for many years!

Graham Pask and Quentin Webb. - District Councillors.

Family

Bucklebury Recreation Ground

This land in the village was bequeathed to the community by Edward Beausire of Hawkridge House, Frilsham in 1929 as a recreation ground and playing field. It is now held in trust by WBC but managed by a local committee consisting of myself as secretary and parish council representative, Erica Tipton as chair, Dini Hunt as letting secretary, Mike James as treasurer, Graham Pask as WBC councillor and Phil Laybourne as local representative. From time to time, regular users (such as the junior football clubs) also attend.

The recreation ground can be hired exclusively for sporting, community (e.g the annual Beerfest) or church events such as weddings, but there is a strict lettings policy to ensure the ground is not overused and is available for individuals to enjoy. Enquiries are to Dini Hunt at dini.hunt@btinternet.com.

During the last 6 months, the committee have liaised with the Fields in Trust organisation (formerly the National Playing Fields Association) in order to make a deed of dedication as a "centenary field", commemorating those brave men of Bucklebury who lost their lives in the First World War. This 3 way dedication between WBC, the committee and Fields in Trust will give the field added protection as a recreation ground and playing field, an important factor when so many playing fields are being sold and built on. Currently the deed is with the legal department of WBC waiting for their approval, and must be signed off by all parties by the end of 2018.

Another proposed change is to the children's playground which is in need of some updating. The seesaw no longer works properly and the springer is past its best. The swings and slide will be retained and another two or three items will be incorporated. The committee are currently looking at alternatives, and it is hoped the work will be carried out at the end of the summer. WBC have a budget for this work.

The car park is a public one and free and was extended in recent years to cope with the extra volume of cars at events such as funerals and weddings, football training and matches. It has recently been resurfaced and is greatly improved.

Lindy Clarke
Secretary of the Bucklebury Recreation Ground Management Committee.
Lindy.clarke@live.co.uk

"Horse Rocker" (Fred Dawson Memorial Playpark)

The Horse Rocker is a well-used and much-loved piece of equipment, normally seen in the play-park behind the Memorial Hall in Upper Bucklebury. It is one of only two pieces of original equipment installed in 1995 (the other being the blue "igloo" bars).

In November 2009, six village Mums completed nearly 2 years voluntary work to launch a totally refurbished play-park, at a cost of £56K and the Horse Rocker was given a new lease of life (although it had to be made static due to modern safety standards). Kudos to Sue Dobbins, Cara Shearn, Nicky Hope, Sarah Beeson and Lisa Slatford since, 11 years on, the design has now stood the test of time!



The horse in October 2009.

Recently, one of the regular safety inspections of the play-park equipment highlighted that the wooden runner boards were rotting. Luckily, Mr Steve Beeson has once again very kindly taken on the project of rebuilding the horse, with huge thanks to Mr Stephen Ruddick (Custom woodworker at None Too Shabby, London) for donating the wood and CY Finishers of Arnhem Rd, Newbury for the powder coating. Also with thanks to Mr Roger Molloy of Absolutely Tree and Hedge Care Ltd for providing the wooden sleeper to replace the rotten post.

The horse should return to the park soon and happily seems set to continue to be a centre-piece for photographs and popular with our smallest users for some time to come.

Mrs Suzi Poole
Chair of the Playpark Improvement Project (2007-2010)

Bucklebury Guides

Our busy, energetic unit continues to thrive. As usual, we have welcomed new members as well as preparing some of our older Guides for moving on to Rangers.

Last term was very busy with a variety of indoor activities! The girls undertook Go For It! badges where they choose from a variety of topic-linked activities to undertake in their patrols - organising and resourcing everything themselves. The chocolate badge is always popular but other patrols completed the healthy eating and science experiments. We had a fascinating visit from Guide Dogs for the Blind who explained what they do and tried to get the Guides to understand how loss of sight affects people. The puppy was gorgeous too! We also completed the Performing Art badge involving a sound effects quiz, creating (and dressing someone in) costumes and props from recycled materials as well as dancing, miming and performing puppet shows; all highly amusing!

The Guides always lead the planning of our activities and this term we are looking forward to completing more Go for It! activities (football, pampering and five senses) as well as spending time outside in the (hopefully) warmer weather. We plan to cook on Buddy Burners, to practise putting up the tents and to play lots of wide games (games played in a large area, generally outside) as well as undertake a scavenger hunt in Newbury. We will be taking on the Walking challenge badge. This will involve using our map and compass skills, walking in new places and thinking about first aid when out and about.

We will be running a coconut shy and other games at Beenham Village Fair on 9th June to help fund some of our activities as well as supporting Guide Dogs for the Blind.

We hold our Guides sessions on Monday evenings (7-8:30pm) at The Victory Room in Bucklebury. If you are interested in joining us, please do get in touch via the Girl Guiding website. We always welcome local girls onto our waiting list, and are really interested in ladies who would like to join us in helping to run the unit. Bucklebury is a very popular and busy unit. Adult helpers may not get paid, but we certainly do have a lot of fun.

Mel Wilkes (buckleburyguides@wilkesam1plus.com)



Bucklebury Primary School

The summer term continues at a pace in Bucklebury. There has been so much going on as you can see from our website and the weekly parent briefing. By now, our now half termly Bucklebury Bugle will have been published for the first time. We hope the change away from a monthly newsletter will ensure that we are able to give everyone a stronger picture of what is going on in school.

Glorious weather ensured that the annual year 4 residential trip to Swanage was fabulous. As ever, children amazed themselves and were a delight to everyone they met. Every child was a credit to the school, their families and themselves.

As ever, statutory assessment has been completed by many children. This is a challenging time for pupils, most especially year 6. The school believes in growing the whole child in every child, as you are well aware. Of course, assessment is a fact of life and we work hard with children and families to ensure every child is ready to do their best. Thank you to the whole community for supporting children.

We were thrilled to hold a Pentecost Service at St Mary's just before half term. This allowed us to complete our annual Easter pilgrimage up to school which had been postponed in the spring term due to the weather. The service was our way of participating in #thykingdomcome. This is a now global prayer movement which originally began in 2016 with a call to prayer from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. You may be aware that it covers the period from Ascension to Pentecost and is now widely ecumenical in its reach.

We are now looking forward to the final part of the school year. Our final open morning, the headteacher's address, performances, sports day and of course our closing service of Thanksgiving in July. We thank you for your continued support for the school. Please visit; you will be amazed at the atmosphere in the school.

If you have or know of a three year old, do attend one of our advertised stay and play sessions. We also have a couple of gaps in other year groups. Bucklebury School is a huge asset to the village and the wider community. With you, we genuinely seek to nurture the whole child in every child, such that all flourish in mind, body and spirit.

Mr A. Higgs
Headteacher
A Church of England
Primary School.



West Berkshire Ballet School

We begin with a huge 'thank you' to Claire for the time and effort she has taken, as always, to make our production of 'Matilda the Musical' a lasting memory for the cast. I know Claire will also want to thank Gemma, Mo & Bob for their unending support. We are all very excited to see Matilda in July and wish the cast a great performance week.

Where did our busy Claire find time to run an Easter Course this year? With her practised wave of the wand, 21 students produced their very own rendition of 'Tangled' in 4 days! Congratulations are due to Claire's team of Gemma, Lucie, Chloe & Poppy. Preparations are underway for Claire's ever-popular summer school in August, this year, with the return of 'Mary Poppins'. This now runs for two weeks 21st-24th and 28th-31st August.

Jane & Holly were delighted that so many ballet students wished to audition for Cecchetti Scholars & Associates this year. We are still waiting to hear the results, but keep our fingers firmly crossed for them all. We had 6 Associates and 2 Scholars this year selected from dancers auditioning from all over the country.

Holly, Lucie & Jane were very proud to see our Scholars, Darcey & Emmeline, performing on Cecchetti Day in the Royal Ballet Upper School, together with Dames Monica Mason & Darcey Bussell coaching members of the Royal Ballet Company in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's Elite Syncopations, which is in the current season's repertoire!

Amelia will leave us at the end of this term for university study and Amy is off to vocational training. Lots of WBBS luck to you both. Please don't forget to visit and tell us how you are getting on.

On 11th May we held two Cup Classes for our middle & senior ballet students when Miss Penny Kay travelled from London to adjudicate. Miss Kay trained at the Royal Ballet school and is a Fellow of the Cecchetti Society. She is currently teaching the Royal Ballet mid associates at Covent Garden. It has been a while since we last awarded our cups and we were delighted to reinstate this special occasion. Very well done to the Cup Winners – Philippa, Amelia P & Theo in the Junior Section and Emmeline, Ellie & Imogen in the Senior Section. Chloe Brown very kindly donated two beautiful ballet prints, for Joy



Cup Class - Junior Section



Cup Class - Junior Section

of Dance, which Rhianna & Erin can hang proudly on their wall this year!

Our younger dancers in Primary & Grade 3 will take their exams at the end of term. We wish them every success and hope they have a very happy time!

Finally, the ballet department are excited to announce that rehearsals will start in September for our next major production 'Cinderella' taking place during the summer half-term of 2019 at the lovely theatre in Arlington Arts Centre! The theatre is booked and all 103 ballet students from Primary upwards are invited to perform.

We would like to wish you all a very happy summer holiday, and we look forward to welcoming our dancers back to class on September 17th.

Jane Scholl, Claire Bowden, Holly Unnuk & Lucie Dale
Wbbs.org and facebook.

Chapel Row Fayre The History of the Fayre

Chapel Row Fayre has a very long and colourful history. In fact the fayre was mentioned in the Domesday Book.

The Fayre used to take place every year on the 26th July, St Anne's Day and reached national prominence in the 18th & 19th century when it hosted backswording competitions. Backswording was a rather violent sport where two combatants would try and hit each other over the head with cudgels in order to draw blood. The first to draw an inch of blood was declared the winner. Local competitors would compete at Chapel Row for a grand prize of 5 Guineas.

In July 1812 the Reading Mercury advertised the fayre as an opportunity for buying and selling cattle and for hiring of harvest men.

One of the popular competitors to appear at Chapel Row was Corporal Shaw. As well as being a soldier in the Life Guards,

Shaw was famous prize fighter. A few years after appearing at Chapel Row Fayre Corporal Shaw fought and died at the battle of Waterloo.

In 1991 Bucklebury Football Club decided to resurrect the Chapel Row Fayre as a charity event. Lots of people from the community got involved and the first fayre was a big success. A feature of the early fayres were the anarchic 'It's a Knockout' competitions that took place in the central arena.

In 2001 the foot & mouth restrictions meant that the sheep racing could not take place. Instead we raced pantomime horses with Jenny Pitman providing expert commentary.

With each year that passes the fayre has grown with more and more stalls being added.

Today the fayre is firmly established as a great day out on the August Bank Holiday Saturday with visitors descending on Chapel Row from far and wide to enjoy the many stalls, see the vintage cars, enjoying one of Graham's famous Hog Roast or to bet on the chaotic sheep racing.

Every year the fayre, with the help of the many volunteers, local businesses and of course the many visitors, raises money for local charities. So this year why not come along enjoy a great family day out with free entry, and help raise money for charity and be part of the historic Chapel Row Fayre.

Charlie Plank - Chapel Row Fayre Committee

Organisations

Kennet Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS)

A local charity, Kennet Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS), has been providing Thatcham and the surrounding villages with entertainment for over 50 years. During that time, they have performed plays, musical reviews, murder mysteries and pantomimes.

Over the last 5 years they have used Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall to stage some of their productions as well as provide a supper for the audience during the interval. They have also assisted the hall in providing new curtains as well as help decorate the hall and staging area. They will continue to provide support to the hall committee as and when they can.

Rehearsals for their productions take place at the Memorial Hall on Mondays and Thursdays and auditions for their productions are open to everyone. Details can always be found on their web-site www.kats.org.uk.

Their next production will be a collection of Alan Ayckbourn's one act plays entitled Confusions!

Meet the mother who spends all her time at home with her small children. How will she react when the neighbours pop in?

Next, we head to a hotel bar to meet Harry, a travelling salesman, selling more than his wares!

Observe two couples dining in a restaurant. What happens between mouthfuls?

Finally, we head to Gosforth's Fete as the village prepares for a fun packed day – will all go according to plan?

Performances will be 26th – 28th July 2018 at 7.30pm
Tickets are £12 which includes a Ploughman's supper and are available via the KATS website or contact them on confusions@kats.org.uk

Come along and support the local arts!

Mahjong

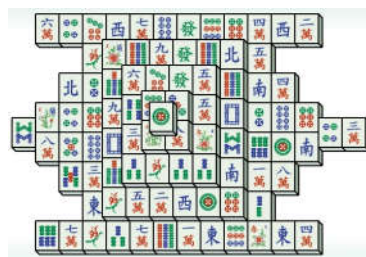
We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month (not Bank Holidays) for a couple of hours of fun and relaxation. We are a mixed group and welcome beginners. At the moment we don't score at the end of each game but do have a member who is proficient in this should you wish to learn.

We usually have 12 – 15 playing each time and chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit (or two) as well. Cost is £2.00 per person.

We play using the rules written by Max Robertson, whose book "The Game of Mah-Jong" has been accepted as the foremost authoritative guide to the rules and scoring of this fascinating game. It is a Penguin book, ISBN 978-0-14-300659-6, and would be available through bookshops or on line. The U3A in Thatcham also follow these rules so it would be easy for anyone to join their group. I also have photocopied sheets showing the basic hands from this book available to members.

Do come along and enjoy a fun afternoon with lots of laughs.

Helen Relf, grannyrelf@btinternet.com 01635 867619



Bucklebury and Marlston Horticultural Society

We moved into the New Year in good health, looking forward to a successful 2018 and ready to take any challenges in our stride. Our finances remain solid under the watchful eye of Terry Stares; our membership numbers are strong, although we will always welcome new members. Show entries continue their revival, but there is still space for more. The committee gained two new helpers, but still operates at below full strength. The new yellow schedule gives details of all of our interesting activities; at the time of writing we are already half way through our programme, but we still have a lot to enjoy.

Our Summer Show is held in the Memorial Hall on **Saturday 14th July** and our Autumn Show at the same venue on **Saturday 8th September**. Full details are in the schedule; take a look to see if you can manage to produce just a couple of entries. If not come to the hall during the afternoon (2.00-4.00pm) to see all the wonderful exhibits, it might inspire you for 2019!

Our Spring Show exceeded expectations. Despite the vagaries of our weather our members contrived to fill the hall with spring colour and fragrance. Whilst the judge completed his deliberations, the audience attempted to unscramble a cryptic quiz. As usual the evening was a chance to chat with fellow gardeners, and rounded off with refreshments.

Our winter series of talks has been completed, all have been well attended, and the audience rewarded with stimulating presentations. Victoria Logue urged us to look at our gardens and provided simple ideas and inspiration to improve dull areas. There were also interesting plants to buy. Michael Brown talked about "Death in the Garden"; it was not a murder mystery, but an insight about the darker side of the plants that surround us. It was well presented, very funny, and gave much food for thought. Finally Angela O'Connell, the regional organiser for Berkshire, related the humble beginnings of the National Gardens Scheme, how it has grown over the years and now contributes huge financial contributions to the Nation's health. Hopefully her visit will inspire many of us to seek out local gardens to enjoy, and support their campaign. Just search "National Garden Scheme" for complete details of gardens in our area. What could be nicer than wandering around someone else's garden and finishing off with tea and cake?

Over twenty members attended Cottismore Garden Centre's open evening on Wednesday 9th May, and snapped up plants at bargain prices. The trip to Thenford Gardens included a short visit to Hidcote Manor (NT) and worked out very well. Despite a change to a Friday, cows on the road, and blocked roads we managed to arrive swiftly at all our objectives. It was the first time for many years that we have managed to fill a big coach, which made it very economical. It was a unique

opportunity to visit this 30 acre garden, which has been renovated and has continually improved over the last 40 years under the ownership of Sir Michael and Lady Heseltine. Our next outing is to the RHS Gardens at Wisley, probably the best garden in the world, and it is practically on our doorstep. NO COACH, but you can go in your own transport for FREE! Assemble at All Saint's Church, Upper Bucklebury, at **9am on Saturday 23rd June** for final briefing and dispatch. You can bring friends and family, a picnic, but no dogs. Once inside you will be left to do your own thing and return as you wish.

The Social date is confirmed as **Saturday 24th November**; make a note in your diary. New members are always welcome, bring a friend or neighbour to any of our events and if you feel you have the energy to help the Society, why not join our small and friendly committee? Membership is free for a trial year. Contact John Wright (01635 863429).

Happy Gardening.
Derek Matthews (0118 9712587)

The poster is for an "AFTERNOON TEA CONCERT" by the "ENHARMONIC CHOIR" directed by "DANIEL NICHOLLS". It is scheduled for "SUNDAY 24TH JUNE" from "4.30 - 5.30 PM" at "RUSHALL FARM BLACK BARN". The poster features a central illustration of a white teapot pouring tea into a cup. Text on the poster includes "LOTS OF FUN MUSIC & FOOD", "ARRIVE EARLY FOR TEA AND CAKES!", and "FREE CONCERT TO SUPPORT EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE". Logos for "The John Simonds Trust" are visible at the bottom corners. The entire poster is framed by a decorative yellow border with star and floral motifs.

Bucklebury History Group

When the Queen drove through Bucklebury!

I am hoping that someone can help me identify the children in the photograph (below) and also let me know the year that this took place. My guess is early seventies as it was before I moved to Bucklebury. I do have other photographs should anyone wish to look at them. Thanks to Dot Yardley for the photos.

Helen Relf – 01635 867619.
grannvrelf@btinternet.com

A search on Google revealed that the Queen came to Bucklebury in 1972 - was this the same visit?

Bucklebury Walkers

We have been walking the paths of Bucklebury and surrounding parishes since January 2006 – we are a mixed group of all abilities and our aim is to have a social walk each month.

We still meet on the first Thursday of each month – list on the Bucklebury web page or Helen, 01635 867619 grannyreelf@btinternet.com – at 10.00 a.m. for about 3 – 4 miles and we now also run a shorter walk leaving at 10.30 and walking for about 2 miles. We then meet back at the venue for coffee and sometimes lunch - you are welcome to join either group.

Please contact me for more details or just turn up at any of the walks – the diary is in The Oaks and on the village website.

Helen Relf, 01635 867619. grannyrelf@btinternet.com



The Queen's Visit to Bucklebury

Tuesday Ladies' Club (TLC)



A delayed Spring is now over and we are now relishing the longer warmer days.

Since our last edition of The Oaks our meetings started with a fabric theme. First there was an interactive evening of silk craft and the great delight of taking home something we had made;

the evening was a great success.

The following month was a fascinating talk about prisoners of war making 'Changi Red Cross Quilts' and the part the women prisoners played sending messages to their imprisoned menfolk disguised in the quilt squares. The talk was thought provoking and very inspiring.

May 8th talk was about fragrance and memories, and took us back to memories and scents remembered from childhood.

Now Dates for your diaries:

12th June

Behind the scenes at Bucklebury Farm Park. NAMES PLEASE, PLACES ARE LIMITED phone Hilary 01635 864023 or email hilarypask002@yahoo.co.uk. Meeting outside Woody's at 2.15pm hopefully finishing up back at Woody's for a cuppa.

10th July

Afternoon tea at Jackie's house. NAMES PLEASE FOR CATERING PURPOSES. If you would like to bring a cake donation that would be welcome. Please note that subs for this is £5 with all profits going towards our Christmas Party.

NO meeting in August

11th Sept

Talk by Sarah Preston our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

9th Oct

A talk by Dr Rob Tayton on the Rosemary Appeal linked to Newbury Hospital

As always this is your club and we are glad you continue to support us and enjoy our meetings. We always welcome new faces and any suggestions of topics you would like us to include in the future.

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month in the Oak Room in Upper Bucklebury. The cost of each meeting is £3 to cover the cost of the hall, speakers and refreshments.

Committee members: Jackie Sadler, Hilary Pask, Karin Warne and Sue Puri

Halls



A big thank you to the seventy three people who attended the Quiz Night and also to Phil Laybourne and Robin Ranken for setting the questions. We made a profit on the night of £757 helped by the very kind donation from

West Berkshire Brewery of a polypin of Good Old Boy left over from the Parish Assembly.

Next Events for your diaries are:

Spanish Evening - 21st July 2018

We are planning to have a Spanish Guitarist, homemade Paella and desserts as well as a selection of Spanish Wines and Beers for sale.

10th Annual Beerfest - 6th October 2018

Planning is underway for this year's Beerfest. More details will be in the next Oaks and on the www.bucklebury.beer website and on our Bucklebury beer festival facebook page.



Spanish Evening

At the Victory Room, Bucklebury Village

Saturday 21st July 2018, 7.30pm start

Tickets £15 per head

Paella supper and homemade desserts

Music, Bar and Raffle

To reserve your tickets please contact

John Brims on 07799 348451 or send an email to jbrims@outlook.com

Profits to the Victory Room Redevelopment

Royal Baby Mugs

Following the birth of Prince Louis, you can complete your set of the unique Emma Bridgewater Royal Wedding, Prince George and Princess Charlotte commemoration mugs created for Bucklebury; a half-pint mug will be designed for the newest royal baby! The Events team and Victory Room are collaborating to deliver the new mug. We have already received an enthusiastic response from past customers. A total of 240 mugs have been provisionally requested, so with a limited



production run of only 500, the Bucklebury mug is bound to become a collector's item. We hope to take delivery of the mugs in late June. Order details are publicised on the Bucklebury Parish Council website. To reserve a mug in the meantime, please send an email to: buckleburyevents@gmail.com or call Julie Brims on 01189 713308.

We would always like to hear from any parishioner that would be willing to help with any of the fundraising events on an ad hoc basis as the trustee management committee is relatively small. If anyone is interested in helping please contact me.

John Brims - Chair of the Trustees of the Victory Room
0118 97133308

Sports

Pilates

Pilates is a form of exercise that is suitable for everyone bringing together mind and body, allowing clients to work safely and effectively. All exercises are built around 8 principles of:-

- Relaxation
- Alignment
- Co-ordination
- Core stability
- Stamina
- Concentration
- Breathing
- Flowing movements.

During the last few months we have continued our Pilates training and development by attending courses focusing on various sports: - **Pilates for Racquet Sports, Pilates for Golfers, Pilates for Equestrians, and Pilates for Runners.** We have also spent time developing our own practice by attending classes with Miranda Bass as our instructor. These classes are based around the structure of the Advanced Classical Mat exercises. We are now looking forward to that time of year when we will be booking onto the yearly Body Control Pilates Development weekend held at The Royal College of Physicians. Various Pilates workshops and lectures are available to attend. It is always an inspiring weekend with

excellent instructors and lecturers from various professions.

Michaela has recently added a third class at Peasemore Village Hall. **On 9th June** Michaela will be attending **Peasefest**. Here she will be demonstrating some of The Advanced Matwork exercises. There will also be an opportunity for people to take part in some more gentle Pilates exercises. **Peasefest** looks to be an enjoyable village festival with many activities and events taking place.

We have qualifications to teach **Pre and Post Natal Pilates** as well as **Pilates for Bone Health (Osteoporosis)**. Classes are held at **Bucklebury Memorial Hall in The Oak Room** on **Monday at 8.30pm, Wednesday at 9.30 am, 10.45am, 6.30pm and at 7.45pm and on Friday at 9.30am.** Classes are also held at **The Fisher Rooms in Cold Ash on Monday at 7.00pm** and at **Peasemore Village Hall on Tuesday at 6.15pm and Thursday at 6.15pm and 7.30pm.**

We are also able to offer one to one sessions.

If interested in attending a class please contact Mel at meriel58@yahoo.com

Bucklebury Badminton Club

Bucklebury Badminton is a thriving local club encompassing the villages to the east of Newbury. Anyone can come and play and whilst we have many local members, we also have players who travel some distance for a friendly yet competitive game.

This season we fielded three mixed, two ladies' and two men's teams as well as two Blackford Cup tournament teams. Successes have been mixed but the games were enjoyed by all and most members had the chance to play in a match if they wanted to.

We continue to be a very social group and as well as visiting The Cottage Inn after club night and matches, we also meet there for meals from time to time.

If you play, have played or want to play badminton then please come along. We have club nights on Tuesdays and are playing through the summer until 24 July. We have four weeks off after that but will resume club nights on the 28th August. You can just turn up on the night, or ring the number below if you want more information.

VENUE: Elstree School, Woolhampton, RG7 5TD

DAY: every Tuesday 8 to 10 p.m.

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

WEBSITE: buckleburybadmintonclub.com

Country Life

History of Bucklebury (Cecilia Millson)

After the war, when she and her husband came to live in Bucklebury, Mrs. Cecilia Millson produced some historical scenes for the Women's Institute. In her research she had to delve into the history of Bucklebury and in doing so she became interested personally. Mrs. Millson kindly agreed to write a series of articles on Bucklebury for the magazine, and were first printed cir 1973.

Part IX

While John Morton is remembered by his Chapel, a lesser monument to another Bucklebury man stands, or rather grows, near Fanny's Road. Known as the "Merry Tidbury" beech, the knot tied by Mr. Tidbury when the tree was a sapling, can be clearly seen in the gnarled old tree. *(Sadly this tree is long gone!)*

In 1870 William Marshall Wallis became the curate of Bucklebury, and started a cottage service for the infirm people of the Lower Common, who could not reach the Parish Church. The idea proved popular and he erected St. Saviour's Church, a corrugated iron building, to house his congregation, and encouraged the gypsies, who camped on the Common, to use the Church.



St. Saviour's Church (known as the Iron Church)

When Mr. Winchcombe Hartley died in 1881 he left no heir. His sister, Elizabeth, had married Count Demetrius de Palatiano, and the second of their four daughters, Mrs. Webley-Parry, inherited the Bucklebury Estate.

Soon after Mr. Hartley's death, the Royal coat-of-arms and the eight hatchments, now hanging in our Church, were found in a loft by Mr Watts, a relative of the manorial family.

The Bucklebury & Marlston Horticultural Society held its first Flower Show in 1895. Five years later the Chairman, the Reverend Cecil Hope-Gill, reported a record Show entry of thirteen hundred exhibits. The annual Show rotated round the Old Manor, Marlston House, and Bucklebury Place. On November 14th 1902, the Society gained the distinction of being the first one in the district to hold an Autumn Show. This was staged in the Fireside Club.

The Parish Magazine was first published in 1900, and cost 1½d. By 1905 the number of subscribers was such that the cost could be reduced to 1d.

In 1902 the village prepared to celebrate the coronation of King Edward VII. Postponed by the illness of the King, it



The plaque on the Coronation Oak

eventually took place on August 9th. Bucklebury was ready! At 2 p.m. the Bradfield Band led a long procession from the Avenue to the Village where Mrs. Webley-Parry planted an oak tree. The procession continued up Pease Hill to Nuttage Gate, and across the Common to Vanner's Barn. Here, tea was served to the children. At 4 p.m. the Reverend Cecil Hope-Gill preached to a congregation of twelve hundred people, around a large oak tree, which now bears a commemorative plaque. After tea for the adults, everybody enjoyed games, sports, and dancing until 9 p.m., when the band led the gallant villagers to Tomlin's Farm for a display of fireworks to end a memorable day.

West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS)

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.

Wed 20 Jun 8.30pm - 10.00pm Bucklebury Common. Nightjars and glow worms at dusk SU 550 688

Tim Culley leads an evening walk looking at heathland restoration and some of the specialized wildlife associated with this habitat. Meet at Angel's Corner, by the Scout Hut on Bucklebury Common at 8.30pm. Grid ref: SU 550 688.

Tue 26 Jun - 10.00am Kings Copse, Bradfield Southend. SU 579 707.

Bracken bashing on this SSSI. Park opposite the bungalow just before King's Copse House. Accessed via Jennets Hill

Wed 04 Jul 8.30 pm - 10.00pm Bucklebury Common – Nightjars and glow worms at dusk SU 550 688

Tim Culley leads an evening walk looking at heathland restoration and some of the specialized wildlife associated with this habitat. Meet at Angel's Corner, by the Scout Hut on Bucklebury Common at 8.30pm. Grid ref: SU 550 688.

Tue 14 Aug - 10.00 am Rushall Manor Farm, off Back Lane, Bradfield SU584 723

Woodland management, coppicing and ride widening. Meet at the Black Barn off Back Lane between Stanford Dingley and Bradfield.

Tue 04 Sep - 10.00 am Rushall Manor Farm, off Back Lane, Bradfield SU584 723

Woodland management, coppicing and ride widening. Meet at the Black Barn off Back Lane between Stanford Dingley and Bradfield.



West Berkshire
Countryside Society

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, June and October

By Bucklebury Parish Council.

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Parish Diary Dates

June

4th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
7th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	Thatcham Lakes
11th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
12th	Tuesday Ladies Club	2.15pm	Woody's for Behind the Scenes at Bucklebury Farm Park - must book
18th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
20th	Nightjars and glow worms at dusk	8.30pm	Angels Corner
23rd	Horticultural Society trip to RHS Wisley	9.00am	Cars assembly at All Saint's Church, Upper Bucklebury
24th	Afternoon tea Concert	4.30pm	Rushall Farm, Black Barn
25th	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
26th	West Berkshire Countryside Society	10.00am	Kings Copse, Bradfield Southend

July

2nd	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
4th	Nightjars and glow worms at dusk	8.30pm	Angels Corner
5th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
9th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
10th	Tuesday Ladies Club	2.30pm	Afternoon tea at Jackie's house
14th	Horticultural Society Summer Show	2.00pm	Memorial Hall
16th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
21st	Spanish Evening	7.30pm	Victory Room, Bucklebury
23rd	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall

August

2nd	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
13th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
14th	West Berkshire Countryside Society	10.00am	Rushall Manor Farm, Off Back Lane
25th	Chapel Row Fayre	1.00pm	Chapel Row Green

September

3rd	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
4th	West Berkshire Countryside Society	10.00am	Rushall Manor Farm, Off Back Lane
6th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
8th	Horticultural Society Autumn Show	2.00pm	Memorial Hall
10th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
11th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
17th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
24th	Planning Committee	8.00pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall

October

1st	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
4th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
6th	Bucklebury Beerfest		Bucklebury Recreation Ground
8th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
9th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
15th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall