

WEST HENDRED

APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

DIARY OF EVENTS

8 Apr	Coffee/Book/Plant Sale	WH Village Hall	10 – 12pm
14 Apr	Family Service	Holy Trinity Church	9.00am
21 Apr	Youth Club	WH Village Hall	7 – 9pm
11 May	Parish Council Meeting	WH Village Hall	8.00pm
16-17 June	WH Beer Festival	WH Village Hall	
8 July	Summer Lunch	Manor Farmhouse	12.30pm

Deadline for next Newsletter 25 April 2017

Parish Council News

Website -

The Parish Council is pleased to announce our new website which can be found at www.westhendred.org. It is still a work-in-progress, as we need to add more content, but it is a useful information point where you can find out about local news, council meeting dates and minutes, PC accounts, responses to planning applications and consultations, policies and procedures, contact details for your councillors and clerk, and finally contact details for local amenities and organisations. We welcome content from local groups and organisations; please send anything of interest to the Clerk at parishcouncilclerk@westhendred.net.

Dog Fouling -

We have been made aware that bags of dog mess have been left along The Furlong and The Lynch. East Hendred Parish Council has now installed a new bin at the end of The Lynch and there is another bin at the West Hendred end of The Furlong, so there really is no excuse not to bin your bag.

Parish Precept -

You will by now have received your Council Tax bills for 2017/18 and will no doubt have noticed the increase in the Parish Council portion. The main reasons for the increase this financial year are:

1. We have committed to spending over £4,500 on warning lights on the A417, helping to make drivers more aware of children crossing at the bus stops.

2. Our play equipment is reaching the end of its life. Repairs are now regularly required in order to keep the equipment operational.

3. We are planning to build a fund toward the eventual replacement of the play equipment. The large fort will cost at least £35,000 to replace and most of the funding for this will have to come from grants. Even with grant funding, the Parish Council will need to provide matched funding, as that is what grant bodies usually require.

4. We have taken on grass cutting from Oxford County Council (OCC). We did this because OCC reduced all grass cutting to once per year and areas like The Furlong were becoming impassable at times. Turning out of The Greenway also becomes very dangerous if the grass isn't cut. Although we receive a grant from OCC for this, it does not fully cover our costs.

Speeding Vehicles -

We have received a number of complaints about speeding vehicles on The Greenway, especially by delivery vans. Please can we remind everyone that the 30 mph speed limit extends to the end of The Greenway and could we urge you to keep within that limit. If you receive deliveries perhaps you could politely remind your delivery drivers to respect the speed limit as well.

January's Parish Council meeting minutes are now available on the Parish Council website. The next Parish Council meeting is on 11th May 2017 at the Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting will also be held on this date at 8pm, so join us for a glass of wine and an update on all that's been going on in the Parish over the last year.

Richard Evans, Chairman.

Parish Clerk:

parishcouncilclerk@westhendred.net
(email) or 833466 (phone)

M4 Junctions 12 to 13: Bridge Refurbishment – Update

Here's an update to the programme and additional traffic management information for the bridge refurbishment works taking place along the M4 near Bradfield.

As previously advised, long-term monitoring has found that the two bridges which carry the M4 over Ashampstead Road and Dark Lane, near Bradfield in West Berkshire, require extensive repair due to chloride-induced corrosion. Critical repairs are required to address the defects and ensure the structures remain in a safe and serviceable condition.

CLOSURE OF DARK LANE AND ASHAMPSTEAD ROAD (WEST BERKSHIRE)

The local authority roads which run beneath the M4 must be closed for safety reasons due to the restricted height available and due to the activities involved.

- Closure of Dark Lane (beneath the M4) – from Monday 6 March through to Thursday 4 May 2017
- Closure of Ashampstead Road (beneath the M4) – from Monday 13 March through to Friday 26 May 2017

During the closures a clearly signed diversion will be in place via Bradfield, Chalk Pit Farm Road, A340 Pangbourne Road, Tidmarsh Lane, Gardeners Lane and Buckhold Hill, which has been approved by West Berkshire Council.

WEEKEND CLOSURES

The programme of weekend closures of the M4 has been revised to not only avoid bank holidays but also the school Easter half term holiday, where traffic flows may increase along the M4. The closures are now currently scheduled to take place from 9pm Friday through to 6am on Monday on the following weekends:

- Friday 31 March to Monday 3 April 2017
- Friday 5 May to Monday 8 May 2017
- Friday 12 May to Monday 15 May 2017
- Friday 19 May to Monday 22 May 2017 (contingency weekend only)

During these closures a clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A4 (through Newbury, Thatcham and Woolhampton). Confirmed dates for these closures will be displayed in advance on signs along the M4.

On selected weekends in July, there will also be restricted lanes open, from 9pm Friday to 6am Monday, on the following weekends:

- Friday 7 July to Monday 10 July 2017 (Westbound only)
- Friday 28 July to Monday 31 July 2017 (Eastbound only)

Significant delays are expected during these weekend closure periods, and it is advised that you plan ahead of your journey to allow for extra time or avoid this route where possible.

If you have any questions or if you'd like you know about the work please log your enquiry through Highways England's customer control centre:

- Phone: 0300 123 5000
- Email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk
- Post: Highways England, Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ

Neighbourhood Policing Update

The Rural Crime team continue to be out and about around the more rural locations helping to combat crimes against farms and premises in isolated locations. The team are proactive in the reduction of theft, criminal damage and hare coursing/poaching. We would like to encourage people to call and report any incidents of criminal damage, anti-social behaviour or hare coursing.

New Mobile Phone Legislation – On 1st March the penalty for using a mobile phone while driving increased to a £200 fine and six penalty points. If you have had your licence for less than two years you are only allowed six points before a ban.

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non- emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email at WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Job Vacancy

Hendreds Preschool is looking for a new manager. If you are interested in finding out more about this position please contact us at chairofhendredspreschool@outlook.com

Your Beer Festival Needs You!

This year's West Hendred Not Just a Beer Festival will be bigger & better than ever but needs help from you!

Please contact Tim Hutchinson

tim.hutchinson@outlook.com

if you can offer any help either before or during what promises to be another great community event in our village.

Friday 16th & Saturday 17th June

Services at West Hendred Church in April

Sunday 2	Morning Prayer	at 9.00am
Sunday 9	Holy Communion	at 9.00am
Sunday 9	Family Communion & Procession in Ardington	10.15
Weds 12	Holy Communion	18.30
Friday 14	Good Friday Family Service	9.00
Sunday 16	Easter Holy Communion	9.00am
Sunday 23	Holy Communion	9.00am
Sunday 30	Morning Prayer	9.00am
	Benefice Communion	10.30am

Photography Exhibition

Local photographer Anne Pagett is holding her third exhibition at the Vale & Downland Museum, Wantage, from April 25th - May 6th. Entitled "The Magic of Madeira", it aims to capture some of the beauty and quirkiness of this lovely island.

A Thank You

Thank you so much for all those that came to the Friday coffee morning last month. It was a lovely morning and great to catch up with so many people. We raised £81.70 for Nasio! Thank you all, Jenni

Please note there will be no coffee morning on Friday 7th April because of the end of term school events. Next coffee morning will be on 5th May

**West Hendred Summer Lunch
Saturday 8th July - 12-30 to 3:30**
(In aid of Holy Trinity Church)

The Summer Lunch will be at Manor Farm House, kindly offered by Lys and Peter Cook.

The internationally famous duck race is anticipated to have usual excitement and suspense this year. Downy Duck has been asked to make a celebrity appearance for those who didn't catch sight of Downy's appearance last year.

We do need help with the food on the day, as well as people volunteering food items. We will also be asking for help for stalls, and also for the Friday evening with putting up tents. If you would like to help with any of these, please do contact: Hugh Rees on 833174 or Patsy Jenkins on 835113 or Sally Hutchinson on 833081

Marlene Bashford

It is with the greatest sadness that we must announce that mum died on 21st March.

The funeral is to be held at Holy Trinity Church, West Hendred at midday on 4th April.

Phil, Rob and Dan Bashford

East and West Hendred Church Bell Ringers

Desperately needed, enthusiastic young people to learn the craft of ringing church bells. Take the challenge of controlling a large rotating piece of metal with only a single piece of rope. Be part of a team to ring for services, festivals, weddings funerals or just for fun. Ringing bells can be learnt easily and can be either a simple exercise or a challenge to learn the more complex methods to required to ring a full peal. Any one between 10 and 90 can ring. If you are tempted to try ring Dave Trotman on 833531.

The deadline for next month's Newsletter is 25th April

Hand delivered items - please place your article in an envelope marked clearly "WH Newsletter" and deliver to Janet Trotman, Tean, The Milham
Tel: 833531

Alternatively, you can send items for inclusion to our e-mail address: newsletter@westhendred.net

WEST HENDRED AND GINGE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We've greatly improved our website recently, so please do visit it at www.westhendred.net

HALL LETTINGS

All hall enquiries/bookings should be made via NEW MOBILE NUMBER 07393-826168 or via email to villagehallbookings@westhendred.net

WEST HENDRED VILLAGE HALL Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday 29th March 8-15pm

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL INCLUDE:

Youth Club – Friday 21st April (TBC) - 7 pm to 9pm

The Youth Club meets usually on the third Friday at 7 pm. Please contact for more information, Penny Meston on 01235 832113. Please note that adult helpers are urgently needed! Anyone interested in helping to run the youth club should contact Penny. We need adult helpers to go on a Rota. If we get enough, it could mean only helping once or twice a year as it is a monthly Youth Group.

Coffee Morning, plant, and book sale – Saturday 8th April 10 am – 12 noon

Many nearly-new cookery and childrens books! Also a variety of hardy plants, and tall snowdrops on sale "in the green" if still spring-like! All proceeds are for the Village Hall. Please contribute - Hugh and Annabel on 833174.

Thank you to all who came to the February Sale which raised an amazing £66-00 !

Mother and Baby/Toddler Group

Monday mornings' 10.15am to 11.45.

Get together in the Hall and meet/chat to other local mothers. Fathers welcome too. Just drop in

West Hendred Stitchers

Meet on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays in the month 10am - 4pm and is open to everyone who'd like to stitch with friends in a warm and sociable atmosphere. Beginners welcome. Work on individual projects. Tea & coffee provided. Bring own lunch. Further information from Jane Soffe 01235 832554

Family Service – Good Friday 14th April 9am

The Family Service and Sunday Club at 9am will be in the Church.

Pilates - Monday evenings 7 to 8 pm, Wednesdays 6 to 7 pm, and 7.15 to 8.15 pm

Please contact Charlie Prince on 07581 462317, or email princepilates@hotmail.com

Yoga Classes

Mondays 5.45 – 6.45pm

Yoga and mindfulness for teens (for ages 15+) - focusing on strength and flexibility as well as strategies to deal with exam stress.

Tuesdays 6 – 7pm

NEW! Yoga and mindfulness for teens (for ages 13+). Ideal as sport or skill for Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Thursdays 9.15 – 10.45am

Yoga for beginners and improvers

Thursdays 11 – 12.30pm

Gentle yoga

For more information on any of these yoga courses and to enrol, please contact Linda Soderstrom on 01235 863647

Village Hall Committee Contacts
Hugh Rees (Chair) 01235-833174 / 07802-416031
Sarah Lloyd 01235-833373