

CONTACT

Church & Community Newsletter

BLDLOW RIDGE • BRADENHAM • PIDDINGTON • RADNAGE • WEST WYCOMBE



Children enjoying Bradenham Fete June 2025

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Treasurer:	Lucy Stupples - 01494730937 lucy@autumncottage.net
Advertising:	advertscontactmagazine@gmail.com
Design	Susie Chester • susie@theyetis.com

CORRESPONDENTS

Bledlow Ridge	Bob Simmons - 01494 481402 ridgenws@gmail.com
Bradenham	Richard Langridge - 07711 053845 richard.langridge123@gmail.com
Piddington	Paul Thomas - 07939 384970 prt97@hotmail.com
Radnage	Peter Hague - 01494 484003 peterradnagenews@gmail.com
West Wycombe	Susie Chester - 07957512803 westwycombecontact@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAM - www.achurchnearyou.com

Parish Office - 07598 738037.
admin@westwycombenefice.org.uk

Interim Rector	Reverend Lance Sharpe 07938 762570 priest.westwycombe@gmail.com
Permission to Officiate:	Revd. Veronica Beaumont 07958 701913 veronica.beaumont75@gmail.com
	Revd. Anne Cooper 07721 338030 anne.cooper9@btinternet.com

CHURCH WARDENS

West Wycombe:	No Churchwardens at present
Bledlow Ridge:	Eileen Maunder - 01494 481371 Geoff Ley - 01494 481527
Bradenham:	Peter Baldwin - 01844 275813 Richard Langridge - 07711 053845
Radnage:	Rosy Oliphant - 01494 482356 Jennifer Stringer

Dear Readers

I think we've all agreed that we've enjoyed lovely Spring and look forward to the Summer. Even though I'm 56, I always seem to be amazed at the contrast of the seasons in the UK. The length of day and night, the colours of trees and the flowering plants and the differences in temperature.

I was delighted when I realised the flower bed by my front door was awash with poppies of various colours. In the winter it looked drab and sterile, but now they have shot up and burst out into bloom much to the attention of the local beehives. To think, I nearly dug it up! There's a lesson there I'm sure.

Like the seasons, things are changing in the benefice too, we've just starting a new schedule of services with a traditional 9.30am service in each church and a family service at 11am on Sundays. Additionally, at 4pm on the last Sunday of the month, we are having an extra family service at St Paul's, West Wycombe. It would be amazing if you would consider supporting the benefice in any one or more of these services to ensure the long-term viability of our four distinct and unique churches.

Also, we are saying farewell to the Reverend Anne Cooper in July. Anne has served the benefice admirably in the long interregnum and in my settling in period as Rector. Her commitment to the benefice was above and beyond what one would normally expect from a non-stipendiary priest. She goes with our heartfelt thanks and blessing so that she and Jeremy can concentrate on family and

other projects. I know I'll miss her steady hand, her sense of humour and her cheerful demeanour in our services as I'm sure you will too.

Looking forward then, St Paul's, West Wycombe celebrates its 150th anniversary this year! In October 1875, the church opened after being built by the Lady Elizabeth Dashwood, the widow of Sir George Henry Dashwood, the 5th Baronet. It will be wonderful to celebrate this significant anniversary with events to fundraise for the church culminating in the visit of the Right Reverend Dave Bull, Bishop of Buckingham joining us on the 26 October. Do save the date and watch out for the special events to mark this special anniversary leading up to that. Some of those will be mentioned elsewhere in Contact.

Finally, I'd like to express my grateful thanks to all those in the benefice who've worked so hard to put on events to fundraise and the maintain the fabric of the churches which grace our villages. You are appreciated for your service.

Every blessing

Lance, Rector (Interim)

Events

in Bledlow Ridge, Bradenham, Piddington,
Radnage and West Wycombe

Would you like your event included?

Email: advertcontactmagazine@gmail.com

JULY

Craft Afternoon

Every Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30pm

Radnage Village Hall

ggalla8301@ntlworld.com

St Lawrence Open for Refreshments

Sunday 6th July 2-4.30pm

St Lawrence Church, West Wycombe

bookings@stlawrencechurch.uk

Singalong

Saturday 5th July

Piddington Village Hall

Stand up Comedy Event

Saturday 12th July

Piddington Village Hall

Summer Concert

Saturday 12th July, 7pm

St Lawrence Church

07795680253

Summer Fete, everyone is welcome.

Saturday 12th July 12-3pm

Bledlow Ridge School Field

Bledlow Ridge School Office 01494 481253

Garden Open

Tuesday 15th July 2 - 5pm

Red Kites, Haw Lane, Bledlow Ridge

lesterry747@gmail.com

Tea in the Village Hall

17th July 2.30 - 4.30pm

Radnage Village Hall

ggalla8301@ntlworld.com

Summer Garden Party

Saturday, 19 July 12pm

The Boot in Bledlow Ridge

The Big Meet, Car Show

Saturday 19th July, 10am - 4pm

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

www.westwycombewalledgarden.com

Refreshments & Chiltern Flute Ensemble

Sunday 20th July 2-4.30pm

St Lawrence Church, West Wycombe

bookings@stlawrencechurch.uk

SEND Parents Coffee Morning

Monday 21st July, 9.30am

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

www.yetnuggets.co.uk

Street Food Evening

Friday 25th July, 4pm - 9pm

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

www.westwycombewalledgarden.com

“Forest Hart” Art-Tea Painting Workshop

Friday 25th July, 2pm

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

www.westwycombewalledgarden.com/

“Drama Llama” Family Painting Workshop

Tuesday 29th July, 9:30am

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

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“Neon Elephants” Family Painting Workshop

Tuesday 29th July, 2:30pm

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

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“A Mermaid’s Tale” Family Painting Workshop

Wednesday 30th July, 9:30am

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

www.westwycombewalledgarden.com

“Make Your Own Mini Mermaid” Family Workshop

Wednesday 30th July, 2:30pm

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

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“Surfasaurus” Family Painting Workshop

Thursday 31st July, 9:30am

The Walled Garden, West Wycombe

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“Golden Unicorn” Family Painting Workshop

Thursday 31st July, 2:30pm

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Coffee & Chat

For Parent/Carers
/Grandparents
of SEND Children

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Mon. 17th March - The Apple Orchard
Mon. 28th April - The Walled Garden
Mon. 19th May - The Walled Garden

9.30am - 11.30am



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AUGUST

Craft Afternoon

Every Tuesday 2.30 - 4.30pm

Radnage Village Hall

ggalla8301@ntlworld.com

Tea in the Village Hall

21st August 2.30 - 4.30pm

Radnage Village Hall

ggalla8301@ntlworld.com



Bledlow Ridge

News from St Paul's Church

The first Sunday of June saw our first Family Service for a long time. Although we still need to attract some young families and children, it was well supported and even included some visiting tadpoles. The next family service will be on Sunday July 6th and will include the baptism of Alice Cordelia Cartwright-Bain granddaughter of the Davidsons. There will also be a celebration of the eucharist at 9.30am on Sunday 20th July.

During the last week of May we celebrated the feast of the Ascension when Jesus left his disciples to carry on his work on earth and returned to his Father in heaven. I, Veronica, was lucky enough to share this special day with the Franciscan community at Hillfield in Dorset where I was staying as a guest. The Franciscan brothers are



joined by men and women including young people and families who share in the life, work and prayer of the friary – some for a length of time and others permanently. All

Franciscans share a concern for justice and peace, seeing all people and all of creation, after the example of Francis as brother and sister. This concern leads to a care for the created world, a deep respect for all life, a simple life style and a desire to share what God has given them with others. On Ascension Day the brothers and the younger, fitter members of the community went in the early morning up on to the

roof to sing, "Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!"



Also during my stay we celebrated Rogationtide, the time when we bless the crops and give thanks for God's gifts in creation.

This involved walking all round the friary buildings and estate with lots of incense and holy water in a pink plastic bucket, giving thanks and praying for everything from the guest rooms, the refectory and library to the biomass heating unit, the pigs and sheep,

the kitchen garden and the wild flower field. We then had our daily eucharist outside in the courtyard.

As summer approaches we hope that everyone will have the chance to have some time of relaxation and refreshment, to recharge their batteries ready for the challenges of the autumn term. If you need to find somewhere of peace and quiet, remember the friary is always pleased to welcome guests.

Veronica



Bledlow-cum-Saunderton Parish Council News

The Parish Council met on Monday 9th June 2025 at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall

- Cllr Bird was co-opted as a Councillor for Bledlow Ward, the Parish Council still has a vacancy for Saunderton Ward. Please do contact the Clerk if you would like further information.
- Planning applications were considered and comments approved.
- Several policies were considered and adopted. These can be found on the Parish Council website.

The Next Meeting:
Monday 14th July 2025 at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall.

Meeting Minutes and Agendas • Local Information • Club information
Visit our website for www.bledlow-cum-saundertonparishcouncil.org.uk

If you have any comments, queries or questions then please contact our Parish Clerk: Tracey Martin clerk@bcspc.org.uk or 07843 975097.
Please note that the clerk works part-time hours.

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Planning Applications with Buckinghamshire Council Decision

25/05353/FUL Upton Lodge Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge

Householder application for construction of single storey garden room

Application Permitted

25/06079/MINAMDFormer Molins Site Haw Lane Saunderton

Proposed non-material amendment to permission for Erection of 4 no. Data centre buildings (sui generis use) together with associated groundworks, plant, electricity sub-station, security fence, gates and piers, landscaping, amendment to existing vehicular access(es), internal roads, service areas and provision of 150 car parking spaces with retention of the existing office building and "Ballroom" building fronting Haw Lane for ancillary operational uses and demolition of all other buildings and structures granted under planning ref: 22/06872/VCDN

Application Refused

25/05895/FUL 9 The Crest Bledlow Ridge

Householder application for loft conversion to habitable living space including construction of 2 x rear facing dormer window

Application Refused

25/05902/CLE Crofters Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge

Certificate of existing lawfulness to confirm building works have commenced (but building works are not yet completed) and are lawfully implemented under planning approval 22/06060/FUL (External alterations to barns C, I and F to support operation of aeroponic farming facility)

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The Ridge Evening WI



At our June meeting we had a presentation by Fred Martin from the charity Medical Detection Dogs, based in Buckinghamshire, accompanied by Karen and black Labrador Viking.

It takes two years to train a dog at a cost of £29,000 and they become either bio-detection dogs or medical alert assistance dogs, the latter living with people who have life threatening conditions, saving their lives on a daily basis.. Viking is a bio-detection dog and takes part in ground-breaking research to improve the early diagnosis of many diseases including cancer, neurological, and bacterial infections with a success rate of almost 97% in most cases. So many people testified to particular dogs saving their lives and the CEO Dr Claire Guest wrote a book about Daisy in 2009, the dog

that had saved her. With no Government funding the charity relies on volunteers and fund raising to keep going and full details can be found on medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk. Viking was presented with a packet of dog treats for his disciplined performance.

July 2nd - Tales from the Thames Path - Join Jo Laurie on a walk along the Thames Path from the source to the Thames Barrier with lots of photos and history along the way.

August 6th - The Pahar Trust - Join Susie Smith with a presentation focusing on the

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charity's provision of hospitals and medical care in the rural poor areas of Nepal where she briefly worked as a Nurse Practitioner earlier this year. This will be followed by her fascinating journey back through Bhutan. We will be pleased to welcome those who attended Susie's fundraising Ceilidh.

September 3rd - Wildlife on your Doorstep, Join Tom Way emphasising how much wildlife there is to see from deer to hedgehogs, from owls to foxes. He will show his wildlife images and the stories behind them branching out further away to other UK areas and its wildlife.

All meetings start at 7.30pm in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall. We are always keen to have new members (visitor donation of £3) and receive a warm welcome. Enquiries to theridgeeveningwi@gmail.com



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Bledlow Ridge Horticultural Society

This year, our Annual Outing is into Essex on 8 July to the gardens at Ulting Wick (where light refreshments are included) and the RHS garden at Hyde Hall. With the view that it's not just our own members that like a good day out, we have a 53 seater coach and have opened the trip to non-members and members of other local gardening groups. At the time of writing this there are just a few seats left (£35pp for BRHS members, £40 for non-members), so if you are interested, please contact us on our website ...www.bledlowridgehortsoc.org.uk.

As The Plant Specialist unexpectedly cancelled our members-only visit to them in June, we have been looking for a replacement. So on the afternoon of 8 August, we have a visit to Woodlands House, a newly listed NGS garden near Little Marlow. Light refreshments are included in the £6 entry price, which has been subsidised by the Society as a thank you to members for their continued support. Remaining numbers are limited so if you are a BRHS member and wish to come, you need to get your name down now.

There are classes for flowers, vegetables, shrubs, fruit, floral art, photography and domestics including some mouth-watering recipes detailed in the Schedule. So have a look now and see what you might be able to enter.

Then for Oct and Nov we are back to meetings in the Village Hall...16 Oct "Death in the Garden" with Mike Brown and 20 Nov AGM followed by Kerry Austen on "Everything you need to know about Roses".

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Our Annual Show is on Saturday 6 Sept at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. The Show Schedule and Entry Form are already available within the "Annual Show" box of the "What's On" page of our website, giving plenty of time to consider what you can enter. It is free to visit and to enter exhibits and is open to all whether you are a member or not.



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Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club

As I write, the club is buzzing.

On the pitch, the 1st XI is Played 5, Won 5, the 2nd XI is Played 5 Won 4, Tied 1. This means that each of these teams is top or equal top of its division. Our new team, the 3rd XI is Played 5, Won 2, Lost 2, Abandoned 1: the team comprises one or two old players, one or two even older players and lots of young ones who are enjoying it hugely.

Presumably it is the cricket they are enjoying hugely rather than playing with old folk. Two 3rd XI matches have so far been played on our 'home' ground, West Wycombe CC and for these games Martina has been providing fayre from the café. If you haven't been there yet, the views are spectacular and the cricket pretty good too.



We have welcomed some newcomers to the club and as always the club would like to welcome more – especially now that we have three teams. Please contact me as below.

On 8th June the club held the 7th Sid Bird Memorial Six-a-Side. The weather defied the

doom-laden forecasts as did the cricket in that the Bird Dogs did not achieve a hat-trick of championships, this year's winners being Dan Watkins' "Bowl and Bear" team. Dan hoovered up several of the club's younger players to do all the running around and it paid off. To add to the team's success



The winning team with Mal Shard and Theo Ward front centre and front right.

Theo Ward took the Young Gun award and Malekai Shard, the Player of the Tournament, both of whom are still much too young to celebrate with alcohol, so various other players undertook this on their behalf as evidenced by the record number of cars left overnight for later collection.

The event also contributed towards fundraising for new outdoor nets. We need to keep the momentum up and in particular we need your support in joining the 200 Club. The monthly cost is less than a pint of bitter or a glass of wine and there are four cash winners each month. Martina and Gemma in the café can help you or ask anyone on the committee how to join.

There are four winners of cash prizes, usually totalling over £200 every month.

Junior cricket practice continues on Friday nights and we will be running a Junior Tournament on Sunday 13th July, which is both very similar to the Senior Six-a-Side and very different too. Come and find out how, and as with all our events, everyone is welcome.

Off the pitch, as if you didn't know already, the Friday night bar and BBQ is well established as a major village event. Once the Summer term and junior fixtures end, Friday night BBQs will continue when we welcome T20 opposition such as Princes Risborough CC, The Hampden Arms and Labb Ltd. The Annual Dinner is likely to be on the evening of Saturday 27th September and we are looking at holding it in a marquee on Meadow Styles.

Finally, if any local businesses would like to join our list of sponsors we would be pleased to hear from you. To date we have over 20 companies on our All Aboard programme each of whom is represented on advertising boards on the perimeter fencing and on the pavilion.

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Bledlow Ridge Tennis Club

The summer tennis season is in full swing, and there's been plenty happening at the club.

Our Open Day on Saturday 7th June was a real success. While the weather wasn't quite the sunny day we'd hoped for, we managed to avoid the torrential rain that had been



forecast. The courts were full all afternoon, with adults and children alike enjoying coaching sessions, trying out Pickleball, having a go on court, and tucking into the barbecue. We were delighted to welcome many new

members who signed up on the day. A big thank you to the JWT Coaching team - James, Caroline and James - for their brilliant support and enthusiasm throughout the event. And also to our members who helped us to put on the open day, we couldn't have done it without you.

New Pickleball Memberships Available

If you haven't yet heard of Pickleball, it might be time to pop down and see what all the fuss is about. It's a fun, sociable game that combines tennis, badminton and table tennis - all played on a smaller court with a paddle and a plastic ball.

It's easy to pick up, great for all ages, and now that we've resurfaced our dedicated court, we're offering Pickleball-only memberships for those who'd like to give it a go without committing to full tennis membership. Why not bring a friend and try something new?



League Matches and Summer Tournaments

Our Ladies', Men's and Mixed Doubles teams have been making the most of the light evenings, enjoying matches against local clubs during the week as well as at weekends. The courts have been full of friendly competition and great team spirit.

Now we're heading into tournament season, and we'd love to see supporters on the sidelines - and players on the court - at these upcoming events:

- Sunday 6th July – Men's and Women's Singles Tournaments
- Sunday 27th July – Mixed Doubles Tournament
- Sunday 7th September – Men's and Women's Doubles Tournaments
- Friday 19th September – Annual Dinner
- Sunday 14th December – Fun Christmas Tournament

For more details on our activities please visit www.bledlowridgetennis.co.uk/

From everyone at Bledlow Ridge Tennis Club we wish you a great summer!

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Country Notes

A decade ago scientists discovered that swifts spend their entire lives on the wing except for nesting. At twilight they ascend to an altitude of two to three kilometres above the earth, then at night descend to find thermals on which to glide and 'sleep'. At dawn they ascend again to high altitude before returning to earth and their nests. It's not certain why they fly so high twice a day, possibly for orientation, to check out weather patterns and to track where the best food sources might be. Enjoy watching these amazing birds with their wild screaming calls so evocative of summer, because in August they will leave our skies to migrate back to sub-Saharan Africa and we'll not see them again until next May.

NGS - Garden Opening at Red Kites 15 July

Our late Spring opening was a real success with over 100 visitors from far and wide enjoying the garden, the delicious homemade cakes and the superb views. We are hoping for similar support at our Summer opening on Tuesday 15 July 2pm - 5pm as the garden changes into a different palette of colours and textures with the summer plants coming to the fore. Admission is £6.00 and tea/coffee & homemade cake £4.00, with all proceeds again going to the National Garden Scheme and their charities



Bledlow Ridge School

The children are enjoying a busy summer term and are very much looking forward to sports day which is just around the corner. It is always a great day where all the children take part and celebrate together and then enjoy a well deserved picnic afterwards.

The Eco Team and Junior Road Safety Officers have been doing some interesting work looking at how we can reduce our carbon footprint, some of these ideas include encouraging more people to walk to school if they can. The children are also doing some work with the local Speed Watch Community on how we can make our roads safer for everyone.

Bledlow Ridge School The annual Summer Fete is just around the corner, this is one of the main school fund raises of the year and is always a wonderful afternoon. This year the fete will be on Saturday 12th July from 12-3pm, this event is open to everyone and we would love to see members of the local community come along and enjoy the afternoon with us.

Just to give you a flavour of the day there will be a sweet and bottle tombola, raffle, bouncy castle, Hook a Duck, penalty

shootout, bar, bbq and so much more, please do come along everyone is welcome.

Finally the time is coming where we say goodbye to our Year 6 children who will be graduating from Bledlow Ridge School, we wish them well!



On Saturday 8th March a new hedge was planted by a fantastic group of 48 volunteers, including current and past

pupils and parents, as well as those with no previous connection with the school. The hedge creates a woodland edge habitat, and the day launched "Natural Connections" a 12 month project building connections between children, families and the community, with our local environment.

The hedge is now mostly in full leaf – some quite tall and others just 30cm whips; the school field looks very different with a clear boundary between the playing field and the young woodland, which casts deep shade in some areas. This will be an important resource in hot weather.

High Wycombe & District Beekeepers invite local residents of all ages to their Open Apiary Day, and if you are wondering about what keeping bees is all about, there is also a Taster Day coming up.

HWBKA Apiary Open Day : Sunday 13th July timed slots from 10am-3pm,

Free to attend but please book a time slot on Eventbrite - www.hwbka.co.uk/open-day/

HWBKA Beekeeping Taster Day: Saturday 9th August 10am-2pm

Places are £20 and can be booked on Eventbrite - www.hwbka.co.uk/taster-day/

Honey bees are just one species, but in the UK we also have 24 species of bumblebee. However about 90% of our 270 species are solitary bees, including mason bees, mining bees and leaf-cutter bees. Other insects are also important pollinators, particularly butterflies and moths, hoverflies and some beetles. The distribution of pollinator species have decreased on average by 18% since the 1970s according to the 2023 State of Nature report affecting both agriculture and wild plants.

The NW Chilterns Community Board and Bledlow -cum-Saunderton Parish Council

are supporting the project including practical conservation work and community art in partnership with Chiltern Rangers and local artist Dan Wilson – workshops will be taking place in September. Opportunities to take part will be advertised widely, but do drop me an email for dates as they are planned mlyon@bledlowridge.bucks.sch.uk

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Bradenham

Bradenham Fete

Well, Bradenham saw the annual fête taking place on Sunday afternoon, June 8th. It was a “first” in many ways: the first taking place since 2008, the first taking place on the village green (with the support of the National Trust); and the first fundraised solely by residents and organised by an Events Committee of Bradenham Residents.

We were very fortunate in having as our V.I.P Guests, local M.P. Mr Greg Smith and Buckinghamshire Councillor Shade Adoh. We were delighted Greg agreed to open the fete which he did with a stirring performance on an old school bell! Greg then spent some of his valuable time going round the site and talking to stall holders and artists. He was highly impressed that the fete followed old country traditions: Punch & Judy, Morris Dancing etc and was pleased it was such a community event. Our PA for the day was churchwarden Richard Langridge whose voice was lost by the close of play! Well done Richard.

The weather was very kind to us too. Ferret racing with a static information stand. Punch & Judy, ballooning modelling in the children’s activity area. Splat the rat and

welly wangling proved popular too. Paddling pool with ducks scooped out for a prize. Even a sweet shop popped up!

Crafts stalls from All About Bees to dried flowers in gorgeous frames. Unusual paintings or the collectors. One of our charities YoungCarers Bucks had an information stall with vital information regarding how to support this unfunded charity for the young.

Bar was open with the bartender getting seriously worried he was running out of beer but hey ho., ice cream and lollies were available in the Cricket Club. Brilliant Cream teas provided by award-winning Gold Star Cafe The Red Lion Tea rooms. These ran out very early and a promise of extra being baked for next year .



Face painting and the ever-popular coconut shy was in position with “ah got one” being heard through the day. Local musicians played near the Cricket club to everyone’s enjoyment. Well done.

If that wasn’t enough, a fabulous Dog Show was organised and proved so popular with many interesting and funny categories. The best in show Luna whose owner ex Bradenham resident Avalo, came all the way to support the fête and man the tombola stall. We were all delighted to see her . Raffle too with brilliant prizes.

St Botolph Church was also heavily involved in making this event entertaining. Tea and biscuits were available all day. Pete Baldwin

church warden also judged the flower competition and was a mine of information regarding the history of our beautiful church and Bradenham Village.

A treasure hunt competition was held at the fête, ending in the church with participants needing to find the brass rubbing figure found on the ground in the vestry. The church will benefit from funds raised at this unique fête as will YoungCarersBucks.

We would like to thank everyone involved in making this first ever residents funded fête very enjoyable.

The fête raised £1,800 for our 3 charities.



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Piddington

Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council

The picturesque village of Piddington and Wheeler End is stepping up its efforts to secure victory in the prestigious Best Kept Village Competition, an annual contest celebrating community pride and environmental excellence.

Residents, parish councillors, and volunteers have joined forces to showcase the beauty and resilience of their local spaces, ensuring that every green corner, pathway, and communal area is in top condition. From well-maintained gardens to litter-free lanes, the villages are embodying the true spirit of community care and collaboration.

Parish Council representatives have voiced enthusiasm for the challenge, emphasising the dedication of local volunteers who continue to enhance the villages' aesthetic appeal. This competition is about more than just looking good—it's a testament to the strong community spirit we have in Piddington and Wheeler End.

Judges will assess various criteria, including the overall tidiness of public areas, efforts to maintain historical sites, and engagement in local environmental projects. The competition not only brings village together but also highlights the importance of sustainability and pride in local heritage.

With support from local families, businesses, and environmental groups, Piddington and Wheeler End are proving that a collective commitment to maintaining beautiful, welcoming spaces is at the heart of village life.

Results of the competition are expected later this summer, and residents remain optimistic about their chances to bring home the coveted title.

Questions?

Contact the Parish Clerk: Hayley.

Email:

clerk@piddingtonandwheelerend-pc.gov.uk

Phone: 01494 437111

Lane End Parish Council, PO Box 1616,
High Wycombe, HP12 9FT.

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Horticultural Society – News, Forthcoming Events And Diary

The ANNUAL VILLAGE SHOW will take place on Saturday 30th August. We urgently need a volunteer to help with the organisation of the Village Show.

If YOU can spare a few hours now and again to support Ann Ferguson with the administration involved then please contact Ann on annferg@btinternet.com There's no need to join the committee (unless you want to). Any help will be greatly appreciated.

DIARY DATE: THE AUTUMN QUIZ will take place on Friday 10th October. Further details to follow nearer the date.

Please put these dates in your diary and help make the Horticultural Society's fundraising in 2025 a success. All profits from the above events go towards the Seniors' Annual Dinner.

Piddington Village Hall



It has been a fairly busy few weeks in the Village Hall, with the events committee organising the second annual Eurovision Party, along with a repeat of the very successful Sound-bath, which if the level of popular demand is anything to go by, could develop into a regular feature on the calendar.

Whilst some of our regular users are beginning to take their traditional summer pause their activities, other events are coming up during the Summer, as detailed below, with the main event, as always, the Horticultural Society's Annual Village Show at the end of August.

Our fundraising team has been hard at work and through their sterling efforts, we are planning to complete some electrical and health and safety work over the next couple of months that will improve fire safety in the kitchen, and emergency evacuation routes at the rear of the hall. There is much more that we would like to do to improve the hall and we will work our way through a growing list as funding levels permit. We have also tidied up the exterior of the Hall and added a little colour as a contribution towards the work ahead of the Best Kept Village Competition, and committee members have applied a decorative and green-fingered approach to other areas of the village to good effect.

The outline event schedule for the next 5 months is set out below, and we are already well into planning for the Xmas period and will publicise those events in a future edition of Contact Magazine:

5th July -
Glee Choir at 7 pm.

12th July -
Comedy Club event from 7pm-10:30pm,
including a licenced cash-only bar.

30th August -
Annual Village Show.

26th September -
Village hall Quiz Night.

10th October -
Horticultural Society Quiz Night.

18th October -
"Badgers" Race Night.

23 November -
Wreath Making Event.



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Following the huge success of the 2024 event, this July, The Hellfire Club will again play host to The Big Meet, a celebratory display of hundreds of interesting vehicles from far and wide. It's a day of scenery and machinery, with a licenced café, food, drinks and for the more active, walks and visits to the nearby Hellfire Caves.

For anyone that came in 2024 you'll notice we have upped the coffee and food available in the paddock. What hasn't changed is our aim to not only raise funds to help tackle mental health, but as a club, to continue to create regular opportunities for people to socialise and participate - those who would otherwise feel left out and on their own. As we say we're about the people not just the vehicles.

So, if you own an interesting car or bike then contact us at the address below. Display Vehicle Entry is only £10 per vehicle. Spectator vehicles with passengers can park up at £15 per vehicle, and for walk in spectators it's just £5 per person with children going free.

Entry and tickets at: www.thebigmeet.uk

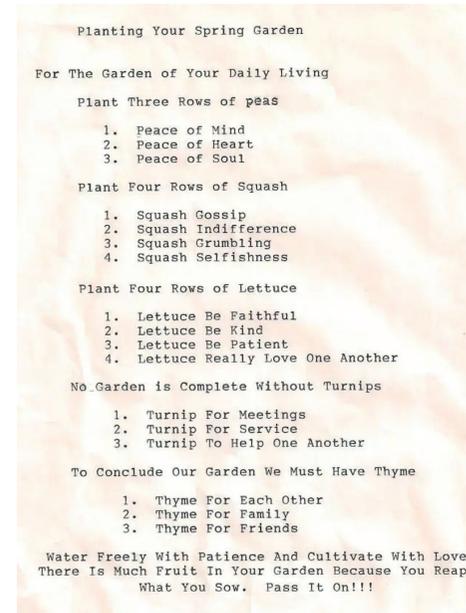
The Hellfire Club is an affiliate of Men with Machines CIC a not-for-profit company that tackles the issues around men's mental health.
Cover illustration - the 2024 car of the show, the DeTomaso Pantera of club member Colin Bradshaw.



Radnage

News From St Mary's Church

Once again we were blessed with the weather for this well-loved community event, it really was a lovely day and great to see so many people out and about.



at The Old Rectory, both of which have stunning gardens to wander around.

The opening of the garden at Four Acres gave everyone somewhere to base themselves while children enjoyed swimming in the pool & trying out the bouncy castle, the adults could have a glass of Pimm's or tea & cake!

The opening of 3 further gardens over the afternoon gave everyone a chance to explore more of our village gardens with one of them serving refreshments which were a real hit!

The Garden Sunday Committee would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone involved. To those who opened their gardens and the associated hard work to make them look so lovely, donated raffle prizes, sold raffle tickets, programmes, and to those who helped on the day, baking & serving cakes, and of course running the bar at sundowners!

The day began with a lovely service at St Mary's Church followed by Bloody Mary's at The Sir Charles Napier, and bacon butties

20 Years Experience

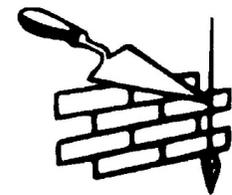
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We are overwhelmed and grateful for the support for St. Mary's. Thank you so much!

We are delighted to let you know that the day raised in excess of £4,500 profit for St. Marys Church for which the PCC are very grateful to everyone.

A special thanks to the Anne & Jeremy for opening their pool & hosting the delicious cakes and of course Martin & the BBQ Boyz for the super BBQ at sundowners!

A quick note from us (J & A) to say thank you to all who helped in the garden and to our lifeguards Holly and Heidi. Special thanks to Holly and Heidi our lifeguards in the pool – so dedicated and really kept all the children safe.

Heidi on the left of the photo Freya and intrepid jumpers.



We couldn't do it without you and we are so blessed to know such wonderful people. See photos below.

The morning service was a happy affair with some 30 + folk enjoying favourite hymns chosen by the parishioners which Don our organist played. Lisa – read the poem attached which set the tone for the day.

Radnage Womens Institute



In June our talk was given by Keith, a retired diplomat. He served in Moscow in the 1980s and his talk will mainly be about the security and intelligence issues in those times. His distinguished career has seen him working in many parts of the world, Russia, Jamaica, Central America and Africa. We were all fascinated, and amore than a little perturbed by his incredibly interesting reminiscences of his time in Soviet Russia.

Following our support for the WI resolution Bystanders can be Lifesavers, Radnage WI are are running a HALF DAY CPR TRAINING SESSION on 2nd August 2025 from 9.30-12.30/1 at £20pp in Radnage Village Hall This training session is also open to non-WI attendees so encourage any partners or friends who might be interested.

If you would be interested in attending please email jane@fouracreslodge.co.uk

In July we visit Daws Hill vineyard if you would like to go, please contact Jane, or another member of the committee for details. If, the weather is inclement, we shall meet in the hall (fingers crossed) In August our social evening will be at the sailing club in Bourne End, in September we have a talk on the history of tattoos, in October Tom Way will return to tell us about his photography of wild life around the world, and in November we have a talk from a pharmacist, and December we have rebooked our musician couple from last

year to enjoy some rock and roll with our mince pies.

Village Fun Day, Radnage - 21st June

As a WI we are officially running the tea and cakes on the 21st June in support of the village. Thank you, ladies who have volunteered cakes, for 21st June, we still need more if you can help? We also need volunteers for the stall either from 1.30-3pm or 3-4.30pm thank you. Please email Jane if you can support this in any way -

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we need more cakes and more volunteers, thank you

**WI COFFEE MORNINGS 10.30 am
27th June 2025**

We are booked into visit Jo Dudley's beautiful garden at 11, Green Lane

We need to take our own cake and if raining we will go locally elsewhere ...

PLEASE LET Jane know if you are attending as we need to give approx. numbers (there is some flexibility ...)

BRING AND BUY TABLE Have a declutter and bring along anything that you no longer have a use for, books, kitchenware, sewing/knitting odds and ends, or general bric-a-brac. This is a useful and fun way to add to our funds.

YOU ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US! We are a thriving and social group, and our numbers are growing. We have now over 50 members. Tea and cakes at every meeting. (Sometimes wine!) We have interesting speakers, and there is always a lively discussion after the meeting. If you are new to the village, come along to one of our meetings to see what we are like before you join! There is a nominal charge of £5.00 for non-members. Our meetings take place on the first Wednesday of the month, we meet in Radnage Village Hall. Please aim to arrive at 7.15 for a 7.30 start.



Radnage Parish Council

Next Meeting

Village Hall, Wednesday 9th July 2025 – 7.30pm

Your Parish Council:

Chair: Cllr Mr Darren Ungless
Cllr Mr Aidan Hancock
Cllr Mr Keith Mathews
Cllr Mr Sam Martin
Clerk: Ms Lisa Stibbs



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RADNAGE PARISH COUNCIL HAS A NEW WHATSAPP CHANNEL

We are Looking for New Councillors !

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Sat. 8:00 to 11:00pm
Sun. 12.30 to 5.30pm

Forthcoming Events:

Monthly Bingo is held on the second Saturday of the month

Vintage Day - Sunday 20th July 2025.
The event starts at 12:30 pm and there will be a barbeque from 2:00pm.

The Radnage Branch of the RBL will be holding a VJ Day 80th Anniversary Commemoration on Saturday 16th August 2025.
The Branch will be open from 12:00 noon. D-Day Dawn will be providing music from 1:00pm. Everybody is welcome to join us. More details to follow in the August edition of Contact.

Swing and Soul Music Night - Sunday 24th August 2025 at 8:00pm.
This will be a ticketed event and more details will follow in the August edition of Contact.

Race night on 20th September 2025 at 8:00pm.

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West Wycombe

News from St Paul's Church

We are planning to re-locate the path to the door of the church, due to damage to the present pathway. The one planned will be at a much safer angle, include a hand rail, and will be easier for wheelchair use.

After that we are looking to improve the Chancel area. Concerned about health and safety, as mounting the various levels is hazardous. We have no history of when the levels were added, but they were certainly not there originally. Kindly helped by Mike Henson, investigations revealed significant tiling at ground level. We will go through the necessary procedures required by the C. of E. so that, in due course, we hope to remove the existing levels to the tiling and make it infinitely safer.

In recognition of the church's 150 anniversary in October, we are holding a garden party on the 14th of September at the Dower House, by kind permission of Verne and Andrea Grinstead, or in the church if it rains. We just ask people, if they possibly can, to bring a chair. A cream tea will be provided, and a raffle held, the first prize being £100, and others, such as various vouchers, and a food hamper, which will be presented at the celebration in

October, (when the Bishop of Buckingham will attend). Tickets are £8 each and will be available from August, from members of the P.C.C. or the Village Post Office.

With summer holidays approaching, can we remind people that we are always looking for volunteers to help with simple tasks. You don't necessarily have to be a member of the church.

Just a quick word about Family services in the Benefice. As the name suggests, they are geared to attract children and young people, who have been somewhat lacking from traditional services in recent years. Although it was a 'one off', the service in June, which involved tadpoles - can you believe - was very much enjoyed by us adults who attended! We can't promise that level of 'excitement' every time, but fun and joy will certainly be the theme.

'O taste and see that the Lord is good'.
Ps. 34 v.8. - *Beverley Cope*



News from your Parish Council

Residents will have received their Council Tax bills in April and will have seen that there are two figures for West Wycombe Parish. One is the actual cost of running and providing services by the Parish Council and the Special Expense is the cost of maintaining St Lawrence Churchyard on top of the hill. When a Churchyard is closed, by some quirk of church law, it is handed over by the Church of England to the local authority to maintain and in our case Buckinghamshire Council now undertake its maintenance.

You have a very proactive Parish Council and many of the things that you see on a daily basis have been arranged and paid for by your Parish Council since its creation in 1987.

The streetlights in Chorley Road, Church Lane and Bradenham Road are all ours and maintained by us. The bus shelters in Bradenham Road, the flashing speed signs on the approach from Piddington and in Bradenham Road were all organized by us. The pedestrian crossing in the High Street and the pelican crossing on West Wycombe Road are there because of our work and financing. The allotments, Pedestal Playing Field and equipment, the Community Orchard and the Burial Ground are all paid for and managed by the Parish Council on land leased to us by West Wycombe Estate. Grit bins by the school, Beechwood Road and Portway Drive were paid for by us.

The footpath by the side of the school was paid for by us as previously children had to walk up the middle of the road and we worked with the National Trust and asked them to create the path across the hill for the school children. When we had two school crossing patrollers, before we had the zebra crossing, we paid for one of them, Buckinghamshire Council pay for our one patroller by The Walled Garden. We paid to have the flashing school signs and, when the batteries are not being stolen, the portable flashing speed signs along the Chorley Road and the entrance to the village. By going to parliament and presenting to the HS2 Select Committee we had the route for the HGVs on the HS2 project changed so that their lorries cannot travel through the High Street, through that same mechanism we had the Bradenham Road bus stop moved further off the road and had the pedestrian



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island and signs to slow traffic installed in Bradenham Road. We pay for the grass verges on the 30mph roads to be cut and maintained and the grips in Toweridge Lane dug out to reduce the amount of standing water. The planted troughs on the entrance, the parish and the white 'entry' gates are there to make people more aware of our community and we pay to have them maintained. We installed two defibrillators – one at the Village Hall and the other at the gate to St Lawrence Church.

We respond to planning applications with our residents in mind – we raised many concerns over the Copperfield development and most of the issues we raised have become a reality for the residents with a

road which is too narrow and insufficient parking capacity and we fought hard over the Rent a Van site. We are not always listened to, but we do try.

We are constantly working with the Highways Department of Buckinghamshire Council doing our very best to have the roads in our parish maintained, floods sorted, gullies emptied, pavements repaired and potholes filled, Buckinghamshire street lights maintained and repaired as well as dealing with Thames Water when we have water leaks affecting our roads.

The list could go on but at least you will have some idea of where the Parish Council element of the Council Tax has been spent.



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Weather news from Chorley Road

Thank you to Eileen Chapman

Week Ending	Min Temp °C	Max Temp °C	Rainfall mm	Sunshine hours
4 th May	4	26	0	72
11 th May	3	21	0	54
18 th May	4	25	12+ hail	49
25 th May	1	21	22	23

Total Rainfall (mm) comparison

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
2024	65	93	159	110	77
2025	63	124	24	64	34



Kensham Farm

We have been busy on the farm with the routine spraying of fungicides (as written about in the previous article), having completed the flag leaf application we will shortly start spraying the last fungicide once the wheat ears have fully emerged.

We have also been planting maize plots for game birds and interesting biodiversity mixtures for environmental stewardship including varieties such as kale, linseed, rape, fennel, radish, millet, sunflowers, vetch and chicory.

Since we left the EU, the old Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) which used to pay a fixed rate to farmers according to farmed area, is being phased out. Defra has replaced it with

Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMS). The two main components of ELMS are Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) and Countryside Stewardship (CS). These schemes pay farmers for environmental features on their land. Some examples of these are areas for wildflowers, pollen and nectar mixes and winter bird seed plots. On an arable farm these areas are no longer planted with cereal or food crops but are designed to promote biodiversity.

Unfortunately, in March DEFRA suspended applications for these schemes as they had proven too popular or generous and had gone over budget. This has created 'haves' and 'have nots' depending on when a farmer



lodged their application. We are in the unfortunate position of having completed one 3-year agreement in January 2025 and were in the process of applying for another when this suspension occurred. At the time of writing, we have taken land out of food production and planted small plots of unharvested cereals, designed for feeding wild birds over winter, but do not know whether we will be paid for them. We also have wide field margins with wildflowers where we need the income from these schemes to make them economically viable as we must pay rent on these areas.

Attached is a photo of planting grass seed with our Amazone Cirrus disc drill for a neighbour who was successful with their ELMS application prior to it shutting in March. This is a field that had been growing cereals but will now be grass with wildflowers, this will produce a fixed income for three years for the landowner which is more reliable than growing cereals! As ground conditions were dry at the time of planting this field was also rolled to ensure good soil to seed contact which should aid with even seed germination.

Our biggest tractor, a John Deere 8360R is with our local John Deere dealership, Farol Ltd at Milton Common having a new engine fitted. This is the last tractor that we bought brand new and is now 13 years old. Due to farming economics we have subsequently only bought second hand tractors. We had quotes for rebuilding the existing engine (£19,300 + VAT) and fitting a new engine (£23,400 + VAT) and decided on the latter as it the new engine comes with an extended warranty. This is obviously a very expensive repair but considerably cheaper than buying a new similar size tractor for around £300,000 with the hefty finance and depreciation charge that would come with it. Most of our equipment is bought second hand but in good condition, recent exceptions are the sprayer and fertiliser spreader which were purchased new with the very latest precision technology to ensure accurate application of these expensive inputs.



Coffee & Chat

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/Grandparents
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Mon. 19th May
Mon. 16th June
Mon. 14th July

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9.30am - 11.30am



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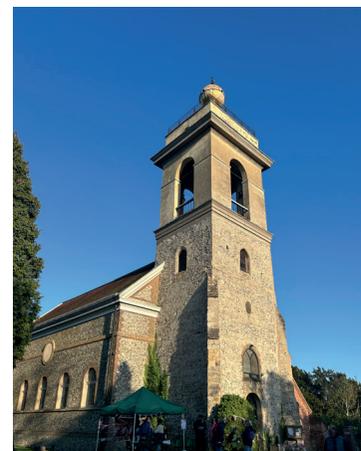
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News from St Lawrence Church

ST LAWRENCE IS OPEN FOR BOOKINGS!

Concerts, Exhibitions, Religious events etc.
Get in touch: [bookings@](mailto:bookings@stlawrence.org)



Open for tea and cake

Sunday's 20th July
*Entertainment also from Chiltern
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Come and visit

**Please help us keep St
Lawrence open**



Volunteers needed in all aspects from, Serving teas on a Sunday
afternoon for 1 hour to IT, maintenance, publicity, fundraising,
cleaning just to name a few.

Get in touch - WE NEED YOU!
Click on the QR code which will take
you to a form to complete.



West Wycombe Village Hall

westwycombevillagehall.co.uk • westwycombev@gmail.com

Mon	Morning	Pip - Phonics with Robot Reg • pip@robotreg.co.uk
	Evening	West Wycombe Art Group • wwag.secretary@hotmail.com
Tue	Evening	Jennifer Zumba • jennifer.morais.zumba@outlook.com Masque Player • masqueplayers2022@gmail.com
	Morning	WW Toddler Group • wwbabytoddler@gmail.com
Wed	Afternoon	Crochet Club 4.30pm, • ga.watkins@yahoo.co.uk
	Evening	Cycle club (first Wed of every month)
Thur	Evening	Masque Player • masqueplayers2022@gmail.com Happy Hounds Dog Training • www.huntshappyhounds.co.uk/

The hall is available for private and regular hire.
Email Emma at emma009797@icloud.com for further information.

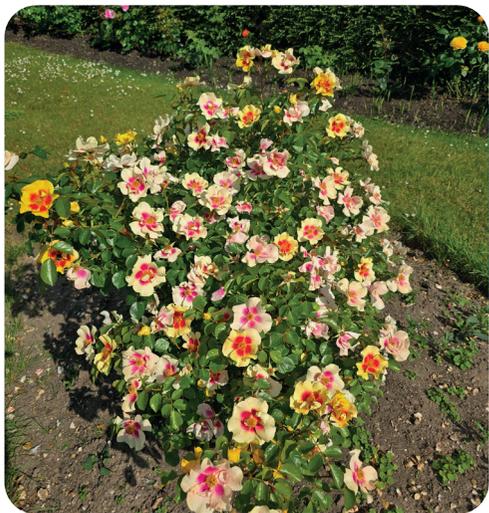


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Opening times

Furniture and Gift Shop
Mon-Sun: 10:00 to 5.00 pm

Coffee Shop
Mon-Fri: 08:30 to 5:00 pm
Sat/Sun: 9:00am to 5:00pm

The Apple Orchard,
The High Street,
West Wycombe,
Bucks, HP14 3AG
Ph. 01494 528328

Scan the QR for direction:



Church Services

For information contact Administrator on
admin@westwycombenefice.org.uk or 07598 738037

July			
Sun 6 July <i>Trinity 3</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Mary's, Radnage	2 Kings 5.1-14 Gal 6.(1-6)7-16 Lk 10.1-11,16-20
	11.00am Family Service and baptism	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Ezek 36.25-28 Mark 10.13-16
Sun 13 July <i>Trinity 4</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Amos 7.7-17 Col 1.1-14 Lk 10.25-37
	11.00am Eucharist	St Paul's, West Wycombe	
Sun 20 July <i>Trinity 5</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Amos 8.1-12 Col 1.15-28 Lk 10.38-42
	11.00am Family Service	St Mary's, Radnage	Col 1.15,28 Lk 10.38-42
Sun 27 July <i>Trinity 6</i>	11.00am Eucharist	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Hos 1.2-10 Col 2.6-15(16-19) Lk 11.1-13
	4.00pm Family Service	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Col 2.6-19 Lk 11.1-13

August			
Sun 3 Aug <i>Trinity 7</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Mary's, Radnage	Hos 11.1-11 Col 3.1-11 Lk 12.13-21
	11.00am Family Service	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Col 3.1-11 Lk 12.13-21
Sun 10 Aug <i>Trinity 8</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Isa 1.1,10-20 Heb 11.1-3, 8-16 Lk 12.32-40
	11.00am Family Service	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Heb 11.1-3, 8-16 Lk 12.32-40
Sun 17 Aug <i>Trinity 9</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge	Isa 5.1-7 Heb 11.29-12.2 Lk 12.49-56
	11.00am Family Service	St Mary's, Radnage	Heb 11.29-12.2 Lk 12.49-56
Sun 24 Aug <i>Trinity 10</i>	9.30am Eucharist	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Jer 1.4-10 Heb 12.18-29 Lk 13.10-17
	11.00am Family Service	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Heb 12.18-29 Lk 13.10-17
Sun 31 Aug <i>Trinity 11</i>	11.00am 5th Sunday Eucharist	St Botolph's, Bradenham	Jer 2.4-13 Heb 13.1-8,15-16 Lk 14.1,7-14
	4.00pm Family Service	St Paul's, West Wycombe	Heb 12.1-3 Lk 15.1-10



James Cahill

From the Registers

Baptisms

James Cahill
St Mary's, Radnage

Oliver Chapman-Ball
St Paul's, West Wycombe

Funerals

Sally Bird
St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge

Barbara Morgan
St Mary's, Radnage

Burial of Ashes

Lesley Newman
St Lawrence, West Wycombe

Rosie Little
St Paul's, Bledlow Ridge



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