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COMMUNITY**

SPRING/SUMMER/AUTUMN/WINTER

Village News

Issue 140/August 2024



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Editorial

With summer only just arrived, it's time for the autumn edition of Downley Village News.

First of all, how wonderful to welcome back the postbox topper near the Co-op this summer! We have really missed them, so thank you to the phantom postbox-topper-maker.

It's been quite a summer, what with a busy Up! Downley festival, as always, and a General Election too. As you will see, our new MP, Emma Reynolds, has put in an article and we hope this will be a regular spot again.

Sadly, Arriva have pulled out of running our local buses but thankfully Carousel are taking over. We did ask Carousel to submit something to DVN, but they must be too busy organising the new system, so the new bus timetable (number 30) is reproduced on page 5. It's quite similar to the Arriva timetable, with buses mostly timetabled to run every half an hour during weekdays. Here's hoping they run a bit more regularly than before!

I do hope you all managed to enjoy at least some of the events during the summer. Our thanks to all who spend so much time and effort organising both Downley Day and the festival (and other Downley events over the year). Not all local areas are so fortunate!

Our next edition will be the Winter one, which will be out in mid-November (in plenty of time to advertise Christmas events). As usual, we will be delighted to hear from any organisation in Downley (or the surrounding area) with news or information. You can submit articles via the email address editor@downley.org. Copy deadline is midday on **Sunday 27 October 2024** but please get your copy in as early as possible as space is limited.

Anne, Editor • editor@downley.org



DOWNLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held
on 2nd Tuesday of the month
at **Downley Community Centre,**
School Close 7.30pm

Up to 30 minutes are allowed for public questions

Downley Parish Council,
Community Centre School Close,
Downley, HP13 5TR

The Clerk can be contacted on
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(office hrs 9am-1pm Monday – Friday)

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Cross Court Shops
Memorial Hall
Tinkers Wood Road
Vibe Church
Hughenden Avenue
Bus Station

0620	0650	0720	0800	0830	00	30	1500	1530	1555	1625	1655	1725	1800	1830	1930	2030	2130
0625	0655	0725	0805	0835	05	35	1505	1536	1601	1631	1701	1731	1806	1836	1935	2035	2135
0631	0701	0731	0811	0841	11	41	1511	1543	1608	1638	1708	1738	1813	1843	1941	2041	2141
0635	0705	0735	0815	0845	15	45	1515	1548	1613	1643	1713	1743	1818	1848	1945	2045	2145
0637	0707	0737	0817	0847	17	47	1517	1550	1615	1645	1715	1745	1819	1849	1946	2046	2146
0642	0712	0742	0822	0852	22	52	1522	1555	1620	1650	1720	1750	1824	1854	1951	2051	2151
0643	0713	0743	0823	0853	23	53	1523	1556	1621	1651	1721	1751	1826	1856	1952	2052	2152
0649	0719	0749	0829	0859	29	59	1529	1602	1627	1657	1727	1757	1833	1903	1959	2059	2159
0655	0725	0755	0835	0905	35	05	1535	1608	1633	1703	1733	1803	1840	1910	2005	2105	2205

Saturdays

Bus Station Bay 8
Hughenden Avenue
Vibe Church
Cross Court Shops
Memorial Hall
Tinkers Wood Road
Vibe Church
Hughenden Avenue
Bus Station

0700	0730	0800	0830	00	30	1800	1830	1930	2030	2130
0705	0735	0805	0835	05	35	1805	1835	1935	2035	2135
0711	0741	0811	0841	11	41	1811	1841	1941	2041	2141
0715	0745	0815	0845	15	45	1815	1845	1945	2045	2145
0717	0747	0817	0847	17	47	1817	1847	1946	2046	2146
0722	0752	0822	0852	22	52	1822	1852	1951	2051	2151
0723	0753	0823	0853	23	53	1823	1853	1952	2052	2152
0729	0759	0829	0859	29	59	1829	1859	1959	2059	2159
0735	0805	0835	0905	35	05	1835	1905	2005	2105	2205

Sundays and most Public Holidays

Bus Station Bay 8
Hughenden Avenue
Vibe Church
Cross Court Shops
Memorial Hall
Tinkers Wood Road
Vibe Church
Hughenden Avenue
Bus Station

0830	0930	1030	1130	1230	1330	1430	1530	1630	1730	1830	1930	2030
0835	0935	1035	1135	1235	1335	1435	1535	1635	1735	1835	1935	2035
0841	0941	1041	1141	1241	1341	1441	1541	1641	1741	1841	1941	2041
0845	0945	1045	1145	1245	1345	1445	1545	1645	1745	1845	1945	2045
0847	0947	1047	1147	1247	1347	1447	1547	1647	1747	1847	1946	2046
0852	0952	1052	1152	1252	1352	1452	1552	1652	1752	1852	1951	2051
0853	0953	1053	1153	1253	1353	1453	1553	1653	1753	1853	1952	2052
0859	0959	1059	1159	1259	1359	1459	1559	1659	1759	1859	1959	2059
0905	1005	1105	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	1705	1805	1905	2005	2105

Downley Parish Notice Boards

Notices for the Parish notice boards should be left at the Community Centre. Notices must be received one month in advance of the event. Notice boards are updated on the first Thursday of each month. Please post notices into the letterbox at the Community Centre clearly marked for the Clerks attention. Please notify the Clerk if you have posted a notice at the centre by emailing to clerk@downleyparishcouncil.org

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

STREET LIGHTING

Please report all lighting repairs to the Parish Clerk

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J. Heartycough's Horticultural Hints

Autumn 2024

Wal, wot a year so far eh! First we had enuff rain to float the Isle of Wight, or make Downley an island, then orl of a suddin it stopped and stayed stopped until you cud trip over the cracks in the ground up the plot, let alone the cricket field. Mind you rite now in mid July its been a'bukkitten down agin. But it's only now getting a bit warm, so my tommy toes didn't want to go red until I givs em a good a'talkin to, so now they've decided to get a move on, so they obviously listened to me ha ha! "I reckons that the first, he never listens to me, especially when I ses summat about his boots on the carpet" ses Mrs H. Wal, I woz just back from the plot, a cupple of hours hard labour bringin in them luvly charlotte spuds to keep the wolf from the door, and orl I gets is a tellin orf eh!



Anyways, I've just finished readin about sum wun who moved to a house with a semi wild gardin and, to quote.. "aware of the crisis facing the natural world she learned to accept the wildness and find joy in it". That made me think a bit (I duzz sometimes), and do a bit of research and I found out that there are 22.7 million gardins in the UK, and that's a lot of possibilities for a touch of gardin wilderness eh? That's more than orl them nature reserves added together, so let them weeds grow a bit, and maybe they'll become wild flowers eh!

So wor about sum hints for the autumn eh? Wal, its getting yor compost a'goin, and now the Council ses no bonnies up the plot then you've just got to compost orl the stuff left over from yor harvest. I likes the word 'harvest', reminds me of them harvest festivals I went to as a kid.. 'Orl is safely gathered in' we used to belt out down in the chapel in Wycombe. Wal, 'How to build a compost heap'... Wal you wants to build sum sort of container to hold orl yor stuff, say about four foot high and six acrose, pallets is good, or wire sheep fencin, that's wot I uses, I'll show you mine up the plot. I reckons to get it a'goin you can put orl the woody stuff you've got, chopped up into the bottom, then layers of uther stuff mixed with grass cuttins or the like, spud plant tops, cabbage stalks chopped up, gone to seed lettuces and so on, turn it over evry cupple of munths and ittle get hotter and hotter, sumtimes a'steemin away, giv it a year or so, maybe two, it'll settle deyn and you can top it. I've got three on the go, wun reddy for spreddin over my plot this autumn. Summut else I uses is good ole 'Growmore' fertiliser added, because yor compost don't orlways ave these magic ingredients. Compost helps brake up the clay up the plot, mine is just getting in good shape arfter nearly fifty years, Jubilee Allotments, The Queen's Silver Jubilee when the plots up Mannings got started. Anyway, after a couple of years you'll have orl yor luvly self made compost, it costs nuthin apart from a bit of work, no need to buy that gardin centre stuff eh! And its not manure, so if you can get sum well rotted horse or cow manure you can mix that in too. Wal, that's my hint this autumn.

Then Ive just had a card from my French cousin, J d'Artichoke, he ses he gets twenty kilo bags of goat manure from his neighbour, he gives him back sum of his tobacco

leaves wot Ive mentioned before, but he lets the goats eat em, he's tried smoking em, the leaves that is, and had to call the Pompiers (French fire fighters), to put em out.

Just to finish orf, get yor note book out to plan for next year, and store yor harvested stuff.. string onions and store yor spuds sumwhere dark and dry, and get out for a walk to see orl them autum colours as they slowly change.

Cheerio for now, and a'bientot,

J. H. Sent from my iSpade

Downley Theatre Group

Unfortunately, our planned trip to the Palace of Westminster and Battersea Power Station on 8 July was cancelled due to the General Election and the Palace being used for parliamentary business. We'll be keeping our eyes open for news of when a tour can be arranged through our new M.P..

Since the last edition of the Village News, we've had two trips three weeks apart to the purpose-built ABBA Arena for "ABBA Voyage" – 109 happy people, such an amazing spectacle.

Interested? There's no joining fee or

obligation to go on any of the outings. New members are welcome, please get in touch with us to be added to the mailing list.

Not heard from us in a while? Perhaps your contact details have changed or you've not submitted the necessary permission allowing us to hold your personal details on the mailing list. Do call or ping us an email.

Alan & Claire Baker

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Therefore, all books, other than board and story books, will now cost 30p for three weeks loan and all overdue books will be charged at 30p per week to a maximum of £4.00

A big thank you to everyone who supported our stall at Downley day.

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Downley Community Centre



UP! Downley Festival

We are proud to have supported the festival once more by hosting the annual Art Show. To minimise disruption to existing hirers, a group of enthusiastic volunteers helped erect the large marquee on the lawn at the front of the centre. We were pleased to see a number of groups take advantage of the space and enjoy the outdoor experience.

The centre was delighted to host a visit to the Art Show again for over 50 children from the junior years of Downley School. Children also met the regular lace making group, who were demonstrating their skills, together with wood carving and turning using a mini lathe all set up in the Beech room.

Downley Old School Community Association to be known as Downley Community Centre (DCC)

The management committee and trustees have been reviewing how we deliver news and messages about the community centre and recognise inconsistencies in language with some having heard it also called DOSCA. The term DOSCA (Downley Old School Community Association) is the name under which we are governed by the charities commission and the volunteers who operate the centre on behalf of the community. We won't be using that term in public-facing communications going forward to avoid any confusion about the centre and its purpose. DOSCA will simply be known as the Downley Community Centre or DCC.

New Chairman

The centre's founding Chairman, David Worsdall, has now stepped down after 22 years of dedicated service. The trustees, committee and Downley Parish Council are incredibly thankful for David's contribution in helping launch and develop the centre into the thriving hub it is today.

David is remaining on the management committee. The new Chairman is long time Downley resident, Steve Morton,



who brings many years experience in business and IT to the role and is working closely with David to ensure a smooth transition. Steve previously chaired the Downley Wine & Beer Club for a number of years and brings to the role experience in community volunteering as well as an insight into Downley life.



Macmillan Cancer Support

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning for Macmillan Cancer Support will return to the Centre on Saturday morning (from 10-12) 28 September. Previously several hundred pounds has been raised each time, so please mark the date in your diary now and remember to participate if possible.

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Downley Day News

It's been another successful summer with Downley Day, the Family disco, Downley 5K run and Concert on the Common all well-attended and enjoyed by all.

We would like to record our thanks to the donors of raffle prizes (too many to mention here), our sponsors at Hillclimb, APS Window, The Mortgage Store and Paul Pigeon Fitness and for the loan of the truck for CotC, RH Amar. The collection at Concert on the Common



made over £400 and was donated to Scannappeal.

As usual, the committee would like to invite local voluntary organisations to apply for grants to support the local community of Downley and surrounding areas. Grants are usually of the order of a

few hundred pounds each and are to fund one-off expenses such as equipment and projects, rather than routine operating costs. Applications should be made to info@downley.org and be received by the end of October. Decisions on successful applicants will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in November (to be confirmed).

Lastly, our treasurer, Garfield Lewis, will be stepping down and hanging up his ledger as treasurer this year and we would like to thank him for his many years' service keeping our finances on the straight and narrow. This means that we will be recruiting his replacement so if there is anyone out there with the interest and ability to step into that role then please contact us at info@downley.org.

Downley Evening Women's Institute

We've had a busy time again at the WI since I last wrote. As well as our usual monthly meetings at St James Church on the 2nd Wednesday at 7.45pm, we've also had our stall at Downley Day which generated lots of interest as usual, despite having to hang on to the gazebo at times! We had a good day despite the weather.

Then 8 of us plus one dog met for a lovely walk in the woods at Hughenden one Saturday morning, followed by coffee in the café before going our separate ways, and a week later a large group met up at Waterperry for a very enjoyable day out in lovely weather.

Thanks to the planning meeting held one afternoon, we now also have our

programme of speakers booked for 2025! We've also had some great speakers at our meetings, especially our last minute talk about some Thames Valley millionaires from the 18th and 19th centuries when our planned speaker had to cancel, and also from Two Spoons tea company, who were very entertaining as well as giving us interesting facts about tea from bush to cup and dispelling some of the myths surrounding it.

We now look forward to the autumn months which will include our AGM in October when a new committee will be formed for the coming year.



Heather Read



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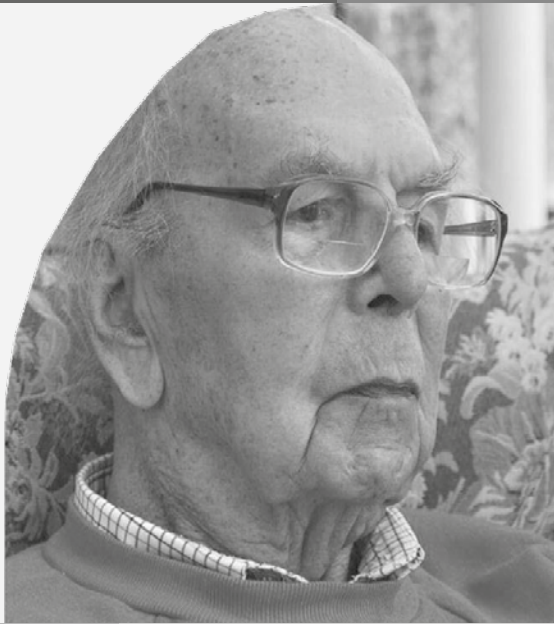
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Downley Common News

It's been a seasons of events on the Common

First off the blocks was the 80th celebration of D Day which DCPS (on behalf of the Parish Council) celebrated with the lighting of the beacon by Flt Lt Andy Claesens representing the RAF and supported by Paul Turner and Tony Green from the Royal British Legion. There was a good turn-out and the weather held for the short but significant ceremony.

Downley Day was next and the DCPS stall highlighted the emerging issue of glis-glis, otherwise known as the edible dormouse owing to the Roman treatment of them as a gastronomic delicacy. They are a protected species in the UK under Section 11(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and a licence is required to trap them. Nevertheless, their numbers have exploded in recent years and 30,000 were reported in the UK in 2010 and, judging by the numbers reported on the Top Common WhatsApp group, there are now probably many times that number. The DCPS stall promoted their disposal by running a variant of the popular "Whack a Rat" game, but with glis-glis. Readers may rest assured that no glis-glis were hurt during the operation of this attraction.

The next Common event coming up will be a performance of "Fireside", a theatrical retelling of the Beowulf story around an open-air fire pit

on the Common. This will include telling a story of monsters and what makes us afraid, in a family-friendly performance with real fire. It will take place on Saturday 12th October, starting at 5.30 pm, and local residents are invited to attend free of charge.

The Downley Common Preservation Society invites you to the public launch of our new 10-year management plan, presented by its author, Conservation Management Consultant Alex



Cruikshank from Sundew Ecology. Alex will be our main speaker, presenting the details of this latest initiative to help us protect and enhance our common. The evening will also feature illustrated talks on the society's ongoing efforts and the rich historical significance of commons. It's a great chance to

learn more and get involved with our community's conservation efforts. We hope to see you there (Saturday 19th October at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall)!

Finally, DCPS members are reminded that we need as many Gift Aid forms to be returned as soon as possible to take advantage of HMRC tax refunds. A recent email reminder has also gone to all members, so please check your spam folder if you haven't seen it.

*Bill Thompson,
Downley Common Preservation Society*

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Healthcare News from the Pharmacy

Once again the year is passing quickly. We continue to experience many challenges, old and new, around drug costs and availabilities but will always do our utmost to source something appropriate and advise yourself and the GP as soon as possible if a new prescription is required. With this in mind we encourage you to check we have an up to date mobile number for you to enable contact via SMS. This is especially useful to alert you when medication is ready for collection.

Flu and Covid vaccines.

We will again be offering flu and covid vaccines to those eligible via the NHS. As I write at the end of July the NHS cohorts have not been confirmed for the campaign this autumn but are likely to be similar to last year ie those over 65 and clinical groups at risk - diabetes, respiratory, immunosuppressed and their household contacts, pregnancy, BMI > 40, and other long term health conditions. We will once again be working on an appointment system using both the NHS booking system, for flu and COVID, and our own online booking process which will be bookable in store and online via links according to your eligibility. Please look out for promotion of these links on our Facebook page and share to your friends. Our system should go live mid August but the NHS system will not be in operation until mid September. The start date for flu jabs this year is October 3rd not September as in previous years. At this time (end of July) there have been no details of the COVID booster programme announced. To maximise available appointments we will be once again offering both flu and COVID at the same appointment unless individuals have specific concerns regarding double vaccination.

Pharmacy First

GPs and 111 are being encouraged to refer those with minor ailments to pharmacy for self care advice and in some cases for certain conditions a prescription supply of medication via pathway protocols. It is possible to present straight to the pharmacy for advice on these matters - the staff are able to identify those potentially needing more than simply over the counter remedies for specified conditions and will refer to the duty pharmacist.

Currently we can help with UTI (ladies under 65), sinusitis, sore throat, ear infection (under 17), shingles, infected insect bites, and impetigo. The scheme, launched at the end of January, has been successful so may be expanded at some point to other conditions. Feedback from our patients so far has been very positive around speed and ease of service and help given. An appointment is not needed; we would just ask that if your GP surgery has referred you following a request for an appointment with them please make us aware so we can complete the process correctly and, more importantly, if referral back to GP or onwards to 111 services is required this is done via the proper channel.

Ear Wax removal

We are once again able to offer ear wax removal via micro-suction. This is a private service available by appointment only. Ears are checked for the presence of wax and their general health. Any wax found can then be removed by micro suction. Syringing is no longer the recommended method of removal as it can lead to perforation of the ear drum and infection. If we detect any issues, we can refer to our supporting audiologists for advice using photos and videos taken of the ear canal during the appointment.

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Downley Descants



IN THE SUMMER TIME (WHEN THE WEATHER IS FINE?)

Downley Descants have had a very busy time recently, not only rehearsing but also performing in two concerts and a small slot at Downley Day. We performed a concert at Christ Church, Flackwell Heath for OASIS, a bereavement charity supporting people in times of loss. We held our own summer concert, as part of the Up! Downley Festival. This was very stressful in the weeks leading up to the event, because of lack of ticket sales, but on the night we had only a slightly smaller audience than usual and, judging by their reaction, they thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Due to the generosity of our audience we were able to donate £500 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

If you remember Downley Day dawned a typical British summer day. Pouring with rain for most of the morning and very windy, we thought no one would be there to hear us. We also knew that some of the flypast from Trooping the Colour would pass over the Chilterns. We thought people would be looking at that rather than us! As it happened the sun came out, the flypast flew over 15 minutes before our slot and we thought everything would be fine. We performed, in a marquee, with side flaps blowing in the wind, with a generator

either side, and next to the bar. Not ideal you would think, but the audience that gathered gave us a good reception and seemed to enjoy our performance.

We are currently on a well-deserved summer break, so no singing until September 12th when we reconvene at Sunnybank Church, Moor Lane ready to rehearse for (believe it or not) Christmas!

Not just Christmas, we will be practising other pieces ready for future concerts. We sing pieces by John Rutter, Eric Whitacre, songs from shows and films and even pop songs so our repertoire is wide and varied.

We are a community choir based in Downley with the object of having a good time and raising money for local charities. Since our formation in 2012 we have raised over £15,000, which is an astonishing amount. If you want to experience the 'feel good' factor and would like to join us, we meet on a Thursday evening from 8pm to 9.30pm during school term times at Sunnybank Church. There is no need to read music and no auditions, just come along for a couple of weeks to see if the choir is for you. More details from our Chairman, Lyn on 07974 026213. We look forward to hearing from you.

Bob Cook (Bass)



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Downley Gardening Society

April meeting review

We welcomed Jon Mason back to talk about the making of wildflower gardens and meadows. Reflecting on the enormous decline in native birds since the 1970's (house sparrows down 71%), insects (58%) and hedgehogs (80%), Jon set out to explain what we can do to help in our gardens. He spoke about the principles of wildlife gardening to provide food and shelter, i.e. use natural fertiliser, no pesticides, use peat free compost, build in water resilience and consider sustainability: "reduce, reuse, recycle".

We had our AGM after the talk and we are delighted to welcome Penny Geeves who has volunteered to join the committee.

May meeting review

John Tyler's talk about 'natural signals' explained how plants and animals communicate with each other for the various stages of their lives. He started with courtship which covers many of the senses. Visual signals include those given by the male peacock whose spectacular array of feathers is displayed to impress females. Bush crickets use sound and pass the "ridges" on one wing over the "pegs" on the other (known as stridulating). Scent is also a powerful signal and the emperor moth emits a scent to attract a mate up to half a mile away. The tortoiseshell butterfly beats his antennae on a female to attract her by his touch.

Downley Day plant stall

Our stall was again well stocked from our members and lots of beautiful

plants at bargain prices were purchased by the locals.

Visits

So far this year, we have visited Cambridge Botanic Gardens, Jon Mason's garden, RHS Wisley and Adwell Gardens.

Dates for your diary:

Autumn Show 2024 - Saturday, 7th September 2024

October Meeting in the hall - Monday, 21st October - Carole Petipher will talk about "Monet's Garden in Giverny"

Kew at Christmas trip - Wednesday 13th November

November Meeting in the hall - Monday, 18th November 2024 - Sandy Primrose will talk about "A Tale of Two Poppies"

December Meeting in the Church - Monday, 9th December 2024 - Top Notes choir followed by a quiz with John Willson

If you would like to become a member of the Gardening Society and join our meetings please contact Alison on downleygardeningociety@gmail.com or Julia on 01494 447323. Membership costs just £5 single and £8 family per year. www.downleygardeningociety.com

Please keep safe, enjoy your gardens and hope to see members and non-members, who are always very welcome, at one of our events.

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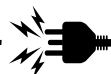
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The Downley School

“Learning, Growing and Succeeding Together”



What a great end to our year! Our site improvements work has finally begun and we are excited to see the changes on our return in September. There is much work planned including a new MUGA and field to play in.

The School Council did us proud at The Heights Nursing Home. The children played board games with some of the residents - not a screen in sight! It was lovely to see these very different generations coming together, as well as seeing the patience and kindness of our wonderful children.

Our events this Summer have been exceptionally well attended, from school fairs and concerts to year group performances that showcase all our learning from this academic year. Each class presents to their parents and to the year below as part of the transition process. It's a lovely opportunity to capture the highlights and reminisce on the great experiences we have shared in our school teams.

We are pleased with the academic progress our children have made this year, particularly in reading and maths which have been our main focus this year. We have also been able to attend some great trips this term which have helped us to reinforce our learning in other curriculum areas, in particular Science and Geography. We recently had explorer James Ketchell in school and the children were inspired by his stories.



Of course, it wouldn't be a Summer term without a Sports Day – which naturally would have to be on the hottest day of the year in June! We also celebrated the end of the year, on the hottest day in July, with a 'TDS Colour Run'. This event was organised by our amazingly supportive PTA. Everyone that took part had an fantastic time - you can see some of the smiles on our staff faces in the photo 😊

Next year we are pleased to be able to once again make use of our amazing site and offer Forest School to every child at TDS. We are also looking at our extra-curricular offer to improve on our after-school clubs and will be making big changes to playtimes throughout the year...all this whilst continuing to raise standards in English and Maths! We have a really committed team at TDS: we are excited for the year ahead but for now we say a very fond farewell to our Year 6 children - they are a great bunch and we hope that they do themselves proud in their next stage of learning and their wider community!

Chiltern Wood School Chat



We have had a very busy few months at Chiltern Wood with a visit from Ofsted in May. The inspectors spent two days with us and spent time with the pupils, staff and governors as well as asking our parents and carers for their views. ‘Deep dives’ were taken in reading and communication, mathematics and physical education which included a

visit to the swimming pool to see a class of complex pupils from our Cressex site engaging and learning in the water. I am extremely proud of the report and the work we do as a school. Below are a couple of quotes taken from the report...

“From the early years to the sixth form, pupils enjoy attending this school. Every morning they come into school with broad smiles, eager to start their day.”

“Staff know the pupils in their class very well. They carefully adapt their teaching. There is a strong focus on making sure that pupils transfer the learning they have learned in one context to another.”

Our main project on the Downley site has been planning our Memorial Garden. We are using a small area of land by the entrance



to create a space for people to go to remember pupils and staff who have died. This seems particularly relevant as we have had two pupils pass away this year. A huge thank you to The Mayors Appeal and local company Avery Dennison who have been a huge help with this.

Finally, we have been getting into gardening with the pupils as we have also had ‘Grow Together’ coming into school



to help some of the classes plant and grow vegetables. We are also hoping to see sunflowers appearing soon as each child at the Downley site was gifted a packet of sunflower seeds by the Parish Council.

*Rachel Chapman
Headteacher*

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Top Notes

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Our 2024 performance calendar started in March this year for our third consecutive year at The Beaconsfield Festival of Choirs - always such a joyous event. This year our musical director, Emma, surprised us with a performance herself as part of the ‘Choir Leader’s Choir’! It was fantastic to watch the leaders from around the county and country in action, especially having only had a short rehearsal together on the day!

Next up was a series of care home performances including, of course, The Heights in Downley. It’s always so wonderful to share our voices with the local residents and see the positive and therapeutic effects of live music in action. It’s such a pleasure to witness their beaming smiles as well as hear them joining in, too.

We completed the first half of the year with our Charity Summer Concert on

Sunday 30th June. This season we were raising money for Prestwood Community Fridge who aim to reduce food waste and bring a little more kindness to Prestwood and the surrounding area. As well as donations from our cupboards, we were delighted to be able to donate to them £1200.00 which is going towards creating a community garden where they aim to grow and sell their own fruit and vegetables. Highlights from this concert will be available to view via our YouTube channel - search for Top Notes Choir.

Looking ahead, our Charity Christmas Concert is already booked for Monday 2nd December at St Andrews Church, High Wycombe. Please put the date in your diary - we hope to see you there!

Please don’t hesitate to get in touch via our social media channels or email topnotestunes@gmail.com we’d be happy to hear from you!

Simply Walk - Downley Group



The Annual Downley Village Walk on Rogation Sunday (5th May) went very well this year. We advertised more widely and gathered together 75 walkers: all ages, some regular walkers, some new to Downley and some new to walking. The event was supported by representatives of the Parish Council, some of whom joined us on the walk. The walk was led and back-marked by a team of Simply Walk members; we thank them very much for their time and care in helping us to keep up a very old tradition



of marking the boundaries of the Parish. It was a bit muddy in places (better now the sun is shining) but only one casualty- a young walker who slipped and tore her jeans – embarrassed but otherwise

safe! We finished up at the Le De Spencers Arms having a welcome drink and relaxing in the garden courtesy of Sarah and her team who always support our efforts to get Downley walking.

So if you were one of the walkers and you enjoyed it, tell your neighbours and friends so that we can make it 100 next year!

As advertised, in June we set up the New 'First Level' Walk; this walk starts at the Community Centre alongside the Level 2 'normal' Thursday walk. The difference is that it is little shorter in length (45-50 minutes) and avoids the steep slopes and rough terrain of the woodland walks we do. We had a good turn out for our inaugural walk on a pleasant, sunny but chilly day. We have now been operating for a month or so and would like to extend the uptake. So, if you know anyone who wants to get back walking but doesn't want to stretch themselves too much to begin with, let them know about our 'First Level' Walk: every Thursday, at 11.00 am outside the Old School Community Centre. Turn up 10 minutes before the walk starts and sign in with the Leader in a yellow jacket!



Our photo shows the inaugural group of First Level walkers taking a break.

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News from St James Church



“No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.”

Romans 8:37

It is an amazing summer for sporting events – **Wimbledon**, the **Euros**, the **Olympics** – it has been such a treat watching so many people compete in these events with such skill and so many gifts. It’s not always easy to watch, it can be tense and nail-biting, but we love to watch and support our favourites, to cheer them on. I was reminded that God our heavenly Father also loves to support each of us and cheer us on in our race of life, as this verse above says – he is for us. God’s love for each person he made means that he is always for us – whether we win or lose, whether we are having a great time, or at the bottom of a pit, through his love for us and our faith in Jesus we are able to conquer, to cope with all situations.

As I watched Wimbledon, I was especially struck by how hard the battle is not just physically, but in the minds of the players. If they make a bad shot, or do a double fault, they have to put it out of their mind and to focus on the next point, and just play one point at a time.

As humans we are wired to focus and worry about the things we get wrong, far more than the things we get right. The great thing about God is that he sees both and he loves us in both.

Because of his love for us God sent Jesus into the world, so that all the wrong things we have done or ever will do will be forgiven. We don’t have to carry the burden of these anymore. Faith in Jesus enables us to win through to face the highs and lows of our time in this life.

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Heather Graham, Vicar of St James



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Downley Cricket Club



On Sunday 25 August we hold our Annual President's Day when there will be a fun 8-a-side tournament, with a barbeque and bar, starting from about mid-day. This is always well-attended, with plenty of fun and laughter.

After promotion to the First division of the Mid-Bucks league at the end of last season, and with several new players, some returning to playing cricket after a lengthy break, the team have found securing victories harder to come by. But there have been glorious days; one such was when a returning former-young-gun-now-father, Aaron Brown, played one of the great Downley innings smiting a scarcely-believable 8 sixes in scoring a blistering 138, with captain Ben Hughes then despatching half the opposition with his bowling.

Meanwhile star bowler Graham 'Boycs' Swales has captured 28 wickets, three times as many as anyone else, while batters have found scoring runs difficult in this wet summer, the notable exception being Pete 'Ledge' Stone, who has also contributed as a very effective bowler.

Our ebullient, all-action captain Ben Hughes was determined to give every player a chance to succeed and always ensures that there is fun and enjoyment on and off the field, ably

supported by our group of mixed age players (from teens up to 70's).

During last year it became apparent that our ancient wicket roller was on its last legs. The cost of replacing this type of machinery is beyond the resources of the club and without this we would not be able to prepare the wicket. Fortunately, through connections within the club, we have been able to have "Rolly" mechanically refurbished and we are again able to use the roller for our weekly preparation. Huge dedication, week-after-week, from Den Cox, Martin Birkett, Graeme Aitken and a few others ensure that the wicket and outfield are ready. Meanwhile Mandy Aitken, our long-term scorer, and John Hughes, our umpire, continue to commit their Saturdays to help the club.

For the past few seasons, we have operated as a one-team club, so we play at home alternate weekends. Following a new arrangement this season with High Wycombe Cricket Club, who approached us through our captain Ben Hughes (he coaches youngsters at HWCC), it is heartening to see youngsters play cricket again on the Common on some weekday evenings. In addition, there is the prospect of ladies' cricket

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(the fastest-growing sector in cricket nationally) taking place on some Saturdays when the Downley team are playing away. The additional usage has helped bring in some additional revenue to the DCC coffers which can be allocated towards preparation and maintenance. The feedback from their use of our pitch is very positive.

Cricket on the Common is often a family affair, sometimes father and son playing together, and on one occasion not long ago, four generations of the Cox family were seen cheering the team on.

Soon we say a sad goodbye to our all-round stalwart Martin Birkett and his wife Sarah, after many years serving Downley CC in various capacities, preparing the pitch and outfield, attending League meetings and doing more for the club than space here allows.

Other news is the long-standing Downley cricketer Francis Braganza has been selected to play in the inaugural 070s Cricket World Cup, currently being held in Bucks and neighbouring counties, for India, the land of his birth.

DOWNLEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

How Downley shocked the Establishment

On Saturday 7 February 1891, an article appeared in the *Bucks Herald*, describing the living conditions of a girl who had just died in Downley. The article is reproduced below,

with thanks to the brilliant British Newspaper Archive (a partnership between the British Library and Findmypast).

A deplorable state of affairs was revealed at Downley, an outlying hamlet of West Wycombe, just lately, that is scarcely credible at this end of the nineteenth century – nor creditable at any time. A young girl had died suddenly of congestion of the lungs, and as she had not been attended to by a medical man an inquest was held to ascertain the cause of death. I am not going into that but I allude to it in order to show that much remains to be done before the sanitary condition of our villages is brought into the state even approaching what it ought to be.

Let us glance for a moment at the so-called house in which the jury had to view the body, and for which the tenant pays two shillings a week. At the door the visitor is met with a rush of poisonous atmosphere trying to escape

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from its confinement, and bearing with it the foulest stench that ever offended the olfactory nerves of [a] human being. Within, the state of the house is in accordance with the greeting at the portal. The furniture consists of a rickety article that does duty for a table, and the only thing in the shape of a seat is a piece of a broken chair. Through the smoky atmosphere, which pervades the room and produces a stifling sensation almost unendurable, may be seen heaps of filth and refuse thrown up into the corners.

Let us ascend. A few stairs that lack stability bring you into a small attic, low pitched and foul; and thence another short flight of steps conducted you to a second small room. Both these lofts are used as sleeping compartments; neither of them contains a bed, or a piece of furniture of any sort; but here and there may be seen a heap of filthy rags and a little straw. On the window panes is such an accumulation of cobwebs and dirt that the light of the sun can scarcely penetrate into the room. In this latter room lay the body of the poor child, wrapped in nothing more than a piece of ragged material that might be the remains of an old apron, and placed across a portion of a box and two worn out chairs.

I think we want a G. R. Sims [a London journalist] to tell us 'How the poor live' in country places as well as in London, and stir up the authorities to do something to remedy this deplorable, horrible state of affairs, which never ought to be allowed to exist for one day. No wonder the Coroner said he had seldom been into a place as bad as this; but ought such fever dens to be permitted to poison the air with their pestilential odours, and brutalize the human beings who dwell in them? It is a disgrace to our boasted enlightenment that it should be possible to find anywhere in our land, in town or country, such a spectacle as I have thus briefly described.

Unfortunately, we don't know which house in Downley is being described here, but it was most probably on Commonsidge, Chapel Street or Moor Lane.

Census returns and other newspaper articles reveal some of the background to the case. The girl who died was 14-year-old Daisy Lloyd, the daughter of Elizabeth, 50, and Edward Lloyd,

65, a 'hawker of pills'. The Lloyds had eight children, six of whom were still living with them when they moved to Downley from Aylesbury, some eighteen months earlier. In other words, eight people lived in this tiny house, which they rented for two shillings a week from a Mrs Dobson. Daisy died on Friday 23 January 1891. With impressive speed, an

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inquest was held the following day in the (old) Bricklayers Arms, and the coroner, Mr G. A. Charsley, had the jury view both the body and the cottage. A Wycombe surgeon made a post mortem examination, which makes for interesting reading if one is trying to diagnose cause of death: 'The body was extremely fat. There were no marks of violence externally. The right lung was congested. The brain was congested on the surface.' He concluded it was a natural and sudden death brought on by congestion of the right lung 'that produced a syncope'. The coroner added that the cottage was unfit for human habitation, with would have exacerbated her congestion

of the lung, as would the bad weather. The jury duly returned a verdict of 'Death from natural causes'. Even so, our *Bucks Herald* journalist clearly felt poverty and governmental negligence were to blame.

In an interesting postscript to the case, Daisy's mother lied to the inquest when she said she didn't know what pills her husband made (she was a 'hawker of pills' herself in a previous census); Daisy's father, Edward Lloyd, did not make an appearance at the inquest; and, with a haste as impressive as the inquest, the Lloyd family promptly left Downley and returned to Aylesbury.

SAVE THE DATE

The Downley Local History Group are delighted to present:
'MORE TALES OF OLD DOWNLEY'

7:30-10 pm, Saturday 16 November

£5 on the door, Memorial Hall

COULD YOU HELP DELIVER DOWNLEY VILLAGE NEWS?

We need additional volunteers to help deliver Downley News four times a year. We have some regular rounds to cover and also need some cover for holidays etc. To find out more please email editor@downley.org.

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Patrick

”

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confident, engaging and
openly honest, and has
enabled me to gain
renewed joy and
confidence in my singing.

Jill

Top Notes



As usual we have had a busy programme so far this summer. In June, thirty members enjoyed our annual holiday to Devon where we visited seven National Trust properties bathed in sunshine every day. Later that month we held our annual picnic in the garden of the Wycombe Museum when there was much less sun but equally good company, all of us joining in the singalong with the Kensal Duo. Many took the opportunity to view the new displays in the Museum, admire the tree we planted in 2022, and take tea in the café.

We provide over 25 interest groups which meet once a month and many are very popular. Our Ukulele group meets in the Downley Community Centre on the 4th Thursday of the month. Do go along if it appeals to you and give it a try. Other groups meet in Naphill, Hughenden Valley and other local Halls or members' homes. Our Discovering Science Group met in July at a packed Hazlemere Memorial Hall for a fascinating talk on *The Power of Plants* by Dr

Angela Wall. Local History will be on a walking tour of High Wycombe this week with a guide from the Wycombe Society. There is much more to tempt you from Art to German Conversation to Walks. You can find details of all the groups and events on our website *High Wycombe and District (u3asite.uk)* and see what we've been up to on our Facebook page [hwdu3a2022]. Or contact Paul on gilliamph@aol.com

The next scheduled talk at our General Meeting in Lacey Green Memorial Hall on 28 August is the much-anticipated M19: *The British Secret Service for Escape and Evasion* by Dr Helen Fry, rescheduled from February. You are welcome to join us as a visitor at any meeting - if you are retired or semi-retired u3a could be what you have been looking for. There is no charge for your first visit.

Here's to some more sunshine...

Judith
wu3asecretary@gmail.com
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Photo:-
Members in Torquay
on the annual
u3a holiday



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HWBIDCo launches new Community Payback Scheme cleaning up around High Wycombe

Community Board funding pays for supervised groups of offenders to carry out unpaid work cleaning up high impact areas of town as part of the Community Payback Scheme.

A new 'Community Payback' scheme was launched in High Wycombe this month by High Wycombe Business Improvement District (HWBIDCo), taking action to clean up problem areas of town such as Birdcage Walk and Castle Street Memorial Gardens, giving these areas a much-needed facelift.

HWBIDCo has been working with Buckinghamshire Council, the Police and other stakeholders through it's 'Town Centre Partnership' group to identify key areas of the town where there are repeat issues that often occur on both public and private land and therefore require detailed collaboration to resolve.

The project, provides a sense of 'circular justice', deters repeat offending and has an obvious and visible positive impact for residents and visitors to High Wycombe, enlivening previously tired and mis-treated

areas to once again be welcoming community environments.

Community Payback is a sentencing measure applied by courts for offences that do not warrant imprisonment, typically as part of a broader community order. This involves 40 to 300 hours of unpaid work, depending on the offence severity. During Community Payback, offenders are escorted to and from work sites, operate in small groups, and are overseen by qualified supervisors. Typical projects, such as those happening here in High Wycombe, include removing graffiti, clearing wasteland, enhancing public spaces and picking up litter.

HWBIDCo Chief Executive, Melanie Williams comments, "This scheme directly tackles some of the frustrating 'grot spots' that often get ignored due to disparate ownership and we are delighted to be able to make visible improvements. We are grateful for the collaboration with a hard-working group of officers and businesses who form the Town Centre Partnership - which seeks results on the ground but also to build up a solution-focused relationship infrastructure for the town centre that facilitates pride in place and supports town centre regeneration.



Hillclimb Garage News



Downley Day 2024

We enjoyed yet another fantastic Downley Day in June, with the weather eventually behaving itself and allowing for a day of brilliant fun and games and some superb entertainment provided in the main arena. Hillclimb had its biggest stand yet, with more lovely vehicles to drool over and lots of competitions and prizes to be won. Our 'Guess the number of Lollipops in the Battery' was a big hit, raising over £100.00 for the Hearing Dogs Charity. Congratulations to Heather Cheesewright, who was closest to guessing there were 382 Lollipops in the Battery. Heather won a £100 Amazon Voucher, Free MOT, a fabulous Hearing Dogs for Deaf People Goody Box and ALL the

Lollipops in the battery...!

Thank you to everyone who came and said hello to us and our guest Minion, it really was lovely to see so many of you.

UK Garage Awards Finalists

We are thrilled and proud to announce we have reached the Finals of the British Independent Garage of the Year Awards 2024 and are nominated in Three Categories: Large Garage of the Year, Customer Service and Training & Development. Reaching the Finals of these prestigious awards is fantastic recognition of the hard work from our incredible team and the support we receive from our fabulous customers!

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reached the Finals, bringing home 5 Winners Trophies during that time. The Winners will be announced at the Finals Ceremony in September and we will be doing all we can to bring more Silverware back to Downley this year!

Call for Electric Vehicle Tax Cuts

The Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders (SMMT) says the new government should cut taxes on electric vehicles to revive flagging sales and help the industry hit its climate goals. New car sales fell across the board in the last six months, with petrol, diesel and electric cars all falling 7.6%, but the industry is particularly concerned about the slowing growth in EV sales with tough “zero mandate” regulations about to kick in. Electric vehicles still account for almost

38% of the new car market and market share continues to increase, but the pace of growth has slowed since the previous government pushed the ban on the sale of new internal combustion vehicles back to 2035. Sir Keir Starmer’s government wants to reverse that decision, reimposing the 2030 target, but the SMMT says it should now consider consumer incentives to revive interest. We will update again in the coming months as the new Government’s laws and policies come into effect. Source SMMT/Sky News

As always, we finish with a huge thank you to everyone who continues to support us. As your local, independent garage we, in turn, are here to support you and maintain your vehicle to the highest standards.

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News from Buckinghamshire Council



For more information and to keep up to date with the news from Buckinghamshire Council please see <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/news> or, as always, contact me – see below. You can also view full Council, Cabinet and committee meetings as a webcast either live, or watch the recording in full on Buckinghamshire Council Website.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate and thank all the organisers and volunteers for another successful Downley Day, Up! Festival and Concert on the Common.

Don't litter in Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire Council is sending a hard-hitting message to anyone tempted to litter in the county. Anyone caught deliberately littering in Buckinghamshire will face a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for £500 under a hard-hitting new policy. Sweet wrappers, fast food containers, cigarette butts and vape canisters are all familiar sights on our verges, open spaces and roadsides because people have chosen to dump them rather than dispose of them responsibly. In a bid to clamp down on these litter louts, Buckinghamshire Council has agreed a raft of strong new measures to tackle the issue head on. The council is an early adopter of new powers allowing an increase in the penalty amount for littering – from £150 to £500. The council has chosen to adopt this maximum rate without the option of an early payment discount to act as a strong deterrent to stop people littering in the first place.

Under its hard-hitting campaign, the council will also be appealing to motorists and road users to send in dash-cam and phone footage of littering they may have captured on camera – where, of course, it is safe to do so. Dealing with

discarded litter is an ongoing problem for councils up and down the country. Annually it costs Buckinghamshire taxpayers an estimated £3.5m to clean and dispose of littered waste.



For example, it's a huge £25,000 every time the council clears litter from the A404 Marlow by-pass; this is because we have to cover the costs of traffic management to make sure it's safe for our workers to clean up this busy and dangerous stretch of road.

Buckinghamshire Council parks awarded the coveted Green Flag Award

Buckinghamshire Council is celebrating after receiving prestigious Green Flag Awards for seven of its parks:

- Bedgrove Park (Aylesbury)
- Black Park Country Park (Wexham)
- Heartlands (Buckingham)
- Higginson Park (Marlow)
- Hughenden Park (High Wycombe)
- The Rye (High Wycombe)
- Vale Park (Aylesbury).

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local

Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

Summer fun for everyone!

The summer holidays are here and with six weeks free from lessons, homework and the usual school routines, many families will be busy planning fun things to do. For those on lower incomes, juggling finances during the summer can be particularly hard, but Buckinghamshire Council is once again providing extra support for those who need it. Children in Reception up to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals can take part in up to 16 free holiday club sessions over the six-week break. The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme will be running in over 60 locations, offering a wide range of activities including sports, cooking, pickleball, coding and martial arts sessions. Those eligible for the HAF sessions will have received a code via an email from Holiday Activities to book places. Each session includes a healthy meal for the children taking part. Certain families are also being given a £50 food voucher per eligible child to help with the cost of providing extra food during the holiday period.

Celebrating our Armed Forces community

At the start of Armed Forces Week in June Buckinghamshire Council joined the collective thank you across the country to all those in the Armed Forces, for everything that they do to protect our

country and people. Council Chairman Mimi Harker OBE led two flag raising ceremonies to mark the official start of the commemorations leading up to Armed Forces Day. The ceremonies took place at Old Crown Court in Aylesbury, and outside the Queen Victoria Road council offices in High Wycombe. Representatives from the Armed Forces were present.

Home energy efficiency grant scheme in Bucks

Grants of up to £30,000 are now available for energy efficiency improvements for homes. These measures can include work such as loft insulation and window replacements. Eligible households in Buckinghamshire who own properties with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D or below (D to G) can take advantage of this opportunity. If a resident is approved for a DBEEE Grant and they are given the go ahead for home improvement works, then the council will pay the contractor after the work has been completed. To qualify for the grant, all works must be completed, and grant claims submitted by 31 December 2024. More information on the Council's website.

For residents who aren't looking to have major work done on their homes, the council's Energy Doctor scheme offers a range of free energy and water saving measures. These include hot water insulation jackets and reflective radiator panels. To find out if you are eligible for an Energy Doctor visit, go to the council's webpage.

Paul Turner

Buckinghamshire Councillor for Downley

paul.turner@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

07825 842292

From Westminster

Emma Reynolds - MP for Wycombe

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted in the General Election this July. It is a huge honour to be elected as the MP for Wycombe. I am the first Labour MP here since 1951. I pledge to everyone across the constituency that I will work tirelessly on your behalf.

In my first few weeks as your MP, my main priority has been recruiting a team to give the very best service to my constituents. I have also met some key local decision-makers (the Buckinghamshire Council leader, Chief Executive and local Councillors) and community champions, visited several local businesses, the Wycombe Museum and met with some constituents in parliament too.

I have already started to represent the concerns that I heard from constituents in Downley and across the constituency. For example, I am holding the Council to account on the Future High Streets Fund. I have asked them to be more transparent about how the £11.8m investment has been allocated. This funding should be used to renew High Wycombe high street because the town centre is crying out for investment. I also recently met with the Chief Executive of Wycombe hospital to see what I can do to support the investment in the hospital.

It is a huge privilege to be asked by the Prime Minister to serve as the new Pensions Minister, working across the Treasury and the Department of Work and Pensions. The Chancellor, Rachel Reeves MP, has asked me to lead a Pensions Review to deliver

a better deal for future pensioners and ensure that pension investment serves to boost both investment and economic growth in every part of the UK.

I want to reassure my constituents that, despite my ministerial role, you will continue to be my priority. If you need to get in touch, please email me at emma.reynolds.mp@parliament.uk. Please bear with me whilst I recruit my team and we will respond as soon as we are able.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the summer across the constituency. Thanks again to all those who put their trust in me.



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Downley Diary | Round-up of Regular Activities

DOWNLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: bookings@downleycommunitycentre.org.uk or call Cathy on 07580 953 181

GROUP	DAY	TIME	CONTACT
Active Adults	Friday	13.00 - 14.00	katie.youngman@aitc.org.uk
Al-Anon Polish Group	Thursday	19.00 - 20.30	Maria 07749 068 420
Arabic Lessons (Maple Room)	Saturday	10.00 - 14.00	sofaianebouabdallah78@gmail.com
Art Group 2	Monday	10.00 - 12.00	alastair.pike@artsmartuk.com
Boxing	Monday	20.30 - 21.30	Sam Azimi: 07594 305 407
	Wednesday	20.30 - 21.30	
	Thursday	17.00 - 18.45	
Bridge Club	Thursday	19.00 - 22.15	syme.pat@gmail.com 01494 530 558
Children's Dance Group.	Wednesday	16.45 - 18.30	Zoe.k.thompson@hotmail.com
Chipmunks Woodcarving	Wednesday	10.00 - 12.00	downleychipmunks@outlook.com
Community Library	Monday	10.00 - 12.00	enquiries@downleylibrary.org
	Thursday	15.00 - 17.00	
	Saturday	10.00 - 12.00	
Craft Group	1st Tuesday	9.30 - 12.30	Helen 01494 564 414
Crochet Group	Tuesday	19.00 - 21.00	woollywonkas@gmail.com 07833 910 238
Dance Classes (Ballroom & Latin)	Tuesday	19.00 - 21.00	karen@comedancingwithme.co.uk 07873 53 8709
	Wednesday	18.30 - 20.30	
Downley Parish Council	2nd Tuesday	19.30	clerk@downleyparishcouncil.org 01494 257 711
Downley Wives	2nd Monday	14.00 - 16.00	cathyprice18@hotmail.co.uk
Downley Wine & Beer Club	2nd Wednesday	20.00 - 22.00	downleywinebeer@gmail.com
Kingdom Dynamics Chapel	Sunday	10.00 - 12.00	Sharon 07961 822 347
Lace Making	Thursday	13.00 - 15.00	Frances 01494 524 835
Mondays Minis Playgroup	Monday Term-time	9.30 - 11.15	downleymondayminis@gmail.com 07724 385 895
M00 Music	Friday Term-time	9.50 & 12.10	elvan@moo-music.co.uk
MS Society - South West	Last Thursday alternate months	13.45 - 16.15	sylvia.parker@groups.mssociety.org.uk
Natalie Jane Dance School	Monday Term-time	15.00 - 19.00	natalie@njdance.co.uk
	Friday Term-time	15.30 - 19.30	
Painting for Pleasure	Tuesday Term-time	10.00 - 12.00	Sue 01494 443 393
Pilates	Thursday Term-time	18.30 & 19.30	Emma@asenseofbalance.co.uk
Pre & Post Natal Classes	Thursday	9.30 - 10.30	viv@empoweredwomenscollective.co.uk
Pregnancy Yoga	Monday	19.30 - 21.15	steph@nestandnurture.net
Simply Walk (free)	Monday	10.00 - 11.30 approx	Starts from the Community Centre simplywalks@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
	Thursday	11.00 - 12.00 approx	
Scopum Tutoring (New)	Saturday	10.00 - 12.00	scopumtutoring.com 07376 974 416
Taekwondo	Monday	18.30-19.30	mohzamtkd1@hotmail.com Tel 07870 219 746
	Thursday	19.45-20.45	
Twins & Multiples Club	Thursday Term-time	10.30 - 12.30	wendy@questcost.co.uk
Ukulele	4th Thursday	10.00 - 12.00	sylvia.chadwick@me.com
Wycombe Spiritual Centre	1st & 3rd Friday	18.30	ashleydarkwood@gmail.com
Zumba Gold	Wednesday	10.30 - 11.15	jennifer.morais.zumba@outlook.com

SUNNYBANK CHAPEL, MOOR LANE - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: margaretstagg75@gmail.com or call 01494 530 736

GROUP	DAY	TIME	NEW MEMBERS	CONTACT
Downley Descants	Thursday	Term time	20.00 - 21.30	✓ grannyandbobby@tiscali.co.uk
Chiltern Hills Montessori	Weekdays		08.00 - 18.00	✓ admin@chilternhillsmontessori.co.uk 01494 514 544
Bible Study	2nd & 4th	Wednesdays	10.00 - 12.00	✓

GUIDE AND SCOUT CENTRE - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: margaretstagg75@gmail.com

Rainbows	Monday		16.45 - 17.45	✓ downley2ndrainbows@outlook.com
Brownies	Monday		17.45 - 19.00	✓ downley3rdbrownies@outlook.com
Guides	Monday		19.00 - 20.30	✓ downleygg@gmail.com
Rangers	Monday		19.30 - 21.15	✓ gill.lawrence@btinternet.com
Brownies	Tuesday		17.30 - 18.45	✓ jansmith1611@gmail.com
Guides	Tuesday		19.00 - 20.30	✓ margaretstagg75@gmail.com
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Wednesday		18.00 - 21.15	✓ gsl3rdDownley@gmail.com
Dog Training	Thursday		18.30 - 20.30	✓ suzannebullworthy@hotmail.co.uk
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Friday		16.30 - 21.30	✓ gsl3rdDownley@gmail.com
Dog Training	Sunday		10.00 - 12.00	✓ lisa@shunty.co.uk
Woodlands Preschool	Daily		08.00 - 15.30	✓ admin@thewoodlandspreschool.co.uk

ST JAMES CHURCH - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: hilmad1842@gmail.com or call 07973 770 180

Downley Evening WI	2nd	Tuesday	19.45	✓
St James Church Coffee Morning	Thursday		10.30 - 12.30	✓
Top Notes Choir	Monday		19.45 - 21.45	
Chepping Wycombe Trefoil Guild	2nd	Thursday	19.45	

ST JAMES HALL - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: hilmad1842@gmail.com

Art Club	Thursday		09.30	
Coffee Stop	Monday		10..30 - 12.30	✓
Downley Gardening Society	3rd	Monday	19.30	✓
Dr Sue's Pilates	Monday		18.00 - 19.00	
Karen Pilates	Wednesday		09.30	✓ karensynergypilates@gmail.com 07786 567 376
	Wednesday		10.35	✓ karensynergypilates@gmail.com 07786 567 376
	Wednesday		19.00	✓ karensynergypilates@gmail.com 07786 567 376
Natailie's Meditation Class	Wednesday		20.30 - 22.30	
Philatelic Club	Alternate	Thursday	19.30	
Rebound Fit	Wednesday		19.00 - 20.00	
Sing and Sign Baby and Toddlers	Tuesday		10.00 - 13.00	
Sunaina Prolife Pilates	Saturday		08.00-09.00	
Tuneless Choir	1st and 3rd	Tuesday	19.30 - 21.00	

DOWNLEY WAR MEMORIAL HALL - AUTUMN 2024

Hall Bookings: dwmh.bookings@gmail.com

Chiltern Hills Montessori	Weekdays		08.00 - 18.00	✓ admin@chilternhillsmontessori.co.uk 01494 531 565
Pilates	Monday		19.00 - 20.00	✓ karensynergypilates@gmail.com 07786 567 376
Yoga with Jenny	Tuesday		19.20 - 20.45	07904 438 411
Fencing 1 to 1	Wednesday		17.30 - 19.30	
Yoga with Jenny	Thursday		19.15 - 20.45	07904 438 411
Yoga with Jenny	Friday		10.20 - 11.50	07904 438 411
Fencing 1 to 1	Friday		17.30 - 20.00	

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Life threatening or critical situations only

Telephone: 999
and ask for relevant service
AMBULANCE • FIRE • POLICE

HEALTH

NHS Direct 111
Downley Pharmacy 01494 513 060

POLICE - NON EMERGENCY

Report 101 or www.thamesvalley.police.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Paul Turner paul.turner@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Cllr. Maz Hussain maz.hussain@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Cllr. Melanie Smith Melanie.R.Smith@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

DOWNLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk clerk@downleyparishcouncil.org
01494 257711 (office hrs 9am-1pm Monday – Friday)

Further suggestions of what should be listed here to the editor
editor@downley.org

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Downley Village News

Editor: Anne at editor@downley.org

Advertising: Send advertising to adverts@downley.org

Distribution: Coordinated by Sarah Bass. Volunteers to deliver locally are always needed. If interested contact Sarah on: sarah.bass001@gmail.com or 01494 462873

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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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3 Crosscourts, Plomer Green Ave, Downley
www.optionzhairbeautylaser.co.uk



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