



**DOWNLEY
COMMUNITY**

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN/WINTER

Village News



Features

- Local Societies
- Around the Area
- Lifestyle
- Downley Diary
- History
- Poetry Corner

Issue 101 / Nov 2014



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Editorial

The Communications team who work hard to put together your local magazine have laboured this Autumn to bring you an issue which we hope does not fall short of the last issue which was an incredible Summer sizzler brimming with content showing the success of the UP FESTIVAL!

This issue sees the return of the math and science inserts and a new poem contribution from a local creative writer and resident. We are always trying to encourage new contributors to pop up and send in their content for the magazine so please do send your contributions into me so I can continue to add interesting and new content to the magazine. Perhaps school age contributors can use the magazine as a way to celebrate a particularly good essay they have produced as part of their English studies by having it published?

Please do look to the pages of the magazine where local groups are asking for interested and active volunteers to help them. Remember a community is only as good as those who club together to make it a strong and functional community so contribute your time if you can.

Thank you to Mr Hamilton who has contributed an enormous amount to this community. We are very grateful to you and hope you will continue your involvement locally. Don't forget you can see everything that is happening over this Christmas period on the web site and Facebook page. Enjoy your Christmas celebrations and we hope you have a Happy New Year!!

Simon Scott Editor



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Downley Day News

After another successful Downley Day, the committee has been able to award a number of grants to local organisations to support their activities.

Grants

These include:

- Downley Descants
- Downley Dynamos
- Guide and Scout Centre
- Lighthouse
- Pastures Church

This is in addition to collections at Downley Day and Concert on the Common in aid of Amber's Wish Fund, the Batten Disease Family Association and the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Christmas Events

Downley will be supporting its by now traditional activities at Christmas including the Christmas Tree at Jubilee Green opposite The Downley Donkey (or maybe Morrisons by the time you read this) and the Community Carol Singing on Sunday 21st Dec at 3.30pm, meeting at Jubilee Green and calling at the Heights Nursing



Home in Langley Close before returning to the Community Centre for mince pies and punch at about 5pm. All are welcome so long as they are in good voice.

Summer Raffle

Talking of Christmas, how often have you received that well-meant but rather unappreciated Christmas present and wondered what to do with it? Well, you now have the opportunity to donate it to Downley Day as a prize in the summer raffle, so if that too large sweater with a picture of a reindeer on the front is cluttering up your wardrobe, get in touch via info@downley.org and we will take it off your hands.

Bill Thompson, Chairman

Downley Scout & Guides

Please contact us if you would like the opportunity of becoming a Leader of scouts or girl guides centre in Downley. We do want local people to be involved with the activities.

**For more information please email margaret.stagg@tesco.net
We look forward to hearing from you.**

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Coffee Stop News

It has been another successful few months for The Coffee Stop. We were surprised and delighted by the generous gift of a donation from the Estate of our late customer and friend, Pauline Seagrove, she was a very quiet lady who loved her regular outings to us and to the Link Lunches who were also remembered.



getting Christmas presents and exploring the many shops that are adjacent to the garden centre as well as a good place for a meal.

The now traditional Harvest Lunch was very well received and extraordinarily good value at £7 for a two course meal with drinks, coffee and tea, mints and a raffle ticket, it was much enjoyed by all and luckily we have kept a record of the food we had so can repeat the success in future. I think it will be in order to thank everyone involved for the magnificent spread. Jenny's apple pies are particularly requested and appreciated!

As our last trip to Bicester was most enjoyable so we are going again in November. It is a great opportunity for

As I have said before, there is no committee and all helpers have an equal voice at our meetings but some people stand out for going the extra mile and we owe huge thanks to Pat for hosting our meetings and keeping us to the point in discussions as well as the admin of organising the rota, newsletters and outings. It would be lovely to have more helpers to join our merry band. We are not getting any younger! If you are new to the village and want to make friends quickly, or recently retired and want to catch up with old acquaintances there is no better way to get into the heart of the community. Thank you to all the many people who help us and to the customers who are so appreciative.

Ann Buxton

01494 522118 pabuxton@hotmail.com

DOWNLEY VILLAGE EVENING WI

2015 will be an eventful year for all WI's in this our Centenary Year.

National, County and Local WI's have many activities planned for this historic year. Downley Village Evening have speakers booked each month at their monthly meetings talking on a variety of subjects. Social and special events for 2015 are planned. Although not 100 years old we at DVE will be 45 years and have a steady membership of around 30.

We meet the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.45 pm at the Community Centre in School Close. Do come along and find out what the modern WI is all about, look beyond the Jam and Jerusalem to the vibrant, fun loving organization that we are. We also have our serious side debating current issues.

DVE extend a warm welcome to visitors and potential new members.

Contact Pat Heath President DVE 01494 535998 or check out the posters around the village each month.

Please note we are a separate WI from our friends Downley Evening WI who meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at St James' Church.

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Downley Common News

So another great bonfire has come and gone. The observant among may have noticed that the tree felling programme leading up to bonfire attacked a small clump of cherries at the end of Moor Lane.



The cherry tree is an endemic weed on the Common and it is a constant battle to stop them from taking over. Margins of the woods on Commonside are almost entirely cherry trees and the particular clump that was felled had grown from saplings to about 40 foot tall in about twenty years.

Mature trees can grow to 30m but only live for up to 60 years. Cherry trees can

propagate themselves by root suckers hence their propensity to spread all over the Common. So down they came and the trunks are now awaiting a more useful role as posts around the edges of the Common to prevent vehicular access.



Mannings Pond

The restoration work on Mannings Pond is now complete. The remaining branches from the felled oak have been removed and the sweet grass in the south side and the reed mace (previously known as bulrushes) on the north side has been cut back.

There are still some overhanging branches which we may need to cut back if they drop too many leaves into the pond. This will form part of the ongoing maintenance which will be required to stop the pond falling back into a state of disorder.



Sunflower Competition

The competition for the tallest sunflower that started at Downley Day was too close to call so we have awarded prizes to the top three entries, namely, **Lorna Murray**, **Mike Dean** and **Ron Moss**.

Bill Thompson
DCPS Committee Secretary.



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The Downley School – Oct 2014

There has been all sorts of exciting learning going on at The Downley School this new school year!



Our Values Based curriculum continues to inspire everyone. We ended the last school year with a focus on the value of 'Pride' and started this New Year with 'Confidence' followed by 'Tolerance'. Exploring a value in depth each month has such a positive impact on learning and behaviour throughout the school – and we often hear from members of the community who notice how respectful and helpful our pupils are. We have a lot to be proud of!

Along with a new national curriculum which has been introduced by the government, we have introduced 'Project Based Learning' this year. Each year group works on a project which has a specific outcome at the end of it. The outcome is shared with a wider audience in some way. Over the last half term, Year 1 created a public Art Gallery with the theme of 'Ourselves' to showcase their wonderful artwork. Year 2's project was Harvest. They led a Harvest Festival to the school, parents and Downley's senior citizens. Year 3 studied Ancient China and showcased their learning with a 'China Day and Games Exhibition'. Year 4 have been inspired by their Roman project and visited the Verulamium Museum in St Alban's. Their outcome is much anticipated next half term as they work towards creating their Roman Army Formation! Year 5's project was Native America and they held an evening 'Pow Wow' in the Dell. Year six were film makers - we're all very much looking forward to the red carpet premiere of their work very soon.

This way of learning is proving to be highly motivational to the children as they 'drive' their projects; we have seen the most amazing learning taking place this term.

As well as working hard in lessons, our sports enthusiasts have been working very hard in their chosen sports. Football matches, tournaments, netball clubs and a cross country event have been very well attended. All of our sports children have done their very best and been great team players.

We have been extremely grateful to volunteers this school year. We are very much in need of more and would welcome members of the community to help out with all sorts of activities. We now provide a huge number of hot lunches and need more volunteers to help out at lunchtimes in our Diner. We always welcome volunteers to help out in the classrooms and also help to run clubs. If you have any skills you may like to share, or time which you can give on a regular basis, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact our school office on **01494 527033** or email **office@downley.bucks.sch.uk**

Thank you to everyone who gives their support to our school in any way at all. We are looking forward to another great year of learning, growing and succeeding together!

Mrs Webb, Headteacher

Continued on page 12...

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...Continued from page 11

How the summer term finished.

At the end of last term we were delighted to be involved in The Downley Up! Festival. Our production of 'Romeo and Juliet' was a sell out! The local community were awed by how professional our Year 6 actors were. There was hardly a dry eye in the house by the end! We also hosted 'Bec and Tom's Awesome Laundry' children's show, a Music Evening and our Year 5 pupils participated in 'Art on the Common'. I know many of our pupils and their families enjoyed lots of other events around the village as well during these three fabulous weeks! Well done and thank you to the organisers of the Up! Festival.

During the final term Downley School received an award from Dr Neil Hawkes who presented us with the International Values-based Education Trust quality mark in May. Dr Hawkes is the founder of Values Based Education and nothing made me more proud than when he visited, toured the school, talked to staff and children, and said he could feel that a values based curriculum was strongly embedded throughout every area in the school. Aply, our final focus value of the year was 'Pride' and I couldn't be more proud of everyone within our school.

Downley Evening WI

Second Tuesday in the month at 7.45pm in St. James' Church, Plomer Hill.

Right, so autumn is upon us and the nights are drawing in but Downley Evening WI members are still busy with all sorts of activities. Since our last bulletin, we have organised and hosted a countryside ramble followed by a delicious homemade lunch to which members from across Bucks were invited. The weather was reasonably kind and the walkers enjoyed the views towards West Wycombe and the insights they were offered into the history of the Park. Some of us have learnt how to produce beautiful dyed silk scarves at one of our regular craft evenings whilst others have pursued a variety of courses offered by the WI's own educational establishment, Denman College. Our September meeting saw us welcoming back a former president, Pat Trunkfield, who demonstrated the art of flower arranging whilst entertaining us with fascinating reminiscences of her many years as a member. Our AGM in October was an opportunity for learning about the Neighbourhood Watch system with lots of good advice for keeping our homes and ourselves safe.

Coming up in November, local history

expert, Mike Dewey, is going to talk to us about what it was like to shop in High Wycombe during the 50s, 60s and 70s. That should be good. Life has changed so much in the last 40 years. We're also looking forward to a quiz in the community centre. Our programme for next year is equally interesting and entertaining and we kick off in January with a talk about Roald Dahl's wartime activities, long before he began writing his children's books.

But first there's Christmas and here's a date for your diary: Thursday, 4th December, 8pm. That's our annual evening of light-hearted Christmas music and readings with Angelicus, under the direction of Louise Child. All are welcome! We meet in St. James' Church as usual. Tickets are £5 each and include mulled wine and mince pies. It's always a great evening and will get your Christmas off to a flying start! Call Rosemary on HW 538966 for more information or to book tickets. We look forward to seeing you there.



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News from Downley Pharmacy

A new way to get your medicines

The Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) is an NHS service. It gives you the chance to change how your GP sends your prescription to the place you choose to get your medicines from. At present all pharmacies are able to receive the prescriptions but not all surgeries are able to send them. However as we move into 2015 more surgeries will 'go live'.

What does this mean for you?

If you collect your repeat prescriptions from your GP you will not have to visit your GP practice to pick up your paper prescription. Instead, your GP will send it electronically to the place you choose, saving you time. You will have more choice about where to get your medicines from because they can be collected from a pharmacy near to where you live, work or shop. If timing is right the medication will be made up ready for collection, so less waiting at the pharmacy.

You need to choose a place for your practice to electronically send your prescription to. This is called nomination. Ask your preferred pharmacy or GP practice to add your nomination for you. You don't need a computer to do this. If you don't want your prescription to be sent electronically tell your GP. Your pharmacy will ask you to sign a consent form. Beware of signing any forms should you visit a pharmacy other than your preferred one as that could reset the system and result in all future prescriptions being sent there. If you want to change or cancel your nomination speak to any pharmacy or your GP practice. Tell them before your next prescription is due or your prescription may be sent to the wrong place.

Security of personal information can be a concern for some. Your electronic prescription will be seen by the same people in GP practices, pharmacies and NHS prescription payment and fraud agencies that see your paper prescription now. It is also worth noting that it is only the prescription and the repeat slip, NOT all your personal medical notes and information, that is seen in the pharmacy.

Benefits

If you collect repeat prescriptions you will not have to visit your GP practice just to pick up your paper prescription. Choose where your prescriptions are sent, whether near your home, where you shop or where you work. This is flexible and can be changed at any time, just let your doctor or pharmacy know.

If your GP offers a telephone or video consultation, there's no need to leave the house just to collect your prescription as it will be sent electronically to your chosen pharmacy for collection. No need to send stamped addressed envelopes as prescriptions are sent electronically. Repeat medication can still be ordered in the same way via the internet if your surgery is on that system, or by submitting your repeat slip to the surgery, or your preferred pharmacy to organise for you.

What happens when you visit the Doctor for an appointment?

In this scenario the Doctor may ask you where you prefer your prescription to be sent or may just print a prescription for you to take away as is the current system. If it is sent electronically there may be a time delay or possibly the pharmacy will need to press the button at their end to download. The system is not paperless as the pharmacy will print a white copy instead of the GP green version. In all scenarios we hope that you will choose Downley Pharmacy and that we can continue to offer excellent service and care within the Downley community.

For more information visit www.hscic.gov.uk/epspatients, your pharmacy or GP practice.

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The library was opened by the Parish Council in 2005 following a survey of the residents of Downley. One of the requirements that came from the survey was the setting up of a local library. We have now been in the Old School Community Centre for about nine years. Why not save the journey into town and use our facilities? We have some 5000 books in stock split approximately 50:50 between adult and children's books, and are constantly updating it so you should always find something new to read.

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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 a cost of 75p per copy.

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Iain Rennie Shop Cross Court

Six months after retiring at 63 I needed to do something to keep my brain active. For some time I had been thinking of volunteering, but was not sure how or where.



I had recently lost a good friend who had been supported by Iain Rennie (now Rennie Grove Hospice Care) nurses and I knew other families who had been helped in the same way. I had also heard that they were opening a shop at Cross Court Downley. So I applied to be a volunteer and was accepted.

The shop has now been open for 4 1/2 years. Along with our other shops, all local to Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire, we raise money to provide our own nurses to care for people with life limiting illnesses within their own homes. Many of you will have seen our shop, or our stall at Downley Day, and might well have been pestered by me to buy a raffle ticket. You also might have seen our wonderful window displays arranged by our shop manager Mandy. We have a very happy bunch of male and female volunteers, our youngest is just 14 and our oldest is 75. Most, but not all, of our youngsters start as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and some stay on once they have finished because they enjoy their time with us. Many of us do four hour long sessions once, twice or three times a week or whatever suits us. We come from all walks of life, one of our volunteers sings with the West Wycombe choir, cooks and bakes for a local church. One of the male volunteers is very involved with the scouts. We have a disabled volunteer who comes for a few hours on Thursday, with his carer, who is responsible for our music and film section. We also meet socially, a few of us like to meet in the Indian restaurant next door about once a month for the Wednesday feast night. We all enjoy our yearly Christmas meal at a local pub in December. Once a year in the summer all the

volunteers are invited by head office to a lovely cream tea as a thank you.

As far as possible Mandy allows us to cover the areas we enjoy most. I myself love the sorting, steaming and all the back room hustle and bustle. Other people prefer the more social side of the shop and work at the till. We have all made many new friends amongst the volunteers, donators and customers.

We are always looking for new volunteers, so if you have a few hours to spare please pop in and talk to Mandy. She works every day except every other Tuesday and Saturday. If anyone has any goods to donate we would love to have them, it's very easy to drop them off as we have lots of parking at the front of the shop. If your donation is heavy you could park at the back of the shop and knock on the door there and we'll come and help you. It would help if you could bring all donations between 9.00 and 4.00, any day except Sunday. We will accept most things, clothes, books, shoes, bags, toys and bric-a-brac, as well as small items of furniture and small electrical goods. Unfortunately we cannot accept TV's, video's, video machines, computer equipment, large furniture and large electrical goods.

Proceeds or donations will go to helping our nurses provide care for local people in their own homes. I work Monday mornings and all day most Saturdays, pop in to say hello when you are passing. Or come to our next event, Late Night Christmas Shopping on Friday 21st November 2014, when will have some mulled wine and nibbles waiting for you.

See you soon, Liz Busby



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St.James dialog

I can't quite believe it's that time of year again, when our thoughts turn to Christmas.

I know family Christmases can be difficult, frantic at times. It can bring up memories of loss, pain, and bad times. Christmas also comes with expectations to be the perfect loving family. We may have to spend more time with our extended families. We may be dealing with stressful financial, health, or relationship issues.

The Serenity Prayer written in 1943 by Reinhold Niebuhr, offers a simple solution for helping us out this Christmas Season. It reads: GOD GRANT ME THE SERENITY TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I CANNOT CHANGE, COURAGE TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN, AND THE WISDOM TO KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

So how can we apply the Serenity Prayer to make our holidays happier and calmer? We can ask God to help us accept people, places, and things as they are! Stop wishing they were different! Instead accept the people in our lives, for who they are. Then look at ourselves and see what we can do to make Christmas better, and then do it.

This may mean, saying no to things we don't want to do, letting go of guilt for not pleasing people, doing what we would like to do instead

of what we have to do. We don't have to have a frantic Christmas. God is waiting to grant us serenity, all we have to do is ask, accept, and act.

Dates for the Diary from St James Church

December 21st

11am Lessons & Carols, (*No Eucharist*)

Christmas Eve

4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

10.30am All Age Service with Communion

December 28th

11am Carol Praise

Burns Night Quiz

Friday 23rd January

Teams of up to 8, supper is provided but bring your own drinks.

Contact Alison on:

524213 for more information.

Whatever you're doing this Christmas, may it be a Blessed and peaceful time.

Blessings, Revd Alison Finch

Downley Descants Community Choir

BUT I CAN'T SING!

Christmas 2013 was over. The last chorus of Silent Night had been sung - post Christmas doldrums had set in as we settled back at work. We should take something up, Julia and I decided. How about a choir? Julia had been googling and found the Downley Descants. But I can't sing, so my husband says.

An email was sent. Very quickly Lynn replied. Come along and give us a try. By the way the first meeting is going to be at the Le De Spencers Arms - well that sounded promising. So Julia and I went along and met Lynn, Bob, Julian and others including another new recruit. "We can't really sing or read music" we said. Don't worry come along anyway and try each section,



Continued on page 22..

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jillburrell@rocketmail.com



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...Continued from page 21

soprano, alto, tenor until you find the one that suits you best or we can guide you, they reassured us. The next Thursday we strolled into the Sunnybank Church a little apprehensively. There were sopranos, altos, tenors – and those of us with no idea where we fitted in. We were welcomed by warm, friendly, and a few familiar, smiles. Music was handed out – West Side Story, a Beatles medley and Hallelujah. Quite a mix. By the time the evening was over we both knew we had made the right choice.

Louise, who also conducts the Wycombe Male Orpheus choir, plays piano, conducts, cajoles and encourages this choir to be the best it can, all in the lovely setting of a village church. If there is a performer in you, there are concerts to do – Downley Day and a Musical evening at Maplewood School as part of “Up Downley!” in 2014. If public singing brings out the Fear rather than the X Factor in you, then just come along and sing for your own enjoyment and rest assured you will enjoy it – come on - you can sing you know!

The Downley Descants meet at 8pm on Thursdays at Sunnybank Church. No auditions required. You can come and sing for free for 2 weeks before you make up your mind and the termly fees are very reasonable.

Contact Lyn / Bob Cook on 01494 436063 (grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk) or Julian on 01494 440430 for more information.

Jackie - Alto and Julia - Soprano

Downley Community Centre In association with Downley Parish Council Plans for 2014

The Downley Community Centre is now ready to go ahead with the overhaul of the roof over the old part of the Community Centre building, thanks to a grant from The Veolia Environmental Trust and some additional finance coming from the local community.

The £40,000 project has been made possible by a grant of £32,000 awarded to Downley by Veolia from the Landfill Communities Fund, topped up with equal amounts from Downley Parish Council and DOSCA, the charity that runs the centre.

The work entails the removal of all the tiles on the original Victorian roof, installing modern insulation in the ceiling before retiling and replacing the old roof lights and flashings.

Work will start this month and will be complete by Christmas.



The building work will cause some disruption, but please rest assured that we will do everything possible to keep this to a minimum. All visitors should be able to continue using the building whilst this is going on.

*The Downley Community
Centre Committee.*

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Chameleon Singles Group

Our final programme of the year has just been published and with the festive season almost upon us Christmas events will dominate December.



Indeed we have three events – Lunch, a Dinner / Dance and an at home get-together so there is no excuse for missing out! However we still have our regular and most popular events taking place in both November & December such as the Lunch Club, Meet & Greet Evening and Pub Nights. However the December Pub Night will be held on Monday 29th as the last Friday falls on Boxing Day.

Our “Meet & Greet” evenings run monthly for potential new members to meet current members and find out more. These are usually held on the second Wednesday of the month at O’Neill’s in High Wycombe from 7-9pm. It’s a perfect location perhaps for popping in after work and easily accessible for those who do not have transport as the bus & rail stations are nearby.

As several of our members are interested in live music we regularly visit Dusty’s Blues Club at Holmer Green Sports Club. Also from time to time we visit the theatre and cinema when there is a play, musical or film of wider interest. Events over the last few months include a visit to the Rebellion Brewery, Day trip to the Leighton Buzzard Railway, Take-away evening at home, Chinese meal, Friday Lunch Club and Pub night. There is always a lot going on with around seven different events each month both at

various local venues and at member’s homes. All are organised by members acting as hosts and to them all we are very grateful as without organisers there would be no Chameleon.

Our Meet & Greet and Pub Nights are a great place to meet up and you would be very welcome to come along and join us for a drink. There is food available if you wish to eat and many members take that opportunity at our Pub Night event.

Our membership includes a number of local people from Downley, West Wycombe, Sands and surrounding areas. If you are single, 40 – 60’s, looking for a great social life and new friends then why not give us a try?

There are no strangers at Chameleon, just new friends to be made in a social group run by and for its members. To find out more call one of our membership secretaries Heike 01494 – 459246 or Joyce 01494 – 817895 or e-mail: chameleon_bucks@tiscali.co.uk. Visit us on-line at www.bucksvoice.net/chameleon for more information and an events listing.



Le De Spencers Arms



As the nights draw in the Le De is the perfect place to relax in. Our open fire and low beamed ceilings provide a warm and cosy atmosphere in which to enjoy home cooking and award winning beers and wines.

We welcome ramblers and cyclists throughout the year. Groups frequently pre-order meals before setting out to be sure of their preferred refreshments on their return. When booked in we can make our car park available to groups who want to set out before opening time. You will find trail maps on our website.

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Simply Walk



For some years now, a group of local volunteers have been leading local walks on Monday at 10.00 am. We meet at the Old School Community Centre and enjoy circular walks of about 90 minutes amidst our beautiful countryside. We all tell each other how lucky we are to have the beech woods, the Common, the open farmland, the uplifting views across the valleys towards Hughenden and West Wycombe and the wider views of Wycombe. In the normal run of daily life, it can be easy to miss these things.

Our group of walkers has grown and we now regularly get 30-40 walkers throughout the year, come rain or shine! We get the chance to enjoy the exercise in the fresh air with the pleasure of walking with others and the chance to catch up on with what's going on, a chinwag, a laugh and a cup of tea or coffee afterwards in the community hall.

We began to think it was time to share this with a wider audience, so we started a new 1 hour Thursday walk, meeting at 11.00 am avoiding the steeper slopes and stiles. This walk is suitable for those who may or may not have been regular walkers in the past, or anyone who doesn't want to walk on their own. We are a very friendly group of mostly retired people who want to keep fit, but we also have younger walkers. During the summer we have all generations joining us – good for the

kids and good for the parents/grandparents!

All leaders are trained volunteers and part of Simply Walk, the local health walk scheme supported by Bucks County Council (www.buckscc.gov.uk/simplywalk) and also part of the national Walking for Health scheme. Each walk has a leader and one or more back markers – making this a safe and sociable way to get your exercise.

If you would like to come and join us, please turn up 15 minutes before the walk starts, fill in a simple form, walk! And it's free! If you would like more information please ring me on 01494 527004

Jeanne Steward

JILL'S MATHS FOR FUN - ANSWERS ON PAGE 53

No particular theme to today's maths, just a triplet of straight forward problems to activate your inner calculator. A piece of paper and a pen are your friend for these. As always, no electronics -there's no fun in that!

Resist the urge to grab a calculator. Solution on page 57

Question 1

A tree increases in height by 50% each year for 5 years after its height is first measured. The first measurement is 1m. What is the final measurement to the nearest metre?

Question 2

I shuffle three packs of standard playing cards together (no jokers); in doing so I drop six red cards on the floor (I'm a nifty card shuffler, but three packs is a big ask for anyone). The cards remain on the floor, as it would (welcome to my World). I then choose one card at random from the face-down packs. What is the percentage probability that the card I choose is a spade?

Question 2

If these sums are correct (which they are) $24 + 4 = 32$, $3 \times 4 = 20$ and $30 \div 2 = 15$

What is the answer to: $43 + 3 =$

BY JILL BLURRELL

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PARENT, TODDLER & BABY GROUP

Volunteers urgently needed to co-ordinate
this very successful and friendly group.

Established several years ago the group has seen many babies and toddlers
pop-in for fun and play and then progress into other play groups.

The tasks of the co-ordinator are minimal; mainly a point of contact
between the group and the Community Centre.

The cupboards are crammed full of toys just waiting to be enjoyed so if
you would like to be involved please contact:

David Worsdall, Chairman of Downley Community Centre at
worsdall@compuserve.com tel HW 526541
or Chettina Masters on 07704 535 729

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

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Downley Diary events

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the big annual events, you'll find them all here!*

CLUBS societies show NO art starts BOOKS
GO you display exercise people
DATE TALKS GIG FETE concert

Round-up of Regular Activities

Aerobics	Tues 6.30pm	Community Centre
Art Club	Thurs 9.30am	St James Hall
Art Group - term time	Mon & Tues 10am - 12.00	Community Centre
BCC Parenting Course	Tues 9am	St James Hall
Bible Study Group	Wed 7.30pm - 9.30pm	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 11am - 1pm	St James Hall
Community Library	Mon, Sat 10am, Thurs 3pm	Community Centre
Craft Group	1st Tues 10am - 12.00	Community Centre
Dance Classes for Young People	Mon pm & evening	Sunnybank Hall
Dance Classes	Tues & Wed Begin's 8pm Inter's 9pm	Community Centre
Dog Training	Tues 6pm	St James Hall
Downley Descants	Thurs evening	Sunnybank Hall
Downley Evening WI	2nd Tues 7.45pm	St James Hall
Downley Wine & Beer Club	2nd Wed 8pm	Community Centre
Downley Village Evening WI	1st Tues 7.45pm	Community Centre
Downley Youth Club	Mon 7pm	St James Hall
Fencing Training	Wed 5.30pm	War Memorial 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
Karate (Shotokan)	Wed 7.30pm	War Memorial Hall
Lace Making - term time	Thurs 12.45pm -2.45pm	Community Centre

Round-up of Regular Activities ...continued

Line Dancing	Tues from 12.45pm, Fri from 10.00am	Community Centre
Links Lunches	Fri 10.30am	St James Hall
Meditation	1st Wed 7.45pm - 9.25	Community Centre
Mums & Toddlers Group - term time	Mon 9.30 - 11.30am	Community Centre
Nozee Parka	Wed 10am	St James Hall
Patchwork Craft Group	1st Tues 10am - 12.00	Community Centre
Philatelic Club	Alternate Thurs 7.30pm	St James Hall
Pilates for beginners - term time	Wed 9.30am & 12pm	Community Centre
Pilates - term time	Thurs 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Community Centre
Simply Walk	Mon 10am - 11am (12 Coffee)	Community Centre
Sing & Sign - term time	Thurs 9.15am & 12.15pm	Community Centre
(Downley) Spiritual Centre	1st & 3rd Fri 6.30pm - 10pm	Community Centre
Tai Chi – for Arthritis (term time)	Wed 10.45pm	Community Centre
Tai Chi	Wed 6.45pm	Community Centre
Tai Chi	Thurs am	Sunnybank Hall
Tiger Martial Arts	Mon 5pm	War Memorial Hall
Wargamers	Mon 6.45pm - 9.45pm	Community Centre
Weightwatchers	Thurs 5.30pm	St James Hall
Yoga	Fri 9.15am (Starts September)	War Memorial Hall
Yoga	Wed 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Community Centre
Ukulele	4th Thurs 10am - 12pm	Community Centre
Zest for Life	Mon 8pm	Community Centre
Zumba	Mon 8pm	War Memorial Hall

Clubs Societies Schools - Promote your event here for FREE!

“We,” who come together to create the DVN need more volunteers to deliver the DVN magazines around the distribution area within Downley. Normally this consists of one street or part of one if the street is very long. It takes only about an hour of your time. At the moment we have no reserve volunteers to cover for holidays or sickness.

**Please get in touch with Teresa or Des Ryan
on H.W. 520938 or e-mail at desmond.ryan@tiscali.co.uk.
Thank you in advance.**

Words for the Wounded are holding a LITFEST DAY at Downley Community Centre on 18th April 10.00 - 5.00 to raise funds for the recovery of wounded troops.

Margaret Graham of Downley, founder of WforW and author, will be in conversation with KATIE FFORDE. We will have two Midsomer Murder writers, as well as Penny Deacon, crime writer, Sarah Taylor of the Kate Nash Literary Agency, and a self-publishing panel.

The fee is £50 including lunch with a glass of wine, and refreshments, and a chance to network and chat to the authors.

**For tickets and information: www.wordsforthewounded.co.uk
or email: administrator@wordsforthewounded.co.uk or contact Margaret on 01494 630713**

The WforW writing competitions will close on 11 March 2015. If you have self-published a book, or like to write poetry, short fiction or memoir we have competitions for you.
www.wordsforthewounded.co.uk

Downley Parish Council Meeting Dates

All meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday every month.
*Up to 30 minutes are allowed for public questions.
Agendas are posted on the Parish Council notice boards at least 4 days in advance.*

Held alternate months at:

War Memorial Hall 7.45 pm

January, March, May, July, September and November

Downley Community Centre, School Close 7.45 pm

February, April, June, August, October and December

Agendas are posted on the Parish Council notice boards at least 4 days in advance. Copies of the Parish Council's Minutes are available at the Downley Community Library for residents to read. They are also included on the Parish Council Website.

The Clerk (Chris Hamilton) can be contacted on H.W. 462195

Or by email at : downley_pc@tiscali.co.uk

Volunteers Needed

Chilworth Care is looking for individuals to volunteer their time to help run the activity programme for elderly people and adults with learning disabilities who attend its day centre in High Wycombe.

Please offer us a few hours of your time if you are able to spare it.

For more information please contact Gina McHugh on 01494 523 480 - Thank You

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 County Council)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.

For all other roads in Downley, please report outages to the Clerk via phone on H.W. 462195 OR via "e" mail to downley_pc@tiscali.co.uk

Downley Parish Notice Boards

Please note that the 9 Parish Council notice boards can be used to display notices for Downley based organisations provided that at least 4 weeks notice is given. Please drop off notices at the old post office in an envelope addressed to Downley Parish Council.

Please ensure that A.5 size notices are supplied.

Up & Coming... *Please visit Downley.org for all the latest and up to date events and news.*

- Dec**
- 5 Xmas Concert - Wycombe Concert Band & Accidental Harmonies
Maplewood School at 7.45pm
 - 6 Downley School Christmas Fayre at the Downley School at 11am
 - 8 Coffee Stop Christmas Party at St James Church Hall 11a.m. till 1pm
 - 8 Downley Gardening Club meeting talk by Betty Page – comic monologues using hats
 - 9 Parish Council meeting at the Downley Community Centre
 - 19 MFU plays live at the Le De Spencers Arms from 9pm
 - 21 Sunnybank Carol Service at Moor Lane at 9.30am
 - 21 Lessons and Carols at St James At 11am, with play from Kids Church, No Eucharis
 - 21 Community Carols around the village, meet at Jubilee Green at 3.30pm
 - 24 St James Crib Service at 4pm
 - 24 St James Midnight Mass at 11.30pm
 - 25 Sunnybank Chrustmas Day service at Moor Lane at 10am
 - 25 ST James Carol Praise at 11am
 - 31 New Year's Party at the LeDe £5 per ticket - first drink free
 - 31 New Year Beacon Lighting On Commonsides at 11.45pm
- Jan**
- 13 Parish Council meeting at the War Memorial Hal

Skate Park In Downley

Following a previous community survey which highlighted interest for a facility that would cater for BMX bikes and skateboards, a skate park was suggested but a number of local residents were left disappointed when nothing happened.



Downley currently has a children's play park in School Close, football pitches at Mannings field and a basketball court at the rear of St James Church. There is no outdoor facility for all age groups to use their skateboards, scooters or BMX's.

A new campaign started this October and already there is a great deal of interest from local residents for a skate park that would cater for all age groups of varying skill levels to enjoy their skateboards, scooters and BMX's.

The location for this type of facility has not yet been identified, previous proposals suggested an area of land at the rear of St James Church (next to the basketball court) or in the corner of Mannings field where the football pitches are.

From comments made on the 'Downley Skate Park' facebook page it would seem that parents would prefer this type of facility to be located in an open space where the children using it could be seen and also to deter any anti-social behaviour.

Noise levels would need to be considered too, so an area that would not be too close to residential homes but still central enough for all Downley residents to access and use would be ideal.

For further information and to give your feedback/comments please visit the Facebook page – Downley Skate Park - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Downley-Skate-Park/1546695948894402>

Chris Hamilton Retires as Parish Clerk

Chris Hamilton, the Clerk of Downley Parish for the last 20 years marked his impending retirement at a party held at the Community Centre on 9th November.

At a crowded send-off attended by over 50 friends and colleagues, Chris was presented with the award of Clerk of the Year by Barry Gay, Parish Council Chairman in recognition of his many years' service. The award was conferred by the Society of Local Council Clerks.

In addition, Don Murray presented him with a hand-crafted wooden bowl, turned from Downley Common Oak that had been through last year's bonfire. This fitting memento full of local content was presented on behalf of the Parish Council in recognition of his significant contribution to the local community.



Chris will be succeeded by Chettina Masters who can be contacted at: downley_pc@tiscali.co.uk

Downley Community Centre
The Old School/ Library

Sweaty Betties
Aerobics



Every Tuesday 6.30pm – 7.30pm
1st Session Free, £5 thereafter

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News from Wycombe and Westminster

Steve Baker MP

The last few months have been very troubling on the international stage. We have witnessed unrest in many parts of the globe particularly in the Middle East and have also seen the outbreak of Ebola in Africa. I know many of my constituents take a close interest in what goes on in the world and compassionately try to alleviate suffering.



I was moved to learn from a recent study that my constituents are among the most generous in the country for giving to charity. I am not surprised as I know many people contribute to worthy causes giving time, money and effort to help those in their immediate community and wider afield.

At the beginning of October I published ideas I have found to give people access to better and easier round-the-clock emergency care at Wycombe hospital. If you would like to read the report for yourself you can find it on my website: <http://www.stevebaker.info/2014/10/the-future-of-wycombe-hospital> It is worth remembering that Wycombe Hospital currently treats all stroke and heart attack patients from across the county and parts of Berkshire and is a centre of excellence for stroke care. I want the NHS to build on this so that any patient can come to Wycombe hospital in an emergency at any time of the day or night and be treated in the most effective way possible. It is interesting that NHS England has recently issued a report giving its five year view on the future of the NHS, and it particularly highlights the need to integrate care between A&E departments, GP out-of-hours services, urgent care centres, NHS 111 and the ambulance service. I endorse this view, and hope that local NHS commissioners and providers in Bucks will find a way to give people peace of mind

which comes from local healthcare and clarity about accessing it.

At a national level, I am playing my part to secure Britain's future, both on the Treasury Select Committee and also by voting for policies which I believe are in the interests of the country and its people. I have been heartened by the recent good news on the economic figures which show fewer people are relying on benefits and more have the security of work. There is still much more the government has to do to secure this country's long-term future, where families who work hard have a meaningful job and a decent standard of living, and where the economy has stability which in turn means people aren't afraid of losing their job, their home or their savings.

On a final note, staff in my constituency office tell me they have dealt with over 1,000 individual constituent cases in the last year, and have around 400 cases open at the moment. I am pleased to have been of service to so many of you. If you too are trying to cut through government bureaucracy which has driven you to the point of distraction, you are welcome to ring the constituency office on **01494 448408** or drop me an email at **steve.baker.mp@parliament.uk**

Steve Baker, MP



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News from the District

Housing: Consideration is being given to releasing the reserve sites, Terriers Farm; Abbey Barn North and South; Gomm Valley and Ashwells; and Slate Meadow to ensure the district complies with the requirement to meet a five year supply of land for housing.

Releasing the sites in a controlled and proactive manner will enable a development brief to be designed for each of them to get the best out of the sites, and help prevent speculative planning applications coming forward from developers which do not meet the brief in terms of open space, quality and infrastructure planning. If the sites are released, a liaison group for each site will be formed to ensure community involvement. The Local Plan consultation responses and further information is available at www.wycombe.gov.uk/newlocalplan.

The steel framework for the new Sports and Leisure Centre at Handy Cross is now up, the new centre is planned to be open in Autumn 2015 followed by new flagship office accommodation, a new store, hotel and a coach way park & ride. This re-development is contributing to WDC exceeding the creation and retaining of jobs by over 50% for the District.

The Day Opportunities Centre, one of six in Buckinghamshire, now has planning permission and an application for an 'Extracare' older persons residential complex is due to be considered in late October. Construction of the 'green corridor' linking these new developments on the old Compair site is due to start in late 2014. This long redundant site will provide housing, employment and a safe and pleasing route from the town out to Hughenden Park.

Paul's Row is having refurbishment works to make this part of Wycombe a better place, and a lot of thought has recently gone into Frogmoor. There are some exciting plans coming forward, backed by a commitment by WDC to see Frogmoor improve. I will keep you updated as the plans become clearer and timescales (sooner rather than later) are announced.

By the time this edition is published, I understand that Morrisons will have opened their doors. I completely understood the opposition to this new store and spoke in defence of the local community after 'calling in' the application, at the planning committee when we felt that we had no say, due to the policy on permitted development, over what happened. My concern remains about the on-going viability of our existing local shops. However, there are 2,000 households in Downley & Plomer Hill, if every household were to support their two local convenience shops and spend just a small percentage of their weekly shopping budget (think how easy that would be) in addition to ordering newspapers and buying the weekly lottery ticket, I am sure this would go a long way to ensure these respected locally owned and run shops have a future in the village. They will not close because people mainly shop in Morrisons (or other supermarkets), they will close because no-one uses them at all.

As Chairman of Wycombe Almshouses (some of you may just remember them when they were in Easton Street – they are now in Bowerdean Road), I am always keen to hear from anyone who may themselves, or know of someone else who may, be interested in becoming a resident. Please contact me if you would like further information.

Best wishes, Paul

Cllr Paul Turner
Downley & Plomer Hill
07825 842292
paul_turner@wycombe.gov.uk

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Cressex Community School

An important piece of news to share with the readers of The Downley Village News is that, just before the last Summer holidays, we were visited by a team of inspectors from Ofsted. We were very pleased to have the good practice we know we have worked hard to develop acknowledged.

We have now formally been recognised as a “good” school. In particular, inspectors noted that:

- Students develop good knowledge, skills and understanding in most subjects and particularly in mathematics.
- The improvement in students’ achievement is a direct result of the school’s drive to improve learning and teaching.
- Students enjoy a rich range of learning experiences to match their abilities and interests.
- Students work hard and behave well. The school is a harmonious community where students get on well and are respectful of each other and of adults.
- Relationships between staff and students are a strength of the school and have a positive impact on students’ learning and behaviour.
- The sixth-form course run for a small group of students is outstanding.
- The school’s leaders have established a strong climate for learning, which has led to improvements in the quality of teaching and examination results for students.
- Governors understand the school well.

The report has led to some welcome, positive coverage in both the local and the national press. An article in the Bucks Free Press “The rise and rise of Cressex Community School” (12 September 2014) highlighted the school’s journey over recent years. You can still access this article via the newspaper’s website.

Another article in The Independent (2 October 2014) focused on Cressex as a “Cooperative School”. Here is an extract:

“Cressex can certainly testify that the [cooperative] approach raises standards – its English GCSE results improved this year against a background of national decline, with 54 per cent of pupils getting A*- to C-grade passes. It has also been rated as “outstanding” by the education-standards watchdog for its maths [...] and its sixth-form provision [...].”

I should also add that “expected progress” figures in both English and maths are higher than the national average and that this year’s results in the sixth form meant that students’ average grade for the courses they took was Distinction (equivalent to grade A/B at A level).

Meanwhile, day to day, we remain focused on ensuring that the students who come here – including the 152 new Year 7s who joined us in September – have the most positive experience of secondary education we can provide. As ever, if you would like to come and see Cressex for yourself, please make an appointment to visit. We would be very pleased to see you.

David Hood, Headteacher

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J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints Winter 2014

Wal me old mates, how's yor autumn now that mists and mellow fruitfulness is here? (I remembers that from school I reckon). Wal, the apples have been blown orf the trees and right now it's bucketing down with rain, so it's a good time to sort out the autumn and winter jobs.

Get yor bulbs a planted and don't forget that crocus, aconites and them little cyclamens are good for bees in the Spring, if there's a bit of warmth about, (some hopes!). Then beddin' plants like pansies, violas and wallflowers are good, get 'em in the earlier the better. Them bloomin' muntjac eats mine, ideas please for keeping 'em orf?. My French cousin he ses that we're soft on wildlife, they eats the lot, 'Fancy a robin pie or red kite stew?', he ses to me via the inter web.

'What about the veg then?' ses Mrs H, so out I goes to the cold frames and sows some baby leaf spinach, kale for the new leaves, and some mixed salad seeds, get a packet from the garden centre, get it goin' on the window cill, (if yor allowed to..eh?). Then it's a big tidy up, (leavin' the seed heads for winter feed for the birds). And get yor mower cleaned and oiled up, nothin' worse that a rusted up mower in April next...I bet some of you forgets! Then there's chutney to make, orl sorts, lovely with some cheese and a drop of Downley cider.

And what about the Downley scarecrows, weren't they good? But crows, did you know that if you sees a flock of crows, they're rooks, and if you see a single rook it's a crow! 'Errr, wot do you mean?' ses my mate from

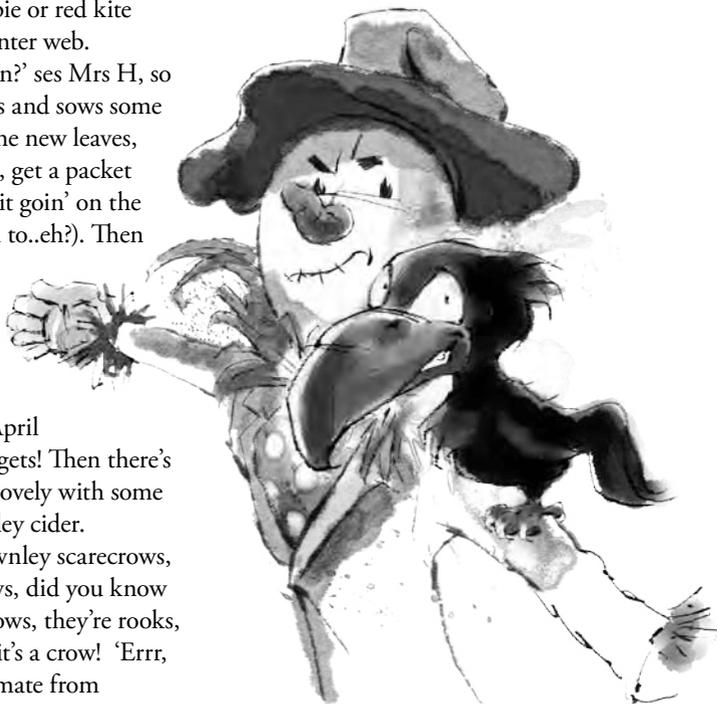
Naphill, he's still tryin' to work that out!

Look out for the autumn colours, miles better than them American ones, and if you takes some small beech branches with the autumn leaves and then stand 'em in some glycerine for a while they'll last and last. Mrs H. sometimes goes mad on this, can hardly get in the place for forests of 'em. Then up at the plot I uses carpet strips to keep the weeds down, just raid a skip when you sees some chuck out carpet, and the different colours makes a sort of art work and cheers up the plot in the winter, and it's miles better for diggin' in the spring.

So I reckon that's about it for now, maybe see you up the plot, I'm pullin' leeks at the moment....

Cheerio and a bientot

J.H. sent from my iSpade





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Downley War Memorial Hall

No deaths to report this quarter but there was much going on locally.

Corporal F J Bowler, brother of Joseph Bowler of Downley, was twice wounded and mentioned in Sir John French's dispatches for bravery. Under heavy shell fire he scouted the enemy's position single-handed and gained valuable information. The gallant Corporal made a full recovery and returned to the Front. Incidentally, his brother's grandson Joe Bowler is one of our Trustees.

Private Frederick Brion, Landlord of the Golf Links returned home for a few days from Chelsea Hospital where he had been recovering after being seriously wounded in the Battle of Ypres. Frederick had been called up as a Reserve having spent eight years in the Royal Berkshire Regiment and was one of the first to leave the Village.

He had just finished burying a comrade when he was severely wounded in the hip by shrapnel and fell across a dead soldier. The enemy, thinking he was also dead, passed over him and he lay there for several hours before being picked up and taken to the base hospital. Eventually he reached Woolwich Hospital by which time his hair had grown down to his shoulders! During his thirteen weeks on active service he had only been able to wash three times!

The furniture industry had benefitted from substantial Government orders including over 14,000 chairs with the prospect of more to come for Woolwich Arsenal. In addition, The Director of Army Contracts had issued schedules to local companies for tenders covering:

263,000 Picket posts
20,000 Inventory boards
18,000 Scrubbing brush blocks
10,300 bed-head boards
8,000 Mining cases
2,500 Camp tables
1,300 Chopping boards
1,300 Chopping blocks
1,200 Cradles
1,000 Stools
and numerous smaller lots of wooden ware goods.



More than 5,000 soldiers have been billeted in High Wycombe including men from the Durham Light Infantry, the Rifle Brigade and the Royal Field Artillery.

As well as their Commanding Officer issuing special Licensing Hours for Soldiers it appears that there were complaints about them just wandering around the Town "whilst there was a War going on" as the paper included an article explaining that most of them were recovering from the unpleasant after-effects of typhoid inoculations.

The South Bucks Free Press also reported on the various fundraising activities taking place to support the Belgian refugees and provide cigarettes for the troops.

Continued on page 46...



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...Continued from page 45

The weather featured prominently as well with over 225mm of rain in the five weeks to 4 January 1915 causing the worst flooding of the Thames at Marlow for 20 years. However, at that point it turned very cold with blizzards preventing the soldiers based in the town from resuming training after their Christmas leave.

Finally, Rifleman Munday had written to his parents to tell them about Christmas Day at the front. Along with his colleagues he had joined German soldier between the trenches, exchanging souvenirs of coins and receiving gifts of cigarettes and cigars. He had helped them bury their dead comrades and spoken with one who had worked at Selfridges.



Back in the present day, I am sure that you are all aware of the Poppies at the Tower of London. Each evening at Sunset, the names of 180 servicemen who died in the War are read out. This is followed by a bugler playing The Last Post. The names of the 22 Downley men were included in this small but moving ceremony on 8 October.

At the Hall, the recent appearance of scaffolding has been to enable a surveyor to examine the condition of the timbers and brickwork of the front wall. Having received his report the Trustees are now considering the next step.

Alan Baker
alanbaker49@btinternet.com

Downley Ancestors part 8

A Downley Ancestor and Formula 1 World Champions

Ok, so the title was meant to get attention, but this little bit of family history really only proves that the most surprising links, however remote, are there to be found.

In part 3, I wrote about my 3x Great Grandparents John Joynson and Eunice Shervill who were born in Plomer Hill, then in the Parish of West Wycombe. During some further research into their Joynson descendants there was a marriage of a Great Granddaughter Dorothy A. M. Joynson to an Arthur Hill in 1916. This was a relatively late marriage for Dorothy, but Arthur had been married before and had a son named Norman.

I can't remember what made me start to wonder about the possibility of this Hill family having any connections to motor racing, could it have been the fact that the marriage certificate records Arthur's name as Devereux A Hill, and I knew that Damon (the racing

Continued on page 46...

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KIRSTY 07967030767

...Continued from page 45

driver) had a middle name of Devereux? This looked like far too much of a coincidence so I started digging.

I found Norman's marriage, he too had a son named Norman, and further investigation showed that this son Norman had a middle name of Graham. This was indeed Graham Hill, Formula 1 World Champion.

In 1960, Damon Graham Devereux Hill was born, son of the above Norman 'Graham' Hill and his wife Bette, He also became F1 world champion in 1996.

So all of you with Joynson ancestry, and I know there are some reading this, you too are related to F1 world champions, the first and only Father and Son to hold that title. My relationship to this family is that Damon Hill OBE is my 'step' 4th Cousin once removed. I know that hardly counts at all, but it is all part of the ongoing Joynson story.

Until the next instalment, when I might recount my relationship to the Coates family (after whom Coates Lane is named) and why they got a mention in the New York Times! That is unless something even stranger turns up. I still have a murder story to recount, but this requires a bit more investigation first.

Best Wishes, Paul Turner



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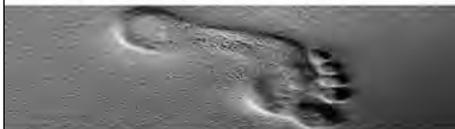
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After The Romans

Into the area, with its mixed population of Celts and Roman descendants, came the Saxon invaders. The well-watered valley floors attracted these farmers to settle. With the Chilterns rich meadowland for their cattle and horses it was something of a utopia for the Saxons.

The clear unstained water was invaluable for washing wool and small amounts of fuller's earth could be brought from nearby Lane End. Timber was plentiful and there were deep clays on the steep slopes and hilltops. Aylesbury in the Vale was captured by the Saxons in 571 A.D but it was some years later before they dominated the wooded hills. West Wycombe became a vast rambling estate of 20 hides (a hide was known as an area of land that could support a family. It could vary from 60 to 120 old acres of land or the modern equivalent of 30 acres). So this Estate was in modern terms some 600 acres. A small Estate if compared to the Duchy of Cornwall Estate which covers some 133,000 acres.

By the end of the Saxon period the land supported 44 people and their Families. West Wycombe became the property of the Archbishop Stigand who maintained 19 hides to support the Monks at Winchester. This was valued at £12 only and the Archbishop granted ½ a hide to one of his men and a freeman which were worth 10 shillings each (50 pence). These individuals were restricted in that they could not sell the land but they granted their small area of land to a smallholding tenant.

The Archbishops land in contrast was profitable. His land was worked by the manor employees and an additional 19 plough owners, 27 villagers and 7 slaves and their Families. In addition to the arable land production there were meadows which supported 28 Oxen and enough woodland to support 1000 pigs. By the river there were three producing mills and a fishery for 1000 eels.

The Downley area was swineherds (pig farmers) and for wood so the habitation of this area was seasonal.

The old hill fort at West Wycombe is said to have been stormed by Haefer, A Saxon Chief, who established his followers at Haeferingdune (the name Haefer's Down is still associated with the Downley hill, Avingerdown or ancient village). The Surname Avery is probably a derivative which makes it the earliest surviving Downley Family name. Stories of a village called Avingerdown are very likely a misunderstanding of a 'don' (a settlement) and 'dune' (a chalk hill or down).

Downley continued to be part of the West Wycombe Lands for many centuries and the Saxons referred to the area as the hundred based on the number of Families it could support not the area of land.



Archbishop Stigand from the Bayeux Tapestry



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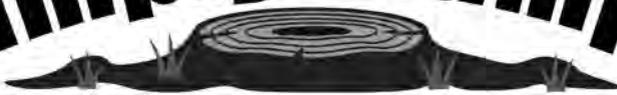
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2015 Downley Calendar

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SCIENCE FACTS

Leeuwenhoek (bacteria and Protozoa observed), Linnaeus (classification), Priestly (oxygen from plants), Galvani ("animal electricity" - nervous system), Jenner (smallpox vaccine apologies to the all other vaccine inventors I'll stick with the first on this particular list), Darwin (Theory of Evolution), Wallace (evolution), Leakey (human evolution), Lister (antiseptics), Fleming (penicillin), Watson and Crick (DNA), Krebs (respiration), Sanger and Tuppy (insulin), Lederberg (plasmids), Bernard (first heart transplant), Wilmot and Campbell (first successfully cloned mammal - yes, that's Dolly the sheep), M.Curie (X-Rays and radiation), Pavlov (behaviour), Raisman (first successful use of olfactory cell transplant to restore nerve function in a paraplegic).

A random list of names? Not quite, this is my personal (condensed) list of the most influential scientists in biology and medicine over the past 300 years. I just wanted to share it, for the first time, with the inclusion of Professor Geoffrey Raisman who has probably just made the most significant medical breakthrough of our lifetimes.

BY JILL BURRELL

ANSWERS TO FLIN MATHS - FROM PAGE 27

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. 160 | 6. 9 |
| 2. 64 | 7. 27 |
| 3. 40 | 8. 29 |
| 4. 14 | 9. 46 |
| 5. 245 | 10. 96 |

Note that using the correct order of operations was important to achieve the correct results, i.e. Brackets, Indices, Division, Multiplication, Addition, and then Subtraction (BIDMAS).

For example, question 1: $2^2 = 4$ is done first, then $4 \times 36 = 144$, and finally $144 + 16 = 160$



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escaped her heart:
twinkling stars like life's not quite
falling apart;
the opaque steam we breathe
out
on cold nights under a hood;
the winking of street lights,
breaking the stark from
pure good, and
the mess of emotion when
the sun don't rise
up,
but
when he dreams of pink
lipstick,
he knows he's fallen in

love,

she claimed
to a few of her friends;
the ones with wide eyes
and the auburn split-ends,
he preached to the masses:
she had a face of perfection, and
a tendency:
combative, and

lips for the world;
eyes were fine, too
the way they moved
and they twirled,
cycling with the sun of
the night
fighting the yawns of
the day
her enchanting disposition
to his empty, vacant
gaze;
that icy glare he once got:
dumped;
a cruel kiss of
pink
lipstick

and
oh

how he missed it

yet here they were again
in the depths of sour flight,
kissing in sweet brevity
under protection of moonlight;
he missed that pink
lipstick,
and
his heart without mend;
the inescapable tears:
scarred,
begged for an end

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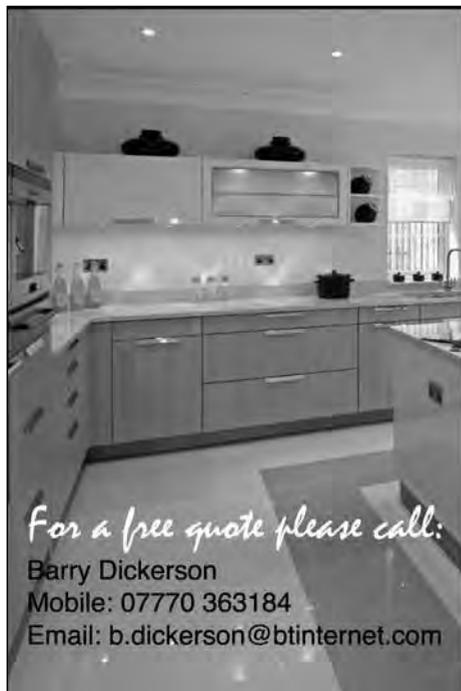


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If you are interested, have questions or want to sign up please contact the tutor, **Judy Maynard** on **01494 525044** or via email **judy@wellwatered.org.uk**

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THURSDAYS Downley Guide & Scout Centre,
Coates Lane, Downley HP13 5UX

17.30 - 18.00 - HIIT Workout for Kids
& Grown-Ups
(Term-time only)

TUESDAYS Downley Methodist Church Hall,
Moor Lane, Downley HP13 5YP

19.00 - 19.30 - Body Conditioning HIIT Style
19.30 - 20.00 - INSANITY
20.15 - 21.00 - *Fitness Pilates

FRIDAYS Downley Methodist Church Hall,
Moor Lane, Downley HP13 5YP

09.30 - 10.00 - INSANITY
10.05 - 10.35 - Body Conditioning HIIT Style
10.45 - 11.30 - *Fitness Pilates

* these classes are run as blocks in line with school terms

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Credits

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Simon Scott at editor@downley.org

Layout

Pat Weedon & Lucy de Rojas at news@downley.org

Advertising

Send advertising copy to adverts@downley.org

Distribution

Coordinated by Des Ryan. Volunteers to deliver locally are always needed. If interested contact Des on: desmond.ryan@tiscali.co.uk or 01494 520938

Rates

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

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 January 2015.

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 editor@downley.org.

Any copy or photographs sent to this address may also be used on the downley.org website and facebook page: facebook.com/Downley.Community

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 website.

Chairman	Bill Thompson
Secretary	Peter Loadman
Treasurer	Bob Cook
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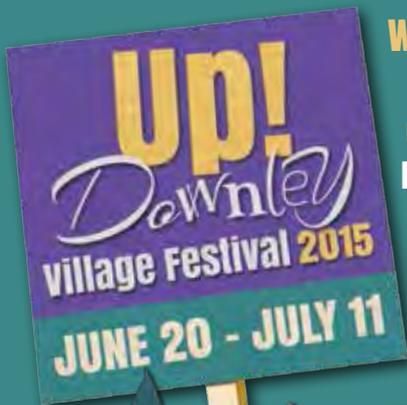
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**We are holding an open meeting
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On Friday 5 December at 8pm.
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school or church would like to
take part or you have ideas
and suggestions do come along.**

