Old Buckenham A Newsletter



August 2025



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This month's newsletter is sponsored by Mary Parker who has been a regular sponsor for many years. Thank you Mary.

If you are interested in 'sponsoring' an issue, it is a nominal cost of £10. You can now book for 2026 if you like as all the remaining months this year are taken. Should you have a special occasion that you wish to celebrate you may be able to share a month with someone else.

Time to be a Player

This item has been written by Jenny Devaux of the Old Buckenham Players: It's been a while since the Old Buckenham Players have been mentioned in the newsletter apart from when they are promoting a new play or panto performance in the village hall. So, we thought we'd introduce ourselves to those of you who may not know that we've existed for almost fifty years, we perform at least twice a year in the village hall and we have won awards.

We are a group of individuals who enjoy entertaining people in the best way we can, and we hope you have enjoyed our efforts over the past years. However, we're going to let you into a little secret, only one member of the group

actually lives in Old Buckenham. Crazy isn't it? How many other local groups can boast that dubious statistic? Thankfully, very few. In fact, if it wasn't for the other members who faithfully travel weekly to this wonderful village of ours from as far afield as Dereham and Blofield, the group wouldn't exist, and you would be without the regular pantos and plays performed by such a talented group (and yes, I am biased).

So, on that note, we would really like local people like you to come along and join in the fun too. We meet most Thursday evenings from 7.30pm to 10pm and sometimes on Mondays nearer performance dates. If you want to know more or are interested in any aspect of drama, whether it be treading

The Old Buckenham Newsletter is published monthly and distributed free in and around Old Buckenham.

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

the boards, backstage crew, lighting, sound, costumes, front of house, etc, please contact us via oldbuckenhamplayers@yahoo.com

We will arrange for you to pop in and meet us, and, if you like, we will even meet you in the car park, so you are not shyly walking into a new group alone, which we know can be scary!

Building bug hotels

On a very hot Thursday 10 July a group of 14 Old Buckenham Primary School pupils and 5 adults came to the wood on the Green to build a bug house.

After some discussion the children decided to build a bug town with seven separate houses built by pairs of pupils. Only natural materials could be used so a variety of sticks, wood, bamboo pieces, pine cones, loo and kitchen roll inners, paper and hanging basket liners were put together some bound by natural twine. Pulley systems were included on some structures. Stan Burton brought a selection of wood on his low loader so the children had the fun of seeing this arrive to deliver its load right into the wood. Also the electricity crew kindly slowed their replacement of wires nearby until we had finished.



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Thank you to all those involved, the bugs are grateful for their new homes for the autumn.

Help run the Mardle

From end of August the Monday Mardle will be requiring new people to organise it. This is a group who meet to just talk to other local people or as Norfolk residents would say "have a good mardle". They meet twice a month throughout the year at the Methodist Chapel in Hargham Road from about 2pm to 4pm. If anyone is interested in helping please ring Enid on 01953860131 or email her at enidjolley678@btinternet.com



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Our village Produce Show

This will take place on Sunday 7
September at the Village Hall.
Exhibits need to be deposited
between 9.30am and 11am. The
Show opens to the public from 2pm
and prize giving is at 4pm. The
Show schedule was circulated in an
earlier newsletter. Electronic copies
are available by emailing
residentsofoldbuckenham@hotmail.
com.

Your favourite people

The Old Buckenham Methodist Church are holding their flower show this year, with the theme of 'Famous British People'. It will be held on the August Bank Holiday weekend (Saturday 23 to Monday 25 August).

If you are intending to do a display this year please say what 'Famous British Person' you want to do your display about (to make sure they don't get ten displays on Churchill). If you have anything about a famous British person (such as books, pictures, figures, etc) the organisers would like to include other non flower displays as they can set up a display cabinet, book stands, etc.

Youth Club has Summer break

The Youth Club is now taking a break for the Summer holidays. For those who haven't visited for a couple of weeks they now have a

pool table, a bluetooth karaoke microphone, air hockey and two more large faux leather beanbags. They wish to thank everyone who has supported them and thank all the young people who've been along. They will be back at the Methodist Church on Hargham Road on Friday 5 September. See you then.

Station 144 Bistro

On Thursday evenings the Bistro at the Airfield is now staying open until 8.30pm. Why not go along and enjoy their 'burgers and beers' menu in pleasant surroundings?

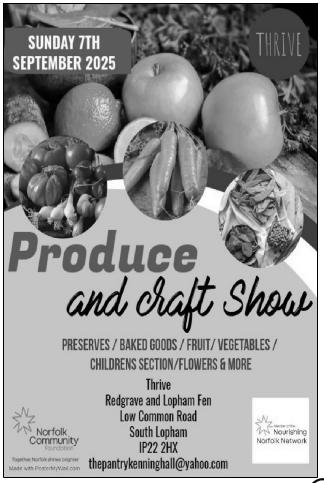
Village Hall news

Those present were Chair Gina Stanfield, Secretary Ian Coyle, Treasurer Graham Dye, Hall manager and Booking clerk Jay Lucas, Stacey Reed, Tracey Hayden, Alison Frank, Teresa Kemp, Pete Twissell, Jenny Devaux, Terry Cook and Eileen Oliver.

There were no apologies as all committee members were present. Welcome to Stacey Reed who will be taking on the role of Hall manager and Booking clerk. The minimum number of trustees still needs to be fully established. The governing document appears to indicate that the minimum number is three, however it is advised that six would be









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The Robert Cocks Almshouse's Trustees give notice that they are able to consider applications for one vacant home at the Grade II Almshouses on Old Buckenham village Green.

We will consider applications as follows: Applicants must be aged 55 years or over, and can demonstrate a strong connection to the village of Old Buckenham, or a surrounding Parish;

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Trustees will have absolute discretion as to whether to allocate a home to any applicant, but will give priority to those considered to be in most need. In the event of more than one applicant having similar needs, preference will be given to an existing or previous resident of Old Buckenham.

Further information and an application pack can be requested by calling 01953 860457 or emailing *admin@rcah.org.uk*. Assistance completing the form can be provided if needed.

preferable as this would allow for seconding of decisions made by the committee. A minimum of three people will need to volunteer to be trustees. Anyone volunteering needs to be aware that being a trustee does come with increased responsibility and risk, however there is insurance in place to protect the trustees. Names of trustees will need to be confirmed at the next meeting. It was also noted that the village hall is currently operating under the original governing document and will continue to do so until the CIO comes into effect. and also that the Parish Council are guardian trustees of the village hall. The brought forward documents/policies need to be looked at to ensure that they are up to date.

The Chair was sad to report that there had been a deliberate act of vandalism to the hall and the matter has been reported to the police and the crime reference number DP-19401-25-3636-IR04 has been issued.

The Village Hall Facebook page remains unavailable having been taken down by Meta as a result of malicious allegations of fraud. Following a discussion with Meta they have suggested that it would be better to set up a Facebook business page as they feel this would better serve the needs of the hall. The Secretary will look into whether

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it is possible to either have a monthly full page ad "what's on at the village hall" in the village newsletter or whether a separate leaflet could be distributed with the newsletter.

The Village Hall website will benefit from some updating when this can be arranged.

Volunteers are needed to help during the Airshow weekend. The Village Hall will be selling tea, coffee and cakes to those gathered on the Recreation Area to watch the planes.

There has been a one-off cost of around £3000 to rectify drainage issues. A cost of around £1000 is needed to cover regular payments including cleaning and gardening. The solar panels have generated an income of £897 for the three month period from March to June. Overall the current reserves are down to around £16500.

There will no longer be a village paper recycling facility at the village hall and income from that will be lost. The Hall manager will look into the possibility of a metal recycling bin or a second clothing bin or if there are any better options for generating an income from recycling.

The booking clerk was happy to report that there has been an increase in bookings in the last month. On Friday 5 and Saturday 6 September there will be short plays presented by Old Buckenham Players. A Clairvoyant evening will be held on Friday 12 September and Katie Whiting's latest play will be here on Friday 10 October as part of it's tour round Norfolk and Suffolk.

Next year the Players' pantomime will be on Thursday 15, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 January.

A leaking pipe in the hall has very

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kindly been repaired free of charge by a local plumber.

The screw-in water filters need to be replaced. The large water filter will need a filter change in the near future, the hall manager will look into the cost implications of this. An enquiry was made by a resident to see if there was any possibility of putting up a basket ball hoop in the village hall car park for community use. The enquirer was happy to arrange fund-raising for this. The village hall car park was felt to not be a suitable location for a number of reasons. It was suggested to the enquirer that they may like to contact Chapel Green School and/or the Parish Council to see if there could be a suitable location found in the village.

The drains have been checked with a camera and it appears that the kitchen sink outlet is near to the bend where blockages frequently occur. It was also noted that there appears to be a vacuum forcing pipe from off site that feeds into the village hall drain system and that this could possibly be adding to the drainage problems.

A local resident has kindly offered to fund a replacement microwave (or possibly both microwaves). The costing for this has been completed and the Chair will contact the resident to confirm that they are happy with the cost. If they are happy to proceed then the replacement microwave (or microwaves) will be ordered. There continues to be an intermittent fault with the microphone which seems to be related to the batteries so the batteries will be replaced and the situation monitored.

The goods in trust have been valued at £3850. If there was ever a need to replace the memorial board a photo exists that shows all the names on the board. With regard to the original black and white photos taken during the war

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it was felt that the best option would be to get them professionally copied and have both hard copies and a digital format. It was also suggested that the copies could be put on a long term loan to the American Library in Norwich and the originals be catalogued, archived and kept in a locked fire proof box at the village hall. Need to look into the cost of copying and the cost of a fireproof lockable storage box.

A number of ideas were suggested for future events such as Tea dances/themed dances (some new residents in the village have said they might be able to organise one offs or regular activities once they have settled in). Also a Beauty/Pamper night, a talk by the British Trust of Ornithology, various craft and seasonal craft workshops, some Knit and Natter/Crochet and Artisan markets. These will all be investigated further.

There are some invoices that are waiting to be sent and there is training booked on the hall master

system which should make the raising and sending of invoices quicker and easier.

Secretary will look to put a note in the next village newsletter to ensure that the village residents are aware that there is no longer a paper recycling facility at the village hall.

Date of next meeting will be on Wednesday 6 August.

Local Surgery updates

From Charlie McDowell, Practice Manager at East Harling and Kenninghall Surgeries: By the time you read this Dr Staliuiene, who joined the Practice back in August 2024, will have left for pastures new and we wish her well for the future. Obviously this will create a hole in our appointment sessions and therefore to augment our clinical team, we are in the process of recruiting three new doctors, each working six sessions (three days) per week, who will be joining the Practice in August and we look forward to welcoming them. As usual we will be offering Flu and Covid vaccinations again this year with clinics running on Saturday 4 and Saturday 11 October at East Harling Surgery. We will start sending out invitations via text, enabling direct appointment booking, during week commencing Monday 1 September. Reception will also be taking bookings from

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the week commencing Monday 8 September.

Please note that the Practice will be closed on the afternoon of Wednesday 10 September for full staff training between 1pm and 4pm. During this time if you need urgent medical help, please dial 999, or 111 for less urgent problems.

To help enhance the patient consultation experience, our GPs will be starting to use Heidi Al technology to support better clinical notes. This works by briefly recording the conversation between clinician and patient and creating summarised notes which are then checked by the GP and uploaded into your records. It is not a patient-facing tool but rather assists clinicians with note-taking during consultations. Patients can benefit indirectly from improved clinician efficiency and potentially more face-to-face time with the doctor. By using this new technology it enables your doctor to concentrate fully on you during your consultation without the need to be typing up notes at the same time so supporting better and more accurate care. This is currently being trialled by one of our Partners with a view to it being fully implemented at the beginning of August. If you would prefer the doctor not to use the Clinical Note

Support during your appointment, please let Reception know and also please tell the clinician at the start of your appointment.

August services at All Saints

Sunday 3 August 10am Group Holy Communion at St Mary Banham (no service at All Saints)

Tuesday 5 August 10am Holy Communion followed by coffee and chat Sunday 10 August 9.30am Holy Communion Wednesday 13 August 7.30pm A time for Quiet Reflection, led by a lay member of All Saints Church Sunday 17 August 9.30am Lay-led Morning Prayer Sunday 24 August 9.30am Holy Communion Sunday 31 August 10am Morning Prayer (joint service with Banham and New Buckenham)

As always, all are welcome to attend any of our services. For details of services taking place throughout the Benefice please see the information in the church porch.

Council minutes for July

These notes have been written by the newsletter editor from the draft minutes and so may contain

OLD BUCKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

For general enquiries please contact the Parish Clerk. If you do not have internet access you can drop a letter into the parish council post box at the village hall

Parish Clerk Megan Elvin clerk@oldbuckpc.co.uk

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Naomi Bailey, (Chair) pc99bailey@gmail.com 07432 652177

Stan Burton, pc99burton@gmail.com 07787 168562

Lesley Evison, pc99evison@gmail.com 07796 136399

Steve Gowers, pc99gowers@gmail.com 07765 861770

Doug Irons, pc99irons@gmail.com 07808 611938

David Taylor, pc99taylor@gmail.com 07759 737422

Peter Twissell, pc99twissell@gmail.com 07826 375356

Donna Oakley, (RFO), pc99oakley@gmail.com 01953 860125 Copy for the September newsletter will need to be with the editor by

Wednesday 20 August

Contributions by email to obnewspostbox@aol.com

information that is changed at a later date.

Old Buckenham Parish Council met on Thursday 3 July and those present were Councillors Naomi Bailey (Chair), Doug Irons (Vice Chair), Stan Burton, Lesley Evison, Steve Gowers, David Taylor and Pete Twissell.

Also attending were Megan Elvin (Clerk) and five members of the public.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5 June were approved (5 in favour).

Complaints. Naomi Bailey commented on the social media posts that have been circulating. None of the Councillors are paid – it is work done on a volunteer basis. A post that has been circulated makes out that the Councillors are being paid by using the statement "Out of Office Hours". It is part of the Councillors' role to deal with complaints and if you have a complaint please come to the Council about it. They are happy to help.

Financial matters. Please can all payments be in to the RFO by the Wednesday before the meeting at the latest. Any payments handed in after this date will need to wait for the next month's meeting. The Community account balance now stands at £27,430.99. Payments of £957.85 were agreed (5 in favour) and these included those to the Clerk and RFO, the community car drivers and Stuart Barker.

Councillors' reports. County and Breckland concillor Steve Askew apologised for not being able to attend. He told the council of the Norfolk Community Fund which backs community-led projects that bring quality of life to the county. A potential area for this is the village Play Area that could do with updating and the Clerk will investigate.

The chair had spoken to Stuart
Barker. The footpath beside the
High School has had a bit of
clearing, however not a lot can be
done until October. If it is left, all
the hedging and brambles will grow
back. The Council will pay for
Stuart Barker to do the work. This
was approved (5 in favour).
(Steve Gowers arrived)
Pete Twissell reported on his
meeting with the Village Hall
committee. It is now up to 12
members on the committee after
the appeal for more volunteers. A

request had been made for a basket ball hoop to be set up for the village. The car park was suggested but this is not practical. The Recreation area is a suggestion but there are stipulations to that area so he is to liaise with the windmill committee. Steve Gowers said a new speed sign had been installed at the war memorial. Also that there were playground inspections in the next week.

The Clerk had been informed of a broken drain and silt on road in Cake Street. This has been reported to Highways and she has been advised that someone will be out to inspect this.

New planning applications. 1 and 2 Abbey Road. Convert two adjoining semi-detached dwellings into a single residential unit (Class C£) – certificate of lawfulness – proposed use (PL/2025/0853/CL0PUD). The Council had no issues with this. The Stables, Hargham Road, NR17 1SS. Proposed erection of 8No self build dwellings. Planning Reconsultation -PL/2025/0529/FMIN. The Parish Council's opinion still stands from original application. Not the best location for any form of houses. That area of the village cannot cope with any additional houses when it comes to waterworks. Agreed to decline (6 in favour).

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OLD BUCKENHAM WI

Our next meeting is on Thursday 28 August at 7.30pm at Old Buckenham Village Hall

Amanda Hartley is coming to talk to us about Forensic Ecology and how it helps in forensic investigations.

At each meeting we have refreshments with homemade cakes/biscuits, a raffle, and competitions. We also have a Book Group, Gardening Group, and Scrabble Meetings and a local Walk which is held most months.

We are a friendly group of women of all ages and welcome new members and visitors to come and see us. For more information please contact:

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Amended applications. Proposal: Discharge of condition 3 on pp PL/2024/1120/RMIN. Site: The Homestead, Old Buckenham. Proposal: Discharge of conditions 4, 7B, 8, 9 10 on pp 3PL/2021/1564/O. Site: The Homestead, Old Buckenham. Proposal: Non material amendments to PL/2025/0167/FMIN - revising the proposed windows and doors from PPC Aluminium (Grey) to PVCu (Anthracite), revising the proposed rainwater goods from metal to PVCu (Black). Site: 3 Mill Cottages, Mill Road, Old Buckenham. Green Working Committee. The committee met on Thursday 10 July. They have started building the bug hotels with the schools. The old rusty bench by the village sign will be taken down the next time it. rains.

The committee have been asked by the property owner of the Ox & Plough to remove the defibrillator from the side of her property. This has been done and now need a new home for the defibrillator. The Church rooms are unavailable – the church do not wish to have the defibrillator on their building. There is not an appropriate amount of wall at the post office. The Gamekeeper was another suggestion – this is a listed building and we would require planning

permission to be able to install the defibrillator. The phone box is yet another option but would no longer be able to use it as a notice board. The Community Heartbeat Trust can help with the adoption of the Kiosk. It will be a cost of £1 to BT and then BT will pay for the electricity for the first seven years. The defibrillator at Fen Street is solar powered. The Clerk to check if this one is also solar powered. Suggestion of putting it on a pole near the play area if it is solar powered - planning required? Suggestion of putting a plea in the village newsletter and on social media for volunteered location. Parking update. Been in touch with both schools and advised that The Gamekeeper is available for school pickup between 2.30pm and 3.30pm, not all day. High school has confirmed that this has been shared to the parents. Primary school yet to confirm that it is has been shared.

Standards of parent's driving has gone down. Schools should talk to the parents regarding driving safety. The verge of the Green has been cut in the hope that it will encourage safer driving but it hasn't. The driveway at the back of Chapel Green is not an option for parking.

Paul from High school has asked for parking at the Village Hall to be

allowed when they have an open evening on Wednesday 17
September. Naomi Bailey suggested, weather permitting, letting them use the Green where TWT is held. This would be an overspill car park only and a 'Use of Green' application form required for this to cover health and safety. A proposal in principle if application is used was approved (6 in favour).

Staff from Chapel Green School have been identified as using the Village Hall car park as an all day car park. This has been brought up with Chapel Green. Only one has stopped. If this carries on, then the access to the Village Hall school parking would become difficult to the rest of the parents.

Ottomer Pond (ongoing). Naomi Bailey has received correspondence from Mr Jenny and is trying to get an on-site meeting with him. There is a no dig policy on the driveway.

Steve Gowers had received quotes and will pass these on to Mr Jenny. Stan Burton said the priority was where the chamber has been dug out needs to be made secure as it is the Green side of the wall. The problem is the ditch that the pipe goes onto and we should not be responsible for this as it is the land owners' responsibility. Qualified builder needs to come in and brick it up as it needs to be road

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loadbearing. The outlet will be done for about £30 as most of the materials are already acquired. Steve Gowers had managed to get £150 back from Diamond Rod for not doing the work they said they would. Waiting for the third quote to get the entire job done which may take 6 to 8 weeks. Last meeting the council agreed that Stan Burton would do the pond side so only the chamber will need to done by a qualified builder. Steve Gowers to go back to the quotes and ask for only the chamber side to be quoted. Christmas tree location. Stan Burton suggested that the council put out to the village where they would like the Christmas tree. Steve Gowers questioned why tree can't put it back in front of the Ox and Plough like it had been done seven years before. The reason it was not in front of the Ox and Plough last year was due to misinformation from John Hicks. Others have had complaints about it being here before as lights were not kept on 24/7 when this was originally stipulated. Suggestion of alternating the location each year between the Ox and Plough and Harrow & Ferne.

The Clerk to contact Dave Tranmer at Ox and Plough with agreement that the lights were left on 24/7. Council will donate the cost of the electricity and Doug Irons has a



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meter that will measure the exact amount of electricity cost. The Council would like a full event for the tree switch-on to be planned. It is a good community event that we can celebrate. Next year the tree will go back to Harrow & Ferne. Solar Farm update. Still waiting for a response from the Solar Company. Does not look like any work has officially started (note from editor that it has now). The Clerk to chase and check that the solar farm traffic will not be coming through Old Buckenham.

Lloyds Banking update. David Taylor said council now all have access to the online banking and Lesley Evison will have available time to sort out her access The RFO and the Chair to write a cheque of £100 to the new bank account.

Footpaths and mobility scooters. At the AGM a member of public commented on the footpath that runs along Attleborough Road from St Andrews Close. The pathway is unsafe for mobility scooters and prams. Steve Gowers to contact Highways and liaise with the Clerk regarding this and to find the areas that need resurfacing or if it is the full pathway. One option is to use the Parish Partnership Scheme to refurbish and put in a dropped curb. Drainage outside Hargham Road *cottages.* Large pothole outside Rose Cottage and water does not drain from here so when it floods the water goes into the houses. This is part of the Green so Council should deal with it. Steve Gowers to get quotes on this to try and fix it.

Use of Green Application forms. Amendment to the TWT agreement to include the Ice Queen. This has now all been signed. Also an updated Gas Certificate received for Flying Chef. Goal Post on the Green Application form will need to be renewed for next year. Anyone can use it. The liability is down to the goal owner for maintenance and loss/damage. Although the area is mostly dirt under the trees, wildflowers were ripped up when the goal was first placed down. Some Councillors had reservations regarding keeping the goal on the Green permanently as it can affect the work of the Green Working Committee. A proposal was approved (5 in favour 1 abstained). Classic Car Show application form. A proposal was approved (4 in favour 2 abstained due to interest in attending).

(David Taylor arrived 9.05pm)

VJ Day celebration event. VJ day anniversary is on Friday 15 August. The Old Buckenham Great VJ Bake off and Old School Sports Day is a Family event to be held at the Old Buckenham Village Hall on Saturday 16 August. Judges could include someone from WI,

Windmill Trust and Village Hall. Megan Elvin and Doug Irons to organise and advertise. Minimum of ten contestants required for the event to go ahead for the Bake-Off. £5 entry for the Bake-Off competition and £1 entry for each sports day race. Any proceeds that are more than the cost of hiring the Village Hall will go to Attleborough Royal British Legion. *Public participation.* A parishioner said the weight limit is only from the bridge from level crossing to A11 so a lorry can come through Old Buckenham. The Parish Council will look at the reporting of vehicles coming along Hargham Road.

The next Saturday Surgery clashes with the Old Buckenham Airshow so meeting will be moved to Saturday 2 August at 10am to noon in Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

Items for next agenda. These should include Green Working Committee, Charity update, Banking update, Parking update (ongoing), Ottomer Pond (ongoing), Playground, Footpaths, Defibrillator location, Christmas Tree location, Solar Farm update and co-option of new Councillor. The next Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 7 August at Old Buckenham Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.



Are all details correct?

Have you ever tried contacting any of the advertisers in this newsletter and found you were unable to get through to them by phone or email? If so then please contact the editor on <code>obnewspostbox@aol.com</code> so that he can correct things.

Support nearby arts

The Arts Society Diss are a friendly and welcoming society that meets at the Corn Hall in Diss at 2pm on the third Tuesday of the month to enjoy a wide range of illustrated talks about the arts, given by highly qualified speakers. The programme for the rest of the year is: *Thursday 16 September:* The Incas - Chloe Sayer – Art & Textiles of the Incas and their predecessors.

Thursday 21 October: Eric Ravilious -Jo Walton – The lure of the everyday. *Thursday 18 November:* Tudor Art: a New Story - Dr Christina Faraday -New research on portraits, textiles, furniture and architecture. Thursday 2 December: The Scoliotic Knight - Tobias Capwell The arms and armour of Richard III. For more information you can go to info@artsocdiss.org.uk

Man on the Green say

Hi up Ole Man orn tha Green, sa Red Van Man yew sed yew wod tel us ar lort mor ar bote wot yar Dad did as ar Gamekeeper orl those yers ar go. I carnt sea enie wun else be intarestard, yew be rite sarprisd Ole Man. How fa did we git?, yew wus ar sa in wot wus go ern tew harpen arter bof tha Pheasant arn Partridge chics wer put in tha relese pens arfor be in let out, arn retarn tew tha wild soe tew speke, I remenur I sa. Afor we goe intar thart arn finkin ar bote tha Ole Gal in tha pub whoe startard orl this orf. I wus ar reden wun orn them thar high bro news pepars thufer da, thar wus arn articarl in thar ritern bie ar Profosar orf wild bard life. He wus ar torkin ar bote seaguls, arn howe meny thousarns orf them wus kiled or maned each yar bie fly in tew those them thar win turbines thar hev bin put in tha norf sea tew genaret electricity.

Thart wus rite fritening, soe much soe he reken tha ar paitern sum orf them thar win mils or turbines blac, soe tha ole guls carn see em. He sa mor bards died as ar result orf them, than wus shot ar game shotin orl yar. Makes yew fink, them thar anties in cludin tha ole gal dunt now thart. I het tew sa I dint, sa Red Van Man, tha dunt want tew tel us thart do tha? Ware did we git tew? Yew wus ar sain yar Dad Wus ar putern tha yun bards out. Firstly he hed tew decide ware tew put em. Thar Pheasant chics ar like ole hens be wen tha git oldar, tha due wandar ar bote ar bit, but the best place for em is in woodard areas or small copsus. If thar ent nun orf em orn tha farm, tha mite be released inta crops like kale, sugar beet, mustard or tha like. Tha het be fed wunce or twice ar weke for em tew hang ar rond. Partridges be rite different, tha sta tewgefer as hatched, tha then be nown as a covey. Tha ten tew stay ware tha wus released, tharts orf corse if tha be fed ar cupal ar times ar weak. Idelie release places be corn crops or stubals bie tha time tha shotin season starts or idelie sugar beet which wont hev bin harvested bie them. Tha keeper het tew fink orf meny fings wen releasin tha bards. Tha prevalen wind direckshun, how tha bards ar goin tew be driven

tew wards tha guns, speshly tha Partridge thart ten tew fly low, idelie tha shode be driven ovar hih hedges, fick forn ust tew be popular, but modarn farmin hev sean ar lort orf hedges puled out tew make thar fields bigar tew arcomardit em grit ole marshines tha use tew da.

Wunce tha bards be in place tha keeper het tew concentrate orn vermin control, for boff tha reared bards an tha wild wuns, Carian Crows arn Rooks. Dunt than Carian Crows hasel or kil orl tipes orf owls, even barn owls arst Red Van Man. Thart them ole begars due. Then thars the hawks specly tha Kestral arn the Kites, tha thrive orn preyin orn tha young chics. Thars tha ground vermin tew, Stotes, Foxes, Cats boff wild arn domestic tha play havoc wit tha wild nestin bards arn tha wild chics as tha grow oldar. In yars gorn bie tha keeper het tew control tha wild Rabbits. Thar wus hundrards orf em. Tha use tew feed orn tha corn as it cum threw tha ground arter is wus sown, Barley arn Wheat wus thar favorit. Tha wus trapped, snared sum times shot, but shotern them wus tew expensif. Tha gin trap wus mostile used, rite narsty it wus tew, soe much soe its ust wus banned.

Ar bote this time ar vanerial desese wus imported frum

Australia arn introduced inta tha UK. In free or for yars it nerlie wiped out tha Rabbit population, orl low tha ar startin tew increase in numbars agin. Excuse mi French but it wus ar bloody horble desese, Mixarmotoses it wus corled. Keepers, Farmworkers sum times pepal frum tha vilarg wode walk tha fields wit ar stic "knockin orf" tha poor ole Rabbits who hed cort it. I nevar wont tew see tha likes orf it agin.

Makes yew fink sa Red Van Man, this har Covid thart be ar bote now tha recon thart wus leeked frum ar labority in China. Look how meny pepal thart med ill, sum died orf it, it changed ar way orf life. Jus yew fink how much worse it code hev bin if it wus sumfing strongar. Tha risk orf thart harpenin is quite likly, lik them por ole Rabbits we code face extinshun. Shut yew up I sa, but yew code be rite.

Tha shooten season for Partridges start in Septembar arn for Pheasants in Octebar but most game shoots genarley wate ar few weeks later. Tharts enough for this munf Red Van Man, we wil tork ar bote tha shootin season nex munf, tharts if the newsletter editor lets us. Cheerio tewgefer

You can still take your glass bottle and jars to the Village Hall car park for recycling as well as unwanted clothes for the clothes bank.

Do your bit to help the Village Hall funds.

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:

Robin Curtis - 01953 860736 John Frost (Attleborough only) - 01953 860841 Lorna Gedge - 01953 860669 Alison Hannah and David Hannah - 01953 861261

Diary dates for August

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

Saturday 2 Parish Council 'Surgery', Village Hall, 10am to 12 noon

Sunday 3 Windmill open for tours, 1pm to 4pm

Tuesday 5 Coffee and chat, All Saints Church, 10.30am

Thursday 7 Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Wednesday 13 Luncheon Club, Village Hall, 10am to 1.30pm

Wednesday 13 Quiet time at All Saints Church. 7.30pm Saturday 16 VJ celebration events, Village Hall, 11am

Wednesday 20 Copy date for September newsletter

Friday 22 Mobile Library throughout village from 10am
Saturday 23 Methodist Church Flower Festival, 10am to 4pm
Sunday 24 Methodist Church Flower Festival, 1pm to 4pm
Monday 25 Methodist Church Flower Festival, 10am to 4pm

Thursday 28 Women's Institute, Village Hall. 7.30pm

Regular happenings in the village are the Old School Bookshop open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays 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, the Old Buckenham Singers in the Methodist Church every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm, the village Youth Club meets on Fridays at the Methodist Church at 6.30pm and 7.30pm and the Shelf Pop Up Pantry is in the Village Hall Memorial Room every Wednesday from 9.30pm to 11.30am.

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