

REMENHAM NEWSLETTER



Spitfire over Henley
Remenham Artists - *Bill Mundy*

Reuben's Fight



Reuben needs your help. On 12th December he was diagnosed with metastatic neuroblastoma, stage 4, a very rare cancer. He needs to travel abroad for ground breaking treatment.

He's being very brave and fighting like a real trooper. Let him know you are supporting him by sending him a Hi5 to @ReubensFight or using #ReubensFight through a picture or a video, whatever you would like.

You can donate to his treatment here:
<https://www.gofundme.com/xtkdkh4y-reubens-fight>



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

Charlotte Every Tel: 07973 798071
churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk
John Laing Tel: 07778 464162

Churchwarden emeritus

Mike Dowsett Tel: 01491 575711

Treasurer

Nigel Gray Tel: 01491 572024

Secretary

Ruth Palethorpe Tel: 01344 449385

Sidesmen

1st Sunday
2nd Sunday
3rd Sunday
4th Sunday
5th Sunday

Antony Duckett	Rosemary Duckett
Anthony West	Sarah West
Peter Forrester	Charlotte Every
John Laind	Sue Laing
Glen Palethorpe	Ruth 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: Monday & Tuesday 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am-4.30pm
Tel: 01491 577340, email: *office.hwr@lineone.net*

ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND EDITORIAL POLICY

Do please keep sending any interesting/topical items for possible inclusion to the Editor, Felicity Rutland, preferably by email to *newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk*. The editorial team reserves the right to edit, amend, précis or reject articles. The opinions expressed are those of the authors of the articles and not necessarily those of the editorial team.

REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Franky Cookson, 122 Middle Culham, Remenham Hill, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 3DY

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

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. There is no meeting in August.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS FOR REMENHAM, WARGRAVE AND RUSCOMBE

Cllr John Halsall, cherwell@btinternet.com, 07939 041227. Cherwell, Remenham Lane, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 3DB

Cllr Bob Pitts, robert.pitts@btinternet.com, 07768 107 070, 27 Northbury Avenue, Ruscombe, Berkshire RG10 9LH

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES FOR 2017

Months	Deadlines for Contributors	Approx. Dates for Distributors
Jan-Feb 2017	Friday 30 December 2017	Friday 6 January 2017
Mar-Apr	Friday 24 February	Friday 3 March
May-June	Friday 28 April	Friday 5 May
July-Aug	Friday 16 June	Friday 23 June
Sept-Oct	Friday 18 August	Friday 25 August
Nov-Dec	Friday 27 October	Friday 3 November
Jan-Feb 2018	Friday 29 December 2017	Friday 5 January 2018

REMENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Rev Canon Martyn Griffiths	Rector
Charlotte Every	Churchwarden
John Laing	Churchwarden
Ruth Palethorpe	Secretary
Nigel Gray	Treasurer
Kim Blythe, Sue Laing, Glen Palethorpe, Anthony West, Hugh Whitfield	

CHURCH CLEANING

March	Gillian Murdoch	Sue Laing	Sarah Tate
April	Ann Shemilt		

ALTAR FLOWERS

March	LENT	
April	Jayne Gray	Sally-Anne Plunket

PARISH REGISTER

Marriages

28 January	Paul and Katy Binney (Marriage Blessing)
25 February	Stephen Hoile and Gillian Nahum

REMENHAM PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

email address: parishhall@remenhamparish.org.uk

Fr. Martyn Griffiths, Chairman
Ann Burley, Secretary.
Nigel Gray, Treasurer
Peter Grace
Alison Barraclough,
Helen Rosier
Liz Cope
Pat Sly
Jayne Gray
Allan Henderson
Sue Laing
Charlotte Every

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE HENLEY BOAT RACES - HELP!!

The Henley Boat Races take place on Sunday 26 March. To raise funds for St Nicholas we usually serve refreshments in Old Blades' garden by the towpath. However, this year we **need a coordinator** as well as donations of cakes and to assist with serving. Please let Charlotte Every know if you can help (churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk). This annual event gives us a great opportunity to raise very worthwhile funds for our lovely church and it would be a great shame if it didn't happen.

PARISH DIARY (See articles for more information)

March

13th		Deadline for consultation on potential closure of Wargrave Fire Station
13th	lunch	W.I. Meeting and AGM in the Parish Hall
13th	6.30-9.30pm	Thames Valley Police fraud awareness evening, Piggott Senior School,
14th	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Parish Hall
26th	pm	Henley Boat Races with teas at Old Blades

April

9th	11.15am	Palm Sunday Service at St Nicholas Church
10th	2.30pm	W.I. Meeting in the Parish Hall
11th	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Parish Hall
14th	12.00 noon	Good Friday Service at St Nicholas Church
16th	11.15am	Easter Day Service at St Nicholas Church
21st	6.00-8.00pm	Arts Trail Grand Opening, The Old Fire Station Gallery, Henley
22nd	7.30pm	Beetle Drive, Parish Hall
29th		Start of Henley Arts Trail

May

1st		Henley Arts Trail continues
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LOCAL INFORMATION - PARISH WEBSITE - www.remenhamparish.org.uk

There is a plethora of information on the website, including:

- 1. River levels:** you can check these live via the webcam situated at Hobbs of Henley. Either go to <http://www.farsondigitalwatercams.com/locations/henley-on-thames> or click on the link on the website home page.
- 2. Live Traffic News and Notices of Road Works:** The website is publishing a live feed from Highways England of traffic incidents and issues in the South East for those of you who travel our busy roads. This can be accessed by clicking on the “Live Traffic News” tab on the top left hand side of the front page just below the Thames Valley Police Alerts, or via <http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk/live-traffic-news/>. We are also listing any local road works affecting this area by way of publishing any notices.
- 3. Planning Applications:** This is a reminder that any planning applications in Remenham can be found on the Wokingham Website either by clicking on “Wokingham Planning” on the website under “Planning Applications” or via <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/search-planning-applications/>. All Remenham Planning applications are included on the agenda and discussed at the monthly Parish Council Meetings held in Remenham Parish Hall.

but there is also a shortage of information, please help!

We are having a campaign to ‘populate’ the calendar on the website. Collectively we have not been very good at putting into the calendar all the wonderful things that are happening in the Parish. Please help by supplying dates and details of events to hello@remenhamparish.org.uk or newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk

FROM THE EDITOR

There is a lot happening in Remenham! I am very grateful to the Parish Council for agreeing to fund an extra 4 pages this time, enabling me to squeeze everything in (just) including the important Parish Council report urging us to help prevent the closure of the Wargrave Fire Station. I am pleased that the four pages are in colour - I do like red fire engines!

The next 'village event' is the Beetle Drive - back by popular demand (not request!) on 22 April. There are only 15 tickets left as we go to print, so act now and avoid the disappointment that a number of people felt last year when they left it too late! It is great fun, very competitive!

I am thinking of this issue as 'The Spitfire Edition'. As you will see elsewhere, the W.I. had a most interesting sounding talk on the subject of 'Spitfire Women' which led to some delightful anecdotes from a friend of Franky Cookson, and at the same time, in response to my request for pictures from Remenham Artists, I received some pictures from Bill Mundy including by wonderful coincidence the one on the front cover!

The response from Remenham Artists has been wonderful, but please keep sending contributions so that I can select the most appropriate one for the time of year or content of the newsletter. As I said in the last issue I would prefer digital images to framed pictures or 3D sculptures! Please email to newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk.

I was pleased to receive so many positive comments on Jim Bland's tribute to his wife Jill in the last issue. It was heart warming to know that you agreed with my decision to include it all. Feedback is very important so please continue to let me know what you would like (or not like) in the newsletter - and please keep on sending me articles for inclusion. The historical articles such as those supplied by Charlotte Every and Jim Bland are always popular (many thanks!).

It is also gratifying to be receiving regular updates from our local police. We seem to be well looked after by them and it is much appreciated that they want to keep us informed and be seen to be part of the community. Please note the Fraud Awareness Evening on 13 March.

Many of you will know the very welcoming and helpful Caroline Mulcahy at Leander, who is involved (privately) in helping fundraise for a very ill little boy (see inside front cover). The extra 4 pages in this issue has enabled me to include her flyer, which I am pleased to do even though Reuben does not live in Remenham. Please help Caroline to help Reuben.

If you are not yet familiar with the Parish website, I urge you to have a look and use it regularly. Local information about events past and future will usually be reported there before you receive your newsletter every two months. It also has some very helpful 'live' information about traffic, road works and water levels, as well as information about Planning Applications (see opposite page). You will also see that we are having a campaign to keep the annual calendar up to date. There is so much going on in the village which isn't included. Your help is needed please. (We also need help with the Henley Boat Race teas on 26 March.)

Don't forget the Henley Arts Trail over the Bank Holiday weekend - many Remenham Artists.

Advertising rates and contribution rates are under review - more in the next issue!

Felicity (newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)

NEWS FROM ST NICHOLAS REMENHAM

There is not much news to report from St Nicholas this issue – Christmas is behind us, Lent is here and Easter to come. Please make a note of the Easter services and do try and come along. In addition to the services at Remenham (see below) Bishop Johnathan of Ebbsfleet, will be at St Mary's Henley for the Liturgy on Good Friday at 3.00pm and at the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter at 8.00pm.

On clearing out a desk I found a copy of the St Nicholas Parish Magazine for Easter 1948 which shows there were 6 Easter services that year: Holy Communion at 7.00am, 8.00am and 12 noon; a service of thanksgiving at 11.00am, an afternoon children's service at 3.00pm and a service of praise at 6.30pm!

The following is from the magazine about Christmas 1947: the decorations sound superb.

"Never have the Christmas Decorations been better. The East end of the Church was a picture of beauty, with its artistic evergreen framers with flashing silver star, and the windows along the North wall caught everyone's eye, as they were seen on entering the Church. They carried a style of dignified decoration which we have not seen before. Busy hands had converted the pulpit, the choir stalls, and the windows in the west and in the south walls into real gardens of evergreen and colour, while in the south-east corner of the church stood a wide spreading Christmas tree reaching to the roof and covered with silver chains and ropes of red and green, and lanterns and coloured lights give the finish touch. The tree was a gift of Lord Hambleden, and put the hall-mark of Christmas on all the rest. The porch was an attractive invitation for everyone to enter the church and join the happy family inside for their Christmas service.

There were a 103 communicants during the day and offertories came to £17:4:7 which we gave to the C E Children's Home, better known as the Waifs and Strays Societies."

Charlotte Every
Churchwarden

EASTER SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS REMENHAM

Sunday 9 April – Palm Sunday

11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns

Friday 14 April – Good Friday

12 noon said Matins (BCP)

Sunday 16 April – Easter Day

11.15am Holy Communion (BCP) and blessing of the font

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear friends

The beginning of Lent, which this year coincides with the first day of March (sorry, St David - you were relegated to the day before) is usually a time when jokingly we ask each other what we are giving up. It is interesting to see that more and more, however, is being made, even in the secular press, of the fact that we should be taking things on for Lent, not giving them up. Certainly for Christians the element of fasting during Lent is important, but it is also a time when indeed we should be concentrating also on any charitable work (and I use the term in its broadest sense) which we may be able to offer our Church or our community. A passage from the book of Ecclesiasticus, which was read at the eucharist just before the start of Lent put it like this: 'By showing gratitude a man makes a fine offering, by giving alms he offers a sacrifice of praise... Honour the Lord with generosity and add a smiling face to all your gifts.'

I like the idea of adding a smiling face to all our gifts - because it sometimes seems these days that a smiling face is a rarity: have you ever looked at people who are shopping in Henley or Reading! Smile-less faces so often reflect the cares and concerns of people's minds, and they seem as if they are weighed down by the world's troubles. Surprisingly, Lent gives us the opportunity to off-load all these concerns, because it is a time when we can concentrate on the Lord, in order to better prepare ourselves for the greatest celebration of the Christian year, that of our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. If we continue to be full of cares and woes throughout Lent, then we are not going to be in a fit state of mind to fully appreciate the glory and the laughter of Easter.

So if you want to give something up for Lent that is going to make a huge difference, both to yourself and to those around you, don't go down the 'old-fashioned' route of taking everything seriously and joylessly. Jesus didn't have much time for those who made themselves look serious - or perhaps pompous! - and enjoined on us all the call to be joyful and generous - Add a smiling face to all your gifts!

With my love and prayers

Fr Martyn

THE HENLEY ARTS TRAIL 2017 - www.henleyartstrail.com

Bank Holiday Weekend Saturday 29 April/Monday 1 May 2017

A record 32 venues around Remenham, Henley, Wargrave, Twyford, Shiplake, Bix and outer villages. Many working studios covering all types of art, with displays, demonstrations and workshops - something for everyone, and featuring a number of Remenham artists.

Visit all the studios over the weekend or dip in and out. Entertain your family and visitors.

The Arts Trail Map is available online and at various locations. Entry free, opening times vary. You can also follow it on Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest.

SPITFIRE WOMEN

Prompted by the imminent talk on this subject to the W.I. (see page 17), Franky Cookson contacted William Aylward, and his fascinating response is shown below. Franky tells us that Lt Col William Aylward (he was in the US airforce) is now semi-retired (he's about 87), living in the US and writes for a living, but he's been all sorts of things, including a support actor in a number of box office winners (he usually landed the parts that need a bit of gravitas, like a judge, or a senator, because he has that sort of look and voice).

“During the war, several grass airfields across the local area were used by women pilots of the ATA (Air Transport Auxilliary) . They included Upper Culham Farm (also called Cockpole Green or Crazies Hill), Woodley and Waltham St Lawrence.

I was an Air Scout in the Wargrave troop, and we would help clear area landing grounds of stones and other items that might endanger the tyres of aircraft on landing.

One day we were asked to stay clear of the runway as an aircraft approached. A Spitfire came in for a landing and as it came to a stop, the pilot rolled back the canopy, and took off “his” helmet. A cascade of long blond hair fell out and an ATA pilot stepped down.

That was our first experience with the ATA, but it was to be repeated many times. Women pilots at the time were a vital part of the RAF system, as they flew many types of aircraft to grass fields like Culham, to hand them over to regular RAF pilots.

We lived nearby in Wargrave and my father, William George Aylward, was a member of the Land Defence Volunteers (later called the Home Guard), and his post was Culham. A local pub called the Old Hatch Gate, now a private home, was a gathering place for locals, and Dad recalled one evening after his guard duty dropping in with his mates. Suddenly, there was a roar of engines overhead. Shortly after, several young women entered. Thinking they were locals, Dad engaged them in conversation. He was in for a shock. These remarkable young women were all Spitfire pilots with the ATA.

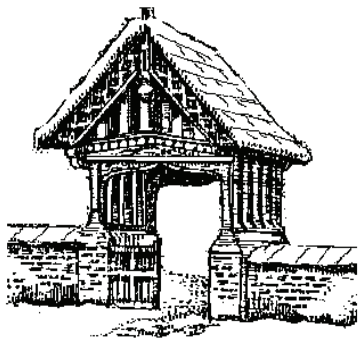
A number of ATA pilots were killed in the course of their service and remain the largely forgotten heroes of their time.

Upper Culham Farm Field opened for business right after war was declared in 1939. It stayed in service until the end of the war, and it remains a silent monument to the brave young women whose service was vital to the final victory.”

William Aylward

“TRUMP’S COURT NOMINEE LIKES ROWING, FISHING AND CHURCHILL”

This was a headline in the Henley Standard on 9 February. As many of you will know, or will have seen in the national or local press, the President of the United States recently nominated Neil Gorsuch as a Supreme Court judge, and this is of particular interest to us in Remenham as he is married to Louise, daughter of Prue and Bryan Burletson of Remenham Hill. As you can see, *inter alia*, from the delightful article in the Henley Standard (still available on line) they were married at St Nicholas and Louise used to sing in the choir.



REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

SAVE YOUR FIRE STATION and RESPONDER UNIT
Without your help, they will go



Please can you help me. The fire station in Wargrave, which is the principal fire station for Remenham and which has been here since 1903, will be closed unless there is an overwhelming response from the residents that it should be retained. The consultation ends on **Monday March 13 2017**.

You may need either the Fire and Rescue Service or the Responder Service. **They may**

save your life or your neighbour's or your child's. Can you afford to wait for an engine from Maidenhead or Wokingham?

Please complete the consultation. It takes only a few minutes and is on www.rbfrs.co.uk. The consultation is in three sections. The first is questions about prevention and they are manifest (self-evident) and so is the second section on Protection. The third section is the important one and it asks for you to rank seven options in terms of preference. There are only four options, which do not promote the closure of Wargrave; those are options 2, 3, 4 & 7. Only two options which do not promote the disestablishment of the retained support unit (RSU) which supports the retained fire engine availability 4 & 7. Therefore, to press the case for retaining the fire station please put option 4 first, option 7 second, options 3 & 2 third and fourth, and options 5, 6 & 1 fifth, sixth and seventh.

Please also email irmp@rbfrs.co.uk and write in support of retaining the fire station.

If the computer is not your thing, please write to Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue, IRMP Consultation, Reading RG31 7SD or telephone 0118 938 4331.



One of the services that Wargrave Fire Service offers is the NHS responder unit which responds to twenty to thirty calls per month and generates valuable income for RBFRS. It deals with the early recognition and call for help to prevent cardiac arrest, early CPR to buy time, early defibrillation to restart the heart and post resuscitation care to restore the quality of life. This has not been considered in the consultation.



Central government cuts mean Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) needs to make savings or raise income of £2.4m by April 2020. Indeed option 7 is to go to the public to increase income by referendum and in RBFRS's case I believe it would

be successful as the request would be for about £6.00 per annum or less than 2p per day to ensure that you are safe from fire and have an immediate response from NHS responder unit operated by the fire service.

Closing Wargrave's station is just one of several options as RBFRS looks to save £1.4m from on-station services and another £1m through restructuring. The analysis, though voluminous is flawed as it assumes that a retained station costs £168,000 per annum on average. This assumes a full establishment which has not been Wargrave's case. Wargrave costs are a fraction of this sum net of NHS contributions.

The consultation does not offer every saving. For example some £80k - £100k is paid every year to the sixteen Councillors who are appointed by the six Berkshire unitaries, who have already paid by them once.

It is believed that for some time before the last year, RBFRS has been discouraging new recruits to Wargrave. However, recently recruitment has accelerated and retainment support officer Jon Murby added: "The consultation process has actually been good for recruitment." It takes six months to a year for a recruit to be fully trained and then be a full member of the team. This shortfall in staff has meant that the appliance could not be manned and has affected the historic statistics suggesting that response rate is very low. This is being rectified. Maybe you could apply to be a fire fighter; it is a good additional income and great fun. No age restriction. I was one once.

DOG BIN

The Parish Council on an experimental basis has agreed to put a dog bin near the Parish Notice Board and we will be empty it during the experiment. If the experiment proves successful, the Parish Council will consider contracting and expanding the service.

PRECEPT

It is an increasingly indifferent environment at Wokingham for Remenham. As a consequence, we may have to do more within the Parish. Therefore, we agreed to increase the precept in line with what we believed the Borough would do, but WBC decided to subsequently increase their Council tax more.

VILLAGE CLEAN UP

April 1st, an appropriate date, is the date which the Borough plans to have a village clean up. We would like to as well. We were not sure that this date would be suitable. Please can you help as the village is at the moment littered with all sorts. Please get in touch with Alison, Paul or me.

ADOPT A STREET

To attempt to keep the village clean, we would like to approach you to take responsibility for a small portion of the village near your property. The Council provides special bags so that any litter you pick up does not come from your quota for blue bags.

POLO PITCH

David Spragg, the Project Manager, has many years' experience in the equine field, specialising in the high-end market. He says that well managed sites are key to both a successful project and for maintaining a good working relationship with close neighbours. His website www.dsequine.com gives you a flavour of the type of projects managed in the past. Planning was achieved last December and works are now about to commence.

A brief outline of the works includes the creation of a polo field, an outdoor arena, an exercise track, a stable block, an irrigation pond and a small private pavilion. It is expected that the build programme to be completed within 12-13 months starting on the 1st April. There was some early prep work on the 16th and 17th Feb, which entailed removing fencing and some trees for the new access. The initial "site set up" works started on the 20th Feb, which included the widening of the existing stable access and establishing a route into the site. (This early work is essential as no traffic is permitted to use Dairy Lane). Then, also slightly ahead of the main schedule the ground works started for the exercise track on the 20th Feb, after the ecologist checked the whole site.

Around mid-March, we hope to be able to publish on the website a full construction programme, details of the working day etc so that you are aware of the exact timing of works. We are particularly concerned about road access (on A4130) and how this is to be managed. There will be a gate man in charge together with a banksman and wheel washer. (They will control access, book deliveries in, and ensure that no mud gets carried onto the road). Vehicles arriving will have priority access to come off the road and exiting vehicles will be held on site until it is deemed safe to exit. Concerns exist for Henley Royal, Henley Women's, Rewind and Henley Festival, when special arrangements will need for deliveries.

The main contractor is Villecrest Construction Ltd 01252 939460. Please do not hesitate to call David Spragg on 07831 758231 or email on david@dsequine.com please copy me.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY

There is a huge amount of frustration that WBC does not respond more quickly or even at all to Licensing concerns. I share that concern. Over the years, I have lobbied the Licensing Committee and the Head of Service of Licensing and Trading Standards. I have to be honest that I have achieved a lot less than I would have wished. This situation has been further

frustrated by Public Protection Services being shared initially with West Berkshire and now also with Bracknell. Nevertheless, a lot has been achieved, which is evident in that issues with events are less.

NORTHERN PARISHES LETTER

Published on the website is the full text of a letter written by the seven northern Parish Councils of Wokingham Borough and the seven Borough Councillors. There is a real risk that WBC will wish to create substantial development in the Northern Parishes.

The recently published Housing White Paper underwrote the Green Belt and its preservation, as did the recent Green Belt Review and National Planning Policy Framework. We will continue to oppose Green Belt Development.

Please be in touch if we can be of help.

John Halsall

Chairman Remenham Parish Council

Councillor Wokingham Borough Council

NEWS FROM THE PARISH HALL - JANUARY 2017

The committee met on the 12th January in the lovely newly decorated hall . . . it looks fabulous. We also now have a large screen that can be used for films etc, purchased by the Parish Council; thank you! Available for all hirers of the hall, but you will need to bring your own projector.



BEETLE DRIVE

Remenham Parish Hall

SATURDAY 22 APRIL 2017

7.30pm for 8.00pm

**Tickets £15.00
to include fish & chip supper
Paying bar**

Tickets from Sue Laing (sue@isobel.com/01491 573047)



As always we are looking to maximise bookings so if you are having a party/ gathering please contact Pat Sly on remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk. All details are on the Parish Hall page of the website: <http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk/parish-hall>.

The next event is the Beetle Drive on 22nd April.

As noted above we have now refurbished the inside and outside of the hall. However our next MAJOR task is to refurbish the listed brick and flint wall. We are currently gathering quotes so if you know of any builders/experts please could you send their details to Sue Laing on sue@isobel.com.

The Parish Hall Committee

REMENHAM THEN AND NOW - Royal Tea Parties in Remenham 1935 to 2012

King George V and Queen Mary

The first Royal Tea Party recorded in the Minutes of The Remenham Parish Council was in 1935 celebrating the Silver Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary. It was a very grand occasion starting at 8.00am with a thanksgiving and Holy Communion in St Nicholas Church. The parish radio mounted in the churchyard broadcast the procession of the King and Queen to St Paul's followed by the 11.30 service. The organist of St Nicholas "displayed considerable skill by keeping 'very nearly actual' time with the music from the cathedral".

Elderly parishioners were collected and given lunch in Henley and then taken to Park Place to view the start of the Remenham procession led by the parish Jubilee Queen, Miss Vera Morris, carried in a gaily decorated farm cart pulled by a cart horse with burnished and polished harness, kindly lent by Park Place. Smaller children, (among them Diana Rhodes) daughters of the parish councillors, were dressed in the national costumes of Great Britain and the Dominions (including Egypt and Hong Kong!). Miss Ansell represented Britannia. Very small children were dressed as fairies.

The procession, now numbering over 300 people and decorated bicycles followed Mr Brittain's Brass Band to Park Place covered stable yards where the Rector, the Rev S C Rees-Jones dressed as John Bull crowned the Jubilee Queen. A delicious meal of delicacies was enjoyed with "really hot tea". The decorated bicycles were judged followed by programme of sports and music. Mrs Eric Noble hurried back from the London celebrations to award cups to the winners and to present memorial beakers to all children resident in the parish. Fire balloons were sent off. Captain Noble set fire to an enormous beacon. A telegram of loyal greetings was sent to the King and Queen.

The king sent a message of grateful thanks from Buckingham Palace (see photo).



Queen Elizabeth II

Remenham parish has celebrated the 1977 Silver [25], 1992 Ruby [40], 2002 Golden [50], 2012 Diamond [60] anniversaries of the Queen's accession to the throne with tea parties in the square in front of St Nicholas Church lych gate. Large photographs of these gatherings are displayed in the parish hall.

A celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday in 2016 was also held in the square organised by Charlotte Every and her helpers and reported in issue 232 of the Remenham Newsletter. This was more than a tea party because we raised our glasses of champagne for a toast to the Queen. The toast was proposed by the rector, the champagne was generously provided by Mrs Schwarzenbach of Culham court, and Practicus (a business in Remenham Barns). The rector dressed as Father Martyn Griffiths (rather than as John Bull) had a busy time topping up our glasses.

Jim Bland

LETTER FROM PARK PLACE POLO PROJECT

First Letter to Neighbours



www.dsequine.com

Mobile: 07831 758231

Email: david@dsequine.com

15th Feb, 2017,

Dear Neighbours

Re: Park Place Polo

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself, as the Project Manager for the above project and to give you a brief outline of the works involved and a planned programme.

I have many years' experience in the equine field, specialising in the high end market. Well managed sites are key to both a successful project and for maintaining a good working relationship with close neighbours. My website www.dsequine.com gives you a flavour of the type of projects managed in the past.

Planning was achieved last December and works are now about to commence.

A brief outline of the works to be undertaken include the creation of a polo field, an outdoor arena, an exercise track, a stable block, an irrigation pond and a small private pavilion. We expect the build programme to be completed within 12-13 months starting on the 1st April.

There is some early prep work required on the 16th and 17th Feb, which entails removing fencing and some trees for the new access. Then the initial "site set up" works start on the 20th Feb, which include the widening of the existing stable access and establishing a route into the site. (This early work is essential as no traffic is permitted to use Dairy Lane).

Then, also slightly ahead of the main schedule we start the ground works for the exercise track on the 20th Feb, after we have had our ecologist checking the whole site.

Around mid March, I will write to you all again with a full construction programme, details of the working day etc so that you are aware of the exact timing of works.

Obviously, one of the most important points for you as neighbours, is the road access (on A4130) and how this is to be managed. We will have a gate man in charge together with a banksman and wheel washer. (They will control access, book deliveries in, and ensure that no mud gets carried onto the road). So there are three personal on the gate during working hours. Vehicles arriving will have priority access to come off the road and exiting vehicles will be held on site until it is deemed safe to exit.

Additionally, we are aware that during Henley Week and Ladies Week, traffic volume is high. Therefore, we will either limit deliveries to early in the day or will restrict the numbers during those two weeks. It seems only sensible.

The main contractor managing the site is Villecrest Construction Ltd, who are highly experienced and will manage every aspect of the site.

I hope to meet everyone at some point personally and if you have any questions at any time please do not hesitate to either call me on 07831 758231 or e mail on david@dsequine.com. Or Villecrest Construction Ltd office number is 01252 939460.

Regards,

David Spragg
Project Manager

REMENHAM W.I.

February

The meeting started with the usual business. Firstly the committee told us of their future plans, and the decisions of Berkshire as a whole for the result of the W.I.'s vote on which resolution to send forward to H.Q. There were 6 resolutions to vote on, from G.M.T. to loneliness, the most popular being the one "the prevention of hygiene products which produce little polystyrene beads which get into the food chain of sea mammals etc." So this was sent forward, and will be discussed and voted on at the A.G.M.

June

Our speaker was welcomed, and the subject of his talk was "Grandma flew Spitfires". Richard Poad explained it wasn't his grandma that he was talking about but those who joined up in 1939 who are now Grandmas. The Air Transport Auxilliary was started in 1938 by d'Erlanger, who saw the war coming and lobbied his friends who could fly, usually the better-off girls, some who were circus girls etc: They were a very international group, from the dominions, Poland and the U.S.A. By 1939 he had recruited 1,000 men and 8 women; the women were all ace pilots but were only allowed to fly open cockpit planes, such as tiger moths. By 1941 they had proved themselves and could fly all types including Wellington bombers. Their training was very basic; they were issued with a small booklet entitled "Ferry Pilots Notes". They spent hours every day delivering planes, mainly Spitfires all over the country. In 1945 Lord Beaverbrook said these women had contributed as much to the War Effort as the men in the front line, keeping planes where they were badly needed from the H.Q. at White Waltham to the vital spots around the country. At the end of the War, the men were awarded O.B.E.s and the women M.B.E.s, and the women didn't get equal pay until 1943. Also, it wasn't until 2008 that the survivors received a T.A. Badge. One or two of these amazing women have just recently celebrated their 100th birthdays. Their Moto was "AETHERIS AVID" which translates into "Eager for the air". Should you wish to find out more there is the "Maidenhead Heritage Centre", with the Air Transport Auxilliary exhibition and archive with Spitfire simulator flights. Richard Poad was heartily thanked for a fascinating talk, so much enjoyed by all, especially by the 10 men who joined the meeting.

March

The next meeting is our A.G.M., preceded by lunch, as usual at the Remenham Parish Hall.

Sheila Constantinidi

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

Twyford Neighbourhood Policing Team Update
- from *PCSO Jessica Howells*

Finally spring is upon us, the days are getting longer and temperatures are rising. As a result more people will be using the local parks, spending more time in the garden and enjoying the outdoor life.

Spring is historically a time where we receive an increase in thefts from sheds and outbuildings, with garden equipment and electrical items being stolen. Criminals will damage your shed, green house and outbuildings in order to gain access to this equipment. The more difficult it is for them to gain entry, the more likely it will put them off. This is an ideal opportunity to take twenty minutes or so to look at the security of your gardens, sheds, outbuildings and your gardening equipment.



Parking

Parking remains an issue and we continue to receive numerous complaints. As a neighbourhood team we continue to take action where appropriate. Please consider where you are parking your vehicle. In many incidences you may be parking your vehicle in a position where you cause an inconvenience to others whilst you are shopping, at work or visiting friends. Please refrain from parking in resident permit holder bays or on double yellow lines and please remember single yellow lines are a no waiting zone between the times stated.

Anti-social Behaviour

Reports of anti-social behaviour (ASB) are down as a whole aided by the winter weather. We will continue to patrol those ASB hotspots known to us and would encourage you to contact the team with any information or concerns you may have.

Speeding and Road Safety

The team continues to enforce traffic offences across the neighbourhood. A large number of people have been dealt with by the team for various offences, including using mobile phones whilst driving, not wearing seat belts and speeding through the villages. We would encourage you to check your vehicles road worthiness including your tyres and check your windscreen wash is topped up. Keeping to speed limits avoids penalties and keeps us all safer.

Rogue Traders

Pushy and confrontational door to door sales people, offering products and services such as home improvements are a blight on our community. Invariably the products or services provided at the door are inferior and there is pressure put upon you to purchase them. We refer to these people as rogue traders.

Thames Valley Police are holding a general fraud awareness evening on Monday 13th March 2017 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm at the Piggott Senior School, Wargrave RG10 8DS. The police, council and Trading Standards will be attending to discuss issues in the area as well as outcomes from our investigations into fraud and rogue trading in the Wokingham area. Trading Standards and PC Harrison will discuss how they investigated an infamous rogue trader from Wokingham, which resulted in him going to prison. Detective Inspector Tyrell will explain about identity fraud, what to look out for, and what we can do to help. We will also welcome back BBC Watchdog and Rogue Traders presenter Matt Allwright to talk about rogue trading with his "Out of the blue, Not for you" presentation. This event is free and open to all residents, if you have any questions please contact PCSO Jackie Daniels on 07976 989283 or Jackie.daniels@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

THAMES VALLEY POLICE
Neighbourhood Officer: PC Chris Harrison

Call 101 for non-emergency matters,
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Email: Twyfordnhpt@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk
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For further information and bookings please contact Mrs Pat Sly, 01491 577925,
pat Sly@tinyworld.co.uk or
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