

WEST HENDRED

JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for next Newsletter
25 JULY 2022**

IMPORTANT! Please can we ask that, if you know of any neighbours who may not have access to the internet, you print a copy off for them and pop it through their door. Thank you.

**For the most up to date Government advice regarding the Coronavirus, please go to <https://gov.uk/coronavirus>
Your Village Help Co-ordinators : If you need help please get in touch with any of the following people:**

Nigel Findley 07900 554537

Nigel.findley@westhendred.net

Angela Findley 07775 863350

Angela.findley@westhendred.net

Stefan Povolotsky 07460 727374

Stefan.povolotsky@sky.com

**West Hendred Summer Lunch – Saturday
9th July – 12-30 to 3:30pm
In aid of Holy Trinity Church
The Grand Raffle tickets now on sale!**

West Hendred Summer Event will be at Manor Farm House, kindly offered by Lys and Peter Cook. Manor Farm House is opposite the Village Hall.

We have been "forming anew" ideas about what kind of Summer Event we can do in these Covid/Post-Covid times. Alongside the Summer Lunch we will also be having a raffle, tombola, skittles/bowls/plants, and a bar. We have firmed up quite a bit already, and will continue doing so. Please do mention your thoughts etc. There will, of course, be The Duck Race, with Downy Duck officiating this internationally renowned event!

Entrance is free – yet again! Lunch is at 2019 prices, £8 for an adult and £4 for children under 12. Children under 5 continue to be free. The bar will no doubt be well supported.

After a delicious lunch, you can visit the many stalls and other attractions. Please come along to this very enjoyable occasion to meet old friends, as well as making new acquaintances. We do need help with the food on the day, as well as people volunteering food items. Nearly half of the items have volunteers.

We would be very grateful for donations towards the tombola and items can be dropped off with Patsy at The Old Post Office at any time from now onwards. Tins, bottles, toiletries, candles, unused gifts etc. or anything else you can think of, all welcome.

We will also be asking for help for stalls, and for putting up tents and marquees on the Thursday or Friday evening. If you can help with any of the above, please contact Patsy Jenkins on 835113, Sally Hutchinson on 833081 or Hugh Rees on 833174.

Hugh Rees

**Holy Trinity West Hendred
Oxford Historic Churches Ride and Stride –
10th September**

This year's sponsored event is on Saturday 10th September – money raised will be divided equally between The Oxford Historic Churches Trust and Holy Trinity Church West Hendred. Oxford Historic Churches Trust will, like last year, have R+S with somewhat different arrangements - which will be confirmed nearer the time.

Potential participants are asked to keep the date available – Saturday 10th September. There is anticipated to be very limited printed material distributed, with almost everything available online from OHCT's website.

Last year's final total raised was £805. Holy Trinity Church received half of sponsorship, which was £402-50; a really good total, especially given these Covid times.

In August 2020 OHCT awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the replacement, due to death watch beetle and timber rot, of a defective Bell Tower wall plate along the south side of the bell chamber. The work was completed in September, with a total cost of £4,196 net. In February 2021 OHCT awarded a grant of £7,000 towards the urgent repairs to the North Aisle roof supports, where the total cost is £62,000. More details will be available from Hugh Rees on 833174 and OHCT's website on www.ohct.org.uk

Holy Trinity Church West Hendred North Aisle roof – supporting timbers – Urgent work to the church

As has been widely publicised, urgent repairs to the North Aisle's supporting roof beams are needed. The architect has received the tender responses; this gives us a building cost with VAT of £39,000. With the professional fees for the architect and structural engineer, and contingency this gives a total of **£62,000**.

As the church has several species of bats which are protected by law, this affects when the repair work can be done. The bat specialist, Colin Menendez, visited again in late June and reported:

"The bat surveys on the church finished with a dawn survey this week. The church has been quite quiet bat-wise this month. Common pipistrelle are still present, and this morning we searched for and found a long-eared bat tucked in the roof timbers. Also at the crack of dawn a barn owl came and sat on a tombstone to watch what was going on, and then flew into the adjacent field to hunt. The next task is to work out how to undertake the repairs to the church in tandem with the bats. The bat droppings collected have been packaged-up to send for DNA analysis, which usually takes about 10 days. This will confirm our final tally of species, and whether a low impact licence can be used – or a standard licence."

A bat was found bat found in the roof-timber mortice hole, photographed using an endoscope. A low impact license would enable the work to commence sooner, but a standard license would need to await Natural England, which could take 60 days. The roof beams were checked a further time for safety in late June by the Structural Engineer; we are to get the repairs done soonest.

Hopefully the repairs will start in late summer or autumn. There will be further reports as things move forward.

We need your support

Thank you for the very generous donations from individuals. The total raised so far from grants and donations is all is £58,144 (including gift aid) – so we're almost there.

If you have not done so already, please can you help secure the future of West Hendred's church, by donating either online via

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6046/ and selecting "Give Now" from the web-page; or by contacting the church Treasurer, Roland Jack rolandmjack@gmail.com or 01235 831894
Hugh Rees

Oxfordshire South and Vale citizens Advice needs Volunteers

Are you looking for a new challenge and want to give something back to your community?

Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice is looking for volunteers to work in our friendly offices in Abingdon, Didcot, Henley or Thame. We give people the knowledge and confidence they need to find their way forward - whoever they are and whatever their problem. Last year, our 127 volunteers supported over 9,200 people. We were able to help four in five to resolve their problems. We are looking for:

Advisers: after comprehensive training you will be giving advice to clients in person or via the telephone or webchat. We give advice on a broad range of topics including debt management, benefits, employment, housing and relationship issues. You will need good IT skills and a desire to help people in your local community.

Receptionists: you will be meeting and greeting clients, inputting client data, sorting out the post and paperwork from clients, sending out reminder texts to clients and making and receiving phone calls.

IT specialists: to help to maintain our IT systems and support the service. Help staff and volunteers with day-to-day IT issues, for example with trouble logging on, connecting to Wi-Fi, and locating or accessing files. We also would welcome support to maintain our local Citizens Advice website.

Training & HR Administrator: to assist our Training & HR Manager we are looking for an experienced administrator to help produce training materials, organise training sessions, maintain training records and help with HR administration. You will ideally be used to using Microsoft Word and Powerpoint. We would like you to be available for two sessions per week if possible, either mornings or afternoon or a whole day. We offer a rewarding, flexible and supportive working environment.

If you would like to make a contribution to your local community, gain new skills and meet new people, please follow this link: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale/volunteer/>

Or if you would like to discuss these volunteering roles please email:

recruitment@osavcab.org.uk and one of our team will be in touch with you.

Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice - New Trustees needed

Role: Trustees

Organisation: Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice

Location: Head Office, Abbey House, Abingdon, OX14 3JD

We are looking for new Trustees to join our Board. As well as those with broad experience, we would particularly welcome applicants with skills in governance or with a legal background. We encourage applications from people of any age, background or identity and are committed to equality and diversity.

Trustees are asked to attend six Board meetings a year, held in the evening at various locations. Each Trustee is encouraged to take an interest in a particular aspect of the charity's work.

What's in it for you?

- make a positive impact for people in your local area by ensuring the local Citizens Advice is sustainable and serves the needs of the community
- meet people and build relationships with trustees, staff and other volunteers
- build on your governance, leadership and strategy skills
- increase your employability
- and we'll reimburse expenses too.

If you would like to discuss this opportunity, please contact Jane Richardson, the Chair, via jane.richardson@osavcab.org.uk or email recruitment@osavcab.org.uk for an application form.

Study scammers' ways and beat them – Citizens Advice

Much as we hate them, we must concede that today's scammers are thoroughly up to date and quick off the mark. In very recent months scammers have pretended to be energy companies offering great deals; local councils speeding up Council Tax rebates; and government departments tendering financial support – each attempt closely following on the heels of breaking news and timed to exploit any sign of vulnerability or need.

Be on your guard generally. To help you defend yourself, here are a few things which should ring alarm bells:

Someone you don't know contacts you unexpectedly.

An entity that you normally deal with contacts you in an unusual way (for instance, DVLA emailing you when it has never done so before – this actually happened in one scam)

A telephone caller asks for you by your last name, mumbles the name of his business and adds "how are you?" (watch out for callers who end every phrase with a question)

If you think that you have been tricked (or if you simply want to report an attempted scam), contact your bank right away to stop any payments, change your computer log-in details if appropriate, and report the scam to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040. You can also use their online reporting tool at

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk>

Action Fraud can sign you up for email alerts so you will know what scams are on the way. And lastly, they can also give you a useful crime reference number. Another source of help is the National Trading Standards scams team: their website has lots of useful information.

Citizens Advice can help, and our advice is free and impartial. For online scams you can talk to our specialist scams action advisers on 0808 250-5050, or by webchat; or you can call our Consumer Service on 0808 223-1133; or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk for more information.

Lost: prescription sunglasses between West Hendred and Ardington. (Walked via path near Bankside - Back via Church)
The glasses are dark tortoise shell in colour, with a small gold horse motif on arms. If found please contact Angela 07775 863350
Many thanks

For Sale

Vauxhall Corsa – Ideal for Young Driver
X reg, 22 years old, 50,000 miles petrol 973CC
Very reliable; low cost – both maintenance and excellent MPG. Low insurance cost. Full service history. Sale due to bereavement £750
Contact: Hugh Rees 01235-833174

The deadline for items for next month's newsletter is 25th July. Please email to newsletter@westhendred.net

Help please! We're looking for another newsletter editor to join our team of 2. This is a very easy way to contribute to village life, with a time commitment of a couple of hours every 3 months. All you need is (very) basic Word skills, an editing training session will be given. If you're interested, please get in touch with Jane John on 07887744214

THE WEST HENDRED AND GINGE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Hall Lettings: All hall enquiries/bookings should be made via email to villagehallbookings@westhendred.net www.westhendred.net

Covid-19: We have received updated Government Guidance / Advice from ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) regarding the lifting of Plan B restrictions. All hirers have been fully informed as part of their booking process, which continues to include the need to do a risk assessment.

Jubilee Lunch: Thank you to all who contributed and helped. Thank you also to all who came along and had a very enjoyable day.

AGM – Tuesday 12th July at 7pm in the Village Hall

The two current Village Hall charities running concurrently have now become one charity, with the closure of the old charity. All is now transferred to our new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which is registered charity No. 1192220. The Village Hall charity AGM is bound to be a public meeting. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see you there. We are actively looking for new committee members to help us shape the next stage in the life of what is a vibrant and well-used village hall.

Current Events

Puppy School: Puppy School is the national network of certified puppy tutors. Classes run in WHVH on Mondays at 6.30pm Pups need to be vaccinated and under 20 weeks for the first class. Please get in touch for more information about this nationally accredited course, or visit my website www.new-tricks.net I'm a Certified Canine Behaviourist (CCB) and also offer behaviour and training services for dogs of any age. Deb

MiniKicks: We offer fun and imaginative football coaching sessions for children aged 18 months to 7 years old, enhancing their football skills as well as using their imaginations and improving social skills. Class are 9am Saturday mornings at the Village Hall. For more information contact minikicks18@gmail.com

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL USUALLY INCLUDE:

Boogie Mites – Monday mornings

Music and dance for preschool children, every Monday morning. Contact Lizzie on LizzieL@boogiemites.co.uk

West Hendred Stitches – meet on the SECOND and FOURTH Tuesdays in the month. Further information from Jane Soffe contact 07455076584

Pilates

General Mat classes on Mondays and Wednesdays 7-8pm

This is aimed at all ages and abilities. Places are available for anyone who is interested.

Zoom Pilates continues to be held on Mondays at 7-8pm.

Wednesday evenings are now back for face to face classes in the hall at 6-7pm and 7.15- 8.15pm.

Please contact me and I can provide more information Charlie Prince on 07581 462 317, or

charlie@princepilates.co.uk

Charlie's website for more information about classes etc. www.princepilates.co.uk Charlie Prince

Yoga

Thursdays 9.30 – 10.45am Hatha Yoga – suitable for improvers

Fridays 9.30 – 10.30am Hatha Yoga (on Zoom) – suitable for beginners and improvers

Tuesdays 10 – 11am Gentle / chair yoga (on Zoom)

Tuesdays 5.30 – 6.30 Teen Yoga with mindfulness – looking for a sport or skill for Duke of Edinburgh? Please contact me. New students very welcome!

Wednesday 10-11am Move Together - Gentle Yoga. Still a couple of places available

Please contact me for further information on 01235 863647 or linda@soderstrom.myzen.co.uk

Not sure if yoga is for you? Contact me and arrange for a free trial lesson.

Linda Davey – British Wheel of Yoga/TeenYoga Teacher

Village Hall Committee Contacts Hugh Rees (Chair) 01235-833174 / 07802-416031

Jenni Dimbylow 07776-134463