

MARCH
2022



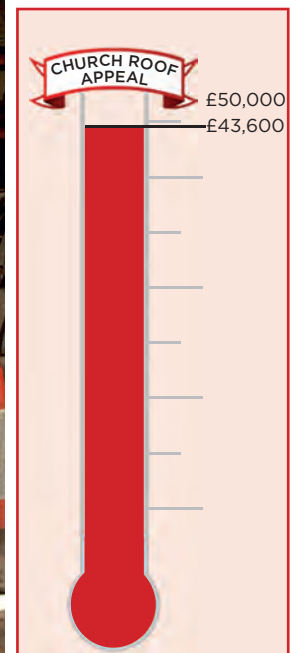
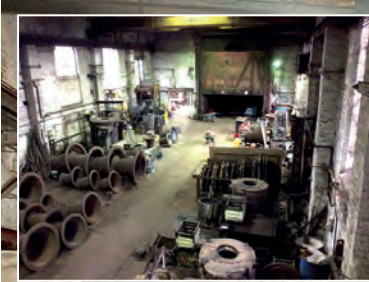
GREAT HORWOOD SCHOOL VISIT BELL FOUNDRY

Hawthorn's Class at Great Horwood Church of England School were fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to visit the John Taylor and Co Bell Foundry in Loughborough this term. This trip was part of the Little Horwood Bells Project, who we worked with in the autumn term in school and we would like to give our sincere thanks to them for their support.

At the foundry, the children were given the opportunity to learn all about bells and how they are made. They discovered what metals go into the bells and how the moulds for these are manufactured. We also visited the casting hall and saw the workers in action preparing a mould for the next stage in its journey. Next, we crossed over to the workshop on the other side of the road where the children were able to hear some large bells being rung. They discovered lots of interesting facts about bells and how the John Taylor foundry is the last in the country.

The children were all in awe of the work that Taylor and Co do and were fascinated to find out that they created 'Great Paul', the bell that is in situ in St Paul's Cathedral in London!

To highlight the information the children learnt on our trip, they have written their own recount of the day to retell all of the fantastic things we saw and experienced at The Bell Foundry.



Advertising and copy deadline for next issue : 15th March 2022.
To advertise or submit articles email: editor@ghfocus.com

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Church Times

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St James' Services for March			Sidesmen	Readers	Intercessions
2nd March	8.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service	-	-	-
6th March	11.00am	Holy Communion	I Lamberton	I Lamberton	J Brigden
13th March	11.00am	Come and Praise	J Margerrison	R Margerrison	J Margerrison
20th March	11.00am	Holy Communion	D Brazier	S Brazier	D Brazier
27th March	11.00am	Come and Share	P Moyles	S Bayliss	Clergy
27th March	8.00pm	Compline	-	-	-
3rd April	11.00am	Holy Communion	I Lamberton	I Lamberton	J Brigden
Church Key: March – Rita Essam – 714424			April – David Moore – 713281		

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

The Ash Wednesday Service this year will take place on Wednesday 2nd March at 8pm. This is a service to mark the start of our time of Lent, as we look forward to the joy of Easter. During the service the imposition of ashes may be received.

COMPLINE

Please join us for a short service on 27th March at the end of the day called Compline – a straight forward service with an opportunity to give thanks for joys and confess our sins. A lovely moment to close the day with a service at 8pm. All welcome.

LENT LUNCHES

After a break of two years, we are very pleased to announce the return of Lent Lunches! They will be served on Wednesdays during Lent starting on Wednesday 9th March. Come along and join us in the Village Hall from 12 noon for delicious home-made soup and bread with cake and tea or coffee to follow. All welcome.

MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

Please join us for our Mothering Sunday Come and Share Service on Sunday 27th March starting at 11.00am. Flowers will be given to all Mothers. Coffee and simnel cake will be served after the service. All welcome.

EASTER LILIES

As many of you will know, St James' is decorated at Eastertime with lilies which can be purchased in memory of a loved one. The cost this year will be £3 per lily or £7.50 for three lilies. If you would like to purchase the lilies, please complete the memory list at the back of the church and give any monies to June Margerrison at 5 Wigwell Gardens or Sue Brazier at 17 The Close. Thank you.

GREAT HORWOOD SILVER BAND

Firstly, on behalf of the Great Horwood Silver Band I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported us on our very wet trip around the village on Christmas Eve by placing money in our collection buckets.

May I also apologise for all those people who were waiting for us to come and play for them that we missed either because we were earlier than normal, or we never got to. The weather beat us for the first time in many years and we had to cut our Christmas Eve playing short as everything got extremely wet.

To Yvonne, who braved the horrible weather for the whole evening to help us with our collection, we cannot say how grateful we are that you volunteered to come along and help us. The words thank you don't seem enough for having to put up with the weather that we had that evening.

This was the penultimate event to our very busy run up to Christmas after which we took a well-earned rest over Christmas resuming rehearsals at the beginning of January ready to rehearse for our upcoming summer engagements.

Our next major event is luckily indoors and is a concert in the **Buckingham Community Centre on the 12th March 2022** starting at 7.30pm. This is the first time since 2019 that we have been able to hold an indoor concert in the Community Centre and we are really looking forward to entertaining an audience once again. The tickets are £7 each, available on the door and we are trialling payment by card on the evening as well as cash. We will also be holding a raffle on the evening.

Please come along, listen and hopefully enjoy an evening of music.



CAN YOU HELP?



Great Horwood School PTFA are looking for historical and geographic resources and artefacts to help improve the learning experience for the children. For example, maps, coins, medals, fossils or other historical or geographical items.

Any donations would be gratefully received.

Please take donations to Great Horwood School or email greathorwoodpta@gmail.com to arrange collection.



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We are now running the following services:

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 at 12.15pm. Bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return.

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 - runs on the first Tuesday of the month 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 - runs every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month Picking up in surrounding villages. Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc., bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Ring to book.

Despite the government lifting restrictions, we still have the following guidelines in place to help keep yourselves and our drivers safe:

- Please call and reserve your seat in advance. All 16 seats are back on board but the double seats are still for single occupancy only unless agreed in advance with the coordinator.
- We ask that all passengers wear a face covering while travelling on the bus.
- We also ask that all passengers use the hand sanitiser provided on the bus.

Please contact the WDCB Coordinator for more details.

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

Tel: 07483 336440

Upcoming engagements:

Saturday 12th March – Concert in Buckingham Community Centre, 7.30pm start.

Thursday 2nd June – Queen’s 60th Jubilee celebrations in Great Horwood

Saturday 11th June – Courteenhall Summer fete

We would still like to invite new players of any age or ability to let us know if they are interested in coming along and meeting us with a view to joining us to play. Please contact us on any of the means below if this is something you would be interested in.

Contact details:

Email: ghsbsecretary@gmail.com

Website: www.great Horwood and.com

Or please visit our Facebook page

GARDENING TIMES

Well done! We’ve done it, we have managed to make it through the Winter, with all of its storms, all of its rain and cold, and are now (even though it may not always feel like it) into Spring. The month of March is the beginning of the meteorological season of Spring and things will starting to pick up pace soon and, as such, we need to get going with working out what we are going to do in the garden.

March is a strange one, sometimes Winter just doesn’t want to let go but with the extending days and those extra hours of daylight in the soil, it all starts warming up, so we need to get ourselves prepared.

Across the country, there will be potatoes chitting (no, that isn’t a badly spelled rude word) in egg boxes in places around people’s houses. The idea is that chitting gives the potatoes a head start with growth and it always fills me with joy when I see the little stubby shoots starting to sprout.

There is a bit of a knack to doing it properly though. Potatoes don’t grow from the roots of the plant but actually from the base of the stem. So if you want tatties that are big size, it is best to limit the number of stems that the tubers produce. The higher number of stems that you have, the greater number of spuds there will be, but they will be smaller. Like so many things in life, it is a trade off.

Where they are stored is also vital for their chances, you don’t want them next to the radiator, they should be kept cool as a big difference in temperature will send them into shock and will stop dead any momentum that they have managed to acquire. You want them

somewhere that is light but not in direct sunlight and the chits should be around an inch long when they are planted.

Potatoes have a fascinating history, coming from the shores of Lake Titicaca around Bolivia and Peru, they were considered sacred by the Incas, who were the first potato eaters.

They came to this country in the late 16th Century but were immediately viewed with suspicion by the British who refused to eat them, they were said to, “encrease seed and provoke lust, causing fruitfulness in both sexes” and were seen by early Scottish Presbyterians as being a food that was, “thoroughly unbiblical”. Eating too many of them was thought to lead to leprosy and was even blamed for preventing people from wanting revolution by making them sluggish.

They are now so ubiquitous that it is hard to imagine our lives without them. If you have a difficult patch in the garden you can grow them there, they break up the soil and smother weeds and are traditionally planted out on Good Friday so of course, good things are bound to come from that.

Jobs to do this month

- Take the time to enjoy your garden, work out what you want to do, where you want to do and just enjoy the first signs of life emerging.
- Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials, if possible use 2 garden forks not spades, they do much less damage to the roots.
- Cut down any shrubs that are grown for winter interest such as brightly coloured Dogwoods or Willows.
- Give all of your beds a quick hoe to stunt any emerging weeds but be careful of any bulbs or soft succulent growth of your plants. Your hoe can’t tell the difference between the good plants and the bad.
- If you have any strawberries then cover them with a cloche, this will give them a great head start.
- Get sowing those seeds! (and take time to enjoy your garden).

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Deadline day is 15th of month prior to publication.

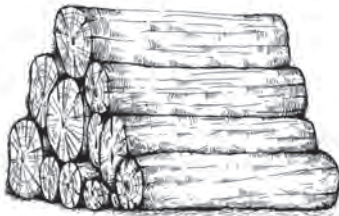
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WINSLOW AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

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

Demonstrations in a range of media are normally held at Winslow Bowls Club on the last Thursday of each month. Entry is from 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start. Details are:

31 March - Heather Miller - Acrylics

28 April - Tony Jackson - Pastels, still life

26 May - Melissa Wishart - Oil, seascapes

30 June - Stanley Hurr - Watercolour, flowers

These are enjoyable and informative evenings and last about two hours with a break for tea and biscuits. Non-members are welcome to attend, and entry will cost £5.00

If you are interested in more information please look at our website www.winslowart.org.uk, visit our Facebook page, or contact:

Chair: Maureen Barnes 01280 815691

Secretary: John Beckerleg 01280 816932

Treasurer: Jackie Chambers 01296 713607

THANK YOU GREAT HORWOOD BAND

I know its way past Christmas, but its never too late to say Thank you.

Think back to the weather on Christmas Eve. The rain poured down non stop all evening..... and still the band came round to play for our pleasure wishing us a Happy Christmas.

A great big Thank you to them all is very well deserved but not often spoken.....and so I now say "Thank you for turning out and sticking with it in spite of being wet through."

Great Horwood is very lucky to have you all.

Eileen H.

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MEN IN SHEDS

A momentous occasion this month when Ray's splendid Citroen emerged from the Shed to enjoy a brief sparkle in the sunshine for the first time in years. Ray has spent many hours at the Shed transforming a rather tired old workhorse into this much-admired epitome of French engineering. From a large and unpromising pile of bits, Ray has repaired, replaced, cleaned, greased, welded, sanded, painted, stitched, stuck or polished each piece as appropriate and has now almost completed the painstaking re-assembly work. A few more weeks to go but the car was certainly complete enough for a couple of laps of the yard and able to conjure-up visions of warm Summer days and top-down jaunts for pub lunches and afternoon teas. We've started a booking sheet on the Shed notice board (but Ray doesn't know about this yet).

Further good news is, of course, that pandemic worries continue to diminish and we have been able to relax all the restrictions we needed to make in earlier times. Personal safety is still an issue but something, we think, we must now manage for ourselves. We know our own vulnerabilities and we know what to do to keep safe. If just one golden rule remains then it is not to come Shedding if you feel unwell and are, possibly, Covid symptomatic.

Thinking about warmer days, our postponed training sessions will recommence on Thursday 7th April - full details on our website soon and in next month's magazine. Each session is just an hour and will cover everything from (e.g.) using a power router to the basics of welding - not enough to be 'trained' (as such) but enough to be of general interest and point you in the right direction if full training is on your wish list.

Another regrettable postponement was our Christmas BBQ so we'll be putting that right too. We need to have our AGM soon so that is now scheduled for Tuesday April 5th at 11:00. As always, everyone is invited and, as always, an abundance of high-calorie refreshments will be provided. This year these will include - you've guessed it - hot dogs! After the formalities of the AGM the fire will be lit and we plan to be serving by about 12:30. You will need to book-in so more details next month.

Hope to see you soon.

The Shed is open every Tuesday and Thursday
 10:00 - 4:00 at Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate.

www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk

Or for more info call Dave Saunders;

01296 714164

Great Horwood Church of England School

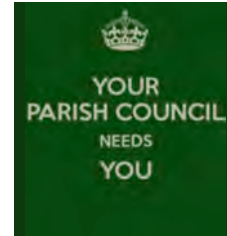
This term, Maples class have enjoyed reading *The Matchbox Diary* by Paul Fleischman.

The book thoughtfully introduces the concept of immigration, using a matchbox full of memo. Although the children were able to research the subject via the internet, they were also extremely lucky to hear about it first hand from a willing parent who came to share his own experiences. Mr Ronsisvalle spoke sensitively about his journey, as a child, from his homeland of Italy to the United Kingdom, mentioning both the highs and lows of such a move.



The children used their newfound knowledge of the subject, to question Salvatore not only about the reasons, and logistics of such a move, but also the emotional implications for a boy of his age leaving family members and friends behind. Although Salvatore mentioned his apprehension at attending school in a new country which spoke a different language, Maples were impressed to hear how Salvatore managed to overcome these difficulties and has since enjoyed a successful career as a Chef. He even shared his favourite Italian dish of Arancini (Italian fried rice balls,) which they all agreed sounded delicious. Maples were a little disgusted however, to discover that, due to the language barrier, it was not uncommon for immigrants to mistake dog food for human food. Not so delicious!

Maples thoroughly enjoyed discussing Migration with Mr Ronsisvalle and, comparing his story to that of their learning support assistant's experiences of emigrating more recently from India. This week, the children have completed their own research and are looking forward to writing their non-chronological reports on the subject next week.



PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Great Horwood Parish Council has a vacancy due to the resignation of Cllr. Mayne and we would very much like to hear from any resident willing to become a co-opted member of the Council. If you care about our community, like meeting people and have some time and energy, you might be the person we need to fulfill this very important role.



Councillors represent the interests of the whole community and can contribute towards a wide variety of topics. Over the years, the Parish Council has devised a Neighbourhood Plan, commented on many planning applications, contributed to the management of Horwode Pece and the Village Hall and overseen the recent



housing developments in the village.

As long as you are at least 18 years old, and either a British, Commonwealth or EU citizen, you can apply providing you are on the Electoral Register as a local government elector for Great Horwood and Singleborough, or have lived or worked in the Parish or within 3 miles of it for the whole of the 12 months prior to nomination.

Parish Council meetings are held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 2nd Monday of every month except for January and August.

If you are interested, please contact the Clerk on the details below. An informal chat can be arranged with a Councillor to find out more.

Sue Brazier

Clerk to Great Horwood Parish Council

clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk



Great Horwood
Parish Council

PARISH PUMP



COMING TO GREAT HORWOOD

I'm sure you have all received a flyer through your letterbox advertising Ultrafast Fibre Broadband by Gigaclear. There has already been an opportunity to join an online session to find out more which some of you may have attended. The Parish Council have however, organized an in-person presentation where any questions can be raised afterwards. Please join us on Monday 14th March at 6.45pm in the Village Hall (prior to the Parish Council meeting)

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022



The Parish Council have started to plan a couple of events to mark the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This year we have a four-day weekend to look forward to from Thursday 2nd June to

Sunday 5th June. It

would be very fitting if Great Horwood could make an occasion of this - after all, it's not going to happen again.

Thursday 2nd June - The Great Horwood Silver Band will be playing on The Green in the evening. This will lead up to a bugler playing a specially written piece, the unique Bugle Call 'Majesty' at 9.40pm followed by the beacon lighting at 9.45pm.

Sunday 5th June - There will also be music playing on the Rec at lunchtime and into the afternoon. Many of you will remember the Picnic on the Pece that has been held during past summers. This year, The Big Jubilee Lunch has been launched for Jubilee Sunday and it is hoped that many of you will bring your picnic lunches down to the Rec and enjoy the music and hopefully the weather!

More specific details of when the music for both these events will start will be published next month.

WELCOME TO GREAT HORWOOD



A big welcome to our new residents! There have been many people moving in and out recently. We hope you are settling in and enjoying our lovely village community.

Would you like to receive a Welcome Pack? This has recently been updated and includes information on village organisations, the School, Pub, Church and the local area. Please contact John Gilbey by email on johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com

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/>

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 14th February at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall. Minutes of meetings can be found on the noticeboard and the Parish Council website e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/

*Sue Brazier, Parish Clerk Great Horwood
clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk*



GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Useful contact details

Great Horwood
Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council :

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

John Gilbey Chairman 01296 711915
johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com

Caroline Cousin Vice Chairman 01296 713548
carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com

Robert Davies 01296 712763
robert7_daviesghpc@yahoo.com 07967 868881

Dave Taylor 07980 546484
daveghpc@btinternet.com

Jackie Goss 01296 713135
jackiegossghpc@gmail.com

Gavin Laird 01296 712798
Gavinlaird78ghpc@gmail.com

Clerk to the Council

Mrs Sue Brazier
01296 714712 clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk

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

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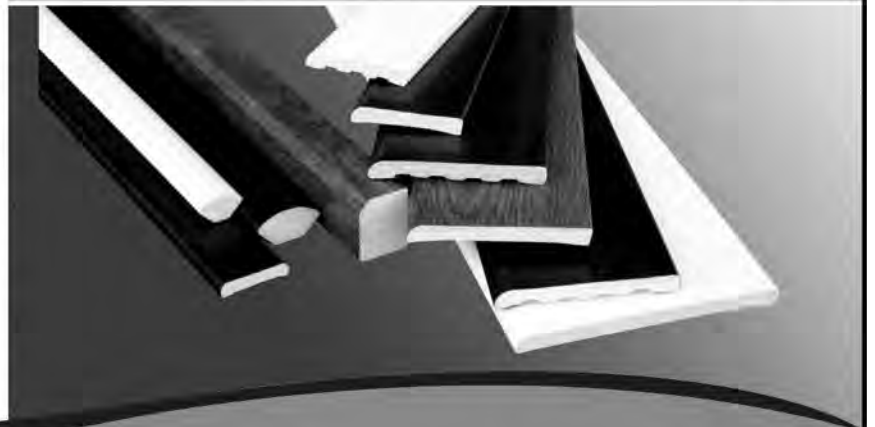
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If you're new to the area or feeling lonely Great Horwood & Singleborough can be a great way of meeting people and making friends. Each second Tuesday of the month we meet in Great Horwood village hall and have a guest speaker to add interest to our monthly meetings and raise money for worthy charities. And now that Covid restrictions have been eased further we have a number of trips and events planned including an annual dinner for members and a trip down the River Thames with afternoon tea in July.

In February we were enthralled to hear the challenges experienced by Ken Brazier, who modestly described his presentation as 'An old man climbing Kilimanjaro'. The African mountain is considered by many as being much harder to climb than those attempting base camp at Mount Everest. Twenty percent of those attempting to climb the mountain fail to reach the summit. Through grit and determination Ken succeeded in six days despite sub-zero temperatures and other challenges along the way and raised money for Mercy Ships - an international charity which has an ocean liner equipped as a floating hospital going out to the poorest countries which has made a huge difference to millions of people in its 40-year history.

Thank you Ken and June Brazier for a most interesting evening. Our next WI meeting features Dave Sivers, a best-selling, crime fiction author whose novels are set in Aylesbury Vale.

If you would like to attend our March 8th meeting to see if the WI is for you, please contact Ann Biggins annieqqmk@gmail.com / 07961 960802. We would be very happy to see you.



The Wi walking group recently visited Stowe to see the snowdrops.



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