



Hanneys News

Number 601 December 2025

Happy Hanneys Christmas

from all of us here at
Global HQ

*East Hanneys and West Hanneys Parish
Councils wish all our residents a very
Merry Christmas.*

*May the magic of the festive season bring
happiness, peace, and goodwill
to every corner of our community*

**ALL 'CHRISTMASSED OUT' ALREADY?
FEAR NOT DEAR READERS...
THERE'S ALL THE USUAL
STUFF CONTAINED WITHIN!**



Editorial

Welcome to December's effort...Christmas and all that good stuff. Difficult to come up with something original - it is my 11th year! - for the front cover's seasonal greetings. A quick trawl through back issues since 2016 reveals that good 'ole Santa himself has appeared on six of the ten covers. A sprig of holly was a close second on five. Baubles adorn four, with Christmas bells on two and reindeers pulling Santa's sleigh just once.

This time it's a big fat tree, but sadly with my usual greeting.... I can't think of anything more catchy. Suggestions for 2026 are very welcome?

Did you happen to catch the arrest on Sky News of the Algerian gent who'd been mistakenly released early? As he was being nabbed, he claimed he was not the wanted man, to which the officer replied that he was the right fellow, adding that he had "A very distinctive wonky nose". I confess to having a quick chuckle on hearing that, but hang on a mo, can you say things like that about folks these days, even baddies? Well done to that PC for his no nonsense approach, he deserves instant promotion! Whilst we're on inappropriate 'speak', can I draw your attention to this month's Hanney Film Night? Page 3 for details. The poster looks very 'pink and girly' to me. Yes, I know that's a horribly sexist remark to make these days, but my question is simple. Will us chaps - oh dear, more sexism! - enjoy it? I asked A.I. and it assured me that "It is likely men will like it, as the film incorporates universal themes of grief and romance, while also offering lighthearted

comedy". Ooh er!

This a good moment I think to point out that nothing in Hanney News, other than the above remark, comes from A.I.!

Maybe one day it will take over completely, but in the meantime, I'll plod on.

I hope the reservoir piece on page 19 may raise a chuckle.

Community heroes on pages 4, 5 and 23!

Still on that theme, Keith Diment has been a servant of ours for many years in a wide variety of ways, not least it was he and his wife Jenny who started Hanney News back in 1975!

His special contribution to our Wine Circle was recognised at their last meeting, when he was presented with a very well deserved award, and a few bottles of plonk I believe. Pic and details on page 18.

Remember Delilah the cat who was shot at? See the good news update page 21.

I'm pleased to welcome three new advertisers this month, Woodcroft, page 8, the 'Hanney Handyman' page 21 and 'CMF Plastering, page 22. I thank them, as I do all our advertisers, for their support, and please, if you do use any, tell them you saw their ad in Hanney News!

Seriously bad jokes, dotted through this issue...be warned. I met a fine gent the other day who proudly told me he had never laughed at a single one of them, tho' he later admitted that one had raised a smile. My conversation with him demonstrated that he has a great sense of humour... we traded insults much like old friends do!

Enough prattle for this month, have a great Christmas, and see you next year!

We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles, letters, photos, in fact anything you feel may be of interest to our readers.

Please submit items to the Editor, preferably by email, or use the Hanney News post box in the Community Shop. Contact me, the Editor, Jim Stagg, on my mob: 07762 239681, or landline - 01235 867500, or email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month....

Mon 1st - Hanney Gardening Club, Christmas Party, Village Hall.

Fri 5th - Hanney Film Night proudly presents 'Bridget Jones, Mad about the Boy'. Village Hall. Doors and Bar open 7.30pm, film starts 8pm. Contactless payment only...no cash. £8, £7 concessions.

Fri 5th, Dickensian Evening, Wantage. Icknield Way Morris Men will be dancing.

Sat 6th - 'Small Business Saturday' Wantage, see page 17.

Mon 15th, Christmas Wreath making at the Black Horse, 6pm. Booking required

Thursday 18th December at 12.30 for 1.00.
Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch at the Royal British Legion, East Hanney.

Sat 20th, as on the 15th, starting at 2.30pm.

Sun 21st 'Glam Rock' at the Black Horse, 4-6pm



And further ahead

Mon 5th Jan 2026: Hanney Gardening Club - Village Hall. 7.30 for 8pm. 'Roses' by Kerry Austen. Non-members welcome. Kerry is a renowned expert in roses, having held roles at RHS Wisley and as the head gardener at The Royal National Rose Garden in St Albans. Her talk will cover planting, pruning, pest and disease control and the latest varieties. Great practical advice for both the novice and seasoned gardener. Non-members welcome.

Weds 7th Jan East Hanny Parish Council (EHPC) monthly meeting 7.30pm, Village Hall. Please note, a week earlier than the usual 2nd Weds in the month.

Mon 26th Jan, Hanney History Group. A talk by Sem Seabourne 'The Port of Wantage'. Details next month, meantime see page 18 for more in the History Group.

Mon 2nd Feb - Hanney Gardening Club - Village Hall - 7.30 for 8pm Herbs- culinary and medicinal use by David Hinkley. David is a seasoned herbalist and educator with a deep passion for integrating herbs into everyday life. He will explore the rich history and diverse application of herbs and give practical advice. Non-members welcome.

Mon 23rd Feb, Hanney History Group. A talk by Gillian Cane 'Coleshill - nerve centre of British Resistance'.

Mon 2nd March, Hanney Gardening Club - Village Hall, 7.30 for 8pm. '52 Weeks of Shade Loving Plants' by Lynne Moore, a passionate horticulturist specialising in shade loving and woodland plants. In her talk she provides a comprehensive guide to cultivating a vibrant garden in shaded areas, non-members welcome.

Mon 23rd March, Hanney History Group. A talk by Dr John Naylor 'Watlington Hoard'.

Big ups to these two amazing

ladies, Helen Cavendish - on the left - and Jenny Corps, who have been working exceptionally hard recently to redecorate the jewel in the crown that is our Community Shop. Shelves and notice boards were removed, those big fridges and freezers were emptied and shifted, all to allow a top job to be done. Most of this work happened in the evenings after the shop had closed in order to minimise disruption to the service we have come to expect from our magnificent emporium. The shop's big chief Sir Clive of Ward and 'Yes, we do have bananas', announced that the shop now looks a 'squillion times better!' Indeed it does Sir C!



I know the recently introduced 20mph speed limit is not universally popular, and I occasionally exceed it by two or three mph. (Please don't tell our magnificent Speedwatch team!)

That said, when I am observing it, I wonder why cars following me often drive right up my rear end! Not pleasant or safe!

I'm sure these are impatient folk in a rush, driving through our villages and probably don't live here or care a jot

about road safety.

My question is simple....do they believe that their unwelcome proximity to my rear bumper will cause me to speed up?

I must confess that their overfamiliarity can occasionally have the opposite effect, depending my mood at the time, and I slow down a tad.





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The Hanneys Flood Group
always send me updates on their activities, and the splendid work they do to help alleviate flooding.

Every email confirms just how hard the group works. Their dedication and expertise is incredible, and we all, including those who are lucky enough to not be directly threatened by floods, owe them a massive debt.

Recently they had three teams out working, all on different projects. Team one was placing sandbags along the bank of the Letcombe Brook to help support the footpath by Philberds Manor. This work necessitated them all wearing waders and life-jackets.

Team two were clearing the scrub at the beginning of God's Ditch where Ebbs Lane drains away to the north. Head hombre Sir Clive of Manvell advised that the team... "Recruited the Grim Reaper with his scythe, whilst others used more conventional tools." Team three made a start on reducing the reeds and willow herb encroaching into the Brook around the Iron Bridge. Some members needed to be in the water in waders.

A quick shout out to Helen Smith who kindly donated two delicious apple cakes!

The group welcomes anyone, so if you're interested, see their contact details on page 34.

Their next working party is on Sat 20th Dec.....maybe a bit of exercise before the start of the Christmas excesses?

Warning....Bad joke....My daughter didn't cope well with going to jail.

She refused to eat or drink, swore at everyone and trashed her room.

After that I never played Monopoly with her again!



The 2025 /26 Hanney Panto
is truly the Directors Cut!
An adaptation of a classic
tale, Puss in Boots by
Bob Heather, has allowed
director Charlie East to go
into creative overdrive.

Rehearsals are swimming along and we are delighted to welcome several new members to the cast.

Read what they have to say

[https://](https://www.hanneydramagroup.co.uk/puss-in-boots-february-2026)

[www.hanneydramagroup.co.uk/
puss-in-boots-february-2026](https://www.hanneydramagroup.co.uk/puss-in-boots-february-2026)

QR Code



Tickets are on sale from
5th January '26.
Book early to avoid
disappointment!!!

East Hanney Parish Council

Paul Aram: Chair: cllr.paul.aram@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Dickon Green: cllr.dickon.green@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

David Kirk: cllr.david.kirk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Garth Dennill: cllr.garth.dennill@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Laura Lolly Bligdon: cllr.laura.bligdon@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

James Newsome: cllr.james.newsome@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Alexis Pratsides: cllr.alexis.pratsides@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Website: easthanneyparish.gov.uk - **Clerk:** clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk

Next meeting is on Weds 10th December , 7.30pm, Village Hall.

Another busy month in Hanney, with plenty going on around the Village.

The “hanging” footpath at Hunters Avenue has been resolved, and in conjunction with the Residents Association, we have a connection between the developments. (See photo)

Next up is the allotment path which will be upgraded along the brook side of the allotments.

Then the corner of the village hall by the MUGA will be sloped to remove the rough edge. All of this is funded through PC (Parish Council) grants.

The flood team - working in conjunction with us - have raised £18k towards culvert and ditch maintenance. Works along Ebbs Lane will start soon. Our thanks to everyone involved.



The Council also agreed to fund a flood ramp that should help prevent water flowing down Halls Lane from the brook.

At the Black Horse bus stop next to the shelter, there will be a new cycle rack installed, funded by the Council.

Bloor Homes - we have requested that they don't use the PC's name without express written consent, as they recently mis-quoted us regarding the proposed development.

Thank you to everyone who helped plant 400 colourful and flowering trees! We hope you enjoy watching them grow over the coming years.

Thames Water - the PC has asked for a public scrutiny of the increase in cost from £2.2bn to £6.5bn. Don't forget public consultation is open until 13th Jan - have your say at www.ipsos.uk/SESRO

At a recent General Meeting of the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group, it was decided to dissolve the Group.

Funds in their bank totalling £1,600, have been split between the October Club and Wantage Museum.

Their website at

<https://wantageandgrove.org> will be retained for the present so that the information it holds can be accessed.

I, and I'm sure many others have received very informative and useful emails over the years from Julie Mabberley and Geoff Rice.

Our sincere thanks go out to them for all their efforts.

West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors:

Chair: David Corps - cllr.david.corps@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 867454.
Graham Garner - cllr.graham.garner@westhanneyparish.gov.uk- 01235 868684.
Peter Packham - cllr.peter.packham@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 868038.
Vicki Ruston - email: cllr.vicki.ruston@westhanneyparish.gov.uk
Ahmed Farrag - cllr.ahmed.farrag@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 07388 816079.
Barbara Martin, Clerk - email: parishclerk@westhanneyparish.gov.uk
07793 556352

Website: www.westhanneyparish.gov.uk

**Our next meeting is on XXXXXXXX Jan 2026, at 7.30pm
in the Hanney War Memorial Hall**

Drainage investigations have been commissioned by Gordon Kelman (OCC Highway Schemes) to inform potential work to improve surface water drainage from Church Street to the open ditch on the north side of West Hanney Green. The initial investigations will look at the section of pipe running between the raised walkways to the Green.

The Statutory Consultation into SESRO which has been renamed 'White Horse Reservoir' has opened and runs until 13th January 2026. There was a drop-in event at the HWMH on Friday 21st November. There is more information online including a feedback form, please take the opportunity to have your say on a project that will have a major impact on our community for many years to come

Our MP is Olly Glover. olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD

Ron Batstone is our County Councillor: Phone: 01235 763564, Mobile: 07941 801479, Email: Ron.Batstone@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Sally Povolotsky is our District Councillor:
Email: Sally.povolotsky@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

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In the Sept issue of Hanney News, I suggested that pretty much no organisation, group, charity or business was allowed to 'cold call' in NCCZs, i.e. 'No Cold Calling Zones.'

Both Hanneys are 'NCCZs' here's the rather grubby sign that proves it at the top end of Winter Lane!

However, a gent contacted me to advise that he believed NCCZ's rules only apply to businesses. Political organisations, charities and - as I described them - folk 'spouting their weirdy religious nonsense' were exempt, and could 'cold call'.

I emailed Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) asking for clarification on 28th Aug. Unsurprisingly, I heard nothing, so I sent another email on 24th Sept. This time the response was instant (!) advising that I should contact Trading Standards, also part of OCC of course. I did, and they advised that I should contact the Citizens Advice Bureau!

Slightly puzzled, I rang them, only to have my ears assaulted by the most dreadful muzac, frequently interrupted by a posh lady politely advising me that no one was available and I should continue to hold.



During the 20 minutes I was able to bear this pain, I again, via Google, searched for an answer to my fairly simple enquiry. I found that OCC were indeed responsible for NCCZs. I ended my call to CAB with massive relief, and eventually got through to

the relevant page on the OCC website. It is not really very clear - there's a surprise! - but I gathered that I may have been wrong in the September article.

Of course that doesn't mean that you have to answer the door to anyone...feel free to tell them to get lost, couched in whatever terminology comes to mind, but at least it seems that they are not actually breaking the law.

Finally, thanks to the gent who drew my attention to this matter and apologies to anyone mislead by my mistaken words.

Quotes of the month...

"It's hard to be an atheist when you walk through the Grand Canyon"
(Time magazine)

"It's hard to be a theist when you walk through a children's cancer ward"
(Widely attributed to Tim Keller (1950 - 2023) a devout Christian pastor)



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More bad jokes...

When I was young we couldn't afford to hire a hall for my birthday party, so we would go to the local launderette. The highlight of these parties was playing 'Pass the Persil'.

I read recently that the man who invented gravy granules has just had the freedom of his home town bestowed upon him.



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December events.

**Wreath making - Monday 15th,
6pm, and Saturday 20th, 2.30pm.
Booking required!**

Sunday 21st, 4 - 6pm - Glam Rock.

**Look out for the 'Back4'..a great
mix of all the classic rock songs!**

**See our
full
Christmas
menu on
page 14.**

Opening Hours

Monday - Closed

**Tues to Sat - Food from
12pm - 2pm, & 6pm -
9pm, bar from 12pm -
2.30pm & 5.30pm - 11pm**

**Sunday - Food from
12pm - 3pm. Bar from
12pm - 7pm**



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The Church of England

"I'm dreaming of a White Christmas"

– goes the old song. But this year some people are talking about a "Blue Christmas". That is, a Christmas for those who are not feeling "Christmassy" – whether because of personal circumstances or because of the current state of the world, which makes many of us feel somewhat demoralised and perhaps disillusioned.

Traditionally Advent was the "blue" season, a time to focus on the darkness of the world before going on to celebrate the light and joy of Christmas.

But Christmas also has its dark side. The story of a young couple about to give birth finding themselves homeless in Bethlehem. Or worse still, the same young couple forced to flee and becoming refugees in Egypt. Or worse even than that, the story of the babies of Bethlehem massacred by King Herod.

The 16th century Coventry Carol is an evocative expression of this darkness, with its heart-rending words:

*That woe is me, poor Child for Thee! And ever mourn and sigh,
For thy parting neither say nor sing, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.*

Words that will match the feelings of too many in our world today.



So Christmas is not an escape from reality. The first Christmas took place in a world not unlike ours, riven with war and violence, poverty and oppression. But it is out of that darkness that the light of Christmas comes – the story of the birth of a very special human being.

This was a man who loved everybody, who cared for the poor, healed the sick, lifted up the downhearted, challenged the powerful, and empowered the weak. He was like a dazzling light in a dark world. He brought people joy and hope – and still does today. He has been an inspiration to millions of people through the ages. If I didn't believe in God, I would still think him worth following.

His birth is good news – still worth celebrating today. What better time to gather friends and family, give time to each other, and try to include everybody.

A light in the darkness - a light we can still celebrate and share with those around us. So whatever is happening in the world, may the message of Christmas bring you joy and hope this Christmas time – a joy and a hope that we can discover even more when we share it with others.

Charles Draper (retired Vicar living in East Hanney)

Church Christmas Services

Christmas Eve - Carols round the Crib at 5.30pm - Philberd's Manor, EH
Midnight Communion at 11.30pm - St James Church

Christmas Day - Christmas Eucharist at 9.30am - St James Church

Vicar: Revd Alec Gill: 07739 563894 - vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar : vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk

Office : (10 – 12 Mon – Fri) 01235 771479 office@valebenefice.org.uk

Church Wardens: Stuart Cakebread: tel - 868590 stuartcakebread@mac.com

Chris Reason: tel - 868375 Chris_Reason_Hanney@hotmail.com

**The Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday
at 9.30am in St James – all are warmly welcome.
Freshly brewed coffee or tea is served after the service**

Hanney Lottery ... November Winners

1st - Eric Woodhouse, 2nd - Ann Green, 3rd - Alistair Johnson

Not got a number yet or want additional numbers? Call Hilary on 868590.

£200,000 taken from criminals going to local crime prevention initiatives.

I have recently announced the award of nearly £200,000 to 49 community and voluntary organisations to support crime prevention initiatives.

My Community Fund is always hugely over subscribed with 248 applications submitted for over £1.7m of funding, so unfortunately I know many will be disappointed.

The Community Fund provides support to voluntary and community groups that help to prevent crime and keep communities safe. Importantly, money for the Community Fund comes from proceeds from the sale of items seized from criminals that cannot be returned to their rightful owners, and court orders, making criminals pay, rather than the cash coming from taxpayers.

I'm delighted that we are able to take money away from criminals and use it in a positive way, to support many of our hard-working communities and voluntary organisations in the Thames Valley to reduce crime further.

In total there are 49 schemes funded across the whole of Thames Valley. To give a flavour of the types of projects supported, here are a few of the local applications that were successful...

Bright Futures Oxfordshire, Youth mentoring scheme - £5,000.00
Didcot and Wallingford Didcot TRAIN, Inspiring young people - £6,000.00
Improving Road Safety in Long Wittenham - £5,700.00
Sandford-on-Thames Road Safety Initiative - £3,300.00
Gloves Not Gangs, Spartans Boxing Club, Abingdon - £4,000.00
Sweatbox Youth Work, Wantage - £5,000.00
Abingdon Damascus Youth, The Gazebo Project - £4,000.00
CCTV at Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall - £1,500.00
Fraud and Scam Awareness, Vale Community Impact - £5,000.00

Successful recipients will attend a presentation event with members of the judiciary and Chief Constable in November.

Matthew Barber
Your voice in Thames Valley

Matthew Barber is Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, working with the police to help drive down crime locally.

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Sauteed mushrooms in a blue cheese sauce & warm bread roll

Fanned melon & Parma ham or Melon & strawberries (V)

MAINS

Roast turkey breast & all the trimmings

Chicken, ham & leek pie (Short crust pastry) (GF)

Roast duck leg & red wine gravy

Veggie roast topped with goats cheese & an Italian tomato & herb sauce (V)

Seabass fillet & chive butter

All served with roast potatoes & fresh vegetables

DESSERTS

Christmas pudding & cream

Lemon cheesecake

Chocolate fudge cake

Winter berry mess

English cheeseboard (£2.50 supplement)



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We know it might feel a little early to mention the “C” word butChristmas will be here before you know it!

We know it's only September and most of us are still in our shorts (and clinging on to the sunshine).

But guess what? Christmas is already knocking at the door, and our festive menus are hot off the press!

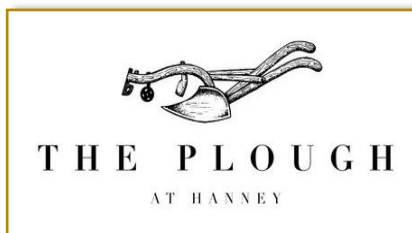
So if you're the group planner (nobody wants this job), or just fancy getting dibs on the best dates, now's your chance...

Not one, but three festive menus.....

Nice - Think Classic Christmas comforts: roast turkey with all the trimmings, indulgent deserts, and every thing you'd expect from a proper festive feast.

Naughty - A little less extravagant, but just as tasty. Perfect if you fancy celebrating with out rolling home after three courses.

Even Naughtier - A part buffet designed for big groups, office parties, and those who really want to let their hair down and go all out.



So whether you're planning...

A cosy get together by the fire,

Organising a festive catch up with a friend,

Or in charge of the office Christmas do (no pressure)...

...we've got the perfect menu (and plenty of wine!) to make it one to remember.

And because Christmas is about giving, we're treating every guest who books early to a complimentary glass of fizz on arrival, the perfect way to start your celebration in style. The menus are now live on our website, so go on, take a peek and see which one tickles your festive fancy. Then get that date in the diary before the December rush begins, because we all know the best spots go

first.

Let's eat drink and be merry together this Christmas. We cant wait to welcome you, share a toast, and celebrate the season in true Plough style. Cheers and Christmas cheer.

Owain and Luke.

BOOK NOW

<https://theploughathanney.co.uk>



What is the oldest community group in our village?

We think it might be Hanney WI !!
We recently celebrated our 104th birthday with a fabulous party for our members. The WI was started in Canada in 1897 by a single woman who wanted to broaden her knowledge and encourage socialising for all women.

Her idea spread and reached the Hanneys in 1921. The membership fee was 2 shillings and early meetings took place in members' homes, then the Black Horse pub!

In all this time we have been having fun, forging friendships and making our own contribution to our community.

More broadly, the National Federation of all Womens Institutes has always campaigned on social issues, some of them very well known.

Back in 1921, there was a push to allow

females to serve on juries and become magistrates.

More recently, our focus has been on environmental issues and dental health care for all.

Being a member also includes free access to our wonderful WI online Learning Hub which is full of talks, craft demonstrations, learning new skills.

Hanney WI today is a lively group of women of varying ages who meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. We have a wide variety of speakers, craft demonstrations, occasional outings – and the odd glass of fizz!

New members and visitors are always welcome. If you would like more information please email

Hanneywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

The Chequers at Charney

Update.....Pusey

Estates bought the pub from Brakspears last year. They intend

to open it as a family pub. There are also plans for an extension to the building to provide new guest bedrooms and improved kitchen facilities.



This needs planning permission of course, so it will be some time before any building work is finished and the pub re-opened.

We look forward to

hearing further updates in due course.

With thanks to 'Charney Chatter' for this one.

Small Business Saturday Calling all home-based small businesses. If you run your business from home, your garage or garden shed, you can be part of 'Small Business Saturday' in Wantage Market Place on Saturday 6 December, from 10.30am to 3pm. You can showcase your

products or services, connect with the local community, and celebrate the amazing small businesses that make Wantage special. Spaces are limited so if you're interested in getting involved or want more details, please email: andrea.yates@wantagecouncil.gov.uk



Here's a rather wet

Hanney Men's football team after a great 5 - 1 victory over Carterton. In spite of the torrential rain, it was a very entertaining game. If you're ever at a loose end on a Saturday afternoon - and like football obviously! - pop on down. Congrats to them, they are a great bunch of lads!



Nurse/Carer

My name is Julie



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Overnight care considered occasionally.

I charge £25 an hour (day time) plus travel time.

If I can help, please contact me: juliehalford160@gmail.com or Tel: 07831 166081. My phone is off when I am working, so it may be best to email me. I will then get back to you, come and visit you, & we can discuss your needs. Otherwise, please leave a message on my phone and I will ring you back as soon as I can.



Last month's spread of Mich Fayre snaps omitted the great 'tug-of-war' twist East and West!

My fault, I was having a cup of tea and a delicious cake courtesy of the WI at the time, and didn't realise there was some serious tugging happening nearby!



Fortunately, Charlotte Pembroke was there ...hubby Steve at the front... and grabbed some great snaps of the competition itself along with the victorious West Hanney team, celebrating in the Plough. Where else?!

Well done West, better luck next year East, and big ups to Charlotte for sending a few of her snaps to us here at Global HQ.



At the November Hanney Wine Circle tasting, Keith Diment was presented with a special certificate conferring Honorary Membership in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the club over many years. Keith served on the committee for 11 years as Vice Chair and Secretary. In 2005 he used his skills to research and create the HWC website, and for the following two decades has single-handedly and enthusiastically managed it as our Webmaster.

More 'Reservoir' stuff.
Apols if you're bored with it. This 4 page A4 publication recently came into my possession, and the date alone made me smile - Summer 1991!

A quick glimpse inside reveals more gems, not least an article that warns construction may not start till 1996 and will take 5 years!

In answer to the question of whether we really need it, there's this little pearl....
"Forecasting future demand is not an exact science...our figures based on Government information, indicate a 40% rise in demand in the Upper Thames area in the next 25 years."

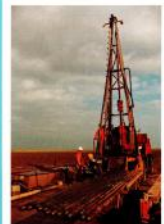
So the reservoir should have been finished by 2001 in order to meet the 40% increased demand by 2016. How's that all gone then Thames Water?



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relationship with
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communities."

**TEST DRILLINGS
GET UNDERWAY**

Tests are underway in an area southwest of Abingdon for a major new reservoir for Thames Water.



July will see the appearance of small trucks with what looks like a miniature oil rig, in the local area.

This is part of the technical investigation beginning this summer which is being carried out to determine the suitability of the geological conditions for the proposed reservoir.

50 boreholes will be drilled

using a small rig. The operation at each site should take no more than a fortnight. The sites have been agreed with local landowners in order to minimise any disruption and to ensure that there is no damage to the land.

Samples of the earth and rock from each site will be carefully labelled and removed for detailed scientific analysis by specialists. Investigations should be completed and the results available by late 1992.



Environment
Environmental studies, going ahead in conjunction with the technical studies, will begin to identify the opportunities to enhance the local landscape and environment together with possible leisure uses. Also identified will be opportunities for conservation, wildlife and quiet leisure pursuits. If you have any views, information or comment on these issues please contact us.

Planning
Providing the technical studies are positive it is hoped that a decision, in principle, to proceed with the reservoir proposal, will be taken by the end of 1992.



**Newbury Street Practice
Patient Participation
Group**

**September, October,
November & December
Edition**

**JOINT NEWSLETTER
Number 3 2025**



**Church Street Practice
Patient Participation
Group**



Please use the QR code to access the newsletter



We live in the country!

As a Londoner, born and bred, I must tell you I absolutely love living here in the peaceful rural idyll that is Hanney!

Nothing would tempt me back to the 'big smoke'...now massively overcrowded, it's a hideous, dirty, crime-ridden and dangerous place. Venture there at your peril is my advice.

OK, rant over... what of the photo above I hear you ask.

It's a magnificent tractor, and this little chap, dwarfed by the huge rear wheel, finds it totally fascinating.

Seeing this magnificent beast is the highlight of his regular walks with his Grandma!

I've been watching 'Clarkson's Farm' recently, and apart from the pro-

gramme confirming what a complete plonker our loudmouth friend Jeremy really is - whether it's driving one of these tractors or running a pub - it does at least regularly highlight the real importance, too often ignored, of our farmers.

Let's support them in any way we can, and next time you're in a pub....hopefully not Jeremy's... raise a glass to them!!



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On other variable dates and over the winter we drive with volunteers for training and exercise purposes.

We have two ponies and are looking for new volunteers who are familiar with handling horses/ponies. No carriage driving experience is necessary as training will be given.

If you have time to spare (*even if it is not every Wednesday!*) and would like to find out more please contact us:

Email: Mandyhook2@gmail.com • **Mobile:** 07884 407 510

Email: Catherine.jessop@btinternet.com • **Mobile:** 07470 300 203

Visit our website for more info:

www.shiffordcarriagedriving.org



Hanney History Group

offers talks that mainly focus on the history of the Hanneys, the Vale of the White Horse and Oxfordshire.

We meet every 4th Monday of the month, from September 2025 to May 2026 at 8pm at the Hanney War Memorial Hall, OX12 0JL.

Visits are arranged in the Summer.

New members and visitors are always welcome. A £14 subscription covers eight evenings - £3.50 per talk for visitors.

Summer visits and walks at venue/guide cost price.

Contact details page 34.

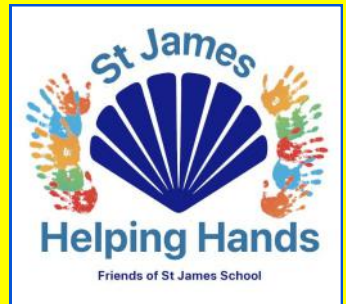


You may remember the recent story of Delilah the cat who was shot with an air rifle, so I'm delighted to be able to publish this pic of her, sent to me by her owner Stephanie. Delilah is fully recovered and already well into the Christmas spirit!



Our fab and groovy St James School recently held a Lego Fayre which featured a fantastic selection of made-up kits, ranging from cars, trains, planes, buildings including the Eiffel Tower, Big Ben and many others.

Lotsa stuff for the kids to do, this really was a buzzy and fun event and big ups to all involved, the School and St James Helping Hands!



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At a recent General Meeting of the Wantage and Grove Campaign Group, it was decided to dissolve the Group. The website at <https://wantageandgrove.org> will be retained for the present. Many folk, myself included, have received informative and useful emails over the years from Julie Mabblerley and Geoff Rice. Our thanks go out to them for all their efforts.

Dear Editor

As I began my daily walk, I noticed the sweet aroma of crab apples, crushed by passing motor vehicles; it reminded me of a recipe by that unforgettable television chef, Fanny Craddock, for Crab Apple Jelly, which involved cutting the fruit into small pieces, boiling for 45 minutes, with a dash of lemon juice and some sugar. But why go to all that trouble? Simply shovel up the pulp in Ashfields Lane (nobody else will!); add sugar and lemon, bring to the boil and decant into suitable jars: Easy Peasy!

Yours, *'Cookery Tips' with a pinch of salt!*

Dear Editor,

As a senior citizen of West Hanney, I have for a number of years now had problems getting my leg over!

LETTERS

I have found many and various ways of getting around this problem

but, very sad to say, I am now defeated.

My regular walks around the village over the years have been enjoyable and dare I say, at times, a life saver. But recently my walk has been curtailed, and I have had to return home unfulfilled, with my tail between my legs - as I am sure have some of my elderly friends of the doggie variety. 'What is the problem?' I hear you ask? An electric fence erected on the Lyford path to keep sheep safe and walkers on the public byway is the culprit.

A small area of the fence has been covered in plastic tubing to enable walkers to continue on their merry way. Sadly, not for me - I can't get my leg over! With nothing to hold onto I am defeated. HELP!

Wannabe West Hanney Walker

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He's back! Yes, Sir Andrew of Wastie is out and about again, this time shovelling up the leaves that have a habit of falling, especially around this time of year!

His partner in 'grime' is Sir Jason of Kent who was also involved in Andrew's big Village Hall exterior clean up that happened a couple of weeks ago. Once again we owe our thanks to these two fine young - well youngish maybe - members of our community!



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The Church runs **School Term-time Children's Clubs**:- Toddlers, Discoverers, Adventurers, and Friday Clubs which are for infants through to Year 13s.

For adults, Coffee Mornings and Men's Breakfasts occur monthly, Ladies' Breakfasts and other events as announced.

Contact Mark, or, see the website for more information on particular events.

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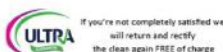
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Mobile: 07747 630 202 (texts preferred)

Email: davemsearle@aol.com

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Clubs and Societies

HANNEY BADMINTON CLUB meets every Thursday in the Village Hall, 8-10pm. We welcome new members. 868256 for details.

HANNEY BELLRINGERS 'Learn the Ropes'. Wonderful mental and physical exercise with a friendly mixed group. Why not come along and watch a ringing session at St. James church. For more information contact Nicky Kauert 07795 571558.

HANNEY BOOK CLUB - 8pm, 1st Thurs of the month, Plough, W. Hanney.
hanneybookclub@yahoo.co.uk

HANNEY BOWLS CLUB - Thursdays 2.00-4.00pm. Contact Alan Savage on 07757 394776

HANNEY COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING in the Village Hall, Tuesdays, 10.00-11.30am. Everyone welcome for tea or coffee - a chat and a raffle. Just turn up!

HANNEY COMMUNITY WOODLAND WORKING PARTY...contact Paul Sayers by email psayers@btinternet.com or 01235 868146

HANNEY CRICKET CLUB Occasional Sunday friendly games. For details ring David Johns on 07770 456147 or 01235 868519, or email hanneycricketteam@gmail.com

DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB meets every Wednesday in the Olde Hanney Room 2-5pm. New members welcome. Contact Lyn Mortonlynmorton89@gmail.com

HANNEY FLOOD GROUP hold a monthly working party. Contact Clive Manvell for details -clivemanvell664@gmail.com, or 01235 868216.
www.thehanneysfloodgroup.org.uk/

HANNEY GARDENING CLUB meets on the first Monday of each month, Sept to April, in the HWMH. 7:30 for 8.00pm. Tea and coffee followed by a talk.

www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

HANNEY HISTORY GROUP. Meets 8pm on the 4th Monday of every month in the main hall of the Village Hall. For further details and programme visit hanneyhistory.org.uk/

HANNEY OCCASIONAL GOLFERS SOCIETY (HOGS) was formed in 1996, and meets four times a year plus Christmas. HOGS is very much about social golf with all standards welcome. Non golfers/spouses usually join for the evening session when prizes are awarded and 'fines' imposed! Contact 'Poppy' at andrew.fletcher@rer.co.uk for further details.

HANNEY SCOUTS,CUBS & BEAVERS, Contact Steve Houseman...
stevehouseman@kascouts.org.uk

HANNEY SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB meets on the 4th Thursday of every month except August, at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Tea, cake, chats, talks and activities. For more details, ring Marcia on 01235 867461

HANNEY TABLE TENNIS in the Village Hall, every Friday at 10am. £2.50p a session. Also every Thurs eve, 6.30pm -7.30pm. Just turn up to either, or both!

HANNEY TENNIS CLUB is a very friendly club and always welcomes new members. For more info email Jenny at membership.htc@gmail.com

HANNEY WALKIE TALKIES...organised by Cheryl and Sue, we meet at the junction of Meadow Way with School Road at 12:30 lunchtime every Thursday (weather permitting) for a walk in Hanney of approx. 50 minutes and chatting along the way. New faces are always welcome to our friendly group.

HANNEY WHEELERS CYCLING Meets on 2nd and 4th Sats of each month, 10.00, at Hanney WMH. New cyclists warmly welcomed for recreational local cycling with essential coffee stop!! Call Adrian on 868340 or email adrianbodimeade@hotmail.com

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Monday each month.

www.hanneywinecircle.org.uk Please note that at the Wine Circle meetings, they only drink the stuff, no treading takes place nor are any grapes harmed during their meetings

HANNEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (W.I.) meet the second Thursday of the month (except in Aug) 7.30 - 9.30 in the Olde Hanney Room, Village Hall. New members are welcome. Contact Kate Tyler on 07446 364859

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB Hanney Youth Football Club, all ages from 5 to seniors. For more details visit www.hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - All welcome to come and join us. Become a member. Pool Table & Darts. Bingo and Music quiz once a month. Please check out our Facebook Page for details. (Hanney RBL Sports & Social Club)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BRANCH meets monthly, NEW MEMBERS WELCOME.

SJS - HARMONY SINGING on Thursdays with

SJS, one of Oxon's oldest male-voice a cappella groups.(6 of us) Rich treasury of 4-part songs; learn from the inside and make a difference. East Hanney, 8-10pm; pint at the Black Horse later. David Gahan 868933

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BINGO every second Saturday, R.B. Legion Hall 8pm. Cash prizes. 18+ welcome.

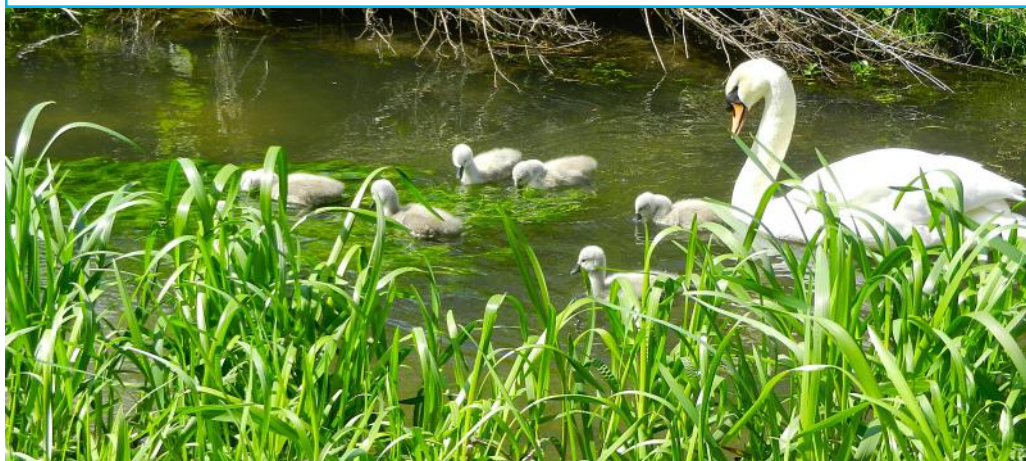
ST JAMES SCHOOL HELPING HANDS: helpinghandshanneym@gmail.com

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY rehearses every Tuesday at C of E School, Newbury St. (next to Comrades Club) at 7.30pm. New voices always welcome. Contact Judy Gibbons 767408, www.wantagechoralsociety.co.uk, email wantagechoralsociety@yahoo.co.uk.

WANTAGE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION : 10am - 12noon every Saturday Feb-Sept. See website for details of all they offer. www.wantagegardeners.org.uk

WANTAGE MALE VOICE CHOIR rehearses at HWMH on Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm. The Choir is looking for more men who enjoy a good sing to join their existing number of a dozen or so. Call Geoff (868440) or Nick (768249), www.wantagemalevoicechoir.org.uk.

WANTAGE U3A: Visit our website detailing current activities - www.u3asites.org.uk/wantage



Hanney



A Guide for Newcomers

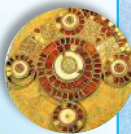
Revised and updated January 2024

New to Hanney? Get your free 32 page Guide from the Community Shop. It's also on the Hanneys website - see below - as a PDF.

Visit the website:
<https://thehanneys.uk>



Hanney News...be sure to read it cover to cover, without fail, every month. It contains so much useful stuff it's quite scary. Feedback always welcome...to me Jim Stagg, Editor, 01235 867500



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Our Defibrillators?

In East Hanney, on the left wall of the porch in the Village Hall and on the fence between the Sovereign building and Motovation entrance on the A338. In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. All are accessible 24/7

Hanney War Memorial Hall - To book the Hall, visit our website hwmh.thehanneys.uk and click on the 'Book Now!' link.

Email: hwmh.hanney@gmail.com



If you are thinking about advertising in these hallowed pages, contact Jim the Editor by phone - 01235 867500 or email: hanneynews@gmail.com to discuss your requirements.

Join the 'West Hanney and East Hanney Community', 'The Hanneys Buy and Sell', and the 'East Hanney Parish Council' Facebook groups...good fun, most of the time!

HANNEY HISTORY WALK

You are invited to take a "Stair of sight" walk through West & East Hanney, with old photographs and notes on some of the buildings you will see on your way. Not every "historic" building is included, and even some of the "happier" could be wrong - but enjoy!

The map is from the 1st Ordnance Survey 1" map dated 1832 - not laid for nearly 200 years ago!

So, starting at the War Memorial Hall, we take a walk along the Greenway to West Hanney Green. Our first picture of West Hanney is looking back to the Green, in the corner of which is the Greenway.

But if you had been there in the late 17th you wouldn't have seen it, as it had been demolished and the area distributed around the Hall.



This 8 page A4 brochure...clue's in the title....is available free from the Community Shop, the Hall foyer, the Plough and me!

Serious legal bit... Disclaimer: Hanney News Association (HNA) takes no responsibility for anything that appears in Hanney News or its 'flyers', be it comment, opinion, information or advice. Neither does HNA warrant the work undertaken, services provided or advice given by any of its advertisers. The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to a future issue. All material is copyright.