Summer 2004 www.hendred.org

Bulletin etim

Oxfordshire Best Kept Village Competition 2004

Judges' Report: East Hendred — Second, Medium Village Class



Situated off the busy A417, this village is very attractive with fairly quiet roads and many old buildings. Many of the older properties are of chalkstone and thatched. There is a great deal of colour, mainly coming from the new rose beds throughout the village. These

were almost all very well kept except for the beds by the main road, which were rather weedy.

The two churches, St Augustine's CE and St Mary's RC, are very fine buildings and well looked after, as were their churchyards. Near St Mary's is the new RC school, which

was very tidy with a well kept playground. The older school is used for offices. The C of E primary school is near Snells Hall and is also in good condition, with an attractive bed of wild flowers by the playing field. Snells Hall itself, which was the old school — and is now the Village Hall — is an imposing building with excellent parking. A walk through Snells, a pleasant green open area, passes by the Penney Playpark. This is an excellent new play area for children with fine, safe equipment. The seat endowed in memory of Roy Jenkins is very well sited. The cemetery nearby is in a peaceful setting, with many of the newer graves well tended. The older ones, however, tend to be somewhat overgrown

The main street is wide with grass verges and contains many features, including the shop/post office, which looked very well stocked and is clearly a great asset to the village. Nearby is the Eyston Arms, which, like The Plough and The Wheatsheaf, appeared very tidy and inviting. Champs Chapel, a building of historical significance and now a parish meeting place and museum,

has been well restored with an attractive colourful surround, and the nearby War Memorial.

There is another children's playground together with the sports centre in Mill Lane. The play equipment is in reasonable condition, but there was a great deal of litter outside the litter bin provided, and a few signs of vandalism. The sports field is in excellent condition, with a good pavilion. The tennis courts looked to be likewise, and almost free of litter.

Of the amenities, the allotments looked tidy and mainly productive while bus shelters, telephone kiosk and notice boards were all in reasonable condition.

The many attractive properties, mainly well looked after, and the colourful floral displays make this village a very pleasant one to visit and indicate that its residents make a great effort to maintain its standard, an impression which was strengthened by the excellent newsletter.

Note: the critical comment on the rose bed near the main road relates to the old bed, which, unfortunately, was not kept weed free. This bed has already been improved.

Diamond Light Source

A Light for Science

You may have seen the massive building works on the Rutherford-Appleton site. These are to house Diamond Light Source, a prestigious new synchrotron, currently being built and situated on the Chilton/Harwell science campus and one of the largest scientific projects in the UK for 30 years. This new science facility could be described as a "super microscope", housed in a building covering the size of five football pitches. Diamond will, ultimately, host more than 30 cutting-edge research stations, supporting the life, physical and environmental sciences.

Many of the everyday commodities we take for granted — from chocolate to cosmetics, and revolutionary drugs to surgical tools — have been developed using synchrotron light. University researchers are the core users of synchrotron light, but household companies through to high-tech start-ups have already benefited from research carried out using synchrotron light.

Biology and Medicine

The fight against illnesses, such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, osteoporosis and many cancers, will benefit from the new research techniques available at Diamond. Investigating the structures of the proteins involved in these and other diseases

will help scientists to understand them better, thus opening new avenues for treatment. For example, the "anti-Flu" drug Relenza, which was developed using information provided by synchrotron light, was a huge milestone in biomedical science. It illustrates the exciting potential of rational drug design and the vital role played by synchrotron in the fight against disease.

Environment and Earth Sciences
Pollution is one of the major problems facing environmental science
today. Understanding how contaminants make their way into the environment and how to counteract them
can be a real challenge. Some plants
and micro-organisms have a natural
ability to absorb toxic metals from
contaminated land and deactivate
them. Diamond will help researchers

to understand how this happens, and so open up cheap and effective ways for cleaning up polluted land.

Find out more...If you would like to find out more about this new and exciting facility, come along to the forthcoming meeting in the village (*details of the date to follow*) or contact Diamond's communications team on 778130.

Congratulations to Terry Fraser, our District Councillor, who was recently elected Chairman of the Vale District Council.

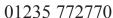


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Hendred Stores and Post Office Award Winning Village Shop - Newly Refurbished

New services include the enhanced delicatessen, a wider selection of wines and beers (chilled ready to drink), and freshly baked baguettes with various fillings at lunchtime (croissants and pain au chocolat at weekends).

We still stock all the "old favourites", including Hendred honey, wine from the Hendred vineyards and other locally sourced products, such as bacon, sausages, cheese, free-range eggs and cakes.

Our other services include:

Groceries, fresh bread, milk, fruit and vegetables. Newspapers and magazines. Organic meat (via Fellers of Oxford). Photocopying, faxing and emailing.

Dry-cleaning, Calor Gas, coal and kindling.

Ice creams and cold drinks. Off licence and glass hire. Free delivery for the sick and elderly.

Please help us to keep this a thriving village shop, and "thank you" for your support over the last five years.

— Andrew and Joanne Bunting.

High Street, East Hendred - Tel 833123 Open seven days a week (half day on Sunday)

chair

"East Hendred residents make a great effort to maintain the standards of the village, an impression strengthened by the excellent newsletter". This statement, written by the judges for the Oxfordshire Best Kept Village Competition, is very welcome and our award of Second Prize in the medium-sized village category this year is a tribute to the hard work put in by many residents. The rose beds in the centre of the village were also particularly attractive this year, now that they are better established (thanks to Kate Nicol and her team for all their efforts)

and they were picked out as a special feature by the judges. Their report on the village appears elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.

Unfortunately, not all residents take the same attitude to the village and we have had several problems over the summer months with petty vandalism on the bus shelters and other village amenities. The Parish Council has recognised that the facilities for teenagers in this village are minimal and a meeting was held in June to explore what new facilities might be provided. We were very pleased with the high turnout at the meeting, with many youngsters attending with their parents. As a result, a small working party was set up to look at the need for a youth group and dedicated facilities, which the Parish Council is supporting (a report on the meeting

is below). In addition, the Council has been exploring the possibility of the 'Damascus' bus visiting the village on a regular basis to benefit teenagers (see page 4).

As discussed in the last issue of the *Bulletin*, the planning of the future of the village is increasingly important. Parish Councillors have been attending workshops on this topic and taking advice from various bodies on what can be done. Some background on the preparation of a "village design statement" is on page 4 and the Council will explore how this could be implemented. Input from interested residents would be very welcome (contact John Sharp, 833367).

East Hendred is one of the few local villages with its own website (www.hendred.org). Much of the development work on this has been done by David and Sam Pentin, who are leaving the village shortly. We would like to thank them for all their hard work and wish them all the best in their new life in France. We are very pleased that Alex Birkhead (our *Bulletin* editor) has agreed to take on the role of webmaster. The Parish Council is also keen to explore the opportunity of widening the scope of the website and has recently set up a small group to explore this with Alex.

Congratulations to Terry Fraser, our District Councillor for many years, who has recently been elected as Chairman of the Vale District Council. Terry is a regular attendee at our Parish Council meetings and a strong supporter of this and neighbouring villages.

John Sharp

Renewable Energy Feasibility Study project

In previous *Bulletins*, details of this feasibility study have been given. It is now in its final stages and a questionnaire has been developed based on one provided by TV Energy (promoter for renewable energy in the Thames Valley area) and has been distributed to many villagers for their views on renewable energy and its role in this village.

If you would like a copy to complete, please contact one of the project team (John Sharp, Edward Eyston, Charles Clayton, Charles Pappenheim, Martin Simmons or Jon Dunsdon). We are keen to get as many views as possible from a wide range if residents of different ages. Overall, results from this questionnaire will appear in a future issue of the *Bulletin*.

Cycle route around Hendred - Sustrans 44

This year, the Sustrans Route 44 has been officially opened, providing a cycle route from Wantage to Didcot. The route from Didcot follows the edge of the Harwell site, along the Icknield Way, joining with the village road to the Downs and then taking the metalled path across to Ginge and then along the back roads to Wantage, via Ardington.

Details of the route can be found on the Sustrans web site

(www.sustrans.org).

Encouragement of cycling both for leisure and travelling to work is an important objective towards sustainable transport. The Council is exploring a possible cycle route from the village to Milton Park where several villagers now work, following a request from one of our residents. If you are interested in this please contact the Clerk.

WWII evacuees — in contact?

The Evacuees Reunion Association published a request from a Mr W.J. Attwood for contact from people who were evacuated to East Hendred as children from London during the Second World War, highlighting a contingent that arrived on September 1st 1939, including boys from Cave Road School, West Ham.

Contact: Letters should be addressed to Mr Attwood, c/o The Evacuees Reunion Association office, The Mill Business Centre, Gringeley-on-the-Hill, Notts DN10 4RA; tel 01777 816166; email era@avacuees.org.uk.

Village Teenagers' Meeting

Working group set up to progress improved facilities for teenagers

On Wednesday June 30th, over 30 (teenagers and their parents) attended a meeting with the Parish

Council to explore improved facilities for this age group. There are frequent complaints that there are no suitable recreational facilities in the village for this particular age group, as both play parks cater mainly for undereleven year-olds. Sarah Merritt, who

is working with the Police as a Crime Reduction Officer, came along and provided very useful input on grants available and the mechanism for obtaining these. A working party was set up to progress this area and the members consist of:

Teenagers: Abbie Branson, Becky Wells, Ben Prior, Kevin Thimbleby and Lee Dodd.



Adults: Steve Mellors, Bruno Branson, Derek Dodd, Debbie Cox and Vanessa Hendy.

We look forward to progress in improving village recreational facilities for teenagers.

Progress with Harwell site restoration

A number of pits contaminated with chemicals are being cleaned up on the Western edge of the site, close to our Parish boundary. The Parish Council has been kept in close touch with activities there,

including their safety plans. The latest news is that ten of the pits have now been cleared, with the remainder to be completed by next March. Three emergencies have arisen during the work, all of which were managed safely with the extensive safety arrangements in place.

Damascus Bus

Youngsters in five local villages now have a new opportunity to meet and socialize, since the *Damascus* double-decker bus has been launched. A member of the management committee came along to the July Parish Council meeting to explain the project.

It is part of a youth project based in five rural communities, including Drayton and Steventon, and supported by grants from the Lottery Commission and several other organisations. The bus arrives in each village on a designated evening and parks in an agreed place. As well as being an information point for young people, it is an

opportunity for other activities, such as drama workshops, photography, motorbike maintenance etc. It is supported by adults in each village, who give up their time for the evening when the bus visits.

We have asked if East Hendred can be added to the villages that the bus regularly visits and are awaiting a response. If yes, we will be looking for adult volunteers to support the project. Hopefully, it can be linked to the initiative reported elsewhere in the *Bulletin* to improve facilities for teenagers in this village. (The name "Damascus" comes from the initials of the five villages involved).

New Clerk needed in 2005

Ann Taylor, the current Clerk to the Council, is planning to retire next April. The Council will be advertising for a new Clerk in the near future, to allow for a period of overlap.

Much of the Council business is now done electronically, so the new Clerk will need to be conversant with computer skills, although some training can be provided. It is also intended that the new Clerk will train for award of the AQA Certificate in Local Administration, the costs of which will be borne by the Council. A Clerk trained to this level is necessary for our Council to achieve the award of Quality Status.

New local Bobby

We understand that PC Darren James will be covering this area from the end of September. This is a welcome move, since we lost PC Jon Penrith some time ago. We have asked if he can attend occasional Parish Council meetings to improve the liaison with the village.

Slow down, please...

A reminder, too, that the entire village from the entrances at White Road and Allins Lane to the top of Newbury Road is within the 30mph speed limit. Problems with the speed of traffic passing from White Road into High Street at the bend (by Duke's Orchard), and vice-versa, has prompted the Council to ask the County Council Highways to consider a "Slow" sign at this junction.

Please cut back overhanging plants

Taking a leaf out of the Wantage Town Council's note in the *What's On*, may the Council remind residents to check that their plants, hedges, trees and hollyhocks (!) do not overhang footpaths causing problems for passing pedestrians. Please check your vegetation and take any necessary action to trim problem plants.

Take Charge of Waste

As part of the *Take Charge of Waste* initiative, the Vale of White Horse District Council is calling for volunteers to help it tackle litter. The Council is offering equipment (litter pickers, high-visibility vests, gloves and sacks) and has published a related booklet, *The Guidance on Voluntary Litter Picking*.

Aside from individuals, community and environmental groups, and charity initiatives are also suggested as potential participants. **Contact**: Carole Chapman on 520202 or waste.team@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

Green Boxes and packing rubbish

Please note that the Green Box collection will not take cardboard of any sort, nor *Yellow Pages*, phone books, yoghurt, fruit juice or cream cartons. At present, the *Yellow Pages* books contain the wrong sort of paper for recycling.

Please ensure that your rubbish is well packed so that it cannot be opened by animals taking their evening strolls and then spread all over the footpath.

East Hendred — Managing Change

The village continues to evolve and new buildings and extensions appear at a fairly rapid rate. The Parish Council would like the village to be more proactive in managing this change, and one way is to prepare a village design statement, which is described below: If you are interested in helping with its preparation, please contact John Sharp (833367 or J.V.Sharp@btinternet.com).

Village Design Statements — what are they?

A Village Design Statement (VDS) sets out clear and simple guidance for the design of all development in a village, based on its character. It is an advisory document produced by the village community, not by the planning authority. It will not stop change from happening, but it can help effect how any new building fits in to the village. VDSs are intended to influence the operation of the statutory planning system, so that new development is in harmony with its setting and makes a positive contribution to the immediate environment.

Local communities have a unique appreciation and understanding of their own place, and a VDS is based on this knowledge. It describes the qualities that residents value in their village and its surroundings. Around 200 English communities have completed *Design Statements* to date.

What does a VDS cover?

- It describes the distinctive character of a village and its surrounding countryside.
- It shows how character can be identified at three levels:
 - the landscape setting of the village;
 - lacktriangle the shape of the settlement;
 - and, the nature of the buildings themselves.
- A VDS sets down design principles based on the distinctive local character.

 Production of a Statement fosters working in partnership with the local authority, engenders understanding of current planning policies, and offers the chance to influence future policies.

Design Statements have been completed by villages in all parts of England and they are of value to residents, planners, designers and developers. There should be broad involvement of local interests, so that the finished Design Statement is a representative document, and one that presents ideas for stimulating and sustaining community involvement in planning issues. It is important that the Parish Council, plus planning authority, councilors and officers are drawn in to the VDS preparation process. Preparing a Village Design Statement does not demand design or planning knowledge — the only requirement is an interest in the future well-being of your village.

An effective *Village Design Statement*:

- Is developed, researched, written and edited by local people.
- Reflects the representative views of a community.
- Involves a wide cross-section of residents in its production.
- Describes the visual character of the village.
- Demonstrates how local character and distinctiveness can be protected and enhanced in new development.
- Is compatible with the statutory planning system and its local application.
- Should be accepted as supplementary planning guidance (and thereby influence developers and decisions on individual planning applications).
- Is relevant to all forms and scale of development.
- Is about managing change in the village, not preventing it.

(Extracted from the Countryside Agency document, *An introduction to Village Design Statements.*)

...Yellow Pages special recycling

The District Council has made arrangements for *Yellow Pages* to be left for specialist recycling at eleven locations in the district, during August and September, including the

Drayton Recycling Centre, Wantage (Limborough Rd Car Park), Grove (The Bell) and Abingdon (Tesco and Peachcroft shopping area).

Church News

Coffee morning, starting Sep 2nd

We hope that this will reach you in time for you to come to the coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale, on Thursday 2nd September, from 10:30am to 12:00, hosted by Jackie Francis at Peeler's Cottage, Chapel Square. Everyone is welcome. We plan to make these coffee mornings a monthly event so, if this arrives too late for that event, do come to the next on 19th October at Old Hickory, White Road, hosted by Val Bacon, when, instead of the bring-and-buy, there will be a cake stall.

Meeting on September 5th

We hope also that we're not too late to invite you to the meeting on Sunday 5th September in St Augustine's church from 11:30am onwards, after the main morning service at 10:30. There will be an extended coffee break to which all are welcome to come and say what they would like our churches to

offer by way of discussion, training or support, to help you discover more about the Christian faith and the church today. There will also be information about the monthly group for children that will be starting in September. Please come and tell us what you want from your church.

Ride and Stride, September 11th

Then the annual Ride and Stride event in aid of Oxfordshire's Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 11th September. The idea is to visit as many churches as possible in the day, on foot, horse or bike. Half the proceeds go to the Trust, the rest to your church. Devise your own route or join a group. David Price has agreed to captain this year's St Augustine's team, and also to plan the route (therefore, no fences to climb or nettles to go through!). If you wish to join us, please contact Emma Price (835823) for a starting point and time. It is always great fun, even for

those of us who haven't ridden our bikes since last year's event, to spend the day pedalling along lanes and hidden pathways. An excellent day out — bring the family. More information and sponsorship forms can be found at the back of St Augustine's church or obtained from Emma.

Harvest Supper, September 24th

After the Ride and Stride, we celebrate the harvest, with the village Harvest Supper on Friday 24th September. There will be a service in St Augustine's at 6:30pm, followed by the supper (with entertainment) in Snells Hall at 7.45pm. Tickets are £4 adults and £2 for children, and are available from Jackie Francis (833473) and the Village Stores. St Augustine's main Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday 26th September at 10:30am. If you would like to help with the harvest decorations, please sign the list at the back of

the church in September, or call Anne Pappenheim (835014).

Remembrance Day, Nov. 14th

The village Remembrance Day ceremony will be held at the war memorial on Sunday 14 November, starting just before 11:00am. In order to accommodate this, the morning service at St Augustine's will start early that day, at 10:00am (instead of 10:30).

Advent Carol Service, Nov. 28th

Soon after Remembrance Day, we are into Advent, the lead-up to Christmas. There'll be an Advent Carol Service in St Augustine's on Sunday 28 November at 4:00pm. By then, the next *Bulletin* should be out but, just to give you advance notice of two of our Christmas events, the Christingle service will be on Sunday 12th December and there will be carol singing in the village on Monday 20th December.

One of our current clients is a com-

30

pany called Catalyst Health, run

by a personal trainer called John

Hendred businesses: Charlton Communications Group

Charlton Communications Group is a marketing consultancy, providing public relations (PR) and design services to a wide range of small, medium and large businesses. The company has been based in the village since moving from Wantage in May 1998. Here, managing director Mike Rowe gives an overview of what the company does:

I am often asked the question: "why did Charlton Communications move to East Hendred?" but, to me, it always seems a strange question.

If we had moved to one of those indistinguishable towns — like Slough or Milton Keynes — I could understand the incredulity, but where nicer to work than rural Oxfordshire?

The only interruption we get during the average working day is when the sheep in the field behind Old Estate Yard decide to have an impromptu "Who has the loudest baa contest?".

That doesn't mean that being based in East Hendred has no challenges, because it does.

Finding experienced employees is always a headache. At one point, we had two people driving in from Surrey every day, two from Maidenhead, one from Birmingham, and another from Watford Gap. We have, though, been fortunate in having attracted some excellent people from Hendred itself, and many of you will know our receptionist Claire Rush and our financial team of Joanne Bunting and Cheryl Meidziak.

But our location has never proved a barrier to finding clients and, funnily enough, once they have made the trip out from London or wherever they are based — and have lunched at one of the local pubs — they seem strangely keen to visit us again!

So what do we do? On the design side, we produce everything from exhibition stands to annual reports, websites to corporate identity, and newsletters

to online quizzes and games. Clients range from accountants to holiday companies, and opticians to police forces.

One of our more recent challenges was to produce a spy test on behalf of retailer Innovations. If you've always fancied yourself as James Bond, have a look at www.wevebeenexpectingyo u.com and see how you fare. Another project we undertake is to produce a 48-page magazine every two months for players of the card

game bridge. We are currently looking for an experienced advertising sales person so, if you know anyone, please let us know.

The PR team's job is to get local and national publicity for companies. As well as more traditional organisations like Grant Thornton, Invensys, Lloyds Bank, and Telewest, we have worked for plenty of colourful clients, including www.boysstuff.co.uk, Robot Wars, Zippos Circus and Antarctic explorer Roger Mear.



Denoris, and a few weeks ago he was photographed in both the Sun and the Daily Star putting rising pop star Natasha Bedingfield through her paces. At the time of writing, he is due to appear in the Daily Mirror providing advice on how to keep yourself trim while slumped in your armchair watching the Olympics.

So don't be surprised if, having listened to the news on the radio or TV or having skimmed through the paper over breakfast, you subsequently discover that the headline was born right here in the village!



East and West Hendred Women's Institute

Our membership continues to grow — we now have more than 20 members.

The autumn programme includes meetings and activities covering a wide range of interests, and members can also join in events organised for WIs both across Oxfordshire and nationally. (As examples, some of us have already booked for a series of lectures on Oxfordshire's garden heritage to be held in Didcot, a visit to the BMW Plant at Cowley, and a meeting in Oxford with Edwina Currie as the speaker.)

Denman College is the national college for the WI, and we are lucky in that it is very conveniently situated at Marcham. Denman College and its grounds have the feel of an elegant country house, and a huge range of courses run there every year, some residential and some on a "day" basis. These courses are now open to non WI members as well.

- September (date to be confirmed): Outing: "Church Crawl with Norman"
- September 16th: *Puppy* Walking for Guide Dogs for the Blind (Pauline Fretter)

Snells Hall

Village College

Two new courses are already

September. The courses will last

for ten weeks, and the tutor is

Computers for Absolute

planned, with start dates in

Pauline Gardner for both.

- October 21st: Demonstration of Sugar Craft (Pamela Marchbanks)
- November 18th: An Evening of Antiques (Elaine Binning, one of the experts from Antiques Roadshow, with colleagues from Dreweatt Neate)
- December 2nd: An evening with a Christmas Theme, at Hendred House (by kind permission of Edward and Ally Eyston)

Meetings are normally held in Snells Hall on the third Thursday in the month, starting at 7.30pm, with the speaker at 7.45pm. Visitors are welcome at most meetings, although a donation of £1 per person towards the cost is requested (maximum three meetings per year). If you would like to join as a new full member, a bargain first year subscription at this time of year costs £21 for 15 months, starting October 2004.

Contacts: Betty Beechey (832489) President, Jill Broadley (833291) Vice-President and Correspondence Secretary, or Margaret Sharp (833367) Treasurer.

from the tutor. Several people have already expressed interest in these courses, and if you would like further details or to enrol, please contact Christine Long at Abingdon and Witney College (01235 216269).

Additional courses at more advanced levels, or on topics such as Digital Photography and Photo Editing, can be arranged if enough people are interested. Contact Christine Long (details above) or Margaret Sharp (833367) if you would like to add your name to the waiting lists of potential students.

The 10th Hendreds' Family show

Sunday 5th September

This year is the Show's tenth, and every effort has been put into making it a very special occasion. The show will be held at the Sports Ground, Mill Lane, East Hendred, with the gate opening at 12 noon.

All the usual attractions — barbeque, Kennel Club Companion Dog Show, Teas, Bouncy Castle, Car Boot Sale, Vintage Vehicles, Raffle, Auction and Bar.

amily In addition, there will be tethered hot air balloon rides, Children's 5-a-side football, Martial Arts demonstrations, The Trap Man, puppet show (fairy tales), Uncle Wiggy's magic show, Owls, helium-balloon race, face painting, emergency-service vehicles, craft tent and much more.

Show exhibits will be judged in the morning before the public is admitted to the Main Marquee. Grateful thanks go to this year's main sponsor, Infineum (SMILE) — its generous donation funded the majority of the mendre as marquee hire costs.

Our thanks also go to our other sponsors — UKAEA, RWE NUKEM, The Plough, Sensorshop, MM Bellingers & Sons, and Ian Rees. For more information

about the show, please either visit our website, www. hendredsfamilyshow.org, or contact Adrian Sessions (01235 833641).

Programmes with layout, timetable of events etc. will cost £1 at the gate. Each programme will be numbered — with a prize going to the person with the winning programme.

Twinning - Sarceaux Visit to Hendreds

On Saturday July 3rd, 45 visitors from Sarceaux arrived in the village as part of our series of exchange visits. Many had been in the village before but a few were new to the experience. Host families were eagerly waiting to greet and entertain them for the weekend.

Saturday was, by arrangement, a "leisurely" day, topped-off by a pig roast and traditional games at Snells Hall in the evening. We had prizes for the winning teams in Aunt Sally and skittles and, for the first time, boules was played on the new extension car park (a tailor-made surface!).

Sunday was the big day-out, with two coaches taking the French and their host families to Warwick Castle to see the many attractions, including the tournaments and the many other events

laid on for visitors. It was interesting to hear that much of the money needed to build the castle came from ransoms received for French aristocrats imprisoned in the dungeons!

Monday morning came far too soon, and the French left the village with many goodbye kisses and promises for "l'année prochaine" when it is our turn to visit them.

Fund-raising and social visits will continue through the rest of the year, with our first event on October, which is a "pud evening". Come along and have a taste of both English and French puddings and, if you like them, pay a small sum for the recipe. We also have a pot-luck supper in February, with Norman Francis as the guest speaker. More details later.

Beginners, Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm, starting September 14th.

Email and the Internet, Mondays 10-12 noon, starting September 13th.

There are only six students per class, so everyone has the opportunity of some individual attention

East Hendred Community Centre

Snells Hall: Throughout July, August and early September, when most of the regular users are enjoying their holidays, Snells Hall comes into its own as a weekend "retreat". This year, we have already had three Brownie Pack Holidays, with groups from Abingdon, Stanford-inthe-Vale and Faringdon, separately, spending a long weekend "camping"

at the Hall. Two more packs (from Didcot and Oxford) also are expected to take up residence in October and November.

The excellent facilities in and around the Hall have long been recognised by others. For example, Steve Mellors has been organising computer events during which groups of 30 or so young adults,

who come from far and wide, spend a long weekend interacting with banks of computers. During these events, particularly late evening, the Main Hall resembles a space probe control centre and has to be seen to be amazed!

Albeit in an unfinished state, the overflow car park is providing much-needed accommodation for larger events. It is expected that this area will be completed during late

October. Incidentally, it is a source of considerable irritation that some person or persons have delighted in smashing most of the red reflectors, which were fixed on the boundary fence as a safety measure.

The Management Committee is arranging for some needed remedial work to be done inside and outside the Hall before winter sets in. Any offers of help, especially with painting jobs, would be welcomed.

"Super-pud" evening

Have you a sweet tooth? Do you enjoy trying out new recipes, or just sampling delicious homemade desserts?

Come along to Snells Hall on Saturday October 9th, at 7.30pm, when you will have the opportunity of tast-

Hendred House Fete

Hendred House Garden Fete was held on Saturday June 12th, in the grounds of Hendred House. This year, the weather was kind to us and we had a record number of visitors during the afternoon. Guided tours of the garden a Hendred House proved to be very popular, as were visits to the Private Chapel. We hope that all of the village organisations who ran stalls for their own funds did as well as we did ourselves.

ing a wide variety of puddings, talking to the cooks, and buying copies of the recipes you have particularly enjoyed.

Tickets available from Kate Nicoll (833573), Hilary Dorling (833636) or Margaret Sharp (833367).

Organised by the Twinning Group.

The three village charities that organise the event (East Hendred Community Centre, the trustees of St. Mary's Church and St Amand's school PTA) wish to thank everyone who supported us, both by helping and just being there. We will have made about £800 for each charity. Since we started to organize the fete, the Community Centre has used its share of the profits to finish paying for the extension at the hall, which benefits the whole community.

Weekend trip to Lille

French Christmas Market? **Booze Cruise? Museums and** Culture? Or all three!

Hendreds Twinning Group is organising a weekend visit to Lille, travelling through the Tunnel, for the weekend of December 11/12th 2004.

Lille is the European City of Culture for 2004 and, in addition, a traditional European Christmas Market with over 50 stalls will be operating there over this weekend. There will also be an opportunity to stock up on Christmas "goodies" at a stop at one of the French hypermarkets.

The trip is open to anyone interested, and the price includes travel by executive coach (Barnes) from East

Hendred (Wantage and intermediate pick-ups are possible, by arrangement) to Lille, an evening meal, along with bed and a buffet breakfast in a hotel close to Lille. The coach will depart from the Plough early on the Saturday morning, and should be back by about 11 pm on the Sunday evening.

A few single rooms are available at a supplement of £14, and there are also substantial reductions for children sharing with parents.

The basic price per person, sharing a double room, is £97 for the weekend.

Further details are available from Margaret Sharp (833367) or Hilary Dorling (833636). A deposit of £30 before the end of September will be needed to reserve a place. We are anticipating that this will be a popular expedition and places are limited!

Autumn Village Archive Show

We have been asked to put on a repeat of the village archive show produced for the 30-year anniversary of the opening of Snells Hall, earlier this year.

We propose to use the ground floor of Snells Hall, rather than the gallery. This gives more room and requires no need to climb the stairs. The afternoon of Sunday November 7th is the date, if the hall can be made available. Your donations will help defray our costs. Teas will be on sale.

Museum Acquisitions

Loans to the Museum for display this year have been numerous, including several for our exhibitions to celebrate 200 years of the Royal Horticultural Society and 60 years on from D Day.

Sheard, tea, and the village painting

Did you know the Sheard family had a shop in the High at Oxford, between 1700 and 1890? Among other things, they were tea merchants until the site was taken over by Shepherd the Tailors. Good news — the refurbished Sheard painting should be back in April.

Next year's exhibition plans

not yet set in tablets of stone, but look most likely to be on the theme of 60 years on from the upheaval caused by world war two.

Changes to our way of life brought about by WWII

The emphasis would be on the overall changes bought about to our way of life as a result of that experience, whether due to military service at home and overseas, or changes brought about by rationing, shared homes and schools or unexpected occupations.

mementoes to put on such a show. There are also opportunities for grant assistance through the Big Lottery Fund, to help record historical change as it affected you.

The heritage group Chapel exhibition in 2005 will probably be staged more flexibly than usual, so that we can actually be on show after the formal anniversaries of the events - although August 1945 was the end-of-hostilities date for many, some surrenders in Burma did not actually take place until September.

well, the following few years were pretty eventful, and who remembers the date for the end of Rationing?

Our exhibition plans for 2005 are

We need your memories and

Then, getting back to normal -

Success of gardens open afternoon

The gardens open afternoon was a success in all ways, with many requests to do it again. It was good to have several of the replies to which was the best garden refer not only to the chosen garden, but also to the ambience around the village and the friendliness of the people.

To quote one letter, which gained the Prize for best comment:

"[Prize for best gardens is awarded to:] Norman Francis and what he claims to be the smallest garden in Hendred but factually his expertise tends to spread throughout his neighbours and we are never sure where one garden ends and another begins."

Success financially, too, thanks to all those providing gardens and help — £1,700 goes to the Fire Pump Building Fund.

Fire Pump Building in Snells Hall grounds

Thanks to suppliers of second-hand materials, cash and labour, it is now planned that the 1831 Fire Pump will come out of purdah before the end of October. The village organisations involved are agreed on the way ahead. All that remains is convince everyone else...

The Pump will reside on the Hall site, in a temporary building for at least the winter. Current plans will allow us to house the pump there, together with a store that will replace the one the Community Centre had, which had disintegrated.

Scouts in the Hendred's since 1912

Outreach talk to the Scouts. parents and Scouters at their AGM. The story of the Hendred bugle found on eBay excited some interest amongst the senior scouters enough to ask for an illustrated talk from Heritage on the Hendred Scouts and their records.



Preparing for that talk involved even more research, with the outcome that two more bugles of the right vintage were identified —and at least one a genuine Hendred's. This one was presented by Mrs Dauglish to the West Hendred Scouts.

Thanks to a hiccup in John Stevenson's use of the computer / slide projector com-

bination, the vounger scouts had the opportunity to try out their skills on the bugles on show, while help was found to press the



right command button. They enjoyed that part, at least!

John ended his talk with an appeal for other records of scouting in Hendred, to add to those held in the village resource bank.

24 years ago...in August 1970, East Hendred suffered what was described as its

lashed monsoon-like rain down on the [then-] Berkshire village and gave residents

worst flooding at least that century, when, according to the Oxford Mail, "a freak storm



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East and West Hendred Cricket Club

The First XI is enjoying an excellent season that sees them at the top of OCA league division 4, with three matches remaining. There have been several exciting finishes and, given the first-rate facilities and the beautiful surroundings, it is difficult to think of a better place for players and spectators to be on a fine summer afternoon.

The 2004 Season has seen the launch of the Second XI into the

Oxfordshire Cricket Association league division 9. It has been very pleasing to find that the club is able to field two teams on Saturdays and that this yields several benefits to the club. The Second XI, with two matches a very satisfac-

division 9. There have been several excellent individual performances, both with bat and ball, and the club

tory third place in

batting record has been broken by Jonathan Nedelkoff (above), who scored 154 not out.

In addition to the league matches, we have continued with a programme of eleven Friendly fixtures, generally played on Sundays, so that, occasionally, we have had three matches at a weekend.

Club history...information prior to 1977 sought

The club, after a gap of about ten years, was reformed in 1977, but the first "home" games were played at the Mill Lane ground in 1980. The 2005 Season will thus be the 25th anniversary. To mark this, it is planned to produce a printed history of the club, including the period before 1977. Unfortunately, there



Hendred Cricket Club, 1961 (top, from left): Gerald Kimber, Brig. Lindsey (?), remaining, is cur- Ernie Haines, Ken Mulford, Brian Mulford, Ken Gingell, rently occupying Mervyn Tomlin, Les Goodwin; (front): Dickie Carter, Gerald Lineham, Bill Watson, Reg Ballard, Derik Ricketts, Michael Butler.

are very few records available of the club before 1977, apart from several photographs indicating that the club existed for several decades before then, with grounds in at least one other location in the village.

We would be very grateful for any information, written or verbal, which could be used as part of the history we plan to publish.

Contact: If you are interested in playing next season, or would like to know more about the club's activities, please contact the Club Secretary, Ivan Mulford (820316).

East Hendred Football Club

2004/2005 season

The Club is shortly to embark on another long season of football involving our three Senior Teams. Our 1st Eleven is again in Division 1 of the North Berks League and the 2nd Eleven will play in Division 3, having just missed out on promotion last season. All matches are played on Saturday afternoon.

Our Sunday team plays in The Autotype Upper Thames Valley Division 1, having finished runners-up in the league last season and retaining The Alan Alder Memorial Trophy.

Much preparation has been carried out during the summer months in preparing the pitch for the rigours of three teams, and a great deal of money has been spent on reseeding and turf.

New Club website

We have also launched our own web site at www.easthendredafc.co.uk where you will be able to keep up to date with all that is happening at your village club, including fixtures, results, goalscorers, and some history of the club. The Club are grateful for all the hard work that Paul Mcintosh put in to set this up. It really is a very professional site, so why not have a look.

Sponsorship and fundraising

As with all football clubs, professional or amateur, finance is a big issue. The running costs even at this level are high and the Club is grateful, therefore, to Denis Mulford of DJM Telecom Ltd for sponsoring us once again and for providing us with much needed support to purchase match balls and equipment. Also to Mary Mackinnon (Vice-President) at Hendred Vineyard, who continues a long association with the Club.

This support, together with our own fundraising, forms the main thrust of our income, but we are always striving to improve our equipment and facilities, which are among the best in the area. One of our main aims is to replace our goalposts, which have been used since 1955, and which are very heavy and difficult to maintain. Any further help from any source to achieve this would be greatly appreciated.

Join and support the Club...

We are a friendly and ambitious Club, and many of our players have been with us for years. Once such person is Paul Mead, who has played for us for some 25 years. Paul and his family left in August, to start a new life in France, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Why not venture down to the Hillfield Recreation Ground, in Mill Lane, during the season and cheer on your local team, Saturday or Sunday. Sample the best cup of tea in the area from our resident Teaman, Jimmy Francis, then enjoy an aftermatch beer in the Lounge Bar and discuss the finer points of the game.

The Club is always on the look out for new blood, on and off the field, so if you want to get involved, please contact me on the number below.

Come on follow The Owls! Contact: Steve Mulford (Chairman, 818027)

The Hendred Croquet & Boule Club

The first inter-village match was held with Ardington on the 1 July, at King's Manor and The Eyston Arms.

Croquet: E.H. 3 - Ardington 0 Boules: a village draw. Croquet players from the July event offer a challenge return match at Ardington & Lockinge Sports Club on 30th August at 10.30, to be followed by lunch. Should be one to watch!

Contact Gavin Beaumont: 833217 or croquet@littleplumber.com.

Grove Rugby Club

The rugby season at Grove RFC is kicking off. Training for the senior

teams has already started and, for juniors and minis, season (registration and training) will be Sunday 28 August, starting at 10.30am and finishing at 12 noon.

All are welcome, boys and girls - so, please come and try! Children under-eight will be playing non-contact touch/flag rugby For Minis, there will be year groups starting from U6s to U12s. (Age groupings are determined

as of 13 August 2004, for instance, U7s will cover children born between 1.9.97 and 31.9.98.)

Under RFC guidelines, children will not be able to play competitively for Grove until their sixth birthday.

For full details of fixtures, please go to the following website and look under Minis (for the Minis fixtures list),

www.groverfc.co.uk.

We are based in Brereton Drive, Grove, and geographically we are located in the fields behind the Mably Way Health centre. To get to the grounds, you need to drive around Grove and access the ground from the north. (For full directions. look at the website, under "Club info" & "Where are we?" pages.)





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Planning Matters

The Vale Planning Department has asked the Parish Council to comment on the following planning applications received since the last *Bulletin*. It should be pointed out that, although the Council makes its views known to the Planning Department on how a proposal would affect the village and the surrounding houses and that these do carry some weight with the Department, the final decision does lie with the District Planners.

An application for a single storey extension to Wells Head was received in April, together with internal repair work. As most residents will appreciate, this is a listed grade-two building in the village conservation area, and it was understood that the owners had discussed the matter with Grant Audley-Miller, the local Conservation Officer. Permission to go ahead with the internal repair work was given.

Also in April, permission was received for an extension at 6 Coulings Close, internal alterations in King's Manor barn and alterations and extension to Allwinds at The Lynch, but a refusal for permission to build two houses in the grounds of Fordybrook and an extension to the existing house was made, and the Council understands that this latter application has gone to an *Appeal Hearing* in March 2005.

In May, an extra Parish Council meeting was held to discuss the demolition of nine garages behind the Eyston Arms (which have since received permission and have now been demolished), the erection of a pair of semi-detached cottages on a site adjacent to St. Amand's School and an Appeal against the decision to build two houses in the garden of Sheard Studio. The plans for the houses on the site adjacent to St. Amand's School had been first shown to the Council in the Autumn 2003 and neighbouring residents had shown concern then. These plans had now been modified, but were still causing concern because of possible problems from overdevelopment of the site, of flooding from a nearby spring, and from several mature chestnut trees close to the boundary of the site, inaccuracy of the plans, significant changes in height planned requiring excavation, and the problem of parking (some of which was presently being used by parents delivering and collecting their children from school). It was felt, too, that the site was inappropriate as there were others more suited to this purpose. Tony Ford presented the Council's view at the Vale Planning Meeting and a decision was made to defer a decision until more information was available on the proposed levels.

When the Vale Planners had objected to the two houses in the garden of **Sheard's Studio**, it was on the grounds that "the layout of the proposed dwellings on the site and their relationship to the road are contrary in form and appearance to the prevailing character of this edge of the village location. Given the position of the site within the Conservation Area and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the proposal would therefore result in a form of development at odds with and harmful to the loose-knit character of the area". The Planners went on to add that it was contrary to the Vale of White Horse Adopted Local Plan. Several neighbouring residents had expressed their objections and the Council confirmed its objections. The Council waits to receive a date for the appeal.

Also discussed was a rear extension and conversion of the garage to a games room at **Lavender House**, **Newbury Road** and the Vale Planners later gave their consent.

The **Hendred Estate** applied to change the use of garage and outbuildings (where the original office was situated) to form storage space for garden machinery and general storage and this has now received approval.

Councillors made a site visit to view plans for an extension to the existing office space at the **Trout Farm** and had no objections. The Vale comments are still awaited.

In **June**, approval was sought for **new signage for The Wheatsheaf** by Greene King and this was given. The **Hendreds' School** requested a further extension to the five-years given for its temporary prefab building and this was agreed by the District Planners.

In July, the Council discussed a proposed extension to 2 Woods Farm Road (which has now received permission), storage units at UKAEA, a first floor extra bedroom at 11 Coulings Close (permission granted) and a two-storey extension at Cobbler's Cottage in Cat Street. A site meeting was held at Cobbler's Cottage and councillors were concerned by the scale, design, form and materials of the extension proposed and considered them to be unsympathetic to the character of this rural cottage, which is a listed building and, as a result, objected to application. There is no response from the Vale, as yet.

An controversial proposal to add three new antennae to the existing mast at the Rowstock Telephone Exchange was strongly objected to by residents close to the exchange. It should be noted that East Hendred's Parish includes Rowstock Corner House, two bungalows close to the Hungerford Road ("The Golden Mile") and two houses on the road to the Harwell site, together with the telephone exchange. The old Acorn Garage and the previous "Japanese Connection" and the houses along the Wantage Road on that side are all in the Milton Parish. Usually, Parishes adjacent to a planning application receive plans for their comments but, in this particular case, there was confusion and none of the residents knew of the proposals through Milton Parish Council. In fact, when O2 UK Ltd first considered the application, they wrote to Harwell PC earlier in the year and stated that the nearest schools (at Great Milton and Tetsworth) were out of range of the mast — both schools being on the A40! The Council felt that the information had been poorly presented and were concerned about the health of the local residents from additional antennae and objected to this application. We await the Vale Planners comments.

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 Email: k.taylor@tinyworld.co.uk

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 Coulings Close, Tel: 833491

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

Mrs V Bacon, Old Hickory, White Rd, Tel: 833403

Parish Council Groups

WORKING GROUPS

Allotments: John Sharp and Stan Francis, with the assistance of Mrs Cairney Duncanson (an allotment holder)

Amenities (General): Margaret Pill, Jimmy Francis and Stan Francis

Bulletin: John Sharp, Stan Francis, Sue Roberts (Advertising) and Jimmy Francis (Distribution)

Courtesy Lighting: Val Bacon, Margaret Pill and Jimmy Francis

Playgrounds: Edward Eyston, Tony Ford, Val Bacon and Margaret Pill

Rights of Way: Edward Eyston, Stan Francis and Rachel Sutton

Website: John Sharp, Edward Eyston, Rachel Sutton and Alex Birkhead.

TASK GROUPS

Affordable Housing: John Sharp, Rachel Sutton, Margaret Pill, Val Bacon and Stan Francis

'Greenfingers' Group: John Sharp and Kate Nicol (co-ordinator of the rose village project)

Renewable Energy: John Sharp, Edward Eyston, Charles Pappenheim, Charles Clayton, Conrad Atkinson and Martin Simmonds

Utilities Group: Tony Ford, Edward Eyston, John Sharp, Stan Francis and Jeremy Bird

Youth Issues: Edward Eyston, Tony Ford, Stan Francis and Margaret Pill

Council Representatives on Other Bodies

Harwell Liaison: John Sharp

School Governors: St. Amands - John Dewar. Hendred School - to be appointed.

Snells Hall: Ken Taylor **Sports Club:** Jimmy Francis

Howard-Spicer Fund: Mary Mackinnon and the Clerk

Transport: The Clerk receives the correspondence, but would be only too happy if there is an interested resident willing to fill this position

Wantage District Forum: Rachel Sutton and Tony Ford (this group has been disbanded for the time being).

Information

Post Office

Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9am -1pm

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Saturdays 7.00am (village shop)

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COMMUNITY POLICEMAN

PC Darren James (from September, TBC) Wantage Police Station. Church St, Wantage, Oxon OX12 8BW

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Terry Fraser 33 Nadlertown Road Wantage OX12 9EA Tel: 01235 766003

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

M.P.

Robert Jackson (retiring at next election) House of Commons SW1A 0AA

August 2004–Spring 2005

AUGUST

Sat 28 Grove Rugby, Juniors/Minis season starts

SEPTEMBER

Thu 2 Monthly church coffee morning

Sun 5 St Augustine's church meeting

Sun 5 Hendreds Family show

Sat 11 Church Ride and Stride

Mon 13 Email and the Internet course starts

Tue 14 Computers for Absolute Beginners course starts

Thu **16 WI** - *Puppy Walking for Guide Dogs for the Blind* (Pauline Fretter)

Fri 24 Harvest Supper

Sun 26 Harvest Festival, St Augustine's

OCTOBER

Sat 2 Casino Night (for Hendreds Sch	(1001)	

Sat 9 Super-pud evening (Twinning Group)

Tue 19 Monthly church coffee morning

Thu 21 WI - Demo. of Sugar Craft (Pamela Marchbanks)

NOVEMBER

Sun 7	Autumn	Village	Archive	Show	(TBC)

Sun 14 Remembrance Day ceremony

Thu 18 WI - An Evening of Antiques (Elaine Binning)

Sun 28 Advent Carol Service

DECEMBER

11–12 Coach trip to Lille, France (Twinning Group)

Thu 2 WI - An evening with a Christmas Theme

Sun 12 Christingle service

Mon 20 Carol singing

FEBRUARY 2005

Sat 5 *Pot-luck* supper (N. Francis; Twinning Grp.)

Regular Events

MONDAY Junior Football 6.30–7.30pm Mill Lane Sports Ground (Ian Rees)

Hendred Ladies Swimming Club

(Val Bacon, 833403)

Dancing class 4-5pm, Snells Hall

Karate 5.30-7pm, Snells Hall

Scouts 7-9pm, Snells Hall

Cub Scouts 6-8pm, Snells Hall

(Robin Gray, 769787)

WEDNESDAY Mother & Toddler Group, 10–12am

Snells Hall (Karin Borland, 821548)

Bowls 7.45–10pm, Snells Hall

(Ken Taylor, 833359)

Stretch & Flex 4–4.45pm, Snells Hall

(Nadine Hunt, 811961)

THURSDAY Brownies, Snells Hall

Tuesday

(Linda Harris, 832691)

SATURDAY Soccer School, Mill Lane Rec

(Glyn Evans, 770372, 07881932459,

or glynsoccerschool@aol.com)

WEEKDAYS Pre-school, every morning, 9–12am

Snells Hall (Helen McAlister, 431233)

MONTHLY Snells Hall Management Meeting, 8pm

1st Tuesday in the Gallery (Diana Wheeker, 833279)

Downs Golden Age, Snells Hall

1st Thursday (Betty Holliday, 833400)

Parish Council Meeting, 8pm 2nd Tuesday

WI, 7.30pm

3rd Thursday

Folk Club at Snells Hall

(Dave Phillips, 762644)

Useful Contacts

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	<i>Radcliffe infirmary</i> 01865 311188				
	Wantage Community 01235 205801				
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	<i>Wantage</i>				
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	Regent Cinema				
	The Independent Advice Centre 765348				
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	Vale & Downland Museum771447				

Church Services

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Sunday Mass

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Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury

Rector: Rev. Rita Ball Tel: 833235

Parish Communion

10.30am Each Sunday

Family Communion

10.30am 1st Sunday

Holy Communion

10.00am Every Thursday

The Bulletin

Please submit all contributions, and diary listings for both the *Bulletin* and the Village Website to the Editor, preferably electronically.

Events can be included up to 12 months in advance.

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Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Council.

All telephone numbers are local unless otherwise stated. (Area code 01235.)