



Hanney News

Number 587 October 2024

**JUST SOME OF
WHAT'S IN THIS
MONTH'S SUPER
SOARAWAY ISSUE...**

CROCHETED BAGS

'GARD' GET CROSS

**HELP OUR SHOP,
YOUTH FOOTIE TEAMS
& PARISH COUNCIL**

**THE CHURCHYARD &
20MPH...CUE FOR AN
ARGUMENT OR TWO!**

MISSING PUSSY CATS

**DID JRR OR JR LIVE
HERE?**

**WINDOWS - STEAMY OR
FALSE?**

**SCHOOL LIBRARY
PARTY**

**PICKING
PUMPKINS**

TATTOOS

CAKES

THE PPG

**NEED A BABY
SITTER?**

A BEE'S BUM



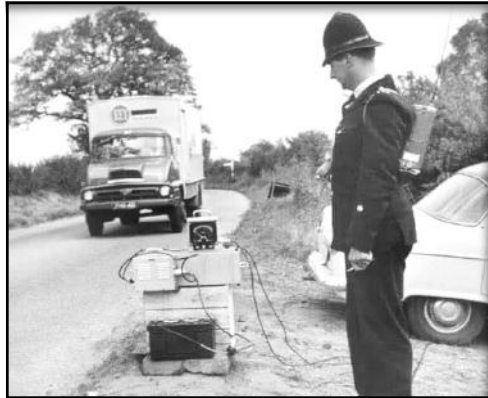
**STRIKING
A POSE AT
PLOUGHFEST
SEE PAGE 8**



**SPEEDWATCH
SEE PAGES
12 AND 13**

Editorial

Welcome to the October issue...I hope you'll find something of interest. This month, I've gone big on Speedwatch, with two differing views on the subject ...pages 12 and 13. You'll doubtless have your opinion one way or t'other on our 20mph limit, but all I would say is that however much you don't like the new measure, abusing the Speedwatch team is not very kind, and if it's the abuser's intention to dissuade them from their endeavours, you should know that it does the opposite! Before the days of hand held speed measuring devices, this pic shows how it used to be done....I'm guessing 1960s maybe? Slightly more cumbersome than the current kit, with lotsa wires, batteries and back packs apparently needed along with an actual real life policemen twiddling the knobs! Don't know how fast the lorry - a Ford Thames Trader I believe - was travelling, but it does seem to be occupying the middle of the road - maybe so as not to get too close to PC Plod? Question for you old car fans...is it a Ford Consul do you think? ('Get a life Mr Ed' is what you're probably actually thinking!) The other controversial topic this month is the state of our churchyard...see pages 17, 18 and 19 for lots more on that, inc. pics. It goes without saying, if you'd like to express a view on these topics, or any others,



through these pages please feel free. I won't print anything libellous or pornographic - screens Matron! - but other than that, just go wild! A suggestion I've recently received is that the parking spaces in front of the church be left for visitors...unenforceable of course, but kinda makes sense, don't ya reckon? Serious bit...there's a horrible story on page 4 that I have verified is sadly true. Pics from Ploughfest on page 8, and it's

crochet bags and cakes - oh yes and yours truly looking very cool - page 9. Learn about the PPG on page 10, and there's an update - page 16 - on the recent quilting exhibition, held in memory of Catriona Karney. An amazing sum raised for the Myeloma UK charity.

On the front cover I ask if JRR - as in Tolkein - or JR - as in Ewing - ever lived here. The answer is no to both, but read more on JRR on page 4. We're apolitical here at Global HQ, but Gard's article on page 7 rather suggests our next government's intention to make things easier for developers, seems to now extend to the reservoir Thames Water want to build in our back yard. Oh dear. And why the bee's bum on page 6 Mr Editor?...simply cos I love honey!. Enough nonsense for one month, see you in November.

We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles, letters, photos, in fact anything you feel may be of interest to our readers.

Please submit items to the Editor, preferably by email, or use the Hanney News post box in the Community Shop. Contact me, the Editor, Jim Stagg, on 01235 867500, my mob: 07762 239681, or email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month....

Weds 2nd, Archaeology talk, at St John's Academy, Stanley Hall Rd, Grove. Full details page 15 and here: www.valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk

Monday 7th , Village Hall, 7.30 for 8pm - Hanney Gardening Club, Rosy Hardy of Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants , and winner of 24 Chelsea Gold medals , talks about Seasonal Flowering Perennials - includes plants for sale. Guests welcome.

Weds 9th, East Hanney Paris Council meeting, see page 6.

Sundays 13th, 20th, 27th and Monday 28th-Thursday 31st, Earth Trust Farm, Little Wittenham, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ ...Activity Days, great fun for all ages, see page 5

Sat 19th , Grove Village Hall, OX12 7JY, 8pm - 11.30pm, Autumn Ceilidh, featuring 'Kettlehawk'. Ring 07855 548512 for more details.

Thurs 24th, 2.30pm Village Hall, Senior Citizens, Tea and Talk... 'The illustrators of Wind in the Willows' John Ericson.

Sun 27th, 10am - 3pm, Wantage Market Place - Alfred Fest - celebrating the town's glorious past!

Sun 27th, Abingdon RDA, Treasure Hunt, details page 14.

Mon 28th, 8pm, Village Hall, History Group talk by John Lowe 'Always ready, always willing, Fires and Firefighting in the County of Oxford.' See page 5

Mon 28 Oct – 9 Nov: Wantage Literary Festival... www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk

And further ahead ...

Monday 4th November, Village Hall, 7.30 for 8pm . Hanney Gardening Club, Harriet Rycroft gives a talk on Planting Pots for Winter Interest and Joy. Non-members welcome.

Tues 5th Nov, West Hanney Parish Council meeting, see page 6.

Sat 23rd Nov, Cancer Research UK, Table Top sale...at Village Hall.

Mon 25th Nov, 8pm, Village Hall, History Group - Hanney Residents, Reminisces and Social Evening, see page 5

Thurs 28th Nov, 2.30pm Village Hall, Senior Cits Tea and talk. Details next month.

Fri 6th Dec 4pm - 9pm Dickensian Evening in the Market Place, Wantage. The town's big Xmas event!

Sat 14 December - Hanney Holly Fair - 10.30am - 1pm. More info - hilarycakebreadhall@gmail.com.

Thurs 19th Dec, 1pm, Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch, Village Hall.

Mon 27th Jan 2025, 8pm, Village Hall, History Group, Martin Trowell, 'The Road to Christmas Island, 1958. Memories of a nuclear veteran'.

Mon 24th Feb, Village Hall, 8pm, Hanney History Group, 'Eynsham Abbey' Steve Par-rinder.

Mon 24th March, Village Hall, 8pm, Hanney History Group, 'Cemeteries of Oxford' Trevor Jackson.

I recently received an email containing some very disturbing news.

The sender explained that on 29th July they took a sick baby hedgehog to Tiggywinkles Rescue Centre having found it near East Hanney village green.

A few days later Tiggywinkles informed the public-spirited individual that, such was its poor condition, the baby hedgehog had been put down. The tiny creature had apparently been shot twice with air pellets, once in the back of the head and once in the face.

This hideous and deplorable act of cruelty was carried out sometime between approx. 10am on the 28th July and 10am the following day. Since hedgehogs are a protected species, the Police had been informed. It saddens me greatly - and you too I am sure - to think that someone - maybe they live in our community? - could have perpetrated such a despicable act.



Community Woodland update from Paul Sayers -

‘Since my update in June the Woodland has now completely dried out. However, several trees have died, apparently as a result of being waterlogged for several months. Sadly, this includes a number of the walnuts in ‘Walnut Avenue’. On the other hand, growth encroaching along the sides of the rides has been prolific and cutting it back is going to keep us busy in the coming months.

Dates for working parties this coming autumn are: Saturday 28th September, Saturday 26th October and Saturday 30th November

As usual, we will meet at 9 am, finishing at 12.00 at the latest. I will send out joining instructions a few days beforehand.’

The Hanney Flood Group - Clive Manvell is their main man, and they also meet regularly for vital work to try and help prevent flooding in our villages.



Contact details of both the above fine gents are on page 30

The Hanney Community Shop, another jewel in Hanney’s crown, is in need of your help. More volunteers are wanted. I try and do two afternoons a month and always enjoy them, meeting folk from near and far. For more details, ring main man Clive Ward on 07885 819920.

Rumour... one that’s going round is that the author of Lord of the Rings and much other literature, JRR Tolkein, lived in West Hanney. Not strictly true apparently ... it was his son Christopher who did, in Lydbrook Farmhouse - at the far end of Church St - and Dad used to visit regularly till he popped his clogs in 1973. Christopher worked on much of his old man’s output in the 1970s – and he completed J. R. R.’s unfinished novel ‘The Silmarillion’ whilst living there. Since J. R. R. died, Christopher has overseen the publication of dozens of his father’s works. Chris died aged 95 in 2020.

Btw, did you catch the Hanney History Group’s Sept meeting? Titled ‘C.S.Lewis and J.R.R.Tolkein’ it was given by Mr Alastair Lack, and was most interesting.

Dear Editor

I've just been reading "Hanney History Walk" which, despite not being a resident of Hanney itself, I found fascinating. In it I did, however, find something worth expanding on.

It concerns the false windows of West Hanney House. These were almost certainly put in for symmetry but were, I suspect, deliberately falsified for tax avoidance. In the 1700s, a property was taxed according to the number of windows it had. This (early form of Council tax?) was introduced in 1696 and lasted until revoked in 1851. It resulted in bricked-up windows being found in many buildings of that date and it's unpopularity is reputed to have given rise to the saying of "daylight robbery".

John Myatt (Denchworth)

Many thanks John for your most interesting letter. Copies of the History Walk to which John refers are available in the Community shop, the Village Hall foyer, or direct

from me, my contact details on page 2.

Dear Editor

A big thank you to all at Hanney Chapel who organised and volunteered their time in running a fantastic children's holiday club at the end of August.

They provided 4 busy mornings of lots of fun including activities, competitions, quizzes, crafts and bible stories.

At the end of the week parents/carers were invited to attend an end of holiday club lunch with their children which was delicious, and all provided free of charge.

The holiday club certainly brought everyone together from the villages and as always everyone was made to feel very welcome. It is an annual event, and I would highly recommend it to anyone with primary school aged children.

Thank you again to all those involved giving the children of Hanney a free and fun holiday club to attend.

Laura Virgo West Hanney

Pumpkin Patch

Come down to the Earth Trust farm for a whole host of great activities for visitors of all ages to enjoy at the **Pumpkin Patch**, with heaps of harvesting fun to be had!

As well as the all-important growing field, where you can pick your perfect pumpkin and select your favourite squash direct from the earth it grew in, there's a storytelling teepee with autumnal stories and harvest-time tales. Earth Lab's Discovery Zone has science experiments and testing tables to delve into the hidden world of soil, plus a mini scarecrow trail around the farm and a mega maize maze to beat in the field!

Check out full details here: <https://earthtrust.org.uk/events/pumpkin-patch/>

Dates: Sundays 13th, 20th, 27th and Monday 28th-Thursday 31st October

Times: 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm

Tickets: £3 per person in advance (plus booking fee), £5 on the gate. Under 3s free.

Earth Trust, Little Wittenham, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ

Tel: 01865 407792 - website: www.earthtrust.org.uk



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East Hanney Parish Council

We meet on the second Wednesday of every month in the Hanney Room of the War Memorial Hall, our meetings commencing at 7.30pm. They are open to anyone, and there is a period near the start of the meeting when any residents of East Hanney can raise issues that they would like discussed and hopefully be helped with. The meetings cover a range of Parish business and activities which can be quite diverse. We have eight appointed Councillor roles, and currently there is one vacancy. If this would be of interest or if you would just like to help the village through one of the areas of interest which the Parish supports, it would be great to hear from you. Or otherwise please just come along to a meeting.

Next Meeting Weds 9th Oct, 7.30pm, Village Hall.

Councillor's emails and areas of responsibility

Stephen Mckechnie, Chair: cllr.stephen.mckechnie@easthanneyparish.gov.uk - Liaison with District and County Councils. Parish Council representative on the Hanney War Memorial Hall Operations Committee (as Chairman)

Paul Aram: Cllr.paul.aram@easthanneyparish.gov.uk - Playing field and sports club development and associated projects. Annual litter pick.

Dickon Green: cldr.dickon.green@easthanneyparish.gov.uk Community Safety, Resilience, Highways. (Neighbourhood Action Group and Speedwatch, Parish Council representative on the Emergency Planning Committee, Fix My Street Womble)

David Kirk: cldr.david.kirk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk Scrutiny, Leadership of the East Hanney Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Rosie Reed: cllr.rosie.reed@easthanneyparish.gov.uk Internal accounts checker, Playgrounds within the Parish. Local group liaison.

Garth Dennill: cllr.garth.dennill@easthanneyparish.gov.uk Parish Council representative on the Hanney War Memorial Hall Operations Committee; Allotments; Footpaths

Jen Small: Cllr.jennifer.small@easthanneyparish.gov.uk Environment and Biodiversity

Website: <https://easthanneyparish.gov.uk/>

Clerk: clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors: Chair: David Corps - 867454. Graham Garner - 868684.

Peter Packham - 868038. Vicki Ruston, Ahmed Far-
rag - 07388 816079.

Barbara Martin (Clerk) - 412742

Email: parishclerkwesthanneypc@gmail.com

Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk

**Future Meetings, Tues, 5th Nov, 7th Jan 2025, 4th
March, 6th May, 7.30pm at the Village Hall**



Need a Babysitter? Two sisters, Liv and Phoebe, currently pupils in year 13 and 11 at St Helens & St Katharine's School who live in East Hanney – they and their family have been here for 15 years - are offering a babysitting service for your little darlings.

I am honoured to have known these folk for many years, and am certain they will give your little people the level of exemplary care you would demand.

They charge £7 per hour and can be reached here: 07502 903303

This from GARD (Group Against Reservoir Development)....**The news that the Secretary of State (SoS) has approved Thames Water's (TW) Resource Management Plan with SESRO** (the reservoir) **at the centre is greeted with astonishment and deep resentment.**

He's overruled his Environment Agency's (EA) advice that the plans should be rejected because of concerns about the reservoir's resilience to drought and lack of proof that it provides the best value for money.

The County, the Vale District and Abingdon Town Council all responded with GARD and residents, expressing strong opposition to the public consultation.

It is shameful that a week later, before analysis of the results, the scheme has been progressed to the next stage.

The EA also advised more public scrutiny. A Public Inquiry, called for by GARD, reiterated recently by our local MPs Olly Glover and Layla Moran, is the only way of getting at the truth when confronted by an organisation with such a poor track record of openness as TW.

The SoS has missed the opportunity to establish the facts and remove unresolved issues which remain on cost, construction, environmental damage, post-construction safety, flooding hazards and crucially, if it

is actually needed at all. Leaking more than twice the maximum supply of this Reservoir, TW must also be held to account to reduce leaks to at least industry average. This is certainly not the end of the road. GARD will continue its campaign against this monstrosity. The Reservoir needs final approval at Development Consent Order proceedings in 2026, and we will be contesting this project all the way. This reservoir remains the least drought resilient, longest delivery-time, most environmentally damaging and disruptive 'solution' to the coming water shortages in the south-east. A high-risk construction like this is not the sort of project to be entrusted to a company which might not survive beyond next Spring.

Please get more involved: Write to your MP, Councillors and the press. Join in our publicity campaign.

Contact gard.secretary@gmail.com with ideas such as where to place banners.

(Contact us for posters to display.)

Ask work colleague/ school groups/ sports clubs/ friends/ family to sign our petition with the email link on our website. We can provide a QR code, written copies & leaflets. See www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk for the facts behind our posters.

The fight is not over.

Our political chums - MP - Olly Glover. To contact him, use one of his emails:

Parliamentary email for casework: olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk

Local party business email: olly.glover@oxonlibdems.uk

He's also on the jolly old Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD>

They came from near and far!

The lovely lady on the right popped over from Australia for the fab and groovy annual **PloughFest** hosted by Owain and Luke at - no prizes for guessing - the Plough in West Hanney! Our cover star Jade was from Botley, whilst Mrs Editor and I, along with many others of course, were from just up the road! The place was buzzing and I met many interesting folk, all relaxed and happy to pass the time of day. The beer and wine was flowing, the BBQ and pizza oven were both cooking away merrily - delicious tucker btw - and the great and the good were out in numbers enjoying the day and evening.

I must also mention the live music....some great stuff to serenade us as we supped and chomped our pizzas, burgers and hot dogs! We were superbly looked after by Owain and Luke and their team...that's some of them below... so massive big ups to them all for this great community event. I'm looking forward very much to next year's!

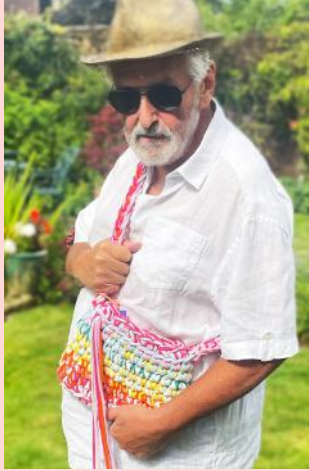


Much loved local lass Liv Gibson - that's her on the right - is a very talented young lady who makes rather splendid crochet bags.

Check out her website here: staywildcrochet.com/ to see the full range of what she offers.

I bought a multicoloured bag at the recent PloughFest (see page 8) where Liv had a stall.

Mrs Editor and I will be sharing the bag...here's me modelling it. What d'ya reckon? Cool or what!



This is eight year old Alex.... he recently set up and ran a cake stall to raise funds for Cancer Research in memory of his Auntie Deborah.

Brownies, cupcakes and millionaires shortbread were amongst the choices for all Hanney's cake aficionados (C.As) to enjoy. (We have many C.As in our community! I'm one.)

All the cakes were made by Alex, his family and friends.

After the event, Alex's Mum Sarah posted on the jolly old Facebake...geddit?... "All sold out! Thank you everyone for your generous donations. We raised £68.37!"

Great stuff...well done to Alex, his Mum, and all who helped.

But....please give me more warning when you're holding the next one...I love millionaires shortbread - who doesn't?



Have you heard about the PPG!

No, it's not some sinister terror group, armed militia or bunch of loopy political wierdos, but rather the 'Patient Participation

Group' of our two local GP practices, i.e. Church St and Newbury St, both located at the Mably Way Health Centre in Wantage, in a shiny, newly revamped building! This group are volunteers, and most are retired, though some are still working. The Chairs of the PPGs are very special ladies indeed... Greta Thornbory in Church St, and Julie Maberly in Newbury St. The PPG produces a quarterly newsletter that aims to keep folk up to date with everything that is happening at the Health Centre as well as wider NHS news and developments.

A number of copies are printed, and left in public areas around the towns and villages. The newsletter is available on line from both the practices' websites of course, but we are all aware that there are many mainly older folk who do not use computers for a variety of reasons.

Volunteers circulate the newsletter to a number of organisations, with hard copies



- actually they're quite soft of course, cos they're made of paper! - left in areas where folk without access to the internet can pick them up.

The list of those organisations is being constantly reviewed and updated by volunteers.

If you would like to regularly receive an electronic copy of the newsletter, please contact NSPG@Wantage.com or churchstreetppg@gmail.com

To sum up, the very laudable aims of the PPG, Greta told me, is to support the GP practices in their work and keep them up to date with patients wants and needs. Not necessarily an easy task these days, with the NHS getting a lot of flak, only some of which is deserved, so big ups to the PPG Committee members, and from a fellow newslet publisher, we wish them luck!

Come and be part of our vibrant Christian community at...

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 www.pilgrimsfriend.org.uk/framland





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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



I am struggling with the 20 mph speed limit through the villages. I don't like driving at 20! It upsets the normal way I drive. It is making me concentrate on something that has always been automatic and unconscious. When I do drive at 20, I find there is often an irritated and pushy driver tailgating me and urging me on. What do I do? Try and help them to learn the new habit or give in and speed up? I have been reflecting on why it is so difficult to change from 30 to 20. The problem is that it involves retraining my brain to do something it does automatically. When I leave the house I naturally take the car up through the gears to 4th, but you can't drive at 20 in 4th gear. I have to change back down to third. Even if I want to drive at 20, this is maddening. Most of us don't want to go so slowly, especially when we are late or it's the rush hour and everyone is in a hurry.

When we are driving we are doing something at which we are 'unconsciously competent'. We don't think about it. We just drive. Being told to drive at 20 shoves us down to the level of 'conscious incompetence'. I am now having to think about how I drive and to re-train my brain to stay in a lower gear and adjust the pressure on the accelerator. There are all these good reasons why it is better to drive more slowly: less accidents, more

safety for bicycles and pedestrians, less air pollution, less petrol. As one village sign said, 'Go slow - see more!' But change is difficult – especially when we don't want to slow down.

Apparently we use a different part of the brain when we are driving – the limbic system, the more primitive part of the brain where we are reacting instinctively, and often in 'fight/flight' mode. Perhaps that is why we shout and swear more when we are driving? Changing to 20 mph involves the 'pre-frontal cortex' where we do our rational thinking. It works more slowly and brings logic to bear on something far from our conscious way of working.

So even if we want to learn to drive at 20 through the Hanneys, it is a tricky task to change our habits. This is probably true of most efforts to change our ways: picking up litter and dog poo, recycling plastic, eating more healthily and saving the planet. So I have decided to work at re-training my brain on the 20 mph issue because I remember my Dad's definition of old age: 'Old age is the amount of pain you feel when confronted by change!' And there are so many more important things than driving at 20 that I need to change as well.

*Canon Geoff Maughan, Retired Minister
living in West Hanney*

SERVICES in October 2024 at St James

Our Sunday Eucharist is celebrated at 9.30am – all are very welcome.

Freshly brewed coffee or tea is served after the service

6th – Revd Charles Draper, 13th – **HARVEST FESTIVAL**, 20th - Revd Velma Oxley,
27th - Revd Geoff Maughan

Midweek Said Eucharist – Tuesday 15 th at 10.00am in the Chancel.

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: tel - 868590 - stuartcakebread@mac.com
Chris Reason: tel - 868375 - Chris_Reason_Hanney@hotmail.com

Harvest Festival might simply be a traditional way of giving thanks for the annual harvest safely gathered in, but isn't it also a time we should all not only be grateful for this and the food on our tables, but also be mindful that for many in our wider community, feeding their family can be a daily struggle?

Why not join us in donating tinned and packeted foodstuffs for us to take to Wantage & Grove Foodbank?

Please remember the 'use by' date needs to be around 6 months.

Bring your donations to Harvest Festival on 13th Oct, or drop them off in church any-time from 11th – 14th Oct.

This from our Community Speedwatch member Andrew Wastie...



'Speeding has reached epidemic proportions, necessitating a fundamental shift in how we tackle the issue.

This shift must redefine our approach to community volunteers roles in road safety. Traditional enforcement methods and broad campaigns have seen limited success over the past decade.

Currently, large-scale, focused education is primarily delivered through Speed Awareness Courses, which only occur after an offence has been committed.

Modern, preventative strategies like Community Speed Watch (CSW) remain under-utilised, and it's time to change that. Research shows that around 97% of speeding offences, excluding CSW observations, are detected by speed cameras.

These cameras are typically fixed at known roadside locations, and familiar to residents and regular commuters.

Despite the so-called Halo effect, these cameras have minimal impact in areas not covered by this technology.

In rural areas, the risk of fatalities is four times higher than in urban settings. While the trajectory of fatalities and serious

injuries cannot be overstated, speeding poses a broader threat to the overall safety and well-being of the community.

Inconsistent enforcement is unlikely to change socially accepted behaviours, especially when most of those caught speeding are not habitual offenders or do not perceive themselves as such. Achieving greater compliance with traffic laws requires more than enforcement alone. In this context, CSW's personalised educational approach is equally effective in addressing the problem.

To succeed in this endeavour, organising a large-scale, proactive community volunteer effort is essential.

The Hanneys' community deeply appreciates the dedication of our CSW volunteers. Their commitment is crucial in keeping our roads safe for all users.'

If you would like to join the CSW volunteer team, please contact us, by phone or email to Speedwatch team member Ahmed Farrag on 07388 816079, or email: ahmed.farrag@icloud.com

The Hanney History Group meet on the 4th Monday of every month, Sept to May incl., in the Village Hall, starting at 8pm. New members - it's just £14 to join! - and visitors are always welcome, with entry for the latter just £3.50p.

Our next talk, on **28th Oct** is titled **'Always ready; Always willing: Fires and firefighting in the County of Oxfordshire,'** by John Lowe. I'm sure it will be most interesting, and I'm looking forward to it very much.

Looking ahead, on **25th November** we are holding the second of our **'Hanney Residents: Reminisces and Social Evening'**. Last year's was a great success. We gather together some of the more senior members of our community and get them reminiscing about the old days here in Hanney. Sometimes funny, sometimes sad, but always fascinating, this is an evening not to be missed. Maybe you've got something you'd like to hear them talk about? If so let me know in advance - my contact details bottom of page 2 - and I'll make sure it's included in the evening's discussion.



Abingdon RDA

Join us for a Treasure Hunt

Fun For All the Family

Sunday 27th October 2024

Find the answers to the clues by visiting our surrounding villages.

Entry Fee £10.00 per car.

Start at:

**Abingdon RDA
Lower Lodge Riding Centre
Charney Road
Southmoor
OX13 5HW**

Registration between 12.00 and 14.00

Prize giving at 16.00 back at Abingdon RDA Yard, along with a chance to meet our horses.

Cake and refreshments also available

If you would like any further information, please contact Nikki on 07717 510410

Save the date

ST JAMES LIBRARY OPENING

We'd love you to join us at our
BRING A BOOK Party!

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER

2-4PM

LOOKOUT FOR A LIST OF TITLES TO BE RELEASED SOON

READ... GROW... INSPIRE...

Ever been to a 'Bring a Book' party before? Well, 'St James Helping Hands' are hosting one at the school...see above ... so leave the bottle of Blue Nun at home, grab a book - suitable for primary school kids and head on down. (The book is not essential!) The Helping Hands have done a magnificent job raising the funds for this great project, and it's time to raise a glass - sorry I mean book! - to them. See you there.

Helping Hands of St James

have teamed up with Astra Recycling <https://astrarecycling.co.uk> and now have a permanent recycling bin in the Village Hall Car Park. Please use this to recycle what is on their list below - it includes school uniform and bed linen - to help raise money for St James, our super local school. The splendid folk at Helping Hands, offer their sincere thanks for your continued support.

St James School

Clothing Recycling Bin
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2nd - Heather Baker

3rd - David Kirk

Not got a number yet or want additional numbers? Just call Hilary on 868590.

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Crab Hill – Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon settlement and farming activity

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Tickets : Free - book as numbers limited
Please note this talk is for adults.

How to find out more:

Via Vale & Downland Museum,

www.valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk

Or

Hugh Rees, hugh@citidata.co.uk

The recent Quilt Exhibition and Sale, in memory of Catriona Karney, was a resounding success, filling the Hanney War Memorial Hall with vibrant colours, textures, designs, and inspiring and creative ideas.

The quilts and other items on display showcased the tremendous breadth of skill and creativity that Catriona had. We, her family, are incredibly grateful to everybody involved with the event. We thank the people who donated fabric, threads and books (all of which was sold); to those who made and donated delicious cakes, and to everybody who helped over the weekend. And most of all, we are thankful to everybody who came to enjoy the exhibition, to remember Catriona, who bought raffle tickets, and hopefully found a bargain in the sale.



To date, the exhibition and sale has raised over £10,000, a staggering amount. Every penny raised is going to Myeloma UK, a cancer research charity, that provided such valuable support and care to Catriona during her illness. It would not have been possible without the help of friends and family, and we are tremendously grateful.

Patrick Karney and Helen Cavendish



Here are the Hanney Youth U9s, with their amazing coaches, posing in their smart new kit, sponsored by local company AT Automotive - see their ad on page 20. Massive thanks to AT for their sponsorship,



and whilst I'm about it, can I also thank them for supporting Hanney News by advertising with us? Meantime, opportunities exist for local companies to sponsor other Hanney Youth teams and spread their logo around the county. That's no exaggeration, today's oppos were from Watlington, they too sponsored by one of their local companies. The logo appears on the team's shirts and track suits, and if you'd like to know more, contact Club Secretary Becci Lawson on 07970 684404.

Btw, following the pre-match photoshoot the team recorded a 7 - 4 victory. Congrats!

St James Churchyard

Many folk have been commenting for some time, in not very complimentary terms it must be said, about the state of our churchyard here in West Hanney.

As is her wont, Mother Nature (MN) has set about her usual work of making things grow, regardless of whether they were pretty flowers or nasty weeds and stinging nettles. It meant the churchyard looked like this. See pics on the right.

The beautiful chest tomb on the left hand side of the path up to the main entrance was barely visible from the gate.

For all the years I can remember since we moved to Hanney in 2000, the churchyard had looked like it does in the bottom pic.

Indeed, for a couple of those years, I myself cut the grass in the front churchyard, strimming round the graves, paths and steps as I went.

I got real satisfaction from doing what I'm somewhat immodestly claiming, was a reasonably good job. Recently however a policy change by the powers that be in the C of E's complex hierarchy has seen an adoption, apparently by many 'country' churchyards, of a 'biodiversity' approach... essentially very little cutting, allowing MN to go wild!

I confess to not being a fan, but in fairness to the church, I asked our churchwardens to send me a piece explaining the current situation. Stuart Cakebread obliged - see page 18 - and I urge you to read it. You may agree with him or not? Feel free to let me know your thoughts.... I suspect this story has legs.



Meantime, some work has recently been done on the churchyard, and from the gate it now looks like this.



Final point...the church and churchyard belong to us all, not merely the folk who run the church and preach in it, or go there every Sunday to worship. For them of course it's a house of god, for others, non-believers included, it's simply a beautiful historic building, and whatever you do or don't believe, let us know your opinion.

OK Stuart my man, give us your best shot!

“The Church of England’s policy on country churchyards is that they should be managed so as to promote biodiversity and conservation by providing a safe habitat for wild flora and fauna. I emphasise managed as it is not simply a matter of leaving it untended but being sympathetic to the encouragement of new and sometimes relatively rare species of wildflowers and grasses and to provide a safe nesting and living space for wild mammals, insects and birds.

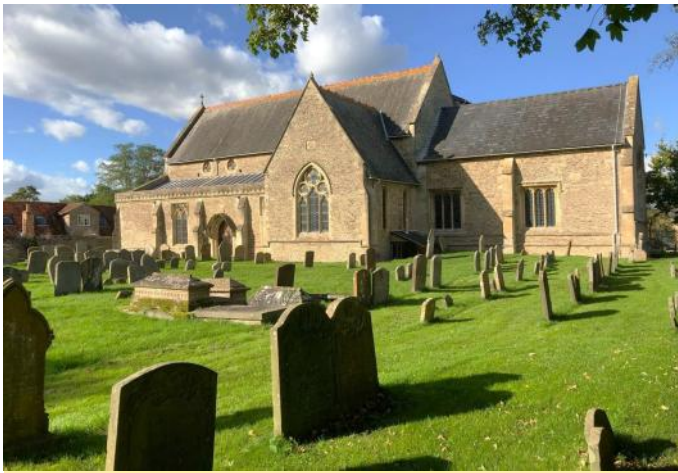
Experts advise that it is likely to take at least 3 years for the establishment of a wide diversity of wildflowers and plants and to enable this to happen grasses and plants need to be given time to drop their seeds. Hence there will be periods, certainly in the first 2 or 3 years, when grass and plants are left to seed and may look untidy. Timing is everything and unpredictable weather (or just weather!) may at times interrupt the cycle.

We are working with our contractors to make the front of the churchyard presentable at all times. We have fallen short on occasion but lessons have been learned. What can be problematic is DIY cutting of grasses and flowers especially beyond the curtilage of an individual grave. Our contractors recently had to spend half of their allotted time clearing up a tremendous mess left after one such episode. We should be grateful if such, no doubt well intentioned efforts, are avoided and left to us. The principal habitat and haven for wild animals, birds and insects is the back of the main churchyard i.e. behind the church building. This will be regularly mown during the season to maintain paths and scythed probably twice. There are no recent graves here and I am excluding the cremation plots on the west side which are regularly maintained.

The dogleg is maintained as a working graveyard by our wonderful volunteers. Both I and my fellow churchwarden, Chris Reason, welcome constructive criticism and suggestions.

Our telephone numbers are printed in every edition of Hanney News. For more information on the wilding of English churchyards please visit www.bbowl.org.uk/team-wilder/team-wilder-churches with whom the Church works in partnership.’

Stuart Cakebread



Further to the previous pieces on our churchyard, a Hanney resident of many years has recently sent me these two snaps of the rear and oldest sections, informing me that the

upper pic was taken in Oct 2017, when the churchyard was maintained - free of labour costs - by the 'Holy Mowers'.

The lower one, taken seven years later on 14th Sept 2024, shows the churchyard now maintained (?!) by paid contractors.

He asks which one the readers of Hanney News and the Church Authorities would prefer?



Last month I mentioned a beautiful little 'Bengal' cat that's been missing for many weeks from here in Hanney. I understand that, sadly, he ain't come home yet...please continue to keep eyes peeled! Meantime, here's a coincidence ...whilst on a recent holiday in France, I saw this poster asking for help to find a very similar looking kitty - over here the pattern of their fur is known as a 'Rosette' - that had also gone awol. Let's hope both pussies return home soon!



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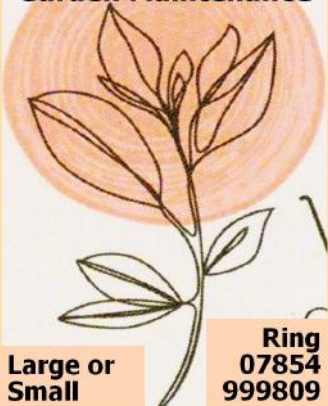
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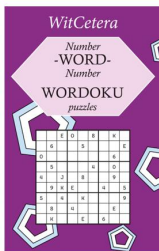
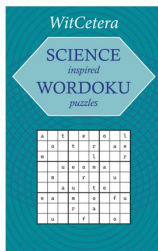
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HANNEY BADMINTON CLUB meets every Thursday in the Village Hall, 8-10pm. We welcome new members. 868256 for details.

HANNEY BELLRINGERS 'Learn the Ropes'. Wonderful mental and physical exercise with a friendly mixed group. Why not come along and watch a ringing session at St. James church. For more information contact Chris Surman 868749

HANNEY BOOK CLUB - 8pm, 1st Thurs of the month, Plough, W. Hanney.
hanneybookclub@yahoo.co.uk

HANNEY BOWLS CLUB - Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm. Contact Alan Savage on 07757 394776

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES and GUIDES, (girls aged 4-14) Our nearest units are in Grove, Stanford, and Steventon. Register your daughter or join as a volunteer at girlguiding.org.uk

HANNEY COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING in the Village Hall, Tuesdays, 10.00-11.30am. Everyone welcome for tea or coffee - a chat and a raffle. Just turn up!

HANNEY COMMUNITY WOODLAND WORKING PARTY...contact Paul Sayers by email pkayers@btinternet.com or 01235 868146

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Occasional Sunday friendly games. For details ring David Johns on 07770 456147 or 01235 868519, or email hanneycricketteam@gmail.com

DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB meets every Wednesday in the Olde Hanney Room 2-5pm. New members welcome. Contact Lyn Mortonlynmorton89@gmail.com

HANNEY FLOOD GROUP hold a monthly working party. Contact Clive Manvell for details -clivemanvell664@gmail.com, or 01235 868216.

www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk/

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the first Monday of each month, Sept to April, in the HWMH. 7:30 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk.

www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. Meets 8pm on the 4th Monday of every month in the main hall of the Village Hall. For further details and programme visit <http://hanneyhistory.org.uk/>

HANNEY OCCASIONAL GOLFERS SOCIETY (HOGS) was formed in 1996, and meets four times a year plus Christmas. HOGS is very much about social golf with all standards welcome. Non golfers/spouses usually join for the evening session when prizes are awarded and 'fines' imposed! Contact 'Poppy' at andrew.fletcher@rer.co.uk for further details.

HANNEY SCOUTS,CUBS & BEAVERS, Contact Steve Houseman
.....stevehouseman@kascouts.org.uk

HANNEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB meets on the 4th Thursday of every month except August, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Tea, cake, chats, talks and activities. For more details, ring Marcia on 01235 867461

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS in the Village Hall, every Friday at 10am. £2.50p a session. Also every Thurs eve, 6.30pm -7.30pm. Just turn up to either, or both!

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB is a very friendly club and always welcomes new members. For more info email Jenny at membership.htc@gmail.com

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING Meets on 2nd and 4th Sats of each month, 10.00, at Hanney WMH. New cyclists warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Adrian on 868340 or email adrianbodimeade@hotmail.com

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Monday each month. www.hanneywinecircle.org.uk (Please note that at the Wine Circle meetings, they only drink the stuff, no treading takes place nor are any grapes harmed during their meetings)

HANNEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (W.I.) meet the second Thursday of the month (except in Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room, Village Hall. New members are welcome. Contact Kate Tyler on 07446 364859

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB trains at the rec. on Thursday night. We 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

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.

HARMONY SINGING on Thursdays with SJS, one of Oxon's oldest male-voice a cappella groups (6 of us) Rich treasury of 4-part songs; learn from the inside and make a difference. East Hanney, 8-10pm; pint at the Black Horse later. David Gahan 868933

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BINGO every Sunday, R.B. Legion Hall 8pm. Cash prizes. 18+ welcome.

ST JAMES SCHOOL HELPING HANDS: helpinghandshanneym@gmail.com

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 767408, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION : 10am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

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 a dozen or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249),

www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk.

WANTAGE U3A: Visit our website detailing current activities - www.u3asites.org.uk/wantage

PILATES CLASSES: Wednesday mornings, 8.30am - 9.20am, followed by another from 9.30am - 10.30am, and an evening class from 6 -7pm (term time only) at the HWMH, aka Village Hall, in East Hanney. Novices and Improvers welcome. To book your place or for more details please contact Pippa Carey (STOTT Pilates teacher) on 07941 260427 or pippa@thrive-pilates.co.uk

VALE NORDIC WALKING - Nordic Walking is a form of full body exercise, suitable for everyone, irrespective of age, gender or fitness level. A range of group classes or 1:1 sessions available weekly. Telephone Louise on 07709 939997. More information at - www.valenordicwalking.com

ART CLASS FOR ALL - Be inspired by teacher Sally Middleton, every Tues at the Village Hall, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Beginners and those with experience welcome, all media. 07825 709686

Email: sallyannemiddleton@googlemail.com



Hanney



A Guide for Newcomers

Revised and updated January 2024

Hanney Community Shop

Mon to Sat
9am to 5pm

Post Office hours:
Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
9am to 1pm
Tues 9am to 12 noon

Tel: Shop - 867408
Post Office - 868320

Our Defibrillators?

In East Hanney, on the left wall of the porch in the Village Hall and on the fence between the Sovereign building and Motovation entrance on the A338. In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. All are accessible 24/7

New to Hanney? Get your free 32 page Guide from the Community Shop. It's also on the Hanneys website - see below - as a PDF.

Hanney War Memorial Hall - To book the Hall, visit our website hwmh.thehanneys.uk and click on the 'Book Now!' link.

Email: hwmh.hanney@gmail.com

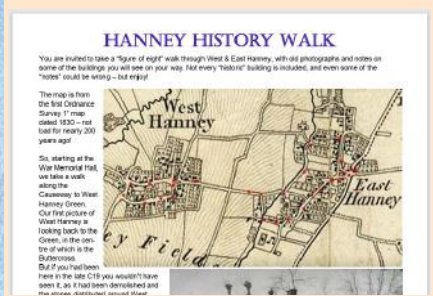
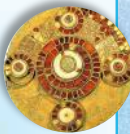
Visit the website:
<https://thehanneys.uk>



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Join the 'West Hanney and East Hanney Community', 'The Hanneys Buy and Sell', and the 'East Hanney Parish Council' Facebook groups...good fun, most of the time!

Hanney News...be sure to read it cover to cover, without fail, every month. It contains so much useful stuff it's quite scary. Feedback always welcome...to me Jim Stagg, Editor, 01235 867500



This 8 page A4 brochure...clue's in the title....is available free from the Community Shop, the Hall foyer, the Plough and me!

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