

EAST HENDRED *Bulletin*



Remembrance Sunday - Lest we forget



A large gathering watched the procession to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance led by the Rev. Nikolaj Christensen of St Augustine's and Father Matthew Topham of St Mary's Catholic Church. Brian Thomas of Wantage Silver Band attended to play the bugle and the exhortation was read by Chris Harrison. The names of the fallen were read by Pip Couchman and Becky Turner. Wreaths were laid by David Chennell for the village, Archie Crockett for the Scout movement, Sally Povolotsky for the Council, Sylvia May for the Kohima Association, Dair Farrar-Hockley for comrades who fell in the Falkland Islands and Martin Realey for comrades who fell in Afghanistan.

East Hendred Heritage Trust provided refreshments after the service in the Museum where the exhibition on St Mary's Road was on display.

Remembrance is essentially about war; and about those who suffer its repercussions. You will know that a former resident of the village was Baron Penney, who was treated harshly in later life for his connection to the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings in 1945, which finally brought the Second World War to a blessed close. So it is interesting to read this week that the government have commissioned a new medal which recognises all those who participated in our nuclear testing programme in the 50s and 60s. Lord Penney would undoubtedly have been one of the medal's recipients.

War is, by definition, ugly: we may win or lose by what Baldrick would have called "a cunning plan". That plan and the decision to expedite it may be deemed, with hindsight, to have been repugnant - or clumsy, at the least - but it had to be made.

During Remembrancetide, many of us will be holding in our thoughts those who gave their lives in the course of sundry wars and campaigns in order to preserve the values and ways of life established in our country. We do need to spare a moment, too, for those who have to make the profoundly uncomfortable decisions.

Poppy Appeal

The Poppy Appeal total for the village this year was £1,803.86. This figure is the cash collected - all donations by other methods go direct to the Poppy Appeal head office.

Vicki Farrar-Hockley

Maintaining our War Memorial

First unveiled in 1920 to commemorate the fallen in the First World War, the War Memorial is in fine condition and was looking very good for Remembrance Sunday.

The memorial is the responsibility of a Registered Charity, the East Hendred War Memorial Trust. The memorial and its surroundings are maintained by the voluntary efforts of members of East Hendred Heritage Trust, the Hendred Estate and other villagers. David Knight organised a highly effective work party to paint the railings and keeps the grass cut. The memorial itself was recently cleaned courtesy of David Chennell, whose company, Crystal Clean Southern Ltd, based in Milton Park, did a great job, at no charge.

Camelot the Panto

Springline Productions are delighted to announce the Panto is back.

There will be four performances at the end of January at Snells Hall:

Friday 26th at 7.30pm, Saturday 27th at 2 pm and 7.30pm, Sunday 28th at 1pm.

Tickets available from 1 December at www.springline-productions.co.uk

or by using the QR code to the right. All tickets £12.



Message from our County Councillor - Cllr Sally Povolotsky

Happy December and can I firstly wish you and your family a warm festive season. The lead up to Christmas can bring joy to many, but it's not such a happy time for some. If you're struggling, please come to the HEG Community Hub on Mondays at Snells Hall, 9-5pm, there will always be a friendly greeting, a cup of tea and chat.

I write this as I prepare to participate in the Annual Remembrance service, and as always a huge thanks to those who organise this event, we have to continue to remember those who laid down their lives for our freedoms, at a time when the world feels so suffocating and oppression rises. This year, I'll be wearing the chain of office as Chair of the Vale of White Horse District Council.

There is much movement at County Hall, the Liberal Democrats now run a minority administration, after the Labour Party walked away post the lowest Ofsted inspection on SEND services. These services are for our children with special educational needs or disabilities which was a portfolio Labour held. I've been a lonely voice for over a year expressing concerns shown as true after the damning report. We now must ensure that no stone is unturned and that large infrastructure projects the council is committed to proceed.

Locally, there's a concern about the Relief to Rowstock scheme, now renamed the Steventon/Milton Interchange project. The purpose of this project is to create designated safe spaces for pedestrians and cyclists and a dedicated bus lane. This is phase 1 which is funded already from various developer contributions and I've arranged an officer briefing to the concerned parish councils and formal representatives. On the HIF1 scheme, to which East Hendred Parish Council is objecting, this goes before the inspector in February 2024 after the Secretary of State called in the County Council's objections. This scheme is a road which runs from Great Western Park/the new Valley Park to Culham with some elevated sections. My personal view on these schemes is we have to start to look at

creating space for new modes of transport and accessible modes, and we have to think about next generations too - and as I've said before, we all have to reduce our personal reliance on the car, when I'm stood at Rowstock bus stop, nearly every car passing me is single occupant! This isn't an anti-motorist stance as some see me nor as a whole lefty snowflake push, but about sustainable transport for this century in light of rising global temperature and increasing climate-related weather patterns.

I've got a new hat on at County Hall. Sadly I've had to step off the AONB board as the county rep since all meetings are now in person and a struggle to attend. I have been replaced by Cllr Hannaby from Wantage. I am now public transport champion, as someone who's always been vocal about rural bus service demise and the lack of movement on Grove Station, I am hoping to use this role to highlight to the cabinet lead that there's more to Oxfordshire than Oxford City!

SESRO (the reservoir) - please read what you can, it's clear that Thames Water think this is a done deal, that we will have a 'megavoir' built with construction starting before the end of this decade. I led a protest in November at one of the Thames Water PR events in East Hanney. Again I repeat to Thames Water, fix your leaks and transfer water, and I am calling, amongst others, for a Public Inquiry. The consultation and data going to the Secretary of State is based on a scheme half the size of what's now being pushed forward. Please, please write to the MP and ask him why he's not turning up or voicing OUR collective concerns as residents.

Meanwhile I continue to help with personal casework and listen to residents in between volunteering where I can at local service level, and my email and phone is always on - so get in touch (see page 15).

Best wishes for the year ahead to you all.

Sally FB - [sally4hendredsandharwell](#) IG - [sally4change](#)

Message from our District Councillor - Cllr Sarah James

Are you in a property without mains gas?

You may be eligible for an energy efficiency upgrade for your home, such as insulation, solar panels or a heat pump, funded by the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2). These upgrades can help to reduce energy bills and make homes easier to keep warm. The grants are available to homeowners and landlords whose properties are not heated by gas boilers, with a household income of less than £39,000 and with a low energy rating (D-G). Please see <https://www.welcomethewarmth.org.uk/apply-now> for more information.

Reservoir plans

Following a consultation on their Water Resources Management Plan where they proposed building a 1 million cubic metre banded reservoir, Thames Water have concluded that they will instead now plan for a 1.5 million cubic metre reservoir. The consultation received widespread opposition in responses from our local area. It is opposed by East Hendred Parish Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Oxfordshire County Council. There are strong concerns that there seem to be no plans to produce safety, flooding and ecological assessments before a decision to go ahead or not is made. As your local District Councillor I have not seen evidence yet to convince

me that the proposed reservoir is not more about growing Thames Water's asset base and profits than any flexible and sustainable way of meeting the future water needs of our region.

At the time of writing this, Vale of White Horse District Council expects to receive a planning application from Thames Water to carry out trial work connected to the reservoir. This will be for a clay compaction trial at land to the South of Hanney Road, within Steventon Parish. The results of these trials will form part of the evidence base Thames Water is likely to submit for the construction of the proposed reservoir. Opposition groups are also interested in the results of this trial. This planning application is likely to go to the planning committee in January.

Cost of Living Help

If you or anyone you know is struggling this winter, you can find information on the help available from the District Council and others at <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/cost-of-living-crisis-advice-and-support/> The District Council Community Hub can also direct you to a range of help on Tel: 01235 422600

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Sarah (see my contact details on page 15)

from the chair



The turn-out for the Remembrance service at the newly cleaned War memorial was good despite the poor weather, which is encouraging. When the names of those who fell in action are read out, the tragedy of war feels more intense because so many died in 1918 which was the last year of WW1.

We welcome the new *Bulletin* contribution from “The Hendreds School Year 6 reporters” as it is important that the younger generation have their input to the parish bulletin. Perhaps Year 6 from St. Amand’s school can offer a contribution for our next *Bulletin*.

In the last *Bulletin* we reported that our Clerk was taking up the clerk’s role for Wantage Town Council and we needed to find a replacement. The post was advertised and a candidate was selected who unfortunately withdrew at the last stage. We have since appointed Hannah Champ who lives in the village and is married to one of our new Councillors as our new Clerk. We look forward to working with her; Julia our previous

clerk will continue to manage the finances until the end of the financial year to enable the new Clerk to find her feet.

Our congratulations go to Sally and Frances and all their regular helpers for the increasingly successful Monday HEG Community Larder in Snells Hall with the aim of reducing food waste. It involves a mammoth effort each week bringing in the produce delivered by SOFEA (local base is in Didcot) and then stacking any remaining produce away at the end of each session. The day long “Warm space” also runs on Mondays providing an opportunity to meet up for coffee, tea or a hot meal/snack in a warm environment which will be increasingly appreciated as the weather gets colder.

As also noted in the last *Bulletin* the Council had decided to close the Mill Lane playpark due to concerns about the safety of the equipment. An order has recently been placed with Wicksteeds for new equipment including a multi-play unit. We hope this will be installed by the Spring of next year and the Jubilee Playpark can be re-opened. Some remedial work has been undertaken at the Penney playpark where the equipment is now over 20 years old. It is planned to replace one piece of equipment at this playpark in the next year.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

John Sharp

Planning Update

Since the last *Bulletin* there have been few significant local applications requiring the Council’s close attention.

The Council has been commenting on the so-called Relief to Rowstock scheme which is aimed at improving the stretch of road from the Steventon traffic lights to the Milton interchange. It is difficult to see how this will reduce Rowstock’s traffic which is claimed as one of its objectives. It is mentioned in the County Councillor’s report on page 2. There is also what is called the HIF1 scheme which is a very expensive new road to run from Great Western Park and the new Valley Park to Culham, including the building of several roundabouts and a new bridge. Our Parish Council is objecting to it on the basis of cost and need. This was surprisingly objected to by the County Council’s committee and now goes before the inspector next February after the Secretary of State called in the County Council’s objections. A representative from our Council is planning to speak at the inquiry.

One of the Harwell Campus applications in our parish has been temporarily withdrawn at the request of the Planning Authority due to the delay while highways modelling issues are concluded. Access to the A34 is one of the highway issues that this modelling is addressing, given the increase in the number of new cars associated with these large office developments.

Members of the Council have met with representatives of Thames Water about a forthcoming planning application for a test to establish the compaction characteristics of the clay subsoil at the reservoir site near Steventon. Although this will be a small scale test it will

provide useful data relevant to the construction of the new reservoir. We and other local Councils are opposed to the planned reservoir.

Our Council has been alerted that South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are preparing to launch a round of consultation early next year to develop their new Joint Local Plan to 2041. A Local Plan looks ahead fifteen years and plans how much development is needed in an area, like new homes, jobs, roads and schools, and where they should go. The next public consultation will ask for people’s thoughts on proposed approaches across various policy areas, from reducing carbon emissions and nature recovery, to protecting and enhancing local heritage, meeting community infrastructure and transport needs, affordable housing, jobs and economic opportunities, and more. New policy areas which previous local plans haven’t covered include policies to protect valued landscapes, tranquil places and dark skies. Given the importance of the Local Plan our Council will seriously review the above issues with respect to their inclusion on the next Local Plan. It may be useful to hold a public meeting to seek views from local parishioners on these topics.

The Government has recently renamed Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty as “National Landscapes” and the area in which most of East Hendred lies is now known as the North Wessex Downs National Landscape. The renaming is a first step in giving higher priority to these areas. Because of their size and scope, the 46 UK National Landscapes are ideally positioned to address the environmental issues that the UK is facing.

Free parking days in December

From 2nd to 23rd December, free car parking is being provided at various sites in Abingdon, Faringdon and Wantage to help support local businesses, pubs cafes and restaurants.

Local car parks will be free on the following Saturdays in December:

Abingdon and Faringdon: 2, 9 and 16
Wantage: 9, 16 and 23

On the selected days there's no need to display a ticket, however maximum stay times still apply in specific car parks.

Holiday Waste Collections

Grey - Landfill / incineration

Green - Recycling, Brown - Garden waste

Food waste is collected on all collection days

Normal Day	Revised Day	Bin Type
Tues 26 Dec	Thurs 28 Dec	Grey
Fri 29 Dec	Tues 2 Jan	Grey
Tues 2 Jan	Thurs 4 Jan	Green, Brown
Fri 5 Jan	Mon 8 Jan	Green, Brown
Tues 9 Jan	Weds 10 Jan	Grey
Fri 12 Jan	Sat 13 Jan	Grey

From the Suggestions Box

A suggestion was received to place a bench seat at Chapel Square, where there used to be one years ago. A bench is being installed there in memory of Stan and Jackie Francis, who were both very active members of the community.

The idea of having lines painted to stop cars parking in front of the drop kerb on White Road is not being taken forward because the limited space available means that the traffic visibility would not be adequate.

A suggestion to paint the bus stop opposite The Plough has been carried out.

A new defibrillator was suggested to serve the northern part of the village. It is felt that the defibrillator at Ludbridge Close serves this purpose.

As has often been mentioned previously, a request was made to car owners who have their own driveways to use them, to reduce the pressure on the limited on-street parking spaces available.

Waste Bins and Dog Mess

Our concrete waste bins are being equipped with plastic liners to make emptying them easier and more hygienic.

Wherever possible, people should please use the dedicated dog mess bins provided. Unfortunately, the Vale is no longer supplying new dog mess bins, but to reduce unpleasantness and smell please bag up properly and use the dog mess bins for their intended purpose.



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NEW from The Hendreds School Year 6 reporters



The Hendreds' Highlights by Fred A and Annabel BP

We are proud to introduce ourselves as The Hendreds Year 6 reporters and this is hopefully the first of many articles in the *Bulletin*. Each article will give you a snapshot of our school life.

So far in the Autumn term, we have had multiple exciting opportunities to learn outside the classroom. We visited Bhaktivedanta Manor, a Hindu Temple near Watford, as part of our Religion and World Views topic. The sessions here included: learning about day-to-day life as a Hindu; a session in the garden that was designed by George Harrison (a Beatles band member) and a session of dressing up in their traditional clothing. And we finished with a delicious vegetarian paneer and pea curry.

The year 5 and 6 children also all went to a 2 night residential at Calshot, near Southampton. We had an amazing adventure that lots of us will remember forever. Over the two and a half days, we did kayaking, dry slope skiing, ringo (sliding down the ski slope in an inflatable tube), velodrome cycling, egg drop challenge, movie night, orienteering, beach exploring (with a marine biologist), wall climbing, bouldering and archery. Overall it was a brilliant trip.

Blue Plaque for Roy Jenkins OM and Dame Jennifer Jenkins

On Saturday 16th September a Blue Plaque was unveiled in honour of Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Dame Jennifer Jenkins at St Amand's House, where they lived from 1965. Roy Jenkins died in 2003 and Dame Jennifer continued to live here until her death in 2017.

Roy Jenkins had been a Labour Home Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer and was a founder of the Liberal Democrat Party and later President of the European Commission. Dame Jennifer served as Chair of the National Trust and of the Consumers' Association.

The unveiling was attended by about 80 people. Lord Oakeshott, Liberal Democrat spokesperson in the House of Lords, gave a speech and John Sharp, Chair of the Parish Council, spoke on behalf of our community.



The Hendred Owls WI

Two years ago, a group of us responded to a message to "help save the East and West Hendred WI". Over the last two years we have tried but a lack of new members and aging membership means we are simply struggling to continue.

The Women's Institute has been going in East Hendred for decades, and has always been a true part of community life. Sadly for many of us, lives are busy with a constant juggle to pay the bills and have time for our own families. We have had so many brilliant meetings this year, but we need YOU, in order to continue.

We need new ideas, people to talk to, and women to build a tribe within our community. If you're interested in stepping up to help keep the WI going in the Hendreds please email thehendredowlswi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

There's so many great examples of WIs out there from virtual ones to adaptable models, it needs a shake up, can you be part of that drive and energy?

Currently we meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, in Snells Hall starting at 7:30pm.

Community Hub

The Hub is supported by HEG Community Larder and Hendreds & Harwell Community Support.

We are open in Snells Hall on Mondays as follows:

Community Hub 9am - 5pm

Cinnamon Cafe 2 - 5pm

Community Larder 4 - 4.45 *walkers and cyclists*
5 - 5.30 *all means of transport*

(Different times on Bank and School Holidays)

Take-away and meal delivery service available - just come down and chat to us to arrange.

Please follow us on Facebook for changes to the above and food help or pick up. Also see the What's On email. You can email us at Heglarder@gmail.com

Read more about us on p11.

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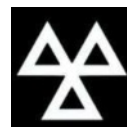
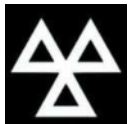
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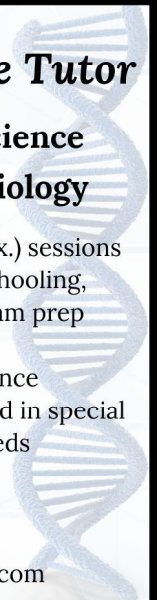
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East Hendred Heritage Trust

News from the Museum

The museum is now closed for the winter and will reopen in April.

Race Night

The Race Night on 18th November was a great success. A bidding war to own one of the horses in each race and everyone cheering the first horse past the winning post created an electric atmosphere and raised the roof at Snells Hall. Thank you to everyone who took part!

AGM report

At the AGM we talked about the year we'd had, our first full year opening since the pandemic. As per our trust deed one third of the trustees have to offer their resignation and stand down but can offer themselves for re-election. The trustees approved their re-appointment and the officers were elected to post: Sue Roberts as chair, Diana Wheeker as secretary and the trust welcomed James Carpenter as their new treasurer. The trust thanked Helene Dinsdale for her commitment to the role as treasurer and were pleased that she will remain a director and trustee.

Visitors

Visitors to the museum had been good over the last year but we noted that during the summer it had dipped slightly so we are looking at ways to encourage more people to visit us.

We were very pleased to host a visit from 60 children from the Hendreds School to introduce them to visiting a Museum and to learning about the history of the village. The children organised a cake sale and raised a very substantial sum of money to donate to the Museum for which we are very grateful.

Stewards

The museum opens on both Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 2:30 to 4:30 in summer. Without our band of volunteer stewards we would not be able to manage this for which we thank them for their continued support, it really is much appreciated. If you would like to join this group of volunteers and help to man the museum on maybe one or two afternoons a year, please contact our secretary Diana on hendredheritagesecretary@gmail.com

The Mummers on Boxing Day

It is planned that the Mummers will perform in front of the Eyston Arms pub on Boxing Day at 12:15pm – do come and watch this amazing village tradition!

Open Gardens

2024 will see us organising our bi-annual open gardens event on Sunday 9th June. This is the main fundraiser for the museum and we are ever grateful to the villagers who open their gardens for this event. We usually expect several hundred visitors on that day. If you would like to be involved in this event either by opening your garden or lending a spare pair of hands, we would love to hear from you.

Exhibition

A decision was taken to stage our exhibitions over two years as there is so much information and work involved in putting them together that we wanted to give visitors the chance to really enjoy the information that has been uncovered about this beautiful downland village. 2024 will see the second year for the St Mary's Road exhibition. If you have not already seen it you should try and visit as soon as we reopen because it is a mine of information and a fascinating insight into the lives of people that have lived in the village over the last 150 years.

Golden Age Club

On 14th September it was a tea meeting and we had a talk booked for Nicky from Hendred Stores regarding training a Hearing Dog. Sadly, Nicky had to cancel due to having Covid but luckily, we have rearranged her talk for January. In early October we had our last tea which was followed by a very interesting talk by Jenny Taylor on *My Time with Cicely Saunders*. Cicely Saunders was noted for her role in the birth of the hospice movement and Jenny worked with her for many years. November saw the return to lunch – always more popular than tea! About 50 members were treated to shepherd's pie made by Salvador and Barbara, followed by apple crumbles made by the committee. After lunch we had a fascinating and informative talk by David Baskerville from the Thames Valley Air Ambulance. We all learnt so much about this invaluable and lifesaving service so close at hand. On 7th December, it's our Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, carol singing, Santa and a festive raffle.

If you are new to the village, we would like to welcome you to our very friendly club. We usually meet on the first Thursday (sometimes the second) of the month at Snells Hall for lunch or tea and we always welcome new members from the village and surrounding area. It's only £20 per year and that covers all the lunches and teas, speakers and subsidised outings. For more information, please ring Susie on 07710274653 or email susie@monks court.co.uk

We learnt with great sadness that our Vice President, Jim Hughes, had suddenly passed away a few days before our November meeting. Jim always spoke with ease and interest to our members at our monthly meetings and went out of his way to thank the catering team for the food they had prepared. Sadly, we also heard of the passing of our former committee member, Avis Atkins. She was a club member for many years but had, unfortunately, not attended club meetings in recent years. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of both Jim and Avis.

Walking Group - Every Wednesday at 9.30am

We've enjoyed some wonderful Autumn weather, generally much better than the summer. Hardly a wet Wednesday! We've had lots of sunny walks round East and West Hendred with a coffee stop at Ardington. Plus, we have also been further afield including an all-day outing with a pub lunch. We were all very pleased to have walked about 10 miles. If you are new to the village or looking for a new activity why not join us. We are a very friendly group. We normally walk about 5 to 6 miles, sometimes stopping at a coffee shop and sometimes carrying our own. Our East Hendred walks always start at 9.30 by St. Augustine's church. For more information please email: susie@monks court.co.uk or ring 07710274653. We now have a FB page Hendred Walking Group.

☎ 07762160547

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Parish Church of St Augustine

Our recent Harvest Lunch and Favours Auction raised an amazing £14,364 including Gift Aid, which more than covers this year's shortfall and gives us a great start towards funding the much-needed roof repairs. I'm bowled over by the generosity of those many people who gave of their time, talents, and resources to make this event happen and to offer favours.

This Advent we will have a Christingle service at St Augustine's on Sunday 10th December at 3:30pm – all children and families are warmly invited to join this special service. The same day at 7pm we'll have the joint Advent carol service at St Mary's, followed by Nine Lessons and Carols at St Augustine's on 20th December, 6:30pm. Finally, on Christmas Day, young and old will gather at 11am to celebrate the birth of Christ.

December can be a hectic month, so for those who would enjoy a moment of calm, there is Evensong on Friday 8th, 15th, and 22nd December at 4:30pm. The church is also open daily 9am-4pm as a place for reflection and prayer. Our 11am service happens on the first, third (and fifth) Sunday of each month: 3/12, 17/12, 31/12, 7/1, 21/1, 4/2, 18/2, ... On other Sundays we meet at West Hendred (9:30) and Ardington (11am).

Nikolaj Christensen, Rector
Contact details on p16

The Faceless Clock

Hidden inside the tower of St Augustine's church is a rare piece of history, a 16th century faceless clock. Built by John Seymour of Wantage in 1525 and similar in design to the Salisbury cathedral clock, this clock has rung out over East Hendred and the local area for nearly 500 years. The only way to tell the time was to listen and count the strikes of the tenor bell, and the other bells for the quarter and half hour strikes, as this was before external clock faces were added. In the 18th century a carillon was added – think giant music box mechanism – that plays a tune every three hours. Being relatively primitive in design the clock has

suffered faults along the way. It was last repaired in the 1960's and some of that repair team still live in the village. A few years before covid a major fault developed, and the clock has sadly not worked since.

Eighteen months ago, a project was launched by the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Augustine's to fully assess the works needed to restore this truly amazing clock and chiming mechanism to working condition. All avenues were explored and much advice sought. The need to preserve was paramount but with the addition of nighttime silencing and an auto-wind mechanism. The good news is that full approval has been received from the Oxford Diocese and with many generous donations from the local community, the work will start on the clock in early January 2024 with a target finish date of Easter and the striking mechanism not long afterwards. Many challenges exist including building a temporary workshop and erecting scaffolding inside the tower.

During the works the tower will be open for visitors to catch up on progress on the understanding that you buy the team a coffee.

Nigel Findley, Tower Captain



St Mary's Catholic Church, East Hendred

By the time you read this, I will have been in place here for a few short months, having moved house twice in quick succession! Perhaps this may explain my more-than-usual absent-mindedness, general confusion, and apparent inability to find things (or, then again, perhaps not...).

New starts can be daunting, but they are also opportunities for growth and change, and for being surprised by joy, small and great. I know that I've been pleasantly surprised by the warmth with which you've all (so far!) received me, and I'm looking forward to the surprises East Hendred has in store for me in what I hope will be the years to come.

At the first Christmas, God surprised the whole of Creation with a joy beyond all telling: the Word Made Flesh, Jesus Christ, born of Mary. This Christmas, God invites us all, once again, to be part of that joyful renewal. Come along and be surprised.

Fr Matthew
Contact details on p16

Christmas 2023

Sunday 24th December

9:30am Parish Mass
11.15am Mass at East Ilsley

Christmas Eve Masses

4pm Vigil Mass (The first Mass of Christmas)
8pm Mass during the Night

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

9:30am Parish Mass
11:15am Mass at East Ilsley

Sunday 31st December – The Holy Family

9:30am Parish Mass
11:15am Mass at East Ilsley
6pm Mass & Te Deum
(In thanksgiving for the past year)

Monday 1st January 2024 – Mary, Mother of God

9am Mass

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Happy 5th Birthday Bowling Alley Allotment Association

BAAA supports plot-holders at the Bowling Alley Allotments, a site where growing has taken place for about 150 years. Cultivating vegetables, fruits and flowers, this ground must have produced many tons of food for village families, working in harmony with nature as well as battling pests and weather conditions. Besides villagers and their families, the Scouts and HEG now also have plots that are enjoyed by their members.

Although the allotments have featured in village life for many years, BAAA only came into existence 5 years ago. During this time the bounty of the plots has been shared through the annual *Hendred Apple Day* where local apples are pressed into tasty juice in the autumn outside Hendred Stores, and *Posies, Punnets & Plants* which offers cut flowers and surplus crops and plants throughout the summer. BAAA also runs open-to-all workshops for those who'd like to start growing vegetables or develop skills such as Christmas wreath making.

All this activity has helped BAAA raise funds, which matched with grants from the Parish Council, Vale of the White Horse DC and Oxfordshire County Council, has enabled the installation of a large shed which is situated on the community plot. This will act as a facility for BAAA members and contain a tool library as well as other useful information and we hope will become a welcoming hub for wider community activities based around cultivation and associated activities, including responding to the climate change agenda.

Although the weather can make life difficult on the plots, and it can be heartbreaking when crops are shared with slugs, squirrels, deer, rabbits, caterpillars and other bugs, we're a resilient lot! Plot-holders are always willing to take time out from their work to chat to those passing by, to share growing tips and to encourage new growers. It's always a real joy to welcome new visitors to Bowling Alley or to hear recollections from older residents about the part that growing veg there played in their early family lives. No one forgets the joy of popping a pea pod to discover the sweet contents, of pulling a crisp carrot from the earth or the taste of the first new potatoes or ripe tomatoes!

If you'd like to join us by working a small raised bed on the community plot, taking part in a workshop, picking up a posy of cut flowers or surplus veg, selecting a few plants to grow at home, admiring the new shed, pressing your apples or just walking by to see what the changing seasons bring, we'd love to see you at the Bowling Alley plots.

Hilary Dorling, BAAA Chair (hildorling@gmail.com)



Left - Painting the newly installed shed purchased with the help of Parish Council, Vale District and County Council grants

Right - Apple pressing at the annual Hendred Apple Day



Hendreds Environment Group

HEG Café & Hub

Last winter Hendreds Environment Group ran the warm space initiative in Snells Hall from October until March.

This year it's back, but with more on offer thanks to a Connected Communities Grant. The team are offering every Monday from 9am - 5pm a space for us all to connect, and use as you like with refreshments, breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea available. It's simple: start an impromptu toddler get together, mums and babies, knit and natter, crafting, come play chess / learn new games or just have a quiet chat and a coffee. Everyone's welcome, it's a community cafe and hub, with kids' corner and plenty of games and activities.

This winter we have funding to cook meals weekly for up to 30 people (or more if needed) and focused on our more elderly residents. We also offer a food delivery service and can offer a taxi service to bring you down to the hall for lunch, or whatever you would like - just ring Sally on 07939912997 to join us, or come down on Mondays!

We also will be offering menu bags, of meals ready to go home and cook or ingredients and recipes to help make a meal at home, and we have slow cookers we can lend out too!

Everything at the Café and Hub is on a donations basis. Put in what you can afford and if you can't, don't worry, we're here to share the warmth our village has to give. We are here for our local residents in East Hendred and surrounds.

Don't forget we also run the HEG Community Larder on Mondays, and if you'd like to help use food surplus and save a few pennies too, then drop us an email for more info - heglarder@gmail.com

What's On?

The weekly email message *What's On in The Hendreds* announces local events and provides information when important issues or local emergencies arise.

To be added to the subscribers list, email events@hendred.org

You can also see the messages at easthendred-pc.org.uk

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Available on Apple Podcast, Spotify and Amazon Music - just search for "Springline Radio Players".

If you have any feedback on our radio plays, or would like to get involved, please contact Chris Bedford at springlineradioplayers@outlook.com.

Nothing in the *Bulletin* about YOUR club or group?

If you are a member of a club or group which is never mentioned in the *Bulletin*, it could be that I have no information about it or who to contact. Please send the contact details to bulletin@hendred.org and I will ask them to send me an article for the next issue.

Thank you.

Rachel (Editor)

Springline Singers

Springline Singers community choir will be holding an informal Christmas performance at Snells Hall from 7:30pm on Thursday 14th December. This is free event but please bring change to support our chosen charity for the evening. If you're interested to hear what we sing and how we go about learning, drop in and take a listen. The new term starts on Thursday 11th January at West Hendred village hall from 7:30pm-9:30pm. Come and try your first session for free, £7 per week after that. We are looking for more men to join us, so come on gents! We sing a variety of music, use sheet music but learn by ear, so whatever your learning style and musical taste, we'll have something for you.



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Planning Matters

Online viewing and commenting on planning applications

Applications are lodged with the Vale of White Horse and can be viewed and commented on at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Note: The PC means the Parish Council and the Vale means Vale of White Horse District Council

P20/V1667/O – Outline application with all matters reserved for the redevelopment of part of the Harwell Campus known as Fermi Gate to provide employment floorspace for offices, laboratories and light industrial uses, temporary accommodation, parking and ancillary uses, landscaping and open space. The PC responded with a holding objection, requesting information on a Harwell Campus Masterplan, details of the of the floorspace and a travel plan. Awaiting determination.

P22/V1787/FUL – Harwell Science and Innovation Campus North of Thomson Avenue. Erection of employment building for office use with associated landscaping and car parking. The PC objected as the plan was contrary to CP46 of the Local Plan. Awaiting determination by the Vale.

P23/V0314/HH – The Poplars, Church Street. Proposed single storey rear extension to dwelling and detached garden room. The Parish Council commented on parking provision and re-positioning of the pond. Permission granted.

P23/V0695/HH – Southernwood, Cat Street. Conversion of the hobby space on the first floor of the garage into a one bedroom flat. Works include 3 new rooflights. The Parish Council did not object but requested that the flat did not become a separate unit. Permission granted.

P23/V1433/FUL – Allins Barn, Allins Lane. Erection of stables and extension of existing equine area. The stables are for private use and not to be used for commercial horse riding, livery, breeding or training. The Parish Council had no objection. Permission granted.

P23/V1465/CM – Magnox Ltd. Harwell ILW Store. Minor Alterations to exterior of intermediate level radioactive waste storage facility. The Parish Council had no objection. Permission granted.

P23/V1698/HH – 4 Croom Cottages, Wantage Rd, Rowstock. Single storey front extension. The Parish Council had no objection. Permission granted.

Parish Council

Council meetings are held at Snells Hall at 7:30pm on the 1st Thursday of each month. An Open Forum, in which parishioners may ask questions, starts at 8pm.

Dial code 01235 unless stated otherwise

Clerk to the Council: Hannah Champ
Email: clerk@easthundred-pc.org.uk

Chairman:

Dr John Sharp Tel: 833367

Deputy Chairman:

Charles Pappenheim Tel: 835014

Councillors:

Aloysius Anderson Tel: 417244

Mark Beddow ajmbeddow@gmail.com

Jason Champ Tel: 07751 034666

Hilary Dorling Tel: 07767 364986

Mark Francis Tel: 418362

Selby Stocks Tel: 821740

Roger Turnbull Tel: 833797

Council Working Groups

The Parish Council includes several working groups addressing particular areas of PC responsibility. The groups (with initials of Councillors) is as follows:

Allotments CP, MF plus Mrs Shortis

Communications JS, CP, HD and AA

Infrastructure CP, JC and RT

Finance JS, CP, MB and AA

Highways and Transport: RT and HD

Playground Development JS, SS, JC and MF

Environment & Sustainability JS, RT and CP
plus Sally Povolotsky for HEG

Emergency Planning JS, MF, CP, and RT
plus Jerry Bird

Refuse Collections

Waste bins are emptied on either a Tuesday or Friday. Food bins every week, recycling & garden waste and landfill bins, alternate weeks. To check your collection day visit the Vale of White Horse DC website at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk **For collection day changes over the Christmas and New year period see page 4**

Deadline date - for the next *Bulletin*

The Spring edition of the *Bulletin* is due out in early March in good time to include details of any Easter events.

Please send your articles, diary dates, reports, B&W photographs etc. as an e-mail attachment to the *Bulletin* team at bulletin@hendred.org to reach us no later than **Friday 9th February 2024.** Thank you. *Rachel*

Helpful websites

East Hendred Parish Council: www.easthundred-pc.org.uk

Oxfordshire County Council: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Vale of White Horse: www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Oxford City Council: www.oxford.gov.uk

Information

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Sarah James
Tel and WhatsApp:
07811 085661

Email:
sarah.james1@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Sally Povolotsky
WhatsApp: 07939 912997
Email: sally.povolotsky@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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The latest times that mail can be accepted may vary - please see information at each location.

Village Diary

December 2023

- 3rd Lighting of the Christmas tree,
Crib and Carol Service
7th GA Xmas Lunch, Snells Hall 12:30pm
7th Parish Council meeting 7:30pm
10th Christingle 3:30pm, St Augustine's
Advent Carols, St Mary's
20th Nine Lessons and Carols 6:30pm
St Augustine's
28th Community Hub, Cafe and Larder
(Replaces normal Monday opening)

January 2024

- 4th Community Hub, Cafe and Larder
(Replaces normal Monday opening)
4th Parish Council meeting 7:30pm
11th GA Lunch, Snells Hall 12:30pm
17th Hendred Owls WI, Snells Hall 7:30pm
26th Panto (Camelot) Snells Hall 7:30pm
27th Panto, Snells Hall 2pm and 7:30pm
28th Panto, Snells Hall 1pm

February 2024

- 1st GA Lunch, Snells Hall 12:30pm
1st Parish Council meeting 7:30pm
9th Deadline date for *Bulletin* (page 15)
21st Hendred Owls WI, Snells Hall 7:30pm

March 2024

- 7th GA Tea, Snells Hall 3pm
7th Parish Council meeting 7:30pm
22nd Hendred Owls WI, Snells Hall 7:30pm

Ensure you don't miss any events, sign up for the What's On e-mails (page 11)

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Vale of White Horse District Council 422422

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Highways - Road Related Emergency
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Regular Events

- Monday** **Community Hub** see page 5
Scouts 7 - 9pm, Snells Hall
(Chris 07885 288422)
- Tuesday** **Beaver Scouts** 5:25 - 6:25pm,
Snells Hall. (Doron 07711 474 883)
Cub Scouts 6:30 - 8pm, Snells Hall
(Mhairi, 820249)
Contact Doron Jensen - Group Scout
Leader - for enquiries about joining
gslcuckhamsley@kascouts.org.uk
- Wednesday** **Walking Group** 9:30 am (pg 7)
- Thursday** **Springline Singers** 7:30 pm (pg 13)
- Friday** **Board Games** 6:30pm
Message Max Gilbert on:
07881 950400
or maxwellgilbert@me.com
- Weekdays** **Pre-school** at Snells Hall
9 am - 12 noon & 12 noon - 3 pm
Tel: 831555 or
www.hendredspreschool.org
- Monthly** **Snells Hall Committee Meeting**
1st Tuesday - 7:45pm, Snells Hall
The Hendred Owls WI (pg 5)
3rd Wednesday (unless advised)
Parish Council Meeting
1st Thursday - 7:30pm, Snells Hall
Golden Age Club with tea or lunch
1st Thursday (unless advised) (pg 7)

EAST HENDRED CONTACTS:

Hendred Estate	821543
Hendred Stores	833123
The Eyston Arms Pub	833320
The Wheatsheaf Pub	833229
Hendreds School	833379
St Amands School	833342
Hendreds Pre-school	831555
Cricket (Ivan Mulford)	820316
Football (Steve Mulford)	07751 515412
Tennis	play@hendredtennis.co.uk
Snells Hall Bookings	833561

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORT:

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WANTAGE CONTACTS:

The Beacon (Civic Hall)	763456
Library	762291
Leisure Centre	766201
Vale Community Impact	765348
Tourist Information	760176
Vale & Downland Museum	771447

Churches

Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury

Rector: The Rev Dr Nikolaj Christensen

Tel: 634940

Email: rector@wantagedowns.org

For services, see pg 9, the *What's On in The Hendreds* emails or the church noticeboard.

Catholic Parish of St Mary

Priest-in-charge
Fr Matthew Topham

Tel: 835038

Mob: 07801 634731

Email: mtopham@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

For masses, please see pg 9 or the *What's On in The Hendreds* email.

The Bulletin

Editor: Rachel Sutton
bulletin@hendred.org

Production and Editing

John Sharp
Charles Pappenheim
Anne Pappenheim

Advertising

Charles Pappenheim
835014
bulletin@hendred.org

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Webmaster

Charles Pappenheim
webmaster@hendred.org

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

You can view the current *Bulletin* and past issues online at easthendred-pc.org.uk