

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN/WINTER



**DOWNLEY  
COMMUNITY**

# Village News



community  
**champions**  
awards 2015



## Features

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

Issue 103 / May 2015





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## Editorial

The timing of this issue means the general election is just past and the country has a majority Conservative Government. Locally, Mr Baker, our MP has been re-elected and many conservative local councillors have also been re-elected.

I sincerely hope that all of you voted because one vote is the power to change Politics in this age and that is a triumph for our democracy. This great country of ours is one of a reducing number where democracy is still the standard for society and regardless of our personal opinions we should embrace the democratic system.

Enough of politics! A Princess has been born! HRH Princess Charlotte of Cambridge. Congratulations to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge from the residents of Downley. Use our Facebook page to post your own congratulations. At our local level we have a great deal to celebrate and look forward to this summer. This year's UP FESTIVAL is set to be bigger and better! Tickets for all of the events can be purchased from [www.downley.org](http://www.downley.org) web site which offers online payment methods. The events calendar can be collected from local stores and will explain how to obtain your tickets and what, when, where events will be held.

Remember we publish articles by local people so if you have an article in you then send it to me by email [editor@downley.org](mailto:editor@downley.org). Articles, poems, your contribution should be 300 to 500 words long with pictures if available. We all have varied interests and I would very much like to hear about yours.

*Simon Scott Editor*



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# Downley Common

## News

### **Mid-week working parties**

Responding to popular demand we have started to hold a mid-week work party on the second Wednesday of the month to facilitate a growing number of people, particularly those that are retired who find that their weekends are busier than weekdays. The inaugural session was held on Wednesday 8th April and attended by 4 stalwarts (that's more than we usually get on a Sunday!) who finished the dead hedge around Mannings pond, did some litter-picking and removed the last of the bonfire debris. A brief review of the morning's labour was conducted at the Le De afterwards and all agreed it to be a successful and rewarding innovation.

So if you're at a loose end and feel like taking the air mid-week, then keep an eye on the Downley Calendar for the next outing.

### **Information Board**

The proposed information board inches slowly forward and the framework is currently under construction and we hope to be displaying it at the DCPS stall at Downley Day where suggestions for content will be displayed and suggestions gratefully received. Come along and have a look and if you have suggestions on what information there should be on the board, we'd like to hear from you.

### **Mannings Pond**

Work has finally finished at Mannings Pond with the completion of



the pollarding of the three large trees around the edge of the pond. The idea here was to allow more light into the area by reducing the crown height and to reduce the amount of leaf fall into the pond in the autumn. There is scope for further reductions to the height of these trees when they're recovered from this first trim.

The sweet grass was reduced in both sides of the pond earlier such that the water was actually visible for a while but now spring is here, it is starting to grow back. This will necessitate an annual "dredge" of the pond to keep the vegetation under control. Due to the presence of the newts this will need to be restricted to autumn and winter time.

The dead hedge has now been completed around the perimeter; the principal purpose of this is to minimise the numbers of canine bathing sessions which tends to stir up the sediment in the pond and is believed to be bad for insect life.

*Bill Thompson DCPS*

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# Downley Community Centre

## **NEW Introduction to IT Course**

Responding to a number of requests from senior local residents, the Community Centre has reached agreement with Buckinghamshire Adult Learning to run an introductory IT course in September which we plan to hold in the library.

The course will cover all the basics on word processing, how to use the internet and emailing. It will start on Tuesday 22 September and then run every Tuesday for five weeks.

For further information please contact either: Cathy Price at the centre on 07580 953181 or Susan Cunningham at Buckinghamshire Adult Learning - 'scunningham@buckscc.gov.uk' quoting course reference T1-15/16

## **Further Refurbishment**

We have now completed all essential work on the roof over the old Victorian school section of the building. The installation of new tiles, modern insulation and roof lights and flashings will all contribute to much improved energy efficiency for the future whilst maintaining the essential character of the Centre. We have also enhanced the building at the front with the completion of the new front porch.



At the March management meeting the committee approved an exciting new programme to thoroughly modernise inside, starting in the Oak room which will be completely redesigned.

The objective is to de-clutter the room and make the most of its architectural features, as well as renewing tired furniture. Ideas based on the Shaker style which evokes principles of community and simplicity will be developed:

- A new colour scheme based on neutral shades incorporating off-white walls and soft greys with a bolder tone to pick out joinery details.
- Windows to be dressed with new roman blinds in natural linen and coloured braid to make them more attractive and improve acoustics.
- Electric cabling will be concealed and new lights installed to offer different effects according to hirer's needs.
- Flooring will be replaced to create a new multi-purpose room that appeals to all members of the community.

**We hope to carry out this work during the summer holiday period in order to minimise any disruption.**



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

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## Coffee Stop News

*I can't believe that in another day it will be May! What a strange Spring we have had – lovely sunny days and then a cold wind and at last everything in the garden has given up waiting for the climate to sort itself out and decided to come up anyway.*



road. Unfortunately our trips have to be restricted to people who can get on and off a coach and if they need a bit more assistance during the visit we ask them to bring a companion but a very good time can be had by all, thanks to Pat for organising it.

As always we are most grateful to all those who help us in whatever capacity and anyone who could spare a couple of hours once a month or so to help in the kitchen would be most welcome to join our merry band. It would make it much easier to do the rota to have a few more people available, and honestly there is nothing we do that is at all difficult! Any drivers with a car large enough to be able to get a mobility “walker” inside would also be greeted with open arms!

Have a wonderful Summer and keep visiting us on Mondays, St James' Hall between 11am and 1pm.

*Ann Buxton*

*01494 522118 pabuxton@hotmail.com*

## DOWNLEY VILLAGE EVENING WI

*2015 starts the year of the WI Centenary. WIs nationally will be holding special events to celebrate this historic year.*

Downley Village Evening's programme for the next few months has speakers booked on the following topics, London that Never Was, The Magistracy, Three Voices of Women, Further Adventures of an Author and The Work of an Auctioneer. The rest of the year is booked more details in the next Village News.

We regularly visit the Swan Theatre, enjoy meals at various pubs and hold social events mid- month in member's homes. Our County Federation go to numerous and interesting locations during the year with pick-up points in H/W.

We try and accommodate all member's tastes and interests to make belonging to DVE an enjoyable, informative and fun evening. Do come along one evening we welcome visitors and potential new members. We meet the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.45 pm at the Community Centre School Close Downley.

**Details phone Pat 01494 535998 or check out the posters around the village.**

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“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.

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# The Downley School

*We have lots of very exciting news to share with our community at the moment!*



Many of you may have seen our amazing 'Values Sculpture' which has been installed at the front of the school. We were awarded grants from Wycombe District Council, The Ernest Cook Trust and The Big Lottery Fund to create a piece of public art. A panel of pupils and staff commissioned artists, Xceptional Designs from Hull and the whole school worked with the artists to design and create our sculpture. The aim was for every child to contribute to the sculpture - and they did. This amazing piece of public art demonstrates our values based ethos and our incredible environment; both of which make our school unique! If you haven't seen

it, you are very welcome to visit the school where you will see it adorning the front wall.

We continue to await an OFSTED visit. The school was last inspected in 2007 when it received an 'Outstanding' rating. Nowadays, only ten percent of 'Outstanding' schools are inspected unless there is a concern. However, we were all delighted Bucks Learning Trust conducted a formal review in March and confirmed that The Downley School is an 'Outstanding' school! The review was carried out by a current Ofsted inspector and was extremely thorough but very welcome as it validated all of our internal judgements. OFSTED have raised the bar significantly over the last few years so this is a wonderful achievement and is due to the incredible dedication and hard work of a highly effective and very special team of staff and governors. Our parents, carers and members of the local community who work with us and support the school in many different ways need to also be recognised as well as our amazing children of course, who are always excellent ambassadors for our school. I am sure that as everyone continues to work together, the school will continue to go from strength to strength.

In March, we had the good fortune to be visited by The New Mozart Orchestra. They performed to Key Stage 2 pupils and the school orchestra played a piece with them. What a privilege for all.

Building on the high profile of Music and Performing Arts at the school, thirty of our Year 5 and 6 pupils very recently had the opportunity to perform in 'Echoes' at The Royal Albert Hall. This was a huge event with many schools in Bucks participating to an audience of thousands.

Sport is also an important part of life at Downley. Amongst many activities and tournaments, our Under 10's Girls football team won the County trials and competed at the ESFA Danone South East England Regional 7-a-side finals in Greenwich in April – what an achievement.

*Continued on page 13...*

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*...Continued from page 11*

As ever, life at school is full of wonderful learning. As well as 'normal' lessons there are so many other things going on: projects, sports competitions and tournaments, performances, visits out, clubs etc. Our children really have so many opportunities to shine!

This is my final term at The Downley School. I have always felt incredibly privileged to have been the headteacher of such a wonderful school; to have worked with the very best team of staff and governors anyone could wish for and within a wonderful community. After 5 years, I leave to continue to work within other areas of education, feeling extremely proud of everything we have achieved together. Thank you for your immense support for the school and I look forward to hearing of its continued success.

*Mrs Webb, Headteacher*

## **Hi all from the Downley Descants!**

*It is great to get another opportunity to update you on our continuing progress as we develop as a choir. If you don't know about us, we were formed in 2012 as a community choir serving the village of Downley and the surrounding area.*



So two and a half years on we have a varied repertoire including a Beatles medley, 'You Raise Me Up', 'Irish Blessing' and songs from West Side Story to name a few. We are currently learning 'Happy' and songs from Jersey Boys.

So far this year we have performed at a fund-raising concert for the War Memorial Hall. It was a really enjoyable evening and the acoustics in the venue were superb. We plan to do another performance there in the future. It is a general theme that we raise money for local charities nominated by our members at events through the year.

We will perform at several events during 2015 including a concert for the residents and their visitors at the Heights Nursing Home, Downley and, of course, Downley Day where you might have seen us for the last two years. This year we are thinking of a song and ways to get the audience to join in! We also will be holding a concert as part of the Up! Downley Festival. After the summer break we will be

practising for Christmas during the autumn and then performing our annual Christmas concert. This year promises to be another great event as we get better and better and we become more experienced together.

We have recently published a web site. The address is [www.downleydescants.org.uk](http://www.downleydescants.org.uk). If you would like to know more about us please take a look. We keep the site updated with the calendar of events, notices about our practices and there are even some recordings of us singing. We are always open to new members of all abilities. No auditions are required. Maybe you want to give us a try; you would be most welcome.

*Julian Grigg - Tenor*

**For more information please contact me on 01494 440430 or through our website or Lyn Cook on 01494 436063 [grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk)**



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## News and advice from Downley Pharmacy

### In support of Love Your Gloves

Have you heard about the new electronic prescriptions, call in to find out how to have your prescriptions sent to us quickly via this system that is rolling out fast in High Wycombe surgeries. Our computer system handles them quickly saving time for all.

Changes to legislation relating to drugs and driving

You may be aware new legislation concerning drugs and driving came into force on March 2nd 2015. It is now an offence for a person to drive with a blood level above certain limits for specified drugs. It is already an existing offence to drive a motor vehicle whilst unfit as a result of drug consumption, but under the new legislation a person may be guilty even if their ability to drive has not been impaired due to drug use. If the proportion of drug in the body exceeds the allowable limits for that drug, regardless of potential effects on ability to drive if a person attempts to drive, drives or is in charge of a motor vehicle they are guilty of an offence.

*Commonly prescribed drugs affected by the legislation are:*

**Clonazepam, Diazepam, Lorazepam, Methadone, Morphine, Oxazepam and Temazepam**

*Illegal substances affected by the legislation include:*

**Cocaine, Ketamine, Lysergic Acid Diethylamide, Methylamphetamine**

Setting clear levels has introduced a zero tolerance for illegal substances, with only trace amounts being allowed. Whereas prescribed medication have levels set that would generally be attributed to abuse or overdose. The majority of patients will therefore not be affected by the changes. However patients who are prescribed high dose, long term pain medication maybe affected, as will those on high doses of benzodiazepines. These patients should take advice as their actions, written evidence of prescription and use of the drug in accordance with directions of supplier and manufacturer can be used as defence but this would not apply if driving was found to be impaired. Police forces have been issued with roadside testing 'drugalysers' which involve a saliva swab from the driver's cheek which can indicate whether drug has been taken.

Drug manufacturers are now providing updated information and advice on the leaflets supplied with affected products, please read these and act accordingly. We will be happy to help with any queries you may have specific to your medication.

Penalties for drug driving are higher than for drink driving. If convicted a person will automatically be banned from driving for at least one year, and may receive a prison sentence of up to one year and/or a fine of up to £5000.

Finally hayfever season has started in earnest, the tree pollens have caused lots of problems this year and we will soon be moving into grass season. If you show symptoms that include tchy, watery eyes, blocked or runny nose, sore throat, sneezing. Call in for advice, we have a good range of treatments at affordable prices. No need to sit and wait at the doctor's surgery.

*Fiona – Downley Pharmacy*

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## Library Opening Times

Mondays 10-12 noon  
Thursdays 3-5 pm  
Saturdays 10-12:00pm

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

## View of Library

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.



Your Community Library has been entered into a ballot to potentially win funding that will benefit all residents of Downley who use the Village library. Please look out for ballot boxes around the village, if you see one PLEASE VOTE for us! Thank you.

## 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 a cost of 75p per copy.

**Don't forget to support the Library stall on Downley day, our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. As usual you will be able to fill a bag with books for a very reasonable price. All proceeds go to help cover the costs of the library.**

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# Downley Day 2015

*Downley Day is nearly upon us so here are some reminders about what's on.*

## Family Disco

The Family Disco will be held on the 19th June starting at 7pm in the Marquee on Commonsides. All are welcome but parents should remember they are responsible for their children at all times. Tickets for the family disco will be available on the door at a price of £2.50 per child. Parents go free.

Downley Day will be held on 20th June starting at 1pm on Commonsides. The Day will be opened by the Downley Queen (or King) and those wishing to be considered for this prestigious position should complete the form found [www.downley.org/community/downley-day](http://www.downley.org/community/downley-day) and return to [info@downley.org](mailto:info@downley.org). Applicants should be between the ages of 5 and 12.



Downley Day will present performances by local groups in the main arena and local



organisations may set up stalls around the field to promote themselves and to raise funds for their activities.

Application forms for those wishing to book a pitch for a stall can be found at [www.downley.org/community/downley-day](http://www.downley.org/community/downley-day) and should be emailed to David Stagg at [d.stagg@tesco.net](mailto:d.stagg@tesco.net).



## Downley 5K Fun Run

The Downley Day committee is also inaugurating the Downley 5K Fun Run to be held the day after Downley Day on the 21st June starting at 10am at the Marquee on Commonsides.

Details of the run can be found on a separate page at <http://www.downley.org/community/5k-fun-run> and applications may be made on that page.

## Concert on the Common

Concert on the Common will be held on 11th July starting at 6pm. Bands playing this year include:

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**Papa Truck**  
**XcS**  
**Fawesome**

*Bill Thompson. Downley Day Committee*



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## St. James Voice

*I read in the paper recently that Vicar's should be more fun, that so many of us are dull and boring!  
(They've obviously not been to St James lately)*

In this article, we are told that we should relax a bit more tell a couple of jokes, and there's even a course I can go on to brush up my comedy skills. The author wrote, "wouldn't it be great if on a Monday morning we all went to work and said, 'I heard this great joke in Church yesterday'."

Well I took this on board, thinking we laugh quite a lot anyhow in St James, I'm always ready with the one liners and I don't take myself too seriously. So at the beginning of Lent, I shared with the congregation, this article, and I decided to start each week with a quick joke. First week, I was told 'don't leave your day job'. Second week, they told me I had improved. By the time Easter came round I was getting quite confident at my joke telling, all clean jokes of course. Now that Easter has come and gone, St James are missing their

Sunday Jokes, dare I start them up again! Well I'll let you judge. Here's one for you.

An atheist was spending a quiet day fishing when suddenly his boat was attacked by the Loch Ness monster. In one easy flip, the beast tossed him and his boat high into the air. Then it opened its mouth to swallow both. As the man sailed head over heels, he cried out, "Oh, God! Help me!" At once, the scene froze in place, and as the atheist hung in mid-air, a booming voice came down from the clouds, "I thought you didn't believe in me!" "Come on God, give me a break!!" the man pleaded. "Two minutes ago I didn't believe in the Loch Ness monster either!"

*Keep smiling you know it's good for you!,  
Revd Alison Finch*

## Downley Theatre Group

*Formed a little over 13 years ago with our first trip to "Cats" in March 2002, we have just reached our 80th outing to "Gypsy" starring Imelda Staunton at The Savoy Theatre in London.*

Originally, we'd reckoned on organising two trips a year to West End blockbusters but we've branched out into day outings, occasional journeys to the theatres in Oxford and our annual Christmas Carol concert at Christ Church Cathedral.

Our current membership stands at 233 with most people receiving flyers by email, some are hand-delivered and those living outside Downley are asked to provide stamped addressed envelopes. There is no membership



fee or obligation to participate – simply register and receive information about what's on offer and book for what takes your fancy. Due to the short time span between putting tickets on "hold" with the booking agent and submitting payment, we cannot advertise in the Village News so do call or email for further information and to be added to the mailing list.

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## Downley Wine & Beer Club Remembers The Great War

*In this centenary of the Great War, Downley Wine & Beer Club held a very special tasting evening in February enjoying a range of alcoholic beverages & drinks that our troops would have encountered in the trenches of Flanders and taking an informative and interesting look at life during World War One. .*

From life on the home front and life as an allied soldier we explored a number of interesting beers, wines & rum to give everyone a small taste of life on the western front.



We started the evening with a Chiltern Brewery Flanders Pale Ale made specially to commemorate WW1 and tasted several Stouts, French Lager & a Pinot Gris wine from Pfaffenheim which is near to Mulhouse where the first battle of WW1 took place between the French & German armies.

We ended the evening with hot cocoa infused with rum whilst enjoying some great facts and anecdotes about the drinking habits of the time and some of the challenges our troops faced in the trenches.

### **Your Wine & Beer club needs YOU!**

Downley Wine & Beer Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Downley Community Centre.

We enjoy a lively & varied selection of topics and drinks in a relaxed and social atmosphere. If you simply enjoy trying & tasting new beverages, the club is very welcoming to new members. You don't have to know anything about wine or beer tasting other than enjoying a drink or two amongst friends.

**For more information contact Steve Morton, Chairman, Downley Wine & Beer Club on [steve.j.morton@gsk.com](mailto:steve.j.morton@gsk.com) or simply join us usually on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The annual programme of meetings and events can be found on notice boards inside Downley Community Centre.**



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# Chameleon Singles Group



*We started the year with a good varied programme of events. As we move into the warmer summer months we will be looking ahead to more outdoor activities. We plan to include walks, a BBQ, a day trip to the coast, trips to places of interest such as gardens and homes to name but a few things members will be doing in the coming months.*

Our regular events each month include the Lunch Club on the first and the Pub Night on the last Friday of each month. The Lunch Club as the name suggests offers a chance to meet up for a light lunch while the pub night is an evening event held at The Crown in Hazlemere where food is also available. A regular coffee morning also takes place on a weekday morning offering a chance to meet up and chat usually hosted at a members home.

Several of our members are interested in live music, cinema and theatre and when there is something of common interest we try to book taking advantage of group rates where possible. We regularly visit Dusty's Blues Club in Holmer Green which has some great bands for such a local venue. Events over the last few months include a Take-away evening, visit to the Rebellion Brewery and a trip to the Coventry Transport Museum all of which were enjoyed by those attending. There is always a lot going on with around seven different events each month. All events both at home or at a local venue are organised by members acting as hosts. To them all we are very grateful as without organisers there would be no Chameleon.

All our events are open to new members with the Pub Night a great place to meet up. You would be very welcome to come along and join us for a drink on the last Friday of

the month at The Crown, Amersham Road, Hazlemere from 8pm. There is food available if you wish to eat and many members take that opportunity to skip the cooking at home!

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**

**Joyce 01494 – 817895**

**e-mail: [chameleon\\_bucks@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:chameleon_bucks@tiscali.co.uk)**

**Visit us on-line at [www.bucksvoice.net/chameleon](http://www.bucksvoice.net/chameleon) for more information and an events listing.**



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# Obituary - Councillor Grahame Brown.

*Sadly we must report the death in February of Grahame Brown..*

The village has lost a valuable Downley resident who made a huge contribution to local life. He will be missed by the many villagers who knew him for his wit, his ability to ask the right question and his contribution to community affairs in Downley. In retirement Grahame served as a school governor at Maplewood for many years and as a member of Downley Parish Council where he was Vice Chairman and was also active on its sub-committees.

As one of the founding Trustees of the Downley Community Centre he contributed hugely to the building up of the Centre from the very beginning and became deeply committed to establishing the highest standards in vital issues such as Health and Safety.

As a perfectionist he was never shy of engaging in serious debate but always had the ability to defuse contentious issues whenever called upon.

Grahame will be remembered for his infectious enthusiasm, his intellect and wonderful sense of humour.

## **Grahame Brown**

**12 September 1936 – 11 February 2015**



## ***JILL'S MATHS FOR FUN - ANSWERS ON PAGE 43***

***In my science article this quarter on page 63 I mention of birds, here I give you a flight through some bird-brained maths problems:***

***1 A goose-herd has lost two thirds of her gaggle of geese. She then finds four fifths of the missing birds. What fraction of the original gaggle does she have left?***

***2 The wingspan of an "ugly duckling", a.k.a. a cygnet, grew from 15cm to 2.4m in 12 months. What is the percentage increase in wingspan over this timespan?***

***3 A normal duck has two legs, a lame duck has one leg, and a sitting duck had no legs. A raft of 99 ducks (we won't go for "paddle" of ducks in this case, given the legless issues), has a total of 100 legs. There are half as many sitting ducks as normal ducks and lame ducks put together. How many lame ducks are there?***

***BY JILL BURRELL***



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## Round-up of Regular Activities ...continued

### St James Church Hall

Art Club	Come Dancing
Coffee Stop	Fencing Training
Dog Training	Karate (Shotokan)
Downley Youth Club	Sunshine Montessori
Greatest Hits Choir	Tiger Martial Arts
Karate	Yoga
Links Lunches	Zumba
Louise Dance class	Wed 9am
Philatelic Club	Alternate Thurs 7.30pm
Weightwatchers	Thurs 5.30pm

### Sunnybank Methodist Church Hall

Dance Classes for Young People	Mon pm & evening
Downley Descants	Thurs evening
Tai Chi	Thurs am

### Downley War Memorial Hall

Come Dancing	1st Tues 7.30pm
Fencing Training	Wed & Fri 5.30pm
Karate (Shotokan)	Wed 7.30pm
Sunshine Montessori	8.30am Every Day
Tiger Martial Arts	Mon 5pm
Yoga	Wed 9.45am & Fri 9.15am
Zumba	Mon 8pm

## Clubs Societies Schools - Promote your event here for FREE!

### **The Parents and Toddlers Group at Downley Community Centre is back under a new name 'Bumps and Babies'**

The local group is for expectant, new mothers and pre-schoolers who meet in an informal environment for a chat with refreshments and play with toys with their little ones.

The format remains as before. The only difference is that the group is now organised by the National Childbirth Trust (NCT) charity.

**Mondays 9.30-11.30am during term time. - More details: [HighWycombe@nct.org.uk](mailto:HighWycombe@nct.org.uk)**

## ASSISTED SCRABBLE

Do you like Scrabble but struggle to play without help? Assisted Scrabble takes place at St. James Church, Plomer Hill, Downley on the fourth Friday monthly from 2.30 to approx. 4pm

It is for those unable to play on their own, to participate in a friendly game, with the aid of a partner. Each player needing help can have a friend to assist with reading the letters available to them and/or placing words on the board. You can bring your own helper, or we can try to find someone to assist. If you would like to play but need no partner do come. If you can also lend your own scrabble board we would be grateful!

Volunteers to help in this fun afternoon are very welcome.

### Further information & to reserve a place:

**Barbara(BucksVision) tel: 01494 564019 email: rippbrip@gmail**  
**or Joe Arthur 01494 534582 email:joe.arthur30@gmail.com**

### Are you able and interested in working with Young People in Downley?

Two of our local facilities are looking for assistance Downley Guides and Stouts contact:

**Margaret Stagg on 01494 530736**  
**email: Margaret.stagg@tesco.net**

Disraeli Downley Youth Club contact:

**Patrick Crotty on 07711 107975**  
**email: Patrick@crotty.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 (Chettina Masters) can be contacted on 01494 444683**  
**Or by email at : downley\_pc@tiscali.co.uk**

### Downley Art Group

We are a group of amateur artists who work, generally, without a tutor and devise our own programmes. We meet at St James church hall every Thursday from 9.30 a.m until 12.00. This term is running until July 23rd. If you would like to spend the morning with friendly artists creating a variety of work, please come along or contact Lorna:

**Murray.lorna@ymail.com**  
**telephone 01494 638236**

### 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. 444683 OR via "e" mail to downley\_pc@tiscali.co.uk

### Downley Parish Notice Boards

Any notices for the Parish notice boards need to be left at the Community Centre in the wooden box in the oak room in an envelope for the attention of the parish clerk. Notices must be received one month in advance of the event. Notice boards are updated on the first and last Monday of each month only. All notices must be for local non profit organisations.

**Please ensure that A.5 size notices are supplied**

---

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

- June**
- 7 Downley Common Preservation Society Work Party Meet at the Old Dairy
  - 9 Parish Council meeting at the Downley Community Centre at 7.45pm
  - 14 Scarecrow making workshop see [festival.downley.org](http://festival.downley.org) for details
  - 19 Family Disco the marquee on Commonsides at 7pm
  - 20 Downley Day on Commonsides at 1pm till 5pm
  - 20 Ceilidh in the marquee on Commonsides at 7.30pm
  - 21 5k Fun Run starting from the marquee on Commonsides at 10am
  - 21 Guitar Recital by Dave Cannings in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm
  - 22 Art on the common, Commonsides 10am - 12pm
  - 25 'Comedy under Canvas' in the marquee on Commonsides at 8.30pm
  - 26 Village workout in the marquee on Commonsides at 5pm - 6.30pm
  - 26 Downley Descants and the Wycombe Concert Band in Maplewood School at 7pm
  - 27 'Downley Dynamos Day' on Mannings Feild 11am - 5pm
  - 27 'Downley's Got Talent' in the marquee on Commonsides at 7.30pm
  - 28 Open Gardens - In The pick of local gardens from
- July**
- 1 Shakespeare production by The Downley School at 7pm
  - 3 Caberet Evening in the Memorial Hall at 8pm
  - 3 - 5 Beer & Cheese Festival at the Le De Spencers Arms
  - 4 Film Night in Sunnybank Church at 6.30pm
  - 5 Downley Common Preservation Society Work Party Meet at the Old Dairy
  - 6 - 11 Art Show in the Community Centre 6.30pm - 9pm weekdays, from 11am on Saturday
  - 7 The Fascinating World of Downley Common - A family walk at 6.30pm
  - 8 Creative writing workshop with Margaret Graham - Community Centre at 7pm
  - 9 'Downley in WW1' - a talk by Mike Dewey in the Memorial Hall at 7pm
  - 10 Quiz Evening at St James Church at 7pm
  - 11 Craft Fair in the Community Centre 11am - 3pm
  - 11 'Concert on the Common' on Commonsides at 7pm
  - 14 Parish Council meeting at the Memorial Hall at 7.45pm

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# Wycombe District Council

## News Release

*Community Champions Awards 2015 - nomination period now open*



Do you know someone who deserves recognition for the work they do in the community? Do you know of a group or project doing good things in the community that others can learn from? Do you know anyone who is helping to make the Wycombe district a better place? Then it's time to say 'thank you', with a nomination for a Community Champion Award. The Community Champions Awards - biennial awards ceremony supported by The Wycombe Partnership - are about recognising and celebrating inspirational people and community organisations in the Wycombe district. Nominations are now open and will close on 1 July 2015.

**This year there are six award categories:**

- **Volunteer of the Year**
- **Young Volunteer of the Year**
- **Business in the Community Award**
- **Community Group of the Year**
- **Community Project of the Year**
- **Lifetime Achievement Award**

To be successfully nominated for an award, the person, group or project must have contributed to the community with positive results. All nominees will receive a certificate of recognition and those shortlisted will be invited to attend a ceremony at High Wycombe Town Hall on Tuesday 10 November 2015

Nomination forms can be completed online; downloaded and submitted by post to: Community Safety and Engagement Officer, Community Services, Wycombe District Council, Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 1BB or emailed to [community@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:community@wycombe.gov.uk)

**Completed forms must be received by Wednesday 1 July.**

**Downley Community Centre**  
*The Old School/ Library*

**Sweaty Betties**  
**Aerobics**



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## The One Day Literary Festival

On 18th April Downley Old School Community Centre was treated to an influx of readers and aspiring writers who came to spend the day with a variety of bestselling authors of all descriptions. Words for the Wounded, founded and run by bestselling author, Margaret Graham of Downley, with her two writing grannie friends planned a fantastic line-up of bestselling 'stars'.



Katie Fforde, two Midsomer Murders writers, a literary agent, two Indie authors and Penny Deacon, hilariously held the audience in the palm of their hands from 10.00- 5.00. It was an amazing opportunity to chat to these stars of the literary world, learn from them, whether reader or writer, and make new friends.

After Trustee Matt Pain's welcome, Katie Fforde was in conversation with Margaret Graham. These two writers explained the life of a professional writer

and answered numerous questions. Rachel Cuperman (ex creative writing student of Margaret) and Sally Griffiths, gave away the secrets of writing scripts for one of our most successful series, Midsomer Murders. Lunch was organized by Jan Speedie and Margaret's family, with smoked salmon, quiche, beef and heaven knows what, amongst a feast of other dishes, and a huge range of salads, not to mention as much wine as you liked, finished with desserts and coffee.

In the afternoon the fun continued with an Indie writers' question and answer panel, Felicity Trew, a literary agent from the highly respected agency Caroline Sheldon Literary Agency presented a powerpoint presentation with Ddavid's Worsdall's projector. (Thank you, thank you) and Penny Deacon talking of the difference between Mills and Book writing and crime.

The artist, Sharon Bennett, who has exhibited at the Downley Festival displayed and sold her work. The day was strongly supported by the Community Centre, who discounted the hire fee for the charity, Words for the Wounded, Tesco who provided cakes, coffee and champagne (for the raffle) Morrisons for the cheese, The Wellington on the Strand with a voucher for the raffle, Sharon Bennett – a print, and Katie Fforde a signed copy of her latest book, The Vintage Wedding.

£1500 was raised for our wounded servicemen and women, with £250 of that being raised by the raffle. It was fantastic day. Mark 16th April 2015 in your diaries for the next one. Many have already reserved their places .Margaret 01494 630713. [www.wordsforthewounded.co.uk](http://www.wordsforthewounded.co.uk) To read a more detailed review, got to <http://www.frostmagazine.com/2015/04/the-words-for-the-wounded-litfest-review-by-pat-heath/> Margaret Graham's latest novel, published by Random House is released on 23rd May. Easterleigh Hall at War, sequel to the bestselling Easterleigh Hall.

*Margaret Graham.*

# BRICKLAYERS ARMS

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## Downley Village Art Show 2015

*There may be some changes to this years exhibition but it still needs your imagination, creativity and craft.*

The Village Art Show is now in its fourth year attracting nearly two hundred exhibits. The show is distinctive in its range of work. Drawings, paintings, photographs, digital, 3D and poetry from the very young to the rather more experienced. An annual opportunity to share your creative output with others in Downley.

As part of the Village Festival the exhibition is running from **Monday 6 July until Saturday 11 July** when it will share the Community Centre space with a crafts fair adding a further dimension to the day. This may also provide a sales opportunity for those Art Show exhibitors interested in selling their work.

### Details

You need to select your qualifying category from: Juniors; 4 and under, 5-11 and 12-16. Adults; Beginners, and Experienced. Work is to be entered (to a maximum of three pieces) in the following media groups:

#### **Drawing, Painting & Crafts**

##### **3D**

##### **Photography**

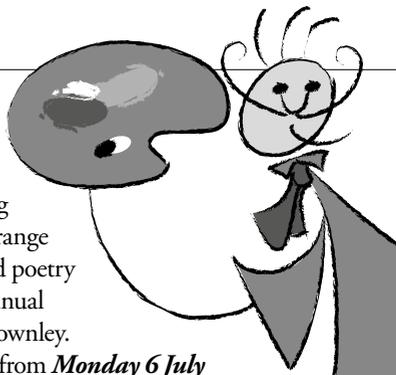
**Digital** (This new category is limited to work created digitally but requiring no specialist equipment to display)

##### **Poetry**

You can enter online at [festival.downley.org](http://festival.downley.org). Entry Forms will be made available to local schools, clubs and societies or can be requested by email from [festival@downley.org](mailto:festival@downley.org). Entries by post should be addressed to **Downley Parish Council, P.O. Box 1091, High Wycombe HP13 5WU**. The deadline for receipt of entries is 1 July.

**Artworks are to be delivered to the Downley Community Centre on Saturday 4 July between 10.00 am and 13.00 pm.** A receipt will be provided as will a label to be attached to artworks. **Collection will be on Sunday 12 July from 11.00 am to 13.00pm.** All artworks are left at your own risk.

If you are able to provide digital images of your work we can publish them in a future



edition of the Downley Village News, online at [downley.org](http://downley.org) and our facebook page: [facebook.com/Downley.Community](https://facebook.com/Downley.Community)

Would all entrants in the Adult Painting and Photography Sections (plus glazed work in any section), who would like their work to be hung, please ensure there is a suitable means to do so, preferably with hanging cord. Please try hanging your work at home to ensure it will hang properly. Please do not use clip or similar frames. Prints of original work will be accepted when in a card window mount.

All categories will be judged for 1st, 2nd and 3rd, provided there are sufficient entries. Modest prizes will be awarded to first prize Junior winners only.

Most importantly have fun putting your work together and we look forward to seeing the results.



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## Fancy attending a Scarecrow Making Workshop?

*A scarecrow making workshop is planned for Sunday 14 June in three half hour sessions on Commonside. Come along and share ideas and the fun of making up your festival scarecrow. Only 18 places available so go to [festival.downley.org](http://festival.downley.org) to book yours.*

The three half hours sessions start at 10.30am, 1130am and 12.30pm. The workshop includes:

- Scarecrow making technique demonstrations
- Start your own scarecrow
- Mounting tips
- Meet the Downley scarecrow making stars
- Enter the 2015 Scarecrow Competition (sponsored by Wye Estate Agents) and see the 'Best Scarecrow' Cup

We would love to see your photos of work in progress and the end results! Email [festival@downley.org](mailto:festival@downley.org) or like [facebook.com/Downley.Community](https://www.facebook.com/Downley.Community) and post them there.



## THE FASCINATING WORLD OF DOWNLEY COMMON

*7<sup>TH</sup> July. Meet at the beacon on the common, the expedition will start at 6.30. p.m.*

*A free exploration of some of the curiosities to be found on the common! Get to Know Ant City, Butterfly Bank, Tank Crossing, Badgers Hole, The Bus Stop Tree, Star Fruit Mire, and other fascinating places, finishing at Drover's Watering Place.*

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## Top Comedy Under Canvas

*Without a doubt the big new event for Up! 2015 is our comedy night on Thursday 25 June at 8.30pm. Why hack off to Hammersmith or the West End when you can wander around to Commonsides order up a beer and howl out loud to two of the country's best acts. There will be a contributions bar on the night.*

### Hal Cruttenden

*Straight Out Of Cruttenden - Work In Progress*

*Host of Live At The Apollo and star of Radio 4, the great Hal is back ranting about the real evils of the modern world: over sharing on social media and the 5:2 diet.*

Hal Cruttenden is one of the top comedians working in the UK today, as well as being a highly accomplished writer and actor. Over the last year he's made his second appearances on 'The Royal Variety Performance' (ITV) and 'Live at the Apollo' (BBC1), which this time he hosted. He's also been seen on 'Would I Lie To You' (BBC1), 'Kevin Bridges: Live at the Referendum' (BBC1), 'Sunday Night at the Palladium' (ITV), 'The Great British Bake Off – Extra Slice' (BBC 2), 'Mock The Week' (BBC2), 'Celebrity Squares' (ITV), 'Pointless Celebrities' (BBC1), and his radio sitcom 'Hal' is currently broadcasting on Radio 4.

Over the past few years he's been nominated for 'Best Club Act' at the prestigious Chortle Awards, and his stand up show 'Tough Luvvie' is completing a year long tour of the country after selling out at the Edinburgh Festival. This is his third national tour following 'The Tiny Rage Tour 2011' and 'Lively' (2010).



### Funmbi Omotayo

*Legal Immigrant - Work In Progress*

*Amused Moose Laugh Off Winner Funmbi brings his stand-up debut to the Fringe. It's the story of a 10 year old boy leaving Hackney for Lagos.*

Funmbi Omotayo's friendly, instantly likeable style won him the award for Best Newcomer at the Black Entertainment Comedy Awards. He has since gone on to win the prestigious Leicester Square New Act of the Year competition in 2012; shortly after becoming joint winner of Amused Moose's Laugh Off Competition in the same year. Gently paced stories and anecdotes are delivered warmly and confidently from this relative newcomer. Funmbi is creating a huge storm on the comedy circuit with tales of living in Hackney, his Nigerian roots and his hilarious day to day observations.



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**FRIDAYS** St James Church Hall,  
Plomer Hill HP13 5NB  
09.25 - 09.55 - INSANITY  
09.55 - 10.25 - Total Body Conditioning

**TUESDAYS** Maplewood School, Faulkner Way,  
Downley HP13 5HB  
19.00 - 19.30 - Body Blast  
19.30 - 20.00 - INSANITY  
20.15 - 21.00 - \*Fitness Pilates

**SATURDAY** St James Church Hall,  
Plomer Hill HP13 5NB  
10.00 - 11.00 - Clubbercise

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

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## Music Mix for 2015

The festival music comes in many flavours; the pop and rock of Concert on the Common, the surprise package of Downley's Got Talent and the popular classics courtesy of the Downley Descants and the Wycombe Concert Band. This year we have added a classical guitarist and a ceilidh band who introduce themselves below.

### **The Larkrise Ranters** In the marquee on the evening of Downley Day with a contributions bar and bring your own feast

We are a four-piece multi-instrumental band from Oxfordshire utilising accordion, harp, fiddle, bass, mandolin, guitar and hammered dulcimer, with many years of experience playing for ceilidhs and barn dances.

We play for English and Scottish ceilidhs and barn dances, usually around Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties. The Larkrise Ranters were formed in 1997 out of a scratch band that came together to play for a fund-raising event at Larkrise First School in Oxford. Amongst the line-up for that event was Ed, who had recently come to folk music from playing guitar in a rock band. When Steve joined in 1998 the band developed a more serious intent. There have been a few line-up changes over the years, the most recent being on bass when Bob turned from being a part-time to a full-time member.



### **David Cannings** In the Memorial Hall on Sunday 21st June

I have been playing guitar for 42 years and began my studies in classical guitar in 1986, a year or two after which I began to perform regularly at a number of residencies.

My love and interest in Latin American and Renaissance music has brought together a vibrant and beautiful mix of styles that I believe can truly showcase the range, excitement and depth of emotion available to the classical guitar.

The programme will include works by the Cuban composer Leo Brouwer, a Suite of four pieces from Venezuela by Antonio Lauro, two tango inspired pieces by Astor Piazzolla, a beautiful Scherzino from Mexico by Manuel Ponce and a selection of dance pieces from the English and Spanish Renaissance by composers such as John Dowland, Francis Cutting and Luis Milan.



## **ANSWERS TO MATHS FOR FUN- FROM PAGE 27**

- 1** ANSWER 13/15  
 $1/3 + (4/5 \times 2/3)$
- 2** ANSWER 1,500%  
CONVERT METRES TO CENTIMETRES FIRST, THEN CALCULATE  
 $(240-15/15) \times 100\%$
- 3** ANSWER 32  
 $N + L + S = 99$   
 $S = (N+L)/2$  SO  $N+L = 2S$  SO  $N+L+S=3S=99$  SO  $S = 33$   
 $2N+L = 100$  SO  $N+N+L=100$  SO  $N+2S = 100$  SO  $N = 100-66 = 34$   
 $L = 100 - 67 = 32$

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## J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints Summer 2015

*Wal, me ole mates, it's summer! Talk about Spring, it's over before you knows it! And are you celebrating or commiserating over the election results? I knows one thing, it won't make a bit of difference to wot comes up, or doesn't, up the plot or in the garden, eh? Them polytishuns needs to get their hands dirty to know wot it's orl about I reckon. And I bet they gets some poor soul to do their garden, what with orl the talkin goin' on and on and on, and on..*

So what about the plots? Some people (ask em over Napple), gets fed up with spuds and onions and cabbage, can't think why, probably readin too many trendy 'countryside' magazines I reckon--'Oh my dear, you must try mangoes with figs and olives, so fresh from the garden, I get Mr Smith to do my garden, what a charming character, I was so lucky to find him'. Wal, you knows what I means!

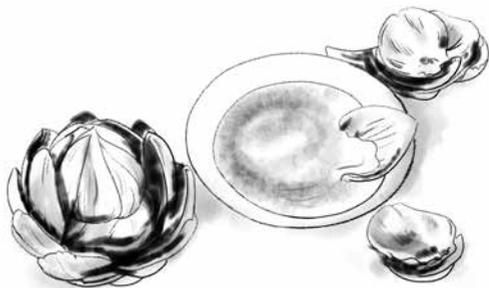
Now for my H H's. First get yor toms sprayed with Bordeaux mixture, (get it on the interweb), and yor spuds, it stops the blight, and make sure yor tom's side shoots gets taken orf, unless they're bushy ones. And if it's not too late get them nets over yor soft fruit or them birds 'll get 'em. Then plant out yor veg for the winter, or sow some more, like chard, black cabbage, (wal trendy la de la types calls em Cavalo Nero, you goes to Napple to hear em saying that). Then wot about flowers? You can get, with a bit of luck, winter flowering violas and pansies, flowering herbs, (them muntjac don't eat em, so far), Hyssop's a good one, blue flowers, and lovely scented leaves, Mrs H. grows the flowers mostly, but I reckons unless you can eat 'em it's a waste of time! So wot about

pretty veg? Yor runner beans make nice flowers, try next year 'Scarlet Emperor', a good ole traditional bean, and, though I feels embarrassed to say it, try to get some globe artichokes a 'goin' for pickin next year, they're like enormous blue headed thistles, you eats the sort of petals dipped in oil, so them la de la types ses, but it's where I gets my name you see, my lot came over with the froggies in 1066, my French cousin Jean d'Artichoke keeps threatening to come too, but so far he hasn't been brave enough, too fond of testing his deck chairs, and counting the bees on his lavender, and dribblin' peach juice down his chin, course I'm not jealous, give me a blustery, damp, cold, and grey August day here any time...hmmm, Mrs H. knows a bit of French you know, always on about goin over there for a holiday, but I tells her I can't leave the plot, always summat to do!

Anyway, to finish up, 'ave a look at the Downley Festival programme, and get yor family out on July 7th, for a free expedition round the common, meet at the Beacon at 6.30. p.m. and visit Ant City, Butterfly Bank, Tank Crossing, Star Fruit Mire, Badgers Hole and other fascinatin' places, and finish at Drover's waterin' Place, you might just see me there!

Cheerio and a biento!

*J.H. sent from my iSpade*





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# Downley War Memorial Hall

*Ernest Alfred Biggs*

Private Biggs died on 30 June 1915 from Spotted Fever in the Isolation Hospital at Fovant in Wiltshire which lies between Salisbury and Shaftsbury. He was 29 and almost certainly contracted the disease whilst training in the area with the 8th Battalion Ox & Bucks Light Infantry. He was buried at St Lawrence Church Stratford-sub-Castle along with 47 other WW1 casualties.

Spotted Fever is a tick-borne disease treatable today with antibiotics but, as shown in this case, 100 years ago was potentially fatal.

Ernest had volunteered in October 1914 leaving his wife and sons, Norman aged two and Cyril less than a year old. The South Bucks Free Press only recorded his death and his name was included on one of the lists provided by Private J Allen of "Downley men on Active Service".

Every casualty in wartime is a tragedy but it seems particularly sad when a man gives up so much to serve his country and dies before he can do anything.

Ernest's wife Ella died in 1962 and their younger son in 1992. Cyril was known to Joe Bowler, one of the Memorial Hall Trustees, as Kilner but Joe does not know why. The death of Norman J Biggs was recorded in 1996 in Aylesbury District but it is not know if this was their other son.

The main event in Wycombe 100 years ago was the official opening of the new Royal Grammar School. The South Bucks Free Press reported on the ceremony and gave the cost as £20,300.0s.10d. This sum included the building of the Headmaster's house. After grants from Wycombe Town Council and Bucks CC, as well as the proceeds from the sale of the old school and various other properties, there was still a little over £1800 to be found.

I was pleased to hear from Robert Blake after the article in the last Newsletter. Robert lives with his mother Ann in Plomer Green Lane and James Newell, who I featured last time, was her Great Uncle.

Back to 2015 and I hope you are all looking forward to the Up Downley Festival. Once again, a number of the events are being held in the War Memorial Hall.



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The landlady, Sarah, is welcoming and runs an excellent ship. Under her captaincy the garden area has been transformed to provide a very comfortable patio and seating area where you can enjoy sun or shade in equal measures. Venture further into the large garden and there is a children's adventure area. Implemented over the last two years the gardens and landscaping is fully matured and it is worth a walk through the woods to experience this watering hole individually or with the

whole Family. If you prefer to drive then there is ample parking which is screened from the main garden areas allowing you to enjoy the tranquil surroundings without the bustle of cars coming and going.

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# SCIENCE FOR FUN

## CLASSIFIED OBSERVATION

**We** will begin and end with observation, the very foundation of science.

From the 1730s to his death in 1778 Carl Linnaeus, a Swedish botanist sorted out life; not his life, but life in general. He came up with the classification system of life we still use today, known as binominal nomenclature, binary nomenclature or Linnaean taxonomy. We do also use Carl Woese's (another Carl) three-domain system in addition to this nowadays, but Linnaeus's system is still the key to how we group life. Linnaeus looked at life forms, really looked, compared them, and he placed them into various levels of categories. Those categories, by level were, and still are:

Linnaeus's category (plus Woese's) for LIFE	Mnemonics to help you remember the order
Domain	Do Kids Prefer Cheese Over Fried Green Spinach?
Kingdom	Do KP Crisps Over Fill Greedy Scholars?
Phylum	Did King Philip Come Over For Great Spaghetti?
Class	Do King Penguins Climb Over Furry Grey Seals?
Order	Did KP C Off Four Good Seasons?
Family	Dippy Kids Play Cards On Freeway Get Squished.
Genus	Do Keep Pots Clean Or Family Gets Sick.
Species	Do Keep Precious Creatures Organised For Grumpy Scientists.

**U**nder this system, all life is given a two word name according to its Genus and its own Species name within that Genus. Homo sapiens being an example most of us know; Homo being the Genus we humans belong in and sapiens being our species' name. Most other species have more than one living species within the Genus, though man is not alone in being monotypic, platypus and the aardvark being other examples.

**L**innaeus sorted by what he saw, what he observed; on some small level we can all do what he did within our everyday lives, and teach our children to do the same. So often I encounter children who hazard a guess that a swan might be a male duck, a goose is a female duck, or a pigeon may be a male swan. Not at all sure what they would make of the chaffinch I was watching by the Rye at the weekend, but I guess they haven't been there or they would have seen the swans, the cygnets, the ducks et al. Perhaps they need a new app on their iPads?

**L**et's all pay at least a passing nod to Linnaeus and be thankful there are some who do so much more than just glance at the world as they pass through; then let's teach our children to go outside, and to look, to really look, and to learn.

*BY JILL BURRELL*

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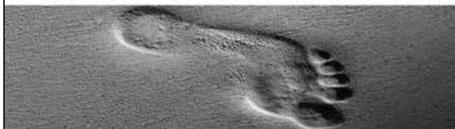
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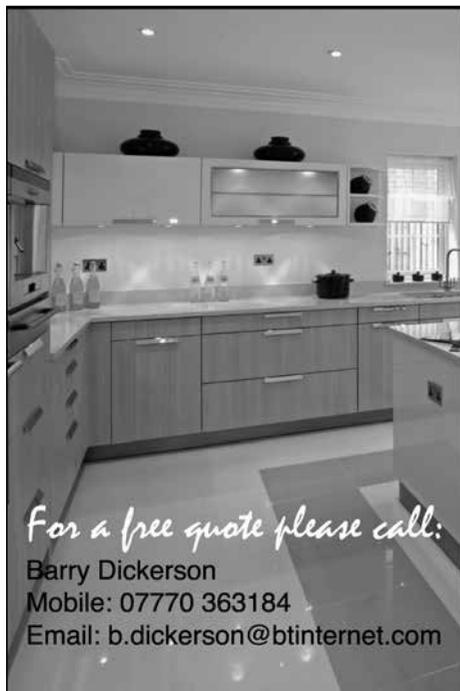


I also give general advice on foot care and will assess and monitor clients with diabetes.

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## Credits

### Editor

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 July 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

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