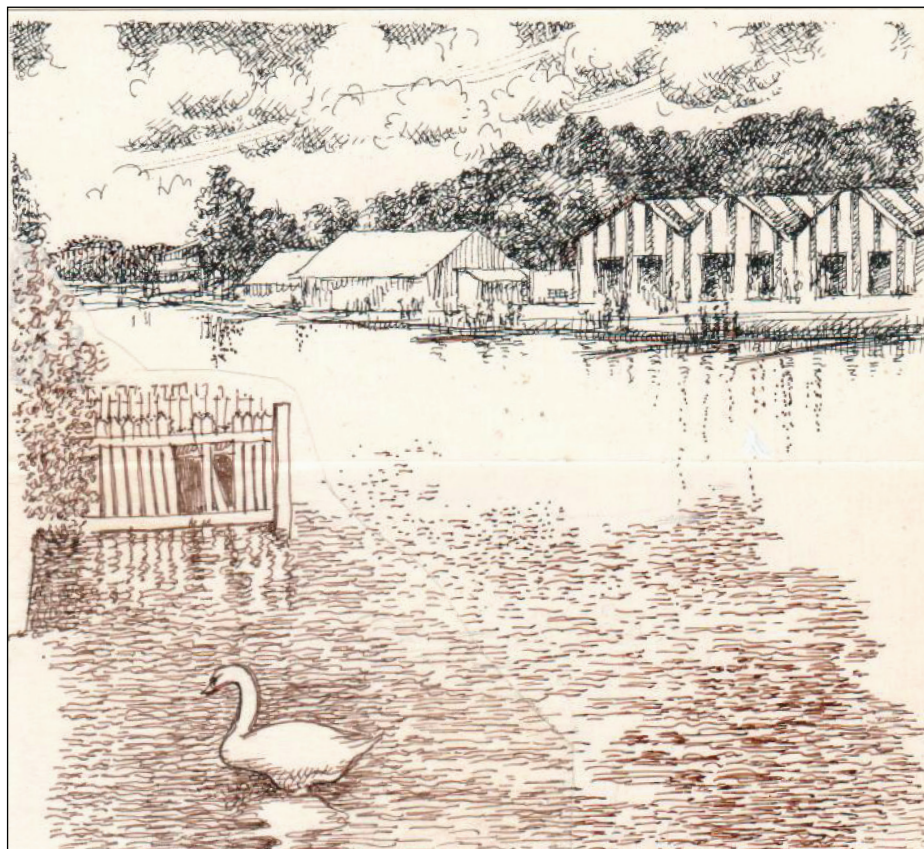


# REMENHAM NEWSLETTER



No 225 – May-June 2015

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# THE CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS

Rector

St Mary's, Henley }  
St Nicholas, Remenham }

Canon Martyn Griffiths

The Rectory, Hart Street  
Henley-on-Thames, Oxon  
Tel: 577340

Churchwardens

M Dowsett

Tel: 575711

Charlotte Every

Tel: 07973 798071

*churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk*

Treasurer

N Gray

Tel: 01491 572024

Secretary

Mrs R Palethorpe

Tel: 01344 449385

Sidesmen

1st Sunday

A G Duckett

Mrs R Duckett

2nd Sunday

J A H West

Mrs S West

3rd Sunday

P Forrester

C Every

4th Sunday

M J Dowsett

Mrs E Dowsett

5th Sunday

G Palethorpe

Mrs R Palethorpe

## NORMAL SERVICES

11.15am

Matins (BCP)

First Sunday

11.15am

Holy Communion (BCP)

Second Sunday

11.15am

Matins (BCP)

Third Sunday

11.15am

Holy Communion (BCP)

Fourth Sunday

11.15am

Matins (BCP)

Fifth Sunday

The Rector is happy to visit parishioners and members of the congregation.

**Monday is normally the Rector's day off, except for emergencies.**

Parish Office: Mon & Tue 9.30am-12.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am-4.30pm

Tel: 01491 577340, email: *office.hwr@lineone.net*

# REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

John Halsall (Chairman), Cherwell, Remenham Lane, Berks, RG9 3DB

Richard Fletcher (Vice Chairman), Rivertrees, Wargrave Road, Remenham, RG9 3JD,

Alison Barraclough, Hedgerley, Aston Ferry Lane, Remenham, Berks, RG9 3DH.

Peter Grace, 11 Remenham Hill, Henley-on-Thames. RG9 3EE

Sue Laing, Home Farm, Remenham Lane, Henley-on-Thames RG9 2LS

John Merkel, The Green Cottage, Wargrave Road, Remenham, RG9 3HX

Darrel Poulos, 231 Greys Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 1QN

**Parish Clerk:** Paul Sermon, Remenham Parish Council, PO Box 4748,  
Henley on Thames RG9 9DH  
Tel: 01491 412908, email: remenhampc@btinternet.com or  
clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk

**The Parish Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday in the month at 8.00pm in the Parish Hall, except on the evening of the Annual Parish Meeting (usually in May) when it is beforehand (7.15pm on 12 May 2015).**

## **BOROUGH COUNCILLOR FOR REMENHAM and WARGRAVE**

Cllr John Halsall, cherwell@btinternet.com, 01491 576190. Cherwell, Remenham Lane, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 3DB

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Felicity Rutland, Riverway, Remenham Lane, Henley-on-Thames RG9 2LR,  
email: newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES FOR 2015**

<b>Months</b>	<b>Deadlines for Contributors</b>	<b>Approx. Dates for Distributors</b>
Mar-Apr	Friday 20 Feb	Friday 27 Feb
May-June	Friday 24 April	Friday 1 May
<b>July-Aug</b>	<b>Friday 19 June</b>	<b>Friday 26 June</b>
Sept-Oct	Friday 14 August	Friday 21 August
Nov-Dec	Friday 23 October	Friday 30 October
Jan-Feb 2016	Friday 1 Jan 2016	Friday 8 Jan 2016



# REMENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Canon Martyn Griffiths	Rector
Mike Dowsett	Churchwarden
Charlotte Every	Churchwarden
Ruth Palethorpe	Secretary
Nigel Gray	Treasurer

Eileen Dowsett, Sue Laing, Kim Murray Cox, Glen Palethorpe, Anthea Prescott, Leslie Prescott, Anthony West, Hugh Whitfield

## CHURCH CLEANING

May	Rosemary Duckett	Minnie Wilson	Sally-Anne Plunket
June	Eileen Dowsett	Mike Dowsett	

## ALTAR FLOWERS

May	Mary Lowe	Mandy Cook
June	Sarah West	Judy Bate

## PARISH REGISTER

### Holy Baptism

19 April	Tobias Onno Vout Wood
----------	-----------------------

### Holy Matrimony

7 March	Oscar Joseph Stevens Sly and Patricia Rivillas Quesada
25 April	Jeremy Moore and Ana Da Silveras

### Funeral Services

19 March	David Alan Wilson
26 March	Peter Albert Stevens Sly

# REMENHAM PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

Fr. Martyn Griffiths, Chairman	01491 577340, <a href="mailto:office.hwr@lineone.net">office.hwr@lineone.net</a>
Ann Burley, Secretary.	01491 578859, <a href="mailto:annburley@talktalk.net">annburley@talktalk.net</a>
Nigel Gray, Treasurer	01491 572024, <a href="mailto:pnigelgray@aol.com">pnigelgray@aol.com</a>
Peter Grace	01491 579101, <a href="mailto:petergrace05@aol.com">petergrace05@aol.com</a>
Alison Barraclough,	01491 574985, <a href="mailto:barracoughalison@gmail.com">barracoughalison@gmail.com</a>
Helen Rosier	01491 573572, <a href="mailto:baz.r@live.com">baz.r@live.com</a>
Liz Cope	01491 576115, <a href="mailto:Famcope@aol.com">Famcope@aol.com</a>
Pat Sly	01491 577925, <a href="mailto:patsly@tinyworld.co.uk">patsly@tinyworld.co.uk</a>
Jayne Gray	01491 572024, <a href="mailto:Grayjaynee@aol.com">Grayjaynee@aol.com</a>
Allan Henderson	07812044113, <a href="mailto:allanhenderson@me.com">allanhenderson@me.com</a>

## **PARISH DIARY** (See articles for more information)

### **May**

2nd/3rd/4th		Henley Arts Trail, various venues around Henley, including Remenham
7th		General Election
7th	11.15am	Cricket Club Golf Day, Henley Golf Club
11th	2.30pm	W.I. meeting in the Parish Hall
12th	7.15pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Parish Hall followed by
	8.00pm	Annual Parish Meeting
16th	12.00pm	Crazies Hill CE Primary School Summer Fayre

### **June**

9th	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting, Parish Hall
	2.30pm	W.I. meeting in the Parish Hall
19th-21st		Henley Women's Regatta
26th	evening	Henley Royal Regatta Qualifying Races
28th	4.30am	Henley Classic Swim, HRR Course, start Temple Island

### **July**

1st-5th		Henley Royal Regatta
8th-12th		Henley Festival
11th-12th		Henley Masters' Regatta, Temple Island Meadows
12th	9.00am	Henley Mile Swim, start Temple Island
18th	7.00pm	Cricket Club Summer Ball, Regatta Lawn Marquee

### **August**

16th-18th		Rewind Festival, Temple Island Meadows
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### **September**

5th	pm	Remenham Country Fayre and Produce Show, Parish Hall
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### **November**

19th/20th/21st		Remenham Thespians, Parish Hall
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## EDITORIAL

*After two somewhat thin issues I have been inundated with contributions this time. Indeed I could have filled the whole newsletter with articles about and tributes to Peter Sly, the much loved and larger than life character who has been so central to our village over so many years. I have included as much as there was room for, but it only scratches the surface - do let me know if you would like a complete copy of Pru's wonderful Encomium (she is her father's daughter!), and do look at Anthony West's Eulogy on the website if you have not done so already.*

*We now begin the busiest time of year for Remenham, with all the fun as well as the many visitors (and traffic). In checking on 'Dates for the Diary' I became aware for the first time just how big the Henley Swim events have become (The Classic and the Mile in particular, but there are others), and I hope to include more information about these in the next issue.*



*The Cricket Club continues its partying and fundraising and is keen to see as many of us from Remenham as possible at their Summer Ball - or just to watch a quintessentially English match. Leander Club too is keen to take a greater part in our community, and it is marvellous that they have recently installed a defibrillator which is accessible to the public.*

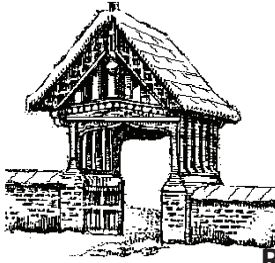
*The Annual Parish Meeting is on 12 May, so do come along as this is your opportunity to discuss local issues with the Parish Council.*

*There is a strong possibility that the Remenham Thespians will be putting on some kind of performance later in the year - save the dates!!*

*Although I have now received the tributes to John Ratings that I was hoping for last time, this was not in time to summarise or include them. There are many, which have been kindly sent to us by St Mary's Church in Wargrave. If anyone would like to see them please let me know - they are delightful.*

*The Election will soon be over!*

Felicity  
[newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)



## REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### **Peter Sly**

It would be impossible to start this column without paying tribute to Peter Sly, who has been a very long serving Parish Councillor. He was the very soul of the village. Whilst he sometimes waxed long on the wrong subject, his opinions were always well founded and without malice. The village was very dear to him and he worked very hard to make it a better place. He led in our activities to be of help to those in need. He will be sorely missed.

### **Wokingham Borough Council**

The Parish Council is primarily a statutory consultee for the Borough Council. As it has only one asset (the telephone box), its "own" responsibilities are limited. Current WBC issues are:

#### *Elections*

At the time of writing the general election is still two weeks away and the predicted result extremely uncertain. There are certain inevitable truths for local government and in particular Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) whichever way it goes. As only a third of the Borough seats are being contested, the ruling Group at WBC will still be Conservative.

#### *Income from Government*

The two main national parties (Labour and Conservative) have committed themselves to a continuation of austerity and fiscal tightening everywhere except the protected areas of the NHS, education and overseas aid. Therefore local government will continue to have its spending squeezed and is likely to be of the same order of magnitude for the next five years as were the last – for WBC a reduction of £20m - £25m, eliminating its grant income, which is itself a partial repayment of business rates of some £60m passed over to Central Government by WBC.

#### *Development*

Notwithstanding the huge amount of development which has occurred in Wokingham in recent times and notwithstanding the 13,700 planned new houses, it is not enough for Government and there will be a enormous pressure to increase the number of houses in Wokingham Borough. This will put demands on schools, hospitals, roads and other services.

#### *Main Spend of WBC*

WBC delivers more than 250 services but the major spend is on adult services, children's services, roads and waste disposal. With the increasing age of the population, adult services will absorb an increasing share of WBC's diminishing budget. The cost of waste is rising at an alarming rate due to escalating land fill charges and green legislation. Children's services are becoming more complex due to higher scrutiny from the public.

### *Opportunities*

With the development currently planned and that expected, a substantial developers' contribution will come to the Borough. How this is spent will determine whether the Borough continues to be one of the UK's favourite places to live.

### *Roads*

WBC is currently engaged in the biggest road building programme in its history but the short term effect will be more traffic jams and potholes.

### *Green Belt*

The current Government and WBC have increased the protection for the Green Belt. It is impossible to tell what a new Government would do. It may find building on the Green Belt an attractive and easy option.

### *Affordable Housing*

The proposal made by the Coalition to increase the affordable housing stock by selling unoccupied more expensive housing to build new housing is already being operated by WBC. The developers for the new houses have to have 30% of affordable housing within every development. These two actions are increasing the affordable housing stock. Inevitably though, in more expensive areas such as Remenham, the stock is under threat. Wokingham Housing Ltd will act as developers on behalf of WBC to make an increasing number of projects happen, create controllable leases and restrict sales.

### *Adult Services*

For a number of years, WBC has addressed only the neediest and increasingly has been using Optalis its wholly owned adult services company. The Care Act which limits contributions from individuals to their care will further exasperate the available finance. The parties contesting the election have all made promises which will increase the demands on Councils with no promise to increase the funding. How this will be resolved remains to be seen.

### *Discretionary Services*

There are a huge number of services that WBC provides that it does not have to; these include planning enforcement, recreational services, country parks, road repairs and land maintenance. Regrettably councillors will be faced with examining these continuously to establish what can be dispensed with or devolved onto Parish and Town Councils.

### *Finance*

WBC is the lowest funded council in the country. The disparity is huge as I have pointed out on other occasions. Whilst this is generally a disadvantage, it has meant that WBC has lived with poor funding for a long period ; it has good people and systems to ensure that it can and will cope with whatever squeeze occurs consistent with protecting the weak, vulnerable and environment.

### **Parish Council**

The future inevitably means that the parish council will have to do more on behalf of the residents if services and amenities are not to be lost.

*John Halsall*  
*Chairman Remenham Parish Council*  
*Councillor Wokingham Borough Council*

# REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PO Box 4748, Henley on Thames RG9 3ET

☎ 01491 412908

✉ remenhampc@btinternet.com



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# REMENHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Parish Hall, Remenham  
Tuesday 12 May 2015  
8.00pm**

All residents are welcome to attend and to speak on any matter relevant to the parish.

## **BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Neighbourhood Plan
6. Financial Report – presentation of unaudited accounts
7. Matters raised from the floor

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cllr John Halsall  
Chairman

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015

## PETER SLY (1929-2015)



*Peter in his Cygnet Rowing Club blazer*

Hundreds of people filled St Nicholas' Church and spilled out into the churchyard for Peter's funeral on 26 March, reflecting the huge impact that he had had on so many people's lives. The three tributes, and the Rector's address, captured the nature and humour of a man who loved and contributed so much to our village and who will leave a void that will be difficult to fill. An extract from his daughter Pru's 'Encomium' is published here.

### AN ENCOMIUM

My Darling Daddy, I can't count the number of times I've sat and listened to you making these speeches for our dear departed and laughed and cried – and now it's your turn.

When preparing for today, I looked through every photo album and realise that there are very few in which both Daddy and I appear where I am not attached to him. And that was our relationship. We were so close, from the beginning to the end and I will feel his loss so greatly but, above all, am so grateful to have had this amazing man who taught me so much as MY Father.

But that is not to say that he was without his faults. One of my earliest inklings of my Father's fallibility was when I went to school at the age of about six and told my friends that my Daddy knew EVERYTHING. His tactic in this regard was well thought out and very effective. He shared with us that the key was to learn one obscure fact about a broad range of subjects, then when confronted by an expert you could bring it up and they would assume you were highly knowledgeable.

That's not to say that my Father didn't have an amazing brain. Looking back, there seems to be nothing that he couldn't turn his hand to: there is not a pot that hasn't been badly mended or a wonky staircase in our house for which we can't thank (for which read blame) my Father.

My father was part of a large and loving family. He lost his own Father when he was just 11 years of age. He tells how a neighbour put a hand on his shoulder and said to him "well son, you're the man of the house now" and how worried he had been by this responsibility. He always said that he was terrified as he didn't know about insurance which seemed to his 11-year-old brain to be the most important thing he had to worry about!

Daddy's childhood was somewhat interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War when he was ten years old. Eventually he was evacuated to Wales where he learnt to speak "fluent" (in HIS words) Welsh. He used to tell a story about arriving there. It was dark when he was shown around the farm on arrival – and he was somewhat shocked to turn a corner and come upon his first real live cow. There hadn't been many of those in Streatham!



Daddy always said the best decisions he ever made were to marry my Mum and to buy Old Blades. The first takes little explanation. According to the story he saw the vision of loveliness (which Mum still is) and said to his friend Robbie how beautiful she was. As any true friend would, Robbie responded “you’ve got a hope mate”!

Robbie however was wrong and Mum and Dad married in 1973. In fact, he came out of his last stay in hospital, much against the advice of Doctors, on their 42nd wedding anniversary, which he spent at home with his family. And family was hugely important to Dad. His greatest joy in his later years were his two grandchildren: Peter, or Pipi, named after him and born in July and Ada named after his Mother.

Daddy had said for some years how much he would love Oscar and Patricia to marry so it was a great joy to him to be able to attend their (hastily arranged) wedding just two days before he died. It was a truly emotional occasion and Daddy was able to be Best Man for the first time in this life, something I could hardly believe hadn’t happened before. A few of his friends clearly missed out on what would have been some fabulous Best Man speeches! And despite Daddy’s poor state of health by that stage, we still managed to make a celebration out of the day.

But what I am sure we will all remember most was that he was “larger than life”, “a real character”. Not only was he a fabulous speech writer and orator (and I cannot tell you the pressure that put on this speech!), but he was always the biggest man in the room. He would walk into a pub knowing not a soul and by the time he left, usually several drinks – and hours – later, he would know everyone. This was something that went from causing me toe-curling embarrassment in my teenage years to great pride once I realised what a fabulous thing this is to be able to do.

Another classical reference which seems appropriate for Daddy is Euthanos – a good death. For that was what he had. For such a large, loud and, to use one of his favourite words, rambunctious man (and for those that need a definition, I looked it up: “difficult to control or handle; wildly boisterous”), he had the quietest, most peaceful passing that he, or we could have hoped for. He died in the home he loved surrounded by his loving family. And for that – and for you all being here today - we will be eternally grateful.

*Prudence Sly*

For a complete copy of Pru’s Encomium, including a number of Peter’s favourite stories, please email [newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)

Anthony West’s Eulogy is on the parish website at [www.remenhamparish.org.uk/remenham-history/archive-people-events-architecture](http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk/remenham-history/archive-people-events-architecture)

Jim Bland has submitted a tribute which will be published in the next issue.

## REMENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - SPRING REPORT

In February, Remenham members enjoyed a delightful talk and song recital given by Carol Edgar. After a career as a tutor at a college of further education, she took early retirement and re-discovered her singing voice, and a new and very successful stage in her life began, with countless performances in musicals, opera and recitals. She charmingly illustrated her life in song, making an entertaining musical afternoon.

The March AGM and lunch was a relaxed and enjoyable meeting, starting with homemade soup, cheese, pâté and a glass of wine, the election of the committee went very smoothly. In charge of proceedings was Wendy Robinson (W.I. advisor) - Judy Palmer was re-elected President, the committee remained the same except for the co-option of Daphne Austen. Then Enid Light gave a short talk on Royal Holloway College (where Remenham W.I. will visit later in the year). Founded by the philanthropist, Thomas Holloway as a women's college, it was opened by Queen Victoria in 1886. It became part of London University in 1945 admitting male students.

On 13 April, Remenham, with four other Berkshire Institutes celebrated the centenary of the Women's Institute at the Henley Cricket Club with a delicious lunch. Then the arrival of the baton, borne in by the county chairman, Sara Staker. The baton is part of a relay that has been going across the U.K. since last year and will finish at the AGM at the Albert Hall in June. Inside the baton is a memory stick with pictures from W.I.'s nationwide.

*Judy Fraser*



## LEANDER CLUB - UNVEILING OF CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATOR

Leander Club unveiled a cardiac defibrillator at the club on Thursday 30 April, and the position of this on the outside wall of the clubhouse means that it is also being made available to the local community. This is part of the Millie's Dream charity project, which has been responsible for many similar installations in the Henley area.

The installation of this vital piece of medical equipment is part of Leander's ongoing commitment to providing the very best of facilities for its world-class athletes at its high-performance rowing centre. Sudden collapse due to a serious cardiac event is mercifully rare in elite athletes, but the availability of defibrillators may have a dramatic effect on the outcome.



The Leander defibrillator has been sited so that it can be available to the many hundreds of people who use the towpath by the Regatta course on a regular basis.

## HENLEY CRICKET CLUB QUIZ NIGHT

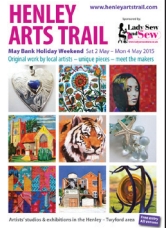
The Quiz Night on 27 February was an amazing evening, supported by nearly 150 people...so popular we had to move from the pavilion to d:two in Henley. We are so grateful to all who attended...the Remenham and friends team nearly won! Well done Janette and Neil Brown. I am delighted to report that we raised £3000, thanks to sponsors, the raffle and the bar...

*Sue Laing*

## THE HENLEY ARTS TRAIL 2015 - 'HAT15'

BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND SAT 2ND/3RD/4TH MAY - [www.henleyartstrail.com](http://www.henleyartstrail.com)

A last minute reminder for the weekend, if you receive the newsletter in time: There is information about all the different venues and artists on the website, including some of our own local artists and Remenham venues.



## REMENHAM THESPIANS



Plans are afoot for a production in November (19th/20th/21st) so save the dates now! One or two new recruits will be lowering the average age of the cast (about time?), and play readings are taking place, to finalise the choice and to address the knotty problem of casting. (Some of it is easy when it's type-casting - you'll know who we mean!)

*Felicity Rutland*

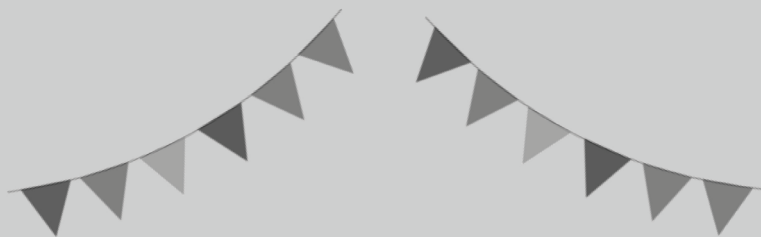
## REMENHAM PARISH WEBSITE

[www.remenhamparish.org.uk](http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk)

A reminder to everyone to keep looking at our village website. We are averaging at over 2000 visits a month which is really exciting. Please do send anything you think should be on the site. We are still looking to include more: pictures, anecdotes, historical facts, details of future events etc. You can send contributions by email or drop them in to Home Farm, Remenham Lane, RG9 2LS ( next to the Cricket Club) . I can scan documents on to the site if that helps. We are not restricted on size so I really mean it when I say the more the better!

*Sue Laing*

[hello@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:hello@remenhamparish.org.uk)



**Crazies Hill CE Primary School**

**Summer Fayre**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**12.00 – 2.30pm**

- Bouncy slide
- BBQ & Bar
- Craft Stall
- Tombola
- Limbo Competition
- Cake Stall
- Raffle
- Ice-cream Stall
- Treasure Hunt
- Face Painting

**All Welcome!**





# HENLEY CRICKET CLUB

## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

# MARQUEE

# SUMMER BALL

REGATTA LAWNS

SATURDAY JULY 18TH

7.00 FOR 8PM

CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION

0

THREE COURSE MEAL, WINE INCLUDED

0

DANCE TO REPLICARADIO

*FEATURING PAUL ROBERTS*

0

RAFFLE OF SERIOUSLY GOOD PRIZES

0

TABLES OF ANY SIZE UP TO 14

0

£80 PER HEAD

CONTACT DAVID WINTER FOR RESERVATIONS

ON 01491 573607 DAVIDEWINTER@TISCALI.CO.UK

OR SUE LAING ON 07885 851362 SUE@ISOBEL.COM

## **HENLEY CRICKET CLUB**

### **FUTURE EVENTS - STILL PARTY-ING, STILL FUNDRAISING!**

#### **Thursday 7 May- Golf Day at Henley Golf Club**

There's just time if you're quick. The more players/teams the better! Please contact David Winter on davidewinter@tiscali.co.uk

#### **Saturday 18 July- THE Cricket Club Ball**

See Advert on page 17. This will be our 10th Ball, held on the Regatta site. Felicity Rutland and I are hoping to put several Remenham tables together. Do contact us if you would like to join us. It is always such a good evening, thanks to the generosity of Henley Regatta and their contractors. This is one of the main fundraising events for the Ground Purchase Loan and so we are hoping to get lots of people there. We are also looking for sponsors/raffle donors (large, small, private and corporate). I have all the details so do contact me.

*Sue Laing*  
*sue@isobel.com*

### **PRE-SEASON REVIEW**

Henley Cricket Club is a thriving home for cricketers of all abilities. Our sides accommodate cricketers young and old, from a lively junior section and a girls' team, through "leisure" cricketers to keen club cricketers playing league cricket at varying levels from the lower reaches of the Thames Valley League to the heights of the Home Counties Premier League Division One.

Our Henley ground plays host to our 1st and 2nd teams on alternate Saturdays. We also have a second ground in Nettlebed, shared with Nettlebed CC for the past three seasons, where our 3rd and 4th teams play. Junior and Ladies cricket, plus various friendlies, cup matches and even minor counties matches are also played, sometimes on Sundays and public holidays.

Henley Cricket Club was founded by Archibald and George Brakspear in 1869, with a ground at Barn Cottage, Remenham Lane, where the old pavilion can still be seen in the cottage garden. This was a club for gentlemen and so in 1886 Henley Town Cricket Club was formed for the working man and they played at the present ground in Matson Drive.

The Great War ended cricket for both clubs and it was not until 1931 that Henley Cricket Club was reformed by Bill Brakspear and he had the groundsman, Lew Rose, build the pavilion which stood until 2010. This was when our new replacement pavilion was constructed, purposefully retaining the attractive colonial design.



In 1974 the brewery granted Henley CC a 30-year lease on the ground. As the end of that lease approached it appeared that the ground might be used for some purpose other than cricket, but after protracted negotiations the club was offered the opportunity to purchase the ground and this was eventually completed in December 2005. There remains, however, a sizeable loan outstanding to Henley Town Council, but our various fundraising exploits are aimed at allowing us progressively to pay this off, to provide a lasting legacy to the young and not-so-young people of Henley.

After many years of playing friendly cricket the club decided, in 1988, to embark on league cricket and has made extraordinary progress ever since. The Club joined the 3 Counties League initially, and rapidly progressed through the divisions to become league champions in 1994. We then moved to the Cherwell League and eventually won the first division title in 1999, so winning promotion to the Western Feeder League of the newly formed Home Counties Premier League. Two short years later we were again Champions and so promoted to the HCPCL First Division.

The Home Counties League represents an exceptionally high standard of cricket, being only one step down from the senior counties like Surrey and Hampshire. Many of our 1st team represent minor counties like Berkshire. We have consistently finished in the top half of the table and reached a pinnacle in 2004 by being crowned Champions. We repeated the feat in 2009, 2010, 2013, and again last season in 2014! So, this year, and whilst it will not be easy, we aim to become the first club to win three titles in a row.

To this end, the playing squad has been further strengthened. For those of you who might remember the exploits of a certain Ashton Agar, who fell just short of a century against England after moving on from Henley, we have another young Australian joining us for a while who is tipped as a future star player, by the name of Jake Doran.

The First Division has ten teams, and featuring amongst the likely stronger opponents are Banbury, High Wycombe, Slough and Tring. Of the 18 matches, half are to be played at home; half of these will be 50 over matches, designed to produce a winner, and half will be in the more traditional format, which is slightly longer and can result in a draw.

With the weather being kinder to us than it was last year, when we had been under water for 13 weeks of the winter, the ground is now looking beautiful. So, you are most welcome to pop down, enjoy the facilities at our lovely pavilion, and join us in watching some of the finest cricket available below full-time professional level, all in a beautiful and quintessentially English setting.

Our opening league match is on Saturday 9 May, at home against our old rivals Reading, which should add some extra spice to proceedings. Future matches through the season will of course be previewed and reported in the Henley Standard.

*Tony Fettiplace  
Secretary, Henley Cricket Club*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The draft Neighbourhood Plan can be seen under the Remenham Parish Council tab on the website - <http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk/remenham-parish-council/neighbourhood-plan>. Comments are welcomed and a number have already been received. All further comments welcome to [clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk). The process of consultation will take place over the next year, including a questionnaire to all parishioners.

## ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Do please keep sending any interesting/topical items for possible inclusion in the Newsletter to the Editor, Felicity Rutland, preferably by email to [newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk).

Space permitting (and subject to receiving contributions) the occasional articles on 'Remenhamisences' and 'Miscellaneous Village Information' will continue, as will 'The Remenham Interview'. It is also hoped to continue 'News from the Archive', which many long-standing local residents (and some of the newcomers) clearly much appreciate.

If you are interested in being part of an informal editorial team please contact the Editor. The editorial team reserves the right to edit, amend, précis or reject articles, and those included in the Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor.

## To advertise in the Remenham Newsletter

(6 issues over 12 months)

Half Page:	£65.00
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