



Hanney News

Number 589 December 2024



Ho Ho Ho!
Wishing all our
readers a very Happy
Hanney Christmas !!



The Black Horse is open!

Yes chums, it really is... Ian and Jacqui who ran the Chequers in Charney for some years, have taken over at the Black Horse in East Hanney.

This is indeed great news...I know they will bring it back to - and doubtless well beyond - what it was in the good old days! Charney's loss is very much Hanney's gain!

See page 15 for their Christmas menu.



**Remembrance Day
Parade** - see page 8

Village Carol Service,
page 13

Woman treads grapes,
page 18

Smiling people,
pages 9 & 10

Horse box hijinks,
page 5

Cakes and calendars,
page 4

**New Neighbourhood
Watch group, page 8**

Editorial

'This is my 10th Christmas issue and I've run out of original ways to pass on 'Seasons Greetings' to all readers, so forgive the old cliched front cover!

Time for a new Ed with some fresh ideas maybe? See page 13.

Meantime, let's start with some good stuff ...it's front cover news of course... the re-opening of the Black Horse. As I write, I'm looking forward to having my first meal there next week.

I'm also delighted to announce another new advertiser - 'My Home of Beauty', - has joined our happy band, see page 10.

To the 'pearls' we regularly receive from our Parish Councils and the Church, we will now be regularly adding some from Hanney's Matt Barber, the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner...see page 9.

Talking of crime, sadly there are serious problems with dealing and smoking of marijuana leading to anti-social behavior on the estates in East Hanney on the far side of the A338.

The result? Folk are frightened of the perpetrators who are threatening and aggressive. Details on page 8, but also good news as the residents have set up a Neighbourhood Watch group to help solve the problem. Early signs it may be working.

Sadly, some more bad news...one of our very hard working 'sole trader' advertisers has had all his tools stolen from his van whilst it was parked in a quiet cul-de-sac in East Hanney. Either this gent was followed to the job or the thieves just happened to be passing. If the latter, what else will they help themselves to? We rightly think we live in a low crime area, but we still need to

be very vigilant and keep an eye out for anything unusual.

Quick plugs on page 5 for two lovely local businesses, both operating out of horse boxes!

Also a plug for the bus that will whisk you to Wantage from West Hanney every Wednesday...page 7.

Big congrats to our Vicar Alec Gill who has been promoted... hence a happy Vic pic on page 10 and the story in his own words on page 12.

Still on church stuff, many folk like a good sing-song don't they? If you're one, you'll want to be at St James on Sun 15th Dec, 7.30pm for a chance to belt out a few old carols!

If like me you don't know the difference between sewerage and sewage, turn to page 6 and learn yourself something!

I look at two pubs in our circulation area on pages 16 and 17...one sadly has been closed for many years, whilst we await news of the other's fate.

There's a distinctly quirky letter on page 18... an interesting snap accompanies it. Some serious money has been raised for a St James School project...details on page 14, along with a piece and photo about their fab and groovy new library!

If you're not smiling, turn to page 10 and there you'll find four disparate folk with great big smiles on their chops!

May I wish all my readers a lovely Christmas, and here's to a more peaceful 2025 for us all.

See you in January, and if you want to share some New Year resolutions, I'm very happy to include them next month!

We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles, letters, photos, in fact anything you feel may be of interest to our readers.

Please submit items to the Editor, preferably by email, or use the Hanney News post box in the Community Shop. Contact me, the Editor, Jim Stagg, on 01235 867500, my mob: 07762 239681, or email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month....

Sun 1st, 10am - 4pm Christmas Market At The Farm in Frilford (Fitness At The Farm) see page 10.

Weds 4th, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Community Shop AGM. Drinks and nibbles ... all welcome!

Fri 6th , Village Hall. Doors and Bar open 7.30, film start 8pm. Contactless payment only no cash. . £8 (£7 cons) **Hanney Film Nights** are proud to present **'Thelma'** **PG**, 2024. Academy award nominee June Squibb at 93, stars with the able support of Richard Rowntree (Shaft). Having been scammed of \$10,000, Thelma goes after the perpetrators vowing to get her money back! An action comedy, rated 98% by Rotten Tomatoes and based on real events.

Fri 6th 4pm - 9pm, Dickensian Evening in the Market Place, Wantage. The town's big Xmas event! Magic show, Wantage Silver Band, Jigsaw theatre group, Carols, Morris Men, Wantage Rock Choir and more!

Fri 13th 5pm, Charity Christmas Tractor Run, starting at Royal British Legion, East Hanney.

Sat 14 - Hanney Holly Fair - 10.30am - 1pm. See page 4.

Thurs 19th, 1pm, Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch, Village Hall. See page 19.

Sun 15th, 6.30pm, Village Carol Service, St James Church. All Welcome! Page 13.

And further ahead ...

Monday 6th January - Hanney Gardening Club -Village Hall.7.30 for 8pm. Ashwood Nurseries are giving a topical talk on Hellebores. Non -members welcome.

Mon 27th Jan 2025, 8pm, Village Hall, History Group, Martin Trowell, 'The Road to Christmas Island, 1958. Memories of a nuclear veteran'.

Monday 3rd February - Hanney Gardening Club -Village Hall.7.30 for 8pm. A talk on Spring in the Garden by one of our favourite speakers Timothy Walker. Non -members welcome.

Mon 24th Feb, Village Hall, 8pm, Hanney History Group, 'Eynsham Abbey' a talk by Steve Parrinder.



Hanney organisations wishing to apply for a grant from the recent Michaelmas Fayre, see page 14

One of the jewels in the Hanney crown is undoubtedly our Community Shop! I make no apols for repeating the big-ups I regularly send out to head hombres Clive Ward and Richard Oxley along with all who work in it...me included!! The shop **AGM is happening on Wed 4th December, 7:30pm, in** the Old Hanney room in the Village Hall. Drinks and nibbles to be had!. All are welcome. Pop along...maybe you want to share some thoughts and ideas on the shop? Don't be shy!

Another Charity Fund Raiser cake stall

The charity? - the 'Brain Tumour Charity'. The great people who put it together and made the cakes? - the lovely Pembroke family West Hanney. The location? The Plough. The pic shows nine year old Oliver, elder sister Keira and a

£300 RAISED!



of table

chock full of the most delicious cakes. I had a scrumptious carrot cake with a flat white coffee courtesy of the Plough and bought two more slices for later.....naughty little weekend treats...rewards to self really for cutting the very damp lawn! Hell of a job!

If you'd like to contribute to this great charity, you can do so using the QR thingie, top right. You just point your phone at it I think?

HOLLY FAIR - Saturday 14 December 10.30 - 1pm at Philberds Manor, East Hanney.

Wonderful range - biggest ever I'm told - of locally produced gifts, edibles and decorations. A chance to buy unique and individual items whilst supporting the many artisans in our community. **Refreshments served.**



Hanney Calendar 2025



And talking of spending your

money!...the 2025 Hanney Calendar is still available for just £10, either from our Community shop or direct from me, my contact details on page 2. By the time you read this, there may not be many left, so don't hang about.

Attending the St James Library opening -see page 4 - and serving delicious 'artisan' coffee and cakes was **Amber Johnson**, whose business 'JP & Me' uses a horse trailer that Amber herself converted, and a lovely job she did too!

She created JP&ME in memory of her late brother who was a coffee aficionado. A talented lady indeed, she also offers tea, hot chocolate, iced teas and milkshakes as well as a fine selection of home made yummy stuff to eat! If you're holding any kind of event, big or small, maybe ask her to truck on down! She's on Facebook... 'JP&ME', or email her... Jpcoffeebox@gmail.com



Likewise Hanney's very own Geraldine Kent who, along with her family, run **Gee's**, also from another beautifully refurbished horse box!

Gee's offers a varied selection of drinks including wines, beer, spirits and soft drinks. Full info on the fab website where Geraldine tells us that 'Gee's serves weddings, private parties and public events. *'Our recently refurbished vintage Rice Horse Box comes fully equipped with 2 serving hatches, beer chiller, triple wine fridge and soft serve ice cream machine. We have just been awarded 5 stars across all categories by Vale of the White Horse in a recent inspection.'* You can contact Gee's via their website or email:

www.gees4events.com. Email: bookings@gees4events.com



East Hanney Parish Council

'With Christmas fast approaching we then slip into the period of reflection and unkept resolutions as we look into the mirror with our over indulgence clearly visible. Of course you could join a gym or go for a jog. There is now an alternative as in January the Parish Council together with The Flood Group will be repairing a section of the bank of Letcombe Brook from the Iron Bridge downstream, so, if you have a spade and a wheelbarrow why don't you join in? It's cheaper than a gym, more sociable than a jog and benefits you and the environment while helping to reduce flooding. Who knows you might just enjoy it and volunteer to be part of The Flood Group, so keep an eye on the village Facebook sites for the date in early January.

I now know that at least one person reads the EHPC update in Hanney News as I have a correction to make from last month's comments on Thames Water. Thames Water does not dump raw *sewerage into Letcombe Brook that flows through our village, through our gardens and alongside our roads. Thames Water dumps RAW *SEWAGE, a technical difference but Thames Water, you are still to blame.'

Steve McKechnie, EHPC Chair

Stephen Mckechnie, Chair: cllr.stephen.mckechnie@easthanneyparish.gov.uk -

Paul Aram: cllr.paul.aram@easthanneyparish.gov.uk -

Dickon Green: cllr.dickon.green@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

David Kirk: cllr.david.kirk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Rosie Reed: cllr.rosie.reed@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Garth Dennill: cllr.garth.dennill@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Jen Small: cllr.jennifer.small@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Website: <https://easthanneyparish.gov.uk/>

Clerk: clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Next Meeting Weds 11th Dec, 7.30pm, Village Hall.

*In the English wot we speak here, the term 'sewerage' apparently refers to the system of sewers that transport - at least it's supposed to! - our 'sewage', which is of course the waste that we produce. To whoever advised Steve of his mistake I pay tribute... you're clearly a wordsmith of the highest calibre, so God only knows what you make of this mag!! Thanks for reading it anyway!

Floods...several community minded, dedicated and capable folk are working very hard indeed to come up with long term solutions to our problem. A recent visit by our MP Ollie Glover allowed the team to show him the places where flooding was worst. At a recent Vale of White Horse District

Council meeting, our two reps were each given only three minutes to present our case, but... 'the Councillors got the message and the Leader of the Council - Bethia Thomas - wants to come and see us.' A 'flood summit event' is planned for early in the New Year. I'll have more details in the Jan issue.

West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors: Chair: David Corps - 867454. Graham Garner - 868684.
Peter Packham - 868038. Vicki Ruston, Ahmed Farrag - 07388 816079.
Barbara Martin (Clerk) - email: parishclerkwesthanneypc@gmail.com
PC Website: www.westhanneypc.org.uk

Future Meetings, Tues 7th Jan 2025, 4th March, 6th May,
7.30pm at the Village Hall

I was at West Hanney Parish

Council's last meeting in November

- I try and go to nearly all of them - at which various items were discussed including the 'precept' which is set annually. This is the sum of money that comes out of your Council tax each year to fund the Parish Council's activities. Good news... the PC agreed that there will be no increase to our precept this year.

More good news...the PC agreed to make a donation of £600 to St James School for the purchase of phonics books - see page 14.

'Speedwatch' still need volunteers, indeed main man Cllr Farrag informed us that the team was down to a core of just four.

The pond which will be built in the

Community Woodland was also discussed. Plenty of hoops to jump through before it happens however, and mega bucks needed, with a final figure of well over £30,000 being suggested as the likely cost. Some of that will be received from grants.

The pond will be approx. 20m square with a 4ft wooden stock fence round it....'elf and safety' and all that good stuff! It will be clay lined, two metres at its deepest, and will be filled by rain. If it overflows or dries up completely so be it.

The 'pond god' works in mysterious ways methinks, so quite what its future will be, who knows! It's not been born yet!

Wednesday Bus Service 85, West Hanney to and from Wantage

West Hanney resident Bill Falkenau has been in touch to tell me that he has used the above service on a couple of occasions. He advises that... *'there is only one resident from West Hanney who is a regular user. Four passengers from Charney Bassett also took advantage of the service. There are 16 seats on the bus. Bill added... 'The driver mentioned that there were also regular users from Denchworth. It was handy to have the service available when I needed it. I fear that if there is no greater use from residents of West Hanney, the service will be lost, (use it or lose it!) There is no charge and the driver and passengers are on first name terms. Using it is a good opportunity to get out and about and meet others in a relaxing environment. Much less stressful than driving into Wantage.'*

Well said Bill... the bus leaves West Hanney Village Green at 10.26am every Wednesday, arriving in the Market Place, Wantage at 10.46am, having been to Grove and the Wantage Health Centre on the way. It returns to Hanney, leaving Wantage at 13.05pm, so you'll have had a couple of hours to spend your money!

Some sad news from East Hanney....

this from resident Steve Lee.... "During the recent summer months some of the residents of The Nurseries have experienced various, & an increasing number of, incidents which effectively is blatant anti-social behaviour. This coincided with the opening of our park area. Those closest to the park area & the foot-path to the main Hunter Avenue entrance road unfortunately bore the brunt of these unsavoury activities.

One of the consequences, in a coordinated bid to deal with the problem, is the formation of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme for the residents of The Nurseries. Inaugurated at the beginning of October, the scheme has a number of immediate ambitions:

Crime prevention; A community that is better connected; Sharing important information with other local Neighbourhood Watch schemes, the police, & local authorities (including housing associations); Create a protocol for reporting issues; Signage to promote the scheme & warn unwanted visitors; Signage to advise vehicle traffic to respect our shared road network; Organise regular resident patrols; A platform to discuss related issues.



We have the support of East Hanney Parish Council & have already had help with signage placement. The Parish Council have also offered to supply hi-vis jackets for those in the scheme who have volunteered to patrol our patch.

To join our scheme [East Hanney Hunter Avenue | Neighbourhood Watch | National network | Local Watch areas | Community crime prevention groups \(ourwatch.org.uk\)](#) The scheme name is "Hunter Avenue" Pictured below are Nurseries resident Richard Mathews & Cllr. Dickon Green.



Serious big ups to Steve and the other folk who, when confronted with a problem, set about doing something to remedy it. These good people have been to several Parish Council meetings and presented their case with a certain passion! The Police, Sovereign Housing and others have all been made aware of the problem.

Another great Hanney Community event,

our annual Remembrance Day Parade, took place on 10th November, followed by an outdoor service in front of St James Church.

Thanks go to all involved.



I am pleased to include below the first of what I hope will be regular articles from of our Police and Crime Commissioner Matt Barber.

Welcome Matt, we look forward to your contributions each month.

Matthew Barber
Your voice in
Thames Valley

Matthew Barber is Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, working with the police to help drive down crime locally.

STAY IN TOUCH
matthewbarber.co.uk

@matthewbarberpcc   

@matthew_barber 

Promoted by Matthew Barber on his own behalf, of Waterloo House, 58-60 High Street, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 6HJ.

Tackling shoplifting in southern Oxfordshire

One of the common myths about shoplifting is that it is linked to the cost of living. Whilst there will inevitably be some exceptions, we see that a significant amount of shoplifting is related to addiction (drink and drugs), but the biggest rise is actually from organised crime. Even in our more rural areas, sadly some retailers have been targeted but help is at hand; and the new Retail Crime Strategy that I launched earlier this year has made supporting retailers a higher priority for the police.

Over the last year across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse the number of charges for shoplifting has more than doubled (up by 106% so far this year), showing that the work to tackle prolific offenders is paying off. The police have identified the top suspects locally and as a result many are now behind bars.

Part of the effort to work more closely with shop staff is to increase reporting. We

know that all too often shoplifting or assaults on staff can go unreported. Sometimes people feel the police won't act - well, if it is never reported, they certainly can't act! To help encourage reporting and information sharing I have funded a new system called Disc, which is being rolled out free to any retail business locally that wants to sign up.

The app allows them to report more easily to the police - of course if there's a crime happening now, always call 999 - and crucially to share images from CCTV and mobile phones of suspects. These are shared both with the police and neighbouring businesses. I have been out with the police in Wantage, Didcot and Wallingford, talking to staff about their experience and getting them to sign up to the free scheme.

Anyone with a retail business can contact Thames Valley Police to sign up and find out more by emailing

oliver.fletcher@thamesvalley.police.uk



Crystal is the young lady behind 'My Home of Beauty'.

She has recently moved into East Hanney and it's from there that she runs her business, offering a wide range of treatments. We wish Crystal and her family every happiness here in Hanney. If you wanna be even more gorgeous than you already are (!) perhaps you'll give her a try?



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Crystal Moore
07734110899
@myhomeof_beauty
myhomeofbeauty1@gmail.com
www.myhomeofbeauty.co.uk

And who is this happy smiling Hanney man

pray tell, (geddit?) showing off his magnificent pearly whites? - not to be confused with 'gates' of course! Why t'is none other than Rev Alec of Gill and man of God, he Hanney's vicar, resident of the Vicarage and neighbour to Global HQ, here in Winter Lane.

(Isn't there's something rather reassuring, given this crazy world we live in, to know that Vicars still live in Vicarages?) And the reason for Alec's appearance in our humble mag? Well, he's just got promoted! - and you can read all about it in his words, on page 12.

Well done Sir Alec, we send or heartiest congrats!



Kick off the holidays with a visit to the Christmas Market at The Farm in Frilford.

Join us for a day of festive fun, unique shopping, and delicious treats in a cosy, countryside setting.

Market Stalls with one-of-a-kind gifts and handmade local crafts. Seasonal Drinks (mulled

wine, cider, naughty hot chocolate, and more) Bratwurst and Festive Foods to keep you fueled. Wreath-Making Workshops – create your own holiday décor. Fresh Christmas Trees for sale. Bring your friends, family, and join us for a cosy Christmas experience you won't want to miss! **Entry is Free!** Website: <https://www.farm-fit.co.uk/fair/>

(Not sure who the water baby on the left is, but he seems happy enough!)

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



I picked up my bag, containing the notes and items for my interview presentation, along with a list of questions that I had about this new role, took a deep breath, prayed I would remember everything that I had prepared, smiled, and went into the interview.

It was one of those moments that felt like I had come to a fork in the road. I could either go this way or that way. I would either be asked to take on this new role or I would remain in my current role. One way or another, things were going to change.

And things will change...while some things will remain the same.

For the last eight years, I have been the Associate Vicar for the Vale Benefice, serving the church congregations and local communities for Denchworth, East Challow, Grove and East and West Hanney. It has been my privilege to have taken weddings, funerals and baptisms, led festival services and to have been involved with our local schools.

Covering a large and growing population has meant that I have not been able to get to know as many people as I would have liked, but I value the relationships that I have built.

The interview went well; I got the job!

From January, I will become the Vicar for the Vale Benefice, continuing to live and work here, but taking on the senior vicar

role, with a new responsibility for leadership and oversight.

This will be a gradual transition, as one of the first things that I will need to do is work toward appointing a new Associate Vicar so that we can go back up to having two vicars.

Next year, will be a time for us as a group of four churches to reflect on how God is calling us to serve our local congregations and community. We feel that we are here to live lives of loving God and loving our neighbours, and we will take time to work out what this might look like over the coming weeks, months and years.

With every new year, comes another 12 months of challenges and opportunities, setbacks and stand-out moments, beginnings and endings. For me, it feels like I am about to switch tracks and begin a new route through a familiar landscape. I am looking forward to this new adventure!

Whatever 2025 has in store for us, my prayer is that we can all find ways to support and care for those around us, learn how to live together even when we disagree, practise giving and receiving forgiveness, and find ways to help more than we harm.

God bless,

Alec Gill, Vicar
(See also page 10)

Associate Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894 - vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk
Office : (10 – 12 Mon – Fri) 771479 - office@valebenefice.org.uk
Church Wardens: Stuart Cakebread: tel - 868590 - stuartcakebread@mac.com
Chris Reason: tel - 868375 - Chris_Reason_Hanney@hotmail.com

SERVICES in December 2024 at St James

Our Sunday Eucharist is celebrated at 9.30am – all are very welcome.

Freshly brewed coffee or tea
is served after the service

1st – Revd Charles Draper, 8 th – NO SERVICE – all welcome at St Nicholas Challow for their Patronal Festival at 11am, 15 th - Revd Velma Oxley, 22 nd – Revd Geoff Maughan.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 5.30pm Carols round the Crib – Philberd’s Barn, Hall Lane, East Hanney. All welcome – and be part of the Nativity Story – come as any character – and all ages welcome to take part too!

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Communion in St James Church

Christmas Day 9.30am Christmas Morning Eucharist.



VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE
You asked, we listened!
Back by popular demand, our
annual Carol Service will be in
St James Church on
Sunday 15th December at 6.30pm.
ALL WELCOME



As I approach ten years in the Editor’s chair, sat here in our luxury suite of executive offices at Global HQ, I remember the words of a good friend who recently suggested that I should mention that anyone who might be even a teeny weeny bit interested in taking over from me as Editor at some - as yet unknown - point in the future, should get in touch.
If that may be you, please ring me anytime on 07762 239681 or 01235 867500.



Meantime, another good mate put it more bluntly... ‘What will happen to Hanney News if you drop dead tomorrow Jim?’ he gently asked. My response was simple... ‘I have no idea, but will probably have other thoughts on my mind as I depart this mortal coil and am hurled into the ‘hot and fiery furnaces of Hell’ that await below!’

I believe it was Mark Twain who said ...

***‘Go to Heaven for the climate,
Hell for the company.’***

Our political chums - MP - Olly Glover. To contact him, use one of his emails:

Parliamentary email for casework: olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk

Local party business email: olly.glover@oxonlibdems.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD>

Juliette Ash is our County Councillor...her contact details: c/o County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND. Email: juliette.ash@oxfordshire.gov.uk. www.julietteash.co.uk.

Sally Povolotsky is our District Councillor: Sally.Povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

I recently attended the official opening of the Library at St James School.....a great community occasion and massive thanks to all involved, as well as all who made donations to the project.

We here at Hanney News HQ were pleased to donate £500.

My pic shows head teacher Lucy Ottoway with some of the kids who clearly enjoyed the occasion and will get great benefit from the library.

A friend of ours works in an Oxfam charity bookshop and she mentioned that she has been agreeably surprised by just how many children come in to buy books.

Everything may be digital these days, but you can't beat a good book!

Head teacher Lucy told me that the school have a new project starting soon. This one will focus on outdoor activities, and donations are always welcome.



Still on school and book/reading related stuff, I've received this from a parent at St James....

'As I'm sure you'll agree, our village school St James is an integral part of our community. It's where our children learn, grow and become the future leaders of tomorrow. Common to many schools nationwide, it's facing challenges due to decreased government funding, increased demand for services and rising inflation which strain school budgets.

Despite these challenges, a dedicated group of parents has set a goal of raising £3000 to purchase a second set of phonics



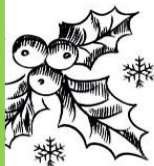
books for the early years classes. This initiative is a testament to the power of our local community, one which we should all feel proud to be a part of.

The school and parents are incredibly grateful for the support of East and West Hanney Parish Councils, the Community Shop, the Michaelmas Fayre and Hanney News for all coming together to fund this valuable set of books for our children. Thank you to all involved!'

And can I add a massive 'well done' to all who've made this happen, particularly those parents who've worked very hard on this ambitious fund-raising project.

Since the Michaelmas Fayre was started back in 2013 all the profits are given out in grants to Hanney organisations. Applications for consideration for the 2024 grants are invited - the information on how to apply and criteria are on the Grants page - www.hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk/grants/ or for more information please email us on info@hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk

Here at Global HQ, we believe every village needs a decent pub and that's something East Hanney has lacked for a long time! So let's support Ian and Jacqui, and wish them every success in their new venture! That Christmas menu certainly looks delicious!!



CHRISTMAS MENU

NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 24

2 COURSES £23 - 3 COURSES £33



STARTERS

Sweet pepper, shallot & chilli soup served with warm bread

Traditional prawn Marie rose cocktail served with brown bread and butter

Somerset breaded brie served with a cranberry sauce

Homemade chicken liver pate served with onion chutney & toast

Sauteed mushrooms with creamy oxford cheese sauce served on a toasted ciabatta

MAINS

Norfolk Turkey breast served with all the trimmings

Local Dexter beef pie in a red wine gravy topped with puff pastry

Farmoor Trout fillet, topped with sundried tomato & herb crumb served with a lemon & dill sauce

(V) Vegetable nut roast topped with goats cheese served with a mushroom and tarragon sauce

Oxfordshire slow braised lamb shoulder served with a minted gravy

All main are served with a potato choice and fresh vegetables

DESSERTS

Traditional Christmas pudding

Rich chocolate brownie

Jacqui's homemade St Clements posset

Samantha's homemade honeycomb & chocolate cheesecake

Oxford cheeseboard served with biscuits & homemade onion chutney



Bit of an emphasis on pubs this month, and here's another story of a now deceased hostelry that many of our more mature readers will doubtless remember. I refer to the Crown on the A338 in East Hanney, which was owned by Abingdon based Morland Brewery.

Now a private house, though, as you'll see, the very decorative ceramic plaque on the wall to the right of the front door has thoughtfully been retained by the current owners...thank you!

A close-up look reveals that it depicts an artist brandishing his palette in a rather wild fashion in his left hand, whilst he clutches what looks like a glass of beer in his right, which he appears to be studying as if he's going to paint its portrait!

A bit of research on the wibbly wobbly web revealed that the plaque was designed by Reginald Bell, and

was produced by Poole Pottery or the Carter Tile Works. The painter depicted is known as "The Artist Fayer".

The plaque is extremely colourful as befits the artist, and, quoting from a Morlands brochure: *'An interesting connection of the Morland family with the famous 18th century artist of the same name is still preserved by the Company's Trade Mark, which depicts a painter of that period.'*

Apparently the landscape painter, George Morland (1763-1804), was a member of the family, and that is how brushes and palette come to feature in the Morland trademark. In more recent times, actually 1980, the pub featured in an article in a local newspaper, written by Doreen and John Sherwood in which they stated that the Crown was an early Victorian building, not without character.

The piece went on to reveal that ... *'The food is straightforward pub fayre, but with one or two items you would not normally find to lift it somewhat out of the average rut.'* Rather an odd turn of phrase methinks? We go on to learn more about the food on offer, which includes scrambled eggs on toast for 50p, soup (tinned) at 25p, 'basket things from 60p (sausage) to £1.30 (chicken)'. The steak was apparently first class and so were the chips, 'which are obviously a popular product.' observes the journalist who added that the wine was 40p a glass, but most of the locals drank the Morlands beer!

I wonder when the pub closed down? Anyone remember?





And still on pubs, I've mentioned The Chequers at Charney Bassett this month,

and here's a lovey old photograph of it, taken around the very end of the 1800's - maybe early 1900s, by a famous Victorian Oxfordshire-based photographer Henry Taunt. He also took some in Hanney, and often included children in his pics. This one is no different... four girls stand very formally in front of the pub, and spaced well apart. The second girl from the left has a protective arm round a much younger girl. Someone - could be a young woman? - sits on the bench outside the pub, whilst a boy sits cross-legged on the ground near the girls with what could be a football on his lap. Another boy lies propped on his left elbow with his back to camera, very near the delightful old four wheel cart.



Both boys wear caps and the girls look to be dressed in their Sunday best, at Henry Taunt's request I would guess.

The modern snap, taken in 2023 shows it hasn't changed much, apart from that lovely big sign above the porch has now gone as has the big outdoor light hanging above the door.

And what of its future now landlords Ian and Jacqui have moved down to us here in East Hanney?

On Friday, 8th Nov I wrote to a company who I believe may have recently purchased it from Brakspear the brewery who owned it in Ian and Jacqui's time there. As I go to press a week later I've heard nowt...not a sausage. Maybe I got the wrong company. If anyone knows anything, please share it. The Chequers is / was (?) the only pub in the village.

Dear Editor,

Reliable sources have informed me the editor-in-chief of the Hanney News has taken up a recent position as Chief Sommelier for the Hanney Wine Circle. With this in mind, can you recommend some wine pairings for the excellent produce from the village shop?

Kind regards,

Matt Tennant, East-Hanney



Matt's referring here to a presentation I recently gave to the Hanney Wine Circle ...see photo above from the 'keep fit' section of that meeting.

Considering I know absolutely nothing about wine - other than I like the taste! - this occasion pushed me to attain new levels of bullsh*ttery!

As to recommendations, well, I assured the learned members at the presentation that 'my' wine - a Lebanese red, available from the Oxford Wine Company - and of course the Plough(!) - went well with fried eggs and Marmite on toast, all of which can be purchased in our wonderful Community Shop, though you have to start with the bread of course and pop it in the toaster!



Dear Editor

Regarding your Obit in last month's issue for Ray Woodyear - I first met Ray through his work as Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for the village, in some works I was involved in at the time.

We were relatively new into the village having arrived in 1992 and looking to preserve what good we could about the village.

Ray seemed to have a similar mindset and so we discussed how to provide additional activities for children to prevent misdemeanours from them.

On the back of this discussion the early ideas of starting a football club was born, so knowingly/wittingly or not, Ray played a part in the start of and subsequent success of the football club which has seen over 400 players train and play at Hanney - keeping them mostly out of mischief, teaching them respect for themselves and others and for their community, I hope we have done a reasonable job and Ray would have been proud of that.

It was during the early Saturday morning chats I would have with Ray - whilst he was attending his allotment - that we would agree to disagree about driving on the field, or how things could be improved around the village hall, or just pass the time of day. I remember Ray's smile and the look in his eyes that said - "well maybe, but I'm not convinced". This made me chuckle as I wandered off to mark the pitches before the players arrived.

So it is with fond memories that I send my condolences to Ray's family.

The picture chosen for Hanney News will be how I remember Ray and his contribution towards the village over the years.

Regards

Paul Aram, East Hanney

GARD Newsletter December 2024

We continue the fight. Join us!

GARD is a small organisation compared to Thames Water and it needs your support. Join GARD – you do not have to do tasks; counting you as a member is a service in itself. Helping is welcome too.

Contact the secretary gard.secretary@gmail.com or see the website.

Would you like a poster to display in your window or car? Contact the secretary gard.secretary@gmail.com

We must continue the fight against the reservoir, preparing for either Legal Action or, if that fails, for an eventual Development Consent Order proceedings in 2027, where the final approval for the reservoir would be sought by Thames Water. So, GARD has formed an incorporated company - SAFERWaterS – Sustainable Answers For Resilient Water Solutions.

Any GARD member can become a member of the Company. We'll be providing details in the coming weeks.

In the New Year there will be a lot to tell. Right now we await responses from the Sec. of State to get an idea of our timetable.

Clear actions for us all now:

Become a member of GARD – email



Sign the petition if you have not yet done so (we have over 4400 signatures): here's the link: [Stop Thames Water's costly mega-reservoir – fix the leaks! | 38 Degrees](#)

Write to your MP: Ollly Glover MP (Didcot and Wantage) olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk

Write to your Councillors (see GARD website for details) and Parish Council Chairs. Please copy GARD into your letters, emails: gard.secretary@gmail.com

GARD will keep everyone informed about their plans: meanwhile, let's make a noise locally.

Numbers matter: any politician considering this will want to know our membership numbers and our petition signatures – please make your opposition plain.

Derek Stork - GARD Chairman

Great talk at the Senior Citizens meeting last month, followed by the usual yummy tea and cake...tea served in posh cups as always! Puzzles me why more of our senior citizens don't come along. There aren't any age limits... however old you are, you will always receive a very warm welcome!
Details on page 30.

Hanney Lottery November Winners

1st - Ian Green
2nd - Eddie Wilkinson
3rd - Rachel Swinfen

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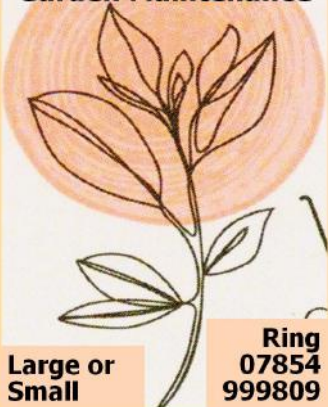
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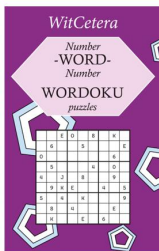
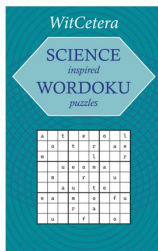
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HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Occasional Sunday friendly games. For details ring David Johns on 07770 456147 or 01235 868519, or email hanneycricketteam@gmail.com

DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB meets every Wednesday in the Olde Hanney Room 2-5pm. New members welcome. Contact Lyn Mortonlynmorton89@gmail.com

HANNEY FLOOD GROUP hold a monthly working party. Contact Clive Manvell for details -clivemanvell664@gmail.com, or 01235 868216.

www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk/

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the

first Monday of each month, Sept to April, in the HWMH. 7:30 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk.

www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. Meets 8pm on the 4th Monday of every month in the main hall of the Village Hall. For further details and programme visit <http://hanneyhistory.org.uk/>

HANNEY OCCASIONAL GOLFERS SOCIETY (HOGS) was formed in 1996, and meets four times a year plus Christmas. HOGS is very much about social golf with all standards welcome. Non golfers/spouses usually join for the evening session when prizes are awarded and 'fines' imposed! Contact 'Poppy' at andrew.fletcher@rer.co.uk for further details.

HANNEY SCOUTS,CUBS & BEAVERS, Contact Steve Houseman
.....stevehouseman@kascouts.org.uk

HANNEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB meets on the 4th Thursday of every month except August, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Tea, cake, chats, talks and activities. For more details, ring Marcia on 01235 867461

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS in the Village Hall, every Friday at 10am. £2.50p a session. Also every Thurs eve, 6.30pm -7.30pm. Just turn up to either, or both!

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB is a very friendly club and always welcomes new members. For more info email Jenny at membership.htc@gmail.com

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING Meets on 2nd and 4th Sats of each month, 10.00, at Hanney WMH. New cyclists warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Adrian on 868340 or email adrianbodimeade@hotmail.com

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Monday each month. www.hanneywinecircle.org.uk (Please note that at the Wine Circle meetings, they only drink the stuff, no treading takes place nor are any grapes harmed during their meetings)

HANNEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (W.I.) meet the second Thursday of the month (except in Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room, Village Hall. New members are welcome. Contact Kate Tyler on 07446 364859

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB trains at the rec. on Thursday night. We have teams from age 5 up. If you would like to join us please contact Paul on 07510 435 508, hyfcfooty@gmail.com or visit our website hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCH meets bi-monthly on the 4th Wednesday of September, November, January, March, May and July in the RBL Club. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

HARMONY SINGING on Thursdays with SJS, one of Oxon's oldest male-voice a cappella groups (6 of us) Rich treasury of 4-part songs; learn from the inside and make a difference. East Hanney, 8-10pm; pint at the Black Horse later. David Gahan 868933

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BINGO every Sunday, R.B. Legion Hall 8pm. Cash prizes. 18+ welcome.

ST JAMES SCHOOL HELPING HANDS: helpinghandshanneym@gmail.com

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY rehearses every Tuesday at C of E School, Newbury St. (next

to Comrades Club) at 7.30pm. New voices always welcome. Contact Judy Gibbons 767408, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION : 10am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

WANTAGE MALE VOICE CHOIR rehearses at HWMH on Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm. The Choir is looking for more men who enjoy a good sing to join their existing number of a dozen or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249), www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk.

WANTAGE U3A: Visit our website detailing current activities - www.u3asites.org.uk/wantage

PILATES CLASSES: Wednesday mornings, 8.30am - 9.20am, followed by another from 9.30am - 10.30am, and an evening class from 6 -7pm (term time only) at the HWMH, aka Village Hall, in East Hanney. Novices and Improvers welcome. To book your place or for more details please contact Pippa Carey (STOTT Pilates teacher) on 07941 260427 or pippa@thrive-pilates.co.uk

VALE NORDIC WALKING - Nordic Walking is a form of full body exercise, suitable for everyone, irrespective of age, gender or fitness level. A range of group classes or 1:1 sessions available weekly. Telephone Louise on 07709 939997. More information at - www.valenordicwalking.com

ART CLASS FOR ALL - Be inspired by teacher Sally Middleton, every Tues at the Village Hall, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Beginners and those with experience welcome, all media. 07825 709686

Email: sallyannemiddleton@googlemail.com



Hanney



A Guide for Newcomers

Revised and updated January 2024

Hanney Community Shop

Mon to Sat
9am to 5pm

Post Office hours:
Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri
9am to 1pm
Tues 9am to 12 noon

Tel: Shop - 867408
Post Office - 868320

Our Defibrillators?

In East Hanney, on the left wall of the porch in the Village Hall and on the fence between the Sovereign building and Motovation entrance on the A338. In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. All are accessible 24/7

New to Hanney? Get your free 32 page Guide from the Community Shop. It's also on the Hanneys website - see below - as a PDF.

Hanney War Memorial Hall - To book the Hall, visit our website hwmh.thehanneys.uk and click on the 'Book Now!' link.

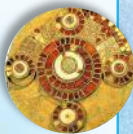
Email: hwmh.hanney@gmail.com

Visit the website:
<https://thehanneys.uk>

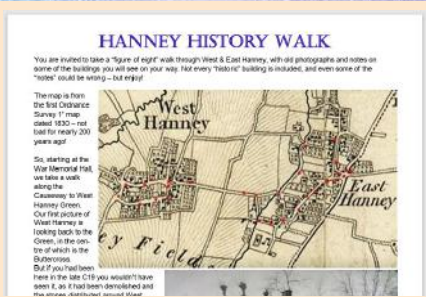


If you are thinking about advertising in these hallowed pages, contact Jim the Editor by phone - 01235 867500 or email: hanneynews@gmail.com to discuss your requirements.

Hanney News...be sure to read it cover to cover, without fail, every month. It contains so much useful stuff it's quite scary. Feedback always welcome...to me Jim Stagg, Editor, 01235 867500



Join the 'West Hanney and East Hanney Community', 'The Hanneys Buy and Sell', and the 'East Hanney Parish Council' Facebook groups...good fun, most of the time!



This 8 page A4 brochure...clue's in the title....is available free from the Community Shop, the Hall foyer, the Plough and me!

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