## The Throne of Grace

There is a badly faded painting on the underside of the canopy above the tomb of the Black Prince in Canterbury Cathedral which most people are unlikely to see, because you must lean over and look up at such an awkward angle that you are likely to strain your neck, or else draw the attention of the Cathedral stewards for getting too close to such an ancient historical monument! Fortunately, a copy of the original painting hangs on the wall opposite which is easier to view.

The form of the painting though uncommon today, was not unusual in medieval times when the Black Prince was alive. Called 'The Throne of Grace', it depicts God the Father as offering, or giving his son to a fallen world in a way that brings to mind the apostle John's memorable words, 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life'. The Holy spirit too is portrayed in

the picture as a dove, giving his suffering and ultimately, again after three days in In contrast to the words of Great the Father's Love for Father turned his face away influenced by Jesus' cry, "My forsaken me?"; the 'Throne Christ was no more alone other time in his ministry, no alone he felt himself to be one of the reasons I cannot words, beautiful though the The presence of the Father Throne of Grace' shows how single, most defining act of



Jesus the strength to bear the power to take up his life the tomb.

one modern hymn "How Us" which suggests that the from Jesus on the cross, God, my God, why have you of Grace' reminds us that on the cross than at any matter how deserted and at that moment in time. It is bring myself to sing those rest of the song might be.

and the Holy Spirit in 'The this moment was in fact, the self-sacrificial love not only

on Jesus' part, but of the entire Godhead. It shows how each of them were involved in that great act of redeeming grace, for it was the Father who sent, the Son who obeyed, and the Holy Spirit who raised up the crucified Christ for us all on Easter Sunday. It shows how far from turning his face away, God the Father, whose love Jesus never doubted, bore him up on the cross, even as he offered him as a symbol of his undying love for all humanity with the words, 'this is my Son, my beloved, in whom I am well pleased', so that it is we, and not Him, who have to decide whether to turn our face to the crucified and risen Christ or not!

Reverend Stephen O'Connor

Image: The Throne of Grace Austrian, 1410, London, National Gallery Page 2 Focus April 2023

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## **Church Times**

Church Wardens: David Brazier 714712 and June Margerrison 714554 www.winslowbenefice.org.uk

St James' Services for April	Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions
2nd 11.00am Holy Communion			F 5
9th 11.00am Holy Communion	J Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison
16th 11.00am Creative Communion	P Moyles	S Bayliss	J Brigden
23rd 11.00am Holy Communion	I Lamberton	I Lamberton	Clergy
30th 11.00am Holy Communion	J Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison
Church Key: April - Rita Essam 714424			

#### **EASTER CHURCH SERVICES.**

We will be processing through the village on Palm Sunday April 2nd starting at 10.15am in Willow Road before our service at 11.00am in St James. Please feel free to join us for all or part of the walk. On Monday April 3rd there will be a Benefice Stations of the Cross service in St James at 7.00pm and on Maundy Thursday we have a Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar at 8.00pm. On Easter Sunday we will celebrate Holy Communion starting at 11.00am and finish with Easter Eggs for all. Finally on the 30th of April Bishop Alan from Buckingham will be at our Service. All are welcome to any of our services.

#### VILLAGE HALL

In our centenary year we are pleased to say that plans are well under way to provide new toilets with disabled access together with general improvements to the hall including lighting and general refurbishment.

We are currently looking to recruit a new treasurer for our team to take over from Russell Margerrison who has given us tremendous support and professionalism over the last few years. It is an ideal opportunity for someone to become involved in the Village and make a positive contribution to our community at a very exciting time.

Please call me on 01296 715968 or 07973 225428 or e mail ianlamberton@aol.com to discuss the position lan Lamberton

Chairman

Ф

#### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

An open invitation to villagers.

#### Saturday, April 29th at 10.30am,

come along to the Village Hall to hear Frances Carlaw speaking on the subject of **Pearls and the Art Deco.** 

Frances is a very accomplished and knowledgeable speaker and jewellery maker.

Her stunning necklaces and bracelets will be on sale at massively reduced retail prices.

#### Tickets just £5.

Please contact Ann Biggins annieqqmk@gmail.com / 07961 960802 to book your place.

#### PLANT SALE

Monday 29th May, 10am - 2pm Great assortment of plants, refreshments and raffle 8 High Street, (opposite Church Gate) In aid St James Church Great Horwood

# PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT TAKE RUBBER CHIPPINGS FROM THE REC.

It has been noticed that there is a pile of rubber chippings has been used to fill a hole in the footpath between the top of Spring Lane and the High Street. Why, rubber chippings were used, instead of collecting some of the nearby stones, we cannot fathom!

Our Parish Council pay for the rubber chippings and to top them up, which means it comes from everyone's council tax! For us all, and our children's safety, leave them around the play equipment.

John Nicholls

Chairman, Horwode Pece Management Committee

#### CORONATION CELEBRATION

#### Monday 8th May, 2pm at the Cricket Club

We are progressing well with plans for this event and would like to thank everyone who is contributing. We are pleased to be able to add the Medical Detection Dogs to our list of attractions.

We hope that people will walk to the Cricket Club as there will only be parking for disabled people and contributors.

And if you have a friend or neighbour who would find it difficult to walk there, could you offer a 'taxis' service? There will be an allocated drop off/pick up point.

We could do with some more volunteers, mainly for manning the entrance to the field. This could be on an hourly rota basis.

We would be very grateful if you are able to offer any help, please contact me, Liz Nicholls 715331 or e\_nicholls@outlook.com Page 4 Focus April 2023

Salary: £13 pr hour.
Start: Immediate

**Location:** Singleborough (home-office based Must be comfortable with friendly dogs, car essential).

#### HR and Administration Assistant (15hrs)

A role requiring organizing, interviewing staff, allocating staff to events, ensuring compliance and records up to date, booking of travel and accommodation.

#### Accounts and Office Assistant (10 hrs)

Assisting our Finance manager with data entry and general office administration. Accounting background (purchase ledger) essential.

The above 2 roles can be combined to one role - 25 hours a week.

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Contact: events@nipperbout.com

#### GREAT NEWS FROM NOOK PARK! HEDGES-R-US

Well, the last few weeks has gone from quiet to WOW! It has seen the council involvement on a much bigger scale

As you read last time regarding a direction 4 on the boundary, well this time they have come up with an enforcement notice. This means that by the 30th of March 2024 Joe Burns must replant the whole hedgerow on the boundary around Nook Park. (although he does have until 30th of March 2023 to appeal the decision) If you live within sight of Nook Park, like us, you will have the pleasure of watching this hedgerow grow.

The council have been very specific also what must be planted. This is as follows:

Common Hawthorn 50%
Field Maple 10%
Hazel 10%
Spindle 5%
Crab Apple 5%
Buckthorn 5%
Midland Hawthorn 5%
Holly 5%
Wild Privet 5%

All this with 5 plants per meter and staggered in a double row. Sub soil to be prepared to a depth of 2 feed. The use of plastic free guards and staked. Each plant to be mulched with wood chip that is at least 6 months old to prevent fungal infection. Due to the size of the hedge removed the council recommend that the plants must be 2-year-old feathered bare root stock thus making the hedge taller on planting which can't take place until next Autumn.

This is a big thing for us as we have been experiencing a very cold time at the park due to the lack of hedgerow. The wind has been coming up and causing all sorts of problems. The reinstatement will also mean that the hedge will take up a lot of water that otherwise could cause flooding.

I hope you are as pleased as we are and once again, I would like to thank you for all your continued support over the last 18 months. We still look forward to seeing you all as you take a walk around the park.

May we wish you all a very Happy Easter and hopefully more good news soon.

Liz Phillips

#### WINSLOW AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

Meetings are held in Winslow every Thursday morning and in Padbury every Tuesday morning. Anyone over the age of 16 with an interest in visual arts is eligible to become a member subject to a small subscription. We are a friendly, helpful group and anyone interested in becoming a member can find more details on our website www.winslowart.org.uk

Demonstrations in a range of media are normally held at the Winslow Bowls Club on the last Thursday of each month. Entry is from 7.00 for a 7.30 start. These are enjoyable and informative evenings and last about two hours with a break for coffee and biscuits. Non members are welcome to attend and entry will cost

Details of recent and future demonstrations are as follows:

30 March Heather Miller. Acrylics and mixed media. Lake in a landscape

27 April Pauline Hazelwood. Line and wash with pencil sketching. Cartooning

25 May Aurora Spain. Brusho. Natural world

29 June. Karen Thomas. Graphite. Animals and birds 28 September. Peter Keegan. Oil

Our next exhibition will be held at Winslow Bowls Club over 13/14 May.

For more about us please look at our website or contact

Chair: Maureen Barnes 01280 815691 Secretary: John Beckerleg 01280 816932 Treasurer: Jackie Chambers 01296 713607

#### THE SECRET WAR IN THE CHILTERNS

Jean Yates, (pictured on next page) author of Dunstable and District at War, was guest speaker at a recent Great Horwood & Singleborough WI meeting. The title of her presentation, The Secret War and Covert Connections, was a fascinating insight into how key Government departments including propaganda, weather forecasting, code-breakers and code-makers, were moved (and hidden) to the relative safety of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire that led to the D-Day landings on June 6, 1944. The area was chosen for its proximity to the A5 and good train links to London (which pre-war were very reliable). The counties were also ideally positioned half way between Oxford and Cambridge to attract the best brains for the war effort and at one time Bedfordshire was dubbed the 'Spy Capital of Britain'. It was a very interesting talk pointing out key figures and landmarks that during the war, and even afterwards, were kept secret.

On Saturday, April 29th at 10.30am we have lined up another great speaker, Frances Carlaw, who will be talking on the subject of Pearls and the Art Deco. There will also be a display of some of Frances' stunning jewellery combining pearls and antique beads which will be available for sale. This event is open to everyone in the village, so please do come along because we believe it will be a very interesting and enjoyable event. Tickets just £5. To book please email annieqqmk@gmail.com or phone 07961 960802.

Despite the weather members have continued to enjoy walks around the Buckinghamshire countryside on Mondays and Wednesdays. We've also enjoyed a trip to see the snowdrops at Stowe and at Evenly Wood. More outings are planned in the near future including a river trip and cream tea on the Thames.

The WI meets every second Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall.

If you'd like to join our friendly group or would like more information please contact annieqqmk@gmail. com / 07961 960802.

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Jean Yates spoke to the WI about the covert operations in Beds/Bucks during WW11.

#### **MEN IN SHEDS**



We have been back to school this month to deliver two community projects that kept us busy during the winter months. Delivering a full-sized boat to the Treehouse Pre-School did involve quite a bit of upheaval so half-term week provided an ideal time to get the job done and, hopefully, give the children a nice surprise when they started back. 'Seascaping' materials were re-used from their old boat's mooring so it was a case of shovel work, equipping the boat with the right flag, some dodgy pirate impressions and fitting a set of steps. We've heard that our Pre-School sailors are already enjoying some nautical adventures!



The sun shone again when we delivered the first batch of nest boxes to Sir Thomas Freemantle School's allotment and environment club. The project is to raise funds for club projects so each box has a plate attached with a named sponsor who will be kept informed about their new tenants. In return we were

treated to an impressive tour of the allotment and were privileged to hear plans for the new season. These inspirational, green-fingered young people certainly do know where their food comes from and are learning how to nurture a plot with muck, magic and the skilled use of a garden fork.

Shedding is not just about making sawdust though so pop-in if you fancy a chat, a brew and some company - that's the real reason why we're here!

The Shed is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 - 4:00. Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate. www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk Or for more info call Dave Saunders; 01296 714164



OPEN DAY SATURDAY 29TH APRIL 2023 FROM 11.00 UNTIL 3PM

#### "You're never too young, never too old bowls is a great game at any age"

Bowls is a great game with no age limit. It is a competitive sport played in a very social atmosphere, giving plenty of opportunity for gentle exercise throughout the summer months.

We are a very friendly club, based right in the centre of Winslow with free parking and surrounded by the beautiful Tomkins Park and Arboretum.

Our green has been refurbished to a high level and the summer season will be in full swing from the middle of April right through until late September. We also play a Short Mat form of bowls in our clubhouse during the winter.

You can try for free and we have a number of Buckinghamshire Bowls Association trained coaches to get you started.

We welcome everyone, young or old, to visit us on the 29th of April to discover why our current members love to play the game, in our beautiful surroundings.

The only requirement is that you need to wear a pair of flat soled footwear (e.g. trainers).

Any questions, please phone our Club Secretary Victor on 01296 714026

#### **PARISH PUMP**

#### **CASUAL VACANCIES**



The Parish Council has 2 casual vacancies and now has permission to co-opt 2 new members.

**DEMOCRACY** If you would like to find out more about what being a Parish

Councillor involves in serving your local community then please in the first instance contact Cllr. John Gilbey by email at johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com and we can arrange to get together for a chat.

#### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**



The Annual Parish meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the village hall from 7.30pm on Monday 17th April.

All residents are welcome to hear

a brief report on the activities of the Parish Council over the last year and to hear from many of the local parish organisations telling us about their own activities and plans for the future.

We will also have presentations on the plans for the Coronation weekend and one on the refurbishment plans for the village hall.

#### **CORONATION WEEKEND**



The Parish Council has put aside a small sum in its budget and so any of those organisations or individuals who are planning events or activities for the Monday at the Cricket Club and who need access to some of this funding please apply to the clerk before the next meeting of the Council

on 3rd April.

The Parish Council will also be purchasing a supply of red, white and blue bunting and if you are holding a street party on the Sunday and would like to borrow some of the bunting please once again contact the clerk before 3rd April.

#### **NOOK PARK**

At last Buckinghamshire Council realised that there was something that they could do and issued a Hedgerow Replacement Notice to the owner of the site. This requires the hedgerow to be replaced by planting to be carried out during the next planting season which is after 1st April.

#### **VILLAGE HALL RENOVATIONS**



The refurbishment project for the village hall is moving forward and a Planning Application has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council and the committee is currently seeking quotations for the planned works.

#### FOCUS ONLINE

Did you know that there is an online edition of Focus with every copy from February 2012?



Great Horwood Parish Council

So, if you have mislaid your copy and can't find the information you need, just log onto

https://e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/focus-magazine/

#### **NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 3rd April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There is always a public participation period when members of the public can have their say. The Notice of the meeting is advertised on the Great Horwood Facebook page, the Parish Council website and the noticeboard in the High Street. Minutes of meetings can be found on the noticeboard and the Parish Council website e-voice. org.uk/ghpc/

Parish Clerk Great Horwood clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

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#### **GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL**

#### Useful contact details

#### Members of the Parish Council:

Please note that councillors now have a dedicated Parish Council email address. This is in order to comply with new Data Protection Regulations that came into force in 2018. It is good policy to keep council emails separate from private emails.

John Gilbey	Chairman	01296 711915	johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com
Caroline Cousin	Vice Chairman	01296 713548	carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com
Jackie Goss		01296 713135	jackiegossghpc@gmail.com
Andy Waller		01296 712798	andywallerpc@mail.com
Jonathan Evans		07470 298324	jjevans.ghpc@gmail.com
Clerk to the Cour	<u>ncil</u>		

clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

Parish Council Website www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/

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#### **Winslow Community Bus**

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#### April 2023

#### Winslow Market Service 54abc - runs every Wednesday morning

This service picks up in the surrounding villages and then into Winslow, (Swanbourne, Mursley, Great Horwood, Whaddon, Nash and The Claydons). Pick up times vary according to village. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £3.00 return.

#### Buckingham Bus Service - Tuesday 4th April, Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Picking up in Winslow and surrounding villages. 1 hour in town then 1 hour in Tesco, or 2 hours in Tesco. Door to door service. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return.

#### Westcroft Shopping - Thursday 13th and 27th April

 $\label{lem:pickingupinsurrounding} Pickingupinsurrounding villages. Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc. Buspasses accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Ringtobook. \\ \textbf{Asda-Monday 24th April}$ 

Bus passes are not accepted on this trip and will cost £5.00. Picking up in Winslow and surrounding villages Asda Shopping with the option to drop at Stadium MK1 for M&S, Primark, Next and more.

Drop off at Westcroft on request.

#### Bluebell Run and Lunch at The Greyhound in Aldbury - Tuesday 25th April

Our annual trip to view the Bluebells around Ashridge followed by lunch at The Greyhound in Aldbury. £8.00 travel

Please contact the WDCB Coordinator for more details. Timetables can be found online www.winslowbus.com On notice boards outside the Town Council offices, Winslow Library or calling the WDCB coordinator

Passengers are not to travel on the bus if they or any member of their household are displaying any signs of the COVID-19 virus.

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Kathy Thompson, Sylvia Whitehall, Gill Wood.

#### GREAT HORWOOD GIRLGUIDING

Girlguiding has a new logo and a new brand purpose:

#### We help all girls know they can do anything.

This reflects the part that we play in helping girls to grow in confidence, through the opportunities we give them to try new things and to express themselves in a friendly and supportive environment.



Great Horwood is lucky to have the full range of Girlguiding Units, from Rainbows through to Rangers, providing exciting and entertaining activities for girls aged 4 to 18 years. It's one of very few opportunities for girls in the village and nearby to socialise and have fun without parents having to drive them further afield. It's also one of the least expensive at only £40 per girl for a whole term and with grants available for those who can't afford to pay. The girls really enjoy themselves and we'd love more girls to come and join the fun.

We do a whole variety of different activities, including exploring nature, making dens, painting, campfire cooking, playing games, learning first aid, doing science experiments, practising DIY skills, having parties, enjoying adventurous activities, caring for the environment, going camping, earning badges, making new friends and having a laugh. We meet on Monday evenings in the Great Horwood Scout & Guide HQ at the following times:

5pm-6pm Rainbows (girls aged 4-7) 6pm-7.15pm Brownies (girls aged 7-10)

7.15pm-8.45pm Guides (girls aged 10-14) and Rangers (girls aged 14-18)

If you have a daughter who might like to try new activities, make new friends or have a break from the stresses of schoolwork and exams, please contact me on 07501636037 or claremartin71@btinternet.com to arrange a free taster session. Alternatively, please register her with Girlguiding UK at https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-forparents/register-a-child/ and I'll then contact you.







We also really need an adult volunteer to help at Brownies please. If you feel you could spare 75 minutes a week to just come along and help with whatever I've planned for the girls, I'd really love to hear from you. Please contact me as above or register yourself with Girlguiding at https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer/.

Clare Martin