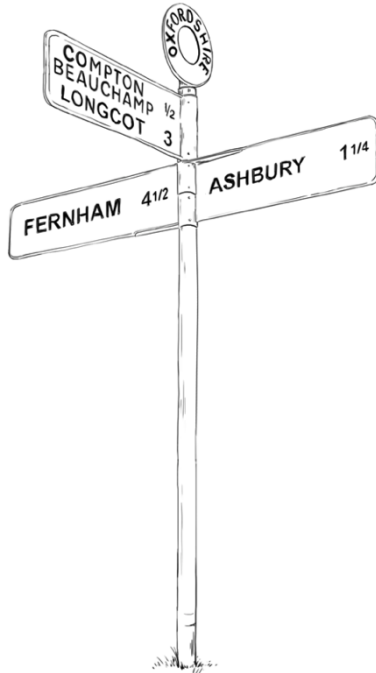


**ASHBURY
COMPTON LONGCOT FERNHAM
NEWS
AUGUST 2024**



Ashbury Community Club 29th

Walking Group 18th

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It was a privilege to lead Y6 leavers' services in all our 3 schools, Longcot, Shrivenham and Ashbury for all who will be moving to secondary schools in September. We thank God for taking care of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren throughout the term, throughout the year and their 7 years of primary school. We pray that they will have a refreshing holiday and be kept safe in all travels and adventures till they return to school.

Most of us will also be venturing into different travels and activities during this summer period, may we have the best times. We remember those who are not able to enjoy this summer holidays because of difficult life challenges. May the good Lord surround them with his unending love.

Have a great summer holiday and stay blessed.

Rev Patrick Mabhunu

Ashbury

Ashbury Community Club

Thursday, 29th August at Littlecote House near Hungerford at 2pm

Stewart Smith has kindly agreed to lead a guided tour around the house to explain the History of Littlecote which covers many centuries.

There will also be time to see the nearby Roman Mosaic and the gardens around the hotel as well as a visit to the cafe.

Numbers are limited, so if you are interested please contact Sue Reade on 710208 or email sue_reade@btinternet.com

(We will be arranging car sharing)

Ashbury Walking Group

Do you enjoy walks in the countryside in the company of friendly people? If so join us for our **Sunday** afternoon walks which take place on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

We meet at 2pm at the bus stop near the pub in the centre of the village and walk approx. 5 miles on local footpaths around Ashbury, finishing between 4pm and 5pm.

It's an informal group, and dogs are welcome. For more information contact Sue Reade 710208 / sue_reade@btinternet.com

This month's walk will be on 18th August.

Ashbury Information by email Ad hoc emails are circulated to residents with up to date particulars about Ashbury events and other relevant information. If you would like your name added to the circulation list please email:

ashburyoxfordshire@hotmail.com

NEW RESIDENTS TO ASHBURY, IDSTONE & KINGSTONE WINSLOW

A pack is available for new residents which contains useful information. If you have moved into the village recently and would like to receive a pack, or if you have a new neighbour, please contact Jackie Baker (710358) for Ashbury & Idstone or Anne Taylor (07491 035582) for Kingstone Winslow

Two dates for the Diary

Saturday September 28th 7.00pm St Mary's Church

We are pleased to be welcoming back to St Mary's, Ashbury the very talented Avebury Vocal Ensemble for their Autumn Concert. Their programme will be very varied with pieces from Gabriel Fauré, Gustav Holst and Thomas Wilbye as well as more modern and seasonal pieces by Wood, Kosma, Brown and Andersson and Ulvaeus of Abba fame.

Tickets are £12, available on the door or online via the Avebury Vocal Ensemble **website at www.aveburyvocal.org**.

Do put the date in your diary and join us for what I am sure will be another lovely evening. Wine and soft drinks are available before the concert and in the interval.

Badapple Theatre Company presents "The Regalettes" on Friday 4th October 2024

Please keep the date and obtain your tickets in advance.

The acclaimed Badapple Theatre Company return to Ashbury Village Hall for an entertaining evening of mystery and comedy. "The Regalettes" is suitable for all the family and starts at 7.30pm. Doors open at 6.30pm for drinks ahead of the show and refreshments will be available during the interval.

During the performance, we will be taken back to the 1930's, the cinema decade spanning Hitchcock noir and classic Technicolour showstoppers. Celebrity and rural life clash head on when a new movie is set to premiere in the tiny Regal Cinema in Bottledale. Comedy and intrigue ensues as the intrepid heroines, the Regalettes, suddenly find themselves at the heart of a very silly mystery.

Tickets, £14 for adults and £8 for under16's, are available - in advance only - by calling 07768 055300 or online from www.badappletheatre.co.uk. Capacity seating at the Village Hall is 100 all told so do obtain your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Any residual proceeds from this event will go to the Ashbury Village Hall fund, so that it may continue to provide a valuable community hub for Ashbury, Kingstone Winslow and neighbours.

CHURCH MATTERS

AUGUST SERVICES IN ASHBURY, COMPTON, LONGCOT & FERNHAM WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

The service times are correct at the time of writing (17 July). For the latest news and information, please download the weekly Newsletter from our website.

The churches in Ashbury, Longcot and Compton Beauchamp are also open daily for private prayer.

Sunday 4 August	9.30am	Holy Communion	Longcot
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbury
Sunday 11 August	9.00am	Holy Communion(BCP) Compton	
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Longcot
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Ashbury
Sunday 18 August	9.30am	Morning Prayer Longcot	
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbury
Sunday 25 August*	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion with Choir	
			Shrivenham

*Although everyone is welcome to attend any services, those marked with an asterisk are designed as services for the whole benefice

Ashbury prayer cycle for August- 4th August- College Farm Lane, 11th August- Ashdown Estate, 18th August, High Street, 25th August, Idstone Road.

During August there will be no Online Morning Prayer, Communion services and sermons can be watched on the Shrivenham and Ashbury Facebook page.

PASTORAL CARE If you have need for prayer or pastoral support, or wish to discuss a wedding or baptism, do not hesitate to contact Rev'd Patrick Mabunu (associatevicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk) on 07471 434276).

Support your local church or the Benefice as a whole with a text donation using the numbers below

For Ashbury Text STMARYS 5 to 70085 to donate £5 or Text STMARYS 10 to 70085 to donate £10

For Longcot and Fernham Text LONGCOT to 70085 to donate £4

For Compton Beauchamp Text 5CB to 70450 to donate £5 or Text 10CB to 70460 to donate £5

For the Benefice as a whole

Text GIVEfive to 70470 to donate £5 or Text GIVEten to 70470 to donate £10

Your standard text message rate applies.

LONGCOT

T-TIME FELLOWSHIP 2.30pm FRIDAY 30th AUGUST

Tea and chat (and cake as well!) happens in St Mary's Parish Church, Longcot, on the last Friday of each month and you are very welcome to join us.

There is no charge but donations to our chosen charity are always welcome.

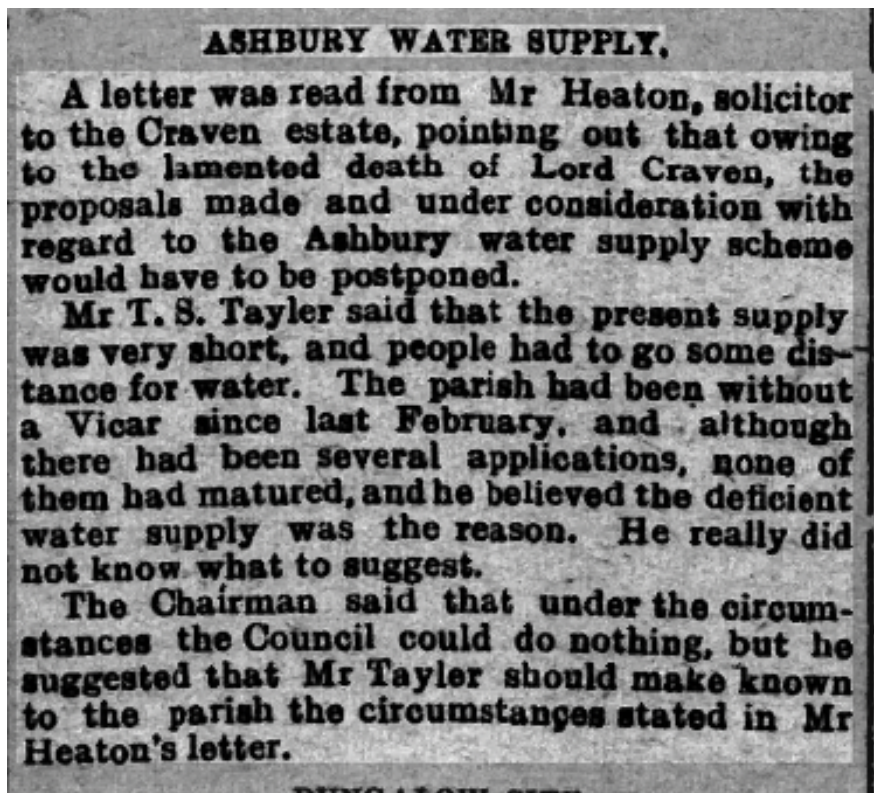
The Ambassadors Bible Church meet at what was the Ashbury Evangelical Free Church at 10:00 am each Sunday morning. All are welcome and there is also a Sunday School for the Children which meets at the same time.

UPPER THAMES AND RIDGEWAY NATIONAL TRUST ASSOCIATION (UTRNTA)

Did you know that all over the country there are associations similar to ours which support their local NT properties and have a programme of regular activities? We have monthly meetings during the winter with a variety of speakers, monthly coach trips during the summer to all sorts of venues - not always NT, an annual holiday (this year's was to Pembrokeshire for four nights), Coffee Mornings, a New Year Lunch and a Christmas Tea. If you are already a member of the NT and would like to join us please contact one of our membership Secretaries, Mrs Anne Baldwin on 07455413078 or Mrs Helen Clift on 01285 810172.

From the archives

Faringdon Advertiser and White Horse Gazette 27th August 1921
Faringdon rural council monthly meeting:



Country Matters

As I write these notes on July 18th the start of year's harvest is imminent with oil seed rape and six row winter barley almost ready to cut. The first harvest I took an interest in was 1958 aged fifteen, sixty-six years ago. With only a small 80 acre harvest on a 250 acre farm, 1958 was the last harvest with sheaves, cut by a binder. I remember stacking the sheaves into a Dutch barn with our terrier mousing in a corner. Later she was missing and first thing the next morning we had to dig down where she was last seen and there she was, alive, and she had been getting air beside a stanchion where we had buried her. The 1959 harvest was cut with a new six foot self-propelled bagger MF combine for the first time. Today, our current combine is twenty-four feet cut and grain is managed in bulk.

Father also grew potatoes and sugar beet on a good strip of greensand soil. Beet were loaded into railway wagons, all by hand at Uffington station, bound for the factory at Kidderminster. Another enterprise was hens housed in moveable arcs and moved daily. This was remnant of war time with demand for eggs strong but this may have ceased before 1958. Father also used to grow some long rows of runner beans and I remember picking them and hawking these round the Swindon greengrocers with him before we started cutting in the morning at harvest time. Then we had forty milking cows, all dairy shorthorns tied up in winter in a cowshed and the milk cooled by a plate cooler into churns. Later my brother and I had four dairies and 500 cows and a harvest of 1,000 acres. Today, Eastbrook at Bishopstone have more than 500 cows in two dairies.

In the fields in 1958 our problem weeds were corn marigold and charlock with knotgrass, redshank and field bindweed more of a problem on the heavier soils. Now grass weeds and blackgrass are the main problem. The heavy vale soils were mostly in pasture and unsuitable for arable cropping until underdrains were laid out in the 60's and 70's, all with massive grants. Much of this heavy land would now benefit from returning to grass but most farmers lack the investment and skill to restart a livestock enterprise to make use of the extra grass. I can just remember a corncrake amongst the corn in the 1950's, now they are only found in the Outer Hebrides. English or grey partridges were common. I last saw a turtle dove at Rectory farm in the 1980's. Spotted flycatchers used to nest on an ancient branch of the Virginia creeper climbing the Rectory farmhouse walls. Sparrows were more common. Red kites and ravens are very recent imports. Deer were virtually non-existent and there were many less badgers, but many more rabbits.

How times change.

Richard Green

Contacts

Ashbury Parish Council

Chairman: Christopher Prentice 01793 710821 chair@ashbury.org.uk

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

Defibrillators: On the wall by the School entrance and outside the Rose and Crown.

St Mary's Ashbury Parochial Church Council

Church wardens: Maggie Simons 01793 710801 Richard Green 01793 791310

Vicar (Shrivenham).Vacancy

Associate Vicar:Revd Patrick Mabhunu associate.vicar@shrivenhamandashbury.co.uk

07471 434276

Ashbury Village Hall

Chris Millard <mailto:villagehall@ashbury.org.uk>

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

Bookings: Laura 07766 338551 and Steve Pilkington 0773 9692076 mail to:

steve_pilkington@yahoo.co.uk

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

Headteacher [from September] Tim Miller 01793 710259

<http://www.ashburyprimary.org.uk> **office.3851@ashbury.oxon.sch.uk**

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: Katherine Foxhall 07916 285305

katherine.foxhall@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and Viral Patel viral.patel@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

County Councillor: Yvonne Constance: 01235 751475/07976934884

yvonne.constance@oxfordshire.gov.uk [currently unwell]

M.P. for the Witney constituency: Charlie Maynard: charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

Newsletter entries for September 2024. Submit your entries for **September** by **25th**

August 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.