

WEST HENDRED

DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

DIARY OF EVENTS

16 December	Family Service	Holy Trinity Church	10.30am
16 December	Drinks & Mince Pies	WH Village Hall	2-4pm
21 December	Carol Singing	WH Village Hall	6pm onwards
24 December	Crib Carol Service	Holy Trinity Church	3pm
26 December	Tug of War	WH Playing Field	12.30pm

Deadline for next Newsletter 24th December 2018

Parish Council News

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday 10th January at 8pm in West Hendred Village Hall.

Neighbourhood Policing Update

Rural Crime – We continue to work closely with landowners, farmers and gamekeepers as typically we see a rise in hare coursing and also rural burglaries due to the longer nights. On 16th and 17th October we conducted an overnight operation with assistance from our farmers and gamekeepers. These operations are vital in keeping relations with our rural community and also builds our community resilience by them actively helping us to deter crime in the area

Please get in touch/follow us using the following: E-mail:

WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.polic.e.uk Twitter: @tvpsouthandvale

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale> Phone: 101 **Always phone 999 in an emergency**

World War 1 Centenary Plaque

To mark the Centenary of the end of the 1st World War, a special oak plaque naming those who died from the Parish was blessed by the Reverend Nicholas Cheeseman, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, at the village Service of Remembrance on the 11th November.

The names on the plaque are in the order in which they died: Private Frederick Greenaway Private Joseph Greenaway, Private Henry Cooper, Lance Sergeant William Reeley, Private Alfred Wiggins, Driver Albert Rivers, Sergeant Walter Greenaway and Private Ernest Sheppard.

The family who suffered most, the Greenaways, must have been especially devastated to hear of the death of Walter Greenaway who won the Military Medal for bravery. He died on the 21st May 1918 having served from the beginning of the war.

To those who contributed so generously to the plaque, to the Poppy Appeal and to David Trotman and his bell-ringers for taking part in the national "Armistice Ringing", a huge thank you to you all for remembering those who "gave their tomorrow, for our today".

Yours sincerely, Roy Lennox Chair,
Parish Council

Poppy Appeal 2018 - Thank You

This year The Royal British Legion has led the nation in saying Thank You to the First World War generation, all who served, sacrificed and changed our world. We saw activities big and small as people found their own way to recognise the incredible contributions of an entire generation.

More than 340,000 children lost a parent and countless more lost brothers and uncles in WW1. Despite this trauma, children played a vital role in the war effort. Girls were often labelled as gossips, but during WW1 they were entrusted to carry confidential messages for MI5, after the boy scouts were considered too talkative and excitable. Today, at over 100 years old, Girl Guiding is still standing strong, existing to inspire community spirit among young women and girls. Women played a huge role in WW1 and this helped to change their role in Britain. Supporting the war effort meant that many more women worked in jobs outside the home.

By the end of 1918 more than a million British and Empire Forces were among the dead and a further 1.25 million were injured, a fifth of them disabled for life. Four million soldiers returned home to find a shortage of housing and jobs, and a struggling economy. Despite this they brought the same resolve to peace that they had shown in war, helping to rebuild Britain. Today, The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, and their families and your poppy money will help this continue.

My Grandfather joined the army as hostilities began as a member of the British Expeditionary Force and was in the Ypres area of Belgium during the autumn/winter of 1914. Desperate times. As Christmas approaches I think of what it must have been like for him on the front line. In a newspaper article titled "The Christmas Truce" by Dr Matt Thomas of the National Army Museum he wrote "The British Expeditionary Force (BEF) had fought bravely in slowing the German advance in August 1914 and saved the day at Ypres (19 October – 22 November). However, by December 1914 it had suffered around 90,000 casualties. The original force had been almost wiped out. The survivors, and a continuous stream of reinforcements (largely Territorial and Indian soldiers), now held a line from just south of Ypres. The soldiers along this front faced a freezing winter in the trenches and Christmas away from their loved ones. Around this time unofficial truces between British and German soldiers took place along parts of the BEF's front. In the trenches on Christmas morning carols were sung and rations thrown across the opposing lines. It was not long before the more adventurous soldiers started to venture into no-man's land. Here they exchanged food, tobacco, cigarettes, drink, badges, buttons and caps. Games of football also broke out. The only result recorded was a 3-2 victory by the Germans, quoted in several soldiers' letters. As well as exchanging gifts, both sides saw the lull in fighting as a chance to find the bodies of their comrades and give them a decent burial. Indeed, for the rest of the war there was to be no major repeat of the 1914 truce. The event therefore acquired semi-mythical status and has since been celebrated as a rare glimmer of humanity in a brutal conflict".

As this newsletter entry goes to press the village of West Hendred has raised over £902 before gift aid is added, hopefully making (for the first time)

a total of over £1000. My sincere Thank You to the village Poppy Appeal collectors and to you for giving so generously. This total, in conjunction with the new memorial plaque in the church that has been dedicated to the villagers who gave their lives for our future, offers a fitting tribute from the village to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. Nigel Findley

Holy Trinity Bells

Armistice Celebration weekend was very busy for the bell ringers. Starting on Friday bells were provided for the St Augustine's 'Armistice a century on' celebration using the old Ellacombe hammers, an alternative method of sounding bells without rotating them in the traditional way. Each bell is struck with a dedicated hammer on the end of individual ropes operated by a single ringer from a single point on the ringing floor. Saturday found us ringing for the wedding of Tom Wilkins and Susan at Holy Trinity in West Hendred. We managed to drive away the rain for a short time.

On Sunday we joined with all of the churches in the country to ring in celebration of the peace in 1918 by ringing rounds and call changes in both churches after 7:10pm. Several members of the team were unable to participate in this ringing due to other commitments, but we were able to ring by calling on an ex-village ringer, and a visitor from another tower, for whose help we are very grateful.

On Monday 19th Holy Trinity hosted a group of ringers who rang a full peal of 5040 changes in ringing order taking two and three quarter hours. Completing this challenge is the end aim of most dedicated ringers. The sound of well rung bells drifting over the village on a fine autumn morning was appreciated by many in the village. Alternately, we mere mortals ring for the fun of it. Bell ringing is relatively easy to learn to get to a reasonable standard, but requires practice. We are always short of ringers, we had to import several to meet the Armistice weekend commitments, and we are almost at critical numbers to ring for services, weddings etc. Please come and learn how to carry on this tradition. Starting requires about 30 mins of one to one tuition then regular practice to improve. We practice for an hour each week so if you would like to try ringing please call me, Dave Trotman on 01235 833531

Holy Trinity Church West Hendred Oxford Historic Churches Ride or Stride

This year's sponsored event took place on Saturday 8th September.

A total of 13 st/riders visited the church, which included Charlotte Jenkins, Roy Lennox and also me.

Roy Lennox, who has been doing Ride & Stride for well over 15 years, did "my usual route". He started at Ashbury, then Compton Beauchamp, following the line of the Ridgeway along its side. Roy visited the Springline villages, including Woolstone, Kingston Lisle, Sparsholt then Childrey and East Challow. Roy said that his route was continually going up and down hills. Then to the flatter part of his route of Wantage, Holy Trinity Charlton, Lockinge, East Hendred and finally West Hendred in mid-afternoon.

So far we have raised over £1,214-20 from sponsors! As we go to press, there's still a few more sponsorships to collect, so hopefully we'll raise over £1,300, which will be a record!

Thank you to all to took part, and all who have sponsored. Hugh Rees

SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2018

A very big thank you to all who took part in the appeal this year either by filling a shoebox, giving a donation or donating time to help with the preparation of boxes. 50 boxes have begun the journey to needy children overseas bringing them love this Christmas time.

Thank you so much. Patsy and Angela

♪♪♪ COME AND SING CAROLS ♪♪♪....

Enjoy the true spirit of Christmas by singing carols around West Hendred.

We'll meet at 6pm on **FRIDAY 21st**

DECEMBER at West Hendred Village Hall or you could join us en route? Just wear warm clothing and bring a torch or lantern. All funds collected are for Helen House Children's Hospice.

EVERYONE WELCOME! For more details contact Angela 862912 or Patsy 835113

Annual Boxing Day Tug of War

26th December from 12.30pm

Venue: West Hendred playing field

Anyone interested in being on a team, please contact Sonya Bashford at

bashfordsonya@gmail.com

Christmas Cards of Holy Trinity Church, West Hendred

High quality Christmas Cards are available of Holy Trinity Church, The greeting inside is 'Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year' The Cards are available in packs of 10 (with envelopes) for £5 per pack, and are sold in aid of repairs to Holy Trinity Church. The cards are on sale in the church, which is open in daylight hours. There are also packs of 10 cards (with envelopes) of the church available, which are plain inside.

You can also buy the cards at the West Hendred Village Hall Christmas Event on Sunday 16th December, and also from Christine Tanner, Wainfelin, Ginge Road – 01235-833349 or Hugh Rees, Mill Farm House, Mill Lane – 01235-833174

Church Services December

Sunday 2	Morning Prayer	9:00am
Wednesday 5	Compline	7:00pm
Sunday 9	Morning prayer	9:00am
	Benefice Communion (Holy Trinity)	10:30am
Wednesday 12	Compline	7:00pm
Sunday 16	Family Service	10:30am
Wednesday 19	Compline	7:00pm
Sunday 23	Holy Communion	9:00am
Monday 24	Crib Carol Service	3:00pm
Tuesday 25	Holy Communion	9:00am
Sunday 30	Morning prayer	9:00am
	Benefice Communion (Lockinge)	10:30am

The deadline for next month's newsletter is 24th December

Hand delivered items – please place in an envelope marked clearly "WH Newsletter" and deliver to:

Janet Trotman, Tean, The Millham,
Tel 833531

Alternatively you can send items for inclusion to our email address:

newsletter@westhendred.net

WEST HENDRED AND GINGE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

HALL LETTINGS All hall enquiries/bookings should be made via email to villagehallbookings@westhendred.net . Web Site: www.westhendred.net .

Bookings Team – Vacancy

We currently have 1 vacancy in the West Hendred Village Hall bookings team. These voluntary positions are a good way of being part of village life. No previous experience necessary. Please contact villagehallbookings@westhendred.net if you would like more information about the role.

Sunday 16th December – Christmas drinks & mince pies, 2-4pm

Join us for a festive get together. We're going to unveil the picture by Beryl Maile and photos celebrating the building of the hall. There will be a bar, mince pies, a raffle, charity stall and carol singing (3pm). We're looking forward to celebrating the Christmas cheer.

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL INCLUDE:

KONGA every Friday term time. 9.30 - 10.30 am £5 per class. NEW! Konga is a fusion of Boxing, Cardio, Dance & Sculpting set to the hottest sounds of music. This fitness routine is designed to get results through increasing fitness levels and redefining your physique. Can burn approximately 700 calories from one class. For more information Contact Rachel Lock on 07801 824293.

Youth Club – Next meets – Friday 21st December 6pm to 8-30pm

The Youth Club will be joining village Carol singing followed by refreshments, craft and games in the hall.

The Youth Club meets usually on the third Friday at 7 pm. Please contact Penny Meston for more information,. **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. Please contact Penny: 01235 832113.

Coffee Morning, plant, and book sale – Saturday 19th January 10 am – 12 noon Thank you to all who came to the late October sale and raised £70-10. STOP PRESS – November's sale raised £35-25! Thank you to all who have come and supported book sales in 2018, and already raised £309-90! The next sale in mid January is anticipated to have early snowdrops on sale. Many nearly new cookery and children's books. Also a variety of hardy plants, and an November special of Quinces – with recipes list! All proceeds are for the Village Hall. Please contribute - Hugh and Annabel on 833174.

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. 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 – Sunday 16th December 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 07581462317, or charlie@princepilates.co.uk , or see Charlie's website for more information about classes etc. <http://www.princepilates.co.uk>

YOGA Tuesdays 6 – 7pm Yoga with mindfulness for teens Focusing on strength and flexibility as well as strategies to deal with exam stress and aid relaxation. Ideal as sport or skill for Duke of Edinburgh awards. Classes started again on the 11th September

Thursdays 9.15-10.45 am Yoga for beginners and improvers classes started again on the 13th September

Thursdays 11-12.15 Gentle yoga Classes started again on 13th September. For further information on any of these courses and to enrol, please contact Linda on 01235 863647. (British Wheel of Yoga and TeenYoga teacher)

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