

VILLAGE HALL RE-OPENING



We are now at an exciting time of our refurbishment in that the main contractors are off site, and we are concentrating on preparation of walls and surfaces for decoration.

The colours are chosen, new blinds ordered, flooring ready to be laid and a brand-new kitchen nearing completion!

The Hall will be officially open from Monday 29th April starting with The Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30 followed by recommencement of the Post Office on Wednesday 1st May and the Police Elections on Thursday 3rd May.

In the meantime we are looking for volunteers to help with getting the hall ready for opening and are hoping that enthusiastic people in the Village will help the community bring back a much valued facility to our expanding village.

If you can help, please phone Tony Pearson on 07891 252303

We are very grateful to all those people who have already given valuable support and we will be planning some form of Village recognition for all those involved.

lan Lamberton Chairman 07973225428 lanlamberton@aol.com Page 2 Focus April 2024









Greenway Dog Walking



Church Times

Dr Stephen O'Connor rector@ winslowbenefice.org.uk www.winslowbenefice.org.uk Church Wardens:
June Margerrison 714554
Carolyn Bayliss 715814

St James' Services for April			Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions
7th	11.00am	Holy Communion	C Bayliss	S Bayliss	Clergy
14th	11.00am	Come & Praise	P Moyles	Clergy	Clergy
21st	11.00am	Creative Communion	I Lamberton	I Lamberton	J Brigden
28th	11.00am	Holy Communion	J Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison
	Key April:				

JUNE WORKING PARTY

We are replacing the wood surrounds around both the toddler and the teenage areas. The wood will come out and composite kerbstone put in its' place. This will be a major task requiring as many willing helpers as possible. The more muscle power we have, the easier the task will be.

We plan, weather permitting, to carry out this work around mid June (I know this is Father's Day on the Sunday but it will be weekend work parties over several weekends). The date is a guideline as delivery is an approximate 8-10 week lead time.

If you feel you would like to help, we plan to set up a WhatsApp Group for ease of communication. Please contact Cathy Holland on 07709 436322 to be added to this group.

Thank you in advance for your Community Spirit! Cathy Holland

Recreation Management Committee

GREAT HORWOOD SILVER BAND

Upcoming engagements:

Saturday 16th May - Spring Concert - Furze Down School, Winslow - 7.30pm start.

Wednesday 15th May – Concert on the Green – Great Horwood Village Green

Saturday 1st June - North Bucks Country Show - Pilch Lane, Great Horwood

Thursday 6th June - 80th Anniversary of D-Day - Slapton

Saturday 8th June - Courteenhall Fete - Courteenhall Wednesday 19th June - Concert on the Green - Great Horwood Village Green

Saturday 22nd June - Tingewick Village Fete - Tingewick

Wednesday 10th July - Concert on the Green - Great Horwood Village Green

Wednesday 11th September – Concert on the Green – Great Horwood Village Green

Contact details:

Contact details:

Email:ghsbsecretary@gmail.com Website: www.greathorwood.com Or through our Facebook page

WINSLOW AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

I am pleased to write that members continue to enjoy meeting up on a Tuesday morning in Padbury Village hall and in the Winslow Bowls club on a Thursday morning. On each of these mornings we very much enjoy chatting and sharing views, ideas and skills.

Sixteen of us got together at the Bowls Club in February for a day long workshop led by Mark Warner on creating a seascape in Acrylic. We all enjoyed the experience and agreed that we had gained from listening to Mark and trying out his suggestions and guidance.

Then on the 29th February we attended an excellent demonstration on still life in acrylics and collage by Jan Munro. It was a fascinating demonstration which achieved amazing results. Anybody is very welcome to come along to these demonstration evenings in Winslow Bowls Club for £5 entrance fee which also includes refreshments and doors open at 7 pm. You will see information about these demonstrations below.

Please contact us for further information: Chair: Cheryl Wilyman 01296 640755 Treasurer: Jackie Chambers 01296 713607 Secretary: Monica Gilbey 01296 711915

Our future Demonstration evenings will be as follows:

28 March 24 Graham Short,

talk on life as a Micro Artist.

25 April 24 David Wilcox, demonstration,

medium to be confirmed.

30 May 24 Paul Berryman, demonstration,

medium to be confirmed.

27 June 24 Karen Thomas, demonstration

on using graphite.

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with barred list check. We also require a criminal disclosure from all shortlisted applicants, excluding filtered and protected offences. Guidance and criteria on the filtering of these cautions and convictions

can be found on the Ministry of Justice website. We also undertake an online check, as part of a range of checks on suitability.

Contact: events@nipperbout.com





TWIGS NURSERIES MK18 2DZ



GREAT HORWOOD & SINGLEBOROUGH WI

Members of Great Horwood & Singleborough WI enjoyed a fascinating talk from Jenny Metcalfe on her travels to Nepal. Jenny has been a volunteer for many years helping on a wide range of projects to benefit rural communities in Nepal. Nepal is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world and working with various volunteer agencies, Jenny has helped get funding for many women so they can, for example, buy a buffalo and sell milk, found financing for an orphanage and has improved the prospects of many people in the area. Her knowledge of Nepal, landlocked between India and China, and its people, history and culture is awesome and we look forward to Jenny returning to tell us more in the future.

Jenny Metcalfe speaking about Nepal at the Great Horwood & Singleborough WI in March.

Meanwhile, our weekly walks continue every Monday and Wednesday. We have an outing to Wrest Park in April which is a magnificent 18th-century mansion standing in 90 acres of glorious gardens. We also have our annual dinner for members in April. The GH&S WI often team up with other local WIs for events as well as the national federation, so there are always plenty of things on offer.

Our meetings, held every second Tuesday each month, are currently held at the cricket club in Nash Road, while the village hall is being refurbished. We have a varied selection of speakers booked this year including an evening of magic and mentalism and an awesome diary of day trips. If you'd like to join our friendly group or would like more information, please contact:

Ann Biggins

annieggmk@gmail.com: 07961 960802



Are you in a club or society in

Great Horwood and Singleborough?

Share your news with the whole village,
it may even help attract new members!

editor@ghfocus.com



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LIGHT UP THE TOWER OF ST JAMES

If you wish to sponsor the tower lights for that special occasion, please help us by using this form for your request.

I would like to sponsor the lights on the following date (s):

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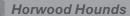
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Winslow Community Bus

April and May 2024



<u>Aylesbury Market Bus</u> runs every Friday and Saturday morning. from Winslow, through Gt Horwood, Little Horwood, Mursley and Swanbourne, arriving in Aylesbury just after 10am and departing 12.15pm. FREE with a bus pass, otherwise only £4.50 return. Drop offs at Sainsburys and Broadfields on request.

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 2 April and Tuesday 7 May

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 11 and 25 April, Thursday 9 and 28 May

Picking up in surrounding villages. Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Ring to book.

Asda Monday 22 April and Monday 28 May

Bus passes are not accepted on this trip which 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..

The Greyhound Inn, Aldbury on Tuesday 23rd April, Travel £8

Our annual Bluebell run and lunch at The Greyhound Inn in the picturesque village in Aldbury.

Afterwards a stop at Tring Garden Centre.

Bicester Avenue Shopping. Thursday 2nd May, Travel £8

Our annual Bluebell run and lunch at The Greyhound Inn in the picturesque village in Aldbury.

Afterwards a stop at Tring Garden Centre.

Weston Super Mare on Thursday 16th May, Travel £22

Weston-Super-Mare is a seaside town in North Somerset, England, where you can enjoy the charm of a traditional coastal resort with a modern twist. Whether you want to relax on the sandy beaches, explore the historic pier, or discover the local heritage at the museums..

Future Dates for your Diary

Eastbourne on Sunday 30th June

Please contact the WDCB Coordinator for more details of any trips.

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

The Winslow & District Community Bus relies on volunteer drivers to run all our services, excursions and hires.

We are always in need of volunteer drivers, especially at the moment! So, if you have a D1 on your licence, and have some spare time, please consider becoming a driver for your local Community Bus.

Our Scheduled routes are

Aylesbury Market Bus - runs every Friday and Saturday morning, From Winslow, through Gt Horwood, Nash, Whaddon, Mursley and Swanbourne, arriving in Aylesbury Bus Station and parking in our reserved bay.

Winslow Market Service 54abc - runs every Wednesday morning Picking up in the surrounding villages and then into Winslow, (Swanbourne, Mursley, Great Horwood, Whaddon, Nash and The Claydons).

Buckingham Bus Service - runs on the first Tuesday of the monthPicking up in Winslow and surrounding villages. 1 hour in town then 1 hour in Tesco, or 2 hours in Tesco.

Westcroft Shopping – runs on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month Picking up in Winslow and surrounding villages.

All of our scheduled routes start at around 9.00am and

finish around 1.30pm. We pay out-of-pocket expenses.

We also run our own outings visiting all kinds of places, including garden centres, stately homes, shopping centres and countryside drives. The use of the bus is also available to local non-profit groups

We offer certificated training to MiDAS standard

MiDAS is the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme and is administered by the Community Transport Association. The scheme provides a nationally recognised standard for the assessment and training of minibus drivers and has been designed to enhance minibus driving standards and promote the safer operation of minibuses.

WDCB provide free training to "MiDAS "standards for all our drivers. A certificate is awarded after successful completion of the course, which is valid for four years and is recognised UK-wide. Candidates must be aged over 21 and have category 'D1' on their licence. The course is usually completed in a day, the time being divided between classroom and practical work. The latter comprises coaching and assessment of driving skills plus a briefing on the use of the minibus wheelchair lift.

www.winslowbus.com wdcbenquiries@btinternet.com Tel: 07483 336440



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 29TH APRIL 2024 - 7.30рм

Great Horwood Parish Council

We will be holding the above meeting in the newly refurbished Village Hall - everyone is welcome.



This is a chance for the organisations that the

Parish Council have supported and helped with funding explain to everyone how this has helped/ supported them and what they have utilised the money for - A CHANCE TO SHARE GOOD NEWS. The Parish Council would like to encourage as many residents as possible to get involved and to attend this meeting.

- What do you want to see happening in your newly refurbished Village Hall?
- · How do you want to use it?
- How can it enhance daily life in the village?

This is an ideal place to run social events - plenty of space for group meetings, book groups, the list is endless.

Please come and join us - celebrate our new Hall and the exciting possibilities that it holds for everyone in Great Horwood.

Parish Councillors

We currently two vacancies on the Council. If you think you might be interested in volunteering to serve your local community in this way, please email and we can arrange to have a chat about the role and see if it is suited to you johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com

VILLAGE HALL RESTORATION

Work is still continuing well, and as you may have seen on the recent Facebook post there is a "shout out" for volunteers to help with the cleaning and now the painting of the Village Hall to get it ready for its opening - if you could spare a few hours to help with this please get in touch.

Dog Waste

The Parish Clerk has contacted Buckinghamshire Council (the Heritage function within the Planning, Growth & Sustainability department) a number of times over the last month to try to ensure that the current owner is not allowing The Crown (a listed building) to fall into a state of major disrepair. This is an ongoing discussion between the Parish Council and Buckinghamshire Council and further updates will be given when they become available.

THE CROWN

Ongoing discussions between the Parish Council and Buckinghamshire Council and further updates will be given when they become available. Don't forget to check the minutes of the Parish Council meetings to see the latest information.

PARISH PUMP

FLOWER PLANTERS The planting programme for the 5 planters in the village is in full swing and they will soon be in bloom

with the warmer weather.

WELCOME PACK

If you are new to the village and have not yet received a Welcome Pack please email as shown below with your address and I will drop one off to you.

Focus Online

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

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/

STAY VIGILANT AND REPORT SUPSICIOUS ACTIVITY

You may have seen lately on social media reports of a series of attempted break in's into properties locally, both during the day and at night - this is just a reminder to keep all doors and windows locked and valuables kept out of sight. If you see anything suspicious, please report to Thames Valley Police 101.

Parish Council Website

With Spring not far round the corner, it seems the right time to spring clean and update the Parish Council website with new photographs that have been taken around the village - if you have any local photographs that you would not mind being published on our website that depict the village life please forward these to the Clerk by email: clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

INFORMATION SHARING GROUP

This is a good way of communicating useful information to villagers. If you would like to receive information first hand, such as Thames Valley Police info, roadworks updates and other ad hoc information, please contact Sarah Biswell on clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk if you are interested and you can be added to the email group.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th April at 7.30pm in the Scout Hut (this will be our normal venue whilst the Village Hall is being refurbished.)

There is always a public participation period when members of the public can have their say - please feel free to attend. The Notice of the meeting is advertised on 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.

Cllr. John Gilbey: Chairman of the Council

johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com

GREAT HORWOOD GIRLGUIDING

Great Horwood Rangers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows are enjoying a busy, fun-packed term. We've explored and celebrated Chinese New Year, with the Rainbows decorating firework biscuits, making dragons and even becoming a dragon! The Brownies created firework pictures and practiced fire safety techniques and the Guides and Rangers cooked Chinese food. We celebrated World Thinking Day, learning about Girlguiding around the world, playing internationally-themed games and singing (mostly silly) songs. We also took part in the District Thinking Day service and lots of the Rainbows and Brownies wore their Girlguiding uniforms to school for the day. A glow in the dark evening saw us painting our hands and faces with UV reactive face paints and doing treasure hunts outside in the dark. To mark the leap year, we had an evening of leaping and bouncing, racing on space hoppers and making our own biodegradable bouncy balls. We've also found time to earn badges and play lots of games.

We're looking forward to the Summer Term and all the opportunities the longer days give us to have fun outdoors. Among other things, we'll be cooking over camp fires and going on adventures. Some of the Guides will also be going on an exciting Summer camp, where they'll be enjoying lots of activities including axethrowing and going to a water park. We're always keen to welcome more girls and now is the perfect time to join us.

We meet on term time Mondays at 5.00pm for Rainbows, 6.00pm for Brownies and 7.15pm for Rangers and Guides. If you have a daughter who might be interested in joining, please register her at https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/ or contact me on 07501 636037 or claremartin71@btinternet.com.

Clare Martin



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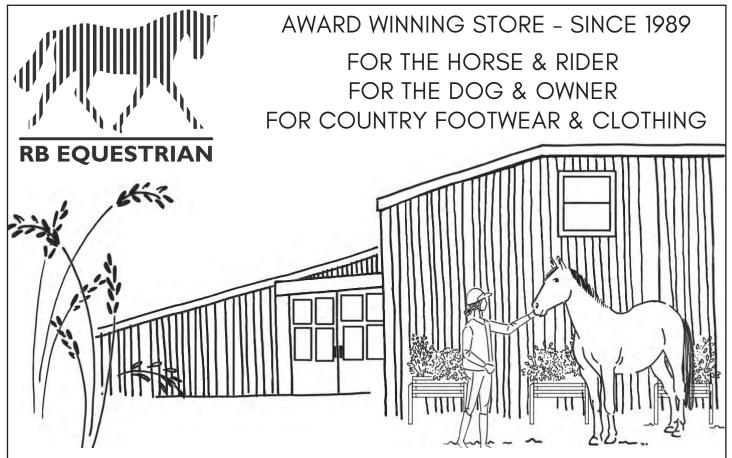
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GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

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 07903 549339

carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com

Jackie Goss 01296 713135

jackiegossghpc@gmail.com

Jonathan Evans 07470 298324

jjevans.ghpc@gmail.com

Thomas Lee 074901 944996

tlee.ghpc@gmail.com

Clerk to the Council

Mrs. Sarah Biswell 01296 715803

clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

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

Great Horwood Village Hall Bookings 01296 715968 Winslow and District Community Bus 07483 336440

Community Police Officers

PCSO Andy Piotrowski Tel: 101

Andrew.Piotrowski@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk



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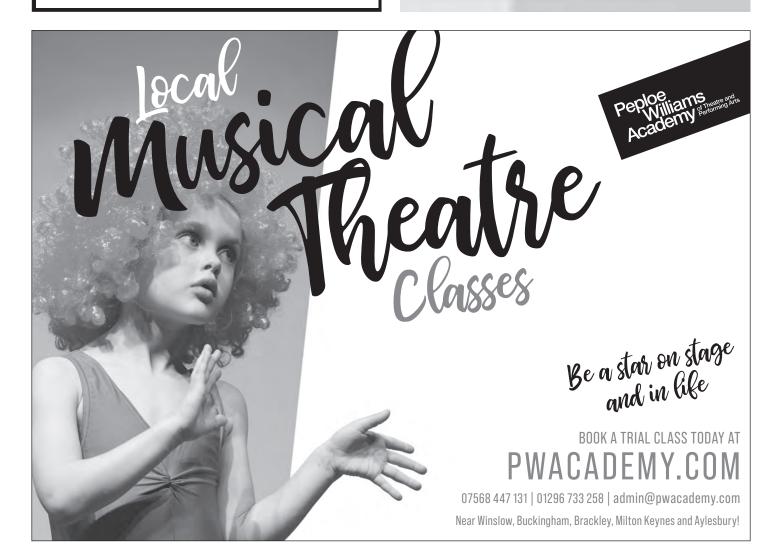
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Kathy Thompson, Sylvia Whitehall, Gill Wood.



Welcome to Winslow Bowls Club

OPEN DAY SATURDAY 27th APRIL 2024

from 11.00am until 3.00pm



Winslow Bowls Club is a friendly and social club, full of people looking to have fun and enjoy sporting activity together. We are based right in the centre of Winslow with free parking and surrounded by the beautiful Tomkins Park and Arboretum. The summer season will be in full swing from the middle of April right through until late September.

Visit us on the 27th of April to discover why our current members love to play the game. Come and enjoy the sport.

Trained coaches and Club members will be there to get you started. You can try for free and we have a selection of bowls for you to use. The only requirement is that you need to wear a pair of flat soled footwear on the green.

If you have any questions, please phone our Club Secretary Roger on 07982 244654.

Bowls is a sport for everyone and it can help improve fitness levels and mental well-being. At 12.00 we will have the official opening of the Green access ramp, showing a special wheelchair for the green and new disability aids.