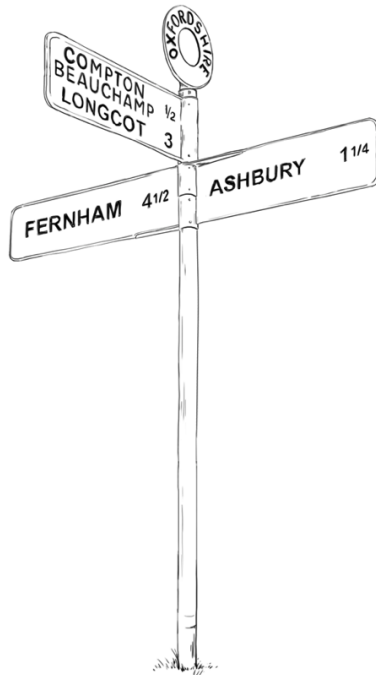


ASHBURY COMPTON LONGCOT FERNHAM NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019



Major Events this month

Choral Evensong 8th
Induction to Shrivenham of Revd Norma Fergusson 11th
Ride and Stride 14th Ridgeway Run 21st

Thought for the month

A recent small extension to my cottage has resulted in a slight re-arrangement of the garden, affording space for a very small pond to be installed – environmental rather than ornamental. Having installed the necessary plants I filled the pond with water and waited, hoping that dragon flies, water boatmen etc might eventually move in.

To my delight, about a fortnight later I discovered that a frog had taken up residence. I was thrilled and felt really privileged that he/she had chosen to make its home in my pond and seems happy for me to get quite close. Three weeks later I found I had two frogs and it set me thinking. How often do we consider the wild creatures that share our lives? Yes, we love the cute and cuddly ones but wasps, greenfly, mosquitoes? No thanks; even squirrels, foxes and badgers can be unpopular because of the damage they do.

Hedgehogs are welcome as are the birds we encourage with our bird tables and feeders and we enjoy the butterflies and bees on our plants but what about the rest? All the bugs, worms, beetles, insects, mammals and birds that visit or live in our gardens have their particular role to play in the general scheme of things and that scheme is God's. Right from the beginning, God had a plan for every aspect nature in his grand design. Shouldn't we remember and respect that giving thanks for God's many, many gifts for we humans to enjoy?

Stella Tidmarsh

PS On the day I started to write this I discovered three frogs in the pond!!

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

Ashbury News

Are you the final piece in the jigsaw?

The parish council still needs to fill its final vacancy.

Would you like the opportunity to play a part in working to improve the lives of those in your local community? It really is a great way to influence decisions on issues that impact on all of us.

If you'd like more information please contact our parish clerk, Laura Evans, at clerk@ashbury.org.uk

The Ridgeway Run -Saturday 21st September 9.00am start

The Ridgeway Run 2019 is proudly sponsoring Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) a charity that makes a difference. Based in Chilton Foliat, Lambourn RDA are completely self-supporting, so fund raising is essential in order to run a local riding centre. The RDA Support children and adults from Hungerford, Kintbury, Lambourn, Newbury, Thatcham and the surrounding villages. Emma McIntosh and Patricia Cleverley created the Run for everyone, the hare and the tortoise, they welcome everyone and look forward to seeing you on the day!

For registration please go to www.theridgewayrun.com/registration and to sponsor Lambourn RDA please go to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/ridgewayrun2019>

The Ridgeway Run are extremely grateful to Bower & Bailey Solicitors, Swindon and Pinewood School, Bourton for their continued support and sponsorship of the run.

FROM the FETE COMMITTEE

Many, many thanks to everyone who came to the village fete this year. A total of £1034 was raised for village projects and causes. Thank you to all who helped on the day, we couldn't have done it without you and a special thank you to the Rose and Crown Ashbury. With some of the proceeds a wheelchair has been purchased for anyone in the parish to use, free of charge. Please contact the village shop for more information. If you would like to get involved with planning for next year's fete please contact Diane Lovegrove on 710309, Mary Davies 710343, or the shop 710068.

Lorna on behalf of the Fete Committee

See Ride and Stride under Around the Benefice

ASHBURY COMMUNITY CLUB

Thursday September 26th. Outing to Swindon Museum & Art Gallery

We will be given an introductory talk at 2.30pm before viewing the galleries.

This month's special exhibitions are Ken White's paintings of life in the GWR works and local landscapes, also Ceramics, Touring collection of 60 years ago and W.I. centenary.

No charge and all welcome but we need to know numbers and arrange car-sharing. contact jackie8walnuts@hotmail.co.uk or phone 710358

Church Matters

SUNDAY SERVICES

DATE	ASHBURY	LONGCOT	FERNHAM	COMPTON BEAUCHAMP
1st September Trinity 11	11am Morning Worship	3pm-Chapel Joint Service (see below)	No service	9am Holy Communion [BCP]
8th September Trinity 12	6pm Choral Evensong (see note below)	9:30am Holy Communion (by extension)	No service	No service
15th September Trinity 13	11am Family service for Harvest	No service	No service (see note below)	9am Matins [BCP]
22nd September Trinity 14	11am Holy Communion	9.30 Family Communion	No service	No service
29th September Trinity 15		6pm Harvest Evensong		
29th September Trinity 15	10.30am Join with St. John's , Fernham for Holy Communion Benefice service			

In addition-Midweek services/ gatherings

Shrivenham- St. Andrew's

Wednesday 11th September- 7.30pm-The Presentation by the Lord Chancellor's representative,

Institution by the Bishop of Dorchester and Induction and Installation by the Archdeacon of Dorchester of The Revd Norma Fergusson as Vicar of the Shrivenham and Ashbury Benefice.

Ashbury- St. Mary's

Saturday 7th September- 8am-Bible breakfast- at Isobel & Graham Weller's, Watercress Lodge (01793 710665)

Sunday 8th September- 6pm- Special Choral evensong which will be followed by a glass of wine & nibbles. The Church will be looking really beautiful, full of wedding flowers from the previous day.

Thursday 12th September- 11am- short said service of Holy Communion in the Celtic tradition

Thursday 19th September- 8am- said Morning Prayer

Thursday 26th September- 8am- said Morning Prayer

Prayer cycle- for September- 1st Idstone Road, 8th Idstone, 15th. Kingstone Winslow, 22nd Malthouse Close, 29th Odstone Farm & Cottages

Ashbury- Evangelical Free Church

Wednesday 18th September- 2.15pm- Tea & chat-Everyone is welcome

Longcot- St. Mary's-

Subject to other pastoral commitments, Evening Prayer is normally said at 5pm on Tuesdays

Fernham- St. John's

Saturday 14th September- 11.30am Family service for Harvest

OTHER:

Bereavement Café is in St Andrew's Vestry on Tuesday 24th September from 2.30 - 4pm.

Longcot churches working together – Chapel news

Sunday **1st**. September- 3pm- This month's United Service will be led by Pam Mullin and Stella Tidmarsh.

Everyone is welcome to come along and to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Friday **27th** September- 3pm -T Time Fellowship. Do come along and enjoy afternoon tea in good company,

Everyone is welcome. There is no charge but donations to our chosen charity will be welcome and as this is the day of the Great Macmillan Coffee Morning this month's donations will go to Macmillan Cancer Care.

Longcot News

Saturday 12th October 2019 at 6.00pm

Autumn Concert given by

The Torriano Ensemble

Peter Lewis – flute Victoria Medcalf – clarinet

Julie Monument and Philippa Ballard – violin Audrey Henning – viola

Sarah Hedley- Miller – cello with Bethan Gillard - harp

A rare opportunity to hear Ravel's beautiful Introduction and Allegro for flute, clarinet, harp and string quartet. Also in the programme are Mozart's brilliant D major flute quartet, two quintessentially English works for clarinet and string quartet by Howells and Finzi and the well-known cello solo, The Swan from Saint-Saens' Carnival of the Animals.

Admission Free. **Donations in aid of the Longcot Village Trust.** Bar open before the concert and at the interval.

Around the Benefice

Root and Branch needs YOU!

We are a local, small, independent charity supporting adults with enduring mental health difficulties, helping build confidence and self-esteem through learning new skills.

Do you have skills you could share?

Could you lead a small group?

Are you willing to lend a listening ear?

Want to make a difference?

We need volunteers with skills in gardening, woodwork, cooking and blacksmithing. Hours are typically 09:30 to 14:15 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Come and join our friendly team on our beautiful site on Westmill Organic Farm, Watchfield.

To find out more, please visit our website www.rootandbranch.info or contact **Karen** on **01793 780380**.

Ride and Stride Saturday, 14th September

“It’s Ride and Stride time again. This is a fund-raising activity for Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust – and half of the funds raised will go to our own local churches.

There are many ways to get involved – cycling, walking or horse-riding being the most popular but others have combined their involvement with sight-seeing whilst on holiday or driving vintage tractors!

Gail Loose will be coordinating in Ashbury. Please contact her for information or offers of help. (710883)

Gail will be at Ashbury church for the day, providing refreshments and signing sponsorship forms. Any help (or just some company) on the day would be hugely welcome.”

Country Matters

As I write this on August 12th a date that hitherto was referred to as glorious, our weather here is unsettled and the combine is not making fast progress. Our rape crop was always going to be disappointing but at least it came in dry with masses of black flea beetles amongst the rape seed. They were part of the problem inhibiting growth along with poor weed control in a non vigorous crop. We first grew rape forty years ago and despite technological advances in seed breeding and agronomy this year has turned in our lowest yield ever at close to 1/t acre 2.5t/hect. Now we are still doing spring barley. A good crop perhaps at 3t/acre but several fields have what we call lodged ie they are flat in patches. Barley is harder to cut than wheat so the inclement weather is not ideal. Wheat looks good but bad weather could yet be a spoiler.

The “glorious” reference is to the start of grouse shooting in the north. I have been up several times and love the hills and moorland and the challenge of trying to shoot wild, unpredictable fast grouse. The RSPB want the activity licensed. Some Labour politicians and Chris Packham want it banned. Were the RSPB to consider being more flexible over the control of the raptor explosion and harm they do in certain areas, their ambition for licensing would be much more credible. If those who campaign to ban keepered moors succeed, the moors will soon be barren of all wildlife. The keepers, beaters, and picker uppers and their dogs will be redundant. Landowners, pubs, hotels and catering will miss the income and the rural economy will be the poorer. Grouse shooting is expensive. It is likely that some of the motivation to stop it involves misunderstanding and envy. It should be heralded as a unique success story with good benefits to the environment not available any elsewhere in the world.

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) but see church pages for 11th Sep onwards.

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 **October** 2019. Submit your entries for October by **20th September**

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.