

# REMENHAM NEWSLETTER

## *REMENHAM FAYRE*

**Sunday 4 September 2022**

**2.30 - 5.00pm**

**at Remenham Parish Hall**

**Dog show 2.45pm**

**Bottle Tombola and Raffle**

**Teas and cakes**

**Stalls**

**Flower and  
produce  
competition**

**Children's races**

**BBQ and Bar**

**Tug of War**

**and more**

No 288 – September-October 2022

# THE CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS

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

Revd Jeremy Tayler  
The Rectory, Hart Street  
Henley-on-Thames, Oxon

Churchwardens

Charlotte Every      Tel: 07973 798071  
[churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk)  
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

Hugh Whitfield

Penny Whitfield

3rd Sunday

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](mailto:office.hwr@lineone.net)

## REMENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Rector

Revd Jeremy Tayler

Charlotte Every

Churchwarden

John Laing

Churchwarden

Mandy Sermon

Secretary

Nigel Gray

Treasurer

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

# FROM THE EDITOR

*There is a lot in this issue and a lot to say!*

*Most important of all, we have the Remenham Fayre next weekend, Sunday 4 September. I can hardly believe there hasn't been a Fayre since 2019, but we are certainly back with a vengeance. I have emailed all those on the newsletter mailing list with information about various aspects of this, and all of these are now brought together in this issue. Please get your contributions together and raid your attic/garage for the bric-a-brac stall!*

*As an experiment, entry this year is FREE! Plenty of parking.*

*I was really delighted to receive from Paul Cook the wonderful article about Remenham - see pages 18-19 - and if anyone can cast any light on the author or the date please let us know.*

*I have filled a spare page with jokes (pretty awful ones, most of them!) - please let me know what you think (and send me some better ones!!).*

*Do read the WI report - this is always a highlight for me as they seem to do such varied things and have such fun!*

*We await the date of **Endeavour**, recently filmed in and around the church and Parish Hall!*

*See you at the Fayre!*

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

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

### **September**

- 4th 2.30-5.00pm REMEMHAM FAYRE
- 4th 5.00pm Open Air Shakespeare at Henley Cricket Club
- 12th 2.30pm WI meeting, Parish Hall
- 12th 6.00pm Parish Council meeting, Parish Hall
- 26th 7.00pm Parish Hall Committee Meeting, Parish Hall
- ?? tbc HARVEST FESTIVAL AND HARVEST SUPPER

### **October**

- 2nd-9th Henley Literary Festival
- 10th 2.30pm WI meeting, Parish Hall
- 10th 6.00pm Parish Council meeting, Parish Hall
- 14th Quiz Night, Henley Cricket Club

### **Further ahead**

- November Letters evenings (tbc)
- Spring 2023 Broadcast of the Remenham-based edition of *Endeavour*
- March 2024 (Yes, *really*, decision made already!!)

## FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Remenham friends,

Throughout the classic spaghetti western “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”, the Mexican bandit Tuco introduces dichotomies with the phrase: “There are two kinds of people...”. I am going to propose a dichotomy of my own: there are two kinds of people in the world, settlers and nomads. Of course, as with all dichotomies, there are many who do not fit tidily into either category. But on the whole I think most of us will readily enough recognise ourselves either as people who tend to stay in one place and put down roots (or in some cases people who have simply remained in the place in which they already had roots), or as people who tend to move around fairly frequently, following work or relationships or both.

It is my hunch that the difficulties that these two groups have in understanding one another have at least something to do with the various difficulties afflicting both politics and the Church at the moment. It’s easy enough to see how the world has evolved over the past few decades, in fact really over the last couple of centuries, in ways that tend to favour the nomads, and how this presents profound challenges for the settlers; and it’s easy enough also to see the tension inherent in a church in which, by and large, settled congregations are ministered to by relatively nomadic clergy, and in which the more senior clergy are often the most nomadic of all.

These last two Sundays I have found myself sitting in the pews in what is one of the most nomadic churches I know: the Anglican Chaplaincy in Helsinki, dedicated, like our own parish church, to St Nicholas. The chaplaincy is accommodated in a church in a maritime area of Helsinki, a stone’s-throw from the sea and not far from one of the city’s major ports. The dedication to St Nicholas is doubly appropriate: Finland declared independence from Soviet Russia on St Nicholas Day, 6th December, in 1917; St Nicholas is also the patron saint of sailors, appropriate for the church’s location. The congregation at the Anglican Chaplaincy has grown in the years since I was a regular worshipper there, and is diverse both in age and nationality: there were worshippers from several African countries, people from both south and east Asia, Finns, Americans, two or three English, and a solitary Italian. It so happened that on the first Sunday I was there we heard a reading from Hebrews 11: “They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth... but as it is, they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one”.

Unsurprisingly we find both settlers and nomads in the bible; parts of the Old Testament allude to the profound change in human societies that arose when people worked out how to farm, and how to form urban communities, and the consequent clashes between those who clung to the old ways of nomadic pastoralism, and those who lived in the ancient cities of Egypt and Mesopotamia. And in the New Testament, there is both a strong sense of Jesus’ family roots in Bethlehem, the city of David, but also of his own more nomadic adult lifestyle; and the familiar pattern of more-or-less nomadic clergy ministering to more-or-less settled congregations can be traced right back to St Paul’s missionary journeys!

*continued*

The gospel challenges settlers not to cling too tightly to the comforts of hearth and home, nor to seek ultimate security in earthly ties and commitments. But the gospel also challenges nomads to value the local and the particular: ours after all is the religion of the “Word made flesh”, of God incarnate in a particular time and place and culture; the universal Saviour is revealed in a way which is profoundly respectful of the particularity of human communities.

With my prayers,

*Fr Jeremy*

## PARISH REGISTER

### Burial of ashes

19 July Heather Anderson

### Funeral

4 August Brian Cook

### Wedding

30 July Amelia Holloway and Henry Kibble

### Baptisms

24 July Oliver Male

31 July Clemency Osmond and Persephone Osmond

## PARISH MAILING LIST

If you would like to be added to the parish mailing list to receive the Parish Newsletter and other Remenham news, please email [charlotteevery@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteevery@gmail.com).

## WHATSAPP LOCAL GROUPS

To add your names to the Remenham group contact Janette Brown on 07768 166764 or [janette1brown@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janette1brown@yahoo.co.uk) and for the Aston one contact Charlotte Every on [churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk).

## NEWS FROM ST NICHOLAS



There is very little to report from the church for this edition of The Newsletter – it is a quiet time liturgically as well as being the holiday season with a lot of people away.

In June, Romey Poston our curate, was ordained in Dorchester Abbey and celebrated her first Holy Eucharist at St Mary's on the afternoon of Sunday 26 June followed by tea and cake in the Chantry House. Romey is now regularly taking the services in St Nicholas when Father Jeremy is committed elsewhere.

The big excitement of the summer was the filming of an episode for the last series of Endeavour which took place in the church and Parish Hall in the first week of August. The programme should be broadcast some time next spring. (See also page \*\*\*)

Don't forget to put the date of the Summer Fayre, which take place on Sunday 4 September in the Parish Hall Garden, in your diaries. If you would like to help with the Fayre, do please let us know at [churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk).

The dates of the Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper have yet to be decided, so please check on the website or in the emails that will be sent in due course.

Best wishes

Charlotte Every

John Laing

Churchwardens, St Nicholas Remenham



**SAVE THE DATE - Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**WHY? It's the annual Ride & Stride event!**

**This national event happens every year in every county. In 2021 Berkshire raised nearly £25,000 which was terrific and this year we want to do even better. Any mode of transport is fine – you could walk, cycle, ride - simply choose a route and find lots of sponsorship from all your friends and family.**

**You can go by yourself or in a group, any time between 10am and 6pm and many people make a day of it. There are so many wonderful and interesting churches to visit, many will be open and offering refreshments too.**

**There is also the Daphne Barnes-Phillips trophy which is awarded to the most successful church each year – this is a splendid silver cup and currently resting with St Peter's Woolhampton as they raised the most sponsorship in 2021.**

**Your nominated church will benefit hugely as they will receive half of your sponsorship. The remaining 50% goes to Berkshire Historic Churches Trust which in turn makes generous grants to churches in need.**

**More details will be provided closer to the event from your local co-ordinator or from the BHCT Ride & Stride website <http://www.berkschurches-trust.org.uk/ride-and-stride>**

**Prue Matchwick**

**Berkshire Ride & Stride Co-ordinator**

## NOTES FROM REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL



As I survey a badly parched garden and reflect on day one of the Thames Water hosepipe ban I ask all parishioners to join with me in a rain dance to bring forward much needed relief for our (supposedly) green and pleasant land.

I had imagined that the Parish council notes would be shorter over the summer period but a review of our recent meeting minutes confirms that your councillors continue to be busy on your behalf.

As we wish a farewell to the neon clad Rewind visitors I suspect they will have fond memories of their Remenham experience....and perhaps fonder than the memories of the residents of Remenham village who endured the brunt of the invasion of vehicles technicians and organisers over the past week. On behalf of the Parish and the most impacted local residents, Neil Brown (resident living closest to rewind) has been very active in liaising with the event organisers. As a result issues with reversing horns, traffic marshalling and taxi control have been addressed promptly.

Neil and John Halsall have also been engaging with our Barrister at King's Chambers to develop a reponse on broader licensing issues created by multiple events in the Parish.

The plans to pave the area outside the Parish Hall press on at what I sadly describe as a tectonic pace. Notwithstanding the valiant efforts of Paul Sermon we continue to uncover bureaucratic delays. Hopefully this autumn will see the job completed.

*continued*



Photographs by Jenny and David Law

These are some of the intriguing props seen in the upper churchyard during the filming of *Endeavour* (see also references on pages 6 and 9).



On a brighter note the film company which recently recorded in Remenham have kindly donated £1000 to community funds for any disturbance created. I suspect we will welcome them and their generosity back at the first opportunity. (See photos on previous page.)

Your councillors also met with Wokingham Highways in August and have received confirmation of some progress on local requests. After a valiant campaign by Franky Cookson we have agreement to double white lines to reduce risk at middle Culham on the A4130. Aston Lane is slotted in for an inspection of drainage and gravel build up in September. Ferry Lane will have parking restrictions implemented to ensure safe access for emergency vehicles and designated parking at the slipway only.

Additionally progress has been made on local street lighting and we have engaged with the management team at Thamesfield as they have several residents who are keen to contribute to Parish initiatives.



Next RPC meeting is on Monday 12th September at 6pm.

***Bill Ronald***

## **REMENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Bill Ronald (Chair): [billronald@aol.com](mailto:billronald@aol.com) 07850 357 653

John Halsall (Vice Chair): [johnashalsall@gmail.com](mailto:johnashalsall@gmail.com) 07939 041 227 or 01491 576190

Paul Sermon (Parish Clerk): [clerk4rempc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk4rempc@gmail.com) 07425 131 861

Franky Cookson: [franky.cookson@btinternet.com](mailto:franky.cookson@btinternet.com) 07712 834 151

Polly Hogan: [polly@clearlyeducation.com](mailto:polly@clearlyeducation.com)

John Merkel: [johnmerkel53@aol.com](mailto:johnmerkel53@aol.com) 07803 790 553

Darrel Poulos: [darrel@poulosandpartners.com](mailto:darrel@poulosandpartners.com) 07793 389 231

Nigel Williams: [nigel@tves.co.uk](mailto:nigel@tves.co.uk) 07951 994599

Meetings are currently held in the Parish Hall on the second Monday in the month at 6.00pm, except on the evening of the Annual Parish Meeting (usually in May) when it is immediately beforehand. There is normally no meeting in August.

## **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS - REMENHAM, WARGRAVE AND RUSCOMBE**

John Halsall: [john.halsall@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:john.halsall@wokingham.gov.uk) 07939 041 227 or 01491 576190

Graham Howe: [graham.howe@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:graham.howe@wokingham.gov.uk) 07540 193 239

## REMENHAM W.I.

### JULY

Remenham WI members have been enjoying an active summer. Meeting by the river in Marlow, a large party boarded a boat for a delightful cruise up river to Henley.



The weather was

perfect and everyone enjoyed the stunning scenery as they sailed gently by. Members had brought their own picnic lunches which were accompanied by welcome cool drinks and fruit. Everyone agreed that the trip had been a wonderfully relaxing way to appreciate our local river views.

The annual Garden Party was again held in the President's garden and it was well attended, with friends from other local WI groups and a fair sprinkling of husbands. Although it was a very hot afternoon, everyone enjoyed trying to win a prize on the sideshows and purchasing items from the fresh produce

stall. Of course the afternoon ended with a delicious tea, with an array of sandwiches and many appetising cakes.

The Book Club met again, to discuss their latest read, "The Edge of Lost" by Kristina McMorris. The book, which everyone had enjoyed, led to some interesting and lengthy discussions. The next book is "The Girl Behind the Wall" by Mandy Robotham.

The month's activities ended with a visit to The Farm Kitchen, where many of the members enjoyed lunch together in very relaxed environment.





## **AUGUST**

At their August meeting, the members welcomed Ray Isted from the Cliveden Talks Service. This was a second visit from this interesting and entertaining speaker and this time the subject of his talk was Cliveden in the Two World Wars. Once again, members learned many new facts about the Astor family, the hospitals which were set up and the help the family gave during the war periods. The many fascinating photographs clearly showed the differences between hospital life then and now!

The Craft and Chatter group had another garden meeting and once again, the crafting and chatting were in equal measures, but it was good to see the tapestry, crochet work and drawing being attacked with enthusiasm as well as sharing experiences of previous projects undertaken. With coffee breaks and moments of concentration, it was another fun session.

The Book Club also met to discuss "The Girl Behind the Wall" by Mandy Robotham. This is a story of twin sisters who became separated overnight when the Berlin Wall went up; a poignant story of sisters divided by political chance. It once again led to much discussion about choices presented and decisions which had to be made through life, with all their consequences!

If you are interested in joining the Remenham WI group, please call Daphne on 07919 358979, you will be very welcome.

*Daphne Austen, President*



## REMENHAM FAYRE

Sunday, 4 September from 2.30 – 5.00 pm

Remenham Parish Hall and Garden

We very much look forward to welcoming you on Sunday, 4 September to Remenham Fayre. There will be a very good variety of games for children and adults, flower and produce competitions, bric-a-brac, cake stall, teas and cakes, an excellent raffle, bottle tombola, a bar and BBQ and the dog show which starts at 2.45pm!! As you can see we have events for all your family, friends and your family dog!!

We would really welcome any bric-a-brac you have available, excess fruit and vegetables you can donate, apart from those you enter in the produce competition, and any home-made jams and cakes you would be kind enough to prepare for our cake stall. Any of these items can be brought to the Hall from 10.00 am - 2.30 pm latest on Sunday 4 September please.

All the proceeds of the Fayre will all be donated to Remenham Parish Hall to help us maintain, repair and restore for the future – our sincere thanks for any help you can give no matter how small.

Entries for the produce competition, with a completed entry form (which is being sent as a separate attachment with this newsletter, so it can be printed) should be brought to the Hall ready for judging at 3.00pm. (Printed forms available at the Hall on the day.)

*The Parish Hall Committee*



**Children's races at the 2018 Fayre, photograph by Mark Stevens.**

**BRIC-A-BRAC STALL - A SPECIAL PLEA**

Please raid your attic or garage for items for the stall - ring or email Pat (01491 577925 or [patsly@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:patsly@tinyworld.co.uk)) if you need anything picked up - she is also offering to collect cakes and pop them in her freezer if collected early in the week.

**LOST PROPERTY LEFT AT HALL**

There will be a table of all the items of Lost Property left at the hall in recent years - plates from Platinum Tea Party, umbrellas, all sorts of things. Pat Sly will have this next to her bric-a-brac stall, and hopes she doesn't get the items mixed up!



**Dog Show at 2.45pm!**



**Tug of War!**



**Flower and produce competition**



**TOMBOLA - bottles please!**



**PRODUCE AND CAKE STALLS**  
Your excess fruit, vegetables and plants would be much appreciated for the produce stall, and home-made cakes and jams for the cake stall.

**Photographs from the 2018 Fayre, by Mark Stevens.**

## PRODUCE COMPETITION CLASSES and ENTRY FORM

### Classes 1 – 6 Fruit and Vegetables

*A cup for the overall winner*

- |         |                     |     |
|---------|---------------------|-----|
| Class 1 | Misshapen vegetable | [ ] |
| Class 2 | Longest runner bean | [ ] |
| Class 3 | 5 Tomatoes          | [ ] |
| Class 4 | 3 Eating apples     | [ ] |
| Class 5 | 3 Onions            | [ ] |
| Class 6 | 5 Raspberries       | [ ] |

### Classes 7 – 9 Floral Displays

*A cup for the overall winner*

- |         |   |     |
|---------|---|-----|
| Class 7 | A hat decorated with flowers, maximum 18in x 18in x 18in including stand    | [ ] |
| Class 8 | Best single cut rose  | [ ] |
| Class 9 | Floral display in a china cup and saucer 10in x 10in x 10in including stand | [ ] |

### Classes 10 – 13 Adult Cookery and Craft

- |          |   |     |
|----------|---|-----|
| Class 10 | 4 slices of lemon drizzle cake  | [ ] |
| Class 11 | 4 cheese scones   | [ ] |
| Class 12 | Jar of home-made jam  | [ ] |
| Class 13 | Any craft with description of item, hours taken to produce and materials used | [ ] |

### Class 14 Children's craft

- |          |   |     |
|----------|---|-----|
| Class 14 | Any craft with description of items, hours taken to produce, and materials used | [ ] |
|----------|---|-----|

Name ..... Age (if child).....

Address .....

.....

Email:.....

Tel: .....

**ALL EXHIBITS (WITH ENTRY FORMS) TO BE IN PLACE READY FOR JUDGING AT 3.00 PM PLEASE**

*The above form is also being sent separately to all recipients of the newsletter,  
for ease of printing.*

## REMENHAM PARISH HALL



Normal hire charge: £25.00 per hour (minimum two hour booking).  
Commercial hiring charges by negotiation

The charges include the use of tables and all kitchen equipment except the crockery and cutlery which attract an additional fee depending on requirements. Local residents may hire the tables, chairs, etc for use at their own homes.

For further information and bookings contact  
Pat Sly, 01491 577925  
[patsly@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:patsly@tinyworld.co.uk) or  
[remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk)

## REMENHAM PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

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

Revd Jeremy Tayler, Chairman	01491 577340, <a href="mailto:rector.hwr@btinternet.com">rector.hwr@btinternet.com</a>
Nigel Gray, Treasurer	01491 572024, <a href="mailto:pnigelgray@aol.com">pnigelgray@aol.com</a>
Charlotte Every	07973 798071, <a href="mailto:churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk">churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk</a>
Allan Henderson	07812044113, <a href="mailto:allanhenderson@me.com">allanhenderson@me.com</a>
Sue Laing	07885851362, <a href="mailto:sue@isobel.com">sue@isobel.com</a>
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Felicity Rutland, Secretary	07768 166764, <a href="mailto:felicitymrutland@gmail.com">felicitymrutland@gmail.com</a>
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Lene de Wesselow	<a href="mailto:dewesselow@btopenworld.com">dewesselow@btopenworld.com</a>
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Jacky Ronald	<a href="mailto:jackyronald@aol.com">jackyronald@aol.com</a>

*In addition, five wonderful people came forward after the Jubilee weekend and are being asked to join the Hall Committee - names and contact details will be added after the next Hall Committee Meeting - Monday 26 September, 7.00pm in the Hall.*

## ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND EDITORIAL POLICY

Please keep sending any interesting/topical items for possible inclusion.

Please also send photos or pictures of anything to do with the parish or which might be suitable for the front covers - **the stock of such things is currently very low!**

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.

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

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Months	Deadlines for Contributors	Approx. Dates for Distribution
Jan-Feb 2022	Friday 31 December 2021	Friday 7 January 2022
Mar-Apr 2022	Friday 25 February 2022	Friday 4 March 2022
May-June 2022	Friday 22 April 2022	Friday 29 April 2022
July-Aug 2022	Friday 24 June 2022	Friday 1 July 2022
Sept-Oct 2022	Friday 19 August 2022	Friday 26 August 2022
<b>Nov-Dec 2022</b>	<b>Friday 28 October 2022</b>	<b>Friday 4 November 2022</b>
Jan-Feb 2023	Friday 6 January 2023	Friday 13 January 2023

## ADVERTISING IN THE REMENHAM NEWSLETTER

As reported previously, we have reviewed advertising rates in the light of the newsletter being circulated digitally, and as the cost of production is the same for colour and mono the rates are now the same for both.

### Advertising rates for 6 issues over 12 months

Whole Page	£220.00
Half Page:	£110.00
Quarter Page:	£55.00
One Eighth Page:	£27.50

Contact: Jo Morgan, Tel: 01491 575186

Email: [jo@realorganic.co.uk](mailto:jo@realorganic.co.uk)

**More advertisers would be very welcome.**

## MORE JOKES PLEASE!!

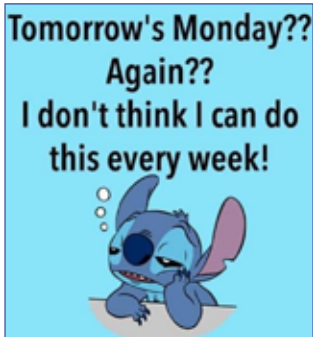
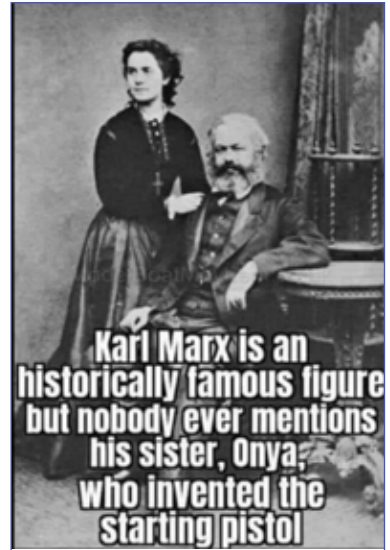
The supply of jokes and cartoons that became a feature of the lockdown has almost dried up, but even though we are now out of lockdown it would be fun to include some occasionally.

Please keep sending them - to [newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk)



## A TOUCH OF HUMOUR

During the lockdowns a friend sent me a regular stream of jokes and cartoons. Many of them were a little too risqué to publish but I have now gathered together some of the 'safer' ones- even though 'safer' often means 'corny'! *Editor*



## THE VILLAGE OF REMENHAM

*The wonderful article below sent to me by Paul Cook, who found it amongst the belongings of his late father Brian. There was no explanation about where it came from, and no date. If anyone knows the answers, please let me know! Editor*

"Remenham almost certainly takes its name from the Remi, a Celtic tribe who roamed and hunted in this area.

The Romans had a settlement here and built a villa within a mile. Roman coins have been found on the farm. Arriving in 1066, the Normans found a Saxon church here and built their own church on the foundations. This was a cell to Hurley Priory and was served from there by the monks.

In 1216 a new church was again built on the foundations of the old one. The name of the first Vicar is, I believe, recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. In 1838 this church was enlarged with new pews and a square tower, and was finally rebuilt in 1870, leaving us with the Victorian church we are all familiar with today.

In medieval England, rural life depended upon the manorial system which was administered through manors (or parcels of land). This was the village in its simplest form, consisting of church, rectory and Manor Farm.

In the reign of Henry V1th the manor of Remenham was the property of the Monfort family. The next owner was Lord Lovelace of Ladye Place, Hurley. It was then sold to the Whitelock's of Fawley Court, thence to Lord Hamilton of Park Place, then to WP Freeman Esq, and then to W. Mackenzie, both of Fawley Court. The final owner becoming Viscount Hambleden (of WH Smith fame) who had a country home at Greenlands.

At once time after this the Manor House was occupied by one Colin Trophimus Holloway who managed the Hambleden Estate on the Berkshire side of the river. He is buried together with his wife just inside the lych gate.

In 1928 manorial rights were made obsolete, and in 1932 the Manor Farm (now renamed Remenham Farm) was let to John Cridlan, who bought it outright in 1958.

Some of the first descriptions we have of the farm is in the sale catalogue and maps used at the time that the Freemans sold the Fawley Estate to the Mackenzies in 1853. These show the house, basically seventeenth century with eighteenth century additions very much as it is today except for a few Victorian embellishments. The interior is described as having "two parlours, two kitchens and numerous and various game larders etc."

There were three farm cottages on the Henley side of the old barn, and a fourth now forms much of the Old School House.

The 18<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings stood on the ground between the old barn and the river, on the site of a medieval house. They were dismantled sometime after 1853, and rebuilt in their present position in what was the old apple orchard.

Where the parish hall now stands, was the walled garden to the Manor House.

Between the new barn in 1889 and the rectory wall was an ancient right of way for coffins brought by river to the churchyard. This has now become the public footpath which allows pedestrian access to the river at the point known to oarsmen as the Barrier. Older inhabitants will remember when it was actually possible to park your car alongside the brick and flint wall and walk down to the river unobstructed by gates.

The house now called Remenham Manor was originally the rectory, built in 1870. The earlier rectory on a site near the modern house recently built in the grounds, was demolished in the 1860's. This modern house acted for some years as the rectory, but is now a private dwelling.

In 1868, a school was added to the little brick and flint farm cottage, which became the school mistresses house. Sadly the school closed in 1960 when falling rolls made it too expensive to keep open.

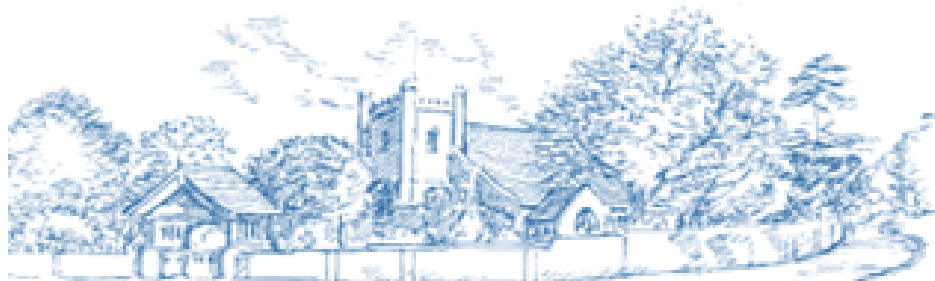
There was once a village in what is now the Glebe field. Historians report that during the plague of 1660, almost all the inhabitants, including Mr Clutterbuck, his family and servants, died. After this the dwellings were allowed to decay and never rebuilt. Thin Elizabethan bricks have been dug up from time to time on this site.

In 1838 the village is described as a "pretty and retired spot whence a tree lined and rural lane leads to Culham."

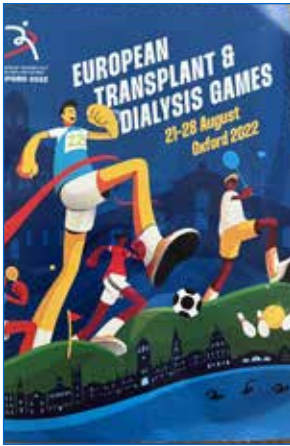
Remenham was always elm country and after a severe gale in 1930 several were lost between the farm house and the river. They were replanted but sadly fell victim to Dutch Elm disease which swept the country in the mid Seventies. In 1975 these were felled and in the process of gouging out the massive roots, medieval shards from the foundations of the ancient house which had stood there were uncovered. Traditionally this house was a Royal Hunting Lodge in the days when Windsor Forest stretched as far as this part of the Thames Valley.

There are a number of 18<sup>th</sup> century headstones in the churchyard, and one of 1836, in memory of Caleb Gould, at one time lock keeper at Hambleden. He lived to be 92 and attributed his longevity to a daily walk of five miles and a dish of onion porridge!

Well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century the local families came to church in style with their carriages, coachmen, footmen, and in one case even outriders. The horses were uncoupled outside the church and walked round to the farm's extensive stabling. Then the sermon was timed and the horses reharnessed in time to take the family home for Sunday lunch."



## EUROPEAN TRANSPLANT AND DIALYSIS GAMES



As some of you may know, the 11th European and Dialysis Games have been taking place in Oxford over the last week, the first time the games have been held in the UK. As I will explain, I have a vested interest in this and I was lucky enough to go to the Opening Ceremony on Sunday. It was absolutely wonderful and incredibly inspiring to see representatives from the 25 countries taking part, all of whom have, or have had, life-threatening illnesses and have had, or are waiting for, transplants (in some cases more than one!).

As some of you may also know, my younger daughter Lucy's 'other half', Adam, has kidney failure, is on dialysis and is due to have a transplant later this year. Adam is a musician and singer, who played in the Remenham Jubilee concert for us - and at the Opening Ceremony. Via Lucy he can be regarded as an honorary member of the Remenham Community. Not only that but he is - with an impressive handicap of 4.9 - in the British Golf Team for the Games.

Following the Opening Ceremony Adam immediately rushed to Henley to play at Rewind. I also went to that and was incredibly impressed with the whole thing. There were hundreds of happy people, it was brilliantly organised, there was no litter and there was varied music some of which I admit to enjoying. In addition the River Taxis were terrific fun, and there were no traffic problems at my end of the Lane, so I have become something of a fan (so long as they continue to respond to residents' concerns promptly - see Parish Council Report on page \*\*\*).

*Felicity Rutland*

I am biased of course but Adam was amazing. Since typing the above, he has been featured on BBC Breakfast, South Today, BBC Radio Berkshire and ITV News - and he has won a silver medal for GB in golf.





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Jubilee Tea Party 2022, photograph by  
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