

# EAST HENDRED *Bulletin*

## Remembrance Sunday



Once again the weather was lovely for the village commemoration on Remembrance Sunday. Brian Thomas (Wantage Silver Band) signalled the start of the two minutes silence by playing *The Last Post* and the end with *Reveille*. Wreaths were laid by Major Martin Realey on behalf of the village, Sylvia May on behalf of the veterans of Kohima and James Meston on behalf of the Scouts. The Roll of Honour included the names of all those who lost their lives in the First World War. Father Andrew Burnham led the prayers.

The Hendred Heritage Committee kindly invited everyone into the Museum for sherry. This was the final chance to see this year's exhibition - *The Secret Life of Church Street*.

## Support During Power Cuts

We all use electricity and winter power cuts are uncomfortable and inconvenient for everyone.

For some people, a power cut can make things very difficult or even dangerous.

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN), who own and run the distribution network for our area, have set up a Priority Services Register for people who might need support in case the power goes off.

If you join the register, SSEN will be alerted with your details if there is a power cut that affects your home. They will also contact you personally in cases where they know in advance that your power is going to be turned

off. You can give them details of someone whom they will contact on your behalf, if you prefer.

SSEN will take action according to how severe a power cut is, and how urgent your needs are.

They have a range of actions they can take, from calling to check that you are all right to providing emergency generators in case of prolonged power cuts.

If you would like to join the Priority Services Register, pick up a leaflet at Hendred Stores, or download a copy of the leaflet from the village website: [www.hendred.org](http://www.hendred.org)

## The *Bulletin* Will Be Fifty Years Old In January 2017!

The first issue of the *Bulletin* was published following a suggestion that "giving news of Parish Council decisions and activities would be appreciated." If successful, further *Bulletins* were to be published at six monthly intervals. As this is issue 147 the experiment was clearly successful and four issues a year have been published since around 1990.

I have been looking at the first four issues which were two pages long. Councillors included Stan Francis and Ken Taylor. Because the C of E School had moved to its present site Council meetings were being held in St Mary's Club Room. The village Play Group also took place there three afternoons a week. Whist Drives were held weekly in the Rectory Room, later to be known as the "Tin Hut". A request for a telephone kiosk on White Road was refused because there was one in the High

Street that was unremunerative. The decision to close Ford Lane to through traffic was reported in issue 3.

Downs Golden Age meetings were included in January 1968.

Power cuts had been a problem in the winter of 66/67. The Parish Council took over the trusteeship of the Sports Ground in 1967. The employment of a Village Lengthman was being considered in January 1968.

I was particularly intrigued by the formation of a joint PC/WI Committee to draw up a list of "Countryside Treasures" at the request of the County Council. (This would have been Berkshire County Council, as the Vale of White Horse was not transferred to Oxfordshire until 1974.) The was to include "natural or man made features" Does anyone have, or know if a copy still exists?

*Editor*

## Didcot Garden Town

You may have read in the local paper that Didcot was awarded Garden Town status at the end of 2015. On 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November, South Oxfordshire District Council presented the outline of the Garden Town to the public for the first time. In the next few years there will be 15,000 new houses and 20,000 new jobs for Didcot and the Science Vale area (which includes the Harwell campus). The claim is that the Garden Town status will provide a special opportunity for the area to become a better place to work and live. Garden Town status requires green space to be incorporated within the town itself. The purpose of the exhibition was to provide information so that local people could contribute on what they would like to see change. Improving connectivity, particularly with sustainable modes of transport, is also a priority. For the area around Didcot the plan is to have improved cycle and pedestrian links to connect with the town.

The presentation also showed a so-called Science Vale Area of Influence. The Garden Town team feels that it is important to ensure that people living and working in areas with a strong link to Didcot should be given the opportunity to shape the Garden Town vision. The area includes the villages of Harwell, Steventon, Blewbury, Sutton Courtenay, Upton and Chilton and the Harwell campus site. However at present it excludes the main part of East Hendred although the eastern parts of our parish are included. We need to decide whether to make a case that the main part of our village should be part of the area of influence.

The aim is to produce an initial delivery plan in Spring 2017; further consultations with the public will also be made. If you are interested look at the web site [www.didcotgardentown.co.uk](http://www.didcotgardentown.co.uk)

## New Councillors

**David Jones** joined the Parish Council in April, having moved into the village in 2003. He has worked in telecoms and technology, has worked voluntarily in the community for one year and now works independently in interim executive management. His two daughters really enjoyed going to Hendreds primary school and are now in Years 10 & 12 at KAs in Wantage. After some years as a keen player, David started helping out in recent years by volunteering on the Cricket Club committee, captaining the 2nd XI and now as Chair of the Sports Club itself.

Since becoming a Parish Councillor earlier this year he has picked up the Sports brief for the Council. His ambition is to expand participation in all types of sports in the village and help make the Sports Club a Community Hub for everyone to use all year round whether young or old - he believes it's an asset we can make much more of as a village. His favourite place in the parish: "The beautiful Sports Ground down in Mill Lane."



**Andy Williams** joined the Parish Council in November. He lives in Newbury Road, West Rowstock with his wife and two young children, having moved there in 2007. He is a Senior Building Services Engineer at the Diamond Light Source. His hobbies include mountain biking, Indie music, watching the Grand Tours, reading, cricket and gardening.

As a Rowstock resident, Andy is interested in all Rowstock matters, with road safety being a particular concern.

His favourite place in the parish is the Ridgeway, looking back over the Vale.

If he had unlimited funds to spend on a project for the village he would install speed awareness cameras for all roads into the parish; this is a small price to pay for the safety of all of our parishioners.

Andy's motto: If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way your wife told you!

## East Hendred Community Centre - Snells Hall

Following our request for people to join the hall Management Committee in the last *Bulletin*, we were delighted to be joined by Rachel Wall, a chartered accountant who lives in East Hendred and has taken on the position of Treasurer.

Our wardens, Kim and John, are taking on the booking system and are looking after the hall, which is clean and tidy and attracting compliments from hirers. Regular bookings, for the scouting organisations, DGA, the WI, a toddler group and Yoga classes, continue to ensure that the hall is in steady use, with a significant number of

gatherings, parties and celebrations keeping the total number of bookings for the year around the 400 mark.

For the festive season, the traditional Christmas Bazaar will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December and Springline's Christmas Cracker show will be on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December – we look forward to a good turnout for both!

Running the hall, our major village amenity, is practical and useful. If you would like to join the committee, or have ideas for the improvement or support of the hall, please get in touch via [snellshall@hendred.org](mailto:snellshall@hendred.org).

# from the chair

For each recent issue of the *Bulletin* we have needed to provide an update on planning. Until the Local Plan is in place we remain vulnerable to speculative developments such as Pye phase 3. As you can read elsewhere, the Vale District Council planning committee decided to approve this development of 48 houses north of the A417. Unfortunately the information provided at the meeting was confused and inadequate and we have raised a formal complaint against the procedures at the meeting. We await their full response. At the end of this month the appeal enquiry for Greensands (65 houses north of the A417 and ten houses at Mather House) will be heard in Snells Hall; the Vale District Council is opposing this development and we will be supporting them at the enquiry.

We are pleased to welcome Andy Williams to the Council; he lives in Rowstock and will be able to provide better representation of West Rowstock issues on the Council. He is an engineer working at the Diamond Light Source, has two children and has been resident in Rowstock for the last 9 years.

David Wood also applied to fill the Council vacancy and we are pleased that he has agreed to join the Council's working group on Playgrounds and support the Council in other ways with a view to joining it in future.



In January the *Bulletin* celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; the first issue was produced in January 1967. Over the last 50 years the *Bulletin* has provided news of both the village and the Council. We are grateful to the many editors who have played their part in preparing each issue, finding the news and maintaining the high quality.

Another year has shot by and very soon we will be into 2017. Some of the highlights for the last year include the discovery of Roman and medieval finds, the Beacon Night in April, the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party, the Hendred Community Art Project with the Owl Day and the "Secret Life of Church Street" exhibition at Champs Chapel Museum. We hope that in the coming year the village will feel less pressure from speculative developments!

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

John Sharp

## Update on Planning Applications

In the previous *Bulletin* we explained the current situation with respect to the application for 48 houses north of the A417 (Pye Homes phase 3) and the Greensands / Mather House proposed development. Since then the Pye phase 3 has been again before the Vale District Council Planning Committee.

The Pye phase 3 application was originally considered by the Vale Planning Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> July. Planning Committee members raised several concerns and a decision was deferred.

Pye phase 3 was again discussed by the Planning Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Several villagers spoke against this application at the meeting, including Dr. Sharp for the Parish Council. We were also supported by our District Councillor, Mike Murray.

Unfortunately, the committee decided after a confused and ill-informed discussion to approve the application. The arguments put forward by the Case Officer and the Vale planning staff were confused, particularly in relation to the current status of the Local Plan and housing land supply.

An Addendum report issued on the day of the meeting contained significant issues with respect to the application but these were not introduced by the Case Officer or the Committee chairman. One of these related to the revised treatment of sites in the open countryside (the Case Officer accepted in his brief that this site is in the open countryside which would normally lead to rejection). The second was a statement that "In relation to the supply of housing it is Officer's opinion that once

the emerging local Plan is adopted the Council will be able to demonstrate a five year supply of housing land (7.2 years)". Despite this positive statement the committee appeared to believe that the land supply was for less than 5 years (5 years is an accepted criterion for a Local Council to be able to demonstrate) and hence the Local Plan could not be considered in judging this site. Once the Local Plan is adopted (which is expected to be before Christmas) villages such as East Hendred will be limited to small developments.

As a result of the above the Parish Council has put in a formal complaint to the Vale District Council on the poor procedures at the planning committee and the confusion of the data presented to members of the committee. We have asked that the application is presented to another meeting of the Planning Committee with proper and full information available on which a decision can be made. At the time of writing we have not received a full response to our complaint.

The application by West Waddy on behalf of Les Wells for 65 houses north of the A417 and 10 at Mather House was refused by the Vale in January 2016 and an appeal was lodged by the applicant. The appeal hearing will be held at Snells Hall from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The Parish Council will be represented by Roger Turnbull, one of our councillors with professional planning experience. Villagers can attend the hearing. One positive point is that the Vale Local Plan is likely to be at its very final stages by the time of the hearing.

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## East & West Hendred WI

At our September meeting David Day, a volunteer at Pendon Museum, Long Wittenham, gave us a fascinating insight into its history and told us how the models are constructed. Snells Hall is one of the exhibits and a member was excited to see a model of her own home is also there.

As part of the NFWI Sports Week, East and West Hendred WI challenged Wantage WI to a Rounders Match. We all got together on the hottest day of the year, on the afternoon of Tuesday 13th September at East Hendred Sports Ground. After a bit of practice we had a very enjoyable, if strenuous game. We had good participation because everyone could perform within their physical capability. For example, some hit and ran while others hit and had a runner and all could field to some degree! Fortunately a few clouds came over so we didn't get too hot. After a narrow defeat by Wantage, tea and cakes (of course) were provided by Hendred and everyone agreed that a good time was had by all. Hopefully a return engagement will take place in the Spring.



*The Rounders Match*

Cyril Mannion, a pilot for over 40 years, talked at our October meeting and gave an illuminating insight into the life and death decisions the aircrew may have to make.

Norman Francis kindly gave us a historical guided tour of Wallingford on 1<sup>st</sup> November. We were astonished to discover that the town had been visited by Piers Gaveston, Oliver Cromwell and many other famous personages.

Christine Green showed us how to make unusual Christmas wreaths from fabric and demonstrated other Christmas crafts at our November meeting.

The Eyston family has again kindly offered to host our December meeting (members only) and we shall be entertained by Anno Domini, a folk duo, while we enjoy mulled wine and mince pies.

**Forthcoming events:** Meetings are at Snells Hall  
19<sup>th</sup> January 7pm - 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party (Members only)  
16<sup>th</sup> February 7:30pm - "The Story of the RNLI" – Chris Lowe  
16<sup>th</sup> March 7:30pm - Annual Meeting

*Anne Pagett*



*The Tour of Wallingford*

## Downs Golden Age

Another busy few months for the club. In early September, there was a barge trip from Kintbury to Hungerford. This was a very popular outing and well supported with lovely weather.

We had our last tea of the year in October. The speaker was Chris Caddy who gave an interesting talk on "Sherlock Holmes and his Legacy". This was followed by the Bridge Drive on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October. This is one of our main fundraising events of the year and was very well supported. For the first time ever we made £1000 profit. Many thanks to the Committee, cooks and helpers and of course the Bridge players!

In early November we had a delicious meal cooked by Salvador and his team. The hall was packed - lunches are always very popular - and after lunch we were given an extremely good and interesting talk by Martin Spray on his

inspirational work for the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. A trip to see "Oliver" in Oxford on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, proved to be so popular that it was oversubscribed.

On 8<sup>th</sup> December we have Christmas lunch with all the trimmings plus a visit from Santa and musical entertainment. On 5<sup>th</sup> January, lunch will be followed by entertainment by HUG, our local ukulele band. We hope to go on an outing to Slimbridge next Summer.

The DGA meets on the first Thursday of the month at Snells Hall and we always welcome new members and guests. It's only £12 per year and that covers all the lunches and teas, speakers and subsidised outings. For more information please ring Susie on 833797 or email [susie@monks court.co.uk](mailto:susie@monks court.co.uk)

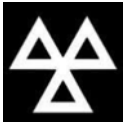
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## Peanut Cookies

Anne Pagett has kindly provided this recipe.

It is very quick and easy and suitable for children to make!

10 tbsp. crunchy peanut butter

10 tbsp. caster sugar

5 tbsp. plain flour

½ tsp. bicarbonate of soda

1 egg

Heat oven to 200C, Gas 6, then grease and line a baking sheet.  
Place all ingredients into a large bowl and mix thoroughly.  
Roll the mixture into 15 equal balls, put onto baking sheet, flatten  
and bake for 10 minutes.

*I would welcome more recipes. Like this one, I might not use them  
straight away but it is good to have input I can use when needed  
Ed*

## The Walking Group – Every Wednesday

The walking group continues to go from strength to strength and there are always some new faces to welcome to our group. We have had some stunning autumn walks, enjoying the fantastic colours of the trees and blue skies. We are continuing with our longer walks once a month, these are usually about 10 miles and most importantly include a pub lunch. In December we will be meeting at the Wheatsheaf for our annual Christmas lunch.

If you are new to the village, recently retired or have a couple of hours to spare, why not join us on a Wednesday. We normally walk for about two and a half hours which includes a stop for coffee. Shorter walks can always be arranged. We normally start from Snells Hall but sometimes go on an excursion.

So no excuses - see you at 9.30 at Snells Hall sometime soon! Whatever the weather!

If you want to join us please ring Susie on 833797.

## East & West Hendred Cricket Club

Congratulations to the Cricket Club. The 1st XI won Division 2 of the Oxfordshire Cricket Association in 2016.

The cricket club also came 2nd in the best kept ground of the OCA which has over 65 clubs across Oxfordshire - including Radley College and several University Grounds.



From left to right: Ivan Mulford, Kash Rashid, Jack Mulford, Andy Francis, Jon Francis, Dom McKenna, Jason Fisher, Mark Baring (Cpt). Peter Beckley, and Charlie Mulford



## Tennis fit for all

What a year it's been for British tennis with Andy Murray finally laying claim to the title as tennis number one. Closer to home, Hendreds Tennis Club had a few winners of its own. In June five pairs of Wimbledon tickets were offered through LTA ballot. In June, weekly junior coaching got under way, friendlies were played and two great tournaments took place in July and October. Finally, the club is now part of the Vale singles league so even the keenest players are kept on their toes. The club is already looking forward to next Spring when it will launch a fresh programme of junior coaching. Members are the first to hear about what's on offer.

If you would like to join the Club contact our Membership secretary Aisling O'Keefe, email [play@hendredstennis.co.uk](mailto:play@hendredstennis.co.uk). Tennis continues over the winter months, Sunday mornings reserved for those wanting to turn up and mix in.

## GO Active GOLD

The three year project has received funding from Sport England to offer support to the over-sixties in rural areas to live more active lifestyles.

I have been enjoying "Tai Chi for Health" sessions in Sutton Courtney. The slow movements are good for flexibility, balance and strength. They are also good for the mind as concentration is needed to follow the sequences!

Currently there are Nordic Walking, Tai Chi and Zumba classes in Steventon and Yoga classes in Drayton. Hopefully there will be classes here in 2018. For more information go to [www.getoxfordshireactive.org/go-active-gold](http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/go-active-gold).

Angela Pawlyn



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## Church News

The delicious three-course Harvest Lunch at St Augustine's was enjoyed by all and the harvest gifts donated by children of The Hendreds School and parishioners were welcomed by Wantage Food Bank. Later in October, our very first fundraising Bingo night at Snells Hall was such a success that we're planning another for the Spring, when all the prizes will have an Easter theme!

By the time you read this, the new website for the Benefice of Wantage Downs (East and West Hendreds, Ardington and Lockinge) should be live. This has been designed specially for us and will provide all the information you need about services and activities in the four parishes. The address remains the same – do take a look:

[www.wantedownsbefice.com](http://www.wantedownsbefice.com)

There's no coffee morning at the end of December, but they start again as usual in the new year on the last Wednesday of the month (25<sup>th</sup> January and 22<sup>nd</sup> February) from 10:30am in St Augustine's church. Everyone is welcome for coffee, cake and a chat.

Details of services over the Christmas season in both our churches are provided on the right. Service times are always available on the two church websites (easily accessible through the Churches tab on the [hendred.org](http://hendred.org) website), the noticeboards at the churches, and in the weekly What's On in The Hendreds email.

## Christmas in the Churches

Christmas in the churches is fascinating. There are the children, wide-eyed with wonder at Christingle (St Augustine's) or the Crib Service (St Mary's). Then there are the families: maybe believing - maybe half-believing - that there must be a bit more to all this than a fairy tale. Similarly open-minded are the occasional churchgoers, those with relatives who have come to stay, and those who, though they wouldn't dream of going to church on an ordinary Sunday, wouldn't dream of not going at Christmas. Finally there are those who are there because they are there week by week. For these, Christmas is a profound exploration of the simplicity and mystery of the Faith which underlies their everyday lives. All of us, with John Betjeman's 'Christmas', can say or half-say:

No love that in a family dwells,  
No carolling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare -  
That God was man in Palestine  
And lives today in Bread and Wine.

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you and your families.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

**Thursday 8 December – IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
9.15am Mass: St Mary's

**Wednesday 14 December**  
6.30pm St Amand's School Carol Service: St Mary's

**Saturday 17 December – O Sapientia**  
9.30am Mass and Advent Quiet Morning: St Mary's

**Sundays 18 December – 1 January**  
*Children's Liturgy Christmas Break*

**Sunday 18 December – ADVENT 4**  
9.30am Mass: St Mary's

11.15am Mass: St Patrick's

**Saturday 24 December – CHRISTMAS EVE**  
4pm Crib Service: St Mary's

*All welcome - children dress for Nativity*

8pm Christmas Vigil and First Mass: St Mary's

**Sunday 25 December – CHRISTMAS DAY**

9.30am Mass: St Mary's

11.15am Mass: St Patrick's

**Monday 26 December - St Stephen**

11am Archconfraternity of St Stephen: Mass for Servers at St Mary's

**Sunday 1 January 2017 – MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

9.30am Mass: St Mary's

11.15am Mass: St Patrick's

**Friday 6 January – Twelfth Night**

7pm Youth Mass and Party

**Sunday 8 January – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

*Children's Liturgy resumes*

9.30am Mass: St Mary's

11.15am Mass: St Patrick's

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE OF WANTAGE DOWNS

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December – ADVENT 3**

9am West Hendred: Morning Prayer

10.30am St Augustine's: Benefice Communion

6pm Lockinge: Carol Service

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

6pm St Augustine's: Nine Lessons and Carols

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December – ADVENT 4**

8am Lockinge: Holy Communion (BCP)

9am West Hendred: Family Service

10.30am St Augustine's: Holy Communion

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December – CHRISTMAS EVE**

3pm West Hendred: Crib Service

6pm Ardington: Crib Service

10:30pm Lockinge: Midnight Mass

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December – CHRISTMAS DAY**

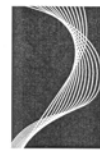
9am West Hendred: Holy Communion

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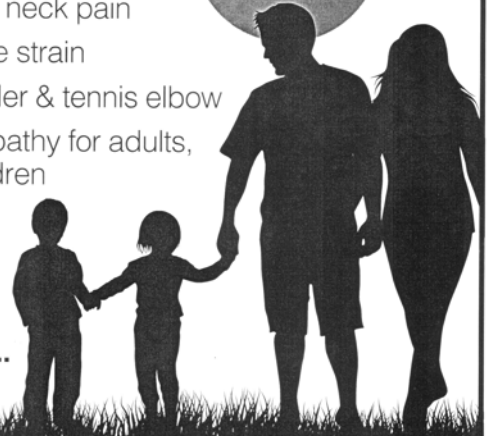


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## Farming Focus

The lovely dry Autumn period has allowed us to press on and plant our crops in near ideal soil conditions. The fact that the seeds are planted does not, however, guarantee that a crop will establish. We have suffered poor establishment and crop failures due to pest issues in our oilseed rape and cover crops, both small-seeded species, which tend to be more prone to establishment problems because there are less food reserves in the seeds.

The main culprits have been slugs and snails eating the germinating seedlings. We have had a population explosion of these pests this year for a number of reasons. Our soil-friendly farming system entails a high level of organic matter at or near the soil surface which provides an ideal habitat for them. At the same time, we had a mild winter last year followed by a wet spring, which allowed the breeding cycle to continue uninterrupted. (Cold dry winters cause them to hibernate deep underground.) Non-chemical control of these pests involves cultivating to physically kill, dry out and expose the slugs and snails and their eggs to predators. After planting, heavy rolling firms the soil and prevents them moving around so easily just below the soil surface.

Our system of minimal cultivation and spongy high organic matter soils (which makes consolidation difficult) means that both of these techniques give limited success and we have to resort to chemical control. Early in the autumn we use a chemical called Metaldehyde, but this can enter water supplies in wetter conditions (needing expensive filtering out by water companies). Therefore we use environmentally safe (but more expensive) Ferric Phosphate later in the autumn when soil conditions deteriorate.

The other main pest problem which has attacked our oilseed rape crops is Flea Beetle. This pest eats the leaves of the small rape plants and can wipe out entire fields very quickly. Over the past two years this pest has become an increasing problem and illustrates some of the difficulties and negative effects of well-meaning legislation.

Previously crops were protected by an insecticidal seed dressing which controlled the pest effectively by

ensuring the young plants contained an insecticide during their first few weeks of growth. A couple of years ago this chemical (Neonicotinoids) was deemed to be potentially harmful to bees and banned from use in the EU. The only alternative now left for farmers is to blanket-spray fields (which is much more indiscriminate) with chemicals which are much less effective and require multiple sprays because the effects wear off after a day or two.

Elsewhere on the estate we have started a programme of gradual felling and replanting of the windbreaks. As the predominant cedar and spruce trees mature they will be replaced with a more diverse mix including broadleaves such as oak, alder, silver birch, maple, hazel and beech.

We have also carried out some work improving some areas of footpath close to the village that get muddy in the winter. There seems to be a misconception by some villagers that the Estate is not interested in maintaining paths. Nothing could be further from the truth; we take our responsibilities seriously and usually mow most paths voluntarily at least two or three times a year at our own cost, as well as carrying out major improvements such as the levelling and re-seeding of the Golden Mile stretch of path adjacent to the Harwell security fence. The fencing that we have done alongside the paths serves the dual purpose of allowing dogs to run free in certain areas without the risk of them disturbing game and wildlife in the woods as well as clearly delineating paths.

As well as the statutory rights of way the Estate also provides a number of permissive paths for public use. Obviously now it is winter some of the softer paths will get muddy but there are enough hard tracks such as the Icknield Way to provide an element of choice when conditions are bad. I am sure that no one would wish the natural beauty of the paths around the Estate to be compromised by providing some kind of manicured "East Hendred Center Parc" with paths that could be tackled in carpet slippers in winter!

*Julian Gold, Farm Manager, Hendred Estate*

*Many thanks to Julian and his team for the recent repairs to the footpaths. I am very pleased that I will be able to continue using two regular walks this winter. Ed*

## Pumpkin Carving Competition

Louise at Hendred Stores brought more fun to Halloween with a Pumpkin Carving Competition. A good response made for a fine display and raised a very welcome £30 towards new crockery for Snells Hall.





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## The Hendreds School

The Hendreds School has been under scrutiny during 2016. In March we had a SIAMS inspection (National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) and then, in November, the rigours of a two-day full OFSTED inspection.

The staff and governors of the school are delighted that we achieved the highest 'Outstanding' grade in all areas of both inspections.

A couple of quotes from the OFSTED report highlight the school's special ethos and approach to learning: "The personal development of each pupil is at the heart of the school's work, no opportunity is wasted in pursuit of this goal" and "The curriculum is wide ranging, combining essential skills and knowledge with exciting and meaningful experiences."

The amount of hard work, time and effort that achieving these fantastic results has taken should not be underestimated. The staff and pupils of the school were brilliant on both occasions; it is not easy to handle the

pressure the presence of an inspector places on teacher and pupil alike! We should acknowledge and applaud what an amazing job everyone at the school has done over the past few years to earn these grades.

Ms Tansley has been Headmistress of the school for 26 years and she is ably assisted by an exceptional team of teaching staff who provide our children with a rich and diverse curriculum. We are, as a community, extremely lucky to have them.

The school transformed to Academy status in December 2013 and is now part of the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST). The support and guidance provided by the team of professionals at ODST has been exceptional. The Governing Body of the school consider these brilliant results to underline the positive influence the move to ODST and Academy status has had on the school.

For more information about the school or to view the inspection reports please visit the school website [www.hendreds.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.hendreds.oxon.sch.uk).

## Hendreds Twinning Group

We will be celebrating 20 years of twinning during the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> July 2017. We travel to France, staying with host families in and around our twin village of Sarceaux near Argentan in Normandy in alternate years, and we're due to go in 2017. Travel is by Barnes Executive coach, leaving from the Plough, East Hendred around midday on the Friday to catch the ferry from Portsmouth to Caen (Ouistreham) and thence by coach to the village. Our hosts are planning special events to mark the anniversary. They also lay on an extensive programme of local visits and activities, with very generous hospitality throughout. Return travel is by coach and the afternoon ferry, with a stop en route at a big hypermarket to stock up on French delicacies, arriving back in the village late on the Monday.

It is a very inexpensive short break for everyone who goes (particularly for accompanied children who are heavily subsidised from the proceeds of fundraising over

the year). The cost per adult is likely to be around £200, with school-age children paying only about £12 each for the whole weekend. It's a great educational experience for children, as staying with a French family is very different from holidays staying in hotels or gîtes. It's worth approaching your children's school for special permission for time off.

Places are available for anyone living in the Hendreds or surrounding area. Members come from a range of backgrounds with ages usually ranging from primary school age to pensioners.

Twinning Group membership subscription £10/year per household.

Lesley Lewis, Tel 01235 863184

[lesley.lewis@avondale.co.uk](mailto:lesley.lewis@avondale.co.uk)

Margaret Sharp, Tel 01235 833367

[m.l.r.sharp@btinternet.com](mailto:m.l.r.sharp@btinternet.com)

## The Harwell Site

In July last year, I was very pleased to have the opportunity to attend an Open Evening arranged primarily for members of the Harwell Site Stakeholder Group on which John Sharp is our representative. The purpose of this visit was to see the older parts of the site.

The Atomic Energy Research Establishment was established in 1946 at the RAF Harwell site. The last three reactors on the Harwell site closed in 1990 and decommissioning and restoration of the site continues.

Our tour started at the area where the radioactive liquids had been processed. Magnox, the organisation managing decommissioning at ten nuclear sites, are removing all the buildings to ground level and separating materials contaminated with radioactivity.

The tour ended in one of the old hangars where the core of the BEPO (British Experimental Pile '0') reactor is still in place "under long term care and maintenance". This was the second of fourteen reactors built on the site and operated from 1948 until 1960. The experimental reactors

led to the opening of the first commercial nuclear power station, Calder Hall, in 1956.

Over the years the energy has come to be described as "nuclear" rather than "atomic" because it is the nucleus of the atom which releases energy when it splits.

During the tour our guide pointed out the sites of many demolished buildings. I was very surprised by the size of the site and the amount of green open space there must have been even before buildings were demolished.

We stopped at the Water Purification Plant where chemical pollution from dumping of solvents and other chemicals during the RAF days and the early days of AERE has seeped into the ground water and is being treated. It is significant that the only external pollution from the site has been chemical rather than radioactive.

If you want to find out more I recommend a time line on the Magnox website (<http://magnoxsites.com/site/harwell>) which gives a good overview of the Harwell site.

Angela Pawlyn

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## Planning Matters

**P14/V2258/O** – South Drive, Harwell. Outline permission to demolish the existing properties and develop up to 120 new homes. Not yet decided

**P15/V2328/O** - Mather House, White Road and Greensands. Outline proposal for 10 homes for the elderly on the Mather site and 65 new homes on the Greensands site. Following a clear mandate from residents at the public meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016, the PC objected. The Vale refused planning permission on the grounds that a) The site is detached from the existing settlement of East Hendred and the proposal would result in an isolated form of development in an unsustainable location within the countryside b) The visual impact of the development particularly to the north of the A417 is likely to be significant and to the detriment of the character of the locality and the setting of the North Wessex Downs AONB and Lowland Vale and c) A second new access onto the A417 Reading Road would be unnecessary to serve the development and would result in unwanted turning movements onto and from the A417, with consequential impacts in terms of safety and the impedance of traffic flows. This outline application has gone to appeal, by public enquiry at Snells Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> Nov-2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.

**P15/V2560/FUL** - Pye Homes phase 3. Proposal for a further 48 new dwellings on the north of the A417 to the east of Portway Villas. A public meeting was held in January. A full archaeological survey was carried out, but the OCC's archaeological team did not consider the site to be significant. Revised plans were received and reviewed, with a further public meeting held in May. The PC objected to this application on the grounds of the harm to the AONB and the impact on the A417. Permission granted at the Vale Planning Committee meeting in November. The PC has made a complaint about the handling of this application - see page 3.

**P16/V0235/O** – Greensands and Mather House. Resubmission of the application (see above). Permission refused.

**16/V1481/HH and P16/V1482/LB** – Manor House, Allins Lane. For the replacement of existing conservatory with a garden room extension; blocking up of existing window and various internal alterations and conversion works to barn to allow ancillary residential use. PC had no objection to this application but requested a covenant in place, guaranteeing that this building does not become a separate dwelling. Permission granted.

**P16/V1823/HH** - Chapel Meadow, Ford Lane. For garage conversion and side extension for garage with room over. The PC objected on the grounds that the proposal brings the property right up to the boundary with The Furlong footpath. The design and access statement with the application for the house itself (in 2013) included the following text in mitigation of the siting of the house: "The house is sited 5 metres from the site boundary as before and any impact on Pemberley will be lessened as the parking area has been relocated in front of the garage." It is clear that the current application seeks to do away with this mitigation. Permission granted.

**P16/V2156/LDP** - Wych End, 5 The Spinney, Ford Lane. For the removal of existing conservatory and construction of single storey side and rear extensions. Withdrawn.

## Parish Council

Council meetings are held in Snells Hall at 7:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month. An Open Forum, in which parishioners may ask questions, starts at 8pm.

**Clerk to the Council:**  
Julia Evans, Moorcroft, Greenway,  
W. Hendred Tel: 833466

**Chairman:**  
Dr John Sharp, Inish Fail, Orchard Close  
Tel: 833367

**Deputy Chairman:**  
Charles Pappenheim, Willow House,  
Horn Lane Tel: 835014

**Councillors:**  
Christian Bedford, Penny Green, Cat St  
Tel 07966 661298

David Jones, Holly Hock Cottage, Cat St  
Tel: 07782326065

Catherine Shortis, Oak Barn, Old Rd  
Tel: 820284

Selby Stocks, Portway, Reading Rd  
Tel: 821740

Roger Turnbull, Monks Court, Newbury Rd  
Tel: 833797

Stephen Webb, Chapel House,  
Chapel Square Tel: 833395

Andy Williams, Victoria Cottage,  
Newbury Road, Rowstock Tel: 832527

## Council Working Groups

<b>Allotments:</b>	C Shortis
<b>AONB:</b>	J Sharp
<b>Bulletin:</b>	J Sharp, C Pappenheim
<b>Courtesy lights:</b>	C Bedford, C Pappenheim
<b>Finance:</b>	J Sharp, C Pappenheim, S Webb
<b>Lengthman:</b>	C Pappenheim
<b>Playgrounds:</b>	C Bedford, R Turnbull, C Shortis, D Wood
<b>Rights of way:</b>	C & A Pappenheim
<b>Sports Club:</b>	D Jones, S Stocks
<b>Transport:</b>	S Webb

## Planning Matters cont.

**P16/V2311/HH** - Mead Edge, The Lynch. For a single storey extension. PC responded with no objection. Permission granted.

**P16/V2353/O** - 1 Portway Cottages, Reading Road. To build a single 3 bedroom dwelling. PC objected to this application on the grounds that proposed access onto the A417 is unsatisfactory and dangerous. Refused.

**P16/V2426/HH** - 5 Mill Lane. For a two storey front and side extension and a single storey rear extension. PC had no objection to this application. Permission granted.

**P16/V2687/FUL** - Gegg's Corner, Newbury Road. To build 2 detached dwellings with garages. PC requested planning conditions be attached to ensure that associated work on the highway access and adjacent listed building is completed before building commences. Awaiting decision.

## Information

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### POLICE

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Tel: 101

PCSO Denise Clements,  
Badge C9845

### DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Mike Murray

michael.murray@

whitehorsedc.gov.uk

7 The Causeway

Steventon

Abingdon OX13 6SE

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Stewart Lilly

Stewart.lilly@

oxfordshire.gov.uk

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Ed Vaizey

vaizeye@parliament.uk

House of Commons,

London, SW1A 0AA

## Council Representatives on Other Bodies

**Harwell Liaison:** John Sharp,  
Stephen Webb

**Howard Spicer Fund:** Ann Taylor,  
Diana Wheeler,  
Barbara Smith

**NAG Police:** Janet Shelley

Full details of planning applications can be found at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

## December 2016 to March 2017

### December

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Bazaar - Snells Hall  
 8<sup>th</sup> DGA Christmas Lunch  
 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Springline Christmas Cracker  
 16<sup>th</sup> Nine Lessons and Carols  
 St Augustine's  
 24<sup>th</sup> Crib Services - see page 9

### January

- 19<sup>th</sup> WI Birthday Party  
 25<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, 10:30 St Augustine's

### February

- 16<sup>th</sup> WI - Story of the RNLI  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Coffee Morning, 10:30 St Augustine's

### March

- 16<sup>th</sup> WI - Annual Meeting  
 28<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning, 10:30 St Augustine's

### What's On?

To receive the *What's On in The Hendreds* email each week, send an email to [events@hendred.org](mailto:events@hendred.org)  
 The emails are published on the [hendred.org](http://hendred.org) website each week.  
 Printed copies of the *What's On* emails are available free from Hendred Stores.

### From the Editor

Many thanks to all contributors. The deadline for the Spring issue is 9<sup>th</sup> February. Please submit all contributions and diary listings to me, preferably electronically.  
 Angela Pawlyn [bulletin@hendred.org](mailto:bulletin@hendred.org)

## Regular Events

- Monday **Scouts** 7–9pm, Snells Hall (Richard Tingley, 07771 545006)
- Tuesday **Beaver Scouts** 5.25 – 6.25pm, Snells Hall (Vicki 833544)  
**Cub Scouts** 6.30 – 8pm, Snells Hall (Mhairi, 820249)
- Wednesday **Walking Group** 9.30am, meet at Snells Hall (Susie Turnbull, 833797)  
**Hendred Ukelele Group** 9:30am  
 The Barn, opposite the War Memorial (Dave Parry 07796 674 147)
- Sunday **Champs Chapel Museum**  
 2.30 - 4.30pm April to October
- Weekdays **Pre-school**, at Snells Hall  
 9 to 12 noon and 12:00 to 3pm Mon-Fri  
 Susan Heakin, 831555  
[www.hendredspreschool.org](http://www.hendredspreschool.org)
- Monthly  
**Snells Hall Committee Meeting**  
 7.45pm, Snells Hall Gallery, 1st Tuesday  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
 7.30pm, Snells Hall, 2nd Tuesday  
**Coffee Morning**  
 10.30am, St Augustines,  
 Last Wednesday,  
 (except August and December)  
**Downs Golden Age**  
 Snells Hall, 1st Thursday (see page 5)  
**Women's Institute**  
 7.30pm, either Snells Hall or West  
 Hendred Hall, 3rd Thursday  
 (see page 5)

## Church Services

### Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury

Rector: Rev. Elizabeth Birch  
 Tel: 833235

Usually the Sunday service is at 10:30am, but please check the noticeboard at the church door, see *What's On in The Hendreds* or go to [www.wantedownsbenevole.com](http://www.wantedownsbenevole.com)

### Catholic Parish of St Mary

Priest-in-Charge:  
 The Rev'd  
 Mgr Andrew Burnham  
 Tel: 01235 835038 or  
 07976437979  
 Email: [aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:aburnham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
 or  
[Hendredandilsley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Hendredandilsley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Sunday Mass

9.30am St Mary's,  
 East Hendred

## Useful Contacts

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**HENDRED STORES** 833123

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**Tourist Information** 760176

**Vale & Downland Museum** 771447

For website and email address details, see  
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All telephone numbers are local (01235) unless otherwise stated.

You can view the *Bulletin* online at  
[www.hendred.org/news](http://www.hendred.org/news)



**Addendum:** *The text below was separately printed and distributed as an insert to the December 2016 Bulletin.*

## **Greensands Appeal**

As mentioned on page 3 of the Bulletin, the appeal against refusal of planning permission for 65 houses at Greensands started on 29<sup>th</sup> November. However, the hearing was immediately adjourned until late February, because a key witness was not able to attend.

There was a very good turnout of residents with placards and great interest was shown in the case.

Thank you to everyone who came along. The number of people present made the depth of feeling in the village about this case quite clear to the inspector who was holding the hearing.

This adjournment is likely to be very positive from the village's point of view, because there is every chance that the Local Plan will be adopted before the appeal, and the Greensands site is not included in this part of the draft Local Plan.

The new starting date for the appeal is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30am and the inspector said that time would be available for residents to speak at the beginning of the appeal.



*Some of the residents who attended on 29<sup>th</sup> November*