



*Weston Turville Times*

Spring 2026

Published by  
Weston Turville Parish Council

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## **A message from the editor.**

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Weston Turville Times, and a very warm welcome to our first edition of 2026. As the days begin to lengthen and the first signs of spring appear, it's lovely to see the parish coming back to life with a full calendar of events, activities, and opportunities to get involved.

One of the highlights of the season is our much-loved Easter Family Event on April 2nd. This is always such a popular occasion, bringing together residents of all ages for fun, laughter, and a real sense of community. Make sure it's in your diary, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

We're also delighted to share news of a new indoor bowls club, which runs every Thursday. Whether you're a seasoned player or completely new to the game, you'll be made very welcome. It's a great way to stay active, meet new people, and enjoy a friendly competitive spirit.

A big call out this spring: leaders are urgently needed to ensure the continuation of our wonderful Weston Turville Wombles. This valued group meets on the fourth Sunday of each month and plays an important role in keeping our Parish looking its best. If you're able to help and would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Clerk, your support could make all the difference.

Don't forget the Annual Barn Dance on 14th March. This is always a fantastic evening and we hope to see many of you there for music, dancing, and good company.

Finally, please note that the "Have Your Say" surgeries are changing. Full details can be found on page 23, so do take a moment to check the updated information.

As always, thank you for being part of what makes our Parish such a vibrant and welcoming place. Here's to a wonderful spring season ahead.

Warm regards,

The Editor.

**Laura Cook.**

*The Weston Turville Times is a community magazine for the parish of Weston Turville. It is published quarterly by Weston Turville Parish Council and distributed free of charge to every house and many businesses in Weston Turville. The views expressed in articles are not necessarily the views of the editorial team or the Parish Council. We do not endorse any of the suppliers advertising in the magazine. Contributions are welcomed subject to space and the Editor's decision on suitability. We reserve the right to edit all articles. The deadline for the next issue is 26 January 2026*

<b>The Weston Turville Times</b>	
<u>Published by</u> Weston Turville Parish Council Village Hall, School Approach, Weston Turville HP22 5RW	<u>Advertising</u> wtt-advertising@westonturville-pc.gov.uk  <u>Advertising rates for one year:</u> Whole Page            £250 Half page              £125 Quarter page         £65
<u>Printed by</u> Buxton Press, Palace Road, Buxton SK17 6AE	

Dear All

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Christmas Carol Event in December. Many thanks to everyone who joined in and sang so beautifully, to our choir and pianist, the string group, recorder group, and the Weston Turville School choir, who sang so wonderfully. A special thanks also go to Cllrs Cathy Terry and Saryo Dawkins, who organised the event and made it such a wonderful occasion for all to enjoy. Mince pies and drinks were enjoyed by all, helping to set the festive mood for Christmas. Please see pages 18 and 19 for details and photos of the event.



We will be running our popular Easter event again this year on the 2nd April. Volunteers are needed to help assist with activities on the day. If you are able to help please do get in touch with Cllr Saryo Dawkins by emailing [sdawkins@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:sdawkins@westonturville-pc.gov.uk). More details about the day will be advertised nearer the time.

We have been able to allocate Section 106 funding from the development in the parish towards improvements to the children's play area on the recreation ground, including new surfacing, new audio-visual equipment for the village hall and improvements to drainage and the path surfacing around the playing fields. The new audio-visual equipment will allow us to show movies at the Village Hall 'Flicks in the Sticks'. Look out for promotions in future magazines and on Facebook.

As mentioned in our last magazine we have had to put our precept up this year to cover the cost of the street lights which need replacing. Fortunately the part for Weston Turville parish is only a fraction of the money you pay, the increase will be a few pounds, £9.70 per year – that's less than £1 a month—on a band D property. Most of the money you pay is for services and goes to Buckinghamshire council, police and fire services. Please see pages 26 and 27 for further information.

We are enjoying having Barley Close Field owned by our parish and have chosen a variety of local fruit and nut trees with the support of you, our residents. The trees we have chosen together will take awhile to be available and so we have postponed the planting until the autumn. In the meantime we are getting prepared with our equipment and storage facilities. Having had most of the long grass cut back there will be new growth in the spring. We look forward to our ongoing collaboration in our shared plans. We are also pleased to be creating two dead hedges within the field. Our thanks go to Cllr George Lait for organising this, and to all the parishioners who donated their old Christmas trees, which are being put to excellent use.

We look forward to seeing you and your families at our events and facilities.

### **Parish Council meetings**

All local residents are welcome to attend meetings of the council to observe.

The list of meeting dates can be found on the website or noticeboards. Meetings are currently being held in the Parish Meeting room. Please see our website for agenda details or contact the Clerk.

If you would like to meet me to discuss any issues or just say hello I would be very happy to do that, please contact me via [rblackmore@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rblackmore@westonturville-pc.gov.uk) or 07792 475094.

### ***Cllr Rachel Blackmore***

Chair, Weston Turville Parish Council





SAVE THE DATE  
WESTON TURVILLE

# Easter Eggstravaganza

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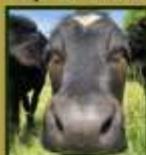


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## A CALL FOR WOMBLE LEADERS

Volunteer Leaders Needed – Monthly Litter Picks  
The Wombles are a dedicated team of local volunteers who help keep our parish clean by litter picking on the fourth Sunday of every month from 10:00 am to midday. We are currently looking for volunteer leaders to help guide and coordinate groups during these sessions.

If you would like to get involved and make a difference in your community, please contact the Parish Office.



Email: office@westonturville-pc.gov.uk

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# A Quiz about a Quiz ...and a Barn Dance

Are you sitting comfortably? Paper and pencil to hand? Then I'll begin.

**Question 1: What does WTWT stand for?**

Answer: Weston Turville Wells for Tanzania.

**Question 2: What does WTWT stand for?**

Answer: Fresh water, vital in times of drought now worsened by climate change. Education, especially for girls receiving secondary education. Health care. Community development. Micro-finance. Climate justice.

**Question 3: Where does this happen?**

Answer 3: I will accept either: (a) in the Masai areas of Tanzania, long-managed sustainably for cattle-herding and agriculture or (b) in the hearts, minds and bank accounts of people in and around Weston Turville.



**Question 4: When did this all start?**

Answer 4: Again, I will accept either: (a) 7.00 pm on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November at the start of an enjoyable fundraising quiz for WTWT, or (b) 2005 when Rachel and David Blackmore were on holiday in Tanzania and saw the need and opportunity, after which they founded WTWT.

**Question 5: How much money did that Quiz raise?**

.Answer 5: £1414. Thank you, everyone involved



**Question 6: What of the future?**

Answer 6: I will not accept, "Who can say?", "It's all too far away", or "What can this little charity do?". I will accept any of the following: the future is being built today on sound 20-year foundations of successful collaboration, local leadership, ethical management of resources, prayer, hope, and joyful evenings in the Weston Turville Village Hall.



**Question 7: Like, when?**

Answer 7: **Saturday 14 March 2026 for the next Barn Dance with meal included.**

To book tickets message Rachel on 07792 475 094 or email [racheljblackmore@gmail.com](mailto:racheljblackmore@gmail.com)

**Question 8: How do I find out more?**

Answer 8: (a) go to **[www.wellsfortanzania.org](http://www.wellsfortanzania.org)** or (b) talk to Rachel or David Blackmore.

*Images by Rachel and David, text by Chris Webbley*





## WESTON TURVILLE

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY

When you receive this copy of the WTT, we should be enjoying some warmer Spring weather. The monthly meetings of the Historical Society continue to be well attended and average over 70 attendees. Many attendees are existing members and often we have a number of visitors. The membership currently stands at 86 and anyone wishing to join is most welcome. The talks we offer are varied and have topics that will interest most people. Based upon regular attendance at the meetings we must be offering an interesting and varied programme of talks. The programme up to and including October 2026 is shown below and thanks to Tony Irvine, our chairman, for arranging these talks.

Please look out for the postings on the EWT Facebook page where we post more details of each meeting in the week leading up to each monthly meeting.

If you wish to renew your membership or to join the society the fees are £5 for a family membership and £3 for a single membership and the meeting fee of £2 per member and £3 for non-members for the coming year. Doors open at 7:30pm and coffee/tea will be available at no additional cost.

For existing members and non-members, we can recommend that you have a look at our website, [www.WTHSoc.org.uk](http://www.WTHSoc.org.uk). The site contains a great deal of information about the history of Weston Turville, copies of old postcards, links to other relevant historical sites etc. Our website has drawn praise from a number of people over the years. It has been updated to include some further material and is a great resource along with the archive which we are in the process of re-organizing.

### Dates for Weston Turville Historical Society Speaker Programme 2025/2026

Date	Speaker	Title of Talk
Feb 27 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Peter Burrows	The Lollards of Amersham
March 27 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Mike Scott Rumble	Lucky Breeze – The rise and fall of the British Airship Industry
April 24 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Dr Paul Rabbitts	Aylesbury & Tring in 50 Buildings
May 29 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Guy Bartlett	British Women in Aviation – The Pioneers
June 26 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Glynn White	AGM & The Law & Hostelries of Weston Turville
September 25 <sup>th</sup> 2026	David Lane	The Nine Railway Stations of Aylesbury
October 30 <sup>th</sup> 2026	Tony Ferguson	Rebellion, Regicide, Graffiti & Body Snatching: A colourful history of a Bucks village church

### Contact

For further information on the Society, visit [www.WTHSoc.org.uk](http://www.WTHSoc.org.uk), or email: [secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk). New members and visitors are welcome.

## A Community on the Rise: How Collective Action Is Transforming Our Estate

Over the past year, Aston Reach has seen a powerful transformation — driven not by chance, but by commitment, collaboration, and community pride. What began in anger and frustration has grown into strong partnerships, renewed community spirit, and visible improvements that benefit everyone who lives here. At the heart of this progress are people **working together**. New connections have been made with Aston Manor Care Home, strengthening relationships across generations. Productive working relationships have also been built with the on-site, Nisa, shop owner, Thames Valley Police, MBS Grounds Maintenance, and FirstPort. We've worked closely with the Parish Council, ensuring community concerns are shared, escalated, and addressed. An estate tour was given to our local MP, Laura Kyrke-Smith, and we have held meetings with our Buckinghamshire councillors and Buckinghamshire Highways — giving decision-makers a first-hand view of the challenges we face and the failures of the developer. These partnerships have delivered positive, visible results. Regular meetings and updates with Thames Valley Police have reinforced trust and supported a safer neighbourhood. Vandalised gates have been repaired, a locked bollard has been installed to manage access, and a newly installed safety rail now protects pedestrians on Boulton Road alongside a large drainage ditch. Traffic safety has also improved: many hours of Community Speed Watch, carried out by dedicated residents, have resulted in the installation of a speed hump and clear 10mph signage. Everyday quality-of-life issues have also been tackled. Dog-waste bins are now collected on a regular schedule, we now maintain ongoing contact and updates with FirstPort and MBS Grounds Maintenance. A community litter pick, in collaboration with Daniel Meakin's charity, demonstrated what teamwork can achieve. All of this helping to keep shared spaces cleaner and looking more welcoming. Throughout it all, **Community** has been at the heart of everything we do. With Easter events and community poster campaigns, Diwali celebrations, Halloween, Guy Fawkes Night, and a festive Christmas competition, ARRA has brought neighbours together and created moments of shared joy across the entire estate. All of this progress is the result of residents stepping up, giving their time and effort, and believing in the value of working together. Through the efforts of ARRA, our estate is safer, cleaner, and more connected and this momentum can only continue to grow through 2026. Thank you to everyone who has played a part. Together, we are building a community we can all be proud of.

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Aston Reach Residents' Association

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## A Magical Evening of Christmas Carols



On the evening of 5th December, our community came together for a truly heart-warming Christmas Carol Event, and what a wonderful night it was. Around 120 people joined us, filling the venue with festive cheer, music, and a real sense of togetherness. It was an amazing turnout and a clear reminder of the strong community spirit we are so lucky to have.

The evening would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of Cllrs Cathy Terry and Saryo Dawkins, who did such a fantastic job organising the event. Their commitment ensured everything ran smoothly and created an atmosphere that was both welcoming and celebratory.

We were treated to a superb programme of performances, starting with Jan Potter and The Christmas Choir, whose joyful singing set the perfect festive tone. The Weston Turville C.E. School Choir were wonderful and brought a special charm to the evening. While The ARC Recorder Group delighted the audience with their effort and enthusiasm.



A very special thank you goes to Naomi Jacob, not only for her wonderful performance with the string group, but also for her hard work in organising both the string group and The ARC Recorder Group. Her dedication and behind-the-scenes efforts played a key role in the success of the evening. We are also incredibly grateful to Felicity Davies, our pianist for the evening, whose music added elegance and depth to the celebrations.

Finally, a big thank you to John Beer, our compère for the evening, who guided us through the event with warmth, humour, and professionalism.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event. Your presence made the evening truly memorable. With such talented performers and such a fantastic community turnout, our Christmas Carol Event was a great success and a perfect way to start the festive season.





### **With special thanks to .....**

**Christmas Choir Group-** Jan Potter, Rachel Blackmore, Shelia Fanthorpe, Mary Gooderham, Deborah Clark, John Beer, Kate Hilton, Alex Hilton, Polly Wilkinson.

**Arc Recorder Group-** Edward, Keya, Noah, Jaxon, Alexander, Clara, Violet, Victor, Ariya, Mahnam, Evelyn, Louie, Rex, Alexander, Juliette, Music Teacher: Mrs Blackburn.

**Weston Turville C.E. School Choir-** Clara, Holly, Mila, Clemmie, Rosie, Alice, Lexi, Laurie, Evelyn, Violet, Ariya, Alica, Georgina, Lily, Annabelle, Tessa, Keya, Teacher: Mrs Hoodless.

**String Group-** Naomi Jacob (leader), Bryan Moseley, Roger Howgate, David Thomas, Caroline Campbell, Honor Gibbs, Stephen Hodgkinson, Annabelle Blackburn

### **Carols By Candlelight at The Union Chapel**

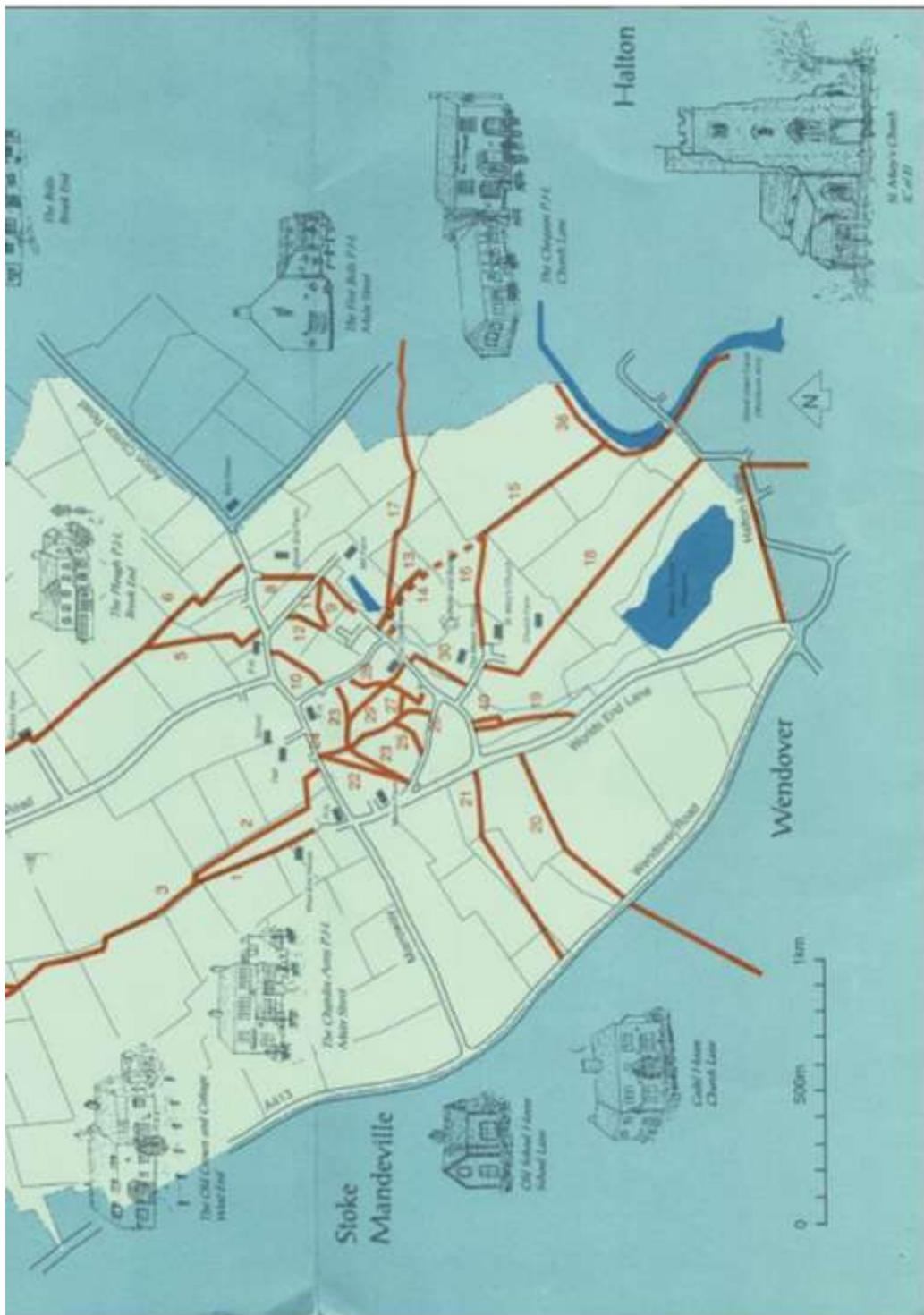
This was a traditional service of readings and carols on Christmas Eve and was very well attended. We sang some lovely carols including 'Come, All ye Faithful' and 'Once in Royal David's City'. The chapel was decorated and looked very festive. After the service refreshments were served in the chapel hall.

There was a collection which amounted to £210 and was donated to the Aylesbury Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who came and we look forward to seeing you again at Carols by Candlelight 2026.







## **Hampden Fields Updates**

### ***(January 2026) Updates***

Please find below updates regarding Hampden Fields. All of the updates detailed are subject to planning, and timescales may vary depending on this process.

Notes:

The Hampden Fields West sales office and four showhomes are now open. An official launch event to welcome interested buyers and stakeholders took place on 24th January 2026. Those interested in the homes at Hampden Fields West can visit the website to book an appointment at <https://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/aylesbury/hampden-fields-west>



Hampden Fields East, located just off the A41, is coming soon with three showhomes opening in 2026

It is anticipated that the Southern Link Road between the A41 and A413 will open in early 2027, and will be aligned with the completion of the A41 Woodlands Roundabout, subject to planning approval

Taylor Wimpey continues positive discussions regarding the proposed medical centre, with Buckinghamshire Council also progressing plans for a new primary school in the eastern neighbourhood. This will be adjacent to the proposed local centre, which is programmed to be opened in September 2028.

Following an online consultation conducted in Autumn 2025, planning permission has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council for the next phase of Hampden Fields West development. Details of the next phase of development can be viewed at [www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/aylesbury/hampden-fields-proposed-development](http://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/new-homes/aylesbury/hampden-fields-proposed-development)



# Dead Hedge Project



We have been overwhelmed by the generosity shown towards our Dead Hedge project, with donations of over 110 trees, ranging in size from 4ft to an impressive 20ft. These contributions have made a huge difference and have allowed the project to develop far beyond our initial expectations.

By the time you read this article, the dead hedge will be well on its way to completion. We hope that when you are out walking, you will take the time to walk through Barley Close Field and enjoy the results of this collaborative effort. The project has attracted many volunteers, whose enthusiasm and hard work have helped to create a strong sense of community spirit throughout its construction.

Following the success and interest shown so far, we are hoping to continue this initiative after this year's Christmas festivities, building on the momentum and goodwill already established.

Thank you once again to everyone who has supported the project through donations, time, and encouragement



## HAVE YOUR SAY – COME TALK WITH YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Got something on your mind?  
A local issue you'd like to raise?  
An idea to improve your community?



📍 Parish Council Office Meeting Room  
(Located to the right-hand side of the Village Hall)

🕒 6:30pm- 7:30pm

February 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 7<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>

Share  
= your =  
Thoughts

📍 The Holiday Inn (Bar Area)

🕒 6:30pm- 7:30pm

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 13<sup>th</sup> October

No need to book – just drop in!

Your Parish Councillors are here to listen, help, and work with you to make our parish the best it can be. Whether it's big or small, your voice matters.

Let's talk about what matters to you.

We look forward to seeing you there and working together to make our parish an even better place to live.

## **What is S106 funding and how is it used locally?**

You may have heard the term “S106 money” mentioned in connection with new developments in the parish, but what does it actually mean and how can it be spent?

### **What is S106?**

S106 funding (short for Section 106 agreements) is money that developers are required to contribute when new housing or commercial developments are approved. The purpose is to help reduce the impact of development on local communities by funding improvements to infrastructure and facilities.

Importantly, this money cannot be used for general council spending or day-to-day running costs. It must be spent on specific projects that directly benefit the community affected by the development.

### **Who controls S106 money?**

S106 funding is collected and held by Buckinghamshire Council, but parish councils can request funding for eligible local projects. All projects must meet strict criteria and be approved before money can be released.

There are also time limits: if S106 funds are not used within a set period, they may have to be returned to the developer. This makes careful planning essential.

### **What can the Parish Council spend it on?**

S106 funding can only be used for capital projects, such as:

- Improvements to parks, play areas and recreation grounds
- New or upgraded paths and drainage on parish-owned land
- Community buildings such as village halls
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Green spaces, seating and biodiversity improvements

It cannot be used for staffing, maintenance, utilities or ongoing services.

### **How S106 is being used in our parish**

The Parish Council has recently secured approval for several S106-funded projects that will benefit residents, including:

- Recreation Ground drainage and path improvements
- New play equipment, surfacing and seating on the Recreation Ground.
- Audio-visual equipment for the Village Hall

The Parish Council is also exploring further opportunities, such as outdoor gym equipment on Aston Reach, subject to authorisation from Taylor Wimpey.

### **Why S106 matters**

S106 funding allows the parish to secure significant investment that would otherwise be unaffordable through the parish precept alone. Used well, it helps ensure that as the village grows, local facilities grow with it.

### **Keeping residents informed**

The Parish Council is committed to being transparent about how S106 funds are used. Updates on approved projects and progress will be shared through the Weston Turville Times and at public meetings.

If you have ideas for projects that could benefit from S106 funding, councillors would be pleased to hear from you.

## **The last three months at a glance– Weston Turville Parish Council**

The Parish Council has been busy over the past three months, with work continuing behind the scenes to plan ahead, improve local facilities and respond to residents' concerns across the Parish.

### **Budget and forward planning**

Councillors have spent considerable time reviewing the 2026-27 budget to ensure the Council can continue to deliver services and invest in community spaces. Rising costs and future commitments were carefully considered, and the precept was set at £172,500, a 15% increase, bringing the Band D charge to £74.38 per year. The Council recognises the impact of this increase and will continue to explain how funds are used to support the parish, please see pages 26-27 for further information.

A number of potential projects were also discussed, all projects were subject to public consultation, giving residents the opportunity to have their say.

### **Investing in Parish facilities**

Several important improvements are moving forward:

- **Recreation Ground** – S106 funding has been approved for play seating and surfacing improvements, drainage works, and new improved paths on the recreation ground.
- **Village Hall** – Drainage repairs have been agreed, and S106 funding has been approved for new audio-visual equipment.
- **Barley Close Field** – Plans are progressing for orchard planting, repairs to stables, new water troughs and tools, and the creation of a dead hedge to boost biodiversity.
- **The Glebe Field** – A new information board has been approved, with wording being finalised.
- **Aston Reach** – It was agreed to submit a request for £50,000 of S106 funds to provide outdoor gym equipment at Aston Reach, subject to authorisation from Taylor Wimpey

### **Community events and engagement**

The Council remains committed to staying connected with residents. Monthly councillor surgeries will continue, with additional sessions held at the Holiday Inn every other month.

A full programme of community events for 2026 has been agreed, including Easter and Halloween family fun days, summer play sessions, Remembrance Sunday and the Christmas carols event. Councillors were pleased to report that this year's Halloween event was a great success, with around 120 children attending.

### **Working together and looking ahead**

The Council has agreed to continue delivering devolved services with Aylesbury Town Council for 2026–27 and has joined Buckinghamshire Council's energy contract to secure better value for street lighting electricity. Support has also been given to proposals for improved cycle routes, helping to better connect the village with surrounding areas.

Residents are always welcome to attend meetings, speak to councillors or take part in consultations. Your views help shape the decisions being made on your behalf.

**We currently have three vacancies on the Parish Council, if you are interested in becoming a councillor please see our notice boards or website for further details.**

## **Parish Council Update – Precept for 2026/27**

The Parish Council has agreed a 15% increase in the precept for the coming financial year. We understand that any increase can be a concern, so we'd like to explain the reasons behind this decision.

Although the percentage sounds high, for a Band D household it means an extra £9.70 per year – that's less than £1 a month. Even with this increase, the Band D rate remains around £20 below the national average, so our parish continues to offer good value for money compared to many others.

The main reasons for the increase are:

- Increased electricity costs for our streetlights, as our four-year fixed rate contract ended in November and the Council is facing a 50% increase in costs.
- Essential replacement of a number of streetlights following recent structural safety testing.
- Ongoing maintenance of parish facilities and land, to keep them in good condition for everyone to enjoy.

The Parish Council has carefully considered all options before making this decision. We remain committed to managing parish funds responsibly, maintaining vital services, and continuing to improve our shared spaces for the benefit of the whole community.

# **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**To be held at the Village Hall, School Approach HP22 5RW  
on**

**Thursday 16th April at 7.30pm**

**Including - Annual Reports from your Parish Council and  
Village Hall and information on what is planned for 2026-27**

**Followed by Cheese & Wine where you will have an  
opportunity to meet your Parish Councillors and discuss any  
issues informally that you may have.**

**Cllr Rachel Blackmore, Chair Weston Turville Parish Council**

# **SAVE THE DATE**

# All this for £1.43 per week!

That's the average Band D contribution to your Parish Council

## Community Facilities



- Recreation Ground - open green space for everyone
- Football Pitches - supporting local teams and community sport



- Tennis Courts - free to use, keeping residents active year round



- Playgrounds - safe and fun for younger residents
- Skate park - for skateboards, scooters and BMX riders
- Petanque court - for relaxed games and social get-togethers for all ages



- Defibrillators - keeping them in working condition
- Village Hall - providing a space for clubs, community events and private celebrations



- Weston Turville Times - keeping everyone informed about our parish

## Nature & Environment



- The Glebe Nature Area - protecting local wildlife and biodiversity



- Barley Close Field - being cultivated to create a community orchard



## Community Events

- Easter family fun
- Summer play sessions
- Halloween family day
- Remembrance
- Christmas Carols

**Plus..Your precept also helps cover essential costs such as street lighting, insurance, maintenance of street furniture and open spaces - keeping our parish safe and cared for.**



## **Weston Turville WI: Connect, learn, laugh, and get involved in village life**

If you've ever strolled down School Lane on the evening of the first Wednesday of the month and noticed a cheerful buzz coming from the Chapel meeting room, you may have wondered what on earth was going on. Some sort of society? A covert food-tasting panel? A campaign group? Close... but not quite.

It's the Weston Turville Women's Institute (WTWI), a lively, welcoming group where women of all ages and backgrounds come together to connect, learn, laugh, and take part in village life. And no, we're definitely not the stereotype of Jam and Jerusalem — unless, of course, someone brings a cake to share (in which case we're absolutely not complaining).

### **A Warm Welcome and a Varied Programme**

Lifelong learning sits at the heart of the WI, and our monthly meetings are thoughtfully planned to offer something new, interesting, and sometimes unexpected. Recent sessions have included everything from Italian cookery and Victorian history to craft workshops, wellbeing talks, and insights into the natural world.

We always make time for a chat, a cuppa, and a biscuit or two (we make no promises, but sometimes even the previously mentioned cake makes an appearance).

Beyond our regular meetings, members can enjoy a whole range of extra activities. Fancy trying archery? We're doing it. Want to share and enjoy food? We've done that. Keen to make a Christmas wreath worthy of your doorway? We've done that too. Enjoy a quiz? We've got you covered.

Looking ahead to 2026, we're planning a fused-glass craft session, mini golf, and maybe a trip to a local vineyard.

### **Supporting the Local Community, One Project at a Time**

The Weston Turville WI is also deeply rooted in community spirit. Our members regularly support village initiatives, charitable causes, and local events. Whether we're fundraising, lending a hand at community activities, or contributing to local campaigns, we're proud to uphold the WI's long-standing values: to inspire, to educate, and to strengthen communities through practical action and shared purpose.

### **Thinking of Joining Us?**

We're always delighted to welcome new members. Whether you're a seasoned cook, an enthusiastic crafter, a curious learner, or simply someone looking for friendly company and a chat, you'll find a warm welcome and a supportive group waiting for you.

If you're curious, why not pop along to a meeting and see what we're all about? Visitors are welcome for a small charge of £3.50 to cover refreshments and costs. We'd love to meet you.

For more information — or to let us know you're coming — please contact Carolyn, our secretary, at [westonturvillewi@gmail.com](mailto:westonturvillewi@gmail.com).



Making a donation to Weston Turville School from our October 2025 quiz fundraising efforts.



Making Christmas wreaths December 2025



Laying the WI wreath Remembrance Sunday 2025

### **2026 Spring Programme**

Wednesday 4th February 2026 – The Chiltern Society; Exploring & conserving the Chilterns.

Wednesday 4th March 2026 – British Sign Language

Wednesday 1st April 2026 – Colour and styling your wardrobe.

Wednesday 6th May 2026 (7pm) – Silver Jewellery making.

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## Weston Turville

The u3a movement started in 1981 and now has over 1,000 branches throughout the country and a membership of over half a million. It is an opportunity for retired and semi-retired people to learn new skills, develop interests, make friends and have fun.

Here in Weston Turville we have one of the largest branches in the area with over 400 members and almost 40 interest groups ranging from Science & Technology to Scrabble and from Chess to Crafts.

Our general meeting is at 2.30pm on the fourth Thursday of each month at Aylesbury Rugby Club. Visitors are welcome to come along for refreshments and to listen to an entertaining speaker.

If you are interested in any of our many and varied activities contact our Membership Secretary – email [membership@wtu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@wtu3a.org.uk) or visit our website: [www.wtu3a.org.uk](http://www.wtu3a.org.uk)



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# St. Mary's Weston Turville.



**Looking forward to Easter and the Spring!**

## **ST. MARY'S WESTON TURVILLE NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

First of all, many of us walking through the churchyard will have noticed the state of the gate. The restoration of the gate has met the approval of the diocesan architect and a formal application for a faculty is being sent off. The gate is Grade II listed and the expected cost is approximately £15,000.

This gate is so well known and an almost unique local feature. It is used by so many of us attending church, visiting graves, dog walking etc. that the PCC agrees that it is reasonable to ask for donations towards the cost, which we cannot afford, as well as trying to find grants. To keep donations separate from the general income and expenditure account, please make any cheques payable to "PCC Weston Turville SWIFT"

Or bank transfers to sort code 60-01-31 a/c 51685922, PCC Weston Turville Swift with the reference "Gate" or your name.

### **PCC Treasurer for St. Mary's Weston Turville**

Secondly, the current PCC Treasurer, Robert Ward, has retired after many years of faithful service to the Parish Church Council. He is going to be greatly missed for his skills, wisdom and his sense of humour.

This means the church is in need of a new treasurer. It is not necessary to be a member of the church to take on this role which in many ways serves the community. It is also not necessary to be a qualified accountant but experience in this field and of figures is important.

If you are interested in finding out more about the role, we will be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact the PCC secretary, Stuart Forrest at [PCCsecretaryWT@gmail.com](mailto:PCCsecretaryWT@gmail.com)

As we move into the four weeks of Lent and towards Easter, here are the special services:

**Ash Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February**, Services at 10.30 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. with choir and imposition of ashes for those who would like this.

**Mothering Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March** All age service at 10.00 a.m. with flowers

**Palm Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March** Service with Palms at 10.00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Music and tea 3.30p.m.

**Maundy Thursday Service.** 8.00 p.m. Choir and candlelight

**Good Friday Service** 1.00 p.m. A quiet service with choir and reflection

**Easter Saturday** 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. EASTER CLEAN of CHURCH All Welcome!

**EASTER DAY!** 10.00 a.m. Come and celebrate the Resurrection!!!

Rev Susan

## The Union Chapel

### **There is Spring in the Chapel yet.**

Spring has sprung and encourages us to throw open our windows and let the fresh air rush in. Winter cobwebs are blown away, spring bulbs burst into colour, and the trees and bushes throw their first green leaves or blossom. Winter has past and new life is all around us.



Spring brings the hope of new beginnings. New opportunities. And just to highlight the point, Easter is just round the corner. Easter is traditionally the high point of the Christian Year and at the Chapel we will be celebrating with a Palm Sunday lunch and Easter Service on the Sunday morning itself. Everyone is welcome to join us and enjoy the celebrations.

### **Spring Plant Sale Saturday 16th May**

**10am—1pm**

### **Chapel Disabled Access**

We have fitted a ramp and railing to the Chapel Hall and are underway with raising the funds needed to convert the 'old school' toilets to a modern accessible one and permanently install the ramp from the hall to the Chapel itself. We have already raised a third of the cost and are now investigating grants we can apply for to accelerate the project. We must give a shout out to the Brownies who did some excellent fund raising for the project. We hope to have everything done well before the end of the year, but that is obviously dependent on funds. Our aim is for the buildings to be accessible by all and to become a space in the heart of the Weston Turville community. We will keep you posted on progress.

Web: [www.theunionchapel.co.uk](http://www.theunionchapel.co.uk) email: [welcome@theunionchapel.co.uk](mailto:welcome@theunionchapel.co.uk)

## Green Partnerships: Weston Turville CE School's School Council Takes Action

As spring brings fresh growth and vibrant life to our school grounds, the Weston Turville CE School Council is excited to share how we are working together with the local community to nurture our environment and support wildlife.

This term, our School Council has partnered with two dedicated local groups passionate about conservation: the *Aylesbury Wombles* and the *Chiltern Rangers*. Together, we are committed to making our school grounds a welcoming habitat for local wildlife and a beautiful space for everyone to enjoy. The Aylesbury Wombles are leading special workshops at school, while the Chiltern Rangers continue their development project in our Nature Reserve.

Spring is a time of renewal, and just like the trees and plants sending out new shoots and leaves, our School Council is growing in strength and purpose - we have even doubled in size! We will be involved in activities such as planting native flowers, creating bug hotels, and clearing litter to protect the habitats of birds, insects, and small mammals.

Our aim is to create a school environment where nature flourishes alongside learning, inspiring curiosity and respect for the natural world. By working hand-in-hand with the Aylesbury Wombles and Chiltern Rangers, we are not only improving our school grounds but also contributing to the wider community's efforts to care for the environment.

We warmly invite families and parish residents to join us on this journey of growth and stewardship. Together, we can ensure Weston Turville remains a vibrant, green space where children and wildlife alike can thrive.

Thank you for your support!

The School Council



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Residential & Commercial

We have noticed an increase in privately run community events, as seen over the Christmas periods. If you are holding an event outside of your property it must not trickle onto highways and public grounds. If you believe your event will, then permission is required to close roads and put up hazard signs for public safety, and insurances may be required. For further information and to apply for a road closure from Buckinghamshire Council please contact [events@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:events@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)



# Waddesdon Hall

Just minutes from Aylesbury, Waddesdon Hall is the perfect setting for weddings, parties, community events, and more.

Built in 1897 and renovated in 2020, the hall combines period character with modern amenities:

- Capacity for up to 220 standing / 120 seated
- Raised stage for live music & speeches
- Fully licensed bar
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## Farming matters



Lots of people have asked me over the Christmas period how the farm is doing. The short answer is: pretty well, actually thanks! We had such a fantastic turnout to our inaugural "Carols in the Cowshed" event, and a massive thank you to everyone who came and not only raised the roof, but also raised over £300 for charity. I'm already looking forward to the event happening again this year.

There are lots of other events coming up on the farm this year, starting with the immensely talented ZoeC Photography who, working with Kate from Polly & Petal, will be setting up a stunning photo shoot with floral displays in our rustic barn to celebrate Mother's Day and the journey through motherhood.

March then continues with our fresh beef back in stock in the farm shop, and we should also have our lamb ready for Easter. Please do get in touch if you'd like to order any meat: we're happy to deliver anywhere within the village. Its important to us that we measure food metres, not miles!



*Wheat plant at growth stage 13, showing the seedling and leaf development*

In the last edition of the Weston Turville Times, I mentioned how the crops for this season were coming along, and they seem to have survived well over the winter, despite the odd nibble here and there from a passing deer. The recent cold snap was also exactly the weather we wanted. The frost is nature's way of keeping pests at bay, killing off bugs and parasites which might irritate the animals and stopping other nasties from spreading through the crops. It is particularly important for our winter wheat crop, as the colder temperature triggers the process of "vernalisation", whereby the small wheat plant switches into reproductive mode, allowing it to flower and produce seeds later in the year. Throughout the spring, we will monitor the health of the crop, applying fungicide and fertiliser at the appropriate time so that the plant has exactly the protection and nutrition it needs at the correct growth stage. One such important compound we will apply contains sulphur, in the form SO<sub>3</sub>. Sulphur is an essential nutrient required for protein formation and a number of enzyme reactions within plant cells which are required for satisfactory crop growth. Interestingly, over the years since the introduction of low-sulphur fuel for cars and SO<sub>2</sub> emission regulations imposed on industry, the amount of atmospheric sulphur available to plants has fallen dramatically. This has meant that farmers now need to apply extra sulphur to the soil to allow the crops to flourish as they used to.

Elsewhere, we recently scanned our ewes to find out if the new ram "William" did his job. I'm delighted to say that William (or Big Willy as we call him) rose to the occasion and if everything goes to plan then we could have a record number of lambs by the end of April! Once again, we will be running our extremely popular "Lambing Live" visits throughout the lambing period, so if you would like to find out more about the sheep and meet the new lambs then please get in touch using the contact details below.



### Dates for your diary:

7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> March:	Mother's Day photo shoots with ZoeC Photography Scan the QR code to find out more
28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> March:	Pop-Up Farm Shop & Café
Every day in April:	Lambing Live
25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> April:	Pop-Up Farm Shop & Café
30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> May:	Pop-Up Farm Shop & Café

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# Pearl Wheeler's BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BACON CLANGER

## Recipe based on 4 people

- 8oz of self raising flour
- 4oz of shredded vegetable suet
- Oil for frying
- Packet of unsmoked streaky bacon
- 1-2 Onions finely chopped
- Cold water as much needed to make pastry
- Pepper & salt to taste

## Method

Heat the oil in the pan and Fry the bacon until crispy and cooked, add the onions, fry for a further few minutes until they are soft.

Add the flour, suet and seasoning in a mixing bowl combining by gradually adding the water until a soft dough ball is achieved. Now roll out the dough on a floured surface creating a oblong shape.

Spoon the filling over the pastry, leaving a 2.5cm border around the edges. Dampen the edges and lightly roll up like a Swiss roll, from the short sides. Wrap it in grease proof paper and tie tightly with string to ensure it is water tight.

Boll for one to one and a half hours on low and cover, make sure to top up water if needed. Unwrap, slice and enjoy with potatoes, veg and gravy.

## The History of the Buckinghamshire Bacon Clanger

The Buckinghamshire bacon clanger is a traditional English dish that dates back to the 18th and 19th centuries. It was created as a practical, portable meal for agricultural workers, made from suet pastry and designed to last through long days of labour.

A bacon clanger was filled with savoury ingredients such as cured bacon, potatoes, and onions at one end, and a sweet filling like apple or jam at the other. This clever combination provided both a main course and dessert in one item, separated by a layer of pastry.

Though it declined in popularity in the early 20th century, the bacon clanger has since been revived as a symbol of Buckinghamshire's food heritage, celebrated today for its simplicity and ingenuity.



# Fix my street

## Got a problem to report?



**Potholes**  
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**Road signs**  
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**and more....**



## Don't Wait!

Report problems by downloading the app or visiting

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and the report will be sent to the appropriate authority

# WTWT BARN DANCE

**Saturday 14th March 2026 7-10:30pm**

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**Do come and join us. All**

**welcome!**



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[seniorstrings@hotmail.com](mailto:seniorstrings@hotmail.com)

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Allotment Association	wtaacommitee@gmail.com
Buckinghamshire Council	01296 395000
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Electricity Emergency (UK Power Networks)	0800 783 8838
Environmental Health out of hours	01296 585093
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Hospital – Amersham	01494 434411
Hospital – High Wycombe	01494 526161
Hospital - Stoke Mandeville	01296 315000
NHS Direct	111
Transport for Bucks	01296 395000
Village Hall, Weston Turville	07470 487617
Wendover Library	01296 382415
Weston Turville Combined School	01296 613436
Weston Turville Parish Council	01296 612838
Westongrove Surgery Group	01296 320384
Support Services	
Age UK	0800 169 6565
Childline	0800 1111
Citizens Advice	0344 411 1444
Domestic Violence Hotline	0808 2000 247
Friends of Wendover (weekdays 1-3pm)	01296 622585
Mind	0300 123 3393
Samaritans	116 123
Antisocial behaviour	999 - to report a crime in progress 101 – to report a crime after the fact
Dog bins (full or damaged)	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Environmental Health issues	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Fly Tipping	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Highways and Rights of Way, incl streetlights outside the village	<a href="http://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/">www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/</a>
Housing and Benefits	0300 131 6000
Litter – missed bin collections, overflowing public litter bins	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Park and recreation ground	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Planning matters, incl enforcement	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Street furniture, eg benches, bins, bus shelters, noticeboards, streetlights in the village	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Water leaks	Thames Water – 0800 714 614

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Weston-Tufnell Times Spring 2020