

# The Oaks



## Inside this issue:

<b>Bucklebury Parish Council</b>	
<b>WB Councillor</b>	5
<b>Family</b>	6
<b>Organisations</b>	10
<b>Country Life</b>	12
<b>Halls</b>	16
<b>Sport</b>	17
<b>Contributions</b>	19

## Bucklebury Parish Chairman's Letter

There have been some changes at the Chapel Row Surgery of which all might not be aware. The dispensary and waiting room have swapped places! The dispensary has been refitted and there's now a weather shelter for those queueing at the new serving window. The Surgery recently added three new clinical staff, a paramedic and two pharmacists. This will create more time for the doctors to deal with the more complex medical cases. We are very fortunate to enjoy the services of the Surgery. A recent national survey showed Chapel Row Surgery to be in the top three in West Berkshire. A snapshot from the survey showed positive responses about overall satisfaction, helpfulness and access by the telephone all over 90%.

You will be reading this after the launch of the annual poppy appeal in the run-up to Remembrance Sunday on the 12th of November. May I draw your attention to the Service of Remembrance at St Mary's Church on that day, which many of the Parish Council will be attending to remember those men of Bucklebury who gave their lives selflessly in the service of our country. As an ex-military man myself, I find such an occasion a welcome opportunity to take a few quiet moments to reflect on those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to make sure we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

In recent letters in The Oaks, I have made mention of the 'Bucklebury Says No Campaign' to stop the proposal to initially build 1500 homes in North East Thatcham (THA20). The new administration which took control of West Berkshire Council in May has been in dialogue with the Planning Inspector appointed to independently examine the Local Plan Review (LPR). The Inspector

has asked 77 questions of WBC who completed their responses to him last month. Our parishioners are rightly keen to know what happens next. You can be assured the PC will make its representation at the public examination of the LPR early next year. The situation on THA20 is a standing PC agenda item at our monthly meetings. If there is any significant development on the LPR impacting on Bucklebury we will let you know via the PC website or, if necessary, a public meeting.

At the last PC meeting Alasdair Jones-Perrott, the Steward of Bucklebury Common, briefed the PC and around 30 parishioners on the Estate's plan to work with Natural England to set up a scheme to provide much-needed funding to help look after the Common and restore some lost habitats and species. One key point which emerged was the need for improved communications between the Estate, the Commoners' Association and the PC. These three bodies have had a meeting to consider how this will best work and a report will be given at the November PC meeting.

The PC has consulted widely on concerns about the traffic and parking arrangements at the Cornerpiece (the triangle, bounded by Broad Lane, Burdens Heath Road, and Harts Hill Road, where the Saab garage and adjacent body shop are situated). We have now written to WBC with our suggestions for improvement. A copy of this note is on the PC website.

Finally, I am delighted to report the monthly PC-organised Thursday coffee mornings have gone from strength to strength. While many take the opportunity to come for a good chinwag, it is gratifying to see some of our parishioners who are

Parish Council Chairman:  
Barry Dickens

Parish Council Clerk:  
Helen Pratt

The Oaks Editorial Team  
Editor: Barry Dickens  
Typography: Helen Pratt  
Proofing: Lindy Clarke &  
Anne Hillerton

not able to get out a lot or do much socialising really having a good time. Such has been the attendance that we may have to move from the Oak Room to the larger Main Hall. May I thank all those who organise these sessions, brew the coffee and provide the varied and delicious cakes.

**Cllr. Barry Dickens—Chairman of BPC.**

## **Parish Council Matters Arising**

### **Community Coffee mornings**

Community coffee mornings take place on the last Thursday of every month (including December) in the Oak Room at the Memorial Hall from 10.30am to 12noon.

Everyone is very welcome to come along for some friendly conversation and a free cup of coffee (or tea) and cake. If you enjoy baking and fancy bringing a cake or some buns it would be much appreciated, but is not a necessity!

We look forwards to seeing you on the 30th November!

## **Thursday Coffee Mornings**

**Last Thursday of the month**

**The Oak Room,  
Bucklebury Memorial Hall,  
10.30am – 12 noon**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024**



**All Welcome – come and enjoy a cuppa!**

**If you need a lift, please call**

**Helen on 01635 863581**

## **Bucklebury's Grit Bins**

Since 2019 BPC has been responsible for the 12 Grit Bins in the Parish. These are solely for use on the public pavements and roads in the parish during periods of ice and snow.

By early November these will be recovered from the brambles and restocked ahead of the coming winter. Sadly we continue to find some bins being used for rubbish which makes filling them up an unpleasant task for our volunteers.

Since they came under BPC we have purchased 3.9 tonnes of Gritting Salt. If we have a sustained period of poor weather and you find any of the bins low or empty please inform the BPC Parish Clerk so we can arrange to have them refilled. Likewise if you notice any damage to the bins please report it.

**Cllr. David Southgate**

## **Speeding in Bucklebury**

Addressing speeding in the Parish is seen as a priority activity for BPC based upon the concerns raised. Hopefully you will have noticed BPC's Speed Indication Device (SID) popping up in the 30 mph zones in the Parish thanks to a small team of trained parishioner volunteers. It has two purposes:

1. Educate those who forget it's a 30mph zone
2. Collect data for BPC to inform West Berkshire Council (WBC) and Thames Valley Police (TVP) on the extent of our problem.

Speed is an issue in most parishes and only by providing such data can we show and share the nature of our problem.

SID is not a camera. It uses a sensor mounted on a pole to detect the speed of passing vehicles. It is programmed not to show pedestrians moving at 5 mph or less. Our rural location and lack of suitable street furniture means we use a portable mounting frame built by our local blacksmith. Ground mounted, it can occasionally indicate movement near to the sign but it is programmed to ignore speeds below 5 mph. Speeding in our parish endangers all our lives and those we care for, so it is definitely not a competition - high levels of speeding are recorded but not displayed. You may be shocked to read that the highest speed recorded in our 30mph zones is over 80mph at 3:22 pm on a Friday afternoon.

SID measures two speeds for vehicles driving towards it and a single speed for vehicles going in the opposite direction. This enables a measure of its impact to be determined.

Thanks to a small team of Parishioners we have educated and recorded 155,000+ vehicle movements (17 SID sites across Bucklebury, Chapel Row and Upper Bucklebury) of which 30% exceed 35mph, 1.3% exceed 50mph and 0.1% exceed 60mph. 35mph is quoted as this a National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) speed enforcement guideline (10% plus 2 mph).

Some specific examples:

- Site 011 in Broad Lane has an average speed of 30mph with 20% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 2 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.
- Site 009 in Bucklebury Village has an average speed of 27mph with 1% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 2 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.
- Site 015 in Chapel Row has an average speed of 37mph with 58% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 7 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.
- Site 004 in Burdens Heath has an average speed of 36mph with 55% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 5 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.
- Site 012 in Harts Hill has an average speed of 32mph with 37% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 3 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.
- Site 017 in Hatch Lane has an average speed of 28mph with 13% exceeding 35mph with SID accounting for a 3 mph reduction for vehicles going 30mph and above.

The summary data is periodically updated on the BPC website: <http://www.buckleburyparish.org/community/bucklebury-parish-council-20186/speed-indicator-device-sid/>

The data is analysed on what has become a large Excel spreadsheet using a pivot table. A volunteer to help develop this tool to present the information better for the Parish would be much appreciated as the current format has reached the limit of my capability?

WBC and TVP are encouraging Bucklebury Parish to start Community Speedwatch (CSW) and are looking for our help to address those who ignore our speed limited zones. 12% of all motorists driving in the parish exceed 40mph and they do not respond to the SID reminder. Sadly neither TVP or WBC have the means to provide additional resource and the current levels of enforcement are unlikely to increase. BPC

has joined CSW and this will be will be introduced over the coming months as our sites are approved by TVP based on the SID information.

TVP say *“To help improve road safety, Community Speedwatch provides communities with equipment and training to monitor speeding in their area. Organised by our TVP, in partnership with Community Speedwatch UK, speedwatch groups in the Thames Valley are provided with a starter kit on a loan basis, including a speed detection device, to help volunteers assist in the battle against speeding motorists. Community teams undergo a number of training sessions online and police risk assessments to ensure safety at the roadside. An online platform allows group-related activities to be self-regulated via an online calendar and also provides vehicle make recognition training. DVLA pre-checks logged registration numbers for authenticity before automatically passing data on to the police for further processing.”*

CSW Online (<https://communityspeedwatch.org/>) say *“For many understandable reasons, enforcement and broad-stroke campaigning have made little progress over the past decade, and focused, large-scaled education is currently only organised efficiently in the shape of Speed Awareness Courses after an offence is detected. Research shows that on average 97% of speeding offences (not including Speedwatch observations) are detected by speed cameras. The vast majority of these are fixed at the roadside, in areas known to both local residents and regular commuters, hence - and in spite of the so-called 'Halo-effect', they have little effect in areas not covered by camera technology.*

*Equally relevant - and especially to rural areas where fatalities are four times more likely to happen than in urban areas, the discussion about road safety has a tendency to focus on number of collision casualties alone. In most areas where Speedwatch operates and where speeding evidently is a concern to the communities, the quality-of-life issue as well as feeling safe when using the roads recreationally, are equally important to the affected areas' residents. This is not an attempt at diminishing the dismay of the high number of fatal and seriously injured victims but a reminder that the problem of speeding goes well beyond quantifying its consequences with casualty statistics alone.*

*Inconsistently applied enforcement methodology is not likely to change socially perceived acceptable behaviour if the majority of those caught speeding either are not - or consider themselves habitual speeders. Increased compliance with the law can be achieved with other means than enforcement. In the case of Speedwatch, personalised education is a methodology that is just as efficient to help bring the problem under control. Organising concerned, proactive community volunteers on a grand scale is vital to succeed with this goal.”*

CSW requires a team of 2 to 3 trained Parishioners to deploy for an hour in TVP approved locations to record speeding drivers and send the information to CSW Online for



## Planning

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
22/01442/FULD	<u>Middle Wood, Hatch Lane.</u> Erection of a dwelling with associated parking and landscaping.	No Objection.	Refused. Taken to appeal
23/00280/HOUSE	<u>Red Hill House, Briff Lane.</u> Proposed new extension, door surround and dormer windows.	No Objection	Approved.
23/00656/HOUSE & 23/00657/LBC	<u>The Old Cottage, The Avenue.</u> Single storey side and two storey rear extensions.	No Objection	Refused.
23/00761/HOUSE	<u>Marywell, Chapel Row.</u> Formation of tennis court.	No Objection	Approved.
23/00878/HOUSE	<u>Cyntra, The Slade.</u> Proposed two storey side extension and storm porch and internal alterations.	No Objection	Approved.
23/00813/FUL & 23/00814/LBC	<u>Brockhurst School, Marlston House.</u> Remodelling of the existing class rooms (within the existing converted stables) at Brockhurst and Marlston House Schools to include the introduction of new window and doorway openings, co-join neighbouring rooms and	Support	Approved.
23/00938/FUL	<u>Westfield Stables, Tylers Lane.</u> Conversion of redundant stable to form one dwelling, car parking, landscaping and associated works.	Object	Refused.
23/00562/FUL	<u>Oak Acre House.</u> 28 panels mounted via a ground mounted racking system. The panels will be pitched at 25 degrees with the highest part of the panel sitting ~2m off the surface of the ground. The proposed panels are 'all black' in finish to improve the aesthetic and also make the installation less visually obtrusive. The installation is expected to generate in the region of 11,202 kWh/year which will offset circa 2,201 kgCO <sub>2</sub> /year (based on MCS approved carbon intensity values).	No Objection	Awaiting decision.
23/00981/HOUSE	<u>30 Berry's Road.</u> Single storey front extension and pitched roof to existing dormer.	No Objection	Approved.
23/00996/FUL	<u>Hunts Cottage, Midgham Green (Adjacent Parish)</u> Creation of manege and erection of equestrian store.	No Objection	Approved.
23/01072/FUL	<u>Mount Mist, Harts Hill Road.</u> Demolish existing bungalow and erection of a replacement dwelling and detached garage/car port with associated alterations.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01052/HOUSE	<u>32 Berry's Road.</u> Pitched roof to existing dormer.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01205/FULMAJ	<u>Woottens.</u> Conversion of existing 3-bay carport to provide home gym and secure garage with store over.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01120/HOUSE	<u>River Barn, Marlston.</u> Garage with storage above including demolition of existing outbuilding.	Object.	Approved.
23/01287/HOUSE	<u>43 Broad Lane.</u> External material change to render.	Object.	Approved.
23/01300/HOUSE	<u>78 Roundfield.</u> Proposed front porch, outbuilding, demolition of existing sheds, and all associated works.	Object.	Approved.

Reference	Description	BPC Status	WBC Status
23/01460/HOUSE	<u>White Cottage, Tylers Lane.</u> Garage conversion, extension to front of garage and raising of roof.	Object	Approved.
23/01405/HOUSE	<u>Florence Cottage, Bucklebury Alley (Adjacent Parish).</u> Proposed rear extensions and conversion.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01184/FUL	<u>49 Roundfield.</u> Proposed new build detached bungalow, including basement level, and additional parking space (renewal of approval ref: 17/02279/FULD).	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
<u>23/01615/HOUSE</u>	<u>Woodside, Long Grove.</u> Retrospective planning for existing outbuildings within the garden of Woodside.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01668/HOUSE	<u>Liming, Windmill Lane.</u> Detached oak framed garage with home office/storage area above.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01601/HOUSE	<u>Gunnells Cottage, The Avenue.</u> Single storey side extension.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01676/HOUSE	<u>Little Copse House, Paradise Lane.</u> Single storey side extension and conversion of outbuilding to gym (ancillary to main dwelling).	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/01725/HOUSE & 23/01726/LBC	<u>Ryders, The Avenue.</u> Removal of existing conservatory and erection of replacement single storey extension; insertion of timber stud walls in rear range and first floor bedroom; alterations to existing and creation of new openings.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01764/HOUSE	<u>9 Broad Lane.</u> A rear/side ground floor extension with internal alteration works. Creation of Juliet balcony on the first floor.	No Objection.	Approved.
23/01507/FUL	<u>Westrop Farm, The Ridge.</u> Proposed solar array to serve various properties at Westrop Farm.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02008/HOUSE	<u>Uplands, Burdens Heath.</u> Single storey rear extension.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02095/HOUSE & 23/02096/LBC	<u>Woottens, Upper Woolhampton.</u> Part two-storey, part single-storey replacement extension to existing dwelling. Terrace doors in existing modified window opening.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02161/HOUSE & 23/02160/LBC	<u>The Cottage, Magpie Farm.</u> Proposed kitched door canopy, HV oil tank on plinth and fluepipe additions to rear elevation, replacement entrance door and alterations to two window openings, replacement windows, and internal works.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/01803/FUL	<u>The Lodge, Bucklebury Farm Park.</u> Change of use of an existing Log Cabin at Bucklebury Farm to allow a flexible use of space for farm workers dwelling, office space, meeting room, workshop and studio – class C3, E(c), E(d) and E(g).	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02240/HOUSE	<u>Well Cottage, Long Grove.</u> Extension and reconfiguration.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02259/FUL	<u>Well Cottage, Long Grove.</u> Ancillary accommodation to the existing first-floor space above a detached carport.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02243/HOUSE	<u>Tree Tops, Hatch Lane.</u> Proposed ground floor rear extension, floor plan redesign and all associated works.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.
23/02276/HOUSE	<u>71 Roundfield.</u> Two storey front and single storey rear extension.	No Objection.	Awaiting decision.

## West Berks District Councillor

### WBC Councillor's Report

Looking out of my kitchen window on to Bucklebury Common I can see that our lovely summer has definitely turned to a damp and wet autumn. For the walkers (with or without a dog by your side), joggers, runners and horse-riders amongst us this will mean different attire on our beautiful but delicate byways, bridlepaths and footpaths in the parish. If you see me out and about (either dog walking or delivering residents surveys) please stop me and raise any points you believe need my attention.

There are Traffic Restriction Orders (TROs) again this year, put in place by WBC on many of the byways in this parish and Lambourn at the request of the respective parish councils, to help protect them against damage from 4x4s. I know if you are an avid 4x4 owner and driver this can seem somewhat frustrating. The vast majority of local 4x4 owners are very careful not to cause any harm to our local byways, but, unfortunately, that is not the case with some who come in from outside the ward and seem not to care about the damage and access issues they cause, as well as the significant cost of repair to the various bodies and landowners responsible for the maintenance. As in previous years under my predecessor (now) Alderman Graham Pask, barriers are put up to deter damaging users but still allow for access to walkers and riders. If you are aware of any drivers ignoring the TROs (or driving anywhere else on the Common) it is illegal, so please call a description of the vehicle(s) to the Police on 999 if it is happening now or Google "Thames Valley Police Report a Crime" and submit evidence online if after the event. If you have a What3Words location available, it will help the Police log the incident and respond more appropriately (especially as Bucklebury Common is about 850 acres in size). This not only includes poor 4x4 drivers but also unlicensed, reckless and underage motorbike riders.

You will be well aware many rural district and rural county councils are under financial pressure. To help do your bit on keeping costs down can I ask that you report issues on the re-vamped online website at <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/reportaproblem> and the officers will schedule work appropriately to help keep our parish clean and tidy. If you don't have online access please contact me (details below) or a parish councillor and we can help capture the information for you. Please remember not to touch any fly-tipped materials as it will be investigated, and

fly-tippers or previous owners of the rubbish issued a fixed penalty fine and pursued for any criminal matters.

Many of you will have already received through your letter box, a resident's survey from me. Please take a few minutes to complete and freepost back on the address indicated. If you would like one sent by email please contact me directly. You may also be interested in other matters that the council either has influence on or delivers. Details can be found on the council's Consultation and Engagement Hub at <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/consultations>. Of interest to nature lovers, a consultation currently open is Berkshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy, where Natural England is working with local authorities across Berkshire (Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Bracknell, Reading, Slough, West Berkshire and Wokingham) to identify priorities for nature recovery and to develop a strategy. Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are spatial strategies to recover nature across England: part of the 2021 Environment Act. Together, they will cover the country in a Nature Recovery Network. Each LNRS will create baseline map areas of particular importance for biodiversity, before working with partners from many groups, from landowners to businesses, to environmental non-governmental organisations (eNGOs), and the public.

As to Council delivery matters, the new 4 year strategy has been voted on and unanimously accepted. The strategy aims to deliver more affordable homes, achieving net zero by 2030, and delivering new much needed infrastructure. More details available on the WBC website.

Finally, bringing up homes, I am very much aware that I was put in position by the electorate in Bucklebury (and Midgham, Woolhampton and Stanford Dingley) to fix the NE Thatcham development as proposed in the Local Plan submitted in March this year. The new administration has managed to get a delay on starting the review with the national planning inspector whilst council officers have raised options to be considered. I will be vigorously pushing the new administration to have a firmer position on the "fix" as soon as practical, with reviews of the options in workshops starting 4<sup>th</sup> November. As always, I will be engaging with your local parish councillors on progress when available.

As always, please contact me if I can help you with anything to do with the Council.

**District Cllr. Chris Read**

**[Chris.read1@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.read1@westberks.gov.uk) / 07714 081 565**

## E-Scooters

A reminder to parents or people who are thinking of getting an e-scooter. They have been known to cause deaths of pedestrians and due to shoddy chargers cause fires.

A privately owned scooter can **only LEGALLY be used on private land and with the permission of a land owner.**

In Legislation 'powered transporters' is a term used to cover a variety of novel and emerging personal transport devices that are powered by a motor, including e-scooters (not to be confused with electric bikes that are electrically assisted).

Given how powered transporters are motorised and designed, they fall within the legal definition of a 'motor vehicle'. Therefore, the laws that apply to motor vehicles apply to powered transporters. It is illegal to use a powered transporter:

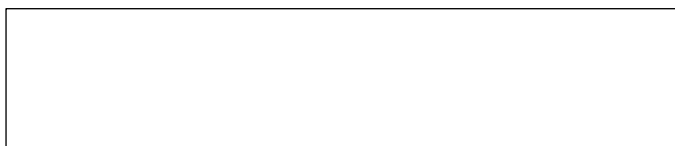
- **On a public road without complying with a number of legal requirements – MOT, tax, Licencing and specific construction regulations.**
- **In spaces that are set aside for use by pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders; this includes the pavements and in cycle lanes.**

Some of the potential offences committed can include driving without a valid licence and driving without insurance. The penalty for driving without insurance is a fine of £300 and up to 6 points on your driving licence (which could hinder the getting of a licence in the future, if you do not have one).

**Seizure of the e-scooter can be carried out** under the section 165 of the Road traffic act

**PCSO Sarah Preston C9881 | Hungerford and Downlands Neighbourhood Police Team**

West Berks LPA Police Community Support Officer



## Family



Bradfield Rainbows had a busy summer term with trips to Rushall Farm to ride on the tractor and see the farm animals. They went pond dipping and saw different creatures that live in the pond and learnt the importance of not dipping the net in too deep! The Rainbows also went on a walk around the woods at Rushall and looked for different colours in nature. They visited the bee hive and got to see what the inside of a hive looks like and tried to spot the queen! The Rainbows enjoyed sharing their knowledge of pollinators with each other and learning more about keeping bees!

As well as this the Rainbows visited Beale Park with Brownies, Guides and Rangers from the local area and had a great day exploring the park, seeing all the animals, riding on the train and learning about how to look after animals in their educational workshop.

Bradfield Rainbows have had an active start to the autumn term with a district campfire at Thirtover Place, Cold Ash

where they sang campfire songs and toasted s'mores. They have also completed the 'Turtley Tastic Challenge' this term and played lots of games to learn about turtles and turtle conservation. The Rainbows 'rescued' turtles (cones), learnt lots of turtle facts, played 'fish, fish, turtle's (a variation of duck, duck, goose) and made their own egg box turtles!



Egg box turtles

If your daughter is interested in joining Rainbows (4-7) please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child)

**Vicky Pratt—1st Bradfield Rainbows.**



## West Berks Ballet School

As we begin our preparations for the new production of The Nutcracker, and our eighth return to the wonderful stage at Arlington Arts Centre next summer half-term, we are delighted to welcome 7 new little ballerinas to Gemma's Primary and Grade 1 classes. We hope they will enjoy their very first appearance in front of an audience and can't wait to see their faces when we start trying on our costumes later this term!

Lucie and Gemma were busy handing out certificates for those who took their ballet exams in June – once more WBBS achieved 100% success – Rhianna has gone off to university having very successfully passed her Advanced exam and Alice was awarded Distinction in her Intermediate – we are all very proud!

Claire & Gemma's production of Shrek was truly amazing – the cast worked so hard and finished the term with a series of 'movie nights' to relive the experience.



WBBS Senior students (and teachers) in their lovely new show t-shirts!

Claire held her traditional fortnight of Summer School and this year it was Mary Poppins, always a favourite, with two different casts and lots of new friends being made.

So to this term.....not only the fun of beginning to build The Nutcracker but also another set of ballet exams in December so plenty of dancing to keep everyone busy. And if all goes smoothly, perhaps a visit from the 'man in red' at the end of term?

**Jane**

### WBBS contact details:

Musical Theatre & Tap - Claire: cbowden1602@gmail.com

Ballet - Lucie: wbbslucie@gmail.com

Enquiries – Jane: westberksballet@gmail.com

## Bucklebury Primary School

It was wonderful to welcome so many visitors to our school family at the first open morning of the year in October. Every visitor was hugely positive about the school and this is a credit to our school captains James and Ava, every class and all the staff and volunteers who prepared the school and grounds.



At the open morning, I gave a brief talk about the school family and what I feel is distinctive about our work. We believe in growing the whole child in every child. The values of love, faith and hope are our roots helping us to live out the trust deed of the school.

The school was founded in 1811 by Rev. Winchcombe Henry Howard Hartley with the presentation of an inscribed buckle to each child. To this day, every child is precious and we do everything in our power to enable every child to flourish.

Throughout our history the school has served the children of Bucklebury. Today, how we go about the business of educating is three fold. Firstly we ensure we know every child. This enables us to personalise provision. We then strive to ensure the provision is exceptionally delivered by staff.

As a result, we hope to pass on capable, confident and curious children balanced in mind, body and spirit. The Bucklebury child is distinctive for their leadership of self and others. They have the skills and knowledge to thrive at secondary school, able to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle, secure in their sense of self and the contribution they might make to the world.

It struck me during the talk that much of what we believe could be said by many schools. The difference in the Bucklebury way is that, as visitors saw at our open morning, and as was noted by Ofsted in February 2019, we do more than just say such things. As our vision statement begins, love is tangible every day.

Every aspect of school life is rooted in our core purpose of growing the whole child in every child. It was humbling to hear the hugely positive feedback from the visiting parents about how they could see that belief and feel that belief in action as they walked round.

The year ahead is crucial. Every child will only get this year once. Together we must ensure that every child has the very best chance of growing in mind, body and spirit.

**Mr. A. Higgs—Headteacher**

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## 1st Bucklebury Guides & Rangers

Bucklebury Guides and Rangers had a busy summer term with a trip to Theale Fire Station to learn about fire safety, how fire stations work, have a go with the hoses and because it was so hot run through them! We also visited Beale Park as part of a big trip with Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers units from Pangbourne, Theale, Bradfield, Compton, Cold Ash and Hermitage! The Guides enjoyed an independent day exploring the park, riding on the train and learning about endangered animals in an educational workshop.

We visited Thirtover in Cold Ash for a campfire where we cooked dampers, made s'mores and sang songs. This was followed by a backwoods cooking evening where each patrol had to plan and cook a two course meal using gas burners outside. We had pasta and pasta sauces, savoury pancakes and lots of chocolate fondue. The evening closed with one of our Rangers being awarded the Division President's award for her outstanding contribution to the unit, dedication to Girlguiding and consistent support to younger members!

We finished the summer term with a big games evening in the sunshine on the field followed by making popcorn and trying lots of different toppings!

Over the August Bank Holiday weekend Bucklebury Guides and Rangers went to Wellies and Wristbands at Foxlease in the New Forest. Wellies and Wristbands is a big Girlguiding festival style camp with over 3,000 people on site. We took 9 Guides and 2 rangers to the four day camp where they got to have a go at the gladiator challenge, climbing, archery, fencing, and pioneering. The Guides and Rangers also visited the science tent, the pamper zone, hot tubs (there were 12 hot tubs in total!), ride on the Ferris wheel and bounce on inflatables. In the evenings we listened to live music from up and coming bands, danced, sang, went to meet and greets and of course snacked on chips and waffles from the night cafe!

To start the autumn term the Guides completed the backwoods cooking badge by making their own pot noodles. They also spent an evening learning about stars and constellations and discovered a new favourite activity of star gazing! The Guides completed the Turtley Tastic Challenge badge learning the difference between turtles and tortoises and all about turtle conservation. As part of this challenge the Guides painted stones which you might find hidden round the edge of the Victory Room!

1st Bucklebury Rangers have also had a busy start to the autumn term completing their blogging and costume



Bucklebury Guides and Rangers at Wellies and Wristbands.

badges. They learnt all about different costumes, designed their own costumes and thought about colour schemes used in different characters clothing. For their blogging badge they planned a short sketch, designed a blog and planned a stop motion. This was of course complemented by hot chocolate and biscuits each week!

The Guides and Rangers visited the Corn Exchange in Newbury to see Nomads production of Shrek and had a fantastic time watching the performance and even treating themselves to ice cream in the interval!

If your daughter is interested in joining Bucklebury Guides (10-14) or Rangers (14-18) please email [buckleburyguides@gmail.com](mailto:buckleburyguides@gmail.com) for more information and to arrange a free no obligation taster session!

Additionally, if you have knowledge or a skill you think the Guides or Rangers might be interested in learning about please let us know!

**Vicky Pratt**

**1st Bucklebury Guides & 1st Bucklebury Rangers.**

## 2nd Bradfield Brownies

So here we are in the middle of the winter term already – this year has flown by!

The summer term saw us having fun at Thirtover in Cold Ash playing with a water slide! We also made slime and learnt about jobs that girls can do. The end of term saw us Bell Boating on the River Thames.

We said “Au Revoir” to Penguin who has gone on her travels to Australia and Koala who is embarking on a new path at university. However we said “welcome” to Pixie who has moved to the area from Ireland.

This term is all about making change and we are having a go at making fashion from trash, changing minds and making monsters from recycling. We also have a vet coming to talk to us about animal welfare.

The girls are working towards their Brownie awards, with several already having achieved their Bronze and Silver Awards. We have two Brownies who will hopefully complete their Gold Award this time. What an achievement!

Girlguiding has released their Girls Attitude Survey for 2023

and frankly it makes concerning reading. The message from the 2023 survey is clear: girls and young women have been let down. They’re facing persistent issues that aren’t going away and it’s having a negative impact on their lives. It’s devastating to hear that girls’ happiness has steadily declined over the last 15 years and that more girls are feeling worried and anxious than before. It’s clear girls are feeling pressures and experiencing challenges from all angles, from harm online, to appearance and sexual harassment. Not only are girls worried about their futures and the increased cost of living, but they’re experiencing unrealistic pressures and negative behaviours because they’re girls.

Despite this, it’s heartening to see some positives. More girls feel part of their local community than they did before, and many are actively involved in their communities through volunteering. It’s also great to see girls are speaking out more and using their voices for change. As a volunteer delivered organisation, we play an important role in communities and in girls’ lives. Now more than ever Girlguiding has an invaluable part to play in continuing to support girls’ wellbeing and confidence. We’re proud to be able to offer a space where girls can be themselves and have fun — all while developing essential skills for their future and helping to build resilience to navigate this difficult time and the relentless pressures they face.

You may wonder if this is really the case for Brownies, they are aged 7 – 10 so do they have the same concerns? Whilst they may not vocalise them in the same way as the older girls, the roots of these concerns are starting. This is where we come in! We hope to give all of the girls who come to our meetings the skills and tools to build resilience, confidence and self-esteem whilst having adventures and fun. To this end we are looking forward to a fun-filled term with a trip to the pantomime and lots of Christmas craft to round the year off!

**Tigger (AKA Vicki Beesley)**  
**2nd Bradfield Brownies**



Interested in finding out more about Girlguiding? Register your interest here and find out more about Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger units local to you!

## Organisations

### Bucklebury History Group

I had a very interesting email earlier this summer from a relative of George Lailey, bowl turner, who lives in Canada. Brian and his brother duly arrived in Bucklebury having already visited MERL to see George's tools on display there. I met up with them along with Carol & Dave Newby, also relatives, and we showed them around the cemetery and also Turner's Green. They also visited Stanford Dingley, another Lailey area. Hopefully there will be an article by Brian at some point. It was a very interesting day.

We have planned a talk on **The Swing Riots in Berkshire**, with some reference to Bucklebury, on **THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER in The Victory Room. 7.30 p.m.** Do keep this date free and come along. All welcome. £3.00 charge to cover costs.

I am also hoping to organise a meeting of people interested in the History Group with the idea of a committee to get things back on track. Please let me know if you would like to be informed about this.

Please also let me know if you would like to help with organising all the items in the archives that need putting into some sort of order! Thank you.

Helen Relf,

01635 867619 [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)

### Bucklebury History Group

Come along to our next meeting on

**THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

**7.30p.m. in The Victory Room,  
Bucklebury**

**David Peacock - The Swing Riots**

**Refreshments**

£3.00 charge to cover cost of hire of the hall & speaker

**See you there!**

### Tuesday Ladies Club (TLC)

Looking back over this year, our varied programme has included a fascinating visit to the potter, Andrew Hazleden, for a demonstration and exhibition, a light hearted talk about the use of photographs in history, the story of the Ugandan Asians at Greenham Common, and a poet. Our eclectic program continues with a talk on the History of Jewellery in November, followed by our Christmas party in December.

In January we have a Puzzles and Plonk evening, February brings a talk on the history of quiz shows, March, a wonderful treat when Ozlem joins us again for another demonstration and tasting of Turkish cuisine.

Everybody is welcome, there is no membership fee, just turn up to the Oak Room at the Memorial hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in each month for 7.15pm. The charge for each evening is £3.00. We look forward to seeing you!

**Wynne Frankum**

### St. Martin's Club

We have had a lovely summer with a trip to Ham House in Richmond, a River trip from Maidenhead to Windsor and then on to Runnymede – unfortunately the rain came as we were getting onto the coach at the end! We then enjoyed a cream tea at The Cottage Inn, thank you Gary, where 60 members spent the afternoon catching up with friends! September saw a trip to Blenheim Palace and October a trip to Bath and then on to the American Museum. Our thanks to the committee members who organise these outings.

November sees us go back to indoor meetings and Chris Baines is going to give us a talk on 'Paul Nash and the Wittenham Clumps' – yes, I had to Google them as well! Visitors welcome.

In December we have our members' Christmas Lunch at the Mercure Hotel and then our AGM in January.

We have a waiting list for new members – so, if you are interested, please do get in touch with me to get your name down now. However, we do like to have visitors at a cost of £3 for the indoor meetings. The Christmas meal and the AGM are for members only.

**Helen Relf.**

01635 867619. [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)

## West Berkshire Body Control Pilates

Pilates is a form of exercise that is suitable for everyone bringing together mind and body, allowing clients to work safely and effectively. All exercises are built around 8 principles of:

- Relaxation
- Alignment
- Co-ordination
- Core stability
- Stamina
- Concentration
- Breathing
- Flowing movements.

Mel and Michaela are a mother and daughter team who teach classes in the surrounding towns and villages.

We have qualifications to teach **Reformer, Pre and Post Natal Pilates** as well as **Pilates for Bone Health (Osteoporosis)**

Classes are held in **Bucklebury** on:

**Wednesdays at 10.45am (Bucklebury Memorial Hall)**

**Wednesdays at 8.15pm (Bucklebury Memorial Hall)**

**Fridays at 9.30am (The Victory Room)**

**Fridays at 10.45am (The Victory Rooms)**

Classes are also held in:

**Hermitage on Monday at 6.45pm,**

**Cold Ash on Monday at 8.35pm**

**Thatcham on Wednesday at 6.30pm**

**Peasemore on Tuesday at 6.15pm and 7.30pm**

We are also able to offer one to one sessions.

If interested in attending a class please contact Mel at [meriel58@yahoo.com](mailto:meriel58@yahoo.com)

## Bucklebury Walkers

We are a mixed group of walkers who meet on the first Thursday of each month at 10.00 a.m. and walk for about 3 – 4 miles or 10.30 a.m. for a shorter walk, about 2 miles. We then meet back at the venue for coffee (or go back to The Cottage Inn, where we also enjoy a lunch). You are welcome to join either group.

Please contact me for more details or just turn up at any of the walks – the diary is in The Oaks and on the village website.

Please note that these are social walks and you are responsible for your own safety.

**Helen Relf,**

01636 867619. [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)

## Country Life

### West Berkshire Countryside Society (WBCS)

*The events below give you the opportunity to come out on practical tasks, learn new skills, meet new people and, above all, enjoy yourself. The tasks usually begin around 10am and finish by 3pm but you are very welcome to come for as much time as you wish to give during these hours. Please wear suitable footwear, clothing and gloves, and bring water, hot drinks and a packed lunch if you are coming for the full day. All the necessary tools will be provided. (The three word code after each grid reference is the "What Three Words" listing for the task meeting point).*

Sun 12 Nov 10:00-12:30 Bucklebury Common. Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at the Crossroads. SU556 691  
[taskbar.flagpole.sensual](mailto:taskbar.flagpole.sensual)

Tue 14 Nov 10:00am Bucklebury Common Clearing birch and gorse. Meet at the Crossroads on the Common SU556 961  
[taskbar.flagpole.sensual](mailto:taskbar.flagpole.sensual)

Tue 5 Dec 10:00am Rushall Manor Farm, off Back Lane, Bradfield. Woodland management. Meet at the Black Barn off Back Lane between Stanford Dingley and Bradfield. SU584 723  
[telephone.brink.crate](mailto:telephone.brink.crate)

Sat 9 Dec 10:00-12:30 Bucklebury Common. Join the Bucklebury Heathland Group to help maintain this important heathland habitat. Meet at the Crossroads. SU556 691  
[taskbar.flagpole.sensual](mailto:taskbar.flagpole.sensual)

## The Pang Valley Flood Forum (PVFF)

The Pang Valley Flood Forum is now 10 years old.

After the floods of 2007, Bucklebury villagers worked with the Environment Agency and West Berkshire to implement the Bucklebury Flood Alleviation Scheme that was opened in 2011 and which has helped to keep the village dry since then.

To build on that success, the Pang Valley Flood Forum was formed in 2013 to bring together the communities in the Pang Valley to work with the Environment Agency, West Berkshire Council and Thames Water to reduce flood risk through the whole valley from West Ilsley to Pangbourne. We have delivered on a number of projects within the valley, working with helpful landowners, incrementally to reduce flood risk.

Our most recent project has been implemented in conjunction with Bucklebury Estate:

- In the stream through Redhill Copse, we have installed 12 leaky dams and a new pond, to slow the flow of the stream into the Pang following large rain

events.

- The project was funded by a grant from the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC), allocated for Natural Flood Management (NFM) projects. The project was sponsored by West Berkshire Council and kindly managed by Bucklebury Estate.

The Pang Valley Flood Forum has a very comprehensive website that includes:

- River, Rain, Groundwater dashboard with current and historic levels
- Sewage Discharge dashboard showing the current and historic discharge status of the Thames Water sewage treatment works in the valley (correlated against rain and groundwater levels)
- A detailed online map of the valley, with many flood and flood project related layers that can be turned on.

See:

<https://www.floodalleviation.uk/>  
<https://www.floodalleviation.uk/dashboard/>  
<https://www.floodalleviation.uk/map/>  
<https://www.floodalleviation.uk/projects/>

If you would like to learn more, please contact Piers Allison at [pangvalleyfloodforum@gmail.com](mailto:pangvalleyfloodforum@gmail.com)

**Piers Allison—PVFF**



A leaky dam in Redhill copse

## **Growing up in Bucklebury in the 50s and 60s (by Roddy Bisset)**

The common was a child's adventure playground. I spent many hours making tree houses from small birch saplings or making dens in the bracken / bramble bushes. I loved climbing trees and used to fall out fairly regularly. I remember climbing in one of my favourite trees which was a gigantic old oak just across from the Wells' farm when a rotten branch broke and I landed on my back and was so winded I couldn't move for many minutes. As I was on my own, I just had to lie there until I got my breath back. I was very sorry to see, when I went back recently, that this oak was no longer there. Another antic I and my friends used to do was crawl through the drain under the main road opposite the entrance to the Wells' farm.

Some years we would get a fair bit of snow and many villagers would ski or sledge in the field beside the road leading to Bucklebury, just below the junction to Stanford Dingley. I remember there must have been over twenty people some days. My dad made me a sledge but it was a bit low so if I went 'off piste' I was like a snow plough! I used to envy the kids that had those toboggans which were a lot higher off the ground. There also used to be some adults that had skis. It was a very sociable time.

Also, before Christmas, a group of us would go around the houses at Chapel Row carol singing.

Chapel Row was well served by buses. There was an hourly service (a double decker) to Reading using the bus stop by the Shop and there was a two hourly service (single decker) to Newbury, using the bus stop on the opposite side of the road near the Blade Bone. Both these services terminated at Chapel Row.

I was too young to go to the Blade Bone but I do remember that where the front door is now there used to be a small hall with a hatch at one end where you got your pitcher or other container filled with beer.

I used to play a lot with my best friend Robert Ashman whose father was the local doctor. His surgery was a large wooden building beside his house. The Ashmans had 2 sons and two daughters with Robert being the youngest son. They also owned the field behind the house which bordered on the garden of Bole Cottage so it was a short walk to pay a visit and, as they had a sand pit, that was quite often.

The fruit farm at the bottom of our lane was quite large and part of the orchard was also in a small field just opposite Bole cottage until they sold it for house building. They had predominately Worcester apples. The Ellinghams, who ran the farm, (which I think was called St Crispin's at one time), were lovely people and I used to go down to have a look round. In the spring they used to have fires ready so if it looked like a frost these would be lit to try and protect against frost. They also used to have bullfinches in cages to lure other bullfinches into traps as they could strip the young buds from the trees. I was told that they supplied their apples to The Queen Mary used for the transatlantic crossing.

The lane led to the field behind the houses that fronted the road from Chapel Row to Stanford Dingley. On the left of this lane was a small fruit orchard with a gate with a wooden plank as a bridge over the ditch that was used by the Ellinghams. This was sold and a house now sits on this site. There were no fences between the houses and the field as there were ha-has to prevent animals getting into the garden. At the far end of the field was a large muddy pond and I think there was once a track leading back to the road but that was very overgrown and hadn't been used for years.

The common and countryside was great for cycling. I started off with a tricycle which I used to take on the road, I can't remember if my parents knew but, one day, I thought it would be a good idea to put a stick in the front spokes in order to stop quickly. Well, it did work but I ended up over the handlebars and on the road. As this was just outside the Old Bake House I didn't have far to limp home.

It was around the mid to late fifties I think when they put the oil/gas pipeline across the common. I would cycle up to where the pipe crossed the main road to Upper Bucklebury at the crossroads with Pease Hill and watch the massive machines dig the trench and wrap the pipe with tar and lay the pipe, finally covering it up. The pipe ran between Pease Hill and the fish ponds and on through to Yattendon and beyond. I think the pipeline went from the Fawley, near Southampton, to Oxford.

Bole Cottage and our neighbours were not originally connected to the mains water or sewage and all had wells in the gardens. Bole Cottage had a pipe from the well into the house but I don't remember it being used so we must have got mains water by the early fifties if not well before. However, I do remember when Bole Cottage was connected to the mains sewage which must have been the early fifties.



The trench at the top of the lane was very deep and I think they used the waste material from the trench to fill in a pond that was opposite the lane end. Before we were connected to the mains sewage dad had to pump out the septic tank by hand every few days which was across the lane in a small paddock we used for vegetables and fruit trees.

The house next to us in the lane was a small prefabricated building and had different families living it until the Allums eventually bought it. The first family I remember was the Alsburys who had a son roughly my age. We used to play together especially as they had built a paddling pool in the garden. I am not sure if John (the son) went to the same school as me as there was another primary school at Southend near Ballards garage, which is where my friend Robert Ashman went. There are pictures of me and John ready for school and also playing in their paddling pool. The next family in the cottage were the Robinsons. They were a large family but they were a lot older than me so I did not know them very well.

In 1953 my dad bought a television set so we could see the Coronation. It was a Pye V4 model and back then there was only one channel, BBC. The screen was only 14", and compared to nowadays the picture was awful but back then it was fantastic. The aerial was large and I thought very attractive. My parents invited many friends and neighbours to watch the coronation as not many people had a television then. Our living room was full and the curtains were drawn as the screen was not very bright. I was only six at the time and I had to go outside to play as I was very bored.

In the summer we would sometimes go down to the ford at Bucklebury and have a picnic and I would paddle or even swim as there was a weir just upstream of the ford which



Roddy Bisset at Bucklebury Ford (June 1954).

backed up the water making it deep enough to swim. It was quite popular and there would be many families down there doing the same as us. I remember going crayfish fishing with Dr Ashman in the Pang and on a tributary past Bradfield school. This was done at dusk with a torch and we caught quite a few.

*Part Two of an article I was sent some 10 years ago by Roderick Bisset, who had moved away from Bucklebury. He also sent many photographs which have been displayed over the years.*

**Helen Relf,**  
**01635 867619 [grannyrelf@btinternet.com](mailto:grannyrelf@btinternet.com)**

## Halls

### The Victory Room

Our final event of the year is a Quiz Night on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. All the details are below and we hope you will come and put your grey matter to the test.

The Beerfest was again very successful despite the weather on its new date. We had beer from more local breweries than we've ever had before and cider from both Tutts Clump and Green Shed in Newbury. We had a great selection of music from the wonderful Molly, solo performances from Amanda and Kieran and bands, M and the Metros, the Rokkits and JJ and the Jukes. Graham's Hog Roast was here and a great hit as usual.



Bucklebury's three wise men!

A traditional tea room was run by volunteers from MacMillan Cancer Support. We would like to thank everyone who donated cakes to the tea room.

A big thank you goes to all the local businesses who sponsored the event either with a cash donation or raffle prize.



I would like to thank all the trustees for making the event possible and also all the volunteers who helped over three days; without their help, this event would not be possible.

Profits were only slightly down on last year but we will be donating £1,800 to local charities. We have already donated £1,000 to MacMillan Cancer Support and the trustees will be deciding what other donations to make at the next meeting.

We have made further improvements to the hall as mentioned in May. We have installed acoustic panels in the Remembrance Room (Main Hall) which has improved the sound enormously. We also had a resin bonded patio laid to the rear of the hall. We still need to obtain quotes to redecorate the meeting room. We will definitely retain the historic feel of that room as we receive so many positive comments about it.

We are still looking for a new trustee to join us. The work is not very time consuming; we have a meeting roughly every quarter and a couple more related to the community events. If you are interested, please email or give me a call.

**John Brims**

**Chair of the Trustees of the Victory Room**

**0118 9713308 or 07799 348451**

**[jbrims@outlook.com](mailto:jbrims@outlook.com)**



**Quiz Night**

**At the Victory Room, Bucklebury Village**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30pm start**

**Tickets £15 per head incl pre ordered**

**Fish, Chicken or Vegetarian & chips supper**

**• and desserts**

**Bring your own drinks**

**Raffle**

**To enter a team of minimum 4, ideally 6 to a maximum of 8**

**Contact:**

**John Brims 07799 348451**

**or email**

**[jbrims@outlook.com](mailto:jbrims@outlook.com)**

## Sports

### **Bucklebury Tennis Club** **[www.buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)**

**LTA Tennis Awards 2022 for Achievement in 2021**  
**Berkshire Winners –Club of the Year Award – Winner:**  
**Bucklebury Tennis Club**

Bucklebury Tennis Club continues to flourish for recreational play, drills, junior coaching and competitions. Following on from the successful upgrading of Bucklebury Tennis Club facilities the next project is upgrading the Floodlights to LED to replace the current metal halide floodlighting. Converting to LED increases their sustainability (i.e. lower overall power requirements). They are of a long life design with lower maintenance requirements with no lamp replacement required.

#### **Drills:**

Drills with our Head Coach Damian Lane, continue to be very popular with sessions on a Monday and Thursday evening.

A very successful Sunday was held in September when Damian, Helen and Karen organised an American Tournament for all those who attend the Drill sessions. This enabled them all to practise their skills playing in doubles competition.

For further details contact: Karen Pegg:  
[kppegg61@gmail.com](mailto:kppegg61@gmail.com)

#### **Junior Coaching:**

Junior Coaching with Paul Boyd-Leslie has resumed for the Summer Term:

We are pleased to welcome back, this Autumn Term, Year 5 pupils from Bucklebury Primary School for their weekly sessions. It is good to see how much these sessions are enjoyed with enthusiasm by all.

Junior sessions on a Wednesday with Paul for all Juniors both members and non-members have resumed from 4.00pm each week. It is a pleasure to see how much they are enjoyed by all. After the Autumn Half Term, Junior Coaching for the two older groups will continue until the end of term. It will be a chance for them to experience playing under Floodlights.

For further details contact our Junior Co-ordinator: Karen Pegg: [kppegg61@gmail.com](mailto:kppegg61@gmail.com)

### Competition:

#### League Tennis:

League tennis matches for the 2023 Summer season were all completed. Bucklebury Tennis Club entered 3 Mens Teams (A, B and C), 2 Ladies Teams (A and B) and 1 Mixed Team in the Newbury and District Leagues. Bucklebury Tennis Club has also entered a Berkshire Ladies Doubles Team, Berkshire Seniors O55A and O55B Teams.

Bucklebury Tennis Club Berkshire Seniors A Team were the top team in Division 1.

Bucklebury Tennis Club Berkshire Seniors B Team were the top team in Division 2.

A great credit to the Captains and all team players.

If anyone is interested in playing for any of the Winter League (Mixed) teams please do not hesitate to contact me:

Robin London: [robinlondon145@gmail.com](mailto:robinlondon145@gmail.com)

### Club Membership:

New members and visitors are most welcome. There is plenty of opportunity to play – Ladies, Mens Mornings; Club Nights; League matches (both Newbury and Berkshire); Social tennis. Visitors or Non-Members can play on a pay and play basis. Details regarding membership and visitors are on the website:

**[www. buckleburytennisclub.com](http://www.buckleburytennisclub.com)**

Please contact our Membership Secretary, Norman Casson: [normancasson@aol.com](mailto:normancasson@aol.com) if you would like to join or if there are any queries.

Robin London: [robinlondon145@gmail.com](mailto:robinlondon145@gmail.com)  
www.



## Bucklebury Badminton Club

We held our annual club tournament at the end of June and, as usual, it was a hard fought event. Linda Cross and Bradley Morris were the winners. They had beaten Gill Kearins and Matt Lorrimore in the semi final. Runners up were Elizabeth Brown and John Holloway who had been up against Stuart May and Peter Battley in their semi.



Linda Cross, Bradley Morris, John Holloway and Elizabeth Brown.

In September twenty-six of us went to the Bella Luna in Thatcham for a summer social which was enjoyed by all. We are now looking forward to our Christmas Social at The Cottage Inn.

Please come along to club night and see how it works. If you've never played at a club before, don't be put off. We play doubles only and have a peg system so you don't sit out for long and you will play with different people.

If you are an experienced player, you may like to join one of our teams. This season, we are playing in the Reading and Newbury Leagues. We have mixed, men's and ladies' teams.

However, if you are a beginner or just looking to improve, we can help you too. All our members will encourage you and Colin, our club coach, will be able to give you tips for improving your game.

You can pop down as a visitor for £6. Just turn up or contact us for more information. The sports hall at Elstree School is just inside the main gate on the left and we are there every Tuesday all year round (except 26 December) from 8 until 10 p.m.

VENUE: Elstree School, Woolhampton, RG7 5TD  
DAY: every Tuesday 8 to 10 p.m.



A night out at The Bella Luna.

COST: £6 for visitors (deducted from subscription which is £150 per annum **pro rata**. £75 for students)  
 CONTACT: Margaret Neville 07879 880573  
 margaretnev@yahoo.co.uk  
 WEBSITE: buckleburybadmintonclub.com



## Contributions

Material to appear in The Oaks should be sent neatly typed for scanning or as a word-processor document (e.g. MS Word), attached to an e-mail and sent to “clerk@buckleburyparish.org”. Don’t worry about layout as it will be re-formatted to the house-style. Please supply any pictures or artwork as separate files, and don’t forget to include captions for the pictures.

All contributions appertaining to the Parish are very welcome but the Parish Council reserves the right to adapt or omit submissions.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month preceeding publication.

Barry Dickens

Published in February, May and October

By Bucklebury Parish Council.

Helen Pratt, Clerk,

Jasmine Cottage, Byles Green, Upper Bucklebury,

Reading. RG7 6SD. Telephone: 01635 863581

E-mail:clerk@buckleburyparish.org

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# Parish Diary Dates

## November 2023

7th	St. Martin's Club	2.00pm	The Memorial Hall
13th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
14th	TLC	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
16th	Bucklebury History Group	7.30pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
17th	Quiz Night	7.30pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
27th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
30th	Community Coffee Morning	10.30am—12noon	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall

## December 2023

7th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am & 10.30am	The Cottage Inn, Upper Bucklebury
11th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
12th	TLC	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
18th	Cemetery Carols	6.00pm	The Cemetery, Byles Green
28th	Community Coffee Morning	10.30am—12noon	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall

## January 2024

4th	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am & 10.30am	TBC
8th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
9th	TLC	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
22nd	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
25th	Community Coffee Morning	10.30am—12noon	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall

## February 2024

1st	Bucklebury Walkers	10.00am & 10.30am	TBC
6th	St. Martin's Club	2.00pm	The Memorial Hall
12th	Bucklebury Parish Council	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
13th	TLC	7.15pm	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall
26th	Bucklebury Planning Committee	7.45pm	The Victory Room, Bucklebury Village
29th	Community Coffee Morning	10.30am—12noon	The Oak Room, Bucklebury Memorial Hall