# The Letcombe Register

Agr

Issue 217

September 2023

			LLACE DIA	DV		
Village Diary						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1 Mens's Pilates 9.30am Village Hall	2 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 10am Junior Tennis Coaching 11 -2 Football 3.00pm	3 Tennis Mix in 10am Cricket 1.30pm
4 Te	5	6	Morning Prayer 7 9.15 Ladies Pilates 9.30am Village Hall Yoga w Diana 11.15-12.30 Village Hall Book Buffs 8.00pm Greyhound Inn	8 Mens's Pilates 9.30am Village Hall	9 Tennis Cardio 10am Junior Tennis Coaching 11 -2	10 Tennis Mix in 10am Harvest Festival Holy Communion 10.15am St Andrew's Cricket 1pm Greyhound Inn Quiz Night Big Dave 8 pm
Creative Writing 10.30 - Noon Village Hall (WR) St Andrew's PCC 4.00 pm WI Church 'Film Extra' 7.30 pm Village Hall	12 Yoga w Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (please book)	13	14 Ladies Pilates 9.30am Village Hall Yoga w Diana 11.15-12.30 Village Hall	15 Mens's Pilates 9.30am Village Hall  Pizza@Pavilion 5pm - 8.30 pm Sports Pavilion	16 Tennis Cardio 10am Junior Tennis Coaching 11 -2  Football 3.00pm	17 Tennis Mix in 10am
Creative Writing 10.30 - Noon Village Hall (WR) Evensong 3pm  Parish Council Meeting 7.00 pm Village Hall (WR)	19 Yoga w Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (please book)	Gardening Club 'Garden Bees' 7.30pm Village Hall	Morning Prayer 21 9.15 Ladies Pilates 9.30am Village Hall Yoga w Diana 11.15-12.30 Village Hall	vinage rian	23 <u>Tennis</u> Cardio 10am Junior Tennis Coaching 11 -2 <u>Nature Reserve</u> work party 1.30-4.30pm Football 2.30pm	24 Tennis Mix in 10am Worship & Prayer 10.15am St Andrew's
25 Creative Writing 10.30 - Noon Village Hall (WR) Evensong 3pm	26 Yoga w Beth 0945-1045 Village Hall (please book)	27  Register Deadline	28 Ladies Pilates 9.30am Village Hall Yoga w Diana 11.15-12.30 Village Hall	29 Mens's Pilates 9.30am Village Hall	30 Tennis Cardio 10am Junior Tennis Coaching 11 -2 Football 3.00pm  WI 'Tea, Cake & Cyclan 3-5 pm Gwastad	nen'

\*Events in the Diary rely on information received. They may require booking and are underlined if a link is available for email addresses or websites

## In this issue:

VILLAGEDIARY / CONTENTS	1	BOOK BUFFS / WI / FILM CLUB POSTER / FOOTBALL CLUB	8
Parish Council/MP Link info/ Crime Commissioner Link	2	GARDENING CLUB	9
Tree Surgeon / Electrician/ Windows / Ladderads	3	VILLAGE SPRUCE UP / MEDICALERT SAFE & FOUND	10
CLEANER/ PROBATE/ CHIROPRACTOR/ SKIPS/ HEDGEWORKS	4	FRIENDS OFLETCOMBE NATURE RESERVE	11
200 CLUB/ART GROUP /CREATIVE WRITING/PIZZA AT PAVILION	5	FILM CLUB / GREYHOUND INN	12
WANTAGE LITERARY FESTIVAL / WANTAGE MUSIC FESTIVAL	6	ST ANDREW'S / SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB	13
CONSERVATION GROUP	7	Waste Calendar / VILLAGE CONTACTS	14
CONSERVATION GROUP	/	<u>VVASTE CALENDAR</u> / VILLAGE CONTACTS	14



## Message from the Parish Council

A reminder the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 18 September, 7 pm in the Warborough Room, LR Village Hall, all are welcome to attend.

There have been several consultations during the past few weeks, including one on Health Provision and also a refresh of the Vales Landscape Character Assessment. Details of these together with the links have been circulated to you via the village email. This is the opportunity for you to express your views so please take the time to follow the links.

In anticipation of the winter weather which will soon be with us the PC have invited the Oxfordshire County Councillor with responsibility for highways to meet with us to discuss the continuing poor state of our roads. Thanks to Cllr. Lundie for leading on this. We will report back any progress in the coming Registers.

There remains a growing risk of Covid, and the good practices adhered to throughout the Pandemic will continue to help protect you. Please do take steps to look after yourselves and others.

The P. C. is still looking to fill the remaining two Councillor positions so if you are interested and are willing to offer your time and expertise we would be pleased to hear from you. Either contact the Parish Clerk, or myself on 772900.

Finally thank you to all those who have engaged with Cllr. Griffin regarding ongoing village maintenance. More details will emerge in due course.

Cllr Jeanne Lapsley
Chairman
Letcombe Regis Parish Council







## **D K Electrical Services**

# Daniel Local Electrician

07817 457832 **Daniel-Electrician@outlook.com** 

City & Guilds Insured Domestic clients only



COMMERCIAL/DOMESTIC PROPERTIES

#### PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING

PROFESSIONAL CARPET CLEANING FULLY INSURED AND RELIABLE

TELEPHONE 01235 511541 MOBILE 0797 00 51111

Email:millbrookservices1@gmail.com www.millbrookcleaning.co.uk 48 Cronshaw Close Didcot OX11 7JU

#### **Mel Taylor Dog Training & Photography**

Providing Fun & Engaging Dog Training for dogs of all ages.
Agility, Mantrailing (searching for people for fun)
Scent Detection and General Behaviour
See Website for full details <a href="https://www.meltaylordogtraining.co.uk">www.meltaylordogtraining.co.uk</a>
Also specialising in Dog & Equine Photography - Studio and Outdoor Sessions Available. <a href="https://www.meltaylorphotography.co.uk">www.meltaylorphotography.co.uk</a>

#### **Registered Dietitian**

## Liane Reeves, BSc (Hons) Nutrition, MSc Allergy HCPC registered, MBDA

Expert personalised dietary advice for teens and adults. Consultations held at Wantage Osteopathic Practice, 1 Church St. Wantage. To discuss how dietary advice can help you and to arrange an appointment: Tel: 07947 053396 Email:info@reevesdiets.co.uk www.reevesdiets.co.uk



# Springboard Coaching, Mentoring & Leadership Development

It's your turn..

Maximise your potential and enhance your wellbeing.
Find new ways to meet challenge and flourish in change.
Contact Suzy Alder for a free chemistry session.
International Coach and mentor. Applied positive Psychology Practitioner.
aldersuzy@outlook.com / 07774686877

#### **SALIX GARDEN SERVICES**

All your gardening needs catered for - Lawncare, Planting, Landscaping, Fencing, Pruning General garden maintenance
Contact Beth 07587331457 and Ian 07534451097
Salixgardenservices@outlook.com

City & Guilds and RHS qualified

# COMPUTER PROBLEMS? CONVERSION TO WINDOWS 10?

A locally-based service (from Letcombe Bassett) has been helping people here for the last 15 years *Moderate Rates Same Day Service*Charles Rowe Tel: (01235) 766000 anytime
Email: charlesrowe22@outlook.com

## Personal Assistant/Carer

DBS checked/insured
Teaching/Management background.
Five years as an Activity Organiser
in residential homes
For help or support please call 07968983673









Trotterhedgeworks@icloud.com

07771 656553

#### **200 Club**

#### Issue 217

200 Club Draw — No 6 September 2023								
241	Ben WALMSLEY	£50						
40	Rose LUNDIE	£25						
152	Clare McCOUBREY	£15						
14	C.E. JEFFERY	£10						
65	Mick & Sue DARBY	£5						
Specia	Special Draw:							
180	Robin GLYN	£25						
58	lain McCOUBREY	£20						
165	Thérèse CLARKE	£15						
236	Jamie NEWALL	£10						
119	Angela WILDE	£10						
39	Joan & Beth SNELLING	£10						
New Numbers Draw:								
18	Fred JOHNSON	£5						

# Wantage Art Group



September 20<sup>th</sup> 7.30, ABSTRACT ART, A discussion about understanding abstract art followed by demonstration by Mike White, who is a tutor at Marlborough College Summer School. Holy Trinity Church, Charlton OX12 7HW; See www.wantageartgroup.co.uk

# Ninebarrow

We are delighted to announce that, as early Autumn approaches, BBC 2 Folk award nominees Ninebarrow will be performing at St. Mary's Church, Childrey on Sunday, 10th September, 6.30pm for 7pm start.

Tickets in advance £16.50 via <a href="https://www.ninebarrow.co.uk">www.ninebarrow.co.uk</a> or £18 on the door, if available. Licensed bar.







### **Wantage Literary Festival**

As we head into autumn, **Wantage Literary Festival** will brighten up the three weeks from **Saturday October 21**<sup>st</sup> **to Saturday November 4**<sup>th</sup>. From hedgehogs to history, from aristocrats to art and design, from music to medicine, there really is something for everyone. The Festival committee have, once again, succeeded in bringing an impressive array of authors to The Beacon. Too many to list them all, but included in the programme are **Will Gompertz**, taking us inside the minds of artists, **lain Dale** and guests discussing British monarchs, **Helen Fry** revealing the often overlooked role of women in Intelligence, **Emma Smith** on the making of Shakespeare's First Folio, **Graeme Hall**, aka "The Dog Father" and, for music lovers, **Bernie Marsden** and **Richard Digance**.

The Festival has always prioritised children's reading and Wantage Library will be hosting a range of free events— ideal for parents and grandparents with youngsters to entertain over half term.

Of course, I'm going to put in a plug for "my" authors, **Claire Fuller** and **Lucy Atkins**, but they're only two among an amazing list. More to come in October's Register but don't delay until then – go to <a href="https://www.wantgeliteraryfestival.co.uk">www.wantgeliteraryfestival.co.uk</a> to see the programme and **book your tickets now.** If anyone would like a copy of the printed brochure, just phone and I'll gladly deliver one: Vivien McCoubrey 01235 762253

## Wantage Music Festival



#### SAVE OUR FESTIVAL! HELP URGENTLY NEEDED!

Did you know that Wantage has had its own annual music festival for over 45 years?

Not the kind that takes place in a muddy field and maxes out your bank account. Our Festival gives performance opportunities to aspiring musicians young and old, delighting audiences and giving performers valuable feedback from expert professional musicians and the chance to sing or play with an experienced accompanist.

Many entrants have been encouraged as amateur musicians and performers by their experience at Wantage Music Festival, while others have gone on to make music their career and even to success on TV programmes including BBC Young Musician of the Year and Britain's Got Talent. Wantage and the surrounding areas have always had talent!

We were pleased to run Festivals in both 2021 and 2022 despite the impact of Covid, but could not do so this year because we no longer have enough committee members to organise it. To continue to run the Festival we need more volunteers to join our friendly committee and take an active part in planning and running it, including someone willing to lead it as Chair. Without more help the Festival will have to be wound up.

There will be a General Meeting on Thursday 28th September 8.00pm at the Methodist Church, Wantage to discuss the future of the Festival.

For more information about the Festival and what help is needed please contact the vice-chair, David Lynch, <a href="mailto:compsec@Wantagemusicfestival.org.uk">compsec@Wantagemusicfestival.org.uk</a> or phone 0755 435 0055. Festival website <a href="https://www.wantagemusicfestival.org.uk">www.wantagemusicfestival.org.uk</a>

## The Letcombes Conservation Group

Spare a thought for one of the most threatened of our indigenous mammal species, the hedgehog. Hedgehogs have a key role in maintaining healthy ecosystems and in controlling insect populations as well as worms, beetles, slugs, caterpillars, earwigs and millipedes that thrive beneath hedges, bushes, and garden vegetation. Though nocturnal, they may be seen in the early evening or heard at night snuffling around or when a male (boar) circles the female (sow) with loud snorting and grunting noises, sometimes for hours, in amorous persuasion. It is the sow that does all the work after mating, making a nest of dry leaves and grass and rearing three to five hoglets. Born blind and pink, their eyes open after two weeks and white, then brown, spines soon appear. The spines are modified hairs, each of an adult's 3 - 5,000 spines lasts just a year before falling out and being replaced. After suckling them for four weeks, the sow takes the hoglets on their first foraging trip and around ten days later they go on their separate, solitary way. Second broods born in late summer are less likely to survive the winter with lower fat reserves than earlier broods.

Hedgehogs roam quite widely, sometimes over two to four kilometres a night in search of food or water, requiring a network of linked natural spaces, including gaps in garden boundaries. They will climb short stone walls or fences and have acute senses of smell, touch and hearing but poor sight. Though they can swim, they easily become trapped and drown in enclosed containers so it is important to provide an easy escape route from even very shallow water such as stones or wire netting to provide grip on a plank, and any other water needs a cover or wire netting. Sadly, two hedgehogs have drowned in water containers at the village allotments this year.

Wilder sections of gardens, with log or leaf piles and compost heaps, give hedgehogs opportunities for shelter, food and potential nesting sites for their winter hibernation. Do avoid garden insecticides and slug pellets – even tiny



quantities of chemicals present in slugs, beetles and insects quickly accumulate when hedgehogs eat hundreds of these each month poisoning their body organs. Also remember to check bonfire sites before lighting as well as tall grass, under vegetation, leaf foliage or hedges before strimming or mowing. These activities pose a particular danger to hedgehogs as their natural response to noise or other disturbance is to curl up into a ball, protecting their vulnerable belly with their spines. Visit 16597 WAG - Hedgehog 16pp Booklet AW 0.pdf (wildaboutgardens.org.uk) for a leaflet full of ideas on how to support the conservation of hedgehogs prior to their hibernation usually in November. If you see a hedgehog, you can report the sighting at: https:// bighedgehogmap.org, though daytime sightings like the one here in August, photo credit: Chris Finch, may indicate a hedgehog in distress; Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue in Blewbury offer advice (07549 322464). The website Home - Hedgehog Street gives further information on these mammals.

Habitat loss and increased traffic are possible contributory factors to the

dramatic fall in UK hedgehog numbers; there are estimated to be now less than one million wild hedgehogs, down from 30 million in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Hedgehogs are classified as 'vulnerable to extinction' on the Red List for British mammals. Dr Tom Moorhouse will discuss this worrying decline and what we can do to help on Friday, 27 October at the Beacon at 2pm - book tickets through the Wantage Literary Festival website Wantage Literary Festival | Wantage Oxfordshire | Tom Moorhouse is a conservation research scientist who has worked for 20 years at the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, part of Oxford University's Biology Department, on hedgehogs and other endangered species. His book Ghosts in the Hedgerow: A Hedgehog Whoddunit has been described as 'a caring, amiable guide to who (and what) is responsible for the worrying decline of this cute mammal' (Martin Chilton).





#### **Book Buffs**

The next meeting will be held in the Greyhound on Thursday 7th September at 8pm.

We shall be reviewing 'Playing Nice' by J P Delaney.

The new library book is 'Apple Tree Yard' by Louise Doughty, the alternative being further time to read the two authors for the Wantage Literary Festival in October.

## Women's Institute



The WI meets again on September 11, when John Kinory will be telling us all about his life and times as a film extra.

The Letcombes W.I. invite you to "Tea, Cake and Cyclamen" at 'Gwastad', the home of Judy Vaughan Williams, from 3 - 5p.m. on Saturday 30 September. Tickets cost £5.00 which include tea and cake, and weather permitting, a chance to look at the lovely display of Cyclamen in Judy's garden. Proceeds will go towards the W.I. speakers programme. Tickets can be bought at the garden on the day or in advance from Judy (01235 766240) or Alison (01235 760335)



Letcombe Regis Village Hall, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September

Tickets £5 Doors open 7.30pm Film starts at 8.00 pm

Refreshments on sale - Wine, Beer and Tea/Coffee

### Letcombe Football Club



The new season is now underway. We beat Lambourn 4-0 in the first round of the Faringdon Memorial cup before beating Faringdon Town 2-1 in the second round. Having won this competition last season, we are now in the semi final again, but this will not be played until April.

We opened our league programme with a narrow 1-0 win against Ardley United development at Letcombe. We created and missed numerous chances, but were clearly the better team.

The football club sponsors have been invited to attend the home match against Easington Sports development on 2nd September. Why not join them and support your local team? There will be plenty of activities for children, and a BBQ from 1.00-6.00pm.

Home fixtures in September are :

Sat	2nd	Letcombe	٧	Easington Sports development	3.00
Sat	9th	Letcombe reserves	٧	Lambourn reserves	2.30
Sat	16th	Letcombe	٧	Oxford City development	3.00
Sat	23rd	Letcombe reserves	٧	To be arranged	2.30
Sat	30th	Letcombe	٧	Taplow United	3.00



## **Letcombes Gardening Club**

### **Topical Tips**

fter a rather mixed July and August weather-wise we are now entering autumn. Lets hope for some lovely golden days so that we can enjoy the beautiful palette of colours that autumn flowers bring to the garden!

There are not a lot of jobs to do in the ornamental garden this month but you can safely start to lift and divide perennials.

If you have hanging baskets then you should be able to keep them going until mid autumn if you keep on top of the dead heading. The same goes for dahlias, repeat flowering roses and penstemons.

For the more industrious of you, pelargonium cuttings can be taken this month. Make sure you keep them in a warm place though.

If you have any tall asters that you haven't staked then you may need to do so before we get too many strong winds to make sure they look good once they start flowering later in the autumn.

Moving on to trees and shrubs, it's OK to move and/or plant these this month. They will then get a flying start next spring, as they will have had all winter to settle in. If you have any that look drought stressed (not sure that will be the case this season!!) then give them a thorough soaking now as because the weather will be getting cooler and damper the soil will better absorb and hold on to the water.

Lets now move on to fruit and veg. Potatoes and onions should be got out of the soil as soon as possible this month. They have opposite storage requirements. Onions should be stored somewhere light and potatoes somewhere dark to prevent them from going green.

If you keep picking your raspberries they will continue to fruit for a while yet.

You can also start picking apples and pears.

Your courgettes will be finished by the end of the month so keep picking at the moment to make the most of them unless you're already sick to the back teeth of eating them in every which way imaginable!

If you have not done so already then you can sow oriental vegetables this month. Make sure you protect everything from pigeons though as they are still around and looking for a nice green tender tasty snack! Your seedlings will make an ideal meal from them!

This month is a good time to take stock of the successes and failures this season and make plans for improvement next year. I have to say this season has definitely been better than last year!

I think that's all for now so enjoy the golden days of September in your garden!

### Letcombes Gardening Club

I hope you have all had a good summer and enjoyed being out in your garden. This month heralds the start of the new season of talks for the Gardening Club and we have a very interesting programme in store for you.

Our first meeting is on Wednesday 20 September at 7.30pm in Letcombe Regis Village Hall. We have Jean Vernon coming to speak to us on "The Secret Lives of Garden Bees". This is a very important subject and Jean is an authority so do please make every attempt to come along as we need to give her a good audience. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. Non-members are always welcome.



## Let's Get Together and Spruce Up Our Village!

It's no good just complaining about the weeds which are growing in some pavements, road gutters and walling - let's do something about it!

Perhaps you recognise one local resident from this August 1978 photograph held in the Vale and

Downland Museum archive entitled 'Community Spirit at its finest'. Community spirit was alive and well then, and is still strong in our village. The path to Wantage has been cleared several times by volunteers in the past.

So what about within Letcombe village. If all able householders could keep the pavements and gutters of their own frontages weed free, that will solve most of the immediate problem. The recommended method is by hand weeding and mowing of verges, removing all green waste and soil from gutters and not using chemical sprays which are detrimental to wildlife.



Please give it a go and also help with neighbours' frontages if they are unable to do physical work. It is more fun doing things together!

Your Village Needs You! We can make a difference together.

# MedicAlert and Thames Valley Police: Introducing Safe and Found





The MedicAlert Foundation, in partnership with Thames Valley Police, have launched a national dementia safeguarding programme, Safe and Found. This new initiative supports those living with dementia and other memory or cognitive conditions.

The Herbert Protocol, a proven search strategy, helps police to find missing individuals. By completing the protocol and storing it with MedicAlert, vital information and insight on the individuals habits, places of interest, networks and more is available to guide the police's search efforts. This innovative solution allows police access when every moment counts, removing previously-experienced delays that have risked lives.

To support the launch of Safe and Found, MedicAlert is excited to offer the first year of MedicAlert membership for FREE, thanks to generous sponsorship from The McLay Dementia Trust and match-funding by MedicAlert.

To find out more about Safe and Found or how to apply for free membership through The McLay Dementia Trust grant, please visit the following links: <a href="mailto:medicalert.org.uk/mclay-dementia-trust">medicalert.org.uk/mclay-dementia-trust</a> <a href="mailto:medicalert.org.uk/safe-and-found/">medicalert.org.uk/safe-and-found/</a>



# Oxfordshire Friends of the Letcombe Valley Nature Reserve

√ork parties continue in the Community Nature Reserve on Saturday, 19th September from 13:30 to 16:30. Please meet near the lake notice board by 13:20 for the tasks and safety briefing. Tools will be provided, and refreshments too mid-afternoon, but please take your own work gloves. The Wildlife Discovery

event on the Reserve in August was well attended by many youngsters eager to



participate in all the activities on offer. Thanks to all who supported the event. The sun shone and many visitors stayed for the duration of the afternoon and enjoyed the refreshments on sale which raised around Small £200 for BBOWT. beasties grasshoppers, bees (right: White-tailed bumblebee on Scabious), moths and butterflies (left: Holly Blue on Purple Loosestrife), water creatures, owls and bats featured amongst the animals with which youngsters



engaged (photo credits: Gilliam Taylor). It is particularly encouraging to see interest in wildlife being fostered in the school-aged generation who will inherit the result of the actions taken now regarding climate change and biodiversity.

As Camilla Burrow, Chief Executive of Wild Oxfordshire wrote in August, 'It's no secret that we're in the middle of a biodiversity emergency. Nature has declined massively over the last 70 years, and we now have less space for nature, with species populations declining, and habitats becoming more isolated and fragmented.' The Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) has been monitoring the state of wildlife in Oxfordshire since 2017. There are some positive indications, such as an increase in Local Wildlife Sites from 339 in 2004\5 to 393 sites in 2021\2 with a small increase in area from 5,099 to 6,648 hectares. Total Priority Habitat in Oxfordshire has increased by 13% since 2010, though much of this increase is attributable to new data confirming habitat boundaries. Other indicators include farmland birds of which Corn Bunting, Linnet, Goldfinch, Stock Dove, Lapwing, Skylark, and Whitethroat have increased since 2004, but numbers of Grey Partridge and Starlings have decreased. Camilla Burrow noted, 'This is in no way the step-change needed to achieve nature's recovery. We need to reverse the decline and achieve significant increases if we are to survive the nature and climate emergencies. We need as many organisations, groups, and individuals as possible helping. Fortunately, there are many people out there with the shared aim of creating a more biodiverse Oxfordshire.' Everyone can help to collectively monitor nature and share wildlife sightings in potential priority habitat and local wildlife sites with TVERC; record your wildlife sightings at: Share your records | Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (tverc.org).

On the wider scale Oxfordshire County Council has been named by the government as a 'responsible authority' for driving nature recovery. It is one of 48 councils that will benefit from around £14 million of government funding between April 2023 and March 2025, enabling the Council to work with local communities to develop a tailored nature recovery strategy for Oxfordshire. The government published its policy document for local nature recovery strategies on 30 June to help communities map out the action needed in their area to restore nature to meet the government's England-wide nature targets. The Council must work closely with local stakeholders from the planning authorities, Natural England, government organisations such as the Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and National Highways, land owners, businesses, environmental charities, and local community groups to school children. Read the policy at Local nature recovery strategies - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk). It is good to know that a number of local people are fostering action and interest in nature recovery including in the Letcombes Community Nature Reserve and along the Letcombe Brook corridor. In addition, as Camilla Burrow commented, 'we need everyone to get involved and play an active role in the co-design of the strategy. Look out for opportunities to get involved later this year, and in the meantime, keep doing what you're doing on your patch, whether that's your garden, community greenspace, nature reserve, farm, estate, farmer cluster, river catchment, or conservation target area.'



#### Issue 217

#### Film Club - New Season

# Weds, 13 September: Are you there God, it's me Margaret? PG rating

Welcome back! The summer months have flown by, mostly in a haze of rain and wind, and with September comes the start of our 2023/24 season of films at the village hall. We are starting with a feel good comedy drama, the highly rated recently released 'Are you there God? Its me Margaret? It's based on the very popular book by Judy Blume which tells the story of 11 year old Margaret and the challenges she faces as a half Christian/half Jewish girl reaching puberty, just as she is moving from New York to the suburbs of New Jersey with her mother and grandmother.

The excellent cast give stellar performances, with Rachel McAdams playing Margaret's mother Barbara, and the brilliant Kathy Bates playing grandmother Sylvia. But it is Abbey Ryder Fortson in the lead role as Margaret who steals the show.

This 'coming of age' story was controversial when the book was published in 1970 as it raised taboo topics of religion and puberty. But it became a much loved classic and it looks like the film will too as both critics and audiences love it, giving it top ratings all round. Let's hope you will like it too!

#### Changes to our ticket prices

As you know Film Club is run by volunteers who love the cinema and want to give everyone in our community the opportunity to have a sociable, fun evening out in the village watching a good film. Over the last 6 years we have shown around 60 films with attendances reaching over 70 for some of the most popular screenings. From the outset we have priced the entrance fee and refreshment sales to allow us in the main to break even, with any surplus being donated to charity. Since we started in 2017 we have given £500 to village hall funds, £1000 to the

playground appeal and £500 to the British Heart Foundation. We want to continue with this policy but as costs have increased, including the hire of the village hall, we now need to increase the ticket price from £5 to £6. This will mean we can be confident about covering our costs (which includes a minimum of £100 to licence each film we show). Hopefully with good attendances we will still have a surplus at the end of the year to donate to charity. We will introduce the £6 entrance in October. We are still only able to accept cash but are working on getting a card reader which will bring us into the modern era(!) and hopefully make it easier for you. Watch this space!

#### **Autumn Films**

Other films we hope to show over the next few months include:

- The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry
- The Outfit
- Champions

We look forward to seeing all our regular 'film clubbers', and hopefully some new customers for our September film.

Doors open at 7.30pm; film starts at 8pm. Come early for refreshments and a chat.

Ticket price for September - £5.

#### THE GREYHOUND INN

LETCOMBE REGIS , OXFORDSHIRE

## **Autumn Tasting Menu**

Individual dishes designed by each of our talented kitchen team Thursday 19th October 2023

Arrive 7pm for a 7:30pm start 6 courses £80pp pre-bookings only



Book your place soon to avoid disappointment www.thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk email: info@thegreyhoundletcombe.co.uk Tel:01235 771969

### Issue 217



#### St Andrew's

The Holy Communion Service on 13<sup>th</sup> August was presided over by the Revd Ness Brunner-Ellis. After the service there was a brief extra APCM to adopt the church's 2022 audited accounts. Before this Ness made a couple of important announcements. The first was that from the beginning of September all the services throughout the Benefice, which have previously been held at 10 am, will be at 10.15 am. This will enable

her not to have to rush from the 8.30 am service to the later one, and gives her more time to talk to members of the congregation at the end of the earlier service. Secondly the interviews for an Administrator for the benefice had taken place and it was hoped that someone would be appointed shortly. Happily since then we have heard that Kate Lockwood has been offered the post of Administrator to the Ridgeway Benefice and subject to the necessary checks will likely start by September.

Christine Birch has provided the following paragraph about the church bells and bell ringing — which we all appreciate very much. Whites of Appleton conducted the annual inspection of the bells and frame in St Andrew's tower on 9th August — all was in good condition. The following week, on Thursday 17th August, St Andrew's welcomed a visiting bell-ringing team drawn from parishes in West Oxfordshire (Woodstock, North Leigh, Church Hanborough and Freeland). The six ringers successfully rang a quarter peal of 1,260 changes in a tradition called Plain Bob Minor which took about 45 minutes of continuous ringing from memory. After lunch the group went on to ring at Shellingford Church. It was lovely to welcome some expert ringers to the church once again on a day that coincided with the home team's two youngest ringers receiving their A Level results. Congratulations to George Barber and Lily Shepherd as they move on to the next stage of their life's adventure. The home team thank them both for their regular and invaluable contribution to bell-ringing at St Andrew's while at secondary school. We are looking for new recruits to the team, any age from 11 upwards. Please contact Christine Birch on 763529 if you are interested.

On 27<sup>th</sup> August Debbie Webb, our church warden, led the service. Debbie added to our enjoyment by playing David Suchet reading Psalm 138, apparently he has recorded the whole of the Bible.

A few reminders. Evensong will start again on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 3 pm and Prayer Group is also on Mondays at 10.30 am. Morning Prayer is every second Thursday at 9.15 am, in September this will be 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. As stated above the Sunday morning services at St Andrew's will start at 10.15 am from September. Harvest Festival this year is on 10<sup>th</sup> September and gifts can be left in the church beforehand.

## **Letcombe Sports and Social Club**

Photo Credit - Mike Price

Pizza evening returns again on Friday 15th September. Please remember to get your orders in on the Thursday before. Last months evening was very busy, so early ordering is recommended.

The darts teams have been enjoying mixed success in the Summer League, but all 3 teams have had a lot of fun, whether they win or lose.

The cricket season is coming to a close, having enjoyed success across the board on Wednesdays, Sundays and Saturdays. Of particular note, the Saturday team have managed a league and cup double, having recently won the cup and secured the league with an excellent win last week over Wantage and Grove.

As ever, if anyone has any questions about the Sports and Social Club, or would like to join, then please contact the secretary on <a href="mailto:letcombesportsclub@gmail.com">letcombesportsclub@gmail.com</a>.

Richard Secretary, Letcombe Sports & Social Club

#### LETCOMBE REGISTER

To <u>submit an article</u> please contact:
Francesca Engelmann,
2, The Old Stables,
Letcombe Regis,
OX12 9LD
Register@oldstableyard.co.uk

01235 769310

The views expressed in the Register do not necessarily reflect the view of Letcombe Regis Parish Council

Past Registers are available to view, along with much more information, on the Village Website: www.letcomberegispc.org

TO <u>RECEIVE YOUR PDF COPY</u> OF THE LETCOMBE REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT LIZ JENKINS, THE PARISH CLERK:

<u>LETREGISPC@GMAIL.COM</u>

( FOR GDPR REASONS - THE LETCOMBE REGISTER HAS NO ACCESS TO THE VILLAGE EMAIL LIST )

Deadline for inclusion is 27th of each month.

Items will generally appear in the order they were received

#### September2023

#### Click Here for full 23/24

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Grey Landfill Food waste

Green recycling Food waste Brown Garden Waste