October 2019

The Oaks

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Helen Pratt

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Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

May I begin by saying I am delighted and honoured to have been elected Chair of the Parish Council. A resident of Byles Green, I have lived here for over 30 years and will shortly have clocked up a quarter century on the PC. I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Wynne Frankum, for all she has done for our community. Wynne's strong social conscience and sympathetic, highly effective leadership will be a loss to the PC.

A small team of councillors has been engaged in updating Bucklebury Vision (BV), the Village Design Statement, first issued in 2002. BV aims to help ensure the future viability of our community is sustained and addresses the need for rural conservation and protection from pollution. It gives guidance on new development, alterations and extensions so they are architecturally in keeping and sympathetic to our rural environment. BV serves as Supplementary Planning Guidance and can be accessed on line through the Parish website at www.buckleburyparish.org.

The Annual Assembly back in May listened to a talk on the latest developments at the Surgery from one of the GPs and the Practice Manager. This was well received and we are looking to make this a regular annual feature.

Many of the residents of Burdens Heath are concerned about the lack of a footpath alongside the busy road outside their properties. The most cost-effective solution would appear to be improvement to the footpath on the common which parallels the road. The PC together with the residents will be having a look to see what can be done.

May I draw your attention to 2 events in the Parish in the near future. On 5th October we will have our bi-annual common clearing and litter pick. Please support this to, as the publicity posters say, 'keep Bucklebury beautiful'. One week later we have the 11th Bucklebury Beer Festival. Do go to the recreation ground in the village for a selection of local beers and cider, barbecue food and great music. All profits are in aid of the redevelopment of the Victory Room.

A final word about asking for support for the PC. We are but 11 councillors who serve a community of over 2100 and we cannot always progress every initiative and suggestion as much or as quickly as we would like. I know how busy and involved people are with little spare time beyond family and work commitments. However, we would welcome parishioners coming forward to work with the PC to generate ideas or move worthwhile suggestions forward. Hopefully some of the articles in The Oaks, such as those on speeding and recycling, will have sparked your interest.

Barry Dickens—Chairman of BPC

Parish Council Matters Arising

Speeding in the Parish

In the last edition of The Oaks, we highlighted the concerns raised by a number of parishioners about speeding on our local roads.

There are positive things that can be done, so we asked for volunteers to join a working group with the parish council to look at the issue in greater depth, and propose/investigate possible solutions.

A kick-off meeting took place on 19th August, attended by a small group consisting of our district councillor Graham Pask, parishioners and parish councillors. Our plan is to understand the issue, look at possible solutions and then agree a plan – although it was agreed there is no simple solution.

The main areas of concern in the parish highlighted were Broad Lane, Chapel Row, Harts Hill, Burdens Heath and the village.

Within the parish, we already have speed deterrents such as pinch points along Broad Lane, a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) in Chapel Row, and many houses have the community speed watch stickers on their bins.

It was agreed that more speed limits are undesirable, and unenforceable - 20mph limits are not a solution – as some drivers will always drive at speeds in excess of the limit whatever signs are displayed.

West Berkshire Council run their own speed awareness campaigns, and the first step is with SID (speed indicator devices) placements to gather data about the speed of traffic. There's a new contact within WBC who has been invited to visit the parish to look at suitable locations. We have three parish councillors who have recently been trained to use SID, so once suitable locations have been agreed, we will be carrying out speed surveys. The evidence gained will be used to decide, with WBC, on what further action we should take.

The police also run community speed watch programmes in other areas such as Wiltshire where speed gun usage is delegated to parish councillors. This may be an option in West Berkshire – Graham Pask will meet the chief constable to discuss if a similar programme could be implemented here in WBC.

Another of the areas of concern is the volume, and possibly speed of traffic particularly at school times through Bucklebury village. The parish council will contact the governing bodies for both Brockhurst and Elstree schools to investigate whether school transport could be provided to reduce the number of cars at school start/finish times.

We are also looking at the entrances to villages within the parish to see what could indicate the start of the main residential area, e.g. "Village gates", signs, planting, markings on road.

We're looking for any volunteers to look at the same in Chapel Row or Burdens Heath/ Harts Hill. Please contact the parish council if you'd like to get involved.

We discussed road markings and other softer more psychological options - there are two very good publications online:

"Traffic in Villages safety and civility on rural roads", by Dorset AONB and Hamilton Baillie. http://hamilton-baillie.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/hamilton-baillie-traffic-in-villages.pdf

"Traffic speed toolkit- Cotswold District Council" , a pretty exhaustive list of possible community approaches to traffic speed - some of which we could consider. https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/media/241346/Speed-toolkit.pdf

These measures strive to create more of a sense of place e.g, tree stand outs, planting, village sign, figures, and some uncertainty for drivers e.g. by removing central lines, different colouring on edges. We will look at an experiment in Holland where all road markings were removed completely. WBC may be looking at these softer options too, Graham Pask will find out more and report back at our next meeting. We are considering all options.

Finally, we discussed whether social media could be used more effectively to promote speed awareness and also education through the motoring press. These are two areas to be investigated and reported on at the next meeting.

The next meeting of the working group is on 30 September. If you have any comments, or ideas you'd like us to consider, please contact either Lindy Clarke (lindy.clarke@live.co.uk, 0118 9712 768) or Tim Banks (timjbanks@gmail.com, 01635 862091).

Lindy Clarke & Tim Banks
Bucklebury Parish Councillors

Carols by Candlelight

Cemetery Chapel, Byles Green

Monday 16th December

At 6pm

Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

All welcome

Recycling

Do you recycle? If you do perhaps you would help us to recycle items that West Berkshire Council does not: PLASTIC BOTTLE TOPS.

There are mini bin containers at the following locations: BUCKLEBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL; THE MEMORIAL HALL KITCHEN, THE OAK ROOM KITCHEN, THE VICTORY ROOM KITCHEN.

Also on Mondays between 9am and 12 noon – during Coffee Mornings at ALL SAINTS CHURCH – washed plastic MILK bottle tops can be handed into the kitchen for recycling.

Please wash before drop off to any of the above locations. Thanks.

RECYCLING - THINK GLOBAL – ACT LOCAL

Hilary Cairns—Bucklebury Parish Councillor

The Fred Dawson Memorial Play-park and the bike track

In the Playpark, Parish Council volunteers have been working recently on maintenance by removing rust from the blue igloo and restoring the surface. If anyone would like to help with occasional maintenance jobs please email the parish clerk.

Please encourage your children to put litter in the bins, or to take larger items home, otherwise volunteers have to give up time to do this.

The bike track has been well used this summer by all ages. Please remember that helmets must be worn and arms and legs should be covered. The track will be regularly maintained to keep the surface in good condition, but some protection to avoid grazes is sensible.

Please ask your teenagers to take their larger litter home, and put small items in the bin. The slope behind the shelter is very difficult for older volunteers to get down and up again safely to collect litter, so no litter down the slope would be wonderful, or failing that, some younger volunteers would be an enormous help.

Anne Hillerton—Bucklebury Parish Councillor

Bucklebury Parish Council

Common Clearing and Parish Litter Pick

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

Saturday 5th October 2019

Equipment will be provided

SKIPS at the Memorial Hall

and Chapel Row

Meet Bucklebury Memorial Hall

2.00pm

Free refreshments afterwards

"Keep Bucklebury Beautiful"

Planning

As you can see, the Parish Council has been consulted on a large number of planning applications, by WBC since the last edition of The Oaks, keeping your councillors very busy. Whilst the councillors are "lay men" in terms of planning, they do try to ensure that the comments made are constructive and based on planning policy, and not personal likes and dislikes. In order to do this, periodic planning training sessions are organised with WBC planning officers, when they can share the types of information which it is useful for parish councils to share with them. This doesn't always mean that planning officers have the same opinions as parish councils, but it would appear that recently there has been a good deal of agreement!

Helen Pratt Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
19/00242/FULD	69 Roundfield. Proposed new dwelling and new front dormer to existing dwelling. New front vehicular access for shared off road parking.	No Objection	Approved
19/00462/HOUSE	Pastorale, Windmill Lane. Conversion of existing garage into habitable accommodation, two storey and single storey extension, porch, bay windows and erection of detached carport and store.	No Objection	Approved
19/00665/HOUSE	Littlebourne, Bucklebury. Revisied location and minor alterations for garage/outbuilding.	No Objection	Approved
19/00450/HOUSE	Manor View, Hopgoods Green. Replacement of timber framed garage and store.	No Objection	Invalid
19/00572/HOUSE & 19/00573/LBC2	Vanners. Swimming pool and pool house – Relocation of previously approved.	No Objection	Approved
19/00824/HOUSE	Upwey, Burdens Heath. Demolition of existing garage, stores and lobby, construction of replacement garages and open plan kitchen with additional first floor bedrooms.	No Objection	Approved
19/00832/REM	Land Adjacent to Summerfield, The Ridge (Adjacent Parish) Approval of reserved matters following Outline permission 16/02529/OUTD - Change of use of part of existing agricultural field to residential and the erection of 5 no. detached dwelling houses with ancillary garages, access, parking, landscaping and associated works. Matters seeking consent - Access, landscaping and scale.	Object	Western Area Planning Committee
19/00888/HOUSE	Fifield Farm. Conversion of existing storage outbuilding into gym. New garden/games room. New link between existing and new garden/games room.	No Objection	Approved
19/00906/FULD	Farm Buildings Opposite River Barn, Marlston. Change of use of the barn to form a 4 bedroom dwelling and associated works.	Object	Invalid
19/01054/HOUSE	69 Roundfield. Proposed part single storey, part two storey rear extension.	No Objection	Approved
19/00907/HOUSE	River Barn. Oak frame and brick store to replace similar building burnt down many years ago. Restoration of partially collapsed mill barn. Gates and fencing.	No Objection	Approved
19/00964/HOUSE	Amber, Bucklebury. Section 73A: Removal of condition 3-materials of approved application 15/00859/HOUSE: Alterations to existing house to include rear and side extensions. Conversion of garage roof space, changes to windows, part re-cladding of external walls.	No Objection	Approved

19/01102/FULD	Westrop Farm (Adjacent Parish) Change of use of two agricultural buildings to form two residential units; alterations and extensions.	No Objection	Approved
19/01051/HOUSE	31 Broad Lane Single storey dining room extension and convert the garage to a habitable room.	No Objection	Approved
19/01216/HOUSE	Nine Elms Cottage, The Avenue. Section 73A: Variation of Condition 2 – Approved Plans, of approved reference 12/01439.	No Objection	Approved
19/01107/HOUSE	Manor View, Hopgoods Green. Replacement of timber framed garage and store.	No Objection	Approved
19/01307/HOUSE	River Barn. Two storey side extension replacing single storey extension. Relocation of greenhouse and partial demolition of outbuilding.	No Objection	With-drawn
19/01365/FUL	Land Adjoining Village Hall, Broad Lane Small tennis clubhouse alongside the tennis courts and adjacent to the memorial hall.	Support	Approved
19/01373/HOUSE	78 Roundfield. Single storey rear extension.	No Objection	Approved
19/01185/FUL	Vanners Temporary change of use of land to accommodate contractor's site compound in connection with building works.	No Objection	Approved
19/01275/HOUSE	The White House, Byles Green. Replace existing driveway and pedestrian gates with new gates.	No Objection	Approved
19/01584/FUL	Bucklebury Farm Park. Section 73: Variation of condition (3) hours of operation, of approved application 15/00620/FUL: Section 73A – Variation of condition (1) The Leisure use for public access hereby authorized is to be limited to the months of March to October inclusive of planning permission 149980. To remove restriction on months of operation.	No Objection	With-drawn
19/01657/HOUSE	Briff Well, Little Lane. New detached 3 bay car port and store.	No Objection	Approved
19/01668/FULD	82 - 83 Roundfield. Proposed demolition of existing pair of semi-detached houses, and development of two houses, a bungalow, and a detached garage.	No Objection	Approved
19/01711/CERTE	1 Donnington Close. The Lodge is a three bedroom bungalow which has been let on the open market for over five years. The property has been uninterruptedly tenanted for almost five years by the same tenant.	No Objection	Lawful
19/01448/HOUSE	Stag Cottage, Turners Green. Single and first floor extensions to the side and rear of the property with land-	No Objection	Approved
19/01751/LBC2	Wallins, Westrop Green. Like-for-like replacement of timber windows in the bathroom and lounge.	No Objection	Approved
19/01669/HOUSE	Littlebourne, Bucklebury. Installation of dormer window in lieu of roof light on North elevation and lean-to store on North elevation in lieu of garage.	No Objection	Approved
19/01866/FULD	Farm Buildings Opposite River Barn. Change of use of the barn to form a 4 bedroom dwelling and associated works.	Object	Refused
19/01869/HOUSE	Meadow House, Paradise Lane. Extension in lieu of first floor terrace to create dressing room and gym.	No Objection	Approved

19/01754/HOUSE & 19/01755/LBC2	Paradise Cottage, Paradise Lane, Single storey extension to existing dwelling (replacing existing lean-to).	No Objection	Approved
19/02004/HOUSE	10 Hatch Close. Proposed glazed porch, rear glazed link and new lantern roof light in existing garden room.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
19/02129/HOUSE	Hartlands, Burdens Heath. Single storey and first floor extensions and new roof over garage for domestic storage.	Object	Awaiting decision
19/02097/FUL	St. Crispins Farm, Chapel Row. Section 73: Variation of condition 2 'approved plans' and 3 'materials' of previously approved application 18/02034/FUL: Section 73: Variation of condition 2 'approved plans' and 3 'materials' of previously approved application 17/01905/FUL: Demolition of the existing house and replacement with a simplified form with double pitched roof.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
19/02125/HOUSE	Ramblers, Little Lane. New porch and single storey side extension.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
19/02108/COMIND	Bucklebury Farm Park. Retrospective application for 7 glamping units and associated development for perennial use.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
19/02300/MDOPO	The Lodge, Donnington Close Modification of the obligation of the third schedule of planning permission 147230 varied under 03/02480/RELAX.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
19/02247/AGRIC	Homerstead House, Hawkridge Hill. Timber framed building extension measuring 8.8m wide x 12m long x 2.750m to eaves and 4.050m to ridge. Proposed cladding and timber stock walling to infill open areas on existing building.	No Objection	Awaiting decision

Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB) Trustees

Would you like to work with a charity to help empower rural communities in Berkshire?

Local charity Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB) is seeking new Trustees to help us continue our work of enhancing, empowering and strengthening rural communities in Berkshire.

We have over 45 years' experience in community development work and are an active member of the Action with Communities Rural Network (ACRE). Our core mission is to enable communities in Berkshire to thrive by using our knowledge, skills and enterprise. Our vision is to strengthen, promote and empower communities.

We are seeking enthusiastic individuals who have an interest in working to improve community life in Berkshire to join our Board of Trustees. This is a non-remunerated post however out of pocket expenses are payable. We are particularly interested to hear from people that have skills and/or experience in marketing, PR, public speaking, fundraising or campaigning.

Your skills and experience will be put to use in making a lasting difference in your local communities. If you are retired or due to other circumstances have more time to dedicate then this could be the perfect role for you as we are a small team and do rely on volunteer support to help complete key task and finish jobs.

Alternatively if you have a busy working life then there are only a handful of, mostly evening, meetings to commit to attending a year in which you could share your expertise and provide guidance on important decisions.

Please e-mail admin@ccberks.org.uk or to find out more about us and our current projects please visit our website: www.ccberks.org.uk. To make an appointment for an

informal conversation with our Chief Officer Tim please call us on 01189612000.

Support Our Work

If you would like to support our charity and shop on Amazon please consider shopping via the **AmazonSmile** platform – this is exactly the same as Amazon but has the added bonus of donating 0.5% of the value of your shopping to a charity. Once logged onto AmazonSmile please search for **Connecting Communities in Berkshire** and select us. You can find out more about how it works on their FAQs page. Many thanks.

West Berks District Councillor

Bucklebury Ward contains the parishes of Bucklebury, Midgham, Stanford Dingley and Woolhampton.

Our District Councillors is: **Graham Pask**

He can be contacted on 01635 864023 or via email at: graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk

WBC Councillor's Report

Summer is now, sadly, nearly over but the growing season continues and many of us are trimming plants that have grown so well this year. The same happens along the edges of our roads, many of which are narrow and become even more so with overhanging foliage, and I have been asked a few times about who is responsible. In general terms if foliage is growing within a metre of the edge of the highway then it is usually the responsibility of the Council, if the roots are over that distance but foliage is overhanging then it is for the land-owner to cut back. Either way if you see a problem then it can be reported to the Council www.westberks.gov.uk or by calling Streetcare on 01635 551111. All issues raised are inspected and, if it is a Council responsibility, will be rectified or if it is caused by a land-owner they will be sent a letter asking for them to cut back any trees and bushes. It is probably worth adding that if you own a hedge or tree close to the edge of the road, especially if it is near a junction then please ensure that it is cut back to allow for good visibility!

Elsewhere in The Oaks is an article by Tim Banks about speeding traffic in the parish and the intention of the Parish Council to establish a Community Speed Watch scheme. I won't duplicate what has been written but fully support the initiative and am pleased to be part of the discussions. I have, however, chaired the Speed Limit Review Group at WBC for many years so have had a great input into setting appropriate speed limits in conjunction with the police. I fear we are receiving requests for lower speed limits on local roads, especially following an accident, but often it is not a lower speed limit that is found to be needed but better highlighting of, for example, a bend or other hazard. Accidents do happen on roads with low speed limits (as on Burys Bank Road by Greenham Common recently), so if someone is intent on driving their car off the road I don't think they are the type of driver to comply with speed limits in the first place!! I am very much reflecting the view of the police on this thinking as they say that we should drive according to road conditions, visibility etc.

I usually write about planning so I wanted to give a brief update on the Local Plan which is in the process of being revised. At WBC we are in a strong position to control planning, large applications that are refused and go to appeal often have the argument made that we are short of suitable sites. Any Council needs to demonstrate a five year land supply for development and currently we have seven years, a healthy position to be in! We must ensure that our plan is up to date to maintain this position and later this year we will go to public consultation on our proposals to take us to 2036 and although there are no major sites suggested for our Parish this is important news as it covers not just housing site allocations but matters like the supply of affordable housing and infrastructure.

As always I am happy to help with any WBC issues you may have so please contact me.

Graham Pask—WBC District Councillor

Family

Bucklebury Guides

Our energetic little unit continues to thrive and we have been enjoying trying out some of the new activities devised in the Girl Guiding programme.

We have tackled the "Express Myself" Theme and undertaken some interesting activities such as creating bowls from recycled magazines, making macrame baskets, story telling, communicating in all sorts of ways, solving a variety of scientific and engineering problems and experimenting with recipes. One activity even involved brain surgery (recreated in a card board box!) Some of the activities are undertaken as a whole unit while others are organised by the girls in their patrols. They are also working on interest badges at home in order to gain the full theme award.

Last term we used the campfire at Thirtover to cook bread and smores as well as singing camp songs. We also tackled a "toss a coin" walk in Upper Bucklebury and some outdoor painting. Pangbourne Guides visited us for a session and used our lovely outdoor space (and beautiful weather) to play water games - great fun but everyone got very wet! We were lucky enough to go to Adventure Dolphin in Pangbourne to do some kayaking at the end of term with many of the girls gaining a Blue Peter badge for trying a new sport, and everyone got very wet again!

This term we are beginning the "Skills for my Future" Theme, which involves thinking about practical aspects such as repairing, shopping, finances, risk assessment and DIY. The Guides are always keen to use the stage in the Victory room so there will be performances at the end of term as well as the usual baking and Christmas crafts. We've also planned a night walk (with chips) in Pangbourne and an ice-skating Christmas outing.

Sadly, we said goodbye to our Leader in training and, so far, the search for a regular replacement has been unsuccessful. I am relying on parental help so please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to join us in helping to run this popular and busy unit. Adult helpers may not get paid, but we certainly do have a lot of fun.

We hold our Guides sessions on Monday evenings (7-8:30pm) at The Victory Room in Bucklebury. If you are interested in joining us as a Guide, please do get in touch via the Girl Guiding website.

Mel Wilkes (buckleburyguides@wilkesam1.plus.com)

Bucklebury Community Bus

Bucklebury Bus has a new driver, Nikki Colby, who has experience driving coaches as well as minibuses so is a great asset. Nikki is also willing to consider driving outside her normal school hours so if you would like to use the bus, we can ask if she is available to drive.

The bus is available most evenings, weekends and school holidays and we'd like residents to take advantage of this wonderful facility and book it for outings, concerts, trips and family events. We only ask for a donation which covers our costs and it works out cheaper than most other transport whilst helping our charity with much needed extra income.

For information about costs and if you qualify to drive, please email buckleburybus@gmail.com

This school year we are running almost full, so if your child is using the bus, please be aware that pupils must get on their allocated run.

Anne Hillerton,
Trustee, Bucklebury Community Bus

West Berkshire Ballet School

The dancing feet have been very busy this summer……in early June 93 students performed our Cinderella at the beautiful Arlington Arts Centre to an audience of over 600! This is a very special time when all the ballet pupils get together, over the summer half-term, and see the whole story for the first time and watch their friends dancing, making lasting memories.

Needless to say, we were very proud of them all!

We even had the opportunity to take 'Cinderella' on tour with a special performance at Brockhurst & Marlston School.

Ballet exams followed at the end of term for the Grade 1s and 3s who had all worked very hard and were rewarded with super marks – congratulations to you all.

In July Holly & Darcey went off to Cecchetti Summer School held at Elmhurst Ballet School's lovely studios in Birmingham. Holly returned home with the Emerson Shield for a hard working delegate. We had four dancers at Cecchetti Summer School for young dancers with Ellie winning a cup for her own choreography.

Just when we thought the summer couldn't get any better, we learnt that Philippa had been accepted to join the Royal Ballet School's Junior Associate Classes; WBBS now has 4 Cecchetti Scholars who will be enjoying the very finest training in London every Saturday for a year – AND – 15 dancers were successful in gaining places on the Cecchetti Associate Scheme giving them classes every month in Rambert's studios in Twickenham – we hope all these hard working girls enjoy their year.

In August Claire held her famous, and long-anticipated, 4 day summer school for just over 40 dancers. The genie popped out of Aladdin's lamp in record time – singing, acting & dancing were terrific and much fun was had by all – particularly the senior students who produced scenery, programmes, snacks and more!

Holly held a 4 day Advanced 2 ballet course and managed to cover the whole syllabus (over 100 exercises!) We were delighted to welcome Dom back for one day, taking a break from his tour with Ballet Boyz.

We waved farewell to Theo, off to White Lodge, the Junior part of the Royal Ballet School, and Aamina & Tess off to University – we look forward to your visits, please, to tell us all about it.

2020 is the year of the modern & tap show – The Wiz!! Rehearsals will commence in September and we know the cast will have a wonderful time preparing for their three performances during the summer half-term.

We wish a warm welcome to our new dancers joining this term, and look forward to another exciting dancing year!

Jane Scholl, Claire Bowden, Holly Unnuk & Lucie Wilson
www.wbbs.org & facebook

Cast of Cinderella at Arlington Arts Centre - June 2019.

Bucklebury CofE Primary School

Welcome to the new school year! By now all pupils are well and truly up to speed, including our wonderful new Hedgehog class pupils just starting out on their school journey. We have 22 children this year; the largest ever and testament to the continued popularity of the school.

The autumn term is vital for every child in our school. It provides the platform upon which is built the high quality outcomes that we hope are realised by July.

We have been blessed to receive visits from many alumni throughout September. Our year 6 pupils who left us this summer once again achieved some of the best results the school has seen in recent times. It is always pleasing to see the fruits of our collective hard work and know that growing the whole child in every child is real. We know that each pupil now at secondary school will make a huge contribution to the life of their new schools.

It was a pleasure to interview new year 6 pupils interested in being school captain for the year ahead. We were pleased to give every year 6 a key leadership role, with Chloe A and Lauren M being chosen as School Captains.The field was so strong we also appointed Gideon E and Lizzie A as senior captains. Pupil leadership is a cornerstone of our school. Leadership of self and others marks the Bucklebury pupil. It is distinctive to our school and something upon which much of our culture rests.

The term sees us mark harvest at All Saints' and complete our Act of Remembrance. As ever it also includes the infant Nativity and our hugely popular Christmas bazaar.

We look forward to the year ahead with families and the community in partnership with us as ever.

Best regards

Mr A. Higgs

Organisations

Enharmonic Choir

"Messiah and More in an Hour"
St Mary's Church Bucklebury
Sunday December 8th
7pm to 8pm

What is this about? Another "Messiah" (yawn). You might think it will be just the same old thing.

No! Stop there!

Enharmonic Choir like to perform it in just one hour (sometimes a little less) with all the favourite music sung and other words spoken. We even manage to add one or two audience participation numbers.

Arriving early gives you a chance to chat and enjoy the exciting atmosphere with an air of expectation. With different nibbles every year one thing you can be sure of it that it will not be just mulled wine and mince pies (lovely as those are).

Christmas is a wonderful time and for an hour or so you can relax, enjoy and feel exhilarated! Children (even slightly noisy ones) are welcome as we specialise in encouraging everyone to take part and traditionally one or two young ones end up in the choir. Best of all it is FREE!

Please, come and join us.

Enharmonic Choir

Short Mat Bowls

SHORT MAT BOWLS is one of the more recent popular innovations to Village Halls, and Bucklebury Memorial Hall has JUST acquired two lanes of to use in the main hall.

"GET BERKSHIRE ACTIVE GROUP" has kindly provided the lanes plus bowls and the miscellaneous equipment needed.

In order to get people interested and hopefully enthusiastic for the activity, BMH management have agreed to MAKE the introductory sessions up to and including Monday 14th October free of charge to all those who come along.

The intention is for two sessions per week as follows:
STARTING Monday 23rd Sept 10.30 a.m. followed by Thursday 26th Sept 1.30 p.m. and then continuing on a weekly basis at the following times:

MONDAY mornings between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.
THURSDAY afternoons between 1.30 pm. and 3.30 p.m.

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be available throughout the session with a request for a small contribution towards the costs.

THE EARLY SESSIONS WILL BE VERY RELAXED, while you get to know what it is all about.

EVERY ONE IS WELCOME.

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

Tuesday Ladies' Club (TLC)

Bucklebury TLC has had a busy summer since the last report. As a newcomer to the area I have thoroughly enjoyed every event I have attended and would like to encourage ladies that have never tried the TLC to give it a go. I have received a warm welcome from other members and had a lot of laughs getting to know local ladies whilst trying my hand at many activities I would not normally have tried.

In May we had a fascinating insight into Turkish food with a demonstration from Oz Graves. Oz shared one of her favourite recipes with a demonstration and information about authentic ingredients including where we could locate them. Undoubtedly the highlight of the evening was to taste the amazing array of dishes Oz had made for us all to try.

Delicious Turkish Treats

June found the TLC ladies making a visit to the impressive gardens at Boxford House where we had a delightful guided tour with Meri Mower and the Head Gardener. Each of the discrete areas of the garden had a huge variety of shrubs and blooms and we kept our guides busy with many questions. The fragrance of the roses and peonies was particularly memorable.

The weather looked on us favourably for afternoon tea in the garden in July. It was a lovely afternoon for slowing down and taking it easy whilst enjoying socialising and of course, a delicious tea in true English style. The garden was equally delightful and our thanks go to our host.

After the summer break it was good to get together for an evening of drawing in September. There is always a varied

Guided tour of Boxford House gardens in June

range of perceived ability at the arts and crafts evening at TLC. However, whatever our level of artistic achievements much fun was had by all trying something different as we used chalk and charcoal to create our still life pictures- even Picasso had to start somewhere!

As you can see below, our forthcoming programme is varied and interesting. We meet in The Oak Room at the Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury starting at 7.45pm. Whether you are new to the area or just new to TLC do come and give us a try over the next few months.

If you have an idea for an evening topic you think we would enjoy the committee would love to hear from you at the email address below- all suggestions welcome!

Dates for your diary:

8th October- Armchair Tour of Oxford by Magnus Macfarlene: a Blue Badge guide. **This meeting is open to partners.**

19th November (Please note a week later than our usual meeting) An historical comparison between St Michael's Mount and Mont St Michel in Normandy by Jenny Ainsworth. This meeting is open to partners.
In effect the two islands share much more than the same name. Thus, the talk will highlight their connections and similarities, the legends, medieval origins, conflicts and trade.

10th December- Christmas Road Show. Bring an interesting Xmas object with a story (3 mins max.) Bring a plate of Christmas nibbles for our buffet. Drinks provided.

14th January- Thatcham Curiosities, how well do you know Thatcham? Dr. Nick Young.

11th February- The golden age of the coach and horses to the present day. Plus, demonstration of coach horn calls and tunes. Colin Pawson. **Partners invited to this meeting.**

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: buckleburytlc@gmail.com

West Berkshire Body Control 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.

In July Michaela and I attended courses at The Body Control Centre in London on 'Optimum Shoulder Function' and 'Optimum Hip Function' where we had the chance to explore exercises and discuss anatomy with Cameron Angus, a physiotherapist and Pilates Instructor who is great fun to work with. Mel is very much looking forward to her day on September 28th when she will be at The Royal College of Physicians attending Body Controls Development Weekend. Here she will be working with inspirational instructors and attending various classes.

In November we are planning to hold a **Pilates with Prosecco** evening. Michaela and Mel will be holding a Pilates Class, a relaxation session and hand and foot release techniques that Michaela learnt on her MELT training course. Tickets will be sold for this event at a cost of £10. We will also hold a raffle, so if anyone is able to donate a raffle prize we would be very grateful. All money taken for this event will be donated to The Parkinson's Disease Society (Newbury Branch).

We have spaces in our 10.45am Beginner class on Friday and also 10.45am class on Wednesday in The Oak Room at Bucklebury Memorial Hall.

We have qualifications to teach **Reformer**, **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 9.30am, 10.45am, 6.30pm and at 7.45pm, and Friday at 9.30am and at 10.45am.**

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 History Society

I have a copy of an article from the Newbury Weekly News dated Thursday April 26th 2007 where an aeroplane accident was described, which had taken place 70 years previously.

The headlines in the paper of 1937 read – 'Aeroplane Crash at Bucklebury: Passenger Killed, Pilot Injured, Both Local Men'.

What happened was that a twin-seater monoplane had flown low over Bucklebury Common on the afternoon of April 27th 1937, and the passenger, Peter Burra, had waved to Peter Luard Pears standing in his garden at Foxhold. Moments later farm workers watched in horror as the aircraft spun out of control and crashed into High Wood, Midgham killing 27 year old Peter Burra outright and injuring the pilot, Alleyn Anderson, who lived at Tomlins, where he often landed his plane in a neighbouring field. A gardener from Bucklebury Place was the first person on the scene and said that the plane was smashed almost beyond recognition with pieces of fabric hanging from the trees. They had to cut the safety straps to remove Burra from the plane.

Peter Burra was a well-known author and critic in literary, music and drama circles, and was close friends, since school days with Peter Pears, a tenor with the New English Singers. They were both living at Foxhold (near Angel's Corner on Bucklebury Common) at the time of the accident.

An inquest was held at Foxhold the following day, April 28th, in order to take evidence of identification. Burra's twin sister, Nell, and mother Ella, were both present.

The funeral took place in the open air at Bucklebury Cemetery on Thursday 29th April with a gathering afterwards at Foxhold. Benjamin Britten and Lennox Berkeley were two of the mourners that day.

Foxhold was owned by the Behrend family, who had let the house to Burra whilst he wrote his biography of Wordsworth, which was one of his most important publications.

Tomlins was owned by the Anderson family for many years.

I wonder if Peter Burra would have been as famous as Britten and Berkeley had he lived? A biography, 'Peter Burra: A Brief Life' was written by Richard Thompson and published in 2007.

Peter Burra's grave is in the north east corner of the old part of Bucklebury Cemetery against the wall.

Helen Relf, grannyrelf@btinternet.com

Bucklebury Walkers

We are a mixed group of walkers who meet on the first Thursday of each month – list on the Bucklebury web page or Helen, 01635 867619 grannyrelf@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.

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

Helen Relf,
01636 867619. grannyrelf@btinternet.com

Mah-jong

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 6 – 12 playing each time and chat over a cup of tea and a biscuit (or two) as well. Cost is £3.00 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

Seated Exercise Class

HEALTH BENEFITS OF EXERCISE

Given the overwhelming evidence, it seems obvious that we should all be physically active. Whatever your age, there's strong scientific evidence that being physically active can help you lead a healthier and even happier life. It's medically proven that people who do regular physical activity have:

- up to a 35% lower risk of coronary heart disease and stroke
- up to a 50% lower risk of type 2 diabetes
- up to a 50% lower risk of colon cancer
- up to a 20% lower risk of breast cancer
- a 30% lower risk of early death
- up to an 83% lower risk of osteoarthritis
- up to a 68% lower risk of hip fracture
- a 30% lower risk of falls (among older adults)
- up to a 30% lower risk of depression
- up to a 30% lower risk of dementia

There are some more details on exercising and health on my website, so please take a look and if anyone has any questions, you can contact me at the details below: -
07739 509824
caroline@yourlifefitness.me.uk
www.yourlifefitness.me.uk
https://www.facebook.com/yourlifefitness.me.uk/

ABOUT ME

My name is Caroline Hinke and I am a Personal Trainer at Your Life Fitness. I am registered with REP's which is an independent, public register for instructors and trainers to ensure that they meet the health and fitness industry's agreed National Occupational Standards.

My business has been up and running now since the beginning of 2017 and it is becoming apparent that many adults aged 65 and over spend, on average, 10 hours or more each day sitting or lying down, making them the most sedentary age group. During the last 2.5 years I have spent a lot of time working with older adults, keeping them active and ultimately ensuring they can remain independent as they get older. I started my first Seated Exercise class in January in Bucklebury (in conjunction with Get Berkshire Active) and this has proven to be very popular. The mix between exercise, games and socialising seems to be a hit but most importantly we have fun and there's always plenty of laughter!

WHAT WE DO

The Seated Exercise Class normally lasts for around 45 mins. It's named 'seated exercise' to encourage people of all abilities to come and join in but there are always options to make it slightly harder. We start off with a gentle warm up, then move into some games (usually involving a ball or bean-bags!) We then go back to our seats for an all-time favourite 'chair dance' which is a choreographed dance to a popular piece of music. Next is some strength training comprising of upper body, lower body and core (tummy and back). We generally use body weight for these exercises but I do bring along resistance bands for those that want to make it more challenging. Lastly, we have a gentle cool down including some flexibility.

I am currently running sessions at 10.30am each Tuesday at Bucklebury Memorial Hall and 10.30am each Thursday at Aldermaston Parish Hall. There is a small charge and this includes refreshments afterwards. Everyone is welcome, so come along and give it a try - I look forward to seeing you there!

Caroline Hinke

Halls

The Victory Room

11TH BUCKLEBURY BEERFEST - A GREAT DAY OUT FOR ALL THE FAMILY

SATURDAY 12th OCTOBER 2019

MIDDAY TO 6PM

The Bucklebury Beerfest will be held on Saturday 12th October 2019 from midday to 6pm at the Bucklebury Village Recreation Ground.

A fun day out for all the family, the Bucklebury Beerfest boasts a great selection of regional beers and ciders, as well as fabulous local food cooked on the BBQ.

This year there will be beer from four breweries including Bond Brews, Indigenous, Ramsbury and West Berks; Cider from Pang Valley Cider and Tutts Clump. Visitors can enjoy a wide variety of trade stalls, a traditional tea tent, and plenty of children's games and entertainment, all accompanied by fantastic live music from local musicians and bands.

Once again, this year's Beerfest will include the Bucklebury Dog Show, so don't forget to bring along your canine companion(s) to win some fantastic prizes. Registration for the dog show opens at midday, with classes commencing at 1pm.

The venue offers plenty of free on-site parking. For directions, please enter the postcode RG7 6PS into your navigation system.

Now in its eleventh year, the Bucklebury Beerfest is a major fundraising event for the Victory Room – a 90 year-old community hall serving the Parish. As soon as sufficient funds are raised, the Victory Room will be extended and refurbished on the existing site, and a large proportion of the money raised from this year's Beerfest will go towards the construction of the building.

For more information, including updates on exhibiting trade stands and live bands, please see the Bucklebury Beerfest website – www.bucklebury.beer

If anyone would like to help on the day or during set up on Friday and take down on Sunday, we would like to hear from you.

The funds raised will continue to go toward the redevelopment of the Victory Room. The trustees are currently working on plans to refurbish part of the old hall and build an extension to accommodate a new kitchen, new toilets, storage and a small meeting room / pavilion room. The footprint of the hall in this plan will be very similar to that currently approved. This plan will involve a new planning application and provided we can obtain more detailed pricing together with plans from the contractor we are working with we will be making a presentation at the Victory Room AGM in November.

The trustees would like to update and develop the Victory Room website. Sadly the trustees have limited expertise in respect of website development and therefore if anyone within the Parish would be prepared to assist us with this project, we would very much like to hear from you.

John Brims
Chair of the Trustees of The Victory Room
0118 9713308

Country Life

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 mid-morning, as are the necessary tools.

Sat-12-Oct 10.30 am - 1.00 pm Bucklebury Common, heathland management. Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688

Sun-20-Oct 2.00 pm Fungi Fruits and Autumn Woods. Join Charles Gilchrist for a short walk in Hermitage woods. Please check our web site diary page for parking details a little nearer the date of the walk.

Tue-22-Oct 10.00 am Bucklebury Common Heathland management. Cutting silver birch and Scots pine saplings. Hopefully a bonfire. Parking at Angels Corner SU550 688

Sun-10-Nov 10.30 am - 1.00 pm Bucklebury Common, heathland management. Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688

Tue-26-Nov 10.00 am Bucklebury Common Heathland management. Cutting silver birch and Scots pine saplings. Hopefully a bonfire. Parking at Angels Corner SU550 688

Sat-14-Dec 10.30 am - 1.00 pm Bucklebury Common, heathland management. Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at Angels Corner SU 550 688

Tue-17-Dec 10.00 am Stanford Dingley - river bank clearance #1. Clearing selected trees and scrub along the riverbank of the Pang to allow light into the bed of the river. Park on the Byway which runs South from Bucklebury Road in Stanford Dingley opposite the entrance to Pangfield Farm SU566 716

Sports

Bucklebury Badminton Club

COME AND PLAY!

Your local badminton club is waiting for you on Tuesday evenings! Whatever your level, you are most welcome to come along and try club night to see if it's for you.

If you have played at club level before, you will be able to play in league matches if you wish. If you've never played, are returning after a break or have only ever played in the garden then we will help you with your game. Our club coach, Colin Shurey, is there on club nights and we offer free dedicated coaching evenings on some Wednesdays throughout the year.

We have teams in various divisions in the local league. The ladies A team are looking forward to playing in division one this year. We have men's and mixed teams in division two and three. Our A teams both missed out on promotion last year but we are hoping that this season will see one or both teams going up to division one.

We are a very sociable club and have many events throughout the year as well as a quick drink in The Cottage Inn after club night! The summer gathering at The West Berks Brewery Tap Room was very well attended and enjoyed by all.

Club members and friends at the summer social

The club summer tournament was competitively fought by the 14 pairs who entered. The winners, despite a serious handicap, were Sabrina Head and Alan Arnold who defeated Emma Slater and Stuart May in the final. The event has proved so popular that we are putting on a level doubles tournament as well this season.

More information is available on our website.

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

Bucklebury Tennis Club
Www.buckleburytennis.com

EXCITING TIMES FOR THE TENNIS CLUB

At the time of going to print, we are close to celebrating the completion of our new Clubhouse. If you pass the Memorial Hall you are bound to see the new building we have chosen. A great improvement on our previous refuge, it offers both an enclosed area and a veranda area to enjoy watching the games in progress or having a quiet snack and drink after your exertions. We still have to fit out the interior etc. and paint the unit. The construction and assembly was done by third party contractors, but the latter action is in hand for one or two willing members. The decisions for design and size were shared with the Committee but most of the detailed work must be credited to Roger Aylward, Neil Rendall and David Holland. Many thanks guys.

It is planned for completion within the next few weeks.

SUMMER LEAGUES

Once again we have had a very successful session in the Newbury & District leagues with our Men's A team winning the 1st Division competition, and our Men's B team coming runners up in 2nd Division. Sadly our Men's C team in Division 4 suffered from the rather regular depletion of their ranks to the A & B teams needing the C team players to provide the replacements. We also ran teams in the Mixed

A, 1st Division, Ladies A 1st Division and Ladies B 2nd Division.

JUNIOR & TEENS COACHING

With the start of the schools winter term we have arranged to have coaching sessions for 4-5 yr. olds, 6-7yr olds, 8-12yr olds and, teens as long as the numbers justify the course. The sessions are either Mondays or Wednesdays. The programme offers 6 sessions for each group up until half term.

The sessions are open to non-members, so if you are interested please contact Karen Pegg, who coordinates the arrangements. There is a fee charged for this programme of £6 per hour for non-members discounted for members.

Contact Karen e-mail **kppegg61@gmail.com**

RUSTY PLAYING SKILLS?

Come along to our Drills & Skills sessions on Monday evenings. The first session is at 5.30 pm. for one hour, and a second session for the more skilled players starting at 6.30p.m. The latter session for one and a half hours, so perhaps you need to check out your fitness first!

For all those new to this idea of Drills and Skills, its run by our qualified coach, Damian Lane, and is fun as well as good exercise. There is room to join the group on Mondays at either 5.30 p.m. or 6.30 p.m. It's open to non-members so come along and enjoy a new challenge. Charges are £6 per hour for members and £8 per hour for non-members.

THE COURTS ARE AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO PLAY TENNIS

A reminder to all non-members; the courts are open to everyone on a PAY & PLAY basis, however club membership entitles you to play at any time with an online booking arrangement allowing for booking courts in advance.

Both courts have floodlight facilities to allow for evening play. Rates are probably the lowest in Berkshire. Visitors are most welcome.

Please contact the undersigned or the Club Secretary, Norman Casson **normancasson@aol.com** either through our Club website or by direct contact, if you have any further queries.

Mike James m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk

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.**

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

Barry Dickens

Published in February, May and October

By Bucklebury Parish Council.

Helen Pratt, Clerk,

Jasmine Cottage, Byles Green, Upper Bucklebury,

Reading. RG7 6SD. Telephone: 01635 863581

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

Parish Diary Dates

October			
5th	Common Clearing	2.00pm	Memorial Hall
7th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
8th	TLC	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
12th	Bucklebury Beerfest	12noon	Bucklebury Village Recreation Ground
14th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
21st	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
23rd	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
November			
4th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
7th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
11th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
18th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
19th	TLC	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
25th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
December			
2nd	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
5th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
8th	Enharmonic Choir—Messiah and More in an Hour	7.00pm	St. Mary's Church, Bucklebury
9th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
10th	TLC	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
16th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
16th	Cemetery Carols	6.00pm	Bucklebury Cemetery
January			
2nd	Bucklebury Walkers	10.30am	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury
6th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
13th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
14th	TLC	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
20th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
27th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
February			
3rd	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
6th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am/10.30am	To be arranged.
10th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall
11th	TLC	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
17th	Mah-jong	2.00pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
24th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	Committee Room, Memorial Hall