

WEST HENDRED

JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for next Newsletter
25 June 2026**

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.

Parish Council News: Update re Wantage Community Hospital

Refurbishment of the hospital ground floor is proceeding in five phases:

- 1) installation of the children and adolescent mental health service's clinic space, reflection room, shower and changing rooms
- 2) old kitchen refurbished to a clinic room, and installation of a new staff well-being room and kitchen area
- 3) new reception and waiting area, refurbished clinic rooms, and installation of a [Changing Places](#) toilet
- 4) old reception refurbished into two flexible working spaces
- 5) Installation of a digital suite and clinic room

The work is being done in phases in order to minimise the disruption and maintain as much existing clinic-based activity as possible on site or in the local area. Scheduling progress:

- Due largely to the discovery of lead paint in the building, which required highly specialist removal and disposal, work on completing phase one was delayed, but was handed over by the contractor at the end of March 2026 as planned
- In order to help claw back some of the lost time, preparatory works for phase two were undertaken and have been completed, with phase two due for handover soon
- Assuming that all remaining phases go to plan, then the project is due to complete by late summer 2026

- CIL funding is not tied to financial years so continues to be held and drawn down as required

Additional services are anticipated, in two categories:

- 1) Existing services to offer additional clinics:
 - Audiology (provided by OUH)
 - Ophthalmology (provided by OUH)
 - Audiological science (a second provider of audiology services)
 - Ultrasound (provided by Cora Health)
- 2) Other services being worked on to come to Wantage in future:
 - Respiratory medicine (provided by OUH)
 - Clinical haematology (provided by OUH and also known as red cell services)
 - Sexual health services (provided by OUH)
 - Cardiology (provided by OUH)
 - Child and adolescent mental health services (provided by Oxford Health)
 - District nursing (provided by Oxford Health)
 - Physical disability physiotherapy service (provided by Oxford Health)
 - Falls service (provided by Oxford Health)

All the above are in addition to those provided at Wantage community hospital already.

Update re West Hendred Signals Crossing, from Cllr Jane Hanna

Following completion of the main works, because of the electricity contractor needing to return this will happen on 9th June for approximately 2–3 days to install the signal heads and undertake the necessary commissioning and testing. This will require the same level of temporary traffic management at West Hendred A417 as before. It has been scheduled in line with available road space bookings and contractor availability, with no earlier dates feasible.

Parish Council Minutes

To find the most recent and past Parish Council meeting minutes please follow the link below:

<https://www.westhendred.org/parish-council/meeting-minutes/>

Coffee morning for Christian Aid

Please join us for coffee/tea and cake after the morning service at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 31st May at 9.50am.

There will also be a raffle with all proceeds going to Christian Aid.

Information about the vital work of Christian Aid can be found at www.christianaid.org.uk All are very welcome so please do come along and join us.

Patsy Jenkins, on behalf of W Hendred PCC.

West Hendred Beer Festival

19th - 20th June – The village Beer Festival is back for the 13th time! Join us for beer, lager, cider, BBQ, Pizza, music and more. We're excited to announce the date for this year's event and can't wait to see you there.

Friday 19th 6pm - 11pm

Saturday 20th 12 noon - 11pm

Details to follow on our website

<https://westhendredbeerfestival.co.uk/>

The Owls Return - 4th July, 6pm

After the fantastic success of the talk by The Owl Conservation Project last year, Lu is returning with her feathered friends. It's a great opportunity to see these beautiful creatures up close and to learn about their habitats and ask questions.

The Hall will be open to all ages and a bar, refreshments and pizza slices will be available.

Tickets on the door: £5 for adults and £2 for children under 13. Large groups can pre-book by contacting jenniferdimbylow@hotmail.co.uk

West Hendred Summer Garden Party Sunday 12th July – 3:30pm to c 6:30pm

This free event in aid of Holy Trinity Church will be held at Manor Farm House, kindly offered by Lys and Peter Cook. The raffle tickets are arriving imminently!

By moving it to Sunday late afternoon/early supper time we hope families with children can have their early evening meal at the Party.

Like last year, we're having lots of things for kids, such as Teddy Tombola, and Pre-loved Toys. We'll be keeping some favourites, such as the internationally famed Duck Race, Bowls, Name the Dolphin, and the Garage Game. Downy Duck has been waddling through the early summer flowers to prepare for a celebrity appearance at the Duck Race. As well as the early evening meal, there will be a hot-dog stall (£2) and hopefully an ice cream stall. There will be a bar with beer, Pimms and wine, as well as orange juice, lemonade and other soft drinks.

Entrance is free – yet again! The price of the early evening meal is £10 for an adult and £5 for a child under 12. Children under 5 continue to be free. Payment can be by card or cash.

Please come along on this very enjoyable occasion to meet and make new acquaintances. And could you perhaps help? If you would like to run a stall, or have your own ideas for stalls, please do say. Can you offer items for the Cake Stall?

We'll be putting up the marquee and beer tent from 6pm on Thursday 9th July. We'd be very grateful for donations towards the tombola and items can be dropped off with Hugh and Annabel at Mill Farm House – the thatched house on Mill Lane. Tins, bottles, toiletries, candles, unused gifts etc. or anything else you can think of, all welcome. If you are able to help in any way please do get in touch by contacting Hugh Rees on hugh@citidata.co.uk
Hugh Rees

Passing of Martin Sykes

We are sad to report that Martin passed away on 20th May, having spent two-thirds of his life - the last 64 years - at Glebe House discreetly supporting our rural environment, heritage and landscape. For at least 30 of those years he was active in local community affairs while also pursuing a distinguished professional career. All who knew Martin will join us in offering deepest sympathies to his widow Sarah.

Sound Bath in the Hall - Sunday 28th June - 5pm-6pm

Experience deep rest and inner balance with our immersive Sound Bath session.

Lie back, get comfortable, and allow the soothing vibrations of Tibetan singing bowls, gongs, chimes and drums to gently wash over you. These ancient instruments create calming sound frequencies that help quiet the mind, relax the body and reset the nervous system.

Each session begins with a short guided relaxation, followed by around 45 minutes of restorative sound designed to melt away stress and bring you back to a natural state of calm. Many people leave feeling lighter, clearer and deeply relaxed.

No experience needed — simply bring something comfy to lie on and a blanket and pillow (plus eye mask if you have one), lie down and receive.

£15 pp - Book via [paypal](#) (using Friends/Family option - stating name, event and email) or via sam@whatseatingyou.co.uk

Please note:

Sound baths are not suitable for those with sound-induced epilepsy. If you are in the first trimester of pregnancy, please let me know. If anyone has a hearing aid or tinnitus, then sound baths usually work well.

Table Tennis Club

A friendly table tennis club is run every Friday morning at the Hanney Memorial Hall from 10:00 to 11:00, £2.50 on the door.

Everyone is welcome from beginners to seasoned players.

For more information contact: Martin Ackland
07564938304

Books donated in error - can you help?

In error I think I donated two books to the East Hendred bus stop library. They actually belong to Theale Library in West Berkshire. If by chance anyone has picked up either of these two books I would be so grateful if you could get in touch so I can return them.

1) The Secret Adventures of Rolo (by Debbie Evans)

2) Robin Hood Aged 103/4 (by Ben Miller)

Thank you

Emma 07886 753066

Premium Horse manure available

Prices are calculated as follows:

- £4.97 per 40L bag
- £25 flat fee
- £5 Fuel charge on top for Wantage and surrounding villages.

You can contact me on 01235 412041, or text and WhatsApp on 07880 560984.

You can also find me on Facebook @D.Rance gardening & Maintenance
Dave Rance

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

West Hendred and Ginge Village Hall News

All hall bookings should be made online via the hall website: www.westhendred.net Enquiries should be made via email to villagehallbookings@westhendred.net

Events at the Hall

AGM – Wednesday 13th May, 6 pm in the hall

The West Hendred Village Hall AGM was held on 13th May. Hugh Rees was elected Chair, Ken Pagett as Treasurer, Chantal Ligertwood as Secretary and Selena Adams, Rosemary Budge, Sarah Lloyd and Stefan Povolotsky as Trustees. The Accounts as approved by the Financial Examiner, the Budget for 2025-2026 and the Trustees' Report for the year ended 30th September 2025 were all received by the Meeting.

Save the date, The West Hendred Beer Festival will be 19th and 20th June 2026

We look forward to welcoming you all back for a fantastic weekend! The Beer Festival Team

The Owls Return - 4th July, 6pm

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Dog training classes

- Tuesdays and Fridays 18:30-19:30 training foundations
- Mondays 6.30-7.30 graded classes
- Tuesdays and Fridays 17.15-18.15 graded classes.

Graded classes are suitable for dogs that have completed their training foundations.

Suitable for puppies and dogs (of all ages) once fully vaccinated. Bespoke training classes to tackle all of your training issues. We work on recall, loose lead walking and much, much more. Come and train your dog with us, make new friends and have fun. Please message Kriss on 07809 283700 or email admin@krissyscanines.co.uk to book.

Springline Singers Thursdays 7.30-9.30pm

Springline Singers, your community choir, welcomes anyone who loves to sing. We sing a range of music from pop to folk, spirituals to classical. Come and join us at West Hendred Village Hall on Thursdays at 7:30-9:30pm.

Yoga at West Hendred Village Hall

Gentle / Chair Yoga

Tuesdays 10 – 11 am (on Zoom)

Wednesdays 10 – 11am

Hatha Yoga

Wednesdays 4.30 – 5.45pm

Thursdays 9.30 – 10.45 am

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

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

Linda Davey – British Wheel of Yoga Teacher and Yoga Therapist / Yoga in Healthcare Alliance

Village Hall Contacts: Hugh Rees (Chair) 01235 833174/07802 416031; Stefan Povolotsky 07460 727374