

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN/WINTER



**DOWNLEY  
COMMUNITY**

# Village News



## Features

- Local Events
- Local Societies
- Lifestyle
- History
- Poetry Corner
- Letters
- Downley Diary



Issue 92 / Sept 2012



## It's our business so we care.



The Partners of Wye Residential gained knowledge and expertise working in the most successful estate agencies in High Wycombe. On the take over of these long established companies by nationwide chains we recognise there is still a need for a local and independent service.

All partners have invested in Wye Residential and our business is built on delivering an excellent service to our clients. If

you are looking to buy or sell in Downley, High Wycombe or surrounding areas you can be confident that we will deliver on all aspects of Estate Agency in an honest, open and transparent way.



**local and independent  
estate agency at its best**

High Wycombe  
**01494 451300**  
Hazlemere  
**01494 711284**  
**www.wyeres.co.uk**

# Contents

<b>Editorial</b>	3	Downley Theatre Group	17
<b>Local Events</b>		Round-up of Regular Activities	18
Summer Season	4	<b>Lifestyle</b>	
<b>Local Societies</b>		Shrek The Musical	19
Downley Descants Debut	5	Superfast Broadband	19
Downley Common News	6	The Write Time to get Creative	20
St James Church - Shaping Up Nicely!	7	Rallycross Weekend	21
Downley Gardening Society	8	Christian Aid in Downley	22
Downley Evening WI	8	J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints	23
DOSCA Community Library	9	<b>History</b>	
Coffee Stop	10	Downley Ancestors part 3	24
New Pharmacy for Downley	11	Did the Downley Yard sink the Mary Rose?	25
Pastures Church	12	<b>Poets Corner</b>	
Downley School	13	Mike's Sabbatical	26
Downley War Memorial Hall	14	One of the Challenges of the not so Young	27
Join Happydoodle For An Art Adventure	16	<b>Letters</b>	
Downley Parish Council News	16	Council Tax Benefit reform consultation	28
Jimmys;s A place For Young People	17	<b>List of Advertisers</b>	62
		<b>Downley Diary</b>	Back Page

## Editorial

**This edition of the Village News marks a whole year since the new editorial team started and we are still looking for a permanent editor. For those who might be interested but are concerned that it will take too much of their time, it is worth pointing out that the editor's job doesn't include laying out the magazine - that's currently done very effectively by Pat Weedon. All the editor does is to check the contributions that come in for typos and occasionally get them reduced if they're a bit too long to fit, and of course write this introduction. You certainly get to find out what's going on in the village - get in touch if you think it might appeal.**

The Village News is proving to be very popular with advertisers, so much so that adverts are in danger of overtaking the amount of articles that we can publish. As a result, starting with the February 2013 issue, the maximum size of advert will be reduced to a half page and an additional option of an eighth page size will be introduced. We will also start to experiment a little with the layout, starting with putting adverts and articles on alternate pages instead of having all the adverts at the end. There may also be extra colour pages and possibly a change in size from A5 to something a bit larger, all dependant on costs which have not yet been worked out.

A new development which some may have seen is the Downley Community Facebook page which has been quite popular during the Jubilee, Art Show and Downley Day events. We are still working out how best to use this new channel; any ideas from readers will be very welcome. At the same time, the eNews is growing in popularity with now over 250 subscribers, but still a long way to go before it becomes the default village news channel. We will be putting links to the current eNews on the Facebook page as well as on the website. Of course, any newsletter will only be popular if it is interesting and informative so please send any news you have to [news@downley.org](mailto:news@downley.org) to get it disseminated throughout the village.

*Bill Thompson, Acting Editor*

# Downley Summer Season

## The Diamond Jubilee kicked off the summer with a bang (literally)

Large crowds congregated on the Common to hear first the Wycombe and Great Kingshill Band entertain us with a selection of classics. A spectacular firework display impressed everyone there and the beacon was lit in common with 4000 other beacons throughout the country. The event was topped off with Allergy encouraging a large crowd to dance the evening away. Thanks go to the Parish Council, The Village News and the Community Centre for funding the celebrations.

Downley Day was similarly well-attended this year with large crowds who came to browse round the record number of stalls. The dog show was particularly popular this year which challenged the performance by LEAP for the size of audience. There are still some raffle winners who need to collect their prizes who are listed here:

### Orange:

- 122 *Meal x 4 (Brickies)* Andy Ashby
- 228 *Meal x 4 (Brickies)* Helen Bradlely
- 195 *Meal x 2 + 2 Kids (Brickies)* Steph
- 422 *Meal x2 + 2 Kids* Alison Barnett
- 371 *Meal x2 (Le De Spencer)* Katy White
- 194 *Cineworld X2* Steph Gonsalves
- 458 *Manicure (Altea)* Bob Gok
- 410 *Tesco Voucher* Molly Lyon
- 274 *Tesco Voucher* Valerrie
- 97 *Zumba* Amanda Ball
- 24 *Playtrain* Tamar
- 159 *Playtrain* Lindsay Mark
- 26 *Vin Blanc Wine* Tamar
- 38 *Hand Bag ?*
- 30 *Morrisons £5 Voucher* Tamar

### Green:

- 330 *Meal X 2 +2 Kids (Brickies)* Jaquie



- 535 *Meal X 2 +2 Kids (Brickies)* Pastures Ch
- 195 *Fleece* Lewis
- 414 *Crate Of Beer* Perowne
- 121 *Ranasana Tandori* Phil Carter
- 316 *Whisky* Charlie Sears
- 468 *Cineworld* Julia Rouse
- 493 *Playtrain* Jon Harvey
- 283 *Brandy* Wendy
- 437 *Cava Sainsburys* Ray Styles
- 512 *Spirit Hair Products* Sylvia Croland



The Concert on the Common suffered from bad weather but those hardy souls who came along were rewarded by some weather later in the evening and an excellent band in the shape of “Cry Wolf”. The charity collection in aid of Scannappeal raised a creditable £177.

# Downley Descants Debut

**The Downley choir has got off to a flying start! At a very successful and well-attended introductory meeting I explained that my desire to set up a choir came from following all Gareth Malone's programmes on television.**

I was very impressed by these and felt that Downley, as a village, would benefit from forming a community singing group. The project began in April with adverts in the Bucks Free Press, The Downley News, the Downley website and on local posters, asking for both would-be singers and a musical director. I was encouraged by the response, both from prospective members and musical directors. At this stage I enlisted the help of Julie Moore, as secretary, and my husband, Bob, as treasurer. Over the coming months the numbers of interested people had steadily increased to 29 and, having chosen our musical director we were ready for our first meeting. This took place on 19 July. 20 people had confirmed that they would be attending but, unbelievably, 37 people arrived and we had trouble locating enough chairs for everyone.

We introduced our very talented Musical Director, Louise Langley, who told us about her background in music and her involvement in local singing groups from school age up to adults, including the renowned Wycombe

Orpheus Male Voice Choir. Louise has lived in Downley all her life so has the good of the village at heart. She relishes the challenge of knocking us into some sort of a choir and is even talking about a concert at Christmas so be warned! When I started this project my vision was to form a new choir in Downley with people of all abilities who wanted to enjoy a fun evening singing together. The fun started when Louise got us warming up with "lip trills" (the whole room was blowing raspberries in tune!) We then sang some well-known songs that Louise had prepared. The meeting broke up with lots of enthusiastic, smiling faces. We had intended to vote on a name for the choir but with all the excitement, we forgot. The few remaining people in the hall decided on Downley Descants so we hope this is acceptable to you all.

**If this sounds like something you'd want to be involved with, you still can. We start officially on 6 September. Contact Lyn on 01494 436063 or by email at [grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk)**



# Downley Common

## News

### It Just Keeps on Growing

**They say that ‘A change is as good as a rest’ but when it comes to things around us we all prefer a bit of stability. We do not want things to change and this certainly applies to Downley Common with its mix of trees, areas of scrub, long grass, and of course the more closely cut areas where people can stroll and just enjoy the peaceful environment.**

The Downley Common Preservation Society was formed back in the 1970s when the prospect of a through road across to Naphill was again mooted. The Society’s prime aim, then as it is now, was to preserve the Common for the enjoyment of future generations. I think nowadays that it is recognised that this is an impossible goal. Not because there is not the will, but simply because nature can never be made to stand still.

Everything on the Common has this annoying habit of ‘growing’. What we see today will be different in the future and is certainly different from the past. Left unchecked the areas of long grass will quickly turn to scrub, with young saplings coming in and eventually what is now open grassland will become a wood. And it does not take that long. Have a look at the picture (below) taken from Commonside sometime in the early 1900s. The chimney pots just showing on the bottom right belong to Well Cottage, which lies on the bridle

path between Downley and Hughenden Manor, with Vale Cottage just behind. How things have changed. Already by the early 1960s Vale Cottage itself is nearly hidden by trees (below) and scrub is growing in the foreground. Left alone all of the Common will eventually become woodland and the environments that we appreciate now will be lost.

So doing nothing and not ‘managing’ the common will not preserve what we have today but rather result in a slow but steady loss of what we all enjoy at present. The long-term aim of the Society is therefore not preserve the Common as it is today but rather to ensure that the mix of woodland, scrub and grass is maintained for the enjoyment of future generations- conservation rather than preservation. What this means for the Common is that as well as constantly limiting by flailing the amount of grassland that reverts to scrub, the Society also cuts down a very limited number of both young and mature trees each year. The boundaries of the woodland are therefore in a constant state of flux with some areas encroaching on grassland whilst others are pushed back.

We cannot remove only young trees as eventually the woodland will comprise of solely mature trees, but the selective removal of mature trees, including Oaks as well as Hawthorn, Beeches and Cherries, will ensure a continuing balance in the wide range of habitats for both birds and animals.

Is it time now that the Society changed its name to the Downley Common Conservation Society? Perhaps that is a change too many.

*Brian Knott. DCPS.*



# St James Church - Shaping Up Nicely!

**So, where do you eat your evening meal? Around the table, on your lap in front of the telly or maybe you eat standing up because, as everyone knows, you don't absorb any calories when you're standing up (sorry, that's not true, but I wish it was!). In our house, we eat most meals sat together around the kitchen table. Back when my family was in the pub trade, we only managed that on Sundays - meals throughout the week were a matter of every man, woman and child for themselves!**

How and where we eat says something about what we expect from a mealtime. If we just want to be fed at the end of a long day, then feet up in front of the telly will be absolute heaven. If we want to reconnect with our loved ones (even those aged two and half who like to throw food around) then sitting alongside one another with no other distractions and just chatting is heavenly.

At St James Church, we believe that worship should be the best of all we can offer to God. Our family occasions - what we call worship - should also reflect and strengthen what we believe God is like and how we can connect to him. If you have ever joined us then we hope you met a bunch of people that really loves him and loves each other. If you haven't yet given us a go, why not come for a browse? We meet for worship every Sunday at 11.00am and offer activities for all ages, and not just on Sundays, either!

Come into the building this Sunday, however, and you'll see that we have made an important change to the interior and it has been a few years in the making! In short, we have finally changed the shape of our seating! It might not sound like a big thing but then not everyone thinks that sitting around the dinner table for meals is either.

It all started roughly ten years ago when the then Vicar, Mark, came up with a new seating plan. His idea was to reshape the chairs so that, rather than have the congregation in straight rows, nose onto the altar, the seating would be curved inwards.

The wardens and I took just one hour to



*Taking away the rigid straight lines has softened the space and given it a more intimate feel, like an embrace. (Photo Courtesy of Mr Peter Higham)*

make the change and it has had a dramatic effect on how the worship space looks and feels. Looking at the people who come to worship (and, although we are very fond of the building, the church is really the people) the new shape has affected them, too. Goodness knows what the planned installation of carpeting will do!

Of course, you'd be right in saying that we can play around with seating configurations to our hearts' content, but if we, as Christians, lack warmth and openness what's the point? But, the truth is that St James' is a warm and open group of people; all the new shape has done is reflect that fact. We can reflect this in other ways but, like I implied earlier, worship should be "our utmost for his highest". It is a regular time set aside to praise God, to learn about our faith, to pray, to think, and to be under one roof as his family.

**Whatever your shape, come and give us a go sometime, any Sunday at 11.00am.**

# Downley Gardening Society

## How does your garden grow?



In spite of all the wet weather mine has looked the best it's been for some years with lots of bloom to enjoy and plenty of pollen for the bees. The blue tits are enjoying the sunflower seeds in the feeders, the hedge sparrows pop in and out of the hedge for the insects and the robin lords it up as if he owns the place, plenty going on in my garden!

Since the last Village news we have had a trip to Exbury Gardens in the New Forest which is renowned for its rhododendrons and azaleas, we've had a talk by Brian Fisher on 'Popular cottage-style gardening' and we visited Edwin Rye's wonderful garden as seen on Alan Titchmarsh's TV programme. We also had a very successful plant stall at Downley Day

## Future events:

- Saturday 8th September – Autumn horticultural show – there are 2 open classes for non-members – best vegetable and best bloom so even if you aren't a member you can still exhibit. Contact Ken as below for details.
- Monday 15th October – talk entitled 'Amazing range of grasses and grass effect plants in the garden' by Brian Fisher
- Monday 19th November – talk by Jolyon Lea entitled 'Plants in a Chiltern garden'
- Monday 10th December – talk by Brian Clews entitled 'Birds in Winter'

**Non-members are always very welcome to our talks - £1.50 including tea and biscuits.**

**Membership is £8 per household and £5 for senior citizens. If you have any queries please contact Ken on: 01494 524622**

## Downley Evening WI

Ladies, have you ever thought of joining the WI? Come and see for yourself on the second Tuesday of each month. We meet at The Pastures Church Hall, HP13 5RR at 7.45pm. We are a friendly, lively group and you would be made most welcome.

Over the past six months we have been on rambles, been behind the scenes at Ascot Racecourse, "Gone to the Dogs" at Oxford Greyhound Stadium and had our own garden party to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Each month we have a very popular Literary Lunch with members bringing something amusing or interesting to read. Our speakers have been entertaining too, on subjects varying from Egypt to the Olympics. In August we are having a tour of West Wycombe House led by one of our own members followed by afternoon tea. There is something for everyone!

Our November talk is The Story of Kitchen and Cooking by Miss C Bloxham and in December we will be entertained by our own "Delectable Selection".

If you are looking for new friends do come and join us. You will not be disappointed.

**For further details contact: Janet Durkin 01494 535662**

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

# Support your local voluntary Library



Downley Community Centre  
School Close,  
Downley,  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire HP13 5TR  
Tel: 01494 528133

## Library Opening Times

Mondays 10-12 noon  
Thursdays 3-5 pm  
Saturdays 10-12 noon

Email: [enquiries@downleylibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@downleylibrary.org.uk)

There is a charge of 20p per book for up to three weeks loan and a 20p charge per week is made for each overdue item up to a maximum of £3.00. The loan period may be extended by phoning the library during opening times. There is now a free loan on all children's picture books.

## View of Library



Downley Day Competition was won by a Mr Timms. He guessed that 'Great Expectations' by Charles Dickens contained 180,000 words. The actual figure was 185,508 words, Mr Timms collected the £10 book voucher. The library committee would like to thank all those who took part in the competition and all those who purchased books for helping to swell the bank balance of the library. All money received help us to maintain the library facilities and also to purchase new books.



## Computer & Internet Facilities

The library has two computers for member's use, both with internet connection. This facility is free. We also have a copier/printer available. Charges are 10p for a monochrome and 25p for a colour copy. We can also laminate your prints up to A4 size for 75p a copy.

We are interested in your views is there a need for the library to be opened one evening a week. If you have an interest we have a small survey form available in the library on which you can give us your thoughts. Or why not email us on our address above on time and day. We thought 5:00-7:00 pm or 5:30-7:30 pm.

# The Coffee Stop

**Back in the middle of June we had a small celebration for the hundredth birthday of our loyal customer, Gwen.**

She also celebrated in style with the Link lunch club and her wide and appreciative family. Subsequently she has brought her Royal telegram to show us and also the magnificent photo book of the occasion that had been put together by her family. I was privileged to visit her home and see the multitude of flowers, balloons and cards that had totally taken over her living room.

Our next celebration will be the famous Harvest Lunch on October 1st which will coincide with the 10th birthday of the Coffee Stop. Tickets at £6 each will include a raffle ticket (so be sure to remember to bring them to the lunch) and will be on sale from early September. This is one of the high spots of our year and is much enjoyed by all.



We are pleased to welcome new helpers, two Dianas and Stephanie, very timely offers of help as one or two of our group have had to temporarily retire for health reasons.

Anyone able to drive is also very welcome to join our pool of drivers even if it is only occasionally, just to have someone to call on

in times of need is most helpful. There

is one area we do need help though – is there any strong person who would be able to help us put up the tables between 10 and 10.15 on a Monday morning and put them away at 1pm? Again, it need not be every week but it would be most useful to have someone we could call on in case of illness etc.

Christine is compiling a memory book of our first 10 years which will use many photographs taken and organised by Janet and David, hopefully we will be able to publish this and maybe have it available before Christmas.

**We look forward to seeing you on a Monday at St James between 11am and 1pm.**

*Ann Buxton  
pabuxton@hotmail.com*

## **Disraeli Downley Youth Club Reopens 7pm Monday, 10th September**

Under new leadership with an added SPORTS THEME inspired by London 2012!  
All our existing facilities remain available as before.

**Club nights 7 to 9pm at St James's Hall**  
(behind St James's Church) Plomer Hill, Downley

All young people welcome between year 6 and age 16  
Membership is £1 a session

**Patrick Crotty, Chair - Disraeli Downley Youth Steering Group**  
**077 111 0 7975 • patrick@crotty.co.uk**

# Council Chairperson opens new pharmacy for Downley

**The new “Downley Pharmacy”, located beside Tesco Express at the Cross Court Shopping parade in Downley, was officially opened on Saturday 23rd June by Cllr Wendy Mallen, who represents the Downley ward & is also chairperson of Wycombe council.**

The need for Downley to have a pharmacy of its own was identified in the community plan as far back as the year 2000 and it topped the list of healthcare services needed in the most recent community survey in 2010. The opening ceremony was well attended by local residents and parish council representatives who were delighted to finally have a pharmacy to call their own.

Cllr Mallen said in her speech: “I am delighted to see this pharmacy finally open and start to provide a much needed service to the residents of Downley and surrounding areas. Up until now, local people have had to travel a long distance down into Wycombe to access a pharmacy and we have lobbied long and hard for Downley to be allowed a pharmacy of its own. It is imperative that the local community now makes use of this new pharmacy to ensure its foundations in the community now, and long into the future.”

Fiona Wyborn, Pharmacist at Downley Pharmacy said: “We are delighted that the opening of Downley Pharmacy has had overwhelming support from local people and their representatives. I am sure our prescription collection service will save residents a huge amount of time and effort when it comes to getting hold of their prescription medicines and the availability of plenty of free parking already seems to be attracting customers from outside of the village too.

Fiona explains “It is easy to change pharmacy, simply speak to a member of staff, and you will be guided through the process. Patients will be able to order their prescriptions in person, over the phone or



online at [www.downleypharmacy.com](http://www.downleypharmacy.com).”

For the convenience of patients, the pharmacy is open from 9am until 6pm from Monday to Friday and 9am until 12pm on Saturday. Downley Pharmacy is dedicated to enhancing the patient experience, offering a free prescription collection and delivery service catering for all GP surgeries in High Wycombe and surrounding areas. The pharmacy is equipped with two private consultation rooms, one of which will be rented to other healthcare providers such as chiropody/podiatry, physiotherapy, reflexology and other complimentary therapies in addition to the pharmacy providing a stop smoking service, medicines MOTs, and Diabetes & Blood Pressure checks.

Fiona continues “We want the pharmacy to be more than just a traditional chemist so a wide range of private healthcare services will be made available if there is demand locally. We have already had initial interest from a chiropodist and a nutritionist. It makes much more sense for people to access services nearer their home so we hope to be able to convince the local NHS to also utilise our treatment room for things like vaccination clinics.

# Pastures Church

## “Design Our Centre” Competition

“Heart of the Community” is an initiative by The Pastures Church to discover the best way forward to serve the square mile community around its building known as Downley and Disraeli. We want to include as many people as possible from our Church community and local community in this process. The “Design Our Centre” competition is one of many ways we are seeking to understand the needs and dreams of our square mile community. All ages in our community are important and we want entries from the youngest to the oldest residents. Even if you don’t live in Downley or Disraeli but have a “heart” for our local community please enter and get involved!

All designs must be on an A3 piece of paper or card. You can use all types of materials to create your centre design or

## Rock Solid

An hour of fun, messy play, stories, songs and games, including light snack. Parents/ carers can choose to leave their children with us, stay with their child or visit the Rock Café.

We’ll be Rocking for God! An hour and a half of games, craft, fun sheets, stories, and other exciting activities with a light snack!

Come and meet new friends, get active and play games, get learning and discover together, get creative and make things. Flints is fast moving, and action-packed, together we’ll have a solid 90 minutes of fun.

Every Friday in term-time at 4pm (age 3-5), 5pm (age 5-7), 6pm (7-11) and 7.45pm (11+).

write about it. You can use everything from poetry, painting, fabric design, cardboard, pencils, felt-tips, computer technology as long as it is all on the A3 sheet. You must write within the A3 sheet why your design deserves to be a “heart of the community” winner.

There are age categories which are 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years, 13-16 years, and Adult [16 years plus]. The deadline for designs to be delivered to The Pastures Church Office is 9pm Friday 9th November. From Thursday 15th November until Sunday 18th November we hope to have an exhibition of all the designs at our Church building. Finally on Sunday 18th November from 10am we plan to hold a Service called “Heart” where category winners will receive their prizes.

We would like you to register beforehand so we know the sort of numbers taking part for planning the exhibition. For more information or to register to enter please contact The Pastures Church office:

**01494525074 or [pasturesoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pasturesoffice@gmail.com)**

**Contact The Pastures Church office:  
01494525074 or [pasturesoffice@gmail.com](mailto:pasturesoffice@gmail.com)**



# Downley School

**This term at The Downley School has been one of the most exciting ever!**

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee was a great cause for celebration. The children developed their knowledge about Her Majesty and the Royal Family in many creative ways, culminating with a family Jubilee picnic and mass kite flying event! It was lovely to join with Maplewood School for part of this day. Our other neighbours, Sunshine Montessori and The Downley After School Club have settled in very well to the benefit of all on site. We also mustn't forget our friends just down the road at The Disraeli School with whom some of our staff have also worked closely this year.

Throughout the whole term, the children have been learning about the Olympics – past and present. Some of our children have participated in a 'Greek Day' learning about the origin of the Games and about life in Ancient Greek times. We also held an Olympic art exhibition, showing every pupil's professionally framed works of art.

A first for the school was a whole school (well almost) visit to Hughenden Manor. As most of Year 6 pupils went off for a residential trip to The Frontier Centre, the rest of us walked through the woods to Hughenden Manor and had a fantastic day of outdoor learning. During the summer holidays there will be a 'Banner on the Manor' showing lots of images of children participating in outdoor activities. There should be lots of our children on the banner, so pop along and have a look.

Year 6 have been especially busy, in this their last term at primary school.



Their performances of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' were outstanding and during their graduation ceremony, there was much reflection upon their time at The Downley School.

Another first was a 'Governors in School' day. Our governors meet regularly during evenings and make regular visits to school as individuals, but never before all together as a group during the school day. Some of them were a bit taken aback by our energetic 'Wake and Shake' start to the day, but all joined in! This group of people work with myself and the staff and play an extremely important part in the strategic running of the school and need thanking for their time, dedication and commitment.

Our Summer Fayre was a great success. Another fantastic group of people who support the school are our Parents Association who organised the fayre, having to change to 'Wet Weather Plan B'. Everyone had a great time and we raised over £4000 which will benefit all of our children directly.

As my second year as headteacher of The Downley School draws to a close, I feel even more privileged to be part of a truly wonderful community. My team of staff are the most amazing people, every one of them giving their all to enhance the life opportunities for our children. The children are fabulous and the support for the school from parents and members of the community is highly valued. I look forward to returning in September for another great year with everyone!

*Mrs Webb, Headteacher*

# Downley War Memorial Hall

**As everyone in the village will have witnessed, your Memorial Hall has undergone major restoration.**

After years of fundraising by the Trustees a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Fund and grants from the Wycombe District Council and Downley Parish Council, we now have a new roof, two new disabled toilets (one on each floor), a new staircase and complete redecoration of the ground floor. The most recent addition is the ramp to assist the less able amongst us to gain entry to the Hall.

Fundraising carries on as we need to refit the kitchen and the flooring will need to be replaced at some time in the future. Planning permission has been granted to build an extension at the rear of the lower hall to incorporate a new lobby and toilet block. This lower floor has been in constant use over the past few years and now requires quite a lot of refurbishment in order to bring it up to standard.

The hall is available for hire by organisations and for private parties.

The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 8pm in the Hall. If you are interested in helping with the running and/or fundraising you will be most welcome.

We have a number of events booked for the coming months:

**October 20th** at 7.30pm. Quiz Night - Theme: Jubilympics

Tickets £6 per head bring your own food and drink. 8 people per table.

**November 2nd** at 6.30pm sees the return of Theatre in the Villages with The Nutcracker is adapted from the story by Hoffmann, the play takes place in a toyshop in 19th century Germany where Zachariah the toymaker is hard at work.



Reality gradually gives way to dream-like fantasy as the audience is led into a series of amazing adventures. The toys come to life like those of Marie and Fritz in the fairytale and Zachariah takes on the character of the children's godfather Drosselmeier – the sinister clockmaker.

The play features Tchaikovsky's familiar music, arranged by Andrew Dodge. This is a Cornelius & Jones production ([www.corneliusjones.com](http://www.corneliusjones.com)). Tickets £10 Adults £5 Children.

**November 11th** (Sunday) Remembrance Day Service at 3pm

**November 30th** at 7.30pm. We are pleased to offer a second performance in partnership with Theatre in the Villages of No Hall 2 Small with Hank Wangford. A glimpse of gloom as Hank and Brad trail the dark underbelly of Country Music finding laughter within the misery of life. They will be your guide with original songs from their CD's and specially chosen Country Classics – Yodelling, a rope trick or two from Brad, laughter and tears from Hank. Suitable for all ages ([www.hankwangford.com](http://www.hankwangford.com)). Tickets £10 under 16's £8.

**Information and tickets from the treasurer Pamela Brooks Tel: 01494 436161 or [dwmh\\_1924x@btinternet.com](mailto:dwmh_1924x@btinternet.com)**

# Join happydoodle for an art adventure

**Introducing....happydoodle! We are a brand new art club in Downley, for children aged 12 and under.**

Offering holiday workshops, toddler sessions and after-school courses, we encourage children to explore art in a fun and welcoming environment. Having seen the high standard of work produced for the Downley Art Competition, we know that the young people in the village are very creative – happydoodle is clearly the club for them!

happydoodle is run by Downley artists Lian Chan and Jane Powell. Between us we have years of experience in delivering children's art workshops and have prepared sessions for our new venture using famous works of art as a focus. The sessions feature a wide range of activities and materials, building confidence and developing creative thinking.

In July, we held taster sessions in the Memorial Hall for both toddlers and children aged 12 and under, which demonstrated what to expect from a typical happydoodle workshop. These sessions were extremely popular, with the children experimenting with different painting and drawing techniques as we looked at the work of Jackson Pollock. Check out our Facebook page to see just what we produced in an hour of messy fun! [www.facebook.com/happydoodlearts](http://www.facebook.com/happydoodlearts) Also you will see pictures from our stalls at Downley Day and Downley School Summer Fete. Until our website is up and running this is



the place to get info on all our courses and workshops, or you can call us or email; contact details below.

happydoodle has got off to a great start thanks to the brilliant kids who have made our sessions so much fun. Many thanks to them and their parents as we begin this new venture, and we hope to meet many more of you soon!

## **Upcoming events:**

**Summer workshops.** Each fun and friendly workshop lasts 2 hours, set within a calm, structured environment, and costs £15 which includes all materials used.

**After-school courses.** For ages 5-12, bookable courses each half term. One 6 week course costs £40 (all incl.)

*17th Sept - 22nd Oct, Mondays 3.45 – 4.45pm  
Downley Community Centre.*

**Toddler courses.** Come along - and pay on the day - for a chance to explore the visual world with your toddler. A wide variety of activities and materials for the children to discover. Each session £4.50 (let us know you are coming in advance).

*17th Sept – 22nd Oct, Mondays  
1.30 – 2.30pm Downley  
Community Centre.*

**Booking is essential for all events as we have limited places. To book in your child please call happydoodle on 07448 793813 and speak to Lian or Jane, or email [happydoodlearts@gmail.com](mailto:happydoodlearts@gmail.com)**

# Downley Parish Council News

Members of Downley Parish Council would like to say a sincere thank you to residents and visitors for their wonderful support at our Queen's Diamond Jubilee event on 4th June and at Downley Day on 22nd/23rd June. The "buzz" around the village has been amazing in the last few weeks.

A special Oak tree is being planted later this year on The Common at the east end of Commonsides to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Downley has been judged joint runner-up with Holmer Green in the Pushman Cup (large villages) in this year's Best Kept Village Competition. The judges decided to award Downley the Dashwood Trophy as the best runner-up. The awards will be presented by the Vice Lord Lieutenant Alexander Boswell on Saturday 8th September in the winning villages.

## Street Lighting

If anyone wishes to report details of street light repairs needed in the following roads, they need to phone Ringway Jacobs (lighting contractors for Bucks CC) on 0845 2302882.

Plomer Hill, Downs Park, Hillfield Close, ( Hithercroft Road and Pastures from junction with Tinkers Wood Road up to

Bellfields ), Westover Road, Sunnycroft, South View, Woodcote Green, Pheasant Drive, Southfield Road, Middlebrook Road, White Close and Merry Down. There are no scouts employed to do spot checks of lights that are not working in these areas, so the contractors have to rely on members of the public contacting them with details.

## Dates for 2012 diaries:

- Monday 5th Nov - Torchlight Procession and Bonfire on the Common at 6.30 pm
- Sunday 11th Nov – Remembrance Day Service at War Memorial Hall at 3.00 pm
- Monday 31st Dec – Lighting the Millennium Beacon at Commonsides at 11.45 p.m

## Council Meetings

Parish Council meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday every month. In July, September and November meetings are at the War Memorial Hall, starting at 8.00pm. In June, August, October and December meetings are at the Downley Community Centre, School Close starting at 7.45pm. Up to 30 minutes are allowed for public questions. Agendas are posted on the Parish Council notice boards at least 4 days in advance.

**The Clerk (Chris Hamilton) can be contacted on 01494 462195 or by email at: [downley\\_pc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:downley_pc@tiscali.co.uk)**

## Village News Delivery

Do you appreciate having D.V.N. delivered to your door?

Very many thanks to those who carry out these deliveries in their own time. Without you there would be no D.V.N.

Unfortunately, we are very close to running short of deliverers. We have one on our reserve list, and we hope that she will replace one who is planning to move out of the area. There are no reserves to cover for sickness and holidays. PLEASE, we need more volunteers in order to cover all the streets in the distribution area. All it takes is about 1 hour of your time every three months. Teresa and/or Des Ryan will be very pleased. **Contact Des on [desmond.ryan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:desmond.ryan@tiscali.co.uk) or 01494 520938**

**At Jimmy's, the young persons' group run by St James' Church, we enjoy food, video games, sport, music and meaningful discussion with adult supervision. Any young person aged 11-18 years is welcome to attend.**

Each session is centred on a particular theme relevant to everyday life, for example 'Independence', 'Maturity' and 'Leadership'.

Jimmy's reopens after the summer break on Tuesday 18 September from 4.45pm to 6.30pm. The venue will be St James' Vicarage, next to the church building. When we asked for feedback earlier in the year, our young people told us they would like a regular, longer session with a proper meal (i.e. more food!) so we are going to do just that and lay on a hot meal.



From then on, we will have a short (4.45pm-5.45pm with snacks) session on the 1st Monday of the month, then a long (4.45pm-6.30pm with hot meal) on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Each session costs just 50p per person.

**A full schedule will be given out by hand, you can also visit our website [www.stjamesdownley.org](http://www.stjamesdownley.org) See you there!**

## Downley Theatre Group

**The Theatre Group continues to grow and grow! Given that there are now 212 names and addresses on the data-base, we think it's time for a sort out as some people have been on the list since the Group started ten years ago and never been on an outing.**

So, members will receive an e-mail or letter by post explaining the need to ensure our information is correct and be asked to respond.

New members are always very welcome to join us. Our next trips to The Mousetrap, a Carol Concert in Oxford and Cirque du Soliel at the Royal Albert Hall, will already be done and dusted when the Village News is published. We can't really advertise events in the Village News as the time-scales are too short so joining is the best way to hear about what's happening.

**Give us a call or drop us a line to be added to the mailing list or chat through what we offer.**



**Alan and Claire Baker  
82 Littleworth Road  
Downley, High Wycombe HP13 5UY  
01494 437552  
[clairebaker55@btinternet.com](mailto:clairebaker55@btinternet.com)**

# Round-up of Regular Activities

Aerobic	Tues 6.30pm, Sat 9.30am	Community Centre
Art Club	Thurs 9.30am	St James Hall
Art Group	Tues 10am	Community Centre
Bridge Group	Thurs 7.15pm	Community Centre
Chipmunks Woodcarving	Wed 10am	Community Centre
Circuit Training	Wed 6pm	St James Hall
Coffee Stop	Mon 10am	St James Hall
Community Library	Mon, Sat 10am, Thurs 3pm	Community Centre
Dance Classes for Young People	Mon pm & evening	Sunnybank Hall
Dog Training	Tues 6pm	St James Hall
Downley Descants	Thurs evening	Sunnybank Hall
Downley Village Evening WI	1st Tues 7.30pm	Community Centre
Downley Wine & Beer Club	2nd Wed 8pm	Community Centre
Downley Youth Club	Mon 7pm	St James Hall
French Circle	2nd Fri 7.30pm	Community Centre
Greatest Hits Choir	Tues 8.15pm	St James Hall
Homecare meeting	Tues 1.30pm	St James Hall
Karate	Wed 7pm, Fri 7pm	St James Hall
Line Dancing	Tues 12.45pm, Fri 11.15am	Community Centre
Links Lunches	Fri 10.30am	St James Hall
Mums & Toddlers Group - term time	Mon 9am	Community Centre
Story time at 11.00am	Daily at 11am	Community Centre
Simply Walk	Mon 10am	Community Centre
Philatelic Club	Alternate Thurs 7pm	St James Hall
Pilates for beginners (term time)	Wed 9.30am	Community Centre
Tai Chi – for Arthritis (term time)	Wed 10.45pm	Community Centre
Tai Chi – beginners (term) Sep 2012	Wed 6.45pm	Community Centre
Tai Chi	Thurs am	Sunnybank Hall
Weightwatchers	Thurs 5.30pm	St James Hall
Zest for Life	Mon 8pm	Community Centre

# Shrek The Musical

**On Friday 29th June I went to a musical called Shrek. The coach picked us up from Tesco and took us to London and dropped us off right outside the Theatre. We got there a bit earlier than expected so I went to a café with my Nan and Mum.**

Then we went to the theatre, when I saw the theatre I was amazed as it was huge. I got a Shrek Slush drink which was green and red, then we went to our seats.

I loved how the lights were all on the stage as it shined on the background and made it all sparkly. Then the show started. I was

amazed how good they looked with all their costumes. I loved donkey because he was funny and ridiculous. The King looked really funny as he was small acting on his knees. The dragon was huge and I liked how he was controlled, with his eyes and tail moving.

It was the best show I have seen because it was funny and exciting, you didn't know what was going to happen next and it felt like you were there, in it.

*Jack Ellis [age 9]*



# Superfast Broadband

**If your current broadband speed doesn't meet your needs you can do something about it today by visiting [www.superfastforbucks.org](http://www.superfastforbucks.org) and backing your local county council's campaign to bring superfast broadband to Buckinghamshire.**

These days it's not uncommon for households to have more than one way of accessing the internet – be it through a computer, tablet, smartphone or games console. But standard broadband cannot always cope with the requirements placed on it by modern families, who like to use the internet to do a variety of things – from watching catch up TV, streaming films, uploading photos, or enjoying online gaming.

With superfast broadband, multiple devices can be online at any one time and still enjoy high speed connectivity.

Unfortunately from town to town and even street to street, internet connection speeds vary significantly across Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire County Council and Buckinghamshire Business First have secured government funding to improve access in areas which currently have no broadband access or suffer very slow speeds.

Registering your demand for superfast

broadband will only take a couple of minutes and won't cost a penny. You're simply helping Buckinghamshire County Council and Buckinghamshire Business First demonstrate to broadband providers that there is a strong demand for superfast connectivity here in the county. If you are unable to register online please call 0845 3708090 / 01296 395000.

Register by 1 September 2012 and you will be entered into a free prize draw for a chance to win an iPad kindly donated by Buckinghamshire Business First.

More information, including answers to frequently asked questions, is available on [www.superfastforbucks.org](http://www.superfastforbucks.org). Details about which areas will benefit from our government funding and when improved broadband access will be rolled out in Buckinghamshire will be published on the website as soon as we know, so please check the website for updates.

# The Write Time to get Creative.

Come on, admit it, there have been times in your life when you've wondered what it might be like to be a writer. Perhaps you've dreamed of giving up your day job to write a Hollywood screenplay, or of penning a best-seller while the kids are at school. Maybe you've thought of turning your everyday experiences of being a child-minder or driving instructor into a popular newspaper column. Or perhaps there's an interesting ancestor whose life you want to record for posterity. Maybe the story you want to write is the kind of story you enjoy reading and secretly believe you could tell better – if only you could find the time, and the motivation to get started.

I'm not going to lie to you, writing is hard work. Making that first mark on a blank page takes guts, and you will have to learn not to be a perfectionist. There will be lots of crossings out – if you use a computer the delete button will become your best friend – but slowly and surely, I promise, words will become sentences, sentences will grow into paragraphs and paragraphs might even extend themselves into chapters. Then, as you go back over what you've written, you'll start to judge what works and what doesn't. You'll edit and then you'll write some more.

The best way to start writing is - to start writing! Everyday. Set your alarm twenty minutes earlier than normal and put a pen and paper by your bedside (or laptop or Ipad if you prefer!) then as soon as you're awake, write down the first things that come into your head. You might find that you're writing about your dreams a lot to begin with, but that doesn't matter. Just so long as you're getting into the writing habit. Don't worry about punctuation or establishing a meaningful narrative at this stage, let your imagination roam about – you'll be sleepy, but the chances are your brain will also

be fresher and more responsive. You'll be surprised at how quickly nuggets of stories can present themselves – a childhood memory, an item from last night's news, even a response to the pattern in your bedroom wallpaper – it's all a potential starting point for something more.

Exercising your writing muscle on a regular basis will prepare you for writing longer and more formal things – a short story perhaps, or the first chapter of your novel. That's when you need to organise some time to be alone with your ideas. Send the family out for a morning or take an afternoon off work and go to the library. Two or three hours maximum should be all you need – but don't expect to fill the whole of that time with solid typing or scribbling– some writers need a while to 'get into the zone', others write for short bursts punctuated by trips to the kitchen to make tea or put on a load of washing. Just make sure that your breaks don't distract you too much, and try not to make phone-calls or go on-line. You need to keep your mind focused even if you're not actually writing.

Write for as long as feels comfortable, and if possible leave yourself on a cliff-hanger so that when you come back to it, your story draws you in and insists that you come up with what happens next.

You can of course follow all of the above suggestions, or none of them. That's the beauty of creative writing – there are no rules and ultimately you're in charge! But watch out, once you get going you'll be amazed at how quickly your characters and ideas start calling the shots!

**Maggie Womersley will be running a series of evening classes in Downley this Autumn designed to get you writing. To enroll or to find out more contact Maggie at [meltdownmaggie@aol.com](mailto:meltdownmaggie@aol.com)**

# Rallycross Weekend Ends In Frustration

**Downley's John Rook and his Spirit Health Clubs Rallycross Team had a successful weekend in Round 3 of the MSA Hot Hatch Rallycross Championship at Mallory Park but it ended in frustration.**

The Mallory Park Circuit was back on the calendar for the first time since 2009 after problems with the loose sections of the track forced events to be cancelled in 2010 and 2011. With the loose sections re-graded and revisions made to the layout of the circuit the organisers hoped for a successful event.

With practice over and a full grid of 10 cars lined up for heat 1, after 3 frantic, hard fought laps John got the 6th quickest time.

“Heat 1 was an extremely hard fought race, I had to work hard not only to keep up with cars in front of me, see where I was going due to the dust but also keep hard charging cars behind me. I was extremely happy to get the 6th quickest time and a great start to the weekend”.

Although the track looked great during practice, by the time heat 1 finished it was taking its toll on the cars, with windscreens and body work all damaged and a number of cars already on their trailers. The event was running behind schedule and this would keep the organisers on their toes the whole day.

Heat 2 was another great race, with John driving his Citroen Saxo VTS flat out in 3rd place for most of the race, until the last lap when he was hit by a fellow competitor which dropped him down to last placed and 8th quickest time. In John's final qualification race he finished ahead of some drivers and



with other drivers retiring he got the 6th quickest time.

With races before the Hot Hatch final all requiring re-runs and other delays meant that it was then decided that the Hot Hatch A Final would not happen!

“I was very, very frustrated about this decision not to run the A Final. At Rallycross events you spend all day qualifying for the big race and for it not to happen was very annoying. I was even more annoyed that the points would be decided based upon qualification positions meaning 8th place, but I know there would have only been 7 starters and I know I had the pace to finish in the top 5 at least.”

There are now 4 weeks until the next event which takes place over the Bank Holiday weekend 26th/27th August at the Lydden Hill Circuit in Kent.

The event is being covered by various TV channels including Motors TV and Channel 4, along with many internet and press outlets.

**Anyone who would like to sponsor John's 2012 BRC campaign are asked to get in touch on [Jrrallyx726@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Jrrallyx726@yahoo.co.uk) or call him on: 07581 467465**

# Christian Aid in Downley – A Thank You

**The response this year may not have given us the highest recent result but it has shown me, as the local coordinator, that people in Downley do care about those in far away places who are in a far worse situation than any in this country.**

With the Roman Catholic Congregation having left St James this year, we have lost a number of house to house collectors. Despite this, three of them joined with the Anglicans and took over three of the longest roads to collect about a half of our total of £720. With the Moor Lane Methodists adding £317 the overall result is better than expected.

At the best of times we only have enough collectors to cover a quarter of the roads in Downley and this year that number has fallen. I apologise to those who would have liked to donate but were not contacted.

The thing that encourages me is that there are generous people around despite the general difficult times which many of us are experiencing and that many also

took the time to fill in the Gift Aid slips which adds another £80 to our total (from the Inland Revenue with no added cost to the donor).

A word about the work of Christian Aid. It is a world wide organisation working in 47 countries through 507 local groups (2012 figures) This mode of operation bypasses all government organisations. Those aided are of all faiths or none. Another bonus is that all house to house collectors are unpaid volunteers. These factors reduce overhead costs so that 82p of each £1.00 donated reaches the target group – an extremely good result. In addition careful monitoring soon eliminates any bogus projects.

Christian Aid reacts to immediate emergencies but concentrates on helping impoverished or disadvantaged groups to take steps to make long term improvements.

In conclusion, thanks to everyone who helped or donated.

*Peter Higham Downley CA coordinator*

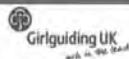
## Guides

Are you aged between 10 to 14 years and looking for something fun to do on either a Monday or Tuesday evening?

Have you ever considered joining GUIDES?

Guides meet at the Guide & Scout Centre, Coates Lane, Downley on Mondays 7.30pm to 9.15pm and Tuesdays at the Centre from 7.15pm to 9.15pm

If interested please call Carole on HW 449215 for Monday meetings or Sarah on HW 442438 for Tuesdays. Email; sarahb@vale2000.com. We look forward to hearing from you.



# J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints

Wal mates, I don't know much, but I do know that nothing stays the same ----

I'd been busy doing other important things, (trying to keep on the right side of the senior management), so hadn't been up to the plot for a few days, but when I did I saw that someone (I reckon the Council), had put a new sign on the gate, saying 'Downley Jubilee Allotments', and the old one, saying 'Downley Jubilee Alloments' had gone! Wal I'm blowed, what was wrong with the old one, 'Alloments' had been the way Downley folks had spelt it since 1977, that's 35 years, so why change it now? That's all the newcomers sticking their noses in I reckon. And whats all this about the Higg's Bosun, (my uncle Jack, in the Navy, was a Bosun, but he wasn't a Higgs). I reckon we've had em up the allotment for years, they'd have a go at the curley kale, and give you a nasty bite up your trouser leg. (Tuck 'em in your socks, that stops 'em).....that's a joke, in case you didn't get it...ha ha.

Now for the H H's. Pots good, peas good, b.beans good, onions not so good, in case you were wondering how good my spring hints were.....now flowers, wal, with autumn coming along, get

your bulbs a'planted, them little daffs are orl the rage, and trendy folk scatter them natural like, but what's wrong with nice tidy lines I say? Also if you haven't grown yor own, buy some wall flower plants and get them in, in pots if you like, by the door, Mrs H. likes the scent of em. Then take a few geranium cuttings and get them a'rooting, (just break off one of the side shoots, pull it off with a bit of a heel), stick it in a jar with some water till little roots come, then into potting compost, in a pot, and keep on a window cill through the winter, if that's allowed of course, you know what I mean....oh, and don't tidy too much, wildlife's orl the rage too, so leave your seed heads on the flowers for autumn bird feeding, gives Mrs H. summat to do, watching the birds I mean, when she's not chatting or doing summat on the commuter.

Anyway, that's it from me, keep yor wellies on!

Bye for now

J.H

*sent from my iSpade.*



# Who was Eunice Shervill?

## Downley Ancestors part 3

**A question I kept coming back to. Most people researching family history have dead ends; people who seem to have appeared or disappeared without a trace and this was one such obstinate quandary I had not resolved for many years.**



Eunice is my 3x Great Grandmother. She was born about 1810 in Plomer Hill as evidenced by several census returns. I could find a mention of a Shirvill family (and I had looked for all possible variants of the spelling), a John Shirvill was named as renting a house from John Chalk in the Parish of West Wycombe in 1810 and assessed for land tax of 14s 4d! I found baptisms for several children, but no Eunice.

There were two daughters, Elizabeth and Naomi, baptised by John Shirvill and Elizabeth, his wife in 1809 and 1811 respectively, and I almost gave up hope, and thought that Eunice may have been baptised with either the name Elizabeth or Naomi, but known throughout her life as Eunice – assuming there was no way of proving that, I had resigned myself to never actually knowing for sure who her parents (and my ancestors) were.

Then – a breakthrough. Looking at ‘FamilySearch’ on the internet, there was a Younes Shurvel, baptised 28 May 1809 in West Wycombe. A record I hadn’t spotted before when looking through the filmed baptism records in Aylesbury and Wycombe. After many years of looking, and knowing that spelling was a matter of how literate the Parish Clerk of the time was, and unusual names were spelt phonetically so a person’s accent would result in spelling variations, I thought I had finally found her. I re-checked the

baptism records but these showed (and confirmed my earlier findings) that the daughter’s name was Elizabeth.

I then went back to the BT’s. The Bishops Transcripts were made as an annual return to the Bishop of the baptisms for that year. There was Younes, baptised 28 May 1809. The baptism records had incorrectly recorded the name as Elizabeth, but somehow the BTs had the correct name, or maybe she was baptised as Elizabeth but by the time the BTs were compiled she was known as Eunice and the person making the return to the Bishop recorded her as Younes. We will never know, but it confirms that they are one and the same person and the link to her parents was confirmed.

Eunice married John Joynson (also born in Plomer Hill) in about 1833 – now I just need to find out why did they get married in Hillingdon? A few days looking at newspaper records in Hillingdon might give me a clue – something else to add to the list of something to do!

Perseverance, not completely giving up hope, and the internet all combined to resolve the question ‘who was Eunice Shervill?’ and proves that whatever the problem, an answer could be just waiting to be discovered.

For now, best wishes.

*Paul Turner  
District Councillor for Downley & Plomer Hill*

# Did the Downley Yard sink the Mary Rose?

**More established residents in the village may remember the serious fire that engulfed Sunnybank Methodist Church on 1st November 1998 and how, in the subsequent clear-up operation and refurbishment much of the interior was removed and rebuilt.**



One of the little-noticed artefacts to be removed that day was a beautiful mahogany and glass case containing a long thin piece of yew wood, highly polished and bearing a number of regular markings along one edge (pictured above). In rather indistinct carved letters along the back, read the inscription “Onne Yarde, 1497”. Henry I decreed the lawful yard to be the distance between the tip of his nose and the end of his thumb. The curious thing about the yard measure found in the chapel is its length - over 4 foot long!

It is well-known that in medieval times, weights and measures differed markedly from region to region and it is entirely possible that the woodsmen of Downley and the surrounding woods had unusually long arms resulting in a rather special “yard”.

This discovery may shed light on a curious aspect of the refitting of the Mary Rose in the Thames by Henry VIII in 1536 to improve her armaments in preparation for war against the French. In the Tudor period, the Chilterns were well-known for providing extremely tall and straight beech trees which were ideal for making the masts of those early carrick warships. Indeed it is now thought the local pub, the Bell & Mast (previously the Masters) may reflect this early contribution to shipbuilding.

Examination of the Navy Records of old King Harry has shown that the contract for the new masts was put out to tender to local woodsmen in both Downley and Naphill, for the purpose of generating a bit of competition and hopefully of driving the price down. The specification for the replacement mainmast is clearly shown to be 108 feet but from

an analysis of the fragments of mainmast remaining, it is clear that the actual mast must have measured at least 130 feet. It appears that the Mary Rose put to sea equipped with masts that were too tall for her, but which made her one of the fastest ships in the fleet.

The Third French War saw Henry faced with a large French invasion force under the command of Admiral Claude d’Annebault who entered the Solent unopposed with 128 ships on 16 July. Since they had virtually no heavy galleys, the vessels best-suited to sheltered waters like the Solent, the English fleet promptly retreated into Portsmouth harbour.

It is well-known that the Mary Rose sank because her gun ports were open and let in the water when she heeled over as shown in this contemporary engraving on 19th July 1545.



Much has been written about the reasons but it has only recently been recognised that she listed so far because the over-sized masts caught a gust of wind and simply blew her over! The subsequent Naval Inquiry could find no trace of the original suppliers of the masts but the hapless naval architect was summarily executed.

**What was the role of the Downley “Yarde” in this fiasco? The truth is out there.**

# Poets Corner

## Mike's Sabbatical

*By A Brindle*

When Michael retired from the workplace  
A minister's job for to take  
They promised him after he'd worked for ten years  
He'd be able to take a long break

So soon he'll be off on Sabbatical  
Leaving us to take care of the church  
We'll just have to keep things in order ourselves  
As he potters about on research

The Stewards will have to take care of it all  
They'll have fellowship needs to address  
Church Councils and all other meetings to run  
And try not to get in to a mess

He reckons he's off for more than three months  
To dig up some dinosaur bones  
We'll just have to hope no one dies or gets wed  
Or we'll not hear an end to the moans

Pterodactyls have turned into birds, so they say  
It's a good job they've also got smaller  
We don't want to think about eight metre high hawks  
Swooping down and then grabbing his collar

It'll put a fair strain on the others  
As they rush around tending the flocks  
There won't be much time to match or dispatch  
Or even for changing their socks

He's leaving his wife to fend for herself  
It's not clear how she's going to manage  
He's left her his power saw, hammer and drill  
Let's hope she won't do too much damage

So shortly our brave Reverend Mike's  
Going off to do just what he likes  
We wait his return, to find out what he's learned  
Then get back to arranging more hikes

As soon as he's back, a service we'll have  
As the tale of his exploits unravels  
We'll sit on the pews and take in the news  
As he tells us about all his travels

To study historical fossils  
Will take several months of this year  
But some of us say "Must he go away  
We've got quite a few of them here....?"



# One of the Challenges of the not so Young

*Mary E. Howard*

I used to love shopping, but not today.  
Shopping's a pain that won't go away.  
Oh, how the checkouts I really do hate  
Legs a bit tired it's wait, wait, wait.

I look, then I wonder, perhaps I will try  
to use the self checkout (I heave a big sigh).  
To me it seems daunting...never used it before.  
Technology beckons...What lies in store?

What do I do? Well, let me see.  
Why am I acting so nervously?  
I scan all my items, I then go to pay.  
Seems I have won with my shopping today.

The machine is now beeping, I have more to pay.  
I'd put in correctly the cash for today!  
Finally someone comes running to me.  
"The bag you must pay for, that is not free."

Finally escaping, I did catch my 'bus.  
At my age, oh dear, do I need all this fuss?  
Next thing to tackle? Cash card at the wall.  
What challenges there are for me to befall?



# Council Tax Benefit reform consultation

In August/September, Wycombe District Council will be holding a consultation on the Council Tax Benefit reforms (to be called Council Tax Subsidy from April 2013).

The consultation will run for four weeks and I will update Downley eNews once the exact dates are published and the consultation documents are available. There will also be notification of the consultation in the local press.

All Council Tax payers (not just those currently receiving Council Tax benefit) could be affected depending on the feedback from the consultation and I would urge as many people to respond as possible.

In brief, the Council Tax Benefit system is being localised and from April 2013 it will be the responsibility of local government to adopt a local scheme. The consultation will be asking for opinions about the details of the scheme and the funding for it.

If you have questions, I am happy to discuss.

Cllr Paul Turner  
Downley & Plomer Hill  
Email: paul.turner@wycombe.gov.uk  
Phone: 07825 842292.

## Ladies Evening with M&S!

**Tuesday 20 November 7.00pm to 10.00pm, Vere Suite, Adams Park, High Wycombe**

Join Scannappeal for an evening of fun and fashion and enjoy a complimentary glass of wine on arrival! M&S will be showcasing their latest women's day and evening wear at a fashion show. Scannappeal volunteers and members of clinical staff, including a consultant breast surgeon, will be modelling. Representatives from House of Colour will be on hand to offer styling advice and there will be a selection of beauty therapies and treatments for those who wish to pamper themselves. There will also be a great selection of stalls selling affordable giftware, clothing and accessories.



**In aid of Bucks Breast Cancer Appeal for Wycombe Hospital.**

Tickets: £10 or two for £15 (includes welcome drink)

**T: 01494 734161 (and credit cards), W: [www.scannappeal.org.uk/activities](http://www.scannappeal.org.uk/activities)**



**Girlguiding**

Downley

*girls in the lead*



# HALLS FOR HIRE

[www.downleyguidesscouts.org.uk](http://www.downleyguidesscouts.org.uk)

**Got Unwanted  
Good Quality Furniture ?  
Don't Bin it !**



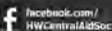
**Call Central Aid  
Furniture Project:  
(01494) 443459.**

**We collect from  
your home for free,  
and you can gift-aid  
your donation.**

We are a non-profit project of High Wycombe Central Aid Society,  
Reg Charity No 201445.

Central Aid Furniture Project  
West Richardson Street  
High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 2SB  
Phone: 01494 443459  
Fax: 01494 530256  
E-mail: [furniture@central-aid.org.uk](mailto:furniture@central-aid.org.uk)  
<http://www.central-aid.org.uk/furniture/>

Follow us on:



## PARENT, TODDLER & BABY GROUP

Very friendly and welcoming; just drop-in!

9.30-11.30 am Mondays during term-time  
10.00-12.00pm library open  
11.00 am story time

- Toys and games
- Friendly chat
- Baby change facility
- Snack and drink included
- £1 per session
- Free car parking

**DOWNLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
School Close, HP13 5TR

frank charlo R.I.B.A  
chartered architect



Charlo Architects are a young, innovative and progressive company with expertise in extensions, conversion, restoration and new build.

We offer a full range of professional Architectural Services from planning to completion, tailored to each individual clients needs.

If you have a project in mind we would be delighted to meet and discuss it with you.

arb RIBA #

t 01494 462894 m 07712010882 e frank@charlo-architects.co.uk  
[www.charlo-architects.co.uk](http://www.charlo-architects.co.uk)

31 selwood way, downley, buckinghamshire hp13 5xr

ihd-solutions.com

iain@ihd-solutions.com  
07932 120 660

## Affordable professional webdesign

Specialists in Small business brochure sites

We can supply everything you need to get you on the web and noticed - including:

- ✓ Graphic design
- ✓ Search engine optimisation
- ✓ e-commerce
- ✓ Marketing advice
- ✓ Web Hosting

Now based in Downley, call or email iain for a chat today  
[www.ihd-solutions.com](http://www.ihd-solutions.com)

# YOUR LOCAL

REGISTERED STOCKISTS AND INSTALLERS OF

## GARAGE DOORS & REMOTE OPERATORS

- QUALITY DOORS ALL SIZES
- MADE TO MEASURE
- SECURITY LOCKS & SHUTTERS
- REMOTE CONTROL DOORS
- SUPPLY – FIT
- SPARES – REPAIRS
- FULLY GUARANTEED



**LOCAL RESIDENTS –10% DISCOUNT  
ON STOCKED DOORS**



REGISTERED INSTALLERS  
HORMANN / GARADOR / CARDALE / WESSEX / HENDERSON  
RUNDUM / SILVELOX / NOVOFERM

**CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE**

**01494 539339 / 01628 488070**

MANY WORKING DOORS & OPERATORS ON DISPLAY AT:  
SHOWROOM, PERTH HOUSE, GRAFTON STREET, HIGH WYCOMBE, HP12 3AJ

**Altea**  
**Downley Beauty & Holistic Centre**  
High Street, Downley  
FOR ALL YOUR BEAUTY & HOLISTIC TREATMENTS

**CELEBRITY ENDORSED HEAVEN LUXURY FACIALS  
& BODY TREATMENTS USING HEAVEN ORGANIC PRODUCTS**

MANICURES, PEDICURES, GEL NAILS, ACRYLICS,  
AROMATHERAPY, HOT STONE, THAI, SWEDISH MASSAGE  
WAXING, TINTING, SPRAY TANS, REFLEXOLOGY,  
HOPI EARS CANDLES, INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE,  
EYELASH EXTENSIONS & MAKEUP

**\*\*\*NOW OPEN MONDAYS\*\*\***

**BABY MASSAGE COURSE**

FOR 4 WEEKS COMMENCING ON SUNDAY  
30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2PM – 4PM  
£80

**\*\*NEW AT ALTEA\*\***

**CACI NON-SURGICAL FACE & BODY TREATMENTS**  
(AS SEEN ON '10 YEARS YOUNGER')

Receive a **free** CACI cellulite treatment worth £39 when you  
book either a CACI non-surgical facelift or CACI  
microdermabrasion.

**Also at Altea:** NUTRITIONAL ADVICE & SUPPORT,  
COUNSELLING, HYPNOTHERAPY, ACUPUNCTURE

**TEL 01494 528285**

**[www.alteadownley.co.uk](http://www.alteadownley.co.uk)**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

# Keeping It Clean

Domestic cleaning, Ironing and laundry

Are you looking for reliable cleaners?

We are offering our assistance in your neighbourhood and would be happy to help with your cleaning and laundry needs, we can provide references if required.

- One off cleans
- Spring cleans
- Elderly discount
- Office cleaning

Call us 07563638587



## Are You Sitting Comfortably?

Antique, Modern & Traditional

Re-upholstery & Repairs

Wide Range of Fabrics

### **Alternatively:-**

If your worried about keeping your sofa clean with kids and pets around? Why not consider loose covers and 'Re-cycle your Old Sofa with a New Lease of Life.

*Ring for a FREE estimate  
and give your sofa a  
'New Lease of Life'  
City & Guilds, Est. over 30 years*



Ring: Brian or Kevin

01494 638004

07966 108516

01296 670385



# THE PAINTED KITCHEN COMPANY

*Beautiful kitchens hand painted*

**We have the perfect recipe for creating a hot new look for your kitchen this year!**

With so much emphasis currently on saving money, this could be the perfect time to refurbish an existing kitchen.

We will repaint your units, add new worktops, replace appliances (we are an approved Neff supplier), remove existing wall tiling, apply a fresh coat of emulsion to the walls and even install new flooring.

*Before After*



Don't put off that much needed makeover and call 01494-718782 or email [sales@thepaintedkitchencompany.co.uk](mailto:sales@thepaintedkitchencompany.co.uk)  
See more examples at [www.thepaintedkitchencompany.co.uk](http://www.thepaintedkitchencompany.co.uk)

# Body & Soul

01494  
440759

- Gel nails
- Manicures
- Pedicures
- Facials
- Massages
- Eyelash extensions
- Party eyes
- Waxing
- Permanent hair removal
- Sunbed
- Body treatments
- Package deals
- Gift certificates

Plus everything else  
you'd expect from a  
professional salon

Fully automated booth uses  
exclusive patented Microcore  
technology giving incredible,  
complete and even coverage to  
deliver the ultimate self tan



AUTOMATED SPRAY BOOTH

*Thatso*  
SUN MAKEUP

[www.bandsbeauty.com](http://www.bandsbeauty.com)

3 Cross court, Plomer Green Avenue, Downley, High Wycombe. HP15 5UW

# Pushchairs and CarSeats.co.uk



The Slate Barn,  
Mongewell Park Farm  
Wallingford Road  
Wallingford, OX10 8DY  
Tel: 01491821877

E: [shop@pushchairsandcarseats.co.uk](mailto:shop@pushchairsandcarseats.co.uk)  
[www.pushchairsandcarseats.co.uk](http://www.pushchairsandcarseats.co.uk)



Use discount code  
Downley10 to save  
£10.00 when you  
place an order over  
£50.00

The Internet site  
that you can visit



# The Window Doctor

CARE & REPAIR FOR ALL YOUR  
UPVC & ALUMINIUM WINDOW  
& DOOR PROBLEMS



- Replacement of broken down sealed units  
- misting up inside glass
- New handles, hinges and door locks
- Replacement of patio door wheels
- Adjust front & back doors that do not shut properly
- New security handles with keys
- New door panels and cat flaps
- New Georgian style or leaded style sealed units
- All insurance work • Burglary damage • Servicing

PLUS INSTALLATIONS OF NEW UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS

Call us for a no obligation survey and Quotation.

**No call out charge**

Friendly Family Established Business

**Cowling & Co.**

**Mobile: 07860 435742**

**Tel/Fax: 01494 483567**

email: [windowdoctor@jcowling.plus.com](mailto:windowdoctor@jcowling.plus.com)

[www.windowdoctor.co.uk](http://www.windowdoctor.co.uk)

# D & P HEATING

Gas Safe registration No. 132 888  
Gas Heating, Servicing and Repair  
Your Local Gas Service Team

*Dave Price. Downley 01494 527631 or 07802 621263*

*George Bennett. Hazlemere 01494 715230 or 07721 513112*

**FREE Quotes. No Callout Charge**



Shop online

[www.moderncharm.co.uk](http://www.moderncharm.co.uk)

*Modern Charm*  
Home & Gift

We are an online home and gift boutique based in Downley. Our aim is to provide our customers with a unique yet affordable alternative to the high street.

To receive **FREE delivery** in Downley, enter code DOWNDEL

**Party time**

Host a party at home or an event at work and receive 10% commission.



# Hammond Construction

Building firm foundations

**For all your Home Improvement needs:-**

Extensions  
House Refurbs  
Kitchen Fitters  
Bathroom Fitters  
Plumbing  
Electrical (Part P)  
Carpentry

General Repairs  
Painting  
Decorating  
Windows & Doors  
Guttering  
Gardens/Patios  
Summerhouses

*"Hammond Construction has always been prompt, reliable, and their standard of work is exemplary" Parish Council*  
*"impressed with the high standard of workmanship and the way you project managed our conversion"*  
*References on Request.*

Call us NOW for your free quotation.  
**01494 483924 or 07904 336098**

Use the logos:



[www.hammond-construction.co.uk](http://www.hammond-construction.co.uk)

A selection of delicious desserts and cakes  
available to take the strain out of party or every day catering.

## Rachel's Sweet Kitchen



Made using quality ingredients by Rachel, a qualified patisserie chef, from her sweet kitchen in Downley.

ENQUIRES CALL 01494 442802  
OR 0794 1155295  
WWW.SWEETKITCHEN.CO.UK

## MOBILE BARBER

JESSICA HAYWOOD  
11 YEARS EXPERIENCE



I CAN VISIT YOU IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR  
OWN HOME OR YOUR WORK PLACE AT A TIME  
THAT SUITS YOU...

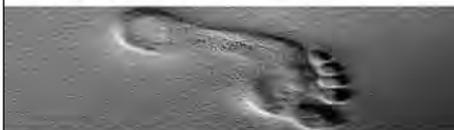
NO MORE TRAVELLING AND WAITING IN THE  
BARBER SHOP

**I CAN BRING THE BARBER SHOP TO YOU!**

CALL ME TODAY ON 07877 673174  
HIGH WYCOMBE & SURROUNDING AREAS

## Foot Care

- Nail Trimming
- Thickened Nails
- Hard Skin
- Corns
- Fungal Nail
- Ingrown Nail
- Verrucae



**CHRIS SAUNDERS MCFHP MAFHP**  
Mobile Foot Health Practitioner  
**01494 611411**



# JH Austin & Son

## Established 1972

**Painting & Decorating**  
Interior & Exterior work  
CHAS Registered &  
City & Guilds Qualified

Tel: 01494 464366

Mob: 07738 906674

Email: [noeljohnaustin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:noeljohnaustin@hotmail.co.uk)

We Now Recharge & Service  
Air conditioning

HIGH CLASS  
SERVICING & REPAIRS  
....AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES

# M & J MOTORS



- All makes of cars
- Fault finding diagnostics
- MOT preparation
- Welding etc

**FREE COLLECTION & RETURN  
COURTESY CAR AVAILABLE**

*We are seldom beaten for value or  
friendliness, so for all your motoring  
needs call Pask or Paul now*

**Tel. 01494 521924**  
**Mob. 07957 860832**

The Dairy, Downley Common,  
High Wycombe  
HP13 5YN

# 11+ TUITION



*Highly successful courses designed specifically to maximise your child's potential*

*Courses tutored by John Callow B.Ed (Hons), former Deputy Head Teacher with 30 years practical experience of guiding children through the 11+*

**SMALL CLASSES—  
EXCELLENT RESULTS**

**ALSO TAKING YEAR 4 ENQUIRIES**

**TEL 01494 445969**

## KMG

### Building Contractors

- Extensions
- New Builds
- Brickwork & Blockwork Specialists
- Patio's / Paving / Landscaping
- Block Paving / Driveways
- Groundwork
- All General Building work undertaken

For a FREE no obligation quotation, please contact Matthew Flint  
T. 01494 437221 M. 07818 081775 E. flint478@btinternet.com  
8 Bowler Lea, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5UD

Professional, Competitive, Reliable Builders. Local references available upon request.

# JR-Travel Private Hire



We can take you in comfort to almost any destination you require including Airports, seaports, theatre trips and any other special occasions.

Fully licensed drivers.

National travel tokens accepted.

Family run business based in Downley.

For a competitive quote please give us a call.

**Tel: 01494 63 95 63**

**Mobile: 07762 886208**

Website: [www.jr-travel.co.uk](http://www.jr-travel.co.uk)  
Email: [enquiries@jr-travel.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@jr-travel.co.uk)



Latin inspired Dance Fitness  
Fun Cardio workout to Latin and international rhythms

**MONDAYS 8 PM**  
**THE MEMORIAL HALL**

**WEDNESDAYS 6.45 PM**  
**THE DISRAELI SCHOOL, ANTHONY CLOSE**

**FIRST CLASS ONLY £1 WITH THIS AD**

**Please call Karen 07786 567376 / [www.zumbacrazy.co.uk](http://www.zumbacrazy.co.uk)**

## **MARK EVANS**

### **PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEERS**

- Gas Safe registered no. 118353
- Full Liability Insurance
- 30 year's experience
- Competitive rates
- Complete bathroom installation
- Boiler servicing and repairs
- New boilers and unvented hot water systems
- Central heating systems
- Solar panels
- Small work also undertaken
- Local and reliable
- Free quotes/No call out charge

**T. 01494 718 661 M. 07779 013 565**



# MAGIC CARPETS

- Carpets & Vinyls
- Supplied & Fitted
- We bring samples to your door

**T: 01494 484977**

**M: 07970 042903**

**magic.carpets@btinternet.com**

**EXPERIENCED**

**SEWING MACHINIST**

FOR ALL YOUR REQUIREMENTS

SOFT FURNISHINGS,  
REPAIRS/CLOTHING ALTERATIONS,  
UPHOLSTERY ETC.



**PLEASE CALL "SUE"**

**ON 01494 638511**



**"New look"**

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

*Local Independently Owned & Operated, With 10 Years Experience*

**No Job to Big or Small**

**Carpets • Rugs • Upholstery  
Leather • Curtains**

*Rapid Drying Times, Spot & Stain Removal, Stain Protection,  
Dust Mite removal & Control, Odour Removal*

**Deep Clean Hot Water Extraction Method,  
the Most Thorough their is (or Dry Clean) With No  
Harsh Chemicals, No Shrinkage, No Colour Run,  
No Dirt Attracting Residues Guaranteed**

*Fully Insured Local Professional Service with Sensible Prices,  
References & Guarantees Available*

**Call Steve: 07940 756 491 or 01494 521 364**

Email: [newlookcleaning@virginmedia.com](mailto:newlookcleaning@virginmedia.com)

**Go on, Give Your Home a "New look"**  
[www.newlookcleaning.vpweb.co.uk](http://www.newlookcleaning.vpweb.co.uk)

*"Tree Tops" 43 Plomer Hill, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5NB*

# The Reflex Zone

Reflexology for health and wellbeing

- \*Member of the Association of Reflexologists\*
- \*Locally based, calm and relaxed treatment room\*
- \*Maternity Reflexology also covered\*

Tel: Jo 07956 309099

[www.thereflexzone.co.uk](http://www.thereflexzone.co.uk)



If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Reflexology is a safe, gentle complementary therapy that boosts the body's healing systems & helps combat stress.



## **Carol McCullough Soft Furnishings**

Quality, bespoke curtains and Roman blinds  
Created from your own choice of fabric

Free estimates and competitive rates

Please call 01494 440758  
Mobile 07789 191040

# Michael Day Lawncare & Landscaping

- From small lawns right up to 10 acres
- Hedges Cut / Planted
- Trees Pruned / Planted • Leaves Removed
- Complete Lawn Treatment • Lawns Mowed

*Member of UK LawnCare*

*Member of the Institute of Groundsmanship*

**Contact Michael Day**

**Tel: 01296 581116 Mobile: 0790 5556061**

**michaeldaylawns@hotmail.com**

## MTS

WINDOW CLEANING

Windows, Fascias, Gutter and Conseratory Roof Cleaning

***Regular and one-off service available***

Reliable. Friendly and insured family business

**Call or email for a FREE quote**

**Tomasz Slota**

**01494 259474 / 07903 520581**

**email: mtswinclean@hotmail.com**

**36 Squirrel Lane, High Wycombe, HP12 4RS**

# P.K. STROY

## QUALITY BUILDER

- Extensions
- Patios
- Drives
- Brickwork
- Block Paving
- UPVC Windows/Doors
- Decorating Service
- Plastering

T. 01494 442886 M. 07876 254131

E. [peter.stroy@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.stroy@btinternet.com)

11 Green Leys, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 5UH

## PETER C CORK

**Plumbing • Bathroom Specialist • Ceramic Tiling**

GENERAL PLUMBING INSTALLATIONS & REPAIRS

FULL BATHROOM DESIGN & INSTALLATION INC TILING

EN SUITE & CLOAKROOM CONVERSIONS

WET ROOMS

POWER SHOWERS

WATER SOFTENERS SUPPLIED & FITTED

FULLY INSURED

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

ESTABLISHED OVER 25 YEARS

**CALL FOR A FREE COMPETITIVE ESTIMATE**

**Tel/Fax 01494 443581 Mobile 07770 694131**

**1 White Close High Wycombe Bucks HP13 5NG**

# Tutor High

Wycombe

Resident in Downley, I am a science graduate, a qualified teacher and a mum.

- 11 + Tutoring.
- Literacy and numeracy help for all ages.
- KS3/4 Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- KS5 Biology.

To discuss your needs please call me;

**Jill: 01494 510077**

**07703 574610**

**jillburrell@rocketmail.com**



# My Errand Runner

YOUR VERY OWN 'PAY AS YOU GO' PERSONAL ASSISTANT

---

## Our services include:

- Picking up prescriptions/ Paying in cheques/ Posting parcels at the Post Office/ Dropping off and collecting dry cleaning
- Ironing
- Eco friendly cleaning service
- Watering plants, picking up the mail and turning lights on/ off when you're on holiday
- Waiting at your home for scheduled engineer/ serviceman visit or large deliveries
- Companionship visits (non-medical) for elderly or housebound loved ones
- Gardening maintenance (lawn mowing, weeding, pruning etc)
- Walking dogs, feeding pets, cleaning out cages/ hutches and visits to the vets
- Light food shopping/ Gift shopping for last minute presents
- Making and delivering of 'home cooked' frozen meals
- Your personal chef for dinner party catering
- Party planning (writing of invites, arranging catering and booking the venue and entertainment)
- Miscellaneous office duties for small businesses
- Emergency Mum

---

*"Errand Runner helped me whilst I was away, Claire came to the house to do the morning routine with the children and getting them on the bus to school and it worked brilliantly. The children absolutely loved Claire; she is so kind and very thoughtful. I had a text from Claire each morning with a little message from the children which was so reassuring and such a lovely touch. I would recommend Errand Runner to anyone without a second thought"*

Tracy Howden, Radnage.

---

Whether your needs are daily, weekly or monthly, we can make a bespoke plan to best fit your requirements. We pride ourselves on treating your errands as if they were our own. No Errand is too big or too small, so please call us now for a free consultation and find out how we will make your life easier. You won't know how you managed without us.

---

All Staff are **CRB checked**

Call us today on **07938 555 587** or email **myerrandrillers@gmail.com**

**www.myerrandrunner.co.uk**

# Revive!

setting new standards in mobile car care



## Your car paintwork expertly repaired in under 2 hours!



- *we come to you, home or office, when it suits you*
- *expert technicians with the very latest mobile bodyshop technology*

Undetectable, durable repairs:

- *wing mirrors • bumper scuffs and splits*
- *key vandal scratches • alloy wheel scrapes*
- The latest bodyshop systems and quality at a fraction of the cost
- Professional, courteous service fully guaranteed
- Rapid, punctual response

## DON'T REPLACE IT - REVIVE IT!

Call Byron on:-

Freephone: 0800 316 6027 Mobile: 07779 325 201

Revive! (High Wycombe)

7 Merrydown, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5NQ

[www.revive-uk.com](http://www.revive-uk.com) Email: [byron.lindsay@revive-uk.com](mailto:byron.lindsay@revive-uk.com)



**10% off**  
with this flyer



THE  
PROFESSIONAL  
BUILDING  
COMPANY..

**Extensions • Renovations • Loft Conversions  
Driveways • Fencing • Hard Landscaping & Patios**

*Fast Friendly Service - Free Estimates Given  
Fully Insured - References Available*

**Jody Smith**

59 Grays Lane, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 5UG

**Tel: (Home) 01494 451861 / (Mob) 07979 648239**

**M.D. Garden Services**

 **Gardener**

Pruning • Shrubs and Flower Borders

Fruit and Vegetable Pots • Hedges

Lawn Care • Indoor Plants



**Horticultural Engineer**

SERVICE • REPAIR • SHARPENING

Lawn Mowers • Garden Tractors

Strimmers • Blowers • Shears • Chainsaws



**NO OBLIGATION QUOTES**

**M. L. Dunn**

Home: 01494 865834

Mobile: 07795 158292

*DJ Coles Property Services*

**Professional High Standard**

*Established in 1999*

- Interior & Exterior Decorating
- Paper Hanging
- Coving
- Carpentry & Kitchen Installations
- Laminate & Wood Flooring
- Door Hanging
- Fencing & Decking
- Loft Insulation & Boarding
- Gutters, Fascias & Soffits
- General Property Maintenance & Improvements

**Competitive Rates**

**Tel: 01494 715690 / 07747 783015**

# Tree Surgery, Fencing, Gates, Decking etc All to a high standard

**Woodland Management**

**By Qualified Forester**

Fully qualified and insured

- Free quotes
- Free Advice
- Free Ideas



**20 years experience**

**Call Tim on:-**

**01844 275874 or  
07906 168547**

## **SUTTONS**

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

### **ALL GENERAL MAINTENANCE WORKS CARRIED OUT**

No Job Too Small From A Dripping Tap To a Full Size Patio

PATIO SPECIALISTS  
WALL & FLOOR TILING  
PAINTING & DECORATING  
PLUMBING  
FENCING  
BLOCKED DRAINS / GUTTERS CLEARED

Call Trevor For Free No Obligation Estimate - No Call Out Fee

**Tel: 1494 638953**

**Mobile: 07754 948743**

**Email: [suttonsproperty@aol.com](mailto:suttonsproperty@aol.com)**

# WORKMANS AIRCON Ltd

For all your air-conditioning needs within the commercial & domestic sector.

We Supply Heating & Cooling all year round.

Please visit us @ [www.airconworx.co.uk](http://www.airconworx.co.uk) for full details

*Or contact Paul on*

**07966-772646 / 01494-521503**

Email: [paul@airconworx.co.uk](mailto:paul@airconworx.co.uk) or [workmansaircon@btinternet.com](mailto:workmansaircon@btinternet.com)

Sales, Design, Maintenance, Installation, Service.

**Domestic Sector:** Conservatories, Bedrooms, living Areas, Kitchens, home Office, Wine Cellars, Basements, Top up Service Available for Car Aircon.

**Commercial Sector:** Offices, Information Technology Suites, Pubs, Shops, Cellar Coolers, Cold Rooms, Freezer Rooms, Stand Alone Fridges & Freezers, Display cabinets, Bottle Coolers, Ventilation, Decommissioning Works and removal of old plant, Mechanical Services,

**All Work Guaranteed**

**All Budgets & Manufactures Catered For.**

All equipment fitted will carry an energy label 'A' or 'B'  
saving on running costs

*Air Conditioning & Refrigeration/Mechanical Services*

Classes held  
locally at  
Maplewood  
School



# A free session with a British Judo champion

An opportunity to learn judo from one of the best, right on your doorstep! For **Boys and Girls from 5-16 years old**. There are now classes at Maplewood school with A.S Judo run by ex British Champion Alan Scott.

It's action packed fun, you can make lots of new friends and you can build both strength, flexibility and confidence.

Get your first session free if you call and book with Alan Scott on **07776 442 963**



Email: [alan@asjudoacademy.co.uk](mailto:alan@asjudoacademy.co.uk) [www.asjudoacademy.co.uk](http://www.asjudoacademy.co.uk)

# DO YOU NEED A DOMESTIC GODDESS TO COME AND WAVE A WAND ?



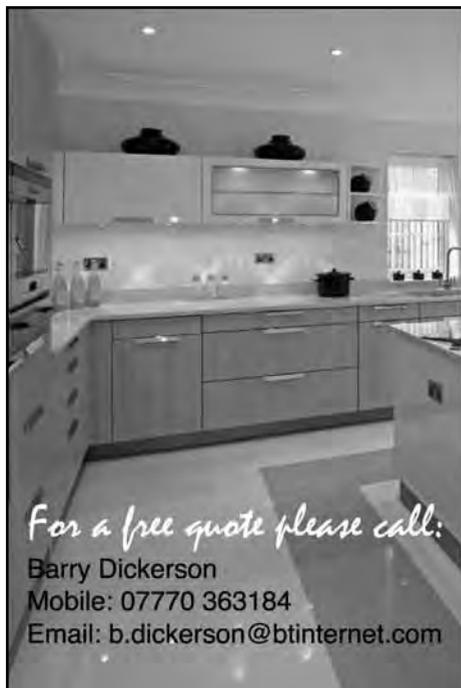
## Professional & Reliable House Cleaner

- \* All General Cleaning Chores - Spring Clean / Party Clean
- \* End of Tenancy Clean & Dress for Re-Let
- \* After Builders Clean
- \* Wardrobe Tidy & Freshen-Up
- \* Washing & Ironing
- \* Dog Sitting in your home / Dog Walking
- \* Garden watering whilst you're on Holiday



For more info or book an Appointment  
Call Melanie on 07779 236 143

**Introductory Offers available  
And Friend Referral Bonus**



*For a free quote please call:*

Barry Dickerson  
Mobile: 07770 363184  
Email: b.dickerson@btinternet.com

## COMPLETE

Bathroom & Kitchen  
Installation

- *Expert Advice*
- *Installation*
- *Plumbing*
- *General Building*
- *Wall & Floor Tiling*
- *Hardwood and Laminate Floors*
- *Decorating*
- *Service with a smile*



## HOME PHONE SOLUTIONS

Telephone Engineering for Domestic / Residential Customers

At Affordable Prices!

- Home Phone Extension Sockets -
- Home Alarm System Connection Point -
- Home Network "Ethernet" Cabling -
- Rewires - Fault Finding - Repair Work -

Please call Steve Mosley or visit website for prices and further information:

Website: [www.homephonesolutions.co.uk](http://www.homephonesolutions.co.uk)

Tel: 01494 472373

Mob: 07899984033

Email: [steve.mosley2@btinternet.com](mailto:steve.mosley2@btinternet.com)

Based in Grays Lane, Downley

## RANASANA TANDOORI

**By popular request RanaSana Tandoori has been converted  
into a restaurant and takeaway.**

**Our delivery service will not be affected.**

**We welcome both new and returning customers  
and hope to see you soon.**

**7 Cross Court  
Plomer Green Avenue  
Downley  
High Wycombe  
HP13 5UW**

[www.ranasanatandoori.co.uk](http://www.ranasanatandoori.co.uk)

**Opening hours:  
12pm - 2pm  
5pm - 11pm  
Open 7 days a week  
Incl. Bank Holiday  
[Closed: Friday Lunchtime]**



## **Le De Spencers Arms** What's On



**AMERICAN SINGER CHALLAIN WILLIAMS**  
Saturday 15th Sept

**WARD 4**  
Saturday 3rd November

**ELVIS AND NEIL DIAMOND IMPERSONATOR**  
Saturday 17th November

**CAROL CONCERT WITH WEST WYCOMBE  
BRASS BAND**  
Wednesday 19th December

If you are thinking of getting ahead of the game and planning your family or company Christmas Dinner the Le De Spencers will be taking booking for Monday 3rd December - Friday 21st December

01494 535317  
[info@ledespencersarms.co.uk](mailto:info@ledespencersarms.co.uk)  
[www.ledespencersarms.co.uk](http://www.ledespencersarms.co.uk)



## Learn Enjoy Achieve Perform

Drama and Musical Theatre are exciting, healthy and creative art forms that build confidence and explore imagination, while developing physical skills and self-expression

For pupils aged between 5 -18 years old, based in Downley, High Wycombe

Visit [www.leap-performingarts.co.uk](http://www.leap-performingarts.co.uk)  
to find out more or call  
07896 048 841

EARN ENJOY  
ACHIEVE PERFORM  
LEARN ENJOY  
ACHIEVE PERFORM  
LEARN ENJOY  
ACHIEVE PERFORM

Associated with:  
LAMDA



# Downley Pharmacy

9 Cross Court, Plomer Green Ave, Downley HP13 5UW



## Opening 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012!

### Hassle Free Repeat Prescriptions

✓ Simply drop into the pharmacy once open to register or go to [www.downleypharmacy.com](http://www.downleypharmacy.com)

✓ Order your prescription in person, over the phone or online

✓ Your prescription will be ready to collect 2-3 working days later



Stay up to date by clicking  @ [www.facebook.com/downleypharmacy](http://www.facebook.com/downleypharmacy)

## YOUR NEW LOCAL INDEPENDENT PHARMACY

Email: [info@downleypharmacy.com](mailto:info@downleypharmacy.com)

Phone/Fax: 01494 513 060

MON—FRI 9am-6pm

SAT 9am-12pm

## CRAIG BAKER

PLASTERING  
&  
PLUMBING

CLEAN, RELIABLE  
AND FRIENDLY PLASTERER

Telephone or email on:

**07854087272**

[craigbaker364@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:craigbaker364@hotmail.co.uk)

## AQUARIUS (MARLOW) WINDOW CLEANING LTD

*Established Since 1984*



- Professional Window Cleaning
- All Commercial & Domestic Work Undertaken
- Fully Insured Company
- Gutter Clearance

*For a Reliable Professional Service Call*

**07970 915972**

FLACKWELL HEATH, HIGH WYCOMBE

E: [carogers@btopenworld.com](mailto:carogers@btopenworld.com)

# T L 4YOU

## Electrical & Plumbing Services

**For your entire domestic electrical and plumbing needs, from repairs and maintenance to complete installation.**

- Additional socket outlets • Fuse board upgrades •
- Full electrical installations and rewires • Smoke alarms •  
Electrical installation condition reports (EICR)  
*formerly known as "periodic inspection report"*
- Plumbing installation and repairs •
- Full Bathroom suites • Kitchen installations •

**Are you looking to reduce your electricity bills  
and get paid for being "green"?**

Then Solar PV could be your answer.

Fully certified Solar PV designed and fitted for you



The Certification Mark for Great  
Renewable Energy Technology



RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSURANCE LIMITED

**Contact us on 01494 443445**

**"We're a small company with a big heart"**

44 The Pastures, Downley, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP13 5LY

DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL



[www.tlc4you.biz](http://www.tlc4you.biz)

# List Of Advertisers

Academy GB Doors	31	Mark Evans Plumbing & Heating Engineers	44
Altea Beauty & Holistic Centre	32	M.D . Garden Services	52
AS Judo Academy	55	M&J Motors	41
“Are you sitting comfortably” Upholstery	33	Michael Day Lawncare & Landscaping	47
Aquarius Window Cleaning	60	Modern Charm	37
Body & Soul Beauty Salon	35	M T S Window Cleaning	47
Carol McCullough Soft Furnishings	46	My Errand Runner	50
Central Aid furniture Project	29	New Look Cleaning	45
Charlo Architects	30	Parent and Toddler Group	29
Chris Saunders FHP	37	Peter Cork Plumbing	48
Complete Bathrooms & Kitchens	56	P K Stroy, Builder	48
Craig Baker	60	Pushchairs and Car Seats	36
DJ Coles Property Services	52	Rachel’s Sweet Kitchen	39
D & P Heating	37	Ranasana Tandoori	57
Downley Pharmacy	60	Revive Car Bodywork	51
Foot Care	39	Roof Technology	63
Halls For Hire	29	Sewing Machinist	45
Hammond Construction	38	Suttons’ Property Maintenance	53
Home Phone Solutions	57	The Window Doctor	36
IHD Solutions Web Design	30	The Painted Kitchen Company	34
Jessica Haywood Mobile Barber	39	The Professional Building Company	52
J H Austin Painting & Decorating	40	The Reflex Zone	46
Jill Burrell Tutor	49	TLC 4 You	61
JR Travel. Private Hire	43	Top Marks Tuition	42
Keeping It Clean	33	Wave A Wand	56
K M G Building Contractors	42	Woodland Management	53
LEAP	59	Workmans Aircon	54
Le De Spencers Arms	58	Wye Residential	2
Magic Carpets	45	Zumba	44

## Credits

### Editor

The Village News is currently edited by an editorial team drawn from the Downley Communications Forum. A volunteer is sought for the permanent position of Editor. Contact: [news@downley.org](mailto:news@downley.org)

### Layout

Pat Weedon at [news@downley.org](mailto:news@downley.org)

### Advertising

Contact: [adverts@downley.org](mailto:adverts@downley.org)

### Distribution

Coordinated by Des Ryan. Volunteers to deliver locally are always needed. If interested contact Des on: [desmond.ryan@fiscali.co.uk](mailto:desmond.ryan@fiscali.co.uk) or 01494 520938

### Rates

Half Page £30 | Quarter Page £20 | Eighth Page £15

### Steering Committee

The Downley Communications Forum set up as

part of the Community Plan, provides oversight to the Village News, the Village enews and the [downley.org](http://downley.org) website.

**Chairman** Bill Thompson

**Secretary** Peter Loadman

**Treasurer** Clive Beard

**Webmaster** Mark Starkey

### Deadlines

The Village News is published quarterly in November, February, May and August. The deadline for adverts and copy for the next issue is 31 Oct 2012.

### Copy

Please send text in editable format such as \*.txt, \*.rtf, \*.doc, .docx. Photographs to accompany the text should be sent in as high a resolution as possible in any common graphics format. Copy should be sent to [news@downley.org](mailto:news@downley.org). Any copy or photographs sent to this address may also be used on the [downley.org](http://downley.org) website.

# ROOF TECHNOLOGY

**Advanced Flat Roofing Solutions**

Independently Assessed To Last 40 Years And More

## High Specification Flat Roofs And Roofline Products

We at Roof Technology install the best products available to protect your home or business from the excesses of the British climate.



Flat Roofing



Fascias, Soffits and  
Guttering



UPVC-U Cladding

**For a free survey and quotation call:**

**01494 792546**

**01491 572765**

or email:

**info@rooftechnology.co.uk**

Visit our website for a closer look at the products and services we offer, the guarantees we provide and discover what our customers say about us.



**www.rooftechnology.co.uk**

## Downley Diary *Please visit [Downley.org](http://Downley.org) for all the latest and up to date events and news.*

<b>Sept</b>	2nd	Picnic organized by YOH at Pastures Church
	2nd	DCPS Working Party
	4th	Downley Village Evening WI
	6th	Start of School Term
	8th	Tea Dances for the Elderly at St James Church Hall
	8th	Downley Gardening Society Autumn Show
	9th	Lighthouse Welcome Celebration at Pastures Church
	9th	Parish Council meeting at War Memorial Hall
	11th	Downley Evening WI
	25th	The Queen's Jubilee Celebrations at St James Church
	28th	Just Looking Event at Pastures Church
<b>Oct</b>	1st	Harvest Lunch at the Coffee Stop
	2nd	Downley Village Evening WI
	4th	DCPS AGM at the War Memorial Hall
	7th	DCPS Working Party
	9th	Downley Evening WI
	9th	Parish Council Meeting at the Community Centre
	13th	Tea Dances for the Elderly at St James Church Hall
	15th	Gardening Society talk by Brian Fisher
	20th	War Memorial Hall Quiz Night - "Jubilympics"
	31st	Star Wars theme fancy dress party at the Pastures Church
<b>Nov</b>	2nd	Theatre in the Villages "The Nutcracker", War Memorial Hall
	4th	DCPS Working Party
	5th	Bonfire and Torchlight Procession
	6th	Downley Village Evening WI
	10th	Tea Dances for the Elderly at St James Church Hall
	11th	Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial Hall
	13th	Parish Council Meeting at the War Memorial Hall
	13th	Downley Evening WI
	19th	Gardening Society talk by Jolyon Lea