

The LYDEN



Issue 608 August 2025



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A letter from the Vicar – August 2025

Dear Friends

On 1st June this year a small but not inconsiderable change came into effect in the history of our local Parish Churches. The four churches going back into medieval times were set in their own parishes. In the last century Bishopstone and Hinton Parva were combined into one Parish and then Liddington and Wanborough into one Parish. Then the two parishes were formed into one United Benefice of Liddington and Wanborough, Bishopstone with Hinton Parva. That came into effect on 20th March 1997.

On the 1st of June this year the United Benefice itself became the single Parish of the Wellspring Villages. We have been for some time one community with four church centres, so it is a logical step to formalise this into the legal structures of the Parish. This helps simplify the administration of the parish and its decision-making processes via one elected Parochial Church Council, from a single electoral role. But perhaps, more importantly, it will help us think and act as one community, serving our four village communities. This is a challenge since it is natural to feel a greater sense of loyalty to our own parish church in the village in which we live. But God's love is always challenging us to look beyond ourselves to the needs of others and it is often, in the kingdom of God, that when we seek to address the needs of others that we find our own needs met, sometimes in the most surprising and unexpected ways. Paul often exhorted the Christians of his day to think and act in this way. For example, **"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."** Philippians 2:4 & 5.

And where did the name the Wellspring Villages come from you may well ask? It was inspired by the fact that the four villages all formed around sources of fresh pure clean spring water flowing out from under the North Wessex Chalk Downlands. Hence Wellspring Villages. However, wells and springs of water also have spiritual significance within the unfolding Christian story of God's presence among his people, recorded in the scriptures. For example, Jesus said to the Samaritan women at the well in John 4:14 **"those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."** This spring of water is a picture of the Holy Spirit imparting God's life-giving presence, peace and power, to all who have put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

So, we are now structurally a single Parish with four church centres, all served by one, half-time, Vicar. Challenging? Yes, I know! But to celebrate this step in the history of our church life we are planning a series of a special events of different kinds, over the weekend of 4th and 5th of October. We would love to see as many people as wished to come to any, or all, of the events. There will be a pilgrim walk around the four churches on the Saturday, with events in each church on route, and a special Harvest Service and Harvest lunch on the Sunday. Please do save the date in your diary and join us as we celebrate a new stage in our life together as the Parish of the Wellspring Villages.

Kind regards

Revd, Steve Paynter

Stevedpaynter@gmail.com

01793 296870



Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,
grant to all who thirst today,
thirst for meaning, purpose and true belonging,
that living water of your Holy Spirit:
water of refreshment,
water of healing,
water of cleansing,
water of life.

Amen.

Church Services August 2025

For the villages of Liddington and Wanborough in The Parish of Wellspring Villages

Date	Time	Church	Service
Sunday 3 rd August 2025	10.30am	All Saints', Liddington	Holy Communion
Sunday 10 th August 2025	10.30am	St Mary's Church, Bishopstone	Holy Communion
Sunday 17 th Augst 2025	10.30am	St Andrew's Church, Wanborough	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 th August 2025	10.30am	St Swithun's Church, Hinton Parva	Holy Communion
Sunday 31 st August 2025	10.30am	St Andrew's Church, Wanborough	Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th Sept 2025	8.30am	St Andrew's Church, Wanborough	Book of Common Prayer Service from 1962 and Holy Communion
Sunday 7 th Sept 2025	10.30am	All Saints', Liddington	Morning Worship

There are Books of Remembrance in All Saints', Liddington and St. Andrew's, Wanborough. If anyone wishes to have a name recorded there, please contact a Churchwarden.

Dates for your Diary - August 2025

Date	Event	Time	Location
Mon 4 th August	Liddington Coffee Morning	10am	Liddington Village Hall
Wed 13 th August	WI	7pm	Bishopstone Village Hall
Thurs 14 th August	Deadline for entering Wanborough Show Flower & Produce and Children's Section		See page 5 for further details
Sat 16 th August	Wanborough Village & Country Show	12 noon	Church Meadow
Sat 30 th August	Ward Councillor Surgery	9am	Wanborough Village Hall
Wed 3 rd September	Liddington Parish Council Meeting	7pm	Liddington Village Hall

In addition to the above dates

Wanborough Coffee morning every Thursday at 10.30am at The Brewer's Arms

Wanborough Toddler Group every Tuesday at 9.30am at Wanborough Village Hall

Liddington Art Club every Friday 2-4pm at Liddington Village Hall

Freedom Church 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 10.30am at Wanborough Village Hall

Save the Date - Future events in the Benefice

Date	Event	Time	Location
Fri 19 th Sept 2025	Gardening Club	7pm	Bishopstone Village Hall
Sat 20 th & 21 st Sept 2025	Local Artists -Open Studio's		Wanborough Village
Fri 26 th Sept 2025	Old Boilers – Wine Tasting Evening		Wanborough Village Hall
Sun 28 th Sept 2025	Swindon Half Marathon	9am	
Sat 29 th Nov 2025	Old Boilers – Cardiff Xmas Markets Trip		Wanborough Village Hall
Fri 5 th & Sat 6 th June 2026	Old Boilers Beer Festival		Calley Arms
Sat 20 th June 2026	Liddington Village Fete		Liddington Playing Field

If you have a village event that you would like to advertise so that we can all save the date e-mail details to lydenmagazine@gmail.com.



There will not be a Farmers Market on 16th August as The Wanborough Show will be on, but several of our traders will be attending, so you can catch up with them there.

We will be back on September 20th and look forward to saying hello to you then.

Have a happy Summer.

Lorna Naseem 07903 210 505

Lyden Team - Calling for a volunteer

We are looking for someone to help with one of the delivery rounds for the bottom of Kite Hill, around 11 houses, If you are able to help then please get in contact with Jean e-mail - lydensubs@gmail.com

Many thanks

Front Cover

This month's front cover was taken by Sarah Kelly taken in Bishopstone.

Please send photos that you would like to see on the front cover to - Lydenmagazine@gmail.com



93rd Wanborough Village & Country Show - Saturday 16th August 2025

12 noon to 6pm at Church Meadow, Upper Wanborough

It's not long now until this year's Wanborough Show and we are looking forward to seeing you all there.

There's still time to enter this year's Flower & Produce Show, there is a wide choice of categories for you to choose from, including - Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, Pot Plants, Foral Art and Art & Crafts. A full list is shown in the programme and can be downloaded from our website - www.wanboroughshow.org or scan the QR code at the bottom of the page.

To enter you need to either e-mail to Sue Ripley - sueripley58@hotmail.com or you can post the entry form to 1 Palmers Way by Thursday 14th August 2025

We are also keen to see some more entries for the Children's section, please take a look at all the categories and encourage your children to enter, there are some really fun things to make which would make a great summer activity for them.

To enter the Children's section please either e-mail Beth Hoyer - bethanhoyer@gmail.com or you can post your entries to 28 Warneage Green, by Thursday 14th August 2025.

It's FREE to enter in both the Flower & Produce Show and The Children's Section. We are looking forward to seeing everyone's work and creations on show day.

On the Day!

There is so much to see and do on Show day.

We have a busy main arena schedule starting the day with the Pantasy Steel Band playing their music as everyone arrives. Other main acts include Mighty Mike (Strong Man), Lamb National Sheep Racing, Bob Hogg's Sheepdog Show, Morris Dancing and Razamatazz magic show.



Walking around the showground we have a classic car display, with some of the vehicles driving around the main arena and providing some interesting facts about their vehicles.

There are several activities for everyone to try including the return of the very popular climbing wall, plus this year we have two inflatables the Helix Skelta slide and Football darts. All included in the entry fee.



Have a wander around the many different trade stands to see if there is anything that takes your interest. We also have a display of Bonsai plants and wildlife animals.

Dog Show - We are once again holding the popular dog show, you can enter on the day from 12 noon, there is a small charge for each category that is entered. Full details at the back of the programme.

Car Parking - Entry to showground from 12 noon

There is parking available on site but it is limited, we therefore ask if you live close enough and are able to walk then please do so as this will help with the parking availability. Please note there is an additional £2 for parking. We have plenty of disabled parking so please confirm at the gate if you are a disabled person and you will be directed to the correct place.

To ease with the traffic flow this year we are asking everyone to park first and then pay to enter at each of the entrances into the showground. Hopefully this will move traffic off the roads quicker.

Village traffic

Residents living in the village who need to enter or leave the village, please consider avoiding the entrance to Wanborough Show (Lynch Field off Church Road) during peak times on 16th August, many thanks.

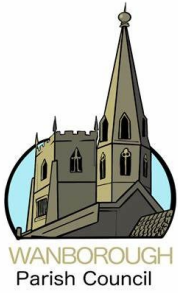
Pedestrian access to showground - please enter via St Andrew's Church.



Scan QR code to
download the programme



*Here's to another great Wanborough Show,
we hope that everyone has a lovely day out!!*



Wanborough Parish Council – August 2025 Newsletter

Message from your new Parish Council Chair – Cllr. Kathy Glanville

I was honoured to be voted in as Chair of Wanborough Parish Council on 19th May 2025. It was, truth be told, a bit of a surprise but I promise to do my absolute best for you all.

To tell you a bit about me, I have just retired from my full-time job as an Executive Assistant to the CEO of a Government ALB (it's all acronyms in Government departments!). As well as looking after the CEO, I looked after the Chairman and managed the logistics of the Board and Audit Committee. It was a busy, challenging role that required a lot of tact and multi-tasking and I'm hopeful that I can bring those skills to my new role as Chair.

I've lived in Wanborough since 1997 and love this village that I call home. We raised our two daughters here and our five granddaughters love coming to visit. They believe there is something quite magical about this village and I'm sure they are right.

I know I will need help and guidance, not only from my fellow Councillors, but from you as well. I don't have a head for business as such but I do think I am a people person and am keen to understand the needs of the village - and this is where your help comes in.

Please let me know what we can do to help you, what you would like to see in the village and what can be improved upon. I have some thoughts and ideas, such as a well-being group for our older folk and perhaps bringing back the May Day Fayre (if that's something you'd like to see) but I'd welcome your feedback on this.

So, please do feel free to contact me on cllrglanville@wanborough.info and I look forward to seeing you around.

Kathy Glanville

Chair Wanborough Parish Council



Your interim Parish Clerk, Sally, summarises recent meetings

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – 19th May 2025

- **Chair and Vice Chair Elected:** Cllr. Kathy Glanville was elected Chair, and Cllr. Omar Mirza was elected Vice Chair.
- **Committee Appointments:** Councillors were appointed to key committees including Finance & Policy, Hoopers Field, Footpaths & Allotments, and Staffing.
- **Policy Reviews:** A comprehensive review of council policies and procedures was initiated, including employment, financial, and corporate governance policies.
- **Meeting Schedule:** Full Council meetings will continue on the fourth Monday of each month at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Assembly – 14th May 2025

- **Foxbridge Village Development:** Chris Marsh from Pegasus Group provided an update on the planning application for 220 homes and associated infrastructure. Residents raised concerns about road damage and the need for the Southern Connector Road to be completed before further development.
- **Community Group Updates:**
 - **Wanborough Tennis Club** reported strong growth, with over 200 members and plans for court resurfacing and new floodlights.
 - **Wanborough Toddlers** celebrated new leadership and a generous £500 donation from the Old Boilers, which funded exciting new toys and equipment.
- **Open Discussion:** Topics included speeding, confusing road layouts at Commonhead roundabout and the importance of community involvement in shaping a 5-year village plan.

Extraordinary Full Council Meeting – 11th June 2025

- **Hoopers Field Boiler Replacement:** The council agreed to replace the failed boiler at Hoopers Pavillion
- **Parish Clerk Recruitment:** The Staffing Committee was authorised to progress the recruitment process and make a recommendation to Full Council.

Full Council – 23rd June 2025

- **Village Hall Future:** A working group was formed to explore development options for the Village Hall, including councillors and community representatives.
- **Annual Accounts:** The 2024–25 internal audit and financial statements were approved.
- **Planning:** The Council requested an extension and committee review for the proposed solar farm at Mount Pleasant

Farm.

- **Speeding Concerns:** An initiative to reinstate Community Speed Watch was agreed with community volunteers. Volunteers are needed—please get in touch!
- **Wanborough Trails:** The Council is exploring ways to enhance walking and cycling routes in partnership with Swindon Borough Council.

Footpaths, Village Maintenance & Allotments – 7th July 2025

- **Wildflower Verges:** Residents raised concerns about premature verge cutting. The Council will request Swindon Borough Council delay mowing until after seed setting.
- **Allotments:** A revised interim agreement with Wanborough & Covingham Allotment Society was approved. Discussions with Covingham Parish Council are ongoing to formalise a joint approach.
- **Tree Management:** A new tree policy was adopted, and quotes will be sought for recommended works. The Council also accepted a commemorative oak tree for WWII's 80th anniversary.
- **Play Areas:** Repairs are underway at Church Meadow and Lower Rec. Additional quotes are being sought for resurfacing.
- **Dog Fouling Consultation:** The Council supports the continuation of current dog control measures and will respond to the borough-wide consultation.
- **Cycle Event Approved:** A Cycle Roadshow will be held at Hoopers Field on **Sunday 10th August**—details below!



Extraordinary Full Council – 7th July 2025

- **New Parish Clerk Appointed:** The Council unanimously approved the appointment of a new Parish Clerk, following a recommendation from the interview panel. Please watch this space for the full announcement next month!
- **Contract Finalisation:** The Staffing Committee was delegated authority to finalise and issue the employment contract and job offer.

Community Notices

Keep Our Paths Clear

Please ensure hedges and fences do not encroach on public footpaths or highways. Let's keep Wanborough safe and accessible for all.

Speed Watch Volunteers Needed

Help us tackle speeding in the village. If you're interested in joining a community-led Speed Watch group, please contact the Clerk – clerk@wanborough.info

Get Bike Ready for Summer!

Cycle Roadshow – Sunday 10th August, 10am–2pm at Hoopers Field

Swindon Travel Choices invites you to a fun and practical cycling event for all ages:

- Free bike safety checks and minor repairs
- Free bike security marking (85% less likely to be stolen!)
- Maps, advice, and free cycling goodies

Short family-friendly guided ride (time TBC)

No booking needed - just turn up!

More info: swindontravelchoices.co.uk/events



Next Full Council Meeting Monday 22nd September 2025 at 7pm at Wanborough Village Hall

Parish Council Vacancies – Your village needs you!

We have three vacancies for parish councillors – if you are interested in getting involved email for more details!

Stay Connected

We encourage all residents to get involved in local matters. Whether it's attending meetings, joining a working group, or simply sharing your views, your voice matters.

Contact us at: clerk@wanborough.info

Visit website: www.wanborough.info



Liddington Parish Council

The July Parish Council meeting was well attended with approximately 20 residents joining us to discuss our response to the BioGas HGV Refuelling Station planning approval and plans for the verge alongside Purley Road.

BioGas Planning Approval

Our initial legal approach to SBC to try and get them to overturn their decision was unsuccessful. We have therefore instructed our legal team to prepare and submit the Pre-Action Letter for a Judicial Review. At the time of writing, we are waiting for SBC to respond. Thanks to everyone who has been able to donate to our 'fighting fund'. It's been a great team effort from the village and surrounding areas.

Purley Road Verge

The Parish Council is hugely appreciative of the many hours of work that volunteers have put into tidying up the verge alongside Purley Road. It is now safe to walk along away from the road and generally looks much better. The volume of litter being discarded from cars has reduced significantly as well.

The Parish Council received presentations on planting plans and improving the appearance of signage around the village. These were well researched and presented and the Parish Council is supportive of the majority of the ideas put forward. We will be taking these forward with the relevant teams. We have also ordered a bench to replace the one on Purley Road that has lost most of its back.

Farewell to Barbara

One of our Councillors, Barbara Affleck, has resigned from the Parish Council. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for everything she has done over her time as a councillor. Amongst other things, Barbara was the driving force behind the new platform at the Trig Point and the new play equipment that was installed earlier this year.

In Closing....

There is no Parish Council meeting in August. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 September 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome to attend. Please note that the section where the public can speak is to be held at 7.30pm. Alternatively if you would like to raise an issue or ask a question, please contact the Clerk via parishclerk@liddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Laura Evans, Clerk to Liddington Parish Council

Your Ridgeway Borough Councillor update from Gary Sumner

Our next Ridgeway Ward Surgery is 9-10am on August 30th at Wanborough Village Hall.

Planning application North of Redlands Grove: An application that has continued to rumble on since 2022 has reared its head again. 248 homes (partly within the Area of Non Coalescence again) in land designated as 'Green Infrastructure' and also for sports facilities North of Redlands Grove. They have submitted new documents, but it is still not a great application and one that should be resisted for the reasons above. It also raises the concern of more vehicles and construction traffic using Redlands Way and in turn Wanborough Road. The application reference on SBC's planning portal (search for planning applications) is S/OUT/22/1415. You should email sbcdc@swindon.gov.uk to comment.

Mount Pleasant Solar Farm: This is an application for a 150 acre, 35mw solar farm on farmland and within the 'Area of non Coalescence' and if anyone thinks that covering all of that land with solar panels is good then consider what this does to the area that in policy terms is meant to protect us. Even the applicants acknowledge that it is 'major development'. It will also affect the setting of Earls Court Manor and mean that all construction traffic has to go via Horpit. Although the application has officially closed you can still comment. This is the application reference number S/25/0666 and the link is: <https://pa.swindon.gov.uk/public.../applicationDetails.do...>

You can email comments to sbcdc@swindon.gov.uk and please copy us in at gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk

Roads/verges: One of our biggest issues is the lack of Swindon Borough doing anything about the safety concerns about white lining of junctions and the cutting of vegetation of sight lines at junctions. Everywhere from Redlands Grove junction to Callas Hill to Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Liddington, the junctions are awful. I've been raising this constantly and have a motion going to full council on the implications of this lack of care for safety.

Liddington: I must sing the praises of Maurice Spillane and a crew of about 25 volunteers who have met with Borough officers for advice and transformed the rural pathway opportunity alongside Purley Road all the way from the village down to Commonhead. I have just secured them 250m of tree planting via SBC from Wiltshire Wildlife trust (for free) as well as another chunk to the allotment site in Wanborough.

Would it be an option to create our own team here in Wanborough to do the same? Email or call me if it's of interest?

Please call me on 07855957133 or email: gary@ridgewayvillages.co.uk

Ridgeway Villages website: www.ridgewayvillages.co.uk

An Irish Funeral



My Aunt Margaret died recently, the last of my parents' generation.

Margaret was ninety-eight, a smiley person who'd do anyone a good turn. Months previously, my sister and I had driven to Tipperary to see her. I was keen to know why my father, the eldest son, didn't get the family farm. He never spoke about it and the best we had was speculation. Margaret was my final chance to get to the truth of it. She opened the door, clapping her hands, hugs and greetings, a wonderful little woman, then stood back and said: "Now, tell me, who are you?" End of research. Within days she was in a care home.

Her funeral was three days after her death, typically Irish. My sisters and I went, the mass proceeded with standing and kneeling, sitting and responding to the priest, a ritual comforting in its normality.

Her grandkids gave gifts to remember her: a loaf of bread because every visit started with tea, bread and home-made jam; six eggs from her hens that she gave on the way out, a trophy for country dancing as she and my uncle were Irish champions. Another granddaughter gave the homily, so funny, so many tears. Outside the hearse waited for twenty minutes while we greeted cousins and family and then the burial and off for a drink to celebrate a great life. Laughter, poems, songs, stories. Normal.

I'm telling you this because it's so different to England where there may be a wake, but the family go back to work while the corpse is in a fridge and mourning restarts weeks later.

After forty years in England that still freaks me. It's the single difference between the two cultures, other than the Irish speak several languages and can sing.

I decided at Margaret's funeral that if my English wife predeceases me, she'll not be left freezing in a fridge for weeks. I'll fly her and our friends to Dublin next day and wake her properly among the hundreds of mourners who love her, and we'll party and sing and recite poems and drink and celebrate a great life.

*May the old ones greet you with open arms,
Those you've loved and lost before.
May the emerald hills be your new home,
And peace be yours evermore.*

*May the stars light your way above,
As loved ones bid farewell,
Memories sweet, like Irish rain,
In hearts forever dwell.*

Maybe I should check with Fiona first . . . Or maybe it's a wrenching call from the heart that if she predeceases me, I don't want to end up in a bloody fridge!

www.mauricespillane.co.uk

SWINDON & DISTRICT SAMARITANS

SAMARITANS MATTER...

WHY?

Every 10 seconds, Samaritans respond to a call for help without judgement or pressure. There's no typical person who calls and no typical problem which is talked about. What matters is how life is making you feel.

Every life lost to suicide is a tragedy and Samaritans vision is that fewer people die by suicide - we hope that by encouraging people to talk about suicidal feelings fewer people will make this choice.

We also know that many people who call us are not suicidal but are at a point where they feel they can't cope, where it all feels too much to handle and there's no one to talk to. Sometimes feelings can become intense and overwhelming, that there's no way out.

This is where Samaritans come in. We offer people the time and space to talk through whatever is troubling them and help to work through what's on their mind. We don't give advice but listen with undivided attention and with empathy, to help people to find their own way forward. When anyone is in crisis, talking to Samaritans may help to make someone feel calmer and more able to get through that moment.

As Gareth, a Samaritans caller, said: **'I don't remember much about that call but what I do know is the person I spoke to showed me a lot of empathy and they didn't judge me...letting me talk and explain how I was feeling. That's what I really needed.'**

Please remember, be kind to yourself today and every day and if you're struggling to cope you can contact Samaritans free, at any time of the day or the night, 365 days of the year:

Call: 116 123

Email: jo@samaritans.org

For more information: <https://www.samaritans.org>



Wanborough Tennis Club - Update

On a lovely sunny day, Wanborough Tennis Club held its annual Family Tournament. With 10 pairs entered, coach Becky Watts, organised a very enjoyable tournament, ensuring that everyone played 5 matches, which was more than enough for some of the older players particularly as Mel Brough ensured there was plenty of Pimms on hand.

It was great to see members bring along family members to play and watch and demonstrated the real essence of the club.

As far as the competitive side of the event, Lucy and Chris Langlay-Smith should really be crowned as champions, as they were the best 'family' team on the day. However, the very experienced trio of Di Turner, partnered alternatively by Glenn Castle and Tim Thurston, just managed to beat them.

We would love to welcome new members of all age and level. It's the perfect club to enjoy playing tennis, whatever your level in a relaxed and friendly environment. In addition to club social sessions, rusty rackets and walking tennis, our coach Becky runs excellent group coaching sessions and individual lessons.

Do take a look at the website if you're interested in joining.

All the information is here : <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WanboroughTennisClub/Membership/Join>.

We are looking forward to seeing past, present and new members on court.

Coming up:

We are holding a doubles tournament on Saturday 27th September at 12pm. Please contact Becky at beckyprince@live.co.uk if you would like to take part. Enter individually and she will pair you up. It will without doubt be fun and a 'bit' competitive!

The club is also hosting a number of Wiltshire Tennis Junior WTC tournaments over the summer and everyone is welcome to pop down to watch the very high standard of play. The last one is on 16th August when the Under 18s will be competing at 9am.

Becky will be running summer camps on the dates below. 10 – 3pm with drop off from 9.30am. £25 for members and £27 for non members. Please contact Becky direct to book your places beckyprince@live.co.uk

- 4/5/6th August
- 18/19/20th August



Old Boilers News

Have you acquired your tickets / table yet for the Old Boilers Wine Tasting event in the Village Hall, Friday 26th September 2025?

www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-old-boilers

In collaboration with Magnum Wines, of Wood Street, Swindon, 6 fine wines, generous portions, plus meat and vegetable platters supplied by the New Calley Arms, for your supper.

We have some excellent raffle prizes this time:- our star prize is a £300 travel voucher with Trail Finders.

But we also have dinner for two, plus wine, with Double Tree Hotel, and we have gift offers from, Deacons, and Magnum Wines, plus 4 x Dartington whiskey tumblers.

And last but not least, 2 free entries to the next Wanborough Beer & Cider Festival 2026.

Save the dates; Coach to Cardiff Christmas Market Saturday, 29th November / the 8th Wanborough Beer & Cider Festival, the weekend of 5th, 6th June 2026.

Mines a wine

Barry Hillier & Marek Szeliga



WANBOROUGH PETANQUE CLUB UPDATE

Bienvenue to Hooper's Field Terrain



Our club is affiliated with Pétanque England and we are now ready to start recruiting members for the season running through to 31 March 2026.

The yearly subs are **£20 for a single player** and **£40 for all members of a household**. If you could please pay using the bank details below and enter your name as the reference.

Bank details as follows : Wanborough Pétanque Club , 50784386 , 23-05-80.

If you could then email Mark the names and contact details of the players you have paid for I can start to build a membership database. Thankyou so much - please use the following email address ; treasurer@wanboroughpc.co.uk

Coach Tip – Playing Competitively

Lee is a Petanque England qualified coach with DBS clearance and many years experience in competition play.

Petanque can be played by **ALL ages and physical ability**. Playing matches can be daunting even at your own club. We do play a sport, so we score and play with team mates. However, at Wanborough PC it is primarily a social activity, light exercise and an environment to improve wellbeing. With all that in mind some players have really enjoyed playing against other clubs especially those with a similar view to why we all play (for FUN)!

• Cotswold League

Summer 2025		2025 CPL Division 3		
#		P	W	L
1	Wanborough	1	1	0
2	RWB Bees	3	1	2
3	Cheltenham U3A	2	1	1
4	Petanque@KS	2	1	1

We have been placed in the lowest Division 3 with four other clubs and have played our first home game against Cheltenham. Three of our 7 players enjoyed the first introduction to competition. The first round being timed for 50 minutes plus 2 extra ends for the two triples. The final round was three doubles untimed which means you can move the jack over the live strings and play on.



• Petanque England (PE)

Paying an annual £30 allows you to play in any national competition. There are different categories based on gender and age as well as open formats. It is possible to qualify for your country to represent England in both European and World events.

• **Great Western Region:** With your PE membership you are able to play events in the area of Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and North Somerset. It is possible to play for GWR at the National Inter Regional event, this year it is held near Weston-super-Mare.

• **Open Competitions:** Many clubs run competitions without license requirements and at every standard of play, some will have a trophy, charitable donations or cash prizes. Our players have played in the EU25.uk, Sherston tournament and Bath Open, we are still in the **Western Shield**. The team beat Cricklade but lost to RWB in Round Two. Having then progressed against Cirencester we now wait for the next opposition.

• **World Championship – Mondial La Marseillaise a Pétanque** This is a unique competition held the first July Sunday in Marseille. The 65th running saw a record number of over 4300 triple teams and the first non-French winner Madagascar. One of our members has played 5 times with 10 match wins and 5 defeats!



Diary Dates (latest news will be posted on social media)

Tues 4pm Coaching

Thurs 10am Melee (Doubles/Triples turn up and play)

Sat 9:30 am Coaching

Sat 10:30 am Melee (Doubles/Triples turn up and play)

Quiz Night Fundraiser TBC

For those using the terrain and unsure of the rules they can be found on the Club website

www.wanboroughpc.com

Vince Witts (Chair)



Wanborough Primary School

Reception: This term Acorn Class have been learning all about 'Under the Sea'. We have enjoyed learning about lots of different sea creatures. Did you know octopus have no bones and can camouflage? We worked collaboratively to create our own octopus. First, decorating the body and then creating paper chains for the tentacles. We have enjoyed reading lots of different under the sea books and completing different activities based on them. For 'Snail and the Whale', we acted out the story and for 'Pirates Love Underpants' we drew our own pirates in flashy pants! We have made sure that we enjoyed the lovely weather too, lots of fun exploring with water and ice outside! We have learnt all about how to be safe around water and enjoyed our whole school assembly where a visitor talked to us about the different flags we might see at the beach. In PE we worked hard to get Sports Day ready and we did our houses proud! Everyone tried their best and had a super fun morning, especially balancing the eggs for the egg and spoon race! We also went on our school trip to Lotmead Farm. We spent the morning exploring the playground, visiting the different animals and even got to pick our own strawberries!

Year 1: This term, Conker Class have been learning about the Great Fire of London! We have compared life between 1666 and 2025, learned about the events of the fire and the lead up to it, as well as how the fire has shaped modern London and fire-fighting methods. In English, we used Samuel Pepys' diary as inspiration to write our own diaries, pretending we were experiencing the Great Fire of London first-hand. We also used our topic as inspiration for our DT project, where the class made some fantastic Tudor houses! Science has been a real highlight in Conker class this term, as the children each planted Nasturtium seeds at the beginning of term and recorded their growth each week in plant diaries. We have completed the Government's Phonic Screening Check and we have also been doing drumming this term with Kati, which the children have hugely enjoyed! A wonderful end to another lovely year!

Year 2: This term we have been learning about simple maps in Geography and we have drawn some sketch maps. We took a walk to Warneage Woods and Hooper's Field so that we could track our route and create our own sketch maps of our journey. We tried to include different physical and human features such as trees, the pond and gates on our maps. In DT, we have been working towards creating a healthy pizza. We have tried different pizza bases and toppings and then designed our own healthy pizza. We then enjoyed making and taste-testing our creations. We had a great Sports Day and really enjoyed the different races. We have also continued to read and enjoy a range of pirate themed books. We have particularly enjoyed the stories with the Jolley-Rogers family and we even wrote our own story featuring our favourite pirate family! What a fun-filled term we've had!

Year 3: This term in Maple Class we have been learning all about plants in our Science lessons. We have turned white roses into blue roses when investigating how a stem works, and we have grown our own plants. We had the fantastic opportunity for a specialist history-education company called 'Portals of the Past' to come in and complete an Egyptian day with us! This meant we could explore new artefacts, investigate different gods and goddesses and dress up as Egyptians and Egyptologists! In DT, we have made our own photo frames and in English we wrote our own Egyptian Cinderella stories

Year 4: This term, the children have been completing some fantastic learning and participating in wonderful events. The class performed brilliantly for their respective houses during Sports Day. The children were competitive, supportive and showed great sportsmanship. For History, the children took part in their Ancient Greek WOW day. They dressed up as Greek gods, goddesses and heroes, and took part in Ancient Greek Olympic events, Greek food-tasting, used the Greek alphabet to write their names and re-enacted Greek battles!

Some of the class performed a small concert for the rest of the class, showcasing their musical talents on the piano, and the whole class completed the Government Multiplication Checker. Finally, in English, the children wrote and published their fantastic Ancient Greek myths!

Year 5: Throughout Term 6, Elm Class continued their topic '*Natural World*'. Whereas last term focused on rivers, this term the children have been exploring tectonic plates and how their movements form mountains, earthquakes and tsunamis. As part of their homework, the children have explored different natural disasters since 2000, focusing on earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and floods. In English, the children have been using their learning to write a newspaper report on a tsunami event. Our Science unit has explored how humans develop and change through their lives - from babies to old age. Our DT sessions, have explored cam mechanisms and how they are used within toys and other everyday items. The children then planned their own toy using a cam mechanism, before building, decorating and evaluating their creation in the final weeks.

Year 6: Term 6 has been an incredibly busy one for Oak class. A fantastic week was spent on our residential in France. We stayed near Poitiers and visited our link school. A highlight of the week was a visit to beautiful La Rochelle. Upon our return, it was straight into rehearsals for our end-of-year production of Shrek. The class worked incredibly hard to learn both their lines and the



choreography for the songs. We also took part in Junior Good Citizen where the class learnt about various topics, such as the importance of mental health; road safety; and online safety. The children took part in various sporting events, such as the Blue Kite Games where some members of the class received gold medals! Finally, to top off a fantastic and busy term, the children visited South Cerney lakes where they did paddle boarding and kayaking to celebrate a brilliant final year at Wanborough Primary School.

Whole School:

Music: We have been broadening our horizons by listening to Caribbean and Latino music going to and from assemblies.

Young Carers – We finished the year with our annual Picnic in the Park. During lunchtime we went to the park behind the village hall where we had a picnic. The Young Carers played on the equipment, had a game of football and burst some bubbles. This year we say goodbye to six Young Carers from Year 6.

Sports Day: We had the perfect weather for Sports Day – dry and warm but not the heat and sun of the previous week. In the morning, Reception and KS1 competed in obstacle races, egg and spoon, sack race and a running race. In the afternoon KS2 competed in the same races plus a relay running race and a long run. The children competed on behalf of their houses – Air, Water, Fire, Earth but at the end of the day it was Water house that came out victorious.

PTA: we have a wonderful PTA who work very hard to raise funds for the fun stuff and, increasingly, the more critical stuff required in the school. At Sports Day they provided a bar and hot drinks plus a second-hand uniform sale. The biggest event of the year is undoubtedly the Summer Fete with loads of different stalls including the popular tombola and adopt-a-teddy plus inflatables and refreshments, not to mention selling tickets for the fantastic rainbow-coloured hampers.

If you would like to know if we have places available in certain year groups, please contact the school office for further information on 01793 790269 admin@wanborough.bluekitetrust.org!

If you would like to look at our website please take a look at

www.wanboroughprimary.org You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram.

Bishopstone and District Gardening Club

David Cramp has had a lifelong interest in natural history and in particular birds. He has volunteered for the **RSPB** for over 50 years including serving on the RSPB Council for 5 years until 2018 and acted as **Chairman of the RSPB's Gloucestershire Local Group** for 23 years until 2023. Also he has given over 550 talks to local clubs and societies. So it was a great pleasure to welcome him as our speaker on a hot July evening to tell us all about "**Swifts, Swallows and Martins**".

David began by explaining the main differences between the species, which can be a problem as they are mostly seen on the wing and rarely perch. The **Swallows** who fly low over our gardens are found in the countryside and are recognisable by their long trails and blue colouring. The **Sand Martins** are never far from water while the **House Martins** prefer urban areas, both of these flying at medium height. The **Swifts**, however, are actually a different species, being more closely related to humming birds and fly much higher.

He then showed us photos of their nests, the Swallows and House Martins using mud, while the Sand Martin burrows in soft cliffs and the Swifts, who live, eat, mate and sleep on the wing, only coming to roost on their nest, built out of airborne debris.

He told us about their migration routes, diet, breeding and longevity; the Swift being the largest, spending more time in the nest before fledging and then spending 4 years on the wing before coming to roost for breeding. They also live longest, and have been recorded up to an amazing 21 years old!

This was a very informative and enlightening talk and we can now all watch and identify the fascinating birds when they visit our gardens for those few months in the summer to nest and bring up their young before setting off to far flung places in search of food.

Diary Dates

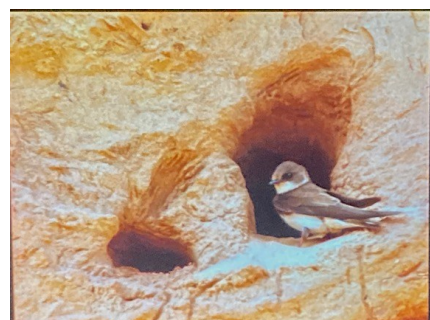
August : There is no meeting this month

Wednesday 19th September: Clare Mitchel "The Garden Editor"

"Climate Change and Gardening : What Does It All Mean?"

Everyone is welcome at the meetings, a one off charge for the night or £10 for a year's membership. Come along, enjoy a complimentary cup of tea or coffee, meet the members and enjoy some fascinating talks.

Marion Peck 01793791001

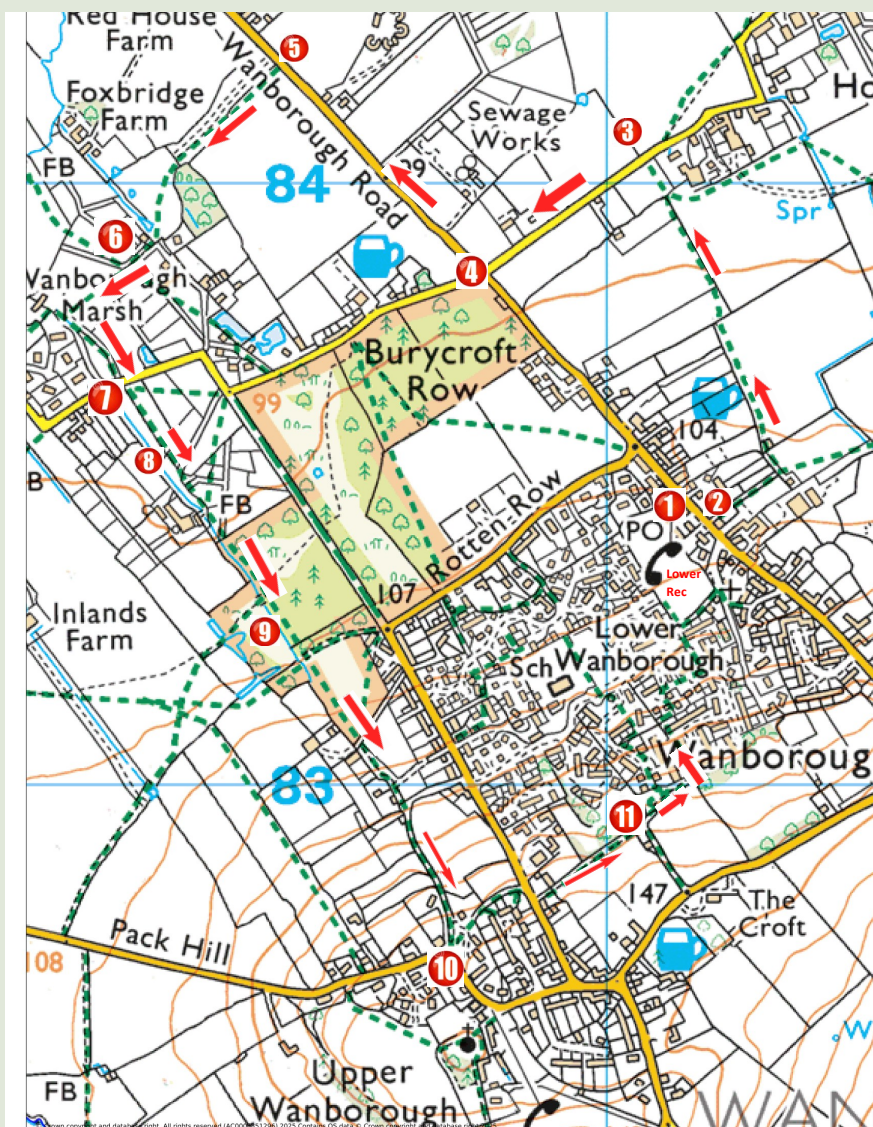


Circular Walk around Wanborough Village

Please note: There is livestock in some of the fields at this time of year so please keep dogs on lead when walking through farmers' fields.

We are spoilt with choice for footpaths to walk around Wanborough but if you are looking for a shortish circular walk then here's a suggestion.

1. Start at Wanborough Village Hall (although you can start at any point on the route).
2. Walking up the High Street, just before you get to The Plough, there is a footpath sign on the left, walk along this which follows the edge of The Plough back garden until you reach a kissing gate. Turn left at the kissing gate and follow the edge of the fields (passing over several stiles) until you reach Horpit.
3. As you reach the road turn left towards Horpit crossroads.
4. At the crossroads turn right along the Wanborough Road path. Before you reach Redlands House, on the left there is a footpath.
5. Walk across the field until you reach a stile and small bridge. Head over the stile and along the edge of the brook until you reach the path through Honeyfield Farm.
6. Walk straight along the path through Honeyfield Farm until you get to a gate. Walk across the field to a farm track. Turn left and walk to road in The Marsh.
7. Cross over the road and head across the field towards Sharpes Farm.
8. Walk along the path through Sharpes Farm to Warneage Wood.
9. Follow the path through Warneage Woods and along the back of the houses on Kite Hill until you reach Kings Lane. Walk up Kings Lane to Mayfield.
10. At the top turn left and walk on the path between 1 & 2 Mayfield that takes you to Kite Hill. Cross over the road carefully and walk up the path next to Wheelwrights.
11. Follow the path along the top to Springlines, then to Badgers Close and Lower Rec back to the Village Hall.



CHISELDON LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

There is no meeting in August. Members will instead be participating in a guided walk around the Swindon Railway Village. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th September 2025 in the Church Hall, Butts Rd, SN4 0NN at 7.30 p.m. The subject is "1066 and all that – The Bayeux Tapestry" presented by Timothy Brain. This talk was originally planned for July 2024 but had to be rescheduled. Membership subscriptions are £20 per year, with the subscription year starting in October. Visitor fees for non-members are £5 per meeting. The schedule is published on the website (see below).

Our website www.chiseldonlhg.org.uk contains news of forthcoming meetings as well as general information on the History Group and local historical links and information. Other events will be published here when available.

Chiseldon Museum

The museum is open for the summer season every Saturday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm until the end of September. The museum can be found at Old Chapel, Butts Road, Chiseldon, SN4 0NN. New displays this year include an archaeological map of the area, a look back at the Spearhead festival held in the village in 1975 and exhibits to mark the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. The display featuring the railway has also been revamped to include a "then and now" section, and we have a new volume of village photographs available to view.

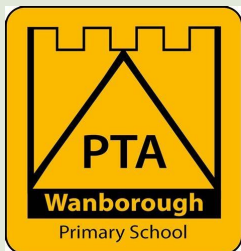
Elaine Jones (01793 740784) Keith Parsons (01793 741346)

Email: info@chiseldonlhg.org.uk





THANK YOU from Wanborough Primary School PTA!



What a fantastic day we had at the Summer Fete (even if it was slightly warm) – and it simply wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of so many people in our community. We were lucky as the local police and firefighters joined us and made the day extra special for the kids (and grown-ups too!). The Harrow provided the BBQ and we were joined by GlamoRose Cakes for some extra special treats.

Emma, Kayleigh and the kids entertained us with their Zumba dances and a big shout-out to Wanborough Wasps JFC for bringing football fun! The inflatables sponsored by Primary Homes & Lettings were an absolute hit, despite the heat, they were constantly on them having a blast.

The raffle was fantastic, lots of amazing local companies and individuals donated raffle prizes or provided sponsorship – this level of generosity made a huge difference led by the Pitts-Drake family, they did a wonderful job.



The biggest thank you goes to EVERYONE who gave their time to help set up on Friday evening or Saturday morning, ran a stall, worked the bar, or stayed behind to tidy up.

Another big thank you to Mr Woodman and for all the teaching staff for giving up their time to help with set up and on the day.

Finally, the BIGGEST THANK YOU of all goes to our amazing PTA Committee. So much hard work happens behind the scenes in the months leading up to the fete – planning, organising, coordinating – and you pulled off another brilliant event. And to EVERY SINGLE PERSON who walked through those gates today – whether you bought a burger, a raffle ticket, a beer, or a chance to "free the copybara" – THANK YOU. Every penny you spent helps support our school and our children.

We're still counting up the total raised, and we'll share it as soon as we can.



Lyden Magazine

If you would like to submit an article to be included in next month's Lyden, then please e-mail your contribution to the Lyden by the 14th of the month prior to the publication month (by 14th August for September's magazine).

Lydenmagazine@gmail.com We are always keen to hear from you.

Liddington Village



A day of Fun



We're delighted to report that this year's Liddington Village Fête was a resounding success, raising £4,700 to support essential repairs to the fabric of All Saints' Church.

The weather was perfect—neither too hot nor too cold—and the atmosphere matched. Proceedings were officially opened by Revd. Steve Paynter, setting the tone for a joyful afternoon.

This year saw a record number of craft stalls—18 in total—with exciting additions including massage, reflexology and yoga therapies, jewellery, wood carving and craft stalls, as well as the traditional chocolate and bottle tombola.

We were especially pleased to welcome our local police community support officers, whose friendly presence gave children the thrill of "driving" a real police car.

Returning favourites included Max's ice cream van, along with a tempting selection of cream teas, cakes, and a lively BBQ. A huge thank you to Adam and the Village Inn team for expertly managing the bar.

Traditional fairground fun returned with bouncy castles, tombolas, and a wide range of games. Children tried their luck at splat-the-rat, hoopla, hook-a-duck, and the ever-tricky flip-a-frog. But the biggest crowd-pleaser? Without a doubt, the "holey cheese game", which stumped nearly everyone brave enough to try!

Our raffle was a highlight, offering brilliant prizes including a



Splat the Rat



Village Fete 2025

and Sunshine



microlight flight, a signed Swindon Town FC shirt, £100 cash, and many other generous contributions.

The soundtrack to the afternoon was provided by the fantastic Old Friends and Fran Daisy, whose live music kept spirits high throughout the day.

The church tower tours proved a hit with adults and children alike, accompanied by exquisite flower displays that showcased our community's creativity and care.

Celebrations continued into the evening with a buzzing "after party" at the Village Inn, featuring more live music and laughter.

Reflecting on the event, Revd. Steve Paynter shared:

"This was another fantastic success by a dedicated team of volunteers. The PCC is extremely grateful to all who contributed and enabled All Saints to be kept in good repair for another year!"

Mark your calendars—next year's fête will be held on **Saturday, 20th June 2026!** We're already gathering ideas to make it even more magical, taking on all we've learned to raise the bar again.

Plus, the Christmas Bazaar will be on **Saturday, 6th December.** Further details to follow.



Flip a Frog



Holey Cheese Game



After party at
the Village Inn



Police visited

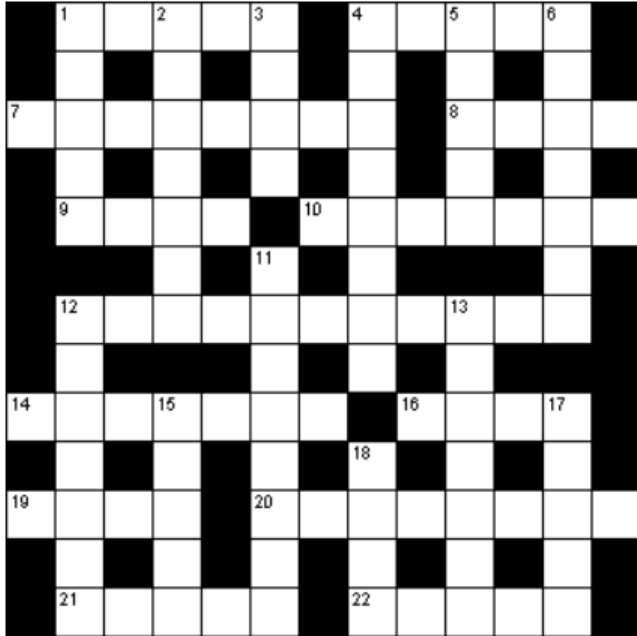
Puzzle of the Month - August 2025

We are pleased to confirm that **The Brewer's Arms** Pub have agreed to sponsor the "Puzzle of the month" for 2025 and are offering a £25 Amazon voucher to the winning person each month. Please complete the puzzle below, take a picture of your answers and send them to Lydenmagazine@gmail.com by **14th August 2025**. In the event of more than 1 correct answer received, the winner will be drawn out of a hat - good luck!

Winner and answers will be provided in next month's Lyden

This month's puzzle is a "Coffee Break Cryptic"

THE BREWERS ARMS
WANBOROUGH



Across

- 1 Monk's garb is hot to some extent (5)
- 4 Old rulers of Iran unaffected by revolution? (5)
- 7 Organisms present in dressed crab I ate? (8)
- 8 Spoil English horse (4)
- 9 Eddy, possibly, changed colour (4)
- 10 Offering to pay for the lot? (7)
- 12 Sergeant may revert to former state (4,7)
- 14 Drooping duck by Italian river - or African river (7)
- 16 Seaside attraction or something to eat by river (4)
- 19 Helsinki resident, perhaps, fine in north (4)
- 20 I can't stir, I've become idle (8)
- 21 A girl not entirely repellent (5)
- 22 Loner forced to register (5)

Down

- 1 Firm with nothing in stock (5)
- 2 Gamblers associated with elders? (7)
- 3 Rent provided by tenant or neighbour (4)
- 4 European coming from Paris and needing translation (8)
- 5 Injured leader departs, carrying a weapon (5)
- 6 Elastic band held by agent (7)
- 11 Cook tangy pie- like mummy? (8)
- 12 Journalist provided with cool building (7)
- 13 One who flies from Swansea via Torquay (7)
- 15 Greek god on the Spanish jury (5)
- 17 Composer left after dance party (5)
- 18 Naked animal we hear (4)

July's Winner

Lesley O'Keeffe

Well Done

Solutions for July's puzzle



Well done to everyone who submitted correct answers. Winner was drawn out of a hat. If you didn't win this month please try again!



The Brewer's Arms

Our outside play area is now complete so come and see us and let the children have some fun outside while the adults enjoy a catch up!

Our main menu is now available for takeaway, collection and delivery to wanborough and redlands is available.

Finally, our offer of the month is a special pizza which will change weekly and cocktail for only £13.95 (eating in only available Wednesday and Thursday evening)

To book at table:-

Tel - 01793 790707

E-mail - enquiries@brewers-arms.co.uk

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May Archer's personal account of World War 2 in Wanborough. (Part 1)

Whilst the country has been celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day, I have been thinking a lot about my own experiences during the War and being a nine-year-old child, living in Wanborough, when the War broke out. Whilst lying in bed, I began reminiscing and, with nothing better to do, decided to go street by street and count how many houses there were within the village - 500, most of which were thatched. Not including the extra buildings that were put up to house the soldiers in and around the village, it was one way to pass the morning!

The current Cross Keys was built behind the original Cross Keys (which was built just before the War), the original building was thatched during the War, and the pub kept going throughout. Within the pub there was a bread oven, this was built just before the War and used throughout. We used to go down to my Granny Keen's house down Foxbridge, to have our tea and then perhaps, in the summer, go to the Cross Keys and sit in a separate room to the pub - only for the children - whilst the adults had a drink in the bar.

The aircraft guns were down Stratton Road, when the sirens went off, we would then have to make sure that we went for cover. During one incident, I was wearing my sister's sunglasses and when the guns went off, it made me jump, they fell to the floor, and smashed. I still chuckle about this now, I never admitted it, but I am sure that she knew it was me.

The searchlight field was up at Manor Farm at Fox Hill, and to this day they still call it Searchlight Field. You could see the Searchlight go up and see all the planes flying over and they always used to reckon, they (the planes) would fly over Wanborough Church and straight over to Old Town Church and follow the churches on their way to bomb Coventry. When they bombed Coventry Cathedral, that's what they would say, that they could mark out the churches and follow over the top of them to find their next bombing location.

When we were at school, if the sirens sounded, we would go down King's Lane and sit underneath the verge down there, as the hedge was cut right back, and sit under the trees. Then, later (as the War progressed) when the sirens started, we would run along the road and go into the cellar at The Calley Arms. If there were too many of us, especially when the evacuees came, the older children would be able to go to houses instead of going to the Calley Arms. As there were too many of us to go into the cellar, I used to go to a house in Westview in Aunty Patty Constable's house. She was some relation to my Granny Keen, my mum always used to talk about Aunty Pat Constable.

There was also a thatched cottage that was part of King's Lane, and a lady called Mrs Gale lived there. When her husband went into the army she went to live with her mother and father in the High Street at Ambrose Cottages. She didn't like to stay in the cottage on her own. Houses on King's Lane used to have to go to the top of the Lane to get water from the well because there was no water in the houses at the bottom and now there are ditches on each side of the lane. A lady used to come to our house and see my mum, with a big basin of dripping and ask my mum to give some to Carrie, who was my Granny Keen. She used to wear this old fashioned white bonnet and a big white apron and a black dress underneath. Her husband jumped down the well though and committed suicide but that is where everyone on King's Lane had to get their water. My brother Bob always laughed about her and her bonnet too.

Quite a few men went to War in the village, in the Post Office Mrs Horton had a big board and it had all the names of the different men. There were two Smith brothers (Ken and Bradley) both went in the Navy, Eva Kimberly she went in the WAFs, Gilbert and Bob Kimberly went in the army, Bob Dance went in the Army but he came from Bishopstone but there were quite a lot. We were lucky though and not many died. Aunty Patty's daughter was in the Naffy, and her husband got killed in the War and he is buried up the churchyard. We used to have these dances with the Welcome Home fund round the Village Hall to celebrate the men coming back from the War. Some didn't come back though, as they found wives and moved to various places to be with them, the Kimberly brothers moved up to Leicester.

VE day was a big celebration with activities in the hall and on the playing field, they had a marquee at the bottom of the field as the swings were up at the top of the field in those days. There were four swings for the older and two for the youngsters, but they were always locked up on a Sunday, they were always chained to the side and locked because of Chapel. There was a chapel along the road here, in Rotten Row where the garages are now, and one at the bottom of the Beanlands and one at the School Room.

During the War, Mrs Palmer who lived at College Farm, she used to get the cheese, and several ladies would go along there and make cheese sandwiches for the soldiers that were at the camp. I went with Mrs Higgins once and I had to go up to College Farm and get some more cheese because there were quite a few soldiers there. We had to grate the cheese and then put it in sandwiches but I was afraid of the dog, so I would run along the road to the farm and back as quickly as I could to avoid the dog. There were no lights though so I ran as quick as I could and hoping not to be chased by the dog or fall in the ditch.

My husband, Bob Archer, was a farm hand and all the teenagers on a Sunday used to meet up at the crossroads at the top of Callas Hill. Everyone went to the top of Callas Hill, there was a rail and that is where I met Bob, nowadays some children get into gangs but that was the spot that all the teenagers used to meet up and that's where I met my future husband. In those days, Chaney's bus used to put on a bus to take Wanborough Football Club to their matches in Swindon where they used to play, we all used to go on the bus to watch the football and then meet up at the top of Callas Hill after.

Old Mrs Horton started up Wanborough Carnival and she used to sell tickets, those who sold the most would be the Carnival Queen. I was the queen once when I was 15 towards the end of the War, so I must have sold a lot of tickets. But Elsie Kimberly was a carnival queen, and they used to sit on a chair on the horse and cart and two of the maids stood at the back of her and two in the front sat facing her. Rupert Ogborn used to bring his horse and cart. He would decorate it all up with flowers all along the wood at the back. They used to put lots of bunches of flowers around the top.

This stopped during the War though but started again at the end as a celebration. Mary Stratford and a Hower girl were also queens and my sister Phil she was also a Carnival Queen and one of the maids was Elsie Gills, my hairdresser Judy's mother, she later became a Kimber.

There were a lot of soldiers at the camp. There were huts, where the first two cottages are now, just as you go past the allotments, and the gun fixers were there. Further down, there was a little cottage which the Warren's got and that was a farm cottage. Foxbridge was across the field and there were several huts down there because when the War ended and there was a shortage of houses, the council took those over and made Warneage Green. Most of the people from the Camp went into and lived at Warneage Green.

Next month - Part 2 of May Archer's Personal's Account of WW2

Ladies who Lunch

"It's not that muddy walk, is it? Not the one where two of us got stuck? That one where we all complained bitterly?"

Yes it was, and no it wasn't. Same walk, but parched and cracking ground. Hard ridges fit to break an ankle, so plenty of opportunities for complaining, if the mood took them. But sunshine changes things and a happy brood in tee-shirts and sun hats, awaited instructions in the car park. Not a long walk, apparently, though as there were several men in the group now, a longer option would be offered halfway through in case the men were feeling unchallenged by the strolling pace of Ladies Who Chatter.

In fact there were several opportunities for the men to prove themselves: stiles to stand by with the offer of helping hands, gates to hold open, and of course shouts to be shouted when dawdlers threatened to be late for the lunch at the pub.

Those metal gates had a message anyway: not kissing gates as much as squashing ones. Do not eat puddings ever again, or you will be too fat to get through. And bare legs on a hot day? Remember: nettles love to sting you. It hurts.

Hurting and health, the evergreen topics of conversation. New knees, new stents, new problems with an ear, with a headache, with a kidney, (can a bad arm really compete with that?) and some very pretty patterns in front of the eyes. They can run an organ recital forever, they find. Then the other welcome perennials: house selling, holidays and grandchildren. Trips to two sorts of the frozen north: Norway and Yorkshire, and the number of jumpers packed. A tale of a narrowly-averted catastrophe in a shower in Devon. And the way that Australia never seems to get any nearer.

Finally the arrival at the pub in Woolstone to sit outside with cooling drinks and wasps and a long wait for food. Save The Wasp campaign struggled on valiantly for a while but succumbed to No, No and NO! as a vicious whacking restored a bit of calm for diners.

Those who had stamina girded their loins for an Open Gardens visit. Those who were old or busy, went home. A happy Friday for the Woolstone Wanderers.

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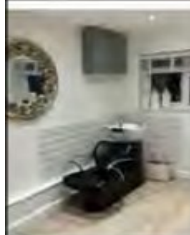
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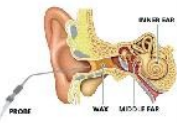
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Mid-summer is always a busy time for us all, both in and out of the garden. So, I'm keeping things short in this month's musings. I hope you're all enjoying the beautiful weather, but personally, a little rain would be appreciated!

Brighten up a shady spot.

Last month I mentioned a few of my favourite evergreen ground cover plants for awkward shady spots. We are following on the theme this month, with plants that brighten up and or add interest to your shady border, a patch under a tree, a north facing wall or a dark corner surrounded by buildings.

If you want to introduce a degree of privacy or sense of scale or drama, look no further than Fantasia Japonica, the castor oil plant. It pairs well with ferns and the slug resistant Hosta 'Big Daddy' to create a lush feel. Add summer flowers such as fragrant lillies, astrantia, hardy geraniums and bellflowers, all will bloom in cool shade. Consider your carpet: plant mat-forming evergreen wild ginger (*Asarum europaeum*) for all year interest or choose an alternative from last month's ground cover list and you'll have a shady spot that looks amazing!



It's not too late to revamp your borders.

Some early flowering summer plants can look a little sad at this time of year with sprawling foliage, fading flowers, and flopping stems and even some mildew. They've worked hard and need some tender loving care. If you missed The 'Chelsea Chop' back in May, it's not too late to cut certain perennials back. They will reward you with fresh new growth and maybe a second flush of late flowers.

Plants such as Salvia, Nepeta, Alchemilla, some hardy geraniums, Centaurea, Delphiniums and Lupins can be cut-back to just above ground level. After their chop, water well and feed with a granular fertiliser or liquid seaweed, and you'll be rewarded with fresh foliage within a couple of weeks. You might like to stagger the cut back to avoid losing all the growth at once and seeing too many bare patches.



Grow your own plants

Take shrub cuttings of Hydrangea, deutzia, weigela, philadelphus and buddleja. For best success I like to take my cuttings first thing in the morning.

- Choose nonflowering stems with 4-5 sets of leaves and pop into a plastic bag straight after cutting to preserve their moisture.
- Trim the cutting 5-7cm below a leaf joint and remove the lower leaves.
- Insert into small pots of compost with at least 25% vermiculite or perlite mixed, this improves drainage and cover with a polythene bag or mist regularly with a water spray bottle.
- Just give them moisture, humidity and not too much heat in a shaded greenhouse or north-facing windowsill out of direct sunlight and they should root within 4-6 weeks.

Happy Gardening!

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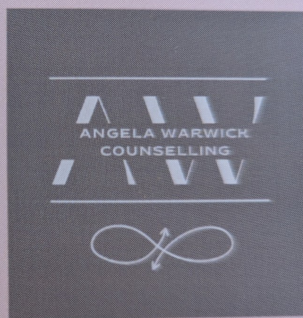
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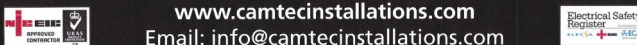


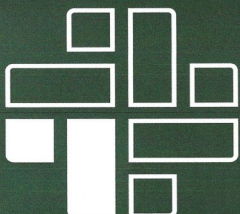

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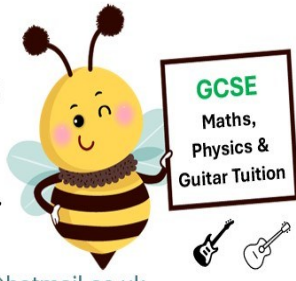
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