# ECUBLINGTON CRIER

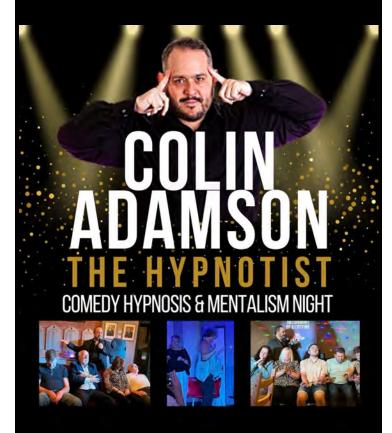
Keeping you up to date on village life, news and events since 1984

WHAT'S ON • CHURCH • LETTERS • PARISH NEWS • SPORTS & CLUBS • VILLAGE LIFE



Happy New Year, dear Eublingtonians!

### ORCHARD GROUND PROUDLY PRESENTS



# FRIDAY 26<sub>TH</sub> JANUARY 2024

BIGGS PAVILION £10 PER TICKET

TO PURCHASE PLEASE CONTACT MIRANDA 07957 609213 OR COLIN 07952 431488

DOORS OPEN AT 7.30PM FOR 8PM START

**CASH BAR AND SNACKS** 

LIMITED AVAILABILITY
PREPARE TO BE AMAZED!!

VOLUNTEERS, AGED 18 & OVER CAN REFUSE TO TAKE PART IN THE PERFORMANCE AT ANY TIME





### The Village seems to have almost all types of clubs, except one for Chess.

I have no idea how many people in the village can play chess, want to learn how to play it and perhaps most importantly would like to meet on a regular basis, to play it.

So, I am pushing it out there just to see what level of interest there might be. Nothing hard and fast, but it seems to me if we were to start a village Chess club, it would need to be open to everyone and all standards of expertise, played somewhere warm (with tea and coffee available), at a time to suit most people and with emphasis on learning and fun!

If this is something you might like to get involved with, please contact me (Steve George) on 07836310881 or george.stephen@mac.com

(it would be very helpful if you could let me know by the 8th of January)

Depending on the response, I would be very happy to host a short meeting at The Old Stables, sometime in January to thrash out how it might work.

(ps. If you haven't already watched The Queens Gambit on Netflix, it's a very watchable chess drama and might provide the inspiration you need to get involved.

Steve





### Happy New Year, dear Cublingtonians!

This will be our third winter in the village, despite our fumbled attempts to leave. You may have seen the For Sale board at the entrance to Ridings Way: our hand was forced by interest rates, but we got no bites, so you're stuck with us. We may still be forced out later in 2024, but in the meantime we're doing everything we can to stay - we love living here, you've all been so welcoming, kind and generous.

It's a tough time for all of us, with an uncertain economic outlook, inflation and greedflation eating away at our earnings and savings, and a general departure from the global stability we've benefitted so much from over the last 50 or so years.

And it's bloody JANUARY to top it off - the most depressing month of the year, so they say! It will be cold, we expect; it will be dark, we can be sure; the food shop will remain dear and the electric will go up again - but we have each other. We've never encountered such a strong sense of community as we have in Cublington. From the Panto, to the Winos, to the various sporting clubs, to the arts and crafts, the choir and fairs, to the Unicorn, there's always a group ready to welcome you and encourage you - thank you, so so much, you wonderful people.

So, as we brace ourselves for the cold and the uncertainty, let's not forget the warmth we find in each other's company. Let's continue to support our local businesses, lend a helping hand to those in need, and foster the community that defines our village.

Our warmest wishes to you all,

Will & Rebecca

February EDITORs: NEXT COPY

Abby & Lee Stopher **DEADLINE is - 15th January** 

## New volunteers wanted please

A new year and could we perhaps suggest a new resolutuon to help out in the village a bit more?

Many people volunteer to keep the village looking so good, mowing and keeping things nice and tidy, which is brilliant.

There are also several of the village committees that could do with your help.

### Orchard Ground and the North Field



Participants are all volunteers working to make the recreational space something the village can be proud of. This was recognised by Cublington winning the prestigious Community Award featured in last month's Crier. Well done to all. But we need even more help please. More help on the work parties. Families to get involved with their children. More involvement in the events OG put on make sure you buy a ticket including the 100 Club.

The Fete Committee are also seeking new members to help put on and run this brilliant Cublington fundraiser. Gary has sadly decided to step away after a good few years service but a brilliant template has been left to copy for future events. It just needs someone with some organising skills to take over and run with it.

The Crier also needs some extra help... if you haven't yet supplied a Who Am I? or items to include such as Is it just me? Please do so. Volunteer to be a guest editor. Send in your Spotteds, letters and articles of interest Many hands make light work as the old saying goes.

### easyfundraising

If you buy anything online, could you please do it through easyfundraising and you can raise money for the village causes. It's really simple. More supporters required please.

Thank you.

Happy New year to you all.

### CRIER CONTACTS

CONTACT DETAILS: The Crier, 18 Ridings Way, Cublington, Buckinghamshire LU7 0LW. info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk ©Editorial: 01296 688548

TO ADVERTISE: Call Gill: 01296 688548 | Email: gary@cublingtoncrier.co.uk Call for media pack - also available online at www.cublington.com

Annual rates payable in advance: 1/8 page - £20 Village, (£35 non-village). 1/4 page - £40 village, (£55 non-village). 1/2 page - £66 village, (£90 non-village).

Full page - £125 village, (£180 non-village) Single Insertion payable in advance: 1/8 page - £8, 1/4 page - £15, 1/2 page - £20, Full page - £25. Full page Colour £35 Inserts £15 village, £25 non village. Copy deadlines by the 15th of each month. Please supply all artwork as PDF or hi res JPEG.

### Contributions wanted please, as it makes the editors job a little easier!

We want your letters, pictures, news of clubs, articles of interest, Who Am I? *Businesses.* Would you like to advertise in the Crier? We exist solely by advertising revenue and costs are ever increasing. Do you know someone who would like to advertise?

*May we please remind contributors* that the deadline for receiving articles for inclusion in the Crier is the 15th of the month preceding. If we do not get the information in time, it may not appear. Whilst we endeavour to accommodate late material, it is by no means certain it will happen.

The Erier online...

is now on Cublington.com

Please advise any readers of the Crier online you may know of. *Thank you*.

Every issue delivered to you, by our dedicated team of helpers costs us about £1.40 to produce, the firms who advertise within these pages pay for this publication. so please remember to mention you saw their ad in "The Crier" . If you know of a company who you think might like to advertise in the Crier, please let us know. If you think you can help deliver the Crier as a back up to our regulars, also please be in touch. Keep sending stuff in... much appreciated.



Thank you if you have volunteered to be on the list. Gary & Gill

### The Erier Editorial Rota

Please book your slot! 2025 nearly full - Now booking 2026 (yes really! Amazing huh?!) - so absolutely plenty of time to think about your content!

2025...

**2024...** Mar Martyn & Avril Gates Apr Reilly's

**May** Gregory family (Miranda)

June Susan & Iain Black

July Vanessa and Kerry Sept Debbie & Brian Knights

October Karen & Danny

November Penny Allen

December Josie & James

Jan?

Feb Alexander's

**Mar** Mountfield family

*Apr* Vanessa & Jason Taylor

*May* Jenny & Andy Brown

**June.** Julie King & Ian

**July** Sandra and Nigel

**Sept** Sam Conway

*Oct* ?

*Nov.* Richard & Polly Thornely

Dec?

To be the guest editor: You only have to design or find a front cover image, write an intro editorial of your choice and provide a few, or as many pages of content of your choice as you want. It's really not that bad or that hard. Go on please give it a go The more who do it - the less we have to ask. Thanks. Contact: Sandie Joy 01296 682446

2026...

### Crier Contact details

PLEASE DROP ARTICLES TO 18 RIDINGS WAY OR EMAIL AS BELOW

**CONTACT DETAILS:** The Crier, 18 Ridings Way, Cublington, Bucks LU7 0LW. **Editorial**: 01296 688548 **TO ADVERTISE**: Call Gill: 01296 688548 **email**: info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk gary@cublingtoncrier.co.uk





### More volunteers required please!

Would you like to volunteer for the Cublington Speed Watch group? In the first instance contact Kevin Shults (Councillor, Cublington Parish Council, with responsibility for Road Traffic matters) at kevin.shults65@gmail.com Thank you.



### Support your local...

Have a drink, meet with friends, have a meal... start a club!



### Beautiful snowdrops. Did you know...



As we approach the Snowdrop season, I thought the following might be of some interest.

Snow drop enthusiasts are called Galanthaphiles. Snowdrops originate from Europe and are not native to the UK, thought to have been introduced by the Romans. It's thought they may have been grown as an ornamental garden plant as early as the 16th century, but were not recorded in the wild until the late 18th century.

Happiest in woodland, some English country estates have diversified and now farm snowdrops as a cash crop.

There are over 300 varieties of snowdrop. If you look some even have faces inside, indeed one such called Grumpy costs £30-40 for a SINGLE BULB!

The most expensive single snowdrop bulb ever was sold for £226! Wow.

Many snowdrops have been transplanted (in the green) to areas in the churchyard, OG and the North Field, particularly round the blossom circle. Watch out for them coming into bloom over the next month or so.





Still happening! Be extra vigilant on these dark evenings.

Keep your dogs close and PLEASE don't leave bags lying around..



Get involved and save yourself some money!

Main Contact: Alison Head

cublingtonoil@gmail.com

Lovell Fuels - 01844 202777 YourNRG 01525 643019 Certas Energy - 01296 561150 Watson Fuels 01438 721594

### CALLING ALL DOG OWNERS and DOG WALKERS



Pooch and Mutt have kindly donated a number of rolls of Dog Poo Bags which are available in exchange for a donation to the North Field Maintenance Fund. *Please contact Andy via WhatsApp on 07762 439453* to arrange collection from Holly Tree Cottage.

### Join the **Eublington Life** WhatsApp group

A very useful village forum, no more so than when James Gregory fell and broke his ankle. Posts for urgent help were swiftly answwred and eventually the air ambulance attended. He is now at home recovering.

Useful information is also shared on fuel costs/power cuts/ broadband issues/chimney sweeps, electricans, recommended kitchen fitters and the like all get posted on here.

Also last shout outs for the Christmas Greetings page!!

Let me know if you'd like to be on the Cublington Life group WhatsApp, send me your telephone number and I can make sure the administrator knows and adds you. *Admins are:* Martyn Waters, Catherine & Charlie Toosey, Gary Brazier,

*Liz Smith and Miranda Mercado Gregory* 



## What could be easier?



www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/orchardground

Please help us fundraise for Orchard Ground and the North Field Project anytime you shop online it really doesn't cost you anything!

If you'd like help setting it up please see the web address opposite or email bobpaine2002@hotmail.com who will be happy to help. **Thanks** 

### MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



2024

January

Saturday 13th North Field Community Planting Day 9.30-11.45am

Friday 26th - Apologies Date Change! OG presents a Hypnotist Night

Biggs Pavilion - Tickets £10pp. Bar and snacks on the night. See ad.

February

Wednesday 7th - Cublington Winos

Biggs Pavilion - 7 for 7.30pm

Tuesday 13th - Pancake Day

Thursday 29th - Leap year day Make the most of the extra day! March

Monday 4th Tennis Club AGM

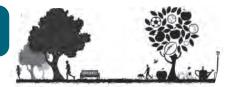
Biggs Pavilion - 7.30pm

Friday 22nd - An evening of Trivia

to raise funds for Orchard Ground. Watch this space.

More details in the February crier

### NORTH FIELD WORK PARTIES



If you can spare an hour or so on any

of these days, that

would be great!

PLEASE let us know of any event in the village you are

it we can't help publicise it.

By the 15th of every month before please.

9.30 till 12

Saturday 6th January

Saturday 13th January - Community Planting Day

Saturday 27th January

Please do come along and see what the working groups are doing. The groups usually end around 11.45am with bacon rolls, tea and coffee, and a catch up; visitors would be made very welcome..

Please contact Martyn Waters for any further information: martyn.waters@icloud.com. M: 07973754356



We still want a Who Am I? from you please. A bit of harmless fun. Please send yours in - don't wait to be asked.



### Rental Rates

**Village Residents** and fully paid up members of **Cublington clubs** and organisations.

£8 per hour

Outside Cublington Clubs and organisations regularly using the facilities. £10 per hour Discounts for block bookings

#### Dances, discos & parties

(There should be at least one adult present for teenage parties) Cublington residents £70 Non Villagers £100

**Weddings etc.** (Whole day - 9.00am - midnight)

Cublington residents £250 Outside of village £300

A refundable deposit of £25 is required at time of booking. Deposit will be returned if no costs are incurred with regard to cleanliness or damage to property, fixtures or fittings.

# Available for parties and special events **Booking events now!**

### Online booking diary: www.ogpavilion.keepandshare.com

Find a date you want and contact Bob Paine on 01296 680483 bobpaine2002@hotmail.com to book it!



### St. Nicholas Church Newsletter

It was a busy and enjoyable lead up to Christmas at St Nicholas. We hope you were able to take part in the celebrations and attend either the Carol Concert, Christingle, Advent Window Walk or the Christmas services. It was lovely to see a packed church at the carol service on 17th Dec and we would like to thank everyone who generously made a donation at the service. A total of just over £200 was made which is really appreciated.

As usual, Christmas donations were sent on behalf of St Nicholas to several charities to help with their work and care in the community. This included:

£50 to The Royal British Legion, £200 to Crisis at Christmas, £50 to The Children's Society, £150 to The Church Army, £100 to The College of St Barnabas. £100 was also sent to the Salvation Army from our Parish Lunch donations to help with their work supplying Christmas lunches to anyone in need. The money collected from the Carols sung around the village will be sent to the Air Ambulance charity.

Everyone at St Nicholas Church would like to wish the whole village a very happy and healthy New Year.



### **Cublington Winos**

The last of the year,s winos took place last Wednesday and as usual was well attended. Customary at this time of year out came the bottles of fizz. The organisers contributed their stock, with a rose cava, a sparkling french which was about as near to a champagne you can get without the label.



However special thanks to Michael Riley who has recently invested in an English vineyard and contributed 3 bottles of his own production Renegade & Longton a pure elderflower sparking wine

It was decided that food would be supplied by members and as usual the food was amazing, sometimes we think people come for the food rather than the wine.

We tried to recall how many winos meeting we have held, no one could remember, we tried to recall how many members we have, no exact number and lastly what funds we have left, a shrug of the shoulders

Well what do you expect from a load of old winos!!

The trick to a successful winos event is fun and obviously enjoying a glass or two plus great food but importantly it's recognised that variety is the key as well. So next year we have ideas for a bbq in the summer, trips to other vineyards and even a trip to France was mentioned

There are a few spaces available if anyone wants to join so contact Jackie if interested.

Happy New Year one and all! Hic!

For further information or to be added to the WhatsApp group contact Jackie on 07968 672707 Steve and Jackie

The next Winos' evening is on Wednesday, 7th February at the Biggs Pavilion, 7 for 7.30

Additional dates for the diary:

3rd April, 5th June, 7th August, 2nd October, 4th December





# WHY NOT JOIN YOUR LOCAL TENNIS CLUB?! We play all year round!

Tennis is the perfect sport for all round fitness, cardio health and mental well-being.

Monday 4th March Biggs Pavilion - 7.30pm
Tennis Club AGM

Come along and be a part of your club.

- LTA affiliated club
- Many categories of membership single/couple/family/junior/oap
- Coaching organised see ad elsewhere.

Registered Venue 2022/23

- 2 great all weather courts
- Free floodlights for members
- Free use of ball machine (weather permitting)
- This Winter 4 league teams in ADTL
- Fun Club Sessions and Tournaments

# Why not SIGN UP for coaching with Paul Hobday LTA level 4 coach

Term starts 12th January for 12 weeks

Paul Hobday is again offering coaching sessions on Friday evenings - 12 sessions.

**First session** - Rusty Rackets and improvers 6-7pm **Second session** - Advanced and team 7-8pm

Members price £72 (£6 a session)

Non-Members £90 (£7.50 a session)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION AND NON-MEMBER COURT BOOKINGS

(£12 PER HOUR):
Gary 01296 688548 or 07713 723788
or email at gary@cublington.com

### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Caroline Lane 01296 681373 carolinelane@btinternet.com

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Jean Barnett 01296 392471

To be contacted if you have any concerns about safeguarding.

### New members always very welcome.

Coaching sessions available for rusty rackets and improvers

### Orchard Ground & Morth Field

### LATEST NEWS and UPDATES

#### Orchard Ground & North Field

The new planting season is here at the North Field working group have been busy planting hedging and tree whips which have been donated by The Conservation Volunteers. The hedging whips are being planted into the new hedge along the boundary between North Field and Orchard Ground and along the other boundary hedges to help regenerate these exiting hedges. The tree whips are being planted into the copse areas. Since we started the planting on North Field, The Conservation Volunteers has donated around 2,500 tree and hedging whips to the North Field project. A recent comment from one of the North Field volunteers, Bob! "Martyn, please, just because these tree whips are free, don't order any more, please!"

You may have seen that another section of fence

has been removed between Orchard Ground and North Field to give better access and to allow the other field entrances too recover from the many feet and paws that walk on North Field.

The Grant application to The Tree Council has been successful: £2,436.78. This is for twenty five taller trees to be planted into the woodland areas and to complete the blossom circler, and six more trees for the Community Orchard. Trees include Silver Birch, Walnut, Sweet Chestnut, Winter Flowering Cherry, Crab Apple, Holly and Hawthorn. The trees for the orchard include Quince, Medlar, Pear and Cider Apples. A Community Planting morning is being planned for Saturday **13th January 2024** from 9.30am - 12.00 noon to plant these larger trees. These events have been very well supported by village residence, please put the date in your diaries. Refreshments including bacon rolls will be served from around 11.00am. This is also an opportunity to have a wander around North Field and see what the working group volunteers have achieved.

Following a very successful Cabaret Night event, the **Gublington Variety Glub are kindly donating a wooden bench** which will be placed on North Field. We are very grateful to them for their support. Several residents have spoken to me asking about donating benches which we are following up. Is this something that you might be willing to do? Perhaps in memory of a friend or loved one?

Sadly the great Goat Willow tree that stood in the far corner has succumbed to age, root and tree rot and a recent storm. This tree has stood in the field for at least 200 years. A previous article in The Crier wrote about 'The Story Tree' and what Goat Willow was used for 'back in the day.' There are no plans to remove this tree, although some branches will be trimmed. Willow trees



have the ability to regenerate from old roots, trunk and tree branches that still have signes of life. So watch this tree, maybe it will continue to grow in a pollarded form.











Please do come along and see what the working groups are doing. The groups usually end around 11.45am with bacon rolls, tea and coffee, and a catch up; visitors would be made very welcome.

### Please contact Martyn Waters.

martyn.waters@icloud.com or M: 07973754356 for further information about the working groups.

If you would like to make a donation to North Field, please contact Martyn Waters: M: 07973754356 email: Martyn.Waters@icloud.com

New committee members & volunteers always wanted. Please volunteer to help on this committee if you can spare the odd hour or two every month.



### What did you want to be when you grew up?

When I was a child, I wanted to be a botanist. I was always fascinated by plants and the natural world around me.



### What was your first job?

My first job was as a schoolteacher. I taught at a local primary school for many years before retiring.

Who (alive or dead) would you like to have dinner with and why? (You can have more than one!) I would love to have dinner with Winston Churchill and Jane Austen. Churchill for his leadership during World War II, and Austen for her brilliant novels and insights into the society of her time.

### What historical era would you like to have lived in and why?

While I enjoy the comforts of modern life, I've always been intrigued by the Victorian era. The fashion, the literature, and the sense of decorum have always fascinated me.

### Where would you want to live if not where you live now and why?

If I were to live elsewhere, I might choose a cottage in the Scottish Highlands. The rugged beauty of the landscape and the tranquillity of the countryside appeal to me.

### What is the temptation you wish you could resist?

The temptation I wish I could resist is indulging in too many sweets. I have a weakness for chocolate!

### What is your favourite book and why?

My favourite book would have to be "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen. I adore the wit and charm of the characters and the clever social commentary

### What is your favourite song and why?

"You'll Never Walk Alone" is my favourite song. It's a beautiful and uplifting tune that reminds me of the importance of community and support.

### What is the pet hate that makes your hackles rise?

My pet hate is people who are constantly late. Punctuality is a virtue, and it irks me when others don't respect my time.

### What is the unlikely interest that engages your curiosity?

An unlikely interest that engages my curiosity is stargazing. I have a small telescope, and I love exploring the night sky and learning about the stars and planets.

### How long have you lived in Cublington?

I've lived in Cublington for about five years now. It's been a wonderful place to retire and enjoy the peace and serenity of village life.



Any unwanted Christmas gifts?

Keep in mind the Jete
Committee will gladly take
and store any unwanted
Christmas gifts.
Call Debbie on
07764611684 to
arrange pick up.



Following the news that the Nursery is closing it's doors, the Village Hall is now available during the week.

- Social gatherings
- Children's parties
- Meetings
- Music/theatre practise
- Dance & exercise

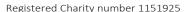
### Cublington Village Hall

Available for Rent

£15 per morning, afternoon or evening session. (£10 for weekly sessions).

To book please contact:

Sarah Taylor on 07939 342457, sezzietaylor@btinternet.com





### Happy New Year - make coming to the library one of your resolutions!

While we are still in the dark days of winter, you may be thinking about holiday adventures to interesting places.

We have lots of travel books to entice you in - and can order books from all the libraries in Buckinghamshire and beyond for destinations not featured.



We are currently saving used stamps in aid of <u>Parkinsons UK</u> - please recycle any from your Christmas cards and from future mail.

We are also happy to relieve you of those annoying 1p, 2p and 5ps!

### Opening Times

Aonday 1400 - 1630

Tuesday 1400 - 1630

Wednesday 1000 - 1230

Thursday CLOSED

Friday 1400 - 1630

Saturday 1000 - 1230

Library Elf is a FREE national scheme that helps you to avoid fines when items are due for return or renewal. Sign up here:

<u>buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries</u> /library-membership/get-email-

Books: Children's board, picture, chapter, and non-fiction
Teen, Audio, Large Print, Adult
Fiction, Non-fiction, Biography
Office: Photocopying, Printing,
Internet, Scanning, Laminating
Other: Local Information and
Displays

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### IS IT JUST ME??....

There are lots of little things that tend to annoy me, banks to name but one, but I sometimes wonder if it's really just me or do we all have similar thoughts and travails.... if you'd like to join in the fun please do.... send to gary@cublingtoncrier.co.uk an email headed Is it just me?



When the floodlights are off, villagers may notice a glow from within the church...no, not on fire, but we are leaving the tower light on, it makes the building look alive an loved. Sponsored by the Alexanders

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR THE CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS?

IN MEMORIAM • IN REMEMBERANCE • IN CELEBRATION

A SMALL DONATION OF £12 - COVERS A WHOLE WEEKS LIGHTING!

Main Contact: Penny Allen 01296 682006

If you would like to, please contact Penny direct on 682006 or djandpallen@gmail.com or to The Crier with a dedication. *Gift Aid* envelopes are available from the Church and pub (when open) porches and this will enable us to recover 23p for every pound donated.

# ST NICHOLAS CHURCH LIGHTS SPONSORS

Gary and Gill would like to sponsor the church lights this month to wish all their friends, relatives and neighbours a very happy, healthy 2024 and to remember all those we have lost and miss grreatly.



### Church Services in January

Jan		Service Epiphany Annie	OT/NT Isaiah 60:1-6	Matt 2:1-12	OT/NT Helen G	Gospel/coffee Lucy	Prayers Jane
			Ephesians 3:1-12				
	14	Epiphany 2	1 Sam 3:1-10 Rev 5:1-10	John 1:43-end	Jenny/Peter	Gina	
	21	Epiphany 3 Jane/Michael	Gen 14:17-20 Rev 19:6-10	John 2:1-11	Julie	Linda	
	28	Epiphany 4	Deut 18:15-20 Rev 12:1-5a	Mark 1:21-28	Sally	Martyn/Gwyneira	
Feb	4	2 before Lent Annie	Prov 8:1, 22-31	John 1:1-14	Gillian	Diane	Jane
			Coloassians 1:15- 20				



### From the Rector



Well, here we are in (another!) New Year. When I was a child I always felt New Year's Day to be a bit of let down – by then all the fun was over. Of course, when I was a child, I thought like a child and I reasoned like a child, but now I'm grown up, hopefully my thoughts are more ordered. So, what might we say about the "New Year"?

No doubt we will have said to others, perhaps many times over, "have a Happy New Year"; we say it quite readily even to people we don't really know. In the ancient worlds of which the Hebrew Old Testament and the more multi-cultural New Testament were both part of, words denoted action. That meant you only said something if you intended to follow it through. Yet how many of us actually intend ensuring someone else's new year is happy? Family apart, I'm guessing not really.

It is worth reflecting on this because the Christian gospel makes it very clear that the Almighty does follow through on what He said he would do; which is why John's gospel has at its beginning the stirring phrase "The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us, full of grace and truth". Word denoting action meaning Jesus coming among us and if we've been anywhere near a church over Christmas we will have heard that passage read. I especially like the notably accurate translation which says that Jesus, the Living Word, encamped among us; meaning Jesus moved about. Everything Jesus said and did tells us of God and His loving purposes for us. His ministry was, is, one of encounter and engagement following through on the great promise of the Old Testament that God does not forget us.

So, as we begin 2024, please don't pack Jesus away with the decorations and the tree; allow Him to grow up and move amongst us.

With every blessing, Rev'd Howard Robson.





Main Contact : cublingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 14th November 2023 at Biggs Pavilion at 7.30pm

#### **Present:**

Cllr G Antosiewicz (Chair)

Cllr H Vale

Cllr M Reilly

Cllr M Waters

Cllr K Shults

Cllr D Blamires (Bucks Council) for item 4 Cllr A Bond (Bucks Council) for item 4 Cllr P Cooper (Bucks Council) for item 4 In attendance: Mr M Joy (Clerk) and three

members of the public

### 1. Apologies

None

### 2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12th September 2023 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

#### 3. Declaration of Interest

None.

### 4. Reports

The meeting was disappointed that the Enforcement Officer did not feel the recent work conducted at Ridings Cottage was in contravention of development regulations.

No planning application has been lodged for the property.

Cllr Cooper reported Bucks Council has started its budgeting process for 2024/25. The income arising from council taxes is approx. £1.2billion and the Government has set an allowable increase in rates of no more than 5%. There will be pressure on expenditure which will affect services over the next few years. Expenditure will be prioritised. There will be less money available to local Community Boards.

Cllr Blamires reported Bucks Council has issued a housing strategy for public consultation concerning affordable housing. The Council is very keen for public feedback.

Cllr Bond reported that Bucks Council is now the fifth largest authority in the country by population.

### 5.1 To approve payments since last meeting.

The following invoices were passed for payment from 1st September to 31st October 2023:

21/9 SSE £201.43 Electricity 22/9 HMRC £135.40 PAYE

25/9 Parrott and Coales £618 legal fees relating to draft lease. 29/9 Clerk Salary £180.57 September 13/10 Mainly Mowing £180 mowing costs.

13/10 Autela Payroll £54.58 process cost 26/10 Clerk Salary £180.57 October 23/10 PKF Littlejohn £252 – audit fee 20/10 SSE £201.43 Electricity

### 5.2 To review the accounting statements to 31st October 2023

There was a surplus of £5,384.52 for the period to 31st October 2023 with closing cash balances of £27,087.27. The forecast to 31st March 2024 is a deficit of £6,210.33 after replacement lighting estimated at £7,500. Estimated cash reserves were £15,492.42.

### 6. Orchard Ground/ North Field Report

The grant application been made to FCC Community Action Fund (formally Wren) for solar panels in the name of CPC on behalf of Orchard Ground for £23,500 was not successful. The grant application to the Tree Council has got through the first stage of the process. The cricket club has secured a grant of £5,000 with the help of Cllr Waters from Heart of Bucks and £5,000 from the English Cricket Board for drainage of the ground which will cost £10,300. This will involve thirty metres of new piping. Cllr Reilly set out a proposal to improve the entrance to Orchard Ground funded by the new cricket club sponsor, Quartz Designs will be presented to OG and CPC.

### 6.1 New Charity, lease and New Lawyers

Contact has been with individuals who had expressed an interest to be trustees of the new charity yet to be formed. An initial meeting to discuss the proposed new charity has been arranged. The new lawyers Kidd Rapinet had written setting out their services and costs to finalise he lease. The clerk has queried the amount of work involved.

### 7. Planning Permissions

### 7.1 23/03067/APP New Dairy Farm

Stewkley Road, Cublington LU7 0LS Erection of agricultural building with concrete apron. Two comments had been raised with the clerk concerning this application. Firstly, the size of barn proposed was not in keeping with the commercial venture and secondly there ought to be some

commitment to investing in deer fencing prior to planning permission. The applicant was at the meeting and stated the barn was in line with business review by a consultant and needs to be of a size to store material and machinery for the venture, and they would be prepared to make commitments prior to planning permission. It was agreed CPC would make a neutral comment on the application and highlight the points as stated above.

### 8. Village Matters

#### 8.1 Traffic

The wet weather over the past two months has restricted Speedwatch activities. Two new recruits have joined the list of volunteers.

Stewkley Parish Council had been contacted about the number of lorry movements into and out of Red Brick Farm and they were going to pass on our concerns to the Enforcement Officer dealing with this recycling centre.

### 8.2 Street Lighting

A quotation has been received with the existing contractor for approx. £7,500 – clerk to approach a couple of other suppliers for quotations. One light has been reported not working .Cllr Antosiewicz to contact our contractor for replacement.

### 8.3 Trees and hedges

Thanks was given to homeowners who had cut back hedges since our last meeting which has assisted road users . An article setting out residents' responsibilities will be published in the Crier.

8.4 Playground Maintenance

Awaiting quotation for maintenance work.

#### 8.5 Local Area Technician

The clerk to meet with LAT for update on schedule of works and other matters.

#### 8.6 Waste Bins

The broken poo bin at OG has been replaced but the new one is located on the Stewkley Road. A request was received asking for the bin to be in its original position. Clerk to contact Bucks council. Two general waste bins are broken. Clerk to get quotations for two new bins.

### 8.7 Best Kept Village and Community Award

Cublington won the community award and was runner up in the best kept village award. There was a formal presentation before the start of the meeting where Cllr Reilly accepted the Best Kept Village Award and Cllr Waters accepted the community award on behalf of the parish council to reflect their hard work in these areas.

### 8.8 Dates of meetings for 2024

This was not discussed at the meeting, but the following meeting dates are proposed for 2024.

**Tuesday 9th January 2024** 

**Tuesday 12th March 2024** 

Tuesday 21st May 2024 and AGM

Tuesday 9th July 2024

**Tuesday 10th September 2024** 

Tuesday 12th November 2024

The next meeting of the Parish Council and will take place on Tuesday 9th January 2024 7.30pm at Orchard Ground.

### \* MORE PARTICIPANTS NEEDED PLEASE \*

# Whenever you shop online... just one click will raise funds for the village.

**THANK YOU** to the 44 AMAZING supporters who have so far raised a STAGGERING £2,254.84. for Orchard Ground projects by simply clicking online when they shop! Phenomenal!! You could do the same!

Please join in for your village - it costs you absolutely nothing and helps us a lot!

1st - Sarah George - £432.99.2nd - Gwyneira Waters - £343.42.

3rd - Martyn Waters - £274.46.

4th - Maggie Brandon - £203.25. 5th - Kevin Shults - £168.78.



### 100 CLUB DRAWS

The more who are in.. the more you could win!



### £1500 Prize money won last year!

### January 2023.

The Crier went to print before the draws had been made. They will be announced in the next issue. If you want to buy a ticket online for the next set of draws starting again in May then please contact me direct at bobpaine2002@hotmail.com or call me on 01296 680483 and we will organise it.

Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Bob & the Orchard Ground Committee.



Dear Bob (@OG)

Sadly after 43 years the Wing Antiquarian Society is being wound up and its funds are being distributed to local "good causes"

In recognition of the parking facilities Orchard Ground has provided the Society over the years we would like to donate your association £500

With best wishes for Orchard Ground's continued success in providing facilities to the local community.

All the best, Richard



Dear Richard,

I am very sad to hear that the Wing Antiquarian Society has wound up. I know that a lot of villagers really enjoyed the outings and it will be a great loss to the whole community.

Thank you and your colleagues for their kind generosity and your donation. The bank details are the same as always.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year,

With kind regards,

Bob.

What a shame but sadly a sign of the times, Ed



January Birthdays

Happy birthday to you...

Samuel Duthie -7 on the 24th Emily Burgess - 13 on the 31st







If you have recently moved to the village and want us to include your children - please let us know. Once children reach 15 they are automatically removed from the list. If you know of anyone who has moved away - also please let us know. Surprisingly we don't know everyone in the village!

Gary & Gill







Please join us at the next Chatty Cafe, on Monday, 8th January at the Biggs Pavilion between 10.00 and 11.30.

On a cold, damp morning, 30 people and one dog came to the first Chatty Cafe. They enjoyed coffee and cake and, judging by the noise, plenty of chat. Thank you to everyone who provided cakes and helped clear up. The two local Community Support Police Officers came and were keen to chat to people about local problems and crime prevention. There was a special welcome for Avril Bradley-Davies on her first visit back fo Cublington since moving to Aylesbury.

The next Chatty Cafe will be on Monday, 8th January between 10 and 11.30 at the Pavilion. Coffee and cake is £1 and everyone is welcome. There will be an Exchange Table so bring along books, jigsaws, DVDs Christmas presents you no longer need and pick up something new, only condition is if your contribution does not find a new owner, you take it back.

Hope to see you on the 8th.

Maggie and Sally

Limited Edition Cublington Jote Bags

Interested? Then please contact me. email: info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk or call Gary on 688548

All proceeds go to village causes

20 already sold, Over £200 donated to the North Field trees project



£10 each or 2 for £18

### Title: *Life in Cublington Village:*Two Years of Community and Culture

Cublington village has been a haven of peace and community for Rebecca and me over the past two years. In September 2021, we packed our bags and left life in Norfolk behind, in search of a place where we could embrace the serenity of the countryside while remaining close enough to London for work. Cublington, with its picturesque charm, became our new home, and it didn't take long for us to fall in love with this vibrant village.

#### A Welcoming Beginning

Our journey to Cublington was driven by the desire for a quieter, more idyllic life without completely disconnecting from the conveniences of city living. The decision was swift, guided not only by the village's proximity to London but also by the instant connection we felt during our first visit.

### The Heart of Cublington

One of the first things that struck us about Cublington was its natural beauty and historical significance. The village is rich in notable landmarks and natural features that make it stand out. Our favorite pastime quickly became walking to the earthworks, where we could soak in the stunning views and immerse ourselves in the village's rich history. Our attempts to walk across the fields to Whitchurch, though ill-timed, offered memorable adventures and showcased the picturesque countryside that surrounds us.

However, the true heart of Cublington can be found at the Unicorn pub. This majestic establishment serves as a social hub for the villagers, offering a warm and inviting atmosphere. It's not just a place for good food and drinks; it's where friendships are forged and stories are shared.

#### A Community Like No Other

What sets Cublington apart is its close-knit and welcoming community. We were greeted with open arms from the moment we arrived, as our neighbors stopped by to introduce themselves and make us feel at home. This genuine warmth extended beyond our immediate neighbors; it permeated every aspect of village life.

The Panto, an annual gathering of villagers who put on a pantomime show, is a shining example of the community spirit in Cublington. The dedication and enthusiasm of everyone involved, from scriptwriters and performers to costume designers and sound technicians, is nothing short of remarkable. It's a true celebration of local talent and collaboration.

The art fair is another testament to Cublington's vibrant cultural scene. The local artists and craftsmen showcase their exceptional works, making it a delightful event to explore. While we haven't participated directly, we've had the privilege of enjoying the incredible talents of our fellow Cublington residents.

#### Creating Community Connections

As we settled into our new life in Cublington, one aspect was clear - we wanted to foster connections with people closer to our age group. In this spirit, Rebecca initiated a monthly Girls Night at the pub, aimed at women in the village around her age. The idea was to create a space for shared experiences and laughter.

However, it wasn't long before the husbands of these women began to feel a bit left out, leading to the inception of "Man Friday." After more than a year of discussions and planning, this group has finally found its place in the village's social calendar. It's a testament to Cublington's spirit of inclusivity and adaptability, where everyone's voice is heard.

### SPOTTED!



Josie and James Abby and Lee Nicola and Pierre Georgie and Jake Rebecca and Will

### **Spotted**

Apparently Cublington has a Youth Club and this was their Christmas Party! Now I feel really old! Ed.

#### Embracing the Cublington Lifestyle

While our life in Cublington has been filled with enriching social activities and events, it has also presented us with the serene pace and tranquility of rural living. The challenges and benefits of this lifestyle are uniquely intertwined. Cublington's countryside setting offers respite from the hustle and bustle of the city, but it also means adapting to a quieter routine.

We've cherished the slower pace, using our free time to explore the natural beauty that surrounds us, from leisurely walks to more adventurous outings. The Friday morning walking club, which we regrettably can't attend due to work commitments, is a testament to the village's dedication to outdoor activities and camaraderie.

#### A Community to Remember

Reflecting on our two years in Cublington, it's clear that the village and its residents have left an indelible mark on our lives. The people we've met, the experiences we've had, and the sense of belonging we've found are the cornerstones of our time here. Whether it's the camaraderie of the Panto, the cultural richness of the art fair, or the inclusive spirit of Man Friday, Cublington has become more than a place to live; it's a community we're proud to call home.

What we appreciate the most about Cublington is its people, who have welcomed us with open arms, making us feel like part of the extended family that is this remarkable village. Cublington is a place where community thrives, where age is but a number, and where the bonds of friendship are cherished above all else.

As we look ahead to the future, we can't help but feel grateful for our decision to make Cublington our home. It's a decision that has brought us closer to nature, to the arts, and, most importantly, to the warm and welcoming hearts of the Cublington community.

### Conclusion

In the heart of Buckinghamshire, Cublington village stands as a testament to the power of community and the beauty of rural living. Our journey to Cublington, driven by a desire for a peaceful yet connected life, has exceeded our expectations in every way. From the enchanting landscapes and cultural events to the sense of belonging and inclusivity, our two years in Cublington have been a rich tapestry of experiences.

Cublington is not just a place to live; it's a place to thrive, a place where friendships flourish, and where the spirit of togetherness is celebrated every day. As we continue our journey in this remarkable village, we look forward to creating even more cherished memories and building deeper connections with the people who make Cublington truly special.

### BABYSITTING DIRECTORY all listed are 14+



Alice Gadsby - 680452\*

Charlotte Keane 688133

Katie Keane 688133 or 07803939530

Hannah Alexander - 681104

Izzy Law - 688019 or 07896 894914 Maisy Parsons 01296 68230 007368 26143

Charles Powell 01296 680467



The Crier can acceot no responsibility if any on the above list no longer babysits.



# Panto rehearsals have already started...

But as always we still have a wide range of roles to fill, both in front of the audience and back stage if there are any more volunteers out there?

**Thursdays from 8pm** Jane Jane A2000@aol.com



### February - the Muddy Month

The name "February" has its roots deeply planted in both Roman and Old English traditions.

#### Roman Influence:

 Februarius: February gets its name from the Latin word "Februarius," which was derived from "februa" a Roman festival of purification and atonement that took place on February 15th.

### Old English Interpretation:

- Februāriusmonað: In Old English, the term "Februarius" was adopted as "Februāriusmonað," just like January
- Solmōnað: However, the Anglo-Saxons also had a distinct name for this month "Solmōnað." There's some debate about the origin of "sol" in this context. While it could refer to the sun, considering the typically gloomy and cold weather of Northern Europe in February, it seems unlikely. A more plausible interpretation is that it shares a root with the word "soil" suggesting February as the "muddy month."
- Association with Cakes: The Venerable Bede, an English monk and a primary source for much of our knowledge of Old English, hinted that the term might have something to do with cakes, though the exact connection remains unclear.

This item repeated because I know some of you will have missed it last time.



### GARDEN BIN COLLECTIONS

## GARDEN WASTE SUBSCRIPTION\*\*\* ACTION REQUIRED \*\*\*

We are changing the way that you pay for your Garden Waste subscription which is due to end in December. We are no longer collecting payment by Direct Debit. Instead, we are giving you the opportunity to start your subscription on a date that suits you by changing to a rolling 12-month subscription.

### Why are we making this change?

We are giving you flexibility to start your garden waste subscription from whenever you want to. You can choose to renew your subscription from 8th December, or you may wish to do it at the start of the next garden waste season. The 2024 service will start from 22nd January 2024 and each subscription lasts for 12 months, with a 6-week suspension period during December and January.

#### What do I need to do?

Please go to our website, any time from 8th December, and follow the instructions to make payment using either a credit or debit card. Currently the subscription costs £55 per bin per year and we'll send you a new sticker when we receive payment, which takes around 10 working days.

We know that reminders are appreciated, so we invite you to create a MyBuckinghamshire account. This will replace any previous MyAccount you have set up. You can use the MyBuckinghamshire feature to sign up and pay for the 2024 garden waste service and it also means you can manage all garden waste requests online and receive reminders when your subscription is due for renewal.

### **NOW JUST 4 LEFT**

# YOUR Extraordinary VILLAGE'S HISTORY... IN PICTURES



The fascinating pictorial history of the village is currently still in stock - but now only five remain. It has not yet been decided whether we get a second reprint.



### "Cublington in Pictures Old and New"

Priced just £15 - (£10 from every sale goes to the upkeep of St Nicholas Church)

Contact gary@cublington.com for your very own copy.

So far over £310 has been donated to the church from sales.

### The Calendar's Odyssey: Exploring the Origins of Month Names

The Roman calendar used to start in March, and they had some quite interesting names for the first few months, channelling the gods, but after Juno they ran out of Naming Juice and settled for numbers - Quintilis, Sextilis, September, October, etc.

But what about January and February? Well, the winter was just that - winter - no month named after boring gods or exciting numbers, just 61 days of waiting for the new year in March.

But around 700 BC, the Roman king Numa Pompilius is said to have added the two winter months, naming January after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings. Yet the Roman year still started in March. It took until 154 BC for January to become the first month of the year due to a rebellion!

March being the first month explains why our September is the 9th month, not the 7th, and October the 10th and so on. But we'll look at the months in the order we know them.

Were you born in Three Milkings? Or do you hail from the Blood Month? Are you a Harvest baby or someone born in After Yule?

### January - the Beginning

### Roman Origins:

- Named after the Roman god Janus: Janus is depicted as having two faces, allowing him to peer back at the year just passed and forward to the coming twelve months.
   This symbolises his role as a deity of both endings and beginnings.
- Janus and Doorways: Janus was also the god of doorways. In ancient Rome, there were ceremonial gateways named after Janus, through which armies would march off to battle and hopefully return.

### Old English Naming and Association:

- lānuāriusmonao: In Old English, spoken about a thousand years ago, January was known as lānuāriusmonao. This name was essentially the Latin word for January with "monath" (meaning "moon") added to the end, reflecting the Old English understanding of a month as the period between new moons.
- Æfterra Gēola: The Anglo Saxons had their own name for a period that roughly aligns with January - Æfterra Gēola, meaning "after Yule." This highlights the integration and adaptation of Roman cultural elements into the Anglo-Saxon linguistic and cultural framework.

The name January, therefore, is deeply rooted in both Roman and Old English cultures, embodying themes of transition, beginnings, and the passage of time as understood by these ancient societies.

### March - the Month of War and Wind

#### Roman Influence:

 Mars, the God of War: March, or Martius in Latin, was originally the first month of the year for the Romans for several hundred years. This period marked the time when offerings were made to Mars in preparation for the military campaigning season, aligning with the end of winter and the resumption of war.

### Old English Interpretation:

- Hlyde or Lide: In Old English, one of the names for March was "hlyde," later becoming "Lide." This name shares its root with the word "loud," as March was known as "the month noisy with wind and storm," reflecting the typically stormy weather of early spring in Britain.
- Goddess Hreða: The Anglo-Saxons also named March after their pre-Christian goddess Hreða, who was the goddess of glory. This name aligns more closely with the militaristic theme of the Roman Mars, connecting the month to themes of valour and triumph.

The name and role of March in the calendar thus embody themes of warfare, renewal, and the tumultuous transition from winter to spring, as understood by both Roman and Old English cultures.

### April - the Month of Mystery and Celebration

#### Roman Influence:

- Named Aprilis by the Romans: The origin of Aprilis, however, is not definitively known, adding an air of mystery to this month.
- Possible Connection to Aphrodite: One theory suggests that the name Aprilis may derive from the Greek goddess Aphrodite, whose Roman equivalent was Venus. This theory gains elegance from the month's position next to March (Mars) in the calendar, Mars being Venus's counterpart in Roman mythology.
- Aperire To Open: Another theory, though considered less likely by some, is that Aprilis comes from the Latin verb 'Aperire,' meaning 'to open.' This ties beautifully to the blossoming of flowers in spring, symbolising the opening of nature to the new season.

### Old English Interpretation:

 Ēastermonao: In Old English, the month was known as Ēastermonao, which translates to Easter month. This name predates the Christian festival of Easter, suggesting that the festival may have been named after the month, rather than the other way around. The word "ēastre" is believed to be derived from the name of the Germanic goddess Ēostre, who was associated with spring and fertility.

April, with its blend of Roman mystery and Old English celebration, embodies the transition and opening of the world to the brightness and beauty of spring.

### May - the Month of Fertility and Abundance (and lots of milk)

#### Roman Influence:

- Named After Maia: The month of May is named after the Roman goddess Maia, a
  deity associated with fertility and the growth of plants. This naming is particularly
  fitting for a month characterised by the blossoming of nature and the springtime.
- Distinct from Greek Maia: It's important to note that the Roman goddess Maia is not to be confused with the Greek goddess Maia, who was the lover of Zeus and mother of Hermes.

### Old English Interpretation:

Three Milk Month: In Old English, May was known as Prīmilcemonað
[thri-milke-monath], which literally translates to 'three milk month'. May's extended
daylight and lush pastures allowed for milking cows thrice a day.

May, thus, embodies themes of growth, fertility, and abundance (of milk), reflecting the natural rejuvenation of the earth during springtime in both Roman mythology and Old English agrarian society.

### June - the Month of Early Summer

#### Roman Influence:

- Juno, the Chief Goddess: June is most widely believed to be named after Juno, the chief Roman goddess and the goddess of women and marriage. Juno was a significant figure in Roman mythology, often depicted in tales of jealousy and power, such as when she reacted furiously to her husband Jupiter giving birth to Minerva from his own head.
- "Juniors": Another theory suggests that the name June might come from the same root as "juniors," referring to the young ones. This interpretation aligns with the idea of June following the heels of spring, a time associated with new life and beginnings.

### Old English Interpretation:

 Ærra Līða – Early Lithe: In Old English, according to Bede, June was known as Ærra Līða, which was the first month of a two-month period called Lithe or leether. Lithe represented midsummer, characterised by gentle weather ideal for travelling. The term "Ærra" shares its root with the modern word "early" and the old-fashioned term "ere," indicating the onset of this favourable period.

June, therefore, carries with it themes of femininity, marriage, new life, and the joy of early summer, as reflected in both the grandeur of Roman mythology and the pastoral rhythms of Old English life.

### July - the Month of Midsummer (and Caesar)

#### Roman Influence:

 Named After Julius Caesar: Originally called Quintilis, meaning the fifth month (back when the Roman calendar started in March), it was renamed in honour of Julius Caesar after his death in 44 BC, as Caesar was born in July.

### Old English Interpretation:

- Æfterra Līða After Lithe: In Old English, July was the second month in Lithe. July was specifically called Æfterra Līða, meaning 'After Lithe' or 'second Lithe', indicating its position as the latter part of the midsummer period.
- Interestingly, J.R.R. Tolkien, author of 'The Lord of the Rings', resurrected many Old English month names, including Afterlithe, in his fictional Hobbits' Shire Calendar.

### August - the Month of Weeds (and Augustus)

### Roman Background:

 Named After Augustus Caesar: Originally known as Sextilis, meaning 'sixth', August was renamed in honour of Augustus Caesar during his reign in 8 BC. This change was made to commemorate significant events in Augustus's life, including the fall of Alexandria, which occurred on what became August 1st.

### Old English Naming:

 The Anglo-Saxons referred to August as Wēodmōnað, which translates to 'weed month'. I think we can all relate.

### September to December - the Number Months

### September:

- Roman Origin: September was the seventh month when March was the first.
- Harvest month: Bede mentions an alternative Old English name for September as Hærfestmonað.

#### October:

- Roman Origin: October was the eighth month.
- Herald of winter: In Old English, October was known as Winterfylleð, indicating the month of the full moon that heralded the start of winter.

#### November:

- Roman Origin: November was the... yes, you get the point
- Blotmonað and Blodmonað: In Old English, November was known as Blotmonað, the sacrifice month, a time traditionally for slaughtering cattle (Blot) and making offerings to the gods. Some sources also refer to it as Blodmonað, with a Blod instead of a Blot, which means simply 'blood month'.
- Maybe we should have Halloween in November then?

#### December:

- Ærra Gēola and Gēolmōnað: In Old English, December was known as Ærra Gēola or pre-Yule, and sometimes simply as Gēolmōnað, meaning Yule month.
- Which brings us full circle to Æfterra Gēola 'After Yule' the name for January.

Do you know any other facts or theories about the names of the months, whether Roman, Saxon or from other countries, in other languages? Send them to Gary, so he can publish them in the next Crier!



### Chairman's Report - CCC 2023 AGM, November 28th 2023

I am happy to report we had no welfare or safeguarding issues to manage during 2023, and many thanks to Helen Mackie, now retired from role, for discharging the role of Club Welfare Officer. I would also like to thank Martin Middleton as Treasurer who not only has prepared the Treasurer's Report and Accounts for this AGM but also continues to clean our membership database and ensure subscriptions and match fees are collected. Thankyou Alec Howe for continuing to maintain our website and social media presence. I would like to thank our sponsors for their continued support—the Unicorn pub, the Rodnight Partnership and the Corble Group (who this year will end their sponsorship, and we thank them for their support). I am delighted to welcome the Quartz Worktop Company as a new sponsor, a 5-year deal worth £5,000 to the Club. Finally, many thanks to our Vice Presidents, Life Presidents and others who continue to support our Club, particularly at the Vice Presidents Day where we compete for the Niall Mackay Cup.

I would also like to make a special mention for Vice President Martyn Waters, who has been superb in identifying grants and securing much needed income to supplement our financial position. During the year, with Martyn's help, we secured from Fairhive £10,000 to purchase a new Dennis Mower, £5,000 from Heart of Bucks Community Foundation for outfield drainage work, an expected £5,000 from the ECB, again for the drainage project, and £500 from Tesco to support our youth coaching programme.

### Our priorities for 2024 remain clear:

- Build our junior section and ensure a pathway for young cricketers into the senior format;
- Continue to pursue the development of a women's squad;
- Increase senior participation;
- Continue investment in ground and the overall facility;
- Increase our social activities.

### At this AGM I re-assert our Core Values for 2024 – Youth Development – Community – Sustainability and Enjoyment.

Finally, many congratulations to all the club award winners for 2023, and enjoyed a great Annual Dinner and Awards evening in September. Many thanks to Tom Gadsby, Harry Gadsby and all who organised that event.

#### Ground

It was a great Cricket Ground Team effort! Thanks to Harry Gadsby (for effectively heading up CCC Ground Team), Howard Gregory (for all his hard work cutting and preparing wickets), Harry Gadsby (for all the rolling and always being on hand to help), Jack Gotzheim (for all the work he did helping Howard and cleaning and re-marking up pitches in his own time). Also, to all the members in the cricket club and other volunteers (Kevin Schultz, Jon Kelly and Andy Brown) who turned up to help at the various "Work Parties" throughout the season and give time on the rolling rota. Thanks also to Vanessa & Jason Taylor for supporting social activities. The commitment and effort of the Ground team was recognised by the judges of the Best Kept Village competition being in some part reason for Cublington being awarded a Community Merit Award this year. This prestigious award is for community effort for the whole of Buckinghamshire – so a great accolade for Cublington.

### Senior Cricket

1st XI ultimately had a successful season finishing 3rd in Division 4 and the 2XI who finished 8 th in Division 7. Many thanks to the captains – Kit Gordon Stuart and Tony Lewis and all the players who participated.

In 2023, the Sunday XI had another packed season of fixtures against local rivals. We continued to play friendly matches with selection including many of our junior players. We look forward to next season where we have another series of fixtures Many thanks to Harry Gadsby for his great captaincy effort, and for all his work in coordinating the Sunday Fixtures for 2023.

### Junior Cricket

Thanks to Nick Webb, Tony Lewis and Sal Patel for their support and enthusiasm during the season. Also, thanks to Nikhil Shetty for running the All Stars programme in 2023. After many years of service, Nick Webb is retiring from role, and I wish to express my thanks to him for his great contribution to junior cricket.

I became a member of CCC in 1994, and have served on the Committee in various roles since that date – as Chair for nearly a decade. Indeed between 1995 and 1996 I was a member of the project team who oversaw the building of the Biggs Pavilion!

It is time to stand aside and allow new people to make their mark. I will remain a member of the club and offer my support to new committee role holders. We are a volunteer club, we give our time and whatever expertise we have to further the development of cricket within our community.

To new CCC role holders elected tonight – I wish you well, and refer to the ECB guidance of what being a club committee member should entail (and I quote) – "Good problem solving skills and the ability to deal efficiently with problems and issues that may arise. Needs to be approachable and contactable, an excellent communicator, reliable and committed. Friendly, approachable, enthusiastic and open to new ideas as well as being supportive to other volunteers".

Good luck for the 2024 season.

Michael Reilly

Chairman - outgoing



### Need a plumber, a carpenter, a builder, a decorator or electrician?

I hold a directory of tradesmen who have been recommended by someone using them in the village.

You can pass on recommendations in confidence or even better if you are happy to show off their excellent handiwork to others or be called to provide a reference, please let me know that as well.

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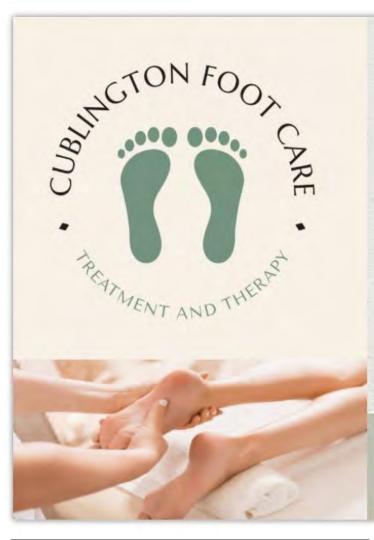




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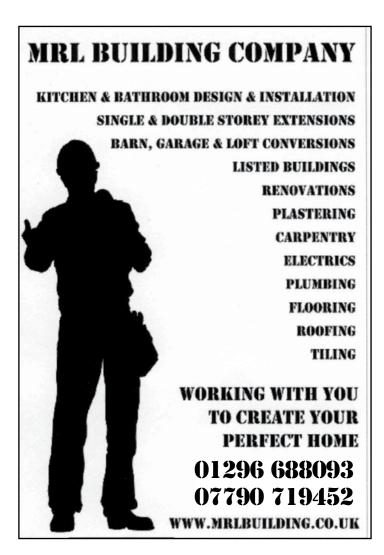
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That's where the Patient Support Service can help. We work alongside a wide range of local services, charities, and voluntary organisations.

To refer yourself or someone you care for, either speak to your GP surgery or self-refer by completing the form on the website below.

### For more details contact the Patient Support Service on:

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(ANY LEVEL - DON'T BE SHY! EVERYONE WAS A BEGINNER ONCE!)

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# At the Biggs Pavilion, Cublington

Please come along with your paints, pencils, easels etc and join us working side by side for a couple of hours. Tea/coffee cake and biscuits to sustain us! Small donation appreciated.

All very welcome! We know there are more of you out there so don't be shy!



You've never met me, I'm ChatGPT, when prompted to pretend to be a recently-retired resident of Cublington.

SPOTTED!

**PLEASE** keep your eyes peeled ... If you spot anything, and we really do mean anything of interest (silly or serious or even just slightly interesting) in the village - please let us know.



# **Spotted**

Several of you sent in your photos of the devasting fire at Double Dairy Farm that lit up the sky last month. Now the sheds are rising phoenix like from the ashes as they are rebuilt. Good to see.





# **Spotted**

Sadly the big old goat willow featured in an article in a previous Crier, succumbed to the wind after an exceedingly wet month.

# **Spotted**

Painted pothole markings on Reads Lane. Finally to get the potholes fixed some two years or more after an ankle break!

# **Spotted**

All the lovely Advent Windows around the village. Well done to the organisers and participants.





# **Spotted**

All the lovely Advent Windows around the village. Well done to the organisers and participants.

# **Spotted**

Activity on several building sites around the village. Mud on the Aston Abbots Road - please be careful. Strangely, activity also on the plot next to Orchard Ground. I mistakenly thought any work on the site was banned at present?! Perhaps someone could enlighten us.

Call me a cynic but..
Illegal dumping
down Ridings Way
or just convenient
deniability?





# **Spotted**

The flooded road down by the ford... it never ceases to amaze me how much the stream(?) rises when it rains. By as much as four or five feet in some places.

