

WEST HENDRED

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for next Newsletter
25 OCTOBER 2023**

IMPORTANT! Please can we ask that, if you know of any neighbours who may not have access to the internet, you print a copy off for them and pop it through their door. Thank you.

GARD Newsletter for October 2023

Thames Water proposes 150 billion litre reservoir – the largest possible.

Thames Water finally published their Water Resource Management Plan on August 30th. It is not good news. The saga of the Reservoir has been going on so long now that people may feel like giving up – PLEASE DON'T! It has never been more important to act. Thames Water has decided to go ahead with the 'Abingdon Reservoir' – with key developments:

- although we were all consulted on their 100 billion Litre proposal, they have enlarged this to 150 billion Litres - that's 150 million tonnes of water sitting above us, with no apparent room for flood mitigation
- They have ruled out the quicker, we believe cheaper and more environmentally adaptive Severn Thames Transfer, designed to bring fresh water from the Northwest to the more drought-prone Southeast
- Southern Water, planned beneficiary of 2/3 of the reservoir capacity, is challenging the cost and logic of the water transfer scheme from the reservoir
- Thames Water has essentially rejected GARD's and probably your objections too, including the need to challenge the inaccurate population forecasts say they are forced to use

[The Rt Hon Thérèse Coffey MP](#), Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, could agree for Thames Water to proceed within weeks with no further consultation necessary. However, with Thames Water now accused of illegal sewage dumping and their own financial health in doubt, everybody should **take action!**

Lobby your MP: we have support of the Vale of White Horse and Oxford County Councils, and we lobby within the industry, but you can still help:

- If your MP is David Johnston, Wantage (covering Grove, Steventon, East and West Hanney, East and West Hendred, Ardington, Drayton, Garford, Milton, and Sutton Courtenay) you can contact him on david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk It is important to ensure that he actively opposes the reservoir and lobbies Thérèse Coffey

Please copy gard.secretary@gmail.com into any correspondence and see the website for developments
<https://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk/>
Derek Stork Chairman GARD

Holy Trinity West Hendred Oxford Historic Churches Ride and Stride.

This year's sponsored event took place on Saturday 10th September. The weather was HOT!!, reaching 29C, and with only a light wind. I opened Holy Trinity Church at about 9-15 AM, with the first st/rider, Carol Gibbs of Ardington arriving a short while after. A total of at least 9 st/riders visited the church, signing in by the church porch, as Coco and Sid's wedding was in the afternoon.

Hilary Cakebread-Hall, of West Hanney who is the Ride+Stride County Coordinator, said "We think numbers are going to be significantly down due to the intense heat although we know some folk went out very early, visited their churches and were back home by 10! They did this with our blessing, knowing that signing-in would not be feasible." The money raised will be divided equally between The Oxford Historic Churches Trust and Holy Trinity Church West Hendred. We usually receive our portion in late December or early January. OHCT have always been very supportive of us. Most recently, in June they very generously

awarded a feasibility grant of £1,100 – the entire net cost of a structural engineer's inspection and report of the bell frame and its supports. Thank you to all who have sponsored. Hugh Rees.

Join our local Speed Awareness Group

A group of West and East Hendred residents have joined together to raise awareness of speed changes around the two villages. Join our community speed watch group and help make our community safer for everyone.

Training is straightforward, initially half an hour online. Volunteers will be in groups of 3. Timings will be very flexible and could be as little as half an hour a month.

For more details please email Katherine Sanders: kjcrerar@hotmail.com

Poppy Appeal 2023 - A Generation of Service and Sacrifice

As we approach the Poppy Appeal this year we remember 60 years since National Service officially ended, we celebrate and remember a generation of men for whom conscription was an everyday part of life growing up.

Following the Second World War there was a growing demand for military resources in Britain to retain the Empire and contribute to the occupation of Germany and Japan. Britain was a very different place and low birth rates in the 1930s led to the 1947 National Service Act to provide a solution. It meant that all men aged 18–26 were required to serve in the Armed Forces for 18 months. More than 2 million men took part in National Service.

The roles were varied, with posts in the UK and in British garrisons around the world. From fighting on the front line to working as clerks. For many, it was the first time they had lived away from their family, let alone left the country, so National Service provoked mixed emotions. In total, two-thirds of conscripts served in the British Army, around a quarter in the Royal Air Force (RAF) and only a small minority in the Royal Navy.

Basic training was one of the most difficult experiences for many, with conscripts recalling memories of endless drills, uniform checks and boot polishing. The constant shouts and commands from drill sergeants and corporals would unnerve many, and men were expected to know their National Service number off by heart. Additional 'trade training' – such as combat, radar technology or languages – would also be provided for some, depending on their deployment.

Most National Servicemen were based in the UK, with just over half of conscripts in 1954 serving in

Britain. However, many served in British garrisons around the world, from Germany to the Far East. National Service evolved to meet the changing needs placed on the Armed Forces, with men deployed in conflicts such as the Korean War. Living and working so closely together, young men often formed lasting friendships from their time in National Service. Yet National Service wasn't without its sacrifice for the 2 million men who served. In total 395 men lost their lives while on active duty, with many more injured. The names of the fallen are inscribed on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum, in Alrewas, Staffordshire. In Korea, a very small number of conscripts serving in the British Army became prisoners of war. Tragically, although uncommon, a small number of recruits also took their own lives.

The need for ongoing conscription was reassessed in 1957 and on 16th May 1963 Richard Vaughan became the last National Serviceman to be formally demobilised.

My father was a National Serviceman and served in the Army in Egypt during the Suez Crisis. For him and all the others who served we will be collecting for the Poppy Appeal at the end of October. Please give generously.

Nigel Findley

Poppy Appeal Organiser for West Hendred

Harvest Breakfast

Too many Courgettes or Marrows? Wonky Carrots? Why not turn them into a whale?... Or a crocodile? A bee? Make a Vegetable Animal & let your imagination go WILD! Bring them to Church (open every day) & they can help celebrate Harvest. Also collecting produce & dried goods for Charlton Church 'Around Table' helping those in need (Please leave in our church) THANK YOU!

Contact Patsy 835113 or Angela 862912

Holy Trinity Church

Even many years after retiring from the farm, my grandparents would complain that sunny summer weather was 'a bit dry'. This summer has not been like that. The combination of rain and heat has led to nearly uncontrollable growth in the Rectory garden. But the rain brings its own problems when it comes to harvest time. Farmers know better than most how dependent we all are on our environment.

This is why for centuries, in good years and bad, people have gathered in church at the end of the harvest to give thanks for what the earth yielded. The offerings they brought from their harvests helped to build and maintain our churches and

schools and to provide for the poor. Our forebears were far less wealthy than most of us today and yet knew that the common good depended on their generosity.

We continue to be dependent on voluntary donations for the upkeep of building and our general running costs, with no financial aid from the central Church of England. We are therefore looking for more people to pick up the baton from past generations and give generously towards maintaining this ancient and unique place of worship, out of gratitude for the prosperity that we currently enjoy and for the common heritage that we share.

I would be deeply grateful if you would consider a gift for this year's Harvest Thanksgiving, which will take place at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 8th October at 9:30am. All ages are more than welcome – the children traditionally bring vegetable animals to put on display. The service will be followed by a bacon bap brunch to raise funds for charity.

Nikolaj Christensen Rector@wantagedowns.org
tel. 634940

Samaritans Purse Operation

CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX APPEAL 2023

Last year your shoeboxes brought joy and hope to many needy children in Belarus. This year we are once again supporting the appeal and if you would like to participate in the village collection, leaflets are available from Holy Trinity church or from either one of us. Full details/suggestions about how to fill your box are given in the leaflet and we are very happy to answer any questions you may have. A donation of £5 per box is suggested by Samaritan's Purse but this is not mandatory and we welcome all boxes.

Alternatively, it is possible to fill and donate a box online via the website

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Please could we ask that completed shoeboxes are received by us by Tuesday 14th November at the latest so that we can get them to the despatch point in time! These boxes bring so much joy to needy children in many different parts of the world so do please consider taking part in this year's appeal.

Thank you for reading this.

Patsy 835113 Angela 862912

The date for the Parish Council meeting of Ardington and Lockinge (originally Sept 10th) was changed to September 5th and therefore has taken place. Apologies if you intended to be there, but there's still time to send letters of objection or support to the Parish Clerk on ardingtonandlockinge@outlook.com Every voice counts! We will be notified when a specific

meeting is called once the Lockinge Estate is ready to present its proposal.

If you know of anyone who may not have received this notification, please do forward it via email or print off this notification and distribute locally.

We will then send the total number of responses for and against the development to the Estate shortly after this date. Please be assured that the details of your response will be kept confidential. If the concept is taken forward to a formal planning application, we may ask you if your response could be used to object to the planning application.

The Lockinge Estate will mount an exhibition of the development proposals in the Loyd Lindsay Rooms on Saturday 7th October from 11am to 3pm at which representatives from the Estate will be present to discuss the proposals in detail and answer questions.

Jane Humphreys

Clerk to Ardington & Lockinge Parish Council
39 Fyfield Close, Wantage, OX12 8HN

For Sale- Vauxhall Corsa Ideal for young driver

X reg, 23 years old, yet 54,200 miles! petrol 973CC MOT.

Very reliable; low cost – both maintenance and excellent MPG. 5 gear manual; low insurance cost. Full service history.

Sale due to bereavement. £750

Contact: Hugh Rees, 01235-833174

Wanted - Dog Crate

Does anyone have a medium size crate they no longer need to fit 2 little terriers in?

Kind regards and thank you.

Contact Roz Lane

01235 414202

07745006338

Deadline for November newsletter Oct. 25th Send to newsletter@westhendred.net

Can you help?

We need one more helper to join our team editing the Newsletter, about 3 times a year, please contact Jane John at

newsletter@westhendred.net

West Hendred and Ginge Village Hall News

Hall Lettings

All hall enquiries/bookings should be made via email to villagehallbookings@westhendred.net
www.westhendred.net

Current Events

Stop Press – the West Hendred Christmas Fair returns

Saturday, 2nd December, 12pm-3pm. More details to follow.

Games evening 6th October from 6.30pm

The next Games evening (Board, Word, other fun games) will be Friday, 6th October from 6.30pm. £2.50 for adults, 50p for children. This will be mainly for adults, but there will be a children's table if any wish to come. Those up to 12 years must be accompanied by an adult. Beer, wine and soft drinks available.

West Hendred Stitchers - SECOND & FOURTH Tuesdays in the month 10AM to 4PM

West Hendred Stitchers meet on the SECOND and FOURTH Tuesdays in the month.

Any craft. We are a self-help group i.e. we help each other & share our knowledge. We have a lovely light hall with easy access. Coffee & tea provided. Please bring your own lunch.

You are welcome to visit.

Call me , Jane Soffe, for details on 07455076584

Kyokushin Karate Club - from September on Mondays

Attention all beginners!

Ready to kick-start your karate journey? Join our Kyokushin Karate Club in West Hendred Village Hall from September onwards on Mondays.

The costs of the training will be £6/ lesson (reduction for more than one family member).

Children class from 5-5:45pm

Adults class 5:45-7pm.

Beginner-friendly classes designed to empower you, no experience required!

Discover the art of self-defence, build strength, flexibility and confidence.

Expert instructors will guide you every step of the way, ensuring a safe and supportive environment.

Reserve your spot today and unlock your full potential! Call or message now: 07446469488

Pilates - Mat classes Wednesdays 6 -7pm

Classical and modern Pilates exercises, incorporating myofascial release techniques to alleviate stress and muscle tension.

We focus on maintaining and improving the 6 main Pilates principles:

Breath, concentration, control, precision, centring and flow. All levels welcome.

I will provide modifications and more advanced versions of the exercises to suit different abilities.

I provide all mats and equipment, but you are of course welcome to bring your own.

Please get in touch to book your first session or for more information please contact:

Charlie Prince on 07581 462 317, charlie@princepilates.co.uk or visit my website: www.princepilates.co.uk

Yoga at West Hendred Village Hall

Gentle / Chair Yoga

Tuesdays 10 – 11 am (on Zoom)

Wednesdays 10 – 11 am

Hatha Yoga

Wednesdays 4.30 – 5.45

Thursdays 9.30 – 10.45

Please contact me for further information on 01235 863647 or linda@soderstrom.myzen.co.uk.

Not sure if yoga is for you? Contact me and arrange for a free trial lesson.

Linda Davey – British Wheel of Yoga Teacher and Yoga Therapist / Yoga in Healthcare Alliance

Village Hall Committee Contacts

Hugh Rees (Chair) 01235-833174 / 07802-416031, Stefan Povolotsky 07460-727374

YOUR OPINION WANTED!

New Bus Services Around Wantage and Surrounding Areas

Wantage Town Council, working with representatives of the villages to the east and west of Wantage, wishes to establish a local bus service that is readily available to the residents of Wantage and District. This is especially important for those who do not have their own transport or have difficulty in accessing existing public transport services.

The proposed service will connect these people directly with locations such as health centres, supermarkets, town markets. The service is expected to use vehicles able to access residential areas not readily accessible by existing public transport. It is not intended to compete directly with existing public transport services.

We encourage all households to participate by
completing the online survey at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WANTAGESURVEY>

The deadline for completion is 26 OCTOBER

If you are unable to complete the online survey, you can obtain a paper copy of the survey and *Freepost* return envelope in Wantage from: Vale Community Impact (16 Market Place), The Beacon reception area, The Health Centre in Mably Way and Wantage Library. It is also available by contacting Iain Cameron at Wantage Town Council: ian.cameron@wantage-towncouncil.gov.uk.

If you have any queries about the survey, please contact Iain on the email or phone number above. Many thanks for your time – Wantage Town Council

What about my personal data?

The survey is anonymous. Analysis of your feedback will be undertaken on behalf of Wantage Town Council by Community First Oxfordshire (CFO), a community development charity. The survey is anonymous but by completing this survey, you are consenting for your response data to be shared by Community First Oxfordshire and Wantage Town Council. Your data will be processed by CFO and Wantage Town Council in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018). You can read CFO's Privacy Policy <https://www.communityfirstoxon.org/privacy-policy/>. You can read Wantage Town Council's Privacy Notice at: <https://wantage-towncouncil.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>. CFO will provide a summary report on survey findings for Wantage Town Council.