

Dorney Parish News

December 2021/January 2022



Parish Christmas Services

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|
| 12th December: | St Mary's, Boveney: | Advent Carols 3.00 pm – booking only |
| 19th December: | St James', Dorney: | Nine Lessons and Carols 6.30 pm |
| 24th December: | St James', Dorney: | Christingle Services 3.00 pm – booking only |
| | St James', Dorney: | Midnight Communion 11.30 pm |



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EDITORIAL

Sitting at my laptop on a cold, frosty evening, thoughts are of this, the last edition of 2021, and, increasingly of Christmas. I don't know what the essence of a Dorney Christmas is, but the most vivid picture to me is that walk to the midnight service down the Richmond Path, across the pitch-black fields as Christmas Day approaches. It's always a pleasant shock as the lights of St James and Dorney Court appear like beacons behind the trees.

Last month this column looked ahead to opportunities Dorney will have to come together. For many 2022's Jubilee will be the chosen focus. It's pleasing to see the plans for the 'Queen's Green Canopy' emerge from Dorney Court. James Palmer calls our village a 'horticultural hotbed' and I believe this magazine will be reporting on several events next year that will support this accolade.

In the previous issue, we hoped that the Jubilee celebrations witnessed ten years ago could be repeated. We gave no credit last month to the architects of those events. Leanne Kittel's flyer distributed around Dorney focusses on the string of achievements by the Dorney Playground Management Group around a decade ago. According to the flyer, the Playground's future seems to be in some jeopardy. I'm not sure why, and just why all nine trustees of the DPMG charity seem on the point of stepping down. Whatever the issues, we must fervently hope they can be overcome. I'm looking forward to this Christmas' playground visits with grandchildren and hope they can be repeated in 2022 and beyond. The Parish Council's response to a letter from Leanne can be read in this issue.

At the end of the year, it's time to thank regular contributors to 'DPN.' We wish festive good cheer to Kristina Perkins, Mike Quincey, Virginia Silvester, La Stacey and Sharifah Lee of Dorney School. Mo Voaden's initiative to pay tribute to various '*Dorney Folk*' is going well with a third instalment this month. Alas, Wayfarer has laid down his binoculars and we're always seeking expertise on the natural world. It's especially pleasing that the workings of Dorney Parish Council are being explained by the Council itself. I hope readers will welcome this return to the pattern established by the immortal *Kejfers* column and the *Parish Pump*. An article or two has recognised that Dorney shares interests with our neighbours in aspects like conservation and waterways and we have heard of splendid community initiatives in Eton Wick. We hope that Dorney will continue as a great place to live, but thanks go to those who have reminded us that it always was. Memories surfaced from the likes of Maureen Cox, Teresa McGuinness, Jill Palmer and Jean Tyler. The editor particularly enjoyed writing about the heyday of the Dorney Cricket Club. I can promise that in the aftermath of COP 26, this magazine will investigate sustainable ways of life in our village – given his enthusiasm for this topic, I can now give thanks and pay tribute to my skilled and resourceful editorial colleague, Bill Dax. For the foreseeable future, this publication will be a printed, paper magazine. Such vehicles are of no use if they cannot be put in readers' hands. As always, the last words of thanks go to our energetic and dedicated distributors.

Happy Christmas from 'Dorney Parish News.' Remember, we return in February.

2021 – Time Regained?

We'll look back on 2020 and 2021 as two years forever coupled by Dorney's experience of a pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. So, let's look at the last 12 months through the same perspective as this time last year.

We listed what had been 'lost', hopefully temporarily. This magazine did not lose any issues to online only publication as in 2020, but I hope an editor doesn't ever again have to seek the blessing of Thames Valley Police to distribute (readily given) our issues or to put a health warning for distributors and readers on the cover. The notion of 'losing' two Annual Shows would have been unimaginable, but 2021's was cancelled. It can be confidently predicted that the 'Hort.Soc' will resume its programme early in the Spring. Shuttlecocks are zipping over the net as badminton and other activities have returned to the Village Hall.

St. James the Less was not open in the first quarter of 2021, but a cautious return came in April and May. In December 2020, we listed several 'virtual' seasonal celebrations like 'Christingle', but a full programme seems to have returned this year. The church community seized the opportunities of online substitutions and to this day mounts online weekly and daily worship via Facebook.

Last year, we noted the loss of County Council elections in May 2020. Delayed by two years, these took place in 2021 and Dorney is fully represented at county level by those three councillors who sit for the Cliveden ward, George Sandy, Kirsten Ashman and Paul Kelly. Given the perceived increased interest in local issues, we expected there to be Parish Council elections at the same time. Unexpectedly, six of the seven sitting councillors decided not to stand. In our May issue we paid tribute to their total of 90 years' service to the Council. The chair, Keith Harris had put in 25 years' service and Andrew Purdie, his deputy, 16 years. Dev Dhillon, our district councillor since 2009, moved to another ward, and we also lost the services of the long serving Parish Clerk, Sue Moffat. Since May the Parish Council has been chaired by Jill Dax, the remaining councillor and five new councillors are sitting. Dorney welcomed Ruth Senior as Clerk, who also does a great job for Taplow PC.

Dorney's 'losses' include cherished people. We published tributes to Allen Handy (who died in 2020), Malcolm McIntosh (who grew up in Dorney Reach, but passed away in his adopted Australia) plus Stanley Hellmuth, Brian Poole and Roger Henley-King. They are missed.

We noted several trends emerging in 2020, for instance a desire for better communication, especially using digital platforms, a yearning for 'community' and fuller consultation by councils with residents. One of the first moves of the new parish council was to relaunch and revamp their website as dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk. We recommend it to residents as a source of news, updates and council papers. On the other hand, social media platform Nextdoor seems, due to the policy of its owners, to have changed from a lively forum for debate into a space for recommendations and local buying and selling. Given the rebirth of the website, this magazine has muted its advocacy of a separate 'Dorney Community', but we note with pleasure that volunteers continued to pick litter

from the Jubilee River area and, at last, an Emergency Plan for Dorney, put together by councillors and residents is on the way to fruition.

The issue of the Dents Corner roundabout, previously agreed by Bucks Council and the Beeches Community Board, was put out to consultation via email, website and paper. In our September issue, we reported that 234 residents participated (39%) and 72% of them favoured a return to the former T-junction rather than a new roundabout. Strong factors in the argument were a Road Safety Audit which indicated no safety benefit, a cost of £40,000, and the need for (it was believed) nine new taller lamp posts and the loss of a couple of trees. The decision to shelve the roundabout after this debate, which alas caused much dissension in our community, still leaves the issue of speeding traffic entering Village Road unsolved.

Another 'loss' occurred when, after yet more crowds and parking congestion during unseasonal fine early Spring weather, Dorney Lake management decided to close the site indefinitely. This was regretted but also welcomed, by residents if not by visitors from neighbouring communities. Regular dialogue seems to be happening between the parish council and the Lake, and the site re-opened in late September with closure planned for the Spring. We hope that a scheme can be agreed allowing fuller year-round access for bona fide Dorney residents.

Dorney Reach, in particular, has suffered from the M4 smart motorway installation, made doubly hard to bear by the apparent complete loss of confidence in the 'smart' concept by all stakeholders – the Ministry of Transport, MPs, motoring organisations and the public. According to Highways England, the end game is in sight in Marsh Lane with the retaining wall, entrance to the Village Hall and noise reduction fencing in place by January. Work on Lake End continues into the spring with a week-long closure likely in January. Then, they will be gone...

Other issues waxed and waned – like the size of the 'Lake' that appeared on Dorney Common. Volunteers tackling the weed growth in Roundmoor Ditch had a beneficial effect. But the outflow from the Slough Treatment Works and Thames Water's plans will loom large in 2022. Is it really necessary to pump excess water across the Common into the Thames rather than into the Jubilee River?

Persistent attention from Bucks CC (at last) and local councillors has begun to improve the condition of the lorry infested Orchard Herbs Farm site, but is the persistent 'no news' from Bucks about the outcome of the application for a hotel on the site 'good news'? Pressure from county and parish councillors plus the public – most notably the congregation of St James the Less, who were rewarded for their efforts by splash coverage in the 'Mail on Sunday' – saw off draconian plans to turn Dorney into a virtual no-parking zone.

We have all this to look forward to in 2021. As the year ends, we hear of development plans for Boveney Court Farm and an apparent threat to the future of the Playground. You can be sure that all these events will be covered in the pages of this magazine!

Peter Bowman

Services in the Local Churches



St James the Less, Dorney

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick

St. John the Evangelist, Eton

**Vicar: Revd. La Stacey, The Vicarage,
69a Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor,
SL4 6NE**

Tel: 01753 852268 email: revlastacey@gmail.com

For information about our churches, activities and church history please see our parishes' web site:

www.stjohnstjamesed.org.uk

Methodist Church, Eton Wick Alma Road, Eton Wick, SL4 6JZ

Minister: Rev Margaret Dudley, 01753 867117

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Burnham

Parish Priest: Fr. Joseph Udoh, M.S.P. 01628 605764

Rev La Stacey writes: We had fun looking at the story of Jonah in the children's service in Eton Wick church the other day. Yes, there was a whale which swallowed Jonah whole!! And yes, Jonah did survive the experience!

I wonder whether you, like me, feel rather as though you have spent a good part of the last 2 years in the belly of a whale?! How have you survived the experience?

Jonah, in the first instance of course, tried to ignore his commission to bring his message of change to the city of Nineveh. Hence how he ended up inside the big fish. He was given a second chance though and managed to deliver the message to the urban population. His message was that they needed to change their ways in order to survive. And change they did, so disaster was avoided. But then, would you believe it, Jonah got into a sulk because he had been made to look a fool as his predictions of disaster had come to nothing.

God says an interesting thing in reply to Jonah's sulk. He challenges Jonah with the question, 'how do you think I feel when all the people and the animals that I created are in danger of being wiped out?' We don't get an answer. The book of Jonah ends with the question, as if it is a challenge thrown out to us all.

There are lots of practical things we are all doing in answer to this challenge I know, both big and large. One thing we are planning in the benefice is to rebuild the room at the back of Eton Wick church which serves as our meeting room and benefice office so that, among other things, it is properly insulated. Planning permission has now been granted.

But rebalancing the earth is a spiritual matter as well. The change of lifestyle of the Ninevites started with a collective change in self-awareness. Jesus used the story of Jonah to illustrate what he himself would have to face. He's always telling us we must lose our life to find it. The changes we are called to make will feel like a death in some ways. To change we might have to let go of some of our favourite things, or of our anxious hoarding, or of our attachment to feeling important for example. We'll have to change our heart in ways that others won't even know.

Walking in grace is a demanding discipline, but the power of those spiritual changes will be immense – even perhaps enough to avert some seemingly inevitable disasters. My prayer is that our time in the belly of the whale has changed us enough to give us courage to rise to the challenge and we will emerge in the New Year with renewed kindness and generosity of spirit.

With blessings for Christmas and the New Year, La

Church Services in December 2021 and January 2022

Wednesday 1st December

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 5th December

9.30 am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00 am Any Age Service

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 12th December

9.30 am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00 am Holy Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

3.00 pm Advent Carol Service (booking only)

St Mary Magdalene, Boveney

Wednesday 15th December

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 19th December

11.00 am Family Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

4.00 pm Carols & Mince Pies

St John the Evangelist, Eton

6.30 pm Nine lessons & Carols

St James the Less, Dorney

Tuesday 24th December: Christmas Eve

3.00 pm Christingle Service (booking only)

St James the Less, Dorney

4.30 pm Christingle Service

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

11.30 pm Midnight Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

Wednesday 25th December: Christmas Day

10.15 am Family Service

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 26th December

11.00 am Holy Communion

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 2nd January

9.30 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00 am Any Age Family Service

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 5th January

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 9th January

9.30am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Holy Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 16th January

9.30am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Morning Worship

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 19th January

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 23rd January

9.30 am Morning Worship

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00 am Holy Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 30th January

9.30am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Holy Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Help us to maintain and preserve Dorney church and churchyard

Online

<http://easydonate.org/STJD>



Text

To donate £3, text STJD to 70331

To donate £5, text STJD to 70970

To donate £10, text STJD to 70191

Thank you!

Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see www.easydonate.org

Dorney Parish Council

Season's Greetings



Seven new trees for Dorney to celebrate the Queen's Treebilee!

Thank you to the sponsors of this initiative. More details will be announced of how you can get involved with the planting. Seven different species chosen to ensure that any new diseases will not affect all of the new trees.

**LOCAL M4 SMART
MOTORWAY WORKS
DUE FOR
COMPLETION SPRING
2022**

**CLEARANCE OF
ORCHARD HERBS
SITE CONTINUES**

**NEXT DPC MEETING
18TH JANUARY
2022 DORNEY
SCHOOL**



Please visit our website to complete the form if you have any special skills or equipment

**Street lighting:
Advise the Clerk if you notice any lamps are not working, as can be quickly sorted**

**Traffic issues
- Agenda item for January.
Please advise the Clerk if you wish to raise any points**

GETTING AROUND DORNEY

The ways in which we move within and around our village generate a good deal of interest. From the long running saga of the smart motorway to the temporary closure of favourite dog walking paths at Dorney Lake, via the heated debate over the proposed roundabout at Dent's Corner, the routes we and others take are rarely off the agenda. How far, I wondered, are we literally treading in the footsteps of past residents?

Our earliest forebears would have arrived on foot or by water. We know there were people here by about 10,000BC, and archaeological digs have found evidence of old trackways and of the use of the network of small waterways crossing the area to travel by boat.

Shifting across the floodplain, the river Thames changed course several times during these 12,000 or so years. The river has presented both an opportunity, to travel along it, and a barrier, to be crossed to the other side. Excavations during the construction of Dorney Lake revealed the remains of the earliest known bridge over the Thames, a wooden structure dating from 1520BC.

However, taking a boat across was generally the most direct way of crossing for people in Dorney. When a beer house opened up on Monkey Island in the mid-19th century, the incentive to reach the opposite bank increased, and there was still a ferry boat from Dorney Reach to Monkey Island in the early 20th century. Boats were not however without their hazards. Charles Beach, a builder involved in the early development of Dorney Reach, used his punt to cross the river several times a day, but drowned returning home from Dorney late one November evening in 1910.



It was only from the 1960s that Dorney gained the ability to cross the river on foot or bicycle courtesy of the motorway bridge, and later via Summerleaze Bridge formerly used to transport gravel extracted from the construction works at Dorney Lake. Otherwise, taking a vehicle across the river necessitated going via Windsor or Maidenhead, where bridges were first constructed in 1172 and 1280 respectively. Using those bridges was subject to payment of tolls, and until the present bridges were built poor maintenance or damage could cause them to be out of action for long periods.

In the ninth century, the invading Vikings discovered they could sail their longships up the Thames, and Dorney folk would have seen them passing by on their way to Oxford, just as they watched ammunition supply vessels making their way from London to Reading during the Civil War of the 1640s. The river became a major highway for transporting goods and its importance was enhanced when the system of locks was built in the late 18th century. The early 1800s were the peak years for commercial river traffic and Dorney would have been familiar with the horse-drawn barges going up and down. Barge Path, leading from Climo's Corner to the river, was a reminder of these times until the greater part of it disappeared under the surroundings of Dorney Lake. Boveney chapel is also believed to have served the bargees, and there used to be a wharf nearby. The river remains popular for leisure craft, while we also have a new waterway, the Jubilee River, enjoyed by paddleboarders and kayakers.

On land, early Dorney residents needed to walk between their homes and the fields where they worked. Over time, the routes followed by them and their animals became recognised ways. Other routes led to the church and to neighbouring settlements. The manor court rolls show how important it was to keep open access, especially to the common fields where everybody worked. In 1514, a fine was levied for blocking a plough track leading to the North Field. Thirty years later, another villager was required to make a gate to allow all the inhabitants of Dorney to go into and out of the field called Ashford. You could also get into trouble for making a path where

there shouldn't be one. The Abbess of Burnham was accused of doing this in 1540, by taking her loaded hay carts across meadow land in Boveney and by carrying her wood for winter fuel through other land belonging to Dorney's Lord of the Manor.



Outside the village, Burnham was a key local centre with its market, later effectively replaced by Maidenhead. Dorney Wood was part of Dorney parish to provide it with fuel and building material. Roads to these places were important, as was the Bath Road which became a major east-west highway with its fast mail coaches and big coaching inns. John Rocque's map of 1752 shows the main routes in and out of Dorney. By the time of the first Ordnance Survey map in 1822, the roads in and around Dorney had settled into the pattern we would recognise today, although Lake End Road passed to the east of Burnham Abbey rather than the west. A roadway also led from Ashford Lane north to West Town farm, and from there north to the Bath Road and east towards Burnham

Abbey. Barge Path and the towpath are clearly shown. The more detailed OS survey in the early 1870s shows some familiar footpaths, such as from what became Dorney Reach across the fields to Ashford Lane with a path down to Dent's Corner, though other paths have subsequently disappeared. Paths were not necessarily open to all to use. In June 1859, Henry Palmer reminded those in the habit of taking Barge Path to get to Monkey Island that they were effectively trespassing on his land; both Barge Path and the towpath were only to be used by barge horses and the bargees, who paid for the privilege.

Twentieth century developments did their best to disrupt our roads and paths. New roads were added in Dorney Reach and in the village. Locals had their own names for familiar ways. A villager directing visitors to the church in 1925 told them to take the "dilling lane" off Court Lane, "dilling" a dialect term usually meaning the littlest one. The passageway from Dorney Reach Road to the riverbank is known as the Snicket. In the 1960s the motorway carved through, rerouting Marsh Lane from its previous alignment of Oak Stubbs and Old Marsh Lane. The current widening of the M4 has again shifted the line of Marsh Lane, and of Lake End Road. Dorney Lake swallowed up Barge Path and realigned Court Lane but introduced new pathways including an off-road route to Boveney. The Jubilee River rerouted some old footpaths and established new ones. The underlying framework survives.

Further afield, the building of the railway damaged both road and river trade and was a catalyst for the expansion of housing in Dorney. While its competitiveness with road freight has lessened, the railway continues to wield influence as Crossrail creeps closer to completion. Overhead, we can see how air travel has grown, enabling us to fly far away from Dorney if we choose. Who knows what the future will bring; drones delivering goods are set to become an everyday reality and I hear that cars which can fly are on the cards. Our potential for getting around seems limitless.

With our feet on the ground, however, we are treading where the people of Dorney have travelled for centuries. When you walk along the riverbank, can you catch an echo of the horse on the towpath as the barge glides past? Is that a ploughman you glimpse heading for the field beside the Jubilee River, with his oxen? And furthest back in the mists of time, a shadowy group of people cross the river on a wooden bridge, close to the eastern end of Dorney Lake. The past is all around us....

Virginia Silvester



©www.paulmitchellphotography.co.uk

Visiting Dorney Lake

Dorney Lake is a privately owned site, and access to members of the public is welcome unless we are hosting a sporting event or private event.

When site is open, access to the lake is via the main entrance only. However Footpath No. 8 and the Sustrans path around the site perimeter will remain accessible at all times even when we are closed.

CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Dorney Lake grounds will be open every day throughout the Christmas and New Year period.

Our gates will be open from 7.30am to 5.00pm from Thursday 23rd December 2021 to Tuesday 4th January 2022 (inclusive).

Please do exit by 4.30pm to ensure that the gates do not close on you.

SPORTING EVENT DAYS & PRIVATE HIRE

Please check our website for the most up to date information.



From the Dorney Lake Team

The Queen's Green Canopy comes to Dorney

The Queen's Green Canopy (www.queensgreencanopy.org) is a nationwide tree planting campaign created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".



Embracing the initiative, Dorney Parish Council is proposing to plant seven magnificent Jubilee Trees across Dorney and Dorney Reach. With support from several donors, the project will be cost-neutral and the result will be a lasting, living, legacy which commemorates a remarkable Royal milestone.

Sites across the community have been earmarked for the planting with an effort made to ensure the trees are distributed evenly and in locations where they will enjoy maximum appreciation including (provisionally):

Site 1 - Village Hall

Site 2 - Oak Stubbs

Site 3 - Marsh Lane

Site 4 - Court Lane

Site 5 - Village Road / T Junction (Dents Corner)

Site 6 - Village Road / Southfield Close

Site 7 – Lake End Road / Entrance to village

Feedback on the proposed sites is welcome.

Dorney is fortunate for many reasons and is well known as a horticultural hotbed. From that famous pineapple to the Dorney Horticultural Society and now this silvan septenary will add a leafy lustre to the environment which we can all enjoy - maybe even Her Majesty from the distant ramparts of Windsor Castle.

All being well, there will be an opportunity for the community to join in with spades and support during January to take part in the great Dorney dig. The date for the planting will be publicised in due course along with how anyone who wants to get involved can help.

With acknowledgement to the following supporters for their generous support:

The Palmer Arms & Pineapple Pubs, Crocus @ Dorney Court, Dorney Lake, Maydencroft, Smits Nurseries, Form Plants, Pigeon House Farm

James Palmer



News from Dorney School

I cannot believe that this is the Christmas edition already. I am sure many here feel the same way – where does time go? As humans, we have become dependent on clocks, dates, seasons, regular events or celebrations, and global anniversaries to mark the passage of time. Indeed, I celebrated a birthday milestone this year determined not to think of my age as a barrier, but I was surrounded and reminded by well-meaning wishers who kept on reminding me that I am now, officially old! I wonder if this is because we believe we are limited by time to enable us to enjoy life and achieve success. We seem to always be in a hurry to be somewhere and end up chasing our own tails. Nationally and globally, we have developed a language of conscious fear that there is very little time left to change or save humanity and the planet.

I beg to differ. If anything, this is the season where we make time, no matter whether we celebrate Christmas or winter. In the shorter daylight hours, we must consciously slow down, reflect and come back to what are the most important things in our lives. There are no right or wrong answers here apart from your individual thoughts on what are the important things in your life. As humans, we may feel that age is a limit to what we, as individuals, can achieve, but as humanity, we should see ourselves as part of that torch that is passed on to the next generation. Well, that is at least how I see my life. I hold on to the words of a very poignant poem that we read every year across our nation, and in our school. It is about war and sacrifice, but to me, it means so much more. We give of ourselves, not just for the gratification of today, but the constant evolution of the human mind and soul.

When you go home

Tell them of us and say

For your tomorrow

We gave our today

The winter season at school is a time of joy, celebration and is packed filled with so many activities. These are just some of our highlights!

Our school entered the national ROAR competition organised locally by the Burnham Lions. Our children spent six weeks discussing local and global issues and had to come up with a proposal for a solution. They had to design 3D models which were judged by external judges. The judges were extremely impressed by the depth of thought and models.

We went on local rambles to raise funds for Children in Need!



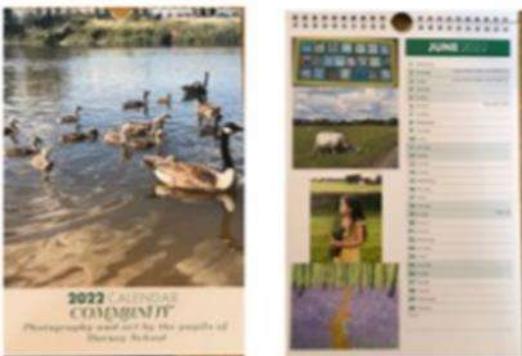
We celebrated Fireworks night with a BANG!



We commemorated Remembrance Day with our special guest, Richard Hall who is stationed in the aviation section of Royal Navy.

We wore odd socks and participated in Anti-Bullying Week which linked very well to World Kindness Day.

We celebrated Diwali and Prashad.



The PTA are selling school calendars that will make beautiful stocking fillers and Christmas or birthday gifts. These calendars were designed using our children's work and photos on the theme of 'Community'. You can purchase these by getting in touch with us office@dorneyschool.co.uk or they can be purchased at Crocus Garden Centre, Dorney Court

These are just snapshots of our wonderful school. This is a school that believes in compassion, kindness, and service to others. Dorney School is a reminder of the message of Christmas. It is a message of hope in which every child carries. From us to you, we wish you a Happy and Peaceful Christmas season. I do not think it matters if we celebrate the birth of Jesus or use this winter as a season to reflect, remember and rekindle that passion and hope that together, we can pass that torch for future generations.

Merry Christmas!

Mrs Sharifah Lee, Headteacher

DORNEY SCHOOL



Respect • Collaborate • Grow

*"The little village school with a 'Big Heart'
and a warm welcome"*

**46% success
in 11+ exams
(2020)**

**Part of Beeches
Learning and
Development Trust
with Burnham
Grammar School**

**Published results
above local and
national schools,
over the last three
years.**

- **Beautiful grounds and excellent facilities**
- **Ample parking for everyone**

**Warm, inclusive,
nurturing
community that
places the child
first.**

**Visit our website at www.dorneyschool.co.uk
to register your interest in attending one of our four open event mornings
for Foundation Sept 2022 now!**

**Wednesday 29th September 2021/Thursday 14th October 2021/Tuesday 16th November 2021 and
Wednesday 12th January 2022**

 **01628620871**

office@dorneyschool.co.uk



DORNEY BADMINTON CLUB



This year once again The Badminton Club are donating small chocolate bars (no nuts) to Slough Food Bank. Donating small bars means more children will be able to have a chocolate bar for Christmas. There are still families that rely on Food Banks, so helping just a little can mean a lot, especially to a child.

If anyone would like to donate, I would be happy to accept donations and include them with ours.

Thanking you.

Teresa McGuinness

on behalf of Dorney Badminton Club.

A green award certificate with decorative leaf patterns in the corners. The text is centered and reads: "BEST DAY & BOARDING PREP SCHOOL FOR BOYS IN SOUTH EAST ENGLAND". Below this is the school's crest and name: "ST JOHN'S BEAUMONT Preparatory School for boys 3-13". To the right of the crest is the website "www.SJBWindsor.uk". Further right is a circular laurel wreath containing the text: "LUXlife 2021 Private Education awards St John's Beaumont School Best Day & Boarding Preparatory School for Boys - South East England". At the bottom center, it says "Order our new prospectus via email to: sjb.admissions@sjb.email".

“BEST DAY & BOARDING PREP
SCHOOL FOR BOYS
IN SOUTH EAST ENGLAND”



www.SJBWindsor.uk

**ST JOHN'S
BEAUMONT**
Preparatory School
for boys 3-13

LUXlife
2021 Private
Education
awards

St John's Beaumont School
Best Day & Boarding Preparatory
School for Boys – South East England

Order our new prospectus via email to: sjb.admissions@sjb.email.

At the heart of Christmas



...is a joyful mystery – come and celebrate!

*Supporting TearFund, Wayne Dixon (CCiS),
Windsor Homeless Project and The Children's Society*

1st – 24th December

Advent Windows round the Villages

To take part, contact

revlastacey@gmail.com

12th December

Advent Carols – *booking only*

3.00 pm St Mary's, Boveney

17th December

5.00 pm Decorating St John's, Eton Wick

18th December

Churches Together **Carols under the Tree**

11.00 am Village Square, Eton Wick

19th December

Holy Communion

11.00 am St John's, Eton Wick

Carols and Mince Pies

4.00 pm St John's, Eton

Nine Lessons and Carols

6.30 pm St James, Dorney

24th December - Christmas Eve

Christingle Services

3.00 pm St James, Dorney – ***booking only***

4.30 pm St John's, Eton Wick

Midnight Communion

11.30 pm St James, Dorney

25th December - Christmas Day

Family Service

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Thames Water: 2,000m trench across Dorney Common and Boveney or 30m pipe to the Jubilee River?

Further to last month's article on the planned 2,000 metre pipeline trench across Dorney Common and Boveney fields into the Thames rather than a short, inexpensive 30 metre pipe into the Jubilee River, Dorney Parish News has received further information on this from Thames Water.

Their response may be summarised as follows:

- Thames Water confirm that they have not taken any steps to date to discuss the planning issues in detail with the planning authority.
- Despite the above, Thames Water are making assumptions about the planning permission relating to the Jubilee River without discussions with the planning authority. These assumptions could very well be incorrect.
- Nobody at Thames Water appears to have taken the time to read the 340 pages of the 1992 Public Inquiry report. DPN has, and the report does not support any of their responses.
- Thames Water also confirm that they haven't had any meaningful discussions with the EA regarding potential amendments to the licences (if any), legal obligations (if any) and the operating procedures regarding the Jubilee River. Again, let us help you on this matter. DPN has carefully read a 2005 copy of the Jubilee River operating procedures, which have been updated since then, and there is no reference to a potential minimal outflow of just over 1 cumec from the Slough Treatment Works outfall causing any problems to their procedures whatsoever.
- As Thames Water have not yet had any meaningful discussions with the planning authorities or the Environment Agency it is very possible that their assumptions regarding the Jubilee River's water quality and flooding could be completely wrong.



We understand that an Environmental Impact Assessment has been conducted on the 2km trench and we have requested a copy. It appears that this impact study doesn't include an assessment of the amount of additional greenhouse gas emissions are associated with this project.

We understand that simply constructing a 2km steel pipe would create around 1,000 tonnes of GHG (greenhouse gases) and the digging of the trench a further 1500 tonnes, so a total of around 2,500 tonnes. This is the amount generated in a year by 500 average homes – nearly twice as much as all of Dorney's houses in a year!

We have asked more questions and are waiting for the answers. We are not at all impressed with the answers we have received to date!

Peter Bowman and Bill Dax

Boveney Court Farm to be Developed?



Eton College has announced provisional plans for considerable residential development on the site of Boveney Court Farm. A small, informal meeting primarily aimed at Boveney residents was held at Dorney Lake. Reporting on what was seen and heard at the meeting obviously highlight the developers' positive case. More considered views both in favour and in opposition will emerge when planning permission is applied for.

The proposal as presented by the College, or more accurately their agents Clearbell, is for new

residential development on the site with the refurbishment and conversion of existing barns plus the erection of additional residential buildings. 'The scheme' they say, 'would sit comfortably within the character of Boveney as a small hamlet, on a scale in keeping with the local area.' The site has a 'courtyard character' which will be retained.

Thirteen residential units are proposed each with 2,3 or 4 bedrooms. The total number of bedrooms across those units is 32 and there will be spaces for 31 cars. Two homes will be in the (listed) barns, six in storage buildings plus two cottages on existing hard standing and three new cottages.

If that is the 'what', how about the 'why'? The existing buildings are 'surplus to requirements' being no longer required for 'operational activities.' This development is a way of 'preserving and enhancing' the barns. Any future residents of these will be living in converted Grade 2 listed brick and timber structures dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. Developing within the Green Belt is problematic, but the developers claim that 'the site is previously developed land within the Green Belt'. With a small number of new homes, a very modest contribution 'to addressing the shortfall in housing provision' is being made 'thereby reducing the pressure on open green belt land elsewhere.' Proceeds from the development will enhance the charitable potency of the Eton Endowment Fund. Benefits endowed on Boveney residents may be open to question, but 'ecological enhancements' will aid bats, stag beetles, grass snakes and barn owls.

Currently going through this 'liaison with neighbours', Eton intend to apply for planning permission and listed building consent before the end of this year.

The views on the scheme which matter most will be those living in Boveney and along Boveney Road, plus the members of various councils. This seems to be on first sight an attractive proposition, certainly to any potential house purchasers, with not too much impact on a Green Belt site. But it's hard to imagine many neighbouring residents welcoming the development. Upmost in the minds of those at the Lake and looking at the presentation (as yet there seems to be no hard copies or online posting of this) was the state and status of Boveney Road. At present, the surface is a disgrace – in its present form this way of access could not sustain either the development of the site or the needs of any future residents. But addressing these problems could change the whole nature of a small and ancient hamlet, mentioned in Domesday Book, along with a large number of new households, their inhabitants – and cars.

Peter Bowman



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DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL

Dorney Emergency Plan – Residents' Skills and Resources



For the Dorney Emergency Plan that is in preparation, it is suggested by Bucks Council that we identify volunteers who may be able to help in an emergency / event. These may be individuals with specific skills or organisations or businesses who would be willing to support the community in some way.

Voluntary organisations / groups / clubs may also be willing to help.

Dorney Parish Council would like to maintain a confidential list of people with useful skills (with their consent).

Together with the skills and experience offered by the above, an equipment list, including who owns it, is key to the whole plan.

Dorney Parish Council would be most grateful if you would complete the form on our website – www.dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk - and send it to the Clerk.

Your information will be held confidentially and will only be passed to those people responsible for the Emergency Plan.

Relevant Skills that we are seeking (in alphabetical order) are:

Doctor, Electrician, First Aider (e.g. St John, Red Cross), Farmer, Fire Fighter, Mechanic, Nurse, Plumber, Radio amateur, Social Worker (qualified), Vet, Volunteer (e.g. Women's Institute /WRVS)

If you tick any of the Relevant Skills on the form on the website, we will contact you to better understand your skills and how you might wish to be involved in an Emergency situation.

Relevant Resources that we are seeking (in alphabetical order) are:

4 x 4 Vehicles, Alternative Water Source or Operating Well, Boats (Rowing/Canoes/Ribs etc), Chain Saws, Heating & Fuel Stocks (Authorised Fuel/Logs/Red Diesel), Lighting (Free-standing), Portable Generators, Sandbags & Sand, Substantial Ropes (>10m), Tractors / Trailers, Water Pumps, Two – way Radios.

If you tick any of the Relevant Resources on the form on the website, we will contact you in order to ascertain the specifications of the item, whether you would prefer to operate it yourself or you would permit a skilled operator to use it and any other conditions.

We thank you, in advance, for your assistance on this important matter.

Ruth Senior, Parish Clerk

Climate change?

Two years ago a prescient Wayfarer wrote the article below about climate change. 5% of Dorney Parish's 1,350 acres are our gardens. Change is coming.

Ask a person sitting on a bar stool in The Palmer Arms or The Pineapple if he thinks that we are experiencing longer summers and warmer weather. Almost certainly he or she will agree that it seems to be true and it is due to the extreme effects of climate change as reported in the news headlines from many corners of the world.

Could changes in England (as a green and pleasant land) be a stark reality? If so, then within the next 50 to 80 years we will be forced to accept that the great British institution - a tidy green lawn bordered by sweet annual flowers and trim hedges is no longer practical.



The impact of climate change on gardening is inevitable and is likely to have significant effects on the average domestic garden (and the many historic gardens around the country). This year, a shorter winter was followed by an earlier spring, with bulb displays and trees coming into leaf sooner. Also, the survival of traditionally frost-tender plants might seem like a bonus to producers.

However, at the other extreme, higher temperatures represent a major challenge. The Royal Horticultural Society claims that while there will be greater opportunities to grow exotic fruits and sub-tropical plants such as citrus and cannas, with increased winter rainfall it will be difficult for Mediterranean species which dislike water-logged soil.

Warmer temperatures mean that we will face new pest and disease problems in the garden. The changing climate is already creating ideal conditions for the spread of insects such as lily beetles, rosemary beetles and berberis sawfly. Fungal diseases thrive with the wet conditions and Phytophthora has already decimated some of the country's historic yew hedges.

Popular plants that could become rare in the south-east include favourites such as delphiniums and lupins. These require fertile, moisture-retaining soil and they dislike the drier summers.

Also on the endangered list are traditional spring displays of bulbs which will be challenged by wet winters and alpine plants will be harder to grow. Of course, the bonus could be that gardeners will be able to grow fruit from warmer climes more easily.

Expect garden centres to be offering a wider range of plants to include more grapevines, pomegranates, citrus, figs and palm trees. Also, it is claimed that the

expected increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which is integral to the process of photosynthesis, will mean that plants can grow faster and stronger. This will help the battle against pests and diseases as they will be more robust.

The RHS Advisory Service (who better?) offers the following advice, suggesting what we can do.

- * Plan for the future and prepare to make appropriate small changes in your garden
- * Plant trees, shrubs and hedges that are drought-resistant
- * Prepare soil thoroughly by incorporating stable manure (for us obtainable from local sources in Dorney, Dorney Reach and Boveney)
- * Set up a water butt or two, to ensure your own natural supply during warmer weather
- * Create a wildlife garden including a small water feature
- * Choose plants carefully, matching the drought-tolerant or damp-loving species to your gardening environment.

WAYFARER

The Dorney Reach defibrillator – don't forget the keycode!



The Community Access Defibrillator is installed on the side of the Village Hall near the Playground Tuck Shop.

Should you need to use it, the defibrillator will lead you through the necessary steps.

The defibrillator case is locked. The keycode is **C123X**.

The information has been added to the Local Issues page on the Parish Council website so that it is always available.

Dorney Parish News will continue to provide Keycode details.

The Defibrillator in the old phone box on Village Road does not require a Keycode.

GIVE A JOB TO A BUSY MAN ON DORNEY COMMON

Spinning plates always sums up this time of year, and just when things seem to be levelling out, another rut in the road forms overnight to burst yet another tyre. What with my husband Dave joining yet another new band, we are passing ships in the night.



At Salt Hill Vaccination Centre, almost overnight the number of customers coming in for first, second, third and booster doses increases to numbers last seen at the height of the pandemic. Compounding this we are also giving flu jabs of which there are many varieties, adjuvanted for the elders, cell grown for those with egg allergies amongst many others.

Friday is always the peak, (the weekend to recover), sees hordes of arms coming through, with queues stretching around the building, the A4 choked for half a mile, and the car park marshals juggling vehicles to accommodate the incessant swarm. At our desks we remain vigilant, whilst searching for deltoids beneath layers of winter clothing. Our shifts are lengthened, the Clinical Lead constantly asks if anyone is available tomorrow, and the NHS send repetitive pleas to our Teams App for more vaccinators for various locations, including care homes, home visits for the infirm, pharmacies and medical centres.

Life being a tad busy, I decide to remain just at Salt Hill, with my Salty Jabber friends (our WhatsApp group), the cogs now perfectly greased to efficiently erode the queues. Nobody complains, we occasionally smile together, our hands to the head mimicking the brain exploding emoji. Through these hands come expectant ladies, frailty, youth, disabled, abled, chatterboxes, silent mouths, fears with tears, wobbly poorly terminally ill, HIV+, haemophiliacs, those without addresses, and those in designer dresses that brighten our day. To each we give the time of day, attentive and welcoming, which makes me feel proud to be part of this team that gives relentlessly.

Once home, and after a good half hour in a dark room to aid the recovery process, the next plate is the continuing battle of Pantomania, with this year that brings such awkwardness. Used to a full-size theatre, our smaller venue at Holyport creates challenges despite reducing the cast size. Compounding this, the Boyne Library having changed its cold feet, we frantically scout around to find an alternative space. Unable to find a venue able to fit in all our dates, we finally straddle the High Street Methodist Church in Maidenhead, and Taplow Village Hall, who bend over backwards and sideways to help.

As an aside, size isn't everything - no not that old joke, read on. I read recently that we don't have a strong intuitive sense of how much bigger 1 million is compared to 1 billion, and this certainly relates to me. Apparently, 1 million seconds is about 11 days, and 1 billion seconds is about 31.5 years. Ah, I see, then I must be 2 billion seconds old... wow!

Racing around with a carload of stage and hand props three evenings a week proved to be a challenge for an old gal like me (2 billion seconds old), head space now fully occupied with a list of eleventy-eight impending chores. Still, there was a bright light at the end of my gloomy tunnel in the form of a lady called Ruth, who works for Taplow Parish Council in a small office in the Village Hall. I paid a visit to find a delightful space, picturesque and retaining an English quintessential charm, with an air of stillness and calm which brought ease to my heart and mind.

Almost unchanged from the day it was built, I felt I was stepping back decades, to a time where life was slower and more tranquil.

Lovely Ruth who looks after this hall (and probably other village matters), proudly showed me around the facilities, so perfect for our needs and a true blessing for the drama guild. Most rehearsals will be spent here from now, easy access by a key that I keep until we are done, and additional areas for vocal warmups or costume changes. Invigorated by this, that heavy anchor fell with a clang from my shoulders.

However, another 'situation' soon appeared that nobody expected.

After 6 months of negotiating a new home in the Nicholson Shopping Centre for Maidenhead Drama Guild (our current one is being demolished in the regeneration programme), the news came to me that we would not be accepted as a tenant, and this really boiled down to the fact that we currently exist as a 'not-for-profits' and not a registered charity. So, after a flurry of kicking 'lovey' horse heels at the gate, it was decided to bite the bullet and apply for this status post haste. Remaining silent (head under duvet) I avoided being party to the humongous form filling, but kindly one of our old but wise took on the task, so we wait to see the next chapter of our cuckoo nesting ventures.

As 2021 melts away, the festive season is here once again, good cheer from our hearts as we march on in our battles with the good the bad and the ugly. The good is the neighbourly fellowship of our village, the bad is the smart motorway (writers' opinion only), and the ugly is the little spike protein that has come to cuckoo in our nest. We hope 2022 brings better news, but it is not always the obvious answer that wins the day as this little story suggests:

Students in an advanced Biology class were taking their mid-term exam. The last question was name seven advantages of 'Mothers Milk'. The question was worth 70 points or none. One student was hard put to think of seven advantages. However, he wrote:

1. *It is perfect formula for a child*
2. *It provides immunity against several diseases*
3. *It is always the right temperature*
4. *It is inexpensive*
5. *It bonds the child to the mother, and vice versa*
6. *It is always available as needed*

The student was then stuck, so finally in desperation, just before the bell rang to indicate the end of the exam, he quickly wrote:

7. *It comes in two attractive containers and it's high enough off the ground where the cat cannot get it.*

He got full marks.

Have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Kristina Perkins

Editor's note – "Lovely Ruth" is Dorney's parish clerk too!

Rollout and safety of smart motorways

On 2 November 2021 the House of Commons Transport Committee issued its report on the Rollout and safety of smart motorways.

It is a damning report and includes references to the four recent cases, where coroners ruled that the absence of the hard shoulder contributed to deaths that occurred on all-lane running and dynamic hard shoulder motorways. Those coroners' reports warned that the loss of the hard shoulder presents a risk of further fatalities, unless action is taken.

One coroner referred National Highways (formerly known as Highways England) to the Crown Prosecution Service to assess the grounds for bringing corporate manslaughter charges against the company. At the time of our inquiry, South Yorkshire Police had begun investigating whether to bring charges against the company in connection with two cases on the M1.

Given the huge interest in this subject for Dorney residents we felt that it would be helpful to print virtually all of the Summary of the Report – **with our emphasis:**

This is not the first Transport Select Committee Report scrutinising all-lane running motorways. In 2016, the then Transport Committee expressed deep scepticism about the design and implementation of all-lane running motorways. In response, the Department and Highways England promised safety improvements. **However, the promised safety improvements were delivered neither efficiently nor effectively.**

Although we welcome the Department's belated acceleration of safety improvements to all-lane running motorways, it is regrettable that the Government should find itself in this position. **Safety risks on all-lane running motorways, such as those raised by our predecessor Committee in 2016, should have been addressed before those motorways were rolled out.**

To guard against the introduction of such unsafe changes on the Strategic Road Network, the Department should make the introduction of operational and design changes contingent on a formal health and safety assessment by the Office of Rail and Road. In addition, the Department and National Highways should pause the rollout of all-lane running motorways until five-years of safety data is available for the remaining 112 miles of all-lane running motorway introduced before 2020.

Finally, the Department and National Highways should:

a) retrofit emergency refuge areas to existing all-lane running motorways to make them a maximum of 1 mile apart, decreasing to every 0.75 miles where physically possible:

b) commission the Office of Rail and Road to conduct an independent evaluation of the effectiveness and operation of stopped vehicle technology:

c) insert the emergency corridor manoeuvre into the Highway Code to help emergency services and traffic patrol officers to access incidents when traffic is congested.

While we welcome the introduction of the action plan, **it is unclear whether the interventions that the Government and National Highways are rolling out will effectively mitigate the specific safety risks associated with the removal of the hard**

shoulder. To clarify that point, the Office of Rail and Road should be tasked with evaluating how successful the action plan has been in:

- i) reducing incidences of live lane breakdowns on all-lane running motorways;
- ii) reducing the time for which people who breakdown or stop in a live lane are at risk;
- iii) educating drivers on what to do if they breakdown in a live lane.

The Government's decision in March 2020 that all new smart motorways will be all lane running motorways was premature. The Government and National Highways should therefore pause the rollout of all-lane running motorways to collect more data, to upgrade and then evaluate the safety of existing all-lane running schemes and to consider alternative options for enhancing capacity on the Strategic Road Network.

The Government and National Highways should pause the rollout of new all-lane running schemes until five years of safety and economic data is available for every all-lane running scheme introduced before 2020 and the implementation of the safety improvements in the Government's action plan has been independently evaluated.

Dynamic hard shoulder motorways apparently confuse drivers because the hard shoulder is used unpredictably to tackle congestion. **A more consistent approach, where the hard shoulder is used at known times, could clarify the situation for drivers without physically removing the hard shoulder. The Department and National Highways should pause plans to convert dynamic hard shoulder motorways until the next Road Investment Strategy and use the intervening period to trial alternative ways in which to operate the dynamic hard shoulder to make the rules less confusing for drivers.**

Controlled motorways, which retain the hard shoulder and have technology to regulate traffic, have the lowest casualty rates of all the types of motorway on the Strategic Road Network. The Department and National Highways should revisit the case for controlled motorways. The Department must carefully consider how the business case for controlled motorways compares with that for all-lane running motorways.

A response from National Highways (formerly Highways England) is expected shortly. It is bizarre that the Office of Rail and Road has considerable power with regard to rail safety – but little with regard to road safety, which has tended to leave National Highways marking its own homework. This report clearly demonstrates that this was one of the reasons for the apparently unsafe situation certain of our motorways are in. The report does, rightly, recommend that the Transport Department should make the introduction of changes to the design and operation of the Strategic Road Network dependent on a formal health and safety assessment by the Office of Rail and Road.

It appears very likely that the strongest legal arguments in this matter will be those of the coroners. It is unlikely that they will allow themselves to be silenced. Don't bet against the reinstatement of hard shoulders!

Dorney Parish News Editorial Team

Spotlight on Dorney Folk - Mo Voaden meets Alison Bell

Picture this: Last year. Lockdown. Remembrance Sunday. A lone trumpeter playing the Last Post on her doorstep.

The trumpeter was local Dorney Reach resident, Alison Bell, whom I had the pleasure of interviewing this month.

Why on your doorstep?



'I play the trumpet with Slough Philharmonic,' Alison explained. 'Last year we were unable to rehearse or perform due to Covid. Every year I play the Last Post at the Remembrance Sunday service at St Mary's in Farnham Royal so when the service was cancelled, I thought I'd take to the doorstep instead.'

For anyone unfamiliar with the piece, the Last Post is a short fanfare, traditionally played on a bugle. It was used by the British Army to mark the end of the day in camp and also the end of fighting. Today it is an important part of Remembrance Sunday.

How did your neighbours react?

'With surprise. And curiosity. Many didn't know I played the trumpet. But all agreed it was a very worthwhile thing to do and gave people the opportunity to pause and reflect. And I had the benefit of hiding behind a hedge!'

Her attitude reminded me of a quote by W.C. Handy (referred to as the Father of the Blues):

“Life is like a trumpet – if you don't put anything into it, you don't get anything out of it.”

Alison didn't begin on the trumpet, and might not have played at all if her mum hadn't met someone in their street whose children were joining a local brass band. At the age of five, she went along too, and started on the cornet because it is the smallest brass instrument.

Until then, the only cornets Alison knew were made of pastry and chocolate. She didn't hear a lot of classical music at home and her parents weren't musical.

From day one, Alison was hooked.

So what's the difference between a cornet and a trumpet?

The cornet is a brass instrument similar to the trumpet but distinguished from it by its conical, more compact shape, and mellower tone.

Alison switched to the trumpet when she was fourteen on the advice of her violin teacher, due to there being no cornets in an orchestra.

Alison studied the violin from the age of seven and was encouraged to take part in local orchestras organised by the Oxfordshire music service. This gave her the opportunity to play and become more experienced. She was encouraged to join the Oxford Concerto Orchestra, which had a fantastic string section and a strange tradition: each member was required to play a concerto.

'I was nowhere near the standard of the other string players,' Alison says, 'so I played my concerto on the trumpet, which went down very well. It was the slow movement of Haydn's Trumpet Concerto.'

This well-known piece, a favourite of the trumpet repertoire, has been cited as possibly Haydn's most popular concerto.

Alison joined the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and attended their residential courses during school holidays. Boys outnumbered girls by three to one but it didn't faze her because there is a

camaraderie among musicians that transcends gender and background. *'And, at this point, I was more interested in music than the opposite sex!'*

I wondered whether Alison had experienced any particular health issues from playing the trumpet. Professional violinists can suffer back and shoulder strains and percussionists may develop hearing problems. Does the trumpet, I asked, cause any such issues? Alison explained that the instrument is hard work on the lips and requires a good degree of stamina. *'Occasionally I've been at risk of passing out, particularly when playing high notes and not taking in enough oxygen.'*

Tom Harrell, an American jazz trumpeter, once commented:

"The hardest part of playing the trumpet is the physical act of making the sound."

Alison said, *'I was taking part in a brass band concert in York Minster when one of the cornet players, a boy of about fifteen, passed out. He fell off the stage, the band continued, and moments later he scrambled back up to resume playing, hardly missing a beat. Luckily his instrument wasn't damaged.'*

Alison decided to go Royal Holloway, University of London, where she studied music and maths because she fell in love with the beautiful buildings. *'It was a magical time where much music was played.'* Notable alumni of Royal Holloway include George Eliot (novelist), Lenny Henry (comedian) Emily Wilding Davison (suffragette), and it was where Alison met her husband.

After that, she trained as an accountant, playing the trumpet and taking part in concerts in her spare time. She and her husband brought up two daughters, *'and I would try to accompany them on the piano (often not very successfully!) whenever they practiced the violin and trumpet.'*

Alison is a member of Slough Philharmonic and last Sunday took part in their first concert for 18 months at Braywick Leisure Centre. The orchestra played a mixture of Tchaikovsky, Bliss, Elgar, Dvorak and Ravel. *'It was a real pleasure to play in front of an audience again,'* she said. *'And I was fortunate in having my daughter play in the orchestra too.'* I asked if she was playing at Christmas. *'Not in a concert, although Slough Philharmonic are performing in St Nicholas Church, Taplow on 11th December.'*

It turns out that Alison's sister and brother-in-law also play the trumpet. *'We always have a rousing get-together at Christmas.'*

When asked what she has found most challenging in recent months, she explained that lockdown had been difficult for her, as it had been for a lot of people. *'Unfortunately we lost our father-in-law to Covid at the beginning of the pandemic.'*

And what brings you joy?

'Our new puppy – who pays no notice when I play the trumpet. No howling yet!'

When she's not practising or puppy minding, Alison helps with the orchestra at Burnham Grammar School, where she is a governor. She is also the treasurer for Slough Philharmonic.

Do any concerts stand out?

'I love playing for Wycombe Sinfonia, which gives a number of concerts including one for children each year. It's great to see the children's faces when they hear our music, and who knows, perhaps we're inspiring future musicians.'

One Bonfire Night she was due to play with St Sebastian's Brass Band in Wokingham. They were supposed to march across the field to the bonfire while playing their instruments, but at the last moment there was a gas leak in the town so the event was cancelled, *'and a rather jolly evening was spent in a local pub.'*

During particularly cold outdoor Christmas concerts, her valves – or rather the *trumpet's* valves, have been known to seize up, which is not the best start to 'The First Noel'.

And embarrassing incidents?

'The sheer terror of solo playing. Fingers sweat, mouth goes dry, and I must make sure I keep breathing.'

And some quick-fire questions to finish:

Do you prefer...

Chocolate or cheese? *Chocolate*

Mozart or Beethoven? *Beethoven*

Favourite composer? *Prokofiev*

Wine, spirits or beer? *Wine And perhaps spirits.*

Music or silence? *After a slight hesitation - music.*

Letter or email? *Email.*

Alison's advice to any children considering the trumpet would be to have a go. *'It's one of the best things you can do.'*

Her words remind me of the famous quote by Louis Armstrong:

"Every time I close my eyes playing that trumpet of mine, I look right into the heart of New Orleans. It has given me something to live for."

Slough Philharmonic are always on the lookout for new members – for the orchestra and the choir. For further details, contact: orchestra@sloughphil.org or chorus@sloughphil.org, or take a look at their website <http://sloughphil.org/orchestra>

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Bin There, Done That...

Things do go missing round here. Judged by social media, credit cards are lost (and found) in Burnham High Street, cuddly toys along the Jubilee River and pets, alas, everywhere. But now something more static, more substantial, is going missing in Dorney – your bin, or more precisely, your green bin.



I've researched this because my green bin vanished into thin air. The team had departed, but no bin was to be seen where earlier that morning it had been. However nice your neighbours, you don't half feel foolish as you plaintively enquire as to whether they have acquired an extra bin. There were even offers to trawl through security camera footage.

At Ground Zero plus 24 hours, I decided to ring Bucks Council. I obeyed the instruction to 'chat live with us' but the disembodied agent forcibly told me there was no circumstance by which the bin lorry could have taken my bin. I tried next to talk to a human, and things started looking up. The heroes of this saga are the Bucks CC Recycling Hotline, who were friendly and good humoured. 'I'll open a ticket for you' she said. We laughed about why the ticket number had to have 18 digits. I wondered whether that reflected the number of such enquiries. 'Am I wasting your time?' I said, 'surely my bin couldn't be in a bin lorry?' 'I have heard stories...' she said.

That glimmer of hope was boosted when I posted my plight on Nextdoor. Yes, one other green bin had been eaten up in Harcourt Road. The next day, as I walked down said thoroughfare, a voice said 'Found your bin yet? They had ours, you know...' Crikey, that's three in Harcourt Road alone.

Well, of course, the obvious conclusion was that the hotline rang. Investigation of camera footage inside the truck had found my bin. I would have a free replacement. It would take ten days, maybe twenty! In fact, a shiny new bin, with a Bucks logo, not the insignia of South Bucks District Council arrived next day. With typical self-effacement, I apologised for causing such trouble. The serious young man said not at all, they wanted to hear from residents – 'we want to know, is it a rogue crew, a rogue truck, or something more serious...'

On the next Monday, I felt I had to explain to the crew why I was paying such attention to the rear end of their truck. 'Happens all the time' one crew member said, 'it's really only the green bins, they're so heavy and the lorries we use for them really need replacing, they're so old...if it happens, we have to tell our supervisor, who tells the company, who tells the Council, who tells you.'

A month ago, the refuse contractor for South Bucks changed from Biffa to Veolia who have had the contracts in the other Bucks districts. Bucks County seem obsessed with unifying services across the new Unitary Council. I didn't know that at 240 litres, South Bucks wheelie bins are heavier than those (180 litres) in the rest of the county. Is the current gobbling up of our bins merely a ploy to replace our super-size bins? Are the bins sitting outside your back door too heavy for Veolia's trucks? Was my lost bin yet another victim of the move to a Unitary Council?

Peter Bowman



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www.formplants.com

No Sleights on my Patch

I was summoned to my Inspector - tough, frightened of nothing and the boss.

“Quince,” he frowned

I thought, “Oh Lord, what have I done now?” expecting the worse.

“It’s like this. Your mate Shorty has gone sick, and he’s the night duty Christmas Eve driver on X Ray 12 (the area car). I’m afraid you’re it.”

My patch had none of the glamour of the West End, the notoriety of some of the Met, and the Latte Set only passed through on their way to the airport.

Ours was pub fights, domestic abuse, and all kinds of thefts from those who had little in the first place and, bizarrely, a sad gathering of no hopers in the early dawn ambling into the town centre hoping to find the best dog ends from the night before. It bordered a County Force from which their criminals passed through in stolen cars on their way to richer pickings at the airport, so I expected more of the same, exacerbated by higher than usual alcohol intake as I drove to work having kissed my family night night.

I had a result in that my operator/companion was Mick, an erstwhile milkman and a natural copper. Soon we had booked everything out and started the night’s work in a beautiful SD1 Rover, waiting for the flood of calls for assistance of various kinds, but all was quiet. We spent time frightening drivers in our search for the inebriated, but save for a call to a domestic, where we helped to drag the drunken hero off his terrified partner to be taken to the Nick by the van crew while others topped and tailed the scene, we resumed our prowling.

It was now two thirty in the morning, and my sense of humour was beginning to fail.

“Look Mike, a blue Cortina,” said Nick, at the time the car of choice for thieves to thrash home and as I spun round I saw a lone cropped head in the driving seat, studiously obeying the forty speed limit and leaving us scratching for a reason to stop it, until an obliging benefactor drove towards us in the opposite direction, the Cortina braked unnecessarily, a classic sign of drink drive, only one brake light working, and then to seal his fate, the driver clipped the kerb.

“We’ll have him with our mince pie!” smiled Nick as the Cortina was flooded in our blue lights. Instead of stopping, the back lowered as the driver engaged a lower gear and made off into the countryside, pursued by us at relatively high speed as Nick picked up the radio mic.

“MP, MP, we have a fail to stop for police Bath Road towards Dorney, eighty plus, blue Cortina ABC123 now passing Quantock Place still failing to stop..” as I settled in for the chase, heart rate rising. Suddenly, a moped wobbled out of a side turn in front of us and I braked hard, missing and cursing him as the Cortina disappeared into the darkness. I gave words of advice to the moped rider through the open window and drove off in search of our quarry, and there, like a good deed in a naughty world, was the Cortina, smashed to pieces embedded in an ancient oak, engine still idling sweetly (old Fords never die, they just go faster); empty. Because of Nicks timely commentary of the chase, several surrounding area cars and a Thames Valley unit arrived, including Conrad and Floyd the

dog. Floyd barked excitedly to be released from his cage and nose down on a huge lead, he was off, pulling Conrad, followed by me. Suddenly, Floyd stopped at a bush and barked, almost pointing a paw, "He's in there Dad!"

"Good boy," Conrad ruffled his head. "Come out or I'll put the dog in," he shouted at the bush and Barry, dishevelled and belligerent stood up, hands held high as he'd seen many times on daytime TV. Nick arrested, searched and handcuffed him and we brought him back to the road where the van crew had arrived to transport Barry to the Station with two officers. Back under the bush Floyd found a wrap of cannabis but little else and was rewarded with his favourite ball. The steering lock on the Cortina was smashed and the ignition hot-wired, and save for the false numberplates, the car gave up no stolen property, kidnap victims or drugs.

'The Hook' was summonsed, upset at having to attend in the night before Christmas as we all left the scene.

Barry had been positively breathalysed and was shouting the odds in a rather Anglo-Saxon manner intimating that he wouldn't say anything until his brief turned up, and like many regulars, he knew the phone number by heart.

I groaned at the prospect of bandying words with the obnoxious brief who was well known to us all as being rude, angry and very very anti police, stooping at nothing for 'his boys.'

I confess to a certain glee as the phone rang and rang, finally picked up by a sleepy but angry brief.

"What?"

"Good morning, Sir." I had my posh voice on. "We have your client Barry here for drink drive, car theft, dangerous driving, fail to stop for police, no insurance, no driving licence and possession of cannabis. He's asking for you to attend."

An explosion at the other end suggested that perhaps this could wait until the morning, could it not officer?

"Well Sir, he's asking for legal advice. I can always call the duty solicitor if you can't attend."

Barry had made him a fortune in legal aid.

"I'll be there in forty minutes," he growled as the line went dead.

Barry, and we, waited and waited.

Finally, two hours later he arrived, furious.

"What have you lot been doing all night. Some b*****s nicked my Cortina!"

Happy Christmas, for some at least.

Stay safe.

Mike Quincey

Correspondence between Leanne Kittel, Chair of Dorney Playground Management Group and Dorney Parish Council regarding the future of Dorney Playground

Parish Clerk
Dorney Parish Council

To whom it may concern,

I would like to thank Dorney Parish Council for the pleasure of serving the community over the last 12 years, leading a committee of dedicated volunteers in delivering so much more than a community playground. In answering their advertisement for a committee of residents to assist in the delivery of a playground for Dorney, at zero expense to its parishioners or the taxpayer, I have met wonderful people, seen the true meaning of community spirit and felt proud to live in such a fantastic village.

It is now time for me to hand the delivered project back to the Parish Council and to offer my assistance in handing over to a newly appointed committee, as I should point out that with my departure the current committee will also be stepping down. The final date for handover will be 31st March 2022.

I can assure you that the current committee are dedicated to ensuring that the playground is left in a safe condition for the ongoing enjoyment of your parishioners and will in the following 5 months ensure that any outstanding work or projects are complete.

Once again thank you to the Parish Council for the opportunity and I wish you luck in the future with the ongoing safe delivery of the sports and leisure facilities the village is fortunate to have.

With Kindest Regards

Leanne Kittel
leannemkittel@gmail.com
07919484855

Dorney Parish Council

Ms Ruth Senior
Parish Clerk

Email:
clerk@dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk



3 Opendale Road
Burnham
SL1 7LY

18th November 2021

Leanne Kittel, Chair Person, Dorney Playground Management Group (Registered Charity No. 1131683)

Dear Leanne,

Re: Dorney Playground Management Group (Registered Charity No. 1131683)

Dorney Parish Council is in receipt of your email sent to the Parish Clerk on 1st November 2021.

We have carefully researched the setting up of the Dorney Playground Management Group Charity (No. 1131683) and draw your attention to the following:

The advertisement to which you refer ran in the June and July 2008 editions of Dorney Parish News. The contents of which were:

“VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PLAY AREA PLANNING GROUP

A resident has suggested that a PLAY AREA be provided for younger children. The Parish Council has agreed to set up an independent working party to advise the council on what is required, where it should be located, and how it can be funded & maintained.

If you would like to be involved, please contact the Parish Clerk phone: 01753 655331”

The Dorney Parish Council minutes of September 2009 confirmed:

The Council resolved to support the installation of a playground on Trumpers Field, to be managed by “Charity Play4Dorney”. This organisation is fully independent of the Parish Council and is fully responsible for all costs, including maintenance, inspection, insurance and repairs.

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 17th September 2009. Whilst the Parish Council were supportive of the setting up of the project it was agreed by all parties that there would be no direct involvement by the Council at any time apart from the initial assistance in setting up the *“independent working party”*.

Dorney Parish Council discussed your email at our meeting last night and, based on that discussion, the Parish Council made the following points:

- Given the above facts, it is clear that the playground cannot simply be “handed back” to the Parish Council, as we agreed at the time that we were not the best organisation to take it forward and we have never been responsible for it. That position has not changed.
- Dorney Parish Council understands that, according to the Charity Commission, the responsibilities of charity trustees include, amongst other things, getting the resources the charity needs (e.g. trustees and funds), having and following appropriate controls and procedures, managing risks and protecting assets and people.

- It is unclear from your email as to the reason for the resignation of all of the current trustees, but it is very clearly the responsibility of the charity to find new trustees and any necessary funding going forward.
- The Parish Council has always been supportive of the Playground and will continue to be so. It is understood that most charities were seriously impacted by the pandemic, and it was encouraging to see the funding the charity obtained in November 2020 from the Beeches Community Board for repairs to the playground equipment following lack of maintenance and vandalism during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Dorney Parish Council wishes the charity every success in both recruiting new trustees and continuing to secure funding for the future. The playground has been a great success and much appreciated by children (and parents) both from Dorney and those outside of Dorney.

Yours sincerely,
 Ms. Ruth Senior
 Clerk to Dorney Parish Council

Article received from Leanne Kittel 26th November 2021



After thousands of voluntary hours and having raised over £170,000 Dorney has a toddler and junior playground, a multi-use games area and a managed and maintained tennis court that Dorney can be proud of.



For various reasons, it is now time for the current committee to stand down.

The Parish Council has placed full responsibility for the ongoing management of the much-valued asset in your community to ourselves as a committee. As the trustees are no longer able to continue to serve, there are two options available:

1. Identify and recruit new volunteers to take over the running of the playground for the good of the community. The current committee members will support a full and comprehensive handover of responsibilities to the new team.
2. If no volunteers are identified the playground, tennis courts and Multi-Use Games Area will need to be handed back to the Parish Council in its original state (which means demolishing the playground and handing back the land).

**We appeal to the residents of the Parish in making their views known.
 Please email with your views or interest in taking this valuable organisation forward:
leanne@kittel.co.uk**

Past members: Leon Williams, Andrew Purdie, Zoe Brooker, Trudi Harwood, Kelly, Alison Michael, Jo Ellis
 Current members: Leanne Kittel, Emma Stanton, Miranda Scott, Lyndsey Oliver, Jane Dawson, Kris Purdie, Mary Nelson, Adam Seels



DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2021, 7.30 P.M. AT DORNEY SCHOOL

Present

Cllr. Jill Dax (Chair) Cllr. Martyn Westcott-Wreford
Cllr. Euan MacLennan Cllr. Stephen Baker (joined on ZOOM)
Cllr. Robert Stopford (joined on ZOOM) Cllr. Anna Palmer (joined on ZOOM)

Ms Ruth Senior (Parish Clerk) and nine members of the public (including seven via zoom)

Open Forum

Alice Foxley reported a light out on Village Road outside The Gatehouse which will be reported to the streetlight contractor and also asked about the repair/replacement of the street furniture at the Court Lane junction. It was confirmed that this is on Highways Bucks list of jobs to complete and is being regularly chased. There was also mention of another accident at the Court Lane T junction but there has been no official reporting of any accidents since the junction reverted back. David Pugh visited from the Boveney Court Farm development, they are holding an exhibition on Saturday 20th November for residents to view the plan.

PC/59/21 Apologies for absence

County Cllr. Paul Kelly County Cllr. George Sandy

PC/60/21 To confirm the minutes of the Meeting held on 19th October 2021

These were **approved** with no amendments required and signed by the Chairman.
There were no matters arising.

PC/61/21 Co-option of councillor

No candidate has come forward. The available position will continue to be advertised in the Dorney Parish News.

PC/62/21 Items of business carried forward

62.1 The Orchard Herbs Site

Cllr. Stopford updated on the clearance of the site, which is progressing and the hotel plans which are still awaiting a report from Highways Bucks. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will ask for an update on the Certificate of Lawfulness.

62.2 M4 Smart Motorway

Nick Cooper and Jim Stacey joined on ZOOM to update on the M4 project.

The project is expected to be completed in Spring 2022. New technology for speed restrictions is being tested between junctions 8/9 to 12. The Marsh Lane bridge works are being completed this week and Lake End Rd bridge works should go ahead in January with a 7 day closure expected. The Oak Stubbs Lane retaining wall works are in progress with completion by end of Jan 2022 along with the noise reduction fencing.

62.3 The Emergency Plan

An outline of the emergency Plan has been circulated, the team are planning to add plans for vulnerable people in the area. A form for residents to complete if they have any relevant skills or equipment will soon be available on the Dorney Parish Council website. The Chair thanked the team for their hard work on preparing the plan so thoroughly.

PC/63/21 Planning

Current planning applications for Dorney:

Reference: PL/21/3719/FA

Application type: Full Planning Permission

Location: 16 Harcourt Road, Dorney Reach, Buckinghamshire, SL6 0DU,

Proposal: Demolition of existing home and erection of detached dwelling with integral garage and extended vehicular access

Reference: PL/21/4147/FA

Application type: Full Planning Permission

Location: 2 Harcourt Close, Dorney Reach, Buckinghamshire, SL6 0DY

Proposal: Single storey rear and side extensions

Reference: PL/21/4155/KA

Application type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area

Location: The Bungalow, Boveney Court, Boveney Road, Dorney, Buckinghamshire, SL4 6QD,

Proposal: 5 x Fir trees - Fell, 8 x Fir trees to be reduced by 50% (Boveney Conservation Area)

Reference: PL/21/4181/FA

Application type: Full Planning Permission

Location: Little Pippins, Ashford Lane, Dorney, Buckinghamshire, SL4 6QU,

Proposal: First floor side extension, raising of roof with 2 side rooflights, front porch and changes to doors and windows following planning permission PL/21/1176/PAHAS

Reference: PL/21/4318/KA

Application type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area

Location: The Old Place Cottage, Lock Path, Dorney, Buckinghamshire, SL4 6QQ,

Proposal: Ash T1 - Fell, Cherry T2 - Fell, Sycamore - Reduce to previous pruning point, Apple T4 - Fell, Sycamore T5 - Crown rise to 5m from ground level, Sycamore T6 - Reduce to previous pruning point. (Boveney Conservation Area)

PC/64/21 Finance - To agree/ratify expenditure and income to date

The cashbook was circulated prior to the meeting and approved.

The Finance meeting will take place on 18th January 2022 at 6.30pm before the Parish Council meeting.

PC/65/21 To discuss the Dorney Playground Management Group resignation letter from Leanne Kittel

The Chair explained how the playground was originally set up as a Charity and the Parish Council's limited involvement at the time. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will write to Leanne Kittel on behalf of the Parish Council to highlight the due process of the future of the Charity along with the background of the playground and their responsibilities for it.

The Parish Council would like to wish them well in taking the Charity forward.

PC/66/21 To discuss the upgrade of the Slough Treatment Works and the impact on Dorney

Cllr. Jill Dax and Cllr. Robert Stopford are attending a tour of the Slough Treatment Works on 10th December and will update in the January meeting.

PC/67/21 To discuss the Queen's Green Canopy project

Cllr. Palmer updated us on the project to plant seven trees at different locations around the village in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, each tree will be a different variety and they have been fully funded by local companies:

1. Eton Rowing Lake
2. Smits
3. Form Plants
4. Crocus
5. Palmer Arms & Pineapple
6. Dorney Court
7. Maydencroft

The plan is to plant the trees in January.

It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Buckinghamshire for agreement on planting locations.

PC/68/21 To discuss the invitation from Eton College to the drop in sessions for Boveney Court Farm planning

There will be an exhibition in the Lake View Room at Dorney Lake on Saturday 20th November from 10am-1pm to show the proposal for 13 new homes on the Boveney Court Farm site. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will ask that the exhibition is available for public to view online after Saturday.

PC/69/21 To update on the Thames Water on rewilding/tree planting

There is no further update. As soon as the Parish Council has a confirmed date from Rebecca Elliot, we will put the details on the website.

PC/70/21 To discuss the suggestion of a monthly newsletter

It was agreed that Dorney Parish Council will not produce their own newsletter as Dorney already has Dorney Parish News, a fully comprehensive and informative newsletter covering all aspects of the village. **It was agreed** that the Parish Council will continue to provide an update on our news for Dorney Parish News along with the meeting minutes. The Chair thanked Dorney Parish News for their continued support.

PC/71/21 To consider any complaints/comments from residents

There were none to report.

PC/72/21 To review any matters relating to the Groundsman/Maintenance

The Chair confirmed that John Farrell has officially handed in his resignation and will be retiring after 12 years of village maintenance. He has looked after the Parish brilliantly and will be enormously missed. The Parish Council would like to thank both John and his wife Kathy for their hard work.

The Parish Council is now seeking quotes for a replacement and have approached Maydencroft, RJC Landscapes and Clarke's Gardening Services. Should anyone be interested in providing a quote, please contact the Clerk for full information.

It was agreed that in the meantime, a winter clear of leaves and final grass cut of the year will take place as soon as possible.

PC/73/21 Items to consider for discussion at the next meeting on 18th January 2022

Speeding/traffic issues

New/replacement Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

Cattle Grid



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DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL

JOIN YOUR COUNCIL!

Dorney Parish Council is seeking a dedicated and motivated member of the community to join the Council, helping to shape local services and providing a voice for its residents on local and regional issues.

We'd like to hear from those who live or work in or around Dorney who feel they can bring skills and knowledge to support and strengthen the work of the Council.

What's involved?

The role of a councillor is voluntary. Dorney Parish Council has a complement of seven councillors and meets on the third Tuesday evening each month.

Prospective councillors will be expected to play an active role in the Council, participating in meetings, attending events and representing the Council on other bodies.

Am I eligible?

To be a member of the Council you must meet the following criteria:

- be at least 18 years old, **and**
- be a British citizen or an eligible Commonwealth citizen, **and**
- meet **at least one** of the following four qualifications:
 - a) You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector in Dorney from the day of your nomination onwards.
 - b) You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in Dorney during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.
 - c) Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of election has been in Dorney Parish.
 - d) You have lived in Dorney Parish or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination.

Where can I find out more information?

Visit www.dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contact Ruth Senior, Parish Clerk: 07769 704010

Clerk@dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Dorney Village Hall

www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk



Dorney Village Hall will be closed from 3rd January - 22nd January 2022 for redecoration of all rooms.

There will be no daytime events, but Badminton on Tuesday evenings and Dance Lessons on Thursday evenings will continue to run during this period.

Dorney Village Hall has a large main area with stage, a smaller annexed room, and kitchen.

It is served by a large private car park and adjacent there is a tennis court, a multi activity games area (MUGA), playground and a playing field.

It is used by residents for a multitude of activities such as dancing classes, keep fit, yoga, badminton, horticultural and hired out for parties, dances and weddings.

The management committee welcomes non-residents, organisations, clubs, businesses, and societies to hire the halls.

Main hall: 15 x 7.4m, ceiling height 7m

Fixed stage with curtains: 4.5 x 6m

Annexe: 9.8 x 3.5m, ceiling height 2m

Licensed to seat 100 people

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From £13 per hour (minimum of 3 hours) for Dorney Parish Residents

Email: enquiries@dorneyvillagehall.com

Online on www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk

Dorney History Group

The Dorney History Group has no meetings, currently, but it has a wealth of information about Dorney's past on its website: www.dorney-history-group.org.uk, with over 18,000 web visitors each year.

Eton Wick History Group

www.etonwickhistory.co.uk

The Eton Wick History Group has been meeting regularly since 1992. Eton Wick and the surrounding area is rich in history and the village has a heritage dating back to 1217.

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm in Eton Wick Hall, Eton Wick, and everyone is welcome. Refreshments are served, and there is a charge of £2.00 to cover costs.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome.

2021 Programme

8th December	'A Window on Windsor's Medieval Past' with Dr David Lewis
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Further details from: Teresa Stanton teresams35@virginmedia.com

Hedgerley Historical Society

www.hedgerleyhistoricalsociety.org

Hedgerley Historical Society (HHS) was founded in 1976.

All evening meetings begin promptly at 8pm, unless otherwise stated. Arrival from 7.30pm is advised.

December 15th	A History of High Wycombe in 10 objects	Keith Spencer
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2022

January 19 th	London's Great Railway Stations	Oliver Green
February 16 th	History of the National Gardens Scheme	Janice Cross
March 16 th	<u>The Harry Kirby Memorial Lecture</u> The first Blitz – Zeppelin and Gotha raids in WW1	Harvey Watson
April 20 th	Widows of the Ice	Anne Fletcher
May 4 th (Wednesday)	Outing to the Boxford Heritage Centre and Boxford Roman Mosaic talk 10.30am <u>Booking required</u> 2022 School Lane, Boxford RG20 8DX	Joy Appleton Closing date 30 th April



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Dorney Parish News

Published monthly (except January and August)

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The Editors are not responsible for the opinions of correspondents expressed in letters or articles published in this magazine.

Advertising in Dorney Parish News

Dorney Parish News is an A5 newsletter that is circulated monthly (except January and August) to residents and businesses in Dorney Village, Dorney Reach, Boveney and Lake End.

Our current print run is 250. Estimated readership is around 400 people. There are approximately 300 residential properties in Dorney Parish.

Rate Card:

Advertising Rates	Height mm	Width mm	10 issues	1 issue
Full Page	190	130	£90	£12
Half Page	90	130	£50	£7
Third of a page (Horizontal)	60	130	£45	£6
Quarter Page (Horizontal)	45	130	£40	£5

Contact: Peter Bowman, Editor
peter.bowman@talktalk.net
07889 912714

Emergency Contact Details

Dorney Reach (Village Hall) Defibrillator Code

C123X

Fire, Police & Ambulance	Emergency Calls: Incidents in Action	999
Thames Valley Police	Non-urgent calls	101
National Health Service	For urgent medical problems. Need advice	111
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Sewage Problems	Thames Water	0845 9200 800
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Reporting Fly-tipping	www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk	
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