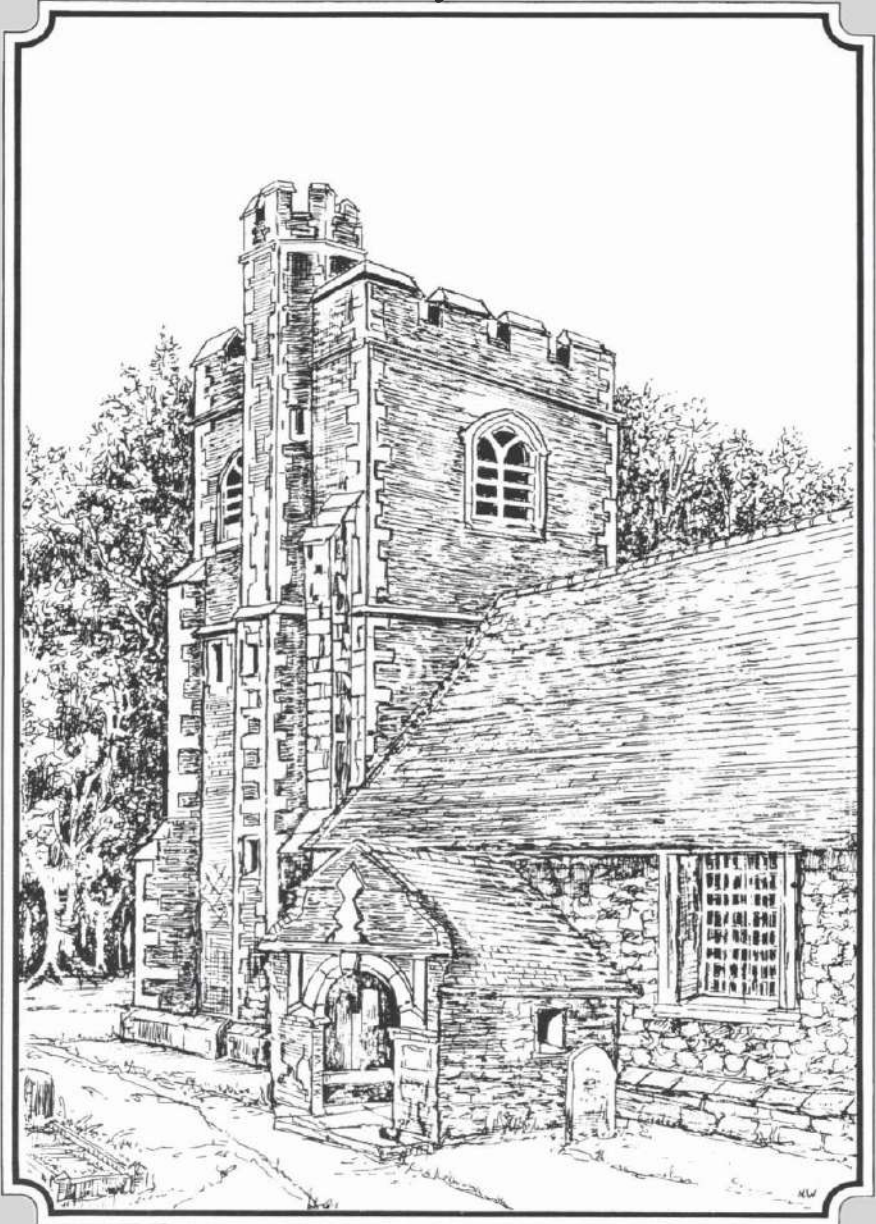


# Dorney Parish News

May 2022





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EDITORIAL

*As Andy Wiltshire is the subject of this month's 'Dorney Folk,' for the May issue the front cover once again features Nancy Wiltshire's long running illustration of St James the Less.*

Over the next month or so two events will take place that will be very significant to our Dorney community – the first Annual Parish Meeting since 2019 and Dorney's own celebrations to mark the Platinum Jubilee.

The APM is scheduled for Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at Dorney School. Everyone in the Parish is invited to attend, and if you represent a local organisation or group, to give an update. If preferred, these can be emailed ahead of the meeting for the Chair to read. In years past these events have been very informative, so to hear the latest from the likes of Dorney Lake, the M4 upgrade or Thames Water, do please attend.

In 1977 and 2012, Dorney celebrated royal jubilees in style. The opportunity to repeat this in 2022 will be the Dorney Parish celebrations at the Palmer Arms from midday on Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Discussion continues to swirl around Thames Water's Rewilding project as this issue demonstrates. It's evident that the community is eager to know details about how the project will proceed and, even more, how residents can participate in the creation of a true asset for the village. We look forward to hearing how the project team, who are both dedicated and expert, are planning three-way co-operation between Thames Water, a charitable organisation and those who live near the rewilding site.

Dorney Lake is now closed to the public for the summer. The *Maidenhead Advertiser* recently published a full report which in itself is pleasing, but the only member of the public quoted was not a Dorney resident but a Maidonian who 'cycles the route along his morning commute'. The mantra so prevalent on social media in these parts, but not in Dorney, was repeated by the paper - that the closure should not happen because the majority suffer due to the misbehaviour of a 'minority'. I rather think the reverse is true – the majority (the hundreds if not thousands in the Lake site on summer evenings in 2019-20) made life unbearable for the minority represented by those who live in Dorney and those who run the Lake. The Bursar of Eton College makes fair points like residents might even be relieved by the closure. This is regrettably true, but most residents probably long for a system to be devised between the College and the village that allows reasonable access to us, the Lake's neighbours.

Last month this magazine summarised Bucks County's communications about how residents of the county could help through them refugees from Ukraine arriving here. We came across a local group who also deserve a mention. *Maidenhead for Ukraine* were found on Nextdoor and we made two trips to their then 'hub' which turned out to be the United Reformed Church in West Street. It was inspiring to come across a queue of donors, an energetic group of helpers and a large room filling up with piles of all sorts of goods and necessities ready to be packed into a 17-year-old minibus part-funded by the Shanley Foundation, which has been ferrying essentials to the Poland-Ukraine border. Their latest activities are regularly updated on Facebook.

# 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](http://www.stjohnstjamesed.org.uk)

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

**Minister:** Rev Margaret Dudley, 01753 867117

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**Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Burnham**

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

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### **Revd. La Stacey writes:**

Are you looking for a way to get fit and to engage your brain? Are you interested in keeping alive skills practiced in Dorney village for centuries? All for no cost? Actually, you even get paid sometimes!! Are you free on a Monday evening? Then look no further! Contact me through the website or on 01753 852268 and I will put you in touch with Janet, our bell-tower captain. We are recruiting bell-ringers – no previous experience necessary.

I grew up in a country village in days before omnipresent screens provided entertainment, and bellringing was something we could do locally without having to cycle 3 ½ miles to the nearest station to catch the train into town. On wedding days, you could ring the bells and then go and join in the choir and earn some much-coveted pocket money – definitely preferable to doing a paper-round. At Christmastime we formed the happy hand-bell team and used to do the rounds of the local hostelries ringing carol-tunes and collecting funds for charity. It may be that the ringing got slightly less accurate as the evening wore on!

You will be hearing plenty of wedding bells ringing out over the coming month or two. Lots of couples choose our pretty church as the venue for exchanging their wedding vows. Is there still a sense that there is something sacred about giving our lives to each other in this way? Someone has defined *love* as a “non-possessive delight in the particularity of the other.” *Non-possessive delight* seems to reflect the sentiment that I observe in many of the wedding couples. ‘Rather than trying to change, manipulate, or devour the object of our affection, fierce love delights in the particularities of who they are’ and rejoices in making space for them and the fact that they are making space for us. If we have ears to hear, and can get beyond our distaste for ‘religion’, then this is precisely what Jesus was showing about the nature of God. His whole mission was to make space for others, for us, to ‘be’ and enable us to do likewise. The opening words of the wedding service say, ‘God is love and

those who live in love live in Him'. Not a bad sentiment to dwell on as we swing into wedding season!

### **Church Services in May 2022**

#### **Sunday 1st May (Feast of St James the Less)**

9.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00 am 'Any Age' Family Service

St James the Less, Dorney

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### **Wednesday 4th May**

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

#### **Sunday 8th May**

9.30 am Holy Communion

11.00 am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

St John the Baptist Eton, Wick

#### **Sunday 15th May**

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Morning Worship

St James the Less, Dorney

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### **Wednesday 18th May**

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

#### **Sunday 22nd May**

9.30am Morning Worship

11.00 am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### **Thursday 26th May (Ascension Day)**

9.30 am Holy Communion on the Tower

St James the Less, Dorney

#### **Sunday 29th May**

9.30 am Holy Communion

11.00 am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

St John the Baptist Eton, Wick



**St Mary Magdalene, Boveney**

**This beautiful church on the Thames is open daily.**

Easter Day Sunrise Service - 0545hrs on Sunday 17th April 2022

St Mary Magdalene Patronal Service - 1600hrs on Friday 22nd July 2022

Christmas Advent Service by Candlelight - 1500hrs on Sunday, 11th December 2022

[www.st-mary-magdalene-boveney.org.uk](http://www.st-mary-magdalene-boveney.org.uk)





**26<sup>th</sup> May**

**9.30am**

**Ascension Day Communion  
On the Tower**





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## Dorney Parish Celebrates the Platinum Jubilee



To mark the Platinum Jubilee, the Dorney Parish celebratory event will be held at the Palmer Arms through lunchtime and the afternoon on Friday June 3. 'Dorney Parish News' has been talking to Chrys Fisher of 'The Palmer's' about his plans and tapping into a few memories of past jubilees in this village.

Past events are remembered fondly as great community occasions. Let's hope that many of us join in, and in the future remember, these 2022 celebrations. You could say that after the last year or two, we do all deserve a jolly good time.

In 2012 a high proportion of the village gathered in the Village Hall for a lunchtime get together on a Sunday. This magazine said at the time it was 'an organisational triumph' and went on to declare that 'it would be great if the real village spirit thus created could be bottled and preserved'. Certainly, this writer remembers meeting lots of new faces and celebrations going on after dark in households around Dorney Reach. Of course, that was a special summer, with the Playground 4 Dorney group taking the lead and the impending arrival of the Olympic Flame in the village much anticipated. Chrys remembers a succession of hog roasts through that summer.

A key memory we have heard was of the large screen TV on the wall of the Village Hall. The royal party looked cold and wet while 'enjoying' the river procession. We were all dry and tightly packed in the Hall.

This week a neighbour asked on Nextdoor if Harcourt Road was planning a street party for this jubilee. Apparently, there was just such an event for the Silver Jubilee in 1977. Times were different then. One resident recalls a stream of locals hurrying from adjacent streets, carefully transporting the cakes they had baked and contributed. This sounds like the traditional 'groaning board' with all produce home produced. Children received jubilee mugs. The Palmer Arms car park was a cross between a fete and a fairground with stalls and games. As is traditional, the then vicar got soaked.

Chrys asks that residents pick up their tickets in advance from the Palmer's. The event will be centred on the pub's garden. Should the weather of 2012 be repeated, Chrys forecasts that all customers will be sheltered. Many customers will be focused on that hog roast for lunch, but Chrys intends that food, music and a 'party vibe' will continue through to the end of the afternoon. This magazine is published a month or so before the event, so keep your eyes open for the announcement of other attractions and entertainments. This is a family event – no doubt children will enjoy the play area at the end of the garden.

All pubs and restaurants, no doubt, will be open and hoping for additional business over that bank holiday. Chrys and Hannah assured us that their main ambition is to produce an event that all the residents of Dorney come to, enjoy and remember. Just like 1977 and 2012.

**Peter Bowman**





## **DORNEY PARISH CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

**FROM MIDDAY ON FRIDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2022 AT  
THE PALMER ARMS, VILLAGE ROAD, DORNEY**

**HOG ROAST, BURGERS AND SAUSAGES,  
VEGETARIAN OPTION, SALADS, ETON MESS**

**LIVE MUSIC THROUGH UNTIL 6 PM**

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THE PALMER ARMS.**

## Spotlight on Dorney Folk – Mo Voaden meets Andy Wiltshire

### When Wolves Roamed the Common...



Andy Wiltshire, aged 60, was born and brought up in Dorney, and now lives in the same house his grandad owned. Andy is married to Lesley, and they have three children, one of whom, Elinor, will be the third generation to marry at St James the Less church this summer.

Andy has been self-employed most of his life, running his own construction and landscaping business. One job he's especially proud of is Dorney School's pond, designed as a wildlife haven with dead logs for beetles and earwigs, and a special area for bumble bees. He hopes it will instil a lifetime's love of conservation in the pupils.

Although his business has taken him all over the UK, it's Dorney he prefers because of the people and his memories. 'I've worked on nearly every house in the area. Building, carrying out repairs, fencing – everything.' When I mentioned he hadn't been to us, he was quick to point out he installed the front fence before we moved in.

His earliest memories of Dorney date back to the 1960s when 'Flower Power' was all the rage and things were a lot cheaper. 'In those days, petrol was the equivalent of 50p a gallon at the White Heather garage.'

He was eight when he began milking the cows at Lake End Farm, which he took to immediately, and remembers the farmer leaving the churns by the road for collection by the dairy.

Every year the cows had to be herded through Dorney to graze on the Common. Andy's job was to cycle ahead and block the driveways to prevent the cows from trampling people's gardens. 'It was a big event, with everyone congregating outside The Palmer Arms to watch.

When the farmers burnt the stubble in the fields, Andy, aged 12, used to ride his bike up and down, encouraging the flames with a petrol-soaked rag. 'It was quite a skill to burn it in strips, and I wasn't paid a penny!'

Local farmers got together for haymaking, and at Christmas, they hitched their trailers to the back of tractors and drove Carol singers around the village. In those days, a fairground came to Dorney every year, setting up rides and stalls in The Palmer Arms car

park. There were country fairs too, opposite the church, which attracted visitors from miles around.

Attitudes to a lot of things have changed since the 60s and 70s, which in many ways is a good thing. 'Take dyslexia,' Andy said. 'My headmaster at Burnham Secondary didn't believe the condition existed, even though I was formally diagnosed by a doctor in Harley Street.' This only served to spur Andy on, making him determined to succeed and to discover books for himself. 'I love reading now, especially sci-fi, so dyslexia isn't a problem, but my spelling can be a bit dodgy!'

The best gift he ever received was a motocross bike. Andy was desperate to race, which he excelled at, winning championships all over the UK, despite his mum's fears for his safety. There was no money to have the bike serviced so he taught himself mechanics; this stood him in good stead for his first job – mending lawn mowers. 'My wife says there's nothing I can't fix.'

Andy isn't a man with regrets, but does have some advice – *measure twice, cut once*. 'I only wish the surgeon who operated on my hip had taken it. I ended up with one leg shorter than the other because he cut off too much, and now I have to compensate with a built-up shoe.' Instead of being bitter, however, he laughed, explaining that his dad was born with one leg shorter than the other, and the family believes Andy is morphing into him.

At this point in our interview I asked my usual quick-fire questions: Do you prefer chocolate or cheese? 'Chocolate – I can't get enough!' Wine, spirits or beer? 'I don't drink anymore.'

Music or silence? 'Depends where I am – I like being in garden listening to birds. In fact, if I could be any animal I'd choose a red kite because I'd be protected, fly wherever I want and be free.'

One of Andy's biggest regrets is the loss of community spirit. In the 1960s and 70s everyone in Dorney knew each other and were encouraged to participate in local events. His parents raised money to build Dorney Village Hall by holding jumble sales and fetes. 'My dad ran the 'smash the crockery' stand, mum sold home-made cakes.'

His mum, Nancy, was a talented artist who sketched the picture of St James the Less, which appeared on the front cover of the Dorney Parish Magazine for many years. She worked as a graphic designer for Executive Press in Burnham, and was in great demand as a portrait painter of children in Dorney. Despite all the claims on her time, Andy remembers her as a great mum.

Alfred, his dad, played football (goalie) for Slough Town for a number of years and ran the Cub Scout Pack in Dorney.

Alfred's favourite game was to set a trail through the local area, using sticks, leaves and stones, for the cubs to follow. 'On one occasion,' Andy explained, 'A boy became separated from the others beside the church. Hearing what he thought was a dog's whipe,

he went to investigate, found a huge cage, and stuck his hand through the bars to pet it. An animal leapt forward and nipped his finger.

It was a wolf, kept by Roger Palmer at Dorney Court.

I found out that Roger and his wife kept wolves during the 1970s in Dorney, usually two or three at a time. They were passionate animal lovers and founded the UK Wolves Conservation Trust. It has been said that the Dorney wolves rivalled the church bells with their howling.

'There were monkeys too,' Andy added, 'that used to chase the children down the road.'

There was a day, not long after that, when phones rang all over Dorney and everyone was ordered to stay indoors, windows locked, doors bolted. 'It was a real lockdown,' Andy said. 'A dangerous animal was roaming the Common.'

All the villagers were accounted for, except Alfred and their family dog. Nancy, imagining the worst, was frantic, but after a couple of hours, Alfred returned with the dog, safe and oblivious to the panic. 'We were playing,' he explained, 'with a huge dog on the Common. A shaggy beast.'

It was one of Roger's wolves, of course. Out for a jaunt.



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## SCENE FROM ABOVE

A funny thing happened recently. Two young men who live up the road called round to say that their drone had gone AWOL and their control unit indicated it was in our garden. And there it was, marked by a little red light twinkling high up in a tree. The errant drone was retrieved with the aid of a long pole and departed for new adventures.

These days, drones are commonly used to achieve a bird's eye view of the world around us. Drone photography is a key element of films and documentaries. But aerial photography has actually been around for a long time. The first such images were captured by a French photographer from a balloon as early as 1858. Photographing the land from planes became widespread in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Increasingly, old aerial photographs are being made available online, and these allow us to view Dorney as it was in the middle of the last century, before the arrival of the motorway, the Jubilee River and Dorney Lake.

The website [historicengland.org.uk](http://historicengland.org.uk) hosts a growing collection of images which can be accessed using their Aerial Photo Explorer. Zoom in to Dorney on the map and you will find various symbols covering our local area. The rectangular shapes are a series of photos taken by the RAF in 1945. A sequence of three images shows Dorney village and Dorney Reach, north being at the bottom. Clearly visible is the anti-aircraft battery on the edge of the common beside Eton Wick.



We can see the village before the post-war infilling, when Southfield Close was still a field. In Dorney Reach, there were few houses on the north side of Harcourt Road or in Meadow Way; there was no school and no Harcourt Close. A separate photo (north at the top this time!) shows the northern part of Dorney Reach. Pre-motorway, several houses were grouped where Marsh Lane (now Old Marsh Lane and Oak Stubbs Lane) intersected with Meadow Way. Several of these houses lay in the route of the new road and were demolished when it was built, the remainder divided on each side of the

motorway. The foundations for the bridge over the river can be clearly seen, as construction had started before the war.

The purple stars on the map lead to additional sets of photos. Some taken in 1949 show in greater detail the houses in Dorney Reach which were due to disappear under the motorway. Another set of shots picture the flooding close to the river in the winter of 1947, in Dorney Reach and Boveney. These floods resulted from snow thawing onto frozen ground. There is even one earlier image of flooding in Dorney in January 1936. The 1936 floods were caused by prolonged heavy rain and the Thames rose 4 feet 6 inches above normal at Windsor bridge, inundating much of the area between Maidenhead and Runnymede. The council provided a temporary footbridge for pedestrians between Eton Wick to Dorney, which would otherwise have been cut off. The newspapers published



aerial photographs of the flooding, around Windsor Castle, on the racecourse and in Marlow. We have a lot to be grateful for to the Jubilee River!

Finally, the red dots on the map are linked to more recent photos, taken in part to show crop marks used to reveal archaeological remains. One of these images is of the field

where the rewilding project is underway. Earlier aerial photographs for Bucks Historic Environment Records had already shown indications of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure in the field, and fieldwalking revealed large quantities of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork, evidence of people in Dorney between 10,000 BC and 701 BC. The photographs also showed what were thought to be late prehistoric to Roman field systems in the field. Most of the aerial photos taken for Bucks Historic Environment Records are not available online, but their website, <https://heritageportal.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/map>, does include a base layer of aerial photography, of recent date.

Many of the photographs on the Historic England website can also be seen on [www.britainfromabove.org.uk](http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk) but this also includes a series of photos taken in 1936, probably in connection with the planned motorway route. One of these, EPW052025, shows Dorney Reach in its entirety, viewed from the Bray side of the Thames.

These old images are fascinating to look at and to compare with the satellite view on Google Maps of Dorney as it is today. You may be able to spot your house in the photos, or the place where it was later built. For those of us who don't have a drone, chances to look at our world from above are rare – a glimpse from a flight returning to Heathrow, perhaps. And in 2015, I remember, we had the rare privilege of being able to look down from the top of Dorney church tower. The view was fairly limited but nonetheless offered a different perspective – just like aerial photography.

**Virginia Silvester**

# Dorney Annual Parish Meeting

All members of the public are welcome to attend

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**The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at  
Dorney School on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 8.00pm**

This meeting is an opportunity for all residents of the parish to express their opinions or concerns regarding issues relevant to the parish.

**Please note** that this is not a Parish Council Meeting, but it is chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council in accordance with legal requirements. Councillors attend this meeting as members of the public. More details on the meeting are on:

[www.dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk/annual-parish-meeting/](http://www.dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk/annual-parish-meeting/)

**The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and its usual monthly meeting will take place prior to the Annual Parish Meeting.**

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## 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.



## Introducing Dorney's newest Parish Councillor



I live on the Common in Dorney with my wife Mo. We thoroughly enjoy living here with our dog Tara, and two Maine Coon cats. I am a keen cyclist and have cycled all over the world.

I started my working life as a Land Agent for English China Clays in the West Country, dealing with their agricultural estate and town and country planning matters, including appearing as an expert witness on various property matters. I was then transferred to the mineral side of the business, valuing assets and companies worldwide.

I moved to London, becoming an equity partner in a property firm, and acquired a City mineral finance business which I ran for ten years before semi-retiring.

Moving to Dorney in 2016 re-ignited my passion for building conservation to the extent that in 2019 I enrolled on a building conservation course at York University and was awarded my MSc in 2021.

I hope my previous experience will assist me in my new role as a Dorney Parish Councillor.

**William Voaden**

\*\*\*\*\*

## A Manager for Dorney Village Hall

Dorney Village Hall have appointed a part-time Manager.

The reasons for this appointment at this time are, firstly, that Bill Dax has stood down as the Bookings Person and, secondly, with the increasing demands required to manage the Hall successfully, Dorney Village Hall, like many other Village Halls, feels that the best way the Hall can be managed going forward is to appoint a paid professional rather than relying on volunteers.

Ruth Senior (the Dorney Parish Clerk) has agreed to take on this part-time role effective 1st April 2022. Ruth is also the Parish Clerk to Taplow Parish Council and manages Taplow Village Hall, so she has experience of successfully managing a Village Hall. The email address Ruth will be using is [bookings.dorneyvh@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.dorneyvh@gmail.com).

Ruth will be responsible for all day-to-day issues relating to managing the Hall - including bookings, cleaning, identifying maintenance problems and building additional revenues for the Hall.

Ruth should be contacted on any matters regarding the Hall. Bill would like to thank all hirers both for their business and cooperation over the past few years.

Bill will remain a trustee of Dorney Village Hall and will provide both Ruth and the trustees with whatever assistance he can in future.



## Greening up Dorney – and reducing our electricity bills!

Recent comments about the Thames Water field between Dorney Reach and Dorney Lake being considered for a solar farm rekindled interest in possible ways for Dorney households to get help in reducing energy bills.

The field is around 50 acres. According to the National Farmers Union, typically, developers and installers require about 2 hectares of land (5 acres) per megawatt of power, with most solar farms ranging from 0.5 MW to 15 MW in scale. Just fifteen acres (30%) would result in a solar farm on this field generating 3 MW of electricity.

This would be able to provide Dorney's properties plus quite a few more. And those properties near the solar farm might benefit from significantly lower electricity bills! Planning permission on green belt land could be an interesting challenge though.

There are more secluded spots around Dorney where solar farms could be situated. There are around 90 acres between the rowing course at Dorney Lake and the Thames and around 20 acres between the Jubilee River and the M4, north of Lot's Hole and to the west of Lake End Common, for starters.

Such land is owned either by Dorney Court Estate or Eton College. Should a discussion commence?

However, in the short term, solar power for every home is where it is most likely that Dorney residents can address high electricity bills. The numbers are moving rapidly towards the point where generating and storing one's own electricity is cheaper, over a few years, than buying it from the existing energy companies. It may not always be aesthetically appealing – but it can contribute to lowering electricity bills.

**Hydropower.** There are a number of locks on the Thames whose weirs have been fitted with substantial Archimedes screws to generate electricity – Romney, Osney, Sandford and Caversham.

Romney, the nearest to Dorney, was designed to provide Windsor Castle's energy



requirements with any surplus going to the National Grid. The scheme consists of two 4 metre diameter Archimedes screw type turbines, occupying two bays in the Romney Weir. It generates around 1.4 million kilowatt hours (units) of electricity a year, enough to meet the needs of around 300 households.

Osney Lock Hydro was set up by a group of local residents to enable the development of a community-owned hydro scheme in the heart of Oxford. It

was the first community hydro scheme on the Thames.

Sandford Hydro is a hydroelectric power plant near the village of Sandford, just south of Oxford. In 2016 Low Carbon Hub opened a community energy share offer and raised the funds to build Sandford Hydro. The hydro uses three Archimedes screws (similar to the ones in operation at Romney and Sandford Lock Hydro) to generate electricity from the flow of the river water.

A number of other similar plans at Boulter's Lock, Abingdon and Marlow locks were in planning but, in 2015, when the government changed the incentives for these schemes they were all put on hold. Given the recent increases in electricity tariffs and the fact that these schemes can produce electricity at under 5p per kWh, community interest may be revived.

Given Dorney's distance from Bray Lock or Boveney Lock it is difficult to see a similar scheme at these locks benefiting our community, unfortunately. The Jubilee River is closer, but the average current flow is unlikely to be sufficient to produce sufficient energy to be profitable. However, the current could be increased, if required!

How might community electricity generation projects for Dorney residents come to fruition?

Fortunately, there are national and regional community energy groups that are starting to make a local impact in this area.

Nationally, Community Energy England ([www.communityenergyengland.org](http://www.communityenergyengland.org)) was founded in 2014 by practitioners within the community energy sector to act as the voice of the sector and help put people at the heart of the energy system.



Regionally, we have Bucks Community Energy ([www.buckscommunityenergy.org](http://www.buckscommunityenergy.org)) whose purpose is helping the county of

Buckinghamshire to become carbon neutral by partnering with businesses and community organisations to establish renewable energy generation and other low carbon technologies wherever possible.



Not very far away, in Oxfordshire, we have a very well

developed and resourced community energy organisation – Low Carbon Hub

([www.lowcarbonhub.org](http://www.lowcarbonhub.org)) – who are considered one of the leading groups helping communities to reduce their carbon emissions.



The disruptive force in this market is undoubtedly here now, with energy bills going up and a further significant rise coming in October.

## Kermit

*"It's beautiful, and I think it's what I want to be" – Bein' Green song*



Come and join us to celebrate the

## Queens Platinum Jubilee

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 11am to 4pm

In the Walled Garden we have performances by

Borderline Morris Dancers at 12pm and 2pm

Maidenhead Concert Band at 1pm and 2.45pm

Children's Activities throughout the day





Two views from local residents regarding the Thames Water field:

### **Thames Water's Rewilding**

As Spring creeps across the country, buds and blossom competing for attention with daffodils and the smells of fresh mown grass, we are reminded of how fortunate we are to live in a still-green and leafy corner of South Bucks. Hemmed in by the M4 and the apocalyptic Orchard Herbs and overflowed by roaring jets, our immediate surroundings provide inspiration, respite and protection. From the gnarled chestnuts of Court Lane to the wide expanse of the Common, the great arboretum at the Lake and the willowy banks of the Thames and Jubilee and still closer at hand innumerable pretty gardens, Dorney has a rich and varied natural tapestry.

Thames Water now promise to elevate our surroundings by transforming the sixteen hectares of land that form the hinge linking Dorney and Dorney Reach at the heart of our community. The plans, spelled out in April's Parish Mag speak of re-wilding and carefully curated environmental planning all sensitive to the locality. The alternative, hinted at in the same article conjures visions of a solar park or worse - concrete and urban development. As the anonymous "local landowner" mentioned in the article, I am an unapologetic and enthusiastic champion of this project which I have no doubt will prove a great boon to the village.

Already a well-loved and well-kept secret, this land will now have a secure future as a fantastic habitat and serve as an asset not just to local wildlife but local residents. I hope the community will embrace the re-wilding project and enjoy all that it offers.

**James Palmer**

### **Dorney Rewilding - Who benefits? Wildlife or People?**

As I'm sure local residents are aware, or some maybe aren't, Thames Water are undertaking a rewilding project in the field that runs along the back gardens of the houses situated in Marsh Lane and Harcourt Road. Although to many this sounds like a positive move, consequently a number of issues have been created. Thames Water put together an article in April's issue of Dorney Parish News to try and address questions and concerns that many residents have. However I feel it necessary to address aspects of the rewilding project that have been left undiscussed.

Local residents who respectfully use the field for recreational purposes, such as to enjoy a leisurely walk to unwind from a busy day, are most likely aware of the wide variety of wildlife that thrives in the field, with many taking pleasure in looking out for these unique animals that call that field home. One particular hidden gem of the field is the herd of deer that wonder through the grass. It is a beautiful sight to see them bounding around through the

long grass that was there for them to shelter, munch upon and hide amongst, but has since very sadly been cut down, exposing them, which in turn has pushed them to seek out a new place to call home. This has been caused by the removal of shrubbery and a number of well-established trees, that have simply been replaced by new trees, and consequently many have run in the direction of Marsh Lane and have tragically been killed by vehicles traveling at speed. This unfortunately will only become a more regular occurrence due to the continued interference.

The deer are not the only hidden gem within this field. There are hundreds of other animals that live there, including the unique wasp spider, skylarks and many other rare beetles. All of these live close to the ground, creating their various webs and nests. The wasp spiders in particular were clustered in one area of the field, and it is the area in which the vast amount of metal fencing has been erected in preparation for the borehole, combined with an extensive amount of vegetation being cleared and flattened. Although it was excellent to see that Thames Water took note of when the bird nesting season had completed, the Skylarks who are known for nesting on the ground have been side-lined. They nest in various areas of the field, predominantly in the middle, where they can be seen performing their daily routine of flying to a great height, and then dropping, but they too have been disturbed by the creation of new paths through the middle area of the field. All the other wildlife has been forgotten about.

There has been much discussion surrounding a 'hands off' approach, and this would benefit everyone involved. Thames Water have acknowledged that the lack of active management has had a strong positive impact on the field and the wildlife together, and therefore I find myself asking the question of why anything needs to be done to the field. In fact, one might say that we have our very own natural managers- the wildlife themselves! The deer enjoy having a munch on the wide variety of plants, along with the birds, spiders, beetles, rabbits and foxes!

Despite Thames Water trying to explain to residents that the idea of rewilding is a good one, residents still have many concerns, and the severe lack of communication has created a negative impact, with many residents still left without answers. The idea of Dorney having its very own nature reserve sounds wonderful, but the field was being managed perfectly fine without human interference. Everyone who lives locally wishes to see the field become a brilliant area for wildlife to thrive, and a place of tranquility for local residents to enjoy and remain at the heart of the community.

**Lucy Fegan-Earl**



## News from Dorney School

It fills me with joy to open our school doors to visitors again! Several events have been held where we welcome current and potential parents into the corridors and classrooms of our wonderful school. For the first time in nearly three years, current parents were able to walk around school and visit their child's classroom, looking at displays and work. Many parents exclaimed their enthusiasm as they were not able to visit the school when their child started in Reception two years ago. This must have been hard as they had to entrust their child into the hands of new teachers in a strange, new setting. This open event was truly successful and set a wonderful foundation for virtual parents evening the week after where pupil progress and pupil happiness were discussed. There have been some benefits to lockdown and the use of a virtual platform is one of them. Parents, staff, and pupils need no longer wait in long queues in the school hall for parents' meetings. At the click of a button, or the touch of a screen, parents and teachers can log on from anywhere to discuss a common vested interest – their child. This is something we at school truly believe in; that we work together with parents and the community to ensure the best outcomes for all children. It still stands at Dorney School that 'It takes a village to raise a child'. I am always interested in making links with local organisations in which a working partnership will positively impact our learners and education. Do reach out if you believe you are able to support our school, or if our school may support you or your organisation.



If you wish to visit our school, do email [office@dorneyschool.co.uk](mailto:office@dorneyschool.co.uk) and we will arrange for our wonderful school ambassadors to show you around. These pupils are proud of the school they love, the community they serve, and the learning the teachers provide. Feedback from recent visitors talk about the pupils' manners, knowledge, enthusiasm and above all, how these ambassadors reflect the values that visitors see for themselves as they walk into busy classrooms and bright corridors. They represent every child we serve as they talk about our important values of acceptance, equality, and justice. Come and see for yourself!

As I write this, we have learnt all about the holy month of Ramadan and about Holy Week. We had Muslim children, and their parents talk about the significance of abstaining from food and drink between the hours of sunrise and sunset for a whole month. Our Religious Education subject leader, Mrs Ross Wood, organised a Holy Trail around school as all pupils participated in the re-enactment of the Easter story. Reverend La led a physical<sub>24</sub>

assembly on the significance of Easter celebrations which added further relevance to learning. By the time this article is published, we would have also celebrated Eid, Earth Day and commemorated the life and legacy of Stephen Lawrence. We also look forward to the visit by double refugee Dr Aayesha Hussain, who arrived in our country aged 6 and now works at the forefront of the fight against infectious disease in the NHS. On top of a very busy timetable, we are also preparing to learn more about disability and neuro diversity during our 'Inclusion Week' with keynote speaker Ellise Hollie Hayward, a 21-year-old motivational speaker with cerebral palsy.



Ramadan 2022



Easter 2022

If this isn't enough, our Year 6 pupils have been on their residential trip to Woodrow House – the first in 3 years. Honestly, they were amazing and had the time of their young lives and honestly, the staff that accompanied them were amazing in ensuring our children had the best time whilst remaining safe and secure. What never fails to amaze me is how trips such as these somehow change our young pupils into young adults. They somehow return to school wiser, more patient and resilient, mature, and readier for their next journey in life. Not long now before we prepare them for their transition into secondary school but to be honest, we started preparing them for life the minute they stepped into the Reception classroom. I am privileged and humbled to hold them in my vision for a little while, before they make their mark in our wonderful world.

**Mrs S Lee**  
**Headteacher**



# DORNEY SCHOOL



*Respect • Collaborate • Grow*

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

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

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

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

*"I love that it is culturally diverse and that everybody is so friendly. It feels like a really positive place to drop off your children every day"*  
*~ Parent*

Visit our website at [www.dorneyschool.co.uk](http://www.dorneyschool.co.uk) and telephone in to book your school visit

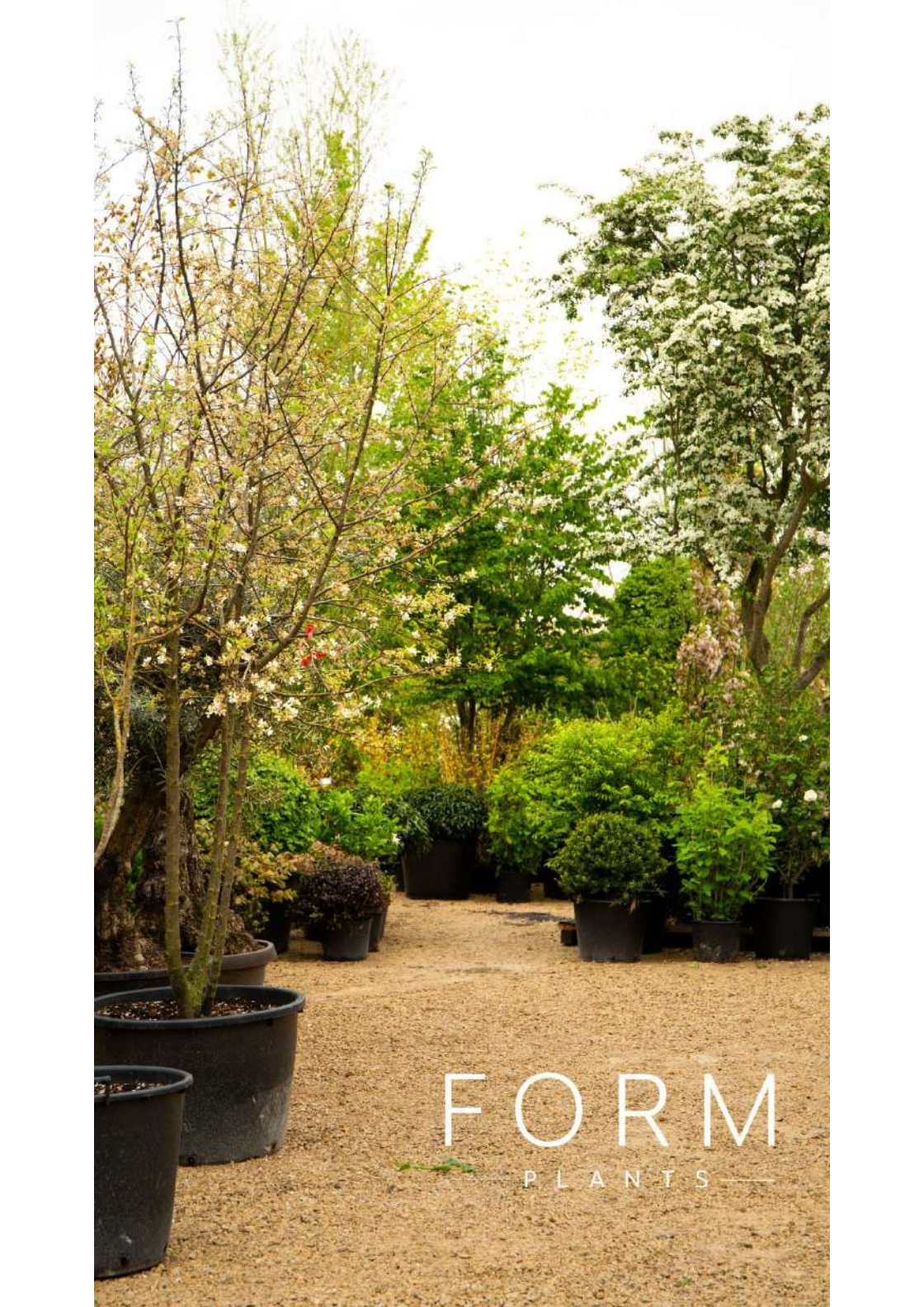


**01628620871**

[office@dorneyschool.co.uk](mailto:office@dorneyschool.co.uk)







FORM  
PLANTS —

## Easter Across the Parish

*The Revd La Stacey told 'Dorney Parish News' about a busy time in her Parish....*



On Good Friday, The Cross is walked through from Eton to Dorney. A stop for hot cross buns is made in Eton Wick and the Easter Garden is planted, and The Cross also stopped at the RCCG Praise Embassy. At each venue part of the account of the events leading up to the Crucifixion is read and a hymn or two are sung.



It is left on a quiet note - nothing happens on Saturday - the quiet of waiting - and then very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, before the sun has quite risen, we light the bonfire at St Mary Magdalene's, Boveney. The new Easter candle is lit at the bonfire and brought into the church, and the light is spread around the congregation who each have their own hand-held candle.





Part way through the service we go down to the river and renew our baptismal vows (water is just sprinkled on folks - we don't go into the water - not a good idea methinks!), then we celebrate communion back in the church and then we have bacon butties and tea afterwards.

The Easter candle is brought into the churches of Dorney and Eton Wick for the Easter services. This year we were particularly honoured to have the Area Dean, Janet Binns, to take the service at Boveney and the Bishop of Buckingham to take the two services at Dorney and Eton Wick. Good job too, because the vicar had gone down with Covid!



Please feed our swans! Wendy from Swan Support ([www.swansupport.org.uk](http://www.swansupport.org.uk)) has been spreading the word that it's OK to feed bread to our swans.... and lots of other food too.

Our swan numbers are down as sadly some have flown elsewhere and permanently moved, searching for food.

**Swans, ducks and geese need a variety of foods to keep them fit and healthy.**



- Bread
- Wheat
- Leafy Greens
- Dried Grass
- Grains and Cereals
- Swan food or pellets

**Swan Feeding Tips**

- Feed small amounts at a time, making sure all food has been eaten before giving more.
- Always feed on water.
- Never feed them anything that has gone mouldy.
- Please remember to feed responsibly and follow any guidelines in your area

# JOY MORRISSEY MP

*Standing up for the Beaconsfield Constituency*



## Why Access to Cash matters for our High Streets



The Covid-19 pandemic was a difficult period for a great many small businesses, not least those populating our high streets. There were many that contacted me over the last two years to ask for help to stay open, or even to stay in business at all. I have always endeavoured to help where I can and to feed up to the Treasury ideas and suggestions coming from businesses in my constituency.

Now that we are emerging from the pandemic, pressures and priorities are changing and the challenges for many high streets are not what they were 6 months ago. Footfall has drastically increased as we have escaped lockdown restrictions and there are once again more customers for our local high street businesses.

However, I have been noticing more and more difficulties for customers and communities alike to get access to cash. I was dismayed to find that a great many bank branches across my constituency, but particularly in Beaconsfield and Marlow, have been scheduled to close this year. This presents a real problem as many high street businesses are reliant on cash transactions to survive.

When these branch closures were announced, I arranged crisis talks with the banks to make sure they had good reason to be closing, and that they had made proper arrangements for customers to be informed and have access to core banking services. I have secured assurances from them that they will individually contact the customers who use their banks regularly and facilitate alternative access to the services they currently use. For some this will be support to move to online or telephone banking and for others it will be alternative providers such as the Post Office.

I am continuing to push this issue in Westminster as often as I can. I have written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to urge him to speed up the commitment made by the Government to legislate on securing access to cash. Some steps have already been taken in the Financial Services Act 2021, which was certainly a step in the right direction, ensuring access to cashback without a purchase. Just this morning I attended an event in Parliament looking at how we safeguard access to cash. For many constituents, and for High Streets everywhere, it is essential.

## Joy Morrissey MP

Member of Parliament for Beaconsfield

Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Prime Minister

House of Commons | London | SW1A 0AA | 020 7219 8708

Disraeli House | 12 Aylesbury End | Beaconsfield | Buckinghamshire | HP9 1LW | 01494 977505

[www.joymorrissey.uk](http://www.joymorrissey.uk) | [@JoyMorrissey](https://twitter.com/JoyMorrissey) | [fb.com/joy4beaconsfield](https://facebook.com/joy4beaconsfield)



## **THAT FRIDAY FEELING**

### **Bin Collection Days to Change in Dorney**

According to a letter from Bucks Council, which we assume has reached everyone in Dorney, from week commencing May 9<sup>th</sup> our bin collection day is changing from Monday to Friday. 'Most residents' it says are likely to have the change.

By the time this issue reaches our subscribers, the last of the 'old' collections will have passed. The last General Rubbish collection will be on Tuesday (delayed by the Monday bank holiday) May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The next such 'new' collection will be on Friday May 13<sup>th</sup>. We just hope you didn't miss it, but there will have been a special mixed recycling ('blue bin'), paper and cardboard plus garden waste collection on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The next recycling collection will not be until Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Food waste collection remains weekly and, as now, if you have garden waste removed, it will be on the recycling Fridays.

The letter is all very reassuring. These new rounds have been 'optimised to increase efficiency, provide value for money and help future proof the service' without explaining in any way how. These are all part of the innovations introduced by new waste contractor Veolia. Other such innovations so far have been to mastermind the disappearance into their carts of a number of green bins, as DPN reported last year, and to force customers to push near empty blue bins to the curb side while struggling with small but filled to the brim cardboard and paper boxes, a policy that seems unaware of what is generated by shopping on Amazon and the rest.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Burnham Health Centre Update**

Many readers have expressed concern about the problems of Burnham Health Centre. In simple terms, these are the apparent unavailability of appointments and perhaps even worse, the extreme difficulty of contacting the Centre by phone, the only contact option available. The Practice Manager wrote to Joy Morrissey MP who passed the communication to Burnham Parish Council, who posted it on the Burnham Residents Facebook pages. There is no guarantee of improvement, but at least people of influence are taking a critical look at the running of the Centre.

There has been staff turnover during Covid – of three physician associates employed, two have moved on. Another has just joined, and more are being sought. The employment of a paramedic and two additional pharmacists has eased the staff situation. By the summer four new 'salaried doctors' will be part of the team.

They have been 'looking into upgrading the telephone system at the surgery' but have encountered 'a number of problems which have resulted in delays'. A new system should be installed in May 2022. They have been trialling a new dedicated phone line for non-emergency appointments, but their system has been unable to cope with the volume of calls. This trial will re-commence if a new system is installed.

The Practice hopes all the familiar problems will be solved soon and undertake to consult with our MP if improvements do not occur by the end of May.

## Every Cloud

Dear Reader, you may recall that last month, Mr. Covid and his chums finally caught up with me and clipped my wings somewhat for a few weeks, but as with most good stories, it had a happy ending.

I don't write good stories; if I did, my Bentley would be parked next to John Grisham's in Santa Monica where in reality, my Mondeo sits next to my bungalow outside Dorney, and to prove the long-winded point, the happy ending was, so to speak, premature.

"Honey," my lovely partner muttered sleepily as dawn brightened the bedroom curtains, "I think I have a cold. Listen!"

She sniffed theatrically, demonstrating the restrictions both real and metaphorical imposed by her new companion.

Having just bravely suffered the severe rigours of a world-wide pandemic, a mere cold was unlikely to impress such an observer, and I haughtily muttered something about her being all right soon and offering to dip into the generous pile of Lemsip I had accumulated during my agonies.

"Dad, I wonder if you could help me collect one fence panel? They want thirty quid to deliver it," my youngest asked (he's in his forties with a lovely family of his own, but still 'my youngest'), and any excuse to natter, see the kids or scrounge a cuppa is always grabbed with enthusiasm.

Next day I picked him up in the Mondeo, garden trailer in tow, (you're never short of friends with a garden trailer!).

He dropped into the passenger seat. "I feel rough," he sighed.

He works very hard and has three under six years old, and as we drove to the timber merchants, I expounded the theory, as fathers do.

Panel collected and delivered, tea consumed over the lovely chat, I bade a sad farewell and returned smiling to the household chores.

All was well for three days until a text announced, "Sorry Dad, tested positive," a phrase likely to engender gloom and worry as, "your cheque's bounced," had done in the past.

As certain as the next tide, three days later my old symptoms returned at 3.00am and the only difference a month had made was that I was now familiar with the location of Lemsip, paracetamol, cough linctus and tissues. Fred was there too, and the cat gave me a "You again!" look as I shared her darkened settee once more.

Again, I sat miserably at the kitchen table watching the dawn come up with that rod up my nose and waited while the test did its thing and announced.....NEGATIVE!

And again, in the evening and the following morning, the results were the same. It seemed my partner's unwanted companion had beaten Mr. Covid in a photo finish; but the effect on me was the same and I suffered while she bounced through it. Well, I am a man, and it's well known that we suffer more than the ladies, our pain threshold being much much lower. My son recovered too, but then he's a bit younger.

Once more, I cancelled what had been a busy upcoming week as I had before, but this time the nice lady who took my sick report had been replaced by some bored individual who'd had a dull night duty in the call centre, a situation not improved by me.

"It's only a heavy cold," I thought in my stuffed head while guiltily overstaying my warm bed. "I'll have a 'phone consultation with my doctor, swallow a few antibiotics, and 'hey presto!' all better."

Ring ring. Ring ring. Click "Welcome to the Medical Centre, Due to Covid, if you are suffering a life-threatening malady, please dial 999 now. If not, why are you bothering us? ..... Still here? Then wait..... Due to high call volumes, the call queue is now full. Call back later. Your call will now be termina'ed.....Beeeeeeep" and with that the East Enders extra earning pin money 'termina'ed'.

I speed dialled three more times and got termina'ed each time.

(In order that I and the editor hang onto our houses, I have to point out that the anonymous Medical Centre greeting is NOT verbatim, but a figment of my imagination. Any similarity to any person or organisation living or dead is purely co -incidental.)

No help there then and I listened with increasing gloom to breakfast radio with a diet of disaster at home and abroad, waiting for pills to work.

I contemplated my future as we all do at a certain stage in our lives, where perhaps, there are more years behind us than in front. Man flu does that!

My contemplations increasingly brought..... a broad smile which I couldn't stop turning into a huge deliriously happy grin as bright sunlight beamed through the receding cloud as I recalled that a day before this had all kicked off my partner and I were pottering in the kitchen clearing up breakfast.

"There's something on your mind," she said, clutching an empty baked bean can on way to the recycle bin. We know how to live in Dorney outskirts.

"I'm fine!" I replied off handedly from the sink, hoping that the enquiry would ricochet away. It didn't.

"We've been together nearly four years now. I know you well. There's something on your mind. Please tell me what it is." It wasn't a plea, or a request, more a gentle command.

"Put the can down please," I asked as we began to hug.

"Will you marry me?"

"Yes," she breathed gently into my neck. The hug tightened.

Every cloud.

Stay safe.

**Mike Quincey**



# DORNEY

## PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022, 7.30 P.M. AT DORNEY SCHOOL

#### **Present**

Cllr. Jill Dax (Chair)                      Cllr. Anna Palmer                      Cllr. Martyn Westcott-Wreford  
Cllr. Robert Stopford                      Cllr. Stephen Baker                      Cllr. William Voaden  
Ms Ruth Senior (Parish Clerk) and 7 members of the public

#### **Open Forum**

Lyndsey Oliver from Playground Management Group reported that they now have two new Trustees for the Group and Dorney School have sent out information to parents asking for volunteers. The Parish Council confirmed that once the accounts have been examined and any questions they have answered, they will put forward a representative. Anyone else interested in stepping forward, should contact the Playground Management Group directly.

Residents requested an update on the Thames Water field re-wilding project. The Parish Council confirmed that the latest update on information was published in the April Dorney Parish News, there is no further news. **It was agreed** the Clerk will contact Thames Water with the details of Charities in Dorney.

#### **PC/42/22 Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr. Euan MacLennan.

#### **PC/43/22 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March and matters arising**

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

#### **PC/44/22 Items of business carried forward**

##### **44.1 The Orchard Herbs Site**

Cllr. Stopford reported that Mitchel Pugh, Enforcement Officer is aware of the new concrete mixing business on the site and he does not believe it is lawful in line with the inspector's comments, he will be seeking to remedy the issue at the earliest opportunity. Cllr. Stopford attended the Burnham Parish Council Planning meeting, they will be submitting their own objections on the site. There is currently no update on the Enforcement Notice or hotel plan.

##### **44.2 M4 Smart Motorway**

Nick Cooper and Jim Stacy from the project were unable to attend this month but sent an update. The project is still on track for completion by the end of Spring 2022.

It was confirmed that there will be a 2 week closure of Lake End bridge from 9<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May (not including the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>).

**It was agreed** the Clerk will contact M4 Smart Motorway to question; the work still to be done on the sound barriers as there are gaps at Marsh Lane and Jubilee River, during the weekend of road closure will be it be single lane or both open, a bump/lip in the road surface which has appeared on the Marsh Lane bridge.

### **44.3 The Emergency Plan**

The Chair confirmed that there is now a draft Emergency Plan and thanked the team for putting this together. It was agreed the Clerk will circulate the draft plan on receipt from Cllr. Palmer for discussion at the May meeting.

### **PC/45/22 Planning**

Cllr. Stopford and Cllr. Baker updated on planning applications; 17 Harcourt Road has been refused, the Parish Council have submitted an objection to the Harcourt Close plan however there are currently no objections to this plan from residents. There are no objections for any other Dorney applications.

**It was agreed** the Clerk will contact the Burnham Parish Council Clerk and Taplow Parish Council to agree a meeting for working together on any future large plans which will affect the area.

### **PC/46/22 Finance - To agree/ratify expenditure and income to date**

The cashbook was circulated prior to the meeting and approved.

### **PC/47/22 To update on Slough Treatment Works and the impact on Dorney**

Cllr. Stopford confirmed that the latest plans/update on the project will be available in June.

### **PC/48/22 To discuss traffic speed across Dorney Common**

Following the deaths of 2 cows in 2021 and 1 accident this year, the question of reducing the speed limit across the common during the season when the cows are out was raised. **It was agreed** the Clerk will make enquiries of the possibilities and the option of having 'cattle on the road' signs erected at each end of the common.

### **PC/49/22 To discuss the Dorney Annual Parish meeting (17<sup>th</sup> May @ 8pm) and invites**

The Annual Parish meeting is open for anyone to attend. There will be no refreshments at this year's meeting due to the high covid cases and expected low attendance.

### **PC/50/22 To discuss Councillor training opportunities and costs**

**It was agreed** the Clerk will make the bookings and payments for Councillor training.

### **PC/51/22 To consider any complaints/comments received from residents**

Residents have questioned the disappearance of footpaths across the farm fields (North Field and the field behind Lake End Road) as the fields have been ploughed for planting. **It was agreed** the Clerk will contact the farmer to request the paths are fully reinstated asap.

### **PC/52/22 Items to consider for discussion at the next meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

-RJC Landscape's plans for landscaping around the welcome to Dorney signs and concrete troughs. **It was unanimously agreed** to increase the RJC monthly invoice by £25 to cover the cost of cleaning the road bollards monthly (to ratify at May meeting).

-Parking problems on Lake End Road.

-Cllr. Voaden has been investigating the process and advantages of Dorney having a Neighbourhood Plan. He will circulate this prior to the May meeting for discussion.

-For tickets to the Jubilee Celebration at the Palmer Arms, please contact them directly.

-Dorney notice board replacement options as the existing board is becoming unsafe.

-Cllr. Westcott-Wreford confirmed that there will be new, larger rubber pads fitted in the cattle grid to combat the noise problem.

**Meeting ended at 8.40pm**



# Dorney Village Hall

[www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk)



**In January we completely redecorated the whole inside of the Hall.  
It is looking very fresh and welcoming.  
We also installed blinds to replace the old curtains.**

Dorney Village Hall has a large main area with stage, a smaller annexed room, and kitchen. It has recently been redecorated throughout.

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

Children's tables and chairs available

Beechwood suspended dance floor

75 space free car park

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

**Email: [bookings.dorneyvh@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.dorneyvh@gmail.com)**

**Online on [www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk)**

**Dorney Short Mat Bowls Club**  
**Every Sunday evening at Dorney Village Hall**  
**7:00pm to 9:30pm**



Short Mat Bowls is played on a carpet 45 foot long and 6 foot wide. Dorney Short Mat Bowls Club has 7 members at the moment, and we can take up to 16 maximum. Bowls are available. You only need flat bottomed shoes, like trainers, to wear on the mat - not your ordinary shoes. We enjoy a social cup of tea and biscuits at half time. You get three free evenings before you decide if you want to join. Membership is £20 per year. And £4.00 an evening. Training is available.

**Please contact Dave Spalding if you would like more information:**  
**Email: [d.g.spalding@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:d.g.spalding@hotmail.co.uk) Mobile: 07707 818076**

**Little Learners**  
**Every Thursday morning at Dorney Village Hall**  
**10:15am to 11:05am**



Little Learners messy play classes teach early writing skills by encouraging little ones to build their coordination, motor skills and core strength using their whole bodies.

Join us for messy mark making, painting, play dough and many more opportunities to learn through play!

Suitable for children 5 months to 5 years.

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

**Please contact Bernice Jackson if you would like more information:**  
**Email: [bernice@littlelearnersuk.com](mailto:bernice@littlelearnersuk.com) Mobile: 07944478517**

## 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](http://www.dorney-history-group.org.uk), with over 18,000 web visitors each year.

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## Eton Wick History Group [www.etonwickhistory.co.uk](http://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.**

### 2022 Programme

25th May	<b>The Early Medieval Monastery in Cookham</b> with Professor Gabor Thomas
13th July	<b>A Woman of Wax</b> with Tony Weston
14th September	<b>'The Village History Through the Website'</b> with Steven Denham
26 October	<b>'The War Horse Memorial'</b> with Alan Carr MBE

Further details from: Teresa Stanton [teresams35@virginmedia.com](mailto:teresams35@virginmedia.com)

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## Hedgerley Historical Society [www.hedgerleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://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. In Hedgerley Memorial Hall, Kiln Lane, Hedgerley Buckinghamshire SL2 3UZ

### 2022

May 4 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	Outing to the Boxford Heritage Centre and Boxford Roman Mosaic talk 10.30am Joy Appleton <u>Booking required</u> Closing date 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 School Lane, Boxford RG20 8DX
May 7th	Your House Through Time – Research Launch Julian Hunt/Archivist
May 10th (Tuesday)	11am Outing (Self Drive) to London Transport Museum Acton Depot Bookings close on 8/4/22



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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.**

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## 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](mailto:peter.bowman@talktalk.net)  
07889 912714

## Emergency Contact Details

<b>Dorney Reach (Village Hall)</b>	<b>Defibrillator Code</b>	<b>C123X</b>
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
Crimestoppers	Anonymously report information	0800 555 111
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Sewage Problems	Thames Water	0845 9200 800
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