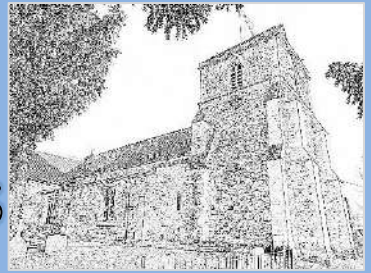
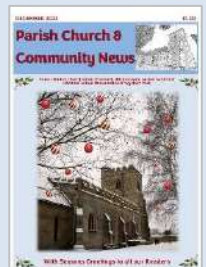
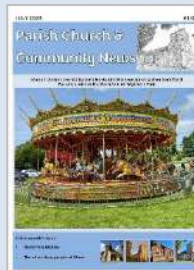
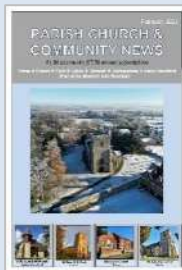


Parish Church & Community News



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



Happy New Year to all our Readers

USEFUL PARISH CONTACTS

WYCHERT VALE BENEFICE



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

Associate Minister

Revd Nigel Featherston
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nfeatherston@btinternet.com

Curate

Revd Clare Joyce
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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

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Churchwarden – Raymond Medhurst | raymond.medurst@stonedintonhartwell.com
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St Peter and St Paul, Dinton

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jacksonrj@btinternet.com

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St Michael & All Angels, Aston Sandford

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

Front Cover image: Parish Magazine Cover Pages through 2023

Editorial

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Isaiah 60.1

Now we have Christmas out of the way we have to get through the grind of the Winter months. The first few weeks of the New Year are supposed to be the most demanding of the year, with bills to pay, short gloomy days and long cold nights.

The church calendar has a rather different feel. We are celebrating the Wise Men's visit to Jesus and the holy family and the light and optimism that brings. The church calls it "Epiphany" which simply means being having a light turned on so you can see all around. St Paul wrote about God having a marvellous plan for everyone. He talked of a mystery being explained of the whole sharing in the promises of God.

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 3. V 6

The world needs that plan of light and peace for all this year.

Happy New Year

Parish & Community News : News team

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*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*

Parish Services and Calendar

January 2024	St John the Baptist Stone	St Peter & St Paul Dinton	Stone Methodist Chapel	St Michael & All Angels Aston Sandford
Sunday 7 January Epiphany 1	9.00am Matins 10.30am Holy Communion and Explorers	**9.00am Holy Communion	11.00 Worship	
Sunday 14 January Epiphany 2	10.30am Family Service	** 4.00pm Parish Evensong	11.00am Worship	
Sunday 21 January Epiphany 3	9.00am Matins 10.30am Holy Communion and Baptism with Explorers	10.00am Morning Worship	11.00 Worship	11.00am Holy Communion Service
Sunday 28 January Epiphany 4	11.00 Covenant Service Methodist Church	11.00am Joint Service Stone Methodist Chapel	11.00 United Covenant Service	
Sunday 4 February Epiphany 5	9.00am Matins 10.30am Family Worship	** 9.00am Holy Communion	11.00 Worship	

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

Happy Anniversary! Looking forward to 2024

Every day is an anniversary of something, somewhere in the world. This year has some significant ones.

1854 (170th anniversary): Start of the Crimean War: France and Britain declared war on Russia on 28 March

1914 (110th anniversary): the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo on 28 June, which was a key trigger to the start of the First World War

1944 (80th anniversary): the D-Day landings in Normandy on 6 June

1994 (30th anniversary): the 100 Days of the Rwandan Genocide, 7 April–15 July

2014 (10th anniversary): Russia formally annexed Crimea from Ukraine in March
Anniversaries in January

60th Eleven men go on trial at Buckinghamshire Assizes in Aylesbury charged in connection with the Great Train Robbery five months ago. (20th Jan 1964)

- 200th anniversary of the birth of author Wilkie Collins, best known for *The Woman in White*

2024 (MMXXIV) will be a leap year

Two major sporting events

Germany will host the UEFA European Football Championship which is scheduled to take place from 14 June to 14 July 2024.

July 26 – August 11 – 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, France.

And in the world of politics: Russia, USA and Ukraine all have presidential elections

News from Aston Sandford

Kneeling in Aston Sandford

In my newsletter in December's magazine, I included an item on our latest kneeler, commemorating the Coronation of King Charles III, beautifully worked by Alan Paterson. It has joined other kneelers stitched by members of the congregation to commemorate Royal events over the last 50 or so years.

Most of our Royal kneelers are in the Chancel. In the nave is a collection of some 50 tapestry kneelers, mostly patterns purchased from Jacksons of Hebden Bridge, donated and worked by members of the congregation mostly in the 1980s. The previous kneelers would have been familiar to any churchgoer of A Certain Age: they were probably covered with a hard-wearing material called Rexine, an artificial leather invented in 1915. Despite a tendency to be flammable, Rexine was widely used for upholstery – it was used for instance in cars, in bookbinding and apparently on the paws of teddy bears.

26 of our kneelers were worked by Mrs W M Tuckett (mother-in-law of Betty Tuckett) over a two-year period prior to her death in 1983. Mrs Tuckett was a VAD nurse in the First World War and was mentioned in despatches for saving the lives of soldiers after her troop ship was torpedoed off the coast of Portugal; she also received a Gallipoli Campaign Medal.

In the early 1980s Betty Tuckett herself undertook the work on the most ambitious piece of tapestry in the church, the Communion kneelers, edged in royal blue, which were designed especially for the church. The festivals of Christmas and Harvest are depicted in two side kneelers, while the main, 5 foot wide, kneeler shows pictorially from left to right Stone Lacey, The Manor, the Church, the Old Rectory and Sandford Cottage, where Betty and Tuck lived for so many years. It took two years to complete. It is an exquisite piece and quite rightly won commendation in a national church needlework exhibition some years ago.



Betty later made a lovely tapestry cover for the Rector's kneeler, in complementary colours and featuring the dedication of the church and local flowers.



We have other beautiful pieces of needlework designed and worked by Alan Paterson - a full pew width seat cushion in pale blue and lemon yellow and two blue leather collection bags decorated in fine needlepoint. We also have a collection of single cross stitch seat cushions worked by members of the congregation.

A 'kneeler' is a comparatively new concept – its forerunner was known as a 'hassock'. Hassocks were indeed originally made from hassocks or tufts of grass or peat or turf; later they were stuffed with straw which no doubt appealed greatly to mice and other creatures.

In introducing stitched kneelers Aston Sandford Church was following a trend which had apparently started in the 1930s. According to Elizabeth Bingham in her book *Kneelers: the unsung folk art of England and Wales*, published in 2023 by Chatto and Windus (it has pictures of wonderful, mostly modern design needlework kneelers), the history of decorated church kneelers, and indeed seat cushions, goes back to the early 17th century. The earliest Elizabeth Bingham cites are two Turkey work kneelers made for Wadham College, Oxford; Turkey work, or Turkeywork, was an English knotted-and-cut pile furnishing textile produced from the sixteenth to the mid-eighteenth centuries, used for cushions etc and particularly for chair seats and backs. She has examples too of fine Berlin work, popular in Europe in the mid nineteenth century and similar to today's tapestry work. But the trend towards worked decorative kneelers apparently began in the 1930s with a much-publicised project at Winchester Cathedral of beautifully worked seat cushions designed as a piece by local artist Sybil Blunt (1880–1952; she later designed a tapestry for the Women's Institute to commemorate the work of women during the Second World War which is now in the Imperial War Museum in London). Other Cathedrals followed Winchester's lead, but the war intervened, and it was not until the 1953 Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II that enthusiasm for stitched kneelers really took off. The results, as shown in the rest of the book, can be individual and great fun.

It must be said that Elizabeth Bingham would not really approve of our uncoordinated collection of patterns and colours – but she would I am sure very much approve of Betty's kneelers which have immediate relevance to the parish, and of Alan's individual pieces in similar colours.

Marilynne A Morgan
Treasurer, Aston Sandford

Memories of Remembrance Day 2023

On the 12th November the communities of Stone and Bishopstone came together to remember those from our Parish that paid the ultimate price for the freedom and democracy that we enjoy today.

In Bishopstone 50 – 60 people gathered at the War Memorial for a service led by Rev Sue Smith. The names of the fallen were read by Councillor Cantle and the wreath was laid by Councillor List and Wing Commander Cobley.

In Stone in the War Memorial Recreation Ground 115 people gathered to remember the fallen in a service led by Richard Smith from St John the Baptist Church in the village. This was a true community event with people from within Stone taking part. Wreaths were laid by Flight Lieutenant Trevor Waller on behalf of the veterans,



Claire Swidenbank (Brownie Leader) on behalf of the Parish young and Brian Rogers (ex-Council chair) on behalf of the Parish Council. I would like to thank all those that took part doing readings and setting up sound etc. but a special thank you to Jack who stepped up to play the last post and reveille. A very fitting and poignant tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Clive Corbould

Chair – Stone, Bishopstone & Hartwell Parish Council

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, STONE



COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP US?

If so you will be able to:

- Work on a specified area of the churchyard in your own time
 - Use your own equipment or ours depending on how you feel
 - Be part of a team who care and are appreciated
 - Help with conservation and encouragement of wildlife
 - Enjoy doing something your church and community need.
- Details of gardening in 2024 will be published nearer the Spring.
-

When Christmas is Done A Hundreth Good Pointes of Husbandrie (1557)

A hundred good points, of good husbandry,
maintaineth good household, with housewifery.
Housekeeping and husbandry, if it be good:
must love one another, as cousins in blood.
The wife to, must husband as well as the man:
or farewell thy husbandry, do what thou can.

January:

When Christmas is done, keep not Christmas time still:
be mindful of rearing, and loth for to kill.
For then what thou rears [?], thou need not to doubt,
will double thy gain, ere the year come about.
Be greedy to spend all, and careless to save:
And shortly be needy, and reedy to crave.
Be wilful to kill, and unskilful to store:
and soon give up housekeeping long anymore.



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 and a Christmas party.

Next event: Monday 8th January 2.00pm, Tea

For more information phone Angela Wenham 01844 291932
or email: apdwenham@gmail.com



EYAI Community Café



EYAI
Enhancing Young
Adults Independence

At Stone Village hall

Fridays 1pm to 4pm
Term time only



Refreshments, snacks
and family table activities



ALL WELCOME

CHARITY NO: 1195406

New Community Café Opens in Stone

EYAI (enhancing young adults' Independence) provides young adults with practical training alongside mentoring to support them to gain employment confidence and independence. Supporting them find and successfully get through their first 3 months employment to become productive members of their communities.

We have also opened a Café (EYAI community café) at Stone Village hall, providing training for our clients prior to working in the wider community alongside providing an afternoon local café for the local community.

The café is only open in term time so our clients and staff get a break, however with more volunteers the opening hours may increase. Please come and

For more info please see website: www.eyai.co.uk

Seven Stars Christmas Tree Lights



On Sunday, 3rd December at 4.30 pm the Xmas tree lights were switched on in the garden of the Seven Stars Dinton. Local 'celebrity' Viv Robinson magically commanded the Lights to burst into colour to the great applause of the crowd of parishioners attending. Organised by the Community Events Committee headed by Steve Merry they erected and decorated the Christmas Tree which was funded by projects run by the team. Steve explained that the old Marquee Team would be merging with the Events Committee and a plaque remembering the work of Chris Robinson and the Marquee Team was to be installed over the spot where the tree will be placed each year. The Marquee Team organised many events in the past erecting the marquee on the parish field and provided much fun for the Parish.

Seven Stars provided mince pies and mulled wine and donations were made in aid of Florence Nightingale Hospice and the evening continued with a Christmas Quiz in the Stars ran by Steve Merry with a total of £450 raised for the hospice.

A reminder that magazine subscriptions are due for 2024

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

We hope that you enjoy the magazine and will wish to continue this year.

The annual subscription, which covers 12 issues January to December, costs £7.50

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.)

Please let me know of anyone else who would like to take the magazine:

Name.....

Address.....

Email/telephone (optional).....

**Thank you
David Pickup
Editor**

ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH SERVICES – St Peter & St Paul, Dinton

Tuesday 2nd of January – St Seraphim of Sarov

- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Supplication Canon of the Mother of God

Friday 5th of January- Epiphany's Eve

- 20:00- Royal Hours + Great Vespers

Saturday 6th of January- The Epiphany

- 08:00- Matins
- 09:00- Divine Liturgy
- 11:00- The Great Blessing of the Waters
- 19:00- Vigil (Vespers+ Matins)

Sunday 7th of January- St John the Baptist

- 10:30- Divine Liturgy
- 12:30- Social Hour

Tuesday 9th of January

- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Supplication Canon of the Mother of God

Saturday 13th of January

- 07:00- Matins
- 08:00- Divine Liturgy
- 12:00- Parish School for Children
- 19:00- Vespers

Sunday 14th of January

- 08:00- Matins
- 09:15- Divine Liturgy
- 11:30- Social Hour

Tuesday 16th of January

- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Supplication Canon of the Mother of God

Saturday 20th of January

- 07:00- Matins
- 08:00- Divine Liturgy
- 12:00- Parish School for Children
- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Vespers

Sunday 21st of January

- No Service

Tuesday 23rd of January

- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Supplication Canon of the Mother of God

Saturday 27th of January

- 07:00- Matins
- 08:00- Divine Liturgy
- 12:00- Parish School for Children
- 17:00- Confessions
- 19:00- Vespers

Sunday 28th of January

- 08:00- Matins
- 09:15- Divine Liturgy
- 11:30- Social Hour

Tuesday 30th of January- St Holy Three Hierarchs

- 17:00- Confessions
 - 19:00- Divine Liturgy
-



Starveall Farm Butchers

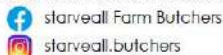
Our butchery shop sells quality fresh products, the majority is locally sourced (some of which is reared here at the farm!) Callum, our butcher, is always keen to help and advise about our products with his superb knowledge and experience.

We have more details on our website www.starveallbutchers.co.uk showing the meat selection and other produce that we are selling, along with our competitive prices. Please check for opening days and times.

You can order online for local delivery or collection from:

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

Follow us on social media for updates:



Tel: 01296 747549

Email: info@starveall.co.uk



How many of us went to Baby/Toddler Groups when we were very little? Or went to one with our children and remember it being a lifesaver on bad days?

A chance to get out of the house with a screaming baby and have a cuppa with other parents.

A chance for little ones to play and socialise together before they go to pre-school.

Did you know that there is no such group in Stone?

In Spring 2024 that is going to change.....the church in Stone is wanting to set one up.

The weekly session on Thursdays will run from 9.00am – 10.30am and be held in the warm Jubilee Pavilion and will have time for free play, Bible story, snacks, singing and dancing, etc.

Refreshments for parents, grandparents and carers – and maybe even cake!

But we need YOU

- **Could you help on Thursday mornings from 8.30am – 11.30am?**
From setting up, serving drinks and snacks, welcoming, playing with little ones to talking to tall ones – either weekly, fortnightly or monthly during term time.
It would be great to have some men on the team as well as women.
- **Do you have any good quality play mats, baby and toddler toys, toy animals, cars, dinosaurs, etc** which you could donate? Time for a clear out after new toys arrived at Christmas or to pass on toys your children have grown out of.
- **Can you come up with a good name for the group?**
Haddenham has 'Pitter Patter', Brill has 'Little Saints' (after their church), Cuddington has 'Toddler Singing'. There'll be a **prize** for the one we take up.

Please get in touch with **Naomi Corbould** on **01296 747689** or naominz@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible so planning can get underway!!

A selection of local Facebook pages to follow for local news and events.



Parish and Community News

Search Facebook with @stonedintonparishnews



Stone, Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council

Search Facebook with: @sbhpc



Stone, Buckinghamshire – a local community page

Search Facebook with: @StoneBuckinghamshire



Wychert Vale Benefice

Search Facebook with: @WychertValeBenefice



Stone, Dinton & Hartwell – church news

Search Facebook with: @stonedintonhartwell



Diocese of Oxford

Search Facebook with: @dioceseofoxford



Dinton/Ford/Upton/Westlington/Gibraltar

Search Facebook with: Dinton/Ford/Upton/Westlington/Gibraltar

Winter Waggle at Waddesdon Manor 16th February 3k & 5k routes

Join us for our inaugural, fun-filled 'Winter Waggle' dog walk and help babies, children & young people with a neurodisability like cerebral palsy

Scan the QR code to book your tickets!



EARLY BIRD
TICKET
£10 Adult
£5 Child

Sign up now

thepacecentre.org/event/winter-waggle



Registered Charity 1011133

thepacecentre.org

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

Every Year

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Luke 2 41 -50

The bible does not tell us much about Jesus' childhood however this event stood out in Mary's memory. The family went every year to a major festival in Jerusalem and He got lost. His parents must have been beside themselves. They eventually found him in the courtyards, chatting to the religious leaders. Like all children He was full of questions. "Why?" must have come up several times.

This passage points us to both the human side of a loving family and His special role as His father's son.

Thank you to Aaron at Village Tree Surgeons



Aaron from Village Tree Surgeons has been busy at work in the churchyards at Hartwell and St John The Baptist and what a difference he has made. Hartwell now looks cared for and SJB no longer has piles of wood and cuttings that needed moving or dangerous branches overhanging. We always appreciate help but as we all know Aaron has a business to run and so his time is very precious.

As well as this help, we also had a beautiful Christmas tree provided by Aaron and delivered into the church all ready for decorating.

THANK YOU to Aaron and Village Tree Surgeons, for your support.



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: 10th – 24th January

Bradmoor Farm (rear) car park, Stanbridge Road
– **HADDENHAM**
Wednesday: 3rd – 31st January

Seven Stars PH, New Road – **DINTON**
Wednesday: 17th January

We meet in the morning for 10.30
It's friendly, fun and **free**
See snowdrops out in woods nearby. Dainty
Drops of winter warmth 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 2024			
MONTH	STONE	HADDENHAM	DINTON
January	10 th -24 th	3 rd -31 st	17 th
February	7 th -21 st	28 th	14 th
March	6 th -20 th	27 th	13 th
April	3 rd -17 th	24 th	10 th
May	1 st -15 th -29 th	22 nd	8 th
June	12 th -26 th	19 th	5 th
July	10 th -24 th	17 th	3 rd -31 st
August	7 th -21 st	14 th	28 th
September	4 th -18 th	11 th	25 th
October	2 nd -16 th -30 th	9 th	23 rd
November	13 th -27 th	6 th	20 th
December	11 th -25 th	4 th	18 th



SOCIALLY CRAFTY MEETS
EVERY 3RD MONDAY OF THE
MONTH

(excepting Bank Holidays)

10.30am - 12.30

in St John the Baptist Church, Stone

COME ALONG AND:



- **Make friends**
- **Drink Coffee**
- **Eat Cake**
- **Do Crafts if you want**
- **Learn something new**
- **Share your talents**



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**There is no commitment to come every month
just come when you can and join in.**

Parish and other websites

Church	https://stonedintonhartwell.com/
Stone with Bishopstone and Hartwell Parish Council	http://www.sbhpc.org/
Jubilee Pavilion	http://www.sbhpc.org/Jubilee-Pavilion/Jubilee-Pavilion-Home
Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council	https://www.dinton.org/
Dinton News	https://www.dinton.info/
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/



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Freephone: 0800 7837194

Email: windmill2@btinternet.com
Website: www.windmill-services.co.uk

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

(Closed Tuesday 2nd January)

**Cakes, crumpets, filled
jacket potatoes and
homemade soup**

SATURDAY

6th January

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.**

Wildlife Spotlight - Chiltern Society Community WildBelt Project

For almost 60 years, the Chiltern Society has been there to help people improve their part of the Chilterns. With our volunteers, members, and partners, we are tackling some of the most serious threats to the countryside – from climate change, to overbearing development and disappearing green spaces and wildlife – to care for our unique landscape.



The people of the Chilterns are at the heart of our work. Through partnerships with national and local stakeholders, we enable individuals and communities to make a difference on their own doorsteps, and through this, take positive action for the environment.

The Community WildBelt project, funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Rothschild Foundation is a pilot project which aims to develop a sustainable approach to delivering joined-up nature conservation at a local level through volunteering. The foundation of the project will be supporting and linking up volunteers and their projects to improve Nature Recovery in their local area.

The WildBelt project is focussed around the Wendover area and surrounding parishes.

Biodiversity is in steep decline across our countryside. Not only is this a loss of our natural heritage but to the ecosystems which are our strongest natural defence against climate change.

A step change is needed to ensure large scale recovery to nature. We believe that involving a far greater range of people from the local community is the only way to achieve this transformation and bridge the gap between national and regional strategies, and local delivery. And the time to do it is now.

People want to contribute but often don't know where to start. We will help people develop the skills and confidence to take on the ownership of their own nature projects, and help them become rooted in their community for years to come.

We have projects in Aston Clinton, Wendover, Weston Turville and Stoke Mandeville which include everything from wildflower meadow creation, hedge planting, orchard planting, pond management and hedgerow management.





We are looking to recruit local volunteers. No experience necessary, and tools and training will be provided. You'll be working with different parish councils, community groups and private landowners. You may be involved in planting a new orchard, improving the biodiversity of chalk streams, tree planting, creating a wildflower meadow or recording wildlife.

All the details can be found on our website - <https://chilternsociety.org.uk/>

Getting local people together to help our declining nature, form friendships and learn new skills is the best part of my job.



Both volunteering and being in nature benefits mental health and wellbeing. Volunteering for the Community WildBelt increases physical activity and opportunities to socialise with likeminded people and in doing so reduces isolation, stress and anxiety, and help gain new skills.

Nature projects provide great opportunities for people to take positive action to improve their local environment increasing a sense of pride. Our volunteers see how their work is tackling climate change and the depletion in nature.

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

Dinton with Ford & Upton Parish Council Meetings

The next Dinton with Ford and Upton Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th January. Meetings are scheduled to start at 7.30pm unless otherwise notified differently on the agenda.

Stone Methodist Chapel

Eythrope Road, Stone HP17 8PH

Minister: Revd. Hee Gon Moon
Tel: tba
heegon5@gmail.com



Village contact: Mrs. Sue Spinks
Clowesbourne, Upton, HP17 8UA
royandsue1@btinternet.com
01296 748369

The Chapel with heart, at the heart of the village **WELCOME TO WORSHIP EACH SUNDAY @ 11 a.m.**

Village friends and amenities continue to be prayed for week by week, and beginning afresh with an alphabetical list of village streets – the families of Badgers Rise, Beacon Close, Belle Vue and Bishopstone Road will be remembered on the four Sundays of January.

REMEMBER: there is a postbox in the Chapel porch for any special prayer requests
[anonymous if you prefer]

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God, our Father,
We know that a thousand years are like a day to you,
but we humans are bound up in time.
As this New Year begins, please teach us to –
care more about people and less about things;
speak with you more often in prayer;
read your Word – the Bible – more regularly.

Please help us to remember the things that are easy to forget:
that we are blessed with those who love and care for us;
that we have homes which give us comfort and security;
that you still have things for us to do for you.

Teach us, Father, in this new and unspoiled year –
to mend some broken fences;
to take pleasure in your creation:
sunshine, trees, flowers, birds and animals;
enjoy the simple pleasures of life: a tasty meal, a good book,
an interesting t.v. programme;

Above everything else, Father, let us be your instruments for
easing someone's heavy load,

relieving some sad person's unhappiness,
introducing someone to Jesus.

Come what may in this New Year,
May we live it for your glory, within your will, and to your delight.
In Jesus' Name we pray. AMEN



A COUPLE OF NEWS FLASHES :

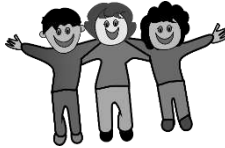
[1] Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the **SHOEBOX APPEAL**. Twenty-four very full boxes were sent this year to very needy families in Eastern Europe, including those in war-torn Ukraine.

[2] And more thanks – to everyone who supported the **SOUP LUNCHES**. Over **£300.00** was raised for **Action for Children**.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO

[FOURTH] TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

MEET



FRIENDS

MAKE

FRIENDS

**COME ALONG TO
FOURTH TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP
Meeting in the Methodist Chapel
on the FOURTH TUESDAY each month @ 2.30 p.m.**

Tuesday January 23rd

[careful – there are five Tuesdays this month!]



Banish the winter blues -
bring along a favourite poem or story to share
enjoy chatting over sandwiches, cake and tea



STONE THURSDAY CLUB

**Meeting in the Methodist Chapel is 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 [747671] for transport

**Subs are just £2.00 per meeting
COME ALONG ON 11th JANUARY AT 2.00PM
to enjoy a game of**



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27TH JANUARY – WORKSHOP – weekend shrub pruning

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

JANUARY 2024

1	
2	Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm – see page 22
3	Simply Walk – see page 19
4	
5	EYAI Community Café, Stone, 1-4pm, see page 10
6	Café In The Park, Stone 10am-12 noon– see page 22
7	Church Services – see pages 4, 13 and 14
8	Cuddington Sunshine Club, 2.00pm – see page 9
9	Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm – see page 22 Dinton with Ford & Upton Parish Council Meeting, Dinton, 7.30pm – see page 24 Haddenham Screen, Oppenheimer (15)
10	Simply Walk – see page 19
11	Stone Thursday Club, see page 27
12	EYAI Community Café, Stone, 1-4pm, see page 10
13	
14	Church Services – see pages 4, 13 and 14
15	Socially Crafty, St John The Baptist, Stone, 10.30am-12.30pm – see page 20
16	Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm – see page 22
17	Simply Walk – see page 19
18	
19	EYAI Community Café, Stone, 1-4pm, see page 10
20	
21	Church Services – see pages 4, 13 and 14 Simply Walk – see page 19
22	Fourth Tuesday Fellowship Meeting, Stone 2.30pm – see page 26 Cuddington Matinee, Mrs Harris Went To Paris, 1.30pm
23	Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm – see page 22 Haddenham Screen, Past Lives (12A)
24	Simply Walk – see page 19
25	Cuddington Picture House – National Theatre Live, Dear England (15), 7pm
26	EYAI Community Café, Stone, 1-4pm, see page 10
27	
28	Church Services – see pages 4 , 13 and 14
29	
30	Café In The Park, Stone 11am-1pm – see page 22
31	Simply Walk – see page 19



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