

Dorney Parish News

April 2025



Dorney Wildlife: We are very fortunate!

(with thanks to Andrew Oliver and Theo Alexander for the photographs)



Renaissance
BATHROOMS
& KITCHENS



BATHROOM & KITCHEN SHOWROOM
////////////////////
DESIGN // SUPPLY // INSTALL

THE GREAT BARN | CIPPENHAM LANE | SL15AH
01753 693333

RENAISSANCEBATHROOMS.CO.UK | RENAISSANCEKITCHENS.CO.UK

SUPPLY ONLY OR FULL INSTALL SERVICE AVAILABLE

EDITORIAL

This column has been reflecting the dark political situation in the world. Coincidentally the weather too has been gloomy. As temperatures rise a little, we look for signs of the coming springtime. In that spirit, may we share a heartening statistic with you? A few days ago, we saw record temperatures for the year so far, and record sales of ice cream and lollies were recorded at the Playground Tuck Shop. Thirty-two in one afternoon!

In this issue, we are proud to carry the 'great news from Dorney Playground' that the Playground fence is to be installed (as we write, we see work has started) and that all are invited to a celebratory party on the afternoon of April 3rd. But there is a shadow over the super area which I see more and more visitors are calling 'Dorney Park'...litter. We see that the ever-resourceful Playground Group have posted on *Fix My Street*, making it clear to Bucks Council that the existing two small rubbish bins are 'wholly inadequate'. We echo that call.

Coincidentally as we write, today has seen the 'Dorney Parish Litter Picking Morning' as advertised in our March issue. It was a successful day in terms of sacks of rubbish recovered, and, by all accounts, fun. We'd love those reading these words to join in for the next such morning in October! This column took our sacks and grabbers to that very same 'park' and realised that the sea of pizza boxes and bottles are an insult to the good people who use the Village Hall and its car park plus the Playground. I doubt if the culprits would bother to check on the number and size of litter bins.

Once again serious issues are looming for our community. Last month our MP referred to her objection to the potential closure of the Burnham Day Centre and we expect to cover this matter in future issues prior to a decision by Bucks Council expected in the summer. As Joy Morrissey says 'we must do all we can to protect these vital services'. Likewise, as we go to press, our Parish Council is discussing a renewed planning application from Eton College over the Boveney Court Farm site, following the failure of their appeal against the earlier refusal to grant permission for this development by Bucks Council.

May sees elections for Bucks Council and we deal in this issue with changes to our voting and representation, but county elections also mean Parish Council elections can take place alongside. That would happen in this parish if we had more than seven applicants. See elsewhere in this issue as to how and why residents might apply. To all readers of this column, we say think seriously about what you could bring to the Parish Council in these interesting times. More late news...the Charities Commission has consented to the proposal that the Parish Council becomes the sole trustee of Dorney Village Hall. Expect to hear more about the benefits likely to flow to residents as a result of this new policy.

If the pace of change and challenges to Dorney is hotting up, then a surefire way to keep up to speed is to attend the traditional Annual Parish Meeting. Dorney Lake has invited us all back again for an APM in the Boathouse. Apart from whatever is said, the location can be spectacular on an early summer evening. Circle it in your calendar or diary or, more likely, set up a reminder on your phone. The evening is May 20th.

While we're recommending evenings out, let us recommend a presentation (preceded by supper) by our very own nature expert, Andrew 'Olly' Oliver to Dorney Horticultural Society on April 25th. Another recommendation is that this be the year you sign up as members of this society, should you not be a member already. Also, we always recommend that if your 2025 subscription to this magazine is due, please pay direct or talk to your distributor. If you're uncertain of your subscription status, you can contact The Editor.



St James the Less, Dorney

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick

St. John the Evangelist, Eton

Vicar: Vacant

Churchwardens: Stephen Baker & Mark Procter

Correspondence Address: St. James the Less, C/O

St. John the Baptist, Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick,

Windsor, SL4 6JA

Email: Helen O'Neill stjohnstjamesed@hotmail.co.uk

For information about our churches, activities and church history please see our parishes' web site: www.stjohnstjamesed.org.uk

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

Pastor: Olusegun Omotayo 07712 126334 www.rccgchurchatslough.com

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Burnham

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

News from St. James the Less:

As we continue through our period of Lent, we continue to think of those who are less fortunate and are grateful for what we have.

We have spent significant time in the local schools, sharing the stories of Jesus calling his disciples to follow him, in school assemblies through our programme of "Open the Book", and inviting the Year Four pupils down to their local churches for an afternoon, "Easter Experience", exploring Holy Week, the stories from Palm Sunday through to the Resurrection. The children really enjoy both experiences. During our assemblies we have between four and 11 pupils dress up in costume acting out the bible stories (with 15 minutes rehearsal times – when we are lucky) with a narrator and during the church sessions provide an interactive session with the entire year group. Neither of these programmes could be delivered without the volunteers who make them happen and the school's willingness to participate.

Sunday 4th May is our Annual Parishioners Meeting, immediately after the service, where members on the church Electoral Roll have the opportunity to vote for the next years Churchwardens (should there be more than two candidates). This is followed by the Annual Parochial Church Council Members meeting, where we review the year of 2024's performance in the form of our Annual Report which covers everything from finances to services, to outreach and pastoral care within our communities. It is a great report to understand what the church has been up to, areas of concern and areas of success. Please feel free to come along.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter and look forward to writing to you with an update on our search for a new Priest in Charge in due course.

Stephen Baker

Church Services in April 2025

Wednesday 2nd April

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Sunday 6th April

9.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00 am Any Age Service

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 13th April (Palm Sunday)

9.30am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Holy Communion

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Wednesday 16th April

10.00 am Holy Communion (said BCP)

St John the Evangelist, Eton

Thursday 17th April (Maundy Thursday)

7.00 pm Foot Washing and Tenebrae Service

St James the Less, Dorney

Friday 18th April (Good Friday)

11.00 am Meditation on the Cross

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 20th April (Easter Day)

5.30 am Sunrise Service

St Mary Magdalene, Boveney

9.30am Holy Communion

St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Morning Worship

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

Sunday 28th April

9.30am Morning Worship

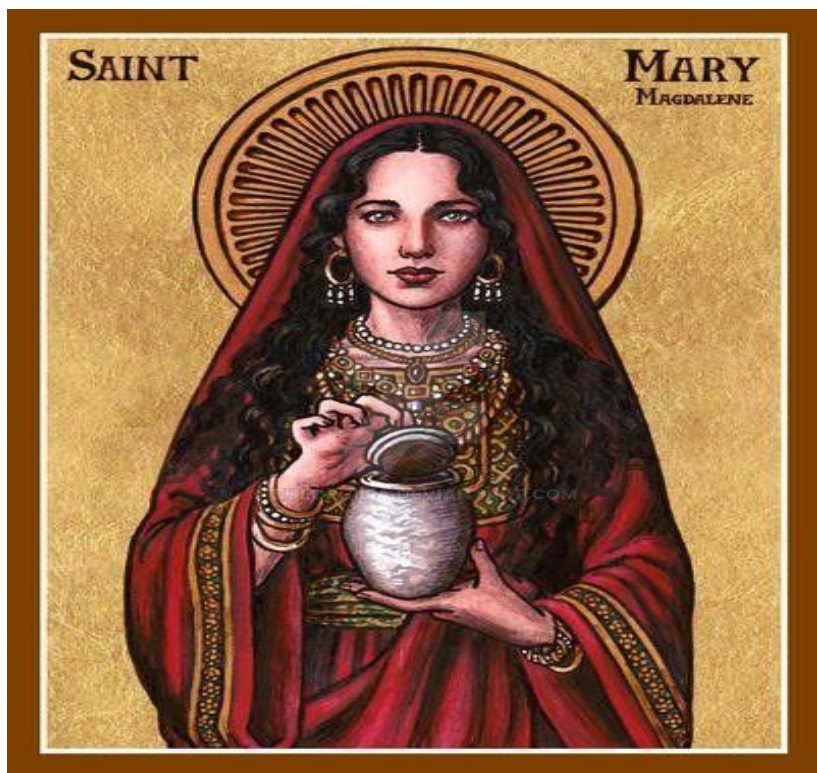
St James the Less, Dorney

11.00am Morning Worship

St John the Baptist, Eton Wick

St. Mary Magdalene

Apostle to the Apostles



Invite you to an Easter Vigil Service on
Sunday 20th April 2025 at 05:30a.m.

At the riverside church of
St. Mary Magdalene, Boveney
Please wear warm clothes.

Time is passing by, leaving its marks on our lives in the form of minutes, days, and years. As time goes by, our children grow up and transform, and we also change as we watch them.



So, why not cherish those precious moments now?
You can capture them and create beautiful wall art for your
home and soul that will freeze those fleeting moments in
time.

The Studio
9 Oak Stubbs Lane, Dorney Reach
Maidenhead, Buckinghamshire SL6 0DW

T. 07878162452

E. richard@shymansky.co.uk

 ShymanskyPortraitPhotographer

Shymansky



British Institute of
Professional Photography



DORNEY
PARISH COUNCIL

***Help shape the future of
our Parish
Become a Parish Councillor***



***Last date of Registration 11th April 2025
Elections take place on 1st May 2025***

For full details please go to the Electoral Commission website:

www.electoralcommission.org.uk and select Our Guidance tab.

Or contact Ruth Senior, our Parish Clerk: clerk@dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk



ADMIRE CARE LTD

PROVIDING QUALITY CARE, EVERY DAY

**CARING FOR YOU OR
YOUR LOVED ONE,
IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR
OWN HOME**

Tel: 01628 604555

Email: office@caah.co.uk

Please ring for discounted rate.

Great News from Dorney Playground

If you have been following the activities of Dorney Playground Management Group, you will know that we have spent the last year raising money to install a fence around the playground.

The great news is that the order for the fence is in and installation will start week beginning 24th March. It should take 3-4 days to complete.

At the same time as Commercial Play is installing the fence they will also replace the surface of the zip wire platform. The fabric has become very worn, slippery and has a tear in it which could become a trip hazard.

The other great news is that, that very same week, the tennis court and MUGA court are to be power-washed and treated for moss. At some point the courts will need to be resealed and repainted, but we don't have the funds for that at the moment.

So let's celebrate

In order to celebrate all this, we are going to have a party on:

Thursday 3rd April; 15.15 – 17.00

It will be at the playground (outside Dorney Village Hall). There will be a barbeque with burgers and hot dogs to buy plus other food and drinks, with face painting for kids.

Everyone invited.

Dorney Playground has two **gofundme** pages. One for the maintenance of the tennis court, which is free to use and one for playground maintenance and improvements. So, if you would like to donate to either, please use the QR code below or contact us, using the information below, for our bank account details.



Dorney Playground Management Group
07737053409
Playground4Dorney@gmail.com



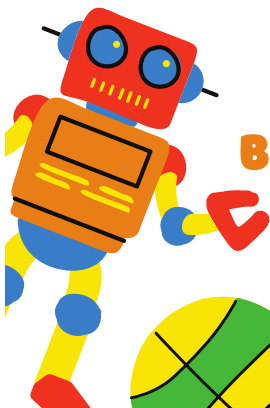
DORNEY **PLAYGROUND**

Fence Grand Opening

THURSDAY 3RD APRIL

3:15PM - 5:15PM

**BBQ, DRINKS, ICE CREAMS
AND MORE
FACEPAINTING £1**



“I got a license to kill, and you know I’m going straight to your heart.”

I don’t think I’ve ever watched the Oscars, but I heard that at this year’s ceremony there was a musical tribute to James Bond featuring several contemporary singers covering several of the theme tunes. My favourite Bond is *obviously* Sean Connery (eshpecially hish shcences with Urshula Andresh in Dr No), but my favourite Bond theme is probably “Live and Let Die” by Wings. It’s extraordinary that someone with a back catalogue like Paul McCartney then wrote this slightly odd (the middle section!) but very dynamic showstopping, firework laden highlight of his live sets for a movie. I just watched a video on YouTube of the 82 (!!) year old performing it in Buenos Aires last year. While his voice may be fading, the power of the song and the reaction of the crowd were undeniable. *Live and Let Die* was Roger Moore’s first outing as Bond and featured the very memorable scene where he (or at least his stunt double) uses some crocodiles as stepping stones to cross a swamp and escape from the bad guys.

However, it was the delightful Gladys Knight’s monumental “License to Kill” I was singing this week as I read about the rather fantastic news that after years of research and consultation, the UK government had finally approved the license to release beavers into the wild in England. Beavers were hunted to extinction in the UK 400 years ago for their fur, meat and castoreum. As I think I have mentioned in these pages before, beavers are a keystone species that through their damming behaviour, create incredible wetland habitat for a myriad of other species and also provide benefits such as improvements in flood control and water quality for us. Their ability to retain water on the land has also been shown to improve grazing for farmed animals in drought and to help mitigate against forest fires. When you visit beaver habitat you feel a primeval connection to landscapes that for us are completely unfamiliar, but are very evocative of how things were.

Licensed wild beavers have already been released in Scotland last year, and in England there are perhaps already at least five hundred beavers in enclosures or that have been “beaver bombed” into places like the River Otter in Devon, where a healthy population has been popular with locals and tourists alike. Occasionally landowners resent their presence, and it made me feel very proud to be British to see two beavers translocated from the River Tay in Scotland (where they were in conflict with a farmer) to be released in Little Sea, Purbeck, which looks like a glorious wetland habitat perfect for beavers.



The Loch Tay beavers released in
Purbeck



Harcourt Roe-d Block

I would be thrilled if the Jubilee River became home to some wild beavers. I really believe this could be a turning point in the ongoing decline of biodiversity and offer some hope for nature and species restoration. I have contacted Berks Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust to see if they are applying for a release in our area. I really hope they are, and I also hope local landowners will welcome it with an open mind and appreciate the benefits beavers bring if it does happen.

One species that needs no licensing for release are the deer populations which continue to explode across the UK. As much as they need to be controlled, I was delighted to see four roe deer on Harcourt Road one Friday night recently when my son and I returned from rock climbing in Reading. They were unfazed by my van and the headlights and hung around looking like they owned the place.



I'm writing this on the evening of the 8th March and I had a very enjoyable day in the glorious sunshine in the garden today giving some of the hedges a final prune before nesting season. My 13-year-old son Finlay also had his first go at cutting the grass which was some well appreciated help. As you can see my neighbour Theo shared a photo of our pair of Little Owls getting ready for the nesting season, although a cheeky parakeet has also been checking out their box! After a week spent working from home it was fantastic to get outside and I saw my first (big fat bumble) bees of the year, the first ladybird and the first butterflies: a large white, a red admiral and two commas. The red kites were in attendance as usual as well as easily identifiable pheasants, robins, song thrush, blackbird and various tits and finches. My Merlin app also revealed the presence of highlights such as chiffchaff, redwing, linnet, siskin, blackcap, goldcrest, firecrest, skylark and great spotted and green woodpecker.

I was having so much fun in the spring sunshine surrounded by birdsong, I even missed the weekend's Six Nations games :-)

Andrew Oliver

Poll Position – the 2025 Bucks Council Elections on May 1st



Dorney residents have been asked to wield a stubby pencil behind the screens in Dorney Village Hall a fair bit in recent years, but, well, here comes another (important) election. On Thursday May 1st we can vote for our chosen representatives on Buckinghamshire Council. Bear with me, but it is worth noting two major changes from past local elections. Firstly, the

structure of the Council is radically changing and secondly, those councillors we vote in will represent a rather different area (to be precise, 'ward') than in the last few elections.

What is happening across England on May Day? 14 of the 21 county councils in England will hold elections plus 8 unitary authorities, one of which is Buckinghamshire. There will be mayoral elections, but not in these parts. In principle, each parish council in Bucks, including Dorney, would hold elections – please see announcements on standing in these elsewhere in this issue.

The last such elections in this county were in May 2021. 147 councillors were elected and by late 2024 the state of the parties was Conservatives 110 councillors, Liberal Democrats 18, Labour 6, Greens 1 plus 12 various Independents. The previous pre-2020 County Council had only 49 councillors. The inflated 2021-25 number was because all previous county councillors plus those from the four former district councillors had formed a 'shadow authority' to oversee the move to a Unitary Authority.

New ward boundaries have been drawn up and this enables a reduction in the number of Bucks councillors from the inflated 147 to 97. So, we will have a smaller council, but in addition the Local Government Boundaries Commission has declared that the boundaries of those 49 wards will change, and the changes involving Dorney are considerable.

Dorney and Taplow had been included in Cliveden ward which includes only parts of Burnham, but now, from 2025, these two plus the whole of Burnham are grouped together in a much larger 'Burnham' ward. Dorney Parish Council (and Taplow) opposed this (justifiably I think) because the parishes were 'distinct from the more densely populated Burnham parish'. A somewhat different social make up does look as though it has created slightly different Burnham voting patterns in recent parliamentary elections. But our new ward will return 3 councillors while three quarters of Bucks wards will have only one or two. Each elector can vote therefore for up to three candidates. We could be represented by councillors of different political persuasions; at the moment our three representatives are all Conservatives.

At this point we can't tell who is officially standing, and, anyway, we'll leave that to the candidates. We do hear that hustings for all candidates are planned for Burnham Park Hall at 3pm on April 13th. If you're registered to vote, you will probably have received your polling card by now. You can apply to register by April 11th. Postal votes can be applied for by April 14th and proxy votes by April 23rd.

In 2021 we registered a turn out of 33% of the electorate, around average for local elections. Please vote...the way democracy around the world is heading who knows how long we will enjoy this fundamental right.

Peter Bowman



Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is an opportunity to ask questions that are important to you as a resident of Dorney.

Tuesday, 20th May 2025

7.30 pm

Dorney Lake Boathouse

Everyone welcome. Come and join us for the Annual Meeting in The Lake View Room, have a chat with your local community groups and councillors.

Lift available. Refreshments will be served.

Agenda on www.dorneyparishcouncil.gov.uk





DORNEY

PARISH COUNCIL

Action Plan 2024/2025
Updated: 18th March 2025

		In Progress
		Completed
Action	Purpose	
Heritage		
Review of Dorney Conservation Area	Consider expansion to include other parts of Dorney Village and Lake End	NP Working Group
Orchard Herbs Site	Work with Burnham PC and Bucks Council for new enforcement notice/injunction and to revert to permitted usage as soon as possible.	Robert Stopford
Orchard Herbs Site - Hotel Application	Support Appeal Dismissal	Robert Stopford
Environment		
Review management of roadside verges	How to manage a less manicured look	Jill Dax
Planting at Dents Corner, Marsh Lane/Harcourt Road areas	Improve appearance of Dorney Reach entrance and centre of Dorney Village	Jill Dax
Thames Water Field Rewilding	Proposal sent to Thames Water for local volunteers	Jill Dax
Trumper's Field, Dorney Reach Review	Review ownership and usage	NP Working Group
Memorial Garden, Village Road	Review planting in Memorial Garden	Jill Dax
Memorial Garden, Village Road	Conduct Tree Survey	Parish Clerk
Trail bikes in fields and on Jubilee River footpaths	Work with Slough, EA, police to prevent trail bike incursion on Jubilee River/local fields & footpaths	Jill Dax/Robert Stopford
Annual Footpath Audit	Ensure all footpaths are usable and maintained according to standards.	Cath Knight, Chiltern Society. 07887 643846
Volunteer litter-pickers	Continue to support large group of volunteers with necessary equipment	Jill Dax
Best Kept Village competition	Consider re-entering in 2025 - involving Dorney Horticultural Society and others.	
Dorney Lake	Meetings with Dorney Lake to gain summer access for residents	Jill Dax
Community		
Transfer of Dorney Village Hall charity to DPC	In consideration	Anna Palmer/Parish Clerk
Possible parish boundary change - Lake End	Support parish boundary change	Robert Stopford
Planning and Architecture		
Complete Neighbourhood Plan	Support Neighbourhood Plan Working Group as required	NP Working Group
Infrastructure		
Potholes	Pressure on Bucks Council to repair all potholes on FixMyStreet	All
Resurface certain roads	Pursue previously agreed resurfacing of certain roads	Jill Dax/Parish Clerk
Dangerous Parking outside Pineapple	Resolve dangerous parking at the junction of Ashford Lane and Lake End Road	Jill Dax
Village Road Cattle Grid	Pressure Bucks Council to make good and reduce noise	Martyn Westcott-Wreford
Review reduction in speed limits	Lake End Road (Sainsbury's into Dorney): reduce speed limit from 60mph to 40mph. £10,000.	
Review reduction in speed limits	Common Road/Boveney Road: reduce speed limit from 60mph to 40mph using National Parks precedent	Parish Clerk
Review reduction in speed limits	Marsh Lane (from entry to Dorney)/Court Lane: reduce speed limit from 40mph to 30mph. £10,000.	
Reduce speed on entry to Parish	Review installation of white entry gates on verges - Dorney Reach at Marsh Lane from Taplow and Lake End Road from Sainsbury's	Jill Dax/Parish Clerk
Replace damaged Dorney Sign at Tilstone Bridge		Jill Dax/Parish Clerk
Install Wildlife warning sign on Marsh Lane		Parish Clerk
Reduce amount of street furniture and signage	Annual Street Furniture/Signage Review	Stephen Baker
Flooding of Lake End Common (Ashford Lane)	Investigate flooding on Lake End Common/Ashford Lane with Thames Water and Environment Agency	Parish Clerk

Dorney Parish Council Update

Successful Sunday – Community Litter Pick

A huge thank you to the 19 residents who joined our latest litter-picking event! Together, we covered key areas from Lake End M4 bridge, part of Dorney Common, Jubilee River, Thames Path, Marsh Lane and Trumpers Field. With sturdy grabbers supplied by Bucks Council and DPC, we cleared a significant amount of litter. Some will be taken to the local tip, while the rest awaits collection by Bucks Council.

We're planning another litter-picking event in October, but in the meantime, DPC has purchased additional grabbers. If you regularly pick up litter during your walks around the parish, please contact Jill Dax to 'grab a grabber' and some extra bags!

Exciting News for Dorney Village Hall

Dorney Parish Council is pleased to announce that the Charities Commission has approved the transfer of Dorney Village Hall to DPC. From 1st April 2025, DPC will become the sole trustee of the hall. While the hall remains financially independent, we plan to make improvements to the building and its surroundings to ensure it continues to be a valued and thriving venue for the community.

Stay tuned for further updates and thank you for your continued support!

Therapy, Coaching and Hypnotherapy

Karen Kimberley (BA, DCH, DHP, NLP, GQHP, MAC, ITOL) is a Taplow-based therapist and coach specialising in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP), Counselling & Hypnotherapy to help with:



- Lack of confidence and low self esteem
- Anxiety and depression
- Communication, business or relationship problems

**Contact Karen: kk@karenkimberley.co.uk
to arrange an initial conversation**

or call 07785 566468



The Engagement Ring

www.theengagementring.co.uk

www.lifecoach-directory.org.uk/lifecoaches/karen-kimberley

DORNEY SCHOOL

*RESPECT * COLLABORATE * GROW*

News from Dorney School

As we welcome the spring, the children of Dorney school enjoy a range of exciting and educational activities.



Year 6 Easter Cracked! The pupils enjoyed another amazing session with Wayne Dixon and Beth Gomm as they enhanced their understanding and knowledge about the Christian celebration of Easter.



Science Week with Eton College As part of science week learning and our local links the children in Year 1 and Reception had a workshop today from Eton College students all about Minibeasts. They discussed with the children's different classifications of minibeasts and completed some fun learning activities alongside the children.



World Book Day It was lovely to see pupils and staff all ready to go to bed first thing in the morning! What a wonderful day full of activities celebrating authors, stories and books.

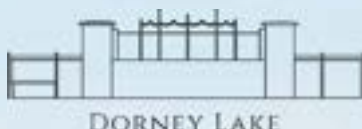
Girls' Football Day It has been lovely to see so many girls enjoying playing football. Each class had a short session of learning a few skills. Girls in particular had their own pitch to experience and explore. We have a brand new all girls' football team (Years 5 and 6) coached by own Mrs Hughes.



Do arrange to visit our school by emailing office@dorneyschool.co.uk or look us up on our website <https://www.dorneyschool.co.uk/>

Mrs S Lee, Headteacher

Create.Inspire.Together.



Your space... for inspirational away days

Big, or small; enjoy unforgettable corporate experiences within our 400 acres of spectacular grounds and World-Famous Rowing Course.

From activities to enhance your meeting or conference, to full-team Away Days and Charity Fundraisers; speak to our events team today to book for Summer 2025!

info@dorneylake.co.uk . 01753 370370 . www.dorneylake.co.uk

Dorney Horticultural Society - March Event

On Thursday March 6th over thirty members of the Dorney Horticultural Society enjoyed an interesting and most informative afternoon talk. John Barker and William Emmett, two local farmers, regaled us with stories about farming around Dorney, today and yesteryear.

Our members fitted snugly into the cafe annex at Crocus and enjoyed very personal accounts of how John Barker and his family moved from London to set up various farms around the area and how William's father bought farms for his three sons, all growing different crops.

In the early days when the Barkers owned West Town Farm everything was done by hand, as expected, and as John described washing the radishes by rubbing them together William instinctively started rubbing his hands together. John also talked about the use of horses on the land and how long it took to get the produce to market. Even when John had lorries to speed up transportation, the lorries could only be driven at 20 mph all the way to New Covent Garden Market.

William went on to explain how, over the years with the advent of supermarkets and technology, farming changed. His brother also called John, who William had worked with since he was 15 years old, was instrumental in deciding which crops to grow and he was very successful in forecasting the markets and requirements.

Before his brother sadly died a few years ago, William suggested he and John walk around the food markets of Southall and there they saw fresh herbs that were being bought on a daily basis. They decided at that point to start growing the herbs that are now grown today in the many fields around Dorney. You can smell the fragrant coriander when it is being picked!

William also talked about how the soil quality determined which crops would flourish and how important it is to know your soil's pH level; you can buy kits today which do this easily for you.

The afternoon was very special, and we would like to thank both John and William for their time and effort. They declined any payment, so we have sent a donation to TVAP on their behalf.

The afternoon concluded with tea and cakes in the cafe, skilfully served by Committee Members Gilly and Janet which helped to round off the afternoon very nicely. Our thanks also go to the staff at Crocus and Peter Leach, the General Manager, for making the room so welcoming.

Finally, some of you may not be aware that our Secretary, Peter Bowman, reluctantly stepped down from the committee at the end of 2024 due to pressures of work. Peter served on the committee for many years and will be sorely missed.

A few years back we found ourselves down to just four committee members including Peter and the future of the society looked bleak, however we managed to keep things going to the point we are at now with your support, we now have record membership numbers and a strong committee.

Peter has pledged his continued support through Dorney Parish News and at our Annual Show. On behalf of our members, the committee and myself a very big thank you.

Ron Alsworth - Chairman

**Dorney Horticultural Society Presents
A Talk on Dorney Wildlife
Friday April 25th - 7.30 pm**



Dear members and friends of the horticultural society, we are very pleased to invite you to our next event 'Dorney Wildlife - How can I Help'
This event will be held in the Village Hall, Dorney Reach.

The evening will start off with a hot supper of Cottage Pie with vegetarian option supplied by Chrys Fisher of the Palmer Arms. Don't forget to bring your own glasses and drinks.

This will be followed by an informal talk and presentation on the wildlife around Dorney and what we can all do to help. This will be delivered by Andrew (Olly) Oliver who, apart from his day job, is a local wildlife enthusiast and conservationist. We do hope you can come and join us. Details are as follows:

Date: Friday April 25th - 7.30 pm - Dorney Village Hall

Entrance is £10 per head for members and £12 per head non-members.

Please book your place by email: ddhs@btinternet.com or with any committee member. Please let us know if you require the vegetarian option.

Bank details for payment by BAC's is:

Dorney Horticultural Society (Business Account)

Sort Code: 01-08-15

Account No. 53987179

Please use your 'SURNAME' as the payment reference followed by 'WILDLIFE'

We look forward to seeing you all on the 25th.



I hope this update finds everyone in Dorney well. It has been wonderful to see the sun shining over the past few weeks, even if the chill in the air reminds us that spring is still settling in! The bright weather makes for the perfect opportunity to enjoy a refreshing walk around Dorney Common—one of Dorney's brilliant spots.

Locally, I'm pleased to hear that speed tubes have now been installed to monitor traffic volume and speed on Dorney Common. This is a positive step on an issue your dedicated Parish Councillors have been working hard to address. Their persistence is truly commendable, and I will continue to follow developments closely to ensure progress continues.

Just next door in Burnham, I know many residents value Burnham Library as a vital hub for our community. Libraries offer so much more than books—they provide a space for learning, connection, and support for all generations. I am deeply concerned about proposed reductions to the library's services and have written to the Council to make sure local voices are heard loud and clear. I am proud to stand alongside our hardworking Unitary and Parish Councillors in fighting to keep this important resource fully open.

Across Beaconsfield, Marlow, and our South Bucks villages, we are incredibly lucky to have fantastic small businesses that bring so much vibrancy to our communities. In February, I had the privilege of celebrating some of these brilliant local enterprises in Parliament, highlighting their innovation and the crucial role they play. However, I am deeply concerned that the current Labour Government's policies—such as increased taxes and the Employment Rights Bill—are making it harder for small businesses to thrive. These businesses need our support now more than ever.

Finally, as many of you know, I am passionate about protecting wildlife and ensuring that those who harm animals face the full force of the law. When we were in Government, we introduced the Animal Welfare (Sentencing) Act 2021, increasing the maximum prison sentence for animal cruelty from six months to five years—one of the toughest penalties in Europe. But there is still more to do. Recently, I attended an event in Parliament to discuss how we can strengthen protections and tackle the ongoing threats to wildlife. This remains a cause close to my heart, and I will continue to push for stronger protections both locally and nationally.

As always, I would love to hear from you about any concerns or issues affecting our community. Please do not hesitate to get in touch. I hope everyone across Dorney has a fantastic month ahead and let's hope the sun keeps shining!

Joy Morrissey MP

MEET, DRINK & EAT *Dorney*



THE PALMER ARMS

Classic British food using the freshest seasonal ingredients. From light lunches, more formal a la carte menu and delicious traditional Sunday roast dinners.



THE PINEAPPLE

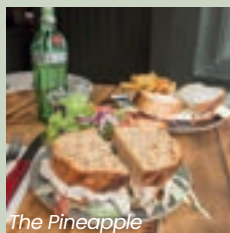
Famous for our extensive Pineapple Sandwich menu and a choice of freshly made stonebaked pizza. We also offer sandwiches and pizza takeaway, just give us a call with your order!



The Palmer Arms



The Palmer Arms



The Pineapple



The Pineapple

The Palmer Arms
Village Rd, Dorney, Windsor SL4 6QW
www.thepalmerarms.com
01628 666612



The Pineapple
Lake End Rd, Dorney, Windsor SL4 6QS
www.thepineappledorney.co.uk
01628 662353

Call of the Wild

"My battery is running out! Replace!" announced my cell phone.

"Yeah," I thought. "Another way to screw another few pounds out of Quincey's cash," but sadly, it wasn't kidding as the phone slowly headed towards that great cloud in the sky.

The battery was built in and not replaceable; I always fancied an i phone having been bullied by tecky friends trying to solve my never-ending queries.

"For Heaven's sake, get an iphone Mike!" was the common plea.

"£1000 for a phone?" I was aghast, until I was told there is a thriving business in 'refurbished' phones at less than half the price.

I entered such an emporium in Maidenhead like a new boy in school. Three large men viewed me like cats staring at an inexperienced mouse, the advice from a dear expert friend, "You need an i13 with 256 giggle bits in it," rolling round my head.

"Have you got a refurbished i13 with 256 giggle bits in it please?" I asked them.

Outside the shop one of them pointed out such a phone clearly marked and priced at £499. That's more like it! I began to relax and soon left with my prize.

Back home I proudly presented it to my guru. "It's only got 128 gigglebits in it," he announced as he expertly pressed buttons to reveal its guilty secret. "Take it back."

More fruitless free car park hunting next day compelled me into a viciously expensive car park and I trudged back to the shop.

"It's only got 128 gigglebits. I asked for 256." The manager viewed me with suspicion.

"Are you sure?"

"Yes. Definitely."

With a roll of his eyes he checked and took me to the front window again, pointing to another. Back in the shop, he gave me the bad news.

"We will exchange it, but this is a better phone and is £550."

I swallowed hard, recalling my rapidly expiring Android. (It's a phone!)

We settled on £530, I trudged back to the Dagenham Dustbin, and at home plugged in my 2nd prize.

Nothing happened. I checked the lead and ensured it was switched on. Nothing!

My ever-patient expert confirmed my suspicion. "It won't charge," he stated like a funeral director. "Take it back."

More expensive car park next day, another trudge through the rain and another visit to the emporium where I now faced three backs.

I coughed loudly. One turned round.

"It won't charge," I stated. He took the produced offending phone.

"Let me check." It disappeared to a nearby bench out of my sight.

"It's fine," he said pushing it back to me. "It works for us." and turned away dismissively.

"But not for me or my expert," I said loudly causing the only other vic., sorry, customer, to look round.

"I want my money back." He walked away. "We don't do refunds on phones."

"Well, you didn't say that when you sold it to me. You," I said pointing to one of the others, "sold me the wrong phone by accident or design, and you sold me a phone that doesn't work, so I want my money back now."

"We don't do"



The Studios School of Performing Arts

Classes 2024/2025

Thursdays-

The Teen Studio

5:45pm-7pm

Ages 13-18

The Adult Studio

7pm-8:30pm

Saturdays-

The Vocal Studio

9am-10am

The Studios SOPA

9:30 - 12:30

Ages 5 - 16 years .

(come for 1.2 or 3 hours the choice is yours!)

Dorney Village Hall , SL6 0DS

Do you want.....

- * Improved Self confidence ?
- * Improved social skills ?
- * To make friends and have fun ?
- * To learn in a friendly & supportive environment ?
- * To be taught by working Industry Professionals ?
- * Opportunities to audition for TV , Film & Theatre ?

Classes cover

- *Acting
- *Singing
- *Dance
- *Voice
- *Devising
- *Audition technique
- *Sight reading
- *Public speaking
- *Lamda examination prep

We are thrilled to offer a FREE trial session so please

Call or email us today to book your place !

www.studiosschool.com

07710 968642 - studiosschool@hotmail.com

I grabbed the phone. "OK. I'll close you down."

I stood outside the shop fuming. A lady appeared and looked in the window.

"Please excuse me Madam, but I wouldn't shop there if I were you. They have just ripped me off £530 on this phone that doesn't work."

"Thanks for that," she said and walked away. Two young men stopped shortly after, and I went through the same routine.

"Oh, thanks mate," they grinned and walked off. Another group appeared and I said, "Excuse me please, but..."

"Hey Mister, come back into the shop and I will give you your money back." Once inside he tried to sell me another; sealed this time, indicating a whole new unsealed saga for someone perhaps.

"The trust has gone. Are you going to give me my money back or not?" I headed back to the door.

"No, no, put your card into the machine and I will refund it. I am losing money now. Put in your pin."

It refused to take my pin and after three attempts I gave up. It had accepted £530 anyway; I read the printout carefully. On the way home I stopped for fuel.

"The card's no good," stated the cashier. In my anger I had put the pin to my phone into the card. Now no card! My guru suggested an online purchase. I put aside my aversion to the 'A' word and shortly a lovely gold super-phone arrived minus a charger.

"Thirty-eight pounds," the uncaring lady thrust the card reader at me across a high street emporium counter without looking up.

"How much?" I exclaimed. There was no response, I paid and left crestfallen. I later refunded that too and got the same for £12.99 from a little shop. Wild indeed for the old and uninformed.

Much has been discussed and written about the shortcomings of the much admired and criticized NHS; indeed this column has occasionally aired its fair share.

But consider this.

A dear male friend, about my age was pottering one evening as we do when he suddenly clutched a nearby support as he felt dizzy, breathless and unwell. It lasted for a few anxious minutes and just as suddenly eased, and being a bloke, thought no more about it and carried on.

The next morning the sensation returned with a vengeance; he felt properly ill and wisely dialled 999 and called for an ambulance. The call taker took details and pushed the panic button. About fifteen minutes later it arrived on blue lights and what a police friend called woop-woops, a quick check of his vitals, placed in a wheelchair and, lights flashing and sirens crashing, he was delivered to Wexham A&E where within 10 minutes he had a stent inserted and after 4 careful days in recovery where the treatment was second to none, he was discharged. The entire team from the call taker through the ambulance crew to the surgeons, nurses, ward clerks and other staff, most of whom I have met did everything perfectly and saved his life.

When it works, as it mostly does, it is jaw droppingly brilliant.

He can't stop talking about it, and his gratitude extends beyond words, as do his wife's and friend's.

Stay safe.

Mike Quincey

crocus

at
DORNEY COURT



Our address: Court Ln, Dorney, Windsor SL4 6QP

Opening hours: 9am - 5pm 7 days a week

Cafe open: 9am - 5pm (Kitchen closes at 4pm)

☎ Group Bookings

♻ Plant pot recycling

🌿 Walled gardens to explore

Visit us at crocus.co.uk/dorney-court/

crocus
at
DORNEY COURT

Making beautiful possible

**MINUTES OF THE DORNEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
TUESDAY 18th MARCH, 7.30pm AT DORNEY SCHOOL**

Present

Cllr. Jill Dax (Chair) Cllr. Stephen Baker Cllr. Euan MacLennan
Cllr. Anna Palmer Cllr. Martyn Westcott-Wreford Cllr. Robert Stopford
County Cllr. Kirsten Ashman
Clerk Ruth Senior and 5 members of the public

Public Forum

The Taplow New town topic was raised by a resident. Dorney Parish Council confirmed that there have been no decisions on this, there are many sites being considered and the Govt. Task Force working on the project will be releasing the proposed sites in the summer. Dorney are working together with Taplow and Burnham to write to the Task Force with issues that need to be considered before a decision is made.

A resident raised concerns over the planning application at Boveney Court Farm, to be discussed in full under the planning item on the Agenda.

PC/15/25 Apologies for absence

None received

PC/16/25 Declaration of interest on any items of business on this Agenda

Cllr. Palmer declared an interest in the Boveney Court Farm planning application.

PC/17/25 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2024

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

PC/18/25 To receive the Clerk report

The Clerk reported updates on items from previous minutes, not on today's agenda.

PC/10/25 Traffic build up outside Therapeutic School at drop off and pick up times – the school head James Lynch advised that they would marshall the gate at these times to ensure a smoother traffic flow. This has been very successful and alleviated the problem.

PC/12/25 Signage – The Local Area Technician has confirmed that the broken sign on Dorney Common will be replaced soon now that the artwork has been re-produced. The missing direction sign to Dorney Village Hall will be replaced and the Welcome to Dorney sign on Lake End Road will be moved to the new boundary edge but may be part of a county wide project.

PC/68/24 Speeding on Dorney Common – speed tubes have now been put down in two positions across the Common to assess the situation, the Clerk has written to Cabinet Member Steven Broadbent to ask if this will track average speed or just speed across the two sites.

PC/19/25 To discuss recent Safety/Security/Policing events

The Parish Council received an update on questions put to PCSO Angela O'Connell:

- Motor cycles on Dorney Common, Jubilee paths and Dorney Lake – The police are very aware and continue to monitor the situation however due to access and the layout of the areas it is difficult to prevent them accessing the locations or identify the riders.

The Parish Council add, please do not approach these motorcycle riders for your own safety, please immediately report their presence to the police

- Sexual predator around the area – This is still an ongoing investigation, residents are reminded to be vigilant and keep safe.
- Vehicle set alight – This was a stolen vehicle driven around the Jubilee area. The gate where they accessed has been secured now and the vehicle removed.

PC/20/25 Items of business carried forward

20.1 The Neighbourhood Plan

The progress of the plan has slowed somewhat whilst awaiting a funding/grant application to pay for a consultant to take the plan to the next stage. Cllr. Stopford has asked for confirmation of how the new planning bill being passed through Government will affect Neighbourhood Plans.

PC/21/25 Planning

PL/25/0354/FA Boveney Court Farm – Cllr. Stopford along with local residents has been working on the next objection to this application and thanks were given to a Cynthia Gordon for presenting the issues for objection of the application. **It was agreed** that the Clerk will submit this.

Ongoing applications:

PL/24/3651/VRC Land adjacent to 8-10 Harcourt Close

PL/24/0586/FA Court Farm

No comments to be made on:

PL/25/0648/PNE 2 Meadow Way

PL/25/0489/FA 20 Dorney Reach Road

PC/22/25 To update on the transfer of Dorney Village Hall (DVH) to Dorney Parish Council (DPC)

It was confirmed that the Charity Commission have approved the transfer and changed the Governing Documents to reflect that DPC will take over as the Sole Trustee this from 1st April 2025. DVH and DPC will still remain separate in terms of finances and management.

It was agreed that the Management Committee for DVH will initially be Ruth Senior and Anna Palmer.

The Clerk will liaise with the current DVH Trustees on the next steps and inform DPC.

There has been interest from a local Playgroup to set up at DVH from September, **it was agreed** this will be a positive move for DVH and the Clerk will work with them to progress this.

PC/23/25 Finance

23.1 The cashbook was circulated prior to the meeting and approved.

23.2 The Clerk left the meeting at this point for discussion on the DVH manager role, which will be agreed by the Village Hall Management Committee.

PC/24/25 To receive an update on Dorney Playground

The Playground group have raised an incredible £16,000 to have a fence installed around the playground, an amazing achievement. The grand opening will take place on April 3rd at 3.15pm, all welcome, there will be refreshments and activities available.

PC/25/25 To discuss the May Elections

Local and County Elections will take place on May 1st at Dorney Village Hall. Dorney Parish Council can have 7 Councillors and 3 County Councillors.

We welcome new members to join the Parish Council, nomination forms can be found on the Buckinghamshire website and must be completed and taken to Aylesbury Council offices between 18th March and 2nd April.

For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk.

PC/26/25 To confirm the plans for the May Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council

Annual Meeting

Dorney Lake have kindly offered to host our annual meeting once again – 20th May 6.30pm Annual Parish Council Meeting and 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please keep an eye on our website for information on guest speakers.

PC/27/25 To consider any complaints/comments received from residents

Wildlife warning signage on Marsh Lane – **it was agreed** that the Parish Council will purchase a warning sign to fit on the existing pole.

PC/28/25 Items to consider for discussion at the next meeting on 20th May 2025 @ Dorney Lake

Thames Water update

Dorney Village Hall

www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk



Floor completely sanded and repolished in December 2023!

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.

Licensed to seat 100 people

Children's tables and chairs available

Beechwood suspended dance floor

75 space free car park

From £15 per hour (minimum of 3 hours) for Dorney Parish Residents

Email: bookings.dorneyvh@gmail.com

Online on www.dorneyvillagehall.co.uk



- Carpentry
- Extensions
- Loft Conversions
- Roofing Specialist
- Bespoke Garden Rooms/Offices
- Renovations and Refurbishments

All aspects of building work undertaken – no job too big or too small

07876 275129

varneyandson@gmail.com

www.varneyandson.co.uk

G & J Decorating

Local decorators with 20 years' experience.

All aspects of decorating undertaken to the highest standard.

Free estimates and references available.

Gav 07795 081141

Cleaning & Ironing by Flori

Your cleaning & ironing my mission!

Ironing: £2.50 per 1lb. Minimum 10lbs.
Collection and delivery free.

Cleaning:

- 1 bedroom house is £40 (inc. 1 kitchen, 1 Bedroom, 1 Living Room and 1 bathroom. Any other rooms are £10 extra)
- 2 bedroom house is £50
- 3 bedroom house is £60
- 4 bedroom house is £70

Please contact Flori on 07879626434

Florentinateisanu@yahoo.co.uk

Or on Facebook: Ironing & Cleaning by Flori

I have more than 16 years of experience



Collection calendar

Year	Month	Food waste	Garden waste	General waste	Mixed recycling	Paper and cardboard	Textiles/Batteries/Electricals
2025	Mar	14, 21, 28	21	14, 28	21	21	21
	Apr	4, 11, 19, 26	4, 19	11, 26	4, 19	4, 19	4, 19
	May	2, 10, 16, 23, 31	2, 16, 31	10, 23	2, 16, 31	2, 16, 31	2, 16, 31
	Jun	6, 13, 20, 27	13, 27	6, 20	13, 27	13, 27	13, 27
	Jul	4, 11, 18, 25	11, 25	4, 18	11, 25	11, 25	11, 25
	Aug	1, 8, 15, 22, 30	8, 22	1, 15, 30	8, 22	8, 22	8, 22
	Sep	5, 12, 19, 26	5, 19	12, 26	5, 19	5, 19	5, 19

TYRE FIT

**NEXEN
DEALER**

TAPLOW

We fit tyres at a price that fits you

Need new tyres?

Plus:

**TYRES & EXHAUSTS. BATTERIES.
STEERING. SUSPENSION. SERVICING.
CATALYTIC CONVERTORS. MOTs. TRACKING.
ALLOY WHEEL REFURBISHMENT.**

Old Station Yard,
Station Road,
Taplow, Bucks SL6 0NU

Tel: **01628 665778**
Mobile: **07884 111500**
www.tyre-fit.co.uk

Dorney Parish News

Published monthly (except January and August)

Editors:

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

Bill Dax, bill@daxfamily.com Mobile: 07802 365448 (Production)

Distributors:

Mr Cobb, Mrs Leishman, Mrs McCabe,
Mr Penfold, Mrs Stockwood, Mr Temple
Miss Snook, Mrs Tuddenham, Mrs Wood-Dow

RATE OF SUBSCRIPTION: £7 per annum for 10 issues

Bank Transfer Details: Sort Code 60 04 53, Account Number 13611690

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

Advertising in Dorney Parish News

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

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

Rate Card:

Advertising Rates	Height mm	Width mm	10 issues	1 issue
Full Page	190	130	£100	£13
Half Page	90	130	£55	£8
Third of a page (Horizontal)	60	130	£50	£7
Quarter Page (Horizontal)	45	130	£45	£6

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

Emergency Contact Details		
Dorney Reach (Village Hall) Defibrillator Code		C123X
Trumper's Field (Dorney Village Hall) Security Gates in Meadow Way		07955 672150
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
Water Leaks	Thames Water	0800 316 9800
Sewage Problems	Thames Water	0800 316 9800
Power Cuts	SSE Networks - Central Southern England	0800 072 7282
Gas Leaks	National Grid	0800 111 999
Reporting Pot Holes	www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk	
Reporting Fly-tipping	www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk	
Reporting Footpath Problems	www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk	
Swan Support	24/7 Local Swan Rescue/Rehabilitation	07968 868172

Electrical Services (Burnham)

Napit Part "P" Approved Installer

- Additional Sockets - Lights
- New Fuse Boards - Updates
- Security - Attic Lighting
- Home - Landlords Certificates
- Portable Appliance Testing



Free advice and estimates
All work guaranteed
No job too small

Contact Rob on
07801 832792 or 01628 603063
electricalservicesburnham@gmail.com





THE TRADITIONAL RESTORATION COMPANY LTD

The Coach House, Dorney Court

01628 660708

www.TraditionalRestoration.co.uk
enquiries@TraditionalRestoration.co.uk

Restorers of Fine Antique Furniture

SUSAN HANDY DANCE

FROM BABIES TO ADULTS

A COMPLETE DANCE TRAINING

FREE
TRIAL
CLASS

BABY BALLET 18 MONTH+
PRIMARY BALLET
PRIMARY MODERN
PRIMARY TAP

ACROBATIC ARTS

BALLET

BODY CONDITIONING

CONTEMPORARY

CREATIVE DANCE

GCSE DANCE

MODERN JAZZ

TAP

ADULT BALLET STRETCH
ADULT BALLET
ADULT CONTEMPORARY
ADULT BEGINNERS TAP
ADULT INTERMEDIATE TAP

BOYS CLASSES



ETON WINDSOR DATCHET OLD WINDSOR ETON WICK ICKENHAM
WOKING RICHMOND

WWW.SUSANHANDYDANCE.CO.UK

OFFICE@SUSANHANDYDANCE.CO.UK / 07515 270432

BHS & ABRS Approved Riding School and Pony Club Centre



**Elm Farm, Boveney Road, Dorney Common
Nr Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6QD**

**We are a family run Riding School based on
Dorney Common established for over 45 years!**

- *Qualified Instructors*
- *Lessons available from 7 years upwards*
- *Pony Rides available for children as young as 4.*
- *We offer very popular Birthday parties*
- *Large Indoor and Outdoor schools*
- *Pony Club and Own a Pony activity days*
- *Open 6 days a week, Tuesday-Sunday*

Gift Vouchers available through the website

For bookings and enquiries please call us on

01628 661275

www.spanishbit.co.uk