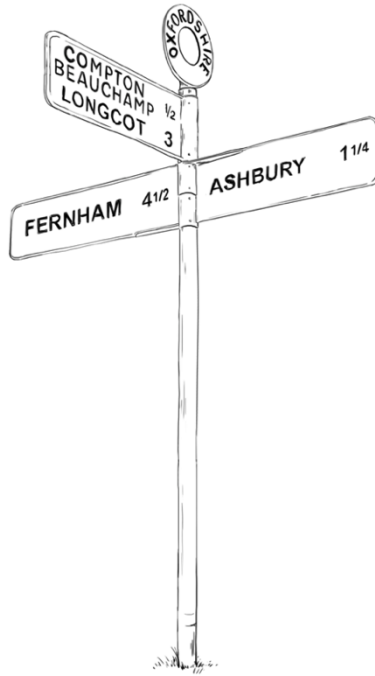


**ASHBURY
COMPTON LONGCOT FERNHAM
NEWS
July 2023**



Avebury Vocal Ensemble: St Mary's Ashbury 2nd

Faringdon Singers: St Mary's Longcot 9th

Community Club 27th

Thought for the month

Leafing through some old books the other day, I found a card used as a bookmark. It is said to be a 17th century prayer, but it seems very modern and pertinent to me:

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody: helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it at all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains, but help me to endure them with patience

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a lessening cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen

Norma

(Reprinted from July 2019)

Richard Fergusson

Richard thanks everyone for their prayers, cards and good wishes and hopes to be back with us again soon.

Ashbury

Ashbury Community Club

Thursday, 27th July at 2.30pm.

Our meeting will be held in the Village Hall as usual but we will not be revealing the topic until much nearer the day.

Details will be circulated by emails and leaflets or you may phone Jackie on 710358

Everyone is welcome to join us for this interesting afternoon with time to meet & make friends.

Visitors pay £2 which includes tea & biscuits.

CHURCH MATTERS

JULY SERVICES IN ASHBURY, COMPTON, LONGCOT & FERNHAM

WILL BE AS FOLLOWS – PLEASE LOOK AT THE WEEKLY SHEET TO CONFIRM:

Sunday 2 July	9.00am	Matins	Compton
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Longcot
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Ashbury
	3.00pm	Joint service with Longcot Chapel	Longcot
Sunday 9 July	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Longcot
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Ashbury
Thursday 13 July	10.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbury
Sunday 16 July	11.00am*	Holy Communion (BCP) for the feast of St Swithun	Compton
Sunday 23 July	9.30am	Holy Communion	Longcot
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Ashbury
Friday 28 July	9.00am	Matins	Ashbury
Sunday 30 July	11.00am**	Benefice Holy Communion	Ashbury

**The congregations of Ashbury, Longcot and Fernham are warmly invited to join with St Swithun's for the patronal festival and to share in refreshments afterwards. The service will be led by the Rev'd Geoff Price.*

***Everyone is welcome to attend this service, which will be led by the Revd Dr Andy Angel, Director of Formation in Ministry for the Diocese of Oxford.*

Covid Precautions at Services

Please do not come to Church if you have Covid symptoms

All online Morning Prayer, Communion services and sermons can be watched on the Shrivenham and Ashbury Facebook.

If you are unable to join us in person, do join online through services and study groups on the Benefice Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account to access these events. Details of online services are on the weekly sheet and on Facebook

Ashbury Prayer cycle for June:-2nd Berrycroft Lane, 9th Chapel Lane, 16th Church Lane, 23rd College Farm Lane, 30th Ashdown Estate

PASTORAL CARE

If you have need for prayer or pastoral support, or wish to discuss a wedding or baptism, do not hesitate to ring Rev'd Norma Fergusson on 01793 784338.

Mini Music Festival

Do join us for 3 lovely concerts at the beginning of July



Wayland Recorder Orchestra

Conducted by Helen Hooker

Sunday 2nd July at 3pm, Shrivenham School Hall

Join us for varied programme of music from the last 450 years including works by Fauré, JS Bach, Orlando Gibbons, Mendelssohn, Holst and modern classics of the recorder repertoire.

Come and hear the full range of recorders from the tiny sopranino to the eight-foot subcontrabass and the wonderful playing skills of Helen Hooker in the Concerto in A minor RV 108 by Antonio Vivaldi.

Tickets £10 (under 16s £5)

from Shrivenham Post Office or online at

shrivenham-church.eventbrite.co.uk

In aid of St Andrew's Church Restoration Project



Avebury Vocal Ensemble
Summer Concert – English Choral Classics

Sunday 2nd July at 6.00pm, St Mary's Church Ashbury

This is a very special opportunity to hear some wonderful English choral classics including Handel's "Zadok the Priest", Parry's "I was Glad" as well as music by WH Harris, Elgar, Sullivan and Byrd.
Conductor: Peter Tims, Organist: Simon Dinsdale

There will be drinks available in the interval.
Tickets £10 in advance from www.aveburyvocal.org
or from Maggie Simons (01793 710801)
Also available on the door for £12.00 (under 18s free)
In aid of church funds



Faringdon Singers – Dreams of the Countryside

Sunday 9th July at 7pm, St Mary's Church Longcot
The programme includes works by Vaughan Williams, Holst and Saint-Saëns.
Donations in aid of St Mary's Church

MESSY CHURCH IS BACK!

But this month is it on Thursday 6 July. Apart from that, this is your opportunity to be creative, hear Bible stories, eat yummy food and have fun with friends and family. We will start at 3:15pm in St Andrew's, finishing at 5pm. For more information or to book a space contact standfast.shrivenham@yahoo.com.

Messy Church is open to the whole Benefice. There is no charge to attend, but a minimum donation of £1.50 per child towards costs would be appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

No Sunday school this month but watch this space for details of a new initiative starting at St Thomas, Watchfield soon.

Caring for Creation – this month's tip

Catch Microfibres in your Laundry

Every time we wash clothes made of synthetic material such as Lycra, spandex or polyester tiny synthetic microfibres enter our water system. Special bags are available to wash clothes in which catch microfibres. This doesn't eliminate plastic waste entirely as the fibres will need to be scooped out of the bag and disposed of with general rubbish. However, this does reduce plastic's harmful impact on our water system.

WELCOME PACK

A pack has been prepared for new residents of Ashbury, Idstone and Kingstone Winslow which contains: Welcome letter, Details of local organisations and activities, Parish Council information, Map of Ashbury indicating Landmarks and various walks, Copy of the current monthly newsletter Postcard of the Ashbury Parish Textile Map.

If you have moved into the village recently and would like to receive a pack, or if you have new neighbour, please contact : Margaret Smith (710800) or Roger Simons (710801) and we will deliver.

LONGCOT CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER – CHAPEL NEWS

Sunday 2nd July 3pm - This will be a very special service to celebrate the long life of the Chapel in Longcot. Sadly, it is time for the Chapel to close so we'd love as many people as possible to join us for this last service and to stay for tea afterwards.

Friday 28th June 3pm – T Time Fellowship. The venue for this may have to change but hopefully we shall be able to use the Chapel just keep an eye open for posters nearer the time. It will be a cream tea this month so do come and join us – you will be most welcome.

Stella Tidmarsh

The Ambassadors Bible Church meet at what was the Ashbury Evangelical Free Church at 10:00 am each Sunday morning. All are welcome and there is also a Sunday School for the Children which meets at the same time.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—An inquest was held at the "Rose and Crown" hotel, Ashbury, on Monday last, by Mr W. C. Jotcham (coroner for Berks), the Rev. O. J. F. Yule being foreman of the jury, respecting the death of Joseph Henry Sealey, which occurred on Saturday last caused by falling from a walnut tree, opposite Mr White's house. The following evidence was taken.—John Sealey deposed that deceased was his father, aged 68 years.—Alfred Lawford said that about one o'clock on Saturday afternoon he got up into the tree to obtain some walnuts, followed by deceased, who was advised not to do so, previously, and both men appeared to have been on different parts of the tree. Shortly afterwards witness heard the cracking of a bough and saw Sealey fall to the ground. The Rev. O. J. F. Yule, who happened to be near at the time, endeavoured to administer a little brandy, but without effect. The injured man, complaining of his heart, was taken home to Kingstone, in Mr John Youens's trap, and died between five and six o'clock. The jury, after consultation, returned a verdict of "Accidental Death through falling from a tree."

Location- the crossroads by the former shop were known as "White's Corner" and of course we still have "Walnut Trees hill".

Country Matters

Chelsea is not long past with some gardens on show there paying tribute to wildness which has spawned the lawn no- mow movement. We admit to not being supporters but it is amazing what nature can produce in these situations. A patch left at the White House, Bishopstone High St has produced a fresh pink pyramidal orchid this year after many years of mowing.

On our own farm on the Russley downs we have a lovely patch of fragrant orchids, probably exceeding other years, but I could only find one example of the rare burnt tip orchid this year. They tend to be unpredictable. I counted fifty three of these small flowers in 2014. Up the Eastbrook valley there are many common spotted and a good patch of pyramidalis. The best site for bee orchids round here lies up the track opposite Odstone farm beyond Kingston Winslow and this year I have spotted 13 there. I am attaching photos hoping the editor has space.

We are used to avoiding the parking of our cars at this time of year under lime trees because of the sticky deposits they produce. However, beech tree leaves this year seem sticky too. Looking for an explanation I have noticed that in our garden the beech hedges seems to be harbouring whiteflies in numbers and perhaps they are secreting these annoying sticky deposits.

If you are running a shoot it is likely that you have to buy in pheasant poults which come in crates from the game farmer at eight weeks, to be released into protected woodland pens where they soon acclimatise and learn to roost, so avoiding the fox, their main predator. Poults are expensive so some larger outfits will buy in day old chicks to grow, potentially saving much cost. This needs plenty of skill to be successful.

On our shoot Philip Curtis has this skill and he has recently released his mature laying hens back to the woods that have produced this year's chicks for him on a site near Bampton.

Red Kites are now a strong feature in our sky with their forked tails. The natural world clearly enjoys an advanced messaging service and a week after the release of these ex-layers I counted no less than thirty kites whirling about above them. The RSPB continue to claim they only eat carrion but these kites have to live.



Pyramidal Orchid



Fragrant Orchid



Bee Orchid

Richard Green

Contacts

Ashbury Parish Council

Chairman: Christopher Prentice 01793 710821 chair@ashbury.org.uk

Clerk to the council: Laura Evans email clerk@ashbury.org.uk

Defibrillator: On the wall by the School entrance

St Mary's Ashbury Parochial Church Council

Associate vicar: Vacancy.

Church wardens: Maggie Simons 01793 710801 Richard Green 01793 791310

Secretary: Vacancy.

Vicar (Shrivenham) Revd Norma Fergusson 01793 784338

rev.n.fergusson@btinternet.com (not Monday)

Ashbury Village Hall

Maggie Simons 0193 710801 maggiemsimons@outlook.com

Secretary Margaret Smith 01793 710800 mbsmith5@hotmail.co.uk

Bookings: Lin and Kevin Clarke 01793 710326

Ashbury with Compton Beauchamp CE(A) Primary School and little Berries Preschool

Headteacher Rachael Smith 01793 710259 www. <http://www.ashburyprimary.org.uk>
office.3851@ashbury.oxon.sch.uk

Ashbury Village Shop 01793 710068

G.P. Surgeries Shrivenham 01793 782207 Lambourn 01488 71715/72299

Post Office at the Rose & Crown Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30-11.30am

Vale of the White Horse District Council 01235 422422

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/>

Recycling/Rubbish collection queries admin.vale@biffa.co.uk

Food waste is collected weekly, green/black bins alternate each week. Garden waste brown bins fortnightly. Mondays except Bank holidays.

Your Local District Councillors are: Katherine Foxhall 07916 285305

katherine.foxhall@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and Viral Patel viral.patel@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

County Councillor: Yvonne Constance: 01235 751475/07976934884

yvonne.constance@oxfordshire.gov.uk

M.P. for the Wantage constituency: David Johnston

david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk 0207 219 3000

Newsletter entries for August 2023. Submit your entries for August by **21st July** to: M.

Turner Claremont, Ashbury SN6 8LN. marionlturner@me.com 01793 710302 For more of "what's on" and local information see the Ashbury Village Website www.ashbury.org.uk and the community page on Facebook.