

# REMENHAM NEWSLETTER



Remenham Artists - *Bill Mundy*

No 261 – March-April 2018



**ST NICHOLAS, REMENHAM  
EASTER SERVICES 2018**

**Sunday 25 March  
Palm Sunday**

11.15am sung Holy Communion (BCP)

**Friday 30 March  
Good Friday**

12 noon said Matins (BCP)

**Sunday 1 April  
Easter Day**

11.15am Holy Communion  
and blessing of the font

# THE CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS

|                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rector                  | tba ( <i>see page 7</i> ) |
| St Mary's, Henley       | The Rectory, Hart Street  |
| St Nicholas, Remenham } | Henley-on-Thames, Oxon    |

|               |   |                   |
|---------------|---|-------------------|
| Churchwardens | Charlotte Every                           | Tel: 07973 798071 |
|               | <i>churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk</i> |                   |
|               | John Laing                                | Tel: 07778 464162 |

|                       |              |                   |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Churchwarden emeritus | Mike Dowsett | Tel: 01491 575711 |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|

|           |              |                   |
|-----------|--------------|-------------------|
| Treasurer | Nigel Gray   | Tel: 01491 572024 |
| Secretary | Mandy Sermon | Tel: 01491 412908 |

|          |            |                 |                  |
|----------|------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Sidesmen | 1st Sunday | Antony Duckett  | Rosemary Duckett |
|          | 2nd Sunday | Anthony West    | Sarah West       |
|          | 3rd Sunday | Peter Forrester | Charlotte Every  |
|          | 4th Sunday | John Laing      | Sue Laing        |
|          | 5th Sunday | 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  |

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

**Parish Clerk:** Paul Sermon, Remenham Parish Council, PO Box 4748,  
Henley on Thames RG9 9DH  
Tel: 01491 412908, email: [clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto: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, [johnashalsall@gmail.com](mailto:johnashalsall@gmail.com), 07939 041227. Cherwell, Remenham Lane, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 3DB

Cllr Bob Pitts, [robert.pitts@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)

## **THE NEXT NEWSLETTER AND THE PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

I have been asked whether - in view of the Parish Council elections on 3 May - the next newsletter could be distributed the week before, which would be a week earlier than normal. This would enable the names of those standing for election, and possibly some information about them, to be included before polling day.

I will discuss this with the Parish Clerk. Whether the newsletter can be distributed a week early will then depend on the goodwill and willingness of the wonderful group of people who deliver a copy to every household in the Parish!

*Editor - [newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)*

# REMENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Rector

Charlotte Every

John Laing

Mandy Sermon

Nigel Gray

Kim Blythe, Sue Laing, Paul Sermon, Anthony West, Sarah West, Hugh Whitfield

Churchwarden

Churchwarden

Secretary

Treasurer

## CHURCH CLEANING

|       |                 |           |            |
|-------|-----------------|-----------|------------|
| March | Gillian Murdoch | Sue Laing | Sarah Tait |
| April | Ann Shemilt     |           |            |

## ALTAR FLOWERS

|       |            |                    |
|-------|------------|--------------------|
| March | LENT       |                    |
| April | Jayne Gray | Sally-Anne Plunket |

# REMENHAM PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

email address: [parishhall@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:parishhall@remenhamparish.org.uk)

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

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINES FOR 2018

| Months                   | Deadlines for Contributors    | Approx. Dates for Distributors |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan-Feb                  | Friday 29 December 2017       | Friday 5 January 2018          |
| Mar-Apr                  | Friday 23 February 2018       | Friday 2 March 2018            |
| <b>May-June</b>          | <b>either Friday 20 April</b> | <b>either Friday 27 April</b>  |
| <b>SEE OPPOSITE PAGE</b> | <b>or Friday 27 April</b>     | <b>or Friday 4 May</b>         |
| July-Aug                 | Friday 22 June                | Friday 29 June                 |
| Sept-Oct                 | Friday 17 August              | Friday 24 August               |
| Nov-Dec                  | Friday 26 October             | Friday 2 November              |
| Jan-Feb 2019             | Friday 28 December 2018       | Friday 4 January 2019          |

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

### **March**

|      |           |   |
|------|-----------|---|
| 8th  | 7.00pm    | REWIND FESTIVAL Local Residents Information Evening, Parish Hall              |
| 12th | 2.30pm    | W.I. meeting, Parish Hall - talk by Vanessa Davis on "Exercises, All for you" |
| 13th | 8.00pm    | Parish Council meeting, Parish Hall   |
| 17th | 9.30am    | Community Litter Pick, start at Parish Hall                                   |
| 18th | afternoon | Henley Boat Races with teas at Old Blades                                     |
| 25th | 11.15am   | Palm Sunday Service at St Nicholas Church                                     |
| 30th | 12.00noon | Good Friday Service at St Nicholas Church                                     |

### **April**

|      |             |  |
|------|-------------|--|
| 1st  | 11.15am     | Easter Day Service at St Nicholas Church   |
| 6th  | 4.00pm      | Deadline for nominations for Parish Council  |
| 12th | 2.30pm      | W.I. meeting, Parish Hall,   |
| 13th | 8.00pm      | Parish Council meeting, Parish Hall  |
| 27th | 7.00pm      | Antiques evening, Parish Hall  |
| 27th | 6.00-8.00pm | Grand opening of Henley Arts Trail and Henley Arts & Crafts Guild<br>Spring Exhibition, The Old Fire Station Gallery |

### **May**

|         |        |  |
|---------|--------|--|
| 3rd     |        | Parish Council Elections, Parish Hall                      |
| 5th-7th |        | Henley Arts Trail, 32 various venues including Remenham    |
| 8th     |        | Last day of Henley Arts and Crafts Guild Spring Exhibition |
| 10th    |        | Henley Cricket Club Golf Day, Henley Golf Club             |
| 12th    |        | W.I. meeting at Woodley, talk on 'Mrs Beeton my sister'    |
| 15th    | 8.00pm | Annual Parish Meeting, Parish Hall                         |
| 21st    |        | W.I. Ladies lunch  |

### **Further Ahead**

|                  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| 22nd-24th June   |  | Henley Women's Regatta   |
| 4th-8th July     |  | Henley Royal Regatta   |
| 11th-15th July   |  | Henley Festival  |
| 21st July        |  | Cricket Club Ball  |
| 11th August tbc  |  | Broadwick Live 'picnic-style', orchestral, classical music event |
| 17th-19th August |  | Rewind Festival  |
| 10th November    |  | Beetle Drive, Parish Hall  |

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

*This is a bumper edition of the newsletter - an unprecedented 28 pages! (The four extra colour pages are being paid for by the Parish Council in order that everything that has happened or is soon to happen in the Parish is included.) However, there is still no room for either the Police report (next time!) or for much editorial. I will simply urge you to see how much is going on in our parish and to read in particular the Parish Council report (full of important information) and another of Jim Bland's wonderful articles. I am sure you will read the rest without prompting!*

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

# NEWS FROM ST NICHOLAS



Father Martyn has now retired but things continue as usual at St Nicholas with Matins on the first and third Sundays of the month (and the fifth Sunday in the months where there is one) and Holy Communion on the second and fourth. We have been extremely fortunate in finding cover to take our services: Mike Forsdike, the lay reader from Holy Trinity, will take Matins and Father John Croton, from Christchurch in Reading, will take Holy Communion. Both have been providing holiday cover for Father Martyn for some time so we know them well. Please do continue to come to church during the interregnum, we really want to maintain our parish and church life so we can start on a positive note with our new incumbent.

The process to appoint a new Rector has begun. It will take time, not least because the Bishop of Dorchester is on sabbatical and the Church of England moves slowly! Our first meeting to get the ball rolling is on 20 March and the selection board will be held on 10 July. In the meantime, we do hope to see you in church. For times of services, please look at our [website](#).

Some dates for your diaries....

Sunday 18 March – Henley Boat races, we will be doing teas from Old Blades garden so any offer of help and/or cakes gratefully received.

Friday 30 March – Good Friday, said Matins at 12 noon in church

Sunday 1 April – Easter Day, Holy Communion with hymns 11.15am in church

27 April – Antiques evening in the Parish Hall

Saturday 10 November – Beetle Drive in the Parish Hall

*Charlotte Every*

*John Laing*

Churchwardens, St Nicholas, Remenham

## **FATHER MARTYN'S SERMON - FROM HIS FINAL SERVICE IN THE BENEFICE ON 14 JANUARY 2018**

‘There are momentous events afoot’ This was the comment of a broadcaster on the Today programme a couple of weeks ago, so he was not referring to today, thank heavens! But momentous events have a habit of burning themselves into our memories. Those of us who are old enough can almost certainly remember where we were when we heard that President Kennedy had been shot, or when we heard about the collapse of the Twin Towers in New York. Both of these events, and many like them throughout history have quite literally changed the course of world events.

Today's Gospel seems to have that same sense of the momentous. We are told the exact time when those two disciples of John the Baptist first met Jesus – it was at the tenth hour – in other words, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. That fact may seem to be trivial, but its inclusion hints at how important, how momentous it was for the disciples. Their lives were changed so much that they were able later to relate the exact place and time it all happened. Tantalizingly, typically some might say, the evangelist doesn't tell us the content of this encounter with Jesus which had so profound an effect on the pair. He doesn't tell us what Jesus said to them; he doesn't describe Jesus or where he was living. John simply says that they accepted his invitation to come and see, and that they stayed with Jesus for the rest of the day. Perhaps the conversation was too personal, or perhaps he felt that mere words couldn't convey the importance of their meeting, and the power of the presence of Jesus. But certainly the effect was profound – the two left John the Baptist and became Jesus' followers instead. And on top of that, Andrew wastes no time in going to find his brother Simon and to tell him that ‘We have found the Messiah’.

Perhaps too the Gospel writer realised that an encounter such as this with Jesus, with the Lord, is a unique event and as such is something that each potential follower has to experience personally. It's not something that can happen at second-hand. Other people simply cannot express the feelings and the sense of purpose that the encounter engendered. The Lord issues an invitation, but it is up to each of us to respond – no one can do it for us. And in order for that response to be genuine we need to be in a state of readiness, open to hearing the Lord's call. The two disciples were already the disciples of John the Baptist, predisposed to the coming of the Messiah. And so, when they hear the call, they respond without hesitation. Speak Lord, your servant is listening, as we heard the child Samuel say in the Temple in the readings for the eucharist during this last week.

As Christians, we have all been called – that is part and parcel of being baptised. But more is needed – a real personal meeting with the Lord, not just what other people have told us.



Whether or not any of us can pinpoint an exact moment when we first came face to face with Jesus, we have to allow the Lord to change our lives irrevocably – only then will we be able to see as he sees, to act as he acts, to speak as he speaks.

The call to follow, the invitation to spend time with Christ, is never a once and for all experience. Just as the call to the priesthood of the church has been constantly renewed by prayer and study and sacrament, so for all of us we have to learn to recognise the voice of the Lord in our daily lives, just as the tiny child has to learn the voice of its parents. And this is not just occasionally – it's a daily occurrence. And whereas the teachings of the Church might well point us in the right direction, and keep us pointing in the right direction, Christ is able to speak to us through everyday events and people. After all, Peter himself was brought to the Lord by Andrew, his brother.

Recognising the Lord's voice and presence can be a gradual affair, just as discipleship is a lifelong commitment, not a one-off decision. Perhaps today the Lord is calling us most persistently in the faces of those who are in need, in the faces of the poor, those who are homeless, those who are victims of war or violence or oppression, those who are sick or dying, those who are lonely or unloved.

Open your eyes to see as the Lord sees. And in the months that will follow, make the face of the Lord known to those who desperately need to see him. And if you have caught a glimpse of God over the last few years, give thanks and pray that that experience, that one-to-one experience, can empower you to bring his love and his understanding into your life.

Every day is a momentous day in the life of the Church and of the Christian, a day to be remembered, to be cherished and from which to learn. So keep the faith, laugh a lot, maintain the unity of Christ's holy Church, even when that seems to be against the grain, or unpopular. And for God's sake never ever start to compare one Rector with another, or, heaven forbid, one Rector's wife (or husband) with another. Because all those 50 or so priests who have gone before me as Rectors of these parishes, have each, hopefully, opened the eyes of the people of this place to a different vision of the face of Christ, the Christ who left us two commandments which encapsulate all the others – the command to love, even when that's mighty difficult; and the command to be one. And never let the darkness of a lack of love or a disregard for the unity of the church or of the congregation, shade your vision of the Christ who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried and who rose again FOR YOU, who now lives in his Church in word and in Sacrament, and to whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be acclaimed all might, majesty, dominion and power, now and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

*Fr Martyn*

## HENLEY BOAT RACES - SUNDAY 18 MARCH

### TEAS IN AID OF ST NICHOLAS

We shall, as in previous years, be serving tea and cake from the bottom of Old Blades garden on Sunday 18 March at the Henley Boat Races. The first race is at 12.45pm and the programme ends at 5.00pm with the prize giving.

Would you be able to come along and help during the afternoon, even it's only for an hour? We are looking for people to help serve the teas and also for someone to take the money.

We would also be really grateful if you could make a cake. Cakes with icing in the middle and top sell the best and small cakes, muffins are not popular! Cakes can be dropped off with Charlotte Every in Aston, Sue Laing next to the Cricket Club, left in Pat Sly's garage or brought to church on the morning of race day.

*Please contact Charlotte on 07973 798071 or [churchwarden@remenhamparish.org](mailto:churchwarden@remenhamparish.org)*



### THE 13th HENLEY ARTS TRAIL

First May Bank Holiday SATURDAY 5 MAY - MONDAY 7 MAY 2018

FREE ENTRY to all Artists Studios and Venues around Henley and Twyford.  
For Map : [www.henleyarttrail.com/venues-and-map.html](http://www.henleyarttrail.com/venues-and-map.html)

32 Venues to visit including a number in Remenham.

VENUE 1 is at the THE FIRE STATION GALLERY, HENLEY

Also the SPRING EXHIBITION of the HENLEY ARTS & CRAFT GUILD (The Fire Station Gallery) starts on FRIDAY 27 APRIL – 8 MAY inclusive.

So there is lots to see and something for everyone.

PLEASE CHECK Venues for times of opening and closing.  
Refreshments available in some Venues.



## CRICKET CLUB QUIZ EVENING

The Cricket Club held its annual Quiz evening on 9 February, 'co-organised' by Sue Laing and attended by a number of Remenham residents - two of whom (Enda and Madeline Cahill) were part of the winning team! The Henley Herald reported as follows:



The Murty's Mob team (a team named after Peter Neville's dog) won this year's annual Henley Cricket Club quiz on Friday evening in the club's pavilion at the Brakspear Ground.

Peter Neville was joined in the team by Chris Johnson, a club member and other local friends. They were clear winners with 104 points – more than 10 points over the runners-up.

The quiz saw ten teams including The Admirables, The Inquzzitives and Peewit Patrol battling against each other in rounds which included some obscure ones like Sallys (all the questions relating to a Sally) to the normal ones on music, film and of course cricket!

Peter said, "We took part for the first time last year and delighted to win this year. We played our joker on the cheese and wine round." Very apt, the team each won a bottle of wine! We were delighted to be invited to join sponsors, The Head Partnership team who unfortunately didn't do so well, coming third from last. This probably had something to do with our suggestion to play our joker on the 'Connections' round which The Head Partnership sponsored!

Phil Chappell who organised the evening along with Sue Laing said, "We raised around £2,000 for our Ground Purchase Scheme. It was fantastic to see Henley CC pavilion rammed to the rafters for Henley Cricket Club's Annual Quiz. All the quizzers had a fun time and enjoyed Gill Chappell's chilli and baked potato during the break."

The next fundraising events for the club are a Golf Day on 10 May at Henley Golf Club and the Summer Ball on 21 July. For full details go to <http://www.henleycricketclub.co.uk/>

# REMENHAM W.I.

## February Meeting and AGM

Daphne Austen, our President opened the meeting and welcomed all, and our guest Wendy Robinson, Denman representative. Apologies were given from Caroline Leeming, June Shelton and Blanche Williams. Prior to the meeting 17 members enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by Carol Wissett, Rosemary Pratt, Irene Parker and the committee.

The minutes of January's meeting were read and duly accepted. Enid Light has tendered her resignation from the committee after many years as Secretary. She was genuinely thanked for all her work. Irene Parker and Pat Sly are job sharing the secretary's job. The result of the vote for the Resolution to go forward to the National AGM in June is "Mental Health Matters". A Quiz evening had been held at Knowl Hill where our Remenham team, though not winners, had not disgraced themselves, and had enjoyed the meeting hugely. A 2019 "Village Book" is to be produced and members were asked to produce drawings, photos etc. Jim Bland to be asked for the latest on Remenham.

Future dates: A members "Ladies Lunch" on the 21st May. A talk, on "Mrs Beeton my sister" at Woodley on the 11th May.

Joy O'Brien was awarded the cup for the most helpful member, and birthday posies were presented to Anne Francis, Irene Parker, Yvonne Stevens, Joyce Tivey and Carol Wissett. Several W.I. policies were put forward and discussed, "Your membership and Committee, how to behave.": "Safe guarding children and vulnerable adults". It was decided W.I.s do not work with either category unless they have representatives from the relevant associations. Both voted on and carried.

Anne Francis then presented the Financial Statement up to 31st Dec 2017. After all our expenses and several charitable donations to Camp Mowhawk, Denman, Remenham PCC, and Berkshire W.I. H.Q. our finances ended with a small profit. We were reminded we must continue to fund raise as the cost of our monthly meetings amounts to £1,000. The accounts were examined by Richard Fletcher, who is happy to continue for a further year. Anne Francis was sincerely thanked for all her work and for the excellent outings she had arranged, which were much appreciated. Irene Parker read the A Neal Report, and was duly thanked. Wendy Robinson took us through the voting, Daphne Austen to continue as the President, members of the committee to stay the same with Jen Terry the only new member. All carried.

Wendy Robinson gave her Denman report, she said the college had hoped to raise £2,000,000, but had so far raised half a million; the appeal closes at the end of March. Judy Palmer thanked Wendy and presented her with a small bouquet.

Our next meeting is on 12th March, when Vanessa Davis will give us "Exercises, All for you"

The meeting ended at 3.30pm with much happy gossip.

*Sheila Constantinidi*



**THIS IS THE PRESENT  
RUSCOMBE & HARE HATCH**

**THIS IS THE FUTURE  
RUSCOMBE & HARE HATCH**



**HELP US TO PREVENT THIS. PLEASE SIGN THE PETITION!**

ONLINE PETITION <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/wokinghamgreenbelt>

The petition link is also on our campaign website [www.cprwok.co.uk](http://www.cprwok.co.uk)  
and our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/protectthecountrysideandgreenbelt](https://www.facebook.com/protectthecountrysideandgreenbelt)

Please also sign up to our email list  
on the website so that we can  
communicate with you directly.  
If you have any questions don't hesitate  
to contact us at [campaign@cprwok.co.uk](mailto:campaign@cprwok.co.uk).

Many thanks for your support

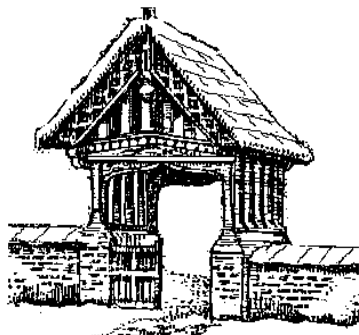
John Halsall  
on behalf of the campaign

Campaign to Protect Rural Wokingham Limited is a company  
limited by guarantee formed for this campaign  
Company Number 11004688



**Campaign to protect Wokingham's  
Green Belt, prime agricultural land  
& green spaces between settlements,  
and to provide the right homes  
in the right places.**

**[www.cprwok.co.uk](http://www.cprwok.co.uk)**



## REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

We urgently need your help with the petition against development on the Green Belt. Please go to the campaign website at [www.cprwok.co.uk](http://www.cprwok.co.uk) for the online petition link and more information. We need 1,500 signatures from residents urgently to generate a debate in full Council which will help to defeat this proposal. Please alert friends and neighbours too!

**REMENHAM'S GREEN BELT IS UNDER THREAT.** Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is actively promoting development in the Green Belt in Wargrave and Ruscombe. You may think that this has nothing to do with Remenham. However, once the principle of changing the Green Belt for the Local Plan Update is accepted; the next, only four years hence, will make Remenham fair game.

### HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

Much attention has been given to Highways and Flooding issues since the last newsletter including Sara Allman, WBC Highways, visited a well-attended Parish Meeting earlier this month to address issues raised and what could be done.

- **Extending 30mph zone to Culham Cottages.** It would not be normal to extend speed limits out of the settlement; WBC would obtain vehicle speed and number data near entrance to Middle Culham and in the 30mph section of the A4130. It was suggested that double white lines could help.

- **30 mph on Wargrave Road from the A4130 London Road junction down to Conways Bridge instead of the present 40 mph.** There is contradictory 40mph/ SLOW sign near a bend on Wargrave Road.

Highways could offer to improve this. WBC would obtain vehicle speed and number data

#### COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Remenham Village Hall**

**9.30 am**

- **Remenham Lane/Aston Lane/Remenham Church Lane.** The issues are around the traffic signals on the bridge, event traffic, the rat run and the parking bays. Oxfordshire County Council control decisions on traffic light adjacent to Henley Bridge causing vehicle queues on White Hill and rat-runs as drivers tried to avoid the A4130 queues.



There was discussion about the legality of exporting traffic problems across a boundary. Traffic calming and weight/length/day/time restrictions would not be permitted, but there are many strategies which would be possible - white gates and 'unsuitable for HGV'. Event traffic orders should be reviewed. The parking bays could be moved, increased in width by negotiation with HRR and event restriction on parking monitored by traffic wardens.

- **Flooding on Kentons Lane** a works order has been raised. Flooding on Aston Lane needs a solution
- **NOX levels** measurement are being undertaken by the Parish clerk and more permanent solution is being undertaken. Measure the NOX levels and install sensors

## REWIND

Rewind's new owners say they wish to have a strong relationship with the local community and residents. They are hosting a Local Resident Information Evening on **Thursday 8th March, at Remenham Parish Hall at 7pm.**

In addition to Rewind Festival 2018, Broadwick Live (the new owners) hope to produce a single day, 'picnic-style', orchestral, classical music event on Saturday 11th August. Whilst this event is wholly independent of Rewind Festival, the two events will work closely throughout the year, and it will be delivered by a number of people involved in Rewind festival to ensure consistency.

This information evening will be an opportunity for them to introduce their team, present their plans for Rewind Festival and answer any questions from the local community. It will also be an opportunity for them to provide further information about their plans for the classical orchestral event. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please feel free to contact them on [localresidents@rewindfestival.com](mailto:localresidents@rewindfestival.com) and they say they would be more than happy to arrange a follow up phone call with our team.

## NEW EVENTS

Your parish Council is very wary of new events, being of the view that we have surfeit of events during the summer.

Anybody know anything about this?

## LICENSING

There is to be a five-year review of licensing policy in 2018.

This review will include "cumulative impact". Your Parish Council will be taking independent legal advice on how we can propose improvements for the quality of life of the residents of Remenham.

## WEBSITE

There are many website heroes in Remenham but star amongst them is Steve, who looks after it. I think all would agree that without him we would have been and would be struggling. Steve looks after our website as a hobby.



## DOG BIN

One of Martyn's final acts was to agree the dog bin experiment had been a success and we are moving to the next stage and employing a contractor to empty it.

## MALMESBURY

There have been many concerns about the Polo pitch. Please give us your concerns so that we can approach the landowner. RPC remains concerned about changes in perceived land levels at this Green Belt site.

## HENLEY FESTIVAL

The Henley Festival is having a concert for the Henley Symphony Orchestra on Saturday morning and is welcoming Remenham Residents to it to thank you for being such good neighbours. I need to work out with Charlotte Geeves how exactly this will work.

## SUPERFAST BROADBAND

After having been left out of the "01189" broadband rollout and not being included in the South Oxfordshire "01491", we have now established Remenham as part of the Hurley community build area, which is currently forecast to start in Q2 2019 – please note that this date may be subject to change. It would be very helpful if everyone registered their interest on the Gigaclear website as this will improve delivery.

<https://www.gigaclear.com/communities/a030J00000UqXj0QAF/0010J00001nKPoaQAG>

## TRAINS

Trains have had a very erratic start to the new schedules; hopefully, this will improve. WEEKEND AND NIGHTTIME CHARGES ON CAR PARKS. I have been campaigning against the night time charge and a weekend charges for WBC car parks, initially alone, and am happy to report that charging will revert to weekdays only.

## ELECTIONS

Just a reminder that Parish Council elections will take place in May, when all the seats will be contested. If you are unfamiliar with the process of standing but would like to, please be in touch. Nominations close 6th April 2018. A Parish Council has very few powers and acts mainly as a statutory consultee for the Borough Council but we can do much by persuasion and activity if there are energetic committed councillors - so if you care for your community please put yourself forward.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018 20.00**

### REMENHAM VILLAGE HALL

**Come, have a glass of wine, voice your opinion on all village matters and meet your new Parish council**

*John Halsall*

*Chairman Remenham Parish Council  
Councillor Wokingham Borough Council*

Please use [clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:clerk@remenhamparish.org.uk) which goes to Paul Sermon and me, or please use [johnhalsall@gmail.com](mailto:johnhalsall@gmail.com) if you want me or [psermon@btinternet.com](mailto:psermon@btinternet.com) if you want Paul.

*The Henley Standard reported fully on the Highways discussion at the Parish Council meeting (23 February edition). This is the (rather long) link to the article:  
<http://www.henleystandard.co.uk/news/henley-on-thames/122318/villagers-want-road-safety-measures-and-less-traffic.html>*



## ANTIQUES EVENING - FRIDAY 27 APRIL

**“My Life as an Auctioneer and Valuer”**

**With Simon Jones**

**Jones & Jacobs Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers, Watlington**

**A fundraising event for the Parish Hall**

**Friday, 27 April 2018**

**7.00-10.00pm**

**Remenham Parish Hall**

**Tickets: £12 per person. Cash Bar**

**Ticket orders to: Liz Cope 01491 576115/email: [famcope@aol.com](mailto:famcope@aol.com)**

Remenham Parish Hall Committee are delighted to welcome Simon Jones, our well-known local antiques expert. During this event Simon will be sharing some of his behind the scenes experiences in the saleroom and invites audience members to bring along a single portable ‘treasure’, e.g. ceramics, glass, silver, treen, watercolour/oil paintings, (not jewellery), and he will offer his opinion on as many as possible. Those who join us can confidently expect an informative and highly entertaining evening.

Tickets must be ordered in advance and payment made by cheque made payable to “RPCC Hall Account” and addressed to: Pat Sly, Old Blades, Remenham Lane, HoT, RG9 3DB, or by Bank Transfer, (see below) in which case please email [famcope@aol.com](mailto:famcope@aol.com) to notify when payment has been authorised.

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Sort Code 20-39-53

Payee: Remenham PCC (Hall A/C)

A/C No: 10752258

REFERENCE: (ANTIQUE/SURNAME)

We look forward to seeing you.

*Parish Hall Committee*

# ST NICHOLAS OF MYRA AND REMENHAM - AN ACCIDENTAL PILGRIMAGE

At the end of his sermon at Remenham on Sunday 3rd of December 2017, during the patronal service in St Nicholas Church , Fr Martyn Griffiths expressed mild regret that during his 13 years as priest of the benefice, he had not led a pilgrimage to Myra in Southern Turkey where the original St Nicholas (270AD to 343AD) had been Bishop about 1700 years ago.

Participants in such a pilgrimage would have learned that St Nicholas was the epitome of a universal saint who accumulated a host of legends and miracles. He inherited and gave away a small fortune gaining a reputation for generous donations of gifts; hence his identification with Santa Claus. He helped stricken shipwrecked sailors, rescued children from slavery, hurled bags of gold coins through the windows of young women deprived of dowries.

Although some of his miracles and acts may be legendary, St Nicholas did exist. There is one piece of authentic history. In 325AD St Nicholas of Myra and all other Bishops of the Eastern Church were ordered by the Roman Emperor Constantine to attend the Council of Nicaea near Constantinople. They were charged with suppressing the Arian heresy and agreeing the form of words describing the divinity of Christ. The results were summarized in the Nicene Creed which is one of the creeds used to this day in churches to express Christian faith.

Knowing this story you might say that Myra is a particularly suitable place for a 'St Nicholas' pilgrimage from Remenham.

If you read the guide books you will discover that Myra is in southern Turkey near the modern town of Demre. About 400 years before St Nicholas was born, the region was called Lycia comprising a league of small city states such as Xanthos, Patara and Olympus which were sometimes self governing but later dominated - in turn by the Persians, Greeks, Romans and Byzantines and from about 1453 the Islamic Ottomans. The coastal zone has two remarkable features, the submerged cities and the bas-relief temples carved on the vertiginous cliff faces. (The British Museum has a display of some of these striking temple carvings, the Nereids, which were hacked out and brought to England by Charles Fellows in 1838.) The ruins of the colossal granary of Emperor Hadrian can be seen on the way inland to Myra along the Sandrokos River where imported grain from Egypt was stored to feed the Roman legions.

As I dig out this tourist information, it dawns on me that I have a 'déjà vu' familiarity with some of the details and then I realize that this is the very place that Jill, my late wife, and I visited around 40 years ago. Our visit was not meant to be a pilgrimage, far from it. Instead it was part of a sailing adventure with three other couples, all close friends, on a motorized 36 foot yacht. When we reached Myra we visited St Nicholas' Church. Surprised and deeply disappointing we found an empty shell, inside whitewashed and swept, outside a kitsch hunched statue of Santa Claus hoisting a sack of Christmas presents. It was in thoroughly bad taste, a Santa's Grotto and spiritually negative.

In the poem 'Church Going', Philip Larkin captured a similar emotion when visiting an empty church:-

When churches fall completely out of use  
What shall we turn them into'...  
And let the rest rent free to rain and sheep  
Shall we avoid them as unlucky places?  
And what remains when (even) disbelief has gone?  
Grass weedy pavement brambles buttress sky.  
A shape less recognizable each week  
A purpose more obscure. I wonder who  
Will be the very last to seek  
This place for what it was....

In a similar way to reminiscences recorded in Proust's "A La Recherche du Temps Perdu", these thoughts triggered long buried memories of other incidents during that sailing adventure when we were relatively young and (temporarily!) our world seemed to be optimistic and peaceful. Fortunately two of our party were experienced yachtsmen; it was before the time of cosseted guided tours and we felt free to sail to otherwise inaccessible bays and islands as though we were returning from the Trojan war about 3000 years previously. The high points included windsurfing over the submerged city near Kekova viewing streets and beehive tombs through six feet of crystal clear water; clambering through the caves behind the bas-relief temples on the sheer cliffs; drinking sage tea with hospitable locals in a cliff-top cave furnished with discarded car seats; spending all day haggling and choosing Persian carpets in a Kas shop while drinking their gritty black coffee; going ashore on a tiny island covered in black dust and donkey droppings-- a manufacturing site for charcoal; being woken by a fierce squall caused by icy air tumbling down in the early hours from the nearby snow covered Taurus mountain range—when it was 'all hands on deck' to stop our yacht dragging its anchor and drifting towards the nearby rocks.

*Jim Bland, Matson Drive. 14th February 2018*



## REMENHAM PARISH - ADOPT-A-BYWAY?

Remenham has the help of Steve Allender in keeping its footpaths, lanes and pavements free of litter, but Remenham Parish Council wondered whether some of us may like to do more individually to monitor the health and state of a small section of these byways under an Adopt-a-Street scheme.

If there is sufficient support, Wokingham Borough Council/Remenham Parish Council will provide high visibility jackets to any volunteer. If needed, gloves/litter pickers/bags (collected as part of usual Monday collection) can be provided.

Please see the parish website (link below) for a list of some of Remenham's byways and footpaths (in sections for the longer ones):-

[www.remenhamparish.org.uk/remenham-parish-council/adopt-a-byway/](http://www.remenhamparish.org.uk/remenham-parish-council/adopt-a-byway/)

If you would like to adopt-a-byway or a section of one (avoiding duplication of effort) from March 2018 then please contact the Parish Clerk ([psermon@btinternet.com](mailto:psermon@btinternet.com)).

## CRICKET CLUB – THE FINAL SUMMER BALL!

The Henley Cricket Club Summer Ball is being held for the final time in a marquee on Regatta Meadows on Saturday 21 July, by kind permission of Henley Royal Regatta.



In 2005 the club managed, against the odds, to raise the money needed to buy the freehold of the ground from Brakspears', thus preventing the sale for development and preserving for us this green corner of the parish – quite apart from enabling the club's cricket to go from strength to strength. The club is extremely grateful to a number of Remenham residents who contributed to the fundraising project to achieve this, both originally and over the years by supporting its events..

A significant part of the purchase price was provided by a Ground Purchase loan from Henley Town Council, and this summer's ball is the final push to pay off the balance of this. The ball has been held every year since the purchase of the ground and is always a spectacular event. Organised by Sue Laing and a Ball Committee of players, supporters and local residents, it will be even more spectacular this year.

Please put the date in your diaries now – further information including how to buy tickets will be available soon.

*The Ball Committee*

# REWIND

## SOUTH, 17-19 AUG

Rewind Festival will be returning to Henley-on-Thames in 2018, marking our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday, celebrating the very best of 80's music and culture in our beautiful home of Temple Island Meadows. This year's event will take place from the 17th to the 19th of August 2018.

Rewind Festival has been a part of an acquisition from Impresario Festivals, by Global Media and Broadwick Live. Broadwick Live is a global events business and rights owner behind a growing number of internationally acclaimed and award-winning festivals and events. These include Snowbombing Europe and Canada, Festival Number 6, Hideout, Truck and Field Day.

Broadwick Live has in place an experienced event management team who will deliver this year's festival; working closely with the local Council and the relevant Police, Fire, Highways and Environmental Health & Safety departments to ensure a safe and successful event.

Key to the success of the event is ensuring we have strong relationships with our local communities and residents, as such we shall be hosting a Local Resident Information Evening on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March, at Remenham Parish Hall at 7pm.

In addition to Rewind Festival 2018, Broadwick Live hope to produce a single day, 'picnic-style', orchestral, classical music event on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August. Whilst this event is wholly independent of Rewind Festival, the two events shall work closely throughout the year, and it shall be delivered by a number of people involved in Rewind festival to ensure consistency.

This information evening will be an opportunity for us to introduce our team, present our plans for Rewind Festival and answer any questions from the local community. It will also be an opportunity for us to provide further information about our plans for the classical orchestral event.

If you are unable to attend this meeting, please feel free to contact us on [localresidents@rewindfestival.com](mailto:localresidents@rewindfestival.com) and we would be more than happy to arrange a follow up phone call with our team.

Thank you for your attention to the above and we look forward to seeing you on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Kind Regards

The Rewind Team

[www.rewindfestival.com](http://www.rewindfestival.com)

# WOKINGHAM DISTRICT VETERAN TREE ASSOCIATION



Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association is a voluntary organisation that surveys and records veteran and notable trees across the borough as well as working as local Tree Wardens. Their objectives are to promote the protection and management of significant trees, to increase public awareness of the environmental and historical importance of these trees and to improve the environment through the care of trees in general.

The Association covers all the parishes and towns within Wokingham Borough and to date their survey has recorded and mapped over 7500 veteran and notable trees. In 2017 they celebrated their 10th Anniversary and published an Anniversary Report which includes a description of the notable trees in each of the seventeen towns and parishes as well as descriptions of their work and a summary of their findings to date.

The Woodland Trust have described WDVTA as 'a brilliant example of how local groups can make a real impact for projects like the ancient tree inventory'. Ted Green, a founding member of the Ancient Tree Forum promotes the enlightened view that ancient and veteran trees should be regarded as historic living monuments. He describes the Association as a unique organisation in the UK that is doing valuable work for the borough.

Alison Griffin chairman of WDVTA said "Surveying the veteran trees across the Borough has been a valuable activity. We have learned about our trees, history, land usage and biodiversity. Our data is used by residents and councils and has contributed to national records of significant trees. This is especially important at this time of unprecedented environmental pressure in Wokingham."

As well as the survey and Tree Warden activities WDVTA organises talks, training courses, walks and visits. The Association now has 240 members and welcomes more. Membership is free. Their survey of veteran trees has been completed in half of the parishes and towns of the Borough. WDVTA would also appreciate help to complete the remaining parishes and are looking for additional tree wardens across the borough.

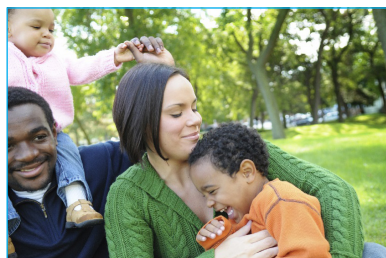
The WDVTA website [wdvta.org.uk](http://wdvta.org.uk) has details of the survey and other projects. For further information contact [chair@wdvta.org.uk](mailto:chair@wdvta.org.uk) The Anniversary Report is available from outlets listed on the website or by calling 0118 978 4013.

*Alison Barraclough*

## ADOPT WITH PACT!

*From the Editor: We have been asked by this Reading based charity to include the following article.*

PACT specialises in recruiting families who are able to care for 'priority children' such as older children, sibling groups, children with disabilities and children from particular ethnic backgrounds and religions. These children have all been at risk and removed from their birth families following neglect or physical, emotional or sexual abuse, and they are likely to have been separated from multiple short-term foster families.



Last year adoption charity Parents And Children Together helped transform the lives of 82 children by finding them their forever families.

PACT, which offers outstanding Ofsted-rated adoption services to families across the South East, is one of the leading independent adoption charities in the country.

With more than 2,000 children waiting to be adopted, PACT specialises in finding secure and loving homes for priority children who can be harder to place and often face the longest wait for their forever family. These include children over four years old, in sibling groups of two or three, of BME heritage or with additional needs.

PACT welcomes adopters from all backgrounds, including those of black and minority ethnic heritage and from the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

The charity holds regular adoption information events in Reading which are led by a social worker and include a talk from someone who has adopted through PACT. There is also chance to ask questions and talk informally to adoption staff. PACT's information events are free to attend but you do need to book a place by calling 0300 456 4800.

For more information about adopting with PACT see [www.pactcharity.org](http://www.pactcharity.org), email [enquiries@pactcharity.org](mailto:enquiries@pactcharity.org) or call 0300 456 4800.



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For further information and bookings please contact

Mrs Pat Sly, 01491 577925, [patsly@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:patsly@tinyworld.co.uk) or  
[remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk)



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