

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN/WINTER



**DOWNLEY
COMMUNITY**

Village News



Features

- Local Societies
- Around the Area
- Lifestyle
- Downley Diary *Pull Out Section*
- History
- Poetry Corner
- Letters

Issue 113 / Dec 2017





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Editorial

A Christmas wish that I hope you can all get behind and support. Please support your local Starlight Store which is under new ownership and has been supplying all the villagers for many years. Pop in for their coffee or to buy your last minute items and collectively this will boost their trade. Thank you.

This issue is crammed with fun and interest. Who among you wiz through the Math question on a regular basis? Post your answer to the FB page; www.facebook.com/Downley.Community.

Enjoy the read and Merry Christmas.

Simon Scott Editor





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Downley Common News

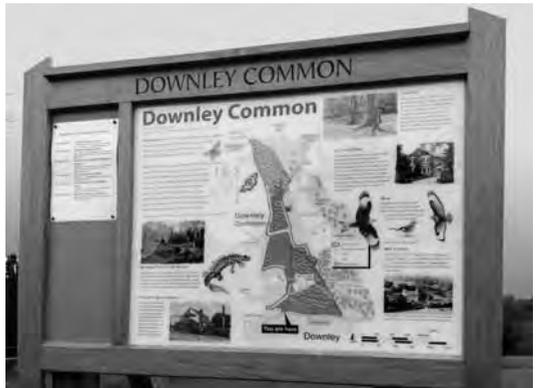
Motor-biking on the Dells

Persistent riding of motorbikes across the dells has prompted us to try to inhibit this activity before the area becomes to cut up and muddy in the winter months. DCPS has therefore laid down some large logs in strategic places that make it just a bit more difficult to ride across. Hopefully these will not be too inconvenient for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. To look on the positive side, they also make for handy seats for those in need of a rest.



Information Board

The new information board jointly funded by the Parish Council and the DCPS has been installed next to the bus shelter on Commonsides and replaces the old sign which was starting to rot at the base of the legs. This board contains a lot more information about the Common and also provides a useful notice area where activities and work parties on the Common can be publicised. Thanks are due to Brian Knott for making this happen.



Bonfire

By the time you read this, bonfire will have come and gone, but thanks are due to all those who made the torches and helped build the bonfire. Thanks also to Chiltern Wood Recycling and Chiltern Pallets for the pallets. It made a nice pile before the day and a good blaze on the night.



*Bill Thompson, Downley Common
Preservation Society*

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News from Downley Pharmacy

Stay Well This Winter

Simple tips and reminders of how to look after yourself family and friends.

Adults have an average of two to three colds a year. Children have an average of five to six colds a year. Young children in nursery schools may average up to twelve colds per year.

A cold is a mild viral infection of the nose, throat, sinuses and upper airways. It's very common and usually clears up on its own within a week or two.

The main symptoms of a cold include:

- Sore throat
- Blocked or runny nose
- Sneezing
- Cough

More severe symptoms, including a high temperature (fever), headache and aching muscles can also occur, although these tend to be associated more with flu.

There's no cure for a cold, but you can look after yourself at home by,

- Resting, drinking plenty of fluids and eating healthily.
- Taking over-the-counter painkillers, such as paracetamol or ibuprofen to help with headaches, temperatures and even sore throats.
- Using decongestant sprays to relieve a blocked nose.
-Throat sprays and sweets can also ease the pain of a sore throat.

When buying any medicine please always run it by your pharmacist so you they can make sure these medicines are ok for you to take.

You only really need to contact your GP if:

- Your symptoms persist for more than three weeks.
- Your symptoms get suddenly worse.
- You have breathing difficulties.
- You develop complications of a cold, such as chest pain or coughing up bloodstained mucus.

Speak to your Pharmacist or GP or call NHS111 if you are concerned about your baby or an elderly person, or if you have a long-term illness

Some simple steps can be taken to help prevent the spread of a cold.

- Clean surfaces regularly to keep them free of germs
- Wash your hands regularly, particularly before touching your nose or mouth and before handling food.
- Always sneeze and cough into tissues – this will help prevent the virus-containing droplets from your nose and mouth entering the air, where they can infect others; you should throw away used tissues immediately and wash your hands.
- Don't share towels or toys with someone who has a cold

Continued on page 9...

Santa's coming to Downley!



When: Sat 16th December 10-12pm

Where: Downley Community Centre
HP13 5TR

Pop in to visit him!

pilates



MONDAYS 7pm & 8pm
The War Memorial Hall

WEDNESDAYS 9.45am
(Beginners)
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New classes coming up in Downley
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Stephen Robinson BDS GDC 69475

...Continued from page 7

Finally a reminder- please check you have sufficient medication to cover the festive period. The surgeries are now asking for three working days to process prescription requests with a one-two day turnaround at the pharmacy dependent upon workload and stock holding. It is therefore advisable to allow a week to obtain medication. However please do not request without stating on the request the special reason given, more than two weeks before medication is due to run out . Systems within the repeat process prevent the re-issue. This is not to ration you but to prevent wastage and hoarding of medication, and to ensure the appropriate health checks etc are carried out at specified intervals.

Downley Pharmacy opening times for Christmas and New Year 2017

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd 9am-6pm
Saturday 23rd 9am-1pm
Sunday 24th Christmas Eve Closed
Monday 25th Christmas Day Closed
Tuesday 26th Boxing Day Closed
Wednesday 27th - Friday 29th 9am-6pm
Saturday 30th 9am-1pm
Sunday 31st Closed
Monday 1st January Closed
Tuesday 2nd 9am-6pm

We look forward to seeing you in October when the flu campaign starts, any queries please call us 01494 513060

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all from the team at Downley Pharmacy

Downley Theatre Group

We've had a busy year having organised 14 trips, and there's already one in the diary for 2018.



We were completely bowled over by the interest shown in “An American in Paris” and “42nd Street” – 67 and 69 passengers respectively, both selling out in under a fortnight and necessitating two coaches for each trip.

We have been experiencing serious IT issues, which some members will be aware of having helped out with ensuring email messages were getting through, thank you. And a big “thank you” to Joel Akinsipe,

Computer Problems, (who advertises in this publication) for his expertise plus the prompt and professional service which got us out of trouble.

Please get in touch should you be concerned you may have missed any of the mailings – we hope normal service will be resumed soon.

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Chilworth Care is a not-for-profit domiciliary company in Downley and we are currently recruiting. Please visit or like our FaceBook page: facebook.com/chilworthcare and find out more.

The Downley Village News is only as good as it's content.

We would love to hear your stories and reports. Whether you represent a club or society or just have a tale to tell do get in touch.

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Downley Community Centre

Downley played its part again this year when the Community Centre provided a free venue as host for the World's Biggest Coffee Morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Many helpers from the community, especially Cathy Price and the Downley Wives Team, gave their time freely, which along with many cake donations attracted well over 100 visitors in just 2 hours!

A staggering £590 was raised in the morning which, with a few late donations, then broke the £600 barrier; smashing last year's total of £243. A big thank you from Macmillan to all helpers and visitors for such a fantastic result.



Coming up next month

Tuesday 12 December – Change your life in 20 minutes.

Free NHS health check-ups will be carried out at the Downley Community Library. Please make an appointment either on-line at: buckinghamshire.nhshealthchecks.com or call 0800 781 4737

Saturday 16 December morning - Father Christmas will visit the centre on this morning 16 December.

All good boys and girls will receive a small gift.

Change your life in 20 minutes

See if you're at risk of serious illness and find out how to prevent it with a **FREE NHS Health Check**.

You are eligible for the NHS Health Check if:

- You're aged between 40 - 74 years old
- You're resident in Buckinghamshire or registered with a Buckinghamshire GP
- You've not had an NHS Health Check within the last 5 years
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Downley Community Library
Tuesday 12th December

Wednesday 17 January 2018 1pm – CONS, SCAMS, DOORSTEP ISSUES & CYBERCRIME.

Free awareness meeting.

DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT – WATCH OUT FOR CONS AND SCAMS

Learn more about cyber-crime and the increasingly wide variety of cons & scams. Identify what action you should take to avoid being a victim of this type of crime. Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association is organising this event in association with Downley Community Centre. If you don't want to be a victim you need to be there. You will be able to ask questions of the speakers and be made aware of the latest scams and learn how you can avoid being caught out.

Everyone is welcome! Just let us know on events@downleycommunitycentre.org.uk.

Presented by Geoff Pegg, Director of Operations, Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association supported by representatives from the Police and Trading Standards.

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Coffee Morning

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From 9.30 to 12.30

*Come along and
bring a friend!*

Coffee Stop

It hardly seems possible that we are now well into autumn when I've only recently got used to it being 2017.



It must be true though as we have had yet another very successful Harvest Lunch although our numbers were fewer this year. You seem happy with our menu choices but if there are any comments please let us have them soon so that they can be discussed at our next meeting, we are always happy to make up sandwiches or salad plates to order but to save wastage we only put the bare minimum on the table.

We are having an outing to the garden centre in Bicester on 30th November, there is still a little bit of space on this trip so if you want to ask a friend along just let us know. This has always proved popular in other years as there are so many outlets there as well as a large cafe with a good selection of food. It's a good way of starting Christmas shopping. Our Coffee Stop Christmas event is planned for 18th December with the usual seasonal fare and mulled wine.

Now it is time for our very own Classified

Ads section: Firstly Joan has decided to retire from taking the money after Christmas and become solely a customer, Chris will continue once a month, but we need someone willing and able to do the rest of the time. Pat has also decided that it is time to stand down, now we need some younger people with fresh ideas to step into the breach, carry on the baton and any other cliché that springs to mind. Downley is a lovely place to live with such a vibrant community and the Coffee Stop is a major asset and meeting place, we need to cherish it. Please have a think over the next few weeks and consider giving us some help with whatever time you can spare and we can guarantee a whole new circle of friends.

We look forward to seeing you on a Monday from 11am to 1pm.

Ann Buxton
pabuxton@hotmail.com

Moor Lane Preschool Playgroup

Did you know that Moor Lane is the oldest of our village preschools.

It was established in 1972 in Sunnybank Methodist Church Hall, Moor Lane as a safe and friendly environment for your young children to learn whilst playing and having fun. We are still there doing just that. We are open Monday – Friday from 9.15am -12.15pm during term-time and take children from the age of two until they start school. This term we have been looking at the colours and shapes all around us and have visited Tiggywinkles wildlife centre, so that the children could see real live hedgehogs, foxes, badgers and other wildlife.

We have vacancies at present so if you are looking for a preschool place for your son or daughter please feel free to drop in and see us in action one morning or contact me on 07767361909 or email moorlanepreschool@btconnect.com for more information.



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St. James Voice

Mt James the Great in Downley is hosting a number of events throughout December. Some are social events and some are church services, some are especially appropriate for families with children and others are aimed at adults. We hope that there will be something for YOU to come and enjoy.

1st December St Andrew's Quiz Night: 7.00pm for 7.30pm start in the Church Hall.

Tickets £10, which includes supper, available from: Hilary Perowne 01494 465608 or email h.maddockperowne@talktalk.net. Tables are for a maximum of eight, but smaller groups are very welcome too - just come along and we will put you in a group.

3rd December Toy Service 11.00am

This is an all age service for the first Sunday of Advent at which we will be collecting gifts for the residents of Saunderton Lodge. If you would like to bring a gift, something new for a child from baby to teenager would be very much appreciated. Please leave your gift unwrapped.

9th December Christmas Fayre and Children's Craft Day 1.30-3.30pm.

This new event is an ideal occasion to buy quality, individually made gifts and cards. The fayre will be in the church, with refreshments in the adjoining Rainbow Room. Children's craft activities will be in the church hall. There will be something for all the family, so please come and join the fun.

10th December Holy Communion 11.00am

17th December Christingle Service 4pm.

This service is aimed especially at families with young children but will be enjoyed by everyone who enjoys the magic of Christmas. Christingle celebrations are named after the Christingles, which are lit as part of the service.

21st December Village Carol Singing on the Common Under the Beacon 6.30pm

Everyone is welcome, so please come along! It would be wonderful if this became an annual Downley Event. Carol sheets will be provided and refreshments will be available in the Memorial Hall.

24th December Nine Lessons and Carols 11.00am

This is based on the famous service, broadcast every Christmas Eve from the Chapel of King's College. Come along to sing traditional Christmas carols and to hear the story of Christmas in readings from the Bible.

Crib Service 4pm

A service especially for younger children and their families, but will be enjoyed by all who enjoy looking at Christmas through the eyes of a child.

Midnight Mass 11.30pm

In this very special service - in the middle of the night, in the middle of the darkest and bleakest season of the year, we celebrate birth of the Light of the World. This service takes us from the anticipation of Christmas Eve to the joy of Christmas morning.

25th December Christmas Morning Holy Communion 11.00am

31st December Carols 11.00am

If you require any further information please contact our church wardens:

Collis Boucher: collis.boucher@apmg-international.com

Paul Perowne: p.maddockperowne@talktalk.net 01494 465608



From all at St James, we wish you a merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

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Chameleon Singles Group



A highlight of our autumn programme is the annual McMillian Coffee Morning held this year at a member's home on the last Friday of September.

It was a well attended event with the coffee, Tea and cakes lasting long into the afternoon as people dropped by to drink, chat and raise funds for charity.

We had another of our "Meet & Greet" evenings over at the White Lion in Cryers Hill in September. This is a chance to meet new and existing members over a drink at this quiet pub with the advantage of not being as busy as those in High Wycombe Town Centre. A day out at the Kop Hill Climb in Princes Risborough was an enjoyable event for the motor fans amongst us. There was also Live Music at Dusty's Blues Club in Holmer Green and an evening meal at The Bellcote near Chesham making up just a small number of our events across the autumn.

Some events run monthly such as the Friday Lunch Club and Pub Night on the first and last Friday respectively. These are great regular events to meet up with other members offering both a daytime and evening event. We also go to the theatre, cinema, live music performances, comedy evenings, and various other events and trips out throughout the year. As the cooler days of winter approach once again we will be doing more in the great indoors.

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 7:30pm. There is food available if you wish to skip the cooking at home and many members take that opportunity!

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. We have several local people from Downley, West Wycombe, Bledlow Ridge, Sands and surrounding areas and you would be very welcome too.

To find out more call our membership secretaries:

Terrie on 01494 445816

Joyce on 01494 817895

e-mail: info@chameleonsingles.org.uk.

You can also visit us on-line at:

www.chameleonsingles.org.uk

For more information or connect with us through Facebook.

Downley Village Evening WI

Ladies as the year is ending why not make it a firm resolution to come and visit our WI in the New Year.

We have a wide variety of speakers booked already for 2018 and would love to have your company on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.45 in the Community Centre, School Close.

But before we get to 2018 we have several interesting events to end the year not only

in Downley but at many County events that our BFWI Federation have arranged and are listed in our Monthly Letter for members to browse through.

*Contact Pat Heath 01494 535998
patheath@virginmedia.com*

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The Acupuncture Point

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Louise Day is a licensed acupuncturist and member of the British Acupuncture Council and adheres to the highest standard of care and professional conduct. The experience she has gained through her years of working as an acupuncturist has led her to have a special interest in Fertility related issues, Paediatrics and Muscular skeletal problems.

If you would like to know if acupuncture could be of benefit to you please contact Louise on **07860 820914**.

www.theacupuncturepoint.org.uk

Christmas Greetings from Downley Descants

If you've ever been told that you couldn't sing, or shouldn't sing – or had someone close the bathroom door on you because you WERE singing – then Downley Descants may be for you.



It is true, the choir is full of people who genuinely can sing, read music and recognise a minor third when they hear one, but they make room in their hearts to welcome those of us who fall into the bathroom category.... and it is an absolute joy, every Thursday, to make music together. We have a lot of fun, we work hard - and Louise, infinitely patient and forgiving, somehow weaves concert hall and bathroom together until we find that we have become a community and a choir.

Dilys –Alto

By the time you read this we will have been rehearsing for the Christmas season for probably a couple of months and would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Concert on Thursday 14th December, 7.30pm at St James' Church, Plomer Hill. This is normally a fun-packed evening with our own Christmas pieces and audience carols plus, maybe, a special guest or two. There will be a raffle together with refreshments with donations going to our chosen charities.

Our 'engagements' during December are :-

Dec 2nd Stowe Landscape Gardens

Dec 7th Downley Evening WI Christmas Concert

Dec 14th Downley Descants Christmas Concert

Dec 16th Marks and Spencer, High Wycombe (for Child Bereavement UK)

Dec 18th Coffee Stop

Dec 20th Stokenchurch Day Centre

You can see we are going to be very busy over the next few weeks but as many of the events will raise money for various charities, this makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Our regular rehearsal evenings will start again in early January so why not try a new pastime for a new year. We meet every Thursday during school term time at Sunnybank Methodist Church Moor Lane, Downley at 8pm (but many arrive early for a chat.!)

Why not come along and see what singing can do for you.

If you are interested or need more information please contact Lyn Cook on 01494436063 or Julian Grigg on 01494440430. We also have a website: www.downleydescants.org.uk

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Downley Evening WI

*Greetings from Downley Evening WI – or should that be Season's Greetings?
By the time you read this, Christmas will be bearing down upon us like a runaway train.*

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The seasonal panic that affects so many of us, with all the pressure on us to shop, cook, buy, wrap, and generally deliver the 'perfect' Christmas experience for our family and friends can be overwhelming, can't it. I'm certainly not immune to it but I try to build in ways to take time out from the commercial hype to focus on the important things – spending quality time with friends and family, perhaps a day out somewhere, and to meditate on why we celebrate Christmas at all. I'm helped in this by our annual evening of music and readings for Christmas. December 7th will see us assembled to appreciate the Downley Descants, who will both sing for us and lead us in singing traditional carols. The well-loved music will be interspersed with seasonal readings – both thought-provoking and humorous - given by members of our own in-house entertainment group, Delectable Selection. We'll round off the evening with mince pies, sausage rolls and mulled wine. What could be better? It's a lovely way to refocus our minds on the meaning of Christmas and to celebrate community. All are welcome.

Continuing with the Christmas theme,

our December meeting, on December 12th, will feature a presentation by Linda Lowell on Christmas flower arrangements. That should be well worth attending and you are most welcome to come along as a visitor. We'd love to meet you.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm at St James' Church, Plomer Hill. We love to see new faces. We'll give you a warm welcome, a stimulating atmosphere and a lot of laughs. Oh... and cake. Don't forget the cake. Call our president, Rosemary Byrne, on HW 538966, for more information.

**And those important dates again:
Thursday 7th December 8pm St James' Church. Evening of Christmas music and readings with the Downley Descants.
Tuesday 12th December 7.45pm, our monthly meeting, with Linda Lowell demonstrating Christmas flower arrangements. Do come!**

Angela Taplin



*An evening of Christmas music and readings with
the Downley Descants. Thursday 7th December 8pm*

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Downley Wine & Beer Club

A Gruut time by all in Ghent

The latest venture for the Downley Wine & Beer Club was our annual autumn trip to Belgium and this year it was Ghent who had the pleasure of our 22-strong set of enthusiastic travellers on a warm sunny weekend in late September.

Not unlike the UK, Belgium is seeing a re-surgence in craft breweries so a few of us visited the town's Gruut Brewery which is unique in that they brew their beer without the use of hops. The practice of this style of beer making using herbs & spices goes back to the 13th Century and has been revived by this tiny brewery who produce very small batches which have to be drunk relatively quickly due to the lack of hops normally used as a preservative.

So we were more than happy to help a brewer in need.

A few bottles of these unusual beers did turn up in Downley in the weeks following but didn't last long! The highlight of the trip was meeting up with our beer guide from last year, Werner Callebaut, who took us on a beer walk visiting some of the less touristic & interesting pubs in Ghent. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon where we tried beers you wouldn't normally have the opportunity to sample. At Proof Bar, we tried Ne Veurvechter Blond 7%

& I kiss my Stout at 6.2%. We continued onto Sint-Jorishof Pub where we tried their signature house beers, the St George's Blond & Dark at 8% and finished off the afternoon in De Trollenkelder Bar with a L'Arogante Bruin at 7.2%.

Whilst we also spent time cruising the canals, climbing the bell tower & exploring the medieval streets in this beautiful town, the food, the company & the beer made for a Gruut time by all. Prost!

Steve Morton

For more information contact us at dwbc@btinternet.com or follow us on Facebook at <https://tinyurl.com/DownleyWBClub>





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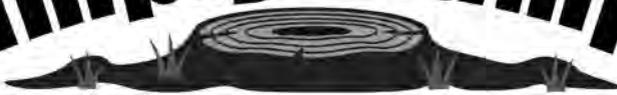
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Tel: 01494 528133

Library Opening Times

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

Email: enquiries@downleylibrary.org.uk



Follow us on Facebook.

You can link to us through 'Groups'. See what's new on the library shelves!

Book Charges

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. Free loan on all children's picture books.

Computer & Internet Facilities

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

We at the library are still on the lookout for unwanted fairly modern books that you might have tucked away which you think other library users might like to read, please bring them along to the library.

With winter not far away why not visit the library to pick up a book and cosy up to a warm fire. We have a large range of fiction to cover all tastes so we are sure you will find something to suit you. We also have many biographies of well known people that might suit your taste.





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Downley Day Update



At the recent AGM it was announced that grants would be awarded to the following organisations, all of which are based in or provide services to the residents of Downley. Spend it wisely please!

- Coffee Stop
- Disraeli Downley Youth Club
- Downley Dynamos
- Youth Enquiry Service
- MNDA
- One Can Trust
- Woodlands

The next event to be organised by

Downley Day is the Community Carol Singing to be held on Saturday 23rd December at 3pm, starting at Jubilee Green where the Christmas tree will be located, calling in at the Heights Care Home on the way and finishing at the Community Centre for mince pies and mulled wine.

A few belated thanks are due to the various sponsors of this year's Downley Day who didn't get a mention in the last edition, including Hillclimb Garage for supporting CotC, Q Logistics for the truck and most of the local village businesses, sadly too many to mention here.

Come the New Year we will be starting to think about Downley Day 2018 – anyone interested in getting involved on the organising committee, please contact us via info@downley.org.

Bill Thompson, Downley Day Committee

Downley Gardening Society

Didn't we do well! We had an excellent show followed by a great day out at Wisley.

The tables were full of entries at our annual Autumn horticultural show in all categories and the judges were most complimentary about the good standard we had achieved. Lots of useful tips were picked up from the vegetable judge. From 32 entrants there were 234 entries, a record for our society. It was lovely to see such a big crowd at prize giving and the tea and cakes were in great demand.

Our trip to Wisley was a pleasure and the weather held out until we were back on the coach thankfully. So much to see at the plant fair as well as the gardens.

Our monthly meetings started again in October in St James' Hall, all newcomers very welcome:

Monday 20th November

Talk by John Tyler - Trees and people

Monday 11th December

Talk by Brian Fisher - pruning, cutting etc with mulled wine and mince pies

Monday 15th January 2018

Talk by John Cornwall - Great gardens - with cheese and wine at our AGM

Hope to see you soon.

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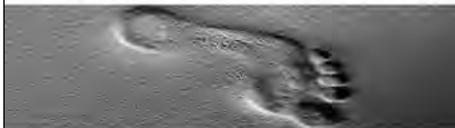
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Downley Diary

Round-up of Regular Activities

Downley Community Centre

Alzheimers Carers Support Group	4th Wed am
Art Group	Term time Mon & Tues 10am - 12.00
Breathe Easy	2nd Fri 13.00-15.00
Bridge Group	Thurs 19.15
Chipmunks Woodcarving	Wed 10am
Community Library	Mon & Sat 10am Thurs 15.00
Counselling	by appointment
Craft Group	1st Tues 9.30am - 12.30
Dance Classes (ballroom and Latin)	Tues 19.30 & Weds 20.00
Downley Village Evening WI	1st Tues 19.35
Downley Wine & Beer Club	2nd Wed 20.00
First Class Learning	Sat 10am
Flower club	3rd Tues 19.30
French Circle	2nd Fri 19.30
High Wycombe Church of Christ	2nd, 4th and 5th Sun 15.00
Kingdom Dynamics Chapel	Sun 10am - 12.00
Lace Making	Term time Thurs 12.45
Line Dancing	Tues 12.45 and Fri 10am
Martial arts	Monday 20.00
Mums & Toddlers Group	Term time Mon 9.30am
Pilates - term time	Mon 18.45, Wed 18.30, Thurs 19.30
Pilates for beginners	Term time Wed 9.30am
Relationship Counselling	By appt
Russian group	3rd Thurs 14.00
Simply Walk	Mon 10am and Thurs 11am
Sing & Sign	Thurs 10am - 11am (12 Coffee)
Tai Chi – for Arthritis	Term time Wed 10.30am
U3A Ukulele	4th Thurs 10am - 12.00
Wargamers	Mon 18.45
Wycombe Spiritual Centre	1st & 3rd Fri, 20.30
Yoga	Fri 19.30

Round-up of Regular Activities ...continued

St James Church Hall

Art Club	Thurs 9.30am
Assisted Scrabble	4th Friday of month 2.pm - 4.pm
Coffee Stop	Mon 10.30am
Dog Training	Tues 6pm
Downley and Disraeli Youth Club	Every Mon bar the 3rd of the month
Downley Evening WI	2nd Tues 7.45pm - in the Church
Downley Gardening Society	3rd Mon of month 8pm
Greatest Hits Choir	Tues 8.30pm
Karate	Wed 7pm
Links Lunches	Fri 10.30am
Louise Dance Class	Sat 9.30am
Natailie's Meditation Class	Wed 8.30pm -10.30pm
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 at 8pm

Downley War Memorial Hall

Fencing Training	Wed & Fri 5.00pm
Sunshine Montessori	8.30am Term time only
Yoga	Wed 9.45am
Yoga	Term time Fri 9.15 am
Pilates	Mon 7pm

Guide & Scout Centre

Rainbows.Brownies/Guides	Mon from 4.30pm
Guides	Tues from 7.15pm
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Wed from 6.00pm
Dog Training	Thurs from 6.30pm
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Fri from 4.30pm

St James Church Downley - Weekly Events

Sundays 11.00 Holy Communion
Wednesday afternoons 1.30-3.00 Tots and Teddies
Thursday mornings 9.30 POP-IN
Thursday evenings Pub Quiz at the Brickies
We'd love to see you !

Downley Methodist Church, Moor Lane Details of Christmas services:

Carol Service Sunday 17 December
9.30am-10.30am
Christmas Eve service with Rev David Holmes
9.30am-10.30am
Christmas Day service with Rev Gregory Hargrove
10am-10.45am
The service on New Year's Eve will be at .930am and
will be a local arrangement.

We look forward to welcoming you at any, or all of
these services.

**Regards,
Clive Knapman**

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
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SERVICES AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JAMES

We meet for worship every Sunday at 11.00am.
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Family Communion

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cannot be reported without this information.

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 once
a month, on the first Thursday of the month. Please
post flyers through the letterbox at the Community
Centre clearly marked for the Clerks attention. Please
notify the Clerk if you have posted flyers at the centre
by emailing to downley_pc@tiscali.co.uk

**All notices must be for local non profit organisations.
Please ensure that A5 size notices are supplied.**

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

- Dec 3 Downley Common Preservation Society Work Party, 10am at the Old Dairy
- 7 St James Church Coffee Morning from 9.30 - 12.30 every Thursday
- 8 Wycombe Concert Band Christmas Concert at Chilternwood School at 7.30pm
- 9 Christmas Fayre and Children's Craft Day at St James Church at 1.30pm
- 11 Downley Gardening Society at St James Church Hall at 7.30pm
- 12 Parish Council meeting 7.30pm at the Community Centre
- 12 NHS Health Check at The Community Centre all day - see page 11 for details
- 13 DCPS mid-week work party, 10am at the tank crossing (by cricket pitch)
- 14 St James Church Coffee Morning from 9.30 - 12.30 every Thursday
- 14 Downley Descants Christmas Concert at St James Church at 7.30pm
- 16 Father Christmas at the Community Centre in the morning
- 17 Carol Service at Downley Methodist Church at 9.30am
- 17 Christingle Service at St James Church at 4pm
- 18 Downley Descants at the Coffee Stop at St James Church Hall at 12pm
- 21 St James Church Coffee Morning from 9.30 - 12.30 every Thursday
- 21 Carols on the Common at the Beacon at 6.30pm
- 23 Community Carol Singing starts Jubilee Green at 3pm ends the Community Centre
- 24 Christmas Eve service at Downley Methodist Church at 9.30am
- 24 Christmas Eve service at St James Church at 11am
- 25 Christmas Day service at Downley Methodist Church at 10am
- 25 Christmas Morning Holy Communion at St James Church at 11am
- 28 St James Church Coffee Morning from 9.30 - 12.30 every Thursday
- 31 New Year Beacon at the Beacon on Commonside

Gosling Grove Pond - update

Almost twelve months ago the gradual deterioration and eventual likely loss of the pond in Gosling Grove was discussed at a Parish Council meeting.

It was agreed that a report should be obtained with budget costs of remedial work and that the level of public feeling sought at Downley Day

Conversations with villagers at Downley Day indicated a strong desire that efforts should be made to avoid losing such a precious village asset.

One fact which has become clear is that a large part of the demise of the pond is caused by the vast amount of water consumed by the magnificent trees surrounding it.

The Chiltern Rangers – a social enterprise delivering practical habitat management and advice in the Chilterns – were approached for their advice. Their suggestions for the first stage of improvement were to remove incursive vegetation, a couple of poor quality trees and to tackle the duck island.

A report was presented to the Parish Council which immediately approved some funds to make a start on trying to arrest the decline.

A Community Day on 29 September was organised with seven people from the Rangers and more than twelve local volunteers turning up to help. The Parish Clerk arrived with some sandwiches, rolls and cold drinks the Rangers

supplied tea, coffee and cake...

From the feedback received from the volunteers, it was a very physical but satisfying day which made a visible difference and had villagers working side by side with people they hadn't met before.

Much incursive growth was removed, the duck island rebuilt, a few small trees cleared and the general view of the pond opened up.

The next stage will be to remove some of the mud from the centre to try and increase the amount of visible water. This will need an excavator, for which we currently await costs, before applying to the Parish Council for further funding.

A lot of serious effort was put in and sincere thanks are due to everyone who took part in any way before and on the day.

If you missed the chance to play your part – I feel sure there will be more opportunities - watch this space !

*Clive Knapman
Community in Action Group (the CIA)*

The pond before...



...and during work



Up! Downley

Planning ahead and looking for your feedback

We have had a great 4 years of the Up! Downley Festival, with 2017 being our most successful! With high attendance across all events, we made a fair profit, which we could give back to the community. In fact, this year the festival donated £1995 to The Community Heartbeat Trust - for a defibrillator at the Sports Pavillion. We also gave £266 to Hearing Dogs for Deaf People.

The festival remains popular so we don't want to reinvent the wheel, therefore 2018 will build on the existing winning line up. We will be looking to provide the same amount of fun and enjoyment, but believe we can get better on how you experience the festival.

It has been suggested we need to communicate earlier and more clearly. So, starting as we mean to go on, you can find a provisional programme on page 35 apposite (this is subject to updates).

Scarecrows

The village scarecrows are the face of the Up! Festival around the village. In 2017 we had to cancel the popular Scarecrow Workshop and made no clear announcement to put scarecrows up.

To help us get things right for 2018 we would love to hear from you. In particular, how we can publicise scarecrows and organize the competition. Find out how to give us feedback further below.

How we will make our popular events run better

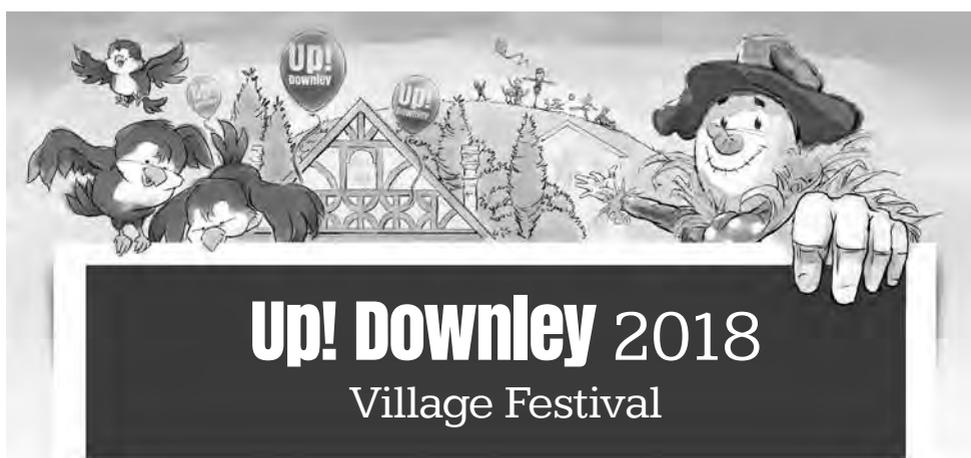
Along with the already popular events, last year we added a German themed Oompah band night. We had no idea how popular it would be - but it went down a storm with its mix of Oompah humour, singing, dancing, silly competitions, Bratwurst sausages and beer.

However, we underestimated the popularity, in particular - the last minute ticket sales, meaning we had late trips out to top up supplies. That will not happen next year and we will encourage early booking to make sure there is plenty of great food and beer to go round.

We want to hear from you

The UP festival committee would love to hear from you with your comments, suggestions or ideas. Please get in touch via festival@downley.org or feel free to come along to our friendly meetings conveniently held in the Le De Spencer. Our next planning session will be held on 8th January 2017 at 8pm in the Le de Spencers Arms.





Up! Downley 2018

Village Festival

The Programme - so far*

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
11	12	13	14	15	16 Downley Day	17
18	19 Expo Downley	20 Comedy Night	21	22 Oompah Band German Beer Fest Evening	23 Downley Dynamos Day Downley Wine & Beer Club Tasting Event	24 Open Gardens
25	26 Downley Common On the Dark Side, Winter Solstice Walk	27	28 Downley Descants Concert	29	30	1 Morgan & West Theatre Magic Show
Le De Beer Festival						
2	3	4	5	6 Moonrakers Folk Concert	7	8 Concert on the Common
Downley Village Art Show						

*Subject to updates



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From Westminster to Wycombe

Steve Baker MP



Until the end of the year, my work as a Minister in the Department for Exiting the European Union will revolve around leading the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill in the Commons.

The purpose of the Bill is to bring all current EU law into British law so that there will be a smooth transition as the country leaves the EU and to make the UK an independent country. It is expected to be one of the most significant legislative processes ever undertaken. This means I will spend a lot of time in the House of Commons setting out the Government's position and answering questions from fellow parliamentarians. There are three principal purposes to the Bill: repealing the European Communities Act; converting all EU law into UK law; and creating the necessary powers to correct deficiencies in EU law arising from our withdrawal.

Although my Ministerial responsibilities are large, I maintain my strong commitment to the people of Wycombe. I continue to attend many civic, charity and community functions and I hold advice bureaux for constituents regularly. This allows me to hear people's experiences at first hand and in turn I make representations to Ministers and other authorities. One issue which a number of people have raised with me is the matter of housing availability, especially for younger people who are facing the real prospect of having to move away from the Wycombe area to find affordable accommodation. I have been clear I support the building of new housing in the area, particularly on brownfield sites in the town. I have heard that some letting agents in the town will not show rented housing to people earning less than £35,000. I think this illustrates the local housing situation has reached crisis point, and I have asked the local District Council to work

with me to change this. The Government has announced plans for Build for Rent schemes, and I would hope we could take this forward locally. If you have ideas for imaginative schemes to bring down rents and build more homes please let me know and I will be happy to take these to the relevant people.

In September I accompanied Professor Jonathan Benger, the National Clinical Director for Urgent Care for NHS England, to Wycombe Hospital. I know that, just like me, almost everyone living in High Wycombe would like to see A&E at Wycombe Hospital. I asked Professor Benger to visit the hospital, view its facilities and give me his impartial view based on clinical evidence on whether it would be possible to have A&E returned. His view was that he thought Wycombe would be a good place for an Urgent Treatment Centre. An Urgent Treatment Centre would allow us to have the vast majority of the urgent treatment we need in Wycombe without having to travel to different hospitals. My meeting with Professor Benger confirmed my understanding that modern medicine means Wycombe will not see the return of an old-style A&E but that changes to services have been clinically led and are intended to produce the best possible outcomes for patients.

If you would like to get in touch with me, please email: steve.baker.mp@parliament.uk. If you despair of bureaucracy and would like my help with a particular issue, please phone my constituency office on 01494 448408.

I know it is very early, but I should like to wish all readers a happy Christmas. Steve Baker MP



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News from the District

The final draft new Local Plan has been published for consultation prior to submission to the Secretary of State. The consultation is open until 11.59pm Monday 27th November. Details of the plan and how to respond can be found at www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/About-the-council/Have-your-say/Consultations/Consultation-Publication-of-the-Wycombe-District-Local-Plan



Wycombe District Council has completed a hat-trick after Hughenden Park was awarded a Green Flag Award – joining The Rye and Higginson Park in flying the flag. The Green Flag will be raised in Hughenden Park for the first time after it was recognised for its beauty and upkeep by the judges to complete the clean sweep for Wycombe District Council which manages the district's three major parks. The council unveiled a new play area at the park recently, the upgraded play area really is excellent and I'm sure many families will enjoy bringing their children to Hughenden Park to use it for many years to come. The council released £168,000 from its Facilities for Young People Capital Fund to pay for the refurbishment, part of a rolling play area replacement programme. Wycombe District Council's Cabinet Member for Community Cllr Graham Peart said: "We are delighted that Hughenden Park has joined The Rye and Higginson Park in getting the recognition it deserves, which is a beautiful and well managed park that residents, families and visitors to the district thoroughly enjoy. We know how much quality green spaces matter to our residents and visitors, and these awards not only celebrates the beauty of our parks but also highlights the dedication of the council and our contractor in maintaining them to such a high standard."

Around 12,500 homes and businesses across Bucks are set to benefit from better internet connectivity, thanks to almost £5million of funding into the second phase of a countywide broadband extension programme. Wycombe District Council is investing £860,000 to extend broadband coverage to more than 4,500 homes and businesses in the Wycombe district.

There are still parts of the district that don't have broadband, making sharing information over the internet for businesses and homes in those areas a real challenge.

Wycombe District Council is among the first few local authorities in the country to launch its own online community lottery to benefit good causes. Wycombe Lotto tickets cost £1 with 60p going towards local good causes. That is more than double the 28p in the pound which the National Lottery passes on from its ticket sales. The Wycombe Lotto prize draw will be held weekly with a jackpot of £25,000 for a matching sequence of six numbers. In addition, there will be other cash prizes of £2,000, £250, £25 or three free tickets. There will be two parts to the Wycombe Lotto scheme, local good causes are able to join the scheme and set up and promote their own dedicated Wycombe Lotto webpage to raise funds. When people buy Wycombe Lotto tickets directly through their preferred local cause, 50p in every pound spent by players using this method will go directly to that good cause. A further 10p in every pound will go into a general Community Chest fund to support a wider range of good causes. The remaining 40p in each £1 will be put towards prizes, operating costs and VAT. Players who do not wish to support a specific cause will still be able to play in the Wycombe Lotto with 60p of their ticket price going into the general Community Chest good causes fund. Wycombe District Council will then distribute the money between all the good causes registered with them to participate in Wycombe Lotto.

*Paul Turner, Wycombe District Councillor
paul.turner@wycombe.gov.uk
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Electronic Bus Information at Eden Bus Station

Downley residents have raised issues about the continuing unreliability of the electronic displays at Eden and at selected bus stops. Sadly, the High Wycombe system managed by Bucks County Council has short comings as this recent and unedited statement from Paul Goodwin below shows:

‘The electronic system in use at High Wycombe is an automatic system and as there are no managers overseeing the bus station there are no manual updates done to the system. It is reliant on buses being tracked and drivers putting correct information into their ticket machines from which the bus details are transmitted to the system. If a bus is tracked and is running late it will remain on the displays until it departs the bus station, if it is not tracked then it will disappear of the displays at scheduled departure time. The system has no way of knowing if a bus is on the wrong bay and it is up to the drivers to ensure they call out to waiting passengers.....although in reality this rarely happens.

There is a newer system available, but in the current financial situation Local Authorities are in we do not have the £300,000 that would be needed for the upgrade.

The bus operators do have access to part of the system that allows for cancelled journeys to be input which would then appear on the bus station and other roadside displays. Unfortunately for some reason it is rare they use it. We do ask them to ensure their duty managers use it, but we can't force them.’

**Contact Paul Goodwin, Passenger Transport, Client and Public Transport Team - Transport, Economy and Environment with your views at:
Buckinghamshire County Council, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY**

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That could be A&E, an out-of-hours doctor, an urgent care centre, a walk-in-centre, a community nurse, an emergency dentist, or a late-opening chemist.

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SCIENCE & MATHS FOR FUN

THE POWER OF BACTERIAL REPRODUCTION

If you were to catch a bacterial infection over the Winter months you would be wise to ensure that its effects are minimised. To do this ensure you are eating a healthy whole food, low sugar, vitamin and mineral rich diet. This way your body's immune system will be able to fight back against the disease and clear it up all by itself, in almost every case. This is an amazing achievement. Imagine the possible numbers of bacteria involved; or better still let's calculate them. After doing the following calculation (or checking out the answers) you will certainly agree that these life forms are amazing, and you will possibly feel inclined to wash your hands.

If one bacteria enters your body in ideal conditions for its growth, without any restrictions each bacteria might reproduce itself every twenty minutes. Theoretically how many bacteria will be present after just:

In addition to organ development this epigenetics (simplistically put, environment's/nurture's effect on genetics) has an important role to play in the lives of all beings. Though clones of organisms, such as identical twins, are similar they will not be entirely identical, and will not always succumb to the same diseases; the twin's genes are the same, their initial environment was the same (same womb), but where they have been, what they have been exposed to, and what they have ingested has varied. Different genes will be switched on/off in each individual as a consequence of their lives.

- a. 2 hours
- b. 6 hours
- c. 7 hours
- d. 1 day
- e. 4 days 14 hours 40 minutes

(Answers to 1 decimal place.)

On this occasion I think the answers need to form a part of the article, so do have a go before reading on. Calculators are certainly allowed, and essential from question 'b' onwards.

ANSWERS

a. For this first question you could have simply used a doubling method as it is quick and easy. There are 3x20 minute periods in every hour, and therefore 6 of these in 2 hours. If the bacteria double themselves once every 20 minutes that is 6 replications in 2 hours, so doubling 6 times.
 $2 \times 1 = 2$, $2 \times 2 = 4$, $2 \times 4 = 8$, $2 \times 8 = 16$, $2 \times 16 = 32$, $2 \times 32 = 64$
Alternatively you could have used the following formula, which you would certainly need for the next questions:
E=Number of Bacteria at the end of the time period
B=Number of Bacteria at the start of the time period
n=Number of replications
The 2 is used because each replication doubles the number.

Continued on page 47...

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...Continued from page 45

$$E = B \times 2$$

Also written as $E = B^n$ (I can't type most exponentials in the first format).

$$\text{In this case } E = 1 \times 2^6 = 64$$

b. 6 hours = 3x6 lots of 20 minutes = 18 doublings

$$E = B \times 2^n = 1 \times 2^{18} = 262,144 \text{ Bacteria}$$

c. 7 hours = 3 x 7 lots of 20 minutes = 21 doublings

$$E = 1 \times 2^{21} = 2,097,152 \text{ Bacteria}$$

d.1 day = 24 hours = 24 x 3 lots of 20 minutes = 72 doublings

$$E = 1 \times 2^{72} = 4.7 \times 10^{21} \text{ Bacteria}$$

Or 47 with 20 zeros after it, 4,700,000,000,000,000,000,000

e.4 days 14 hours and 40 minutes = (4x 24) + 14 hours + 40mins = 110 hours + 40 minutes = (110 x 3) + 2 lots of 20 minutes = 332 doublings

$$E = 1 \times 2^{332} = 8.7 \times 10^{99}$$

87 with 98 zeros after it.

I chose this strange figure because it is the largest amount of time my calculator could cope with.

DISCUSSION

Let's put these numbers in context.

- There are 10 trillion stars in the Milky Way, that's 10^{12}
The bacteria will exceed this number in 40 doublings, that's just over 13 hours.
- There are roughly 10^{19} grains of sand on all of Earth's beaches in total.
The bacteria will exceed this in 64 doublings, that's under 22hours.
- There are 10^{24} stars in the Universe.
The bacteria would exceed this in 80 doublings, just over a day (around 27 hours).

At this point I am sure we are all grateful that not all bacteria replicate at this rate, and that all bacteria only replicate at their maximum level for a relatively short period of time, and only in ideal conditions. However, despite their microscopic size (about a tenth of the size of a human cell), there can be no doubting the power of every bacteria.

BY JILL BURRELL



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J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints

Wal me ole mates, it's here agin! Wot is you may well arsk, wal it's winter, - dark, cold and wet, just right for yor log fire and a little drop of summat a'warmin yor insides eh! Wal it's time to git a'tellin you about pests and manure, you've got to git a'quainted with both if you warnts to git summat wurth while orf yor plot. First of orl, pests. I loves reedin' in old gardinin books, them Victorians, in them big house gardens, wal they knew a lot eh! So how about Boys? A' climin

Over yor wall to scrump yor fruit (mostly from Napple I reckons). So this from a Victorian garden pest finder document, " For boys, smear the garden wall top with red ochre and grease, then observe trousers". And for moles, " Watch them from between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. (Hillock making time), eject with a fork". Hmmm, sounds good to me, six hours a'sittin on my chair up the plot, fork at the ready!

Then manure, wal there's not that many 'orses round here, not like there used to be, but well rotted 'orse droppings is the stuff to use... (but make sure there's no weed killer in it, sum times grass in the meddows is a'treated with weed killer, which later on gose through the 'orse and onto yor prize vegetable plot...). Wal wot you needs to know is that firstly manure is a fertilizer, and contains orl the ingredients of fertilizers, which are nitrogen, phosphoric acid and/or potash, to put back wot yor veg. has taken out. Manure of corse also has 'humous', essenshul for soil quality. So git yourselves an 'orse and a bucket ha ha! (one 'orse can produce 12,450 pounds 0f droppings a year, which could make about 30 tons of manure!) I wonders who weighed it up, wot a job, but they duz things like that up Stoken, scientific like, getting stuck in, if you sees wot I means!

And from 'Profitable Gardening' by Shirley Hibberd.... " On a given area of land, No manure 3 X seed employed, 5X with garden

compost, 7X cow manure, 9X pigeon manure, 10X horse manure, 12X human urine or goats dung, 12X sheep, 14X human manure of bullocks blood". Wal, there's yor choice!

So wot was yor autumn like, in the gardin or up the plot? My toms and spuds got the blight, even with sprayin' with Bordeaux mixture, weeds did really well due to too much to do at home a'keepin Mrs H. happy... Hmmm. But beans and kale , courgettes and pumkins very good, and leeks when you can find 'em in the weeds will be very good too. (Wal, weeds is just plants in the wrong place, and of course them weeds seed heads are a good food source

For them birds, but try to keep 'em orf yor neighbours plot, wal, I suppose it depends on how you gets on with them, eh!). Then for the gardin, still time to get yor bulbs in, them alliums, espeshully them long stems ones are awesum (wal that's wot the grand kids ses). Then get yor garlic in, and spring cabbage (well protected of corse, and sprinkle sum mixed salad leaves in a cold frame or in a pot on yor winder sill. Don't forget to prune you soft fruit (see my Autumn writins) and cut down the laveteria and budlia as much as you can, it'll grow back really quick next year. And don't forget yor lawn mower, oil it up and grease it, if you've got a big one it'll 'ave a chain sum where, give it a good oilin because them chains gets rusty and stiff over winter otherwise. Wal then, soon it's Christmas and the New year, 2018, Can you believe it, time to pay yor plot rent to the Council, (they passes it on to the Lord of the Manor,-- who? " Thank you sir, thank you for letting us peasants 'ave the stoniest bit of land in Downley" ! Mind you dirty hands make clean money, though sum of them pollytishuns seem to get it round the other way...

See you in 2018, Cheerio and a'bientot.

J.H. sent from my I Spade



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Downley War Memorial Hall

With the horror of Passchendaele over, and having lost nine Downley men in seven months, there was a bit of a respite before the death of another soldier from the Village.

Edward Plumridge Putman was killed in action on 5 February 1918. He was 19 years old and a private in the Somerset Light Infantry. Unlike many of the others that I have written about there is little indication of where he was or what was going on. Few internet sites cover any events on the Western Front between early December, the end of the Battle of Passchendaele, and late March which saw the German's Spring Offensive.

This offensive was widely anticipated by the Allies and substantial efforts were being made to ensure a defensive set-up that could withstand it. During this time it is likely that both sides were using snipers, random shelling, etc. to disrupt the opposition.

Once again, The South Bucks Free Press was able to help. When reporting his death the paper included an extract from a letter to his parents from his Commanding Officer. Along with a comrade Edward was collecting dinners from the cooks about a quarter of a mile from the trenches when a stray shell exploded nearby killing him instantly.

Another comrade wrote saying "... He was a good man, always willing to do everything that was asked of him. The platoon were very sorry to hear of his death"

Prior to being called up Edward worked as an upholsterer at Mr Bridgewater Spriggs factory in Downley.

Edward is recorded on the 1901 Census as living in Chapel Street with his mother and

her parents. Ten years later the records show that just he and his grandmother are still there. At the time of his death his mother was living in Walworth south east London.

Elsewhere, the Food Control Committee had published a schedule of maximum meat prices which included Rump steak 2/- (10p) and Pig's heart -/4d (1½p) per pound (450g)!

The group raising money for an X-ray machine that I mentioned a few issues ago had reached their target and arranged for its installation at the Cottage Hospital. Davenport Vernon was advertising toys for Christmas including Fire Engines, Dolls and Interlocking Bricks.

Private R Blanchard of Downley had been reported as wounded in action and fellow villager Private J West was a prisoner of war. The King had called for a day of Prayer and Intercession on Sunday 6 January 1918 and the Mayor of Wycombe had expressed his wish that local people would refrain from work that day and Public Houses would remain closed.

Back to the present, it is half-term as I write this and the Trustees have taken the opportunity to bring in a specialist contractor to replace the 94 year-old floor. Most of it should be completed this week. Next time you visit, perhaps for the Remembrance Day service on Sunday 12th November, you will be able to see what has been done.

The Trustees have also made two bookings for events during Up Festival 2018, details to follow.

Alan Baker. alambaker49@btinternet.com
07890 762527

PTE. E. PUTMAN GIVES HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY.

Mr and Mrs J. Putman have received official news from the War Office that Pte. E. Putman, No. 2679, Somerset L.I., has been killed in action. As will be seen by a letter from his officer, "Paddy" (as he was called) was instantaneously killed by a shell while fetching up dinners some distance from the trenches. It only seems a few days ago that he was home on his last leave. He was a bright lad, very popular in the village, an enthusiastic footballer, and, with many others who like him have made the supreme sacrifice, he will be missed indeed when the boys return. He was 19 years of age.



THE LATE PTE. E. PUTMAN.

Before he was called up, he was employed at Mr. Bridgewater Spriggs' as an upholsterer, and he was much respected by his employer and fellow workmen. Ser. Lieut. G. E. Clarke, the com-

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BRING YOUR OWN DRINK

Letters

It is with great sadness that the Parish Council announces the death of Cllr. Barry Gay. Cllr. Gay was the Vice Chairman of the Downley Parish Council until he passed away in August 2017 and prior to that he had served as Chairman for five years.

In addition to being a Councillor, Barry was a much valued trustee of the Downley Old School Community Centre. He was involved in many volunteer groups in the village and one of the original members of the Downley Descants and for nine years a leader of the now well established Simply Walk group.

Cllr. Gay made an immeasurable contribution to Downley and is sincerely missed by all those who had the privilege of working with him. His commitment to Downley was tremendous and Cllr. Gay's legacy will live on in many of the Community initiatives that take place every day which so many of us enjoy.

Barry's family are fundraising to support further research into the rapid progression of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis from which he suffered. Josephoen Greeting Cards will be donating 20% of all sales made at several events during the month of November to this research program and if you would like to find out how you can support this cause please contact Jo Belshaw on 07717 501053.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Cllr. Barry Gay's family.



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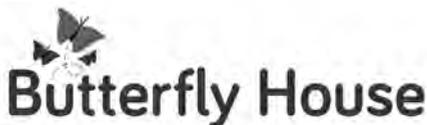
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Volunteer with us at:



The South Bucks Community Hospice

We would love you, your friends and family to help us make our pre-Christmas events amazing by volunteering to help at the following... you will have a great time and Christmas antlers will be provided!

15.12.17 Christmas Collection Morrison's Bag Packing & Bucket Collection 1.00pm - 5.00pm

23.12.17 Christmas Collection Waitrose Bag Packing & Bucket Collection 8.00am - 12.00pm

Then join us for our Annual Snowdrop Sunday event at the stunning West Wycombe Park on 18 February 2018. Family friendly activities taking place throughout the day. Save the date in your diary for this popular family day out! Please go to our website – full details will be released shortly. *To volunteer your help at Snowdrop Sunday please contact Sue as below – Thank you!*

For more details and to offer your help, please contact Sue Hannaford at:

volunteers@sbhospice.org.uk

Visit us: www.sbh.org.uk

Follow us: @SBucksHospice

Like us: www.facebook.com/SouthBucksHospice

Registered Charity No. 1128881

Other Current Volunteer Vacancies Include:

- Charity Shop Assistants & Sorters
- Patient Drivers
- Help With Fundraising & Events

Computer Problems?

We offer friendly and professional service to home users and small business

Computer Running slow / Broadband issues / Data Recovery

Problem with Wireless Network / Virus Removal

Need New Affordable Laptop or Desktop Computer

NO CALLOUT CHARGES

Contact: Joel

0777 1814264

01494 438124

joel@jocom.co.uk

www.jocom.co.uk



Altea The Downley Holistic Centre
High Street, Downley, High Wycombe HP13 5XJ
01494 528285
www.alteadownley.co.uk

**£5 OFF ANY TREATMENT OVER £40
PLEASE PRESENT THIS VOUCHER**

PLEASE PHONE TO BOOK
(NO OTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY)

ALSO AVAILABLE:

**CLARINS TREATMENTS, REFLEXOLOGY, INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE, BODY MASSAGE, FACIALS,
WAXING, TINTING, MANICURES, PEDICURES, GEL NAILS, SPRAY TANNING,
EYELASH EXTENSIONS, CACI TREATMENTS & COUNSELLING.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU.**

**ALTEA WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES**

Jill - Tutor



11 + Tutoring and Mock Tests

Students learn topics and skills they will need whatever school they move on to following the selection exam, and they maximise their academic potential both in exams and in school work.

Mock tests give students a chance to acclimatise to exam taking and to learn that exams are to be enjoyed and not dreaded.

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

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

To discuss your needs please text me;

Jill: 0773 860 99 44

List Of Advertisers

Academy GB Doors	46	Mark Gonsalves Kitchen & Bathroom Specialist	20
Adult Learning Courses	38	M.D . Garden Services	54
Altea Beauty & Holistic Centre	57	M&J Motors	36
A Hollick	18	Natalie Jane Dance School	38
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Groewood Foot Clinic	8	Sing and Sign	28
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Hammond Construction	6	The Acupuncture Point	18
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J H Austin Painting & Decorating	36	The Painted Kitchen Company	26
Jill Burrell Tutor	57	The Professional Building Company	54
Joel Akinsipe Computer Problems	56	The Results Academy	40
JR Travel. Private Hire	55	The Window Doctor	42
Keeping It Clean	16	The Wye Partnership	2
K M G Building Contractors	20	TLC 4 You	10
Le De Spencers Arms	50	Top Marks Tuition	28
M A Hunt Painting & Decorating	22	Tutor 'A' Level Chemistry	18
Mark Braisher Mortgages	50	Woodland Management	14
Mark Evans Plumbing & Heating Engineers	44	Zumba with Karen	16

Credits

Editor

Simon Scott at editor@downley.org

Layout

Pat Weedon and Penny Stanley 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: desmondryan64@gmail.com 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 31st January 2018.

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

Webmaster Mark Starkey

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