

MAY

2019



ABOUT OUR FOCUS MAGAZINE



- it's at least 40 years old.....if not 50!!!!

FOCUS is a church led magazine for the villagers of Great Horwood and Singleborough to read with information from residents and organisations of both villages.

We believe historically that FOCUS began its life as a single sheet of paper delivered throughout the village in the late '70's, the brain child of Ernie Ridgeway and Rosemary Corane, to welcome new villagers and to announce funerals, weddings and births.

Ernie's sisters Nora and Val Hancock remember popping welcome cards through people's letterboxes over 35 years ago. Nowadays FOCUS is in magazine form with coloured pictures and photos as you know and it provides more than births & deaths. It includes current news on all the different village organisations along with details of new legislation and plans affecting our villages.

At the Annual Parish Meeting we received a donation from the Parish Council for £500 ensuring that with advertising money, and other donations, Focus can continue to be delivered free for all residents in Great Horwood and Singleborough.

A big thank you to them.

Anyone who wants to write in with an article for FOCUS please email it to editor@ghfocus.com

We are particularly keen to get sporting organisations to write in.

A new member of our village? Welcome!!!

We would very much like to welcome any newcomers to our beautiful and friendly village. If you would like to tell the FOCUS team a little bit about yourselves and where you have moved to and from we will gladly print it.

There is absolutely no pressure to do so however.

We simply hope you will enjoy living in Great Horwood as much as we do.

PLANT SALE

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10am - 12 noon

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St James' Services for May

5th May	11.00am	Holy Communion
12th May	11.00am	Come and Praise
19th May	11.00am	Holy Communion
26th May	11.00am	Come and Share

Sidesmen

J Margerrison
P Moyles
I Lamberton
N Weir

Reader

R Margerrison
D Brazier
J Brigden
C Finnemore

Intercessor

J Margerrison
Clergy
I Lamberton
Clergy

Church Key

May – Ian Lamberton – tel 715968

June – Zahra Hanson – tel 713406

Lighting of the tower:

The Church was lit on the 24th March to remember the 75th Anniversary of the Great Escape and passing of Squadron Leader Richard Churchill

Village Fete

It's that time of year again when we start to plan the Village Fete which will take place on Saturday 29th June 1-4 pm on the village green.

Thank you from FOCUS

The editors would like to thank Buckingham Charity Football for a recent donation to FOCUS on behalf of Great Horwood Football Club who took part in the Buckingham charity Football Cup.

Calling all budding authors

The Focus would very much like to include good stories / poems / articles from young and old villagers.

Advertising in the focus:

Focus relies on paid adverts and donations to cover all costs and enable it to be delivered free.

If you would like to advertise, or know of someone who would like to advertise or donate, do get in touch please on editor@ghfocus.com

Annual Parish Council Meeting

It was good to see so many at Monday's Parish Council AGM chaired by John Gilbey. Our thanks go to John, and all on the Parish Council, for their unswerving support for our village. We appreciate the work you all do, working tirelessly with very little thanks for it. On behalf of all the villagers THANK YOU.

The FOCUS team.

Great Horwood Village Hall

We now have all of the building regulations that we need for the disabled access so that will be the next stage of the hall update.

The Pilates class and the beginner Tai Chi class are both successful, I'm sure they would welcome enquiries about the classes.

The Silver Band has said they would welcome visitors at their Wednesday rehearsal evening, if you have a burning ambition to learn to play a musical instrument or just listen to their playing do go and see them.

The Whist group could do with a few more players it's a friendly evening and a chance to socialise.

The Art and Craft group on Friday mornings always welcomes visitors, come along and see what we do and maybe try your hand at something new.

And of course there is the Post Office and coffee morning on a Wednesday it's another chance to meet and have a chat and a cuppa.

For more information about the above classes or to book the hall phone Gill on 01296712165.

Winslow District Ramblers Group (WDRG)

Winslow District Ramblers Group (WDRG) held their annual general meeting on Friday 1st March in the St Laurence Room, Winslow. It was reported that the group had enjoyed another successful year but could still welcome new members. The current price for an annual membership is £9 but this is going up to £12 next year. Car sharing is being highly recommended to help reduce carbon emissions and also reduce car park congestion.

Walks planned for this May include one of 4.5 miles from Stewkley to Hollingdon on 4th May and two others at Gawcott and Oving. Potential members are welcome to join any of those walks free of charge.

The group's annual outing is on May 18 to Lee Valley Country Park including Waltham Abbey. A few places remain for anyone interested. Please see our website winslowramblers@gmail.com

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

Family Theatre returns this Half Term



Friday 31 May, 2pm

Long Nose Puppet
Magic Show

Out of the Hat

Suitable for 3+
Family Ticket £30.00
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Men In Sheds

Winslow Shed is open to men of any age on a Tuesday or Thursday which means that most (but not all) of our members are now retired. Former professions cover many sectors of business and industry and it's fair to say that most of us were more than happy to leave the 'corporate world' behind. As with any organisation, some formality is needed to Get Stuff Done. So we do have a committee, that meet monthly and we held our AGM back in February. In a well-attended and cake-enhanced gathering, Dave Saunders reflected on another successful year for MISW. Membership now stands at over 60 and continues to rise. Numerous projects for community benefit have been completed and, despite being busy, we have been steadfast in maintaining the Shed as a place of warmth and friendship with a great atmosphere and no pressure to become a production shop. It's a balance we continue to watch closely so if there's something you'd like us to make then don't be afraid to ask - we'll be happy to help and we'll say what we can manage.

We have always known that our tenure in Station Road is limited and this was underlined last year when the entire site passed into the ownership of developers. Development work here is contingent on other projects within the town so we should be safe for a couple of years yet but new premises will be needed. Wherever they are found, we can be certain that space will not be so generous. We have started planning by building a contingency fund to cover moving costs and by being a bit smarter about what we store and what we can use. Local businesses and individuals continually amaze us by generously donating old tools, furniture and unwanted timber but we now need to be careful in what we accept to avoid a major headache when moving day does come.

Our training programme continues to run every Thursday, attendance has been very healthy and even our Old-Hands admit to learning something new about things they thought they knew all about already.

Sessions run until July so if you haven't popped in or checked our website for details then don't be shy, you can be assured of a warm welcome.

The Shed is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 - 4:00.

Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate.

www.MenInShedsWinslow.org.uk or for more info call Dave Saunders; 01296 714164

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WI News

It was Great Horwood's turn to host the area WI Group Meeting which was very well attended. Former Bake Off contestant Christine Wallace showed us how to make delicious macaroons while adding some extra spice with gossip from the tent.

Food played a significant part in our April events. We all enjoyed a lovely meal with wine and plenty of chat at our Annual Dinner. Each of us took a wrapped raffle prize and had made some rather flamboyant name badges.

April has been a busy month with an entertaining theatre trip to Dirty Dancing and a visit to Hearing Dogs for the Deaf at Saunderton. It was fascinating to meet some of the dogs and actually see how they work and we again finished the day off with a fine lunch and cream tea!

At our next meeting we are looking forward to Sylvia Nutt giving us a talk about her role as a Chaplain at Grendon Prison.

If you would be interested in coming along to a meeting please contact Angela Mayne on angela.mayne@googlemail.com 01296 715400

Sally Ahern

WINSLOW & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

Two very good demonstrations have taken place in March and April, with Mark Fennell showing us the techniques for pet portraiture in Acrylics, and Max Hale showing us a range of drawing techniques in a selection of different media. The monthly speaker meetings are free for members through ten months of the year and cover a broad range of subjects and styles. Visitors are always very welcome to these meetings and we only ask for a small fee for non members to attend.

Our monthly speaker meetings usually take place at the Winslow Bowls Club house on the last Thursday of each month at 7-30pm - sometimes the date varies, you can always check with one of the contacts listed below.

The next major event for the Society is the 2019 Spring Exhibition at the Winslow Public Hall on Saturday May 25th through to Bank Holiday Monday May 27th. We expect 100 to 150 original works of art for sale, together with craft stalls showing member's other work. There will also be painting demonstrations by members and a separate display of artwork by local schoolchildren at the Show. The opening times are from 11am on Saturday 25th and from 9am on Sunday and Monday. The exhibition will close at 4-30pm each day. Entry is free and tea and coffee refreshments will be available.

New members of the Society are always welcome, whether you are an active artist, a total beginner, or simply just interested in how pictures are made.

For more information, the people to contact are :

Treasurer Jackie Chambers (01296) 713607

Secretary Maureen Barnes (01280) 815691

Chairman Peter Weatherill (01908) 675146

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Great Horwood Cricket Club

We are rapidly approaching the start of the 2019 cricket season. Whilst, we only play cricket in the late Spring/Summer months, activity and work at the club continues from September to April each year.

The club has yet again, contracted Wormsley Estates to undertake radical repairs and improvements to the cricket square. In addition, they have continued to tend to the square, prior to handing the square back over to the club and its groundsmen (Alan Sirett and Gary Lee) to pick up the reins and start the onerous task of getting the outfield cut and in good order, as well as preparing the wickets for the upcoming matches.

Since the close of last season, we have unfortunately suffered with an infestation of rabbits and moles, which have caused major damage to the outfield. We are currently striving to eradicate this problem, but this will be costly to achieve, as will the repairs to the hundreds of holes all across the field.

All of this work is extremely expensive and demands that as a club, we are constantly working hard to raise funds through events or grants to enable us to maintain the excellent facilities that we currently enjoy. To do this, we do need the help and support of everyone in Great Horwood; we thank those people who already support us and look to others to help us retain what is an excellent facility within the village.

Particular thanks go to Sean and Sara Walsh, who were the club sponsors, as well as great supporters of the club for several years. Unfortunately, the closure of the Crown was a blow to us and them. Whilst we will still gladly see them around the village, we wish them both well in their future ventures.

Also, throughout the closed season, the clubhouse has been regularly used for darts and domino matches, as well as filling the sad period when the village was without a public house. We were glad to be able to provide facilities to the Crown teams and the football club during this period. Glad to see that the Swan is now open again; having a village pub is such an integral part of village life and we hope that the new tenants are successful in their aspirations going forward.

Cricket nets have taken place for several weeks and we are now looking forward to being able to start weekly net sessions on the ground. All of this leads us towards the start of the 2019 season, where we will again be entering 2 teams in the Four Counties Cricket League. Last year, saw a major upward movement in the club's playing strength/numbers and we look forward this season to seeing some of the younger players now with us making further great strides. Certainly, the performances at individual levels last season, fill me with great optimism.

Prior to the league season starting in late April/early May, we have a couple of pre-season friendlies, including one against Buckingham Town Cricket Club on the last Saturday in April.

We will again be running Youth Cricket Sessions at the club every week under the expert support of Sam Willett. Having a strong youth set-up is fundamental to the future of the club and, as ever, we welcome anyone between the ages of 8 to 16 to come along to the sessions and learn about the game of cricket.

John Goodger, Secretary GHCC

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Great Horwood
Parish Council

PARISH PUMP

GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

WELCOME TO YOUR NEW COUNCILLOR

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was held on Monday 15th April in the village hall, with a record attendance of 59 including councillors and speakers. It was chaired by Acting Chairman John Gilbey who opened proceedings with the PC annual report. Disappointingly two speakers were unable to attend and we look forward to a future update from PCSO Andy Piotrowski on local crime issues. Croudace (Little Horwood Rd) Site Manager, Richard Veitch hurt his back and had to pull out at the last minute but he kindly offered an open afternoon at his site offices on 25th April for residents to look at house plans.

The programme continued with Mr Robert Webb, representing the development site Land North of Little Horwood Road. He said that the landowners were looking for a construction company to develop the site. Nothing detailed would be available until a developer is found (and planning permissions are always protracted) but the site will have 15 houses.

Mr David Grainge outlined his plans for a suckler herd of up to 80 beef cows on Little Horwood Road. An application has been made for temporary accommodation on site as the herd will require close supervision. Calves will stay with their mothers until they are weaned at about 9 months of age and this will be followed by a further 6 - 8 months (ish) of husbandry before the inevitable has to happen. Mrs Vicki Grainge confirmed that she is currently painting a small handcart. She has permission to place it on The Green and her home grown cherries will be ready to sell towards the end of June for about five weeks. An honesty box will be available for people to place their money in (removed daily and not left out overnight).

Mr David Saunders spoke of the need to consider a Neighbour Hood Plan review as required by the original NHP (at the five year point). A list was made available for anyone in the village to join a Neighbourhood Planning Review Committee and three residents signed up. The committee will be chaired by Cllr Caroline Cousin and Mr Saunders has kindly agreed to act as secretary. The first meeting will probably have taken place by the time you read this but if any resident is interested in joining the committee, please contact Cllr Cousin.

Representatives of the groups awarded grants from the PC in 2018 outlined how the money had been spent (see Worthy Causes below). Helen Grimditch, one of the Focus editors, gave thanks on behalf of the magazine for the £500 annual grant which helps towards the cost of colour printing.

All in all, this was a very successful evening, helped in no small measure by the provision of tea and cake by the WI. Many thanks for your attendance and we hope to see you at future PC meetings with any questions you might have for the Council.

WORTHY CAUSES

The Parish Council is offering another round of grants to local causes for 2019. Notification is earlier than in previous years as this year's cut-off date – 31st October 2019 - is FINAL. No applications will be considered after this date. Awards will be made to local groups and organisations through their Committee, Governing Body, Head of Trustees etc. and not to individuals. Up to £3000 will be available to help local projects. In 2018, the village helped the Scouts and Guides to purchase cutlery and crockery, the School to fund outdoor educational boards, the Church Fete to provide 2 larger attractions and the Winslow & District Community Bus used their funds towards a new step for the bus. Applications forms will be available from the Clerk or from the GHPC website.

EARLY REMINDER HORWOOD FEAST

The Horwood Feast dates for 2019 have been approved. The fair will arrive on Saturday 4th August and leave on Tuesday 7th August, and will be open for business on Sunday 5th and Monday 6th August. A GH Silver Band concert and hog roast is planned on the Sunday. Residents' views both positive and negative were carefully considered before approving these dates, together with representations from the Feast organisers for making the Feast viable.

RECYCLING CENTRE CHARGES

The Yonder Slade recycling centre charges for non-household waste are on the GHPC website and on the noticeboard in the High St. Further details can also be found on the Bucks CC website www.buckscouncil.gov.uk/HRC. The charges cover a comprehensive range of items and one wonders what effect this will have on fly tipping. Pilch Lane has been a favourite place for fly tipping and if you see any, please report it to the Clerk at the contact details below or to Aylesbury Vale district Council.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 13th May 2019 in the village hall at 7.30 pm. An agenda will be placed on the PC notice board and on the website a week before the meeting. A public participation period is always held at some stage during the proceedings if residents have any issues they would like to raise. Parish Council meetings always take place in the village hall at 7.30 pm on the second Monday in the month (excluding August and January).

St James' Church Fete is being held on Saturday 29th June 2019.

Mandy Cliffe 01296 715829 (until 31st May 2019)

James McCafferty 07974 949996

Parish Clerks Great Horwood

GREAT HORWOOD MAD MARCH HARE RUN

On Sunday 24th March just over 100 runners signed up for this year's Mad March Hare Run, supported by some lovely Spring weather which to be honest made it a little warmer than expected. We had runners of all ages, some with dogs and some even on scooters all getting out there and doing their thing, the school could not be more grateful to everyone who took part. We would also like to thank Deborah from GH School, Shelia L for her hand over support, Andrew F for running the water station, Roy H for doing the entries, Tom D for medical support, Nigel E and the scouts for timings, Duncan, John Nigel H, Trevor, John, How and Co for the fish and chips on the day and sponsorship and finally Bucks and AVDC for their support with the traffic management.

On the day under the event pressure, we accidentally awarded the fastest villager to I think Alex Conquest when in fact on reviewing the results it was actually George Landymore, so Alex if you could drop the trophy off to the school that would be awesome and sorry for the mix up, so next year you'll both get 50% off the entry fee by way of an apology.

As a new event team we also learnt a lot and we thank you for your patience on the day, it was appreciated.

In total we raised just over £520 for the school as a net profit from the run alone - so awesome job all - lets go even bigger and better in 2020 and we look forward to seeing you all there.

We are trying to get all the results on line via our facebook page so please keep an eye on that for full results and times.

Graham Clay



Winners on the day were:-

Category	Overall Position	Name	Time
Fastest Male	1	Rob Palmer	19:15
Under 16 Male	4	James Conquest	20:49
Fastest Villager	9	George Landymore	23:21
Fastest Female	13	Dawn Taylor	24:34
Under 12 Female	15	Ayssa Revis	24:41
Under 9 Male	17	Alex Cheshire	25:08
Under 12 Male	24	Harry Thrower	26:34
Under 16 Female	25	Lucy Edwards	26:43
Under 9 Female	36	Isla Lansdown	29:40



GREAT HORWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Useful contact details

Members of the Parish Council :

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

John Gilbey	Acting Chairman
01296 711915	johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com
Caroline Cousin	
01296 713548	carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com
Jackie Goss	
01296 713135	jackiegossghpc@gmail.com
Nigel Heywood	01296 711558
nheywood11@gmail.com	07847 627044
Angela Mayne	01296 715400
	angelamayneghpc@outlook.com
Dave Taylor	07980 546484
	daveghpc@btinternet.com

Clerk to the Council

Mrs Amanda Cliffe	01296 715829
clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk	
Mr James McCafferty	07974 949996
clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk	

Parish Council Website www.bucksvoice.net/greathorwoodpc

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Aylesbury Vale Dial-a-Ride	01296 330088

Community Police Officers

PCSO Andy Piotrowski Tel: 101

WinslowandDistrictNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

GREAT HORWOOD DOCTORS CAR SERVICE



The service is available to be used by anybody living in the village that needs transport to get to the Doctors Surgery in Winslow.

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John Gilbey 01296 711915
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1 Town Well End, Fritwell, Bicester, OX27 7QD

On 20th March 2019 the band held its Annual General Meeting. At the AGM, the band members voted for a change of persons in the Chairman and Secretary roles. Andrew Cook stepped into the role of Chairman and Sharon Taylor into the role of Secretary.

There are not enough words to convey the thanks and gratitude the band owes to Roy Lack as out-going Chairman and Beryl Lack as outgoing Secretary, who have held these positions for many years. In fact, Beryl held the role of Secretary for 25 years and has left some very big shoes to be filled by myself. Roy's and Beryl's commitment to the band has been unwavering over all of their years of involvement with the band, and we as a band will forever be in their debt for all that they have done and hope that they will continue to be integral members of the band's future.

As a band we are continuously looking to move forward and carry on the tradition of the band that has been part of village life since 1888. We have reached a point of only having a small number of playing members and so are focussing on increasing this number to carry the tradition on for many more years.

We rehearse in Great Horwood Village Hall on a Wednesday evening with the training band rehearsing from 7 p.m. and the senior band rehearsing from 7.45p.m. If you are interested in becoming a member of the band, have ever wondered what was involved or are just passing by, feel free to come in and listen. It's free and an audience is always welcome, even if it is a rehearsal evening when we may not be at our best and see if it something you would like to be involved with. We welcome players of any age and

ability whether you would be learning a completely new skill, returning after a long break in playing or are playing elsewhere but would like a new challenge. We provide instruments and FREE tuition to all members.

We are also in need of a permanent Musical Director who will conduct us and lead us forward, so if you are interested or know of someone who would be interested, please contact the band for further information.

The band is lucky as we also run a 100 club, but there are some empty numbers at the moment, so again if you would be interested in becoming part of the 100 club, please contact the band for further information. The numbers are 10p per week and we hold draws monthly.

Future events:

Over the coming months we are going to hold some informal outdoor concert evenings.

These will take place on Wednesday evenings at our normal rehearsal times on the Green. Dates will follow for these, but the idea is that you bring your blankets and chairs, maybe even a glass of something fizzy to drink and something to nibble on and come and listen. If the weather is against us then they will be held in the Village Hall.

These will be free to attend so please watch out for the dates of these and please come along and support us.

Contact details:

Secretary : Mrs Sharon Taylor

Email : sharon.taylor@talktalk.net





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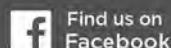
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ALL are welcome to come on the Community Bus!

- Tuesday 7th May** – Buckingham Bus - 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.
- Thursday 9th May** – Westcroft Shopping - Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc., bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick-ups. Ring to book.
- Tuesday 14th May** – The Yurt at Nicholson's, North Ashton (near Bicester) – tree nursery with lunch under canvas, £6.00 travel.
- Thursday 16th May** – MKT – Les Miserables - £62.00 ticket and travel
- Tuesday 21st May** – Cotswolds Tour – with pub lunch, £7.00 travel.
- Thursday 23rd May** – Westcroft Shopping - Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc., bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick-ups. Ring to book.
- Tuesday 28th May** – Asda Shopping MK1 - option to go to M&S, Primark, etc., £4.00.
- Tuesday 11th June** – Visit Chartwell – beloved home and gardens in Kent where Sir Winston Churchill lived for 40 years. See his collection of paintings in his studio and enjoy the scenic rose and water gardens that he commissioned. Travel and entry £24.00 – NT members travel only £10.00.
- Thursday 13th June** – Westcroft Shopping - Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc., bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick-ups. Ring to book.
- Monday 17th June** – Visit Waterperry Gardens. Travel £5.00, garden entrance £8.50
- Tuesday 18th June** – Lunch at The Inn on the Lake Bletchley – great food, lovely setting! Travel £4.00
- Monday 24th June** – Asda Shopping MK1 - option to go to M&S, Primark, etc., £4.00.
- Thursday 27th June** – Westcroft Shopping - Morrisons, Boots, Aldi, etc., bus passes accepted, otherwise £4.50 return. Departs Winslow 9.30am, village pick-ups. Ring to book.

Ring Sue for more details 01296 715786

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WINSLOW BOWLS CLUB



OPEN DAY SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2019 FROM 11.00 am.

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

Our green has been refurbished to a high level and the summer season will be in full swing from the beginning of May right through until late September.

Bowls is a great game and provides a competitive sport in a very social atmosphere and gives plenty of opportunity for gentle exercise throughout the summer months.

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

We welcome everyone, young or old, to visit us on the 11th of May to discover why our current members love to play the game, in our beautiful surroundings.

The only requirement is that you need to wear a pair of flat soled footwear. Any questions, please phone Victor on 01296 714026

