The Black Horse is under new management, and we welcome Nicola and her team to our community. They look forward to welcoming us to their pub. See their ad on page 8 and pop in for a modest libation or several.

'HanneyFund' and 'Michaelmas Fayre' grants - see pages 10 and 13.



Holly and Christmas Gift Sale Sat 9th Dec 10am - Noon St James Church, West Hanney.



Teas, coffees, mince pies, a wide range of great Christmas gifts and lovely fresh holly straight from the Churchyard.

If you'd like a table please give me a ring asap - Jim on 867500.

The Winter Lane Footpath was - finally! - officially opened by Her Majesty the Queen, ably supported by the Duke of Edinburgh, and Lord Sugar who assured everyone that the time it had taken to get the path was longer than the gesticulation period of an elephant. (He often gets long words confused of course.) He added that Winter Lane isn't even a trunk road, and clearly found his little joke -trunk...elephant...geddit? - much funnier than the assembled throng of faintly bewildered onlookers, who stood shivering in the pouring rain under umbrellas,



witnessing this bizarre and rather surreal spectacle. Winter Lane was temporarily renamed Jim Stagg Way, though Jim was, harshly in my view, fired by Lord Sugar in the process. A few bevvies were sunk at the Plough to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

Editorial

Well, I don't know where that year went. but it's already time to wish all our readers another very happy Christmas my third as Editor, 18th as resident of this parish and 65th as member of the human race! - from all of us here at Hanney News Global International. Thank you for your support, and of course, massive thanks to our team. including our wonderful distributors. who ensure that Hanney News drops through your letterbox each month. We tried out glossy paper last issue but it received a 'no thank you' from several quarters, so we're back to the silk-coated finish from now on.

A quick big up to our local builder Dave Beach who has cut in half the old lampposts that have been lying outside the Community Shop so they can be more easily disposed of. They've now been collected by scrap metal dealers. Angie Miller has been in touch re the latest on the Hanney Website...check out her piece on page 4. An update on the Youth Club is also on the same page, along with news of some more Hanney Heroes.

Many of you will have already visited the Black Horse in East Hanney since new landlady Nicola recently took over. If not, pop in and say hello.

Mixed news on the Winter Lane footpath...our opening ceremony was a great success, if a little damp - see our front page article - but the experts at Oxfordshire County Council have opined that it needs resurfacing. Funny really, cos they never seemed that bothered when we didn't have one at all, but hey ho...just hope that's not going to take another two years! In the meantime, all I would say is that in my humble, it's a jolly sight better than the muddy verge.



Jaunty Jilly's Christmas pressie arrives early...a brand new computer monitor screen. She looks thrilled doesn't she? I'm going to give her a column next month...she's looking forward to that too, cos she's got lots to tell you. Now our local thespians are at it again...another panto planned for early next year - check out their ad on page 5. Lots of Christmassy stuff going on, as you'd expect...carol singing and following Mary on her donkey at the 'Live Nativity' event, sound like a couple of highlights, along with all the services of course that the good folk at St James Church organise.

Calling all clubs, societies and organisations in our community - grants are available from the Michaelmas Fayre fund - see page 13 - and the HanneyFund. We will have more details on the latter next month, but in the meantime there's an update on page 10 Sadly we have obituaries for Wenda Revnolds and Jean Hinckley. I would like to thank Angela Cousins, Roger and Maggie Bett, Robert Hodgson and St Hugh's College Oxford for help in compiling the former, on page 19. Many thanks to Rev. Paul Hinckley who wrote his mother's, on page 15. Have a great Christmas my friends...till next month, and next year!

Notices...what's happening this month.

For details of all St James' Services over the Christmas period, see page 15.

Fri 1st, 7.30pm, Hanney Film Night, Village Hall, Dirty Dancing. See page 10 **Fri 1st, 8pm, Charity Fundraiser Quiz at R.B.L.** Full details last month.

Mon 4th, Gardening Club Christmas Party

Fri 8th, 8pm, Prize Christmas Bingo at R.B. Legion. Children welcome Sat 9th, 10am - Noon, St James Church, Gift and Holly Fayre. See front page Sat 9th, 2pm, Senior's Christmas Dinner at R.B. Legion. All seniors welcome. No charge! Ring Maureen Sawyer to confirm attendance. 868744

Thurs 14th, Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. (Please note change of date). Reservations by 6th Dec to Marcia on 867461.

Thurs 14th, W.I. A talk by Melanie King 'Tea, Coffee and Chocolate. Beverages that changed the Nation'. Village Hall.

Thurs 14th, 7.30pm, Paravicini Jazz Quartet at the Beacon Wantage, featuring Derek Paravicini, a blind autistic pianist. £15, tickets from the Beacon, 01235 763456. Limited number of free tickets for 16 yr olds and under when accompanied by paying adult...ring Jim Mitchell 767975. All proceeds to Music for Autism (Check this gent out on YouTube. He is truly bewildering! Editor.)

LIVE NATIVITY. Saturday 16 December at 2.15 pm - meet us in St James Church and follow Mary on her donkey, & Joseph to the stable. Children are welcome to come dressed as shepherds or angels.

Tues 19th, St James School Term 2 ends.

Sunday 31st, New Years Eve, 8pm - late, Hanney R.B. Legion '66' Club, with The Saga Louts. Tickets £10, free buffet.

And further ahead....

2018!!

Contact details for our political chums.

Ed Vaizey MP - You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or dicksonce@parliament.uk.

Ed's website is www.vaizev.com

Vale of White Horse District Council leader Matt Barber's email and website address: councillor@matthewbarber.co.uk - www.matthewbarber.co.uk

New Construction Site in the **Hanneys...**but not the type you're thinking of!

Over the last year a small team of volunteers has been hard at work crafting a new website for the Hanneys. The old site has served us well but it's now time to retire.

The new website, still at www.thehannevs.org.uk, will look very different. It will allow local community groups to have their own pages, or even bespoke 'subsites', integrating their social media feeds and calendars. Groups will be able to edit their own sites using a simple interface. with all of the techie stuff handled by

our heroic geeks (Dene and Trevor). But we need vour help....We launched our first trial subsite, for the Hanney Pre-School, on Friday 10th November. We need as much feedback as possible, positive or negative, so that we can make any changes before we launch the main site. Please, please take a few minutes to visit hps.thehanneys.uk although the old address will still work (with some fantastic artwork by our budding artists) and feedback any comments using the contact page on the preschool site or by emailing us at hnyadmins@thehannevs.org.uk.

Angie Miller

A quick mention if I may for some Hanney

Heroes.....Step up Sir Tim of Bullen and Sir Nick of Armitage who both recently ran the Abingdon Marathon. Well done chaps! Tim - he's the one with the well-deserved pint - was raising money for Cancer Research and you can still make a donation via his website...

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tim-bullen.

Nick, pictured with his 'support crew', is also still taking donations for his chosen charity, the British Heart Foundation www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ nick-armitage3.

If their endeavours are inspiring you to have a go, why not join Carey Hope's running group to get you started...see last month's flyer or give her a ring on 07789 502010

And whilst I'm dishing out the plaudits, let me tell you the latest on our **Youth Club.** It's going really well and massive praise goes to Becci, Sharon and Sam who run the whole thing. They get assistance from many villagers who recognise just how beneficial a thriving youth club is to a village, and a particular shout-out this month goes to Paul Gooding. Becci told me that "Paul is amazing and a massive support to the Youth Club" after an evening of sausages, marshmallows, hot chocolate, sparklers and a discussion about health, wellbeing and internet safety that Paul gave them recently. Well done to all involved.



Hanney Royal British Legion Sports & Social Club.

Hire our hall, it's open to all and you don't need to be a member. £70, includes cleaning after. If you want it for a child's party on a weekend afternoon then the cost is only £45, including cleaning. If you want the bar open there is no extra cost, only for the drinks of course! Please call 01235 868672 within opening hours to check the availability.

Every year, more than one in three people over 65 suffer a fall that can cause serious injury, and even death. Falls in later life are preventable, and strong evidence shows that exercise specifically tailored to increase strength and improve balance offers one of the best ways to prevent them. Age UK Oxfordshire's 'Generation Games' run community-based "Strength & Balance" classes to allow older and less mobile folk to attend sessions that are aimed at strengthening muscles and improving balance. One of the key skills taught is how to get down safely onto the floor and back up again. The sessions are fun and a great camaraderie develops. If you know of anyone who may benefit please contact Generation Games Tel: 01235 849 403. Email:

gg@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk www.generationgames.org.uk Falls Service – comprehensive falls prevention and intervention service across Oxfordshire 01865 903 400

Here's a class in full swing...and no, they're not singing 'It's fun to stay at the YMCA.'!!



Maureen Sawyer recently had a birthday party and she would like to thank everyone who came along and was so generous with their gifts, cards and good wishes!!

Orienteering for Beginners starts on Weds 6th Dec, 11am -12.30pm on the Recreation ground. Ring Simon Passeri on 07717 326661 to book your place or for more details.

Hanney Drama Group

presents

Cinderella and the Velvet Slipper

by Peter Nuttall

To be performed in the Hanney War Memorial Hall on

Thurs 8th, Fri 9th and Sat 10th Feb, 2018

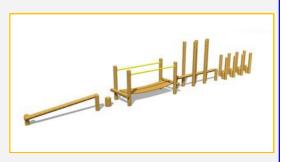
at 7.30pm with a matinee performance at 2.30pm on Saturday

Tickets will be available from 6th January 2018 either from the Community Shop or Karon Gray on 01235 868780 or karongray99@yahoo.co.uk
Evenings £8, Saturday Matinee £6
(No Concessions)

East Hanney Parish Council

A number of residents have brought the Council's attention to issues with parking across the village recently. Unfortunately, the parish councils have no powers with regard to parking. Not all houses in the village have sufficient drive space to accommodate all cars in the household and East Hanney PC hopes that residents would be courteous in the choice of their parking places, being mindful that there are few pavements in the village and those that are available should not be blocked by inconsiderate parking. Similarly, should a hedge or other vegetation obstruct a pavement or footpath, it is the owner's duty to ensure the vegetation is cut back to allow access.

As you will know, EHPC is leasing the large field to the north of the playing fields – Kings Leases. On the southern edge of this field a 'trim trail' of outdoor gym equipment for adults and children (possibly similar to the picture) will be installed. If you have any ideas for the design, or would like to see any specific pieces of



equipment, please contact the Clerk by email or letter to 12 Brookside.

Hopefully you will have been to EHPC's event regarding the proposed development at 'Dews Meadow'. Time is very short to respond but if you send your views to the Vale now, your opinion will be included in the planner's considerations.

The next meeting dates are 6th December 2017 and 3rd January 2018.

Parish Council meetings are open to the public and are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 8pm. The agenda will be available to view on the notice board outside the Community Shop, on the Council's website and on Facebook a week in advance.

Chairman: Jim Triffitt 868314 (Allotments)

Vice Chairman: Stewart Scott 868503 (Neighbourhood Plan and Technical Issues)
Councillors:

Paul Aram 868858 (Playground and Playing field) David Kirk 07740029059 (Neighbourhood Action Group)

Judy Long 868425 (Footpaths)

Stephen McKechnie 868823 (Village Environment)

Clerk: Guy Langton 867403 gl-ehpc@outlook.com

Website: http://www.easthanneyparishcouncil.org.uk

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/436816943170450/

West Hanney Parish Council

On Saturday 4th November 14 people turned out on a wet morning to make up the Community Woodland working party. Surely proof of how much this valuable asset is loved by residents of both villages.

All maintenance costs and the purchase of equipment for the Woodland and Meadow have to come out of Parish Council funds so we are so grateful for all the work that volunteers carry out. We have over the past year or so spent a considerable amount of money on signs, a new disability access gate and some of the many maintenance tools that are needed.

It is now proposed that a new 'Kissing Gate' is purchased and installed to give better access from the western side of the woodland through to our newly acquired Church Farm Meadow. The cost is likely to be around £200. We would also like to replace the tables used by the schoolchildren for their Forest School activities, as the current ones are deteriorating fast. If any residents feel able to make a donation or would like to sponsor this new gate, perhaps with a commemorative plaque to remember a loved one, or the new tables, then we would be very grateful. Please contact the chairman to discuss.

Following comments from residents we complained to Oxfordshire County Council about the new Winter Lane footpath constructed by Mostrim. Subsequently the path failed its inspection by the Council Engineers. The surface was deemed unsatisfactory as was the tie-in to the existing road surface. The contractors have also been ordered to put right the damage caused to the road across the Village Green where the surface has been burnt off after the workers lit a fire to remove the tar from their tools.

Once the footpath is considered acceptable the developers have to put right any problems during the next two years before OCC Highways take over the responsibility for its ongoing maintenance.

We have been asked by St. James Primary School to echo their request to parents not to stop outside the school when dropping off or collecting children. Other traffic having to pass parked cars is putting our children in danger. The Village Hall car park is only a couple of hundred metres away and the footpath ensures a safe passage for pupils. Please use it.

From everyone at WHPC a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas to you all.

Next Meeting Tuesday 16th January 2018 7.30pm St. James Bell Tower

Chris Surman (Chairman) 868749 Edward Wilkinson 867316
Kay Sayers 868146 Trevor Brettell 868459
Graham Garner 868684
Dawn Hutcheon (Clerk) 869151

dawnwhpc@gmail.com

Developing Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk

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The Black Horse

East Hanney

Come along and enjoy a 'tipple' in front of our roaring log burner and meet our new landlady Nicola.

Lunch and evening meals are now available and we are taking bookings for Christmas Parties.

> Give us a call on 01235 867179 'We look forward to welcoming you.'



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The Plough at West Hanney

Tel: 01235 868987

Christmas Party bookings now being taken.

View our tempting Christmas menu on the website.

We offer regularly changing cask ales and a good selection of wines, gins and single malts.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram www.theploughatwesthanney.co.uk

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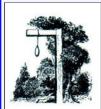
HANNEY FILM NIGHT in the OWEN WRIGHT CINEMA, HWMH, Friday Dec 1st

'Dirty Dancing'

A 1987 American romantic drama which has won many awards especially for its music. A feel good dance film! Start your Christmas celebrations here!

Doors and bar open 19.30. Start 20.00. 100 minutes PG 15





Last month I mentioned Gallows Bridge, just north of the village heading up to Kingston Bagpuss and wondered if there had

ever been a gallows there. Two very helpful folk have given me some feedback. Once suggests that it was indeed possible that a gallows was sited there at the parish boundary as a warning to bad blighters to stay away...a



bit like the signs that warn you are entering a Neighbourhood Watch Area that we have today! In 1613 or thereabouts, the Manor Court of West Hanney

(New College, Oxford) reprimanded the inhabitants for having no 'cucking' - also known as a 'ducking' - stool' nor 'Gallowes'. They were ordered to 'erect

the one and the other under penalty of £5'. The stools were used to deal with 'a troublesome and angry woman who by brawling and wrangling amongst her neighbours breaks the public peace, increases discord and becomes a public nuisance to the neighbourhood". The second suggestion is that a Lyford man committed suicide by hanging himself at or near the bridge many years ago. The Vicar of Lyford refused to bury him in consecrated ground, since suicide was considered a sin back then. (It was also a crime in England until 1961.) The Vicar of Hanney however was prepared to bury the poor fellow, and in return the man's family donated the field adjacent to the brook, which they owned, to the Parish of Hanney. If this kind of stuff 'floats your boat', I urge you to join our fab History Group...page 26 for their details.

'HanneyFund' - that's the money that was collected at the 2016 HanneyFest held at the Black Horse - is now being administered by us here at Hanney News. We have added to what was already in the pot to round it up to a nice fat £1,000. This is now available to village clubs, societies and organisations, and we will have full details next month on how to make an application for a grant from the fund.

The Royal British Legion

Remembrance Day parade marched from East Hanney to St James Church, West Hanney. It was a tad damp and chilly, but no matter - they looked, and sounded splendid.







St James CE Primary School

The Causeway, East Hanney, Wantage, Oxon, OX12 OJN



Required from January 2018 Part time lunchtime supervisor

Hours of work 11.45 – 1.15 Tuesday/Thursday/Friday term time only Full training will be given including First Aid, and safeguarding Full details can be found on the school website:

www.stjamesprimaryhanney.co.uk

or call to come and visit on 01235 868232

Closing date for applications: Monday 11th December (Noon)



Saturday 9 December 7.30pm at Hanney Chapel

Ladies welcome!

Festive food, Christmas crafts and a short talk about Christmas

Hanney Chapel

Christmas Services

Family Carols Night Thursday 21st Dec 6:00pm

Carols by Candlelight Christmas Eve 6:00pm



Christmas Morning 10:30am

Everybody very welcome. For more information or if you would like a lift call 867105 or email mailmarkfisher@gmail.com www.hanney-chapel.org.uk



Here's a lovely snap of Year 5 children at St James who recently took part in a 1940's 'Dress Up Day'. They have also been interviewing World War Two veterans and people who survived the blitz, and enjoyed a trip to the Didcot Railway museum to experience a 'real life' evacuation. Well done to everyone involved, especially their teacher Heather Richards, the lady on the right in the rather fetching brown beret!

And another splendid pic, this one by Peter Gascoyne, of the recently built Botney Lane retaining wall that caused the road to Denchworth, infinity and beyond, to be blocked for a while. Peter tells me the road surface was perilously close to collapsing into the brook, so, though a bit of a pain at the time, the disruption was worth it!



FROM HANNEY TO THE HOT SPOTS FOR A NATIONAL SERVICEMAN'S ADVENTURES 1951 – 1953 Alfred James

FROM HANNEY TO THE HOT SPOTS A NATIONAL SERVICEMAN'S ADVENTURES 1951 – 1953

Following on from *Hanney – Life in an Old Berkshire Village*, Alfred James brings to life his National Service experiences, as we follow him through basic training to being sent to two of the world's trouble spots in the early 1950s.

Recalling memorable events and amusing characters from a time now fast-disappearing from the national consciousness, this new book will be sure to delight anyone who lived through that era, has a family member who did National Service in the early 1950s, or who has an interest in the social and political history of that time.

Photographs taken by the author complement the text.

Available from the Hanney Community Shop, online from stanfordpublishing.co.uk, or from any bookshop.

Michaelmas Fayre

Lots more 'thank yous' for further financial contributions towards this year's Fayre & Feast over the last couple of weeks, and a special thank you to Hanney News for their very generous - and much appreciated - sponsorship of the Fayre 'copy space' this year.

The total surplus available for Grants raised from both the Fayre & Feast will be £3,450.00.

St James Church will be putting half of this towards installing a loo and other developments to make it a useful space for all our community to use.

The rest will be distributed as Grants to village organisations. Full details of how to apply for a Grant are on our website:

hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk

along with details of the 40 Grants made from the Fayres held 2013 - 16.

Hilary Cakebread-Hall

Letters

Dear Editor

What a great Remembrance Day Parade the Hanney Branch of the Royal British Legion arranged this year and what a wonderful turnout from both villages on the March both to and from the Church. It was good to see so many following the Silver Band and all the young people, braving the cold, looked very smart in their uniforms. The Legion members must have found it most encouraging to be supported by parents, friends and representatives of both Parish Councils, not only following the marchers, but also walking with them on the footpaths. I am told that a light buffet lunch was enjoyed by many who took part, at the Legion HO in East Hanney, following the traditional service in Church on this Day of Remembrance for those who fought and died for our freedom. Congratulations to all concerned in organising this important National and Village event. **Jean Hazard**

Dear Editor

"Calling" All Hanney people Who showed interest in the idea of a "Peace Garden on the piece of land adjacent to the Brookside allotments by the overflow car park?

I have already put this idea forward to the Parish Council, and they are very interested in this proposal, they have asked for more information about the idea

Can anyone interested please confirm to me or my husband if you are willing to support us in making the peace garden a reality

Helpers needed to help form the area and look after it once formed (Minimal help probably to maintain the area once up and running)

With this in mind would any of you like to come to a meeting to help us get the ball rolling and give the Parish Council the info they are asking for Please contact us on 868965 if interested. Many thanks Pat & Dave Beach



Dear Friends

Have you ever been in a situation where you have no idea what you need to do or what's going on? We can feel helpless and afraid. It can be confusing and disorientating. Not many of us would choose to make ourselves so vulnerable that we would be totally dependent on others.

Yet, this exactly what God did. When Jesus was born over 2,000 years ago; God came into this world as a helpless child. He was born into poverty and grew up in a far-flung Roman province. God stepped into this world not with power and glory but wrapped in cloth and held in the arms of a young girl.

Christmas is a reminder of how much God loves us; Jesus came to earth as the Son of God to share our lives and to show us the way to live in a full relationship with God. It reminds us that God shows his strength and power through the vulnerability of coming to us as a child, who would grow to become a man that would live and die to transform each of our lives.

I hope that you have a good Christmas!

God bless, Alec

REGULAR SERVICES in December - Sundays at 9.30am 3^{rd} Revd Alec Gill, 10^{th} no service, 17^{th} Revd Geoff Maughan, 31^{st} service at Denchworth at 10am (for Christmas services see separate notice & your delivered Christmas card).

Mid-week Eucharist at 10.00am every Tuesday in the Chancel (no service 26th Dec)

Sunday 10 December 6.00pm - Carol Service

Saturday 16 December - 2.15pm Nativity, starting in Church, followed by mince pies, hot chocolate & mulled wine.

CAROL SINGING

Tuesday 19 December - West Hanney (meet on Butter Cross Green at 5.30pm. For more details phone Polly on 07759 410444)

Thursday 21 December - East Hanney (meet at 7, Alfred's Place at 5.30pm. For more details phone Paul on 07957 393431)

CHRISTMAS EVE - 5.30pm Carols around the Crib 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY 10.00am Christmas Family Eucharist

Vicar: Revd John Durant: 766484 - vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894 - vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Office: (10 - 12 Mon - Fri) 771479 - office@valebenefice.org.uk

Church Wardens: Stuart Cakebread: 868590 - stuartcakebread@mac.com

Chris Reason: 868375 - chris_reason_hanney@hotmail.com

Thank you 'Riders & Striders' who got out on their bikes and cycled around parts of Oxfordshire and were sponsored for their efforts!

Sue & Andy Clark, Clive Fewins, Carol Moss & Catherine Tysoe and Hannah Thomas and her daughters Milly & Martha raised a very impressive £1548, 50% of which goes to Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and 50% to St James Hanney. Grants from the Trust are made to churches across the county either for restoration and renovation projects or to help with new schemes to make them more community-useful. St James have had a number of grants from them in the past.

Well done one and all!

Hilary Cakebread-Hall

Obituary

R.I.P Jean Hinckley: 7th July 1936-22nd October 2017

The family and friends of Jean met for her funeral service at St John's Grove to celebrate her joyful life, her practical love and her humble Christian faith. Jean moved with her husband Roy to East Hanney in 1999, having previously lived in Surrey where their boys spent most of their childhood after a few early housemoves in their married life.

On moving into the area some years after Roy's retirement, Jean and Roy quickly put their characteristic hospitality and service into neighbourhood gatherings, community groups and church life. Jean served for many years as WI secretary and part of the Senior Citizens group, Hanney Gardening Club and Hanney Community Shop. They quickly developed friends and many speak fondly of their friendliness, helpfulness and in particular - Jean's cooking and gardening.

After Roy died in 2008, Jean continued to be a positive and influential part of various community groups and, despite a weakening heart valve, active in serving others and offering a listening ear to those she knew to be in need. Only in very recent years did her health take her, slowly at first, out of her active contribution to the community.

Jean's funeral service drew friends from all walks of life from around the country; people who have been hugely appreciative of her joyful life, her practical love and her humble Christian faith. She leaves a lasting legacy of thankfulness in the hearts and prayers of all who knew her.

Rev Paul Hinckley



FOOD

DEWS MEADOW FARM SHOP open Mon - Thur 8:30am - 6pm, Fri 8:30 - 6pm, Sat 8:30 - 5pm, Sun 10 - 4pm. Pork, dry cured bacon, ham, sausages & burgers. Free range chicken, beef and lamb. Delivery. Call Jane 868634.

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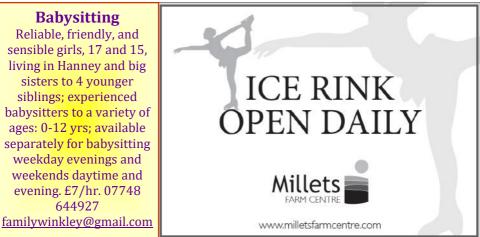
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Obituary Wenda Reynolds 11th Sept 1914 - 22nd Oct 2017

I have just returned from Wenda's funeral, and after what I heard there, coupled with information I received from her friends and my own knowledge

and research, have concluded that it is simply impossible to do justice to this wonderful and extraordinary woman in a one page obituary. Wenda was the oldest member of our community, being 103 when she died in her sleep. Having grown up as an only child in Pembrokeshire, she

moved with her family to

Bletchley, aged 12. Her father was a GP. Wenda studied English at St Hugh's College Oxford, graduating in 1937. During World War Two she worked at Bletchley Park where the code-breaking that helped the Allied victory. After the War, Wenda mixed work in London - for the Arts Council, Bedford College, the Architects Association and others - with extensive travelling around the world. One of her jobs involved working with Anthony Blunt, then 'Keeper of the Queens Pictures', who was later denounced as a spy. She didn't much care for him, saying that he was 'an odd fish and very conceited'!

They say travel broadens the mind and so it was with Wenda. She was a true adventurer, visiting China when it was still under the rule of Mao Tse Tung, Iron Curtain Russia, North and South America, Antarctica...the list goes on. She moved to West Hanney in 1975 and at once set about becoming part of the community. Her gregarious and outgoing nature meant she quickly forged many good friendships that lasted the rest of

her long life. She was a founder member of the Wine Circle, and was very active in the Gardening Club and History Group. Wenda's passions were many - the Sea,

theatre, ballet and art, and was herself a keen painter. She was a great reader, and in her younger days an able swimmer and sportswoman, who, whilst at college, was reprimanded for wearing shorts when playing tennis. Simply not done in those far off days. Wenda was an active supporter of the Campaign for

the Protection of Rural England.
Of course her passion for travelling remained with her throughout her life. Hanney's close proximity to Oxford allowed her to keep in touch with her old Oxford college and she enjoyed many reunions, meeting Prince William at an event there, which he later, perhaps somewhat unsurprisingly, described as the highlight of his visit.

Wenda was extremely popular in our community, thoroughly independent till the end, and the holder of many strong opinions which she happily shared. All who met Wenda were touched by this incredible lady. She will never be forgotten.



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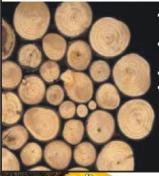
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HANNEY BOWLS CLUB Wednesdays 7.30-10.00pm, and Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm. Contact 868145

RBL WOMEN'S SECTION MEETINGS are held at 8.00pm on the second Monday of the month in the RBL 66 Club. New members very welcome.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCH meets bi-monthly on the 4th Wednesday of September, November, January, March, May and July in the RBL Club. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

HANNEY BADMINTON CLUB meets every Thursday in the HWMH, 8-10pm. We welcome new members. Call 868256 for details.

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB New members welcome. Club sessions Sunday 10am onwards, Tuesday 7pm - just turn up. For coaching adult or junior contact andy.aitken@growingthegame.co.uk More information www.hanneytennisclub.org.uk or call 868261.

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. meets 8pm every 4th Tuesday. New members and visitors welcome, non-members £3. For further info ring Bill Orson 868859.

HANNEY BELLRINGERS meet every Wednesday St James' Church West Hanney from 7.30 pm until 9 pm. Beginners very welcome. Contact Jean Hazard for more details (868883).

HANNEY GUIDES meet on Mondays 6.30 -8.00 during term time. All girls welcome, aged 10+, contact Catherine Tysoe 867356. **HANNEY BROWNIES** (aged 7+) meet on Tuesdays in British Legion Hall from 6.00 - 7.30. Contact Jacquie Donald. **RAINBOWS** (5+) in Grove on Wednesday and Thursday. Further details and waiting lists: www.girlguiding.org.uk

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the first Monday of each month in the HWMH. 7:45 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk. Visit www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING We meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 9.30am prompt (10am after the clocks have gone back for the winter) at the Hanney WMH. New cyclists, you will be warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Bob Wilson 868389 or bobwilson300@hotmail.com

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month: www.hanneywinecircle.org.uk

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Indoor nets available in March & April followed by outdoor training every Thursday evening throughout the summer from 6.15pm at the rec. League fixtures every Saturday, occasional friendly Sunday games. For more details contact David Johns on 01235 868519 or 07770 456147

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB trains at the rec. on Thursday night. We play in the Oxford Mail Youth League and have teams from age 5 up. If you would like to join us please contact Paul on 07510 435 508, hyfcfooty@gmail.com or visit our website hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS CLUB. Just turn up and play! Cadets, juniors and seniors, £2 per night, league matches every week, just turn up 6.30 every Thursday.

WANTAGE MALE VOICE CHOIR rehearses at HWMH on Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm. The Choir is looking for more men who enjoy a good sing to join their existing number of 30 or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249), www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION: 9am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

THURSDAY EVENING SINGING WITH SJS, Hanney's small consort male-voice group, 8-10pm in East Hanney. 4-part settings from medieval to Now! And a pint in the Black Horse afterwards. Call Mike Jones on 751656 or David Gahan 868933 for details.

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY rehearses every Tuesday at C of E School, Newbury St. (next to Comrades Club) at 7.30pm. New voices always welcome. Contact Judy Gibbons 868516, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WILTS & BERKS CANAL TRUST/EAST VALE BRANCH First Wednesday in the month, Social Meeting at the Hanney British Legion 8pm. Details contact Brian Stovold on 763072 wbct.org.uk

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HANNEY WI (WOMEN'S INSTITUTE) meet the second Thursday of the month (not Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room. New members are welcome, contact Jean Geary 869070 or Helen Evans 868542

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HANNEY LITTLE RAINBOWS, Activity and fun for 0 - 3 yr olds meet every Monday, 9.30 - 11.30am. At the Village Hall Contact Hayley Aram for details 07900 696 921

OXFORDSHIRE FITNESS CLASSES Mondays 6.15 - 7.15pm Legs, Bums & Tums at the British Legion; Thursdays 6.15 - 7.15pm. Pick and mix exercise at the British Legion. Call Lisa on 07885635367

HANNEY PRE-SCHOOL meets term time, in the Elliott Building in the grounds of St James School. For 3+ year olds: Monday - Friday 9am – 2pm, For 2+ year olds: Mon - Fri 9am - 2pm. Contact Hanney Pre-School on 07759181330 or see www.hanneypreschool.co.uk

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HANNEY CHAPEL Sunday Services; 10:30am (with crèche & 'Explorers') and 6pm, all welcome. Lunch & Listen 1st Thursday of month at 10:30am. In term-time; "Jumpstart" for 6 to 10 year olds at 6pm Thursdays; Friday Club for 10-13 year olds 6:30pm & Friday Club Plus for 13-15 year olds at 7:45pm. Contact Mark Fisher on 867105 / mailmarkfisher@gmail.com.



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