

# The Oaks



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Parish Council Chairman  
Barry Dickens

Parish Council Clerk  
Helen Pratt

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## Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

As in many other villages across the country we mourn the passing of a wonderful lady who, as our monarch, served our nation so dutifully for over 70 years.

We are coming towards the end of a very dry and at times baking hot summer and so our thoughts on the Parish Council have turned to revisiting our Emergency Plan. To date this has understandably concentrated on flooding being a major risk. However, in light of a recent fire in the small meadow near the back of the Cottage Inn, which damaged the gardens of adjacent houses and threatened others, we must also consider fire precautions.

Back in May a tea party was held to welcome the Ukrainians now living in Bucklebury. The PC has been delighted to be able to help the Ukrainians and their host families by making our minibus available for trips to Newbury for shopping and English language lessons.

One of our councillors, Hilary Cairns, has resigned from the PC after many years of stalwart service. She was involved in the review of Bucklebury Vision (supplementary planning guidance-worth consulting if you are making a planning application) and over the past 3 years has led our recycling initiatives not least the collection of thousands of bottle tops. Jason Allum and John Munro-Ashman have recently been co-opted to fill BPC vacancies so helping somewhat to lower councillors' average age.

I make no apology for bringing up the subject of dog mess. Even though we have dog bins around the Parish the incidence of dog fouling is on the rise. This often happens as a result of dog owners not keeping a constant eye on what their dog is doing. Please clean up after your dog.

Notwithstanding the delays in the Local Plan

review process we continue to collect evidence against the proposal to build 2500 homes on our doorstep in NE Thatcham. We work closely with Thatcham TC and Cold Ash and Midgham PCs to ensure there is a united front against this scheme. We are concentrating on the environmental impact of this proposal to build on green fields and destroy ancient woodland. Funded by donations from parishioners an ecological study has been produced to assess the effects of this development on bio-diversity net gain and the habitats of protected species. The next stage (Regulation 19) of the Local Plan, which is the publication of WBC's proposed submission (to the Secretary of State and thence to an Inspector), will take place in December giving us up to 7 weeks to respond.

As Chapel Row Fayre was not taking place this year the date was offered to the Beer Festival which thus for once was able to enjoy warm sunshine to bring on drinkers' thirsts. A large crowd took advantage of a range of ales and ciders, a barbecue, cream teas and various live music sets. The profit from the day exceeded that from previous Beerfests. More detail can be found in the Victory Room report.

Looking forward, and after a gap of 3 years, we plan to hold our traditional 'Carols by Candlelight' service at the cemetery chapel on the Common on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December. It is always an atmospheric occasion at the start of Christmas week and raises funds for local charities.

**Cllr. Barry Dickens**  
**Chair of Bucklebury Parish Council**

## Parish Council Matters Arising

### Bucklebury Common Clearing and Parish Litter Pick

Bucklebury Common Clearing events have been held twice yearly for at least 40 years and possibly as many as 60 years.

On a Saturday afternoon, parishioners gather at the Memorial Hall to be allocated routes or areas to collect litter. Some areas/routes are local to the Memorial Hall and some a little further afield, a car can be useful but is not a necessity. Litter pickers, gloves, hi-vis jackets and rubbish sacks are handed out to all participants before they go out and seek litter and rubbish. Filled or heavy sacks are left strategically on the roadside or returned to a skip at the Memorial Hall.

On return to the Memorial Hall, participants are rewarded with delicious refreshments, whilst discussing their latest finds and the number of G&T cans which are found!

Do come and join us on the 1st October at 2pm.

**Helen Pratt—Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.**

### Bucklebury Parish Council

## Common Clearing and Parish Litter Pick

Please come to help clear litter from the  
paths of **Bucklebury**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

Equipment will be provided

SKIP at the Memorial Hall

Meet Bucklebury Memorial Hall  
**2.00pm**

Free refreshments afterwards

**“Keep Bucklebury Beautiful”**

### Fred Dawson Playpark and BMX track

Bucklebury families have enjoyed a lovely summer and The Fred Dawson Playpark has been very well used. A few pieces of equipment and some areas of the surface are now showing signs of age and we are looking to replace some items. If anyone would be interested in working with a small group of parents to consider the options and apply for funding grants please contact the clerk.

We have had to deal with some vandalism recently which we think is teenagers showing-off to peers without considering the consequences. We hope we don't have any who would intentionally cause damage and therefore problems for our younger residents and such a lot of extra work for the BPC volunteers who look after the area. We have recently upgraded the CCTV on the hall which covers the area of the playpark and track, and will be in a position to catch anyone causing future problems.

Litter on the slope behind the bike shelter remains a problem because getting down there, picking up the litter and getting back up is a challenge. Please ask your teens to bring home their large litter and bottles etc and put smaller items in the bin. Bucklebury now has a few outdoor places for teens to meet but taking responsibility as residents of our beautiful parish is key.

**Cllr. Anne Hillerton**



## Planning

Your councillors have been busy reviewing planning applications. Recently, we have either been inundated with applications to study, or had none at all. With all applications, two councillors look at the plans before visiting the site to fully understand the implications of application. It is then considered at either a full council meeting or a planning meeting.

**Helen Pratt—Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.**

| Reference       | Description   | BPC Status               | WBC Status                                   |
|-----------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| 21/00731/HOUSE  | <u>Nuttage House, Pease Hill.</u><br>Proposed alteration and extension works to the annexe building at Nuttage House.   | No Objection.            | Refused by WBC<br>Approved on appeal.        |
| 21/01815/FULMAJ | <u>5-10 Paradise Way.</u><br>Demolition of 6 No. dwellings and ancillary structure, and the erection of 10 No. new affordable homes composed of two and three bed houses, all with associated access, parking, amenity and landscaping.                 | Object.                  | Awaiting decision.                           |
| 21/02657/FULD   | <u>Wimbles Barn (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>Change of use and conversion of existing barns to a residential dwelling and ancillary store, together with residential amenity space, landscaping, parking and associated works.                             | Object.                  | Approved.                                    |
| 21/02821/HOUSE  | <u>Marywell, Chapel Row.</u><br>Erection of single-storey rear extension to south elevation and erection of two-storey front infill extension.  | No Objection.            | Approved.                                    |
| 21/02522/COMIND | <u>Bucklebury Farm Park.</u><br>Refurbishment and extension of existing visitor barn and associated structures, new storage building and associated landscaping and amendment of route of public right of way.  | No Objection.            | Awaiting decision.                           |
| 21/03222/FUL    | <u>Middle Wood, Hatch Lane.</u><br>Installation of Glen Farrow GF175 Biomass Boiler and “40ft” log drying container. Section 73 application to remove conditions 5 (nil import of lumber) and 6 (benzo [a]pyrene) of approved application 21/02398/FUL. | BPC could not determine. | Approved by Eastern Area Planning Committee. |
| 21/03191/FULD   | <u>Broad View Farm, The Ridge.</u><br>Replacement of existing dwelling.   | No Objection.            | Approved.                                    |
| 21/03174/FULD   | <u>Garage adjacent to 9 Donnington Close.</u><br>Conversion of two garages/stores to a one bedroom flat including external alterations.   | Support.                 | Refused.                                     |
| 21/03182/HOUSE  | <u>Kiln Lodge, Hungerford Lane (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>First floor and rear extensions, garage conversion and alterations.  | No Objection.            | Approved.                                    |
| 21/03162/FULD   | <u>Ivinghoe (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>Demolition of existing bungalow and replacement with a new dwelling and landscape enhancements.   | Object.                  | Invalid.                                     |
| 21/03219/HOUSE  | <u>Marywell.</u><br>Erection of three-bay garage with storage.  | No Objection.            | Withdrawn.                                   |
| 22/00022/HOUSE  | <u>Marywell.</u><br>Demolition of existing swimming pool and pool house. Erection of replacement pool house. Formation of replacement swimming pool. Formation of tennis court.   | No Objection.            | Withdrawn.                                   |

| Reference      | Description   | BPC Status    | WBC Status         |
|----------------|---|---------------|--------------------|
| 22/00279/FULD  | <u>Wenden, Long Grove.</u><br>Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a new detached 4/5 bed house with garage and indoor pool.   | Object.       | Awaiting decision. |
| 22/00337/FULD  | <u>83 Roundfield.</u><br>Erection of a detached bungalow.   | Object.       | Refused.           |
| 22/00384/HOUSE | <u>Mulberry Cottage, The Slade.</u><br>Proposed first floor weatherboard cladding to main house. New external staircase, alteration to fenestration and refurbishment of existing out-building.   | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/00203/HOUSE | <u>2 Riverside Cottages.</u><br>Construction of 2-car detached garage.  | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/00626/FUL   | <u>Marlston Farm House Barn.</u><br>Erection of private equestrian stabling for 4 horses with associated storage and fenced enclosure.  | Object.       | Withdrawn.         |
| 22/00633/HOUSE | <u>Barfield House, Chapel Row.</u><br>Section 73: Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 21/01045/HOUSE: Consists of internal alterations to existing house layout to include minor alterations to doors and window positions. In addition conversion of existing garage and part car port to games room with shower room. Extension to the existing car port to provide additional car port and log store. Replacement garden machinery store. | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/00684/HOUSE | <u>Eliezer Cottage, Zin Zan.</u><br>Proposed side porch extension with extended en-suite and dormer over.   | No Objection. | Withdrawn.         |
| 22/00728/HOUSE | <u>14 Broad Lane.</u><br>First floor extension, single storey, front, side and rear extensions.   | Object.       | Approved.          |
| 22/00764/FUL   | <u>The Bladebone.</u><br>Kitchen extension.   | Support.      | Refused.           |
| 22/00991/HOUSE | <u>Oak Lodge, Upper Woolhampton.</u><br>New detached outbuilding.   | Object.       | Approved.          |
| 22/00918/FULD  | <u>Ivinghoe (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>Replacement dwelling and landscape enhancements.  | Object.       | Refused.           |
| 22/01100/HOUSE | <u>1 Catherine Place.</u><br>Proposed single storey rear extension.   | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/01127/HOUSE | <u>35 Broad Lane.</u><br>Formation of habitable rooms in roofspace with side dormer and front gable build up.   | Object.       | Withdrawn          |
| 22/01194/HOUSE | <u>Gamekeepers Lodge Farm, Hawkridge Hill (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>Proposed demolition of existing outbuilding and construction of new replacement outbuilding, with single storey link extension.   | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/01218/HOUSE | <u>Kings Copse House</u><br>Replacement entrance gates.   | No Objection. | Approved.          |
| 22/01258/HOUSE | <u>Conygree, Carbinswood Lane.</u><br>Side extension.   | No Objection. | Approved.          |

| Reference                      | Description  | BPC Status    | WBC Status                                     |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| 22/01325/FUL & 22/01324/LBC2   | <u>Brockhurst School, Marlston House.</u><br>Adaptation and extension of the existing school theatre to create new classrooms and a multi-purpose pavilion.  | No Objection. | LBC not required.<br>FUL application approved. |
| 22/01320/HOUSE                 | <u>Conamore, The Slade.</u><br>Removal of roof structure, raising all external walls and forming new roof structure to provide living accommodation. Alterations to front fenestration including relocation of entrance and new oak entrance canopy. Alterations to rear fenestration including removal of conservatory and sunroom.   | No Objection. | Approved.                                      |
| 22/01348/MINMAJ                | <u>Hartshill Copse, Burdens Heath.</u><br>Section 73a: Variation of Condition 1 (Temporary Permission) of previously approved application 21/01451/MINMAJ: Section 73 – Variation of condition 1 (Temporary Permission) of planning permission 19/03158/MINMAJ – Section 73A: Variation of condition 1 – temporary permission 3 – approved plans and 28-final levels of approved application 17/03493/MINMAJ: Section 73. Variation of condition 1 (time period of operations) of the appeal decision APP/U0300/A/88/93423 for Extraction of hoggins from Land adjoining Harts Hill Road, to enable a satisfactory restoration scheme to be agreed, implemented and completed. | No Objection. | Awaiting decision.                             |
| 22/01285/FULD                  | <u>Vanners.</u><br>Retrospective application for a change of use of land from temporary site compound (formerly agricultural use) to incidental residential use.   | Object.       | Refused.                                       |
| 22/01386/FUL                   | <u>The Bladebone.</u><br>Kitchen extension.  | Support.      | Approved.                                      |
| 22/01442/FULD                  | <u>Middle Wood, Hatch Lane.</u><br>Erection of a dwelling with associated parking and landscaping.   | No Objection. | Refused.                                       |
| 22/01538/HOUSE                 | <u>Patchways, Upper Bucklebury.</u><br>Proposed first floor rear extension and addition of solar panels.   | No Objection. | Awaiting decision.                             |
| 22/01624/HOUSE                 | <u>14 Broad Lane.</u><br>First floor extension, single storey side and rear extensions.  | Object.       | Approved.                                      |
| 22/01548/FULD                  | <u>Marywell.</u><br>Erection of replacement dwelling, following removal of existing, with associated parking, turning, landscaping, private amenity space and access.  | No Objection. | Withdrawn.                                     |
| 22/01579/FUL                   | <u>Clover House, Westrop Farm (Adjacent Parish).</u><br>Construct an all-weather arena, stable block and permanent field shelter, and a manure clamp. Change of use to equestrian.   | No Objection. | Awaiting decision.                             |
| 22/01840/HOUSE                 | <u>Red Hill House, Briff Lane.</u><br>Proposed new extension, door surround and dormer windows, pool and pool house.   | Object.       | Withdrawn.                                     |
| 22/01908/HOUSE & 22/01909/LBC2 | <u>The Old Cottage, The Avenue.</u><br>Single storey side and rear extensions.   | No Objection. | Awaiting decision.                             |

## Bucklebury Nature Watch

At the heart of Bucklebury Parish, part of the North Wessex Downs AONB, Bucklebury Common and its surrounding area make up over 345 hectares of wonderfully diverse habitats, from ancient broad-leaved woodlands and heaths to secluded streams and gullies.

This year, we ask you to help us celebrate its beauty and importance by cataloguing the species that live within our wonderful parish.

All species are important to us, but of particular interest are the rare and declining ones, such as Nightjar, Woodcock, Woodlark, Hedgehog, Hazel Dormouse, Adder, Slow worm, Grass Snake and all Newts and Bats.



### We need your help

It's easy to get involved...

- Visit the iNaturalist.org web site.
- Download the app onto your smartphone.
- Sign up and become a member of the Bucklebury Nature Watch project.
- Take a walk in the woods and fields of the parish.
- Use the app to record what you see and hear.



At all times, we ask you to respect all wildlife, please look but do not disturb.

## Recycling

### DO YOU RECYCLE .....

**Clean Plastic Bottle Tops.** It seems to have been a quiet summer for the collection of plastic bottle tops, or is it me not sorting enough? As I write there are two large bags waiting to be sorted and 1.5 large bags sorted and ready to be weighed, so it is not as if you have not been recycling, only me slacking on the job!

When I last wrote for The Oaks in February 2022 we had managed to send to the recycling plant (RPS Ltd.) a total of 154.2 Kgs. When you consider that approximately a fifth of the total number of bottle tops cannot be sent to recycling due to the fact they have no triangle or grade number, or are actually the grade 1 plastic that cannot be recycled at all and ends up in the Veolia bin in Thatcham, the number of tops that you all put into the recycling bins is actually much more than the current weight. We have to date : **202.2 Kgs** but this is an impressive weight considering that the average plastic bottle top weighs just two grammes!

So thank you all for the continuing support to the recycling project. I hope to have some new information for you from West Berkshire Council regarding recycling management, any changes they have with Veolia and where the plastic and tin product goes from the huge bin in the Waitrose car park in Thatcham. It would be good to know if it helps with the generation of power, seeing as it is all doom and gloom on that front for this coming winter!

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

**Hilary Cairns**







# Carols by Candlelight

Cemetery Chapel,  
Byles Green

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December

At 6pm

Mulled Wine and Mince  
Pies

All welcome



## West Berks District Councillor

Bucklebury Ward contains the parishes of Bucklebury, Midgham, Stanford Dingley and Woolhampton. Our District Councillor is:

Graham Pask Tel: 01635 864023

Email: [graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk)

### WBC Councillor's Report

As I write this our long hot, sunny and very dry summer is giving way to more autumnal weather and I wanted to thank everyone for being vigilant on the Common. Sadly we had three or four instances when young (and not so young!) people were playing with matches and, in one case had been using a disposable barbecue and had not ensured it was out. On behalf of our community, I am grateful to those who ensured the fires were contained. Last month we were not so lucky with a fire in the small meadow next to the Cottage Inn which caused a lot of damage and considerable alarm when it spread to

neighbouring gardens and I am confident that parents will instil the dangers of playing with fire to their children!

I make no apology for writing yet again about vehicles abusing the Common, I seem to write about this every year but I feel it is worth reminding people what we are doing and how they can help. For the last five years West Berkshire Council has placed Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) on the byways which are on the Common. The TROs enable the Police to prosecute the reckless people who drive their 4x4 vehicles on the Common as they can cause much damage to the surface of the tracks especially when it is wet which, apart from the danger to those of us who regularly walk on the Common, is expensive to repair. As in previous years we erect barriers to deter the abuse but still allow for access to walkers and riders. We only target the byways as it is illegal to drive vehicles on bridleways and footpaths and, of course, across the Common itself.

The TROs will be put in place on 1<sup>st</sup> October for six months (the maximum time allowed) which will cover the worst of the winter weather. If you are aware of any drivers ignoring the TROs (or driving anywhere else on the Common) it is illegal, so try to get a description of the vehicle(s) and report it to the Police on 999 if it is happening now or 101 if you discover recent evidence. If you have What3words available it will help the Police immensely! Please do not put yourselves in danger by challenging the drivers but I can assure you the Police will respond, subject to their resource at the time, and they have prosecuted drivers (and impounded their 4x4) in the last year.

WBC has made good use of our dry weather repairing roads throughout the District this year with a programme of "machine patching" where sections of road are planed down and large areas of surface replaced. I was delighted that Harts Hill has been repaired after much reporting and gentle nagging by me, so a timely reminder to report potholes and sunken drains etc to WBC on the website or through me. I have had some comments about the lack of communication after defects have been reported with almost dismissive automated replies saying that no action is required following inspection and am pleased to report that the system is being replaced! There is always more to be done but the duty of WBC is first to ensure our roads are safe using temporary repairs and then to prioritise permanent repairs at the earliest opportunity.

As always please call me if I can help you with anything to do with the Council!

**District Cllr. Graham Pask**

**[Graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk) 01635 864023**

## Family

### West Berkshire Ballet School

It has been wonderful to have a whole dancing year back together and now under almost normal circumstances!

Claire's new look Musical Theatre classes were able to present two nights of mini-shows with a live audience as we broke up for Christmas and we were treated to another extravaganza at the end of this summer term. All shows have been filmed and shared with the cast creating lots of happy memories.

We finished 2021 with ballet exams with another set of great results – congratulations to all involved, and have just received the excellent results for this terms' exams. Congratulations to our Primary, Grade 1, Grade 5 and Holly K.

August was the time for two weeks of our Summer School – this year it was Lion King with the second week taking place during that 'heat wave'. The students were wonderful and unanimously voted to 'let the show go on' – it never ceases to amaze cast, parents and teachers how such a high standard is achieved in only 4 days – congratulations to all concerned.

Of course, ballet had been busy preparing for their performances of The Sleeping Beauty over the Jubilee weekend. I think I can safely say that it was a triumph! Three full houses and apologies about the over warm auditorium – poor Arlington does need some help with their air-conditioning system but the wonderful smiling faces of the cast of 89 dancers showed how much they had enjoyed the entire experience. The team would once again like to publicly thank the backstage mums – we couldn't produce such a slick event without them and this year, for the first time, we had help from a large gang of WBBS alumni and it was lovely to see them again.

As always happens after our spectacular full-length productions, we have been inundated with lovely new pupils. We have worked hard to make as few changes as possible to our timetable but have had to squeeze in some new classes on

different days.

And now to my personal news: I have taken the very hard and difficult decision to take a step back from the frontline at WBBS. My middle daughter, Caroline, and I joined, what was then Thatcham Ballet School, in 1988 and Caroline danced in class with Claire. The Principal and Founder of the school, Gillian Robinson, persuaded me to take my Cecchetti exams and teaching qualifications in 2002 and when Mrs Robinson wished to retire, I took over West Berks Ballet School.

Claire, having completed her vocational training at London Studio Centre, joined me to begin the very popular Modern & Tap side of our school. Our first full-length production together was The Sleeping Beauty in 2003, with Holly as the Princess Aurora! So for me it is perfect symmetry!

Holly will be moving onwards and upwards from September, and has taken the reluctant decision to leave WBBS. After 11 years training with us, and a further 10 years teaching for us she will be missed. The team thanks her for the time she has spent with WBBS and wishes her well for the future.

We are however delighted that Lucie (who has been with us for 23 years!) will be taking on a more senior teaching role and has agreed to mentor two friendly faces, that you will all recognise, to look after our tiniest dancers. I can relax in the knowledge that all will be well and in good Cecchetti hands!

I wish the best of luck and every possible success to the new team and a huge 'thank you' to all you lovely families for making my 20 years such a wonderful and happy experience.

Claire, Lucie & Gemma will be there to welcome you back for all the new dancing adventures from Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Very best wishes

Jane

#### New WBBS contact details

MT & Tap - Claire: [cbowden1602@gmail.com](mailto:cbowden1602@gmail.com)

Ballet - Lucie: [wbbsslucie@gmail.com](mailto:wbbsslucie@gmail.com)



The cast of The Sleeping Beauty.



## 1st Bucklebury Guides

1st Bucklebury Guides have had a busy summer term. We started the term working towards our survival badge. The Guides learnt how to read, give and follow directions using a map and compass, what to pack in a backpack when going out for a walk, how to signal using mirrors and how to build a



Guides in one of their shelters.

shelter. We also had an evening of outdoor cooking where each patrol had to plan a sweet and savoury dish which could be cooked on small gas stoves outside. This was very successful and we had pancakes, rice crispy bars, crisps, pitta pizzas and even caramell

We visited Rushall farm one evening as part of our Rustle Bustle Squeak badge. We learnt all about honey bees and got to see a small colony of bees in their observation hive and even saw the Queen! We also got to see some of the equipment used



Guides at Rushall Farm.

to harvest honey. We went on a trailer ride around the farm and saw sheep, cattle, pigs, chickens and turkeys. The Guides learnt where meat comes from, how long the animals stay on the farm, what they eat and how Rushall farm is an organic farm. The last night of term was on one of the hottest days ever recorded in the UK. We decided we would play some water games which was a welcome

relief from the heat for everyone. We had a couple of challenges where teams had to compete against each other including melting a t-shirt that had been frozen into a ball and putting it on! The evening finished with ice lollies and a big water fight which involved leaders getting soaked too!

Excitingly Alice completed her Leadership Qualification this term. Caroline has just started her Leadership Qualification and will be working hard to complete it over the next year. Claudia has also joined us this term as a unit helper and we are very excited to welcome her to the leadership team.

At the beginning of the summer holidays we went on Guide camp to Foxlease in the New Forest. We went with Guides from Compton, Cold Ash and Pangbourne for 4 nights. Our theme was 'Around the World' and we let the Guides chose their patrol names loosely based on this theme. We had the Four Musketeers, Carbonara, Hungary, Turkey and Australia. Our menu was also based on cuisine from around the world and included bolognaise, curry, a full English, a French breakfast with croissants and pain au chocolates and a Mexican inspired ready steady cook where the Guides cooked their own fajitas on small gas stoves.

Some of our Guides made their Promises whilst kayaking on the lake and at the top of a stack of crates in the crate challenge. We also had an 'Around the World' wide game where each patrol had a passport and had to visit different stations based on locations around the world or modes of travel. They had challenges such as building the Golden Gate bridge from newspaper and getting a toy car to travel across, building the Eiffel Tower out of cocktail sticks and mini marshmallows, creating a country's flag from items found around the camp site, making a hot air balloon to safely carry an egg and to build a small boat and see how many beads it could carry before it sank – just to name a few! We also had a spa night one evening where the Guides made face and foot masks, a head band and a lip balm.

This Autumn term some of our Guides are going on selection weekends for the South West region International Community Experience (ICE) trip in 2023. Vicky, one of our leaders, was selected to help organise and run the trip so we are all excited to see where the trip next year is going and who gets selected.

We have lots planned for the coming term including party planning, night walks, campfires and fire lighting, celebrating parliament week and a Christmas sleepover! If your daughter is aged 10-14 (or soon going to be 10!) and would like to come along to Guides and see what we do, please email us to arrange a free taster evening.

**Vicky, Alice, Caroline & Claudia**  
**Buckleburyguides@gmail.com**

## Organisations

### St. Martin's Club

No records of the club exist and after St. Martin's resumed meetings, which were cancelled owing to the Covid pandemic - 2020-2022, questions were asked about its origins. Fortunately a few people in the parish remembered the early days.

Looking back over the club's history reflects some of the social changes that have taken place in the last 70 years, one being that in 2022 a bigger proportion of local retired people have pensions to supplement the state pension and so are better off than many Bucklebury pensioners would have been in the 1960s.

To begin at the beginning in the 1950s land was donated to the parish by the family living at The Grange in Coxes Lane and a temporary Memorial Hall was constructed. After much fundraising and many local donations, the Memorial Hall we have today was built.

In the early 1960's, now Upper Bucklebury had a village hall, a small group of "incomers" living in the larger houses in the parish and spearheaded by Iris Baker, decided that a club for the elderly of the parish was needed. Iris lived originally at Brooms, Byles Green, before moving to a bungalow in Berry's Rd.

St. Martins Senior Citizens Club was formed and the small group met, sometimes in the houses of the instigators, or at the Memorial Hall, for tea and chat. The club was mainly limited to people who had been born and lived in Bucklebury. Helpers, who did not meet the criteria for membership, were allowed. This is how Rita Wall became involved, driving when necessary the more infirm members to meetings and providing tea and cake. The W.I also provided cakes.

Many of the stalwarts in the parish have been involved with the running of St. Martins over the years, Mrs Bury, ? Ward, Ann Hazell, Harry Copas, Joan Birch, Winifred Fleming, Ron Mather, June Lawes, Janet and Reg Allum to name a few.

The History Society only possesses parish magazines going back to 1979 which records, "St Martin's Senior Citizens Club". It had more than 70 members and the annual subscription was 20p. In 1980 "Senior Citizens" was dropped and it became the St. Martin's Club.

There was a Bring and Buy Sale every January to raise funds for the club, and a Christmas Dinner at the Memorial Hall

every December usually followed by an entertainment and tea and cake. In 1992 it cost £1.00 each going up to £3.00 in 1993- a time of high inflation. For many years people had to bring their own cutlery "irons"- a common practice in community events until cutlery became much cheaper to buy and halls could afford to provide it. The Memorial Hall bought theirs in 1993 and people could finally leave theirs at home!

Outings were organised from April to Oct and non- members were often allowed to fill the coach.

In 2008 members travelled to Cambridge, Abergavenny and the Brecon Beacons. In 1992 a trip to the Isle of Wight meant leaving Bucklebury at 7-45 am!

Local afternoon trips were also organised to places like Child Beale when sometimes the WI would supply the picnic tea of sandwiches and cake. People had to take their own drinks.

On a trip to Lacock the local WI supplied the tea in their village hall.

Some winters there were theatre trips, often to a pantomime... Indoor meetings often consisted of a slide show and frequently the affluent members of the parish showed their holiday slides of far off lands. In 1988 Dr Edwards Moss gave a talk on his time in the Falklands and bless him, he is still entertaining us with updated talks.

In March a USA sergeant from the Greenham Air Base gave a talk. (Next year we are having a different talk about Greenham Common Control Tower to bring us up to date).

In time St. Martin's became open to anybody who had retired and the club ran very successfully until the Covid pandemic shut down all public meetings. When meetings could be resumed in 2022, Pat Bodsworth, Rob & Val Sansom and Philip Green, who had run it for many years, decided they would like to retire and a new committee, with Helen Relf as chair, took over.

The present committee would like to publicly thank Rob, Val, Pat and Philip for all their hard work in keeping the club up and running and making sure things were in good order before the handover. The club is now full with 78 members and this year we have had trips to Selborne and Bletchley Park with one to Westonbirt in October.

In November we have a talk on Gertrude Bacon, aeronautical pioneer, astronomer, botanist and author who lived in Cold Ash. A Christmas lunch will be held at the West Grange Mercure Hotel in December for all current members. January will be our AGM.

Please contact Helen Relf, 01635 867619 [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com) if you would like more information on the club and we can add your name to the waiting list. With thanks to Rita and Brian Wall, back copies of the Parish magazine 1979-2009 as well as many others with good memories.

Helen Relf & Wynne Frankum.

## St. Martin

There are two St Martins – one born 316, died 397, with a Saint's Day on 11<sup>th</sup> November. The second was born in Lima, Peru in 1579 and is the patron saint of social justice, mixed race harmony and mixed race people. He was canonised in 1962. Given the date it may be that this St Martin gave his name to the club?

The earlier St. Martin was born in central Europe. He fought in the Roman army and like many people at the time, converted to Christianity. He was a monk and hermit founding a monastery before becoming Bishop of Tours. He was promoted to a military saint in the Franco-Prussian War 1870-1871 and became a French republican saint at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

The Archbishop of Tours 1876-1913, believed the national destiny of France and all its victories were attributable to him. The colours of the cloak of St. Martin were used for the 1<sup>st</sup> flag of France, the Tricolour.

St. Martin is the patron saint of beggars, wool weavers and tailors. He is also the patron saint of the US Army Quarter Masters Corps. He has become one of the most recognisable Christian saints in France and patron saint of many communities and organisations across Europe, so here in Bucklebury we are in good company!

The country was much more military minded in the late 50's and early 60's when St. Martin's Club was founded, so a saint whose day was on the 11<sup>th</sup> November, Remembrance Day, could have seemed very appropriate.

**Wynne Frankum 2022**

## Bucklebury and Marlston Horticultural Society

It was with considerable fear and trepidation that we approached our Spring Show. We had lapsed for two years, would move to a new venue, and now armed with a dwindling committee. However our apprehensions were unfounded, and the beautifully restored Victory Room was enhanced by an impressive display and fragrance of spring flowers. Our members responded to the challenge, and the results were amazing. The weather was kind, and the attendance throughout the afternoon beyond our expectations. "The Desdemona Challenge" (class 21) attracted a dozen entries, overflowed its allocated space and tested the deliberations of the judges.

Our success flowed over to the Summer Show, although entries were fewer than normal, with none at all in the children's classes. The weather was fine, the new hall adorned with flowers and foliage, and many visitors enjoyed meeting friends and a cream tea.

Since the Summer Show, when our gardens were lush and green, we have received barely an inch of rain and we expect our Autumn Show to reflect this.

The trip this year is to Sheffield Park (National Trust) in East Sussex. Planned for **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** when we should enjoy stunning Autumn colour, but it remains to be seen how nature responds to the current drought. The coach leaves Bucklebury at 9am (Peaches then the Blade Bone), returning around 5.30pm. At the time of writing we have insufficient numbers to make this trip viable. We need close to 50 members to cover the cost of a coach. NT members benefit from a free entry to the gardens, otherwise group entry is £13.30. Please contact me (see below) if you wish to be added to my list.

The Century Club has kept us financially afloat during the pandemic, and has helped to keep subscriptions low. Draws are monthly and the annual fee is £12.00. If you would like to be included in the monthly draw, please contact Margaret Grannum on 0118 9713944.

New members are always welcome, bring a friend or neighbour to any of our events. If you feel you have the energy to improve the Society, why not join our small and friendly committee? Contact John Wright (01635 863429).

Happy Gardening.  
**Derek Matthews (0118 9712587)**

## Bucklebury Walkers

We are a mixed group of walkers who meet on the first Thursday of each month at 10.00 a.m. and walk for about 3 – 4 miles and we now also organise a shorter walk leaving at 10.30 and walking for about 2 miles. We then meet back at the venue for coffee (or go back to The Cottage Inn, where we also enjoy a 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.

Please note that these are social walks and you are responsible for your own safety.

**Helen Relf,**  
01636 867619. [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)



## Tuesday Ladies Club (TLC)

Looking back at an amazing summer, reminiscent of 1976, I am now left wondering when we will get the rain everyone so badly needs! As the long summer evenings are now beginning to draw in the TLC can look back on an active few months and look forward to the coming month's planned meetings.

The visit to The Dell in May was much appreciated by all. The gardens were beautiful and the weather helped make for an enjoyable afternoon. In June Dr Nick Young regaled us with tales of the history of Thatcham town centre. It's fascinating to find out about our local area and learn more about places and monuments that we take for granted and hardly notice in our everyday lives.

The garden afternoon tea in July was during a hot spell but a slightly more cloudy afternoon brought some relief! A last minute change of venue saved the day when the original hostess had covid, something we have all become used to this year, as we learn to live with our new normal.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> October  | Prof.Andy Kempe. The curious case of the Commons. A lively account of Greenham Common's history, from common land to military base and back again! |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> November  | Make your own Christmas Cards  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Party  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> January  | Puzzles and Plonk  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> February | Dr.Martin Parsons The use and abuse of photographs in history – a light hearted talk.  |

After our August break we are now looking forward to a busy programme over the coming months.

Meetings are held in the Oak Room at the Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall starting at 7.15pm.

We look forward to sharing these evenings with members, old and new, if you're a regular maybe there is a friend or neighbour you could invite along.

If you have read these reports in every edition of The Oaks and never quite made it along, maybe now is the time to try something new, we look forward to welcoming you.

TLC is a social group for women in our community and surrounding areas and all are welcome. The committee can be reached with any queries at the email address below:

**Carole Clothier Membership Secretary of TLC**

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

## Bucklebury History Society

The group held a very successful meeting in The Victory Room in April when Dr David Peacock spoke about John Winchcombe and Jack of Newbury. If anyone has any information that they would like to share then please get in touch.

We will be having an illustrated talk on Shaw House in November, which should be very interesting. See separate item.

Thanks to all those who have offered help with the group and have taken on projects. Please do let me know if you would like to help!

**Helen Relf**  
01635 867619. [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)



## BUCKLEBURY HISTORY GROUP

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November

7.30pm

VICTORY ROOM, BUCKLEBURY

Illustrated talk on Shaw House

by Sarah Somerville

(Visitor Services Officer at Shaw House)

£3.00 ADMISSION

Refreshments

All Welcome - See you there!

### John Morton

*continued from the February edition of  
The Oaks*

In 1834, the new Lord of the Manor, Mr Winchcombe Hartley, following a national farming trend, decided to enclose the common and a Bill was presented to Parliament for its enclosure. John, in his late forties, was obviously by now an influential and well known person in the Bucklebury area and he decided to take a leading role in fighting the Bill, knowing what hardship and impoverishment this enclosure would bring to the commoners.

John engaged counsel from his own purse to support his cause, contacted the MP for Reading, Mr Walter, asking for his support and rode to London, arriving on April 16<sup>th</sup> 1834, to defeat the bill before both Houses of Parliament. In his absence, his wife ran the farm and he sent letters from London sending her instructions on what needed doing.

#### Letter from John to his wife Sarah;

"Be sure and take care of all the cattle and that sow that is to pig shut up and I think the sheep should have some water to drink at night and give them plenty of hay"

He and the other witnesses were detained in London adding to the expense. He wrote home:

"Tell all the people to pray earnestly to God, and we will do all in our power here. I am afraid the money will not be enough, some had better go to them that have promised to give"

John started the list by donating £10.00 and another fifty- five people contributed with amounts varying from one shilling to £10.00.

After numerous worried letters home and more fund raising and many prayers, the bill was defeated and freedom of Bucklebury Common was ensured for all time on May 8<sup>th</sup> 1834.

After the Bill was defeated John Morton's congregation raised nearly £400 from public subscription and finally built a chapel on the site of the old blacksmith's shop in Turners Green. It was opened on July 31<sup>st</sup> 1840. John preached in his chapel until he died and is buried on the site. The chapel still stands, a testament to this remarkable man.

John continued to farm the 130 acres and by 1851, when he was 63, he employed 4 labourers.

The expenses incurred in opposing the Bill, fees to the House -Parliamentary Agents, solicitors charges and counsel fees:

£126.7.0

Land Surveyors:

£10.0.0.

Witnesses travelling expenses:

£41.0.0

Total :

£177.7.0

John Morton died in November 1871 aged 83, he was buried in the graveyard attached to the chapel (*Newbury Weekly News Nov.16<sup>th</sup>*)

He could never have guessed the benefits his actions would have on future generations, and Bucklebury Common would be a lasting memorial to one man's courage and dogged determination to stand up to authority, buck the national trend of land enclosure, and against the odds pitted against the poor, win.





## Halls

### The Victory Room

The Victory Room has now been re-opened for 10 months and has seen a marked increase in lettings this year. We are pleased to see that all weekdays apart from Thursday have regular bookings and many weekends are booked for children's parties. We have also seen a number of less frequent recurring bookings such as for the History Society, Pony Club and the Horticultural Society shows.

We had our first Beerfest since 2019 on 27<sup>th</sup> August. We were able to hold the event earlier this year as there was no Chapel Row Fayre, more of that later. We had a very successful afternoon that included selling all but one polypin of beer, more than 1000 pints and over 200 pints of cider. We offered beer from a new brewery this year, Amwell Springs in Cholsey in addition to four others including WBB, Indigenous, Bond and Ramsbury.



Bucklebury's threewise men.

There was a great music line up including Molly Brown and Lizzie Shearn, John Tanner (the Man); Amanda and a Man, Violet Origin and finishing with Fubar.

A traditional tea room was run by volunteers from West Berkshire Motor Neurone Disease Association and local domestic abuse charity, Berkshire Women's Aid. We would like to thank everyone that donated cakes to the tea room for these great charities.

A big thank you goes to all the local business that sponsored the event either with a cash donation or raffle prize.

There were fifteen local trades and artisans, a raffle and not forgetting Newbury Bouncy Castles.

We would like to thank Mr Willie Hartley Russell for naming the new extension to the Victory Room, the 'Remembrance Room'. The trustees felt this was a fitting name for the extension and consistent with the original donation of the land by Lady Webley-Parry Pryse on which the Victory Room was relocated from Frilsham after the First World War. The trustees are planning to place some recognition in the room to the thirty-seven men of Bucklebury that lost their lives during the First World War and the twelve men of Bucklebury from the Second World War.

The trustees agreed to donate at least 50% of the profits to West Berkshire Motor Neurone Disease Association and Berkshire Women's Aid. We are pleased to report that the profits from the Beerfest were in the region of £3,500 and the trustees have approved a donation of £1,000 to each of the above charities.

I would like to thank all the trustees for making the event possible and also all the volunteers that helped over three days; without their help, an event like this would not be possible.

With this in mind, if anyone is interested in helping to organise the next Beerfest or even a Chapel Row Fayre, can you please let me know. These events are a lot of work but the tasks can be broken down into smaller elements and if we have some volunteers to run an element, I am sure we can continue to put on an annual event. We understand everyone has busy lives these days but we can also try to split the workload to suit 'workers' and 'non-workers' and if we have the numbers, we can limit the amount of time required from each person.

**John Brims**

**Chair of the Trustees of the Victory Room**

0118 9713308 or 07799 348451

[jbrims@outlook.com](mailto:jbrims@outlook.com)

## Events

### Bucklebury Farmers Market

Saturday 3rd September saw the first farmers market at Bucklebury Farm. There were 8 stall holders which included flowers from the Marlston Flower Girl, apple juice and cider from St. Crispins Farm, local honey from Hill Side honey and lots more good stuff!

This is going to be a monthly event on the first Saturday of the month and the farm hopes to have up to 20 stall holders in the future.

Guests were able to enjoy wonderful coffee and cakes from the cafe and 'horse box' on site. More details available on the website [www.buckleburyfarm.co.uk](http://www.buckleburyfarm.co.uk).

Everyone is welcome to visit the cafe and browse the farmers market and shop without buying an entrance ticket to the farm's other attractions and we look forward to giving you a very warm welcome!

Oliver Shute

[oliver@buckleburyfarm.co.uk](mailto:oliver@buckleburyfarm.co.uk) 07765 860 963



Flowers at the September Farmers Market.

## Messiah in an Hour

We are looking forward with confidence to the "Messiah in an Hour" performance this year on Sunday 11th December at 7pm at St Mary's Church, Bucklebury.

We were so sad last year when we had prepared a concert and then the new variant of Covid arrived and we had to cancel. Enharmonic choir are delighted to be able to get together again. We all love singing and sharing our music and we hope that you will find the evening a truly fulfilling experience.

Please join us and bring your family as there will be light moments and a chance to join in, as well as some of the loveliest music ever written both by Handel and other composers.

It has become a tradition that for the last 'Hallelujah' chorus children and young people come and join the choir at the front (the words are not difficult!) which makes a great finale and then we can truly look forward to Christmas!

If you would like any more information, please call Daniel and Sandra Nicholls on 0118 9712555 or email: [daniel.nicholls64@outlook.com](mailto:daniel.nicholls64@outlook.com).

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><b>Enharmonic Choir</b><br/><b>Director Daniel Nicholls</b></p> <p><b>Free</b><br/><b>Just come</b><br/><b>along and</b><br/><b>enjoy!</b></p> <p><b>Suitable for the whole family</b></p> <p><b>More information</b><br/><a href="mailto:daniel.nicholls64@outlook.com">daniel.nicholls64@outlook.com</a><br/><b>0118 9712555</b></p> | <p><b>Join us for</b><br/><b>Messiah and More</b><br/><b>in</b><br/><b>One Hour</b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b><br/><b>11th December</b><br/><b>7pm</b><br/><b>St Mary's</b><br/><b>Church</b><br/><b>Bucklebury</b></p>  |
|--|---|



## Country Life

### Bucklebury Common Stewardship

The Common is an integral part of the Bucklebury community and a great resource for the natural environment. Rare birds and insects live on the heathland, newts and frogs inhabit the ponds; and plants and butterflies make their home in the woodlands.

The owner and custodians of the Common are keen to make it as good for wildlife as possible, a great place to visit, and preserve the local heritage. Despite the valiant efforts of local volunteers, some areas have changed dramatically over recent decades – some heathland is covered in birch scrub, ponds are full of silt and overshadowed, and the woodlands lack diversity – all causing a loss of wildlife.



A veteran oak tree on the Common

The Common Management Team is writing a new management plan and applying for grant funding to pay for the restoration of Bucklebury Common. They have written to people on the 'register of commoners' to ensure that their views on the management of the Common are heard.

One of the first projects that you may notice this autumn is the restoration of three ponds on the Common. Working with the Newt Conservation Partnership, these ponds will have some trees removed to allow in more light, and they will be desilted. Chainsaws and diggers will be used, but this work will be great for wildlife.

If you would like to be kept informed about these exciting proposals to protect this special place, please contact Alex and he can add you to the mailing list.

**Alex Cruickshank, [alex@SundewEcology.co.uk](mailto:alex@SundewEcology.co.uk)**

### West Berkshire Countryside

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, clothing and gloves, and bring water, hot drinks and a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. All the necessary tools will be provided.

(The three word code after each grid reference is the "What Three Words" listing for the task meeting point)

#### **Sat 8 Oct 10:30 - 1:00pm Bucklebury Common**

Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner [SU 550 688](#) [offices.bucked.tradition](https://offices.bucked.tradition)

#### **Tue-25 Oct 22 10:00 Rushall Manor Farm**

Woodland ride management. Park at Black Barn [SU584 723](#) [telephone.brink.crate](https://telephone.brink.crate)

#### **Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 10:30 The Trees of Ashampstead Common, a walk with Charles Gilchrist**

Join Charles for a walk around Ashampstead Common looking at some of the wonderful trees on the common. Park at the Common entrance just past The Cottage along Sucks Lane Ashampstead, RG8 8QT [SU576 751](#) [nuzzling.pegs.afford](https://nuzzling.pegs.afford)

#### **Tue 1 Nov 10:00 Bucklebury**

**Common** General heathland management. Meet at the Crossroads on the Common [SU556 691](#) [taskbar.flagpole.sensual](https://taskbar.flagpole.sensual)

#### **Sun 13 Nov 10:30 - 1:00pm Bucklebury Common.**

Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner [SU 550 688](#) [offices.bucked.tradition](https://offices.bucked.tradition)

## Sports

### FC Cougars

FC Cougars are a fun and friendly local youth football club. Our players have been back in action after a summer break, and have been training at Bucklebury Recreation Ground during the week, making the most of the light evenings before the nights close in. We will continue to run midweek training sessions at floodlit venues in the region, and look forward to returning to the Recreation Ground in March. Our home games this season will be taking place on Sundays at Bucklebury Primary School for our younger age groups, and at Henwick in Thatcham for our older teams.

Our club presentation day was held in The Victory Room and on the Recreation Ground in July and we had a great turnout from our members and families on a sunny day in Bucklebury. We ran some activities on the field to raise some money for the club and are very grateful to all our parents who baked an amazing selection of cakes and provided much needed refreshments! All our players received a trophy for all their efforts during the past season. It was also a great opportunity to thank all our coaches and volunteers who give up their time to help provide fun football to so many local children.

We have players between school years 2 and 10 currently at the club and this season we are running a club record ten teams

across seven age groups. The club now has over 100 registered players, and we would like to give a big welcome to our new players who have joined this summer. Most of our teams are now running at capacity, but we do have limited places for children in school years 2 and 4. If you have a child in year 2 or 4 who would like to give it a try then please get in touch – they may find out their school friends are already in their team! We welcome boys and girls of all abilities who are keen to play regular football, and we have players from Bucklebury, Thatcham and the surrounding areas.

FC Cougars are affiliated with Berks and Bucks FA, and we have teams in the Reading and West Berkshire League and the Peter Houseman Youth League. Our team managers and coaches have completed enhanced DBS checks, safeguarding and first aid qualifications. Our aim as a club is to provide football for all children in a safe and enjoyable environment.

For more details on the club please contact Graham Loader on [graham@fccougars.com](mailto:graham@fccougars.com) or see our website at [www.fccougars.com](http://www.fccougars.com)



Presentation day for FC Cougars.



## Bucklebury Tennis Club

[www.buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)

Bucklebury Tennis Club continues to flourish for recreational play, drills, junior coaching and competitions.

The tennis courts at Bucklebury Tennis Club have been repainted for the start of the Autumn and Winter Programme. The toilet facilities for Tennis Club Members have been upgraded and made more accessible.

### Drills:

Drills with our Coach Damian Lane, continue to be very popular with sessions on a Monday and Thursday evening.

For further details contact: Karen Pegg: [kppegg61@gmail.com](mailto:kppegg61@gmail.com)

### Junior Coaching:

Junior Coaching with Josh Lawson has resumed for the Autumn Term:

We are pleased to welcome back, following the Summer holidays, Year 5 pupils from Bucklebury Primary School for their weekly session with Josh. It is good to see how much these sessions are enjoyed by all.

Junior sessions on a Wednesday with Josh Lawson for all members and non-members will resume from 4.00pm:

For further details contact our Junior Co-ordinator: Karen Pegg: [kppegg61@gmail.com](mailto:kppegg61@gmail.com)

### Competition:

#### League Tennis

League tennis resumed for the summer. Bucklebury Tennis Club entered 3 Mens Teams, 3 Ladies Teams and 1 Mixed Team in the Newbury and District Leagues. Bucklebury Tennis Club also entered a Ladies Doubles Team, a Vets O45 Team and a Vets O55 Team in the Berkshire Leagues. All matches were played. A great credit to the Captains and all team players.

This Summer two American Tournaments have been organised by Damian Lane and Helen Raines. They have been hugely enjoyed by all with tennis, socialising and food. Always a good combination.

Winter Tennis is upon us with teams once again entered into the NDLTA and Berks Leagues.

If anyone is interested in playing for any of the Winter teams please do not hesitate to contact:

Robin London: [robinlondon145@gmail.com](mailto:robinlondon145@gmail.com)

### Club Membership:

New members and visitors are most welcome. There is plenty of opportunity to play - Mens Mornings; Club Nights; League matches (both Newbury and Berkshire); Social tennis. Visitors or non-members can play on a pay and play basis. Details regarding membership and visitors are on the website: [www.buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)

Please contact our Membership Secretary, Norman Casson: [normancasson@aol.com](mailto:normancasson@aol.com) if you would like to join or there are any queries.

Robin London: [robinlondon145@gmail.com](mailto:robinlondon145@gmail.com)

[www.buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)

## Indoor Carpet Bowls

We have just had an uninterrupted eight months of bowling since the beginning of the year, and have managed a happy two hours bowling every Monday morning and Friday afternoon.



Carpet bowls in the Memorial Hall.



We now have a regular pool of 20 odd players, with attendances at each of our Mondays & Fridays up to 12.

There is a mistaken concept that this is only an occupation for the elderly and unfit; this is without doubt, - Not correct, all ages can enjoy it, and get as much exercise as they do walking around Bucklebury Common; probably more! One of our group claim her afternoon took up 2000 steps during a session.

The game differs from the outdoor game played on grass, The lanes are smaller and narrower, the woods are smaller and they have a significant bias. There is a central obstruction block placed across the centre of the lane that needs careful navigation before you reach the Jack ball(the ultimate target). Once you have mastered that challenge, then you have to ensure the bias on the bowl brings it back into the target area. Not as easy as you think! Nearest the jack wins the “End” Then you repeat it all in the opposite direction.

Our sessions in Bucklebury Memorial Hall are Monday mornings, 10.30 - 12.30 and Friday afternoons, 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. We aim to cover our costs with a small charge of £2 per person per session.

Beginners and experienced players are always very welcome to try it out and hopefully become one of the regulars. It is a sociable activity for some or, a challenge to those who want competition.

After three years at it, I still haven't found the secret ingredient to claim control of my bowling!

Come along to try it out, EVERY ONE IS WELCOME.

Interested folk should get in touch with me or just come along.  
**Mike James: m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk 0118 971 2285**

## 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 “clerk@buckleburyparish.org”. 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.**

**Barry Dickens**

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By Bucklebury Parish Council.

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# Parish Diary Dates

## October

|      |                                 |         |   |
|------|---------------------------------|---------|---|
| 1st  | Common Clearing and Litter Pick | 2.00pm  | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 4th  | Bucklebury Walkers              | 10.00am | The Blade Bone, Chapel Row.                     |
| 4th  | Bucklebury Walkers              | 10.30am | The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury.              |
| 10th | Bucklebury Parish Council       | 7.45pm  | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 11th | Tuesday Ladies Club             | 7.15pm  | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 27th | Community Coffee Morning        | 10.30am | The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury.                 |
| 24th | Bucklebury Planning Committee   | 7.45pm  | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |

## November

|      |                               |                 |   |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 3rd  | Bucklebury Walkers            | 10.00am/10.30am | To be confirmed.                                |
| 8th  | Tuesday Ladies Club           | 7.15pm          | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 10th | Bucklebury History Group      | 7.30pm          | Victory Room, Bucklebury.                       |
| 14th | Bucklebury Parish Council     | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 24th | Community Coffee Morning      | 10.30am         | The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury.                 |
| 28th | Bucklebury Planning Committee | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |

## December

|      |                           |                 |   |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1st  | Bucklebury Walkers        | 10.00am/10.30am | To be confirmed.                                |
| 11th | Messiah in an hour        | 7.00pm          | St. Mary's Church, Bucklebury.                  |
| 12th | Bucklebury Parish Council | 7.30pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 13th | Tuesday Ladies Club       | 7.15pm          | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 19th | Cemetery Carols           | 6.00pm          | The Cemetery, Byles Green.                      |
| 29th | Community Coffee Morning  | 10.30am         | The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury.                 |

## January

|      |                               |                 |   |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 5th  | Bucklebury Walkers            | 10.00am/10.30am | To be confirmed.                                |
| 9th  | Bucklebury Parish Council     | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 10th | Tuesday Ladies Club           | 7.15pm          | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 23rd | Bucklebury Planning Committee | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 26th | Community Coffee Morning      | 10.30am         | The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury.                 |

## February

|      |                               |                 |   |
|------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 2nd  | Bucklebury Walkers            | 10.00am/10.30am | To be confirmed.                                |
| 13th | Bucklebury Parish Council     | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |
| 14th | Tuesday Ladies Club           | 7.15pm          | Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury.                |
| 23rd | Community Coffee Morning      | 10.30am         | The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury.                 |
| 27th | Bucklebury Planning Committee | 7.45pm          | Committee Room at the Victory Room, Bucklebury. |