

Village Association News

VILLAGE PARTY

It was a pleasure to welcome many villagers, including new and ex-villagers to our stand at the village party in August. The information boards showcased the Association's activities from its formation through to the present day and we were also very pleased to be able to recruit two new members onto the committee. Thank you to everyone who came to see us to say hello.

AUTUMN VILLAGE WALK

The next village walk will take place on Sunday, 3rd October starting from The Square at 1:30pm. Our intention is to walk through the fields to Blewbury and back, calling in at the Style Acre cafe in Blewbury for afternoon tea. Everyone is welcome, so please bring along your family and friends and enjoy a leisurely stroll of approximately 4 miles.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On behalf of the village, the Association will again be supporting the Royal British Legion's poppy appeal and remembering those from West Hagbourne who lost their lives during the two great wars. A new wreath will be placed in the bus shelter, which was erected as the village's war memorial, on Sunday 14th November.

ST ANDREW'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

In aid of St Andrew's church and Asylum Welcome.

This year's St Andrew's Christmas tree festival runs from 10th - 18th December. Following on from the success of last year, there will be the opportunity for residents in East & West Hagbourne to display 4ft trees in their front gardens,



Members of the Village Association

as well as those for sponsorship in the church and churchyard.

Garden trees will be available for collection on 3rd December and will cost £25.00. If you would like to sign up for a tree, you can find more details in the October issue of the St Andrew's parish magazine which will be available to view on the West Hagbourne village website. Alternatively you can pick up a form from Margaret at Chapel Hayes, Main Street. Tel:851707. Please note that the closing date for ordering trees is 24th November.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 25th September - an amazing £1080.88 has been raised! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this event.

AGM

Our AGM will be held on Monday, 22nd November at 7:30pm at the Horse & Harrow. This meeting is open to all residents who live in the parish, during which, we will welcome any ideas you may have for future social and community events. Please contact the Chair, Margaret Leishman, if you would like more information about the meeting or any of the other events mentioned. Tel:01235 851707.

Margaret Leishman (Chair)

Village Party

We were delighted to see so many of you at our Community party on the 13th of August. The day was a huge success thanks to the generosity of: Sue and Chris Lay who shared their garden with us for the day, the Village Association who lent us their equipment and support, the Parish Council who sponsored the sound engineer and stage, the food and the drinks, all the



music acts, and of course the organising party committee Cathy, Kathryn, Justine, Rachel, Hilary, James, Sue and Julie who pulled it all together.

Thanks you also to everyone one who bought the delicious cakes. We hope you all had a terrific afternoon and got to know some more of your neighbours.

Lillie Jamieson



Parish Council

Due to the resignation of Tony Baldasera, the council needs to co-opt another councillor. If anybody is willing to be considered could they please contact me or another councillor.

The council is very grateful for the efforts made by the organisers of the village party, which was a great success and came in under budget!

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Wednesday 3rd November at 7.30 in Hagbourne Hall.

Michael Butler (Chair)

other news

Richard Allen - an appreciation

Richard – known as Dicky to many – was a great supporter of the History Group as it delved into the story of West Hagbourne. Motivated by a love of the village, both he and his wife Mary provided a lot of photos and information about the history of the farm going right back to the year 1919 when Richard's grandfather Charles Allen bought York Farm.

Richard also shared his poignant memories of his eldest brother Anthony who died whilst serving overseas in the Second World War. Tony had worked with the herd of Guernsey-shorthorns which were milked by hand in those days. The milk was sold in the surrounding villages until Tony was called up.

Richard took great pride in his late brother's achievements on the farm and clearly felt his loss. He always attended the Armistice Day service instigated at the village's War Memorial (also bus shelter) after a plaque

naming all those from West Hagbourne killed in the two World Wars was placed there by the History Group.

As well as providing valuable insights into village life in past times, the Allens hosted several fund-raising events for the History Group, including our final Archive Day in 2011.

Perhaps the most startling discovery for the History Group was the dating of the house at York Farm. Not only the oldest in West Hagbourne but one of the earliest, complete timber-framed houses to survive in England; the oldest part dating back to 1264 or '65.

The History Group sends its condolences to Mary and the family and remembers Richard as a good friend to the Group and to West Hagbourne.

Sheila Taylor
Former Secretary,
West Hagbourne Village
History Group

Farming year

Harvest began well with the cutting of the rape, then the rain set in for 2-3 weeks. We then had another spell when we managed to cut the winter Barley and the Winter Milling Wheat.

More rain. Eventually we managed to cut the Spring Barley, Spring Oats and the Peas. Finishing much later than usual.

It has been a mixed harvest with many having low yields and poor quality. We have been fortunate with both of these factors and the prices have been good.

Like with many commodities the inputs are steadily rising.

Autumn is upon us, the swifts are long gone and most of the swallows have gathered and moved on back to Africa.

Lu has helped with more owl boxes out the back of the farmstead so hopefully it will encourage them to come and

live nearby, it is nearing the time for long evening conversations with the Tawnys!

The village garden party was a great success with 150 past, old and new residents joining in with the fun. What a beautiful afternoon we had too! It was so lovely to catch up with everyone.

More celebrations next year I believe, to be organised by the Village Association, let's work on a good turn out again.

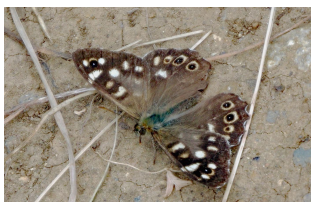
Sue Lay

Shirley Beachey

We note with sadness the death of Shirley Beachey. Many of you will have known of Shirley because of her garden. It has provided a colourful sight as you enter the village from Didcot for many years and was a worthy winner of the front garden competition.

Nature's Eye

By September butterflies and other insects are rather scarce in the garden. It has been a better than average year for Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, Painted Lady and Red Admiral. The latter species is still around, but in decreasing numbers. Hopefully a final brood will be emerging in October. I have seen them as late as early November in some years. Speckled Woods have been seen in the garden almost daily



Speckled wood

in mid-September. We found a second Rousel's Bush Cricket recently, which reminds me of the studies two friends in the Winey area have been doing. They have detected the different species of bush cricket using a bat detector. As in the case of bats, each species emits sound at a characteristic frequency. A bat detector changes the characteristic frequency of the sound generated to one in the human hearing range. Apparently most bush crickets stridulate in the range of 20-50 kHz. They do this to attract the opposite sex, while bats use the sound for echo location.

Seeking a greater range of wildlife we recently travelled to the RSPB's Otmoor reserve, near Beckley. On a small island created on one of the pools there, we saw large numbers of Green Plover, a 'raft' of about



five Shovellers, about ten Snipe, a Grey Heron, nine Little Egrets and, the 'stars of the show,' nine Cattle Egrets. Three of them can be seen in front of a Little Egret in the image.

Little Egrets have been breeding in Britain since the late 1990s, but it is only recently

that Cattle Egrets have started to breed. The Great White Egret, two of which I videoed in Norfolk two years ago now breeds in Britain too. The expansion of the range of these Egret species is assumed to be due to global warming.

Malcolm Brownsword

HUGS Update

Wildlife Gardens and Verges Competition

We're very pleased to announce the winners of our WG competition!

First prize went to Vicky Hunt of East Hagbourne. Vicky won a bundle of Simon King wildlife products. Her garden is a beautiful, informal family wildlife garden, all designed and sensitively managed for nature.

First runners up went to Mary and John Napper of East Hagbourne. Mary and John won a bundle of Simon King wildlife products. Their informal garden is both attractive and productive as well as being very wildlife-friendly.

Second runners up went to Malcolm and Val Brownsword of West Hagbourne who won an ethically sourced hamper from Just Trading in Wallingford. They have an impressive and productive garden with a mix of informal areas for wildlife, as well as more formal beds. For more about our wonderful winners please see our latest blog!

Verges

If you went with No-Mow-May this year and then left a wild patch in your garden or left your verge to grow long and floriferous, then you should have noticed just how much insect life came to your patch! Now is a good time to cut back verges and wildflower patches when all the seed heads have set. Do use shears, as they're less damaging to insect life than strimming. And leave a little height of grass still for insects. Also beneficial is leaving some fallen leaves on the ground for wildlife over winter, and, if nettles grow in your garden, let

a patch of them stay for next year and you can look forward to seeing more wildlife in your garden in 2022.

Tree orders

We'll soon be opening our tree orders again for this year's tree planting season. Do you have room to plant a new tree in the ground or even in a pot? Do you have a hedge that needs some replacement plants or are you thinking of planting a new hedge along your boundary? Planting native trees and shrubs is a fantastic way to support your local wildlife, making home for invertebrates and birds as well as providing food for them.

See our 'Tree' page on the website for more info.

New planting

We'll be out planting wildflower plugs in the grass triangle at the Butts Piece end of the Sustrans track. Are there any areas in West Hagbourne that would be suitable/available for planting?

Please let us know via the website.

Owl Project

Lu's owls were a great attraction at the village party and hopefully enlightened us about the importance of maintaining the environment to support these beautiful creatures.

Those of you who walk the paths in the parish may have noticed some new owl boxes installed on trees around the village and it is hoped that these will attract more owls to inhabit the area. However, Lu has several more boxes looking for sites within our parish, so please contact her if you have, or know of anywhere suitable lu@britishowlproject.co.uk

<https://www.hugsustainability.org>

Caroline Hunt

Parish Council

Clerk

Andrew Wise
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

Councillors

Mike Butler (Chair) 850523
mike.butler@westhagbourne.org

Hugh Lewis 851113
hugh.lewis@westhagbourne.org

Mike Telford 851236
mike.telford@westhagbourne.org

Oliver Doogue 851156
oliver.doogue@westhagbourne.org

District Councillors

Anne-Marie Simpson
Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk

Jane Murphy
jane.murphy@southoxon.gov.uk

County Councillor

Simon Clarke
simon.clarke@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Council Meetings

These are held in Hagbourne Village Hall - see website for future dates. Minutes of meetings of the Parish Council are available online. If you cannot find them, contact the clerk. If you do not have access to the internet, call the clerk and a printed copy will be sent to you. Shortly before the meeting of the Parish Council, the agenda will be circulated to all those on the list. To comply with legal requirements, a copy of the agenda will also be posted on the PC noticeboard.

www.westhagbourne.org/pc_minutes.htm

Planning updates

If you wish to be notified about planning applications that affect West Hagbourne you can sign up for email alerts.

Contact Andrew Wise:
parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

Parish email list

If you wish to be placed on this list, or to check that your entry is correct, please send an email to the Clerk at

parishclerk@westhagbourne.org

HGVs and Potholes

HGVs and potholes are a persistent issue on the roads in the village and beyond. If you can supply a photograph that gives some idea of the extent of a pothole this will help assess the urgency if its repair.

You can do this online at:
fixmystreet.com

Or:
highwaysenquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 08453101111

Web site:
www.westhagbourne.org/noticeboard.htm#potholes

HGVs not delivering to an address in the village should be reported to Trading Standards. If possible, you should take a photograph but definitely write down a description and registration number as soon as possible. Reports can be made to:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/trading-standards/weight-restriction-enforcement>

Keep up to date

www.westhagbourne.org

The website carries information, news and contact details as well as copies of the minutes of all village organisations

other news

Lunch Club

The next lunch club will be on Friday 20 August at the Horse and Harrow. Please let me know if you are planning to come.

Sue Totterdell (850080)



Didcot Film Club restarts

The Film Club will meet at Cornerstone Auditorium in Didcot at 7.30pm from October.

Kind Hearts and Coronets
(1949 PG)

Wednesday 27th October

Ammonite

(2020 Cert 15)

Wednesday 24th November

Tickets are £6 each, available from Cornerstone Box Office. For more details see

www.didcotfilmclub.org.uk

Art Fair

This will take place on Sunday 31st October 2021 from 10.30 - 5 pm at the Hagbourne Village Hall.

Meet local craft people, artists and writers, see displays, demonstrations and talks and pick up early Christmas presents.

Light refreshments will be served. Free admission, ample parking, wheelchair friendly.

Sponsored by the East Hagbourne Poets' Trail Project

Contact Linda Benton
01235817891
Linda.Benton@live.co.uk

Advertising

This newsletter is entirely funded by income from the advertisements in it. It is edited by Sue Totterdell, with contributions from a number of villagers, designed by Mary Ann Le May, printed by Hugh Lewis and distributed by a group of volunteers. To ensure that it will be able to continue in its present form we would welcome new advertisers. If you have a business you would like to advertise to residents, please get in touch:

editors@westhagbourne.org

other news

WhatsApp



If you would like to join the WhatsApp group, get in touch with Lillie Jamieson (07712 429811).

In recent months this group has traced lost pets, circulated information about road closures and local incidents and found new homes for unwanted household items and vegetables.

other news

If you have any news or photos or know of events you think might interest other residents, please contact the editor.

editors@westhagbourne.org

NEED A PLUMBER FOR THE SMALL JOBS?
07526 304050 ★★★★★
taps-toilets.co.uk 5 STAR SERVICE

Mary Ann Le May
GARDEN DESIGNS
Blissetts Main Street West Hagbourne
Oxfordshire OX11 0ND
01235 850523
www.maryannndesign.co.uk

AED
Emergency defibrillator
The West Hagbourne Emergency Defibrillator is located in the Telephone Box in the Square
In the event of an emergency call 999

Specialist Transport & Companion Service
☀ Accessible holidays, outings & tours
☀ Health & welfare appointments
☀ Family celebrations & everyday trips
☀ Companionship at home or out & about
07308 475 489 |
drivingmissdaisydidcot.co.uk Driving Miss Daisy®

SCOTLANDS ASH GARAGE SERVICES
Oxfordshire's Leading Independent Garage
MOT testing from 6am
Diagnostic Fault Finding and Servicing on all types of vehicles
Air Conditioning Exhausts
Body Repairs Tyres
FREE COURTESY CAR

01235 850 707
www.scotlandsashgarage.co.uk
Main Street, West Hagbourne OX11 0NA

Bare Essentials
BEAUTY & SKIN CARE CLINIC
Tailored skin plans at reasonable prices
Our treatments include:
* HIFU * Microneedling
* Fat Freezing * Dermaplaning
* Chemical Peels * Cavitation
* Treatment Facials * Botox & Fillers
* Body Contouring
Contact us:
01235 851863 | 07870 849351
bare-essentials@mail.com
www.bare-essentials.info
Ask us about our special Introductory Offer

dronemotion.co.uk
DRONE FILMING & ROOF SURVEYS

house to rent in France
Noirmoutier Island, west of Nantes - sleeps 7
just minutes from a quiet family beach,
great biking and sailing,
two bedrooms, dishwasher,
washing machine, TV
600€/week June + September
750€/week July
for more information
and photos
contact totterdells@btinternet.com 01235 850080