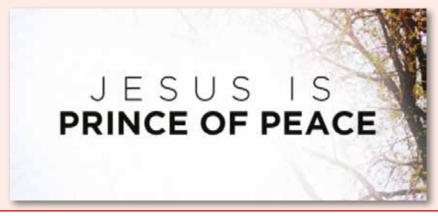


2016 has certainly been an interesting and unsettling year. Peace in various parts of the world is in short supply, with injustice and cruelty seeming to have the upper hand. In the UK and US the referendum and presidential election respectively have revealed deeply fractured societies. The nature of debate has felt truly awful, leaving many feeling 'surely we can and must do better.'

One of the phrases used to describe Jesus in the Bible is **Prince of Peace**. Peace in the biblical sense means right or righteous relationships. Jesus came into the world to show us what it means to live well, with each other; to live well with difference. The Prince of Peace is humanity's Christmas Present. So please do come and join us at St. James' Church this Christmas as we greet the Prince of Peace and share with us in the greatest story ever told, a story truly worth celebrating and living by.

Finally, as you will be aware Dean is stepping down as editor of 'FOCUS'. On behalf of the entire community I would like to express our gratitude for his service. 'FOCUS'. is a wonderful parish magazine and one that has gone from strength to strength under his stewardship. Thank you.

Rev'd Andrew Lightbown, Rector. Winslow Benefice



# THE CUTTING Traditional Barber Shop



Opening times: Tues, Weds & Fri 9am-6pm Thurs 9am-7pm Sat 8.30am-5pm (Closed lunchtime 1pm-2pm)

74 High Street Winslow Buckinghamshire Tel: 01296 714429

No Appointment Needed Free Parking

www.cutting-corner.co.uk

Find us on Facebook

Mow open until



Traditional Home Cooked Three Course Burn's Supper

(Vegetarian option available)

#### Date

Saturday 28th January 2017

#### **Time**

Doors open: 7.30 pm Supper served: 8.00 pm

#### Venue

Village Hall, Great Horwood

#### **Price**

£20.00 to include a measure

Dress Code: Black Tie - Kilts - Tartan Dresses (optional) Reserve your seat / table telephone June on 714554





Great Food I Ales & Wine

December 11th - Christmas quiz with buffet and great prizes . Teams to be registered in advance

**Festive Opening Time** 

December (each Tuesday ) Bar and Restaurant Open

December 24th - Open for drinks only, free buffet and Great Horwood Silver Band

December 25th - Open for dining only

December 26th - 28th Closed

December 31st - Closed (Private Party)

Jan 1st - Closed

> 1 Winslow Rd, Great Horwod, Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK17 0QN

> > ℃ 01296 712556

info@swaninngreathorwood.co.uk The Swan Innn Great Horwood www@swaninngreathorwood.co.uk Rev Andrew Lightbown e-mail alightbown@hotmail.co.uk phone 01296 712564 www.winslowbenefice.org.uk

#### **Church Times**

www.wirisiowberiefice.org.uk						
St James' Services for December			Sidesmen	Reader	Intercessor	
4th Dec	11.00am	Holy Communion	N Weir	C Finnemore	D Brazier	
11th Dec	11.00am	Come and Praise	R Hemphill	J Hemphill	S Brazier	
18th Dec	6.00pm	Nine lessons and Carols	D Brazier	-	-	
24th Dec	4.00pm	Christingle Service	D Brazier	-	-	
24th Dec	11.30pm	Midnight Communion	I Lamberton	R Margerrison	Clergy	
25th Dec	10.30am	Family Communion	D Brazier	D Brazier	S Brazier	
Services for January						
1st Jan - Benefice Service at St Laurence Church, Winslow -				-		
8th Jan	11.00am	Come and Praise	S Hemphill	T Brazier	S Brazier	
15th Jan	11.00am	Holy Communion	I Lamberton	C Finnemore	I Lamberton	
22nd Jan	8.00am	Holy Communion (1662)	-	-	-	
22nd Jan	11.00am	Come and Share	S Barfoot	J Brigden	Clergy	
29th Jan	11.00am	Holy Communion	J Margerrison	D Brazier	J Margerrison	
5th Feb	11.00am	Holy Communion	N Weir	I Lamberton	D Brazier	

Please note that the Christmas Day Family Communion Service will start at the earlier time of 10.30am.

#### **Benefice Service**

Please also note that there will not be a Church service on Sunday 1st January 2017 at St James'. Everyone is, however, welcome to attend the Benefice service at St Laurence Church, Winslow. Please contact Sue Brazier on 714712 for more details

Church Key Rota: December - Lynne and Graham Mayger - 712643



#### **Lighting of the Church Tower**

The Church was lit on Saturday 22nd October to remember Mrs Blane.

We are very grateful to Marc and Jo Bennett-Coles for sponsoring the lighting of the tower throughout the whole of December.

lan Lamberton

#### 12 Days of Christmas Raffle for St James' Church

St James' Church is again getting into the festive spirit and holding a 12 days of Christmas Raffle. Prizes are:

- 1 Luxury Christmas Hamper
  - 2 Bottles of Spirits
    - **3** Mystery Presents
      - **4** Christmas Treats
        - 5 Bottles of Wines
          - 6 Luxury Christmas Crackers
            - 7 Assorted Christmas Decorations
              - 8 Bottles of Beer
                - 9 Christmas Candles
                  - 10 Chocolate Christmas Trees
                    - 11 Luxury Christmas Cards
                      - 12 Luxury Mince Pies



Tickets are just 50 pence each and the raffle will be drawn after the Christmas Carol Concert on the 18th of December with all prizes distributed before Christmas. Tickets are available from any PCC member. For more information please call Russell Margerrison on 714554.

## **Lannails**



Professional Nails & Beauty by Leanne

Acrylic Nails & Gel Nail Polish Manicures & Pedicures **Foil Nail Wraps** Waxing & Tinting Gift Vouchers

Leanne Hammond Whaddon Road, Little Horwood tel: 07825777497

e-mail: lannails@btinternet.com web site: www.lannails.co.uk









# **K.J. WINDOWS** & DOORS

**UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS CONSERVATORIES FASCIA & SOFFITS BI-FOLDING DOORS** ALL REPAIRS, INCLUDING **MISTED & BROKEN UNITS** 

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

CALL KEITH 07539 367 200



D 4 D

Phone: 01296 714534

Web: www.thecrowngh.co.uk



@CrownGHorwood

Real Ales and Locally Sourced Food on a **Buckinghamshire** Village Green

#### **Opening Hours**

|        | BAR                               | FOOD SERVED                      |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mon:   | 5.00 - 11.00pm                    | Closed for food                  |
| Tues:  | 5.00 - 10.00pm                    | Closed for food                  |
| Weds:  | 5.00 - 11.00pm                    | 6.30 - 9.00pm                    |
| Thurs: | 12 noon - 3.00pm & 5.00 - 11.00pm | 12 noon - 2.00pm & 6.30 - 9.00pm |
| Fri:   | 12 noon - 3.00pm & 5.00 - 11.00pm | 12 noon - 2.00pm & 6.30 - 9.00pm |
| Sat:   | 12 noon - 11.00 pm                | 12 noon - 2.00pm & 6.30 - 9.00pm |
| Sun    | 12 noon - 10 30nm                 | 12 noon - 2 30nm                 |

#### Festive Opening Hours...

18th Christmas drinks following The Church Carol Service - All Welcome

23rd Bar only 12-11pm (no food)

24th Bar only 12-10pm. All Welcome after Christingle for Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

25th Bar 12-3pm 26th Bar only 12-5pm

27th -29th Bar only 12-3pm & 5pm-10pm 30th Bar & Food 12-3pm & 5pm - 11pm 31st Bar only 12-3pm & 5pm - Late Bar 12-close and Brunch 12-3pm 1st January

Our festive menu is available throughout December. Please call 01296 714534 to book a table

"We wish all

the Community a Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year"

#### Farewell to 'FOCUS'...

After just over 7 years in the role, this is my final edition of 'FOCUS' as editor.

It has been a pleasure putting the magazine together each month and getting to know so many people in the community. When I started editing it in 2009 I was surprised by how much goes on in the village and the amount of personal time people give voluntarily for the benefit of others. This includes the Parish Council and the army of volunteers who contribute(d) to the various Local Plans including the Parish Neighbourhood Plan and then battled on against unwanted development. It includes the unsung heroes who run Scouts, Guides, the Church, the Silver Band, the Youth Club, the WI, the School PTA, and the Football and Cricket clubs. It includes the people who manage Horwode Pece and put on events such as the summer picnic and recent Firework Night; the person who organises the annual Fun Run, the person who maintains our footpaths and the person who organises the Produce Show; the Mobile Speed Sign team; those who manage the Village Hall and Post Office; the literary luminaries who created the Village Book a few years ago, the Doctors' Service team; our two pub landlords and many others not mentioned. SO many people who give their time freely and make Great Horwood & Singleborough such a vibrant great place to live. And who provide me with the news and announcements that form the content of the magazine that I have had the privilege to edit.



I would especially like to thank Andy Gibbs of Harlequin Press who prints 'FOCUS'. He has been a joy to work with and made my job as editor easy. He also gives to the community by providing much of his time for free and printing it at cost. Nothing is ever too much trouble for him and I will miss us working together.

'FOCUS' will continue to be published next year with a new editor at the helm.

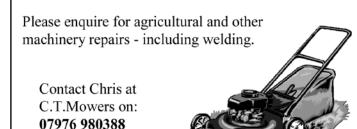
Dean White



#### <u>Lawn Mower and Garden Machinery</u> <u>Service & Repairs</u>

All makes and models of garden machinery undertaken.
(Please note, we do not carry out electrical repairs)

- Lawnmowers (including ride-ons)
- Strimmers, chainsaws.
- Garden Rotovators etc



www.ctmowers.co.uk



Saturday 18th February 2017
Great Horwood Village Hall

Bring your jumble from 09.30am until 12.30pm Sale starts at 1.30pm and finishes at 4pm

Real bargains, refreshments and a raffle!

All proceeds to Horwode Pece Management

Committee Charitable Trust

All enquiries to Sarah Samways - 07756 645426

# The Trusty Spade Gardening Services

for all your gardening needs

Lawn mowing

Hedge trimming

Digging and weeding borders

Winter tidy-up

Driveway or patio cleaning

Shed / fence painting

Shrub pruning & cutting back

Locally based dependable gardeners committed to delivering a reliable service.

Please call today for a free and no obligation quote for either regular maintenance or a one-off visit.

Adrian Plowman – 07934 343512 Colin Wakeman – 07921 020781

## MICK WOOD



Heating Services Ltd

For service repair & installation of

OIL FIRED BOILERS
OIL FIRED COOKERS
OIL TANKS

\* Prompt personal attention

\*New boiler installations

\*Oil tanks supplied & fitted

\*Oil tank gauges fitted



Tel: 01296 730 670 Mobile: 07979 645 472

OPENING HOURS
Tuesday - Saturday: 9am-5pm
Sunday: 10am-4pm
Bank Holidays: 10am - 4pm
Check website for any changes



TWIGS NURSERIES Windy Ridge, Thornborough, Buckingham, MK18 2DZ www.twigsnurseries.com 01280 816 855

# \*\*FRESH CHRISTMAS TREES\*\* PREMIUM NORDMAN FIR AND NORWAY SPRUCE



Natural wreaths, decorations, gifts and more

WINTER BEDDING PLANTS, SPRING FLOWERING BULBS AND WINTER INTEREST PLANTS FOR SALE



ROSES TREES SHRUBS HERBACEOUS PLANTS ALPINES HERBS BEDDING PLANTS HANGING BASKETS SUCCULENTS VEGETABLES WILD BIRD FOOD GARDEN SUPPLIES GIFTS KILN DRIED LOGS, KINDLING, FIRELIGHTERS AND HOUSE COAL

SPECIALTY COFFEE, TEA AND OTHER TREATS IN OUR GREENHOUSE COFFEE SHOP

# Annex Interiors Hand Painted and Handmade unique furniture and Home Accessories

Annex interiors is a company based in Great Horwood run by local residents Joanna and Mike Dennison.

They renew, revive, restore and bring to life pre-loved furniture, home accessories and reclaimed wood. By carefully selecting quality vintage items they create unique high quality pieces of shabby chic furniture and homewares: no two pieces are ever the same. The prices are very reasonable and delivery to Great Horwood and nearby villages is free.

They also do personal commissions, so if you have any item of furniture or accessory that you would like updating, painting or restyling then please get in touch with them for a free quote.

The website has more details, including current pieces for sale: www.Annexeinteriors.co.uk

For more information, please contact Joanna on 01296 708964/07931523338 or e-mail:

Annexeinteriors01@gmail.com

#### ANNEXE INTERIORS

Hand Painted and Handmade unique furniture and Home Accessories





Breathe new life into pre-loved furniture, home accessories and reclaimed wood

We carefully select solid vintage items and inject our own individual style creating high quality pieces of shabby chic furniture and homewares

We also undertake commission pieces so if you have an item of furniture that you would like updating, painting or restyling then please get in touch

> Please visit our website to see current pieces for sale: WWW.Annexeinteriors.co.uk

or contact us on: 01296 708964/07931523338
e-mail: Annexeinteriors01@gmail.com
Facebook@Annexeinteriors

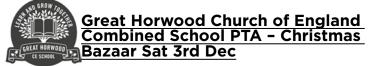


For those of you keen runners and walkers in the Village and surrounding areas, a date for the diary.

This year's Mad March Hare 5k Fun Run will take place at noon on **Sunday 5th March 2017**. It is one of the Great Horwood School's biggest fundraisers and a fun event for all ages and abilities. As always, **we are looking for sponsorship and help on the day** with this event so if you think you may be able to help in any way contact Sheila Landymore 711627.

Entry form to follow in Focus 2017!"

Sheila Landymore



You are warmly invited to our Annual Christmas Bazaar which takes place in the school hall on Saturday 3rd December between 12 & 2pm. SEE BACK PAGE. Entry is free.

Stalls include Christmas decorations, Christmas gifts, candles, the Body Shop, Beads & Sparkles and Lakers. We will also be running our annual Jarbola stall, plus Name the Bear, and various children's games and activities. Father Christmas will be in his grotto waiting to meet all the children and there will be hot food & drinks plus our fabulous cake stall!

We will also be selling tickets and drawing the winners for our annual Christmas Raffle (tickets 50p each). Our prize list is getting longer every day, but highlights include:

- Entry into a home league game at MKDONS for 2 adults & 2 children
- Two tickets to British Superbikes Championship plus paddock passes
- Champagne afternoon tea at a Crazy Bear venue
- Sports 4 All holiday club voucher
- Family ticket for Mead Open Farm
- 1 hour beauty treatment at Horwood House
- · Family Ice Skating + boot hire
- Family ticket at the Buckinghamshire railway
- Paintball tickets for up to 10 people

Come along to the bazaar, have a look round and buy a raffle ticket you might be lucky!

We are still looking for additional prizes for our Christmas Raffle, and cakes for our cake stall, so if you can help please contact me on 01296 292411.

Debbie Huskinson Great Horwood School PTA. Registered Charity No 1047149





#### **Lions Club of Winslow**

Record Crowd at Lions Fireworks & Bonfire!

The Lions Club of Winslow would like to thank the huge number people who attended our annual Bonfire & Fireworks Night event in Winslow on Saturday 5th November. We had our largest turnout ever in over 20 years of holding the event – more than 1,200 people attended.

Following the creation of the Tompkins Park and Arboretum by Winslow Town Council we changed the layout of our event to utilise the beautiful setting of the mature trees so that our new display lighting complemented the glow from the bonfire and provided a stunning background for the firework display.

After all the bangs and whizzes had ended and the money counted we raised over £3,000 for local charities in Winslow and surrounding communities.

#### The Festive Season has arrived!

It's that time of year again where the decorations are up and the excitement is growing for the festive season. The Lions Club of Winslow is busy making preparations too. We are proud to invite you all to our next event: the traditional pre-**Christmas Carols** in Winslow Market Square.

There will be carol singing under the tree with the St Laurence Choir and the Giocoso Concert Band. So come and join us for a **7pm start on Tuesday 20th December.** We hope that there will also be a visit from a very special guest for the children!

Entries for **Winslow 10km run** are now open! Join us on the **Sunday 26th February 2017**; with the race starting at 10.30am from Furze Down School, Verney Road, Winslow. We are limited to 400 places, so if you want to participate please fill in an entry form early. Details regarding entry to the race and terms and conditions are on our website.

If you are interested in finding out more about what we have done in Winslow and the surrounding area, why not attend one of our meetings and you could have fun raising money for charity! All the details of our meetings are on our website.

Andrew Lowe (Winslow Lions Club)

# J Clarke Roofing

Tiling

Slating

Leadwork

Repairs

Old & New Roofs

The Old School House • Water Stratford Road • Finmere • MK18 4AT

#### **Great Horwood Silver Band**

Some members of the band and committee met to take an inventory of our music, which was a marathon task as we have so much; some of which has been in the band cupboards for over 100 years. Len and Linda Goodwin kindly provided coffee and biscuits for which we thank them very much.

The band played for the Remembrance March and Service in Winslow on Sunday 13th November. In Great Horwood Vicki Cook played the last Post and Reveille.

We're looking forward to a busy Christmas period starting with the annual Carol Concert in Great Horwood Village Hall on Sunday December 4th at 3pm. Entry is free and there will be a raffle, refreshments and a leaving collection. All proceeds will go to the Great Horwood and Singleborough Guides.

We will be at Tesco Buckingham on three occasions. Saturday 10th, Sunday 11th, and Wednesday 14th December. In addition, small groups will play at other venues. On Christmas eve we make our annual tour around Great Horwood, starting from Townsend Cottages at 4.30. If anyone is willing to help with collecting we would be most grateful.

The Band President Len Goodwin and his wife and band supporter Linda invited the band to partake of drinks and refreshments at the band rehearsal on Wednesday 16th November on the occasion of Len's 90th Birthday. We thank them very much and appreciate their regular attendance at our rehearsals.

We are already getting engagements booked for 2017 starting with the Youth Club Valentines Party on Saturday February 11th. We hope that some of the Youth Club members will perform the cabaret with us as they did last year. Saturday March 4th is our Annual Concert in the Buckingham Community Centre 7.30pm. We hope to see you there.

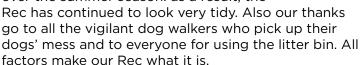
100 Club winners for September were Amanda Edmans and Keith Mould

100 Club Winners for October were Sylvia Nutt and Anne Merriman.

Beryl Lack
Web page www.greathorwoodband.com

#### **Horwode Pece**

We have been delighted with the contractor used to keep the grass cut over the summer season: as a result, the



We have completed some maintenance of the equipment and were hoping to have the woodchip topped up. This didn't happen due to the logistics of delivery and spreading, so we have decided to wait until the early part of 2017 to complete this task.

It was agreed by the committee that we will no

longer be trying to purchase a slide for the Rec. The price of the slide is significant and then there is the expense of the delivery and installation along with the safety flooring that is required - it has to have enough ground area surrounding it away from other items of equipment to meet safety standards. Overall, the cost is too great. We will be replacing the worn picnic table in the Spring making sure the table will be wheelchair friendly.

The Recreation Trust put on a fantastic Firework Display this year and are keen to make this an Annual Event. It was great to have a Display back in the village after several years of being without one.

Cathy Holland. Committee member.



#### **Great Horwood Guides, Brownies and Rainbows**

The Great Horwood Guide unit is now up and running and the girls have already enjoyed a variety of activities including campfire cooking in the dark, Hallowe'en games, crazy science experiments involving dry ice, slime and maltesers and completing their chocolate badge.

The Brownies have also been very busy celebrating Roald Dahl's centenary, getting muddy in College Wood, tracking bats in Howe Park Wood, cooking & eating armpit fudge and completing their World Cultures badge.

The Rainbows always have a lot of fun and some of the highlights of this term have been making fairy houses and Hallowe'en lanterns and going on a trip to the cinema.

All three units will be having an exciting outing to Spy Missions in Milton Keynes before Christmas.

Rainbows (girls aged 5-7) and Guides (girls aged 10-14) both have plenty of spaces at the moment and we'd love more girls to come along and join the fun.

Rainbows meet on Wednesdays from 5.00 to 6.30 pm, Brownies meet on Mondays from 5.45 to 7.15 pm and Guides also meet on Mondays from 7.30 to 9.00 pm. To find out more about Rainbows, please contact Becky Porter on 07950 925743. For Guides or Brownies, please contact me on 01296 712034 or claremartin71@ btinternet.com. Alternatively, you can go online to register your daughter at www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

Clare Martin

9

## Great Horwood Apple Day held on 22nd October



The Apple day held at The Crown was a great success with lots of people coming to taste the apples and juice, and joining in with apple pressing.

This may become an annual event.

Paul Robertson

#### **Horwode Pece Firework Night**



Great Horwood and Singleborough Recreation Trust are eternally grateful to all the volunteers that helped us make our first firework display at Horwode Pece so successful. Also, a big thank you to all the residents who walked down to support their local rec.

We've had great feedback, so with the lessons learnt from the challenges we had, we hope next year will be even better.

GHSRT: Steve, Nigel, John and Jane

# NOTICE BOARD FOR SALE - larder fridge £30 buyer collects. Telephone 01296 713281 Margaret Moore

#### W.I News

It was our AGM meeting in November. Whilst we enjoyed a glass of wine, Sally from the Alpaca farm in Pilch Lane gave us a demonstration on her spinning



wheel. She made it look very easy. One or two members then had a go and realised how important co-ordination is when spinning!



A really good amount of items were donated to the Operation Christmas Child shoebox scheme. Thank you to all members who contributed.

Tuesday 13th December is our Christmas party where we all bring a plate of food to share along with a glass of wine. Party games will be played!

Our meeting on 10th January 2017 brings Ken Harris who is talking to us on the life of John Newton who wrote the song "Amazing Grace"

The WI and the Church are hosting a joint charity event on Monday 3rd April - please save the date in your diaries. All will be welcome. It is going to be an unusual, very entertaining, fun evening. More details in the next Focus.

Visitors are always welcome. For more information please contact Angela Mayne 01296 715400

Angela Mayne



#### **Post Office News**

Unfortunately, I have to report that since Paula has retired from providing post office services in the Village Hall

on a Wednesday morning, the Post Office has not been able to fill the post. They inform us that they are actively working on it.

However the 'coffee team' will continue to open the hall at 9.30am for refreshments and chat. Books and jigsaws are still available and several of our older generation who have lived here all their lives come along, so for our newer residents, you may be interested to hear tales from the past.

So come along, meet friends and make friends.

Liz Nicholls (Tel: 715331)

#### GHAS CHURCH YOUTH CLUB - Enjoys its alternative Halloween party...

7th November we held our alternative Halloween night with apple bobbing, doughnuts, such for googly eyes, 'non-alcoholic' punch and lights.

ho do you think this is?

And didn't they all look great?





not volunteer as a leader at this great youth club - we will support you and you will enjoy yourself.

# PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

11

The 31st October was a very busy night: unseasonably warm for All Hollow's eve and there were witches, ghosties and ghouls all over the village. Two in particular were sneaking about, casting their beady eyes on the carved pumpkins for close inspection. These two witches were amazed by the decorations, projected spiders on walls, spooky movies played in windows for passers-by to watch, and Laurel Farm in Singleborough was something to behold, the perfect haunted house.

The high standard of pumpkin carving wasn't expected: real artistry. So much so that next year (oh yes this must become an annual event), there will be 3 prizes: one for the favourite; one for best traditional, and one for best decorated house. But for this year – see photos - the Linden family of Devon House have won THE PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION and were presented with their treat (not trick!). We loved the simplicity of the design but it was a difficult job deciding as there were some awesome scary creations out there.

Jane and Amy





December 2016





established 1994

## Granite and Quartz Kitchen Worktops

Template and installation in under 3 days

Tel Nigel: 01296 689301

E-mail: info@marbleartsltd.co.uk



# Concerned about Security? Have you thought about CCTV?

We can install from 1 to several cameras to view on your Tablet, Smart Phone, Computer, TV or any combination of these devices. Just think, you could be on holiday and still be able to see who is at your front door, breaking into your shed or at the back of your shop.

All installations conform to Data Protection Laws.



Call us on

01296 712113

For a no obligation estimate



qualified 3456-1



TV and Satellite Ltd
43 Spring Lane
Great Horwood
MK17 0QP
www.tvandsatellite.co.uk
info@tvandsatellite.co.uk



Don't forget we also do Aerials and Satellite TV





Great Horwood
Parish Council

#### **Message from PCSO Wendy Taylor**

#### Rural Crime

Datatag has had an excellent response to the promotion for marking Land Rover Defenders. The promotion was put in place because we have seen a lot of these vehicles stolen, either to order or for parts, as Land Rover no longer produce this model. The cost of adding Datatag identification to the vehicle is only £60 plus the postage, and has been hugely underwritten by Thames Valley Police, such is the concern we have about the problem.

Several churches have had lead taken from their roofs. Some of them have been repeat victims. One church was 'done' three times in 3 weeks. Please report any suspicious activity in the area of churches. Don't just assume that because males are seen in hi-viz jackets on the church roof that they are supposed to be there. Sadly, this assumption was made at one church and thousands of pounds worth of damage entailed.

#### Thefts and burglaries

We are still being asked to attend thefts from motor vehicles. With longer nights drawing in, this problem will not go away for three reasons, a) owners/drivers are still leaving items, such as purses and sat navs, in full view for anyone to see, b) owners/drivers are leaving vehicles insecure and c) those who want something for nothing will always be around. Lethargy is the thiefs' best friend, so whilst it might take a bit of time to remove items from the vehicle, lock it and check that all doors are locked, particularly if you have central locking. It will pay dividends in the long run.

We are coming to the time of year when we are cleaning garden tools and storing them in our sheds for use next year. To ensure they are there next year, please review the security of your sheds, ie:

- Use a padlock with an incorporated siren which goes off when moved. It is loud, of that I can assure you, having set one off in the police office!
- Cover all windows so it is not possible to look into the shed to see what you have that you could be relieved of.
- Engrave your postcode onto each item. This proves
  the item does not belong to the thief should
  we come across it. We can then take it from the
  thief and have a good chance of getting the item
  back to you. If we cannot prove the item does
  not belong to them we cannot take it from them
  and, therefore stand no chance of returning the item
  to you. Engravers can be bought quite cheaply and
  by owning one you can then engrave other items
  such as power tools, spanners, bikes, prams, etc.
  Don't forget your neighbourhood team can also
  mark items for you.

Wendy Taylor

#### **Vacancy for a Parish Councillor**

Great Horwood Parish Council would very much like to receive expressions of interest from any resident willing to become a co-opted member of the Parish Council. If you care about the community, like meeting people, have time, patience and a bit of energy, then you are the person we need to fulfil this very important role. It isn't always easy to be a Councillor, but it is absolutely essential to the running of the Parish.

Interested parties should contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@ greathorwoodpc.org.uk or telephone 01296 715829. There are some formalities to go through such as advertising the position but, ideally, we are aiming to co-opt someone for either the February or March 2017 PC meetings. An informal chat with a councillor can be arranged for anyone who expresses an interest in the post.

Mandy Cliffe (Parish Clerk)

#### **Spring Lane**

As a result of correspondence following my previous item on parking on the corner of Spring Lane, I am happy to clarify the legal position of the white line painted on the corner of the road. The line is advisory and cannot be enforced. All the PC can do is request that residents refrain from parking there, as they have been doing for many years now, prompted by residents. Any official notices on cars are placed there by Thames Valley Police and concern what TVP consider to be parking infringements. The exact nature of the infringement will be detailed in the notice.

Mandy Cliffe

13

#### **HELP NEEDED with SPEED WATCH**

I am sorry to say that Speed Watch is currently moribund for several unavoidable reasons: The equipment has not been working; John Huskinson and Angela Gunn are no longer able to organise the programme; it is not easy to co-ordinate volunteers with conflicting responsibilities and we are short of daytime volunteers.

A large contingent of volunteers would make the job much easier and would be less of a commitment for each individual. We are hoping to introduce the Sentinel video camera after some training which will mean that the job can be done by two rather than the current three volunteers. Additionally, video evidence of speeding can be downloaded and passed to Thames Valley Police.

If you can help - or - better still if you are willing to organise the initiative, please contact the Parish clerk on clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk or call 715829

## Trevor Evans 'Your Personal IT Man'

PC Support, Secure Wireless Broadband and Home Networks,

Anti-Virus and Anti-Spyware Support

I can help you solve your IT problems and requirements

A Friendly and Professional Service

Call or Email me for a No-obligation Chat

**2** 01296-714413

⊠ trevor@trevorevans.me.uk

#### HORWOOD HOUNDS

#### Pet Nanny Services

Away for the day, off to work or going on holiday?



Horwood Hounds provides a doggie day care and boarding service within a home environment

Locations in Great Horwood & Singleborough Licensed with AVDC and fully insured Gundog training available

Call Edwina or Emma on 0845 634 2155 for further information

#### **Brookside Engineering**

Individually hand crafted wrought ironwork and metalwork.

Side Gates Drive Gates Iron Railings Security Grilles Weather Vanes Fire Hoods

Fire Baskets Restoration and Repair

Please visit my website

www.brookside-engineering.com

01296 715059 / 07976 983444

Dave Spooner, Brookside Farm, Gt Horwood Rd Winslow, Bucks MK18 3LY



ALL TYPES OF WORK Inc.
FOOTINGS, DRIVEWAYS, TREE STUMPS,
DITCHING, TRENCHES, GARDEN CLEARANCE ETC.

07976 983444



# ANTIQUE & FINE ART AUCTIONEERS

Monthly Auctions of Antiques & Fine Art

Quarterly Picture Auctions
Sporting & Country Pursuits
Auctions

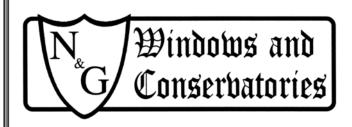
**General Auctions** 

**Partial & Total House Clearances** 

Insurance, Probate and Family Division Valuations

The Claydon Saleroom, Calvert Rd. Middle Claydon, Buckingham. MK18 2EZ

Tel: 01296 714434 Fax: 01296 714492 info@dickinsauctioneers.com



Established 1990

Your Local
Window and Conservatory
Specialists
Products made to suit in
UPVC

From Design thru' to completion ...

01296 712151

Email: NandGwindows@aol.com

FENSA Registered

#### Chairman's Monthly Report: Last Meeting - Monday 14 November 2016



A Preliminary Draft Budget for 2017/18 was the subject of a good discussion at the recent meeting. The Council is Great Horwood trying to ensure in these challenging Parish Council times that existing services continue and new activities for the benefit of the

community can be undertaken. The background to this is increasing costs and reducing grants as well as the devolution of additional tasks to parish councils. Council will give further consideration to the Draft Budget at the December meeting.

The Parish Council agreed to contact the Post Office about when the outreach service which ceased at the end of October may be resumed. Donations to the Football Club, the School and the Scouts were agreed.

#### Changes to Local Government

Both Aylesbury Vale District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council have arranged consultation meetings about their respective proposals for changes to local government and the creation of a unitary authority or authorities. Representatives of the Council are attending these events to discover more about what is proposed. It is not yet clear what the timetable for any changes might be.

#### Changes to VALP

It had been anticipated that the final Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) would be circulated for consultation early in the New Year. Following recent reductions in the population growth forecasts, however, Aylesbury Vale District Council are revising the housing numbers it needs as it prepares the final version of the VALP. The neighbouring authorities, Wycombe, Chiltern and South Bucks have found more space for housing. All this means the latest figure for new homes in Aylesbury Vale is now below 27,000 - over 6,000 fewer new homes than the 33,300 figure in the draft local plan.

Such a large reduction in housing need means planners are revising the proposals put forward in the draft local plan. Additional work is needed in making detailed assessments of proposed sites and devising a new strategy, and taking into account the consultation feedback. The revised strategy will be subjected to a sustainability appraisal and there is more new detailed evidence to be taken into account. AVDC planners also emphasise that the new figures mean that over half of the new homes required to meet housing needs in the district by 2033, are already built or have planning permission.

To ensure that the new local plan has the best chance of being approved by the government's planning inspector, AVDC has revised the committee deadlines they were working to. After consulting the Department for Communities and Local Government, (DCLG), the timetable for bringing the final VALP to council meetings will shift by around eight weeks, to March next year. This means the consultation period for the final Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan may commence sometime in April, but dates have yet to be confirmed.

#### Vacancies

Councillor John Gunn has resigned from the Parish Council due to the work commitments of a new job. The Council is very grateful for his contribution to the life and work of the Council and is pleased that he is

willing to continue his involvement with Horwode Pece. The Clerk is putting in hand the procedure to fill this vacancy for membership of the Council (see earlier article from Mandy Cliffe).

There is still a need for a Crossing Patrol person or persons to assist school children crossing the High Street. Apparently, there is difficulty recruiting Crossing Control persons across the County not only in Great Horwood. Have you considered whether this is something that you might be able to do or become part of a team carrying out this important task?

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For a more comprehensive report of the Parish Council meeting please read the minutes published on the website http://www.bucksvoice.net/greathorwoodpc/. This website also has updates of items on its latest news page.

If you have any items that you would like to bring to the Council's attention at any time please contact with the Clerk or any Councillor. We are always pleased to welcome residents to our monthly meeting during which there is always a public participation period. The next meeting is to be held at 7.30 pm on Monday 12th December 2016 in the Village Hall.

Mary Saunders Chairman, Great Horwood Parish Council marysaundersghpc@outlook.com

#### GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL



| Useful Contact Details   |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Members of the Parish Council                                      | Great Horv<br>Parish Cou     |
| Mary Saunders Chairman marysaundersghpc@outlook.com                | 01296 713610                 |
| John Gilbey Vice-Chairman john@gilbey98.freeserve.co.uk            | 01296 711915                 |
| Angela Mayne angela.mayne@googlemail.com                           | 01296 715400                 |
| Jane Holland<br>jane.holland.313@btinternet.com                    | 01296 715704                 |
| John Huskinson<br>john.huskinson@yahoo.com                         | 07984 524622                 |
| Nigel Heywood  | 01296 711558                 |
| nheywood2@gmail.com  |                              |
| Clerk to the Council Mrs Amanda Cliffe clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk |                              |
| Parish Council Website www.bucksinfo.net/greathorwoodpc            | 01296 715829                 |
| Great Horwood Village Hall<br>Bookings Doctors Car Service         | 01296 712165<br>07704 140110 |

Winslow and District Community Bus 01296 715786 Aylesbury Vale Dial-a-Ride 01296 330088

Community Police Officer PCSO Wendy Taylor Tel: 101 Winslowanddistrictnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

15

December 2016

#### HOLLAND ENGINEERING SERVICES







MOT TEST STATION Motorcycle servicing & repairs Quads & Lawnmowers Parts and tyres Mig/Tig Welding

Salden Crabtree Farm Whaddon Road MURSLEY Milton Keynes MK17 0PR Tel: 01296 728693 Mobile: 07879 427205



#### THE IRON LADY IRONING SERVICE 01908 504080

(Mobiles: 07733 120741 & 07713 215362)

Drop off's

Welcome

#### Do you REALLY DISLIKE LAUNDRY & IRONING?

If so, we have a service to suit you.

A weeks washing? just a few shirts? or is it the entire package; washing, drying and ironing? You're not alone... At The Iron Lady we offer a service thats daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly or even just when it gets too much!

Make your life simpler & call us. Fast, friendly and reliable.

Washing and /or Drying Service

Ironing Service Clothes Repair Pick up or delivered to your door

www.theironladyonline.co.uk e: theironladyับทำเว็2@aol.com

Unit 2 • Bacon House Farm • Warren Road • Little Horwood • Milton Keynes • MK17 0PS

4Beauty is a multi award winning salon based in Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire. Our aim is to treat each and every client as an individual and to meet their expectations every time they

Our Therapists are trained to the highest of standards and professionalism along with technical expertise required for some of our ultimate and advanced facial procedures.

We offer premium brand products and provide quality treatments that undoubtedly make us one, if not the best, beauty salon in Buckinghamshire. These include:

- Decleor & Guinot Facials
- Decleor Body Treatments
- CND Spa Manicures & Pedicures
- CND Shellac Manicures & Pedicures
- CND Minx Pedicures
- Bio Sculpture Natural Nail Enhancements
- OPI Gel Colour Manicures

4-beauty

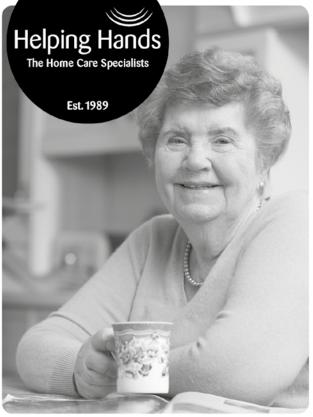
www.4-beauty.com

4Beauty LTD, 56 High Street,

Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire,

- Brazilian Waxing with Lycon Wax
- PhD Waxing
- Lash Perfect Individual EyeLash Extensions
- LVL Lift Volume and Length Eyelash Treatment
- Special Occasion Makeup with New CID Cosmetics
- Wedding Packages
- · Mother to be Packages











# Do you need a Helping Hand?

NOM!

If you are looking for an alternative to residential care or extra support for those everyday tasks that are becoming difficult for you or a loved one – then we're here to help from 30 minutes per week to Live-in Care.

Our **Milton Keynes care team** has been providing award winning quality homecare since 1989 and can help with: personal care, housekeeping, help getting around or even to provide a break to an existing family member or care-giver.

To find out how we can help you, call: **01908 828 593** or visit: www.helpinghands.co.uk

#### **Winslow Community Bus**

#### www.winslowbus.com

#### wdcbenguiries@btconnect.com Tel: 01296 715786



#### Everyone is eligible to come on the bus, we pick up near to your house, please ring Sue for more information. \*Denotes bus pass accepted.

Tuesday 6th December Thursday 8th December

Thursday 15th December

Tuesday 20th December Thursday 22nd December

Tuesday 3rd January Thursday 12th January Tuesday 17th January

Thursday 26th January Thursday 2nd February Tuesday 7th February

Thursday 9th February Tuesday 14th February Thursday 23rd February Monday 27th February

- Buckingham Bus \* Town and Tesco. Ring to book - Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots & B&M etc

- Join us for a Christmas Lunch at The Old Thatched Inn Adstock. £2.50 travel

- Stock up at Asda, Bletchley - last minute gifts!! £4. - Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots & B&M etc

- Buckingham Bus\* Town and Tesco or just Tesco! Ring to book

- Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots & B&M etc

- Visit Yarnton Nurseries and Shopping Village. There is something for everyone including indoor and outdoor plants, clothing, pets, speciality foods, cards and gifts. £5

- Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots & B&M etc

- Visit Welford Park, my favourite snowdrop place!! Magnificent! £14 incl. entrance

- Buckingham Bus\* Town and Tesco or just Tesco! Ring to book

- Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots B&M etc - Local lunch at The Bell Inn Beachampton. £3.50 travel - Westcroft Bus\* Morrisons, Aldi, Boots B&M etc - Asda Bletchley, M&S, New Look, Next, Primark £4

#### Milton Keynes Theatre - please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

All prices are for tickets in Band A price range (Circle or stalls) and travel. Performances start 2.30pm unless otherwise stated. Door to door service!

Wed 1st Feb Thursday 16th Feb

Wed 1st March Wed 22nd March - 7.15pm

Sunday 9th April

Wed 10th May Wed 12th July - 2pm - Not Dead Enough. Thrilling new stage play. Circle A&B £22

- The Red Shoes. Matthew Bourne's magical new adaptation. Upper Circle B&D £23

- Funny Girl - 'exhilarating' 'phenomenal' musical. Circle F&G £33.50

- La Boheme. Stalls Row P - £50.50

- Lord of the Dance Dangerous Games. Directed by Michael Flatley. Stalls Row N - £46

- Mamma Mia! Abba-solutely fantastic! Circle Row A&B. £49

Jane Eyre. 'Theatre at its most imaginative' a collaboration between National Theatre & Bristol Old Vic. £24.50

Please note that our drivers can drop you off or pick you up anywhere on route if you have difficulties in getting to a bus stop. If you require any further information, or have special requirements, please telephone Sue on: 01296 715786.

#### REGULAR COMMUNITY BUS SERVICES FROM GREAT HORWOOD

EVERY WEDNESDAY - Winslow Market Day. Full fare: £3.00 return.

The bus picks up opposite St James' Church at 10.10am and arrives in Winslow at 10.16.

The Return journey leaves Vicarage Road, Winslow at 11.45 and arrives back in Gt. Horwood at 11.51.

2nd and 4th THURSDAYS in the month - Westcroft Shopping Centre. Full fare: £3.00 return.

The bus picks up from St James' Church at 09.50am and arrives at Westcroft at 10.10.

Return journey leaves Westcroft at 11.45 arriving back in Great Horwood at 12.02.

EVERY FRIDAY and SATURDAY - Aylesbury Market Day. Full fare: £4.00 return, £2.80 single.

The bus picks up from St James' Church at 09.30am and arrives in Aylesbury at 10.10.

Return journey leaves Aylesbury bus station at 12.15 and arrives back in Great Horwood at 13.00.

All these services are FREE with a BUS PASS.

Please note that our drivers can drop you off or pick you up anywhere on route

if you have difficulties in getting to a bus stop.

If you require any further information, or have special requirements, please telephone

Sue on: 01296 715786.

17

December 2016

#### 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):

Date:

Commemorating

Commemorating

Date:

The cost is £5 per night.

Cheques payable to: Great Horwood PCC.

Please send to Ian Lamberton 3 The Green,

Great Horwood MK17 ORH. Tel: 01296 715968

# FUN WAY DOG TRAINING at Little Horwood

Bespoke puppy training in your own home for puppies going through vaccinations.
Classes for puppies, classes for adult dogs.
Follow-on classes always available.

Contact Evelyn on 01908 502272.

Please visit the web-site or telephone me for further details

www.funwaydogtraining.co.uk



# ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS



Full or Part Rewires/ Extensions
Replacement of old fuse boxes
Additional sockets or lighting points
New Supplies to :- Sheds, Garages, Ponds etc.
Storage Heater Replacements
General Troubleshooting/Fault-Finding
Landlords' Insurance Inspections (EICR's)
Thatched Properties Insurance Testing

Free estimates
Part P approved electrician



Contact Dean
Tel: 01296 712776
Mobile: 07794 510980
dean4832@aol.com





Starting your own business?

Or need help with your existing business?

Do you need an accountant/tax adviser?

Clear, down to earth financial advice for all personal and corporate accountancy requirements.

Call for a free half hour consultation

T: 01296 738668 M: 07812 026346 www.ajrandco.co.uk



Chartered Accountant & Business Advisor





ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE REPAIRS

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS
TO DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES, ALL WORK
CARRIED OUT TO PART P REGULATIONS

#### **REPAIRS TO:**

WASHING MACHINES, ELECTRIC COOKERS, DISHWASHERS, TUMBLE DRIERS, ELECTRIC SHOWERS, STORAGE HEATERS AND ELECTRIC HEATING SYSTEMS

Tel: 01280 814909

Fax: 01280 823179



email: john@johncollinselectrical.co.uk



www.precisebuildingplastics.com









#### **Building Plastics**

We supply the highest quality building plastics for window fitters, building contractors and the general public. We supply a wide range of building plastics to cater for all aspects of the building trade

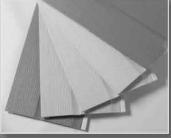
#### **Roofline Products**

We supply a wide range of roofline products from all the leading manufacturers. We offer all our roofline products to tradesmen and individuals at highly competitive prices

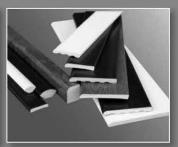
#### **Underground Drainage**

We supply all the underground drainage products that you may require. We pride ourselves on providing the best quality underground soil and waste PVC-u products at low rates









Guaranteed next day delivery on stock items to our local area for orders over £50

For SALES call Tony or Pete

Trade Counter 01908 270 994 sales@preciseupvc.co.uk www.precisebuildingplastics.com













Editor: Dean White, 713828 editor@ghfocus.com Distribution: June Margerrison, Debbie Armitage, Ann Biggins,

Typing & Layout: Dean White, Andy Gibbs.
Printing: Harlequin Press Ltd.

Copy deadline: 15th of month before publication.

: June Margerrison, Debbie Armitage, Ann Biggins, Judy Blundell, Di Cook, Valerie Hancock, Edwina Daymond, Duncan Hogston, Cathy Holland, Ian Lamberton, Gary Lee, Lyn Mayger, Gill Wood, Sandra Sanderson.

Available online at: www.bucksinfo.net/greathorwoodpc/



Great Horwood CE Combined School PTA (registered charity 1047149) invites your family to join the Christmas fun at our annual



### Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 3rd December 2016

12-2pm

Body Shop
Beads & Sparkles
Lakers
Candles
Christmas decorations
Jarbola
Luxury chocolate &
alcohol
Children's Craft &
Games
Santa's Grotto
Christmas Raffle
Cake Stall



Pork Rolls, Hot Dogs, Hot & Cold Drinks, Mince
Pies and children's snacks