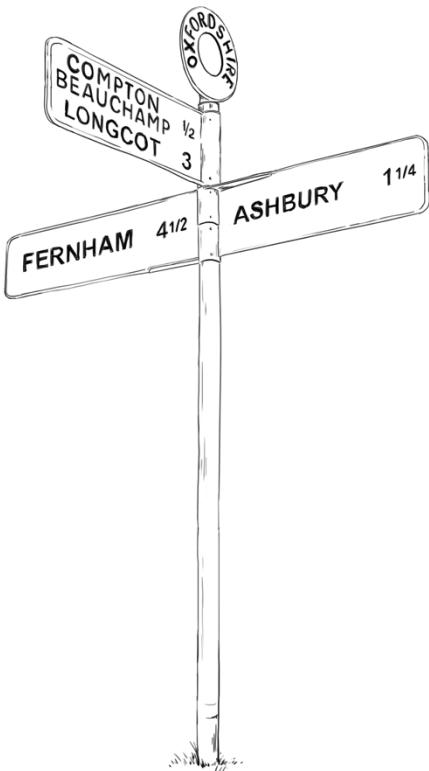


ASHBURY

COMPTON LONGCOT FERNHAM

NEWS

July 2018



SEE INSIDE: this month -changes in response to your questionnaire comments

Major Events this month

Rev Canon Richard Hancock to move in August

Monday 9th 7.30 Ashbury Parish Council meeting 7.30pm

Community Club to visit Historic England Archive

Thought for the month

Time to say goodbye

It is with a mixture of excitement and sadness that I announce that I have been appointed as the new Rural Field Officer and Priest in Charge of Sixpenny Handley, Gussage St Andrew and Pentridge in the Salisbury Diocese. This is a new post in the Diocese and I will become part of a team developing mission in the rural church in North and East Dorset while looking after a small group of parishes. My final Sunday will be Sunday 26th August and the family and I will move the following week.

The Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice has been a wonderful place to serve and bring up our family and we will leave with many happy memories. Can I thank you all for your friendship and support over the past 17 years, it has been a delight to be part of such a positive Christian community that has embraced mission. Please hold us in your prayers as we prepare for our new challenge, and also Norma and Richard as they prepare for an interregnum. The process of appointing my successor has begun and it is hoped a new vicar will be in place by Easter 2019.

Blessings
The Rev Canon Richard Hancock. TSSF

Views expressed in “Thought for the month” are those of the contributors

Ashbury News

Anne Bunce and family would like to say thank you for the messages of sympathy and cards on the loss of her husband John.

Thank you to: Vic and Jean Tombs, Morris and Sue Conway Lee, Rev Norma Fergusson and Richard Fergusson for being there, taking the service, and the Shrivenham Bellringers who did the bellringing for John. I will get in touch with you all in due time. I had a total of sixty cards. Thank you all who attended John's funeral.

Stainswick Show Saturday 30th June

Stainswick Manor, Stainswick Lane, Shrivenham

Horse Show starts at 9am. Dog Show starts at 2pm.

Many classes for novice riders, children, adults and riders with disabilities. Strictly no plaits! Dog Show includes novelty classes. Hundreds of Rosettes!!!!

In aid of St Swithun's Church Compton Beauchamp

Ashbury Community Club

Tour of Historic England Archive (near Swindon Outlet Centre) **Thursday 26th July at 2pm**

Our guide will tell us about the vast collection of photos and documents and show us the library, public search rooms and the environmentally controlled archive store.

Non-members are welcome but numbers are limited so please contact **Sue Reade**, 710208 or Jackie Baker, 710358 as soon as possible if interested.

Ashbury Knitting Group (S.O.S.)

Hi, our group are knitting blankets for charity but our stash of wool is running thin. If anyone has any wool that needs a new home, our meeting every Wednesday in the dining room of the Rose and Crown between 6-8pm, will be the place to leave it.

All are welcome at our meetings; just drop by to see our efforts, have a go at knotting or crochet (we have spare needles etc.) or just have a chat about it in a very relaxed way.

The landladies of the Rose and Crown are very kind to grant us the space and time, for which we are very grateful. **Marina Tombs**

Christian Aid Collection May 2018 Thank you to everyone who so generously gave money, others who made donations and the people who gave of their time collecting door to door. This year the residents of Ashbury and Kingstone Winslow raised the fantastic sum of £1101.25. Added to this amount, at no cost to the person giving, is further £187.29 from Gift Aid. To quote from the Christian Aid literature 'Thank you, a thousand times, thank you!'.

Margaret Smith

Ashbury Village Hall -contact Maggie Simons (710801) for further details

Gentle Yoga - Fridays 10.00-11.00 am, Ashbury Village Hall

£5 per session. More participants welcome! To book please contact Neeraj Hargun on 07717346531 or email Neeraj.Hargun@southvale.gov.uk

Church Matters

Ashbury: Services are at 11am on Sundays at St Mary's except 15th which will be Café church at the Village shop. (see Ashbury News above)

Compton: 9am on 1st and 10.30 am (Patronal festival) on 15th

Longcot: 9.30am except 15th at 6pm. Joint service on 1st at 3pm.

Fernham: 9.00am except 22nd at 6pm and 11.00am on 29th.

Benefice service at Watchfield on 29th July 10.30am

The Ashbury prayer cycle for July will be: 1st Ashbury Hill, 8th Berrycroft, 15th Berrycroft Lane, 22nd Chapel Lane, 29th Church Lane.

Ashbury Evangelical Free Church

Sunday 8th at 10.15 a.m. Communion service

Wednesday 4th and 18th at 2.15pm. tea & chat.

Everyone is welcome!!

Longcot Churches working together

Sun. 1st 3pm - Revd. Richard Hancock will be leading our service this month and you are most welcome to join us. Tea and biscuits will be served after the service.

Fri. 27th 3pm Afternoon tea will be available in the Chapel from 3-4.30pm and we'd be delighted if you were to join us. There is no charge but we welcome donations to our chosen charity of the month. If transport would help or you'd just like to know more please contact Stella on 01793 782584.

Around the Benefice

Breakfast Groups

The Men's breakfast group is taking a break until October; watch this space for more details.

Breakfast Bible Study, however, continues. If you would like to join this friendly, open minded discussion group, please call Norma on 710055 for more details.

Looking forward

Sunday 29 July – no services in Ashbury, Longcot, Fernham or Compton Beauchamp as there will be a benefice service in St Thomas, Watchfield at 10.30.

Many of you will know by now that Richard Hancock is leaving the benefice and his last service will be in Shrivenham at 10.30 on 26 August. This will be followed by a “bring and share” lunch. Everyone is welcome to attend; there will be a collection from all the churches in the benefice and cards from each church. Please contact Norma for (710055) for more details.

Although we will do our best to keep the show on the road, it is possible that there may be some changes to the pattern of services we have all become used to. However, this is an opportunity for anyone who is interested in planning and leading services of the word to become more involved. To find out more, come to St Mary's House (8 Chapel Lane Ashbury) at 7.30 on 3 July.

Prayer for the month

In this 70th anniversary of the NHS, a prayer for healing and healers:

Loving God, let my eyes be your eyes, sharing compassion, warmth and love. Let my hands be your hands, bringing healing with their touch. Let my ears be your ears, listening where there is need. Let my words be your words, bringing comfort, joy and peace. Use these hands to carry the burden; use this voice to carry your word; use these feet to walk in your footsteps and use this heart to transform the world. Amen

Café Church in Ashbury's Village Shop



Sunday, 15 July at 11am

No service in St Mary's that day

Norma

Country Matters

Silage making was late this year. We missed the early May good weather and then it was delayed by an unsettled spell so crops were eventually heavy. Modern machinery on contract has revolutionized the grass harvest so that what once took us several weeks is now completed in a day or two. Looking back it was a mistake to have struggled on with our own smaller forage harvester. I counted 9 red kites swooping over one 23 acre field looking for voles and mice but this is too many and no wonder leverets and other game struggle to survive.

There was a heron on the pond in the vale I created in 2011 and this year we have a patch of yellow stinking iris or gladdon flowering round the borders which was transplanted from Mrs Elmore's Nutfield Lodge pond at Longcot. A lone common spotted orchid has also miraculously appeared. I am also hoping to transplant some wild marsh marigolds or kingcups with permission from Danny Finch's Bishopstone millstream garden to further add to the interesting botany there with dragon and damsel flies numerous.

Bishopstone's Royal Oak pub has been a promotor of foraging to add interest to their menu offering. This is a big subject. Earlier on in the year salads, sandwiches, omelets and soups could be infused with young chopped leaves from cow parsley, wild garlic, even chickweed, the heart shaped leaves of lime, red clover and sorrel. From July jams, pies, tarts, jellies and yoghurts are a good place for bilberries, crab apples, the wild plums in our hedgerows, blackberries of course and wines and winter warmers can be very successfully made from sloes, blackberries and elderberries. Elderflowers and meadow sweet make lovely summer cordials and teas can be flavoured even from young bramble leaves and honeysuckle.

Medicinally, mallow leaves and stems were used to treat both constipation and diarrhoea. Yarrow was used to stem nose bleeds and in the second war field hospitals was useful in stemming bleeding from wounds. Feverfew plants gained a reputation as a physic and in treating colic and migraines. Young nettles and fat hen (dungle weed) can be steamed to replace spinach, the former losing their sting when cooked. Then we have the nuts and fungi. Field mushrooms have tremendous flavour but are unpredictable each year; young puff balls are also edible but now seem less common. Ceps (penny bun) and chanterelles growing in woodland are the main fungi sought by foragers but alas no one has told me where to look round here!

I have seen chanterelles growing in Sweden and once famously enjoyed a risotto cooked with them picked that day as guests in the Alps on the Italian slopes of Mont Blanc. In our local streams there is an abundant source of crayfish but now the American signal variety dominates. A friend recently found his pet sheep stuck in his stream and plagued with numerous crays crawling over it, so much that they had begun to eat its ears, which reminds of the time many years ago when I got a newly born calf in from the fields with its ears half nibbled off by a fox the previous night.

Richard Green

Contacts

Ashbury Parish Council

Chairman and Communications Officer Kate Watkins

01793 710440 kate_l_watkins@hotmail.co.uk

Clerk to the council -Claire Arnold ashburyparishcouncilclerk@outlook.com.

Defibrillator: On the wall by the School entrance

St Mary's Ashbury Parochial Church Council

Associate Vicar Revd Norma Fergusson 01793 710055 rev.n.fergusson@btinternet.com
(not Mondays or Fridays)

Church warden: Maggie Simons 01793 710801

Secretary: Roger Simons 01793 710801 rogersimons1@outlook.com

Vicar Rev. Richard Hancock 01793 780183 (Shrivenham)

Ashbury Village Hall

Maggie Simons 0193 710801 maggiemsimons@outlook.com

Secretary Margaret Smith 01793 710800 mbsmith5@hotmail.co.uk

Bookings: Lin and Kevin Clarke 01793 710326

Ashbury Village Shop 01793 710068

G.P. Surgeries Shrivenham 01793 782207 Lambourn 01488 71715/72299

Post Office at the Rose & Crown Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30-11.30am

Vale of the White Horse District Council 01235 422422

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/>

Recycling/Rubbish collection queries admin.vale@biffa.co.uk

Food waste is collected weekly, green/black bins alternate each week. Garden waste brown bins fortnightly. Mondays except Bank holidays.

Your Local District Councillors are: Elaine Ware 01973 783026

elaine.ware@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and Simon Howell 01793 784491

simon.howell@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

County Councillor: Yvonne Constance: 01235 751475/07976934884

yvonne.constance@oxfordshire.gov.uk

M.P. for the Wantage constituency: Ed Vaizey. Contact information. House of Commons London SW1A 0AA. Bus. phone: 0207 219 6350. email: ed.vaizey.mp@parliament.uk.

Newsletter entries for **August** 2018. Submit your entries for August by **20th July** to: M. Turner Claremont, Ashbury SN6 8LN. marionturner@me.com 01793 710302

For more of “what’s on” and local information see the Ashbury Village Website www.ashbury.org.uk and the community page on Facebook.