

SEPTEMBER  
2020



## WE ARE BACK

We hope that everyone has stayed safe in the last 5 months. The speed of events in March overtook us and no sooner had we published the April edition then we were locked down. So we are welcoming all old and new readers to this first edition post lockdown. We rely on articles and information from villagers for our content and of course our advertisers for funding. If you have any articles for future editions please forward to [editor@ghfocus.com](mailto:editor@ghfocus.com) and if you can, please support our advertisers as well.

## GREAT HORWOOD SCHOOL LEAVING

Buckingham Garden Centre and Great Horwood school came up with a novel plan to make the 2020 Leavers Assembly especially memorable.

One of the important and most anticipated things about reaching Year 6, is being 'top of the school' at last and being looked up to by the other children and given more responsibility by teachers. Due to Covid-19, Year 6 have missed out this year and in September will be bottom of the pack again, with a long climb ahead.

The Buckingham Garden Centre have kindly offered to donate plants and bushes to be presented to those children and suggest that parent and friends make a small donation to Lindengate - a Buckinghamshire based charity offering gardening activities to help people with mental health needs in their continuing recovery.

In the heart of the countryside, Great Horwood School has a beautiful nature reserve where teachers are encouraged to hold as many lessons as possible outdoors. The small, family community school, is committed to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing amongst their children so Buckingham Garden Centre and their charity, Lindengate, are a perfect fit.

The Head, Mrs Paula Shaw, has given each child a set of photos of their classmates on which to write a special message for the future and these will be placed on the branches of the plants. Once planted in their gardens at home, the children and the bushes can grow together through the senior school years and the messages will be a lasting, positive reminder of friendship and support. Please see photos on the back page.

Lindengate Charity, The Old Allotment site, Aylesbury Road, Wendover, Buckinghamshire, HP22 6BD. Tel: 01296 622443

[www.lindengate.org.uk/how-to-donate/](http://www.lindengate.org.uk/how-to-donate/)

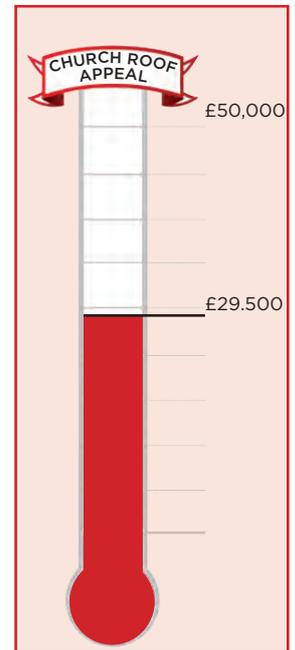
For further details about the plants selected by Great Horwood School please contact Pauline Brown or Chris Day on Tel: 01280 822133 at

Buckingham Garden Centre [www.buckinghamgardencentre.co.uk](http://www.buckinghamgardencentre.co.uk)

[www.hedging.co.uk](http://www.hedging.co.uk)

Great Horwood School - applications for September 2020 -

Head Paula Shaw, 01296 712 622



Advertising and copy deadline for next issue : 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

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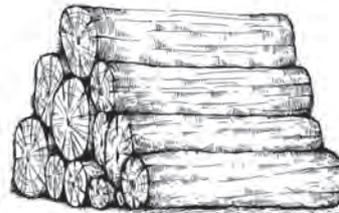
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Rev Andrew Lightbown  
e-mail [alightbown@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alightbown@hotmail.co.uk) phone 01296 712564  
[www.winslowbenefice.org.uk](http://www.winslowbenefice.org.uk)

We have been able to re-open the Church for Sunday Services whilst complying with government guidelines on social distancing, hand sanitizing, maintaining records of attendance and now wearing face masks during the service. All our services are at 11.00 on Sundays and all are welcome.

We would also like to thank the Moore's family who have allowed us to use their lovely gardens for outdoor services when the weather permitted this during August.

## ST JAMES CHURCH ROOF UPDATE

We applied for planning permission to replace the roof with zinc at the start of the year and in early March we were informed by Bucks Council (formerly AVDC) that we needed to undertake a bat survey. We need to obtain planning permission too, so that all the work can be fully costed that before applying for grants. We managed to have the church surveyed in August before the weather broke and hope to have the planning permission soon.

Of course, the bat surveys result in additional costs, so we have been hit by a double whammy of not being able to hold some fund-raising events and higher costs.

## CAKE STALL CHURCH PORCH

The stall will be held on Saturday 6th September and Saturday 10th October. In the Church Porch at 10am. It is in aid of St James Church funds.

Also, any contributions gratefully accepted to Lindsay Dunham, Wigwell Spring Lane Tel 712521 or Margaret Moore, 8 High Street Tel 713281.

## DISTRIBUTOR WANTED

Thanks go to Debbie Armitage for many years of delivering Focus but we now have a vacancy. Do you have a spare hour 10 months of the year to help distribute Focus? We need a distributor for Townsend Cottages and for those houses occupied in St James Vale (although we will need a separate distributor there once complete). We deliver Focus to your house for onward distribution so if you can help please call June on 714554

## GREAT HORWOOD SCOUTS

Since March, our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have not been able to meet due to the Covid lockdown, which has affected all of us. During that time, we have tried to maintain contact with our young people using online Scouting which has had a bit of a mixed success.

However, with some relaxations coming into effect in September we are able to resume outdoor meetings for small groups of up to 15 young people and Leaders.

We are currently planning an active programme for the autumn for all Sections of our Scout Group so please watch out for information on our restart times and dates for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts that we will be sending to all the families of our young people.

## WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS

A very warm welcome to all the newcomers who have arrived in the village over the last few months - do let us know who you are and how you are enjoying our wonderful village on email [editor@ghfocus.com](mailto:editor@ghfocus.com). Welcome especially to Louise, Richard, Charlie and Harry Joslin in Grainge Chase and Richard, Kirstie, Harrison and Rosie in Wigwell Gardens.

## REOPENING OF GREAT HORWOOD VILLAGE HALL

From September subject to Covid 19 regulations we are hoping to reopen the hall. There will be a maximum of 10 people allowed in the hall at any given time to allow for social distancing. The entrance will be through the front door and exit through the fire door leading into School Lane, with the exception of wheelchair users who can enter and exit through the front door.

Our first event will be the return of the Post Office on Wednesday 2nd of September, time 9.30am to 11.00am. There will be no refreshments served.

Look out for further updates on the notice board.

The hall also has a vacancy for a booking clerk/treasurer, we would be willing to split these roles. These positions are on a voluntary basis.

For more information contact Gill on 01296 712165 or Ian on 01296715968.

## W.I.NEWS

How nice it is to be slowly getting up and running again after all the disruption of the lockdown.

Our picnic on the Pece, with us having to take our own food and drink, should have gone nicely on Wednesday the 19th of August by the time you read this. And our walking group is now taking to the local lanes on Mondays undeterred by how hot or cold the weather is.

Some of us have been busy making laundry bags and PPE for the NHS during lockdown and WI members throughout the county have produced thousands of items to help out locally.

We have much to look forward to next year with Christine Wallace now booked for our Bake-Off demonstration evening on the 18th of March. Our 75th branch anniversary Windsor boat trip with afternoon tea has been rescheduled for July which will be free for all our members and more events are currently being organised for next year's schedule.

Our meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month, but they are still on hold for the moment. Please contact Angela Mayne on 715400 or [Angela.mayne@googlemail.com](mailto:Angela.mayne@googlemail.com) if you would like any more information.

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We learnt last week that in the past year over £8000.00 has been donated to Willen Hospice from these pods alone and we would like to boost that figure even more in the coming year.

If you, your friends and family or work colleagues use these pods, please save the pods and packaging and drop it in at any of our Funeral Homes when passing, alternatively, e-mail us at [heritage.winslow@cpjfield.co.uk](mailto:heritage.winslow@cpjfield.co.uk) or give us a call on 01296 713341 or and we will arrange for them to be collected, delivered and recycled.

Many thanks from All the Heritage Team.

## WINSLOW & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

As with most Clubs and Societies, the last 6 months have been a period to forget. The Winslow & District Art Society went into hibernation in March and concentrated on just keeping in touch with our membership.

The Society have a public website ( [www.winslowart.org.uk](http://www.winslowart.org.uk) ) which has recently been updated, and during the first 100 days of the lockdown a daily page was also put out on a separate members website, which provided our members with a daily article and suggestions as well as showing a gallery of member's work. Now that we are able to gather ( with care ) the Society has recommenced our weekly painting groups, though numbers have had to be restricted for obvious reasons.

From the middle of August we have had weekly painting sessions at both Padbury Village Hall and – new for us – also Great Horwood Village Hall. Both these groups are running at capacity at present.

The Society will be holding a virtual AGM at the end of September and we are hoping it may be possible to hold a suitably distanced exhibition of member's work at Winslow at the end of October – we will see !

The usual monthly demonstrations by professional artists which are normally scheduled towards the end of each month are unlikely to re-start before January.

The Society will have a continuing Committee from September 2020 for the new Society year with a slight change in some of the officers, but the Society is thriving despite the restrictions and we can only look forward to 2021 when we hope that we can offer a full and exciting programme again

As ever, we are always happy to welcome new members and there is no need for 'beginning' artists to worry about feeling out of place among our existing members who are very supportive of those just starting out on their art experience. We are, of course, limited in what we can offer members at the moment, but as time progresses we hope to extend our programme.

For more information, your contacts are:

Treasurer Jackie Chambers (01296) 713607  
Chairman Maureen Barnes (01280) 815691  
Secretary John Beckerleg (01280) 816932

## MEN IN SHEDS

What did you do during Lockdown Granddad?' The last six months certainly marks a moment in history and will surely become a reference point for a generation. So, what did we do? I'm not aware of any Sheddors learning the ukulele, mastering a new language or writing their debut novel but I do know that those who have sheds at home have been chipping away at personal projects, some community projects and some of the jobs brought-in before we had to close our doors. A few of these are shown opposite and I know several members enjoyed contributing to the town 'bird box project' – delightfully daft housing stock for our local wildlife and a hugely successful fund raiser.

The real point of Winslow Shed is, of course, not so much about making and fixing stuff but about promoting an active social life for its members and combating isolation; we have always stressed that our most important piece of equipment is the kettle! It will be a while before the kettle can earn its keep again but getting together in a workshop with jobs to be done does promote camaraderie. Mask wearing, sanitizing, frequent handwashing and keep our distance is a faff – but if a degree of 'faffing-about' is the price of freedom then so be it.

We've made a cautious start. Winslow Shed is now open every Tuesday and Thursday with a morning and an afternoon session with numbers limited to six per session and you'll need to book in advance so that numbers can be managed. Booking is best done through our new WhatsApp group or by a text or call to Tim on 07746 194163. The important thing is that nobody hangs-back on a booking because they don't want to take a space somebody else might want. Book anyway so we can gauge demand and (if needed) tweak our opening arrangements to suit.

Hope to see you soon.

The Shed is open:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 - 4:00.

Unit 4, Station Road Ind. Estate.

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

Or for more info call Dave Saunders; 01296 714164

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WDCB Co-ordinator on behalf of the Trustees



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## CROSS BUCKS WAY WALK FOR ST JAMES CHURCH ROOF

During lockdown one of the few activities available was walking and I am glad I did when Andrew, the vicar suggested walking the Cross Bucks Way to raise funds for the new church roof.

Although it was windy from Storm Ellen this was mostly behind us and we stayed dry all day. The walk is almost all across fields and the paths are pretty good with one or two exceptions where brambles and nettles have

We set off from Stratton Audley (picture right) at 9.00 on Friday 21st August for the 25 miles walk to Linslade going from the border with Oxfordshire to the border with Bedfordshire. The route goes towards Marsh Gibbon, then north to Poundon, Twyford and Hillesden before heading east to Addington and Winslow where



we had a short break for a late lunch at 2.30. The afternoon saw us pass through Swanbourne, Stewkley and Soulbury before arriving at the Globe on the canal at Linslade at 7pm.

flourished but the countryside views are wonderful and of course you don't have to do all the walk in one day. My thanks to all who have sponsored me with all funds raised going towards the church roof. If you would like to donate please call me on 01296 714554 we can take cash, cheques and cards or you can do a bank transfer.  
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Arriving at The Globe

## PARISH PUMP



Great Horwood  
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### HORWODE PECE

The Great Horwood and Singleborough Recreation Trust are so pleased that Horwode Pece is open once again. I know you will agree that it is so important to keep ourselves safe, and following Government guidance the Rec had to be closed for a number of weeks. You will see that there are now posters in place reminding everyone of social distancing and extra hygiene. The Rec is not manned but is used on trust so please take extra care to follow the new regulations.

Whilst it is lovely to see the Rec being used again, the amount of rubbish has been quite alarming. The bin allocated at the entrance to the site is not emptied by Buckinghamshire Council and we rely on the goodwill of our amazing volunteers to do this. They take the rubbish home and whenever possible recycle it too. If the bin is full, please take your rubbish home with you.

### FUNDS FOR LOCAL CAUSES

As in previous years, Great Horwood Parish Council will once again be donating up to £3000 to local causes. Application forms have been sent to previous applicants but if you would like your group to be considered, you need to start thinking about your bid. Forms can be obtained from the Parish Clerk, contact details below. Applicants must be from organisations associated with the village. Winning bids will be announced at the December Parish Council meeting. **The closing date for applications is 31st October 2020.**

### NEW HOMES

The new homes built as the first phase of the Croudace site have started to be occupied. A big welcome to our new residents. We hope you are settling in and enjoying our lovely village community. The new homes built by High Street Homes on the other side of the road, opposite Townsend Cottages will start to be built in the Autumn.

### SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE

We are all aware of speeding traffic entering our village. Many drivers just don't seem to take notice of the 30mph or 40mph signs. The Parish Council do have a device that will record speeding cars, but it does need a team of volunteers to man it. This is the reason why it hasn't been used in a while. A short training session will be required, but nothing onerous. Please contact me if you would be interested in getting involved.

Two residents of Nash Road have agreed to arrange a petition to be supported by other residents in Nash Road on extending the 30mph speed limit, with the plan to submit

the petition to the next meeting of the Buckinghamshire Council Winslow and Villages Community Board which is scheduled for September.

We hope everyone has been keeping well and managing over the past few months. Even though Focus has not been printed, I have put information on the noticeboard and the Parish Council website. The date of the next meeting is Monday 14th September at 7.30pm. Meetings will continue to be held remotely via Zoom as Government guidelines encourage this at the present time.

*Sue Brazier, Parish Clerk Great Horwood*  
[clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk)



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.

**John Gilbey** Chairman 01296 711915

[johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com](mailto:johnwgilbeypc@gmail.com)

**Caroline Cousin** Vice Chairman 01296 713548

[carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com](mailto:carolinecousinghpc@gmail.com)

**Robert Davies** 01296 713548

[robert7\\_daviesghpc@yahoo.com](mailto:robert7_daviesghpc@yahoo.com) 07967 868881

**Dave Taylor** 07980 546484

[daveghpc@btinternet.com](mailto:daveghpc@btinternet.com)

**Angela Mayne** 01296 715400

[angelamayneghpc@outlook.com](mailto:angelamayneghpc@outlook.com)

**Jackie Goss** 01296 713135

[jackiegossghpc@gmail.com](mailto:jackiegossghpc@gmail.com)

**Julia Day** 01296 713752

[julia.day49@gmail.com](mailto:julia.day49@gmail.com)

#### Clerk to the Council

**Mrs Sue Brazier** 01296 714712

[clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@greathorwoodpc.org.uk)

**Parish Council Website** [www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/ghpc/)

**Great Horwood Village Hall Bookings** 01296 712165

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**Community Police Officers**

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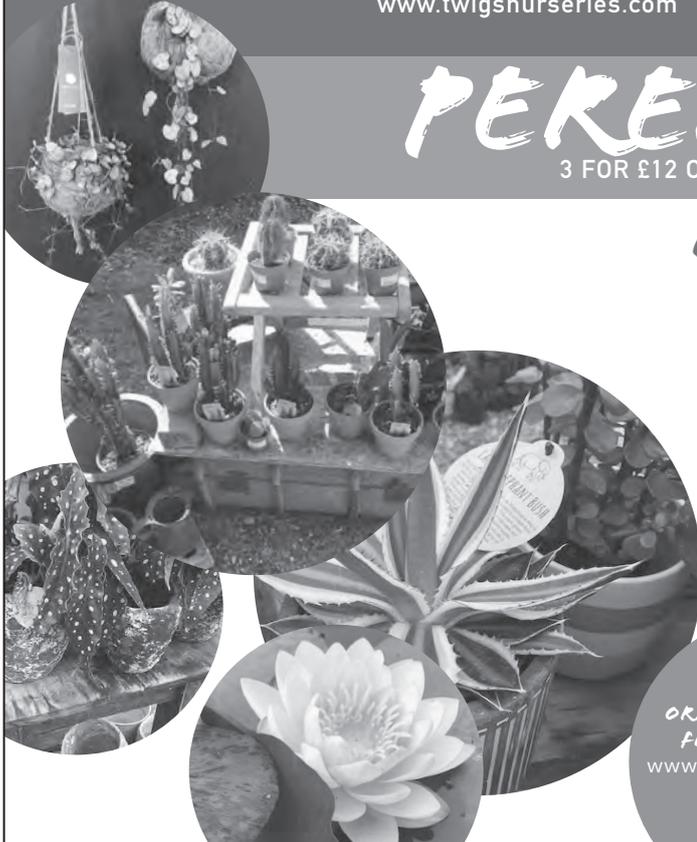
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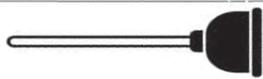
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