

# The Oaks



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## Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

The Parish Council hopes you enjoyed the lovely summer. Andrew Aldridge has generously stepped forward to fill the vacancy left by Peter Brooks in the East Ward. Andrew has lived at Chapel Row for 6 years and has two young children. He is a business development manager for a social housing contractor and house builder, and so will bring valuable skills and knowledge since planning, as you know, forms a great deal of our work.

Unfortunately Andrew Stott has moved out of the parish and therefore has resigned from the parish Council. We would like to thank him for his commitment and hard work. This has created a vacancy in the West Ward, which comprises Upper Bucklebury, Marlston, the Slade, Westrop Green and Hopgoods Green. If you would like to join the Parish Council please contact the Clerk.

The legal work on the Meadows behind the Cottage Inn is progressing very slowly despite Helen Pratt's chivvyng, so there is nothing new to report. Tim Slatford continues to keep the ball rolling – uphill it seems!

The Parish Council is considering ways of marking the birth of Prince George. Various possibilities have been considered and the one being actively pursued is some form of sign or plaque. A working group has been set up to investigate what is possible.

We would like to congratulate the Bucklebury Events Committee on the production of the very attractive mug to commemorate the birth of Prince George. 500 have already been sold and a further 500 ordered, so if you forgot to order before, hurry. The first 500 sold like hot cakes and this will be the last order.

There is a new category of listing for buildings and structures of local interest. I have already been on a day's heritage training course and when Lindy Clarke has also attended one we

will be considering if anything in the parish falls into the new category.

Lindy Clarke, Hilary Cairns and Tim Banks have attended a planning training course. We need to keep up to date!

Thinking ahead to the winter, if you are aware that a grit bin near you needs filling, please let the Clerk know.

We have been asked to erect a road sign for the road which runs from Chapel Row to Marlston, perhaps near St. Mary's church. It has been suggested that the whole stretch is called Marlston road, which would seem logical. If you have another suggestion would you please contact the clerk. We have also been asked to ask WBC to erect a road sign in Cemetery Rd.

Common Clearing will be on 12<sup>th</sup> October. The annual Carols by Candlelight at the cemetery will be a week earlier this year on 16<sup>th</sup> December. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Wynne Frankum**—Chairman BPC

### *Bucklebury Parish Council*

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### **COMMON CLEARING**

Please come to help clear rubbish from  
**Bucklebury Common.**

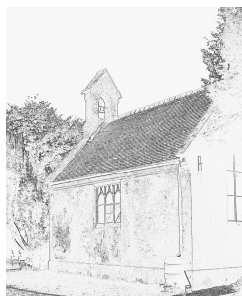
Plastic sacks, gloves and litterpickers  
will be provided.  
SKIPS at the Memorial Hall  
and Chapel Row.

Meet at the Memorial Hall from 2.00pm.  
Free refreshments afterwards.

*"Keep Bucklebury Beautiful"*

## Parish Council Matters Arising

### Bucklebury Cemetery



We are very lucky to have this charming late 19<sup>th</sup> century chapel, but the fabric is showing its age. When R&R roofing very generously replaced some fallen tiles, they noticed that the battens needed attention and tiles needed replacing. We are currently obtaining quotes for the work. We are also going to have the rest of the building surveyed.

The oak cross in the “new” cemetery has been re-erected in a smaller base and is now quite firm! The back gates are in need of replacing and that is in hand. The front gates have been repainted in their original colour. The trees, which were planted by Mr Sutton, of Bucklebury Place and Suttons Seeds, have been surveyed and any work that needs doing will be carried out by Roger Malloy.

Carols by candlelight will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> December this year at 6pm. The Guides have generously offered to come along and help keep us all in tune! Come along and join us for the usual mulled wine, mince pies and seasonal good cheer!

Wynne Frankum Chairman of the Burial Board.

### Carols by Candlelight

Cemetery Chapel,  
Byles Green

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December

At 6pm

Mulled Wine and Mince  
Pies

All welcome

## Welcome Pack

If you are a newcomer to the Parish, and you have not yet received a Welcome Pack, please contact the Clerk, Helen Pratt, for a copy (her details are on the back page).

## Parish Website

BPC maintains a Bucklebury Website which contains a diary of things going on in the parish, minutes of all BPC meetings, a list of amenities and services and much more. If you run a business within the parish and wish to have details listed on the site, please contact the Clerk.

The Website can be found at [www.buckleburyparish.org](http://www.buckleburyparish.org).

## Bucklebury Clubs/Organisations

The Clerk maintains a list of clubs and organisations within the parish. This list is included in the Welcome Pack and on the website. If you would like a copy or would like to be included on the list, please contact the Clerk.

## West Berks Community Information

Thatcham and Newbury libraries carry leaflets on most local organisations. For community-related information, contact Jim Sweeting (Arts & Leisure Information Officer) on 01635 519251 ([jsweeting@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:jsweeting@westberks.gov.uk)).

The main switchboard for West Berks Council (WBC) is 01635 42400.

For Transport enquiries (e.g. bus routes or timetable) ring 01635 503248.

For non-emergency calls, the Police can be contacted on 101.

## West Berks District Councillors

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

Graham Pask Tel/Fax: 01635 864023

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

Quentin Webb Tel/Fax: 01635 201435

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

## WBC Councillors' Report

We start once again reporting on road maintenance as it is one of the major responsibilities of the Council that affects almost everyone! The road repair teams have had a busy summer rectifying the damage caused by the cold, wet and very long winter last year and we hope you agree that major improvements have been achieved... especially along the Marlston Road west of Bucklebury Village which must have been one of the worst road surfaces in the District! There is still work to be done but the worst areas have been prioritised and completed with proper repairs (extended patches or resurfacing) to potholes and surface dressing (tar and chippings) to seal the road and prevent water penetration. I think it is worth saying, as there is often criticism, that the Council has to respond with emergency filling of potholes with a temporary patch to make the road safe and then come back once the weather has improved with a full and permanent repair just as has happened over the last few months.

Please continue to report problems either to the Council or through us so we build on the work already completed. As your councillors we will continue to ensure that the budget for road maintenance is protected so that the much needed renovation of our roads can continue.

From April of this year Public Health has become a responsibility of the Council with a ring-fenced budget from the NHS. We have established the Health and Wellbeing board which comprises health professionals and Members (Graham is one) and officers of the Council. In the latest revisions to the way in which local health services are commissioned, each "Primary Authority" (as is WBC) has a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which is the body responsible for various medical services, including GP surgeries, and one of the aims is very much to prevent medical intervention by showing how life-style choices can benefit health. Much of this work has been going on for a long time, such as smoking cessation clinics and medical checks for those aged 40-75 but the focus now is to integrate this work into all aspects the Council has responsibility for, starting with children at an early age (healthy eating, exercise and dental hygiene). A strategy has been agreed and I am sure everyone will be hearing much more of the work being done over the next few months.

Finally, at the beginning of September, the first Pang Valley Flood Forum met to discuss the flood risk management plan which has been published to highlight flood risk along the whole length of the Pang. Whilst the great work facilitated by Piers has kept Bucklebury Village safe from the risk of flood it is important to have a robust plan to reduce and manage flood risk, to establish partnerships with the Environment Agency and Thames Water as well as WBC and parish councils so that

risk to property and life can be minimised. WBC has a duty under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 to have such plans in place and kept up to date and a considerable amount of work has been put into this very important document which spells out how the impact of any adverse weather can be managed.

**Graham Pask & Quentin Webb.**

## Neighbourhood Watch

The following Neighbourhood Watch groups exist within the parish.

Burden's Heath	<i>Rob Tayton</i>	<i>01635 865495</i>
Turner's Green	<i>Neil Rendall</i>	<i>01635 865899</i>
Blacklands Rd, Berry's Road and Woodside Close	<i>Mrs S Dorling &amp; Mrs. S. Poole</i>	<i>01635 864256</i>
Bucklebury Village	<i>B Ward</i>	<i>0118 971 2581</i>
Hatch Close	<i>C Fleming</i>	<i>0118 971 2315</i>
Hatch Lane(central)	<i>Frank Harvell</i>	<i>0118 971 0021</i>
The Avenue (east end, south side)	<i>Mrs J Bynwater</i>	<i>0118 974 4124</i>
The Avenue (east end, north side)	<i>John Travis</i>	<i>0118 974 4616</i>
The Slade	<i>Hilary Cairns</i>	<i>01635 866021</i>
Briff Lane	<i>Philip Teal</i>	<i>01635 866587</i>
Broad Lane (track)	<i>Ian Westbury</i>	<i>01635 864230</i>
Broad Lane (west)	<i>Richard Sadler</i>	<i>01635 865846</i>
Broad Lane (east)	<i>Becky Hannam</i>	<i>01635 863313</i>
Morton's Lane	<i>Geraldine Tovey</i>	<i>01635 866757</i>
Byles Green	<i>Jeremy Brooke</i>	<i>01635 863035</i>

If you live in an area covered and wish to join, please contact the co-ordinator. Alternatively, if you live in an area not covered and are interested in being a neighbourhood watch coordinator, please contact the Clerk for more information.

## Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Team

If you have any issues and you would like to talk to a neighbourhood officer, please don't hesitate to contact us on 101 or at the following email addresses:

sarah.preston@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk  
kirsten.goodfield@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk  
paula.morgan@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

**PCSO Sarah Preston C9881**

## Padworth Recycling Saves Time

Did you know you can use the Recycling Centre at Padworth to recycle a wide range of things? Padworth Recycling Centre is really convenient for Bucklebury residents with easy access to the site, no queues and friendly staff always on hand for advice and help.

You can recycle:

- |                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| •Garden waste                        | •Mobile phones      |
| •Cardboard                           | •Mixed light bulbs  |
| •Paper                               | •Wood & timber      |
| •Plastic bottles & cans              | •Scrap metal        |
| •Glass bottles & jars                | •Hard core & rubble |
| •Cartons / tetra paks                | •Tyres              |
| •Clothing & textiles                 | •Used engine oil    |
| •TVs & monitors                      | •Car batteries      |
| •Batteries                           | •CDs & DVDs         |
| •Large & small electrical appliances | •Toys               |
| •Cooking oil                         | •Books              |

**This site does not take general rubbish or furniture.**

Padworth Recycling Centre is located on Padworth Lane, just off the A4 – follow the signs for Recycling Centre. The site is open everyday – Monday to Friday from 12.30pm until 6pm and at weekends/bank holidays the site opens from 8am to 6pm (closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

Residents with trailers are welcome, but please note that your combined trailer and vehicle length should be less than 8.8m (29ft). There is also a height limit of 2m (6ft 7"). Luton type vehicles, vehicles with tail lifts or horseboxes are not permitted to use the site. This site cannot accept commercial waste.

For more information on Padworth Recycling Centre:  
Visit: [www.westberks.gov.uk](http://www.westberks.gov.uk) and click on Waste

Or contact West Berkshire Council Customer Service team:  
Email: [customerservices@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@westberks.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01635 519080

## Family

### Friends of Bucklebury Primary School

The school year always ends with a great flurry of activities, and this summer was no exception.

We had Sports Day, the School Fete and the end-of-year school drama production, amongst other things. But we also attracted more than our fair share of attention from the national media, when they suddenly discovered Bucklebury and swooped upon it.



One programme interviewed children in school about their thoughts on the impending royal birth, royal lifestyles and their preference for various names. The children acquitted themselves well, coming over as sensible and articulate - which is more than can be said for some of the more hysterical sections of the press.

Meanwhile, "The Wind in the Willows" went ahead: a tremendous amount of work went into the production, with every single person in the school being involved. The logistics of getting everyone in the right place at the right time were formidable, but worked wonderfully, and the performers showed admirable poise and panache throughout. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Even more formidable logistics were required on Sports Day, and were smoothly supplied by hard-working staff. The weather was kind, and once again every single child was involved. Enthusiasm remained high, and the day was a great success.

The sun continued to shine for the annual School Fete, where, as usual, a wide variety of stalls and entertainment were provided by parents, and friends of the school. All proceeds went to FOBS (Friends of Bucklebury School) who will use it in their customarily effective way to give invaluable support to the school. Media interest in us had not quite evaporated, and the Country dancing team, amongst others skipped across the nation's screens that evening.

All of these events, of course, have valuable learning content. Learning is the main business of a school. Tests, such as SATS, provide the formal assessment of a school's performance. Our overall performance, as measured by the tests, has been pleasing: in many areas we are well ahead of national average scores. The staff can take pride in the children's achievements this year.

A potential danger when admiring one's results might be a feeling of smugness, but there is no sign of that developing and staff, parents, governors and well-wishes generally continue to appreciate that the school aims to develop the whole child (in the



words of our Mission Statement) "academically, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually".

The school has taken part in collaborative events within the Small Schools Federation: mostly sports, at which we have held our own and also at a large country dancing gathering at St Finians.

Racing interests recently promoted an "Arabian Rainbow" competition, in which schools were invited to decorate a life-sized model horse. Every class contributed something to the final design, and our entry, "Arabian Spirit", came in third. The noble steed stood by the school gate briefly, but not being weatherproof has retired indoors to share an office with the Head until alternative accommodation can be found. For the horse!

When the royal birth finally did take place the media returned, with a vengeance. Camera crews clustered around the school, and provided yet another learning experience: pupils had invaluable early practice in the modern skill of Brushing Off the Paparazzi -- a skill likely to be increasingly useful in years to come. However, some broadcasters were invited inside, and viewers nationwide shared parts of our Assembly, and the Head's observations on the theme of the day.

And so to the end of term, and of the academic year, and the service in All Saints to celebrate these milestones. Leavers were launched into their futures on a tidal wave of good wishes and encouragement, and everyone could reflect upon how much we had to be thankful for.

John Watt— Parent Governor.

## West Berkshire Ballet School



So many wonderful things have happened at WBBS this summer that it's hard to know where to begin.....

June was the month of our bi-annual show, held once again at Arlington Arts. This time we had 4 packed performances, to the delight of both our audience and our fantastic cast of 131

dancers.

July began with 16 students taking their ballet exams. We're very pleased to announce that we had a 100% pass rate with 5 Distinctions and 11 Special Merit – many congratulations to you all!

A week later, Jane & Holly went to Buckingham Palace for the Coronation Festival where Dominic had been invited to dance with the National Youth Ballet Company. The weather was glorious and we were so proud to watch Dominic playing Ratty in Wayne's Sleep's 'Wind in the Willows'.

Also in July we were able to watch our past student, Alice Waters, dance in her graduation performance at Laban.

An elite group of our senior students performed, together with Claire, in Kats summer show at our hall. All agreed that it was a great evening's entertainment, complete with outdoor bbq!

August brought another outing – this time to Guildford to see the National Youth Ballet with Dominic dancing in no less than 4 pieces. A lovely programme, with so many talented young dancers.

At the end of the month came our 3<sup>rd</sup> Summer School. Claire, with the help of Gemma, Alice, Lucie & Emily, put on a production of Mary Poppins in 4 Days!! It was a huge success with cast and families – what to do next Summer??



West Berkshire Ballet Summer School

On to September – although we are not yet back too class, we are off to Oxford with a party of 58 to watch Bethan, Chloe & William dancing with the English Youth Ballet in Swan Lake – what a great start to the term.

Can't believe our beautiful summer has come to an end but, as with all schools, we look forward to packing lots of fun things into the Christmas term.

Jane Scholl  
Claire Bowden  
Holly Unnuk  
[www.wbbs.org](http://www.wbbs.org)



## Bradfield and District Young Farmers' Club

Are you aged between 10 and 26? Are you looking for something to do on a Wednesday evening? Then Bradfield YFC may just well be for you!!

You don't have to be a farmer to be a Young Farmer but if you enjoy making new friends, taking part in sports and other outdoor activities, crafts, talks, travel, organising events, conservation, and heaps of other activities come and have a go! There are even opportunities to travel and work abroad!

It is the start of our new YFC year and so far we have had a welcome back/BBQ evening and a leafleting evening for Newbury show on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. We will have a YFC stand at the show and if you are attending the show, come and say hi. What we do is decided by the members with some guidance from club leaders who are all CRB checked and First Aid trained.

We are looking forward to the upcoming months for activities and the start of competitions.

So if you have some energy to spare, please contact Simon Fernandez 07876 493236 or Jessica Dewey 07725 037771 and they can tell you what we are up to!

## 1st Bucklebury Guides



It has now been four years since 1<sup>st</sup> Bucklebury Guides reopened its doors and the time has flown. Now all our original girls have become too old for Guides and we

are very pleased that the majority of them have decided to carry on in Guiding and join the new 1<sup>st</sup> Bucklebury Ranger unit. It has been a privilege to watch as Guiding in the Bucklebury area has blossomed and grown so that we now have thriving Brownie, Guide and Ranger units.

Over the past few months the Guides have been making the most of the beautiful weather and have been out and about as much as possible. Inspired by many cookery shows on television, we held our own Ready Steady Cook contest, with all food being cooked outside. The Guide patrols were each given a box of mystery ingredients and came up with a 3 course menu before cooking the food on camping stoves. Some did better than others, but we all had fun giving it a go.

Guides also completed Patrol led Go For Its and the Healthy Living badge which included looking at various world issues such as energy sources, education and poverty. The girls enjoyed a

number of debate sessions to explore these issues, one was based around "If you had to move the entire human race to another planet, and could only take 10 things in bulk on your spaceship, what would they be?" The Guides spent quite a time working out what is vital for humanity, from tools to education and art, each item was discussed as to its worth and necessity. The girls really did think long and hard on this topic and the leaders were very impressed by their ideas and thoughts.

All of the Guides were given the opportunity to spend an exciting night and the following day aboard a narrow boat: the Falcon Adams, travelling from Aldermaston Wharf to Newbury. We were very lucky with the weather and whilst not very hot it was at least dry. All the girls had great fun finding out how the various locks and bridges worked.

Towards the end of term we went out for the night to Adventure Dolphin at Pangbourne for a fun filled evening on the river canoeing, resulting in most of us getting very wet (either intentionally or otherwise)! Our last meeting of the term was a party held at Thirtover Place in Cold Ash to which the new starters for this term were invited. Everyone enjoyed the games, and hot dogs cooked on the campfire.

And now into the autumn term. We may have said goodbye to quite a few girls last term, but welcome our new starters who join us. As well as new Guides, we are also happy to welcome some new leaders too. This is a great way to start the term and move towards Christmas and 2014.

If you are interested in Guiding in the area, whichever section (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Adult or Trefoil), please do get in touch and we can help put you in touch with the correct people. And remember it is never too early to express an interest for your daughter to join us. We have girls on our Guide waiting list who are still too young to join for 2 years, but we can guarantee them a place when they turn 10. For any enquiries, get in touch via email at [elisaplate@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elisaplate@yahoo.co.uk)

Claire Powers - Unit Leader, 1st Bucklebury Guides



1st Bucklebury Guides, Ready Steady Cook



## Organisations

### Buckelbury and Marlston Horticultural Society

With the gardening season drawing to a close, we can reflect on a successful year. The year began in the same manner as the previous few years, and it looked like the start of another difficult period of dank weather. The shorts and t-shirts looked destined for another year in the cupboard, as the spring failed to make its appearance on time. The show benches of our April Show reflected this, and we were all grumbling about yet another dismal struggle in the garden. But in May the sun made an occasional appearance, and whilst our trip to the Malvern Show involved a fair amount of darting into the marquees to avoid the sharp showers, the afternoon warmed up and everyone completed an enjoyable, though exhausting, day. The Show is vast, and covers every aspect of horticulture. The exhibits were superb, the model gardens most absorbing and there was plenty to occupy the most discerning shopaholics. The following week we visited Virginia Waters, and the weather was ideal. The Savill Gardens were in beautiful condition, our timing was spot on! Most members enjoyed the added experience of a tour around the adjoining Valley Gardens, and here is a valuable tip to all readers who have read thus far. This wonderful landscape is open to the public for FREE, so get out your 2014 diary planner and circle a ring around 18/19<sup>th</sup> May and go there, it is not far, and if the weather is really good, take a picnic to complete a wonderful day out.

The weather continued to improve, and we soon began to forget the miseries of the last five years, and enjoy a proper summer. The sunshine was reflected in our Summer Show entries, and entries reversed the trend of previous years. The good weather continued, and our Autumn Show produced bumper entries in the flowers, fruit and vegetables, the highest numbers for a long time. The children's entries were very poorly supported and we must think of ways to rectify this, and in future make direct approaches to the school, brownies and guides to support us.

With our season drawing to a close, we still have three events to offer our members, and indeed any other parishioner who would like to join us. Firstly our annual social takes place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall, with entertainment provided by KATS, plus our famously good supper (tickets available from Viv Ward 0118 9712581). On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October we are offering free entry to the best garden in the world. Come with your car, full of eager gardeners, to the Memorial Hall just before 9.30am, and you will receive directions and instructions from me. The route to WISLEY GARDENS is simple and just 55 miles. We need to enter *en bloc*, but once there you can stay as long as you wish.

Finally our AGM is in the Memorial Hall on the evening of 1<sup>st</sup> November, starting at 8.00pm. After the business there will be some entertainment and refreshments, plus the chance to chat with friends.

After the AGM, members will soon receive their new schedule, delivered to the door by our volunteers. Please have your annual subscription ready, then sit next to the fire and enter the dates into your 2014 diary.

Happy gardening.  
Derek Matthews (0118 9712587)

### Chapel Row Community Service Group

The Community Service Group was formed in 1980 and is a registered charity - funded by donations.

This is a group of volunteers set up to help the elderly, the lonely and those in need by such means as:- transport for those unable to use public transport to and from dentist, chiropodist, hospital visiting, essential shopping etc.

Two lunch clubs for those living on their own are held at the Woolhampton Village hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 12.30p.m. Transport is available if needed.

Please contact us if you know of anyone in need of our services whom we may be able to help. If you wish to help with any of these projects please offer your services, they will be very welcome. To get in touch telephone Mrs G. Cardy on 0118 971 3334.

Erica Tipton – Secretary.

### Mah-jong and Rummikub

Various people have expressed an interest in learning / playing Mah-jong and/or Rummikub so I have booked The Oak Room on the first Mondays in October, November and December to see how things work out! Hall is booked from 2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. to allow setting up and putting away and 2 hours of play.

Please bring a set along if you have one hidden in the cupboard!

Please come along if you are interested – even if you have never played before but think it might be something you will enjoy. This will not be a serious group – hopefully just a fun afternoon!

Dates are:-	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	2.00 p.m.
	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	2.00 p.m.
	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	2.00 p.m.

Please get in touch for further information.

Helen Relf - 01635 867619  
[helenrelf@relfsociety.org](mailto:helenrelf@relfsociety.org)

## Tuesday Ladies' Club (TLC)



Since the last Oaks, we have been really busy with our meetings. In May the Wine Man came from Yattendon and provided us with an interesting talk and some free samples. In June we had a guided tour around the beautiful gardens at Sandleford Place – a really interesting tour by the owner followed by tea and biscuits in her large conservatory.

Helen Relf led the way in July with a guided tour around the village and some very interesting memories from Jimmy Nicholls from Longrove who accompanied us on part of our walk.

The autumn term kicks off on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September with a talk and demonstration of the Alexander Technique by Tanya Whannell and October's meeting (8<sup>th</sup>) is a buffet at the Bladebone – details to follow. November (12<sup>th</sup>) will be a Christmas shopping event followed by our annual Christmas party in December (10<sup>th</sup>).

I am resigning from the committee due to a new job and family commitments. I'd just like to thank all the ladies who support TLC every month and have made it the success it is! I'm sure I'll still pop along now and then.

TLC usually meets on the 2nd Tuesday in the month from 7.45pm until 9.30pm in the Oak Room at the Memorial Hall. We aim to keep the programme diverse and the meetings informal (it is not necessary to attend every meeting). It costs £2 per session. Check the website out for further details: <http://www.buckleburyparish.org/tuesday-ladies-club>

We hope you'll join us.

*Christie Morris and Wynne Frankum - Co- chairs*

## Bucklebury Community Events

### Recent Events

#### **Picnic on the Green 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2013**

This event was a great success with over 50 people attending and a great magic show by Roly which had adults and children both rolling with laughter. The picture shows Paris who was lucky enough to be Roly's assistant and won an interesting balloon animal! We'd like to keep the



**Paris, Roly the Magician's Assistant at Picnic on the Green**

event going on an annual basis to coincide with The Big Lunch which is now a national event and usually held on the first Sunday in June.

### **Bucklebury Festival of Music, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013**

Hundreds of people turned out for a feast of music and food in the park and despite the weather enjoyed a great day. The day began with a performance by Global Cafe, who gave the festival a bright summery start that blew away the clouds. Next up were the Bradfield College Jazz Band with a diverse repertoire including various jazz standards from 1920 onwards, as well as blues, funk and swing. Local legend Pete Allen, a regular and popular face on the jazz circuit wowed with a beguiling set ending with a Louis Armstrong favourite, When You Are Smiling. Kennet School brought two bands to the stage with both junior and senior musicians showcasing talented instrumentalists and voices. The Tom Michell Trio stepped up the pace with a rockin' rhythm and blues set that was a foretaste of an even more powerful performance later in the day.

The gifted Richard Navarro along with his trio of double bass and drums followed with his unique sound using live looping on stage to add layers of violin, trumpet and vocals, combining well-crafted original material with the trio's own fresh takes on well-loved songs. Fifteen year old local artist Eloise Weeks brought the Bucklebury Festival one of many one of the highlights of the day with a spell-binding performance of power and range that belies her years. With a set including her own prize-winning composition "Seventeen", a song she wrote about Alzheimer's at Open Mic UK in 2012, she treated Festival goers to just three songs and left her audience wanting more. Megan Henwood, appeared briefly with the Tom Michell Trio before taking to the stage with her own band and giving a bewitching and polished performance with highlights from her universally-praised debut album Making Waves. Finally, as the wind got up and clouds thickened, the Brass Volcanoes brought their own ray of sunshine to proceedings with a show-stealing, heart lifting performance that had the audience on its feet with brass, saxophones, drums and even a sousaphone playing us out with the unforgettable sounds of New Orleans sealing a great day. *(Article written by Liz Peplow)*

Our next venture is a commemorative mug to celebrate the birth of Prince George, who spent the first few weeks of his life in this village. Once again we have been fortunate enough to work with Emma Bridgwater to produce a half pint (large) mug which complements the Royal Wedding mug produced in 2011. We have already sold the first batch of 500 mugs and are hopefully commissioning a further 500 half pint mugs to be produced. Please see the order form on the Parish website (where there is a colour picture of the mug). Please note we have decided not to commission the baby (smaller) mugs this time.

**Up and coming events** include a wine and turkey tasting evening on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November at Woody's @ Bucklebury Farm Park from 7pm.** The Wine Man from Yattendon will be showcasing a grand total of nine wines suitable for the Christmas season and Walters Turkeys will be providing turkey to taste spit-



roasted by Graham's Hog Roast, followed by Grey's Cheese Company in Pangbourne. All this, as well as a light bite Christmas supper provided by Woody's which is bound to be another sell-out! Tickets priced £16 each are available by email [buckleburyevents@gmail.com](mailto:buckleburyevents@gmail.com) or by calling Anne Ryder on 01635 873911.

The annual Christmas Tree Festival, now in its fourth year will be held at the Victory Room on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December**. We can only set up on the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup> but we're hoping for lots of local groups and societies to participate. Please contact [buckleburyevents@gmail.com](mailto:buckleburyevents@gmail.com) should you wish to take part.

By the time you read this Bucklebury Beerfest will have taken place. Bucklebury Community Events are pleased to support the BeerFest and the Victory Room. A few of us also supported Chapel Row Fair. With several members of the committee on the other committees too it's hoped we can all work together and help each other out when needed.

Finally we held our AGM on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September where I resigned from the position of Chair and handed over to a very able Adrian Bend. I'd like to thank all the committee members past and present (and their families!) and especially Liz, Rupert, Oli and the Farm Park staff whose venue has been host to some very memorable events in the past few years. Helen McGowan who was our Treasurer from the Royal Wedding until the Royal Birth! And lastly Anne Ryder, our Secretary, without her consummate help I couldn't have managed.

BCE are always looking for new members with fresh ideas, so if you'd like to join a fun and proactive group get in touch! There are about 5 or 6 meetings per year with sometimes an extra one coming up to an event. We usually meet in Woody's at the Farm Park and the committee consists of roughly 10 members from the community. We run about 4 or 5 events a year, trying to use venues throughout the Parish and include the whole community.

Thank you to everyone who came to an event or who supported Bucklebury Events in past! Please continue to support us.

**Christie Morris - Bucklebury Community Events**

## COMMEMORATIVE MUGS

Prince George mugs can be ordered on line through [buckleburyevents@gmail.com](mailto:buckleburyevents@gmail.com) or through the Parish website link [www.buckleburyparish.org](http://www.buckleburyparish.org) and follow the mug link (a clearer, colour picture of the mug from all side is on the website).

Alternatively please use the order form in this edition of The Oaks and post to the address on the order form.

We are only ordering another 500 half pint mugs (sorry no baby ones) and we already have pre-orders for 100 so get your orders in quick!

All proceeds go to events for the Parish.

**Bucklebury Community Events**



## Macmillan Cancer Support

We continue to help many people in West Berkshire with heating, clothing and living expenses together with their medical and emotional support. So far this Year we have raised £30,000 locally thanks to you all for your support.

The Cancer Care Centre at The Royal Berkshire Hospital is there to advise on all aspects –emotional, medical, financial – do not hesitate to contact them or The Macmillan Support Line free on 0808 808 00 00

Macmillan is all about supporting – Become a Macmillan volunteer befriender and help to make sure that no one over the age of 70 in West Berkshire faces cancer alone by giving a few hours a week providing practical and emotional support. We will make sure you are fully trained and supported, as well as covering your expenses and DBS check. For more information call Colin Silvester on 07809 554 962.

We are holding a Bridge afternoon and tea at Boxford House – a lovely location on Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup> – make up a table £12.50 per person. Further details available from Tricia Barclay 01189712551

Our Annual Christmas Concert is on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> at St. Nicolas Church Newbury. This is a very popular event and it is wise to apply for your tickets early. Those of you not on our mailing list can ring Sue Wood 01635 32167 for tickets and further details.

Any ideas or fund raising you wish to do for Macmillan please contact me on the number below. If you have a spare hour or two and would be willing to help with our street/shop collections you would be very welcome.

Please continue your support, it is very necessary and much appreciated.

Erica Tipton Email 01189712148

[erica.tipton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:erica.tipton@yahoo.co.uk)

Chairman – Macmillan Cancer Support Newbury Committee.

## THE ROKKITS

**Classic Rock 'N Roll Group**

**SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**

**DONNINGTON VALLEY HOTEL**

Tickets to include buffet supper  
£20.00

Contact Helen on 01635 867619 [helenreelf@reelfsociety.org](mailto:helenreelf@reelfsociety.org)

Raising money for **The Faxitron Appeal**, at The Royal Berkshire Hospital - A machine that will reduce the need for multiple operations for women with breast cancer

## Chapel Row Fayre

This year's Fayre took place on a rather cold and rainy Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August. Despite the weather the crowds and stallholders alike arrived to enjoy the day. There were some new attractions this year including a police dog display and a falconry display. Both took place in the main ring and were great to watch. We also had the usual Sheep Racing- which is something not to be missed (the sheep seem to enjoy it too!) The beer tent did a roaring trade as did Graham's fantastic Hog Roast! We are still waiting on the final calculation of the total amount raised (our treasurer is working in Bahrain), But we are hoping to donate around £10,000 to our charities- Spring Charity Fundraisers, West Berkshire Mencap, West Berkshire Foodbank and Newbury Parkinson's. The committee would like to thank all who help with the Fayre and all who attend on the day for making it such a success. If you would be interested in helping in any way next year please feel free to contact us through the website [www.Chapelrowfayre.co.uk](http://www.Chapelrowfayre.co.uk)

## The Lady Frances Winchcombe's Thatcham Foundation

This is an educational charity which benefits the three parishes of Bucklebury, Cold Ash and Thatcham.

The Trustees consider applications for assistance and make awards for educational grants to individual children resident in the area of benefit. Grants are given towards travelling expenses, books, tools etc.

They also make grants to each of the Sunday Schools/Youth clubs.

To apply for a grant (2014) and for further details please contact The Clerk to the Trustees Mrs V.E. Druce – 01635 865339.

Erica Tipton – Trustee representing Bucklebury Parish.

## 5th Annual Bucklebury Beerfest Saturday 5th October 2013

12 noon – 8pm. Once again this **FREE** event will take place in Bucklebury Village, on the Recreation Ground. It's lots of fun for the whole family, with games & activities for children, live music, a Farmer's Market with local producers, a variety of trade stands, beer, cider and wine plus delicious food throughout the day & evening. The Beerfest is always held on the first Saturday in October, so do come along for a wonderful day out in the autumn sunshine!

## Kennet Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS)

The Kennet Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS) will be holding open auditions for anyone aged fourteen or over for their next production, the pantomime "Robinson Crusoe and the Pirates" at 8pm on Monday 7 October at Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall. No previous stage experience is necessary, just a desire to have a good time and put on a great show. Rehearsals will be on Monday and Thursday evenings at 8pm and the show will be performed in the February 2014 half-term. More details can be found on their website at [www.kats.org.uk](http://www.kats.org.uk).

The pantomime follows Robinson Crusoe as he sets sail on his latest adventure while his mother Celia joins him in search of duty free. The ship's crew includes the hapless Captain Codpiece, who has yet to navigate a ship out of dock without it hitting the harbour wall and sinking and Dr Defoe who masquerades as a botanist searching for the Man-eating Giant Stinkwort but is really a secret agent on a mission to capture the infamous treasure-seeking pirate Blackbeard! Along the way they meet villains Swash and Buckle who secretly work for Blackbeard, Man Friday, a vegetarian cannibal, and a host of Pirates and Cannibals.

KATS is a theatre group located in Thatcham, West Berkshire. They produce two or three main shows a year and an assortment of smaller productions at venues in and around Thatcham.

## Bucklebury History Group

We would like to thank Peter Holloway for the very interesting talk on his childhood in Bucklebury held at The Victory Room at the end of April. Peter's mother taught at Bucklebury School for many years when the school was in the village. Apparently Long Grove was the most important road in Bucklebury at that time as it was home to the local baker, carrier, Mrs Turner's shop and the local abattoir. I expect residents still think it the most important road today!

Dick Greenaway took four of us to Redhill Copse one morning to look for signs that it is an ancient wood. The variety of woodland plants, size of trees and indentations in the ground showed us that it is, indeed, very old. This type of survey has to be done during the winter months so that the undergrowth is not too tall.

If anyone has memories they would like to share then please do get in touch. In particular we have been asked about Prisoners of War in the village.

The village now has its own copy of Bucklebury, a Berkshire Parish by A.L. Humphreys which was left to us by the late (and much missed) Ann Tetlow. Thanks to her brother, John Sims, for passing it on to us.

Helen Relf, 01635 867619: [helenrelf@relfsociety.org](mailto:helenrelf@relfsociety.org)

David Tipton, 0118 971 2148: [drptipton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:drptipton@yahoo.co.uk)

*These memories of Harry Copas were previously printed in the Parish Magazine in 1992, and I also have a handwritten copy which was in the WI archives. Hopefully they will be of interest to readers again. More will be published in future editions of The Oaks. Helen Relf: [helenrelf@relfsociety.org](mailto:helenrelf@relfsociety.org) 01635 867619*

## Memories of Old Bucklebury

### Harry Copas

#### Part Two

Going along Chapel Row towards the village just before the top of the hill is the site where the Chapel and School was situated (this is where Chapel Row gets its name). It was a chapel and school called St Annes. It must have been quite an imposing building as I have a photo of the painting of it. I have been told it was called The Chapel of Ease. I would like to mention that there were two public springs in this area – one by Spring Cottage and one by Jewell's Thatch, both now enclosed, I think, so no longer public.

At the bottom of Hillfoot and the bottom of the gully there was a large green (now grown over with saplings) where there was a communal sheep dip, as there was a great number of sheep on the common (they were marked by different coloured paint and some even had initials on them).

A little further on is the Pound for pounding stray cattle. This one is unique as it is built of bricks and I am told there aren't many in the country. I do wish someone would take care of it as it is so very neglected – it is part of our heritage after all, so many people rush by in cars and don't notice the importance. When I was on the parish council some years ago it was decided to fix a plaque on one of the walls so anyone could see what it was, I am sure a lot of the younger ones don't know what it is (I don't think the plaque was ever fixed). Perhaps a lot of people aren't as interested in local history as I am.

There were two cattle pounds in the parish, the other one was in The Slade – a wooden structure long since gone.

Whilst talking of the cattle pounds I must mention the common gates, which were to keep the cattle from straying off the common at the various exits. Hatch Gate, Common Gate, Avenue Gate, Brown's Gate, Cox's Gate and Slade Gate to name but a few.

Our village is unique I think as it hasn't got a pub. I haven't seen another like it as most villages comprise of a church, a school and a pub. I suppose they had to climb the hill to The Blade Bone (were they all teetotal?) or across the fields to The Pot Kiln.

I must say how lucky we are to have such a beautiful Parish Church with its lovely stained glass windows and its

peacefulness. One vicar summed it up saying it is soaked in prayer. The church and churchyard are well looked after by so many loving hands. I remember when I was quite small seeing the bells on the ground (it was a restoration of the church). A small boy, who was my friend, crawled inside one of the bells, later in life he became a vicar. I wonder if he was influenced from his early experience. We also have another lovely church at Upper Bucklebury, All Saints, a lovely new church, so warm and comfortable and I am sure it appeals to the young.

I well remember the state of the road in the parish (most parishes were the same) – it didn't worry me so much in my young days but as the motor traffic increased and the roads and lanes were only gravel and the lorries and buses had solid tyres so you can imagine what a state they were in, full of potholes, which used to fill up with water. The roads were managed by the district council and the gravel was extracted from the many pits on the common. After a time the bus company extended the bus service from The Blade Bone to Upper Bucklebury and our main road became a nightmare for cyclists and motorbikes. All they did was go along with a horse and cart and shovel some gravel into the potholes and hope the traffic would roll it in. I have heard people moaning about the roads today, I wish they could have seen what we had to put up with. Fortunately it all changed in the 30s as the council, now the County Council, covered the roads gradually with tarmac, making life much easier for us.

I must say a bit about the ritual of fern cutting, the locals called it 'ferning' but of course it is not fern at all but bracken. The old common law insisted that it must not be cut before 1<sup>st</sup> September. Some would be up at the crack of dawn to claim their patch, which was done by cutting a swathe around the patch you wished to claim.

After we had been in Bucklebury sometime and we had a few animals, my dad thought he would cut some bracken so he went up the common and started to make a claim of a patch but it wasn't long before an irate old chap came up and said that cut that patch for forty years, so dad, being quick witted, said 'oh well, it's time someone else cut it'. But it ended quite amicably as he showed dad a patch close by and we cut that for a number of years. It was quite a back-breaking job but I enjoyed it as it was in the lovely fresh air and a lot of bird life especially the fern owls, or night jays as they were called. When we had carted the fern home (after it had been left to dry) we would make a little rick and we used to thatch it with rushes cut from the bogs. I thought I would turn my hand at thatching our rick when I was young. I supposed I didn't make much of a job of it as an old chap took a look at it and said I could have chucked it up there better with a prong. So much for my thatching!

Poor people were really good at improvisation in those days. I mean using material that was free as I have seen them with pigstys made with ferny bushes interwoven between stakes and again thatched with rushes and about 3 hurdles to form the outside pen. I remember seeing one on fire - I think the children were playing with matches. I went down to help put



the fire out and the pig was so frightened we had to get him out but they had to build a new sty.

The late George Lailey, who had a workshop at 'Turner's Green, claimed he was the last of the bowl turners in the country working with a foot propelled lathe and by doing so he could turn one inside the other, starting from a large washing up bowl to a small powder bowl, which can't be using much energy, it's more wasteful using machines. All his bowls were turned in elm, so I don't know what he would do today as all the elms are gone, killed off by Elm disease. He used to make all his own tools, gauges etc. and all his gear can be seen in the Reading museum (*Museum of English Rural Life*). I think in a way it's a good thing these old wooden bowls (*are not used any more*) as being made of elm they split badly and germs could enter in cracks. It has been said that is why the plague in London spread so fast owing to the wooden utensils with all their splits and cracks. I am quite happy with our modern plastics and pottery.

There used to be a golf course in Bucklebury Place when the late A.W. Sutton lived there. It extended out into the Hocket Field and someone used to call at the school on a Friday asking for boys to go on the Saturday to be caddies. I went once and the pay for the day was 1/-, quite good in those days. The man lost his ball and I couldn't find it so he jawed at me – I never went again.



## Enharmonic Choir in Bucklebury Church Messiah in an Hour

Following last years successful evening  
we have been asked to repeat this  
concert with all the best bits of Handel's  
famous work

Feel 'Christmassy'  
in a relaxed, warm atmosphere with no  
commercialism!

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**  
**7 - 8pm**  
**FREE**

(retiring collection for Bucklebury Church)

More information [www.soundscool.org](http://www.soundscool.org)  
or Daniel Nicholls 0118 9712555

Children, do come along,  
there will be a  
quiz with prizes!



## Halls

### The Victory Room Redevelopment Project



You are warmly invited to the Victory Room AGM on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm (in the Victory Room).

You are invited to see a display of architects' drawings of the Victory Room of the future, and make your views known to the Trustees who will be there.

One of the architects will be subsequently be chosen by the Trustees to take the project through to planning early next year.

We are taking a long-term view and hope to ensure that the new Victory Room will serve the needs of future generations as a community hall and sporting venue. Although it will look different and be a little bigger, the Trustees are determined to ensure that the design of the building will be in tune with the rural and conservation area surrounding it.

If you can't make the AGM, the display will remain up in the Victory Room for the rest of November, and you can make your views known to me as chairman either by phone or email.

John Clarke  
Chair of the Trustees  
[John.clarke@live.co.uk](mailto:John.clarke@live.co.uk)

### Bucklebury Memorial Hall

The committee has been busy making improvements to the Hall this year.

We have built a new store room so all storage has been removed from the committee room. Meanwhile the committee room has been completely refurbished and looks stunning. A huge skylight has been put in the roof, the



The refurbished Committee Room

remains of the old separation have been removed, the walls have been plastered and we have a new wood effect floor. This is now a bigger room eminently suitable for meetings of all sorts as it can accommodate up to 20 people with ease.

We are hoping that local organisations will take advantage of the room which is still for rent at the very modest rate of £4.85 per hour for parishioners and £5.40 for others.

We have also made progress with our project to install audio visual equipment in the Oak Room and hope to install a projector and screen in the very near future. When this is installed users will be able to: play DVD's through our DVD player, connect their laptop to project a PowerPoint presentation or play a DVD or video file or play music from their iPod or other device. The Oak room can hold up to 60 people so is suitable for larger meetings than the Committee Room.

Anyone interested in finding out more about hiring the facilities please check out our website [www.BuckleburyMemorialHall.org.uk](http://www.BuckleburyMemorialHall.org.uk) or phone Mike Scholl on 01635-868607.

## Sports

### Bucklebury Badminton Club

Playing badminton is a great way to meet people and keep fit too!

We meet on a Tuesday evening at Elstree School in Woolhampton. We aim to strike a balance between being a social club and, for the more competitive, playing in the local leagues. We welcome new members of all levels. All you need is a pair of non-marking trainers and a racket (although we can help with the latter for the first couple of weeks if necessary). Just turn up at 8 p.m. or see the contact details below for more information.

There was a good turnout of players over the summer and we finished at the end of June with a very well attended inter club handicapped tournament which was won by junior member Olivia May who played with David Haines.

On the community front, club members once again ran the coconut shy at the Cottage Inn Fun Day and we held a badminton style competition at the Thatcham Family Fun Day too. The winner of this, Matt Saywell-Lee, was presented with a brand new badminton racket.



**Club champions: Olivia may and David Haines**

We are looking forward to the new season and have two men's teams, a mixed, a ladies and a Blackford Cup team this year.

VENUE: Elstree School, Woolhampton, RG7 5TD

DAY: Tuesday 8 to 10 p.m. September to July

CONTACT: Margaret Neville 01635 873811

<http://buckleburybadminton.intheteam.com>

### Bucklebury Wolves

Bucklebury Wolves held their 4th annual World Cup tournament in September, 102 players represented 15 teams and contributed to a fantastic morning of football played in great spirit despite the drizzle. Junior and Senior Cups were awarded and medals issued to each player.



**Bucklebury Wolves- Senior Cup World Champions 2013**

The coach of the youngest team, for children in Reception and School Year One has recently been awarded Berkshire and Buckinghamshire's County FA 'Young Coach of the Year' award, congratulations to Max Ashley.

Bucklebury Wolves have also played this year various away matches against Mortimer Hornets, Chaddleworth Kites and Hampstead Norreys. We have also attended several tournaments, coming third in the Theale tournament.

We have also played an internal tournament at Madejski stadiums Dome training facility in April. Special skills training with Arsenal youth coaches at Bradfield College was held in May, with a very experienced coach, Tom Hogan, holding his Brazilian football skills sessions in June.

Thank you to all the coaches, helpers, Parish Council, Bucklebury Farm Park and the Victory Room and Recreational Field Committees for their on-going support.



## Bucklebury Cricket Club



Many thanks to all who played cricket this season for Bucklebury Cricket Club on Sunday afternoons.

We had 18 competitive matches on the fixtures card. We played 15, won 9, tied 1 and lost 5. All round a good result.

After feedback last year, we tried to mix it up a bit this season, so enabling more people to bat and bowl. I think that we succeeded in that, and I hope that people enjoyed the games more as a result (even if we lost a few more matches).



**Bucklebury Cricket Club**

As ever, the results and the statistics for the season are online (so you can check your averages etc).

<http://bucklebury.play-cricket.com/scoreboard/teamStats.asp>

Thanks to all who helped run the club this season, whether it be captaining when I wasn't playing, mowing and preparing the pitch, collecting and setting up tea, clearing up after home games etc etc. Without people helping out, we couldn't make it all happen.

Thanks also to the Royal Oak that kindly prepared teas for our home games and thanks to our Vice Presidents and all others who make kind donations to the club's funds. Hopefully our Vice Presidents all enjoyed themselves at the BBQ match, in which the Chairman's XI beat the Captain's XI in the last over, with 1 wicket to spare.

We will hold our annual prize giving at the start of January and pre season nets will begin in the spring.

During our non-playing season, we will host our annual prize giving and AGM.

In the spring there will be indoor nets at which to practise and meet new recruits. Look out for all club information (results, statistics and announcements) on the club website <http://bucklebury.play-cricket.com> or follow us on twitter @BuckleburyCC

Piers Allison (Captain), 0118 971 2596

## Bucklebury Tennis Club

### Newbury & District Summer League results for Bucklebury T.C.

Bucklebury TC continues its success story with another step forward. The Club put out 6 teams into this year's leagues fielding over 50 players to compete in 56 matches. The results were a credit to all those who played with teams in top spots, runners up and 3<sup>rd</sup> places. All very commendable. Once again the team Captains should be praised for persuading so many individuals that they can easily play representative tennis, win and enjoy themselves!

### Yorkshire Cup - Knockout tournament.

As winners from last year, Bucklebury started this year's competition with a reduced handicap, the team took all the earlier rounds in their stride with wins against Bradfield, Basildon, and Yattendon, leaving them to face Harwell Laboratories in the final. The match went to the wire but with a four game handicap advantage, Harwell managed to hang on and won the match by a single game.

Bucklebury hosted the match and offered the teams and their enthusiastic supporters hospitality for Après Match refreshments in The Oak Room.

### Summary of the results of our competitive matches this summer :

Team	Captain	Division	Position
Mixed	Darren Blackwood	1	Runners-up
Men's A	Andrew Rodgers	1	Runners - up
Men's B	Paul Munton	2	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Men's C	Jim London	5	Winners
Ladies A	Trish Strange	2	Runners-up
Ladies B	Pam Norman	4	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Yorkshire Cup	Darren Blackwood	Knock-out	Runners-up

### Club Development project

Progress has been slow over the last few months but it is now the intention of the sub-committee to seek planning permission for the court floodlights within the next 4/6 weeks. Neighbouring residents have had background information on the project.

### Junior Coaching

The summer coaching programme has proved very successful with free coaching to the year 5 pupils of Bucklebury School, and group sessions for both members and non-members of Under 13 year olds and teenagers living in and around Bucklebury. This continues to mid October and then sadly we call a halt until the warmer weather reappears in spring.

### Club Membership

We are always very pleased to welcome newcomers, so if you if you are interested please contact: Mike James (01189712285 or [m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk) or go to our website [www.buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)



## Country Life

### Bucklebury Heathland

It's been a good year for birds and beasts on Bucklebury Common with three or four calling male Nightjars on the Lower Common. For the first time there has been a calling male on the Upper Common.

We now have a survey being carried out on reptiles on the Lower Common. Last year only "Lonesome George" a male adder was found, but this year "Lonesome George" plus one or two females were found. So we are hoping for the patter of little feet or its equivalent with some young adders next year. Have any of you had positive sightings of adders on or near the Common?

Common lizards and slow-worm were also found on the Lower Common.

The only birds we seem to have lost, only for this year we hope, is the wood larks. They arrive in early spring from other parts of the UK. This year the Common was so wet, and I mean covered in water like a lake, that feeding and nesting ground would have been difficult to find. We hope they will be back next year.

Maintenance work will start on the common soon with volunteers to weed wipe and cut silver birch.

### Walk-Bucklebury Village to Hawkridge

Turn left from the Victory Room Car Park and walk through the Village, past The Old Foundry and over the River Pang (*note the new flood defence system*). Keep left at the bend on the Frilsham / Yattendon Road up the hill.

Ignore the first footpath sign on the right and go past New Barn Farm to the next road on the right at the end of the fence. Go past Hawkridge Wood House and turn right opposite the pond by Hawkridge Farm (*it is a little way up the road past the footpath sign*). Go through the swing gate, keeping the fence on the left and head up the field to the footpath signs on both sides of path. Go straight on (*pigs in field will be on the right and a wire fence on the left*).

At the end go to the right hand corner to pick up footpath sign and bear left over the field to a small wood (*watch out for tree roots*) – follow path up the hill to junction (***for shortcut turn right past Old Hawkridge House and then right onto the road and back to the village***) otherwise go left up to the next sign and turn right (*lots of lovely bluebells here*) – go through the wood on path in top left hand corner (*spot the tree house further along on the right!*) and head down the hill. Through the swing gate, down the hill to another gate, turn left at the bottom and down the drive leading to Rushden's Farm.

Cross the road and follow the Restricted By-Way (*took about one hour to here*). Bear left at the River Pang and then right over the bridge – cross the field to a stile and the next field to + paths at a bridge. Turn right (*you will be able to see The Old School House at the end of the field*). Turn right onto the road and back to the Church and Car Park.

## West Berkshire Countryside Society

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 4pm but you are very welcome to come for as much time as you wish to give during these hours. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing, and bring a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. Hot drinks are usually provided, as are the necessary tools.

For further information please see the website - [www.westberkscountryside.org.uk](http://www.westberkscountryside.org.uk).

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am Bucklebury Heathland**  
**Group work day SU 550 688** Meet at Angels Corner.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am Bucklebury Heathland**  
**Group work day. SU 550 688** Meet at Angels Corner.

### St. Crispins Apple Orchard



The orchards at St Crispins Farm are now officially organic. This year's crop of apple and plums will have a certificate from Organic Farmers and Growers. It is the result of 3 years work and part of the original plan to restore the orchards, working with nature and wildlife.

Walkers can find us on the route between Chapel Row and Stanford Dingley, which was named by the Times Newspaper as one of the best New Year country walks ref SU573702.

We know there is local interest in orchards-35% of the people who replied to the Bucklebury parish survey indicated an interest.

We have now planted a further 100 trees and have chosen old varieties either those with a Berkshire history or for flavour and taste. We continue to juice our apples, handpicked and pressed on the farm selling to local outlets: it can be sampled at the Bladebone pub.

We are open to farm orchard visits especially for young at heart or age.

So to those with an interest in being involved practically, joining a farm visit or being an outlet for sales, please contact us on [stcrispins@workwild.co.uk](mailto:stcrispins@workwild.co.uk).

# Parish Diary Dates

## October

3rd	Bucklebury Walkers	10am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
5th	Victory Room Committee	12noon—8pm	Bucklebury Beerfest, The Victory Room.
5th	Horticultural Society	7.30pm	Annual Social Evening, Memorial Hall.
7th	Mah-jong Group	2pm	The Oak Room, Memorial Hall
7th	KATS	8pm	Auditions for Robinson Crusoe and the pirates, Memorial Hall
8th	Tuesday Ladies Club		Buffet at The Blade Bone.
12th	Common Clearing	2pm	Memorial Hall
26th	Horticultural Society	9.30am	Trip to RHS Wisley.

## November

1st	Horticultural Society	8pm	AGM, Memorial Hall
4th	Mah-jong Group	2pm	The Oak Room
6th	Macmillan Cancer Care		Bridge afternoon, Boxford House
7th	Bucklebury Walkers	10am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
7th	Victory Room Committee	8pm	AGM, The Victory Room
12th	Tuesday Ladies Club	7.45pm	Christmas Shopping Event, The Oak Room
16th	Bucklebury Events' Committee	7pm	Wine and turkey tasting at Woodey's, Bucklebury Farm Park

## December

2nd	Mah-jong Group	2pm	The Oak Room
5th	Bucklebury Walkers	10am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
7th	Christmas Tree Festival		The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village.
7th	Macmillan Cancer Care		Christmas Concert, St. Nicolas's Church, Newbury
12th	Tuesday Ladies Club		Christmas Party, The Oak Room
15th	Enharmonic Choir	7pm	Messiah in an Hour, Bucklebury Church
16th	Cemetery Carols	6pm	Cemetery Chapel, Upper Bucklebury

## January

9th	Bucklebury Walkers	10am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
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## Contributions

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

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

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

Wynne Frankum

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By Bucklebury Parish Council.

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