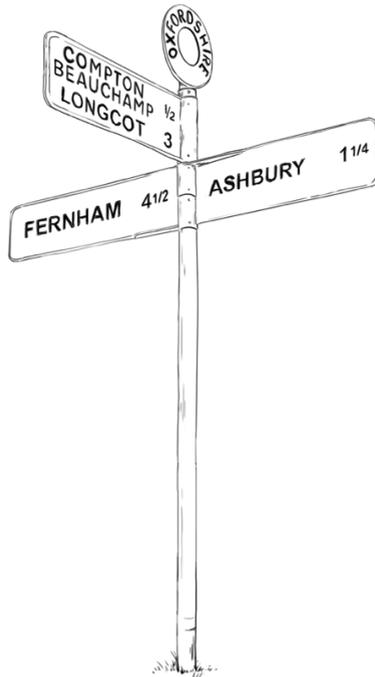


ASHBURY COMPTON LONGCOT FERNHAM NEWS

JUNE 2019



Major Events this month

Longfest-Longcot Community Summer Music Festival
Ashbury Village Fete
Cotswold Woollen Weavers- Community Club

Thought for the month

Rejoice with me for I have found that which was lost.

Have you ever been looking for something, fearing that it may be lost for ever, as it is like looking for a 'needle in a haystack', then when you find it you experience that intense feeling of euphoria? Suzanne laughs at me as she says I have an involuntary hand movement, checking my breast pocket for my phone. Last night Suzanne did a short run to continue her fitness regime even after Sunday's half marathon in Leeds! To support her I said I'd take Tom for a walk. For a very short way ... before the path turned up the hill, I jogged with her....we then agreed that I would then walk up to meet her on the Ridgeway...Part way up the path I did my customary 'phone check' only to find the pocket empty! I retraced my steps until the point I started jogging but to no avail..... When we got home I found that I had left it behind when I had changed shirts!

This morning I walked Tom up on the Ridgeway & on the way back down the field I noticed a lot of 'black grass' in the corn so I carefully went along some of the rows of corn near the path and plucked them out. When I got almost to the bottom of the field probably 300m later I did my 'phone check' only to find the pocket empty again! No worries I thought...I must have left it at home again....then I realised that just before I started weeding I had taken a photo. ... How do you find a phone dropped anywhere in a 300m stretch of field with the corn about 40cm high?

I retraced my steps and, fortunately, each time I got back onto the path I had dropped the weeds there, so I knew where to look along the rows..... Each time I went into the corn I told Tom not to follow me but at one point almost back where I had started weeding he did go into the corn... I called him out but mentally marked the spot. I carried on my search, methodically checking the corn each time I found a weed on the path.....when I did reach the point where Tom had gone in....there was my phone! I felt so pleased to have found my phone as, rather pathetically, I do love it and use it constantly.

I try to read the Bible every day; this morning, before I went out, I read about the woman who had 10 coins & lost one so searched everywhere until she found it. It's the same chapter as the story of the lost sheep & lost (Prodigal) son. It says that there is that feeling of euphoria in Heaven over each person who repents & turns to God!

Andrew Bunce

Views expressed in "Thought for the month" are those of the contributors

Ashbury News

The Knitting Group

It's a big thank you to all who bought a yellow chick from the tea room. Lorna once again did us proud and displayed our knitting to perfection. So it is a very big thanks to her that we raised the sum of £118 for the British Legion.

Throughout the summer there will be other knitted items from time to time, so visit often and watch this space!

Marina Tombs

Ashbury Community Club Thursday 27th June

An outing to Cotswold Woollen Weavers at Filkins near Lechlade with a tour of the museum and shop followed by afternoon tea.

We'll leave Ashbury at 2pm. Car sharing, so if anyone would like a lift please contact **Jackie Baker, 710358**

Ashbury Baby & Toddler Group – The group is back running every Monday afternoon 12.30-2.30pm during term time. It is a “Stay and Play” session for families and carers with children under 5 living in Ashbury and the surrounding villages. First session is free and subsequent sessions are £1.50. A snack and drink are provided for the children and a hot drink for the adults. We will be running through to Monday 22nd July so please pop along with your little ones and support our little village group. Contact Kate at AshburyBabyToddlerGroup@hotmail.com for further information.

Ashbury Village Fete, Car Boot Sale and “Fun Dog Show”

JUNE 29TH 12-4pm

***Stalls*Games*Bar*Food*Entertainment*Music**

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

call Diane on 01793 710309 if you would like to have your own stall or talk to Andy or Lorna at the Shop.

Donations of bric-a-brac and old crockery can be dropped off at the shop

SEE YOU THERE

Village Green Update

We expect work on the new playing field to start in August and are delighted to report that most of the funding we need is now in the bank. The National Lottery has given us £7000, bringing the total money raised so far to £19,500 of the £25,500 total. We were turned down by Sport England, which was disappointing, but you can't win them all! We're now busy with applications to bridge the funding gap. Making the playing field will involve large machinery and we shall need to restrict access to part of the Village Green while the groundwork is done and also while new grass grows. More details nearer the time.

I mentioned last month the second phase of the Village Green project – a Heritage Tree Trail with native trees, a commemorative space and willow sculptures. We've applied for £5000 from the Calor Community Fund. To be shortlisted our application needs to be one of the most popular so please support us with your votes! Voting is open until 17 June. To vote online:

1. Go to <https://www.calor.co.uk/shop/communityfund/about-the-fund> , select Login/Register and register to vote.
2. Go to the same page again and select “Vote for projects”.
3. This will take you to the Project List. Search for : Heritage (Our picture is a drawing — that's how you will know it is us.)
4. Cast your votes (each person gets 10). You may need to select “Vote for projects” again.
5. Please encourage all your friends and family to do the same. They do not need to live in the village. The process is a bit fiddly — we had to have a couple of goes, but don't give up: we really need you!

Many thanks for all the support we've had from the village so far. Don't hesitate to get in touch with your ideas and questions. **Liz Derrington** (email elizabethderrington45@gmail.com or phone 710813)

Longcot News



Longfest: Community Summer Music Festival 22nd June 7-11pm
Tickets www.FACEBOOK.COM/LONGFEST2019 £10/£5 under 18.

All proceeds to Village.

Church Matters

Ashbury: St Mary's services are at **11am** each Sunday except **N.B.** Benefice services: 16th Shrivensham 10.15am, and 30th Watchfield , 10.30am.

Compton: **9am** on June 2nd; 16th and 30th as Ashbury.

Longcot: **3 pm** on June 2nd- joint service in the Chapel. **9.30am** on 9th and 23rd; 16th and 30th as Ashbury.

Fernham: **3pm.** on June 2nd (join with Longcot) **9am** on 9th and 19th, **6pm** on 23rd; 16th and 30th as Ashbury.

The Ashbury prayer cycle for June will be: 2nd Odstone Farm and Cottages, 9th, Pound Piece, 16th Station Road, 23rd, Malthouse, 30th Walnut Trees Hill.

Ashbury Evangelical Free Church

No communion service this month.

Tea and chat Wednesday 5th June 2.15pm. Everyone is welcome!!

Longcot Churches working together -Chapel News

SUN. 2nd 3pm - This month's united service will be led by Revd David Perkins who is Superintendent Minister of the Upper Thames Circuit. Everyone is welcome to join us and to stay for tea and biscuits afterwards.

FRI. 28th 3pm - T Time Fellowship. There will be a warm welcome for anyone wishing to join us for afternoon tea. There is no charge but donations to our chosen charity are welcome. If transport would help or you need to know more please ring **Stella Tidmarsh on 01793 782584.**

Around the Benefice

Breakfast Groups, open to all

Men's breakfast: in the Ashbury Village Hall on **Saturday 29 June.** Everyone is welcome, the conversation is great and the English breakfast is free – we just ask for a donation if you can. Please call Norma (710055) if you would like to come

Breakfast Bible Study: this monthly discussion group will meet again at Ivy House, Idstone Road, Ashbury on **Saturday 1 June** at 8am. Everyone is welcome to chat about anything and everything over a cup of coffee and a simple breakfast. Please call Roger Simons on 710801 to confirm

St Mary's Longcot: Music in Bloom

A huge thank you to Shirley Dalton-Morris and everyone who made the church so beautiful for this year's Flower Festival. Thank you also to The Clarinet Collective for the Spring Concert and to the Benefice Choir for Choral Evensong. You were all wonderful!

Thank you

- To Judy Clarke and everyone who supported the Safari supper last month
- To Margaret Smith and everyone who supported Christian Aid week. This year the monies raised will go to support mothers and babies in Sierra Leone by providing safer facilities for childbirth.

Midweek Communion continues

There will be a short, said, service of Holy Communion in the Celtic Tradition at St Mary's Ashbury on Thursday 13 June at 11am.

Sunday 16th June: Father's Day All Age Service at St Andrew's - All Welcome

Led by the Bishop of Dorchester, the Right Rev'd Colin Fletcher, followed by a bring and share lunch.

Music at Ashdown

The Shrevenham recorder group will be playing outdoors at Ashdown House at 2pm on Wednesday 26 And Saturday 29 June .

A Pilgrim Prayer

God of the nomad and the pilgrim, may we find our security in you and not in our possessions. May our homes be open to guests and our hearts to one another, so that all our travelling is lighter and together we reach our goal.
Amen

Norma

Country Matters

A new reality TV channel 5 programme is called “New wife-old wife” showing the former partner in marriage entertaining her ex and new partner. You could call that rotation. On the same theme another form of rotation can occur when a man marries his mistress. It has been said that in rather ungallant terms that this act can create a vacancy waiting to be filled.

In farming terms rotations are not so spicy but nothing new. “Turnip” Townshend was the 2nd Viscount Townshend (died 1738) and with his brother-in-law the first Prime Minister, Horace Walpole he was an important parliamentarian who directed this country’s foreign policy. At his estate, Raynham in Norfolk he contributed to the agricultural revolution, enriching soils and increasing production with his Norfolk four course rotation of turnips-barley-clover and then wheat. I was working in Norfolk in 1964/5 and wrote to Raynham searching for my next opportunity.

Ever since those early times, cropping rotations or mixed farming with livestock have been the bed rock of successful farming. Turnips would have been planted in the spring following the wheat harvest, then grazed or carried to sheep or cattle over the next winter fertilising the soil, barley was sown next spring, probably undersown with clover which was available after harvest to graze with sheep over winter and the following year, before ploughing in those nitrogen fixing nodules in September to enhance the fertility of the wheat crop in the fourth year. Straw from the two cereal crops would have bedded cattle in yards over winter with their dung returned to the land before ploughing.

Today with grass and clover in the rotation on organic or livestock and mixed farms good rotations present fewer problems. As mixing farming has declined arable only farms have depended on oil seed rape and beans, sometimes oats as a rotational break before the fertility demanding wheat crop. With the rise of the dreaded weed “black grass”, spring cropping with barley has also checked this weed’s winter development because the weed can be killed in the spring before planting. So a modern five year rotation without livestock might be spring barley-oil seed rape-wheat-beans- wheat.

The trouble is growing oil seed rape successfully is now threatened by the insect, flea beetle. The product formerly used in its control has been withdrawn because of its alleged impact on the bee population and many of this year’s crops have been affected, some devastated. Farming challenges like this seem to be increasing and this autumn farmers will be scratching their heads before deciding what to plant next.

Richard Green

Contacts

Ashbury Parish Council

Chairman Cliff Davies 01793 710712 chairman@ashbury.org.uk

Clerk to the council: Laura Evans email clerk@ashbury.org.uk

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 interregnum (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 with Compton Beauchamp CE(A) Primary School and little Berries Preschool

Headteacher Rachael Smith 01793 710259 [www. http://www.ashburyprimary.org.uk](http://www.ashburyprimary.org.uk)

office.3851@ashbury.oxon.sch.uk

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 **July** 2019. Submit your entries for July by **15th June** to: M. Turner Claremont, Ashbury SN6 8LN. marionlturner@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.