

THE WESTON TURVILLE TIMES

September 2014

The Magazine for the Parish
of Weston Turville



Join us here for Remembrance Sunday to commemorate 100
years since the beginning of the Great War and to remember
those men who
'GAVE THEIR TODAY FOR OUR TOMORROW'.

Contains Local Events, Features, Clubs and Societies,
Useful Information, School News, Church and Chapel News
for the residents of Weston Turville Parish

THE WESTON TURVILLE TIMES

Our next magazine is due out in December 2014

www.wt-times.co.uk

If you wish to advertise in this space or elsewhere in future editions or would like to submit an article for publication, or can assist in any other way, please contact the Editor in Chief, Jill Todd.

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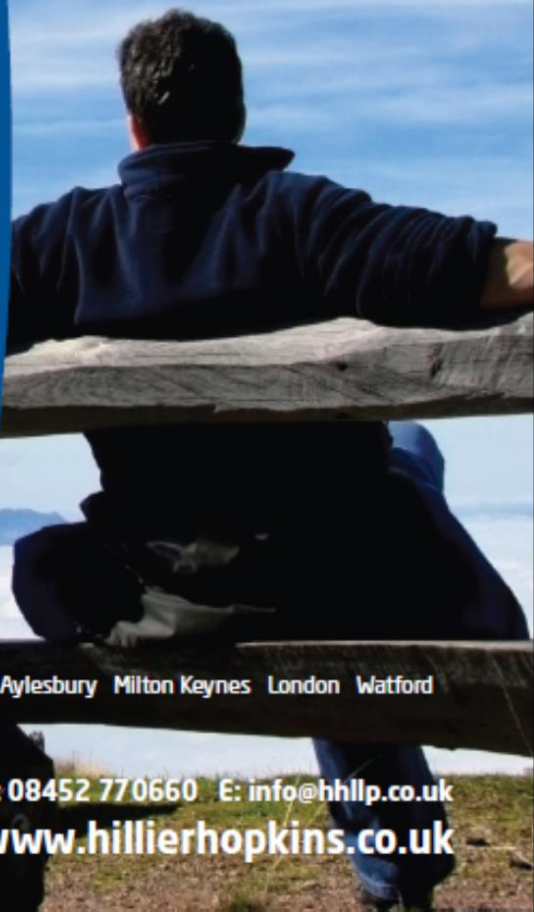


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EDITORIAL

Welcome to latest edition of WTT, as we approach the end of our second year, we hope you have enjoyed reading this magazine. We always welcome any feedback you wish to submit.

What a great summer we have had, the glorious weather, the football and the commonwealth games. Pamela Relph, the gold medal winning paralympian, who featured in our first issue will be supporting the PACE event in November. Read all about it inside.

The response to the big switch has been low but we will continue to collect details from those of you who are interested in reducing your utility bills by bulk buying and if necessary will join forces with other local villages and towns. Tring for example, a transition town, is looking at buying logs for fuel in bulk.

It would be good to have some input from other local organisations e.g. the school, so if you think you would be interested in writing something or joining the editorial team please contact me.

We would like to congratulate Chris and Carmel at the Chandos Arms who have just won the Best Newcomer award for the South East region and will now go forward to the Great British Pub Awards national final. Good Luck to you both!

We have had a request for suggestions concerning good eating establishments suitable for Vegans. If you have any suggestions please contact me and I will pass on your suggestions.

Weston Turville Times continues to inform and entertain. It is currently published four times a year and is delivered to every house and business in Weston Turville. Extra copies are delivered to the shops, church and chapel and hostelrys in Weston Turville. We welcome contributions from advertisers (our existing advertisers will testify to the power of advertising) and articles of interest.

Jill Todd, Editor in Chief
www.wt-times.co.uk

BONFIRES

We all know about Bonfire night but where does the word “bonfire” come from?

Samuel Johnson mistakenly believed that the word “bon” was taken from the French word for good but in fact it is a shortened version of the English word “bone”. It stems from a pagan festival when the Celts collected all the bones of animals slaughtered during the past year, placed them in large piles and burned them in a huge “bone fire”

The bone fires continued into Christian times and were celebrated on June 24th, St. John’s Day. By the 16th century ‘bonefire’ was changed to bonfire and was used to describe any large controlled fire.

In many regions of Europe bonfires are traditionally lit on 16th January, to celebrate the Solemnity of John the Baptist and also on the Saturday night before Easter.

Spain celebrates the eve of St John’s Day with a bonfire and in Finland bonfires are traditionally lit on Midsummer Eve, Easter and also during May Celebrations.

Since 1988 "Feuer in den Alpen" (Fires in the Alps) have been lit on a day in August on mountains so they can be seen from afar as an appeal for sustainable development of mountain regions.

In the Czech Republic "Burning the Witches" takes place on the night of the 30th April .This is a very old and still living folk custom and a special holiday. On the night, people gather around lit bonfires and celebrate the coming of spring.

In India, particularly in Punjab, people have bonfires on communal land and gather around and eat peanuts and sweets during the festival of Lohri to celebrate the winter solstice which occurs during the Indian month of Magh. This festival falls in the second week of January every year.

In Assam in the north-eastern part of India, a harvest festival called Bhogali Bihu is celebrated to mark the end of the harvest season in mid-January. In southern parts of India, the Bhogi festival is celebrated on the last day of 'Maarkali', which is also the first day of the farmer festival Pongal. People

collect unwanted items from their houses and set them on fire in a bonfire to celebrate. This celebration is similar to a harvest festival.

Throughout Ireland, bonfires are lit on the night of 31st October to celebrate Halloween or Samhain. Bonfires are also held on 30th April, particularly in Limerick to celebrate the festival of Bealtaine and on St. John's eve, 23rd June, to celebrate Midsummer's eve, particularly in County Cork where it is also known as 'Bonna Night'

In Scotland the annual rock and dance music Wickerman Festival takes place in Kirkcudbrightshire. Its main feature is the burning of a large wooden effigy on the last night. The Wickerman festival is inspired by the horror film *The Wickerman*, a film itself inspired by the Roman accounts of the Celtic Druids ritual burning of a wicker effigy.

In Japan every 16th August, the ancient city of Kyoto holds the Gozan no Okuribi, a Buddhist bonfire based spectacle to honour the spirits of one's ancestors, which marks the end of the O-Bon season.

In the USA on Christmas Eve in Southern Louisiana, bonfires are built along the Mississippi River levees to light the way for Papa Noël as he moves along the river in his pirogue (Cajun canoe) pulled by eight alligators. This tradition is an annual event in St. James Parish, Louisiana.

From the Guinness book of records the largest bonfire and also the tallest measuring 43.44m (142ft 6.2in) high, had an overall volume of 1,715.7 m³ (60,589 ft³). It was built by ŠKD mladi Boštanj, and lit on 30 April 2007 in Boštanj, Slovenia, to celebrate Labour Day.

Whether you go to an organised event this year or have a bonfire of your own please enjoy it safely!



OTT

As you read this you'll discover a whole new dimension to going 'over the top'. I was half interested when Weston Turville U3A Extreme Events group suggested going 'over the top of the O2 arena' but when a colleague mentioned that her 80 year old mother had gone OTT I was up for the challenge!

Normally a skirt wearing gal I had to rethink my wardrobe - trousers, dark and underwear definitely darker to cope with the fear factor - I did not know what was ahead.



The O2 is 52 metres high, has 12 support structures and has a circumference of 365 metres and was originally constructed to commemorate the millennium and to last for 20 years. The walkway is made of the same fabric as the roof of the O2 and has a trampoline like feel underfoot.

Known as urban mountaineering, after suitable instruction, five of us went on to climb up over and then down the roof of the O2 kitted out in regulation waistcoats (bodsuits in cooler weather) body harnesses & Ecco shoes. The ascent was slow and because you cannot see the top, seemed never ending, but we were rewarded at the top by spectacular views; we were allowed off the leash to walk 360 degrees around the viewing platform and admire the view and describe it to a member of our party who was blind. After a lengthy wander we re-harnessed ourselves to the walkway and began the descent which is 30 degrees in places. The whole experience was exhilarating, made better by good weather and equally good company so I can thoroughly recommend it to anyone over the age of 10.



Your intrepid Editor, Jill

OPEN LETTER FROM Cllr. PHIL YERBY RE POWERCUTS.

I met with the East Anglian Regional manager of UKPN and members of his team Thursday night, 31.7.14. I did not hold back in explaining the situation and its effect on residents - we need action not talk.

They have "promised" and "guaranteed" that they are going to invest £300,000 over the next few months (to be completed around October) in the infrastructure around Weston Turville. The main issue appears to be interruption to the 11KV overhead lines that feedback to the Wendover substation.

They openly acknowledge that the supply is inadequate - to be fair they made no excuses. I now have this in writing and it is attached for you below.

They have also agreed to attend a public meeting to explain what they are planning.

We all appreciate what's important is the outcome so let's see but I am hopeful this will lead to a real improvement.

Regards

Phil Yerby

Thank you for meeting with us and for your involvement in keeping residents updated with the discussions of our meetings. I apologise that you have had to contact us again regarding the number of interruptions residents are receiving in the Weston Turville / Stoke Mandeville areas. We fully recognise that the network reliability performance has fallen short of the service levels we strive to provide to our customers.

We have commenced work on a major investment programme on the network to improve the reliability of the electricity supply in the Wendover area. The total cost of the refurbishment and enhancement work is circa £300,000.

There will also be some planned interruptions for some of the work as we will not be able to apply live working techniques, in all circumstances. On these occasions we will notify customers with a minimum of 5 days' notice that their electricity supply will be interrupted in the format of a letter.

Once again I am sorry that you have had to contact us in these circumstances and for the inconvenience that has been caused to our customers in the Weston Turville / Stoke Mandeville areas but once again thank you for your time and effort in keeping customers informed on what we are doing to improve the reliability of electricity supplies in the area.

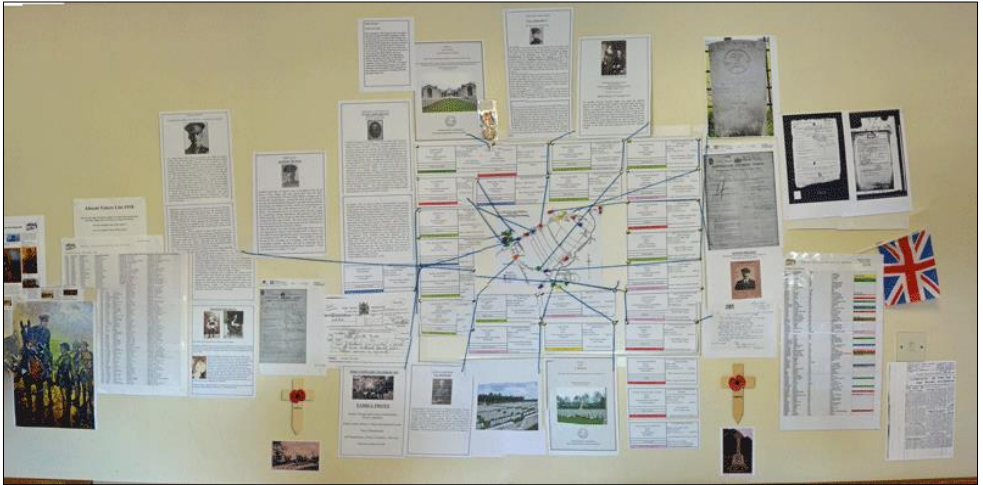
Weston Turville Historical Society



Great War Commemoration at the Village Fete

“One of the highlights of this year's **Weston Turville** fete was the exhibition about the village during the First World War.” (First sentence of David Lidington's Bucks Herald column on 5th July) full article at

<http://tinyurl.com/DL-column>



The exhibition was put together with the assistance of Weston Turville Historical Society, Weston Turville U3A, and Buckinghamshire Remembers. Special thanks to all those who supplied artefacts and stories for the Great War Exhibition:-

- Cook Book
- Medals, cap badges and buttons (both from WT residents and elsewhere)
- Time & Percussion Fuses from British shells
- British Flying Corps log book
- The Death Penny commemorating Harry Langston who is remembered on the village war memorial



You can see a selection of the exhibits at <http://tinyurl.com/WTHS-Great-War>

There is another opportunity to see some of these exhibits at the “Duty and Service; Bucks Lives in the Great War” at the Buckinghamshire County Museum until March 2015. <http://tinyurl.com/BCM-duty-and-service>

Society Volunteers

The Society is looking for volunteers to take the role of Secretary, Speaker Secretary and to assist with collating and digitizing the village archive.

Meeting Logistics

When: Last Friday in month, Sept – June;

Time: 20:00 - 22:00

Venue: Weston Turville Village Hall;

Cost: £2 for members, £3 for visitors, including refreshments

Upcoming events

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 26 th Sept | Francis Hanford "Infantry Training at Halton in WW1" |
| 31 st Oct | Chris Brown "Famous People & Places in the Chilterns" |
| 28 th Nov | Dick Pilkington "The History & Natural History of Tring Reservoirs" |

Contact

For further information on the Society, visit www.WTHSoc.org.uk, or email: secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk.
New members welcome.



Recipe for Apple & Walnut Cake

(This is an American Recipe)

- 3 cups (350 grams) all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 3 cups chopped apples (3 granny smith)
- 3 eggs slightly beaten
- 1 ¼ cups (300 ml) corn oil
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 2 cups (225 grams) sugar
- 1 ½ cups (200 grams) walnuts chopped



Sift all dry ingredients and add sugar. Add diced apple and chopped walnut pieces. Combine oil, eggs & vanilla, add to cake mixture and mix well. Pour into greased and floured tube (bundt) tin. Bake at 350/180 for approximately 1 hour. Cool in tin. (I found this better if cooked in normal oven rather than fan assisted). Mary Duly

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Weston Turville Horticultural Society

Annual Show – Great Success – Thank You

What a great afternoon! The Horticultural Committee would like to say a very warm “thank you” to everyone who turned out in force to see cups, plates, medals and certificates being awarded to all ages at the Weston Turville Horticultural Society Annual Show in the Village Hall in August. The Best in Show Award this year, sponsored and judged by Mr & Mrs Pallet, was a horticultural award and was won by Mary Blackaby. Many congratulations to Mary. Val & Mark Jones were awarded the prestigious RHS Banksian Medal for the most points in the Horticulture section while Graham Rutherford’s dedication resulted in his being awarded the British Legion Challenge Cup for the highest number of points in the Show . We were delighted to have so many entries from the younger members of the village – Phoebe Chiswell, Jessica Yerby & Ollie Peck were equal top winners in the junior classes so this year the Ted Plested Cup will have to rotate round all three!

Weston Turville C of E Combined School entries supported the Show again as did the Weston Turville Brownies with their excellent display of miniature plates designed by them to commemorate 100 years of the Brownie movement.

The Dog Show and Bee Display both proved great attractions together with all the children’s games and activities.

It was very encouraging to see new entrants to the Show once again and many more entries than in previous years. “Congratulations” and “thank you” to everyone who participated.

Retiring President of the Society Chris Pallet in awarding the prizes stressed that this was very much a village event with the Horticultural Committee being the main organisers but he thanked everyone who played a part – the entrants, the committee and the many helpers on the day.

Thank you all for your support and to Christopher Pallet for his support over the years he has been President.

The Horticultural Society’s new season of meetings will begin on Thursday 9th October with the AGM and a talk about the charity “Men in Sheds.”



Weston Turville Youth Cafe

Whatever you're into there's something for you at Weston Turville Youth Café: X-box kinect, Nintendo Wii, pool, table tennis, cooking, art and crafts, games indoors and out, smoothies and toast and places to relax and chat. It is all free, and we open:

Every Tuesday in term time.

4.00 - 6.00pm

For 11 – 18 year olds (school years 7 – 13)

At: Weston Turville Village Hall

For more details contact

Rachel Blackmore 01296 614751 or 07792 475094



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Wendover Evening WI

Visitors are always most welcome to come to our meetings.

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Neil Rees will be telling us about "The Glorious Exile of Louis XVIII at Hartwell House"

If you would like to know more about Wendover Evening WI, visit our website: www.wendoverwi.weebly.com

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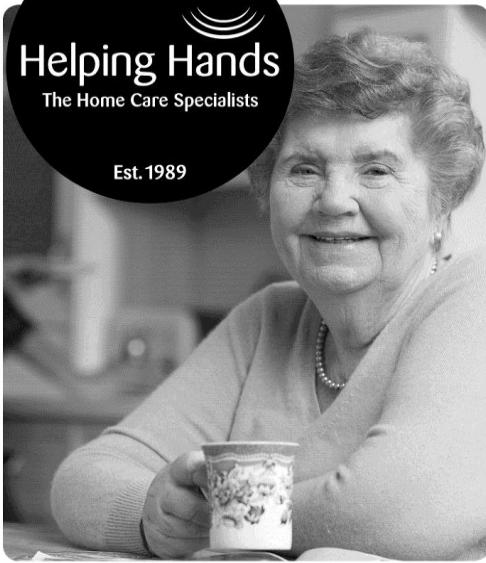
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Weston Turville U3A

You won't get a degree from us.

You will have the opportunity to make new friends or spend time with old friends having new experiences. There are already 28 groups ranging from antiques/collectables to wine tasting and Pilates. If you are interested in archery, chess, bare-back riding or any other activity that is not yet a group we might be willing to support your ideas.

If you are no longer in full time employment this is your opportunity to make some decisions about your lifestyle whether it is to be sporty through walking or table tennis; or calmer like bridge or book club, you can even learn how to use a computer or just improve your general knowledge.

There is a meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month held at Aylesbury Rugby Club, Weston Turville at 2.30pm open to all members. Here you can meet like-minded people, get the latest news on trips, garden and theatre visits and holidays. We usually have a guest speaker who must be both interesting and amusing. To learn more come along to one of our meetings and let the person you are sitting next to know that it is your first meeting or go to our web site at www.wtu3a.org.uk. We look forward to your company.

Saving Lives Through Blood Donation

From Weston Turville resident Clive Ronaldson, Director of Blood Supply, at NHS Blood and Transplant



Everyday people's lives are being saved through blood transfusions which wouldn't be possible without the time volunteered by thousands of donors across the country. I am lucky to be part of an organisation that works hard to save lives and we are privileged to have so many loyal and supportive blood donors including around 5,000 in the borough of Aylesbury. Knowing there are people suffering from rare forms of blood cancer who benefit from blood donations, makes me feel a great deal of gratitude to each and every blood donor.

Donated blood is vital for a wide variety of life-saving procedures in local hospitals including the Stoke Mandeville Hospital. Patients undergoing major surgery and emergency treatments often require blood transfusions, but perhaps less well-known is the fact that blood is essential to the treatment for many different types of cancer and blood disorders.

At the heart of our service are our donors so it is vital that we look after their needs and never forget that they choose to give blood. We do this by trying to make the experience as comfortable and convenient as possible for them.

Blood has a short shelf life, so making sure we have the blood hospitals need in the right quantities at the right time is definitely a challenge. Every year, a number of donors will not be able to give blood due to things like illness and pregnancy so it's vital that we constantly attract new donors to replace them.

We've really moved with the times in the last year or so as we've listen to the changing needs of our donors and made it easier than ever for donors to manage their own appointments in real time or to sign up to become a blood donor via new Apps for iPhone and www.blood.co.uk.

In general, as long as you are fit and healthy, weigh over 7 stone 12 lbs (50kg) and are aged between 17 and 66 (up to 70 if you have given blood before) you should be able to give blood. If you are over 70, you need to have given blood in the last two years to continue donating.

To find out more or to book an appointment, visit www.blood.co.uk or call the Donor Line on 0300 123 23 23.

What Grammar Means

In a recent article on what makes us human, Richard Dawkins commented: “Other species can communicate, but no other species has true language with open-ended grammar.” But what is grammar? What is its function? We have various ways of experiencing the world. We can taste, hear, see, feel and smell it. Fortunately, we are so excited by the objects of sense that we want to share the experience. Originally we probably pointed at things to refer to them, what is called ostensive definition. To avoid confusion particular words were attached. We can refer to things in different ways; we can talk about what we did to something and how. We can even suggest this in the future before we have done anything. The relationship between aspects of experience and collections of words is called grammar. It is a set of rules used to show how a language deals with how we talk and refer to experience: And experience can be messy as can grammar.

When trying to attract his attention, a friend’s mobile proclaims, “a message from the dark side, this is,” in the tones of the Jedi knight, Joda, who enthralled us with his unconventionally odd word order. We understand what he said because we know the conventions of English grammar. In English, we would expect the thing (the noun) being referred to, to come first with what happens to it (the verb) next and much else last. Not all languages use that order.

If I show a child of four a picture of cat, she will tell me that it is a cat; when I show her four cats she will say cats. With a picture of sheep, she will say sheeps. Although wrong about sheep, it confirms the child knows grammar! Yet she has never sat down and learnt the grammar of our language. She knows that the conventional plural in English is formed by adding “s”. Not all languages form plurals in this way; there are languages which do not have plurals at all! In English we can distinguish between “a rose” and “the rose”. Not all languages bother. Similarly, we have different ways of talking about the past, present and future. English, unusually, has three ways of indicating the present; some languages can be much less varied while others, like Modern Greek, have many ways of referring to time.

English is very flexible which ought to make it easier; it does not. Its very flexibility has led people to think it has very little grammar, as Dr Johnson jocularly thought. There is a clearly defined grammar, (which has nothing to do with Latin). In spite of that, there are many exceptions and irregularities.

If one is interested in the structure of one's mother tongue, grammar provides many insights, which provide unusual and intriguing pictures of how we speak and write. Learning grammar is unavoidable when learning a foreign language, provided it is taught in the language being acquired.

Because language can be both precise (she is six feet tall) and ambiguous (we are visiting firemen) grammar can help where the meaning is unclear. During the WW2 one of our daily newspapers carried the headline "Montgomery flies back to front". On hearing this, grammar informs us that the second word is a verb and not an intimate piece of the Field Marshall's clothing.

Michael Conolly

**LET'S EAT GRANDMA.
LET'S EAT, GRANDMA**



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| Bedgrove Surgery | 01296 330330 |
| Blue Badge | 01296 382902 |
| Brownies | 01296 612632 |
| Bucks County Council | 0845 370 8090 |
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| Highways on Call (out of hours) | 01296 486630 |
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| Trading Standards | 0845 404 0506 |
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UPCOMING EVENTS

TO ADVERTISE YOUR EVENT HERE PLEASE CONTACT

Jill Todd on 01296 613188

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|--|--|
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| Every Tuesday in Term time: W.T. Youth Café Village hall 4 – 6pm | |
| Every Thursday: Wendover Market, Manor Waste, Wendover | |
| | |
| 30th August | Churchyard working party. St Marys churchyard 9 to 11.30am |
| | |
| 4th September | Weston Turville School Autumn Term begins |
| 4th September | Parish Council Planning meeting 6.30pm |
| 6th September | Working day with a picnic in the churchyard 9.30 to 3pm |
| 9th September | Wendover Evening W.I. St Anne's Hall, Wendover 7.45pm |
| 11th September | Wills & Trusts free public seminar. Holiday Inn. 10am |
| 18th September | WT Parish Council meeting. Village Hall. 7pm |
| 20th September | Swift Concert - Details to be announced |
| 23rd September | Mobile Library. Village Hall car park. 12.40 to 1pm |
| 26th September | Historical Society "Infantry Training at Halton in WW1" Speaker - Francis Hanford Village Hall 8pm |
| 28th September | Choral Evensong St Mary's Church 6pm |
| | |
| 2nd October | Parish Council Planning meeting 6.30pm |
| 4th October | Harvest Supper. Village Hall 7pm |
| 9th October | WT Horticultural Society AGM, Cheese & Wine. "Men in Sheds" - George Cook. Village Hall 8pm |
| 18th October | Dixie Land Swing Kings Trad Jazz Concert St Marys Church |
| 20th October | Monday Club. Village Hall 8pm |
| 21st October | Mobile Library. Village Hall car park. 12.40 to 1pm |
| 23rd October | WT Parish Council meeting Village Hall 7pm |
| 24th October | Weston Turville School closes for half term |
| 30th October | Wills & Trusts free public seminar. Holiday Inn. 10am |
| 31st October | Historical Society "Famous People & Places in the Chilterns" - Chris Brown Village Hall 8pm |
| | |
| 1st November | Bonfire night Fireworks Display. ARFC. 4.30pm to 10pm |
| 4th November | Weston Turville School re-opens |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 9th November | Remembrance Sunday - Laying of wreaths. WT War Memorial. |
| 13th November | WT Horticultural Society "College Lake Flora & Fauna" - Rodney Sims. Village Hall 8pm |
| 17th November | Monday Club. Village Hall 8pm |
| 18th November | Mobile Library. Village Hall car park. 12.40 to 1pm |
| 20th November | WT Parish Council meeting Village Hall 7pm |
| 22nd November | Soloist from the world famous Purcell School |
| 28th November | Historical Society "The History & Natural History of Tring Reservoirs" - Dick Pilkington Village Hall 8pm |
| | |
| 6th December | St Marys Church Christmas Fayre. Village Hall |

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Church of St Mary the Virgin, Weston Turville

St Mary's Weston Turville Improving Facilities Team, SWIFT



We now move forward to the next stage in our preparations. At their meeting on 7th May, the PCC agreed for us to make an initial planning application which will then enable us to start applying for grants. The details for this are being prepared by our architect, Jonathan Saunders.

Jonathan also arranged a meeting for us with representatives of English Heritage, the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC), the AVDC planning and historic buildings offices and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. The meeting discussed the **SWIFT** project, asked a lot of questions and was broadly very supportive and encouraging. Since the meeting, English Heritage have written to Jonathan with some more questions and have asked for some exploratory work to be done in the old boiler room to uncover the original structure, with a view to the proposed re-opening and restoration of the south porch. The DAC have been asked for permission to start this work in the near future.

With all this exciting progress we must not forget that we need cash to move forward on the project. If you have been holding back before signing up to make donations or bankers orders, please now believe that this is really happening. Some of the grants that we will apply for will require match funding. That is, they will want us to show that we can raise from our own resources amounts equal to what we are asking them to give us. This is quite normal and perfectly reasonable but it does require us to move forward now on fund raising.

The FUN DAY attracted an estimated 300 people, with music, refreshments and children's activities all day. The architect was present to talk to visitors about his plans, which are in a very early format so far. The exterior of the projected extension will be attractive and of a very high quality, not the schematic view, likened to a shed, which you may have seen on the day. More details will emerge in time. We would like to thank all involved in organising this day and all who visited and supported us.

At the village fete, many people visited our display and it is good to see that we are becoming recognised in the village and our plans appear to be very well supported. Foremost amongst our visitors was David Lidington, MP, who expressed his support and provided a photo opportunity.

Funds raised so far, as I write in late July, total over £25,000 and adding the pledges promised over the next five years this becomes over £47,000. Please add your name to this growing list of donors and enable us to move forward.

Information:

Follow our progress on the SWIFT website at www.swift-wt.co.uk.

You can donate on-line at www.make-a-donation.org

For standing order forms please contact Joan Bridges on 01296 612303 or me, Roger Fellows on 01296 424982

Please use gift aid if you are a UK taxpayer. This will increase your donation to us by 25%

If you wish to receive information on our progress please give your e-mail address to Joan or me, Roger Fellows.

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Weston Turville

Dates for your 2014 diary:-

Saturday 20th or Sunday 21st September: Concert - Details to be announced.

Sunday 28th September, 6pm in Church: Choral Evensong

Saturday 4th October, Harvest Supper. 7.30pm in the Village Hall, tickets from Roger Fellows 01296 424982. All welcome.

Saturday 18th October: Concert - The Dixieland Swing Kings, trad jazz 1960's style.

Saturday 22nd November: Concert - Soloists from the world-famous Purcell School.

All concerts in Church at 7.30pm. Tickets still only £10 (under 18's free), including refreshments and a glass of wine (adults).

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St Mary's Church Bell Ringers

As probably the noisiest people in the village, I guess for most, we are all too easily overlooked. First let me say that you don't have to be a regular church-goer to ring bells but it's the only place where you'll find them! Secondly, "Change Ringing" as it is called is a uniquely English invention. Yes, there are bells associated with churches around the world yet it is only where the English have been that you will find bells, mounted with wheels and set upside down. This feature allows "methods" (patterns) to be played because the bell becomes controllable. (*So now you know that all your Christmas cards with bells on are wrong.*)

The Mars Bar advert where the monks are seen being pulled up into the belfry is a myth! Whilst the art or craft of ringing is, shall I say, exciting from time to time, the rope will be pulled out of your hands before your feet leave the ground. As a novice, you'll be taught the basics which can take weeks to months depending on aptitude but we have some very experienced ringers to teach you and there is always something to learn.

A couple of years ago, a professional conductor, Charles Hazlewood, tried to compose music with church bells and found he couldn't; so the second myth to dispel is that church bells can play a tune. They can't – they are rung to a mathematical pattern. Do a "You Tube" search for "The Bells of Cambridge - Sound of Bells". I hear you say "I can't do maths" but believe it or not, the people who find ringing the most difficult are maths teachers, as it doesn't fit their mindset. So it's a skill, an art form and definitely a team sport. You won't become tremendously fit but it does make your brain work and if you're not careful, it will take over your life.

We meet on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. for practice and you're most welcome to come and watch and have a go. I guarantee that whatever problems you have in your life there will only be one thought on your mind – WHERE'S THE ROPE!!!! You get over it eventually. Later, you'll be planning your holidays and be thinking "Where's the nearest tower?"

Come and have a go. John King

Beekeeping

Weston Turville has proved to be a good place to keep bees, situated as it is in the middle of varied farmland with well-maintained gardens providing excellent forage for them and other pollinators throughout the season. Many people will have had an early experience of visiting an apiary when Roy Brunswick opened his garden to the public on Main Street during the 1970's and 80's.

Since then there has been resurgence in interest in bees generated by a greater awareness of the importance of pollination and a better understanding of the problems created for bees by parasites such as the varroa mite and the concerns over the use and abuse of certain pesticides. This, coupled with the satisfaction that can be obtained from managing bee colonies successfully throughout the year and the taking and sharing the honey harvest in the autumn, has led to more people investigating how best to keep bees.

Beekeeping is an all year round activity – things are quiet during the late autumn and winter periods but the beekeeper must ensure that the colonies are properly prepared with stores to ensure that the 15,000 worker bees together with their queen in each hive will overwinter well and be ready in the early spring to boost the colony size to 50,000 bees so that the colony can reproduce by splitting and swarming before it shrinks back to 15,000 bees to overwinter once more.



To manage this process properly the beekeeper must have an understanding of the life cycle of the hive together with the practical knowledge and experience to know when to intervene to check that all is well, to identify if things are wrong and to know what to do. All necessary to ensure strong colonies and good honey harvests.

TV programmes such as the recent “Hive Alive” with Martha Kearney and Chris Packham go some way to raising this awareness. In our area the Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association is the organisation which best represents the interests of beekeepers and bees.

The MBBKA runs courses locally every year to ensure that aspirant beekeepers are equipped with the knowledge and training to keep bees safely. This consists of a series of briefings and discussions held weekly from mid-February to April in Southcourt on the principles and practices of beekeeping, followed by participation at a number of hands-on sessions, held in small groups, around the hives in the association's training apiary located close to the Wendover Road. Beekeeping suits and other equipment are supplied and participants can be confident that having worked through these sessions they will be in a good position to start keeping bees.

Details of the activities of the Mid Bucks Beekeepers Association are on the association web site and details of the 2015 course will be available shortly - (www.mbbka.org.uk).





Climbing mountains

The PACE Centre's inspirational Children's Challenge event, held at the birthplace of the Paralympic movement - Stoke Mandeville Stadium, is set for Thursday 13 November. We have 300 seats to fill in the auditorium and you join us there to cheer them on, when you email simon.ekless@thepacecentre.org or call PACE on 01296 616973. Please do come and share the glory.

All PACE children will aim to complete their Paralympic themed challenges with two Paralympic athletes in attendance. Pamela Relph MBE is a locally born gold medal winning rower who triumphed at London 2012. Pam will be joined by Sam Ruddock, a T100 Sprinter and medal hopeful for Rio 2016, who has cerebral palsy.

Children as young as two are already in training, having set their own personal 'Mount Everest' moment. For them, each and every day is a fresh challenge they relish with PACE's expert facilitation at their side. As always, PACE believes in what a child can do, not what they can't. There is a will and a way in every PACE child whatever their disability. It has always been a privilege to help them on their life-long journey towards greater independence, mobility and communication.

Along with the Children's Challenge and our brand new schools fundraising pack called the '1948 Challenge,' we are aiming to raise £80,000. This will enable more young lives to be transformed, and includes our recently opened Weston Centre early years facility at 156 Wendover Road. That's a huge challenge for all of us, but luckily everyone can lend a hand. You can sponsor a PACE child in their challenge and/or pass on a '1948 Challenge' pack to your local school so we can get as many people as possible involved in our amazing Children's Challenge activities.

Read more at www.thepacecentre.org



The Weston Turville Parish Plan

At a Parish Council meeting early in 2010, the then chairman, Michael Foote requested names of volunteers prepared to form a Steering Group to take forward the idea of a Parish Plan for Weston Turville. Most residents will be aware an Open Day was held in the Village Hall on Saturday 25th September 2010.

The main object of the Open Day was in order for you, the members of the Parish community, to give your views on what you felt was required for the future of the Parish and the Community. The comments you made were then collated and the result was the questionnaire which was delivered to every household within the Parish.

After a period of six to eight weeks the questionnaires were collected and your responses were analysed. The results of the analysis are on the Parish Council web site. (www.westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk). Click on the CLP Home page you will be taken to a page at the bottom of which the words 'here' are displayed. The first one takes you to the Parish Plan, the second to your responses to the questions contained in the questionnaire.

On completion of the printing of the Plan a copy was delivered to every household and business within Weston Turville Parish. At the rear of the Plan is a Summary of Actions some have been acted on. A group was formed resulting in the publication of the '*Weston Turville Times*', another group deals with litter and similar environmental issues. The Village Summer Fete has become an annual event. The younger members of the community have not been left out; consideration is being given to the erection of a skate park and or youth shelter.

These are all issues raised by you the residents of Weston Turville. The Community Led Plan Steering Group when first formed had twelve members, currently has only seven, most of who are of the older generation. Younger members are badly needed to continue forward with the Parish plan; age is no bar to becoming a member. Please contact: jimp@tersonhome.com or telephone 612352 (press 5 when you hear the ring tone).

The members of the Community Led Plan Steering Group.

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— Christopher —
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UPDATE FROM WESTON TURVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Major Development off New Road in Weston Turville – application 13/01488/AOP

Despite opposition from our District Councillors, the Parish Council and a number of residents, on 30th July 2014 Aylesbury Vale District Council Planning Committee decided to back the planning officers' opinion that this development in outline goes ahead, subject to clarification of how the circa £2 million the developers will be giving Bucks.C.C. for education provision will be spent.

The proposed development will comprise 135 homes on the land lying to the west of the northern end of New Road, between this country lane and Bedgrove. Many of you will recall how these fields were under water for much of last winter.

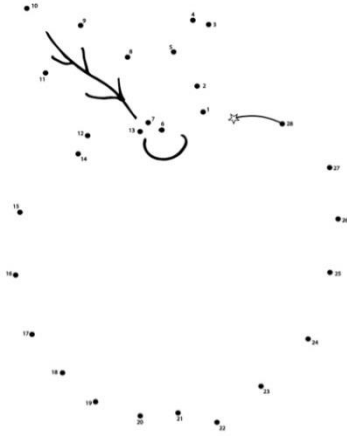
At the time of writing this note, another application is in the pipeline for 70 homes (application 14/02072/AOP) on the opposite side of New Road. The land in question is adjacent to the Calibre premises. The proposed development will destroy the historic ridge and furrow on the site, a particularly fine example of this fast disappearing feature of our agricultural heritage.

A traffic light system will be installed at the junction of New Road with the A41 to enable a safer right turn out of New Road, but little provision is proposed to New Road itself to cater for traffic on and off of the two new estates. Any Comments by members of the public either objecting or supporting this development, must be lodged by 10th September with Development Management, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury. HP19 8FF.

Until the District Local Plan is in place, (the original effectively having been rejected by the Planning Inspectorate last December), the District Council is somewhat hamstrung in dealing with the multiplicity of opportunistic applications from landowners in the area, where developments are likely to proceed without regard to one another (e.g. Hampden Fields), resulting in a lack of cohesion and genuine regard for the needs of the local community and its infrastructure.

Michael Foote

Join the dots to find a garden fruit



KIDDIES CORNER

Harvest Festival Word Search

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| K | H | A | R | V | E | S | T |
| H | A | R | P | L | R | V | C |
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Coffee Break Time: Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3x3 box, contains the numbers 1 through to 9 with no repetition.

Easy

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | 1 |
| | 8 | 3 | 9 | 6 | | | 4 | 2 |
| 9 | 5 | 4 | | | 8 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| 8 | | | | | 2 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| | | 9 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 2 | | |
| 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 | | | | | 7 |
| 5 | 3 | 6 | 8 | | | 9 | 2 | 4 |
| 7 | 9 | | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | |
| 4 | | | 6 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 3 | |

Harder

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| | 8 | | | | | 7 | | |
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| | 1 | | | 4 | | | 3 | |
| 6 | | | 9 | | 5 | 8 | | |
| | 2 | | | | 4 | | 5 | |
| | | | 8 | | | 9 | | 3 |
| | | 9 | | | | | 4 | |

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