

WELCOME TO WEST HENDRED & GINGE

Welcome to our village! Here is a brief list of contacts and some general information that might be useful.

For those interested in the **history of our parish**, it's all there in the Community Led Plan which is featured on the parish council website <http://www.westhendred.org/> - under the heading Community Led Plan, starting on p.4.

Much village information, including the monthly **newsletter**, is circulated by email. If you would like to be added to the list of recipients (kept confidential, in line with GDPR regulations), please email sarahlloyd@qi.com and she will add you to the circulation list.

The **Village Hall** has several regular and occasional activities which are listed in the newsletter. The Hall is also available for hire by residents for their own events and activities. Information on hiring is available from villagehallbookings@westhendred.net

Our **church**, Holy Trinity, is one of four in the Wantage Downs benefice that includes Lockinge, Ardington and East Hendred. Service times vary from week to week between the four churches and are listed in an email circulated by our churchwarden, Hugh Rees hugh@citidata.co.uk. East Hendred and Wantage have Roman Catholic churches, and Didcot has a thriving Baptist church as does Wantage. There are synagogues in Oxford and Reading and mosques in Oxford.

There are two **doctors' surgeries** on the same site off Mably Way in Wantage: Church Street Practice (01235 770245) and the Newbury Street Practice (01235 639521).

There are many wonderful walks around the village, including up to The Ridgeway on the Downs. If you have a dog, we would be really grateful if you would ensure they do not foul public footpaths and that they are kept under control at all times - the fields around the village often have either cows or sheep in them. There is a dog poo bin just by **The Furlong** footpath that runs from West Hendred, starting just past the white wall and cottage towards the south end of the village, to East Hendred (this is a path much used by children going to and from the primary school in East Hendred).

Local **vets** include the Larkmead Veterinary Group in Didcot and the Brook practice in Steventon.

Buses to Wantage, Didcot and Oxford run from the A417 by The Hare pub and opposite it.

Didcot station, on the mainline between London Paddington and the West, is only 15 minutes' drive. Timetables can be found on the GWR website.

We are in the **Vale of White Horse** district council area.

The Vale operates usually efficient bin collections and provides leaflets at the end of each year (or you can download a useful App from their website) on the following year's special dates but generally food bins are collected early every Tuesday morning, with green recycling material bins alternating on Tuesdays with black non-recyclable material bins. You can purchase for little cost from the Vale brown bins for garden waste which are collected on the same Tuesdays as the green bins.

There are two **post boxes** in the village: one at the south end of The Greenway and one by Goldbury Cottages on the road to Ginge. Both have a daily collection. Our local **post office** is in East Hendred at the village shop, Hendred Store and Post Office.

We are blessed with **pubs** - The Extraordinary Hare in West Hendred at the top of The Greenway, The Eyston Arms and The Wheatsheaf in East Hendred and The Boar's Head in Ardington. Try them all and find what each does best. There is also Hendred Vineyard <https://hendredvineyard.co.uk/> which produces its own still and sparkling wines.

Wantage has a Waitrose and a Sainsbury's (the latter also with petrol) and several smaller shops and cafés. Market days are Wednesdays (good fresh fish) and Saturdays. There is a good **farm shop** at the far end of Featherbed Lane, Q Gardens (open 9am-6pm), which has an excellent butcher (beef and lamb locally reared) and a good range of fruit, veg and other goodies. Boseley's Farm down the Lains Barn road towards Grove sells excellent fresh eggs from their outdoor chickens as well as interesting seasonal foods. Further afield in Blewbury, there is Savages, another good farm shop with a plant nursery. And almost on our doorstep, we have The Grocers Chef in Ardington, The Hive Hut in East Hendred and The Farmhouse Bakery & Café in Steventon – all well worth discovering.

Abingdon has a small independent **cinema**, the Abbey Cinema <https://theabbey.ac/web> and there is a Cineworld in Didcot.

For newcomers with **small children**, Toddler Sense classes happen every Wednesday in Snells Hall, East Hendred. Classes are for parents with their children between 1 and 5 years old. Book a free taster by calling Nadine on **07818 872256** or email her at wantage@toddlersense.co.uk

1st Cuckhamsley **Scout Group** covers both East & West Hendred (and Ardington, Lockinge, Ginge). Beavers (6-8 yrs); Cubs (8-10.5 yrs); Scouts (10.5 - 15 yrs). Contact for joining: Doron Jensen, GSLCuckhamsley@kascouts.org.uk

Finally, there is a range of **sporting venues** around us including Real Tennis in Abingdon, tennis in both Ardington and East Hendred, cricket in East Hendred, and a good sports centre in Wantage that includes squash courts and a swimming pool. And check out the Science Vale cycle network. <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-andtransport/roadworks/major-current-roadworks/science-vale-cycle-network>

We hope you will be very happy in our community.

David Clayton (Chair), Hugo Axel-Berg (Vice-Chair), Sarah Lloyd, Matthew Evans, Claire Pill and Julia Evans (Clerk) parishcouncilclerk@westhendred.net
West Hendred Parish Council <http://www.westhendred.org/>