

September -Dec2001

- March 2002**
Friday 8th - Prize bingo, Fitzwaryn School
Friday 15th - Prize bingo, St Amand School
Saturday 16th - 'Come sing' at Snells Hall
Saturday 23rd - Spring Market at Snells Hall
Saturday 23rd - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
- April 2002**
Saturday 20th - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
Thursday 25th - Community Centre AGM at Snells Hall
- May 2002**
Saturday 11th - Hendred House Garden Fete
Friday 17th - May Ball at Lains Barn (Hendreds sch)
Saturday 18th - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
- June 2002**
1st - 4th - Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations
Saturday 15th - Hendreds School Fete
Saturday 15th - Folk in the barn at Snells Hall
Wednesday 26th -Blind cricketers match
- July 2002**
Sat/Sun 6/7th - Twinning visit by Sarceaux
Friday 12th - Hot Rods competition (Hendreds sch)
- September 2002**
Saturday 21st - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
- October 2002**
Saturday 19th - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
- November 2002**
Saturday 16th - Folk in the Barn at Snells Hall
Saturday 30th - Christmas Bazaar - Snells Hall
- December 2002**
31st - New Year's Eve Party - Snells Hall
 (Pat & Derek Dodd)

The Museum is open on Sundays after Easter till October 2.30pm - 4.30pm or make a special appointment with 01235 833312 .

Useful Numbers

British Rail Information	01865 722333	Police - Headquarters	01865 846000
Didcot Leisure Centre	811250	- Wantage	776000
Doctors - Church Street Practice	770245	Regent Cinema, Wantage	771155
- Newbury Street Practice	763451	St Amands School	833342
Churchill Hospital	01865 741841	Snells Hall (bookings)	833561
Emergency - Electricity	0345 70 80 90	Snells Hall (payphone)	831555
Services - Gas	0345 887 887	Tourist Information, Wantage	760176
- Water	0645 200 800	Vale & Downland Museum	771447
Hendred Stores	833123	Vale of White Horse District Council	520202
Hendreds School	833379	Wantage Civic Hall	764696
Hospitals - John Radcliffe	01865 741166	Wantage Community Info Centre	765348
- Nuffield Orthopedic	01965 741155	Wantage Health Centre	763451
- Radcliffe infirmary	01865 311188	Wantage Library	762291
- Wantage	765554	Wantage Recreation Centre	766201
Old Goal Leisure Centre	522806		
National Rail	0345 484950		

Regular Events

- Monday** Hendred Ladies Swimming Club
 (contact Val Bacon on 833403)
 Karate 5.30-7pm - Snells Hall
 Scouts 7-9 pm - Snells Hall
- Tuesday** Cub Scouts 6-8pm - Snells Hall
 (contact Robin Gray on 769787)
- Wednesday** Owllets (Mother & Toddler)
 10 - 11.30am term time
 (contact Ann Myhill on 862268)
 Bowls 7.45 - 10pm - Snells Hall
 (contact Ken Taylor on 833359)
 Stretch & Flex 4-4.45pm-Snells Hall
 (contact Nadine Hunt on 811961)
- Thursday** Brownies - at Snells Hall
 (contact Linda Harris on 832691)
- Weekdays** Playgroup
 5 mornings & 2 afternoons
 (contact Jayne Robson on 832691)
- Monthly** Downs Golden Age
 1st Thursday at Snells Hall
 (contact Betty Holliday on 833400)
 Folk Club at Snells Hall
 (contact Dave Phillips on 762644)
 Parish Council Meeting
 (2nd Tuesday of the month)
 Snells Hall Management Meeting
 (1st Tuesday of the month)
 WI (3rd Thursday, at Snells Hall)

Church Services

- Catholic Parish of St Mary**
 Father Sean Murphy
 St. Mary's, East Hendred
 Tel: 833269
 Saturday Mass
 6.30pm St Mary's,
 East Hendred
- Sunday Mass**
 9.30am St Mary's,
 East Hendred
- Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury**
 Rector:
 Rev. Ernest G Adley
 The Rectory, Church St.
 East Hendred
 Tel: 833235
- Parish Communion**
 10.30am Each Sunday
- Family Communion**
 10.30am 1st Sunday
- Holy Communion**
 10.30am Every Thursday

Contacts

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- The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish Council. All telephone numbers are local unless otherwise stated.
- If you wish to include your event in the diary or editorial please contact
 Pam Lundyates: 832590
 or email: bulletin@hendred.org
- Events can be included up to 12 months in advance

EAST HENDRED
Bulletin

Best Kept Village prize put to good use

The village was delighted and amazed when it learnt that it had won the award for Best New-comer to the Competition, not having taken part in the whole event for several years, but just the War Memorial section. This year the Lord Lieutenant, Hugo Brunner, decided to reinstate this particular award in his mother's name and we received a monetary prize of £500 which we put towards the new seat (now in the Cat Street Cemetery) and a basketball net and stand, which

will eventually go in the Penney Playpark. We were all pleased to meet Hugo Brunner on Sunday, November 4th together with other notables from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, who organise the event each year. The decision to choose a seat was made since the competition judges, visiting the village in the summer, remarked that this would be a fitting addition to the cemetery. We hope that residents will appreciate using it when visiting graves.



New seat in the Cat Street Cemetery

Record to be exhibited

The record of village life and activities during Millennium year was finally completed to go on sale last October, in time for Christmas. The CD-ROM includes over 500 photographs, 12 video and sound clips and details of all village organisations, schools, businesses and many families, as well as 30 Millennium events. Its preparation has been a major village project, funded mainly by the Millennium Commission, with expert input from many villagers, for which we are grateful. Special thanks are due to Dave and Sam Pentin, Ian and Anne Chambers for the very generous input of specialised professional expertise, as well

as many hours on tedious data input. It is not only a record of immediate interest but will in years to come provide an insight into life in a typical Oxfordshire village at the beginning of the 21st century. The village schools have copies of the CD-ROM and an opportunity to use it to provide information for local projects. Copies of the CD-ROM are still available from the village shop - price £5. A three and a half hour video of the Millennium events is also available from the Village shop, priced £10. The record will feature later this year in an extensive exhibition of Millennium activities throughout Oxfordshire.


Village to celebrate Golden Jubilee

Plans are already in hand for the village to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee during the long weekend June 1-4th. The most recent Royal events celebrated very successfully in this village were the Silver Jubilee in 1977 and the Royal Wedding in 1981. We also have photos of local celebrations for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. Monday June 3rd is scheduled as the focus for the national events. We are planning a procession with decorated floats through the village during the afternoon, finishing in the field below Hendred House, where there will be entertainment and some food. Parish Councillors

will then give out special china mugs to the village children. In the evening a pig roast and barbecue is planned with a village revue, music and more food. We are also hoping to light our beacon as part of the national chain of beacons. An ecumenical church service is planned for the Sunday and it is hoped the Hendred Heritage Group can put on a 'Now & Then' event on the Friday evening, focusing on previous royal events in the village. Ideas for other activities to celebrate this special event are welcome - contact Dr. John Sharp (on 833367) who is chairing the committee to co-ordinate the activities .

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Planning Matters

As usual the planning applications have been greatly varied. In October the Council considered an application from Mr. & Mrs. Beddow in **Cat Street** to erect a shed, because they were in the conservation area, and there were no objections as long as it was not used for living accommodation. This was duly passed by the Vale Planners (DPA). Planning permission for off street parking by making a space in the rear of **Corner Cottage, Chapel Square** was turned down by the DPA as it was in the Conservation Area and cutting into the banking would spoil this bank. However, the Council was surprised by the County Engineer's comment that Chapel Square was 'lightly trafficked!'

The Planners agreed to a proposal to build three houses on the site of the **Ridgeway Lodge Hotel**, thus ending a long saga on the use of this site.

In November consideration was given to tile cladding the Granny flat over the garage at **Peeler's Cottage**, belonging to Stan Francis, and this has now been given the go-ahead.

Internal alterations to **12 Cat Street** were considered and these have been agreed by the Planners.

In December the Council considered amended plans for extending **3 Portway Place** and has received a number of letters objecting to this. It has yet to be seen by the Planners. There were no objections to a side extension to **No.21 Orchard Close**, which was for the demolition of existing garage and rebuilding with the addition of a hobbies room - this has been passed.

The Hendreds' School has put in a proposal for a foot-path through Snells from Fordy Lane to the Playpark so that children can avoid walking along Church Street, where there is no pavement. The Parish Council welcomed this proposal and we await the Planners' decision.

A two storey extension was proposed at **Sheephouse Barn, Reading Road**. There were no objections and the Planners have since passed this.

The Planners have given permission for a house to be built on the present site of **Geggs Corner, Newbury Road**, which will be demolished before work commences. There have been several objections from neighbours and the extensive permission clauses does include the refusal for builders' vehicles to be parked in Horn Lane.

An Appeal is being made regarding the refusal for the two houses to be built at **Greensands**.

The latest applications still to be considered by the Parish Council at their next meeting include the building of a house adjacent to **1 Home Farm Close** (there have been several objections to this proposal); re-erection of a timber framed out-building for residential accommodation use at **The Old Cottage, Church Street**; re-siting of an oil tank at **Jasmine Cottage, Ford Lane**; repair work to **Orchard Stables House**; retrospective application for new roof over rear extension at 7 Newbury Road.

Once more, we would reiterate - talk to your neighbours before going ahead with plans for extensions. Show them what you intend to do and note their comments. Most people are happy to co-operate and it saves a lot of bad feeling in the long run.

Parish Council

Council meetings are held in Snells Hall at 8pm on the second Tuesday of each month. An Open Forum, in which parishioners may ask questions starts at 8.30pm.

Clerk to the Council
Mrs Ann Taylor, Westbury, Orchard Close, Tel: 833359

Chairman
Dr John Sharp, Inish Fail, Orchard Close,
Tel: 833367 Email: J.V.Sharp@btinternet.com

Deputy Chairman
Mr Stan Francis, Peelers Cottage, Chapel Square,
Tel: 833473

Councillors
Miss Sue Roberts, Perseverance Bungalow, Ford Lane,
Tel: 833451

Mr Edward Eyston, Hendred House
Tel: 833117

Mr Jim Francis, 3 Dennis Row, White Road
Tel: 831182

Mrs Margaret Pill, 15 White Road
Tel: 833736

Mrs Rachel Sutton 36 Couplings Close
Tel: 833491

Mr Andrew Brewer, Chapel Furlong, Ford Lane
Tel: 861498

Mr T Ford, 4 Smithy Cottages, Church Street
Tel: 820633

Parish Council Working Groups

Allotments J. Francis, S. Francis, & J. Sharp
Amenities(General): J. Francis, S. Francis, M Pill & S. Roberts,

Bulletin: S. Francis, S. Roberts, J. Sharp & R Sutton

Courtesy Lighting: A. Brewer, S. Francis, M. Pill, & J. Sharp,

Environment: A. Brewer, E. Eyston, J. Sharp & K. Taylor

Finance: A. Brewer, S. Francis, R. Sutton S. Roberts & J. Sharp

Housing: A. Brewer, E. Eyston, J. Francis, S. Francis, M. Pill & J. Sharp

Rights of Way: E. Eyston, S. Francis & R. Sutton.

Playgrounds: A. Brewer, E. Eyston, S. Francis, M. Pill, T Ford & J. Sharp.

Council Representatives on Other Bodies

British Legion	Vacant
Harwell Laboratory Liaison	Chairman
Hendreds School (Governor)	Joan English
St Amands School Govenor	John Dewar
Haywards-Spicer Fund	Mary MacKinnon & Ann Taylor
Snells Hall	Ken Taylor
Sports Club	Jimmy Francis
St Amands School (Governor)	David Bunting
Transport	Vacant

Information

Post Office
Mondays & Thursdays -
all day, Tues & Fri - am.

Collections
Weekdays
7.00am & 16.15pm
Saturdays
7.00am
(village shop)
Sunday
11.00am

Refuse Collection
Dustbin Collection
Friday
Recycling(Green Box)
Tuesday

Mobile Library
Alternate Wednesdays
White Road
11.25 - 11.40am
Church Street
11.45 - 12.00am
For more details tele-
phone: 771132 or 760185

Community Policeman
PC Jon Penrith
Wantage Police Station.
Church St, Wantage,
Oxon OX12 8BW

District Councillor
Terry Fraser
188 Oct St
Abingdon OX14 5RD
Tel: 01235 523365

County Councillor
Richard Farrell
Hall Barn Close
Chapel Lane
Blewbury
Oxon. OX11 9RQ
Tel: 01235 850275

Clerk's E-mail address
k.taylor@tinyworld.co.uk

Bulletin production Team
Pam Lundyates & Sam Pentin
Comments to:
Bulletin@hendred.org

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from the chair

The wet and windy weather since the New Year has both been depressing and has yet again caused some flooding problems and damage in the village. The collapse of part of the Hendred House wall onto Dancing Hill was spectacular but fortunately caused no injuries to anyone. It is encouraging that we have made some progress towards alleviating the flooding problems, helped by a local meeting with our MP Robert Jackson, representatives from the Vale Council and

Thames Water on Jan. 25th. We were encouraged to learn that Thames Water have a review in hand on the sewage system in our village and we hope to receive the results of this shortly. It is hoped that remedial measures can be put in place to limit the overflow of the system after heavy rain, given its increasing frequency. The Parish Council has set up a Flooding Action Group, which will continue to meet until the problems have been resolved.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Lady Penney who lived in this village from 1963 until 1998. She was a great character and contributed much to many aspects of village life, particularly where both young and old people were concerned.

An obituary appears elsewhere in this bulletin and there will be a Memorial Service in the village on March 21st, which I hope many people will attend.

We have already started planning for the village celebrations for the Queen's Golden Jubilee over the first weekend in June. We hope that the village will take this opportunity to celebrate 50 years of the Queen's reign in the style that they did when Queen Victoria celebrated her Jubilee in 1887. It is a real indicator of the importance of this event to realise that there have been only two other Golden Jubilees in the last 200 years. The Council has agreed to give special china mugs to each of the village children to commemorate the event, as for

previous royal events. Please join in with the spirit of the celebrations and help to make this occasion one to remember for future years.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held in April in Snells Hall when reports will be given from our County and District Councillors, from each of the Council working groups and from our representatives on other village organisations. Turn-out has been not very good in recent years. Please do make the effort to come along both to hear what is happening in your village and to make suggestions as to what we can do in the future.

Dr. John Sharp

Paul Stoter

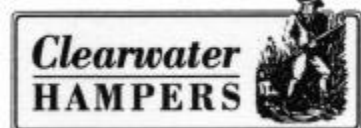
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Cricket match with a difference

Preparations are well under way for the forthcoming season with the fixture list almost complete from April to the end of September. In addition to the adult fixtures this year will see an increase in the youth fixtures that were successfully introduced last year.

The adult fixtures have been amended this year following the players decision to withdraw evening mid week league preferring to concentrate on regular Wednesday evening practice nets and fitness training sessions which will begin in early April. These practice sessions are intended to improve both individual and team performances that over the past couple of seasons have not produced the expected O.C.A. league results.

One item that did live up to the O.C.A. leagues expectations was last years Airey cup final which for the first time was held at our Mill Lane ground. The whole occasion was a tremendous success and a credit to the club, and indeed the village. Garsington eventually won the match with one wicket to spare from the last ball of the game. The Club is extremely grateful to everybody who assisted in making the event so memorable.

This year's club challenge is again a result of the excellent facilities we have at Mill Lane as we have agreed to host the clubs first international match between England v Pakistan blind cricketers. This match will take place on Wednesday 26th June starting at 11.00 am and will be played between both countries blind and partially sighted players in a 40 over one day game.

Following on from the last few seasons success the "colts" section will begin coaching on Wednesday evenings starting in mid April where boys and girls between 6 and 16 are most welcome, adult indoor net practice will also begin early in March.

As you can see from the details above the village hosts a thriving cricket club which operates both adult and youth teams who play on one of the best village sports grounds in Oxfordshire but, not unlike most other sporting clubs, continually has problems attracting new players particularly young adults, so if you or anybody you know would like to play or be associated with the club please contact Ivan Mulford on 820316 or Trevor Bacon on 833403 immediately to hear more details about the clubs activities.

New Councillor

The Parish Councillors were saddened by the death of Paddy Sheehan in the summer leaving a gap on the Council, which is represented by nine members. Paddy did a great deal of work for the Council and served and attended meetings in the Vale and Oxford on its behalf. Following the normal procedure, the vacancy was advertised on both noticeboards and if anyone had been interested then a by-election could have been held if more than one person came forward for selection. As no one did within the req-

uisite time, (fourteen days from the first display of the announcement) the Council were then able to nominate a candidate for the co-option. Thus at the Parish Council meeting on September 11th, Mr. Anthony Ford, of 4 Smithy Cottages, Church Street was co-opted as the ninth member of the Parish Council. Tony Ford has attended many meetings of the Council as a member of the public and taken a great deal of interest in the 'goings on,' and we were very pleased to welcome him to the other 'side of the table.'

Post Office now open

On Nov. 5th we were very pleased that East Hendred Post Office opened again after a closure of more than a year. The Press turned up to record the special occasion of a rural post office re-opening. We are very pleased that Sheila Watkin agreed to be post-mistress again - a job she had several years ago. The Parish Council was actively involved in getting the post office started again, requiring many con-

tacts and discussions with Consignia.

It is very important that we all use our local post office for as many transactions as possible. If the usage is limited we may lose it again, never to be re-opened. The motto is "USE IT OR LOSE IT". Remember that you can pay your gas, electric and phone bills over the counter.

New Village map

One of our late Millennium activities was completed when the village map was added to the new Notice Board close to the Village Shop. The map shows the location of key village facilities, for the benefit of visitors

and newcomers to the village. It was prepared by Dave Pentin through his company "GMX Creative" and funded mainly by a generous grant from the Vale District Council.

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Have you met Sid?

If you are under 30, Sid will give you a friendly smile, but when you are over 30 he will look very glum!! In other places he might smile at you if you are under 50 and glare at you if you are over 50! You may have seen him on the telly or his picture in the Wantage Herald.

The Parish Council was offered his services in December before he became a Media Celebrity and he made a second visit to the village on January 15th. Can't quite place him?

Sid is a Speed Indicator Display monitor and stands about six feet tall. The County Council have three operating throughout Oxfordshire and we are lucky enough to have the services of one in the Vale. The display indicates the speed of the approaching vehicle and reminds the driver whether they are over the speed limit for that particular road (30 mph throughout the village) and will produce a smiley face if you are under the limit and a grim look if over. So far he has done duty

in the High Street during a morning session of parents delivering their children to the schools and more recently in afternoon when they were collecting their children. We are hoping that visits to other areas in the village will be made, i.e. A417 across the top of the village, where the speed limit is 50 mph, possibly White Road and other likely 'race tracks'. Who knows where he will turn up next?! He will certainly remind you if you are in the wrong!

Meanwhile, Cyclists..... The Parish Council has received reports from concerned motorists regarding the recklessness of child cyclists coming from the White Road houses and cycling straight across to Couplings Close without looking to see what other vehicles may be coming along White Road. PLEASE children do make sure the road is clear before you attempt to cross. Most residents do take care when driving along this stretch, but they have been horrified to see the antics of some children. Parents please pass the message on.

Starting School in Oxfordshire

The admissions process for the academic year 2002/03 has just begun. If you have a child born between 01 September 1997 and 31 August 1998, you now need to state a preference for the primary school you wish your child to attend. The necessary form can be found in the booklet, "Oxfordshire Schools, Admissions and Transfers 2002/03". This can be obtained from the school direct, or by contacting the Education Department, Macclesfield House, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1NA (Telephone: 01865 815449).

Completed cards should be returned to the preferred school no later than 08 March 2002. Places are allocated by mid May. With Government legislation now stating that infant classes cannot go above 30 children, spaces in many of our local schools are at a premium and it is now more important than ever, once you have visited schools to put your child's name down on a waiting list for just one school, so that when the places are allocated the LEA and school in question can allocate places fairly.

New School Governor for St Amands

As a result of the retirement of the previous governor we identified three possible candidates with children at the school, who were prepared to act as a new governor.

Following submissions of background information the Council decided to appoint John Dewar (Ford Lane) as the new governor, representing the Parish Council.

Fun evening raises £4,700 for classroom

A spectacular fund raising event took place at Snells Hall on Friday 23rd February. Organised by the Friends of Hendreds School, the evening events included a children's disco, auction and cabaret with pot luck supper. The auctioneer, Ally Eyston, whipped the crowd into a spending frenzy and helping to raise a total of £4,700.

The cabaret was made up of three acts, the Can Can performed

by eight of the Hendreds School mums, The 1/2 Full Monty by six dads, and a Sonny and Cher song rendition by headmistress Liz Tansley and Governor Keith Mitchell.

Well done to all those involved, as well as the sponsors and contributors. The biggest thanks goes to Lynne Collins and Melanie Griffiths for planning all the evenings events and choreographing the routines.



Hendred mums helping to raise £4,700 by doing the Can Can

Status change for Hendreds School

Parish Councillors, several parents and governors attended a meeting called by the Hendreds School governors on Jan. 16th to discuss a possible change of status of the school to 'Church Aided' status. The benefits of the change were outlined, including greater autonomy in decision making, and in particular greater support for applications to obtain funding for capital projects.

The Parish Council has responded saying that it supports the proposed change on the understanding that the school will maintain its close relationship with the local community, and that a policy of full inclusion will continue. The timetable for a final decision, including publicising the proposed change in the press is this summer.

New computer courses

A new round of computer courses started in January in the friendly environment of the dedicated computer room at Snells Hall. Most of the classes are day-time, and current classes include Computing for Absolute Beginners, E-mail and the Internet, CLAIT 1 and Integrated Business Technology (IBT2). We are hoping to arrange more advanced courses on topics such as Web-page Design if a sufficient number of people express an interest. There is also the possibility of local businesses being able to arrange dedicated short courses for their employees. Enquiries to the

local Snells Hall Village College Centre Manager (833367) in the first instance, although all formal bookings have to be made through Abingdon College once you have identified an appropriate course.

A new 10 week computer course is starting in Snells Hall on Monday April 15th 9.15 -11.15 am. - tutor Pauline Gardner. Learn how to design your own cards, calendars, advertising literature, newsletters, posters etc. Queries to Dr.J.V.Sharp (833367). Bookings must be made via Abingdon & Witney College on official enrolment forms.

Flooding - Again! Fun to be had at the Fete in May

The lower part of Snells was flooded again on Saturday Jan. 26th as a result of heavy rain producing excess water in the Lydebank Brook. The water was over 3' deep in parts of Snells and nearly led to flooding of neighbouring houses. The main reason for this flood was that one of the exits to the culvert through which the brook flows under Snells had been deliberately blocked up with stones and other debris, leaving the large amount of water flowing through the parallel narrower pipe. The debris has now been cleared and a watch will be kept on these pipes in future. It is very disappointing that village children behaved irresponsibly, without realising the consequences of blocking off an essential pipe for disposing of excess water following heavy rain.

Our MP, Robert Jackson came to the village on Friday Jan. 25th to discuss with several residents in Mill Lane the problems they have had with

sewage charges, having to pay significantly more than neighbouring properties for their annual sewage charge, since a pump delivering their sewage to the main system is still owned by the Vale Council. As a result of the meeting attended by representatives of the Vale Council, Thames Water and the Parish Council, it is hoped that the pump can be brought up to modern standards and transferred to Thames Water shortly.

At the same meeting we discussed the flooding problems we have had in the past when after heavy rain, sewage has flowed into villagers' homes. We established that Thames Water are aware of the problem and are carrying out a survey of the local sewage system, to identify the reasons for the overflow and possible remedies. They have promised to inform the Parish Council of the outcome from their review. Meanwhile the Council's Flooding Action group will continue to meet.

Nearly complete

The primary role of the Sports Club Committee is to manage and provide the opportunity to play sport in the parishes of East and West Hendred. The club provides a platform for the teams of East Hendred A.F.C., East and West Hendred C.C. and Hendred Tennis club to represent the village in league and friendly sporting fixtures and also to provide a facility for recreational exercise and enjoyment.

In order to fulfil its criteria the committee is about to complete Stage 2 of a project started 3 years ago to update its ground maintenance equipment necessary to maintain our already well respected playing facility. When complete this project should result in capital expenditure of approximately £8000 which will modernise the major items of ground care machinery that has already produced major improvements to

the ground and has also allowed more efficient use of extremely rare volunteer manpower.

The committee has also embarked on a refurbishment programme for the clubhouse which is in need of redecoration, a target of £5000 has been set and a programme of fundraising events planned, details of which will be published.

The host clubs continue to thrive with excellent performances and results regularly being achieved but they, just like the sports club, constantly require fresh new faces to enable these successes to be sustained.

For further details on any sports club activity contact; Ivan Mulford 820316, Steve Mulford 818027, Duncan Francis 224712, Gary Tizzard 833738 or any other committee member.

The annual Hendred House Fete is being held on Saturday 11th May 12.00 till 4.00.

A day filled with fun and lots to do, a day not to be missed. Many attractions are planned including a Fun Fair, Beat the Goalie, Skittles, Aunt Sally and Pony Rides. Our usual stalls will be there from cakes, tombola, raffle ticket for a chance to win a "barrow" of booze, games and the stocks pillory, where you can take the opportunity to soak some-one you know, to the barbecue, refreshments and of course the bar will be open.

Remember to buy your Grand Draw tickets for a chance to win a DVD and much more.

Village organisations are welcome to book a stall, details from Barbara (833238).

Come and watch the dance demonstration and see the display of vintage machinery.

This year we are allocating a number of spaces for car-booters, details from Bev (760651).

Like to advertise your business in our programme, seen by hundreds, then call Sue (833451) or just offering to give us a hand on the day. One volunteer is better than 10 press-ganged helpers. We need your help.

Summer WI events

The usual meeting is held at 7.30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month in the main hall of Snells Hall, although we do take advantage of the summer months with a picnic supper in a member's garden in August, as well as fitting in extra outings to interesting local churches and gardens.

Our numbers are growing, since we already have an extra five members - and should be delighted to welcome even more! There is an interesting and varied programme of social events, speakers and outings planned for the next few months.

Summer Programme
March 21st.
 Annual General Meeting
April 18th.
 Speaker from Tesco Stores, Abingdon

May 16th.
 'From the Other Side of the Counter' (Geoffrey Bailey); followed by discussion of Hendreds W.I.'s response to Resolutions to be put before the National meeting

June 20th.
 'Ukraine' (Ruth and Alec Finch)

July 18th.
 'Dried Willow Plant Supports: Modern and Traditional Uses of Willow' (Richard and Suzanne Kerwood of Windrush Willows)

August 15th.
 Picnic Supper in a member's garden
 Visitors are welcome (£1 charge), so why not sample one of our meetings before considering joining?

Drugs talk to be held at Snells Hall

'Drugs - Their Uses and Misuses'

Please make a note in your diaries - Friday, March 15th 2002 at 7.30 p.m. in Snells Hall, PC Jon Penrith will be giving a talk on 'Drugs - Their Uses and

Misuses.' This talk is aimed at parents and all interested adults. Coffee will be served. Please tell your friends and anyone whom you think will find this meeting of benefit.



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ARE YOUR CHILDREN OVER 8 AND BORED?

Would they like to be part of a group who take part in interesting and challenging tasks ?

Have they thought about becoming a Cub or Scout?

Both the Cubs and Scouts meet in East Hendred once a week
Cubs contact: Robin Gray 01235 769787
Scouts contact Richard Tingley 07771 545006

The miracle of the modern age

Last Autumn out of the blue came a request to the village Webmaster via the website, "I am looking for East Hendred in Berkshire - is that you."

The end result of this message was the receipt at the Chapel Museum of a whole batch of documents and photographs relating to the Allins family who left the village in 1896.

What a scoop - the papers had been found in the roof space of a house in Galashells. Guess the name of the house, 'Skutchamore'. Hendred Heritage is still trying to absorb the shock. Most of the documents have now been copied. They include some good photographs of Downs House which was demolished in the late 1950's and one or two other village views. The fascinating story of the Allin family who had been around these parts since the early 1700's is still to be unravelled but never underestimate the power of the World Wide Web.

Golden Memories

View the changes in Hendred during the reign of Queen Elizabeth 2nd.

Museums Month starting in May 5th could only have one theme this year but what a variety that covers when one looks back. Changes in Housing, Shops, Schools, Sports and Recreation Facilities, as well as personal working patterns. Top that up with the Celebration events that took place during 50 years and it will be an interesting display. As

usual we put out the requests for the items from your archives to improve the show.

Just last Autumn many of the 500 photographs taken during some of the many events recorded in the village during that 50 years came to hand. John Sharp has found film of the last Silver Jubilee. All these memories can all be revisited so keep your diaries free. The Chapel Museum during the month and at Snells Hall as a special at the start of the extended Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend a special Now and Then.

A Project to Mark this Jubilee

The Trust has set a target to have the painting of Hendred Feast that used to adorn the space above the Headmaster's desk in the old Anglican School (now Snells Hall) cleaned, restored and varnished as well as protected from further wear and tear.

The cost seems phenomenal but not only is the painting by a brilliant artist Sheard, it has captured many many individual expressions of people who once lived here. Interestingly those faces were used in advertisements for a well known brand of tea in the 1920's.

When sufficient funds can be found it would be good to have this unique picture on more public display so that even further generations would carry it in their memory as did those school children of over 70 years ago.

Recognition

In the past we have not been able to easily review our stock of village photographs but things are improving swiftly thanks to new technology and many persons efforts. Today it is fairly easy to record a photograph by digital scanning. The quality is surprisingly good even without the artistic approaches that some can make to ensure that the camera always provides the story. We have a team of dedicated photo interpreters now. If you want to join us in the identification and storage process you will be more than welcome.

The demolition of the Ridgeway Lodge to make way for new homes recently raised another question the Trust could not find an answer to quickly. Before the Hotel conversion there were two cottages on that spot at Skeats Bush, one of those was the subject of an early post war extension before the hotel accommodation was produced. Does anyone have a photograph of those buildings or even one from before the 1939-45 war?

Looks very different there today with a large blank space.

Looking at older pictures is often a relaxing way to learn much more about our village and its people.

The Land and its People.

Lord Ernle who lived locally was President of the Board of Agriculture during 1916-1919 produced several books on agriculture. His book of this title covered agricultural change over a number of centuries. Tom Eyston

was good enough to tell us about this.

One chapter is headed country villages and Hendred is used as an example, particularly drawing on the writings and records of the Eyston family which relate to the five manors of Hendred. In his book Lord Ernle foresaw and warned about one problem related to the enclosures and the increasing mechanisation of agriculture. He emphasised the changes starting in the late 1800 and early 1900's He thought that 'The shell remains but the kernel shrivels'.

At a time when we in the Parish are looking back just 50 years over the Queen's reign it is a sobering thought to compare the rate of change in those days with that we have today. In some ways Hendred has seemed isolated from sudden change. Most times change has been absorbed to the benefit of all. Lord Ernle suggested that behind many villages with a 1500 year agricultural history were three factors Land, Capital, and Man. The 'human element' he thought had been least studied.

In the coming seasons Hendred Heritage plans to review published information specific to our Parish that relates to land and property ownership, as well as the type of jobs held by those who have lived here. This will be a long term project which we hope will be of interest to many of those who live here who also may be able to help us locate and interpret many sources of history for Hendred's Heritage.

Over half loan repayments met so far

Except for a quiet period around Christmas, the Hall facilities are being extensively used by regular village organisations and other groups.

The New Year started with a Brownie Pack Holiday during the coldest weather so far! Fortunately the combination of ducted warm air, night storage heaters and the new infra red heaters maintained a respectable temperature for the occasion. Once again this illustrates the versatile and excellent accommodation available at these premises.

Pat and Derek Dodd held a very successful New Year's Eve Party at Snells Hall and have asked to say a big thank you to those of all ages supporting this venture and whose involvement and excellent behaviour made it such an enjoyable event. The Management Committee want to express their appreciation to Pat and Derek who generously donated the profits from the evening (£329.50) to the Community Centre.

As a result of this and other fund raising efforts for which we are most grateful, £4000 of interest free loans has been returned to four of

our guarantors during 2001. We are committed to repaying the £5000 outstanding sum to three guarantors before 2003.

The aged and leaking semi-flat roof over the toilet block and part of the main hall has now been replaced by Woodstock Felt Roofing Ltd. at a cost of £2500. We were helped to meet this unanticipated outlay by a grant of £500 from East Hendred Parish Council and a matching donation from a Committee Member, which we acknowledge with thanks.

The first round of six Computer training courses, which started the

week beginning September 17th, 2001, has now finished and a new round of four classes has just begun (see separate details). Apart from being of great benefit to those participating, additional funds are generated both for Abingdon and Witney College and the Hall Committee.

Hall hire rates have remained the same since April 1999, so in order to keep abreast of inflation the Management Committee approved a modest increase in fees which became effective on January 1st 2002.

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Sarceaux visitors due to visit in July

Visit from Sarceaux, July 6-7th. 2002

We are expecting around 40 visitors from our twin village in Normandy, and hope that as many people as possible will join in the activities planned for the weekend, when we will be celebrating our fifth year of twinning. Many of us will be welcoming back established friends, but we also welcome newcomers to get involved.

Events planned for the weekend include a visit to the Swindon shopping centre and the Steam museum, followed by a pig roast and barbecue with music, games and entertainment in the evening. We are investigating taking our visitors plus hosts to the see the

many naval activities at Portsmouth on the Sunday, as they will be departing back to France that evening from Portsmouth.

A preliminary informal social 'Spotlight on Twinning - question and answer' evening for potential host families, and also anyone without space to accommodate visitors to sleep but able to offer other hospitality is planned for 6pm on Sunday May 12th at Snells Hall. The planned programme of activities and excursions will also be explained.

Fund raising events continue, with a very successful Pot-Luck supper held at the end of January with Jo Noble as the speaker. A week-end trip to the Eden project and

Newquay in April has also been organised, which is now fully booked with a waiting list. We are looking forward to an interesting week-end to see one of the prime visitor attractions in that area.

We are also planning to have stalls at the Spring Table Top Sale and at the May Fete.

We have a 21 year old French girl, a student at Argentan doing a trilingual secretariat course, due to work locally for 6 weeks on a work placement as part of her College course. She lives in our twin village of Sarceaux and is looking for a host family with a spare room, willing to accommodate her for 6 weeks from May 21st. Any offers to Margaret Sharp (833367).

A Lady of such kindness and generosity

Lady Penney (Lady P to many villagers) died in London in December 2001 at the grand old age of 96. There will be a memorial service for her in St. Augustine's church on March 21st. She lived in this village for over 30 years and contributed greatly to village life.

Eleanor Joan Penney (née Quennell) was born in 1905, the only child of Charlotte and George. Joan spent her youth in Winchmore Hill, London and had indifferent health then, surviving appendicitis when aged 10 (frequently fatal in those days). Her mother was an outstanding golfer, with a handicap of three at her peak. "The best putter I have ever seen" according to her daughter. Joan's father was a stockbroker in the US market but sadly died soon after the Wall Street crash.

First qualified as a dispenser Joan subsequently trained as a nurse and then as a midwife at Guy's Hospital. She worked as a district midwife in the East End of London seeing much poverty. Soon after the second world war she married the then Dr. Penney whose wife had recently died leaving two young children (Christopher and Martin). Joan held the family together whilst her husband fulfilled Government instructions to develop an atomic bomb for Britain. At the newly developed Aldermaston complex (in the early 1950's) she found herself in a happy mainly young settling community. She rapidly saw the need for a baby clinic and helped to establish and run one. She joined the Women's Institute and played her part in encouraging the integration of the new and existing communities.

Joan Penney came to live in East Hendred in 1963, with her husband. He was made a baron in 1967 and took the title of Baron Penney of East Hendred. Lady Penney was very active in the village being President of the Playgroup for many years, President of the Downs Golden Age group, an active churchgoer and a member of the PCC, helping in distributing gifts to the elderly and welcoming newcomers to the village. She also gave active support and encouragement to many clubs and societies and in particular took a keen interest in young people, being actively involved in the Youth Club and Playgroup. She also helped out at local baby clinics and many villagers have had the privilege of being weighed by her at some time in their young life. Many people in the village will also remember her for her many acts of kindness and generosity. Lord Penney was Rector of Imperial College for a time and as a Rector's wife she was much loved as one who cared about supporting staff, not just the academics. Students liked her for her straightforward manner. On Sunday October 25th 1998 the village gathered together in Snells Hall for a farewell party for Lady Penney who had decided reluctantly to leave the village to live in sheltered accommodation in London closer to her family. She was presented with several gifts from village organisations as well as a painting of her garden in Cat Street. The celebration began in St. Augustine's church where she had worshipped for over 30 years. She returned to the village for the last time on Sunday Oct. 1st 2000 to open the Penney Playpark, with four generations of her family. Lord Penney died in 1991 and a year later Lady Penney gave a generous donation to the Parish to establish a

children's Playpark in memory of her husband. At the time she said 'Bill loved children and always found them much easier company than their elders' She walked down the Snells footpath to the Playpark through a crowd of villagers who had gathered to see her again. She then cut the ribbon across the gate to the new park and unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening and planted a tree. She enjoyed having her photograph taken for the local newspaper surrounded by lots of village children in the background. The Penney Playpark acts as a lasting tribute and memorial to both her and her husband.

She had a strong faith, attended church regularly both in this village and later at All Saints Blackheath. Though forced by advancing disabilities to leave her beloved friends and house in Hendred she nevertheless had three and a half happy years in a close care apartment

at Blackheath, visited frequently by her family and lovingly cared for. She had over ninety wonderful years surrounded by people who cared for her.

A tribute from the DGA
 Lady Joan Penney was one of the founder members of the DGA in 1966. A small group helped the club grow from small beginnings and "Lady P" was a stalwart. As we grew in numbers and changed emphasis on the purpose and reason for meeting, she was always there in support. She worked hard on committee, in the kitchen or wherever help was needed. She was concerned for every member and all members were very fond of her. We hope that the ethos she engendered of friendship, caring and enjoyment will always be the aim of the club. We were very sorry when she left the village and it was with great sadness we learned of her death. We all miss her.



Lady Penney