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Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic, there will be no Carol Singing on Christmas Eve this year but we hope to be back, singing with joy and gusto on Christmas Eve 2021.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

Susan 01296 749059 -hellousanearl@gmail.com

THE
SEVEN
STARS
DINTON



CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Our church will reopen for worship on December 6th but, mindful of the threat caused by the virus, Christmas in church will be very low key.

The Church Wardens and Clergy agonised over how we could replicate some from of normality, but every plan came up against the reality that what we want to do - sing carols, see children involved in nativity plays and celebrate, came up against the problem that if it was good so many would want to come that we could not accommodate them.

We are not able to sing and what is a great Christmas service without Hark the Herald Angels Sing? We are asking you to hold back until next year - when we hope to lift the roof.

Our church will be open for quiet worship on the three Sundays running up to Christmas. This year will reflect the real anxiety of the pregnant Mary. It is in the darkness and amidst fear that light comes.

December 6 10.00am Advent Holy Communion
December 13 4.00pm Advent Evensong
December 20 10.00am a service of readings and reflections.

Please ring Rev Nigel or Canon Phil if you have questions.

Phil Groves, Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice, Phone 01296 748 390



PARISH COUNCIL SUPPORT

ARE YOU SUFFERING BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The Parish Council may be able to help in some way and give you the relevant support you need at this difficult time.

If you are in need of anything (food, financial assistance or some other kind of support) please contact **(in confidence)** the Clerk to the Parish Council:

Mr Keith Gray
Disraeli House
Disraeli Square, Fairford Leys
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP19 7GS

Telephone: 07789 586594



Keith will be able to speak to you (in total confidence) on behalf of the Parish Council and see what help we can give you.

We wish everyone all the very best during this difficult time and wish to help our residents in the best way we can.



Jane Edwards

Elizabeth Jane Edwards who lived in Dinton and Stone died in hospital on September 8th, 2020.

Jane trained in London where she met her husband Peter, who was then a medical student at St. Thomas's Hospital in the 1950s. Eventually they settled in Aylesbury where Peter became a well respected GP. Jane, as she was known, supported many charities but was not content just to raise money in the U.K. She did much hands-on work to help others abroad. In 1975, when Saigon fell at the end of the Vietnam War, many babies and children were orphaned or separated from their families and were sent abroad. A number came to the Ockenden Venture, a children's charity in Surrey. Jane and her youngest daughter moved in with the children to help with their care and rehabilitation. In 1980, as Yugoslavia was torn by civil war, Jane was horrified by the suffering of the people of Dubrovnik in Croatia. She heard that medicine and drugs, especially for long term cancer treatment, were unavailable, so she collected medicines that were newly out of date from British pharmacies. She persuaded the Red Cross to provide her with an ex-army lorry and caravan and drove it, with a friend, to Dubrovnik, crossing the war zone with the support of NATO troops. Later, soon after the turn of the century, Jane was honoured by the Town of Dubrovnik and was awarded Freedom of the City. Through her Dubrovnik contacts, Jane heard that children in Sarajevo were also living rough in bombed out buildings with no food or support. She visited the city while the war continued and was able to rescue some children and arrange for them to be placed with local families. Realising an orphanage was needed, she would take a work force and materials from England, and received great support from the Fire Brigade in Aylesbury, many of whom gave up their holidays to refurbish what became the orphanage. Some years later, in Jane's retirement, Sri Lanka was devastated by the tsunami, so she flew there to offer help. This included raising more money to rebuild and extend an orphanage. Jane and Peter lived in Stone, firstly in Eythrope Road and then Lower Hartwell, before moving to Dinton where Jane held a charity coffee morning on the first Friday of each month. They then moved back to Stone. Everyone who knew Jane knew she was an inspirational woman and she will be sorely missed by her family and many friends.

THEFTS—Protect Your Property

There have been a number of thefts in the parish.

Items stolen were maintenance equipment such as grass cutters and strimmers. Items were taken from parked work vehicles and also from private property. Please be aware and protect your property—reporting all matters of concern to the police.



Dinton Village Hall:

Suitable for parties and all types of get-togethers.

For all enquiries for the Village Hall please contact the Bookings Secretary:
Diana Trigg, Biggs Cave, Biggs Lane, Dinton, HP17 8UH 01296 748361

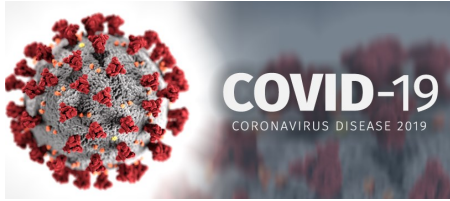
DINTON PLAYGROUND PLAQUES - Children's Name Plaques

If you would like to mark the birth, or other event, of your children/grandchildren, you can purchase a plaque to be installed in the playground in the Parish Field, Dinton.

The plaques cost £15 each

Please contact Cllr Jon Horn on **01296 748297** or **jonhorn@dinton.org**





BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COVID-19 TIER

Tier 2: **High Alert**

This is for areas with a higher or rapidly rising level of infections, where some additional restrictions need to be in place.

You must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place.

You must not socialise in a group of more than 6 people outside, including in a garden or a public space – this is called the ‘rule of 6’.

Businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a Covid-secure manner, other than those which remain closed by law, such as nightclubs.

Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals.

Hospitality businesses selling food or drink for consumption on their premises are required to provide table service only, in premises which sell alcohol, close between 11pm and 5am (hospitality venues in airports, ports, transport services and motorway service areas are exempt) stop taking orders after 10pm. Hospitality businesses and venues selling food and drink for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through.

Early closure (11pm) applies to casinos, cinemas, theatres, museums, bowling alleys, amusement arcades, funfairs, theme parks, adventure parks and activities, and bingo halls. Cinemas, theatres and concert halls can stay open beyond 11pm in order to conclude performances that start before 10pm.

Public attendance at outdoor and indoor events (performances and shows) is permitted, limited to whichever is lower: 50% capacity, or either 2,000 people outdoors or 1,000 people indoors.

Public attendance at spectator sport and business events can resume inside and outside, subject to social contact rules and limited to whichever is lower: 50% capacity, or either 2,000 people outdoors or 1,000 people indoors.

Places of worship remain open but you must not socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble while you are indoors there, unless a legal exemption applies.

Weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on numbers of attendees – 15 people can attend wedding ceremonies and receptions, 30 people can attend funeral ceremonies, 15 people can attend linked commemorative events such as wakes or stone settings.

Organised outdoor sport, and physical activity and exercise classes can continue

Organised indoor sport, physical activity and exercise classes will only be permitted if it is possible for people to avoid mixing with people they do not live with (or share a support bubble with). There are exceptions for indoor disability sport, sport for educational purposes and supervised sport and physical activity for under-18s, which can take place with larger groups mixing.

You can continue to travel to venues or amenities which are open, but should aim to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible.

If you live in a tier 2 area, you must continue to follow tier 2 rules when you travel to a tier 1 area.

Avoid travel to or overnight stays in tier 3 areas other than where necessary, such as for work, education, youth services, to receive medical treatment, or because of caring responsibilities.

You can travel through a tier 3 area as a part of a longer journey.

For international travel see the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office travel advice for your destination and the travel corridors list.

STAY SAFE!

**For further advice on what you can and cannot do—please visit the government website:
Gov.UK**

SIMPLY WALK STONE, HADDENHAM & DINTON

Come suited and booted, for whatever the weather, for an hour or so walk in the countryside on Wednesday mornings throughout the year from:

Simply Walk in Stone, Haddenham & Dinton

Due to the **CORONAVIRUS**:

Whilst back in lockdown No.2 Simply Walk was suspended from early November putting walking restrictions on us and you!!

We hope we can say come early December . . .

Welcome Back!

To **Simply Walk** for an hour or so in the countryside.

Group numbers are restricted, so you will need to look for the venues below at www.bookwhen.com/simplywalk

Walk dates/details and how to book a place on our walks at:-

Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road – **STONE**

Wednesday: December: 2nd – 16th – 30th January: 13th – 27th

Bradmoor Farm (rear) car park, Stanbridge Road – **HADDENHAM**

Wednesday: December: 9th January: 6th

Seven Stars PH, New Road – **DINTON**

Wednesday: December 23rd January: 20th

We meet in the morning for 10.30am

It's friendly, fun and **free**

We're not quite back yet, to normality

When it comes to the coffee or tea!

Walking for Health with Simply Walk

For details visit www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/simply-walk

Or call Fiona Broadbent on 01494 475367



Simply Walk

HADDENHAM COMMUNITY VEHICLE

The vehicle provides transport for the surrounding villages of Stone, Hartwell, Bishopstone, Ford, Dinton, Aston Sandford, Cuddington, Chearsley and Long Crendon. The transport is **FREE** and is booked by contacting **SUE BRIGHAM** on 07495 366779 or haddenham@gmail.com

The service is for those wheelchair bound or who have difficulty walking.

Transport is by wheelchair but if you have difficulty walking and are not wheelchair bound, the volunteer will bring a wheelchair to your house for your use.

If the vehicle is booked and you live in the parish, then telephone the co-ordinators of the Parish Good Neighbours Scheme for help.

See back page for contact details.





CUDDINGTON & DINTON School News



As we approach the end of term it is amazing to look back to the beginning of it in September. We had a great start with the children adapting wonderfully on returning from holiday - they were so excited to see their friends and enjoyed being back in school! Parents were most patient and understanding with the changes to pick-up and the many adjustments of

travelling times and logistics that had been made. With a rather higher than normal number of cars both here in Dinton as well as in Cuddington we have sought full co-operation from parents regarding care and consideration for our neighbours, children and staff when parking.

Amongst so many other adjustments we decided not to start school swimming lessons until further notice and there would be no dancing club on either site for the time being - just two examples of the knock-on effect of the virus which the children have adapted so well to in school.

Myself, our Governors and staff are very much aware of the changing situation regarding COVID-19 and lockdown measures in different areas of the country. We have fully shared and briefed our staff regarding what teaching arrangements would be should we go into a forced lockdown for either a class, a site or the whole school.

We celebrated harvest via zoom, accepted items for the Aylesbury Food bank and donated money to a charity of the children's choice. Rev Phil provided us with some great ideas to share with families and the churches have prepared a 'Harvest at Home' pack with activities and an Apple Crumble recipe. Routines have steadily become established and settled with children coping exceptionally well with the limitations to their movements around the building and at playtimes. A parent shared a poem that was written by a child during lockdown:

*When 2020 Lockdown began,
The world was in a mess since I don't know when.
People got furloughed and lost their job,
Children stopped going to school, holding back sobs.
The NHS worked harder trying to save lives,
Numbers of COVID rising and rising to extreme heights.
But this did not stop us, because we are unbeatable,
This did not stop us because we are unbeatable.*

Back in the classroom Year 6 had a practical science lesson looking at the heart and enjoyed a very interesting morning dissecting a lamb's heart, pictures of which made it to the school Twitter page! We looked forward to our first ever phone-call parents' evening and were delighted that it was so well received. Teachers felt they were able to share information about each child's progress and attainment in a focused way and parents seemed well pleased.

The staggered start and finish have worked well for the children and the arrangements for the end of the day allow everyone to socially distance – it is so important to keep all staff and children as safe as possible. We will not be wearing masks in school, only when we are 'off site' and/or having interactions with adults who don't work in the school. Children laid wreaths on both War Memorials the on the 11th November. This was done by Hamish and Emilia at Dinton Church, with a prayer read by Phoebe. We were joined by Nicky Bancroft and her daughter who read a poem to the year 5 & 6 children. The poem was written by her mother Diana Good about her war time experiences in Aylesbury and was most moving.

I am really pleased that we have been able to continue with the parents' Forum which such a helpful coming together, especially while there are so many sensitive issues going on around us with Covid-19. This time of year is usually hectic with the build up to Christmas events and activities – sadly much will be different but with a little creativity and imagination we are still going to be able to celebrate, but a little differently! There will be the **Infant Nativity** but this will be filmed and put on our website. It will stay live until 5th January 2021, so that you can share it with family and friends. All children in the video have permission to be filmed and there will also be **Christmas Surprise Shop, Christmas Tombola & Chocolate Mufti, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Fair** (online), **Children's hand-made gifts** and a **Christmas Quiz!** Unfortunately, we will be unable to hold our traditional Junior Carol service this year or the Junior games day. Finally, and before we get into all that the school managed to raise over £526 for Children in Need – a great achievement.



"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

VACANCY For PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Parish Council has a vacancy for a parish councillor. The position will be made by Co-option under the Casual Vacancy rules and process.

The parish council meets once a month (at the moment by zoom/virtual meetings from the comfort of your own home). We discuss and decide on matters relating to the management of the parish of Dinton with Ford & Upton covering all the community within that parish area.

We are responsible for land management, commenting on planning applications and the upkeep of the parish. If you would like some further information on the role of a parish councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk, Mr Keith Gray.



Haddenham
Community
Library

OPENING HOURS:

Tuesday 9.00am- 5.00pm, Thursday 9.00am– 5.00pm
Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm, Saturday 9.30am - 1.00pm



NEXTDOOR—What is it?

Nextdoor is an easy way to stay connected, wherever you are.

Nextdoor is the best way to stay informed about what's going on in your neighbourhood - whether it's finding a last-minute babysitter, planning a local event or sharing safety tips. There are so many ways our neighbours can help us, we just need an easier way to connect with them. Check out the NEXTDOOR app and information can be found on the internet - just GOOGLE it and see. You can sign-up to join and find out what's going on near you.



COUNCILLORS:



Chairman **Martin Usherwood** **01296 748129**
martinusherwood@dinton.org

Jon Horn **01296 748297**
Vice-Chairman **jonhorn@dinton.org**

Mel Kidner **01296 747880**
melkidner@dinton.org

Honor Vane **01296 748177**
honorvane@dinton.org

Anne Dunne **07740 486884**
adunneupton@gmail.com

Dick O'Driscoll **01296 748283**
odriscoll110@btinternet.com

CLERK:

Keith Gray JP,
CiLCA, FSLCC

Disraeli House
15 Disraeli Square
Fairford Leys
Aylesbury
Buckinghamshire HP19 7GS
Tel: 01296 - 422800
Mob: 07789 - 586594
Email: keith.gray6@btopenworld.com



Bell Ringing Tower Captain

Andrew Wild - 01296 748679

Church of England Minister
01844 291244

Vicar Associate

Dr Phil Groves 01844 291244

Church Wardens

Rosemary Jackson 01296 748655

Neil Chudley - 07788 923493

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Parish Office - 01844 291244

Churchyard Working Party

Andrew & Helen Wild - 01296 748679

Cuddington & Dinton School

01844 291206

Headteacher: - head@cds.school

Office - office@cds.school

Dinton Village Hall Bookings

Diane Trigg - 01296 748361

Haddenham Community Library

0845-2303232

Parish Magazine (Dinton)

Mike Thompson - 01296 748561

Police Station (Waddesdon)

Neighbourhood Team —101

Pre-School, Dinton Village Hall

Valerie Partington - 07917 044132

Fly Tipping:

01296 382416 [https://](https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/)

www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/

Akido

Anthony Pinchbeck - 01296 747853

Cubs & Beavers

Emily Gray - 07746 973805

Dinton Cricket Club

chairman@dintoncc.co.uk

Pot Hole Reporting

01296 382416

<https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

Planning Applications:

Buckinghamshire Council 01296 395000

Footpath Problems:

01296 382416

<https://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/>

GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

Transport to doctors, hospital, opticians, collection of prescriptions, help with getting out of the house in bad weather and shopping in the case of illness.



GIBRALTAR

Barbara Green 748529

FORD:

David Hobden 748476

UPTON:

Jo & David Troup 747735

Chloe Lambert 748221

DINTON:

Lorraine Gooch 747655

Carol Lynch 748392

Honor Vane 748177

Valma Thompson 748561

Alan Weston 748287

Sylvia Eaton 748537

Keith Mitchell 747018

Helen Wild 748679

Stella Young 748771

Roland & Margaret 748360

Childerhouse

Co-ordinators: Jo Troup and Helen Wild

HADDENHAM COMMUNITY VEHICLE

(HCV) The Community Vehicle (HCV) is for all who are disabled or have walking or mobility problems. The service is FREE although donations are welcome. The vehicle is for anyone in the parish who has a transport need.

To find out more about the HCV, or to make a booking, please contact the coordinator, Sue Brigham, on 07495 366779 or email haddenhamcv@gmail.com. Similarly, contact Sue if you are interested in joining our team of trained volunteer drivers.