

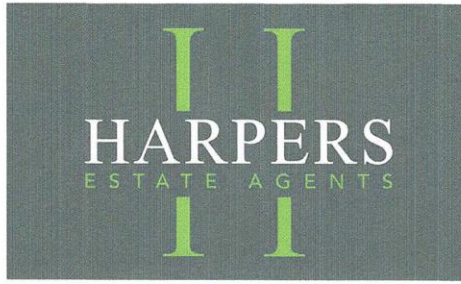
THE WESTON TURVILLE TIMES

WINTER 2021



THE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISH
OF WESTON TURVILLE

Published by Weston Turville Parish Council



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Message from the Editor

Well it is Christmas and the world is still not quite as it was. The pandemic continues to spread albeit with less damaging consequences for most. As Father David says in his church piece, Christmas is not cancelled! Judging by the seasonal events we have found; it is maybe just a little subdued this year.

We hope we have given you some things to think about in this issue and would really like suggestions for the naming of our playing fields and new play areas. The name must relate to the forthcoming Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the winner will be presented with a little something at the Picnic in the Park jubilee celebrations!

Please could you also consider the future of this magazine and its community value: If you have an opinion on it please let us know.

The Editorial team wishes you all a happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous new year!

Editor

Contributions to the magazine are welcomed subject to space and the Editor's decision on suitability. The copy deadline for the Spring issue is 28th January 2022.

We reserve the right to edit all articles.

The Weston Turville Times is a community magazine for the parish of Weston Turville. It is published quarterly and distributed free of charge to every house and many businesses in Weston Turville. Past editions can be found on the Parish Council website - www.westonturville-pc.gov.uk.

The views expressed in articles are not necessarily the views of the editorial team or the Parish Council. We do not endorse any of the suppliers advertising in the magazine.

Published by

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Printed by

Buxton Press, Palace Road, Buxton SK17 6AE

Advertising rates for one year:

Whole Page	£250
Half page	£125
Quarter page	£65

A Christmas Wish

Recently I have had cause to be thankful for 'social media' and to curse its invention. It really is a blessing and a bane to one's life! But it did get me thinking. I am from a pre computer generation where not everyone had a land line phone and mobiles hadn't been invented yet.



Stories, gossip, complaints, praise and information were passed by word of mouth. It took time to get around and the story oft changed with the telling. Anyone remember the old joke about the Army Commander sending a message down the lines "Send reinforcements, I'm going to advance" which was received at HQ as "Send 3 and 4 pence I'm going to a dance!" That's what happens when word of mouth passes information and it is often so late in getting to the recipient that it has no value anymore.

Social media on the other hand is rapid. You have a thought, type it and before you can say "that's that" it has been carried through the air to thousands. It has generated a nation of 'keyboard warriors' who feel safe in their own houses whilst attacking

someone else. To me it feels like a drone strike on a perceived enemy rather than the close up and personal hand to hand combat. Only one sort takes real courage; the other seems cowardly and underhand. At the time of writing this, the Facebook whistle blower is giving her evidence to the select committee. Algorithmswho knew about those? But it seems they feed our interests so if you take too long to

scroll down or up or swipe sideways, they respond by presuming you are interested in the subject matter and so ensure you get more of it, even if the delay was caused by you having a drink or blowing your nose! You are now bombarded with pages and ads telling you about the best stair lift or yoga mat until you delay on another page and the cycle repeats. I might be reduced to watching dog and cat recue videos for eternity now.

The other thing about social media is often used to express opinions generated by toilet professors. You know who I mean, those people who read a blog or tweet by a social influencer or a media star and now are an expert in rocket science, nuclear physics and/or DNA. At the moment in this country, it seems the anti vaxxers are competing against the vaxxers to try and influence our decisions. Now I wouldn't say either side is right or wrong because I don't have the type of knowledge or education that would enable a considered opinion on the matter. But I think I would rather listen to someone who has qualified in the field than someone who read something about it and copied a post from another site. It is a personal preference and I would not try and influence either way, but if you disagree with someone move on. Scroll up or down or swipe

sideways, don't argue with drunks, idiots and social media keyboard warriors. The result is the same.

Then there are those who use social media to rant about something rather than informing the person or organisation who deal with it. Are they just after 'likes'? Do they not know that Facebook pages are not an acceptable way to report anything? It really doesn't matter how many people like your comment: the people who need to know won't find out! I wonder if there has been an increase in patients with raised blood pressure since the invention of social media? On the other hand, you get an occasional good news story or some 'thank you we appreciate what has been done' type messages and everything is good again.

Ok so that's me ranting about social media but what I wanted to say is does anybody read notices, magazines, or any information that is not on social media? It's a serious question. For example, the WTT has been telling everyone about the new play area, the skate park the MUGA etc for some time now. Every edition has had an update. So why don't people know about it? Why am I questioned about it every time I go near the park? If no one reads the parish magazine is there any point in continuing to publish it, most of the information is readily available elsewhere and information going out on social media seems to reach more people.



As a 'climate change aware' parish council with social and legal responsibilities, we would like to know if you would like to continue to receive this magazine and if yes, would you prefer electronic copy or a hardcopy like it is now? Would you like to see the information in real time, or a lot quicker, via a council social media page? If you want to keep the contents of the magazine but not the booklet, would you be happy getting an email with a link to the information? Can we as a council reduce our carbon footprint by giving you the information in a more environmental way?

Is anyone still reading this? So what is my Christmas wish? I would wish that everyone imagines that the person they are replying to in any social media situation is so close that you can see the whites of their eyes. Then say what you want to say and be kind. In social media "Bad is loud, good is quiet"

Mandi Simons

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The future of the Weston Turville Times.

As a council we are trying to reduce our carbon footprint and be more climate change aware. We currently print and distribute about 1700 copies of this parish magazine every 3 months to every household in the parish.

When the magazine was first requested about 13 years ago, social media was not as sophisticated or as widely used as it is now. A lot of people did not own computers, smart phones or tablets. The world has changed, and technology has moved on.

We would like to know what you think about the following:

- 1. Do you still want a paper hard copy of the magazine delivered to you every three months?**
- 2. Would you like the contents to remain but delivery to be electronic and available on the Parish Council website?**
- 3. Would you like relevant fast time information via a dedicated Facebook page?**

Please let the Parish Council know your views by contacting the Parish Clerk on 01296 612838 or email clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk

If nothing is heard from you we will presume you haven't read it and therefore do not want it as it is no longer relevant to you or your family.



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Funding for local community projects up for grabs

Do you have a great idea for a community initiative that will benefit local people but just needs the funds to get it off the ground?

Have you already got a successful community project that you'd like to expand or develop?

If the answer is yes, then the Wendover and Villages Community Board wants to hear from you.

Community boards are two-way partnerships between the council and local communities. The essence of our vision is summed up in our simple strapline – *Local voices, local choices, local action*. By working together, we can truly bring change and improvement to our area, directly addressing your concerns and priorities at a local level.

We have funds available to support projects that meet the agreed priorities. This includes anything from support for older people to health and wellbeing, transport and youth initiatives. Of particular focus this year are initiatives to improve the environment and supporting economic recovery.

If you have an idea for funding or are just keen to get involved in an action group looking at how to tackle local issues, get in touch with us at wendoverandvillages@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

The next Wendover and Villages formal Community Board is on Tuesday 9 November at 7pm, this is online, if you want to join please contact wendoverandvillages@buckinghamshire.gov.uk for an invite.



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Wendover and
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Kids Corner

Wordsearch

B	O	X	I	N	G	C	H	R	C
S	Z	S	S	T	B	R	A	U	H
T	R	B	T	U	G	A	J	D	R
A	U	C	T	A	M	C	N	O	I
B	D	R	O	D	R	K	P	L	S
L	S	V	K	V	A	E	O	F	T
E	M	O	Q	E	C	R	D	I	M
Q	S	R	C	N	Y	V	Y	C	A
B	E	H	J	T	K	I	N	G	S
N	O	R	T	H	P	O	L	E	W



Clues

1. What the shepherds followed (4 letters)
2. The building where Jesus was born (6 letters)
3. We three (5 letters – a carol)
4. Meat traditionally eaten on Christmas Day (6 letters)
5. Father (9 letters - the man with the red suit)
6. What day comes after Christmas Day (6 letters)
7. What calendar starts on the 1st December and counts down to Christmas (6 letters)
8. The reindeer with the red nose (6 letters)
9. Where does Father Christmas live (9 letters)
10. What do you pull that contains a joke and hat (7 letters)

Jokes Corner: Cracker Jokes

What do Reindeers hang on their Christmas Tree? Horn-aments

What do you call an old snowman? Water

Why can't Christmas Trees knit? Because they always drop their needles

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A Mince Spy

What happens if you eat Christmas decorations? You get Tinsel-itis



Weston Turville Community Orchard Update.

For those who have read the previous updates in the Weston Turville Times, you may remember that the Parish Council are proposing to have a community orchard, and we asked if anyone was interested in helping with it which resulted in several volunteers coming forward. The project is still in the early stages of development but the first proposal was put to the full council for consideration at its meeting in October. Consultation with the residents of the parish will be completed when the results of the proposed surveys are known.

RATIONALE: The Weston Turville Community Orchard was first proposed over 3 years ago, pre pandemic, when concerns were raised nationally about the mental and physical health of the population and the resulting beneficial effects that getting involved in a community project, allowing access to the outside and working with people with a common purpose had on people. A community orchard was deemed as an ideal project with an additional benefit of free food and creating a habitat that was good for the environment and wildlife. Local councils were actively encouraged to take part.

WHAT IS AN 'ORCHARD'? Officially, the definition of an 'orchard' is five trees together and is defined further as a piece of enclosed land planted with fruit or nut trees.

BACKGROUND: The proposed field is in the centre field of the three strips which can be clearly seen from the google map photo, to be overgrown at this time. These three fields are collectively known as the Glebe Fields. The Parish Council chose this field because it is in the centre of the village, accessible on foot via existing public rights of way and whilst it had been previously used for grazing, in recent years has been left unmanaged and is now overgrown with blackthorn and brambles and unkempt.



The field is owned by the Oxford Diocese, and they had previously asked if the Council would be willing to lease the land. The diocese had previously sold off much of their land in Weston Turville some time ago, including all the land surrounding the field, some of which has since been developed for housing. It was felt by the council, that to lease this land for a peppercorn rent would prevent it being sold off in the future and potentially developed as well as being a suitable candidate for an orchard. It took some time for the lease to be arranged because of the pandemic but the Council having acquired the lease a council working party was formed to write a proposal about the development of a community orchard.

CURRENT SITUATION: The field has an official right of way at the end, nearest the Five Bells pub, and an unofficial cut through at the top end of the field linking the two adjacent fields.



The picture on the left is taken from the official right of way at the bottom of the field, which since the field has become unnavigable in the last few years, has narrowed, and now has deep trenches in the middle which are muddy, slippery and can only be traversed in single file.

The pictures below show some current views of the field. The 3rd and 4th photo show the top footpath. Some parts near the edges were less densely overgrown but contained low quality scrubby growth covered in ivy. There are some reports of wildlife living in or near the field.



PROPOSED DESIGN: The proposal includes, apart from the planting of trees:

Rough areas for wildlife to shelter and patches of stinging nettles and garlic mustard, providing egg laying sites for a range of butterflies.

We would install insect hotels, bat and bird boxes which would be purchased once the wildlife survey, visit, and discussions are completed and recommendations on type and location received.

The hedgerows/boundaries surrounding the field will be left in situ, just tidied up on the inside. The external sides of these hedges will be maintained as they currently are by the adjacent land owners.

We would like to take a Permaculture approach to the creation of the Community Orchard whereby we create a sustainable system within as it reduces the amount of fertiliser required.

Our Community Orchard development will provide vital usable green spaces where people would be able to interact with nature either through becoming custodians of the trees or by simply being around them and enjoying their shade, beauty and fruit.

AIMS FOR THE COMMUNITY ORCHARD: We propose to

- Plant and cultivate local and/or unusual varieties of fruit
- Attract a wider variety of wildlife to the area
- Encourage flora and fauna to the area, especially pollinators, mosses and lichens
- The space will help create respite away from the hustle of daily life.
- Planting our Community Orchard in the designated area could help boost community wellbeing by establishing and reinforcing social ties and encouraging residents to come together and share in communal endeavour.
- Investing our time, passion, enthusiasm, and emotion into something living and growing can fill us with a sense of satisfaction and fulfilment. By sharing the experience with others, can give us the opportunity to engage in a communally uplifting pastime.
- The orchard also helps raise people's awareness and understanding of the contribution that physical activity and a good diet, using home grown organic produce, can make to everyone's wellbeing and good health.

This area is not intended as an extension of any recreation area but, when completed, will be a quiet space where residents can enjoy the fruits of the orchard or sit and contemplate the wonders of nature.

As a sustainability focused parish council, visitors to the orchard will be encouraged to arrive by foot or bicycle and the field will, again, be accessible to walkers who can stroll through the area as they have done for decades.

If anyone here knows Warings Field between Mill Lane and Brookside they will get a clearer understanding of what is proposed: a quiet, rural area with the benefit of productive mixed planting to create a habitat suitable for everyone and everything.



RECOMMENDATIONS: The recommended next steps were agreed by the Parish Council as being:

1. Seek advice from accredited wildlife experts on the current wildlife position on the land and if beneficial to the area; how to plan and plant the community orchard to expand, enhance and protect the biodiversity of the area. A wildlife survey will be carried out.
2. Seek advice from Bucks Council and an arboriculturist regarding any protections on the hedges and existing trees and how best to manage these in the future.

As some of you may be aware, there has already been a planning application to build on the privately owned adjacent field, which the Parish Council opposed and it was refused. A direct consequence of the Parish Council leasing this land from the Oxford Diocese for the community orchard project, this field is further protected and it cannot be built on, sold or developed in any way for 99 years!



Weston Turville U3A

Better late than never!

Two years after it should have happened we will be celebrating our tenth anniversary in 2022.

Plans to celebrate this decennial had to be abandoned due to lockdown but now we are back up-and-running our plans will come to fruition in the New Year. Events will include a Bake Off, Sixties Evening and a Quiz Night.

Our 40 interest groups are now back in action and full details of them can be found on the website www.wtu3a.org.uk or from our Secretary on 01296 613217.

Finally, to all our members, friends and supporters a very Happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Improvements to Recreation Ground

The new children's playground has proved very popular and it is heartening to see the increased use of the playground and wider recreation ground, particularly by those now walking/jogging/cycling around both fields on the new pathway.

At the time of writing, contractors are on site building the long awaited and eagerly anticipated skate park. We hope this proves as popular as the playground and look forward to seeing the skills of our local skateboarders, BMX-ers and scooter riders!

Work will begin on the multi use games area (MUGA) once the skate park is completed. The works are weather dependant but we hope that will be open early in the new year, the same contractor will also then complete the paths to join it up to the paths near the tennis courts and village hall, providing an accessible circuit of both playing fields.



The Parish Council has gone back out to tender for a petanque court and we anticipate this will be installed in Spring.

Wildflower Meadow

The wildflower meadow to the rear of the tennis courts is starting to take shape. The spoil from the various facilities above has been repurposed to make bunds which will be planted with mixed planting. Two new picnic benches have been ordered and paths will be cut through the area to allow access to these, the other areas will not be cut in order to let the flowers grow and encourage insects and other wildlife. If you would like to get involved with this project, please contact the Parish Council.

Street Food Events

Some of you may have been to the street food nights that have taken place recently. The Parish Council has agreed that these events will be held monthly and will recommence in March, look out for the dates being advertised nearer the time and we hope to see many of you there.

Parish Council Meetings

All local residents are welcome to attend meetings of the council and its committees to observe and at the start of each meeting there is a chance for residents to raise any issues with the Council. Meetings are held in either the Village Hall or the parish meeting room, adjacent to the village hall.

Please see our website for agenda details or contact the Clerk. The first meeting for 2022 will be on Thursday 20th January.

Email: clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk Tel: 01296 612838

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Weston Turville War Memorial

Mandi and I have been tending the flower beds at the war memorial for a few years now, but they were looking very uninspiring and we decided it was time for a makeover. Our new parish councillor, Georgie Fincham, and I made a plan which we wanted to have completed and looking good for Remembrance Sunday on 14th November. A plan was drawn up and costed and put to the Parish Council who approved it.

Five of us, myself, Georgie, Mandi, and volunteers; Julie and Chris, arrived at 10am one morning to start work. First the turf was removed from around the memorial and the flower beds were extended. Membrane was laid and borders secured down to contain the new gravel. Lastly the flower beds were planted with cyclamen, huchera and holly. After a short break for bacon rolls and coffee, we eventually finished work at 5pm.

We have been back and planted spring bulbs and flowers and will return next year to add summer bedding plants. Thank you for all the nice comments we have received and we hope it will continue to look good for many years to come.

Cathy Terry



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Christmas Cheer

This may sound like Scrooge, but as you know Scrooge turns good.....as we approach Christmas why don't we start to think of how to celebrate in a way that won't cost the earth and jeopardise our children's futures.

Loving and caring for each other has always been at the heart of Christmas, getting together with family and friends, and including those who do not have much of this support. Our celebratory meals and games are a time to give and show warmth, affection, laughter and comfort if times are hard.

Gifts are quite a challenge. Our planet cannot continue with our endless growth, it is killing the earth and all on it, including ourselves. Every action to increase biodiversity and reduce carbon is undone by ever greater production of 'things' to feed our growth economy. There are other ways, with more justice, such as circular economies, where there is enough for all within planetary boundaries. After years of consumerism, it is hard to change tack but if we do it together it is easier, talking with our families about how to celebrate Christmas differently.

For children, gifts are a big part of Christmas. Intensive advertising ensures many children want the latest in whatever it is being promoted. This makes it very difficult for parents who want to reduce the amount of plastic toys coming into their homes! Online sites such as Freecycle and Facebook marketplace enable things to be reused. Talking to your children about the problems caused to our earth by making so many things will help them to understand why it is good to have less. Children are very receptive when given good explanations and are key in protecting our planet and their future. A Secret Santa in a family or group means each person buys one present for the one person picked out, rather than all buying something for all.

As charity shops proliferate so do the opportunities for buying gifts second hand and enabling reuse of things we no longer want. Many charities such as Oxfam, offer opportunities to give the gift of helping others, for example buying someone the gift of another girl's education in a country where this cannot be taken for granted.

Hand made gifts mean a lot to receive, that person has spent the time and trouble to bake/preserve/sew/knit for you and there is pleasure in doing the same for someone else.

Ethical shops such as 'Just' fair-trade shop in Wendover, sells many sustainable gifts: candles, wooden toys, gifts, clothing accessories. Labels tell the story of the products, so you can learn about the positive impact your purchases will have on poor communities.

We may decide that we can cope without presents, as the best gift we can give is a future for our family, friends and our beloved earth. Have a very Happy Christmas one and all!

Rachel Blackmore, Climate Action Weston Turville

Walking Britain's Oldest Road

Join Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity for an 80 mile charity hike along Britain's oldest road next summer and experience the breath-taking views and historic sites along the way on this 4-day guided trek. The 80 mile hike follows the Ridgeway, used since prehistoric times by travellers, herdsmen and soldiers, from Swindon back to Aylesbury, walking and being supported by fellow walkers, united in the same goal – to support Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity.

This year 40 hospice supporters took part on the charity's first ever Ridgeway Hike and raised over £70,000 for local hospice care. The walkers each had a different reason to why they wanted to take part in the hike and support the charity, many walking in memory of loved ones who had been cared for by the Hospice team.

Steve said, "I can honestly say that is the best and most enjoyable extreme event I have done. Thank you all."

If you are interested in taking on this challenge the next trek will take place from 9th – 12th June 2022. You can find out more about the Ridgeway Trek and details of how to sign up at <https://www.fnhospice.org.uk/ridgewaytrek2022> or call 01296 429975 for more information.

About Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity

Florence Nightingale Hospice is located at Stoke Mandeville Hospital and provides first class specialist palliative care which is accessible and free of charge to those with a life-limiting illness in Buckinghamshire. The Hospice also provides other services such as their new FNH@Home services, providing end-of-life care for patients in their homes, Florrie's Children's Team respite care for families, the Day Hospice and Bereavement Support.

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity commits to raise over £1,000,000 annually to ensure the continued funding of local in-patient and at-home palliative care services.

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WESTON TURVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For information and enquiries, contact:
secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk

Having cancelled all the monthly meetings of the Weston Turville Historical Society since March 2020 we were able to recommence in September 2021. Thanks to the 36 people who came along to this meeting which started with our AGM and was followed by a talk by Glynn White entitled “A Brief History of Weston Turville”. The current committee have agreed to continue for the coming year, and they were duly elected. The committee has agreed to keep the fees of £5 for a family membership and £3 for a single membership and the meeting fee of £2 per member and £3 for non-members for the coming year. Our chairman, Tony Irvine has continued to work on a programme of speakers that we are sure you will find interesting. We will continue to meet on the last Friday of each month, except July, August and December in the Village Hall at 8:00pm

For existing members and non-members, we can recommend that you have a look at our website, www.WTHSoc.org.uk. The site contains a great deal of information about the history of Weston Turville, copies of old postcards, links to other relevant historical sites etc.

Date for Weston Turville Historical Society Speaker Programme 2021/22

Date	Speaker	Title of Talk
26 November 2021	John Benjamin	The Story of Faberge
28 January 2022	Helen Fry	Latimer House, the secret listeners & the man who set it up
25 February 2022	Neil Rees	The Czech Connection – the Czech Cabinet in exile in Aylesbury Vale in WW11
25 March 2022	Judy Dewey	Wallingford Castle, Royal Stronghold of the Thames valley
29 April 2022	Michael Hardy	Lacey Green Windmill after 350 Years

Local History Books currently in Stock

- **School Memories** - a book of memories of school life collected from past pupils of the Old School in School Lane. £7.50
- **Weston Turville A History** - a reprint of Hamish Eaton’s definitive book first published in 1997. £15.00
- **Memories of a Weston Turville Boy** By Mick Dubberley £8.25
- **The History of the Church of St Mary the Virgin** By Glynn White £10.00

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COMPETITION TIME

We would like your suggestions for an official name that the whole Park (behind the Weston Turville Village Hall) can be known as

Criteria: it has to be linked to the Jubilee theme

Send your suggestions to the Parish Council Clerk by
31st March 2022

The winner will be announced at the official opening, at the Picnic in the Park event in June 2022

What's on in the local area

December

- 13 Nov – 23 Dec Christmas at Waddesdon Manor, reopens 27 Dec – 3 Jan
- 26 Nov – 9th Jan Ashridge House “The Enchanted Woodland Walk and Festive Light Experience”
- 1st Christmas Celebration, Manor Waste, Wendover 4-7pm
- 4th and 18th Tring Farmers Market
- 4th Panto Express with Father Christmas, Bucks Railway Centre, Quainton
- 5th Christmas Craft and Gift Faire, Aylesbury Market Square 10.30 – 15:00
- 5th Santa Float at Westongrove and The Paddocks from 4pm
- 9th Parish Council Planning Committee, 6pm
- 9th Parish Council meeting, 7pm
- 12th Brill Christmas Outdoor Market
- 17-19th Lindengate in Lights
- 24th Carol Singing at the Village Hall, 6-7pm
- 25th Christmas Day Service at St Marys Church, 10am

January

- 13th Parish Council Planning Committee, 7pm
- 20th Parish Council meeting, 7pm

February

- 10th Parish Council Planning Committee, 6pm
- 12th First Aid Training at the village hall – places limited, Contact the Clerk
- 17th Parish Council meeting, 7pm

Date for your Diary

Saturday 4th June, 1-5pm

Jubilee Celebration “Picnic in the Park” - see Spring issue for further details

Regular Events

Second Saturday of the month – Repair Café at St Michael’s Church, Aston Clinton 9.00-12.30

Thursdays – Wendover Market

Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays – Aylesbury Market

The popular Street Food events at the Village Hall, Weston Turville will resume in March and be held on the third Friday of each month.

If you are holding an event in Weston Turville and would like to include it on this page in future please email clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk





Christmas is not cancelled... but it may be unexpected.

The voices of doom suggest from time to time that Christmas will not happen this year. The same message was expounded by some in the previous couple of years. Of course it will happen, but probably not the way you might want it, or different again, or just

the same as of a long time ago.

The world is in a mess. It has always been in a mess! Let's remember Jesus was born in a stable, and there was no room for Him in the inn! Jesus is born and is ever present in our mess. He came and comes to save us. To save us mainly from ourselves!

I hope that in the mess, confusion, in sickness and in health, in plenty and in scarcity, we will reflect on the babe in the stable and know that no matter what, or however things are, God is with us.

The church here in Weston Turville is slowly, methodically and as safely as possible opening up. We do not know what the next few months will bring or be like but we continue to worship at 10:00am every Sunday (please contact Clare Chamberlain our booking secretary. Clare on either Telephone: 07596 997339
Email: clarechamberlain927@gmail.com)

Over November and December we will be using the church notice boards and Facebook (see - Let's Celebrate at St. Mary's, Everything Weston Turville and The Paddocks & Weston Grove-Weston Turville) to keep you informed. We have become used to an ever-changing situation and so have various plans but can only make the final decisions nearer the time of events.

I wish you a Blessed, and loving Christmas.

Fr. David.

St Mary's Weston Turville Improving Facilities Team, SWIFT

The Oak Room@ St Mary's

Our wonderful new facility, completed in July and now in use, was blessed by the Bishop of Buckingham in a special service with an invited and socially distanced congregation on 11th September. On the following Saturday, 18th September, we held an Open Day so that anybody who was unable to come to the blessing could see the Oak Room for themselves.

We were doubly blessed with a beautiful hot sunny day and many people came, saw the extension and stayed, sitting outside with tea and cakes. Over £5,200 was donated on the day!

On both of these days, everybody present expressed delight at the new facilities and potential interest in hiring the room for future events. We now have a meeting room which can accommodate at least 35 people seated, plus a committee table, for a meeting; 7 tables with chairs for a chess, bridge, etc event; 7 large tables for a sale or display; or a classroom set-up with 6 large tables and 30 chairs. A children's party or small reception is another option. We have two toilets, one accessible with baby-changing facility and a tea-point where light refreshments can be served. The whole has level access from the car park. This is a great facility, not just for the church but for the benefit of the whole community. It is largely due to the support of the community that it has been achieved and in such difficult times.

For enquiries and details of bookings please contact Clare Chamberlain on 07596 997339.

In spite of many generous grants and donations there remains some £8k of additional works to be paid for including equipment for hirers and a retention sum of about £8k next year. If you are able to help, please send donations to the Rectory, Church Walk, Weston Turville, HP22 5SH or to me Roger Fellows, 65 Craigwell Avenue, Aylesbury, HP21 7AG. Cheques should be payable to "PCC Weston Turville, SWIFT". Transfers to "PCC Weston Turville SWIFT" at NatWest, 60-01-31, account 51685922 or online to www.goldengiving.com/wall/swift are also welcome. Please use gift aid to increase your donation by 25% at no additional cost to yourself, if you are a UK taxpayer.

For any other information about SWIFT or ways in which you can help or contribute please contact the clergy, or me, or Clare.

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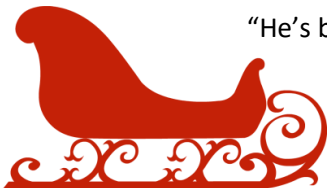
Christmas Morning

Outside in the garden a small chubby robin gloried in the sun. The weather was awful for this time of year. Once again Rhona reflected miserably on lost childhood. The waking to total silence, knowing instantly snow had arrived. The joy and exuberance of throwing on clothes, forgetting to wash or eat in a rush to be the first on the slopes. Last year's wellies were taken out of storage and her feet, now too large, were squeezed painfully back into them, perfect. She thought briefly about Christmas here in England. There were a few positives. She would put the turkey in the oven, then her small family would troop along to their neighbour's for sherry, carols and the usual shop-bought mince pies. Overwhelming dullness of this thought drove her back to the Scottish mountains of her youth.

After limping around for a while in deformed feet until the rubber submitted and stretched a bit, Rhona brushed off her sledge. She would make her way to the slopes about a mile from home. It was always tough at first. New snow, powdery, sparkling and soft, but hopeless to sledge on until it had been packed down solid. Crowds of children were always there before her. That first run, flat on her tummy was winter and Christmas exhilaration. Her tight boots could guide the sledge. As the day progressed the runs became faster and longer, competitive even.

Now her daughter was of the same age, Rhona thought that a similar present would be appreciated this Christmas. Her daughter may not enjoy several feet of snow as she did, but occasionally there was a light fluttering. Rhona mused, though not this year by the look of things. It was still mild enough to wear a summer dress. However, she had bought the present now, large, red and shiny, determined to enter the Christmas spirit. The only problem was that the sledge was too big. It would have to be left outside her daughter's bedroom on the landing.

Christmas Eve arrived. At 6pm everyone went to the carol service. Eventually, an excited child was lured off to bed, a mince pie for Santa and carrots for the reindeer. Rhona knew to expect whoops of glee, prepared to be woken at some God forsaken time in the early hours. Internal alarm bells woke her from a glorious slumber. She could hear crying, sobbing even. She flew out of bed to the little girl's room, where choking coughs, hiccups and tears were everywhere.



"He's been", she wailed, "and he's left his sledge with all the presents outside my door. All the children are still going to be waiting".

Not one present had she touched.

Susan Conolly

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Chicken with Peppers

Serves 4 – easy recipe given to me by my lovely Mother [who is not the greatest cook in the world!]

850g chicken thighs and drumsticks
150ml dry white wine
1 tbsp English mustard
100g prosciutto, chopped
10 baby onions or shallots – peeled
225g baby tomatoes – halved
1 yellow bell pepper – thinly sliced
1 red bell pepper – thinly sliced
2 whole gloves of garlic
2 tbsp port
2 tbsp brandy
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1 tbsp chopped parsley

1. Preheat oven to 170°C / Gas mark 3
2. Combine wine and mustard and set aside. Put chicken, prosciutto and all the veg into an oven proof dish. Pour over the wine mixture, port, brandy and olive oil and mix. Cover with foil and cook in oven for about an hour, basting from time to time. Remove foil and cook for another 30 minutes. Remove from oven, garnish with parsley and serve – rice or roasted veg goes well with this.

Alternatively, chuck it all in a slow cooker and cook slowly overnight



The WI is the largest voluntary women’s organisation in the UK. It plays a unique role in supporting and enabling women of all ages to meet in the local area, develop new skills and share ideas. There is also the opportunity to discuss issues that matter both on a national and local level. How much you get involved is entirely up to each person.

The Weston Turville WI branch was formed in March 2019 and welcomes women of all ages and backgrounds to our friendly local group. For further information, please contact our President, Denise or Carolyn our Secretary via our email: westonturvillewi@gmail.com

Yummy Gingerbread

Ingredients

- 150g butter
- 200g golden syrup
- 200g black treacle
- 125g dark muscovado sugar
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp bicarb of soda dissolved in a little splash of warm water
- 250ml full fat milk
- 300g plain flour

Method

1. Preheat oven to 170°C / gas mark 3 and line a baking tray with baking parchment – easier to remove from the tin after cooking.
2. Get a large saucepan and bung in the butter, sugar, syrup, treacle, ginger + cinnamon and melt over a low heat.
3. Take off heat and add milk, eggs and dissolved bicarb of soda, continue to glug wine.
4. Finally, add the flour and mix. It will be very liquidy – don't worry, it's supposed to be like this. I sometimes add little chunks of ginger and a drizzle of ginger syrup, makes it even stickier.
5. Cook in the oven for about 45 mins until it has risen.
6. Remove from oven and let it cool before cutting it into chunks as it will still be quite moist, it will continue to cook as it cools.
7. Dust with icing sugar or mix some icing sugar with ginger syrup and drizzle over the gingerbread.
8. This freezes very well, if you keep it in a sealed container it will keep for several days and gets stickier.
9. Quite nice served warm with a dollop of ginger cream + a glass of Whisky Mac* on a cold winter evening. Best eaten with friends!

*Whisky Mac – one shot whisky + 2 shots green ginger wine

Recipes kindly provided by Sian Lorimer

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Date: 12th February 2022

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NHS Direct	111
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<p>Dog bins (full or damaged)</p>	<p>Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858 (please quote the bin reference number eg AV123 which is on each bin)</p>
<p>Environmental Health issues – including noise complaints</p>	<p>Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858</p>
<p>Fly Tipping</p>	<p>Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858</p>
<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p>	<p>Transport for Bucks – 01296 395000 Or www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/</p>
<p>Litter – missed bin collections, overflowing public litter bins</p>	<p>Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858</p>
<p>Park and recreation ground</p>	<p>Parish Council – 01296 612838</p>
<p>Planning matters, including enforcement</p>	<p>Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858</p>
<p>Street furniture, eg benches, bins, bus shelters, noticeboards</p>	<p>Parish Council – 01296 612838</p>
<p>Street lights located in Hampden Hall, A413 or A41</p>	<p>Transport for Bucks – 01296 395000 Or report online via www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/</p>
<p>Street lights located in Weston Turville village</p>	<p>Parish Council – 01296 612838</p>
<p>Village Hall</p>	<p>Parish Council – 01296 612838</p>
<p>Water leaks</p>	<p>Thames Water – 0800 714 614</p>



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