

September 2025

MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

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# THE CUBLINGTON 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



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Results inside...

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The Cublington Crier, articles to 18 Ridings Way please or [info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk](mailto:info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk) Editorial & Advertising: 01296 688548





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

The monthly magazine of the Buckinghamshire village of Cublington - the village that moved.

*The Crier*  
online...

is now on  
Cublington.com

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

## Saturday 20th The Best Kept Village Presentation

Village Hall 12.15-12.45 ish

### Brilliant volunteers

There are so many people who give hours and hours of their time to make sure Cublington is such a lovely place to live. **The Best Kept Village Award** is testament to those volunteers and their continued efforts.



The majority of these pictures were taken over just one weekend in July.

Thank you one and all.



## The Crier Editorial Rota

Please book your slot! Now booking 2026, and shortly 2027 (yes really!) - so absolutely plenty of time to think about your content! Many Thanks.

**2025...** Nov. Richard & Polly Thornely  
Dec Pierre & Nicola

Sept ?  
Oct Miranda and James  
Dec - Graham & Judy Dunn

**2026...** Jan Maggie MacKenzie  
Feb - Toosey's  
March - Julie & Doug Merriman  
April - Chris & Kevin Shults  
May ?  
June Liz & Bob  
Summer ?

**2027...**

Jan ?  
Feb - ?

**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**

## Crier Contact details

PLEASE DROP ARTICLES TO 18 RIDINGS WAY OR EMAIL AS BELOW

**CONTACT:** 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



# Editorial



September 1st sees the start of Autumn which seems unbelievable as while typing this we are in a heatwave. Funny how long Spring seems to take to reach us and how quickly Summer goes.

Hopefully all those who were waiting for their exam results will have got good news and good luck to all who are moving on from school or starting a new school year having had a good summer holiday.

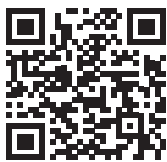
The summer has been a busy time for the village and all the events but a special thanks to all involved in the village fete particularly the committee headed by Gina Reilly. So many village organisations have benefitted from the money raised.

This summer we spent a few days at the Normandy beaches including at the British memorial at Gold beach, it was very moving and looking at the names of those who were killed and their ages brought home how young these soldiers were, the majority being in their teens or early twenties. Hopefully many of you got to the VJ celebration and excellent exhibition in the village hall.

**Finally, congratulations to us all as Cublington has finally won the Gurney Cup in the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village competition!**

Have a good September.

Sandie & Mike



## SAVE OUR PUB

**PLEASE - If you haven't already done so, please pledge your support !**

**It's massively important we save it for the community and future generations.**

**OCT EDITOR:**  
Simon & Vanessa

**As soon as an event is organised, please let the Crier know so we can include it in our What's On Diary listings and you can pop it in your diary! Thank you.**

*Dont forget, if you want to see all the Crier in full colour...*

**Should you wish to see all of the pages in colour, we encourage you to access the Crier online, posted as a pdf on the [www.cublington.com](http://www.cublington.com) website.**

If I ever forget to put the Crier up there, please do give me a shout!

Cheers Gary/Ed

## We Won!!!!

Amazing news that Cublington has finally WON the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Gurney Cup!!!

A lot of hard work has gone into this year's submission, commended by the judges, and by the parish council, addressing items highlighted in the comments in past years.

A brilliant effort all round... but we can do better! See the judges comments published elsewhere for more detail! WELL DONE CUBLINGTON!

## Belated Welcome

Welcome to Newbies in the village Steve and Tracy Robertson with their adult children Grace and Will who have just moved into the village. We hope you'll be very happy here.

## Congratulations

To Alan and Mary who got married and had their reception at the Biggs Pavilion.

## Back after a short break

We don't publish in August, all editors and deliverers taking a well earned break! We know that some of you have missed us, as we've been told "We didn't get a Crier in August!" several times. Thank you for your articles and input - it makes my job a lot easier. Ed

## Get involved...

Calls for participants to the Cabaret evening first, and the Panto next year, both in this edition. Go on, you know you want to!!!

## Water Pressure

Hugely frustrating for the village over the last few weeks as the water pressure was consistently low. Eventually it seems major leaks were identified in Whitchurch and Aston Abbotts that took quite some time to rectify. Hopefully all good now! Not your courgettes then Tom!

## CRIER RATES

**CONTACT DETAILS:** The Crier, 18 Ridings Way, Cublington, Buckinghamshire LU7 0LW. [info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk](mailto:info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk) @Editorial: 01296 688548

**TO ADVERTISE:** Call Gill: 01296 688548 | Email: [gary@cublingtoncrier.co.uk](mailto:gary@cublingtoncrier.co.uk) Call for media pack - also available online at [www.cublington.com](http://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.**



# What a great Fete Day we had!

Apologies for not having the time straight after the fete to once again say a big thank you to absolutely everyone who was involved to make the day such a success. Gary managed to get some photos into the Crier Summer edition, so hopefully we got most of the stall holders into the limelight.

We were lucky with the weather and certainly the Pimms Bar, cream teas and BBQ teams were in high demand well into the afternoon - the extra couple of hours after the event gave everyone the opportunity to have a drink and a catch up.



This year the Winslow Band created a festive atmosphere, Teddy our Punch and Judy Maestro kept children entertained all afternoon and the new Morris Dancers were a colourful addition.

As it was a lovely day the classic cars also came back which was much appreciated.

We have a new roaming microphone so Colin could get out and about and this may be useful at other village events.

The stalls were busy with the Tombola, produce, toys, cakes, books and Bric a Brac all making a big contribution to our funds and showing that as a village we have some great resources available – the cakes were really impressive and we can always do with more of them on the day! Thanks to the teams who work together to make it all look attractive.

The games areas kept everyone occupied and the token system seems to have worked well (thanks Kaiden and the Gregory team for handling this) – we ran out of coconuts and Dennis' new games were a big hit. The last-minute introduction of the stocks on a hot day were a great addition and the Tennis club had their best afternoon ever on the courts.

The Enterprise gave local businesses an opportunity to sell directly and young people to fund raise for school trips. A particular thanks to Diane our post lady who sold her bags to raise funds for the Save the pub campaign and to Jane for Action Aid.

Due to the hot weather we had to postpone the dog show, but in true form this is likely to be a new fun event in September when hopefully it will be cooler. Kim our new Dog Organiser is ready to work with us on that, as we certainly have a lot of Dog Treats from Pooch and Mutt who were very generous.

Planning for the day starts in February 2026 so if anyone is new to the village and has any ideas/suggestions we are always very keen to get you involved.

in advance. We also have to set up with village bunting, insurances, licences and book attractions. A big thanks to everyone on the Committee for your support on those grey nights of preparation – it wouldn't happen without you.

The fete is a real team effort and a big thanks to everyone who made the house-to-house collections, turned out on Friday afternoon to set up and were back again in the morning to put all the stalls out – it all looked festive. Over the last few years, we have a bought good quality pop up Marquees, so the job does get a bit easier. They are also available for a nominal sum for private parties/ events. A particular thanks to Harry Gadsby and the Cricket Club for the ground which gave us a fantastic setting on the day. We know what hard work maintaining the ground is already and this is an extra factor!!

The aim of the fete is to generate funds to support village activities and organisations. We also took the opportunity this year to make donations in memory of Mark Cheetham and Debbie Knights who were a big part of the Fete days over many years and will be sadly missed.

As a committee we have to keep a core contingency fund. This year we were able to make the following donations and have also set aside a sum as a contribution if Orchard Ground want to replace the BBQ. A big thanks to Diane Grace who is our treasurer and sorted out all the floats and accounts at the end of what was already a long day.

<i>Friends of St Nicholas</i>	<b>£700.00</b>
<i>Village Hall</i>	<b>£700.00</b>
<i>Orchard Ground</i>	<b>£700.00</b>
<i>North field</i>	<b>£700.00</b>
<i>Cublington St Nicholas Church</i>	<b>£700.00</b>
<i>Save thePub</i>	<b>£300.00</b>
<i>Cublington Parish Council</i>	<b>£300.00</b>
<i>Crier</i>	<b>£250.00</b>
<i>Cricket Club</i>	<b>£250.00</b>
<i>Tennis Club</i>	<b>£100.00</b>
<i>Air Ambulance</i>	<b>£100.00</b>
<i>Cancer Care Haematology Fund</i>	<b>£100.00</b>

***If anyone has any questions or wants to get involved, please contact [ginareilly@aol.com](mailto:ginareilly@aol.com) - you will be very welcome!***







# Best Kept Village Competition

**Cublington Parish Council are delighted to announce that Cublington has WON the Best Kept Village competition, the Gurney Cup for 2025.**

This is a huge accolade for the residents of Cublington and a recognition of the many hours of volunteer work around the village to enhance our village. The Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village committee have scheduled the Motts Coach Tour of Winning Villages/Town for Saturday 20th September. Countess Elizabeth Howe (HM Lord Lieutenant) will be with their new Chairman (Carol Hayward) to present the Cup. There will be between 15-20 in the coach party (judges etc). They will be looking to arrive from the south of the County at approximately 1220pm and will need to move on around 1245pm so a "whistle stop". I attach the Judges Report, and we also be publishing same in the next edition of the Crier. More information about the Best Kept Village can be found here <https://bucksbkv.co.uk/>. **Well done Cublington - community teamwork at it's best!**

A best kept village is a village that has won one of the annual county competitions in the United Kingdom for its tidiness, appropriateness, and typicality. The competitions have been nationally organized by the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) since the early 1970s.

**The results for the 2025 competition are as follows:**

**Gurney Cup**  
**Winner – Cublington**

**Morris Cup – Winner- Mursley**

**Pushman Cup**  
**Winner – Chalfont St Giles**

**Tindall Cup**  
**Winner - Cheddington**

**DeFraine Cup**  
**Winner – Seer Green**

**Michaelis Cup**  
**Winner - Stony Stratford**

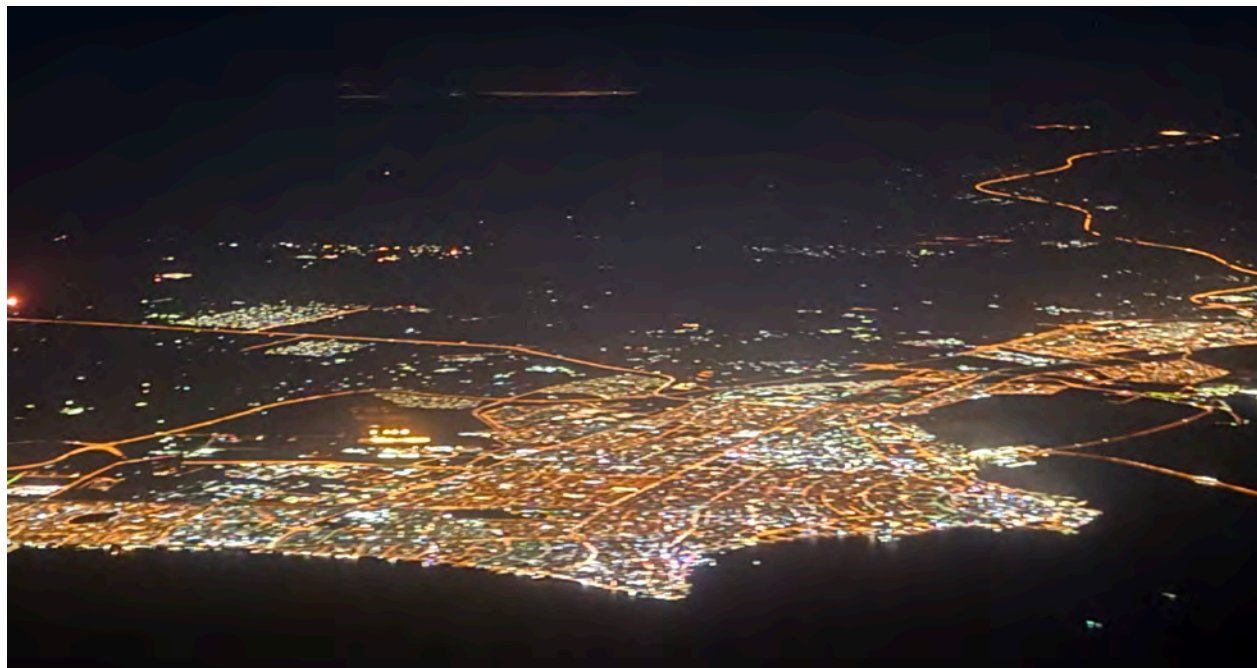
**Fisher Ryman Cup**  
(Continuing commitment to the values and objectives of the Competition)  
**Winner - Jordans**

**Community Award**  
**Winner – Stokenchurch**

VILLAGE/TOWN .... Cublington			Score	Possible Marks
1	Cemetery/graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	Tidy with wildlife area	18	20
2	Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area	Children's play area is well fenced. Clean and tidy. Nice place	34	35
3	Floral displays, hanging baskets, tubs, planters, flower beds etc	Good, although dead trees in tubs on playing field	13	15
4	Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall)	Good, well cared for	18	20
5	General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream, pump etc.)	Hedge badly overhanging path on High Street	18	20
6	Shops and Pubs	Good local effort ongoing to save the Unicorn, bar at Hall every other Friday	19	20
7	Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, dog bins, notice boards, information signs	Competition poster on view, information board at Hall good, Library.	19	20
8	War memorial (Please include a photograph if the memorial is inside a locked building)	Good, and plans for new one	18	20
9	Quality of Competition entry - up to date and detailed map with features highlighted	Good, helpful, illustrating community involvement.	9	10
10	Evidence of community engagement (eg website, newsletter, magazine, posters and general community involvement in the Competition)	Plenty of evidence of an active community, interesting magazine, competition posters visible,	18	20
Additional Notes			184	200



# WHERE IN THE WORLD? TIM'S FIENDISH FLYING PHOTOS



*Where is this in the world?*

Last month's answer - Ponta do Pico in the Azores No winner.

**First correct answer** to [info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk](mailto:info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk) will win a very small prize and the kudos for a whole month!

To see these and the rest of the magazine in full colour, visit [www.cublington.com](http://www.cublington.com) where the latest edition is available to view.

## THE ORCHARD

CUBLINGTON'S



# POP-UP PUB

Join us every other Friday night for a drink or two. Bring your own drink. Once a month various food vendors to visit.

**6-10PM**  
Biggs Pavillion

EVERY  
OTHER  
FRIDAY  
NIGHT

## MAKE A NOTE OF THESE DATES

### September

**Friday 5th Roast wrap food van** - roast dinner wrapped in a Yorkshire pudding - vegetarian and gluten free options

**Friday 19th - Food served**

### October

**Friday 3rd - Maya Asian food van** - back by popular demand

**Friday 17th - food served**

**Friday 31st - drinks only**

### November

**Friday 14th - Friends and Flavours -Burgers**

**Friday 28th - food served**

### December

**Friday 11th - Roast wrap food van**

**Friday 19th - Christmas Special**

Further details will be sent out on Cublington Life Whatsapp but if any queries please contact Jackie



# MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



## September 25

**Monday 1st Chatty Cafe** The Biggs Pavilion 10.00-11.30am

**Monday 1st Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Monday 1st Chess Club** Village Hall 4-6pm

**Wednesday 3rd - Wine Down** Village Hall 5.30pm - 7.30pm

**Friday 5th The Orchard Pop Up Pub Roast wrap food van** Biggs Pavilion 7-10pm  
Roast dinner wrapped in a Yorkshire pudding - vegetarian and gluten free options

**Monday 8th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Tuesday 9th Village Lunch Club** Biggs Pavillion See ad inside 12.15 Lunch served 1pm

**Wednesday 10th - Wine Down** Village Hall 5.30pm - 7.30pm

**Thursday 11th NEW Yoga Class** - Free Taster Session Village Hall 10.30 - 11.30am

**Saturday 13th - North Field Working Party** - 9.30am Biggs Pavillion

**13th September Ride and Stride** (see posters and church newsletter for details)

**Monday 15th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Monday 15th Chess Club** Village Hall 4-6pm

**Tuesday 16th Lunch Break** Village Hall 12pm - 1.30pm

**Wednesday 17th - Wine Down** Village Hall 5.30pm - 7.30pm

**Thursday 18th NEW Yoga Class** - Village Hall 10.30 - 11.30am

**Thursday 18th Sound Bath Session** Village Hall 7.30pm

**Friday 19th The Orchard Pop Up Pub food served** Biggs Pavilion 7-10pm

**Saturday 20th The Best Kept Village Presentation** Village Hall 12.15-12.45 ish

**Monday 22nd Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Wednesday 24th - Wine Down** Village Hall 5.30pm - 7.30pm

**Thursday 25th NEW Yoga Class** - Village Hall 10.30 - 11.30am

**Saturday 27th 'Have a go at' Craft session** Village Hall 10am-1pm

**Monday 29th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Monday 29th Chess Club** Village Hall 4-6pm

Hopefully, you'll always  
find something  
to do in Cublington!

## October 25

**Friday 3rd The Orchard Pop Up Pub Maya Asian food van - back by popular demand**  
Biggs Pavilion 7-10pm

**Sunday 5th Harvest Festival** 9am St Nicholas church. Families welcomed.

**Monday 6th Chatty Cafe** The Biggs Pavilion 10.00-11.30am

**Monday 6th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Monday 6th Harvest Supper and Auction** 6pm St Nicholas church

**Saturday /Sunday 11th/12th Art Exhibition** 10am-4pm Biggs Pavilion

**Monday 13th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Tuesday 14th Village Lunch Club** Biggs Pavillion See ad inside 12.15 Lunch served 1pm

**Friday 17th The Orchard Pop Up Pub food served** Biggs Pavilion 7-10pm

**Monday 20th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Monday 27th Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Friday 31st The Orchard Pop Up Pub drinks only** Biggs Pavilion 7-10pm

## November 25

**Monday 3rd Chatty Cafe** The Biggs Pavilion 10.00-11.30am

**Monday 3rd Art Group** Village Hall 1.45-3.45pm

**Wednesday 5th - Cublington Winos** The Biggs Pavilion 7 for- 7.30pm

**Tuesday 11th Village Lunch Club** Biggs Pavillion See ad inside 12.15 Lunch served 1pm

**Thursday 13th Sound Bath Session** Village Hall 7.30pm

**Saturday 15th Cabaret Evening** Biggs Pavilion

**Sunday 30th Christmas Market** Village Hall 11.30-3pm

## December 25

**Monday 1st Chatty Cafe** The Biggs Pavilion 10.00-11.30am

**Tuesday 9th Village Lunch Club**  
Biggs Pavillion See ad inside 12.15 Lunch served 1pm

## January 26

**Monday 5th Chatty Cafe** The Biggs Pavilion 10.00-11.30am

## April 26

**Saturday 25th Ukelele Concert** St Nicholas church

**PLEASE**

let us know of any event in the village  
you are running. If we don't know  
about it we can't help publicise it.  
By the 15th of every month before.





# Hire The Biggs Pavilion

## Current Rental Rates

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

£10 per hour

Outside Cublington Clubs and organisations regularly using the facilities. £12 per hour

Discounts for block bookings

### Dances, discos & parties

(There should be at least one adult present for teenage parties)

Cublington residents £90 Non Villagers £120

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

Cublington residents £300 Outside of village £400

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.

Contact Bob on 01296 680483 or bobpaine2002@hotmail.com

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

Online booking diary:  
[www.ogpavilion.keepandshare.com](http://www.ogpavilion.keepandshare.com)

Find a date you want and contact

Bob Paine on 01296 680483  
bobpaine2002@hotmail.com

to book it!



## SIGN UP for tennis coaching with Paul Hobday?

LTA level 4 coach

### New Sessions start 12th September for 14 weeks

Paul Hobday will be again offering coaching sessions on Friday evenings during the Autumn

£126 for non members and £98 for members

First session 5.30-6.30pm Beginners / improvers / rusty rackets

Second session 6.30-7.30pm Improvers / advanced.

Contact: nmsheridan1@hotmail.com to book your slot .



## WHY NOT JOIN THE CUBLINGTON CHESS CLUB?!

We meet bi-weekly on a Monday from 4-6pm in the village hall and a small charge is requested to cover the hire.

Next meetings are 1st, 15th and 29th of September

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



**CUBLINGTON CABARET - BIGGS PAVILLION**  
**SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 7.00PM**  
**1960S THEME**

Tickets for the 'one and only Cublington Cabaret' are just £12.50 per head to include a two course meal. Bring your own drinks.

Tables of 8 - please try to arrange your own 8 and nominate someone to cook the main and another to provide the pudding. A suggestion of main and pudding will be given nearer the time. Nibbles and/or cheese are up to individual tables. If you don't have a table of 8 just let us know.

Everyone is welcome to perform in this prestigious event - in fact the more performers the merrier.

Tickets for performers will be available from 1st October then open to the public from 7th October. Due to normal high demand we would like to keep this open mainly to villagers.

To book tickets please Whatsapp or text Jackie on 07968 672707. Anybody wishing to perform, please let me know on the same number. Just to confirm all performers need to buy a ticket, we don't always know everyone involved in each act,



# ? TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT ! ?

Held on Friday 18th July

Well done Jackie and Jenny for the superb quiz evening. A great selection of questions and a great time had by all. The winning team pictured here.

*A fantastic total of £472 was raised for Orchard Ground funds. Brilliant.*



**Shatzar, a long term resident of Cublington sadly died on Monday 16th June.** He was 36 years old and had lived a long (for a pony) life, and was My First Pony. *Jane*

**Apologies** - this article was received just after we went to print in June for the July edition.



**DON'T  
FORGET!**

**EVERY  
WEDNESDAY!**

**OCCASIONAL  
FOOD  
VANS**

**SEE WHAT'S ON DIARY  
FOR FULL DETAILS**



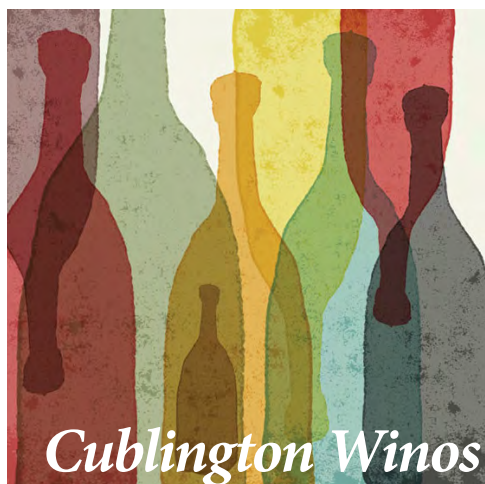
You are invited to the Community

*Weekly Wine Down*

Bring your own drinks!

£3 donation appreciated

**Wednesday Evenings  
5.30pm - 7.30pm**



*(The Cublington Wine Appreciation Society)*

The Winos annual bbq was a joyous occasion. The weather was a perfect long hot summer evening. The setting, a quintessential English scene overlooking the immaculate cricket square. The bbq was excellent with big fat juicy burgers, sumptuous sausages, pork pulled to perfection and Steve on tongs. Lots of salads followed by puddings meant we were indeed happily stuffed. The wine, a delightful medley of Tesco's boxes with a "help yourself" approach, offered plenty of choice for every taste. What more could one possibly want?

Well actually, more wine! Despite pre planning with careful calculations and very generous allocations, we drank the lot! A crisis was declared but quickly resolved by bringing in reinforcements from various households and soon the general morale and wine appreciation was resumed.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to a really enjoyable evening.

*Apparently the group were having such a good time they completely forgot to take any photos ;)*

*We are delighted that we have a number of people recently moved in to the village and it's with that in mind some may be unaware of our wine appreciation society get togethers. So to address that we would like to welcome both "new" villagers and obviously anybody else who may wish to join us.*

*We meet on the first Wednesday of every other month. So if anybody wishes to find out more and perhaps join us for a 'taster session' please contact Jackie 07968 672707 for more information.*

The next Cublington Wine Appreciation Society (aka The Winos) meeting is on **Wednesday 5th Nov** in the Biggs Pavilion.

**Contact Jackie 07968 672707  
for more information.**



## St Nicholas Church September Newsletter

**We welcome everyone back to our services in September following the summer break.**

It certainly has been a hot and dry summer here this year and although the churchyard has looked rather parched under the scorching sunshine it has looked very cared for. We really appreciate all the people who volunteer/agree to mow the grass and keep the churchyard looking at its best. The judges in the Best Kept Village competition usually visit our churchyard and it all seemed to help in their decision making this year. Despite the rising heat over the last few months the inside of the church has remained a lovely cool space protected by the thick stone walls.



Hopefully you have seen our **beautiful new churchyard entrance gates** which were fitted in the middle of July. They really look welcoming and compliment the newly refurbished noticeboard which stands next to them. We are very grateful to the support of the Friends of St Nicholas for the funding for these new gates along with the first stage of the churchyard wall repairs carried out during June.

We finished July with a lovely summer's evening concert and were entertained by the **Just A Cappello** group of singers who returned to St Nicholas and say they always enjoy performing for us as the acoustics in the church are wonderful. There was Pimms to start and a raffle and **we were delighted to make over £700 for fundraising.**

At the end of August St Nicholas held another fundraising event. Crafts and Cream Teas were enjoyed at the church and the money raised will be split between St Nicholas and Action Aid.

**This month** we are looking forward to welcoming our new Team Vicar, Rev Will Tupman, who is moving from Cambridgeshire. He will be joining our Team Rector, Rev Dom Wright, in running the eight parishes in the Cottesloe Benefice and we look forward to meeting him and his wife Laura.

The Bucks Historic Churches Trust (BHCT) is running its annual **Ride and Stride fundraising event on 13th September**. If you would like to take part you can either join a group or as an individual. Plan a route either cycling or walking to visit some of the local churches and get some sponsors or make a donation.



You will need to contact Penny Allen (djandpallen@gmail.com) for a sponsor form and details of how to take part or visit [www.bucks-historic-churches.org/ride-stride/](http://www.bucks-historic-churches.org/ride-stride/).

If you nominate St Nicholas as the

church you wish to support then we will benefit from half of the total money raised. The BHCT supports historic churches and we have been able to benefit in the past from a grant from them for repairs.

Looking ahead to next month we are celebrating our **Harvest Festival** and thanking the farmers who work the land around our rural community. As usual they have had to deal with everything that the weather and environment throws at them and we will be giving thanks at the **9am Sunday service on 5th October**. This will be followed the next day on **Monday 6th October by the Harvest Supper and Auction** of produce and bakes. The supper will be held at 6pm and as normal a range of delicious soups will be served before our auctioneer opens the bids. Please pop dates in your diary and come and support us ...it is always a great social event.



**CUBLINGTON NORTH FIELD -  
BEST KEPT VILLAGE  
COMMUNITY PROJECT AWARD  
WINNER 2023**

**Dates for the North Field working  
groups, Saturdays 9.30am until  
12.00 noon**

**13th Sept; 18th October  
1st and 15th November**



*If you can spare an hour or so on any of these days,  
that would be fantastic! 9.30am - 12 noon;*

There is an open invitation to you to come along for tea/coffee and bacon rolls with the volunteers at the end of their working mornings.

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

**Hire Charges  
2025/26**

	Residents	Non Residents
Meetings/Classes	£10	£12
Regular Groups (up to 3 hours)	£18	£22
Functions/Parties (up to 6 Hours)	£55	£80

For more information or to arrange a viewing contact  
cublingtonvillagehall@gmail.com or call 07515 398111

**Check availability and book online at  
[www.hallbookingonline.com/cublington](http://www.hallbookingonline.com/cublington)**

**BABYSITTING  
DIRECTORY -  
*all listed are 14+***



Alice Gadsby - 680452\*  
Charlotte Keane 688133  
Katie Keane 688133 or  
07803 939530  
Hannah Alexander - 681104  
Izzy Law - 688019  
or 07896 894914  
Maisy Parsons 01296 68230  
007368 26143  
Charles Powell 01296 680467  
Darcey Sheriden  
07387 996828



*\* School or Uni holidays only*

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

**BIN  
COLLECTIONS**

*Remember to put your bins out  
by 6.30am on the collection day,  
preferably the night before!*



*Richard Burford has kindly  
agreed to publish weekly Bin  
collection data on the Cubling-  
ton Life WhatsApp Group.  
Watch out for it every Tuesday  
evening...*

*Thanks Richard*



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 and loved. Sponsored by the Alexanders

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR THE CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS? IN MEMORIAM • IN REMEMBRANCE • 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. *Floodlighting now available in many colours. Please indicate a colour choice if required which will be used to light the church on the date or weekend of your sponsorship. The lights will then return to normal for the remainder of the sponsorship.*

Thank you

## ST NICHOLAS CHURCH LIGHTS SPONSORS

Sadly no one has sponsored the church lights in September

.....////////.....



## Church Services for September

	7	First Sunday	Annie	Linda	Gillian	Jane
	14	HC		Lucy	Martyn	
	21	Layled	Sarah&Steve	Gillian	Sally	
	28	HC		Diane	Julie	
October	5	First Sunday **HARVEST FESTIVAL**  MONDAY Harvest Supper and Auction	Annie	Peter	Helen	?Penny



## Harvert festival service

9am Sunday October 5th - families especially invited.

## Harvert Supper and Harvest auction

6pm Monday October 6th



# From The Team Rector



## Dear Friends

This week I brought a nine week old Puppy home, a tiny red Cavapoo called Tosh. What an absolute joy and harassment. I have had puppies before and many of you knew my little old Cairn Terrier, Rosa. However, it was over 15 years since I last had a puppy in the house and things change. Indeed I found myself buying yet another book, more up to date, shall we say, on 'Puppy Training' and yet another on 'Cavapoos'. Why do we do this and what makes it the right thing to do? When down the years we know all about puppies and dogs?

I think it's that basic thing about wanting to get it right, being up to date with methods which may have changed and generally being refreshed and ready. Sometimes that's hard, when I sit in church as part of the congregation I like to sit at the front on the left. If I arrive and someone is sat in 'my' place, I feel like saying 'oi, that's my spot'. We become creatures of habit and no more so than me.

However, the years have taught me to keep looking at what I love doing most (I hasten to add at this point I am not including Children and Grandchildren in this who obviously I love to bits and one of whom will be reading this!) that would be my Christian Journey, moving on in life with Jesus at the helm. Looking back on what has gone before and excitedly enjoying what is taking place now.

I want to keep that fresh and up to date, I try to keep abreast of what is going on in the wider church. I read new publications on innovative ways of 'how to do church and mission' in these changing and challenging times. Above all I look forward to what is coming next.

Our communal Church life is changing, we are beginning to recognise we are part of a much bigger picture. To remain sustainable and relevant we have to change and adapt and that is exciting. Rev Dom has brought hope and joy in his path and now we await the arrival of Rev Will to complete our team enabling us to go forward in new and innovative ways whilst always acknowledging the power and strength of the old and the traditional.

I always say to folk after enjoying time in Mirfield at the College of the Resurrection and then as resident at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. I enjoy the length and breadth the Church of England has to offer, but mostly I enjoy my perceived close relationship with God. Remember, always be open to new ideas, it stops us becoming stale and stuck.

**God Bless, your friend Pam.**

Cottesloe Benefice Team



.....

Please join in on the churchyard lawn mowing team... many hands make light work as they say!  
The growing season is still with us! Slots still available right now!

Contact Dennis Allen on 07748 525145 or email [djandpallen@gmail.com](mailto:djandpallen@gmail.com)

.....



## Parish Clerk Vacancy

The post of clerk to the Parish Council has become vacant.

If anyone is interested in this paid position please contact either [cublingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:cublingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com) or a councillor for further information by 18th July .



# PARISH NEWS

Main Contact :  
cublingtonpc.clerk@gmail.com

## **Minutes of a meeting of Cublington Parish Council held on 8th July 2025 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

### **Present:**

Cllr G Antosiewicz (Chair)  
Cllr H Vale  
Cllr M Reilly  
Cllr M Waters  
Cllr Shults  
Cllr Kathy Gibbon Bucks Unitary Councillor (for item 4)

**In attendance:** Mr M Joy (Clerk) and one member of the public

### **1. Apologies**

None

### **2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th May 2025 were discussed by the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

### **3. Declaration of Interest**

None

### **4. Reports**

No major matters arising from Bucks Council. Initiative introduced concerning centralised parking payments and library passes for the elderly. Discussed Ivinghoe Freight Scheme – Cublington would be interested to have a similar scheme to restrict HGV in the village. Informed Cllr Gibbon about the level of traffic passing through the village, and we have commissioned a feasibility traffic report. Discussed how much traffic came through the village whilst the A418 was closed due to gas leak – Wingrave also suffered with increased traffic movement.

#### **5.1 To approve payments since last meeting.**

The following invoices were passed for payment from 1st May to 30th June 2025:

9/5/25 Playsafety Ltd - audit of playground	£115.20
9/5/25 Cublington Tennis Club -refund of overpayment	£949.50
9/5/25 Bucks Council – traffic survey	£2,090.94
22/5/25 Mainly Mowing – grass cutting and strimming.	£330
22/5/25 DPS Property Maintenance – installation of bench	£594
22/5/25 Platinum Landscapes – Orchard Ground paving and paths	£4,890
22/5/25 MW Jenkins – Orchard Ground paving and paths	£5,220
27/5/25 Planning fees – war memorial	£294
28/5/25 Clerk Salary – May salary	£211.75
28/5/25 PAYE – May tax	£52.80
29/5/25 SSE Energy – Electricity	£55.34
5/6/25 Speedwatch – signs	£46.74
23/6/25 Information Commissioner – data protection registration	£52
23/6/25 Jaydee Ltd – three waste bins	£788.22
23/6/25 Zurich – insurance annual	£2,043.75
26/6/25 Clerk Salary – June	£211.75
27/6/25 Friends of Unicorn – donation	£250

27/6/25 Bucks Council – traffic feasibility report	£806.40
27/6/25 Sports Courts Ltd –painting of tennis courts	£2,848.50
30/6/25 SSE Energy – electricity	£57.19
30/6/25 Mainly Mowing – grass cutting and hedge trimming High Street	£235
30/6/25 PAYE – tax June	£53

#### **5.2 To consider the accounting statement to 30th June 2025**

M Joy presented the accounts to 30th June 2025 and forecast of the year ending 31st March 2026. There was a deficit of £5,115 for the period to 30th June and a surplus is forecast to 31st March 2026 of £1,164. The cash balance on 30th June was £16,238.

### **6. Orchard Ground/ North Field Report**

The fortnightly drinks evenings are well attended and now expanded into food fortnightly rather than every other fortnight.

Cricket club BBQ on Fridays are open to the village on Fridays when it is not a drinks night. North Field will be mowed shortly. The grant officer of Rothchilds Foundation came to the village and there is a possibility of grants from Green Community.

Rectory Home Grants were contacted concerning a £10,000 grant for the accessible path from OG to the playground. The path is estimated to cost £18,000 to £19,000.

Grants from Luton Airport expansion will be looked at. Tree Preservation Orders will be considered for the rare trees in North Field and surrounding areas.

#### **6.1 New Charity and lease**

The application for registration of the charity is still in progress due to the administrative issues of the Charities Commission.

The Memorandum of understanding agreement with Cublington Cricket Club was sent to NALC lawyers for their comment on the termination clauses. The advice was : The Memorandum provides that it can be ended in two circumstances. Firstly, by not less than 12 months written notice expiring on the date that it would otherwise be renewed. You could give notice now terminating the Agreement on the 31st of December 2026. If you waited until the 2nd of January 2026 to give notice, the end date would be the 31st of

December 2028. The notice does not have to be given for any reason. If there is a breach of the terms of the Agreement notice to terminate can be given. In our view the breach would have to be serious, and the length of the notice would depend upon the nature of the breach. The Club failing to exist or continue to operate would be a breach entitling a short notice period.

### **7. Planning Permissions**

#### **7.1 25/012588/APP Orchard Ground**

**Playing Field Stewkley Road** – erection of a war memorial – no objection.



## 8. Village Matters

### 8.1 Traffic – calming.

Speedwatch Continued activity . It was noted there were 350 movements in one hour when the A418 was closed. More volunteers are required.

Traffic Calming – Bucks Highways have been commissioned to produce a feasibility report – Clerk to chase. Cllr Shults showed a video of traffic calming 'buildout' in Hillingdon Borough. A buildout is a kerb extension which leaves a narrow gap for cars to navigate. A buildout was recommended to us in our 2019 traffic report. The cost in 2019 was £30,000 for one on the Wing Road and £30,000 for the High Street which would include vegetation clearance .As reported in previous minutes. Road bumps and chicane will be considered. The clerk had contacted Wooton a parish council which had installed variable speed cameras to determine the costs. The cost was £80,000 plus annual maintenance costs of £10,000. This cost was far more than our financial capabilities.

### 8.2 Granite sculpture

Cllr Reilly presented design drawings for the memorial together with samples of the granite. It was agreed Cllr Reilly would attend the next Orchard Ground committee meeting to show them the plans etc and to discuss an appropriate site for it. The Quartz Worktop Company will donate the designs and materials. There will installation costs , yet to be determined.

### 8.3 Appointment of Clerk

There had been no enquiries concerning the clerk's job which was published in the Crier. We shall advertise in the adjoining village newsletters and contact Bucks Association of local councils.

### 8.4 Thames Water

The issue with the sewage pipes at Silver Street/Chapel Alley was raised with our local MP , Laura Kryke-Smith . She will assist us with the matter. The summary of all contact with TW over the past 8 years was forwarded to her and her assistant.

### 8.5 Missing Road Signs

Cllr Waters raised the point that there were some missing road signs. This matter had been raised with our local area technician on his last visit , and it was agreed a replacement sign would be located on the Wing Road, but we would wait until the traffic feasibility report had been completed before putting a sign on the Whitchurch Road. Since the meeting, the sign has been installed.

### 8.6 Hedges

A complaint had been received about how dangerous it was walking down parts of the High Street because of overgrown hedges which were infringing on the path and forcing pedestrians to walk into the road.

The parish council arranged for the hedges to be cut back.

***The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.***



### Spotted

*Heavy police presence at the Pavilion 2/8. Can you spot the village resident.*

*Apparently it's an annual sponsored bike ride. These were Sussex and Surrey police riding from the south coast to the National Police Memorial in Leicestershire. Other constabularies were converging there for a service of memoriam on Monday 4/8*

***Dont forget, if you want to see all the Crier in full colour...***

***Should you wish to see all of the pages in colour, we encourage you to access the Crier online, posted as a pdf on the [www.cublington.com](http://www.cublington.com) website.***



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

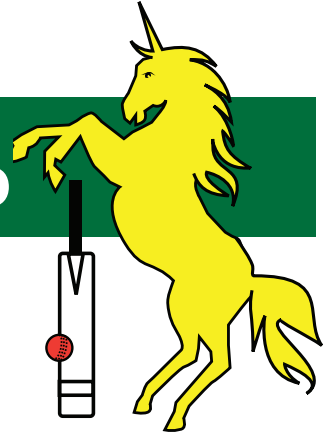
I hold a directory of tradesmen who have been recommended by someone using them in the village. *The Crier says - Ask them if they want to advertise in the Crier.*

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.

Contact Tom Gadsby on 07527 989639. Tom is also on Cublington Life WhatsApp group.



## Cublington Cricket Club



Established 1863

The 2025 season, with a handful of games to run has been huge fun. The sun has shone on us and encouraged upwards of 100 cricketers out to represent Cublington CC from aged five to, well, a lot older.

Game Changers Cricket, Cublington CC's disability cricket programme, closed for the summer with a festival and BBQ on Bank Holiday Monday and will now take a couple of weeks off before starting all over again indoors at Cottesloe School in mid-September. The participants have come on leaps and bounds in skill and confidence and the volunteers have enjoyed themselves and found it hugely rewarding. Many thanks to all who helped make this happen, including our partner 'Yes We Can' and sponsor RST Engineering. A wonderful first season.

The All Stars and Dynamos sessions on Friday evenings were very well attended by our smallest cricketers, aged 5-11. We managed a full programme of eight sessions with glorious weather and a BBQ for young and old alike. The junior season saw success at U9, U11 and U17 levels. We are steadily growing the cohort at U13 and U15 and hope to be better represented next year in these categories.

Senior numbers have been strong this year and we have not had to cancel a match for the first time in years for poor availability. The senior teams have been well supported by our excellent younger players who have provided wickets and runs in abundance and really stepped up to the challenge of adult cricket. Senior Sunday friendly cricket has been well supported too, and we will expand our programme of Sunday fixtures next year.

And finally a word on the ground: Harry, ably assisted by Barney and Mark have done a sterling job curating one of the best wickets in Buckinghamshire. This was endorsed by Buckinghamshire playing a two-day county match here vs. Northamptonshire, after which Northamptonshire made enquiries about having a three-day match here next year. Praise and recognition of the Grounds Team's work.

If you know of anyone interested in joining the club as a player, a non-playing member or would like to help out please contact Tom Gadsby on 07527 989639

[www.cublingtoncc.org](http://www.cublingtoncc.org)

### Join the Cublington Life WhatsApp group



A very useful village forum with useful information shared on road closures/fuel costs/power cuts/ broadband issues/chimney sweeps/ window cleaners/electricians/ recommended kitchen fitters and the like all get posted on here.

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



## Cublington Oil Syndicate

**Main Contact: Alison Head**  
[cublingtonoil@gmail.com](mailto:cublingtonoil@gmail.com)

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



## *What historical events happened in September?*

- 1 Sept. 1159 The death of the only English Pope Adrian IV (Nicholas Breakspere).
- 2 Sept. 1666 The Great Fire of London begins in Pudding Lane and rages for 5 days, but kills only 9 people.
- 3 Sept. 1939 Britain and France declare war on Germany.
- 4 Sept. 1962 The Beatles start their first recording session at EMI's Abbey Road Studios, London
- 6 Sept. 1620 The Mayflower sets sail from Plymouth, Devon, carrying the Pilgrim Fathers to America.
- 7 Sept. 1533 Birth of Queen Elizabeth I, daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.
- 8 Sept. 1944 The first V2 flying bombs kill 3 people in London.
- 11 Sept. 1915 Britain's first Womens Institute opens in Wales.
- 13 Sept 1902 Harry Jackson becomes the first person in Britain to be convicted on fingerprint evidence.
- 15 Sept. 1830 MP William Huskisson becomes the first rail fatality at the opening of the Liverpool Manchester Railway.
- 18 Sept. 1709 Birth of Samuel Johnson, compiler of the first English dictionary.
- 21 Sept. 1327 Death of Edward II, murdered with a red hot poker by his jailers.
- 23 Sept. 1848 Chewing gum is produced commercially for the first time.
- 25 Sept. 1818 First transfusion of human blood is performed at Guy's Hospital, London.
- 28 Sept. 1745 'God Save the King' is sung for the first time at London's Drury Lane Theatre.
- .....



**Please join us** *at the next Chatty Cafe,  
Monday, 1st September at the Biggs Pavilion  
between 10.00 and 11.30am*

**“Chatty Café”**

**What  
they  
say..**

*"Great Chatty Cafe today - thanks to everyone who made cakes".*

*It's a highlight of the month!*

*"It's great that so many want to come".*

*"It's a lovely get together so thanks to all who make it happen".*



Also Please join us on **Monday, 1st September** at the Pavilion between 10 and 11.30 for tea/ coffee, and some social chat!

*Hope to see you there.*

*Maggie and Sally*

**Come along and JOIN IN...**



*A brilliant recent exhibition of memorabilia and facts celebrating VJ Day and the British Army's involvement in the Far East during WW2.*

*A small selection of the exhibition is reproduced here. Well done Trish and Jon for putting it all together. Fascinating.*



## ***British Army in the Pacific Theater During WW2: A Synopsis***

Often overshadowed by the campaigns in Europe and North Africa, the British Army, alongside a vast multinational force from the Commonwealth, played a crucial and grueling role in the Pacific War. From the initial stunning defeats to a hard-won, decisive victory in Burma, the story of the British Army in the Far East is one of resilience, adaptation, and immense sacrifice.

### ***Early Disasters: Malaya and Singapore***

The entry of Japan into the Second World War in December 1941 was marked by a series of swift and devastating blows to the British Empire in the Far East. The Japanese invasion of Malaya on December 8, 1941, caught the British and Commonwealth forces, which included British, Indian, and Australian troops, ill-prepared for the rapid and effective jungle warfare tactics of the Imperial Japanese Army.[1][2] Inadequate air cover, a confused command structure, and an underestimation of the enemy's capabilities contributed to a disastrous 73-day campaign.[1] The retreat down the Malay Peninsula culminated in the fall of Singapore on February 15, 1942, an event Winston Churchill described as "the worst disaster and largest capitulation in British history." [1] Over 130,000 British, Indian, and Australian troops were taken as prisoners of war, facing brutal conditions in captivity.[1][3]

### ***The Long Road Back: The Burma Campaign***

Following the fall of Singapore, Burma (modern-day Myanmar) became the next target for the advancing Japanese forces. The initial British and Commonwealth forces, alongside their Chinese allies, were forced into a lengthy and arduous retreat of nearly 1,000 miles back to the Indian border.[1] This marked the beginning of the long and brutal Burma Campaign, a theater of war characterized by dense jungles, monsoonal rains, and rampant disease.

The tide began to turn with the establishment of the South East Asia Command (SEAC) in November 1943, under the leadership of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, and the appointment of Lieutenant General William Slim to command the newly formed Fourteenth Army.[1][4]

### ***The "Forgotten Army" and the Leadership of General Slim***

The Fourteenth Army, often dubbed the "Forgotten Army" due to the lack of contemporary press coverage, was a truly multinational force.[5] At its peak, it numbered over a million men, the majority of whom were from the British Indian Army, alongside significant contingents of British, African, and other Commonwealth troops. [5][6] Under General Slim's pragmatic and inspiring leadership, the Fourteenth Army was transformed into a formidable fighting force. [5][7] Slim emphasized jungle warfare training, aggressive tactics, and, crucially, maintained the morale of his diverse troops.[5] A key element of the British strategy in Burma was the use of long-range penetration groups known as the Chindits.[8] Conceived



by Brigadier Orde Wingate, the Chindits conducted two major expeditions deep behind enemy lines in 1943 and 1944, disrupting Japanese supply lines and communications.[8] While the military effectiveness of the Chindits remains a subject of debate due to high casualties, their operations had a significant psychological impact and demonstrated the feasibility of sustained jungle operations.

### ***Decisive Victories and the Recapture of Burma***

The turning point in the Burma Campaign came with the decisive battles of Imphal and Kohima in 1944. The Japanese launched a major offensive into India, which was repelled by the Fourteenth Army after months of brutal fighting.[7] This victory crippled the Japanese forces in Burma and paved the way for the Allied reconquest of the country.

In 1945, the Fourteenth Army launched a major offensive, driving the Japanese southwards.[5] Through a combination of conventional assaults, flanking maneuvers, and crucial air support for supplies, they crossed the Irrawaddy River and captured the key cities of Meiktila and Mandalay in March 1945.[7] Rangoon, the capital, was liberated in May 1945.[7] The successful Burma Campaign was a testament to the endurance of the soldiers and the brilliant generalship of Slim.[7]

### ***Command and Control***

The initial command structure in the Far East was the British Far East Command. Following early defeats, the short-lived American-British-Dutch-Australian (ABDA) Command was formed. For the majority of the Burma Campaign, land forces were under the command of SEAC, with the 11th Army Group (later redesignated Allied Land Forces South East Asia) overseeing the Fourteenth Army.

### ***Naval and Air Support***

While the land campaigns were central, the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force also played vital roles. The British Pacific Fleet, formed in 1944, was the largest and most powerful fleet in the history of the Royal Navy and participated in the final stages of the war against Japan, including the Battle of Okinawa.[8] Air power was critical for reconnaissance, close air support, and, most importantly, for supplying the troops fighting deep in the jungle, a tactic that was perfected during the Burma Campaign.

In conclusion, the British Army's contribution in the Pacific during World War II, as part of a wider Commonwealth and Allied effort, was pivotal in the eventual defeat of Japan. After suffering initial humiliating defeats, the army, under inspired leadership and with the unwavering support of a diverse multinational force, adapted to the harsh realities of jungle warfare and ultimately achieved a remarkable and hard-fought victory.



# 100 CLUB 2025/26

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

**£1800 in prize money this year**

Last year ticket prices for the draws increased to £15 a ticket (the first increase for 25+ years) and **monthly prizes increased to £60 - £50 - £40 and £20 each month.**

**If** you want to buy a ticket online for **the next set of ten draws starting very shortly, it's not too late.** 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.**

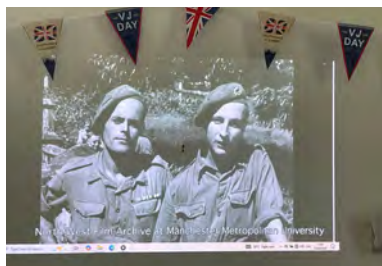


## WINNING PRIZE DRAWS 2025 September

- 1st Prize - £60 - Nicki Matthews.**  
**2nd Prize - £50 - Cublington CC.**  
**3rd Prize - £40 - Jean Barnett.**  
**4th Prize - £20 - Phoebe Mountfield.**



Exhibits from the  
VJ Day exhibition.



## September Birthdays

Weirdly we don't appear to have a single child under the age of 15 born in September! Can that possibly be true?

**New to the village?** Let us know your children's birth dates. Up until their 15th birthday, they will get a mention... but only if we know... [info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk](mailto:info@cublingtoncrier.co.uk)



Trisha's father's uniform



## 20th Cublington Horticultural Show 2025

Happened after we went to press...  
more details next month!

# Orchard Ground & North Field

## LATEST UPDATES

### North Field Update

North Field is very grateful to the Village Fete Committee for their generous donation of £700 towards the North Field project, this will be very helpful towards our fundraising for a storage container; we're also seeking funds to buy a rough cut petrol mower. The funding for North Field is by way of grant funding, occasional generous donations from village residents and from our "Friends of North Field" scheme where a few pounds a month is paid via a standing order. All of this funding to date has helped to provide the community orchard and the early planting for the community woodland. Other support has been by way of donations for the three seats which have been placed around North Field, and for trees to mark significant birthdays and in memory of loved ones who have passed away.

Our very best and on the going giving is from our team of dedicated volunteers who give of their time, energy and skills to help with the myriad of tasks on North Field throughout the year, as the seasons change and come round again. Volunteering is usually twice a month on a Saturday morning 9.30am until 12 noon. Volunteering is very flexible and we're aware that we all have competing calls on our time. For several of our volunteers, their volunteering is seasonal due to other commitments, for others their volunteering is carried out over an evening or on a morning. New volunteers will be made very welcome, please contact Martyn for a chat, contact details below.

These past summer months has been busy time on North Field, you may have heard that this summer is one of the driest on record. We've used a system of 'spot watering' directly around the base of the larger trees rather than blanket water areas of the field. The leaves on many trees have already changed into their autumn colours, some have grown small leaves. The apples, pears, apricots, damsons, and plums in the community orchard are quite small; but for the first time since the cider apple trees were planted in 2020, a number of the trees have apples, albeit very small; but it's a start! The seven Scots Pine trees planted in 2022 to mark the seven decades of the late HM Queen Elizabeth's reign and bearing fir cones for the first time. In 2020, 2021 and 2022, some 3,000 tree whips donated by Conservation Volunteers were planted out, its interesting to see now the patterns of these smaller trees and bushes some of which have thrived where the field has water closer to the surface. In 2021 and 2022 hedging whips were planted along the boundary fence by the cricket pitch, these have done amazingly well, even the hot summer weather

has not stunted their growth, the reason being that there is an old field drain that runs along the fence. One of the tasks for the early autumn will be to dig some holes around the field to map the water on North Field.

Summer tasks have also included cutting the docks and removing these from the field and cutting the dry grasses after Hugh had mown the field. Trees are regularly checked and the deer netting refastened where this has become loose. Deer or rabbits will eat the tree bark quickly killing the tree. Other tasks include filling in holes where dogs or badgers have dug around the tree roots. We do see occasional evidence of badgers in North Field, but just this week nine holes were filled in around trees several of which were deep enough to expose the tree roots. It's great that North Field is used by dog walkers, but if your dog is a 'digger,' please kick the earth back into the hole they've just dug out.

As the next planting autumn season approaches, we have some 50 small tree around 1.0m - 1.5m tall in the nursery area which can soon be planted out into the main field. We're in contact with the Tree Council about grant funding for several tree saplings of Black Poplar trees. As highlighted in a previous edition of the Crier, we have one very old Black Poplar tree in our boundary hedge near to the bench that David and Freddie donated to North Field. We have six oak trees from Wingrave school who gave each pupil in the school an oak tree sapling to celebrate the school's 50th anniversary. Several children in Cublington and Aston Abbots have asked if their trees can be planted on North Field in a 'Wingrave School Oak Tree area.'

### Dates for the North Field working groups for the rest of the Autumn months.

#### All Saturdays 9.30am until 11.30ish

#### 13th September

#### 18th October

#### 1st and 15th November

Working groups finish with hot drinks and bacon/sausage rolls. All are welcome to drop in to the pavilion for refreshments.

For further information about the North Field project, please contact Martyn Waters: M: 07973754356, or email: [martyn.waters@icloud.com](mailto:martyn.waters@icloud.com)

### Martyn Waters

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





I'm delighted to write for the latest issue of the Cublington Crier. This July marks one year since I was elected to serve as your Member of Parliament.

You may or may not have voted for me, but I aim to represent you all. I promised to be an accessible and active MP, and I've been out and about across the villages that are part of the constituency, meeting residents and supporting local organisations.

Most recently, I really enjoyed going along to the Chatty Cafe in Cublington. As you'd expect, we had some great chats! We spoke about the huge increase in traffic affecting the village at the moment and I've promised to take this up with Buckinghamshire Council, to see what traffic calming measures or diversions could be considered.

We talked about the challenges that our farmers are facing, including the concerns about inheritance tax changes and the future of the Government's financial support for farming.

I was really pleased to chat to Martyn Waters and others about their work to save the village pub, The Unicorn. I know how important pubs are to our village communities and I told them that they have my full support.

It was also lovely to hear such kind words about my colleague Eris Robertson and Alison Morris, who stood to be Councillors for the Birtton, Kingsbrook & Wing ward in May.

The issues raised by Cublington residents help inform my work in Parliament, where I've spoken more than 100 times in the last year to raise the issues that matter to you.

Improving the road networks and potholes, for example. Potholes have plagued motorists in Buckinghamshire for too long, damaging cars and making drivers, pedestrians and cyclists less safe. I have raised the issue of potholes in Parliament and I welcome the Government's commitment to delivering more than £20 million in funding to Buckinghamshire Council to fix those potholes.

Alongside being out and about in the constituency and in Parliament, the bread-and-butter work of an MP is answering correspondence from residents and helping them solve issues they're having. Since being elected, I have set up my small and dedicated team from scratch. They help me to reply to the large volume of letters and emails that come my way. We have processed over 7000 enquiries since the election, and I have corresponded with constituents on a wide range of subjects from animal welfare to potholes, HS2 to fly tipping. We have also held five village "Meet and Greet" events so far in Ivinghoe, Edlesborough, Cheddington, Wing and Birtton, and a "Meet Your MP" village hall event in Slapton, which provide an informal opportunity to meet with me and discuss issues both local and national.

These are just some of the things I've prioritised in year one. I am always open to feedback and ideas. Let me know what you'd like me to focus on in year two.

Dear All,

*I wanted to provide you an update on the actions that came out of Laura's recent visit to the Chatty Café in Cublington and to thank you for hosting us.*

*On the issue of Thames Water, as Laura's caseworker I have raised this directly with Thames Water and they have requested direct contact to discuss the issues. I have spoken to Mike Joy and provided contact details for him to speak to Thames Water directly on his return from holiday.*

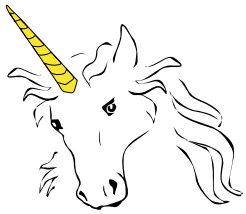
*Regarding the closures and staff shortages at 3W Health (Wing Surgery), we have written directly to the Surgery and Laura is visiting them to discuss these concerns in August – we will provide a further update after this meeting.*

*In terms of the concerns of the issues raised around speeding and enforcement again I have written on Laura's behalf to both Buckinghamshire Council and Thames Valley Police and I am currently awaiting a response on these. Again, as soon as we receive a response we will provide you with an update.*

*I hope this information is helpful but please do not hesitate to contact me if you want any further information.*

Kind regards,





THE UNICORN

SAVE  
OUR  
PUB

**Not there yet - we still need more pledges!  
and in case you missed it...**

## **Cublington's Fight to Save The Unicorn Pub Reaches Parliament**

Cublington, Buckinghamshire, 28 th July 2025. The community-led campaign to save Cublington's beloved village pub, The Unicorn, has won national recognition – with a mention in the House of Commons this month, probably the first pub to be addressed in the proposed right to buy legislation.

The currently closed pub, which has stood at the heart of village life for generations, is the subject of a determined local effort to bring it into community ownership. The campaign, driven by residents of Cublington and surrounding areas, received a major boost on

Thursday 17 th July when it was raised in Parliament by local MP Laura Kyrke-Smith, highlighting the vital role pubs like The Unicorn play in rural life.

**Watch the clip here: <https://youtu.be/lzuJ7OprHk4?si=8LHg6ROw9DTfD8-W>**

“This isn’t just about saving a pub,” said a spokesperson for the Save The Unicorn campaign. “It’s about preserving a vital part of our heritage and community, a place where neighbours gather, stories are shared, and the spirit of the village comes alive. We’re proud that our campaign has now been recognised in Parliament – it shows the strength of what we’re building together.”



This isn’t the first time Cublington has come together to fight for its future. In the 1970s, the village famously resisted plans to become the site of London’s third airport, a victory that earned it the nickname “the village that roared.” That same spirit of community determination is alive and well today. The Save The Unicorn team has already secured over £430,000 in pledges from local residents towards the pub’s asking price. A formal Red Book valuation, an independent assessment required as part of the community right to buy process, is due to be released shortly. This will help clarify the final amount the village will need to raise should the opportunity to exercise the right to buy be confirmed. With the valuation in place, a formal offer will be submitted along with a business plan that would see the pub reopen with a community-first approach, potentially including food, events, and even local produce retail.

Supporters are urging locals and former residents alike to get involved, whether by pledging support, spreading the word, or joining the campaign’s growing volunteer group.

“This is a rare chance to protect a vital part of our heritage,” the campaign team added. “With enough support, we can restore The Unicorn as a thriving, community-run pub that serves not just drinks, but people.”

**Support the campaign by pledging or donating today via GoFundMe:**

**<https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-the-unicorn-pub>**

**Follow us for updates and ways to get involved:**

**Instagram: [@savetheunicornpub](https://www.instagram.com/savetheunicornpub)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577249199617](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61577249199617)**



# SAVE OUR PUB



## *Friends of the Unicorn Cublington Update August 2025*

*The working group would like to thank all the village groups, companies and individuals who made donations to the Save the Pub campaign which provided much needed funds for the Red Book Valuation report, initial and ongoing costs.*

***In June, the working group requested a Red Book Valuation and Report for a community purchase of the Unicorn. A Red Book valuation, is a completely independent valuation which follows a prescribed process and is carried out by a certified member of The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), and as such is more authentic than one carried out by an estate agent.***

*The RICS is therefore considered to be the foremost authority and most respected as a measure of true value within the licensed trade.*

*Following the Red Book Valuation Report, the Friends of the Unicorn, Cublington working group made an offer to purchase the pub for £357,500, subject to a full structural survey being undertaken.*

*The offer was made taking into consideration that the Unicorn has been closed since the end of August 2024, with a 10% consideration for the current fixtures and fittings. The offer was rejected.*

*At the time the survey was undertaken, no information was available as to trading or income figures for the pub. The vendor subsequently sent the surveyor copies of historical trading figures for the Unicorn Public House, which were deemed to be too old (pre covid) to be relevant and more recent figures for The Sandridge Pub Company (Unicorn) Ltd.*

*None of these accounts had been audited.*

### **Executive Summary of the Red Book Valuation Report:**

The surveyors were instructed to prepare a valuation of the public house based upon an appraisal of the property and potential for sustainable business for a community group who would operate the property as a public house and a community hub. The report does not include a structural survey.

#### **The valuation report puts forward three market valuations for the Unicorn:**

- £445,000 if the Unicorn is fully operational, is fully equipped and trading;
- £380,000 not operational but fully equipped with recent trading records;
- £325,000 not operational, lack of information as to past income, trading figures etc.; effectively an empty property;

#### **Other points in the report included the following:**

- The Unicorn pub in Cublington is currently on the market for £675,000 plus VAT;
- No information about a premises license has been found on the Bucks Council website. Retaining or obtaining a licence should be a condition of sale;
- The property is registered with Buckinghamshire County Council as an asset of community value; this expires in June 2026;
- The property closed at the end of August 2024. At tested to ensure they are suitable and safe for use.
- The 2-bed accommodation will require refurbishment to bring it up to the standard which will attract the right tenant.
- The cost of the clearance of the accommodation may cost several thousands of pounds: carpets, furniture, kitchen equipment etc.;
- The Business Ratable Value (2023) was £16,750, the previous ratable value for the period April 2017 – March 2023 was £27,250.
- The Council Tax banding for the 2-bed residential accommodation is A.

Members of the working group have made contact with a number of community owned pubs within a 15 mile radius of Cublington to ask questions about their efforts to save their village pubs for their communities. We were advised to make contact with Plunkett's Foundation, a charity who work to help save village pubs, shops and post offices. We have joined Plunkett's and have benefitted from their advice and information including three on-line discussions with our designated adviser. The Red Book Report and Valuation was carried out on the advice of Plunkett's at a cost of £2,000 rather than the commercial rate of £4,000.

Prior to our offer of £357,500 we notified Buckinghamshire Council of our intention to make an offer on behalf of our local community to buy the Unicorn pub for the village. They have amended the information they hold about the pub, noting that it has been closed since August 2024.

Our next tasks will be to agree a business model to be used for the purchase of the Unicorn Pub for the village and to draw up a business plan.

Whilst we currently have pledges of £431,750, we will continue to raise funds/ pledges for the purchase of the pub, including associated costs for example, stamp duty, legal fees, surveys and professional services. In addition to an agreed purchase price, additional funds will be needed to refurbish the 2-bed accommodation, for equipment checks and servicing, to restock and to provide a cushion of funds for the community pub.

Our local MP recently raised questions in Parliament about our efforts here in Cublington to buy the pub for the village. Proposed new legislation is progressing through Parliament to provide community organisations with a right to buy community assets. It is hoped that this proposed legislation will be added to the statute book early in 2026. In such instances, the local authority request an independent valuation and become the arbiter between a vendor and the local community for the purchase of a community asset.

Members of the working group consider that we are now in a waiting game with the vendor of the Unicorn.

*Friends of the Unicorn Cublington*  
15th August 2025



THE UNICORN



**WE ARE FIGHTING TO SAVE OUR CHERISHED PUB, THE UNICORN, AND STILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT.**

**A COMMUNITY-OWNED PUB MEANS IT STAYS OPEN FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST TODAY, BUT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. BY OWNING IT TOGETHER, WE ENSURE IT REFLECTS OUR NEEDS AND VALUES, SUPPORTS LOCAL JOBS, AND STRENGTHENS THE HEART OF OUR VILLAGE.**

**RAISED TO DATE £425,000**

**TARGET £800,000**

PROGRESS REPORT: WE HAVE NOW HAD A RED BOOK VALUATION BY A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS AND ANTICIPATE PUBLICATION OF THE VALUATION OF THE PUB TO BE SHARED WITH THE PLEDGERS, AROUND THE BEGINNING OF JULY.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. BECOME A SHAREHOLDER (MIN. INVESTMENT £1K): VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS
2. DONATE WHAT YOU CAN (NO MIN. INVESTMENT): SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT SITE
3. SPREAD THE WORD WITH YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY & OTHER LOCAL COMMUNITIES! POSTERS AND FLYERS ARE AVAILABLE
4. ADORN OUR NEW PUB MERCH AKA BASEBALL CAPS!



Like our campaign page:  
Save Our Pub,  
The Unicorn in Cublington



Follow us on Insta:  
@savetheunicornpub

**FOR FURTHER INFO VISIT  
WWW.SAVETHEUNICORN.ORG**



*All very welcome! We know there are more of you out there so don't be shy come and say hello!*

# Villages Art Group

## CALLING ALL ARTISTS

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

Come along and paint and sketch and learn together

- EVERY MONDAY 1.45-3.45pm

### NOW at the Village Hall, 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 for hire of hall appreciated.

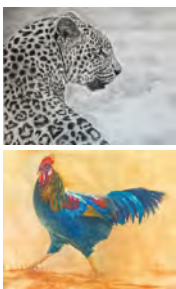


*We would like to encourage you to join us... having fun creating art*

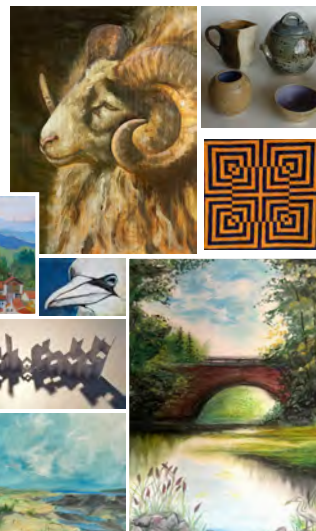
## THE ARTISTS

of Cublington

EXHIBITION



SAT / SUN 11<sup>TH</sup> / 12<sup>TH</sup>  
OCT '25 10AM-4PM



FREE ENTRY

*Artists are hard at work creating new exhibits for your delight. Make sure you make a date in you diary and come along.*



### CANCER CARE & HAEMATOLOGY FUND

c/o CCHU, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 8AL

27<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Ref: AW/4238

Cublington Fete Committee  
c/o 15, Bell Close,  
Cublington,  
LU7 0JH

Dear members of the Cublington Fete Committee,

As a representative of the Cancer Care and Haematology Fund, I am writing to send our sincere thanks to you all for your generous donation of £100 which I understand has been donated by the village in memory of your friend Debbie Knights, who, very sadly, died recently and very suddenly.

I work closely with Kate Harris-Hugh who has told me a little bit about Debbie, especially her active role in the village including on the fete committee. Please accept my condolences. It must have been a big shock to you all.

I do appreciate that you have chosen the Cancer Care and Haematology Fund for your donation. I am sure there is no one better than Kate to tell you about the work that the charity does to support the Cancer and Haematology teams and I trust that Debbie would have been happy with your decision as well.

If you would like to know more about the work of the CCHF, there are lots of stories on the website at [www.cchf.org.uk](http://www.cchf.org.uk). The charity is small and totally dependent on the kind generosity of patients, their families and friends and supporters from the local community such as yourselves. We are extremely grateful for the support we receive and know we could not do any of our work without you all.

Dr Ann Watson, Trustee  
Cancer Care and Haematology fund  
07968727052

[contact@ccchf.org.uk](mailto:contact@ccchf.org.uk) [www.cchf.org.uk](http://www.cchf.org.uk) Registered charity number 1001358

# MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

SAT 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH '26

Biggs Pavilion 7 for 7.30 pm in aid of St Nicholas Church

£15 per head book your table

Bring your own drink

Tickets from [Evelyn.griffiths@btinternet.com](mailto:Evelyn.griffiths@btinternet.com)

*A letter received by the Fete Committee acknowledging the donation in Debbie's memory.*



*That grass  
keeps growing!*

*Still more new volunteers  
wanted please!*

I have removed anyone who didn't make their slot last year to get a better picture of how many vacancies we have to fill this year. If I have removed you and you really would like to be put back on the rota please let me know on 07748525145 or email [djandpallen@gmail.com](mailto:djandpallen@gmail.com)

A slight change to the normal schedule. To try and keep days between mowing more equal. Volunteers are allocated a weekend as a target but can work either side of it depending on other commitments or inclement weather.

*Thanks to everyone who has done their bit. Full attendance so far this year.*

*We have a space 12th-13th July I would like to fill.*

<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Name</i>
Sept 6th - 7th	Graham Dunn
Sept 13th - 14th	Mark Harris
Sept 20th - 21st	Alan Richardson
Sept 27th - 28th	Andy Peck
Oct 4th - 5th	James Francis
Oct 11th - 12th	Harry Gadsby
Oct 18th - 19th	Chris and Ali Mountfield
Oct 25th - 26th	Vacant

*Contact Dennis on 07748525145 or  
email [djandpallen@gmail.com](mailto:djandpallen@gmail.com)  
if you can help in any way!*

## ★ MORE PARTICIPANTS NEEDED PLEASE ★

*Whenever you shop online... just one click will  
raise much needed funds for village projects.*

**THANK YOU** to the 46 AMAZING supporters who have so far raised an IMMENSE £2870.92 for Orchard Ground maintenance (shopping 4,716 times!) and other 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! Thank you.

1st - £605.90 - Sarah George.  
2nd - £385.64 - Gwyneira Waters.  
3rd - £302.78 - Martyn Waters.

Nearly £1600 has been raised by the other 43 villagers so thank you all very, very much!



[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/orchardground](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/orchardground)



## It's September - back to school - remember to keep reading

**There is still time to complete the Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge**  
**If you read six books by 13th September.**  
**Bring in your treehouse drawings (on A4 paper)**  
**to display in the library by 5<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Prizes will be awarded in two groups:**  
**under 5's and 5 to 12 years old.**

### Opening Times

Monday	1400 - 1630
Tuesday	1400 - 1630
Wednesday	1000 - 1230
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	1400 - 1630
Saturday	1000 - 1230



Celebrated author, Alan Ahlberg, who wrote over 100 children's books, died on 31 July, aged 87. Perhaps you remember some of these books.

As well as books, we have Lego, games and drawing materials in the library - for all ages!

Library Elf is a **FREE** national scheme that helps you to avoid fines when items are due for return or renewal. Sign up here: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries/library-membership/get-email-alerts/](https://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries/library-membership/get-email-alerts/)

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

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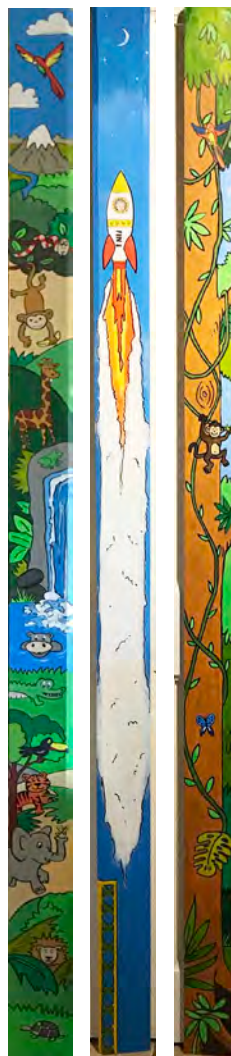
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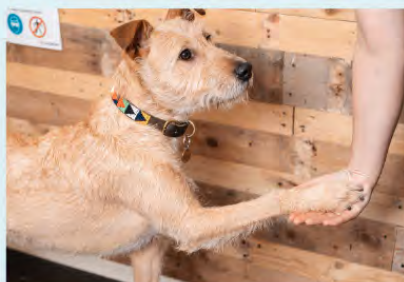
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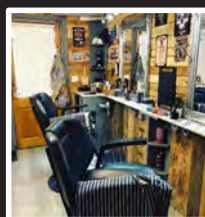
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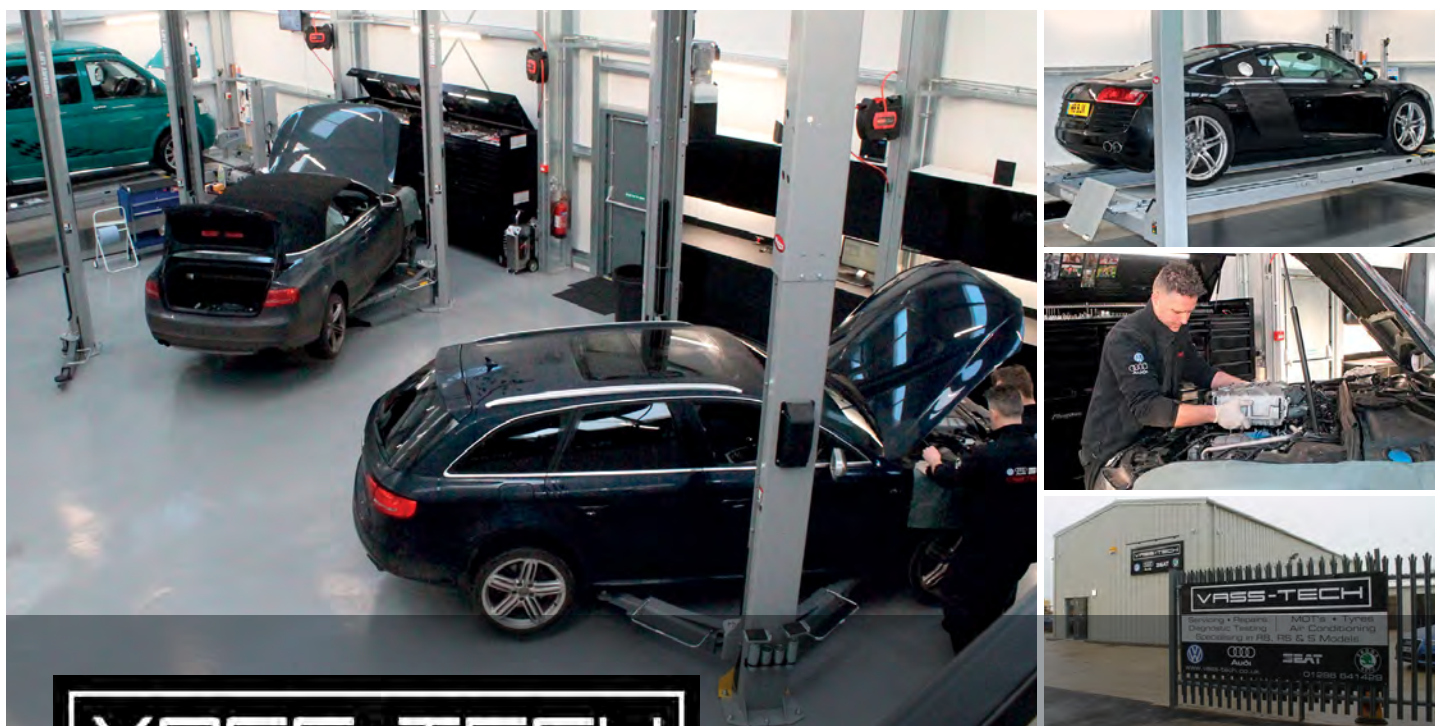
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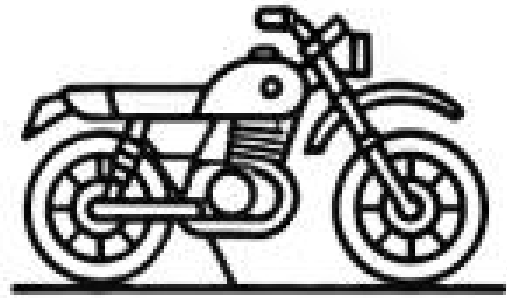
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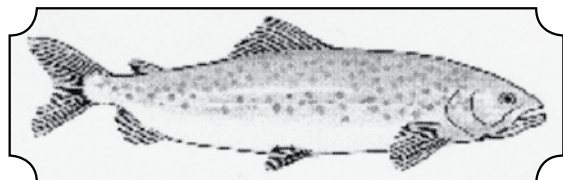
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(every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month)

Join our Cublington community lunch to make new or connect with old friends.

Come along to a friendly welcome, have a chat to your neighbours over a two course lunch.

We look forward to seeing you, pavilion open from 12.15pm with lunch served at 1pm.

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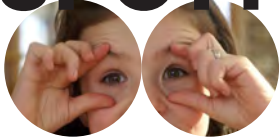
**SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

**11.30am - 3pm**

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# SPOTTED!



## Spotted

*Our MP raising the issue of the Unicorn closure in the House of Commons!!!*



**Pond clear up**  
*Well done chaps... a good job jobbed.*

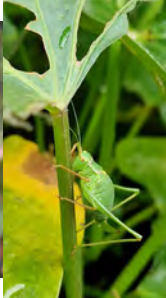
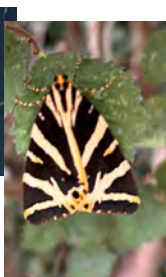
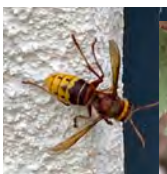


**Dredged up** from the bottom of the pond. Anyone have any ideas what it is?

**Spotted** fibre broadband on its way to Cublington?!



**<Spotted** various works on the Stewkley Road... but what about the tarmac to the crossroads??!



## Spotted

*Ladies Lunch on Tuesday 19th with a visit from the Community Police Officer*



**The Virgin balloon**  
*landed down near Oak Tree Farm*

## Spotted

*Apples ripening in the sunshine in the North Field*



**Sheep/Lambs loose** all over the place.

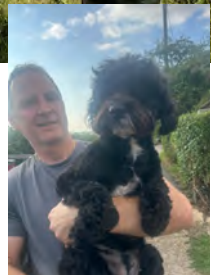
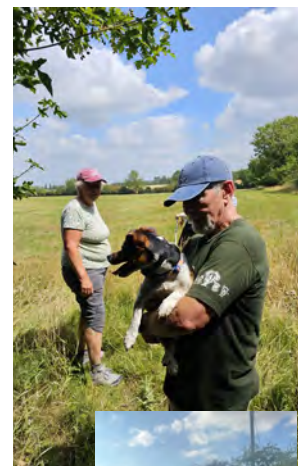
*Reads Lane and the Unicorn car park...just wanting a drink perhaps?*



**Spotted** cable down on the Wing Road.

**<Spotted** Butterflies, Hornet, Jersey Tiger Moth and a Speckled Bush Cricket!!

**Lost & Found** couple of dogs



**Clear up** at the churchyard



**Spotted** Villagers enjoying the Wine Down Wednesday in the lovely outside area at the village hall