

Parish Church & Community News



Stone | Dinton | Ford | Upton | Hartwell | Bishopstone | Aston Sandford
Parishes within the Benefice of Wychert Vale



USEFUL PARISH CONTACTS

WYCHERT VALE BENEFICE



Benefice Rector
Revd Cassa Messervy



Associate Rector
Revd Canon Dr Phil Groves
01296 748390
drphilgroves@gmail.com

Associate Minister
Revd Nigel Featherston
Tel: 01296 747454
nfeatherston@btinternet.com

Benefice Administrator
For all baptisms, weddings and funerals:
Benefice Office, St Mary's Centre, Station Road, Haddenham, Aylesbury, HP17 8AJ.
office@wychertvale.org | office@haddenhamstmarys.org

St John the Baptist, Stone

Licensed Lay Minister – Richard Smith | richard.smith@stonedintonhartwell.com
Churchwarden – Raymond Medhurst | raymond.medhurst@stonedintonhartwell.com
Churchwarden – Sue Birrell | s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com

St Peter and St Paul, Dinton

Churchwarden – Ian Cairns | 07816 315361 | ian.cairns@tiscali.co.uk

Treasurer (Stone & Dinton)
treasurer@stonedintonhartwell.com

St Michael & All Angels, Aston Sandford

Churchwarden - Nick Morgan | 01844 291217 | 4nick.morgan@gmail.com
Churchwarden - Laura Macpherson | lauramacpherson52@gmail.com

Front Cover Image: St Peter & St Paul Church, Dinton with the 'Wolf' Moon – taken by Will Hughes, Dinton

Editorial

As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm

Luke 8:23-24

Life can seem to be a continuous list of named storms. We had storm Gorette in January and no doubt will have more. Gorette was named by the French weather service. Storm naming started in America for tropical cyclones in 1953 (female names), with male names added in 1978. In the UK and Ireland, the Met Office and Met Éireann began naming storms in 2015 to raise public awareness. Storms are named to avoid confusion when communicating with the public, as more than one storm can exist at a time.

In the bible story, the passengers on the boat were concerned Jesus was asleep when the winds were blowing. Sometimes in life we think more about the wind and waves than Jesus who is Lord of all and can calm all storms, named or not.



Parish & Community News : News team

Editor:	David Pickup		david@pickupandscott.co.uk
Advertising:	Sue Unwin	07760 177599	sunwin1958@hotmail.com
IT Producer:	Heather Harris	07766 086280	hevsharris@aol.com
Distributor:	Fiona Rysdale	01296 747663	therysdales@live.co.uk
Readership:	Ruth Jeffery	07792 734116	ruth@computing4u.net

Parish News is a community magazine for the residents of Stone, Dinton, Ford, Upton, Bishopstone, Hartwell and Aston Sandford. We welcome news, announcements by societies and clubs, and articles on local and other issues. We do not charge for charities or personal notices such as weddings, baptisms or acknowledgments and welcome advertising by local businesses

Church Services in the Parishes

February 2026	St John the Baptist Stone	St Peter & St Paul Dinton	Stone Methodist Chapel	St Michael & All Angels Aston Sandford
Sunday 1 February	9.00am Matins 10.30am Morning Worship	9.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Worship	
Sunday 8 February	10.30am Family Communion with Joyfull Juniors 4.00pm Lego Church in the Pavilion	6.00pm Evensong sung	11.00am Worship	
Sunday 15 February	9.00am Matins 10.30am Morning Worship		11.00am Worship	11.00am Communion Service
Sunday 22 February	10.30am Family Communion with Joyfull Juniors	9.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Holy Communion	
Sunday 1 March	9.00am Matins 10.30am Morning Worship	9.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Worship	

Changes/more details can be found in the churches' noticeboards and the website.

Little Wrigglers

At the
Jubilee Pavilion
Stone HP17 8PD



For 0-5yrs and their adults
Every Thursday (term-time only)
From 9.00am-10.30am

- free play
- Bible story
- snacks
- singing and more!

Suggested donation – £3 per family.
No need to book – just turn up!

Children remain the responsibility of their adult at all times.



SJB

Run by SJB Church, Stone – Your local church serving the community

Update on Lego Church

December saw our Christmas Lego Church. After hearing the Christmas story everyone got busy and created the nativity scene from our 6 big storage boxes full of Lego. Stars required some detailed engineering. Baby Jesus was found in a digger scoop, a see-through window cot or just 'laid in state'. Visitors to Jesus included a monkey, a cowboy, a Friesian cow/panda, a soldier on a motorbike and one little person collected 25 people who all came to see Jesus. Great imagination everyone!



Everyone is welcome to come to Lego Church – come along on Sunday 8th February at 4pm. If you'd like to know more before coming – contact me, Naomi, on 0742 5140887



EXPLORE FAITH TOGETHER AT

All Age

LEGO CHURCH

SING SONGS LISTEN TO A BIBLE STORY

BE CREATIVE WITH LEGO/DUPLO SAY PRAYERS EAT FOOD

**Next Lego Church is on Sunday 8th February 2026.
at The Jubilee Pavilion, Stone, HP17 8PD**

 **SJB** Run by St. John the Baptist Church, Stone ****Children must be accompanied by an adult**

Church Electoral Roll for Stone and Dinton

It is once again the time of the year for the revision of the Church Electoral Roll. If you are already on the Roll then you are not required to do anything if you wish to stay on the list. If you are not on the Roll and would like to be included you can visit the church website for further details and to see if you meet the criteria, and complete the application form. Alternately you can speak to one of the church wardens or telephone Dee on 01296 747671 for more information.

The deadline for receiving your application form is the 31st March 2026.

We are always happy to receive new applications so go to the website for more information.

<https://stonedintonhartwell.com/>

Lent

Invite Us Deeper

*Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.*

(Latin, before 12th century)

Lent is the period leading up to Easter when Christians prepare themselves by thinking again about their faith. It may include reading a new book, prayer, starting something healthy such as regular exercise or self-denial such as giving up coffee, cakes or alcohol. This year Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18 (Ash Wednesday) and concludes on Thursday, April 2 (Holy Thursday), leading up to Easter Sunday on April 5. Yes, Easter is early!

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be admitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetareor* Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent. Mothering Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent



Invite Us Deeper

*Almighty and ever living God,
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.
May this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter.
Give us hearts hungry to serve you
and those who need what we have to give.*

- Author Unknown

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Main text source: Church of England



PHOTO CALL!!!



If you have any photographs of local scenes that may be suitable for inclusion in a future issue of the Parish Magazine or for the front cover, please send a copy to the editor, David Pickup
email david@pickupandscott.co.uk

Images ideally need to be square (or able to be cropped for a square) and must be of high resolution.

A Walk to Eythrope

A favourite seasonal walk in the parish is the route up Eythrope Road and down the hill to the river. I enjoy the fact you can easily and quickly get into countryside with marvellous views especially in the Winter sun. However, I have noticed the hill has got steeper over the years. If you have time and energy why not go beyond the bridge and into Eythrope estate? Always keep to the well-marked footpaths.

The name “Eythrope” means island farm and must refer to an area that did not flood from the river Thame. There are various spellings including Eythorpe, Edrop and Etherup. “eye” is Anglo-Saxon and is found in other place names such as Battersea. “Thorpe” or thrope, pronounced “rup” as in Sedrup sounds Norse or Danish rather than Anglo-Saxon.

Eythrope also has the site of a medieval deserted village which is not accessible from footpaths. A chapel had been founded in 1490 to pray for the members of the Dynham family. It was closed at the Dissolution and the Chapel was demolished in 1738.

The deserted village had a windmill. The village may have been abandoned because of the Plague or demolition by the landowner.



Above: *Eythrope Road*

The area over the river is home to Eythrope Pavilion built by Alice de Rothschild in 1870s which in turn was built on the site of a mansion house and chapel. The older property was demolished in 1810. Materials from the house were reused in building the bridge and the elegant doorway at the Bucks Museum in Church Street said to come from the old house.

The old house was enlarged in the early Seventeenth Century and was home to the Dormer family who were Royalists and Roman Catholics or catholic sympathisers in the Civil Wars. Robert Dormer, second Lord Dormer, died at the Battle of Newbury on 20th September 1643. There was a “battle” at Eythrope where Roundhead Captain Abercrombie was killed by a party of soldiers from nearby Borstall. Captain Abercrombie had been at the siege of the Royalist Denton family at Hillesden in North Buckinghamshire. During the siege he had fallen in love with a lady from the house he was besieging and later married her. The lady was Susan Denton who is described as an “old maid”.

The marriage must have been very quick after a whirlwind courtship. Abercrombie was half Scot, half Irish who owned land in Ireland. We will never know the full circumstances of how the two enemies met and married. Abercrombie was buried in Hillesdon churchyard. Eythrope estate was impoverished by Civil War and it passed to the earls of Carnarvon and then the earls of Chesterfield before passing to the Rothschild family.

There is a charming river walk from near Burn Hill and goes on as far as Cuddington if you are brave. On the way you will see Weir Cottage on the other side of the river, the new wetlands project and the medieval moat site.

World Day of Prayer

Friday 6th March 2026 at 2.00pm
Stone Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road, Stone

"I Will Give You Rest: Come"

Matthew 11:28-30



The World Day of Prayer is an international Christian laywomen's initiative run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action" and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common [Day of Prayer](#), as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

This year's event has been written by the women of Nigeria. The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials from Nigeria bring us a powerful invitation drawn from St Matthew At a time when people worldwide are carrying heavy burdens, Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God. Through their exploration of different kinds of burdens - shame, systemic oppression, religious persecution, poverty and despair - the writers help us understand both the weight of human suffering and the depths of divine rest. Their work shows us that true rest is not just about physical relief, but about transformation through God's grace and community support.

The Nigerian committee has woven together their cultural wisdom with the universal need for rest. Through symbols like the calabash bowl, which represents both daily sustenance and divine provision, they remind us how God meets us in our weariness.

Letter from Aston Sandford

As I sit here contemplating a happy few days over Christmas with family and friends, I see that over the past week or so the snowdrops in our garden are making an appearance and are already nearly in bloom. After the dark days of November and December snowdrops are a favourite of mine as well as with gardeners and nature lovers alike as they lighten the days and herald that Spring is on its way.

The species has long been associated with our cold winter months – the Latin name, *Galanthus nivalis*, translates as 'milk flower of the snow.' Like many of our much loved spring flowers they are considered a native species but snowdrops are more recent arrivals from Europe and the Middle East. Apparently its first known cultivation as a garden plant was around 1597 and was then first recorded growing in the wild in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire in 1778.

In earlier times snowdrops had a variety of names which signify its appearance in the depths of the winter months: Snow-Piercer, February Fairmaids and Dingle Dangles but Mary's Taper and Candlemas Bells were names which dedicated this wildflower to the Virgin Mary. Today we tend to consider the end of the Christmas season on 4th January, Epiphany or Twelfth Night but in earlier times in the Church Candlemas marked the end of the extended Christmas season, which began with the Nativity and included Epiphany.

Snowdrop flowers were once scattered in place of the Virgin's image on the alter in church on Candlemas Day on 2nd February which is perhaps why, in the Language of Flowers, snowdrops symbolise chastity, consolation, death, friendship in adversity, hope and purity.

Medicinally snowdrops were used to treat headaches and as a painkiller but in modern medicine the naturally occurring alkaloid in snowdrops, called galantamine, is used to help treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease. However, the bulbs themselves are poisonous to humans and pets causing nausea, diarrhoea and vomiting if eaten. This is perhaps why, despite their beauty, when brought indoors snowdrops were considered ill omens and, more ominously, to be a harbinger of death! A sad association to such a pretty flower which brings light and life to our otherwise bare gardens at this time of year.



Perhaps this poem by Tennyson, which is a brief, celebratory piece, portrays the snowdrop as a resilient and hopeful symbol of Spring's arrival.



Many many welcomes
February fair maid!
Ever as of old time,
Solitary firstling,
Coming in the cold time,
Prophet of the gay time,
Prophet of May time,
Prophet of roses,
Many many welcomes,
February fair maid!



Mary Paterson (*Lay Chairman Aston Sandford PCC, 31st January 2025*)

u3a General Meeting at Haddenham Village Hall

Tuesday 10th February @ 2.30pm

Art, Science and the Unfeathered Birds

Speaker: Katrina van Grouw

When Charles Darwin contemplated how best to introduce his controversial new theory of evolution to the general public, he chose to compare it with the selective breeding of domesticated animals. In her book, *Unnatural Selection*, Katrina explains why this analogy was more appropriate than even Darwin had realised.

Katrina is a science author and illustrator, best known for her illustrated natural science books.

Visitors who may like to find out more about the local u3a are welcome to have a taster visit, before joining, at no cost.

Members are able to join any of the 30 interest groups, ranging from book clubs to walking groups, details of which can be found on the website.

To find out more about the u3a and join, please contact Elaine Parkes, Membership Secretary, membership@haddenhamu3a.co.uk, or visit our website www.haddenhamu3a.co.uk

Charity Begins at Home

Dinton Village Hall, Celebrating 100 Years of Community

Dinton Village Hall will reach its 100th anniversary in 2027. For a century, it has been at the heart of our community, hosting celebrations, clubs, events, and gatherings of every kind. We now want to ensure it continues to serve future generations just as well by refurbishing and extending the hall.

We've made a great start, raising just over £45,000 in our first year, about one tenth of the total needed. To keep up the momentum we're continuing to organise community events and apply for grants, but we also warmly welcome donations from those who would like to support this local cause. If you are considering donating or including a local charity in your will, please think of Dinton Village Hall Charity. Every contribution large or small helps secure its future for the next 100 years.

All donations and legacies are gratefully received and can be acknowledged publicly or kept anonymous if you prefer.

Please contact: Chantal Heath: chantal@mightyoaks.biz Dick O'Driscoll: odriscoll110@btinternet.com



Dinton Village Hall – Buy A Brick



For nearly a century, Dinton Village Hall has stood in the heart of our community, a place where children have attended nursery school, friendships have flourished, milestones have been celebrated and memories have been made. We have gathered for parties, clubs, quizzes, Christmas fairs and more. As we look ahead to our 100th anniversary in 2027, we are embarking on an exciting project to refurbish and extend the Hall so it can continue to serve generations to come.

Now, you can help build the future of Dinton Village Hall one brick at a time.

By buying a commemorative brick, you will leave a lasting mark on the Hall's legacy. Whether engraved with your family's name, a special date, or the name of a village club or loved one, your brick will become part of a beautiful, permanent display, a symbol of the people and stories that make our parish so special.

Together, we can ensure that Dinton Village Hall remains a vibrant, welcoming space for another hundred years.

Join us in building a legacy that will stand the test of time.

Should you wish to purchase more than one brick please contact Chantal Heath by email chantal@mightyoaks.biz or call **07930 877321** for an additional form.

HADDENHAM COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Fashion Show & Afternoon Tea

Thursday

19th March 2026

@ 2.30pm

Bradmoor Farm Function Suite

Stanbridge Road

Haddenham

HP17 8JX

Tickets £25

Fashions from

Beautifully Different Boutique

Winslow



Tickets available from 26th January. Order tickets by 11th March 2026

by email: fnhcsq@gmail.com or Jacqui on 07786 385807



Care for those you know and love

fnhospice.org.uk

fnhcsq@gmail.com

Reg Charity No: 1119499

Magazine subscriptions for 2026

A reminder that magazine subscriptions are due for 2026

*****Please note revised instructions for BACS Payments*****

We hope that you enjoy the magazine and will wish to continue in 2026. The annual subscription to receive a copy of the magazine at the beginning of each month, delivered to your door, is just £10 per annum (that's for 12 copies!).

(The cost to non-subscribers for individual monthly copies is £1 per month.)

You can make your payment via the following methods:

1. Pay by bank transfer to:
Stone Dinton & Hartwell PCC
Sort code: 20 03 18
Acc: 60823872

If paying by bank transfer please include a reference to your address only when making payment eg '12HighStDinton' as this will enable us to reconcile the payment with a delivery address. No other details are required in the reference.

Or

2. By cheque payable to :
'Stone, Dinton & Hartwell PCC'
If paying by cheque please return payment to your distributor or send to David Pickup at 12 Roundhill Stone HP17 8RD
(Please include a note of your name and address with cheques so we can reconcile payments made.)

If you've received this magazine and are not a current subscriber though would like to receive the magazine each month, please contact David Pickup, the editor (contact details on page 3).

Thank you,
David Pickup. Editor



Café

IN THE PARK



**HOT & COLD DRINKS, HOME BAKED
CAKES, LITE BITES AND MUCH MORE
NO CHARGE FOR REFRESHMENTS
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME**

**EVERY TUESDAY
11.00AM – 1.00PM**

**Cakes, cheesy crumpets,
jacket potatoes with toppings
and side-salad, homemade
soup**

**SATURDAY
7th FEBRUARY**

10.00AM – 12 NOON

Including Breakfast Rolls

**JUBILEE PAVILION, STONE RECREATION GROUND
RUN BY ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STONE
THE LOCAL CHURCH IN THE COMMUNITY,
SERVING THE COMMUNITY**



**For the whole community to meet friends, make new friends or just
come and enjoy the Park while having a cuppa.**

Quiz 2025 answers (from the December issue Quiz)

1. Ashley, Bert and Conall were,
Names of storms
2. There was a re-wilding lynx project this year. It was,
Releasing cats in the wild
3. Palmerston the former resident cat at the Foreign Office was brought out of retirement for a “purr-fect” diplomatic posting to where.
Bermuda
4. What is President Trump’s favourite word?
Tariffs. I could do the whole quiz on him.
5. We celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of the start of modern railways (or at least, I did) The East-West Rail Link is due to be opened next between Oxford, Milton Keynes and eventually Cambridge. What was the nick name of the original line?
The Varsity Line as it linked the two universities. It was a favourite journey of CS Lewis.
6. Donald Trump called King Charles “aman”
Beautiful.
7. *Restaurants* in Pozzuoli Italy cooked up a plan to attract customers who are being put off by 1800 land tremors a month. How long did they have to stay?
They got an “earthquake discount” if stayed until dessert served. I do not know if it was successful. I usually prefer the cheeseboard after a meal.
8. Birmingham experienced “Binmageddon”. It was,
The Bin collector strike.
9. A singer was joined by Bezos's fiancée Lauren Sánchez, CBS presenter Gayle King, former Nasa rocket scientist Aisha Bowe, civil rights activist Amanda Nguyen, and film producer Kerianne Flynn had a space trip. The flight lasted around 11 minutes and took the six women more than 100km (62 miles) above Earth, crossing the internationally recognised boundary of space and giving them a few moments of weightlessness. What music accompanied them?
Louis Armstrong's What a Wonderful World.

10. A big hit at the cinema early this year the film *Conclave*. If you have not seen it is recommended. What colour is the smoke used to signify the election of a new Pope?
White
11. What was Doge that Elon Musk was associated with and then left?
Sadly not the Department of Government Elasticity. It was the Department of Government Efficiency
12. Loretta Swit passed away this year. What long running sitcom is she best known for?
Mash. The television series made stars of some of the actors and went on much longer than the Korean War, which it was based on
13. UK proposed a wider ban on destructive bottom trawling. It was
A type of deep sea fishing
14. Which composer whose centenary was marked this year invented “furniture music”? He always kept a hammer in his pocket for fear of muggers and once even founded his own church
Erik Satie
15. What were the “mushroom murders” in Australia?
Killing by adding fungi to dinner guests’ meals
16. Which of the following were not Proms this year?
The Grand Prix prom. The BBC Proms are the world’s best music festival and are usually available on BBC sounds.
17. 'Skibidi' “Delulu” and 'tradwife' among words added to Cambridge Dictionary. What does delulu mean?
Delusional
18. Heartthrob Terence Stamp passed away this year, which part did he play in the 1960s film of *Far from the Madding Crowd*?
Sgt Troy
19. What month does Oktober Beerfest in Germany start?
September. Do not ask me why.
20. In October a lady in Kew was given a fine of £150.00 for pouring what down a drain on a road? The council later withdrew the penalty notice.
Coffee

****PRINT DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF THE
PARISH MAGAZINE****

If you have articles, adverts, community events,
ideas for the magazine, please note print deadline
date as follows:



March issue : deadline for receipt of copy is
Wednesday 11th February.



Come and join the fun at St John the Baptist Church on the 2nd and 4th
Sunday of each month.

There is a different theme every time when you will find out more about the
Bible while having lots of interesting things to make and enjoy. Just come
along 😊😊

For further details contact Sue on s.birrell@stonedintonhartwell.com



COME AND JOIN US



Would you like to come and join the group that talks, drinks coffee, eats cake and shares craft ideas?

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME

Just come along when you can no obligation - just fun!



WE MEET ON THE 3RD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH
(except Bank Holidays)
10.30am to 12.30pm in the church.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

Parish Church	https://stonedintonhartwell.com/
Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council	http://www.sbhpc.org/
Jubilee Pavilion	http://www.jubileepavilion.co.uk
Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council	https://www.dinton.org/
Dinton News	https://www.dinton.info/
Wychert Vale Benefice Website	https://www.wychertvale.org/
Oxford Diocese (The Church of England serving the people of Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire)	https://www.oxford.anglican.org/
Church of England	https://www.churchofengland.org/

**Stone Methodist Chapel
Eythrope Road, Stone HP17 8PH**

Our Minister: Revd. Hee Gon Moon
Email: heegon5@gmail.com



Village contact: Mrs. Sue Spinks
The Harbour, 17 Belle Vue,
Eythrope Road, Stone HP17 8PJ
Email: royandsue1@btinternet.com

The Chapel with heart, at the heart of the village

WELCOME TO WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY at 11 am

Village friends and amenities continue to be prayed for week by week,
and on the four Sundays of February we will remember :
The Spiert, Warren Close, Whitechurch Close and Willowmead

* * * * *



BOOKS BOOKS & EVEN MORE BOOKS !

TO BROWSE & BUY AT OUR

BOOK SALE DAY

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Morning Coffee ❖ Lunchtime Toasties ❖ Afternoon Tea & Cakes

**ALL PROCEEDS FOR
FLORENCE HOSPICE NIGHTINGALE HOSPICE**

STONE THURSDAY CLUB

*Meeting in the Methodist Chapel on the
Second Thursday each month*

*For the over-60s – especially those who live alone
or find it difficult to get about –
if this is YOU do come along*

Contact Dee James 01296 747671 for transport

Subscriptions £3 per session



He may look a cheerful chappy, but he did prevent us enjoying our New Year meeting, which was cancelled at short notice due to the freezing temperatures. But we're not missing out on our Bingo!



It will be 'eyes down' in February instead
PLUS an extra special BRING & BUY –

Time to re-purpose those gratefully received but unwanted gifts for someone else to enjoy

Local 'Cinema'

Cuddington Screen (at The Bernard Hall, upper Church Street,
Cuddington HP18 0AP)

Thursday 5th February – The Roses Cert 15 8.00pm

Thursday 26th February – NT Live The Audience Cert 12A 7.00pm

Haddenham Screen (<https://www.haddenhamscreen.org.uk>)

Tuesday 3rd February – The Roses Cert 15 8.00pm

Tuesday 17th February - I'm Still Here Cert 15 8.00pm



**WELCOME TO
FOURTH TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP
(non denominational)
MEETING monthly at METHODIST CHAPEL
each fourth Tuesday at 2.30 pm**

Our FEBRUARY MEETING ON TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY
comes at the beginning of LENT
so we will be looking at some of the traditions
of the season observed here and in other countries
and singing well-loved hymns
before enjoying the usual tasty tea

Come along to

Meet Friends



Make Friends



EASY GOING EXERCISES FOR ALL

Have fun while you exercise – gently!

**EVERY MONDAY at 11 am – 12 Noon
at the Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road**

£3.00 PER SESSION
INCLUDES COFFEE & BISCUITS

Ring Josie : 748031 (after 4pm) for further information

Simply Walk in Stone, Haddenham & Dinton

Come suited & booted for whatever the weather
 To **Simply Walk** for an hour or so in the countryside
 Just come to our walks throughout the year from:

Methodist Chapel, Eythrope Road – **STONE**
 Wednesday: 4th and 18th January

Bradmoor Farm (rear) car park, Stanbridge Road – **HADDENHAM**
 Wednesday: 25th February

Seven Stars PH, New Road – **DINTON**
 Wednesday: 11th February

We meet in the morning for **10.30**
 It's friendly, fun and **free**
 Walks are monthly, weekly, or fortnightly
For you to choose – just like coffee or tea!



Walking for Health with Simply Walk

Visit www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/simply-walk
 Telephone 01494 475367 Mobile 07802 260812.

✂Cut Out & Keep.....

STONE, HADDENHAM & DINTON SIMPLY WALK DATES 2026			
MONTH	STONE	HADDENHAM	DINTON
February	4 th and 18 th	25 th	11 th
March	4 th and 18 th	25 th	11 th
April	1 st , 15 th and 29 th	22 nd	8 th
May	13 th and 27 th	20 th	6 th
June	10 th and 24 th	17 th	3 rd
July	8 th and 22 nd	15 th	1 st and 29 th
August	5 th and 19 th	12 th	26 th
September	2 nd , 16 th and 30 th	9 th	23 rd
October	14 th and 28 th	7 th	21 st
November	11 th and 25 th	4 th	18 th
December	9 th and 23 rd	2 nd and 30 th	16 th



Parish Council Meeting Dates



MEETING DATES OF THE DINTON, FORD AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL IN 2026

Notice is hereby given that the parish council will meet on the following dates, and time specified, in the Village Hall, Dinton.

Any committee meeting are notified separately by agenda notices. Agendas will be placed on the notice boards & website

Meetings are scheduled to start at 7.30pm unless otherwise notified differently on the agenda

Keith Gray (Keith Gray, JP)
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

10th February

10th March

14th April Annual Meeting of the Parish (Council's Annual Report)

12th May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (Election of Chairman)

9th June

14th July

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

8th September

13th October

10th November

8th December



MEETING DATES OF THE STONE WITH BISHOPSTONE AND HARTWELL PARISH COUNCIL IN 2026

Tuesday 17th February at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Pavilion, Stone

Tuesday 17th March at 7.30pm in Bishopstone Village Hall

Tuesday 21st April at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Pavilion, Stone

Tuesday 28th April at 7.30pm – Annual Parish Meeting in the Jubilee Pavilion, Stone



Cuddington Sunshine Club



Open to Senior Citizens in Cuddington and surrounding villages. Activities include monthly Tea and Card Games in Cuddington Playing Fields Clubhouse, bi-monthly Matinee Cinema in the Bernard Hall, Coach outings, a Summer Garden Party at Tyingham Hall and a Christmas party in the Bernard Hall.

Next events:

Monday 2nd February : 2.00pm Tea in the Cuddington Playing Fields Clubhouse

Monday 16th February : 2.00pm Tea and Musical Entertainment in the Bernard Hall

For more information telephone Angela 01844 291932
or email apdwenham@gmail.com



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to help put the parish magazine together?

We are looking for one or two volunteers to join our editorial team and help with preparing the magazine for print on a monthly basis. You'll need a PC/Laptop.

Our local and friendly team meet once a month over Zoom.

Please Contact Us For More Information

 david@pickupandscott.co.uk



Old Coins

Keep sending in any foreign or old coins or unwanted gold jewellery. We can convert this into funding for the church. We've raised much needed funds recently from a few obsolete foreign banknotes and jewellery.



You can send to the Editor at :
12 Roundhill, Stone HP17 8RD
Tel: 01296 748170 or email david@pickupandscott.co.uk

Food Bank Collection in Dinton

The Seven Stars in Dinton has a foodbank collection box situated under the tall table on the patio adjacent to the entrance of the pub. All foodstuff will be collected by the Bernwode bus on the first Saturday of each month and delivered to the Aylesbury Vineyard Church foodbank. Please donate any kind of tinned food or food in jars. You could also give toiletries or household goods.



The SAXONS

Three lives. Three burials. Three extraordinary stories.

28 March – 1 November 2026

The SAXONS is a major new exhibition opening on Saturday 28 March at Discover Bucks Museum exploring Buckinghamshire's Saxon past through extraordinary archaeological discoveries.

Step into early medieval life as you encounter the **Princely Burial at Taplow**, the **Warlord of Marlow**, and artefacts from **graves uncovered at the Wendover Saxon Cemetery** — many on display for the first time.



With immersive displays, life-like Saxon characters, and hands-on experiences for families, this exhibition brings Saxon history vividly to life.

Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury

For opening times and to book visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP | 01296 331 441

The Museum is a registered charity with charity number 1153345



MOSSINATOR[®]
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS



Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning

Patio, Render & Brickwork Cleaning

Solar Panel Bird Protection & Chimney Cowl Installation

info@mossinator.co.uk - 01844 617224



STARVEALL FARM BUTCHERS

THE LOCAL BUTCHERY SHOP ON YOUR DOORSTEP

You can order online for local delivery or collection

Visit our website for more details:
www.starveallbutchers.co.uk

Starveall Butchers, Starveall Farm, Oxford Road, Upton, Aylesbury, HP17 8PZ



Bishopstone Village Hall

**NO LONGER
BISHOPSTONE'S
BEST-KEPT SECRET**

Newly Refurbished and Available To Hire

An elegant and well-equipped venue
in a convenient location available to
hire at reasonable rates

Parties • Meetings • Classes • Events

Moreton Lane, Bishopstone HP17 8SQ

www.bishopstonevillagehallbucks.co.uk

01296 747773 and on facebook

Registered Charity No. 264370

Bishopstone Blooms

*Beautiful Organic English Flowers
Grown Locally in Bishopstone*

🌸 **Happy New Year - Welcome 2026** 🌷

How about some New Year plants whilst
we wait for the tulips and daffodils to appear
in the Spring?

Scented Narcissi bowls or planted baskets
Hyacinths full of bright colours and scented
freshness - great gift ideas.

Maybe something more exotic like Amaryllis, in
pure whites or vibrant reds - why not have a
look at the website for more inspiration 🌷

Please call Deborah to discuss your requirements.

Tel: 07932 606536 / 01296 293801

www.bishopstoneblooms.co.uk

Email: bbloomsuk2024@hotmail.com

Parish News Advertising

Should you contact any of the advertisers, please mention the
Parish News.

Should you be interested in advertising your services in the
Parish News, please contact Sue Unwin

Email: sunwin1958@hotmail.com

Telephone: 07760 177599



Waterperry
Gardens



What's On this February

THERE ARE FEW BETTER PLACES TO CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF SPRING THAN WATERPERRY GARDENS IN OXFORDSHIRE.

The historic ornamental gardens provide the perfect setting for the Galanthus.

These wonderful little heralds of spring carpet the old orchard and riverside walks at this time of the year, and winter aconites are also likely to bring a smile to visitors' faces, providing new hints of colour in the garden*.

WATERPERRY BOASTS BEAUTIFUL DISPLAYS OF DOUBLE AND SINGLE-FLOWERED SNOWDROPS.

With 20 acres of gardens, it's the perfect excuse for a walk in our beautiful gardens. Why not follow this by a visit to our Teashop to warm up after.

OPEN DAILY 10:00AM - 5:00PM

*Normal garden entrance fee applies.

Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1JZ
01844 339254 | www.waterperrygardens.co.uk



DINTON VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE



***Suitable for all types of parties, get-togethers
classes and events. Wi-Fi facilities are now available.***

For all enquiries, please contact the Bookings Secretary
Honor Vane, Summers Cottage, Dinton HP17 8UG | 01296 748177
honorvane@hotmail.com

JUBILEE PAVILION

WWW.JUBILEEPAVILION.CO.UK



- Great venue for village activities, fund raising events, parties and groups.
- Includes a well-equipped kitchen with cooker and fridge.
- Changing rooms with hot showers for recreational hire.
- Car park with easy access.

For availability and booking enquiries contact Angela
Email: clerk@sbhpc.org or visit
www.jubileepavilion.co.uk

Pearson Insurance Services

Established in 1996

Local Independent Insurance Brokers in Cuddington



PROPERTY OWNERS



LIABILITY



PROFESSIONAL
INDEMNITY



TRADESMAN



HOUSEHOLD
including thatch
and wychert



MOTOR



WORKING
FROM HOME



PERSONAL ACCIDENT
& SICKNESS

and more...



Sandra, Corran & Becky

ARE HERE TO HELP YOU

01844 260936

www.pearson-insurance.co.uk

Sandra@pearson-insurance.co.uk

Corran@pearson-insurance.co.uk

Becky@pearson-insurance.co.uk

Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN 304393



PIPPA'S COMMUNITY CAFE

YOUR WEEKLY SPOT FOR GOOD FOOD, GREAT COMPANY, AND A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

STONE VILLAGE HALL, HP17 8PB

EVERY FRIDAY*

New opening time 10.30am-1pm

SUPPORTED BY EYAI - SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE.



*KEEP AN EYE ON THE EYAI WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MORE INFO ABOUT OPENING TIMES

We need More Trustees!



- Do you believe in the power of young people?
- Are you looking to be part of a passionate, creative, and growing community in South Bucks and Thame?

We're on the lookout for new Trustees to help shape the future of our young adult-led charity and we'd love for you to consider joining us.

Being a Trustee isn't just about giving back, it's about growing your own leadership, networking with inspiring local change-makers, and gaining experience that can boost your CV and career prospects. Whether you have the background in business, education, the arts, or just a passion for supporting young people.

Want to know more? www.eyai.co.uk

Please be referenced in your CV
 Please email: team@eyai.co.uk
 Or phone 01296 748787 | <http://www.eyai.co.uk>

Enhancing young adults' independence (EYAI)

Provide young adults with practical training alongside mentoring to support their independence and help them reach their potential in the future.

Registered Charity 103466




Foot Healthcare

By Dawn Smith

Foot Health Practitioner
DIP FH, MAFHP MCFHP

Footcare in the comfort
of your own home

Qualified • Fully Insured • DBS Checked

Book your home visit today
07708 641420

ST JOHN'S SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US!

Fully stocked bar, Sky Sports & TNT Sports (3 screens), pool & snooker tables, darts board and monthly bingo!

TUES - FRI 6.30pm - 11.00pm SAT 12.30pm - 11.00pm
SUN 12.00pm - 8.00pm

Tel: 01296 748787
 Email: info@StJohnsclub.co.uk
 Address: St John's Sports & Social Club,
 Oxford Road, Stone, HP17 8PT

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsClubStone>





VILLAGE

TREE SURGEONS

Felling, Shaping & Reductions
Hedges Large or Small
Garden Clearance

Fully Insured, Qualified Professional
with over 15 years experience

Available to give prompt,
FREE QUOTES for all aspects of
tree surgery & ground maintenance.

Contact Aaron Poulton:
T: 01296 748576
M: 07545 543037
E: villagetreesurgeons@icloud.com




ACE ROOFING & HANDYMAN SERVICES

- ♠ All Gutter & Roof Problems Solved
- ♠ Conservatory Maintenance
- ♠ General Household Repairs
- ♠ Painting (Interior & Exterior)
- ♠ Hedge Trimming/Lawn Mowing
- ♠ Bird/Squirrel Guards
- ♠ Pressure Washing
- ♠ Soakaway Maintenance
- ♠ Damp problems solved

Call Martin on 01844 340383 or
call/text on 07768 333810
Fair Prices

Computer Services

In Bishopstone

PC and Laptop Repairs

Computer Running Slow?
Computer will not start?
No Internet or email?
Replacement or Upgrade advice?

Telephone 01296 823009

Don't get scammed.
If you suspect anything, a call, an email,
or website. Call us. We can tell you
immediately, if something is not right.



UhoH365
The Ultimate in Computer Support



An Annual Service helps to keep your computer healthy. Plus get free monitored Security for added peace of mind.

M. SIMMONDS

Decorating Contractors

A Complete Painting & Decorating Service

Top rated, award winning, local family business, known throughout the parish for their high quality workmanship and excellent customer service

www.msimmonds.co.uk

Office: **01296 655774**

Mobile: **07850 499795**

Email: michael@msimmonds.co.uk

Established since 1979

UK NATIONAL AWARD-WINNING DECORATORS



Craftsmen Decorators
Carpentry & Repairs
Refurbishment

Windmill Services

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & GENERAL BUILDING WORK

Telephone: **01844 279519**

Freephone: **0800 7837194**

Email: windmill2@btinternet.com

Website: www.windmill-services.co.uk

**Early 2026
Day Trip
Flyer OUT
NOW!**

**Motts
Leisure**

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY AT MOTTSHOLIDAYS.COM

HEIMDALLR DRONE SOLUTIONS

Our drones can complete a wide range of aerial services from, roofing and chimney inspections, general building inspections, church and spire inspections, real estate aerial photography and videography, construction site aerial data collection, infrastructure inspections, not excluding social events.



Our fully insured drones and Civil Aviation Authority approved operators offer a wide range of services in the aerial drone photography and videography workspace.

Heimdallr
Solutions Limited

Contact: Will Hughes
E: will@huav.co.uk M: 07834 087960
www.huav.co.uk

VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Proprietor: Dennis Cook

BLOCKED DRAINS CLEARED

REASONABLE RATES

**NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR EVENING, WEEKEND OR BANK
HOLIDAY CALL-OUTS**

24 HOUR POLITE, COURTEOUS SERVICE

C.C.T.V. DRAIN SURVEYS

9am-6pm

Tel: 07850 635 844

All other times

01296 624221

Full Public Liability Insurance

DOMESTIC DRAIN SERVICE

extremeclean.co.uk

Superior Cleaning and Application of Protectors

Carpet, Upholstery, Leather
Modern & Oriental Rugs
Curtains

Tile & Grout/Stone Flooring
Anti-Allergen Treatment
Specialist Stain Removal
Wood Floor Refinishing

Paul Brooker
35 Place Farm Way, Monks Risborough
Bucks HP27 9JJ

T: 01844 346379 / 344735
M: 07866 376934 E: jjjp@uwclub.net

www.extremeclean.co.uk

Windmill Landscapes

(Thame based)

Your Local Landscape Company

Established 1989

Landscaping

- Grass Cutting
- Turfing/Seeding
- Hedge Cutting
- Fencing—All Types

Construction

- Patios
- Drives/Paths
- Gates—Wood/Metal
- Groundwork

Tel: 01844 279519

Freephone: 0800 783 7194

www.windmill-landscapes.com

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VENUE
FOR YOUR GROUP/MEETING/
CHILDREN'S PARTY**



LOOK NO FURTHER!

**The Chapel Hall is available for
hire at very reasonable rates**
Electric cooker/kettles/cutlery/
crockery all on site.

**Please contact Sue Spinks on 01296
748369 royandsue1@btinternet.com**

STONE VILLAGE HALL



**50 Oxford Road, Stone, HP17
8PB**

This large well-equipped hall with stage, kitchen and committee room in the centre of Stone is available for single or regular lettings. Suitable for meetings, events, parties and receptions.

Disabled access

For information and bookings telephone:
01296 748 279



Helping people in our community affected by neurological conditions to live life to the full.

The Chilterns Neuro Centre is a local charity, based in Wendover, that has provided support to people with MS, as well as their family and carers, for almost four decades.

More recently, it opened up its services to people affected by Parkinson's and strokes.

The ethos of the charity is about helping people affected by life-changing neurological conditions to live life to the full.

It achieves this through the wide range of services it offers its 800 members, ranging from physiotherapy and hydrotherapy to acupuncture and pilates.



It also hosts a series of therapeutic leisure groups such as art, singing and social activities

In a recent survey of its members, 99% said they would recommend the Centre to people with a neurological condition.

"The Centre has been like a breath of fresh air to me and the support I've received from everyone has been second to none. The staff, volunteers and other members have all been so warm and supportive and it has made an incredible difference to my recovery."

It costs about £1.2 million every year to run the Centre, £100,000 per month or £5,000 per day.

However, only 6% of that funding comes from the NHS, the rest has to be raised through trusts and foundations, donations, sponsorship or events.

To find out more about the services offered, or to get involved and support the Centre, either through fundraising or volunteering, visit

chilternsneurocentre.org

WELCOMING

CARING

EMPOWERING

IMPROVING



FEBRUARY COMMUNITY DIARY – A guide to what’s on around you!

1	Sunday Church Services
2	11am Easy-going Exercises at The Methodist Chapel Cuddington Sunshine Club: Tea in the Playing Fields Clubhouse 2.00pm
3	Tuesday Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm Haddenham Screen: The Roses, Cert 15, 8.00pm
4	Simply Walk
5	Cuddington Village Picture House: ‘The Roses’, Cert 15 8.00pm
6	Pippa’s Community Café, Stone, 10.30-1.00pm **NEW TIME**
7	Saturday Café in the Park, Stone 10am-12 Noon
8	Sunday Church Services 4pm Lego Church in the Jubilee Pavilion, Stone
9	11am Easy-going Exercises at The Methodist Chapel
10	Tuesday Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm u3a Meeting, Haddenham Village Hall, 2.15 for 2.30pm Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
11	Simply Walk
12	Little Wrigglers in Stone 9.00am Thursday Club 2.00pm
13	Pippa’s Community Café, Stone, 10.30-1.00pm **NEW TIME**
14	
15	Sunday Church Services
16	11am Easy-going Exercises at The Methodist Chapel Socially Crafty, St John the Baptist, Stone, 10.30am-12.30pm Cuddington Sunshine Club : 2pm Tea and music at The Bernard Hall
17	Tuesday Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm Stone, Bishopstone & Hartwell Parish Council Meeting : 7.30pm in the Jubilee Pavilion, Stone Haddenham Screen: ‘I’m Still Here’ Cert 15 8.00pm
18	Simply Walk
19	Little Wrigglers in Stone 9.00am
20	Pippa’s Community Café, Stone, 10.30-1.00pm **NEW TIME**
21	
22	Sunday Church Services
23	11am Easy-going Exercises at The Methodist Chapel
24	Tuesday Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm Fourth Tuesday Fellowship 2.30pm
25	Simply Walk
26	Little Wrigglers in Stone 9.00am Cuddington Village Picture House: NT Live ‘The Audience’ Cert 12A 7.00pm
27	Pippa’s Community Café, Stone, 10.30-1.00pm **NEW TIME**
28	



HARTWELL HOUSE HOTEL & SPA

IN CONVERSATION WITH HELEN LEDERER



Friday 27th February 2026

Enjoy an entertaining afternoon with Helen Lederer, one of Britain's most familiar faces in comedy, acting and writing. Helen will share highlights from her career on stage and screen, including *Absolutely Fabulous* and her recent role in *Fawlty Towers* in the West End, alongside reflections from her memoir *Not That I'm Bitter*. Guests will then enjoy Hartwell's traditional afternoon tea, with a signed paperback copy of Helen's book included in the ticket. A Q&A and book signing will complete this special occasion.

£75.00 per person. Advance booking necessary



Hartwell House Hotel & Spa, Oxford Road, HP17 8NR
www.hartwell-house.com | info@hartwell-house.com
01296 747444 | www.historichousehotels.com

PH
HOTELS **CONDÉ NAST**
johansens
HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL SERVICES