

Hanney News

Number 592 March 2025

Table Top Sale





Hanney WMH

Sat March 29th 10 till 2pm

Crafts, knitted gifts, Tombolas, Raffle, Hot/cold food Toys, Something for everyone All proceeds to Churchill Hospital for Research Tel 868527 to book table ANNUAL HANNEY LITTER PICK HAPPENING SATURDAY MARCH 22ND VOLUNTEERS WELCOME. Full details page 6



Some of the younger members of a previous pick!

Sorry Panto

fans, no pics from this year's performance, as I needed to go to print with this month's issue before they took



place. Meantime, here's a lovely snap from a recent rehearsal, and a pic of two of the lead luvvies.... heart-throbs even... Clive Ward and Teddy! That's Clive on the left !



Editorial

Welcome to the March issue, Spring and all that good stuff. If you're expecting bunches of daffs or overused platitudes about Easter and 'hope springing eternal' etc. etc. apols, butyou'll find none of that in here. Instead I can offer you the usual collection of stuff including much silliness regarding the orange President, tho' maybe I should have held that over till next month what with April Fools and all that. His antics may make you groan and I hope this month's jokes have the same effect! Jaunty Jilly returns on page 9 with a good reason why we should drink any beverage that comes from a bottle with a cork. Page 18 and 19 are for all gardening fans...my level of skill in ours here at Global HO barely extends to cutting the lawn I'm afraid, but the BBC's Gardeners Question Time recording was a great success, and on page 4, news of another big event in the Hanney Gardening Club calendar. Serious bit if I may...following Rachel Reeves recent announcement that growth, infrastructure development, and 1.5 million new houses are the aim of her and her chums in government, many folk are now assuming that the reservoir is a done deal. Actually some have been saying that for a long time, way before the latest bunch took the reins at Number 10.

Some have suggested that it may be time for GARD and all those 'anti' folk to change tack and instead try to influence all aspects of this massive project to benefit the local communities as much as possible? A tough one I know.

bad news on page 5.

We welcome a new advertiser, David O'Sullivan, his ad on page 11.

On page 9 something of a rarity...a poem! Its brevity and beauty to be appreciated in equal measure.

I urge you to get involved with the annual litter pick - see page 6 - it's a rewarding and great community event, and feedback from previous years has always been very positive. Big ups to East Hanney Parish Council for organising.

If you're labouring under the illusion that very little is being done to deal with our current and very major flooding problems, please make your way to page 9 and from there, check out the 'Future Flood Resilience Group' website.

If I have room next month I want to include an article about Segsbury Motors which, until 2000 was East Hanney's very own petrol station. Any memories or pics would be much appreciated.

You may know that I like to praise our advertisers whenever I can, and this month I want to give a mention to Phil Whitehead, whose ad is on page 29. Phil has done a magnificent job on our garden here at HQ, working very hard indeed. He's punctual, reliable and an all round thoroughly decent chap....highly recommended.

So we are now kissing goodbye to the Winter - we also kissed goodbye to some rather nasty tankers on page 20 - and I look forward to a beer and BBQ Summer...please feel free to invite me and Mrs Editor if you're hosting one!

Spiffing and 'Biffing' good news on page 4,

Take care, stay safe - to next month!

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....

Sat 1st, Classical concert at the University of Oxford Museum of Natural History. Doors open at 7:00pm for a prompt 7:30pm start. Details page 5.

Monday 3rd - Hanney Gardening Club -Village Hall. 7.30 for 8pm. A Buzz in the Garden - a talk about Gardening for Bees by Richard Rickitt - Editor of 'Beecraft and Beekeeper'. Non -members welcome.

Sat 22nd, - Annual Hanney-wide Litter Pick...details page 6.

Monday 24th March, 8pm, Hanney History Group, a talk by Trevor Jackson, entitled 'The Cemeteries of Oxford'. Visitors, £3.50. New members always welcome £14 annual membership fee.

Thurs 27th, 2.30pm, Village Hall, Senior Citizens, Seated Yoga with Geoff Hunter.

Sat 29th - Cancer Research Fundraiser, Village Hall, see front cover.

Sat 29th - Community Woodland Volunteers working party...see page 30 for contact details.

And further ahead ...

Monday 7th April - Hanney Gardening Club. Village Hall 7.30 for 8pm. Nick Bailey - presenter on Gardeners World - see page 4. Non-members welcome. £8 on the door.

Thurs 24th 2.30pm, Village Hall, Senior Citizens, 'Jim's Amazing Music Quiz'.

Sat 26th April, Church Street and Newbury Street Patient Participation Groups present a **'Health and Wellbeing'** event at the Beacon. Free entry. See page 14.

Mon 28th April, 8pm, Hanney History Group - Angie Bolton - 'Rich Pickings in the Oxfordshire Museum, including the Hanney Brooch. . Visitors, £3.50. New members always welcome.

Sunday 11th May - Hanney Gardening Club's annual Big Plant Sale! Village Hall 2pm' All donations of plants etc. gratefully received between 10am and noon. Come early before we sell out!

Sunday 18th May, 10.30am - 12.45pm, or 1.45pm - 4pm, Village Hall, **Indian Block Printing Workshop**, £39.50p. Contact Marea Brown on 07583 206924, email: artofjaipur@aol.com, website: artofjaipur.com.

Mon 19th May - Hanney History Group, Francesca Giarelli, Site Director, 'The Archaeological Dig at Grove'. Visitors, £3.50. New members always welcome

My mate's just bought a chameleon, sweet little thing, but it won't change colour. So he took it to the vet whose verdict was 'a straightforward case of reptile disfunction!'

Saw a fella the other day with a cat flap on his head.... I knew straightaway...dyslexic Yorkshire man!



Hanney Gardening Club is pleased to welcome

'Gardeners World' presenter Nick Bailey to Hanney Village Hall on Monday 7th April. Nick is giving a talk on 365 Days of Colour covering plants, tips and techniques for year round colour.



Nick is a freelance horticulturalist, best-selling author, TV presenter, garden designer and speaker.

Holly Cook Headshots

He has worked across many sectors of horticulture over the last 30 years, including nursery stock production, garden management, garden design, teaching, public speaking writing and broadcasting. He's currently a presenter on BBC Two's Gardeners' World and has regular columns in BBC Gardeners' World Magazine and Garden News. Nick was also Head Gardener for London's famous Chelsea Physic Garden, where he spent seven years redesigning the gardens and diversifying the plant collection.

His first book 'Chelsea Physic

Garden – A Companion Guide' was published in 2014. His second book '365 Days of Colour in your Garden' was published by Kyle Books in 2015 and has been a best seller ever since. His third book 'Revive Your Garden' was published in April 2018.

My friend's always bragging about how clever his little boy is with his learning to speak foreign languages, but the lad doesn't yet know how to say 'please' in Spanish. Don't know about you, but I reckon that's poor for four!

Our public services are often rightly criticised for

providing a poor service, so I'm very pleased to relate the following tale.

For some time our outdoor food caddy has been suffering...a big

leaking hole in its bottom, along with a nasty crack up its back. It finally broke completely when emptied on Christmas Eye.

(Yes, a while ago I know, but I've not had room to squeeze this little story into the mag before now.)

The young gent who empties it each week scurries up the road pushing a wheelie bin at almost running pace, stopping at every house to empty the contents of the 'caddy' in double quick time. Is he on some kind of 'Biffa Bin Bonus', I wonder, similar to the Brucie Bonus on Play Your Cards Right?



me up!!

I emailed Biffa that same day ...they're the company who look after all matters 'rubbish' for the Vale of White Horse District Council. Given that it was Xmas Eve I didn't expect a response till the New Year. However, within

minutes, my email generated an automatic reply advising that I should contact them if I heard nothing

should contact them if I heard nothing after ten working days. Within less than one hour (!) I received a second email, this one from a lady called Caroline Bridges. She advised that a new one would be delivered on Fri 27th Dec and I was to leave the old broken caddy outside. My poor old broken bin had to spend Xmas out in the cold, but no matter, on the 27th, before sunrise in fact, a splendid new caddy was delivered and the sad, cold and old one taken away! I'm most impressed Biffa, so big ups to Caroline 'Biffa' Bridges and her team.



'Flexicare are delighted to host

the Ivel Trio once again for a magical 'Night in the Museum' classical concert. The trio, comprising of flute, cello and piano

will perform amongst the dinosaurs in the stunning University of Oxford Museum of Natural History on Saturday 1st March 2025. Doors open at 7:00pm for a prompt 7:30pm start. The performance is followed by a drinks and canapé reception, included in the ticket price of £35.00. Tickets are available from <u>BIT.LY/3W5ENHY</u> (ticketstripe.com) or by emailing <u>events@flexicare.org</u>.

Flexicare is an Oxfordshire charity that has been providing a specialised, ad hoc sitting service for families with a disabled child in Oxford, Abingdon and Wantage and surrounding villages for 40 years. Your donations help us to continue to provide this unique, vital service.'

Some bad news... a car was recently stolen from a house in Hanney, and the M.O of the thieves is particularly worth noting. They gained access to the property through a window that they managed to open without breaking any glass - very old window apparently. Once inside, they found the car keys, went back out, jumped in the car and were gone, all whilst the car owner slept upstairs.

It's worth mentioning that we live in a relatively crime free area, though the recent thefts of tools from workmen's vans might suggest otherwise. What is definite is that vigilance is needed at all times, even in our lovely community.

More bad news, and this regular-

ly crops up on the jolly old social media. It's the issue of folk taking their doggies for a walk and picking up what Rover produces if he has to evacuate his doggie bowels (!) during his stroll.

g

All good so far, but then leaving the bag

and it's less than pleasant contents either on the ground or hanging on a nearby tree branch?...what's that about?! How weird is the latter and how very thoughtless are both of them! Local farmer Alan Cottrell has been in touch to tell me that many folk, including dog walkers of course, use his land for a walk, and that a few inconsiderate people do leave these bags, apparently choosing to ignore the fact that the fields over which they walk are where livestock graze and/or crops grow. Not nice!

Difficult to advise what to say here, but if anyone you know does do this, maybe a quiet word would be worth having? $Stephen \, Mckechnie, Chair: \underline{cllr.stephen.mckechnie@easthanneyparish.gov.uk} \ -$

Paul Aram: cllr.paul.aram@easthanneyparish.gov.uk -

Dickon Green: cllr.dickon.green@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

David Kirk: cllr.david.kirk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Rosie Reed: <u>cllr.rosie.reed@easthanneyparish.gov.uk</u>

Garth Dennill: <u>cllr.garth.dennill@easthanneyparish.gov.uk</u>

Jen Small: cllr.jennifer.small@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Website: easthanneyparish.gov.uk/ Clerk:<u>clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk</u>

Next Meeting Weds 12th March, 7.30pm, Village Hall

This year 140 Christmas trees

were recycled, a couple more that previous years, the resulting chippings have been used on footpaths within the village that were becoming impassable owing to the rain of late.

Thank you to all who dropped off their tree and to Ian and Dickon Green for the collecting, chipping and depositing.

As everyone knows Thames Water have been in the village at the Cow Lane pumping station. Their tankers made a serious mess, as well as damaging property and verges, the PC have identified with them all the areas that require remedial works and they have assured us it will be done. The annual village litter pick is scheduled for 22nd March so as many volunteers as possible please, hi-vis bibs, bags and picker uppers will be provided. Usually, a two hour session is good enough so if we can all meet at 10am at The Memorial Hall Car Park and areas, as convenient as possible for you, will be allotted.

Following that, another community event is the tree planting on Kings' Leases... time and date will be advised later either on Face Book or in Hanney News; it will be 400 trees so a decent turn out will help. **Do you think the village and its ameni**ties are being well looked after, do you have ideas for new initiatives, they could be environmental, social or in infrastructure? If you do, the best way is to join the Council and suggest and lead these projects. If you're interested, then please email Lisa

at <u>clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk</u> Your ideas could be just what the village needs and when it's finished you can say "I did that."

Steve McKechnie, Chair

Last month I told you about the splendid efforts by many in our community to shift a load of soil and lay it on the banks of the Letcombe Brook. I'm pleased to announce that stage 2 has now been completed, involving many plants being put into the earth once holes had been made in the matting that lays on the top, holding the earth in place. More good work from the Parish Council, and Flood Group and others. Big thanks to all!



West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors: Chair: David Corps - 01235 867454. Graham Garner - 01235 868684. Peter Packham - 01235 868038. Vicki Ruston email: vickiruston@hotmail.com Ahmed Farrag - 07388 816079. Barbara Martin, Clerk - email: parishclerkwesthanneypc@gmail.com Mob: 07793 556352 PC Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk Future Meetings - Tues 4th March, Tues 6th May, 7.30pm at the Village Hall

At Headings Pond, a recent storm

has severely damaged two trees and a further tree is affected by ash dieback. Sadly, these trees need to be felled. If you would like to collect some logs, for seasoning and burning in a wood burning stove, please email our Parish Clerk with your contact details.

The Parish Council intends to replant the area with a number of trees, and is consider-



ing Candy-floss, Handkerchief, Himalayan Birch, Maple and Sweet Gum Trees. Please let us know of any other trees you would like us to consider, and join us at our next meeting to help us decide. *David Corps, Chair WHPC*

Just to add to David's piece if I may and for the benefit of newer members of our community, Headings Pond no longer exists. The above photo is of it when it did, many years ago! The site is still referred to as Headings Pond, sometimes 'Eddins', and is at the far end of Church St.....come out of the Plough and turn right. Walk - or stagger, depending on how long you've been in the pub! - along Church St, and as it bears to the right, over on the left is where it was. The thatched cottage and large shed still exist.

These are difficult times for

many folk, and here in Hanney we have a charity, **'The Hanney Parochial Trust'** that may be able to help. It is an amalgamation of several local charities, the first set up back in 1604!

I am the Chair of the board of Trustees, which includes both current Parish Council Chairs.

If you know anyone who lives in East or West Hanney and is in genuine financial need, please ask them to contact me directly, in strictest confidence.

We are now also working closely with 'Vale Community Impact' (VCI) so feel free to approach them first if you'd rather. Their website is here: www.vci.org.uk, tel: 01235 765348.

Our charity also considers applications for grants from anyone aged 18 - 25 who is starting full-time further education, and lives in Hanney.

Tel: 01235 867500 or 07762 239681 or email: jimstagg@btinternet.com.

The Hanney Parochial Charity Trust's Charity Commission number is 205792.



The importance of reporting

For many years the 101, non-emergency contact number for the police has suffered from a poor reputation. This has been an issue nationwide, but it matters not just for those trying to get through, but also for wider public confidence.

We all want to know that if we need help the police - and our other emergency services will be there. That's why I've been so keen to see improvements to 101. The time taken to answer these non-emergency calls has been gradually coming down over the last year or so, and whilst they will still fluctuate at busy times the average for January was down to just 1 minute and 9 seconds.

By definition the 101 number is for nonemergency issues, for example reporting a crime that has happened earlier, suspects have left the scene or there's no current risk, but I'm constantly aware that no-one ever wants to contact the police unless something bad has happened. So whilst it may not be an emergency, these calls continue to be treated with the seriousness they deserve.

One of the ways that we've reduced the call times is by providing better updates to victims. Until recently a large number of calls to 101 were from people who have already reported something to the police but wanted to get an update. By asking officers to be more proactive in updating victims and by using a new online victims portal for many crimes, victims are now getting more information, more swiftly and taking the pressure off the phone lines.

More and more people are also choosing to report online. Whilst it's not for everyone, it can be much easier to report something non-urgent, perhaps if you've been a witness to something, on your phone or computer at thamesvalley.police.uk. Of course, in an emergency always call 999. The calls are answered by the same team of staff, but the emergency calls are prioritised to ensure they're answered in around 10 seconds! Remember that a 999 call isn't only for when someone is in danger, but it might be about a crime that is happening right now and when an emergency response could make a real difference. My plea is that whatever route you choose, 101, online or 999, please report any crime or concerns you have. Not every call can or should result in a blue-light response and not every crime can be solved, but I can guarantee that the incidents the police really will do nothing about are those that are never reported to them!

Following my article last month regarding our Community Shop needing a window dresser, this happy lady, Annie Leung, as well as working in the afore mentioned retail emporium where she serves behind the counter, has agreed to take on the role. Big ups to her! She tells me that anyone interested in having a display, maybe to promote an event, club, local business charity or whatever, should drop her an email

here...annieleung297@gmail.com



Darlings, I'm back! That little sweetie of an Editor has given me another of his columns, and what more suitable subject could there be than 'Champers'!! Numerous reasons as to why you should drink it of course, but

should drink it of course, but here's one you may not have thought of. The corks, flying out of your bottle with that lovely popping sound - music to my ears! - can be recycled. A connoisseur, Lyn Davis, who knows her fizz from her fuzz or her Fozzie Bear come to that (!), has been in touch....

'At the Bothy Vineyard we have collected enough used natural corks to fill no less

I don't normally publish poems,

but am making an exception on this occasion, since not only is the poem positively Shakesperean in its beauty, it's also rather useful for any of us who use the buses. This from the poet...

"Dear Lord Stagg of Hen-Island, I thought I'd share with you this little rhyme in case there are any of your than eight large sacks, now on their way to be being re-cycled or re-used. This ensures that the corks are not sent to landfill or incinerated. This generates income with the profits ploughed back into diverse good causes. To cap it all, the use of natural corks

in wineries supports the long term future of biodiverse cork forests. Thank you Hanney for making the difference.'

And it's not just fizz corks they need of course, any

kind of natural wine corks are fine. Drop them off at the Community Shop. Meantime, fancy a little tipple?

readers who, like me, have difficulty in remembering which of our Oxford-bound buses will be relatively faster or slower.

Catch the S9 And you'll be on time But take the X1 And you might be a late 'un

SK your local (not) poet lorry it

Our fab 'Future Flood Resilience Group' now have a website, and if you're even remotely interested in the serios flooding issues that affect us here in Hanney and many other communities locally, I urge you to check it out here:

www.futurefloodresilience.co.uk

Loads of really interesting and useful stuff. Massive big ups to the Group.

The Plough is the ultimate country pub that offers an incredible atmosphere and dining experience. The building is a classic thatched inn where customers can choose to eat in the restaurant, beside the fire in our cosy bar, or in our beautiful sun-trap garden.

We hold a quiz night and live acoustic music sessions every month.

Visit our website here: https://theploughathanney.co.uk



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Sunday 16th, 4pm: Quiz Night, No limit on team numbers, £2 per person, with all proceeds to charity.



Friday 28th, 5.30pm, onwards, it's Pizza Night... from the Vaults in Wantage. Eat in or take home, whichever suits you.

Tel: 01235 867179





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11

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

n January I spent two weeks in South Sudan as part of a team of trainers working with churches among the Dinka cattle-herders.

We were welcomed very warmly, but were shocked by the levels of poverty in a land-locked country recovering from years of civil war. We saw children with malaria, families coping with post-traumatic stress, and communities struggling with shortages of food during the long dry season.

These people had much less than the Sudanese we met in 2023 in the more fertile south. No one here owns a car – most have to walk, some have bikes and a few own a motor-cycle.

Our aim was to empower people to be active adult learners working together in small groups to increase their depth of understanding of the Christian faith.

South Sudan is the youngest nation in the world, emerging in 2010 from under the control of the Muslim north to be an independent state.

We ran two training conferences from which 300 trainees emerged with a

challenge that each would start a small group of 12 new people, so 3,600 could be involved over the next year or so.

Course materials have been translated into the local Dinka language.

Many women were present alongside the men and able to read aloud with

confidence.

Christianity has spread rapidly here in the



last 60 years, partly through the forced movements of people to avoid warfare, partly through the military training camps. Suffering and disruption have been catalysts for faith and sacrifice.

The lower picture was taken at the end of the second conference: trainees are holding up their certificates and waving their course books. We would like to raise funds

for a motorbike so that the small groups can be supported and developed across the area.

> Canon Geoff Maughan, retired minister living in West Hanney



SERVICES in March 2025 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

2nd – Revd Charles Draper, 9th Revd Geoff Maughan 16th - Revd Velma Oxley, 23rd – Revd Alec Gill, 30th – Revd Geoff Maughan.

JOIN US to celebrate Mothering Sunday – 30th March and give thanks for your mother and all she has done for you, everything she has been to you and your everlasting love for her.

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

Our political chums

MP - Olly Glover. His email -<u>olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk</u> He's also on the jolly old FaceAche.. <u>www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD</u>

Juliette Ash is our County Councillor. Email: juliette.ash@oxfordshire.gov.uk. www.julietteash.co.uk.

Sally Povolotsky is our District Councillor:

Sally.Povolotsky @whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

Nurse/Carer

My name is Julie

I am a registered nurse who has just retired early from hospital work. Do you or your loved ones need a little extra help?

I am reasonably fit & able, and versatile. DBS approved and insured, with references.

Medication assistance – post operative basic rehabilitation – respite care - personal care – health & social care - basic help with domestics (simple meal preparation & laundry) – shopping - visits out - trips to the GP surgery or general transportation – companionship; or even walking your dog if necessary, as I love all animals.

Overnight care considered occasionally.

I charge £25 an hour (day time) plus travel time.

If I can help, please contact me: juliehalford160@gmail.com or Tel: 07831 166081. My phone is off when I am working, so it may be best to email me. I will then get back to you, come and visit you, & we can discuss your needs. Otherwise, please leave a message on my phone and I will ring you back as soon as I can.



New Year Edition

JOINT NEWSLETTER

Number 1 2025



Newbury Street Practice Patient Participation Group Church Street Practice Patient Participation Group



Dear All,

As we move on into the new year, Church Street and Newbury Street PPGs are working together to present a **Health and Wellbeing event at the Beacon on Saturday 26th April 2025** (Free entry for visitors). It will be a showcase for clubs, charities and other groups involved in promoting health in mind and body for residents of the Wantage and Grove area. If your club or charity would like to take part, please contact wellbeing@Ox12.org for more details.

The above event looks as if it might be a bit of fun and worth a visit. It starts at 11am - that's the kind of morning time I like... no need to set the alarm for stupid o'clock!

Apparently many local organisations will be there to tell us about what they have to offer that will benefit our physical and mental health. There will also be talks on back pain, help with the NHS app, and demonstrations on CPR and use of a defibrillator. Active groups will also be demonstrating their dance, yoga etc.

So, if you wanna have a bop on a Saturday morning at the doctor's, why not head on down?!



Download the Newsletter with this QR code.

Richard Carter - I'm very sad to report that Hanney has recently lost another much loved member of our community. Richard was the eldest son of Vic and Kath Carter, elder brother to David, husband to Sarah and father to Aimee and Christopher.

We send our deepest condolences to all the family, who have asked me to include the following...

'As a family, we would like to thank everyone for all the support that Richard received during his fight with Cancer. The cards, messages & love shown. As a family we are heartbroken, we would like everyone to hold on to all their precious memories, forever loved. From the Carters' Hanney Lottery February Winners

1st - Paul & Julie Haines 2nd - Richard Clayton 3rd - A R Tredwell Not got a number yet or want additional numbers? Call Hilary on 868590.

Fake News! Big apologies,



but I misinformed you last month of what your speed needed to be in order to attract the attention of our Community Speedwatch Team.

I suggested it was 26mph, but Ahmed, leader of said team, has corrected me... t'is only 25mph!

If, as a consequence of my error you are already residing at 'His Majesty's Pleasure', then please accept my sincerest apologies! With good behaviour, I'm sure you'll be out in time to watch the Reservoir being built!



And sadly there was more Fake

News last month when I informed my readers that their Christmas trees, after being left at the collec-

tion point in East Hanney, were turned into breakfast cereal. Not true of course! Just me trying to be funny and to allow an element of silliness to creep into this rather po-faced publication!

The trees in fact serve a much more important function, as once shredded, they're spread over the muddy footpaths, highways and byways of Hanney, making it easier for walkers. Good job East Hanney

Parish Council! Big ups to you. See page 6. And still on the Trumpian

madness that seems to lead all our news these days, I was wondering if 'Donny the Orange' was aware that we here in the UK have had our very own 'Trumpton' for many years? I'm intending to send him the pics below of Trumpton. The snap on the right shows Mr Troop the Town Clerk and the Mayor outside the Town Hall. The other pic is of the Fire Brigade, led by Captain Flack, with firemen Pugh, Pugh, Barney McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble, and Grubb on their splendid fire engine. The Pughs were twins btw.

(Given my appalling memory these days,

I'm puzzled - and slightly worried by the fact that I can recite the firemen's names off by heart! Test me if we meet down the pub... if I get them right you owe me a swift libation...if wrong, I owe you! Deal?)





Calling all card

players...Did you know we have a thriving Bridge Club here in Hanney...details are on page 30, and their big chief Lyn tells me that new members are always wel-

come. Now, the game may not offer a physical workout, but folk gain a certain calmness from playing bridge if they ever find themselves in troubled waters.... geddit? Bridge?...troubled waters?...oh never mind!



And if Crib's your thing you need to contact **Fred North**, on 07867 522809. He's the main man for the Royal Oak, Wantage, who play in The Wantage and District Crib League every Monday even-

ing. Fred advises that most of the pubs they play against are in the surrounding villages, so you will need transport. One fixture is the Royal British Legion, here in East Hanney. If you are interested why not give Fred a ring.

New E. H. Shepard exhibition to open at Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock, including original Winnie-the-Pooh illustrations.



Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum

Running until 31st August, we are hosting a brand-new exhibition of artwork by E. H. Shepard, best known as the original illustrator for A. A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh* and the 1931 edition of Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*.

Supporting the exhibition itself, the Museum will be running a full programme of family events and activities, including a new Winnie -the-Pooh themed visitor trail 'Up in the Air', challenging younger visitors to find items lost around the Museum by residents of Hundred Acre Wood. The under five's play area has been given a Winnie-the-Pooh-style makeover, so kids get the chance to sit and play with the beloved bear and his friends.

Other family activities, including regular tea parties and craft workshops, such as kite and puppet making, will take place throughout the Half Term, Easter and Summer Holidays. Full dates and details will be made available on our website.

We looks forward to welcoming visitors to the new exhibition.



If you're into the green agenda and 'wild stuff' generally, I strongly advise

you to check out this bunch of well-meaning folk ...www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/

One of their wackier suggestions is that on 22nd March we all turn all our lights off. They're calling it 'Happy Earth Hour! ...8:30 – 9:30pm!

I quote... 'Join people around the globe in switching

off all your lights for an hour, and while you're at it, why not check out whether your local nature group has organised any celebrations like an evening nature walk, or hot chocolate round a fire pit! Who needs TV?! Local nature groups here www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/quidance/community-groups'.

Sounds fun...though maybe a torch would be useful?

In a long and very detailed piece about hedgehogs, this made me smile... 'Not only will our hedgehogs be hungry, but they will also need to start roaming around to catch up with other hedgehogs.'

By 'catch up', do they mean have a chat....a bit of a chin wag and a gossip maybe? Or perhaps our prickly little friends are also out for a bit of 'nooky'?...that would have to be done carefully I imagine.

Whatever, we are asked to make little holes in our fences to facilitate their roaming...see pic above of a very happy lady with her appropriately decorated hole!



Do you use a brown bin for your garden waste?

If so, changes are afoot! I've always worked on the premise that if it ain't broke, don't fix it and our current system seems to me to work fine. But what do I know? Not a lot apparently... changes are needed

as to how the service is paid for. I suspect this means that the Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC) have realised that they're emptying bins that haven't been paid for. Oh dear!

They are introducing a permit scheme from April that will involve customers receiving a sticker permit for their bins to identify them as fully paid-up garden waste customers. Put simply...**No sticker, no emptying** of your bin!

The Vale have posted on their website a very long, confusing and waffly piece that details the changes, assuring us that... 'Existing customers will be notified directly and will need to make an annual payment for a permit – this replaces the existing direct debit scheme. The payment year runs from 1 April to 31 March each year.' They assure us that... 'This is all part of the

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> Bill Shakes 1585

Council's ongoing work to improve the efficiency and value of public services.' **Cllr Mark Coleman, Vale Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Waste, said:** "I'm confident the new permit scheme, combined with introducing online customer accounts, will make our popular, opt-in garden waste service even better for everyone.

"We do appreciate that any changes to a major service can initially be challenging so we will make sure all our customers are fully informed on all changes that are coming between now and 1 April 2025.

Happy Dog, Happy Life!

Ok, I know it doesn't rhyme, our poet here at HQ has got the day off!

Our much loved postmistress Alisa is a very talented young lady, and not just when she beavers away behind the glass screen in our very own Post Office, which btw, we are very lucky to have. Alisa is also a qualified Canine Massage Therapist and has just set

up a business, **'SupplePups'.** Good name eh? Check out **'supplepupstherapy'** on Facebook, or ring her on 07421 509 852. I hope to have more details next month.

And talking of businesses with the word 'Pup' in them, check out this fab and groovy local company based in Witney called **'CocoPup'.** They sell all types of doggie-related stuff. Their website is: cocopuplondon.com

This from Bill Watkin... 'Hanney Gardening Club (HGC), celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2025, were thrilled to be given the opportunity to host two live recordings of BBC Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time (GQT) at the Hanney War Memorial Hall on 21 January.

A capacity audience of 150 keen gardeners from the Hanneys and surrounding villages,

kicking off with wine on arrival, were treated to a most entertaining, lively and fun evening.

Skilfully and humorously chaired by Kathy Clugston, chosen questions were brilliantly

answered by the panel of experts, who had no prior knowledge of them.

On the panel were fanatical plantswoman Christine Walkden, passionate plant expert Matthew Biggs, and dedicated botanist Dr Chris Thorogood.

The sessions have already been broadcast but if you missed them you can listen to them via 'BBC Sounds'. Well worth it, if only to find out how many of the locals you might know?

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Committee members, other helpers and not least, to the audience, who together made the evening such a success. Bill Watkin, HGC Chair

Editor's note - Bill is being very modest here since it was he whose perseverance paid off when the GQT team finally agreed to come with their tape recorder, lts of wires and very large blue table cloths to lil 'old Hanney.

I was hugely impressed with the depth of knowledge of the panel members whose answers often went something like this ... 'Ah well Fred, you need a Fragranceisimus Trulypongyus' with its lovely blue blooms in your bed, tho' this plant also performs very well up against a wall! A warning though Fred, they can be a bit smelly, especially the ones from Outer Mongolia!'

The abundance of Latin names was truly bewildering, as was the professionalism of the production team - most impressive indeed. Hanney's Gardening Club is one of our most popular and well run clubs, and this was a real community event.

The club are always happy to welcome new members.

Meantime, a few snaps of the evening...





As I write, we here in West have just bid our fond farewells to these big beasties!

Courtesy of Thames Water, (TW)





they have been clearing out and repairing broken sewers here in Hanney. Hugely disruptive, noisy...sometimes running through the night...and bringing with them temporary traffic lights and general aggravation, but methinks we





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To book an Appointment call: 01235 376808 should be grateful that they are at least carrying the repairs that are needed. So thank you TW for sorting it, but we hope not to see the beasties again for many a day!

Meantime, we all know that TW currently have mega funding issues. Nonetheless, we here at HQ would be very happy to receive settlement of our last invoice to them!

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HANNEY CHAPEL All are welcome to attend our SUNDAY SERVICES: held in the chapel at 10:30AM (which includes the 'Explorers' Sunday School) and at 5:30PM. Both services are also live-streamed on Hanney Chapel's *YouTube* channel (search *YouTube or* follow the links on the chapel website).

The Church runs School Term-time Children's Clubs:- Toddlers, Discoverers, Adventurers, and Friday Clubs which are for infants through to Year 13s.

For adults, Coffee Mornings and Men's Breakfasts occur monthly, Ladies' Breakfasts and other events as announced.

Contact Mark, or, see the website for more information on particular events.

Mark & Miriam Fisher Tel – 867105 email - hanneyquestions@gmail.com

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Clubs and Societies

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HANNEY BELLRINGERS 'Learn the

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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

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 <u>pksayers@btinternet.com</u> 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 Morton<u>lynmorton89@gmail.com</u>

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 <u>hanneyhistory.org.uk/</u>

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 <u>andrew.fletcher@rer.co.uk</u> 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 <u>member-</u> <u>ship.htc@gmail.com</u>

HANNEY WALKIE TALKIES...organised by Cheryl and Sue, we meet at the junction of Meadow Way with School Road at 12:30 lunchtime every Thursday (weather permitting) for a walk in Hanney of approx. 50 minutes and chatting along the way. New faces are always welcome to our friendly group. 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 <u>adrianbodimeade@hotmail.com</u>

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.

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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

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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

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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!

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