

The Oaks



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Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

Many of you will have noticed work in progress on the refurbishment and extension of the Victory Room. As with many building programmes at present the completion of the works has been delayed owing to late deliveries of materials and fittings. However the work should shortly be complete and we can look forward to a grand opening in November.

The Parish Council's opposition to the proposed building of 2,500 houses in NE Thatcham has gained momentum. The Working Group of the PC has been active in getting posters up and fliers delivered not only in Bucklebury but, with the agreement of their PCs, in Cold Ash and Midgham. We are grateful for the financial support received so far. Further donations, which will go towards the cost of engaging specialist expertise, would be much appreciated.

There has been a delay in the Local Plan process as West Berkshire Council are now required to come up with a 30 year vision for significant extensions such as that proposed for NE Thatcham.

Having received many communications opposing the development from parishioners, Laura Farris MP held a public meeting on 31st August attended by about 100 people. Laura was well briefed on the situation and, of course, knows our parish well having grown up here. She answered all questions as best she could in light of the uncertainties with the Local Plan timetable. She emphasised while she can engage with central government over say housing number requirements in West Berkshire, her role is one of influencing stakeholders as planning decisions are firmly in the gift of WBC.

Back in June the more observant of you

will have noticed that winter appeared to have arrived at the trees at the eastern end of the Avenue. They had been attacked by oak roller and winter moths. They have subsequently come back into leaf. An ecologist who inspected the trees said the moths had probably been there for some time but this year's weather conditions enabled them to flourish. We are learning more about the trees on the Avenue as a long-awaited report on their condition has recently been received.

One of our councillors, Fiona MacCallum, has had to resign owing to new family commitments. We thank her for her dedicated service, especially her valued contribution towards opposing the NE Thatcham development and looking after the welfare of those isolated and financially affected by the pandemic.

We have restarted our PC coffee mornings which currently take place in the Memorial Hall on the last Thursday of the month. This is an opportunity in particular for those who have had reduced social contact over the past 18 months to join a friendly and informal gathering. Transport to and from the venue can be provided.

On the subject of get-togethers I have just returned from the tea party to celebrate the overturning of the conviction of Hash of Peaches Stores, wrongly brought about by the Post Office. It was a joyous occasion and also an opportunity for us to recognise the contribution Hash and Chan make to our community and the service at Peaches they so willingly provide for us.

Barry Dickens
Chair of Bucklebury Parish Council.

Parish Council Chairman
Barry Dickens

Parish Council Clerk
Helen Pratt

The Oaks Editorial Team
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Parish Council Matters Arising

Bucklebury Meadows

The meadows have been well used this summer and regular users will be pleased to see benches now in the middle meadow. More tables are on order for the small meadow. Grateful thanks to WBC for the grant.

Our next task is to improve the surface of the gateway to the middle meadow from Morton's Lane to allow wheelchair and pram access. The benches allow people to meet in a wonderful outdoor setting and enjoy the tranquillity and the ever-changing view with the weather, the light and the seasons.

Anyone who would like to have a bench placed in the meadows in memory of a loved-one, please email clerk@buckleburyparish.org

Anne Hillerton—Bucklebury Parish Council

The Hockett Field

The Hockett benefitted from the wet spring / early summer and next year we'll implement our plan for the southern edge and the SW and SE corners to be prepared and planted with wild flowers. There are now two benches there for you to rest, sit quietly and take in the surroundings.

Anne Hillerton—Bucklebury Parish Council



One of the new benches in the Hockett Field.

Could you be a councillor?

Bucklebury Parish Council (BPC) has a vacancy for a councillor in the west ward, which covers Upper Bucklebury, The Slade, Westrop Green and Marlston. To be a councillor you must be over the age of 18 and have lived or worked in the parish for at least the last year.

As a parish councillor you must attend the monthly parish council and planning meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.

Recently, BPC has formed a working group to look at fighting the NE Thatcham development proposed in the WBC draft Local Plan.

Each month, the parish council looks at approximately six planning applications; at least two councillors make a site visit and consider each application before reporting back to the council at either a full council meeting or a planning meeting before the council determines whether it objects, has no objection or supports the application.

Bucklebury Parish Council manages the assets around the parish: Bucklebury Meadows (also known as the Parish Lands), the Hockett Field, the Fred Dawson Play Park and the Cemetery in Byles Green.

During COVID, BPC opened up the small meadow for parishioners to sit and enjoy the peaceful surroundings. This project involved getting the entrance track cleared, adding the fencing chicane to stop children running straight into the road, adding a kissing gate into the larger meadow, procuring benches and determining what grass should be cut and then considering signage.

BPC organises the following events:

- Twice yearly common clearing and litter picking event
- Carols by candlelight in the Cemetery
- Monthly coffee mornings.

If you might be interested in becoming a parish councillor, please contact Helen, the Clerk (clerk@buckleburyparish.org or on 01635 863581) or any parish councillor.

Helen Pratt—Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.

Proposal for housing development at Thatcham Northeast

In April Tim Slatford wrote an article for The Oaks setting out West Berks Council's plans for a development of 2500 houses on the greenfield site to the north-east of Thatcham and adjoining The Common. I will not repeat the full summary in the last edition but bring you up to date with developments over the last six months.

A bigger team

In Bucklebury a working group has been set up, chaired by me, as a parish councillor, but made up of local residents. The members are Steve Beeson, Claire Dallimore, Julian Dobbins, John De Lara and Duncan Powell. Our aim is to muster a sound opposition to this development proposal. The working group, adjacent parish councils and Thatcham Town Council (TTC) meet regularly and have divided the biggest tasks. We are leading on the environmental impact and TTC is taking on the work on traffic. This division allows costs to be reduced by eliminating duplication. Needless to say, TTC are well aware of traffic flows on Harts Hill Road and will include this in their analysis.

Meeting our MP

We are grateful that Laura Farris was able to meet so many parishioners on 31st August. She heard a clear message of opposition. She reflected on the poor level of consultation between WBC and the community and that a scheme would have huge impact on the locality. She also made clear that whilst she can talk to those involved at a local and governmental level, she is not involved in the decision-making processes.

The next steps

We had expected WBC to return with their second-round consultation this summer. However, events have overtaken us all. It is worth explaining these. Firstly, WBC were overwhelmed by comments from the public, opposing the plan. A modest delay was needed for these to be analysed by the council and the proposed plan was to have been taken to a WBC meeting in October. Then WBC were told that the scheme needed to be part of a 30-year local plan and it was clear to them that additional work was needed before a consultation could proceed.

Next, the Chesham and Amersham by-election was lost, and the government started a rethink. I know our MP, Laura Farris made representations to the then Housing Minister, Robert Jenrick about the lack of suitable sites in West Berkshire.

Latterly, the press speculated that the new housing bill was to be reviewed and, in the cabinet reshuffle, Michael Gove has the housing portfolio.

But, and it's an important but, Thatcham Northeast has not gone away. It is still the WBC proposal. The consultation process is stalled. This is a great opportunity to lobby our district councillors to use the time to rethink and propose a plan that has a measure of support.

What are we doing?

We have a little more time, but the environmental work continues. We are engaged with relevant groups, such as the CPRE, North Wessex Downs AONB, BBOWT, as well as campaign groups facing similar development proposals elsewhere in the country. Other group outreach is underway. We are in regular dialogue with ecological and environmental landscape consultants, constructing arguments built on a foundation of data and precedent. Local landowners are engaged and sympathetic, adding weight to our voice, as we highlight what we believe to be compelling, causal links between the development proposal and the inevitable, unacceptable environmental damage it would cause. And as Michael Gove takes to the helm of UK's housing strategy, we have plans in place to ensure he hears what we have to say.

Money

We made a plea for donations to employ expert advisers. Many have contributed and we are grateful. Your donations have contributed to the £10,000 pledged by BPC and the total is held on trust by the parish council to be used once WBC publish the next stage of their plan. TTC has donated up to £12,000 to undertake traffic studies and this too awaits WBC's next stage thinking.

Finally

This is a time to persuade WBC to think again. Please write and speak to our local councillors, contact the press, write to Laura Farris and Michael Gove to make your views clear. Our message is simple – we are not opposed to new homes, but they need to be built on brownfield sites. The countryside is valuable to us all and destroying it is unnecessary.

Peter Spours—Bucklebury Parish Council

Bucklebury Parish Council

Common Clearing and Parish Litter Pick

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

Saturday 30th October 2021

Equipment will be provided

SKIP at the Memorial Hall

Meet Bucklebury Memorial Hall
2.00pm

Free tea and cakes afterwards!

**Let's Keep
Bucklebury Beautiful**

Bucklebury Conservation Area

In the last edition of the Oaks, we wrote an article describing the work on the appraisal of the existing conservation area in the village. This project is now nearing completion and the working group is in the process of finishing the final report under the guidance of the chief conservation officer at West Berks Council. We are also ensuring we have plenty of photographic evidence of the buildings, settings, views and boundaries.

It has been an enjoyable project and we have learnt a lot about historical and industrial influences, as well as social history, architectural details, geology and the environment. We are indebted to one member of the group who has the IT skills to pull it all together.

The draft report and its conclusions will be circulated in the village and wider parish for comments before being submitted to West Berks Council for approval. The council will decide if the area still merits its designation as a conservation area and make recommendations for its management. If accepted, it will be a key document used by the Council and by any Planning Inspector at Appeal in determining any planning application for development which affects the conservation area.

Lindy Clarke and Hilary Cairns—Bucklebury Parish Council.

Recycling

DO YOU RECYCLE X 2; TWO; II.

Since April 2021 and the last Oaks edition our target of getting round the world in bottle tops has quite a long way to go, however, we have been up and down Ben Nevis and four times up the Burj Khalifa – assuming my figures are correct and you have a good head for heights! But I will leave that mental arithmetic to you: average bottle top size is 4cms wide and as of this month we have achieved the amazing total of **63,590 tops!** A weight of **127.18 Kgs**. So now I need to ask you if there are some people who are willing and able to join my army of ‘bottle top sorters’. It is now very obvious that some people have stopped collecting for recycling and so Bucklebury is becoming the centre of plastic bottle top recycling, although I am happy to say that Terracycle in Thatcham are still recycling, although they have reduced the items they take. Also for plastic bottle tops that have no recycling code we can now use the Veolia bin for plastic packaging trays in the Thatcham Waitrose car park. Please do let me know if you would like to help. Email: hilarycairns@aol.com or telephone: 01635 866021

NOW the second (2nd) part of the recycling good news, which some of you will now be aware of, is that there is now a **Clothes Bank** in the Memorial Hall car park. This green Clothing Warehouse bin will allow the Memorial Hall committee to receive funds based on a price per kg of the weight of clothing that is put into the bin for recycling. This will enable the Memorial Hall trustees in Upper Bucklebury to receive money and distribute to local Bucklebury charities and community projects, so it is a win-win situation: as you get rid of the ghastly cardigan that Auntie So & So gave you; someone else loves it; and someone else gets a helping hand. It really cannot get better than that!

**Hilary Cairns –
Bucklebury
Parish Council**



The Memorial Hall Clothes Bank

Planning

What impact has COVID had on planning? More people are now working from home and the need for dedicated working spaces has become an issue for some, but interestingly looking through the planning list, this does not appear to be the case as much in Bucklebury as in some neighboring parishes. Instead, its given people time to assess their needs from their homes and make improvements. Certainly, there is no let up in the number of applications your councillors are considering!

Helen Pratt—Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
20/02887/HOUSE	<u>Rose Bank, Marlston.</u> Erection of detached garage with ancillary utility/laundry room and home office.	No Objection	Approved
20/02849/FUL	<u>Land adjacent to Thatchers, Chapel Row.</u> Proposed replacement storage shed for use to store tools and equipment for maintaining land.	No Objection	Approved
21/00281/LBC2	<u>Wallins, Westrop Green.</u> Removal of poorly executed (non original) existing painted porch structure over front entrance door, comprising Oak posts and 4x2 studwork; replacement with traditional Oak Frame structure of similar size and proportions, plus reinstatement of clay tiled roof.	No Objection	Approved
21/00417/HOUSE	<u>The Well House, Upper Woolhampton.</u> Rebuild existing conservatory to rear elevation. Extend existing window W1 to rear elevation. New window to side elevation W2, replace existing cladding to dormer on front elevation.	No Objection	Approved
21/00304/CERTE	<u>The Scout Hut (Angel's Corner).</u> We seek a lawful development certificate for a storage container, wooden two cubicle toilet building and the associated cess pit.	No Comment	Approved
21/00522/HOUSE	<u>Thatched Cottage, Scotland Corner.</u> New detached Orangery.	No Objection	Approved
21/00484/COMIND	<u>Vanners.</u> Erection of agricultural building to support the agricultural use of a 5 acre paddock for livestock.	Object	Awaiting decision
21/00237/FUL	<u>Travellers Rest Farm</u> Application for change of use of field currently used for horse grazing to be used as a secure dog exercise field.	Object	Refused by WBC taken to appeal
21/00548/HOUSE	<u>Redwoods, The Avenue.</u> Conversion of existing, detached, double garage (with room over) into ancillary annexe accommodation with the addition of a lean-to cycle/storage shed.	No Objection	Approved
21/00643/CERTE	<u>The Barn, Manor View, Hopgoods Green.</u> Self-contained first floor flat ("Barn Flat") with associated amenity and parking areas.	Object	Approved
21/00641/FUL	<u>Bucklebury Chase, The Avenue.</u> Demolition of the existing dwelling, annexe, garage and outbuildings and the erection of a replacement 5 bedroom dwelling with associated parking and access arrangements. Section 73 application to vary condition 2 (approved drawings) of previously approved application 17/02266/FUL.	No Objection	Awaiting decision

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
21/00731/HOUSE	<u>Nuttage House</u> Proposed alteration and extension works to the annexe building at Nuttage House.	No Objection	Refused
21/00809/HOUSE	<u>Nine Elms Cottage</u> Front rear and side extensions with rooms in the roof. Single storey link and extension to the guest annexe.	No Objection	Approved
21/00792/FULD	<u>82-83 Roundfield.</u> Erection of 2 semi-detached dwellings. Section 73 application to vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of previously approved planning permission 20/02771 /FULD.	No Objection	Approved
21/00817/FUL	<u>The Memorial Hall</u> Insertion of external door to toilets.	No Objection	Approved
21/00691/HOUSE	<u>Holly Trees, (formerly Chapel Row Cottage)</u> Alterations to the attached garage to raise the roof and insert dormer windows to the front and rear. Alterations to the rear of the property to create a circulation corridor at first floor level with dormer windows. Dormer windows to both faces of the eastern end of the property.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
21/00855/HOUSE	<u>Hilliers, The Avenue.</u> Replacement of conservatory with single storey extension.	No Objection	Approved
21/00693/HOUSE	<u>31 Mortons Lane.</u> Single storey rear and side extensions.	No Objection	Approved
21/00994/HOUSE	<u>Edglee House, Broad Lane</u> Rear orangery extension & alterations.	No Objection	Approved
21/01034/HOUSE	<u>The Old Police House</u> Proposed car port.	Object	Approved
21/01045/HOUSE	<u>Barfield, Chapel Row</u> Consists of internal alterations to existing house layout to include minor alterations to doors and window positions. In addition conversion of existing garage and part car port to games room with shower room. Extension to the existing car port to provide additional car port and log store. Replacement garden machinery store.	No Objection	Approved
21/01183/LBC2	<u>Chapel Row Farm.</u> Retention of unauthorized works, which include installation of 3 gable dormer windows and two doors to enclose a passageway between the main dwelling and ancillary accommodation.	No Objection	Approved
21/01214/HOUSE	<u>Oakbourne House, Chapel Row.</u> Conversion of loft space to form habitable room, incorporating 4No. Velux roof lights to the rear, with window to rear gable 1 No. roof lights to the front.	No Objection	Approved
21/01307/HOUSE	<u>4 Briff Lane.</u> First floor dormer window to front of house.	No Objection	Approved
21/01358/HOUSE	<u>Thatchers, Chapel Row.</u> Demolish existing rear extension, construct new single storey rear extension and 2 storey side/rear extension, construct new garage block with office.games room above and a single storey link to main house.	Object	Approved by Eastern Area Planning Committee

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
21/01348/HOUSE	<u>Patchways, Harts Hill Road.</u> Proposed single storey rear extension.	No Objection	Approved
21/01387/HOUSE	<u>76 Roundfield.</u> Rear flat roof extension with render.	No Objection	Approved
21/01409/HOUSE	<u>Willow Lodge, Chapel Row.</u> Proposed Gazebo/Log cabin outbuilding in rear garden.	No Objection	Approved
21/01357/HOUSE	<u>Oakbourne House, Chapel Row.</u> Single storey rear extension and outbuilding for garden storage.	No Objection	Approved
21/01390/HOUSE	<u>The Old Travellers Rest (Adjacent Parish).</u> Section 73 variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of approved 20/00852/HOUSE - Demolition of three unsafe timber outbuildings, construction of a replacement timber car port/garage, two single storey extensions to the rear of the building, single storey extension to the side of the building and alterations including modifications and replacement of windows.	Object	Approved by Eastern Area Planning Committee
21/01690/FUL	<u>Briffons.</u> Proposed construction of a dressage arena (menage).	No Objection	Awaiting decision
21/01615/HOUSE	<u>Brambles, Little Lane.</u> Proposed two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and internal alterations.	No Objection	Approved
21/01667/HOUSE	<u>The White House, Byles Green.</u> Proposed erection of an indoor swimming pool in the grounds of The White House.	No Objection	Approved
21/01734/HOUSE	<u>Twin Cottage, The Avenue.</u> Proposed extended balcony with balustrading and spiral staircase.	No Objection	Approved
21/01768/FUL	<u>Marlston Farm House Barn.</u> Erection of an American-style barn.	No Objection	Refused
21/01570/FUL	<u>Land Adjacent to Thatchers.</u> Proposed temporary approval for storage container (6 months).	No Objection	Awaiting decision
21/01677/FUL	<u>Verge approximately 30metres north of junction to Marlston Farm.</u> The proposed development works include construction of a 3m x 6m (18sqm) layby and a small set of steps (1sqm) and installing a post and rail fence around a kiosk.	Object	Awaiting decision
21/01815/FULMAJ	<u>5-10 Paradise Way.</u> Demolition of 6 No. dwellings and ancillary structure, and the erection of 10 No. new affordable homes composed of two and three bed houses, all with associated access, parking, amenity and landscaping.	Object	Awaiting decision
21/02157/FUL	<u>The Cottage Inn.</u> Erection of fabric tent over part of existing rear external drinking area.	No Objection	Awaiting decision
21/02134/HOUSE	<u>Tiverton House, The Slade.</u> Demolition of existing conservatory roof and side walls at rear of property (existing foundations and base to remain). Build new single storey utility room on existing foundations and base of current conservatory. Utility room to consist of matching brick walls and appropriately tiled roof.	No Objection	Awaiting decision

Thursday Coffee Mornings

Prior to lockdown, BPC started running a coffee morning on the last Thursday of every month. Due to COVID, we had to suspend this initiative. We held our first coffee morning after the lockdown on the 29th July.

You are welcome to simply come in and have a cup of coffee or tea, and a biscuit or a piece of cake. If you like baking and, maybe live alone, you might like to bring a cake along to share; but there is absolutely no obligation to do this.

These coffee mornings are aimed at all members of our community, so whether you are a new mum (or dad) with a small baby or a toddler, or a grandma or grandad, or someone in between, you would be very welcome.

If transport is a problem to get to the coffee mornings, and you'd like to come along, please give me a ring (01635 863581) and we will sort something out!

I look forwards to seeing you on the 28th October and/or the 25th November.

Helen Pratt—Clerk to Bucklebury Parish Council.

Thursday Coffee Mornings

**The Oak Room,
Memorial Hall,
Upper Bucklebury**

10.30am – 12 noon

Thursday 28th October 2021



**All Welcome – come and
enjoy a cuppa!**

If you need a lift call

Helen on 01635 863581

Carols by Candlelight

**Cemetery Chapel,
Byles Green**

Monday 20th December

At 6pm

**Mulled Wine and Mince
Pies**

All welcome



Community Service Group

The Community Service Group was founded in 1980 and is a group of volunteers set up to help the elderly, the lonely and those in need, by such means as:-

1. Transport for those unable to use public transport to and from the dentist, chiropodist, optician etc., hospital visiting and essential shopping.
2. Befriending the lonely, bereaved, housebound, handicapped and mentally ill.
3. Two lunch clubs for those living on their own held at Woolhampton Village Hall.

Please contact us if you know of anyone in need of our service. If you wish to help with any of these projects please offer your services (0118 9713334) you will be very welcome and not overburdened.

Thank you

Erica Tipton - Secretary (erica.tipton@yahoo.co.uk)

Due to Covid we are experiencing a greater number of requests from people regarding help with their hospital appointments, 'There is a surge in 'catch up', so if you feel you could help with the occasional drive please could you contact Georgina Cardy 0118 971 3334.

West Berks District Councillor

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

Graham Pask Tel: 01635 864023

Email: graham.pask@westberks.gov.uk

WBC Councillor's Report

This month has seen the appointment of our new Chief Executive Nigel Lynn following Nick Carter's retirement after 16 years in the role. Nick joined us just before Newbury District Council became a Unitary Authority in 1998 and was appointed Chief Executive in 2005 during which time he has guided us through many changes and challenges such as the flooding events in 2007 and the successful delivery of Parkway and the cinema. We gave him a good send off!

We also have a new head of planning (Service Director of Development and Regulation in full) Eric Owens who has replaced Gary Lugg, another long serving officer.

As I am sure you will read elsewhere in this edition of The Oaks our Local Plan has been paused following the publication of new government guidance in the form of changes to the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework). I have no idea of how long this delay will last but the revisions are extensive and we need to provide a 30 year vision document. What this means is we have time to consider how we can influence what the plan will contain and gives us some "breathing space" to focus on alternatives to the Thatcham NE proposals. I know the opposition group will welcome extra time to build their case without having to rush, as I do seeking alternative sites.

The Bucklebury Common Advisory Committee met in August to ensure plans are put in place for the beginning of October to protect our byways during the winter months. Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) will be in place again to protect against the misuse of our common by 4x4 drivers and I hope there will be more of the fixed posts at the entry/exit points of the byways rather than the unsightly metal fencing. Work has also been carried out resurfacing the car park on the south of the common by the cross roads and the piles of hoggins have been used to make access to

the off roaders favourite place off Holly Lane more difficult. If you see anyone abusing the Common by not complying with the TROs please report it to the police with as much information as you can!

West Berkshire has recently welcomed three families who escaped from Afghanistan and we have had many generous offers of support for them with clothing and other essential items, please look out for how residents and businesses can help during these difficult times for them.

If, like me, you are a regular visitor to the Padworth recycling centre, then you can now go more than once a week. We are continuing to operate the booking system as it almost eliminates queueing and in the next month or so you will be able to register your car registration on the system as a resident so you don't have to show your "pass" to gain access. We are always looking to recycle more items so don't forget you can now take many different plastic containers (such as butter tubs, meat trays and vegetable/fruit containers). They should be put in the plastic bottle skip which you will find on the left as you drive down the ramp on the way out. I hope that we will collect these items as part of the kerbside collections in the future.

Although not a council matter I would like to update you on the work being carried out in Blacklands Copse behind Broad Lane and Berrys Road. After no activity for a couple of years the tree cutters are back and as I write this, an area in the middle has been cleared as there was a lot of ash die-back, sadly, but the whole of this area is to be replanted with deciduous trees. Behind the Memorial Hall the chestnut trees are being coppiced for the first time in probably 50 years and these will grow back starting next summer. The final area is again behind Berrys Road where a whole section of trees are to be thinned with the mature Douglas Pine trees being removed. I am told this will be the last major work needed for some time and completes the planned work started a few years ago.

Please contact me if you have any issues or concerns about Council services.

Graham Pask—WBC District Councillor.

News

Fantastic Bucklebury Celebration for Hash and Chan

On Sunday 26th September, Bucklebury celebrated the successful appeal of Hash who was wrongly accused in 2011, along with hundreds of other sub post masters in the Great Post Office Scandal. He won his appeal on July 19th this year.

Hash and his wife Chan have run Peaches Stores from their arrival in the parish over twenty years ago.

Hash has always been a very popular and supportive member of the local community. In the first Covid lockdown, he went far out of his way to help people, which was acknowledged by a letter thanking him for his valuable work by the High Sherriff of Berkshire.

The celebration for Hash and Chan, at Bucklebury Memorial Hall, was a great success. His daughters, Meera with her husband and Maya were there. Having watched them grow up, people loved catching up with them.

Throughout the afternoon there was a steady stream of the family's well-wishers, customers and friends enjoying cream teas and homemade cakes along with Chan's wonderful samosas.

The Chair of the Parish Council, Barry Dickens congratulated Hash and Chan for their successful appeal and for all they do for Bucklebury.

It was a wonderful occasion, with everybody enjoying the opportunity, not only to celebrate with Hash and Chan, but also catch up at the first big parish event since Lock Down last year. The sun shone, tables were outside and the wonderfully generous cake makers turned out the usual delicious assortment.

The celebration was jointly organised by the Shingadia family and the Bucklebury Events Committee.

Wynne Frankum
Chair of Bucklebury Events Committee.

Family

Bucklebury Primary School

It was wonderful to welcome so many visitors to our school family at the first open morning of the year on 5th October. Every visitor was hugely positive about the school and this is a credit to our school captains, every class and all the staff and volunteers who prepared the school and grounds.

At the open morning, I gave a brief talk about the school family and what I feel is distinctive about our work. We believe in growing the whole child in every child. The values of love, faith and hope are our roots helping us to live out the trust deed of the school written in 1874. At Bucklebury, every child is precious and we do everything in our power to enable every child to flourish.

It was wonderful to welcome the current High Sheriff of Berkshire, Willie Hartley Russell to school recently. He spoke to the school and presented an inscribed buckle dated 1811 when the school was founded by Rev. Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley.

Throughout our history the school has served the children of Bucklebury. Today, how we go about the business of educating is three fold. Firstly we ensure we know every child. This enables us to personalise provision. We then strive to ensure the provision is exceptionally delivered by staff.

As a result, we hope to pass on capable, confident and curious children balanced in mind, body and spirit. The Bucklebury child is distinctive for their leadership of self and others. They have the skills and knowledge to thrive at secondary school, able to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle, secure in their sense of self and the contribution they might make to the world.

It struck me during the talk that much of what we believe could be said by many schools. The difference in the Bucklebury way is that, as visitors saw at open morning, and as was noted by Ofsted in February 2019, we do more than just say such things. Every aspect of school life is rooted in our core purpose of growing the whole child in every child. It was humbling to hear the hugely positive feedback from the visiting parents about how they could see that belief and feel that belief in action as they walked round.

Following the pandemic and its ongoing impact, the year ahead is crucial. Every child will only get this year once. Together we must ensure that every child has the very best chance of growing in mind, body and spirit.

Mr A. Higgs—Headteacher

West Berks Ballet School



Summer term was back in the hall! What a pleasure to see all our dancers face to face. Mike painted a series of yellow dots along the path outside the hall and everyone quickly learnt to queue on their dot.....in at the front and leave, after class, by the back, to ease

congestion. We shall continue with this system which seems to operate very smoothly.

Of course, it wasn't possible to invite an inside audience, so after two years of work, the wonderful *Wiz* full length epic film was finally launched and Claire held two 'premiere' viewings for the cast in the Oak Room with full press coverage, interviews of the stars, popcorn and much laughter.



Dorothy, Toto & friends during filming of the school's biannual musical *The Wiz*

Five members of the ballet department auditioned for the prestigious London classes offered weekly by the Cecchetti Scholarship scheme. Around 40 dancers are accepted annually from those auditioning all round the south of England. Alice, Emmeline, Holly, Philippa & Sophie L were all offered places! And.....Elsie, Florence, Maddie, Sadie & Thea will join Anya, Alice, Eleanor, Erin, Helena, Isabella, Katherine, Lauren, Liam, Lucy, Olivia & Sophie B as Cecchetti Associates enjoying their special classes each month in the Rambert School studios – many congratulations to you all and we wish you a wonderful year! End of Summer term ballet classes were made available on live Zoom and YouTube and we were once again fortunate to have our ballet exams for Grades 1, 2 & 3 and, 6 months after her Grade 6, Philippa was able to take her Intermediate

– top marks all round with 50% being awarded Distinction, with marks exceeding 80.

Then came the much awaited 2 weeks of Summer School – this year Claire & her team treated us to *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. What a perfect show for children, with great tunes and fun dialogue. Once again with DVDs lifelong memories were created.



Participants in Joseph Summer School this August

Our Autumn term brings lots more dancing adventures with a brand new Musical Theatre & Tap theme allowing us to create a new class for the younger dancers on Mondays. The ballet department embarks on rehearsals for our full-length *Sleeping Beauty* which will be held during the Summer half-term of 2022 and once again on the lovely stage at Arlington Arts. With a cast of 78, including our very youngest ballerinas, it promises to be a spectacular production. Our dancers are eagerly awaiting to hear their parts and we shall soon begin the excitement of costume fittings and brand new cast t-shirts.

WBBS is looking forward to our 2021/22 dancing year and to welcoming our new dancers.

Jane Scholl, Claire Bowden, Holly Unnuk & Lucie Wilson

www.wbbs.org and facebook.



Bucklebury Guides

Bucklebury Guides have had a busy and active summer term! We completed our Campfire Challenge badge where we learnt about fire safety and different ways to light fires. We cooked hotdogs, dampers and s'mores and sang some campfire songs.

The Guides also finished their UN Climate Change badge with a water challenge evening. They had multiple challenges to complete such as moving water from one bucket to another using 4 pieces of guttering, filling a drainpipe using sponges, learning how to carry water on their heads and finally a slip and slide! Luckily everyone arrived prepared to be drenched as it poured that evening, but we had fun and warmed up with hot chocolates!

It seemed to rain a lot of Monday evenings before the summer holidays so we met at Beenham Victory Hall where we started our conscious consumer badge and learnt about Fairtrade. We also made instant ice cream (which failed!) and learnt how to tie knots and make bedding rolls. We finished the term with a family picnic on the Recreation ground and a big game of rounders. We said



Bucklebury Guides on the Low Ropes at Thirtover Place on one of the summer activity days.

goodbye to some of our oldest Guides and wished them the best of luck on their next adventure.

Over the summer holidays some of our guides attended a three-day activity non-camp at Thirtover Place, Cold Ash. This was organised to be as close to a Guide camp as possible, just without sleeping over. The Guides had a busy few days doing low ropes, grass sledging, kite making, pioneering, water activities, an inflatable obstacle course, baking cakes in cardboard boxes and a huge Olympic wide game. It wouldn't have been Guide camp without chores though! The girls were split into patrols and had to help with cooking, cleaning, litter picking and washing up.

To start the Autumn term, we completed our Rambler's



Bucklebury Guides at Fearless Fun, Foxlease

badge where the Guides learnt how to use a compass by playing battleships and how to read a map and understand symbols. We went on a Penny Hike around Thatcham where the Guides flipped a coin at every junction to decide which way to go.

We went to Fearless Fun at Foxlease in the New Forest for a weekend activity camp in September. This was the first Guide camp for all the Guides and for some their first-time camping. We dusted off the tents, fixed a few split poles and packed lots of blankets. We had a very busy weekend kayaking, climbing, abseiling, orienteering and crafting followed by a wide game on the first night and a campfire on the second night. Safe to say we all went home quite tired!

We have lots of exciting activities planned for this term and beyond! If you would like more information about Bucklebury Guides, please email buckleburyguides@gmail.com.

Vicky Pratt—Bucklebury Guide Leader.

Bradfield Brownies

I don't know if you have seen the recent media reports following the Girls Attitude Survey undertaken by Girlguiding. It certainly makes for some worrying reading. It is stated that girls and young women are feeling less happy than they did a few years ago. They also know more girls and young women are suffering with their mental health. Because of the pandemic they feel sadder, lonelier and are worried about their futures. However, they say being outdoors has helped them feel more positive and they hope communities will stay connected after the pandemic.

Girlguiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK, with nearly a third of a million members. We're active in every part of the UK with more than 25,000 groups meeting weekly, powered by over 80,000 volunteers. We offer girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference in their communities. We build girls' confidence and raise their aspirations. We give them the chance to discover their full potential and encourage them to be a powerful force for good.

This sounds wonderful but what does it mean in reality? At 2nd Bradfield Brownies we are eagerly working through the Girlguiding Brownie program section called Have Adventures. This includes things like learning how to put up a tent, what you should do in the countryside and how to use a compass. Sounds a little bit boring, I know, but consider that learning about compass points is based around a game where we will be making squirty elephants and getting "super soaked". We are planning a torchlit tour as well as some Christmas craft. As a unit we try to organise at least one "exciting" activity every term. At the end of the summer term, we went bell boating on the Thames which was a massive hit with the girls. We have just been grass sledging at Thirtover Place and are hoping to have a go at wall climbing later this term.

When we talk about learning skills for the future, we don't mean the traditional things we all think of when we hear about Girlguiding such as how to knit or how to fold a handkerchief, that is unless the girls decide they want to do this, but we actually mean being able to make their own decisions, learn new hobbies, develop skills and explore the world around us. It has been proven that youth organisations are a great way to help with self-esteem by allowing girls, in the case of Girlguiding, exciting opportunities to make brilliant friends, and take on new challenges but more importantly to have fun whilst doing this.

2nd Bradfield Brownies have vacancies and we would love to welcome your daughters (aged 7 – 10) into our unit to join

in with the fun! Because of the rural nature of our villages, we don't have any catchment areas and welcome girls from all over the area!

If you are interested have a look at the www.girlguiding.org.uk and follow the link to register your daughter, or if you fancy the opportunity to make a difference to the girls in your area, we are always looking for volunteers. Please also remember that Girlguiding caters for girls aged from 5 years old.

Vicki Beesley (AKA Tigger)

Leader of Bradfield Brownies

Messiah and More

Please join us again this year following a break from tradition in 2020. It was almost like missing part of the family when we could not perform last year and we hope that things will continue to improve and we will be able to join together on December 5th this year.

As always you will have a chance to sing, eat, laugh and generally relax as we begin the Christmas scene with love.

**Join us for
Messiah and More
in
One Hour**

**Sunday
5th December
7pm
St Mary's
Church
Bucklebury**

Arrive early for refreshments

**Enharmonic Choir
Director Daniel Nicholls**

**Free
Just come
along and
enjoy!**

Suitable for the whole family
More information
daniel.nicholls61@outlook.com
0118 9712333

Organisations

Tuesday Ladies' Club (TLC)

TLC is delighted to be back up and running this autumn!

Firstly, we would like to thank Diane for a lovely afternoon tea in her garden in July – having the weather and the opportunity to get together was great.

We held our first indoor meeting in September where members gathered together to share news and catch up with old friends, many of whom hadn't seen each other for many, many months.

As we adjust to the new normal of living in current times, we know we will have to be flexible and pragmatic through the course of the next few months but the TLC has put together a programme to get us together for the rest of the year.

Dates for your diaries:

- * October 12th Autumn Quiz
- * November 9th Talk on the Falkland Islands
- * December 7th Christmas Party

All the meetings will be in The Oak Room at Upper Bucklebury Memorial Hall and start at 7.15pm. The committee look forward to welcoming both old and new members.

We currently have no mandatory rules with regard to Covid 19 but would like to welcome our members to do whatever makes them feel comfortable. Social distancing and mask wearing are currently optional so all members can choose what they feel they would like to do. I believe there are masks available that protect the wearer as well as others. We will of course update members if anything changes with regard to the virus.

Carol Clothier—TLC

Mahjong

Several of our members are still feeling uncertain about joining a group in the hall again so I am not starting meetings yet awhile. However, if there is someone who would like to do the organising then I am only too happy to pass this on! Please get in touch.

Helen Relf. 01635 867619
grannyrelf@btinternet.com

Bucklebury and Marlston Horticultural Society

It will have been an extraordinary year for the club. No activities since March 2020 a period of 18 months. At the time we could not anticipate that this spell of inactivity would last so long. I hope your garden has been a welcome sanctuary during the various restrictions. Although the Society has been dormant our gardens continue to demand attention, but I hope you agree that the rewards have been immense. After such a prolonged lull in events it will be difficult for the committee to overcome its inertia and spring into action. Especially as it has become a much reduced Committee, no fault of Covid, but we have lost the assistance of three very valuable members. Eric Salt has moved away, Vivien Ward and Malcolm Hynes are sadly no longer with us. Also Terry Stares will be handing over the finances to John Wright, who will still continue as Membership Secretary. The management is currently in the capable hands of just five officers and six committee. We urgently need an infusion of people willing to drive the Society forward. We have the organisation, financial reserves and experience, but need new blood to bring new ideas and enthusiasm.

We plan to reinstate a full programme for 2022, in the hope that confidence in social activities will return and demand will be strong. To this end the Memorial Hall is booked for the AGM, starting at 8pm on **FRIDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2021**, when proposals can be discussed and put into action. There will be free wine and refreshments, and it will be an opportunity to meet gardening friends. The Century Club has been in operation throughout the pandemic and we will make the names of all the lucky winners available, and it will be a chance to enter next year's draw.

Generally we will try to fulfil all the promises that have been prevented since 2020, but new ideas are always welcome.

If you would like to join us, contact John Wright (01635 863429).

Happy gardening.

Derek Matthews (0118 9712587)

Bucklebury History Group

The group has been very quiet over the last 2 years! Hopefully we will be able to get back to holding a meeting or two in the coming months but nothing is planned yet – is there anyone who would like to organise this? In fact we are looking for more help regarding the group – I have a lot of files that need sorting and we still have the ongoing 1851 census project to finish. Plus the cemetery to record and the plan of the graves to be finished

Please get in touch if you can help or even if you are just interested.

Thank you.

Helen Relf. 01635 867619

grannyrelf@btinternet.com

Fred Vallis

There are over 306,000 commemorations to the men and women of the Commonwealth Forces in the United Kingdom and Ireland at over 13,000 locations. Around 170,000 of these are burials, with the remainder being honoured on memorials to the missing. Fred Vallis is the only Commonwealth War Graves Commission grave in the Upper Bucklebury cemetery.

Frederick (Fred) Vallis - 1892-1918 (*Died 30/11/18*)

Fred's parents Thomas and Mary Ann Vallis lived in Tyler's Lane in 1891/1901/1911. Fred was born in Bucklebury in 1892 but his parents and siblings were born in Wiltshire and Hampshire. He appears in the 1911 Census in Bucklebury and worked as a Bricklayer's labourer when he was 18 in Thatcham Mills.

His father Thomas Vallis was a general labourer and probably worked at Hill Top Farm along with his eldest son, John Vallis, who was also a general labourer. His father, Thomas Vallis, and his mother MaryAnn Rose were married 03 November 1877 in Burbage, Wiltshire. Frederick's Grandfather was James Vallis born 1820 in East Hanney, Berkshire who was a basket maker. When Thomas was 5 years old they were listed in the 1861 census in the Tything of Seymour, Burbage, Wiltshire. Thomas died 28/11/1921

Thomas received Frederick's effects after the war in 1919. His effects amounted to £12-3s-2d, which included War Gratuity of £6 10s 0d given to his father. The gratuity was introduced in December 1918 as a payment to be made to those men who had served in WW1 for a period of 6 months or more, home service, or for any length of service if a man had served overseas. The fact that his death

is registered with Bradfield Registration District, which includes Bucklebury, probably means he died here in Berkshire and not on active service overseas. Without a copy of his death certificate we cannot confirm this, however further research by the Great War Forum has found a pension card that lists his cause of death as being Influenza & Pneumonia, 17 days after the end of the First World War 11/11/1918.

He was a Private (215828) in the 3rd Labour Battalion, 439th Agricultural Company of the Labour Corps. The Company was based in Reading. This probably means he was unfit for active service by either illness or injury towards the end of the war. The absence of a Medal Index Card tells us it is unlikely he served overseas.

The Labour Corps was raised in 1915 and disbanded in 1921. Today their roles are undertaken by the Royal Logistics Corps.

The Corps grew to some 389,900 men (more than 10% of the total size of the Army) by the Armistice. Of this total, around 175,000 were working in the United Kingdom and the rest in the theatres of war. The Corps was manned by officers and other ranks who had been medically rated below the "A1" condition needed for front line service. Many returned wounded. Labour Corps units were often deployed for work within range of the enemy guns, sometimes for lengthy periods.

The formation of the Labour Corps was authorised by a Royal Warrant issued as Army Order 85 published on 22 February 1917. The order specifically made the point that the raising of the Corps was to be a temporary measure but it would be regarded as a Corps for the purposes of the Army Act. Regimental pay would be the same as that of the infantry of the line.

David Southgate



Halls

The Victory Room

The Victory Room will be re-opening shortly after its refurbishment and extension. The construction works started at the end of May and we were originally hoping to re-open in September but with a combination of poor weather in July when we were trying to re-clad the old hall and the current issues with materials we are now hoping to be open by mid-October. The works have provided a number of significant challenges but I am pleased to say the chosen contractors have been excellent and very supportive of the trustees throughout the project. I hope you will agree the refurbishment makes a marked improvement to the look of the Victory Room.

The Victory Room will now have a main hall overlooking the recreation ground that will seat around 90 people. The historical feel of the old Victory Room is being retained in a meeting room that will seat conference style about 16 people. We have a newly fitted kitchen and toilets including a disabled toilet. The design includes three internal store rooms as well as an outside store to support users of both the Victory Room and the recreation ground.

The next stage of the project is to implement a new website with an online booking system. If there is anyone willing to help us, we would like to hear from you. Please contact me on one of the numbers below.

Sadly the trustees decided not to hold a Beerfest this year as we weren't sure if any government restrictions would still exist and whether we would have a completed hall. We will be back again in 2022.

We are planning to hold an event in 2021, tentatively a 'Call my Bluff' wine event on December 11th so please keep an eye on the Victory Room page on the Parish Council website for details.

We will also be holding a hall opening event and an open day for everyone to come and see the new hall towards the end of the year.

In January 2022, the trustees will be hosting the opening of Village Halls Week in the Victory Room which is to be opened by Lord Benyon.

We look forward to seeing you at the Victory Room shortly.

John Brims
Chair of the Trustees of the Victory Room
0118 9713308 or 07799 348451
jbrims@outlook.com



The Victory Room at the end of September 2021

Exercise

Carpet Bowls

Bucklebury Memorial Hall has acquired two carpet lanes plus the ancillary to use in the main hall.

All the equipment is provided, but assistance is requested with the pre-session preparation and or the post-session disassembling.

We hold two meetings per week each session being for two hours:

- MONDAY mornings between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.
- FRIDAY afternoons between 2.30 pm. and 4.30 p.m.

It is run as a Pay & Play activity and is open to all. The charge per session (2 hours) is £2 per person.

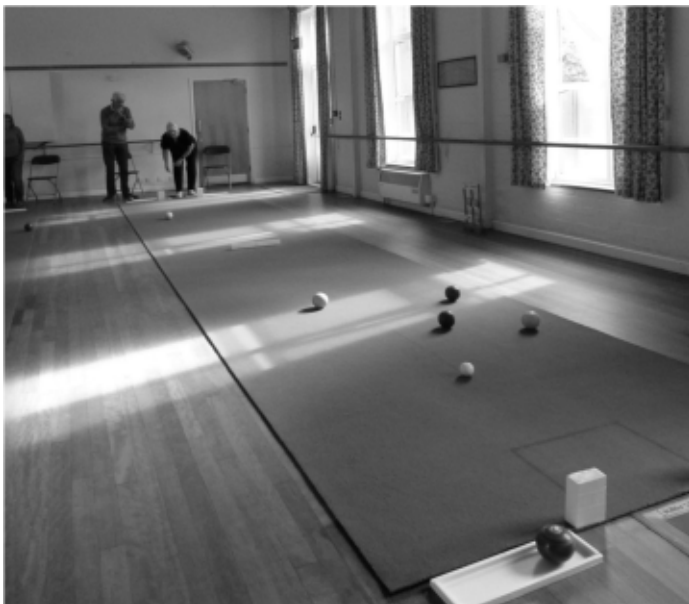
THE SESSIONS ARE VERY RELAXED, and all are welcome to either try it out or demonstrate their skills.

EVERY ONE IS WELCOME.

In normal times, (Non-Covid) we have a coffee/tea break during the session, included in the cover charges.

Interested folk should get in touch with me.

Mike James - m-a-james@tiscali.co.uk 0118 971 2285



A carpet bowls session in the Memorial Hall.

Seated Exercise

SEATED EXERCISE CLASSES ARE BACK AT BUCKLEBURY MEMORIAL HALL!!

Hi everyone! I'm really pleased to let you know that since May we are now back with face-to-face classes in the Upper Bucklebury Hall. We initially started with 2 small groups but have now merged back into one class at 10am each Tuesday. We are still maintaining some distancing with chairs approx. 1m apart and wearing masks before and after the class – also chairs are thoroughly cleaned before and after.

The structure of class includes a warm up and then back to our ever-popular chair dance to well-known tracks such as Waterloo and The Locomotion – it really gets the heart rate up and is great fun. We then do approx. 15-20 mins of strength training using resistance bands for those that want to use them and all exercises are based on or around the chair. We finish with a cool down / balancing and finally some stretches. These classes are suitable for all abilities as options are given to make them slightly harder or you can remain seated for the whole class.

There are around 20 participants per class, sessions are £3 and last 30 minutes although this will move to 45mins in October 2021. You don't need to commit to every session and you just pay for the ones you attend but booking is essential so please drop me a line if you'd like to join in!

In addition to the Bucklebury sessions, I am still running the Zoom classes which we set up during the first lock-down. Many people have chosen to stick with these classes. These take place on a Monday and Wednesday morning, they are 30 mins long and cost £2 per person per session (again, just pay for the ones you attend) As with the face-to-face sessions, I incorporate lots of variety ensuring that different muscle groups are worked as well as including some cardio vascular exercise to keep the fitness levels up. On a Monday, we do circuits!

Exercise aside, these sessions are great fun – there is lots of banter and laughter and the time flies by! If you'd like to join in with any of these sessions or would like more information, please drop me a line anytime.

I hope everyone is keeping safe and well,

With Best Wishes,

Caroline—caroline@yourlifefitness.me.uk

Bucklebury Walkers

Our walks are back up and running! We meet on the first Tuesday of each month – 10.00am to walk for about 1.5 hours and a shorter walk leaves at 10.30am.

October 7th – both walks will leave from The Cottage Inn, with coffee there afterwards.

November 4th – both walks will leave from The Cottage Inn, with coffee afterwards.

December 2nd – We need a leader for this walk, please.

Please check the Parish Website for further information or contact me.

Many thanks

Helen Relf
01635 867619. grannyrelf@btinternet.com

Sport

Bucklebury Tennis Club

www.buckleburytennisclub.com

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

Drills:

Drills continue to be very popular with sessions on a Monday and Thursday evening.

For further details contact: Karen Pegg: kppegg61@gmail.com

Junior Coaching:

Junior Coaching with Damian Lane has resumed for the Autumn Term:

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

Junior sessions on a Wednesday with Damian Lane for members and non-members are as follows:

- 4-6 year olds - 4.00-4.40pm
- 6-8 year olds - 4.40-5.20pm
- 8+ years old - 5.20-6.00pm

For further details contact our Junior Co-ordinator: Karen

Pegg: kppegg61@gmail.com

Competition:

Bucklebury Tennis Club Ladies Doubles Tournament 2021

On Saturday 18th September and in glorious sunshine, Bucklebury Tennis held their Ladies' Doubles Tennis Tournament. 12 members took part, playing in two leagues and with different partners each time. The two players with the highest points in each league played a final set. The finalists were Karen Pegg and Rosie MacGregor against Trish Strange and Latha Taylor. After a closely fought set the champions were Karen and Rosie.



Karen Pegg and Rosie MacGregor
Bucklebury Ladies Champions 2021

League Tennis:

League tennis resumed for the summer. Bucklebury Tennis Club entered 3 Mens Teams, 2 Ladies Teams and 1 Mixed Team in the Newbury and District Leagues. The Mens A Team maintained their position at the top of the NDLTA Division 1. Bucklebury Tennis Club also entered a Ladies Double Team, a Vets O45 Team and an O55 Team in the Berkshire Leagues. All matches were played. A great credit to the Captains and all team players.

Club Membership:

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

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

Robin London—robinlondon145@gmail.com
www.buckleburytennisclub.com

Bucklebury Badminton Club

Tuesday night is club night and we are back in full swing. We are operating without any restrictions although we are striving to be as Covid secure as possible. We are fortunate that there are two large doors on either side of the hall at Elstree which open straight outside so ventilation is excellent. We are able to use the outside space to mingle in between games, weather permitting. If it's cold or wet, there is a large area to socialise in just inside the front door.

We have a healthy membership and are hoping to play matches soon if there is enough interest from other clubs in the Newbury area.

Meanwhile the season is being kicked off with a fun inter club tournament taking place at the end of September. In addition, there is a social evening for members and their 'other halves' at the West Berks Brewery Taproom in early October.

Please feel free to come as a visitor at any time. We are very inclusive and welcome players of all ages and abilities. Secondary aged children are welcome if accompanied by a responsible adult. There are more details on our website or email if you have any questions.

VENUE: Elstree School, Woolhampton, RG7 5TD

DAY: every Tuesday and Wednesday 8 to 10 p.m. (until September after which Tuesday only)

COST: £5 for visitors (deducted from subscription which is £120 per annum **pro rata**. £60 for students)

CONTACT: Margaret Neville 01635 873811
margaretnev@yahoo.co.uk

WEBSITE: buckleburybadmintonclub.com

Table Tennis

Anyone for table tennis?

Some of you who have long memories will remember that we wanted to start a table tennis club in the Victory Room some years ago. There was some interest but unfortunately when we looked at the measurements required under the health and safety rules, it was found that the hall was too narrow and we could only safely fit in one table, not enough for a club!

The good news is that the new hall extension about to be completed will be big enough for 2 full size tables, and we are lucky enough to have two tables which have been donated to the Victory Room, and the storage space for them.

This is therefore an initial call to see if there are any Bucklebury parishioners who might still be interested in

starting/joining a club and perhaps running it too, possibly beginning after Christmas. All ages welcome. We will need to ensure a weekly slot is available so the sooner we get started the better.

Please contact me if you might be interested.

Lindy Clarke—Victory Room trustee.

Lindy.clarke@live.co.uk

01189712768

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,

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Reading. RG7 6SD. Telephone: 01635 863581

E-mail:clerk@buckleburyparish.org

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Parish Diary Dates

October 2021

7th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am and 10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
9th	Bucklebury Common Heathland Management	10.30am to 1.00pm	Meet at Angels Corner (SU 550 688)
11th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	All Saints Church Hall, Upper Bucklebury
12th	TLC (Autumn Quiz)	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury
22nd	Bucklebury & Marlston Horticultural Society	8.00pm	The Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury
25th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
28th	Thursday Coffee Morning	10.30am	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury
30th	Common Clearing and litter pick	2.00pm	The Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury

November 2021

2nd	Bucklebury Common Heathland Management	10.30am to 1.00pm	Meet at Angels Corner (SU 550 688)
4th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am and 10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
8th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
9th	TLC (Talk on the Falkland Islands)	7.45pm	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury
14th	Bucklebury Common Heathland Management	10.30am to 1.00pm	Meet at Angels Corner (SU 550 688)
22nd	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
25th	Thursday Coffee Morning	10.30am	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury

December 2021

2nd	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am and 10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
5th	Messiah and More in an hour	7.00pm	St.Mary's Church, Bucklebury
7th	TLC (Christmas Party)	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury
11th	Bucklebury Common Heathland Management	10.30am to 1.00pm	Meet at Angels Corner (SU 550 688)
11th	Call my Bluff wine evening	Tbc	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
13th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
20th	Cemetery Carols	6.00pm	Bucklebury Cemetery
30th	Thursday Coffee Morning	10.30am	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury—tbc

January 2022

10th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
24th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury
27th	Thursday Coffee Morning	10.30	The Oak Room, Upper Bucklebury