

# Dorney Parish News

October 2022



God Save the King!



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EDITORIAL

Twenty odd years ago it was fashionable to point out that there was an old Chinese curse, *May You Live in Interesting Times*. The curse was most likely a myth, but it does feel as though we are living in a time which is 'interesting'. That word, of course, comes nowhere near the sadness that many have felt as, since our last issue, interesting times have become tragic times. This magazine can only pass on our sympathy to the family of the late monarch.

'Interesting times' are, indeed, a curse for parish magazines. If only our pages were made up of regular reports of gardening, model railway and sporting clubs plus the WI. It's hard for a small editorial team to make profound comments on significant and sad events like the passing of a monarch and how our communities are coping with a cost-of-living crisis. We'd like to hear more from our readers.

There is in this issue a small but moving indication of Dorney's reaction to royal events in Mike Quincey's article with a description of the muffled bells of St James the Less. But one piece of advice we did hear about royal coverage was that it would be fitting if a range of readers could give their reactions to the past fortnight thus providing a Dorney standpoint. One article this month shares personal memories of contact with the youthful heir to the throne half a century ago. We hope that other such reactions will follow from readers in subsequent issues.

Some said that the death of Elizabeth II severed a link with the past. In particular, the memory of the wartime and post war experiences would become dimmer. In addition, many chose to exalt in the late Queen's record of dutiful service. Others saw that long reign as a focus for a country united rather than fragmenting.

Local events reported in the pages of a humble parish magazine may seem trivial set alongside these great themes. But the best tribute we can pay is to amplify these characteristics. Residents regularly explore and recall Dorney's past, hopefully nurturing memories of long-time residents and informing newcomers. This issue is no exception. We want to take pride in the service of residents to the village. This month we have the first update direct from the new Playground Committee, obviously eager to continue the sterling work of their predecessors. In terms of community, we will boost events like the Annual Show. After the detailed report in last month's issue on the Show, it was a pleasure to see the generous headline in the *Maidenhead Advertiser*, 'Villagers flock to Dorney Annual Show'.

Here's a couple of requests from the magazine to its readers. The issues will be more fully reflect the views of Dorney if more residents and nearby neighbours contribute articles. Finally, we'd like to hear what is liked about the magazine and what is not so popular.

Why not send us a 'reader's letter'?

The Autumn is this column's favourite season in beautiful Dorney. We hope you enjoy it, despite those 'interesting times'



# 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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**RCCG Praise Embassy, Haywards Mead, Eton Wick, Windsor, SL4 6JN**

**Pastor: Olusegun Omotayo 07712 126334 [www.rccgchurchatslough.com](http://www.rccgchurchatslough.com)**

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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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**Rev La Stacey writes:** One of the titles Charles inherits as monarch in this land is 'Defender of the Faith', 'Fidei Defensor', the F.D. on our coins. It is a title which raises questions in this day and age.

When Charles was Prince, it was something that troubled him. In 2015 he is quoted as saying, "I mind about the inclusion of other people's faiths and their freedom to worship in this country, and it's always seemed to me that, while at the same time being Defender of the Faith you can also be protector of faiths." <https://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/promoting-and-protecting>

The title reflects the fact that, in our current constitution, the monarch is the Supreme Governor of the established church. The reactions of Commonwealth countries to this title are interesting. In Canada, for example, where there is no established church, they none-the-less retain the title, because they feel the civil authorities should defend the right to believe in a supreme being if people so wish, "and that there could be no reasonable objection from anyone who believed in the Supreme Being in having the sovereign, the head of the civil authority, described as a believer in and a defender of the faith in a supreme ruler" <https://www.monarchist.ca/index.php/about-us/frequently-asked-questions>

There is a story doing the rounds, now attributed to Queen Elizabeth II, but previously linked with Queen Victoria (and in language more suited to that era) that, after one of her chaplains had been preaching on the Second Coming of the Lord, in conversation afterwards, the Queen exclaimed, "Oh! how I wish that the Lord would come in my lifetime!" "Why," asked the chaplain, "does your Majesty feel this very earnest desire?" The Queen replied with quivering lips, and her whole countenance lighted up by deep emotion, "I should so love to lay my crown at His feet."

Whether there is any truth in that story or not, it was apparent from her Christmas messages that Elizabeth felt the need of a relationship above and beyond herself, that she felt supreme power did not rest with her, nor with any human institution. Interesting too that our new Monarch continues to recognise a similar dependence: In his accession speech

he said, 'In carrying out the heavy task that has been laid upon me... I pray for the guidance and help of almighty God'.

I think there are frequently times when all of us would like a bit of divine help. Maybe there truly is a benevolence in the universe that works with us as we entrust ourselves to it. As we work generously together in community, goodness begins to flow and creates more. Do you know the children's song, 'Love is something if you give it away - you end up having more', like a magic penny which as long as you spend it, multiplies?. The Church of which Charles is now Supreme Governor holds that Jesus gave his whole self away in order that goodness could multiply in and through us. It is a faith that some of us hold and, in my view, one worth defending.

### Church Services in October 2022

#### Sunday 2nd October (Harvest Festival)

9.30 am	Holy Communion Harvest Festival	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00 am	Any Age Family Service	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### Wednesday 5th October

10.00am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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#### Sunday 9th October

9.30am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### Sunday 16th October

9.30am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Morning Worship	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### Wednesday 19th October

10.00am	Holy Communion (said BCP)	St John the Evangelist, Eton
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#### Sunday 23rd October

9.30am	Morning Worship	St James the Less, Dorney
11.00am	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

#### Sunday 30th October

9.30am	Holy Communion	St James the Less, Dorney 11.00am
	Holy Communion	St John the Baptist, Eton Wick



St Mary Magdalene, Boveney

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

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)

*Benefice of Eton with Eton Wick & Boveney & Dorney*



# HARVEST FESTIVAL

St James the Less, Dorney  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 9.30 a.m.

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# DORNEY

## PARISH COUNCIL

This notice was placed on our website on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022



**HM Queen Elizabeth II**

**21<sup>st</sup> April 1926 – 8th September 2022**

It is with great sadness that Dorney Parish Council has learned of the death of HRH Queen Elizabeth II. We send our deepest condolences to the Royal Family on behalf of the residents of Dorney.



## Summer updates:

### Orchard Herbs

Following the issuance by Bucks Council of a Temporary Stop Notice in August, it is encouraging to see that the airport parking operation has been closed down:



However, the two other operations – Ready Mixed Concrete and redundant commercial vehicles and containers – appear to be continuing to operate.

The Temporary Stop Notice terminated on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022, so it is unclear what additional actions Bucks Council are planning to clear this site once and for all. Dorney Parish Council will continue to put pressure on Bucks Council and Burnham Parish Council to accelerate this process.

### Jubilee River Swimming

The Environment Agency, following a number of fatalities over the years, have installed this sign at Lake End Road at the entrance to the Jubilee River. DPC are checking to see where other signs have been placed. It is hoped that people will take notice of this serious warning.



### Dangerous Trail Bikes along the Jubilee River paths and in crop fields



As has been noted in recent minutes, Dorney Parish Council have been working with Thames Valley Police, the EA and local farmers to try and stop these trail bikes.

From the picture it can be seen that one rider had an accident recently and walkers who have tried to remonstrate with other riders have been treated to abusive language.

We have identified some of the main access and egress routes that the trail bikes appear to be using and are seeking ways, with the

Police, in which the trail bike riders can be dissuaded from such inconsiderate and careless actions which cause alarm, distress and annoyance to members of the public.

## Charles, The Clown Prince



In the late 1960s, when we were both young men aged around twenty, I would have seen Prince Charles (as he was then) on a near daily basis. He won't remember me. We were never formally introduced. When the nation was invited to reflect on recent royal events, I reflected that I had been only yards away when the new King was to be seen sitting, in public, in a dustbin.

We were undergraduates at the same time at the same college, and for a brief while, reading the same subject.

It had been decided that Charles should become the first member of the royal family to study for three years for a university degree. It would not have been a difficult decision to select for him the largest college in the world's finest university - Trinity College, Cambridge. It is said that the Palace preferred a tailor-made course that would ground a future monarch in constitutional and political matters. He held out for a standard course, Anthropology and Archaeology. The first, he said, would help him understand the lives of

peoples in lands all over the planet and via the second he wanted to know of the world before recorded history. To me, these are absolutely admirable sentiments. The Prince later switched to History, the subject I stuck to for three years, having arrived a year ahead of him in 1966.

It may be hard to believe in an august setting like Trinity, but the heir to the throne's student career coincided with the explosion of flowery fashion, psychedelia and student protest. I and many of my friends did our best to embrace this revolution. Charles did not. Or could not, had he wanted to. He was always surrounded by a group of similar young men in tweed sports jackets and cavalry twills. Most of his contemporaries would have thought then, and continued to think over the years, 'I wouldn't swap places with him...'

But there was one glorious exception to this – student drama. We were both members of Trinity's Dryden Society. I had a few small parts in avantgarde plays, the Prince had a real talent for both performing in and writing comic revues, drawing on his own love of the Goons and the Cambridge tradition of the Footlights, Jonathan Miller and Peter Cook. We were never on stage together, so I don't quite remember how I came to be in the wings to see his renowned sketch portraying a dustman. A story had been leaked that Charles had remarked that he was unused to the early morning whistling and clanging about of the local refuse men and had been woken up. I dread to think what social media and the vicious tabloids would make of that now, but then he was able to laugh at himself and with the dustmen.

Photographs and personal recollections show that a drama society let him be himself and be normal. If that real self embraces an interest in all the world's cultures and a flair for comedy, then I would say that there were two pretty good qualifications for a head of state.

### Peter Bowman

*This article is a personal response to recent royal events. We hope that our readers might have similar recollections to share with Dorney Parish News.*





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## News from Dorney Playground Management Committee

We were all very disappointed that we had to cancel the end of term summer party, but with temperatures of 38°C predicted, it was too much of a risk. However, as promised, we are in the process of arranging a Halloween-themed party / disco, to be held at Dorney Village Hall on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

The new management committee has now taken over and we would like to thank the previous committee for all their hard work and their support.

So, on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October we are holding a Halloween-themed party / disco. We will have a professional entertainer. There will be dancing, competitions (including best costumes), prizes and a magic show for the younger group. Everyone is encouraged to dress-up for Halloween.

The party will run as follows:

KS1	17.00 - 18.00
Food and drinks for sale	18.00 - 18.30
KS2	18.00 – 19.30

Tickets are priced at £7.00 and can be obtained, in advance, from the tuck shop by the playground, which is normally open between 15.15 and 16.00 (Monday to Friday). Due to the restriction in numbers allowed in Dorney Village Hall, tickets will not be sold on the night. All children need to be accompanied by a responsible adult throughout.

All proceeds go to maintaining, and hopefully, improving Dorney Playground.

On another theme, you may have noticed that the Olympic mascot, which was at the side of the playground, was damaged, and has now been removed. The mascot is now sitting in a shed, feeling sorry for itself. The suggestion has been made that we just bin the mascot. Ideally, we would like to see the mascot repaired, but if this isn't possible, does anyone out there have any ideas of what to do with it other than take it down the dump?

Dorney Parish Council very generously gave us a grant to buy a new gas barbecue to use at our events. We see this as more of a Dorney Community barbecue, so if you are part of a group in Dorney and need a gas barbecue, give us a ring.

The new committee is mostly made up of working parents with young children, so obviously their lives are busy. So, if anyone out there could lend us a hand, it would be greatly appreciated, no matter how little. Our main fund raising for the playground is through the tuck shop situated outside Dorney School. We normally open Monday to Friday 15.15 to 16.00. We will be closing on 21<sup>st</sup> October, re-opening on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April. If there is anyone who could help us out with the tuck shop at any time, please contact us. It's not an arduous task, although I do admit taking a pen and paper with me to help add up the items!!

**Dorney Playground Committee**

**Email: [Playground4Dorney@gmail.com](mailto:Playground4Dorney@gmail.com)**



# Halloween Disco

**£7 ENTRY**  
PREPURCHASE AT  
TUCKSHOP



**DORNEY VILLAGE HALL**

**FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER**

**KEY STAGE ONE - 5PM TO 6PM**

**KEY STAGE TWO - 6PM TO 7:30PM**

**GAMES & PRIZES &  
COMPETITION FOR  
BEST COSTUMES**

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE,  
FOOD & DRINKS FOR  
SALE**





## Dorney Reach: Teenage Years in the 'Seventies

My reminiscences of Dorney Reach as a child in the 'Sixties (*DPN July/August 2022*) seem to have inspired some interest in knowing what happened next in my teenage years. Well, there's a short version: as every teenager between the ages of 13 to 18 knew in the 1970s, a life stuck living with your parents, facing an endless stream of exams before you could hope to escape was '*boring, boring, boring*'.

It was doubtless the lack of heating that caused the phrase 'the Damp Dump of Dorney Reach' to enter my vocabulary sometime in the early 1970s. I remember endless Saturday and Sunday afternoons trying to do my homework or exam revision with numb fingers sticking out of mittens and the sleeves of woolly jumpers. This was the solution of choice for my Great Depression era father to the conundrum of when, where and how heating should be turned on. Most of the 1920s-built houses in Dorney Reach didn't have central heating, which my father only installed after we moved in, then rarely used. An open fireplace was the answer for chilly evenings and nothing at all for long winter afternoons ('go for a walk if you're cold').

Even today, nothing conjures up Christmas more immediately for me than the smell of dust rising from the dining room radiator. It was turned on, annually, on Christmas Eve, and was already ticking its way back to cold metal by Boxing Day.

From 1972, of course, we had no choice: it was the era of miners' strikes, power cuts and the 3-Day Week. In my memory, this seemed to go on forever: homework by candle-light, no electricity for hours and heated discussions over Sunday lunch littered with phrases such as 'wrack and ruin' and 'this country didn't win the Second World War to give in to.... etc. etc.'. It was all quite exciting in its way, but now blurs with the cold house of teenage memories. I've been subsequently surprised to learn that the official 3-Day Week only lasted a few weeks before the whole country ground to a halt and a new general election was called in 1974. A modern day parallel to be drawn from this, perhaps?

Dorney Reach activities continued in the form of Girl Guides, with the ever-resourceful Gill Langston acting as our 'Cap'n' in charge of everything from badge collecting to an ill-fated camping trip up near Cliveden. With other local Guide groups, dozens of us spent the night under canvas in a line of old army tents, rain dripping on us like oil on a tin of sardines: there was no escape. With the recent sad loss of HM Queen Elizabeth II, I am also reminded of how close to our daily reality our Girl Guide promise 'to serve the Queen' was: we all knew she lived just down the road.



One day a group of us were herded along the towpath to Boveney Lock to see HM the Queen progressing up the river by boat. From memory, this was prior to the 1977 Silver Jubilee, but was nevertheless striking: no sooner had we spotted her brightly coloured hat from the lock-side than it started to sink lower and lower until all we could see was its flat top and brim. Her Majesty's boat

was passing through the lock as we arrived, so until I met the Queen in person many years later, craning my neck over the side was the closest I ever got to bowing to royalty. In 1977 we all received the famous Silver Jubilee mug: I've still got mine, as has my neighbour Judith.

The rest of our time was primarily spent in trying to get out of Dorney Reach, and back again, without our parents ruining our plans. This was no easy feat even with a half-hearted bus service



from the top of Harcourt Road that never seemed to go when or where we wanted, or was capable of returning us without the endless refrain 'Dad, can I have a lift....?'

The first priority was getting to and from school. The 1970s was a time of educational and county boundary changes (another recurrent theme?), which had a material impact on where we could go to get educated. As residents of Bucks, we still had the option of grammar schools, but not always where they were wanted. My mother was mortified that I could no longer go to the girls' grammar school in Maidenhead (in Berks, which had switched to comprehensive schooling), but to Slough, which was still then located in Bucks. In the event, Slough High School for Girls was every bit as academic and university-oriented as my parents could have wished, and I thrived there until, aged around 16, I also 'got bored'. But that's yet another story.

My brother Paul secured a place at the more adventurous option of Sir William Borlase in Marlow. Even with a school bus from Maidenhead this was an hour-long trip, taking the No. 22 bus early every morning from the top of Harcourt Road. By his later teens he was cycling there, 9 miles each way. The Slough High School girls of Dorney Reach had it much easier: perhaps rashly, in hindsight, Charles Cody offered Debbie Belcher and me a daily lift to the A4 on his way to Taplow Station to commute into London. On countless occasions we must have missed his train for him as we scrambled into his still revving red Mini outside our front drives. A very belated apology and thanks, Charles!

By the age of 14 or so, boys were very much on my agenda, but not on that of my parents, so a certain amount of subterfuge was in order. Adventures with Eton College boys were very chaste: King Arthur (of Purcell's opera fame) invited me to tea at Nell Gwyn's tea house in Windsor, which as a 'wench' in the chorus of Eton College's production of King Arthur, I readily accepted, but saw as a delicious irony of place and circumstances even then.

The charming 'King Arthur' went on to Clare College in Cambridge and later invited me along to the College Summer Ball which gloriously went on until dawn. But by then I had picked my side in the battle raging between punk rock and the hippy revivalist movement of the mid-1970s and was firmly on the side of the new-age hippies. I invested what little money I earned from my part-time jobs on flared trousers, cheese-cloth shirts and darker-than-dark eyeshadow from the Biba store in High Street Kensington (this being the only thing, beyond our train fare to get there, my school friends and I could actually afford to buy in Biba).

Suitably equipped in platform shoes, I would then defy parental advice and march along the towpath to the creaking old Skindles Hotel by Maidenhead Bridge whenever a live band was scheduled to play there. At the time, Skindles' future was in the balance, and its reputation very louche, which, along with all the long-haired young men I met there, suited me just fine. But...there was always the necessary curfew of a lift home. My father had already earned himself quite a reputation for turning up at heaving teenage parties in Burnham, turning on the lights and very publically demanding that I come home. Thus, with reluctance, I always made sure I was outside Skindles at the appointed hour.

By the age of 16, I acquired a boyfriend who had a car, which became the source of even more parental tension. But at 17, I quickly learnt to drive, passed the test, and the focus shifted to haggling over borrowing a parental car to take up weekend jobs and evening classes in Windsor, or whatever outing I could get away with. I suddenly found that Dorney Reach was no longer the isolated riverside marshland of my earlier teenage years, but handily close to Junction 7 of the M4 and a gateway to the wider world. It's this, among many other things that has kept me coming back.

**Claire Spencer**



“To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose, under heaven”

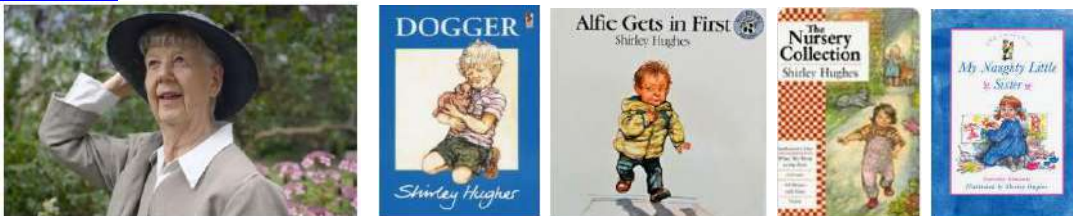
## The Byrds, ‘Turn! Turn! Turn!’ 1965

Every year in late August, I start looking forward to a brand-new school year, full of hope and optimism. This Autumn of 2022 was no different, even with the cost-of-living crisis looming for all households including schools. I was optimistic that schools will not be left in the lurch to fend for themselves. Surely in the ‘season of mists and mellow fruitfulness’, in the season of plenty, the government would place schools on a priority list for help and support. Unfortunately, at the time of writing, this is still not to be and in our small, community school, we anticipate our energy bills to increase by 100% as a minimum, amid the rise in costs for all good and services. I am the eternal optimist so myself, and all national school leaders await with bated breath for an increase in funding to ensure that teachers and staff can deliver the best education to all our children without having to turn the heating or lights off this winter. If you are interested in how the financial crisis will impact on schools across the nation, do read this article posted by the Headteachers’ Roundtable <https://headteachersroundtable.wordpress.com/>

Thus, coming back to school with some difficult financial messages to staff and the families we serve, we then hear of the death of the Queen. As a school, we marked the sad event with a week of learning about the Queen, the monarchy, and its wide-reaching impact. We discussed and debated the high and low points of a constitutional monarchy and we also created memory books and a beautiful wreath in recognition of a life dedicated to serving her country for 70 years. No matter what individual perspectives are, this was a time for respectful reflection as we remember how the Queen touched lives, and what the future will hold for the new King, and for this kingdom. Many of our families made their way to London or Windsor to observe the funeral procession and one of our children was privileged to share the news that her grandfather helped to design the Queen’s hearse which had been kept in storage for over a decade, ready for the day it would be required. Ruby’s grandfather passed away 11 years ago, and yet his legacy lived on in a faultless, solemn and beautiful ceremony on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

It is not all doom and gloom! In early September, I had the privilege of meeting the daughter of the late Shirley Hughes, whose books and illustrations have been read, and loved, by generations. If you have shared the stories of Dogger, Lucy and Tom, or Alfie and Annie Rose, you will know that your life has been touched by one of our nation’s greatest children’s author and illustrator

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/mar/02/shirley-hughes-childrens-author-and-illustrator-dies-aged-94>



Shirley Hughes died in March this year, aged 94. I visited the family home in Notting Hill to collect a selection of hardbacks to be enjoyed by the pupils of our school for generations to come. It was like walking back in time; touching the large mahogany table she used to work on, the mismatched chairs her family used, the dozens of paintings and illustrations which covered the walls of a well-loved family home. This is the legacy Shirley leaves behind. Her daughter, Clara Vulliamy, and author/illustrator herself became tearful as she knew that her mother’s works and stories will always be remembered. I would like to extend the same generosity to you as Clara extended to me, and invite you to visit our little school with a big heart. We have dates for open events in the next few months. Do visit our school website for more details on how to book <https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/>

I leave you with the full lyrics of "Turn! Turn! Turn!" A poignant ode to the passing of time, and of loved ones, and the constancy of seasons and of life's changes:

To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose, under heaven  
A time to be born, a time to die  
A time to plant, a time to reap  
A time to kill, a time to heal

A time to laugh, a time to weep

To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose, under heaven  
A time to build up, a time to break down  
A time to dance, a time to mourn  
A time to cast away stones, a time to gather stones  
together

**Mrs Sharifah F Jelany-Lee**  
**Headteacher**  
**Dorney School**

To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose, under heaven  
A time of love, a time of hate  
A time of war, a time of peace  
A time you may embrace, a time to refrain from  
embracing

To everything (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose, under heaven  
A time to gain, a time to lose  
A time to rend, a time to sew  
A time for love, a time for hate  
A time for peace, I swear it's not too late

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# What can we learn from trees?

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022 – 6.30pm to 9.30pm**

**Burnham Park Hall, Windsor Lane, Burnham, SL1 7HR**

## **Guest speakers:**

Martin Boiling, The Woodland Trust

Helen Read, Conservation Officer, Burnham Beeches

## **Chair of Meeting:**

Zoe Hatch, Burnham Parish Councillor and  
Chair of Climate Emergency Working Group

**Doors open 6.30pm     Dinner served at 7.00pm**

**£20 per person to include 2 course meal** – Shepherds Pie (Meat or Vegetarian)  
served with vegetables followed by French Apple Tart served with cream

To book your place or for further details please contact Viv Nicholas

Tel. 01628 661887     [mrviv.nicholas@btinternet.com](mailto:mrviv.nicholas@btinternet.com)

*With thanks to SEGRO and Burnham Parish Council for sponsoring this event*

# 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

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Residents**

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



## JOY MORRISSEY MP

*Standing up for the Beaconsfield Constituency*



As a sailor might navigate by finding the north star so, for the last 70 years, has the world cast its gaze, in times of joy and crisis, to Queen Elizabeth II for a bright and consistent light in the firmament.

The loss we feel as a nation at the dying of that light is shared by many across the Commonwealth and throughout the world. Her Majesty represented the very best of us in her devotion to duty, her love of country and her desire to reach out to people across the world. We will miss her, and we will celebrate her life, her achievements, and her incredible influence over nearly three quarters of a century.

For a great many of us a part of being British was calling Elizabeth II our Queen, but Her Majesty has spent a lifetime demonstrating how to adapt and change for the better, always keeping calm and measured in the face of adversity. So, it is in celebration of the past and with confident hope in our future that we depart the Elizabethan Age and welcome our new King Charles III.

God Save The King.

### Joy Morrissey MP

Member of Parliament for Beaconsfield

Assistant Whip

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

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

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## In Drag on Dorney Common

With cooler weather rapidly descending through September, the grass on the Common and in our back yards gradually returned to a shade of bright green. That time of year again which brings new Autumn boosters and seasonal flu jabs, so across the country clinics open to receive those that need protection. Two new vaccines, Moderna Bivalent and Comirnaty Bivalent, cover the latest Omicron variant, bringing hordes of people out to grab this latest offer.

Switching from Birch Hill Medical Centre to Burnham Health Pharmacy just at this time, cut my journey from 40 to 8 minutes, to embrace the extra morning snooze time. In the first week, more than 170 jabs / day as the incredible footfall was relentless. The pharmacy is run by two lovely fellas, Dalvinder (Dal) and Harpreet (Harp), and as a new vaccination enterprise, I joined and brought in two colleagues to help cover the weekly rota. Each shift delightfully brought in some familiar faces, local villagers and previous Salt Hill customers.



The last few months of my summer was spent driving and looking at cars, not my usual remit as I am totally devoid of automobile knowledge. This was all down to my boyfriend Bob who owns a classic car, a very beautiful 1957 red Corvette, which he rather foolishly let me drive, culminating in driving the racetrack at Car Fest North and then later in the summer Car Fest South. After the initial

apprehension, the whole experience was great fun, so sat in on other wonders of the auto world, a Rat Rod with industrial cross hilly billy in appearance, and a 70's Comaro car that spun multiple donuts. My heart in mouth enjoyed every minute!

Two issues came up unexpectedly whilst driving solo in the little red Corvette. One was whilst driving solo down the M40 towards very sharp sun, the bright light blinding my vision to leave only one hand on the steering wheel, whilst using the other hand as a shade to my eyes, since the open top Corvette did not have pull down sunshades. Lesson number one: always wear polarised sunglasses on a sunny day.

On another day, this time driving an hour from one venue to another, the strong wind whipped my hair to the front like a thick curtain, which again was restricting my view. Lesson Two: always wear a woolly hat so restrain migrant hair.

Bob's love of motor cars spanned most of his life, starting with drag racing in the 80's. I had no idea what this was at first... was this running around as fast as can be in a dress? However, soon learnt that this meant racing Hot Rods that achieved way beyond 200 mph down a quarter-mile raceway. At an incredible speed these nitromethane fuelled cars were fast! What? Why?

And then there were the Jet cars, supercharged fuel-injected Jet cars using fuel made from kerosene (similar to diesel fuel) known as 'Jet-A', some capable of

exceeding 300 mph. Unlike other drag cars who race for class domination or championship points, these are only exhibition cars, really for people like me who wonder at the sound and sight. I really would like to see them!

Back in the 80's when New Wave dominated the charts, Bob had a car which was an American coupe made by a company called Willy-Overland Motors. This company had a history of producing a series of cars including sedans, coupes, station-wagons or pick up trucks. The coupe being the Hot Rod choice, and Bob's car was named 'Slick Willy', the chassis original but the engine super-charged by a Hemi engine.

To show me exactly what the sport was like we scooted off to the European Finals at Santa Pod near Wellingborough. I can only say the sound was absolutely deafening (ear defenders required), the cars and bikes colourfully decorated with beautiful eye-catching art, which spewed out volumes of smoke from their backsides and tyres. I finally saw the jet cars that looked like laid down rockets with huge shots of fire coming out of their rear end. The noise as they left the start line shook my insides like a road drill, the fire hot on my face, the roar and vibrations made my heart bounce as they took off down the raceway at an unbelievable lick.



The last Saturday in September saw the Kop Hill Climb, a charitable day for classic car owners, where there is a steep hill climb in Princes Risborough. The climb was originally established in 1910, but due to a minor accident involving a spectator on the public road the event ceased on 28 March 1925. The RAC then banned all motorsport on public roads, making this climb the last.

However, in 2009, Kop Hill has been the focus of an annual revival, run as a non-competitive charity event. The hill length is 903 yards (826 metres) with a 1:6 gradient leading to a steep 1:4 at its steepest point. This revival now showcases cars and bikes that date back to the competitive era, as well as more modern cars of interest and heritage.

We attended this day, both taking a turn to drive a passenger who paid a charitable donation, up the famous steep Kop Hill and then down the super steep hill stretch. One of the last car events of the year, and I reflect how much I have enjoyed all of them.

Back home at Dells Cottage, the garden is made ready to embrace the chill of forthcoming winter, beds turned down and border pillows plumped. It was not an ideal summer which brought such drought, but it is amazing how a late autumn sprout of colour brought beauty at the eleventh hour. No cars are chasing around here, just the gentle hum of a distant motorway and the cows lowing on the Common.

**Kristina Perkins**





## Community Safety Consultation

This message is sent on behalf of Buckinghamshire County Council

### **Share your community safety concerns to help us keep Buckinghamshire safe**

The Safer Buckinghamshire Board is a local Community Safety Partnership that brings together experts from the police, fire service, probation, health and social care services. The Board develops an annual action plan to reduce crime in Buckinghamshire and help keep it a safe place to live and work.

To develop this plan, the Safer Buckinghamshire Board is conducting an annual Community Safety survey to hear resident views on:

- The impact of crime, anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol issues where you live or work
- Your experience of reporting crimes
- How safe or unsafe you feel in Buckinghamshire

The survey is open to anyone living or working in Buckinghamshire and will be running from Monday 5 September until Sunday 16 October. Have your say and complete the survey below for a chance to win a £100 supermarket voucher\*:

<https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/communities/safety-2022/>

The results of the survey will be combined with an analysis of all crimes that happen in the county to help Safer Bucks set priorities for the year.

\*Terms and Conditions apply

### **Message Sent By**

Jo Howland (Police, Neighbourhood Policing Administrator, Aylesbury Vale)



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# News from Buckinghamshire Council

8 September 2022

## Letter from Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council

Dear Resident,

I hope you've managed to enjoy a good summer and have coped well with the hot, dry weather. As we move into autumn there's one issue above all others that stands out and that, of course, is **the current cost of living pressures, especially where energy and food bills are concerned.**

This is impacting everyone; businesses, residents and particularly those who are already struggling. I know for some households the prospect of what winter will bring is extremely worrying. I know many people are in need now and want to know what extra support is coming in the winter months.

So today I'm letting you know about some of the actions your council will be taking to **help residents with the cost of living.** It's a package of support that will continue to develop over the coming months and we will keep you updated throughout.

### Support available to those who need it



**helpinghand**

#### Helping Hand

Our Helping Hand team at the council offers advice, help and information to people who need it, including financial help to cover the food and energy costs to households in crisis, as well as helping with paying for other essentials like sanitary items and nappies. The team is available to help individuals or families in need, those on low incomes and those who are experiencing a financial emergency or crisis.

Our Helping Hand programme provides support to local individuals and families who are experiencing financial hardship. If you need to contact the Helping Hand team, please call us on 01296 531 151 or by using our [online contact form](#).

The Helping Hand team is about to begin issuing food vouchers to some 8,000 pensioners in Buckinghamshire who are in receipt of Council Tax reduction or who have previously been



supported by Helping Hand; letters should be arriving with eligible households shortly to ensure there is support available to those who need it most.

### **‘Welcoming Spaces’**

We will be joining forces with other organisations across Buckinghamshire to create a network of welcoming spaces this winter, to assist when the weather turns colder.

Starting with our own libraries, these locations will provide a warm, welcoming and supportive space for anyone who needs it. Anyone who comes in from the cold will be welcomed and will be guaranteed respect, dignity and warmth; the aim is to offer a friendly ear and overall, to create places that help people save on their heating bills and that also offer advice and support. I’ll update on this initiative in the coming weeks.

If you want to offer some space to form part of our network, find out how to add a facility to our list of welcoming spaces by getting in touch with your local community board manager.

### **Information and advice**

Our fantastic network of volunteer groups and charity organisations plays a vital role in providing community support and specialist advice and information. We have created a [‘Cost of Living’ section on our website](#) to make it easier to find the advice and information you need. You can also search our [Family Information Service website](#) for more information on the wider support and advice available to any households that need it

We also have a number of incredible community projects that offer help in different ways. For example, take a look at the [‘Grow It, Cook It, Eat It’ project](#) that the council supports. This offers local growing space for free for anyone to grow their own produce, plus any surplus goes towards local foodbanks, and anyone can also turn up to find out more about how to grow their own food, a fantastic initiative that both helps with the cost of food and is good for the health and environment. Local initiatives like this play a vital part in the overall general support available to residents who need a helping hand.

As well as the council’s own cost of living actions, I do want to also underline the support also on offer from central government this winter. This is the current package already announced and we are watching out for further announcements this week now the new Prime Minister is in post.

- Cost of Living payments to eligible residents in receipt of disability benefits will receive an £150 cost of living payment from next week (20 September).
- All households in Great Britain will receive a £400 discount from their electricity bills this winter, which will be applied in six monthly instalments, automatically coming off bills, starting in October.
- In addition to this, households on means tested benefits including Universal Credit, Pension Credit and Tax Credits will receive a Cost of Living payment of £650 this year.

**You can find out more about these payments on the government’s website and access wider information about the overall support available to households via their website – this contains information on transport and childcare costs too.**

And a final point; it’s useful to us all to do as much as we can to save energy, so do take a look at the websites of the main energy providers as they contain lots of valuable tips about how to save energy in the home.

## How you can help

### Crisis fund

With our partners [Heart of Bucks](#), we have established a [Crisis Fund](#) to raise money to help Buckinghamshire families in need.

We absolutely appreciate the rising costs are impacting everyone. We also know the incredible generosity that exists in Buckinghamshire and that in times of crisis, it drives many of our residents to want to help or offer financial assistance. So, with Heart of Bucks, for those in a position to do so, we are inviting people to donate what they can into this fund so the money can be best channelled to get support to the people in our communities who need it most.

If you are in the fortunate position to give even a small amount or donate the government support if you feel you don't need it yourself, please go to our '[Cost of Living' web pages](#) to find out more and to donate to the Crisis Fund.

### Other ways to help

There are also many other ways to make a difference; you can donate to a foodbank or community fridge or donate your time by volunteering. We have many wonderful local initiatives that are currently being staffed by volunteers such as the [FoodCycle programme in Aylesbury](#), which offers a free three course healthy meal to anyone who needs it, once a week.

You can also consider volunteering at Citizens Advice Bucks to help run this essential support service, at a time people are heavily relying on such important organisations. [Take a look at their website](#) to find out more.

We still have guests from Ukraine arriving in Buckinghamshire too, so perhaps you have a spare room and can consider offering accommodation as part of the Homes for Ukraine programme. A monthly 'thank you' payment of £350 is available from the government; to find out more [please check our website](#).

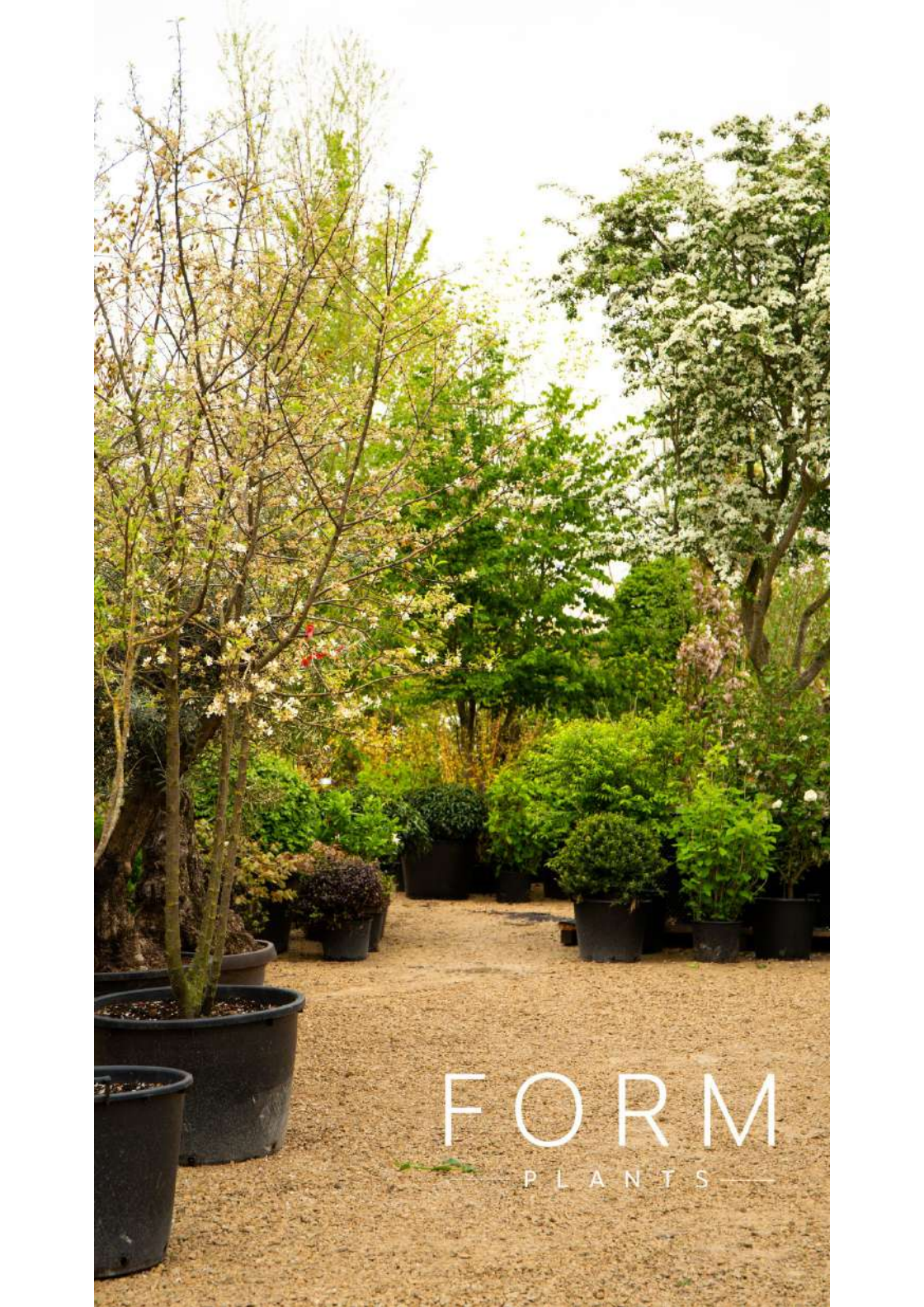
**You can access information on how to [donate either money, food, or your time on our website](#).**

### Regular updates

I don't doubt we are entering an extremely challenging winter, and I know for many people, it's an anxious time. I hope this update helps outline the support the council is offering; we ourselves are not immune to the considerable hike in costs and I'll also be updating you further on how you can also feed into our own budget planning for next year, in what will be a very difficult and turbulent economic climate. As ever, your input on how we spend your money is vital and is appreciated.

It's my intention to keep you regularly updated in the coming weeks and months as we navigate this difficult time together and once again see our communities come together to support each other in the best way they can.

Lastly, if you have a friend or family member in Buckinghamshire who doesn't receive these residents' newsletters, please suggest that they [sign up for them on our website](#). It's a great way of me keeping you in touch with the latest news.



FORM  
PLANTS —



## Regeneration

You would expect from me perhaps a recognition of the remarkable last month or so, and much, may I suggest a little too much, has been said of these events that have and will touch us all, even here in sleepy Dorney, suffering as we have with Covid, 'smart' motorways, lively local meetings, the demise of one prime minister and a never ending selection of a successor right through to the death of Queen Elizabeth, may God give her eternal rest.

During all this I made some new friends recently when least expected, and my partner Cheryl and I were soon in comfortable conversations over an excellent dinner as if we'd known each other for years.

They owned a dairy farm in Essex and the family dog Lauren, a golden Labrador, had the run of it. My eyes rudely started to glaze over since, as my regular reader may recall, I am not a dog person, except of course Floyd the police dog.

Lauren the Lab suddenly went blind, but coped well in spite of it over months, albeit occasionally howling lonely.

One of the cows gave birth as expected, but about twenty five minutes later, a second calf unexpectedly appeared. The baby cow was weak, and Mum didn't want to know, so my new friends picked her up, carried her into the house, shooed Lauren out of her bed and laid the struggling calf in it. The wife then went off to prepare milk in a bottle and returned to find Lauren licking the calf clean and generally fussing over her with the calf seeming to respond. They became inseparable as the calf thrived until the sudden death of Lauren, but the happy ending is that the calf grew up to have calves of her own.

"Ahhhh!" I hear you sigh. I did the same. Add the late Lauren to the list with Floyd.



You may recall in a previous offering the story of Barbara Allen; specifically a World War 2 Allen scythe I rescued from a barn in which it had been buried under logs since 1984.

It was given to me by an elderly uncle, and with wild enthusiasm, I brought it home and lovingly took the engine apart to find out why the ancient Villiers air cooled motorbike engine that had propelled it had failed to start in 1984.

It sat in my little workshop for about a year with a box of bits sitting on the fuel tank, taking up far too much room, so much so that its digs were downgraded to a tarpaulin in the garden. Visions of cutting long grass at a friend's pile soon faded, and there Barbara stayed, collecting dust and damp.

Some friends not in the first flush of youth are bravely raising their grandson who, like other boys, is fascinated by anything mechanical.

Their garden is a treasure trove of broken lawn mowers, leaf blowers and small petrol-powered tools which he lovingly repairs and modifies. They are his life.

Having fallen over Barbara Allen once too often, I had dark thoughts of scrap yards, when suddenly the realisation dawned on me.

“Barbara and the boy are made for each other!”

On a gloriously sunny day with an approving if reluctant nod from Grandma and Grandad, we three pumped up the tyres and wheeled her the short distance to their home; it’s a stone’s throw from me. The box of bits followed minus the lethal cutting bar I had removed and kept until later.

I returned to my summer labours when about two hours later, the excited scream of “Mike!” echoed across the gardens followed by the “Phut phut phut phut,” of a WW2 motorbike engine followed by a little blue smoke.

This twelve-year-old had it running, albeit in roughly two hours after a 38-year slumber.

Next day we were invited to witness the repeated event in the company of a greasy faced lad with a broad grin.

Regeneration twice in one month, and what a month to do it.

We rang the bells at Dorney half muffled for our dead Queen, a haunting desperately sad sound that always makes my eyes water.

I don’t suppose anyone heard it save the faithful who attended the Sunday service, but it was beautiful in its serenity and gets me every time.

You won’t hear half muffled bells often, only the death of the monarch, or the local archbishop or a bell ringer.

We also ring half muffled before and up to midnight to signify the death of the old year, and open for the birth of the new one.

See you in the dark on 31<sup>st</sup> December around half past eleven.

Stay safe.

**Mike Quincey**





## Neighbourhood Priorities

### Priority – Speeding

This quarter our roads policing spent 17 hours during June and identified 340 offences across South Bucks and the fixed cameras have identified 55 offenders. During July they spent 22 hours conducting speed enforcement and identified 250 offences and the fixed camera caught 250 offenders.

Neighbourhood spent a day monitoring the following locations in August where we spent 45 minutes at each location. Dropmore Road, Burnham where 85 vehicles passed the check site and the highest speed recorded was 36mph. Lake End Road, Dorney had 114 vehicles pass the check site with only two vehicles being recorded at 45mph. Marsh Lane, Taplow saw 27 vehicles with only one vehicle being recorded at a speed of 42mph.

### Priority – Burglary

This quarter we have again seen a reduction in burglaries dropping from 20 to 11. To combat this we have increased our patrols around the following locations; Green Lane, Bingham Road, Burnham. Hag Hill Rise, Taplow and Harcourt Road, Dorney. Fairfield Lane, Home Meadow and Forge Drive Farnham Common.

To continue to combat this we have been carrying out proactive operations which specifically floods rural and cross border areas of the LPA with proactive patrols during peak offending times. This has helped us to detect crime and apprehend cross border offenders who use arterial routes to enter our policing area and to protect residents living within South Buckinghamshire.

Please remember these tips to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of burglary especially as the nights are now drawing in.

- Cut back your shrubs and hedges to aid visibility
- Set timer switches to turn your lights on when away
- Avoid leaving valuables in plain view e.g. laptops and tablets
- Set any house alarms
- Lock side gates to prevent access to the rear of your property
- Keep any tools and ladders stored safely away in a locked garage
- Don't advertise that you are away and that your home is empty, by 'checking in' or posting your holiday snaps on social media
- Resist uploading any holiday pictures to social media until you have returned home
- Don't leave windows open at the front of your property when you are in the garden

Please take a look at Thames Valley Police Website for further crime prevention advice or contact your local Neighbourhood Team.





## Priority – Anti-Social Behaviour

This quarter due to the heatwave we have concentrated our efforts around our waterways where we have been raising awareness around water safety. We have carried out daily patrols around the Jubilee and River Thames as well as joint river boat patrols with the Environment Agency.

In August we held two water safety events at River Road, Taplow and on the Jubilee River at Lake End Road, Dorney with Bucks and Berks Fire and Rescue where they demonstrated various water rescues, how to float to live and even showed some residents how to throw a life ring which proved harder than it looked.

Over the summer we have also seen an increase of reports of mopeds and dirt bikes riding at speed around Burnham Park. PCSO's have been patrolling the park on a daily basis and this resulted in one male being seen riding around the park and he received a S59 warning for his behaviour, if he is seen again the bike will be seized. The Neighbourhood team are also working with the Parish Council to look at other options to prevent the bikes accessing the park.

After reports of a homeless male camping in Taplow and begging at Sainsbury's where he was causing concerns to members of the public and the local farm where he had set up camp. PCSO's worked jointly with the land owner, Sainsbury's and Outreach to give the male support, and he was also issued a Community Protection Warning in relation to the begging. This has resulted in the male moving on.

A male was seen by local residents riding a moped on the footpath around Taplow Village after providing detailed information the Neighbourhood team were able to locate the individual and issued him a S59 warning.

## Other News

During routine patrols in the evenings around Amerden Lane, Taplow PCSO's came across a vehicle parked up and a very strong smell of cannabis coming from the vehicle. Upon stop search of the individuals cannabis was found and two people were issued community resolutions for possession of cannabis.

## Have Your Say Events

We have now started our Have Your Say events again so please keep an eye on our social media where we will advertise where we will be.

In addition to overcome gatherings we have identified areas for us to be present, visible and whilst completing our never-ending paperwork. We want the areas to be key points in each community where people are able to see us safely, varying times throughout the month and locations. Due to various reasons, on demand, operational commitments and to prevent large gatherings we will not be publishing times and dates. However we wish to make the community aware of these locations and if you see a Police vehicle or officer at these locations, we are there for you to speak to us, please come and say hello and help us identify any concerns you have or any information, you may feel will assist us.

Dorney – The Dorney Lake Car Park off Court Lane

## 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

26 October	<b>'Nancy Astor &amp; The Cliveden Set'</b> with Mr Nigel Smales
14 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>'The Fights over Cookham Commons (1799-1852)'</b> with Mr Keith Parry

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

October 1st	(Saturday 10am – 4pm) <b>BLHN Conference 2022 Education in Buckinghamshire</b> – Bookings via BAS website
October 9th	(Sunday) <b>Guided Tour of Eton</b> £15. <u>Closing date 21st Sep</u> Meet 11am Eton Visitor Centre SL4 6AA
October 19th	<b>Beckonscot Photographic Archive</b> Cathy Sturrock <b>ZOOM</b>
October 29th	(Saturday 12pm – 3pm) <b>Autumn Lunch and Walking Forward, Looking Back</b> Members only Booking required £17 – <u>Closing date 19th October</u> Talk at 2pm – Free admission D Latham
November 16th	<b>Tales of a House Detective Marian Miller ZOOM</b>
December 21st	<b>From Source to Sea Tom Chesshyre ZOOM</b>



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# Dorney Parish News

Published monthly (except January and August)

## **Editors:**

Peter Bowman, Tumbleweeds, 12, Harcourt Road, Dorney Reach, Maidenhead. SL6 ODU

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

Jean Spencer, Dorincourt, 45, Harcourt Road, Dorney Reach, Maidenhead. SL6 ODT  
Tel: 01628 624213

## **Editorial Board:**

The Editors, Bill Dax, Thea Pine

## **Production:**

Bill Dax Tel: 07802 365448

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## **Distributors:**

Mr Cobb, Mrs Cox, Mrs Leishman, Mrs McCabe,  
Mr McGuinness, Mrs Oxlade, Mr Penfold, Mrs Stockwood, Mr Temple  
Miss Snook, Mrs Tuddenham, Mrs Tyler, Mrs Wood-Dow

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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:**

<b>Advertising Rates</b>	<b>Height mm</b>	<b>Width mm</b>	<b>10 issues</b>	<b>1 issue</b>
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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
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