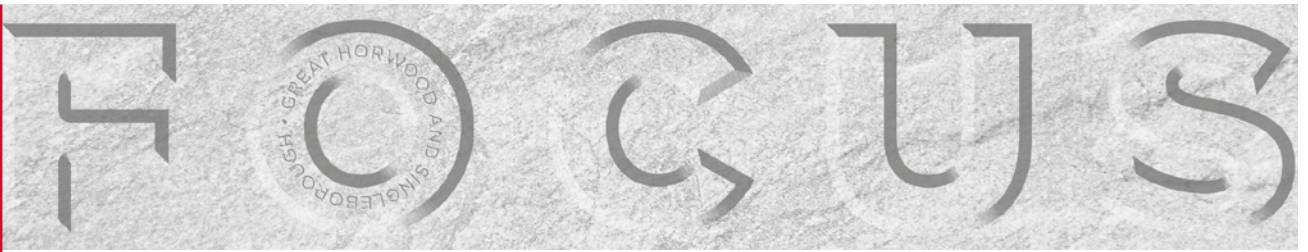


**FEBRUARY  
2024**



On 21 April 2024 I am running the London Marathon in memory of my wife, Sue.

I'm raising money for the British Heart Foundation and I'd be so grateful for your support.

My wife Sue had a heart valve replacement back in 2000 just after the birth of our second son. She had no problems and her artificial valve meant she could live a normal life bringing up her children and looking after me!

She was tragically diagnosed with cancer in February 2023 and passed away at the end of April 2023.

I have enjoyed running for the last 4 years - I know most people think the words 'enjoy' and 'running' should not be in the same sentence!

But I am taking on the London Marathon to give myself some focus as I come to terms with losing Sue so quickly.

We were married for nearly 34 years and a couple for 40 years.

I know I don't look old enough! 😊

Please donate whatever you can.

Thank you

*David Brazier*

[www.justgiving.com/David-Brazier14](http://www.justgiving.com/David-Brazier14)

or just scan the QR code on the right to go straight to the JustGiving page.



**Advertising and copy deadline for next issue : 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.  
To advertise or submit articles email: [editor@ghfocus.com](mailto:editor@ghfocus.com)**



**LOCAL PART TIME WORK OPPORTUNITY!**

**HR and Administration Assistant**

Ensuring staff records are up-to-date and events are staffed

- Salary :** £13 pr hour.
- Start:** Immediate
- Hours:** 25 hours a week
- Location:** Singleborough – MK17 0RB – office based

**About Nipperbout:**

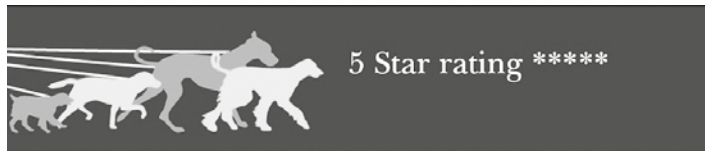
Nipperbout is an event childcare provider, governed by the relevant registered body (e.g: Ofsted), servicing exhibitions, conferences, festivals, fun days and events throughout the UK and Europe.

**Skills Required:**

- Confident telephone manner (screen and interview people)
- Good organisational skills (compliance and training logs)
- Record keeping and data input
- Awareness of budgeting (Booking accommodation and travel)
- Can work under direction and on own initiative
- Must be comfortable with friendly dogs and working in a home-based office, car essential.

Nipperbout is committed to safeguarding and promoting of welfare of children and has a culture of ongoing awareness and vigilance throughout the company.

Call 01296 712658 for application form or email HR@Nipperbout.com



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# Church Times

## St James' Services for February

4th	11.00am	Holy Communion
11th	11.00am	Come and Praise
14th	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday
18th	11.00am	Creative Communion
25th	11.00am	Holy Communion

Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions
R Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison
P Moyles	S Bayliss	Clergy
I Lamberton	I Lamberton	J Brigden
R Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison

Church Key February: Tracy Taylor - 712231

## CHURCH LIGHTS

The Church Tower was lit during December to remember Ann and Derek Whiting and Kathleen Durgworth by The Bennet Coles

In addition, it was lit on 7 December to remember the life of John Murphy and on the 5 January to remember Toby Terklesons Birthday.

## VILLAGE HALL

The refurbishment is progressing well albeit with a few modifications due to the age of the building and discovery of a few unexpected issues which will lead to a slightly delayed reopening date towards the end of March.

I am pleased to say we are starting to receive some enquiries for new bookings, and we look forward to providing details of our grand reopening in next month's Focus.

We would be pleased to hear from any villager who would like to become involved in the pre-opening plans by way of helping out with decoration etc.

*Ian Lamberton* : Chairman

[ianlamberton@aol.com](mailto:ianlamberton@aol.com) : 07973 225428

## THE MAD MARCH RUN IS BACK! SUNDAY 24 MARCH 2024, 12 NOON

The Great Horwood PTA Mad March Family 5k is back for another year. It's one of the major fundraisers for our school, so please support this worthy cause by filling in the entry form on the back page and taking part in this fun event.

It's open to people of all ages and abilities, walking or running, with or without pushchairs (sorry, no four-legged friends, bikes or scooters allowed for safety reasons) and there will be a medal for every finisher!

The course is the same "out and back" as previous years, along Pilch Lane, starting and finishing at the school. The route will be closed to all non-emergency traffic.

In addition to the run, the school will be hosting a variety of stalls in the hall, with hot and cold refreshments available for participants and spectators alike.

You can keep up to date with news of the event on our Facebook page "Great Horwood Mad March Hare Run".

## GREAT HORWOOD SILVER BAND

Phew! What a busy time we have had over the Christmas period. Luckily, we had a short rest until we restarted our rehearsals for 2024 on 3 January.

Our Christmas engagements started on 18 November and finished on Christmas Day with 10 events attended and many renditions of 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' played. Thank you for everyone who came to listen at our annual Christmas Concert, the money that was raised has been donated to the school and I understand it will be put towards new musical instruments amongst other resources.

We completed our traditional Christmas Eve carolling, this time keeping nice and dry and must give a massive thank you to those who came to collect for us, Margaret, Yvonne, Stuart and Sandra, it really is appreciated and helped us to collect nearly £700. A big thank you therefore goes out to the village for coming out to listen to us and being so generous with your money and the supplying of refreshments, which were gratefully received.

We are beginning to plan our calendar for 2024, with a number of events already booked in, so please put Saturday 16th March in your diaries for our Spring concert that we will be holding at Furze Down School and keep an eye out for dates for our Concerts on the Green that will be happening on a Wednesday evening over the summer.

As always, we are very keen to swell our member numbers with members of any age or ability, so, if you would like to join our merry band, we would be very pleased to see you. We offer free tuition and can provide instruments. Please contact myself Sharon Taylor for further details.

Contact details:

Email: [ghsbsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ghsbsecretary@gmail.com)

Website: [www.greathorwood.com](http://www.greathorwood.com)

Or through our Facebook page

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**LOCAL WORK OPPORTUNITY!**  
Events Coordinator - Maternity Cover

Contract: Temporary - 8 month fixed term contract

Salary: 28K Pro rata

Start: Immediate

Hours: 9:00 - 5:00

Location: Singleborough - MK17 ORB - office based

Skills Required:

- IT Skills - Apple Mac Advantageous - Microsoft Office & advanced knowledge of Excel
- Confident telephone manner, dealing with staff, suppliers and clients
- Good organisational skills - preparing for events timeously, documenting of all event information
- Must be comfortable with friendly dogs and working in a home-based office, car essential.

*Nipperbout is committed to safeguarding and promoting of welfare of children and has a culture of ongoing awareness and vigilance throughout the company.*

Contact: [events@nipperbout.com](mailto:events@nipperbout.com) for more information



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## GREAT HORWOOD & SINGLEBOROUGH WI

Great Horwood & Singleborough WI has a number of interesting outings and events planned for 2024, beginning with a visit to the Greatmoor Energy from Waste Facility in March to see what happens to the items households put in their recycling bins, and a coach trip to Wrest Park in April.

The monthly meetings are interactive, social occasions offering friendship and support, and we also organise interesting group walks twice a week. There is also a highlight to each meeting and we are delighted to announce that our speaker in February will be RHS Award winning Garden Designer Lottie Newitt, who will be advising about planting for a seasonal scented garden. There will also be time to ask Lottie about any gardening questions members may have.

Our meetings, held every second Tuesday each month, are currently held at the Cricket Club while the Village Hall is being refurbished. We have a varied selection of speakers booked this year including an evening of magic and mentalism. If you'd like to join our friendly group or would like more information, please contact

*Ann Biggins*

**annieqqmk@gmail.com : 07961 960802**

## WINSLOW AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

Following our successful November Art Exhibition, Christmas Get Together and the Christmas break we are now back to our weekly painting groups. We enjoy meeting together each week on a Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the Padbury Village Hall and at the same time each Thursday in the Winslow Bowls Club.

Not only do we enjoy our weekly meetings we also very much appreciate all we learn from our monthly demonstrations which are held in the Winslow Bowls Club.

Everybody is welcome to come along to our demonstration evenings for just £5 entrance fee when doors open at 7 p.m. for a 7.30 p.m. start. We are sure you would enjoy these demonstration evenings when you will be made very welcome, whether you are an artist or simply somebody who would enjoy watching others demonstrating their skills and sharing their knowledge.

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:

**25 Jan 24** Cathy Read on  
Architecture in watercolour and inks.

**29 Feb 24** Jan Munro on  
Still life in acrylic and collage.

**28 Mar 24** Graham Short  
a talk on the life of a micro artist.



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## Winslow Community Bus



### February and March 2024

#### Aylesbury Market Bus

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 6 February and Tuesday 5 March

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 8 and 22 February and  
Thursday 14 and March

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

#### Asda

Monday 26 February and Monday 26 March

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..

#### Milestones Living Museum, Basingstoke

Thursday 29 February. £30 includes travel & entry.

Enjoy a festive lunch at this charming traditional country pub in the village of Aldbury near Tring. Afterwards we will drop into the Tring Garden Centre for some last-minute Christmas shopping.

#### The Grove Lock, Leighton Buzzard,

Monday 11th March, £6 travel

Enjoy lunch and an afternoon with friends.

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

Timetables can be found online [www.winslowbus.com](http://www.winslowbus.com)

On notice boards outside the Town Council offices, Winslow Library or calling the WDCB coordinator.

[www.winslowbus.com](http://www.winslowbus.com)  
[wdcbenquiries@btinternet.com](mailto:wdcbenquiries@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 07483 336440

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## MEN IN SHEDS



Once again, Winslow Shed was delighted to be able to provide a selection of freshly sharpened and restored carpentry tools for Vron Corben's latest trip to Malawi. The tools will be presented to young trainees at a trade college in the community where Vron has established a much valued and supportive partnership. But with only a standard airline baggage allowance to juggle with, what to take does need careful thought!

The Shed regularly receives donations of old and surplus tools and, while these are gratefully received, the hard truth is that if you already have a good set of (say) chisels then you're all set up - any more are going to gather dust. It is also true that, for us, tools are cheaper and more available than ever before. A new saw these days can cost less than a fiver - it will be razor sharp, effective and will stay that way long enough for it not to matter too much that it cannot be resharpened.

This lack of sustainability is, perhaps, even more the case with power tools where a perfectly usable cordless drill can be picked up with your grocery shop for about the same cost of a takeaway supper. Sustainability comes into sharper focus though when choosing tools that need to earn their keep where there isn't a local B&Q or the option of an Amazon delivery.

To be able to supply a group of eager and deserving young people with sharp, fully restored tools is certainly rewarding and instructive for us and provides a fitting destination for many items that have already given a lifetime of service - they now look set to do it all again!

The Shed is open every Tuesday and Thursday  
from 10:00 - 4:00 at

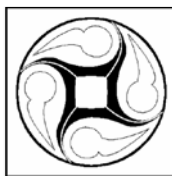
Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate.

[www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk](http://www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk)

Or for more info call Dave Saunders; 01296 714164

**Are you in a club or society in  
Great Horwood and Singleborough?  
Share your new with the whole village,  
it may even help attract new members!  
[editor@ghfocus.com](mailto:editor@ghfocus.com)**

## PARISH PUMP



Great Horwood  
Parish Council

### THE CROWN

It is now 5 years since the The Crown ceased to operate as a public house and since then there have been seven planning or listed building applications made. Two have been withdrawn, 2 have been approved, 2 are awaiting a decision and the latest one has been refused.

Listed Building Application 23/03445/ALB refused on 14 December 2023

“Insufficient information has been submitted to determine whether the proposal would preserve the architectural interest of the listed building.”

Since 2020 the Parish Clerk has contacted Buckinghamshire Council Planning Enforcement and the Heritage function a number of times to try to ensure that the current owner is not permitted to allow The Crown to fall into a state of major disrepair.

The latest response to the Clerk from the Heritage team which was received on 10th January included the following statement:

**“I’ve spoken to the enforcement team and they are working with our legal team on the best course of action as to which notice we can serve and will be the most effective.”**

### THE SWAN

In 2020 the Parish Council with support from local village organisations applied to register The Swan Public House as an asset of Community Value and this was agreed by Buckinghamshire Council as follows:

“The Council accepts the nomination by Great Horwood Parish Council and includes The Swan Public House, 1 Winslow Road, Great Horwood, Bucks MK17 0QG in its list of assets of community value.”

This decision was dated 15th December 2020 and lasts for 5 years and means that the community will have the opportunity to bid for the property if it is sold and gives powers of compulsory purchase if the community use of the asset is in danger of being lost.

The possibility of raising enough funds to purchase The Swan and to run it as a community pub would however require significant investment from a large number of people in the parish.

### 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/>

### SPEEDWATCH

I still have only had two volunteers come forward to join me in operating the Speedwatch camera. This is the only method that we have for officially recording the speed of vehicles at fixed points in the parish and from which action can be taken by Thames Valley Police with the information that we feedback to them over the internet.

So if you are really concerned about speeding in the village and worried about the dangers to your children and pets there is something you can do about it.

You will need to undertake an online training course and pass the online test at the end of the course. Once up and running the team will monitor speeds of vehicles at certain agreed spots in the parish and report the details direct to Thames Valley Police who will be able to take warning actions against speeding drivers. Cllr. John Gilbey [johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com](mailto:johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com)

### ALLOTMENTS

There is one plot available on the allotments in Church lane. Please contact Sarah Biswell on [clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk) if you are interested.

### 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.

### NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th February 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. 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/](http://e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/)  
Cllr. John Gilbey : Chairman of the Council  
[johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com](mailto:johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com)

**Copy and advertising deadline  
for next issue of Focus**

**15 FEBRUARY**

**[editor@ghfocus.com](mailto:editor@ghfocus.com)**



### FUNDS FOR LOCAL CAUSES

At the Parish Council meeting held on 12 December the awards were made to Great Horwood School, the Winslow Community Bus and the Girl Guides. The awards to the Scouts and the Football Club will be made at the February meeting.



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Great Horwood  
Parish Council

## 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.

<b>John Gilbey</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>01296 711915</b>	<b>johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com</b>
<b>Caroline Cousin</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>07903 549339</b>	<b>carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com</b>
<b>Jackie Goss</b>		<b>01296 713135</b>	<b>jackiegossghpc@gmail.com</b>
<b>Jonathan Evans</b>		<b>07470 298324</b>	<b>jjevans.ghpc@gmail.com</b>
<b>Thomas Lee</b>		<b>07901 944996</b>	<b>tlee.ghpc@gmail.com</b>

#### Clerk to the Council

Mrs. Sarah Biswell	01296 715803	clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk
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#### Parish Council Website

Great Horwood Village Hall Bookings	01296 715968	www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/
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Winslow and District Community Bus	01296 715786	
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#### Community Police Officers

PCSO Andy Piotrowski	Tel: 101	Andrew.Piotrowski@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
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- \* Clean license and 2 years driving experience necessary
- \* DBS check will be required but not needed for application

Nipperbout takes its safeguarding responsibilities seriously. All successful candidates will be required to have an enhanced DBS 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](mailto:events@nipperbout.com)**



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<b>Typing &amp; Layout:</b>	Russell Margerrison, Andy Gibbs.			
<b>Printing:</b>	Harlequin Press Ltd.			
<b>Copy deadline:</b>	15th of month before publication.			

Available online at: [www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc)



# MAD MARCH RUN

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 2024

Sponsored by



Starts 12 noon from Great Horwood Church of England Combined School.  
Out-and-back, undulating, traffic-free road course of 5km.

Numbers issued on the day. Medal to all finishers. Special prizes for winners of age and village categories

Advance Entry Fees (not available after 17 March)  
Entry on the day from 10.45am (CASH or CARD)

- £7.50 Adults 17 and over
- £3.50 Age 4-16
- Under 4's free
- £9.00 Adults 17 and over
- £4.00 Age 4-16

<b>First name</b>			<b>Surname</b>			
<b>Address/ postcode</b>						
<b>Email address</b>						
<b>Phone number</b>				<b>Age (on day of race)</b>		
<b>Gender</b>	<b>M/F (please select)</b>	<b>Entrance or responsible adults signature</b>				
<small>*If entrant aged 16 or under, a responsible adult must sign and state their relationship to the entrant</small>		<b>Relationship (if applicable)</b>				

This event is entered entirely at the entrants own risk. By signing above, you as entrant, or their responsible adult if 16 or under, declare this unreservedly. The organisers shall not be held responsible for any injury, loss or damage as a consequence of the entrants participation. It is understood that this application is subject to the organiser's discretion and that after acceptance and in the event of cancellation, the entry fee is not refundable.

ENTRY OPTION 1: Post your signed completed form to: Fun Run, Great Horwood Church of England Combined School, School End, Great Horwood, Bucks, MK17 0RG and enclose a cheque payable to: "Great Horwood School PTA".

ENTRY OPTION 2: Email your signed & scanned (or photographed) form to: [gh5kfunrun@outlook.com](mailto:gh5kfunrun@outlook.com) and make your online payment to GHS PTA: 30-99-74 00625224, quoting reference: "MMR24", followed by your surname and initial.