# Villages' News



### **Useful Contacts**

Non-emergency numbers:

**NHS 111** 

Police 101

Environment Agency hotline (eg for flooding, pollution): 0800 80 70 60

Problems with roads (eg potholes), footpaths etc:

www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem

Doctors 'surgeries:

Chapel Row Surgery: 0118 971 3252 Holmwood Surgery: 0118 981 4166

Mobile library: 01635 519827

**District Councillors:** 

Woolhampton/Midgham: Chris Read: 07768 793 155

Aldermaston/Beenham/Brimpton: Dominic Boeck: 07956 546 506

Parish Councils: Clerks' details:

Aldermaston: Des Farndell: parishclerk@aldermaston.co.uk

Beenham: Lauren West: 07919 916 125

Brimpton: Christine McGarvie: 0118 970 1576

Midgham: Alice Owens: 07896 321 058 Woolhampton: Alice Owens: 07896 321 058

Village Halls:

Aldermaston: aldermastonparishhall@gmail.com

Beenham: 07793 116 937 Brimpton: 0118 971 3731 Midgham: 07941 093 853

Woolhampton: bookings.woolhamptonvillagehall@hotmail.com

Churches:

Aldermaston & Woolhampton Benefice: www.awb.org.uk
For local contacts please see church notice boards

Brimpton Baptist Church: 0118 971 2059

Douai Abbey: 0118 971 5300

Magazine advertising:

Brenda Scott: 0118 971 3113 mrsbscott@btinternet.com

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Thatcham RG19 4QB . Tel: 01635 876498

### Committee's Comments

Well here we are again. The festive season is nearly upon us. After months of being confronted by Christmas cards in the shops it is time to buy a few, and it will be a few bearing in mind the cost of postage which will set you back a fair bit. I do, however, wonder if we should be mindful of global warming and the impact that producing and posting cards has on the environment. My saving grace is that I purchased all my Christmas presents in the January sales. However, I will still have to sort out the Christmas Day menu and prepare a shopping list for the weekly shop. No, definitely not turkey. Thankfully Christmas only comes once a year.

With the nights now firmly drawing in, it is that time of year when you can close the curtains, turn the lights on, put your feet up and nestle down with a good book. There is no need to feel guilty about not getting out in the garden or not cutting the grass as it is now dormant for the winter and can wait until next spring. Unfortunately, the inside of the house still needs cleaning, well maybe that is a job for tomorrow!!

The daunting thing about this time of the year is that it is either pouring with rain or blowing a crisp wind when you go out for a walk, but walk is a must, if you can, to keep fit and active. If anyone knows of a good walk please let us know the route so we can include the details in a future magazine, It would be even better if it goes past a local hostelry, with a garden which would be ideal for next summer.

That said it is time to thank everyone for their input into the Villages' News over the past year, from advertisers, contributors, the printers, to those who deliver the magazine to your door AND to wish everyone the season's greetings and a happy new year.

PS from Committee Chair – sincere thanks to my committee for the support and hard work over the last 10 months.

The Christmas Question [you are not allowed to Google the answer!!]

Can you name all of Santa's reindeer? [answer on page 30]

#### ARTICLES FOR THE MAGAZINE

Please send articles for the magazine to:

For the villages of Aldermaston and Wasing cathy.jones@ukmessage.com

For the village of Brimpton brimptoncommon@aol.co.uk

For the villages of Midgham and Woolhampton henderson.sarah.c@outlook.com

For the village of Beenham patowen 0@hotmail.com

Please send articles relevant to the all the villages to:

brimptoncommon@aol.co.uk and henderson.sarah.c@outlook.com

Please note the deadline for receipt of articles is noon on the 17th of each month.

Advertising enquiries can be sent to mrsbscott@btinternet.com.

Articles will be included and/or edited at the Editor's discretion.



### WEST BERKS FOODBANK

# WHEN PEOPLE ARE GOING WITHOUT.... IT IS TIME TO GUARANTEE THEIR ESSENTIALS

More people than ever are being driven to food banks and the sharp increase in people needing help is outstripping food donations. Your donations are vital to ensure food banks in our network can continue to help everyone referred to them.

# CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER SO ANY CHRISTMAS RELATED ITEMS WOULD BE APPRECIATED PLEASE.

Yule log, Christmas candle, mince pies, stuffing, luxury biscuits, cranberry sauce, Pringles, Christmas chocolates, Christmas pudding, soft drinks, gravy granules.

#### URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

Ambient sponge puddings, juice cartons, children's toothbrushes/toothpaste, jelly or custard POTS for rough sleepers, mug shots, non-bio washing powder.

### LOW ON STOCK

Instant mash, biscuits, tinned meat – curry, chilli, spag bol, tinned fruit, sugar (500g) bleach, toilet cleaner, confectionery, sweets, chocolate, treats.

### WELL STOCKED

Please, no more pasta, anti-bacterial spray.

Drop off locations:

Aldermaston and Wasing: The Rectory, Wasing Lane and 19 Swan Drive, The Wharf.

Beenham: Under community noticeboard.

Brimpton: Inside the porch at St Peter's Church and Georgina Hairdressers.

Midgham: St Matthew's Church. Open daily between 09:00-15:00.

Woolhampton: Inside the porch at St Peter's Church.

If you are in need the foodbank is running 7 day food parcels delivered to you Call 01635 760560

### **Woolhampton News**

### 'Brookside', Station Road

A goodly number of visitors, when walking from the canal along Station Road, gaze upwards with interest at the towered Brookside House. This being one of the three 'Brook' houses in the village previously owned, among other properties, by the Frankum family whose association with the village dates from the 18<sup>th</sup> century and still present (excluding the now demolished 'Brook Farm'). 'Brookside', a wedding present to son George from miller James (then residing at 'Brooklawn') was built in 1876 by Midgham builder William Goswell at a cost of £429 6s 11d. The unusually designed building may have been inspired by George's extensive foreign travel or to have a clear view of the mill, farm and orchard on the opposite side of the road. He also established the custom of flying a variety of flags from the tower (itemised in Goswell's bill "making and fixing flagpole 22ft long"). It was from here that nephew Harry Frank fired a cannon at dawn on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1911 and at intervals throughout the day to mark the 1911 coronation of King George V.

### **Sun Garage**

It is very sad news to hear of the closure of the 'Sun Garage'. It was in 1945, nearly 80 years ago, that Terrance Reynolds acquired the tenancy of the garage. The business in later years was continued by son Donald and in more recent years by his son Robert and daughter Jean. During these years there have been changes such as the coming of self-service petrol pumps and MOTs. However, over the years many, myself included, continued to receive the same helpful and friendly consideration from all the staff. All the best to you all for the future. Thanks.

### John Trigg

### **Annual Show 2024**

Yes, it's early but here's a quick 'heads up' regarding the date of next year's Annual Village Show which will be held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2024. Categories, classes and format have yet to be decided but almost certainly there will be

- 1) the potato-growing competition, and
- 2) the Woolhampton Village Sunflower competition.

The ever-popular potato-growing competition is fun and open to all, you do not have to have a garden, just a large(-ish) container, bag or pot.

The Sunflower Competition seems to have become a feature and will be held again, open to everyone.

### REMEMBRANCE SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S WOOLHAMPTON

It was a full weekend of Remembrance Services at St. Peter's Woolhampton.

The church was looking beautiful, with a stunning arrangement made by Stella Nesbit. The new gates at the bottom of the church path and at the porch, made by Pike Brothers of Midgham, are a fine addition to the church. Hurstbourne Forge gave St. Peter's a metal soldier to stand outside the porch and a lovely candle holder depicting a soldier and a poppy for a window sill especially for this weekend. These will be treasured for years to come.

On Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> November Woolhampton Primary School held their commemoration service, taken by Revd Jane Manley and accompanied by Alison Dean, an ordinand from Cuddesdon undertaking her third year placement in the benefice. The service was well attended by the children and parents. The year six children wrote some beautiful war poems and then read out the names of the fallen. Mrs Sharon Lester played the Last Post and Reveille.

On Saturday morning, Elstree School held their service. The Reverend Stephen Gray, Conductor of Eton College, recounted a heart-warming story about an encounter between his grandfather and a German fighter pilot, who crash landed in the fields at his farm, back in 1940. The school remembered the 139 Old Boys of Elstree who gave their lives in the two Great Wars, and all those who have lived and died in the service of mankind.

On Sunday morning the village came together for its Remembrance Service. Lieut. General James Bashall, who has been President of the Royal British Legion for the last four years, read the names of the 19 men from the parish who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars and wreaths were laid by representatives of the Parish Council, The Royal British Legion and the Scout movement. The cubs and scouts carried the standards and the last post was played. James Bashall gave a moving account of his first-hand experience of losing fellow soldiers in war and encouraged the congregation to make the best of each day, regardless of age. Three members of the congregation wore their service medals with pride.

Given the current global situation, the Remembrance Services felt particularly poignant this year. The congregations were in good voice and the trumpeters excelled themselves.

"Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them."





### Sid Inglis—best Head of Prep School

Sid Inglis, Head of Elstreee School in Woolhampton has been named best head of a Prep School at a recent awards ceremony in London.



### Village Market

It's here, the BIG ONE! The Christmas Market will be on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 10a.m. to 12noon in the Village Hall (that 'elderly' gentleman in the red suit has been contacted and said he'll be there!).

Our regular stallholders will be able to offer a great variety of perhaps unusual Christmas presents, particularly in jewellery, soft furnishings lines or perhaps wood-turned items. There will also be 2 FREE raffle draws so make sure that you collect your raffle ticket as you enter the Hall to join in the fun.

All visitors are welcome to this monthly community event – no entrance fee, refreshments (including hot bacon rolls) are available. Look forward to seeing you there.

### **Stamps and Milk Carton Tops**

Please note that, with Christmas post nearing, used stamps will be welcomed by the ladies supporting the Air Ambulance, as will milk carton tops. These dedicated ladies are regular attendees at the monthly Village Market.

### ST PETER'S WOOLHAMPTON

A big thank you to Lynda Large who has organised the rota to clean St. Peter's Woolhampton so efficiently. The time has come for her to pass on the baton.

As ever, many hands make light work, so if you have a couple of hours to spare from time to time it would make the job of keeping the church clean easier for everyone.

If you can help, please contact Catherine Lovell 07778 179852 or catherine@monksmead.co.uk

### **Have you noticed? New Church Gates**

No doubt many of you will have noticed the new church gates at St Peter's, Woolhampton, both at the church entrance and the entrance to the churchyard. The new gates replicate the previous ones (believed to be from early-1900s), were produced by local joiners Pike Bros of Midgham and paid for with money mainly raised from the sale of pictures at a recent art exhibition hosted by David Nicholls, local artist and former resident of this parish. Very smart they are too and hopefully will last as long as their predecessors.





#### Ash Tree Die-Back

A while ago now, many of the ash trees near the play area and in the copse at the Village Hall were identified as having ash-tree die-back. Unfortunately, it is rare for ash trees to recover from this disease so the Parish Council decided the only course of action was to fell them. For the past few months the relevant areas have been cordoned off and advisory warning notices posted. However, felling and tidying up is currently taking place and hopefully the areas will be back in full commission in the near future, weather and conditions permitting. The Parish Council thanks the public for their understanding and apologises for any inconvenience suffered for this period of limited access.

### **Empty Ink Cartridges**

Please note that the Woolhampton Village School can now accept empty ink cartridges to recycle. There is also recycling bins in the School playground for <u>clean</u> fabric, clothing, paired shoes, handbags, etc., but unfortunately NOT bedding (e.g. pillows, duvets, etc.) remember all this adds to School funds.

If you are unable to get to the School, then please bag up your donation and bring it along to the monthly Village market held in the Village Hall.

### **Concession Bus Passes**

Just a reminder  $\underline{t}$ o free bus pass holders whose passes are due to expire, if the pass has not been used in the previous 18months, it may not be automatically renewed and you may have to apply for a new pass.

### **Defibrillators**

Of course it is hoped that you never need one but it is important to know that there are three defibrillators sited within the village, specifically i) at the **Village Hall**, ii) on the wall outside the former Post Office alongside the **Angel Inn** and iii) on the house wall of **6 Angel Mead** (courtesy of the houseowner).

### Woolhampton & Midgham WI

What a wet spell of weather we are having! My lovely dog and I are fed up of getting soaked! At least we haven't been troubled by flooding as so many are experiencing just now. So that's a relief.

Our Yoga group is going well and I know we are all feeling the positive benefits of yoga practice. The village market was very busy this month. Our cake stall did very well – our bakers excelled themselves to produce such an array of cakes big and small. Thanks to all who baked – or bought! We were also taking orders for next month's Christmas market when our stall will be adorned with an abundance of mince pies, sausage rolls and similar delights.

The lunch club is held on the first Wednesday of the month for any elderly resident of Woolhampton and Midgham who lives alone. This is a friendly group who benefit from having a three course meal in the company of friends and neighbours at a VERY reasonable cost. If you don't already enjoy our group please just turn up at 12.30pm . The next one is our Christmas Lunch – always a splendid festive occasion! The date – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.



We had a very lively and entertaining meeting this month. Our speaker was Stewart Linford who gave a very informative and amusing talk on The Winsor Chair. At the age of 8 he was interested in woodwork and went to High Wycombe College in 1972 for three years learning the craft of chair making. In 1976 he started making chairs in a pig sty in the countryside near High Wycombe starting with no money. To earn more money he also made limited edition chairs and over the years has won awards for his furniture making.

He brought a number of Windsor Chairs into our hall for his interactive talk. He explained that the Windsor Chair is a large family of design with

one thing in common, a wooden seat with all parts hammered into the seat. The standard seat is made of Elm as it is very strong and does not split when shaping. Ash is on the back, ideal for steam bending, while the legs (stretchers) are beech. The height of trade for these chairs was the Edwardian era.

He also showed us a lovely child's chair, a very interesting stool and a limited edition chair commemorating the battle of Agincourt which was made of Cherrywood and had wooden arrows as a back rest. The limited edition Churchill stool was very impressive with the seat made from bog oak. It had a hidden slot in the side of the seat for cigars and a double H frame under the chair which was used as a bat rest!

Our committee are now busily preparing for Christmas. Our Christmas lunch out is to be at Yew Tree Garden Centre this year. A visit to a local Pantomime and then our Christmas party are also planned. Such a happy time to be together with our friends. If you feel you might like to join us,

please come down on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm to Woolhampton Village Hall.

Beryl: 07496 153527

### **Aldermaston News**

### **Aldermaston CE Primary School**

The past month has been packed with lots of activities in school. Two Open Mornings were held when we welcomed prospective families for the September 2024 intake, showing them around the whole school and answering those important questions. Our children are the best advert for our school and we are proud of them. Individual visits can be arranged through the school office. Parents' evenings took place and our teachers enjoyed showing parents how well the children have settled into their learning this year. Teachers are always happy to talk with parents about how their child is getting on and are available daily for a quick chat at the end of the day. Our work on road safety has continued, looking at everything from being visible, understanding stopping distances and the challenges of hearing electric cars have been discussed and considered and it was great to see practical sessions in our school car park helping the children to understand safely crossing roads.

Our value for this term is 'Hope' and we will be sharing lots of bible stories on this theme and thinking about why hope is important when we look at what is happening in the world around us. In class, the children are following the example of our Thinker Firefly learning hero who is full of ideas and uses a creative and imaginative approach to solve problems. The Firefly hero also promotes the British value of respecting different cultures and religions. Children will be thinking about how we celebrate diversity and welcome the chance to learn about ideas and beliefs that are different from our own.

All classes have been looking at acts of remembrance as we approached Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday. Each child has helped to create a poppy wreath for their class. Our Year 6 class made the annual visit to the Aldermaston War Memorial where we held a short open air service to remember those who lost their lives while fighting from our local area. We laid the five class wreaths at the lychgate.

Finally, thanks to everyone who joined us for our PTA Fireworks and to the team which worked so hard to put on this community event.

### Cathy Jones, Foundation Governor



# Aldermaston Coffee Club

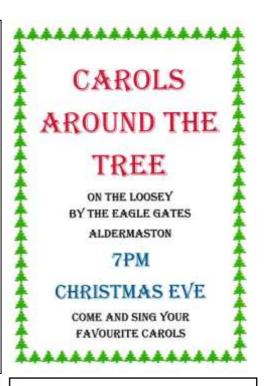
In the conservatory area of Hilliers' café.

Drop by for a chat, a chance to meet old friends and to make new ones.



Everyone is welcome - just come along. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Any time from 10.00am - 11.30am

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# HELLO ALDERMASTON

Come and meet

the local community.

Saturday 27th January 2024

4pm - 6pm

in Aldermaston Parish Hall

Light refreshments

Free event

All the family are welcome - please leave dogs at home Further info: aldermastonparishhall@gmail.com

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### THE ALDERMASTON CHARITY

A local Charity that manages four Alms Houses and provides relief in need for residents of the Parish of Aldermaston.

Would you be interested in part time employment as a Clerk to the Charity responsible for supporting the Trustees and some property management.

Working hours would need to be flexible for approx. 10 hours per month at £15 per hour. A high level of confidentiality would be required. The applicant would need their own computer and appropriate skills. Applicant would also need access to their own transport. Closing date for applications: 31st January 2024

For further information please contact:
Angela Boott: <a href="mailto:ange@kennetonline.co.uk">ange@kennetonline.co.uk</a> or
Cynthia Newman: <a href="mailto:cmnew-man2021@outlook.com">cmnew-man2021@outlook.com</a>

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### Aldermaston Parish Council – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

In open forum, we discussed the skateboard project (of which, more later) and the impact on Frouds Lane of the two months closure of the lifting bridge. With regard the latter, Sophie Crawford advised that WBC had heeded our comments, and mitigation measures were planned. She admitted, though, that the parish council had not been consulted, and that some HGV's would use the Lane, rather than the long diversion route via Burghfield. The lane is very rural and narrow, such that vehicles could not pass each other, and we remain concerned with the ditches and vulnerable bridge. Our biggest concern, however, is for our parishioners who live in the lane, who will have their usual peace and serenity rudely disturbed.

On the planning front, we looked at two cases, and agreed to object to both of them! We do not like the proposed variation of condition (ie external lighting) at Hilliers Garden Centre. Whilst we are sympathetic to their goals, we believe that they do not follow the existing conditions, which were clearly spelt out in the original planning approval. We would prefer to see a more modern lighting arrangement, with light being directed downwards. The other planning application to which we objected was an out-of-area application for nine apartments in Tadley (behind Sainsburys). Our objection is based on DEPZ (proximity to AWE) considerations, and, if approved, we believe it could set a dangerous precedent for our parish. We expect AWE and WBC (Emergency Planning) to also object. Since our last meeting, we have received three decisions from WBC, they have granted change of conditions at Stacey's Yard, Silchester Road and the burnt-out properties at 48, Paices Hill. They have refused, however, an extension to a property at the Wharf due to flooding considerations.

Turning now to the skateboard ramp, we were pleased to note the level of support for this project. With the departure of the main player to the west country, we were also pleased to note that two people have stepped forward to replace him. We stressed the need to resolve the external funding. The next step will be for APC, as the land-owner, to seek planning approval.

We have responded to the WBC query re a new surface to the overgrown footpath along Wasing Lane

Our efforts to find a replacement parish councillor have so far proved unsuccessful. We now plan to fill the vacancy by co-option

Under AOB we discussed clearing the ditch along Fisherman's Lane, and also the flooding at the far end of the lane, which we are told is due to the change in water levels in the river, now that the sluice gate has been adjusted

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th December 2023 at 7.30pm in the parish hall. As usual, your presence is welcomed!

For full information on parish council matters, please visit our website at www.aldermaston.co.uk

Dave Shirt tel. 0118 971 2549

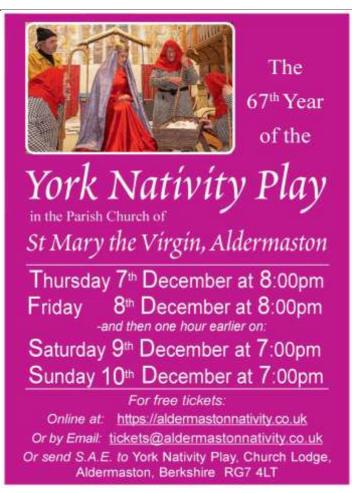
### Aldermaston Wharf Lifting Bridge is being refurbished.

West Berkshire Council will be undertaking major refurbishment works on Aldermaston Wharf Lifting Bridge

Work on the refurbishment will be starting 8 January 2024 until 15 March 2024, to ensure the bridge continues to function reliably and effectively for many years to come. The refurbishment works require the removal of the entire moving bascule part of the bridge to a steel fabrication yard for structural repairs and repainting.

The removal of the bascule section of the bridge will cause the closure of the A340 from 8 January 2024 until it is reinstalled and made operational again on the 15 March 2024.

The canal will also be closed from 8 January 2024 until 14 January 2024 to allow the removal of the bascule and then again from 26 February 2024 until 15 March 2024 to allow the bascule to be reinstalled.



### Chattercakes: Our latest title

In the 50's a Young Wives Group was started in Aldermaston Village with the meetings being held in the Vicarage. As time moved on we became Aldermaston and Wasing Ladies Group. We met in each others homes and then the Billiard Room of the Parish Hall became our regular meeting place when our numbers increased. Since Covid we have changed our format. We still meet on a regular basis but do not have a speaker programme any more.

This year we have enjoyed an Easter tea in The Billiard Room and have ventured out to the Aldermaston Tea Rooms on two occasions. We were kindly invited to Manor Farm to celebrate the birthday of the late Jean Bowden who was one of the founder members. However, we are once again meeting in The Billiard Room at the Parish Hall and enjoy an informal afternoon of tea, cake and a lot of chatter. We never run out of subjects to talk about!

If you would like to join us for our next meeting, a Christmas Tea in the Billiard Room on 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm, please contact me. We would love to see new members (no fees payable) and you will be made very welcome.

### **Beenham News**

### Beenham Primary School Christmas Fair Friday 8th December, 5-7pm

We are delighted to be holding our Christmas fair inside this year, with a selection of stalls providing unique gifts and treats, plus raffles with prizes to be won, and festive refreshments available.

The children won't want to miss catching up with our extra special guest to make sure he knows exactly what they are wishing for on the big day!

Please join us to enjoy the community spirit and get in the festive mood.

If you are interested in having a stall at the event, please contact chairbeenham@hotmail.com for further details.

### BEENHAM'S CORONATION CLOCK

Have you seen the new clock above the entrance to the Victory Hall? There is no excuse to be late for school now!

The clock was installed by the Victory Hall and the Parish Council to mark the Coronation of King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023. It was made possible by generous sponsorship from Cooper Ward Ltd (Edgar Valentine) and Drury and Alldis Ltd (Jonathan Drury).

Many thanks go to all those involved in this successful commemorative project.



#### BEENHAM VILLAGE EVENTS

The beautiful Beenham 2023 calendar will be on sale at the Christmas Market on Saturday December 2nd.

It's £4 and if you would like to order one, please call Janette (07917818283) or Pat (07947478840) to arrange collection.

#### **CHRISTMAS 2022**

#### The Village Advent Window Calendar

If you would like to participate in the Village Christmas Advent windows, we have just a few dates left! Contact: Pat Owen patowent@hotmail.com 07947478840

#### CHRISTMAS IN BEENHAM - DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY DECEMBER 3rd

4pm Christingle in St Mary's - please get there early to be certain of a seat.

5pm Beenham tree lighting outside the school.

Followed by the traditional village mulled wine and mince pies in the Community Hall, with The DO COME AND PLAY ORCHESTRA (Da Capo) playing Christmas songs and carols

The Six Bells is open for bar food after the event so do extend your evening by popping along there.



IF ANYONE IS WILLING TO DONATE/MAKE MINCE PIES FOR THE TREE LIGHTING EVENT PLEASE LET ME KNOW OR LEAVE THEM IN THE BOX IN NOLA'S PORCH AT FERNWOOD OPPOSITE THE SCHOOL. MANY THANKS

#### FRIDAY DECEMBER 16th

Father Christmas will be visiting Beenham again this year!

He will be stopping at: 5.00pm: The Six Bells 5.30pm: The Strouds

5.45pm: Stoneyfield - 2 stops (this may

alter due to road works!) 6.00pm: The Warings 6.15pm: Back Lane



Father Christmas would love to receive any Christmas letters to make sure he has everything in order for the big day so come out and see him @

TO VOLUNTEER to help at any of these events please contact: patowen@@hotmail.com 07947478840

### WI NEWS

After an evening of gentle reminiscing from Susan Howe in November, we are looking forward to Jaye Windmill and her "Stories for Christmas" on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Christmas cake has been promised afterwards! The Community Room at 7.30 pm.

Our next speakers' evening will be on February 14<sup>th</sup> when the talk is called "Fancy a cuppa". Guests pay £4 each and everyone is very welcome.

# Notes from the Beenham Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th November

#### **Public Forum**

- -Six Bells Pub to be registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) with some 50 supporters The condition of Clay Lane, from Hall Place Farm onwards, was raised due to flooding issues. The lane has become impassable to vehicles since the recent high rainfall levels. The PC will approach WBC, but as it appears that blocked ditches may be part of the cause, the landowner may have to take remedial action.
- -The footpath adjoining Awberry Farm now has new direction signs erected to help stop walkers from encroaching on the private land, as noted last month.
- -The owner of the Six Bells advised that there is progress on the Digital Infrastructure initiative which is intended to help improve mobile phone coverage. This should provide improved reception for a 250 metre radius around the pub for Vodafone customers, at this stage.

#### **Councillor Reports**

-Reprints of updated pamphlets which detail footpaths around Beenham are being sought. A quotation has been received. These pamphlets will be available from village facilities such as Victory Hall and The Six Bells.

### Planning Applications

- -23/02283/HOUSE and 23/02284/LBC The Cart House Webbs Lane. Proposed single storey front extension. No objections
- -23/02442/HOUSE Holly Cottage Clay Lane. Alterations to existing brick built conservatory and single storey side extension. No objections.
- Consideration was given to the PC response to latest application for alcohol licencing at Awberry Farm. The new application excludes music and dancing as no there is no requirement for a licence application for this. The Parish Council will resubmit its previous submission on concerns regarding prevention of public nuisance and protection of children from harm.

#### Aldermaston Wharf

It was noted that feedback to Councillors was welcome concerning the parking issues in Mallards Way and Heron Way.

#### **Parish Council Assets and Projects**

- Maintenance of goal mouths on the Requisitions for filling, reseeding and turfing were accepted.
- -Trimming of Lime tree shoots on the Rec. Quotations have been accepted.
- -Installation of GigaClear in the Community Room is expected in December.

### Initiative to co-ordinate Community social activities

-An initial brainstorming meeting is being scheduled for Wednesday 22nd November in the Community Room. Participants include the Victory Hall, Beenham Club, The Six Bells, PTFA, WI, BVE, The Church and Parish Councillors.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in the Community Room on Monday 4th December, starting at 7.00pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

### Greyfield Wood -Christmas 2023

By the time you read this, our group of volunteers will have planted nearly 200 saplings to replace the Norway spruce trees that were felled last year. This is part of the sustainability efforts that ensure we have a great woodland for Beenham's inhabitants now and in the future. I would encourage you to visit the wood and see the planting work that has been done and imagine it in ten years' time.

The woodland rejuvinated!





MANAGED BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY



The village Christmas tree will soon be felled and erected by the school and Christmas will be upon us and another year in Greyfield wood ended.

But in the wood the cycle continues, Spring will bring new growth, storms will fell diseasedtrees, pathways will need clearing as will newly planted areas and felled trees logged. The woodland never stops growing.

All of us involved in Greyfield Wood look forward to another busy year and wish you a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year.

John Hammond

### DIARY OF EVENTS FOR BEENHAM

| Date                  | Event  | where                      | contact             |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Fri 1st               | First Advent Window revealed   | Six Bells                  |                     |
| Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | Church Working Party.<br>All help is most welcome                      | St Mary's                  | Janette:07917818283 |
| Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>   | Christmas Market 2 – 4.30pm  | Victory Hall               |                     |
| Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | 4pm Christingle  | St Mary's Church           | Janette:07917818283 |
|                       | 5pm Tree Lighting  | Outside school             | Pat 07947 478 840   |
|                       | Mulled wine, mince pies and<br>carol singing                           | Community Hall             |                     |
| Mon 4th               | Parish Council Meeting 7pm   | Community Rm               | Parish Clerk:       |
|                       |  |                            | 07919916125         |
| Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>   | School Christmas Fair 5 - 7pm  | School                     | 9713397             |
| Sat 9th               | Charity Race Night   | Beenham Club               | 9713991             |
| Wed 13th              | WI - 7.30pm £4 non-members   | Community Rm               | Sally:07776251228   |
| Thur 14 <sup>th</sup> | Charity Quiz Night 8pm Teams<br>up to 6 - £3/person                    | Six Bells                  | 9713368 to book     |
| Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>  | Coffee Morning 10.30am   | Six Bells                  | Janette:07917818283 |
| Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Calleva Stick Dressers 9am –<br>2pm                                    | Victory Hall               | David:07864 180 648 |
| Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>  | Live Music and Acoustic Night<br>7.30pm                                | Club                       | 9713991             |
| Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>  | Father Christmas visits the<br>Village                                 | Stops as<br>indicated      | Pat: 07947 478 840  |
| Tue 19th              | CHRISTMAS Tearoom 2pm -  | Victory Hall               | Dru:07815 055 040   |
|                       | 3.30pm   | \$2009 GATGS \$4.0 (9800). | Pat:07947 478 840   |
| Thur 21st             | NO FILM NIGHT THIS MONTH –<br>IT WILL BE BACK IN 2024.                 | Victory Hall               | Claire: 9713574     |
| Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup>  | Charity Christmas Party Buffet<br>for the Village. Music by DJ<br>John | Six Bells                  | 9713368             |
| Tue 26 <sup>th</sup>  | John Larkcom Memorial Darts 2<br>– 11.30pm                             | Beenham Club               | 9713991             |

### Useful contact numbers:

Victory Hall Bookings: 01189714822 nolesandfrank@hotmail.com

Community Hall Bookings: Paula Reade: 07793116937 info@beenhampreschool.org

Church Warden: Janette Hammond: 07917818283

If you would like to add anything to the village diary, please contact patowen0@hotmail.com



At the time of writing, we are busily preparing for the last few weeks of the Autumn term in school. With that in mind, we would like to invite villagers to the dress rehearsal of our Christmas Production 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse' on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm. Please contact the school office on 0118 9713397 to book your seat.

In addition to our wide and varied curriculum, the children continue to access lots of new opportunities and learning experiences.

We raised awareness for Anti-Bullying Week by wearing odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.

We had a visit from West Berkshire libraries who talked to us about the different sorts of books we can find in the library and encouraged us all to read a variety of texts.

All classes have had the opportunity to experience Outdoor Learning in the local area. Despite the weather conditions, the children had a lovely time exploring nature and working on teambuilding skills with their peers.

Our older children helped to lead a service for Remembrance. Remembering in particular, the 29 soldiers who lost their lives in Beenham during World War I and World War II.

Our KS2 children are looking forward to working with Grundon as part of Road Safety Week next week. They will have the opportunity to explore one of Grundon's new electric vehicles and take part in workshops on recycling and waste management.

We were also very happy to hear that we helped the West Berks Foodbank with a donation of 159.4kg of food which has provided 335 meals, helping to feed 16 people with three meals a day for 7 days with our Harvest Festival collection back in September.

The PTFA are currently organising two events in school:

A wreath making workshop on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm for £30 per person which includes hot drinks, mulled wine, mince pies and of course everything you need to make your very own wreath – please contact treasurerbeenham@hotmail.com to book your place. The Christmas Fayre which takes place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 5-7pm.

All are very welcome to attend. We thank the PTFA for their hard work in organising these events.

We have enjoyed showing around many prospective parents during our open mornings. If you would like to have a tour of the school for entry in 2024, please call the office to arrange an appointment. We also have limited spaces available in other year groups.

Lastly, as there will not be another magazine until after Christmas, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all readers a Happy Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.

### BEENHAM VICTORY HALL NEWS

We've had lots of activity in the hall this autumn, including Sarah Parkman's teak, garden furniture sale, which proved to be popular and hopefully she will be back in 2024. Beenham Art Group held their annual Art Exhibition which was a great opportunity to display the work they produced during Sunny's art class on Tuesdays. Some of the artwork will be on sale at our 'Saturday 2nd December Xmas Market' and they will make the perfect gift. We've also had our regular sessions of Calleva Stick Dressing, Yoga, Scottish Dance, and more. Why not pop over to our new Facebook page to find out more about these sessions and what's on in December!

Finally, our villagers were invited to the Beenham Hall 'Cheese & Wine' AGM Event on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. The evening was a great success with a lovely turnout. Everyone enjoyed the free wine and nibbles whilst we chatted about the new plans for our community and hall. We want to say a huge 'Thank You' to the volunteers for making the event so special, and to everyone who attended, we hope you're as excited as we are for the New Year!



### **NATURE NOTES**

Well, it was after all too mild for a glorious display of autumn colour on the trees. However, I hope the walkers will have noticed the wonderful array of shapes, colours and sizes on the ground. Because trees are mostly over our heads we probably don't notice that there are different kinds of oaks, willows, elms, etc. until they present themselves in the carpet of leaves. By the time you read this they will probably have all disintegrated into mush, so remember to notice next year. There are many different kinds of fungi showing themselves in this mild weather, but they are easily overlooked because they are so good at camouflaging themselves.

The ivy flowers have now become berries, so I await the arrival of the fieldfares and redwings on their winter journeys. And although holly berries are plentiful this year a cold snap could see them all eaten, so pick your holly early.

### **Brimpton News**

# Brimpton Church of England Primary School

Diary Adventures at Brimpton School ...

### Mental Health Awareness Day - Dear diary

We had a lovely time today, and this is what we did today and so it went like this. We came in to a calm relaxing environment and did some beautiful colourings. After spending some time doing our colourings we went into assembly. In our assembly our wonderful head teacher told us all about what our mental health is and how to help others with their mental health. After Break we all got together and calmly played fun games such as board games like chess and Monopoly or card games such as Uno or top trumps. After lunch we came in and could either carry on with our colourings or read a book. Then we all got together in the hall and put all the soft cushions down and watched a movie (which was really funny)

### Harvest Festival - Dear diary

Today was awesome! We had a normal first half of the day but then after lunch we paired up and got to go to the church. Once we got there we went and sat in our seats admiring the lovely scenic glass paintings, there was amazing music such as we plough the fields and scatter. As the music played we began to walk up the red velvety carpet to place our food on the altar for people who need it. Once the music had stopped Mrs Davies spoke to us and our family's about harvest then Reverend Jane who spoke for a bit about food donations then It was time for the classes to each do their performances (we all were a bit nervous) then once we had done that we sang Cauliflowers Fluffy. It's important to feel we are helping others and giving thanks.

### Hampton Court Palace - Dear diary

When we arrived at school we left for Hampton Court on a bus almost immediately so there was no being late! After we got off the bus it was a short walk to get to the castle, we met Anne Harris and got a tore around the palace grounds Alex got crowned King Henry VII and got treated as well as you can imagine, Ben got given the role of toilet cleaner but did get given sick pay and as much food as he needed, Bluebell was the baker (not the kings) and Lawrence was the cleaner. Then we looked around a bit in the afternoon it was all amazing! The building was trimmed with gold and really transported us back in time.

Written by C Jones and N Wheeler - Year 6

If you require any other information regarding Brimpton School Please contact Mrs Sarah Vockins on 0118-9712311

### **100 Club**

November winner: 121 Rhoda Nikolay

### CLOCK WINDER REQUIRED FOR ST. PETER'S CHURCH, BRIMPTON

The 120-year-old clock is situated in the tower of the church and strikes the hour.

The people of Brimpton love to hear the clock strike and miss it on the rare occasions when it is out of action.

Currently winding duties are shared between 4 people, each covering a three-month period. A person is required to wind the clock from January to March.

One wind lasts for about 4 days so the clock needs to be wound about twice a week.

It would be good to have more volunteers to share the load so if you are willing to become part of the team please contact Richard Cross on 07788 647135 or r-cross@tiscale.co.uk

### **Fireworks Night at Brimpton Baptist Church**

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November, Brimpton villagers accepted the Baptist Church invitation to a fireworks evening. It started with a chilli competition in the church hall, where a dozen men and youths competed for the title. The pheasant and chocolate version went down a treat. This was followed by a spectacular fireworks display. Sincere thanks to Damian, Ruth-Ann and their congregation for a very enjoyable



### St Peter's Church Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale

Sincere thanks to all the stalwarts who braved the very wet and very windy weather to join us for the coffee morning and bring and buy sale on 8 November.

Lots of homemade preserves and cakes were on sale together with an array of other goodies. We are pleased to announce that over £300.00 was taken on the day. It is also a great delight to announce this amount enabled us to reach the target for the costs of the underpew heating.

All in all, a very rewarding day. Thank you to everyone who came and all those who helped beforehand and on the day.

Brenda Scott, On behalf of the PCC

### **Brimpton Parish Council**

At the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November we discussed the closure of the Aldermaston Wharf Lifting Bridge for 3 months from January 2024. Specifically, there is a problem with the route HGVs will be expected to take and the possibility of some drivers trying to take a shorter route through Brimpton to or from the A4. We agreed to contact West Berkshire Council to raise our concerns and request that clear signage is placed on the A4 at the end of Brimpton Road to stop HGVs from using this route. There are weight restriction signs there but these are not very visible.

Thames Water have informed us they are waiting for quotes for the work needed to restore the verge damaged by lorries removing sewage from the pumping station last winter. This is good news but it has taken all year and we are now at the start of another winter.

I reported complaints from residents about changes that have been made to the gateway at the northern apex into Blacknest Lane triangle. The issue was reported to the WBC planning enforcement team who said they would visit the site by 3 November. At the time of our meeting this had not happened but subsequent events in the field have resulted in intervention and the work is subject to a Temporary Stop Notice.

I also reported complaints from residents about the car park of the former Pineapple pub in Brimpton Common being used for second hand car sales for which there is no planning approval. Basingstoke and Deane Council have told us they have received an application for change of use but this is not yet available for comment.

The Wasing Estate has agreed to allow a permitted path across their land to link footpath BRIM9/2 with the land at the back of the hall. This will remove the need for pedestrians to walk on the road. There is a suggestion that the land should be given a name. Jubilee Green has been suggested as we leased the area in 2022 and the first event held there was the Jubilee beacon lighting. The Parish Council will decide on the name in December. If you have an alternative name please let me know.

Andrew Perkins, Chief Executive of the Wasing Estate, spoke about the drop-in sessions which they intended to hold on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. They are working on an Estate Plan and are seeking the views of parish residents. They will share the results of this exercise with us to establish whether there is a the need to update the current Parish Plan.

There were no planning applications to consider.

We reviewed the draft budget for 2024/25 and identified the need for some minor changes. At the next meeting we will decide how to fund the 2024/25 budget. The options are to levy a additional precept to your Council Tax, to use our reserves (as we have for the past three years) so your pay nothing towards the Parish Council, or a mixture of the two.

The Parish Council meets again on Tuesday 5 December, starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If you would like to receive the Parish Update, my fortnightly email newsletter, please let me have your email address.

John Hicks jhicks@brimptonparish.orq.uk

### **Dates for Your Diary**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December: Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December: Carol Service at St Peter's Church, starting at 4pm, followed by

mince pies and mulled wine.

Wednesday 13 December: Coffee morning in St Peter's Church; drop in anytime between 10am and 11.30am.

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January: Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January: Coffee morning in St Peter's Church; drop in anytime between 10am and 11.30am.

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January: Opening Night of *Murder on the Brimpton Express* at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. In aid of St Michael's Hospice. Tickets not yet available.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January: *Murder on the Brimpton Express* at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.



### **Brimpton Church** CAROL SERVICE Sunday 10th December at 4pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine Let us know if you would like to join our informal Choir from Scratch Sue Moore 0118 9713858. susanmoore50@hotmail.com Patricia Brims 0118 9714085. pcbrims@hotmail.com One practice -Saturday 9th December at 9.30 am All ages and all voices welcome

### **Brimpton WI**

The guest speaker was Andrew Hazelden a local ceramicist who studied at Epsom School of Art and Design before working with Mary Wondrausch and later Alan Caiger-Smith in Aldermaston Pottery. He gave a demonstration on how to throw a pot using a mixture of English clay mixed with Deruta clay from Italy. Andrew then decorated a jug and talked of the techniques involved.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month in Brimpton Village Hall starting at 7:30. The guest speaker for January is Margaret Baxter talking about *The World of the Honey Bee*. If you are interested in honey bees please to come along and listen to the talk. New members always welcome. For more information contact our President, Shelley Bassil, on 0118 971 0563 or the Secretary, Annette Dolphin on 0118 971 0090 or email brimptonwi@berkshirewi.co.uk

### Midgham News

### REMEMBRANCE

Once again the spire of Midgham church was lit up for Remembrance on the 11th November, the theme this year was animals in war. It was luckily a clear and crisp evening.

Mulled wine, hot soup and nibbles were provided and enjoyed by all.

Thanks go to Andrew Inwood for the use of his field, all the volunteers providing refreshments and assisting in parking etc and to Julia Roberts for such splendid organisation.



### Midgham Café Church in the church

First Thursday of the month

December 7th

Join us for tea and cake and fellowship 2.00pm

Please note the January café church will be on 4th January at 14 Hatch Close Chapel Row RG7 6NZ

Contact Sarah Henderson for more information henderson.sarah.c@outlook.com



### **COFFEE MORNINGS**

Coffee mornings are held fortnightly in the Hall from 10 to 12. The dates for December are 6th and 20th, which will be the Christmas party so bring your fancy hats and a dish to share with your friends.

### **LOTTERY**

There is still time to renew/start your lottery entry. £12 for 12 draws! Contact for Midgham village Hall- bobandsharon327@gmail.com

### Christmas / Bric-a-Brac Market

Come along for some Christmas cheer and to support a Midgham neighbour!

On sale will be gifts, cards, jewellery, cakes, refreshments and more.

2<sup>nd</sup> December from 10:30am-3:30pm in the Thatcham Memorial Hall.

For a good cause – stalls fundraising for a volunteering trip to Borneo in 2024.

There will also be a digger challenge and games going on, plus a raffle!

Free Admission.

-Lily Hopwood



### "Down on the Farm" in November

I am sure everybody has noticed the Thames Water tankers are back 24/7, cutting up the verges, damaging my gate, turning in our driveway, and causing several near misses with traffic. We have experienced, probably the wettest Oct/Nov that I can remember. Nearly everyday there has been rain and so far well over 200mm has been recorded at Manor Farm. But many areas of the country have had much more and experienced flooding and severe damage. Some of our lower lying fields are under water and our beef cattle are now housed at the farm.

The planting of wheat stopped abruptly on Oct 10<sup>th</sup> as the first of the named storms hit us the following day. Coincidentally the 11<sup>th</sup> Oct was the day I was due to have my shoulder replacement operation, and that was postponed, much to my horror and continued discomfort, until January.

There is now the possibility of a shortage of wheat in the UK for next year, due to lower-thannormal amount planted before the rain set in, and a considerable area has been lost to flooding. There is also a shortage of seed available for planting in the spring due to the wet and poor-quality harvest the UK has just experienced.

Those of you who walk their dogs on the track opposite the farm will have noticed that the sheep have arrived. They are here for the winter to graze the surplus grass and then onto the stubble turnips, until they are due to have their lambs in the spring. Please don't let your dogs, or children, upset the sheep, as it can cause fatal consequences. If you see any that are outside the fence, or lame, then please let us know.

If you are a regular walker, you will also of noticed our crop of Miscanthus/Elephant grass, opposite the solar farm, and observed how you could almost see it growing everyday during the summer. The weather conditions were ideal for it this year with a combination of warmth and rain. I have not seen it as tall and thick as this before. The crop will be cut next spring and made into large bales. These will then be sold to a power station and used as part of their renewable energy obligation to produce "green energy".

At least the conditions were good for something on the farm. This just goes to show it is better to have a variety of crops and enterprises to try and offset the very varied climatic conditions we are experiencing now. The soils at Manor Farm are very unforgiving and cannot withstand excess heat or wet, so no one crop is well suited.

You may also notice that several of my fields around the solar farm appear to not be particularly "tidy" and are growing more "weeds". These are deliberately allowed to grow natural varieties of grasses and wildflowers in order to encourage a greater selection of birds and insects. This provides flowers for pollination, safe nesting areas to protect the young, seed-bearing plants for food sources over the winter. So next time you are wandering around, do try and spot and identify different birds, butterflies and insects that are all part of our natural heritage.

By the time you read this, Christmas will be fast approaching, so if you haven't ordered your turkey yet, now is the time to do so, otherwise it may be too late!!!!

Mandy and I, along with our Labrador Harley, all the farm cats and our herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle wish you a Very Happy Christmas and a Very Prosperous 2024.

### Mike Bowden

### **CAROLS FOR COMPLEX AUTISM**

### A fundraising evening of Christmas Carols Wednesday, 6 December, 7pm The Old Mill, Aldermaston

Enjoy mulled wine and a mince pie whilst listening to singers from the **Reading Phoenix Choir** fill the air with the sound of Christmas carols in the beautiful riverside setting of The Old Mill, Aldermaston.

All proceeds from this event will directly benefit young people with complex autism to live happier and more independent lives, through our Performing Arts Centre fundraising appeal. On the night there will be a festive raffle, a Christmas present wrapping service and bakery goods made by the young people. Please come along and support the event.

Tickets £10 adult, £5 children.

### Purchase your tickets online at:

www.priorscourt.org.uk/Event/carols-for-complex-autism

### Friday 15th December | 7pm – 9pm Reading Minster Church, Reading, RG1 2HX

The incredible <u>Reading Community Gospel Choir</u>, winners of the 2019 BBC Choir of the Year, is back by popular demand. They'll be singing a medley of Christmas carol favourites to raise money for the **Refugee Support Group**.

Last year's event sold out, and tickets are selling fast, so be sure to book soon to avoid missing out.

#### **Ticket Prices**

Standard Adult Ticket - £10

Concession Ticket\* - £5

Children Under 11 and Refugees – Free Entry (Booking Required)

\* Concession Tickets for Ages 11-18, Over 60s, Disabled people and students

### **Event Timings**

6:30pm - Doors Open

6:30pm - 7pm - Pre-show Refreshments

7pm – 8:30pm – Concert Performance

8:30pm – 9pm – After-show Refreshments

9pm – End

Buy online: Refugee Support Group - Gospel Carols Service 2023 (beaconforms.com)

### **Church Services across the Villages**

### Douai Abbey Contact number 0118 971 5300

Weekdays

6.20 am Matins & Lauds

7,45 am Mass

12.50 pm Midday Office

6.00 pm Vespers 8.00 pm Compline

Sundays

As above, plus

10:30 am Mass

But no Compline

### Brimpton Baptist Church – Contact number 0118 971 2059

Sunday: 11.00 am and 6.00 pm

Wednesday: 7.00 pm

# Church of England December Services Sunday December 3rd: Advent Sunday

| St Nicholas Wasing   | Advent Carol Service | 10.45 am |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------|
| St Mary's Beenham    | Holy Communion       | 9.15 am  |
| St Peter's Brimpton  | Holy Communion       | 9.15 am  |
| St Matthew's Midgham | Holy Communion BCP   | 9.15 am  |

### Sunday December 10th: Advent 2

| St Mary's Aldermaston Holy | Communion      | 10.45 am |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| St Mary's Beenham          | Carol Service  | 6.00 pm  |
| St Peter's Brimpton        | Carol Service  | 4.00 pm  |
| St Matthew's Midgham       | Holy Communion | 9.15 am  |
| St Peter's Woolhampton     | Holy Communion | 10.45 am |

### Sunday December 17th: Advent 3

| St Mary's Aldermaston  | Holy Communion          | 10.45 am |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| St Mary's Beenham      | Informal Holy Communion | 9.15 am  |
| St Peter's Brimpton    | Morning Praise          | 9.15 am  |
| St Matthew's Midgham   | Carol Service           | 6.00 pm  |
| St Peter's Woolhampton | Carol Service           | 4.00 pm  |
|                        |                         |          |

### Sunday December 24th: Christmas Eve

| St Nicholas Wasing     | Crib Service | 11.00 pm |
|------------------------|--------------|----------|
| St Matthew's Midgham   | Crib Service | 11.00 am |
| St Peter's Woolhampton | Crib Service | 3.00 pm  |

### Monday December 25th Christmas Day

| St Mary's Aldermaston  | Holy Communion | 10.45 am |
|------------------------|----------------|----------|
| St Mary's Beenham      | Holy Communion | 9.15 am  |
| St Peter's Brimpton    | Holy Communion | 10.45 am |
| St Matthew's Midgham   | Holy Communion | 9.15 am  |
| St Peter's Woolhampton | Holy Communion | 10.45 am |

Sunday December 31st

St Peter's Brimpton Said Holy Communion 10.00 am

### **BUTTONS NEEDED**

With my Rotary wife hat on, I am making a plea for buttons (approx. 15-20 mms). A group of us are knitting socks to go to the wounded in Ukraine. If you have buttons sitting in an old tin at home, please can you spare some? I can be contacted on 0118 971 3113 or <a href="mailto:mrsbscott@btinternet.com">mrsbscott@btinternet.com</a>. Happy to collect or they can be dropped off at St Peter's Church, Brimpton. Thank you in advance.

#### Brenda Scott



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1 jar £6, 2 jars £10 Bulk buy also available 30lb tubs

> Orchard Cottage Woolhampton Hill Woolhampton RG75ST Tel: 0118 971 2757

### Santa's reindeers are:

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### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

Aldermaston

Wednesday January 17th Forsters 9.30-9.50

Beenham:

Wednesday January 17th Stoneyfields 3.15-4.00

Midgham:

Thursday December 7th and

January 18th

Goddard's Drive 10.10--10.20

Woolhampton:

Thursday December 7th and

January 18th

Watermill Ct 10.25-11.10

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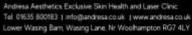
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