Old Buckenham Newsletter



April 2024



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The sponsor this month is happy to remain anonymous as she celebrating a **big** birthday. She wishes all those with an April birthday 'Many happy returns and let's hope that the sun shines for us all.'

If you are interested in 'sponsoring' an issue, it is a nominal cost of £10. The months left for this year are just August and September. Should there be a special occasion that you wish to celebrate before then you may be able to share a month with someone else.

Letters and emails

Jim Trice from the Met Office has sent this message: I am getting in touch to provide you with the update on the East Anglia Radar Project that we spoke about last week. There has been a lot of behind the scenes work on the project, but we haven't reached any of the significant project milestones yet which explains why I've not been in touch for a while. As mentioned in the last update the project suffered a delay in tendering for the main contractor to build the radar tower and associated cabin. Our intention is to re-issue the tender later this month which would lead on to appointing a main contractor in the early summer of this year. Based on that we would anticipate construction work starting on site in the autumn or winter and finishing

in the spring of 2025. There will be a testing and commissioning phase following on from that, with much of that work being controlled and monitored remotely from our HQ in Exeter.

As we approach the construction phase of the project, we would expect that there will be much more interest from local residents and businesses, and I expect to provide more regular updates during that time.

Just so that you're aware, I have sent the information above through to the Old Buckenham and Carleton Rode Parish Councils to also keep them informed about the project.

From Sheila Young: It was "Show & Tell" at Old Buckenham WI following their annual meeting last month. Six members revealed their passions outside the WI and they

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The editor is Ron Brewer of 'Crockslea', Cake Street, Old Buckenham, NR17 1PS who you can email with your news or your queries about advertising by going to obnewspostbox@aol.com

You can also keep up with the latest village news and see photos of the latest activities by going to http://oldbuckenham.blogspot.com

could not have been more wideranging. From the diversity of eggs from her small holding, to the tradition of crocheting a beautiful blanket for grandchildren, a revised version of a knitted blanket created for a son and now a grandson, some of the 456 gardening books, beautiful applique on clothing, extraordinary patchwork and the newly discovered talent for sewing, it showcased the talent in our village Woman's Institute. A new committee has been voted in. The new appointments are President Christine Long and Secretary Betty Stacey. They look forward to another year of activities, demos, talks and competitions and outings and of course those lovely home-made cakes and biscuits! Eileen Oliver, Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee says: The Village Hall Annual General Meeting will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday 3 April starting at 7pm. This is your chance to come along and listen to what they are up to and maybe add your views too. Councillor Pete Twissell has written: Last year, I was asked to look into setting a hedge to replace the fence which used to

divide the recreation ground from



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the Village Hall car park.
The Woodland Trust kindly
donated 210 saplings in a variety
of species and I enlisted the help
of groups from the High School,
the Primary School and Chapel
Green School to plant the saplings
in November of last year.
I am aware that I should have left a

space for the tractor to access the recreation ground for grass cutting and I shall move some of the saplings in the coming weeks. There will be more hedging, to be planted along the side of the recreation ground adjacent to the footpath. I will again be inviting the schools to take part.

Thanks to all those who helped



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with planting last year. If you are part of a local group and would like to get involved, please contact me on pc99twissell@gmail.com Eileen Oliver needs some help: The Village Hall plans to be open on the Airshow weekend (27 and 28 July) to allow the public that gather there to watch the planes to have access to the hall toilets. Also if we can get some volunteers to help man the hall, it would be nice to offer tea and cold drinks and maybe ice creams. We will need help. Last year many people thought this was a missed opportunity to fund raise (including the airfield) for the hall. Please contact me on feetease@outlook.com

Women Walk the World

Why not join the walk with "The Friends of Old Buckenham WI" on Saturday 27 April to celebrate Women Walk the World Day and hopefully raise some funds for projects carried out by ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World).

The walks will start at 10am from the Children's Play Area. There will be a range of possible walks ranging from 1 mile to about 5 miles along roads and footpaths in the Hargham Road, Fen Street, Fen Road, Leys Lane and Barker's Lane area. There will be points along the route where

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it will be possible to do a shorter walk than the full 5 miles but all will take in Ragg's Lane. Some maps will be available on the day. If you want a walk of about one mile you can join us at the footpath starting between 36 and 38 Hargham Road at 10.15am or soon after. Limited parking will be available at the Methodist Chapel in Hargham Road if necessary. We would ask for a Voluntary donation (£2 is suggested but any amount would be welcome) for ACWW. Donations will be collected at the start of the walk either the Children's Play Area or footpath at Hargham Road. Everybody is welcome to join us, particularly men and boys and well behaved dogs on leads. If you need any more information contact Sheila Freake 01953 860 156 or by email to sheilafreake@btinternet.com

The Hollyhock Trilogy

It's a shame that many of you missed out on the opportunity to see this performance on Sunday 17 March. The fact that is was on a Sunday afternoon didn't help to get a good-sized audience but those who came along thoroughly enjoyed it. The comments afterwards were best

summed up by one simple description of "bloody good".

All Saints services in April

Sunday 31 March (Easter Day) 9.30am Holy Communion for Easter Tuesday 2 April 10am Holy Communion followed by coffee and chat Sunday 7 April 10am Group service at St Martin's New Buckenham (no service at Old Buckenham) Sunday 14 April 9.30am Morning Prayer Sunday 21 April 9.30am Holy Communion - followed by Annual Parochial Church Council meeting (see separate note below) Sunday 28 April 9.30am Holy Communion The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Sunday 21 April in the Church, following the morning service. All are welcome to attend this meeting, which is the annual meeting of parishioners (including, for those on the electoral roll for All Saints Church, Old Buckenham, the election of churchwardens). Full details will be displayed in the

March Parish Council minutes

Church Porch.

These notes have been written by the blog editor from the draft

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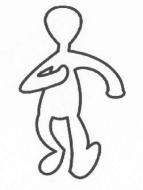
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minutes and so may include information that is changed at a later date.

Old Buckenham Parish Council met on Thursday 7 March at Old Buckenham Village Hall. Those present were Councillors Naomi Bailey (Chair), Lesley Evison, Pete Twissell, Stan Burton, Steve Gowers, David Taylor and Doug Irons. Also attending were Jonn Hicks (Clerk) and ten members of the public. Apologies for absence had been received from Ali McWilliam.

The minutes of the meeting held in February were approved (6 in favour).

Financial matters. The Community Account Balance now stands at £21427.68.

Payments for £2366.55 were approved (6 in favour) and included £146.75 to the

community car drivers, £149.99 for a water pump, £540 to Glebe Farm Services and £177 to West Norfolk Web Design.

Two Wheel Tuesday. David Tranmer of the Ox and Plough was formally invited to this month's meeting so as to produce new rental agreement and check his Public Liability Insurance Certificate which he did supply.

Naomi Baily asked the question regarding repairs to the Green which should have been undertaken after last year's events. David Tranmer reported that this was not possible due to the weather during this last winter and more recently. He gave his undertaking that all repairs will be carried out after this seasons' events. Naomi Bailey also asked if it was possible for the stewards at this this year's events to politely ask car drivers who visit to

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not park outside peoples dwellings and to refrain from parking outside the play area. This causes obstruction of view from the playground gates and could lead to an accident. Steve Gowers and Doug Irons have suggested the Parish Council invest in some signs advising drivers not to park in certain areas and direct them to park at village hall so they will investigate this option. The Clerk asked David Taylor to speak with village hall committee to ask for their approval. The Parish Council have also approved the siting of picnic benches on the Green by David Tranmer again this year. The Clerk to send across a contract for these. The Parish Council also agreed to leave the rates the same as charged for 2023 season for both Two Wheel Tuesday and the benches.

Councillors' reports. Pete Twissell had attended the Village Hall

Management Committee in March. Direction markers in the car park have eroded away and they ask for permission from the Parish Council to erect directional signs on posts at the edge of the recreation ground. All six councillors in favour so this can go ahead. Also the Committee are keen to reinstate the meetings between them and the Parish Council. The Clerk suggest they send a couple of their committee to the Parish Council Surgery to be held each month to keep the dialogue flowing. Steve Gowers reported that the Community Speedwatch had their first day in the village and also is still looking for more volunteers. He also passed on a letter of thanks from the Almshouses Trust for last year's precept grant. Doug Irons sent out the draft of the new website to all members and is

awaiting feed back from everyone



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involved. He is also looking into the Neighbourhood Plan to investigate what grants are available and to see if we can get enough volunteers to help with this.

Naomi Bailey has emailed Darren at Highways to ask for the yellow lines outside the High School to be repainted as they have eroded away and are barely visible. The Chair and the Clerk also confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Saturday 22 June 2024 with a start time of 11am at Old Buckenham Village Hall with refreshments available.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken spoken to Jim Trice from the Met Office who informed him that the build went out for tender but no one was successful so it has gone out for tender again.

He has also made contact with the company Pace Energy and spoken to Alex Ross about the solar panel site. He says that the plan is still ongoing and they are trying to rectify issues with the national grid with reference to connection before the first phase of building works can commence. He has agreed to keep us up to date with a monthly email.

The first Parish Council 'Surgery' was held on Saturday 24 February. It was well attended by parishioners and Steve Askew was also in

attendance. Lots of talk regarding flooding around the village and it was agreed to send out a survey via the newsletter to establish who and where there are issues with water and to gather information on where ditches are located.

On Sunday 18 February a team manned the pump at Ottomer pond after another heavy rainfall. Thanks go out to Richard, Karen and Monty for helping the Clerk and Chair in setting up the pump and manning it for the day. On Sunday 25 February the pump was used to clear the ditch and roadway leading to the Primary School to ensure the school could reopen after the half term break. Thanks again go out to Richard, Karen and Monty for their help.

Then on Sunday 3 March the pump was run again at the Primary School to ensure the road and pathway were clear for the Monday morning.

Action Log updates. Doug Irons and Steve gave all members a new copy of the Action Log which will be in electronic form.

Planning applications. Roughlands Farm, Grove Road. Prior approval for proposed change of use of an agricultural building to 1no small dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion, The

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It is outside the Settlement
Boundary and not supported by the
Parish Council (6 in favour).

Other business Naomi Bailey

Other business. Naomi Bailey reported that the first Saturday Surgery went well and she is keen for this to keep going. Thanks to Steve Askew for his attendance and she hopes to see him at further surgeries.

Sapienta Trust have undertaken to clear the debris from the ditch behind the High School to aid the flow of water.

Leslie Iverson said that she has been in contact with the relevant authorities regarding the flooding and running water on Fen Street. She was keen to point out that the Fen was totally water logged and if nothing is done this vital wetland will become a danger to the wildlife that calls it home.

A member of the public pointed out that the hedges on Hargham Road are overgrown and causing an issue to vehicles. The Clerk to write to those residents who own the said hedges and ask them to be cut back.

Next agenda. This should include a flooding update, news of new

Burial Ground and progress on a Local Plan.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 11 April at 7.30pm in Old Buckenham Methodist Chapel.

Village Hall news

Those present at the March meeting of the Management Committee were Eileen Oliver, Chairperson; Richard Crawley, Secretary; Jane Kelly, Booking Clerk; Pete Twissell, Parish Council representative; Terry Cook, Alison Frank, Rosemary Pratt and Chris Dalton. Apologies for not being able to attend had been received from Jay Lucas, Graham Dye and Tracey Hayden.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

The defibrillator battery has been replaced. This will be added to the Annual List as a reminder that the battery may need changing so that the Parish Council can be alerted. The Chairperson reported that the Air Show organisers at the Old Buckenham Airfield had been surprised that the Village Hall had not taken advantage of letting its premises for people to view the Show from the Village Hall grounds. Eileen was prepared to set something up with Jay for this year's Show. A note will be put in

OLD BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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PARISH COUNCILLORS (all landline dialling codes are 01953)

Naomi Bailey, (Chair) 18 March Field Way. 07432 652177

Stan Burton, Mill Farm, The Green. 711022 or 07787 168562

Lesley Evison, The Old Prince, Fen Street. 07796 136399

Steve Gower, Semere, Church Lane. 861042 or 07765 861770

Doug Irons, Mill House, Mill Road. 07808 611938

Alison McWilliam, 2 The Granary, Mill Road, 07528 502602

Paul Phillips, 3 Forge Close. 07795 105557

David Taylor, email pc99taylor@gmail.com

Peter Twissell, The White House, The Green, 07826 375356

the newsletter to ask for volunteers over the two days to look after the parking, access to toilets and refreshments for visitors and any cleaning of the premises. The Parish representative will take the matter to the next Parish Council meeting to seek their support.

The Secretary asked trustees to sign their Declaration of Eligibility. The process of Incorporation was awaiting details of the Hall finances, completing property issues and the renewal of the CAN subscription. The Booking Clerk reported lower income for February compared with the January income from the pantomime. Harleston Players have made an approach to bring their production, 'The Friendly Invasion', to our hall on Wednesday 24 July and she is meeting them to discuss this. Hollyhocks was all set for Sunday 17 March and members were asked to push the ticket sales. The Secretary said it was time to review the charges. He pointed out that our outgoings were increasing

Copy for the May newsletter will need to be with the editor by

Saturday 20 April

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with rising utility costs as well as payments for works done in the hall, including gardening, cleaning and general repairs. Following occasional complaints about the state the hall had been left in, the payment of a regular daily cleaner would also add to our expenditure. Given that our rates tend to be lower than other local venues and that we are not meant to undercut, it is clear that charges must rise to cover increasing costs but this needs to balanced ensuring that cost does not prevent members of the community from enjoying the facilities. In any event, it was felt wise to await the treasurer's advice at the next meeting. A member raised a point about what he felt was convoluted language, for instance in page 3 of the Application from CAN. Since it is a document from the Government related to the Charity Commission, it may be that legalistic wording might be necessary to protect us. The secretary will contact Tonya to ask whether it was legitimate to change the wording of the document. The Treasurer mentioned the issue of signage and also repair to the car park surface. The Parish Council is expected to comment on whether direction signs on posts along the

edge of the Recreation Ground

were acceptable. A professional repair of potholes and wear and tear damage needs to be carried out and would ask the Hall Manager to look into competitive prices for the work.

Another committee member had asked if there was any progress in terms of a Village Show and the reply was that the organiser felt that the responsibilities and insurance costs were off putting.

The Hall had been offered a painting of the village windmill for display in the hall. The painting was circulated and the committee agreed to accept and display it. The next meeting would be the AGM, starting at 7pm and followed by our regular meeting, on Wednesday 3 April.

Read and enjoy

Here is the second of several pieces being supplied by writer Tom Walshe on some local history. The "Friendly Invasion" from a local perspective.

In 1944, Tony Petley was a tenyear-old boy living in Old Buckenham. In this hitherto unpublished memoir, he describes how the arrival of the Americans at the village's wartime aerodrome had a massive impact on his young life.



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Up to 1944, the war to me was a sinister, frightening event that cast a dark, yet mostly invisible shadow, over the countryside. The only tangible evidence we had of the conflict were the night-time blackouts, the arrival of evacuees from bomb-hit cities...and the need to take cover if ever a German plane was spotted.

Then, in late 1943, the newly constructed aerodrome received its first plane on a test landing, signalling Old Buckenham's arrival on centre stage of the Allies' war effort.

It was a cold grey day and the news soon spread among us kids at school that a big four-engined military plane had successfully touched down. I could hardly wait for school to finish that day. But there was disappointment as we hurried out of the school gates intending to make for the airfield. Some roadmen working nearby told us the plane had only landed to test the runway and had taken off again almost immediately.

Weeks later, however, either side of Christmas, the American B-24 Liberator heavy bombers arrived in numbers, along with air and ground crews. Operations began in earnest in February 1944 and the 453rd Bombardment Group would stay

until the end of the war, flying 259 missions, completing 6,655 sorties and, tragically, losing 366 servicemen along with 58 aircraft.

The massive influx of personnel transformed the village. The Americans were quick to make their presence felt and trade at the local pubs increased enormously so that liquor was often in short supply.

One problem the newcomers had was a shortage of transport. There were no buses serving the base and petrol rationing severely restricted car use. So bicycles were in great demand and soon became big business for the locals. Almost everyone seemed to be turning out their sheds to find old cycles to sell to the servicemen.

One group of airmen bought all the cycles they could lay hands on in Banham and took them back to base in a truck. In the pub next day, locals kidded them that they had to have cycle clips before they could take to the road, so they went to a village shop and bought the entire stock. Back at the pub they asked, "How do you wear these things?" Someone replied, "On your arms to stop the wind blowing up your sleeves." There was great mirth as some of the novice cyclists were seen riding

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Germany. One eventually said I could go and I was kitted out with helmet, great coat and gloves – all far too big for me, of course – in preparation for what I imagined would be the adventure of a lifetime. I was even given a "training programme" which included instruction on what to do if the crew had to parachute out of the aircraft.

The only person I told about my eagerly anticipated mission was my four years older brother – mainly to make him jealous.

The big day came and I loitered at the base all night in readiness for the early morning flight. The top gunner had told me he would skip For the control of moles, rabbits, rats, mice and other pests please call Robert on 07743 283135 or email rjbrown5232@yahoo. co.uk



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with the clips round their arms while their trouser turn-ups flapped against oily bike chains. One 14year-old boy tried to sell a cycle he had cobbled together using scrap parts from a dump known as the Tin Pit. I was talking to the airman who had negotiated the purchase of this monstrosity when the vendor wheeled it up complete with rusty frame and two flat tyres. When I heard the asking price was £8 I was so shocked I blurted out, "Don't give it to him. He got that out of the Tin Pit." The deal was abruptly called off but my intervention earned me a hiding from the boy for depriving him of a sale.

Several of us boys began visiting the base regularly. We would stand on the edge of the concrete as a plane taxied in from a bombing mission and, when its propellers stopped, would walk right up to it and even go inside with the ground crew.

I began to make friends with the crews and even visited them in their huts. Two crew members, who lived in Hut 22, I got to know very well and one air gunner had me write to his wife in Kansas. She wrote back and asked me to watch for his plane for her.

I pleaded with the gunners to take me on a mission with them over the pre-flight briefing and take me to the plane. "You can hide in the tail because once we're airborne we can't turn back. Then you can walk around the plane as you please."

My parents became alarmed when I failed to return home and reported me missing to the police. Around 4.30am, my brother woke up and remembered me boasting about the mission. My father sent him to look for me and he found me standing by a hedge as the crew were about to go to the briefing room.

It is almost inconceivable, of course, that the men would have gone through with such a foolhardy and illicit escapade. The next day my father went to see the base commander and, when he came home, told me to take the flying kit back and never to go to the airfield again. "Those poor buggers have enough trouble without you being a nuisance to them," were his words. When I took the kit back, the gunners told me their pilot, Captain Larry Love, wanted to see me. I went to his hut and, after standing outside for a minute or two wondering whether I should face him or run away, I summoned the courage to knock on the door. An American voice said "Come

in", but I was too scared to turn the door handle so I knocked again. An officer opened the door and a look of astonishment appeared on his face. "It's a kid," he called back into the hut.

"It's OK, I know about it," said a voice from inside. "You'd better come in then," said the man at the door.

I entered and immediately noticed that it was identical to the gunners' Hut 22 that I knew so well – green and yellow paint with two stoves in the middle of the room.

The man at the far end whose voice I had heard came towards me and looked me up and down. "So you're Tony. My crew have told me a lot about you. Come and sit down." He was a quietly spoken, immediately likable man and my nervousness eased as he gently told me it was against international law for children to fly in war planes. He then took me outside to his Liberator which was bombed up ready for another mission. He allowed me inside and showed me the positions occupied by his crew, even letting me sit in the pilot's seat. I was almost speechless with awe but I had the presence of mind to wish him luck and added boldly, "I still wish I could go on a mission with you." He thought for a moment. "I tell you what," he said,

"you can be the mascot for my crew and plane."

That made me feel like a real airman and from then on Captain Love was my number one hero. (to be continued)

Robin Anthony (known as "Tony") Petley was born in Old Buckenham where he attended school. He lived all his life in the village and neighbouring Attleborough, and will be remembered by many as the driver of a baker's delivery van. He died in 2005 aged 71.

Come and say your bit

Village Hall AGM will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday 3 April starting at 7pm. This is your chance to listen to what they are up to and maybe add your views too.

Quiz doing different

The Old Buckenham Alternative Quiz Night will take place this year on Saturday 27 April at Old Buckenham Methodist Church, NR17 1PY (parking available). Starting at 7pm, it will have a range of fun quizzes including visual, sound and other interactive quizzes plus traditional questions and answers. £5 per person including refreshments. Proceeds to be donated to the St Martins Housing Trust. Bookings available for teams of 4 to 6

(individuals also welcome to join or make up teams). To book a place either email oldbuckenham.methodist@aol. co.uk or phone 01953 861207.

Windmill opening up

The first Windmill Open Day of 2024 will be on Sunday 21 April from 1pm to 4pm. They will have their new tea hut up and running so teas and cakes served as well as the Windmill tours. If you have never yet been shown around our windmill, this is your chance.

A social evening for you

The Social Circle is meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday 11 April when Ron Brewer will be talking on the history and production of this esteemed village newsletter. The newsletter started years ago, back before the 1980s, and Ron has been producing it for about 25 years. What does go on 'between the covers'? Come along and you may find out.

Talking to Red Van Man

Howe be yew ar duen ole man, sa Red Van Man, fare tew midlern, I sa. Tharts ar rite pitie ar bote yar ole mate, stil he hed ar good inerens, he wus eighte free, thar wont much he hent dun. Thart be rite tru Red Van Man, he

startard wit nufink arn bult up ar gret, besnarse, thar wus ovar free hundrard pepal ar werkin fore him. He wus ar blodie ole roge, ar rite chancar, but he be mor rite tharn rong. He is up thar wit thar gode Lord, ar telin him ware he code hev bort thos Pearly Gates chepar! Yew nowe thart ole gal who wus ar getern orn tew yew ar bote them thar eletrick vehicarls, rembar, thart I due I sa. Yew shode sho har thar pitchars yew hev gort orf thar damarg ar be en corsed in thar Congo, ware tha be open carst minen fore thart "LIthium", wot tha use tew meke thar eletrick car batries. Thart jus ent thar Congo, tha be ar duen tha same in parts orf Australia. She wunt want tew nowe thart I sa, she arn ar lort orf ufers fink them thar vehicarls ar thar ansar tew ar curen enviromental problems, time wil tel.

Tufer nite orn thar telarvisharn I wus ar watshin this har program ar corled "Flog It". Thar wus this har blok who wus ar watar in sum restaurant, wun nite this har Black Bloke cum in wit his mates. Cor blas sa tha watar, ware due I nowe him frum. Thart wus Cassius Clay tha famos boxer latar nown as Muhammad Ali. Durin tha dinar Cassius wus drawen orn ar napkin. Tha watar arse Cassius if he code

kepe the napkin, orf corse he sa, I tel yew wot I'll autograph it fore yew. Thart wus bac in tha sixties. Tha watar sold thart napkin at aushon larst yer, it made six thousarn pounds! Yew ust tew folow boxing ole boye, thart I did sa I sore Ali fite twice, wunc in Lundun, tufer in Kinshasa, tha Rumbal in tha Jungal.

Tha first time I sore him fite he fort Henry Cooper. Ali ust tew like leaning back orn tha top ring rope, maken it dificult fore his arpornent tew punch him orn tha hede. But tew wards tha end orf tha ronde ole Henry cort him wit ar left hook. Down wen Ali, he wus saved bie tha bell. Ali's corner claimed his boxin glove wus torn, thart give Ali a few seconds tew recover while tha change tha glove. He, Ali, cum bac intar thar ring and hit Henry soe hard tew thar chest, thar refere stopped thar fite. Secon time wus 30th October 1974, wen Ali fort George Forman in East Africa, Zaire's capital Kinshasa. Wot ar hard fite, Ali won orn points. Argin he used thar top rope tew his advantage. Forman's corner complained thar top rope wus tew slack, they wus probably rite. Hev yew gort thar programmes

tew them thar fites enquired Red Van Man, not only due I hev them tha ar bof signed bie Mohammed Ali, Henry Cooper and George Forman. Cor blas if yew sold em yew code afford ar dinar at thar Gamekeeper! Is Ali still ar bote? No I sa, he went in 2016 wit dementia. He won 56 fites lorst 5, arn orf those 61 fites he won 37 bie knockouts.

He used tew sa "He floated like a butterfly, and stung like a bee". He also sed he wus "The greatest", and in my book he wus. I wus loken through sum ole papers, I cum ar cros ma Ration Book thart bie dated 1945. I orlsoe fond ar Newspaper dated 6th June 1944, thar hed lines wus a bote tha Invasion of Europe, ie Germany. Mr Churchill wus hed lined as sayen "It was a successful operation, 4 thousand ships involved both large and small, so far all is going to plan". I orlsoe found ar video thart bie filmed fore thar majority in Old Buckenham. It wus sposed tew bie bast orn ar true story. A Farmer, due tew a Transport and General Workers Union strike cun't hire a truck tew get his geese to Lundens, Smithfield Market. So wit his farm workers he decided tew walk the than

Gamekeeper. Wus thar eny cars parked orn tha Abbey Road? arsed Red Van Man. Stop thart I sa, we sed we won't take tha mickey out orf ar Parish Council, they mean well, I fink. Its ar rite good film, it hev bin released unda free different titles, it stars Bill Owen, it really captures tha bond med ar tween country pepal arn thar ole tradishuns, animals arn live stock. Tha name orf tha film I gort is tha "Laughter House". I orlsoe found a lettar frum Norfolk County Council. It wus a bote Old Buckenham Green, it wus ar dress tew ole Crackers. We dunt hev ar Green, its ar Common, tha title, not ownership is aligned tew tha holder orf the Lord of the Manor. Certain residents hed tha "rite" tew use The Common fore certain periods orf tha yar. Those "rite" holders wus expected tew contribute tew thar Commons upkeep. It makes interesting readen, especially how sum "rites" bin transferred tew uthar parties in tha vilarg. Dint Crackers give yew wun orf his "rites" arsed Red Van Man? I dunt nowe, I gort enuf problems wit out bein part orf thart ole

geese orl tha way tew Lunden.

It wus filmed in 1984, orn tha

Green in fruit orf the

malarki.

Time we went fore ar pint at the Ox, arn toast that departure orf mie ole frend.

Keep taking the pictures

The photograph on the front of this month's newsletter was taken by Nick Howell and he has kindly agreed to it being used. Many villagers take photos around our village and they might like to take part in the forthcoming Photoshow. The ninth biennial Photoshow will be held from Friday 17 to Sunday 19 May (the weekend before the Spring Bank Holiday) at New Buckenham Village Hall. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to show your photos to the public. They welcome photographers of all standards and particularly encourage people who have never shown their photos before - and give them lots of help. The newsletter editor has exhibited photos since it started. Do you know anyone who hasn't exhibited at the Photoshow, perhaps an enthusiastic youngster? Please let Charles Oxley have an email address and he'll invite them as well. The contact address is photoshow@newbuckenham.net More details and application forms will be sent out nearer the time.

Old Buckenham Community Car service

The following drivers are providing a service to take people to the doctors or to hospital appointments and can be contacted at:

John Frost (Attleborough only) - 01953 860841 Lorna Gedge - 01953 860669 Alison Hannah and David Hannah - 01953 861261

Diary dates for April

Here are details of some of the events going on in the village this month

Monday 1 April Arrangements of lilies on display, All Saints Church.

Tuesday 2 Coffee and Chat, All Saints Church, 10.30am

Wednesday 3 Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 7pm

Friday 5 Mobile Library throughout village from 10am

Monday 8 Monday Mardle, Methodist Church, 2pm for 2.15pm

Wednesday 10 Luncheon Club, Village Hall, 10am to 1.30pm

Thursday 11 Social Circle, Village Hall, 7.15pm for 7.30pm

Thursday 11 Parish Council, Methodist Chapel, 7.30pm

Saturday 13 Church Bingo, Village Hall, 2pm

Saturday 20 Copy date for April newsletter

Sunday 21 Windmill Open Day, 1pm to 4pm

Monday 22 Monday Mardle, Methodist Church, 2pm for 2.15pm

Thursday 25 Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Saturday 27 Parish Council 'Surgery', Village Hall, 10am to noon

Saturday 27 Alternative Quiz, Methodist Church, 6.30pm for 7pm

Regular happenings in the village are the Old School bookshop open Fridays and Saturdays between 10am and 4pm, the Fawns (for parents and their pre-school children) in the Village Hall each Friday morning in term time from 9am to 10.30am and the Old Buckenham Singers in the Methodist Church every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm.



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