

VillageView

WATERMEAD'S *FREE* QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Autumn 2015 Vol.22 Issue 3

**Best Christmas
decorated house
competition**
See inside for more details

The Renaissance of The Watermead Inn

**MACMILLAN
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**WATERMEAD
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News from Watermead Parish Council & more!
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Parish Chairman's News

Welcome to our Autumn edition of Village View.

I am writing this at the end of July in order to meet deadlines. We are all hoping the summer continues as it started with long sunny days. The gardens in Watermead are looking lovely and full of colour; for those growing vegetables and soft fruit it has been a 'bumper' year. Our land and the verges are looking at their best now and the Parish Council has received many favourable comments about them. We are especially pleased as we are now responsible for cutting the verges and doing other work. The hanging baskets are looking beautiful and work continues to enhance our environment despite the assault from all sides by speculative developers - more about this later.

Bus stop reinstated

We were asked by residents to get the Water Rider bus stop sign reinstated. This has now been done and parking should now cease in front of the bus stop. Please don't park there as it affects drivers turning into Watermeadow and it could cause an accident.

Wildlife

Everyone has been delighted by the wildlife and the many different species of birds and water fowl on the lake this year. Unfortunately, a few irresponsible dog owners

have allowed their dogs to chase the ducks, geese, cygnets and other wildfowl on the lake. We have published in this magazine a letter from a resident telling of a shocking incident involving an out-of-control dog apparently killing a bird (see page 19). Please, if you see anyone behaving like this report it to the Police by dialling 101. It is illegal to disturb nesting birds which can be of great detriment to the environment.

We have had mainly positive comments from residents on our campaign to highlight the dog poo - please continue with your efforts to persuade everyone to carry bags to pick up after their dogs and put them in the dog poo bins - there is no poo fairy in Watermead; it's unpleasant and volunteers should not have to pick up after your dog.

Planning

Our time this year has largely been spent in working with and for the community against the appalling plans for a crematorium on the Riviera site and Hallam Land's appeal against the refusal of planning permission for 1500+ houses on land to the east of Watermead.

You will now be aware that planning permission was granted in June for the crematorium at the Riviera. This is subject to very many planning conditions and further reports and

detailed plans. The Parish Council has taken legal advice Counsel's Opinion from a planning barrister and a letter preceding action has been sent. We await developments, but please rest assured we will not allow this development to go ahead without fighting every inch of the way. We have enlisted the help of Department for Communities and Local Government, the Local Government Ombudsman and David Lidington, MP.

The Hallam Land

This enquiry is now complete with the Inspector hearing final submissions from the developers, Bierton and Watermead Parish Councils, AVDC and Barwood Land (who made a written submission). Roger Cooling represented Watermead at the hearing and the verdict is expected in the Autumn.

Cricket pitch

We remain determined to get it back for the village. We have contacted one of the owners and have requested a meeting on several occasions. We hope to have something more positive to report in due course.

Community Defibrillator

On 3 July 2015 a training session was arranged for Watermead Parish Councillors and residents to learn how to use the Community Defibrillator which is located just outside the Village Hall in



Chairman:
Cllr Sue Severn
T: 336575
sue.severn@watermead-pc.gov.uk

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noreen.shardlow@watermead-pc.gov.uk



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Michelle Jackson
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the Piazza. Kevin Scrafton, a volunteer from the Community Heartbeat Trust, presented the Community Cardiac Arrest Response Seminar which was well attended. Kevin demonstrated the use of the defibrillator, how to treat someone who is not responding to you, how important it is to collect the equipment (ideally by another person), and the benefits to the community in saving precious minutes in the treatment of a sudden cardiac arrest.

Seasonal festivities

Turning our thoughts to Christmas, plans are in hand for the **Christmas Fair which will take place on the Saturday 5th December in the Village Hall.** Some stalls are still available so please book early as for the last couple of years we have been fully booked and some potential stallholders have been disappointed. Call 01296 336575 or email Noreen.shardlow@watermead-pc.gov.uk to book. The cost is £10 for a table. Apart from being an opportunity to show off craft skills, there is the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts and cards. This event is always a popular and enjoyable social occasion.

The Carol Concert is on Saturday 12th December in the Piazza. There will be a band, mulled wine, mince pies and other festive goodies and Father Christmas has, once again, agreed to divert to Watermead which is much appreciated during his busy run-up to Christmas.

This year we will be running a **Christmas Lights competition.** Over the last few years more and more houses in Watermead have pulled out all the stops to decorate for Christmas. We will be judging the competition between Christmas and New Year and the winner will be announced on 1st January on the noticeboards and website. Full details can be seen in Irina Schwab's article.

New additions

A new addition to our team of writers is Willanorah Sally Tru Blu (read her blog on page 11) and find out what this new resident thinks about Watermead.

We have said goodbye to Paul and Su Wilson (see image below) who have moved to Olney to be nearer their families. Paul has contributed enormously for many years to the Village View as the Advertising Manager, selling advertising to local businesses and contributing in editorial meetings. Paul and Su were also involved in Save Watermead Village with Paul becoming project manager and keeping us all on track throughout the campaign – a much-needed and appreciated role. Paul's place has been taken by Chris Cooling as Advertising Manager. Welcome to the team and thank you for volunteering.

Our condolences

We were sad to hear that Ray Glover, husband of Netta Glover, passed

away suddenly in July. Netta is our County Councillor and a great friend to Watermead. Our condolences go to Netta and her family at this sad time.

Want to let us know what you think, have a question, share your opinion? We are always keen to hear from parishioners and visitors. Please use the Forum on the Watermead website: www.watermead-pc.gov.uk or write an email or letter to our Parish Clerk, Noreen Shardlow (contact details on page 3).

Cllr Sue Severn, Chairman



At last, we have a new bus stop sign with a bus timetable in Watermeadow (close to mini roundabout).

The Village View team say farewell to Paul Wilson our Advertising Manager



From left to right: Chris Cooling (our new Advertising Manager) Noreen Shardlow (Parish Clerk) Mary Singleton (Editor Village View & Councillor) Su & Paul Wilson, Rachel Seago (Village View Graphic Designer) Carolynne McKee (Assistant Editor) Michelle Jackson (Assistant Parish Clerk).

Paul Wilson has been a member of the Village View Editorial Team from the beginning – well, as far back as we can remember. This was about fifteen years ago when Rachel Seago, our Graphic Designer, lived in Watermead and Jason Bray was the Editor. Paul also worked alongside our previous Editor, Sandra Landy, who, in 2003, collected the award for Best Parish Newsletter in the whole of the UK. Since then other parish councils have copied our format!

In recent years Paul assumed the role of Advertising Manager. He liaised with local businesses, convinced them of the benefits of advertising in Village View, dealt with any problems that arose from time to time, and managed them with total professionalism. He produced an amazing spreadsheet that meant that we always knew the status of each customer's adverts and payment schedules; this also included financials to indicate whether or not we had covered our costs for a particular issue.

I threw a little garden party in July for the team to celebrate Paul's time volunteering to contribute towards making Village View the success that it is.

We also took the opportunity to welcome Chris Cooling to our team. Chris spent 8 years in Watermead before moving to Buckingham Park with his fiancée, Gemma. They recently married and have now moved back to Watermead. Chris has taken over from Paul to become our current Advertising Manager.

Paul and his wife, Su, have moved house to North Bucks to live equidistant from two of their children who are now married; their daughter is about to make them grandparents. They also have a son who lives in New Zealand.

We shall miss Paul very much and wish him and his family all the very best for the future.



Halloween

Have fun during Halloween and Bonfire Night, but don't be influenced by others into doing things that may seem minor at the time – your actions could have a massive impact on not only people inside their house, but on your life as well.

Police will be carrying out patrols in the evenings to make sure that people who are trick-or-treating are doing so in a friendly manner and not causing a nuisance.

For some people, this time of the year can be a bother as your evenings are interrupted with people knocking on your doors for treats. Most of these children or teenagers are just getting involved in the Halloween celebrations and will be friendly.

If you feel unsafe:

- Don't open your door if you're unsure who is there. Use your spyhole, look out of a window, and use your door chain if you do decide to open your door.
- Have a contact number of a close relative or good neighbour to hand by your telephone, just in case you need to phone them.
- If you are part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, let your coordinator know that you will be on your own at Halloween. If you are a coordinator, please identify people in your scheme that may be vulnerable and offer them reassurance.

Thames Valley Police will not tolerate any anti-social behaviour at any time of the year. To report anti-social behaviour, call 101, the 24-hour Thames Valley Police non-emergency number. If you feel threatened, if it's an emergency, or if a crime is in progress, call 999. Further information at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk/seasonal-events-halloween

Bonfire night

If you are planning a fireworks event, please comply with the fireworks regulations. Please also inform your neighbours so that they can take precautionary action, such as keeping their pets indoors.

It is illegal to:

- Have or use adult fireworks if you're under the age of 18. Adult fireworks are any firework except for a cap, cracker snap, novelty match, party popper, serpent, sparkler or throw-down.
- Set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am. There are different arrangements for special occasions like Guy Fawkes Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year's Eve and Chinese New Year (1am).
- Have professional fireworks without a licence.
- Sell fireworks without a licence.

Please make sure that your children do not have access to fireworks and that they act responsibly with sparklers.

Having your own Bonfire Night party or celebrating with family and friends can be great fun, but by far the safest way to

enjoy these seasonal activities is to attend a professionally organised event. If, however, you are holding your own fireworks party, please don't put your family and friends at risk.

Always remember to follow the Firework Code:

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114.
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Follow the instructions on each firework.
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper.
- Stand well back.
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five.
- Keep pets indoors.

Further information can be found at www.thamesvalley.police.uk/seasonal-events-bonfire-night



BFWI, Mercia Group and other WI centenary events

The Bucks Federation of Women's Institutes held a party at Waddesdon Manor on Tuesday 16th June to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the WI. It was a beautiful warm sunny morning and at 11 am the queue was quite a spectacle – women dressed in formal attire (summer dresses and matching hats), some very casual, some older, some younger. My party consisted of my sister and me with my mother (91) and my 8 month pregnant niece. Most were carrying chairs and picnic hampers. Some parties had trestle tables too. There were also ladies in wheelchairs. So boarding the buses that take you from the car park up to the garden at Waddesdon was quite a "to do". There were prizes for Party Animals, best dressed lady, best picnic, best

picture capturing "the spirit of the day". We were entertained by a vintage brass band, The Joyful Divas and a ukulele band. There were stalls selling goods and giving demonstrations, a Pimms tent and a Grand Raffle. All one would expect from a summer picnic!

On Friday 18th September we are gathering for a special evening at the Quanton Railway Centre organised by the Mercia Group which is a group of local WI's including Watermead & Weedon.

At our local WI we had our summer lunch at the Black Boy pub in Oving instead of our usual evening meeting on 6th August. Our forthcoming meeting in September will feature a talk by the Fire and Rescue Service; in October we will be making a Christmas card; in November

we will be tasting chocolate and picking up a Christmas tree card to decorate for a competition at the December meeting when we will all bring a dish and have a social evening together.

Watermead & Weedon WI hold regular meetings on the first Thursday in the month, from 7.30 to 9.30 pm, in the Village Hall, The Piazza, Watermead. We welcome any ladies who are new to Watermead, Weedon and Buckingham Park or any women who would just like to see what we are all about. For further information please contact Julia Morgan – details under "What's On" on page 10.

The View from Westminster

The pace has been pretty frenetic over the last few months with a General Election campaign followed by a new Queen's Speech and legislative programme. Locally, the period immediately after the election brought a new tide of letters and emails about constituency and individual problems. It always happens this way – during an election Parliament is dissolved and candidates can't take up casework in the way that an elected MP is able to do. Though, as every year, the arrival of warm weather and major sporting tournaments (Wimbledon, the golf Open, the Ashes) coincide with a drop in correspondence and more people failing to show up for surgery appointments.

I'm still working with Watermead Parish Council to oppose the Westerleigh crematorium, but to my mind the really big local issue is what we are going to do in Aylesbury Vale about housing. It's clear to me from the number of young people I meet who are in work but have all but given up on being able to afford to buy a home that we do need more homes. Incidentally, I also meet a fair number of elderly people who tell me that they want to stay in the area, but can't cope with their house anymore and are frustrated by the shortage of bungalows locally.

The Council has an unenviable job in working out where new houses should go. Personally, I think that every town, village and hamlet in Bucks could take some more.

as I have seen in places like Bledlow and Longwick. But if we are looking at a need for large scale development, then there seems to me to be two options - either you have a significant further expansion of Aylesbury or you focus development on a new or expanded settlement along the East-West rail route linking Oxford to Milton Keynes and Bedford which is due to open in 2019.

Whatever the Council decides, it seems to me that what is essential is that a plan for housing is accompanied by a plan for infrastructure and for employment as well. Traffic through Aylesbury is already prey to long delays and a new settlement along the rail route would also need much better road links.

As for the Foreign Office, since the election I have spent a lot of time dealing with the potential crises in Greece and in Calais, both of which had and still have the potential to affect large numbers of British tourists and businesses. There's also been the little matter of the EU renegotiation. So I've not been short of things to occupy my time!



Rt Hon David Lidington,
MP for Aylesbury

National Federation of Women's Institutes Annual Meeting

The NFWI hosted its Centenary Annual Meeting at the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday 4th June 2015. The meeting was enjoyed by 5,100 members in the hall, and by thousands of viewers across the country as they tuned into the live broadcast of the proceedings.

We are truly honoured to have been joined by HM The Queen, HRH The Princess Royal, and HRH The Countess of Wessex at this year's very special meeting. HM The Queen is President of Sandringham WI, HRH The Princess Royal is a long-standing NFWI Associate, and HRH The Countess of Wessex is a member of Bagshot WI. Our royal guests presented national competition prizes, received the centenary link baton, cut a beautifully presented centenary fruit cake, and HM The Queen delivered a moving speech, congratulating the WI on its 100th anniversary.

We also heard from three truly inspirational speakers: Lucy Worsley, English historian, curator and television presenter on history; Helena Morrissey, CEO of Newton Investment Management; and Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, one of Great Britain's most successful Paralympians, parliamentarian and television presenter.

In addition to all of the above, Bledon Belles, the winners of the 'Singing for Joy' competition performed, and the Kingston Project showcased 11 stunning garments in a fashion show.

See more at: www.thewi.org.uk/centenary/nfwi-annual-meeting#sthash.286Tbg3G.dpuf

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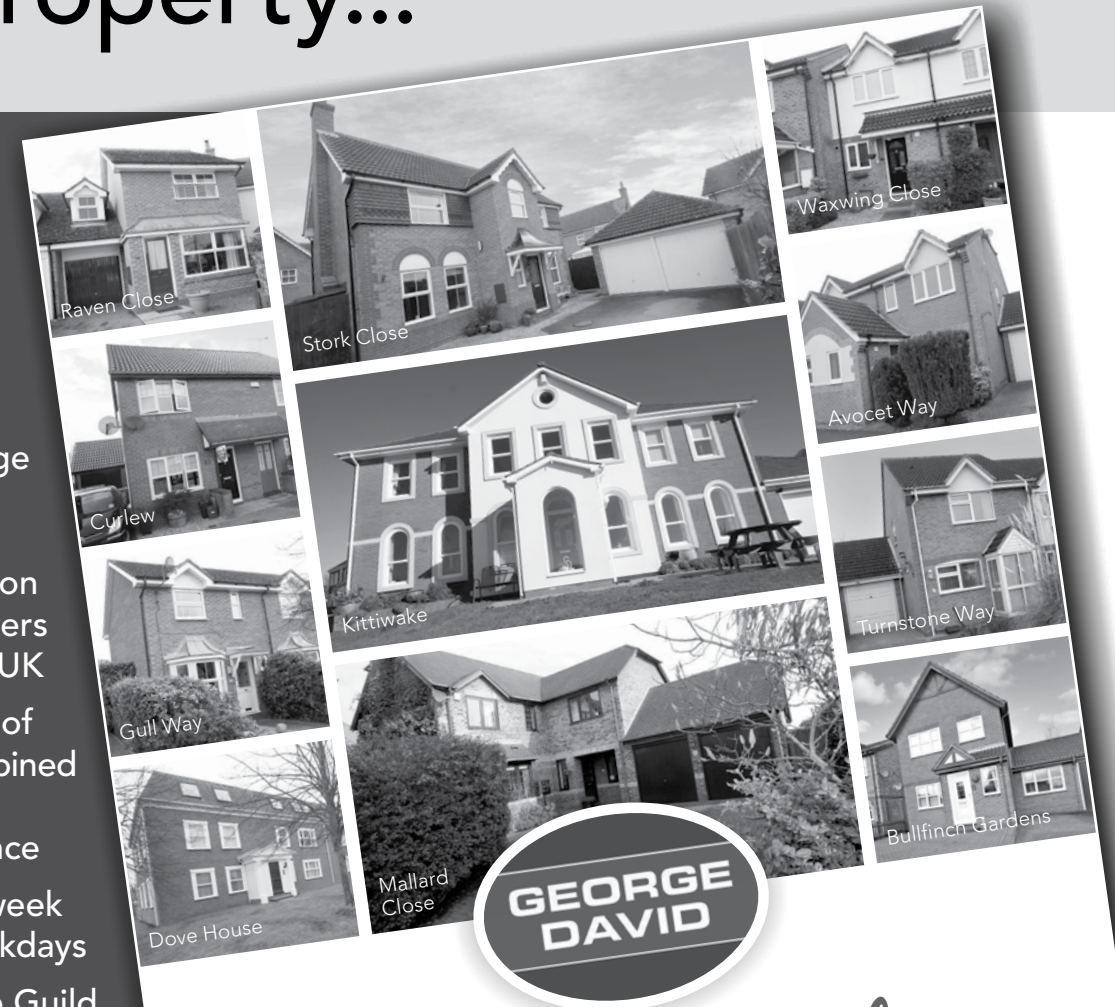
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Tea Break Quiz



1. What is the medical term for a nosebleed?
2. Captain Matthew Webb was the first person to do what?
3. What was the first UK No.1 hit for Elvis Presley?
4. On what street is the Bank of England?
5. From which flower is the drug digitalis obtained?
6. From which flower is the spice saffron obtained?
7. Who was Britain's first Prime Minister?
8. Which coin went out of circulation in 1960?
9. Which French brothers are credited with early developments in film and photography?
10. How many bones are there in the adult human body?
11. Who composed the Planet Suite?
12. Who was the 2nd man to set foot on the moon?
13. In which year did Concorde make its maiden commercial flight?
14. What name is given to a word that reads the same forwards and backwards?
15. Which female singer's surname is Gudmundsdottir?
16. From which country does the Budgie originate?
17. In which year did the American Gold Rush start?
18. How many gold stars feature on the European Union Flag?
19. What name is given to any angle less than 90 degrees?
20. In which game might you aspire to become an International Grandmaster?

Answers on page 16



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Welcome to the Children's Library

Please spare a couple of minutes to read the following article, written by my sister-in-law Janis Norman, who is a retired school librarian. One of her philanthropic pastimes is shipping books to The Gambia, one of the smallest countries in Africa, where the children would very much appreciate your unwanted books.

'The Gambia National Library is sited in the capital Banjul, from where books are sent to rural and school Libraries. There are training courses for the public on basic computing, internet and social media use and work with Non-Governmental Organisations, such as the US based Prisons Fellowship, on library provision for prisoners. The branch Library in Brikama is very busy with students from the nearby University of Gambia sharing the study area and books with local people.

I first met Abdou Mbye, the Chief Librarian of the Gambia National Library, about ten years ago when we visited Gambia. At this time I was running a High School Library and we spent a happy hour comparing notes about our library experiences and remarkably similar they were too.

- Librarians spend too much time chasing late loans.
- There is never enough money, space or time to run the Library as we would like.
- People may tell you they read the classics,

but what they want to borrow is the latest best-selling novel.

- Information books are expensive to buy and much in demand by students.
- People are very enthusiastic about reading, which reminded me of how, as a child, I would read everything I could find, including the back of the cereal packet.

The Gambia is often overlooked for donations. In fact they were one of the countries dropped by Book Aid International when this charity was compelled to cut costs. It is very difficult for a small country to attract donors when they don't have the high profile of larger countries.

I greatly admire the Librarians in Gambia who work so hard with scarce resources to help their readers and students. In this country there is such a surplus of books given to charity shops that they send quantities for pulping. One manager told me that they don't always have time to sort them first. What a waste. How much better to send them directly to those most in need.'

So, if you have any books that you are looking to donate to a good cause, please consider the children of a small country called The Gambia. I am a Watermead resident and will collect them from you.
You can contact me Pete Norman on 07950364663 or via email pjnorman15@hotmail.com.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,
As a microbiologist, I thoroughly enjoyed Richard Rallings' short article, "Lyme disease in the UK", which appeared on page 6 of your Summer 2015 issue. However, I was disappointed to note that, on the very next page, your general knowledge quiz-setter (name not given) was determined that the arthropod which spreads the Lyme disease bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, is an insect.

"The tick, *Ixodes ricinus*, is a mite. It has eight legs and is therefore an arachnid (and more specifically, an acarid). Insects have only six legs (indeed, an old name for the Insecta was Hexapoda). The two groups are unrelated.

If your readers are interested, the specific epithet of the tick's name, *ricinus*, was given to it by Linnaeus in 1758 because it resembled the extremely toxic seed of the castor bean plant (*Ricinus communis* Linnaeus; family Euphorbiaceae, the spurge), albeit it in miniature. Its common ('English') name is the Castor Bean Tick.

I hope that this clears up the common mistake.

Yours faithfully, David Feld FLS, CBiol, MSB, MIScT, Grantham, Lincs NG31 9TR

From the Editor: Thank you for your comment about the answer to the Lyme disease question. Questions for our quiz are sourced 'ready made' from the internet and are taken 'as seen' without research or confirmation.

What's on

IN AND AROUND WATERMEAD

September

3rd	Watermead & Weedon WI	Village Hall 7.30pm
12th	Open House - Waterside Family Theatre Club	Waterside Theatre 11am-2pm
12th	Timescapes - local history & photography exhibition	Old County Hall 10am-4pm
17th	Watermead Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall 7.30pm
27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Village Hall 2pm

October

1st	Watermead & Weedon WI	Village Hall 7.30pm
15th	Watermead Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall 7.30pm
26th	Half Term	
31st	Halloween	

November

5th	Watermead & Weedon WI	Village Hall 7.30pm
5th	Bonfire Night	
9th	The Royal British Legion Coffee Morning	Pop-In Centre 10.30am-12.30pm
11th	Remembrance Day, Two Minutes Silence	Watermead Memorial Garden 11am
19th	Watermead Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall 7.30pm
27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning	Village Hall 2pm

December

5th	Christmas Fair	Village Hall 11am-5pm
12th	Christmas Carol Concert	The Piazza 6pm

Homework Help every Tuesday during term time Aylesbury Library 4.30-6.30pm

Village Hall

PARISH COUNCIL

3rd Thursday of the month
Public meeting - 7.30pm
Council meeting - 8.00pm

CYGNETS PRE-SCHOOL

Monday - Friday 9.15 - 12.15pm
Lunch Club: Monday,
Wednesday-Friday
12.15pm-1.15pm
Maree Van Danzig
maree-cygnets@hotmail.co.uk
07563 783464

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4th Friday of the month
from 6.30pm
Contact Daphne 393131

KUMON MATHS

Monday & Thursday
2.30 - 6pm
Susan Jones 747469

AYLESBURY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Second Wednesday of the month
7.30 - 10.00pm
Peter Barnes 612913

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING ACTION GROUP

3rd Thursday on selected months

WATERMEAD & WEEDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

First Thursday of the month
7.30 - 9.30pm
Julia Morgan 487650
julia-morgan@sky.com

JO JINGLES

Tuesdays
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Watermead Village Hall is the ideal venue for young children's birthday parties, meetings or christenings, etc. If you are an organisation looking for a regular venue, the Village Hall or the Bandstand could be the perfect place. Please contact Noreen Shardlow on 01296 395211

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Sally's blog



June 3rd - A great day. I have arrived in Watermead!

Hello, my name is Willanorah Sally Tru Blu, but you may call me Sally IV (yes, my humans can't think of any other name for their dogs - so I'm Sally IV).

I am eight weeks and two days old and have arrived on my new dad's birthday, lucky him!

My new home looks ok there is green stuff outside and I have a lovely warm crate to escape to when the humans get too much. I also have a lot of toys and I eat 4 times a day. I am obviously going to have to wake my humans up several times during the night to go and investigate the green stuff outside, but I am sure they will be trained in no time. I can't go out yet because

I need to meet the vet apparently. I am beyond cute, and everyone loves me already.

June 4th Everyone is being very nice to me and lots of people have been to meet me. I have received some presents and like the toys and chewy things best. I have been to see a lovely vet, called Richard, at Hampden Vets in Watermead. He is very kind and said I am fit and healthy and that he will look after me, which is marvellous. I like him and his colleagues who all made a fuss of me. I had to be carried there and back but I can go out walking on Monday which I'm looking forward to I think, although I'm not sure what this is, my humans seem pleased so I suppose I am as well.

June 10th Pleased to report I am beginning to get my new humans trained but they don't seem to realise I need to sit on the sofa. I got up once in the night but it's so cosy in my upstairs crate. (You know? I've got 3 of them apparently - one downstairs, one upstairs and one for the car).

June 14th My toys were quite naughty this morning so I had to put them in my crate. Another busy day for puppies.

June 16th This morning I

discovered stairs! Trouble is I couldn't get down again my humans will get lots of exercise running up stairs after me - it's all good really I think.

June 27th I think I am almost as big as my toy dog now. I have had 2 lessons where my humans learned how to behave. This morning they have been annoying me by making me do stuff such as not biting their feet, so I decided to go back to bed! Generally though I feel happy here. I am the centre of attention, my every whim catered for and when I go for my short walks each day someone always stops to admire me.

July 17th Today they washed me in Paul Mitchell shampoo and then sprayed me with something called Stinkbomb because they thought I had been rooting around in my den in the garden which used to be a flowerbed of course. I love digging and don't care how dirty I get.

July 18th

It works like this I don't like my dog bowl so my butler brings my lunch on a silver salver - I am NOT pampered in the least.

Now I'm used to walking I can go a bit further each day

and I love the Balloon Field, seeing the ducks and other birds on the lake and, of course, meeting lots of people who stop and stroke me and ask all about me. It's lovely to hear from so many that they have had spaniels too. It's a lovely way of meeting people and I love it, so do my humans. Please come and talk to us when you see us out and about.

The picture below was taken by my humans on Saturday morning. They were really cross (not with me, of course). Some horrible, thoughtless people had been and had a party in the night which is fine. What wasn't fine was that they left all this mess on the field. How selfish. My humans had to take me home before they cleared it up, which took nearly two hours. There were bottles, balloons, broken glasses, pizza boxes, cake and bits of food everywhere, cans and more.

How can people abuse the open space provided for everyone's enjoyment like this. The humans said that if they knew where these people lived they would take the rubbish back to them. I hope this doesn't happen again. They were so cross and unhappy about this. They had to clear it up quickly in case a child or dog was injured by the rubbish.



We welcome Roger Cooling to our Parish Council



I was born in Amersham and lived in that area until moving to Watermead in 2003. I attended the opening weekend event in Watermead in 1987 and since then four members of my family have moved here.

Recently I have been taking an active involvement in affairs that have affected the quality of life at Watermead. The crematorium and the land east of Watermead have been of major concern to me and my family. I have been active in fighting the AVDC core strategy plan and its evolution to develop against our boundary for the last six years. This, as all are aware, is still ongoing.

My career has been in the print and packaging industry. I owned my own company from 1980 and progressed continually until 2000 when I had the opportunity to take an early retirement. Since then I have been involved in the domestic property market.

My lifelong hobbies have always been primarily messing around in boats followed by Motorsport.

I would like to contribute towards the continuance of the pleasant quality of life which we enjoy in Watermead.

Cllr Roger Cooling

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Random people

Whether it's 'Britain's Got Talent' or 'Long Lost Families' these days everyone talks about their 'journey' – but none of that compares to the life-altering journey experienced by Mimm the dog – from scavenging for survival on the streets of Romania to love and luxury in Watermead.

When Sonia and Richard Griffin decided to get another dog to add to their family their youngest daughters took to the internet and discovered the charity 'A Better Life Dog Rescue', set up by an English lady who had experienced first-hand the desperate situation of the thousands of 'street dogs' in Romania.

Sonia and Richard contacted the charity (they are based in Essex) and were assessed and approved by them. They scoured the many photographs of rescued dogs being looked after in the charity's kennels in Romania and chose Mimm.

Mimm stayed on in Romania while the charity prepared her with all necessary vaccinations, worming and spaying, enabling her to receive her passport to a new life.

And so it was on a rainy December evening in 2013 at South Mimms Service Station on the M25 that Sonia and Richard met up with a lorry containing the latest consignment of rescued Romanian dogs and took possession of their new family member – and named her appropriately!

Their little terrier, Nell, was a bit dubious at first, but Mimm's friendly and puppyish nature soon won her over and they are now the best of friends.



The renaissance of The Watermead Inn

Kelvin Wong, who owns the Watermead Inn business, was born of Chinese parents but spent his formative years in Singapore and Holland. His parents were restaurateurs so catering is 'in his DNA' and he has previously run restaurants in London.

Kelvin came to the UK in 2000 and he met his wife Nikki when she was the manager of the Thai restaurant that preceded The Watermead Inn. Four years ago he took over the pub/restaurant and changed the name to The Aeglesburgh at The Watermead Inn as part of an attempt to move away from the poor reputation that existed at the time. The name never really caught on and he has now reverted to simply The Watermead Inn.

What has been more successful in combating the poor reputation has been Kelvin's attitude of zero-tolerance of rowdy or illegal behaviour and the pub now attracts a mixed clientele of young, old and family groups.

Discussions and negotiations regarding refurbishment had been going on for

nearly a year with Spirit Pub Company, the owners of the building, but when Greene King purchased SPC that was brought to a conclusion, resulting in the rapid redecoration and refurbishment that has now taken place.

The ownership of the building may have changed, but the business going on inside definitely still has Kelvin at the helm and he is combining the change in décor with a few changes to the service he offers. The staff and chef will remain the same, but Kelvin is moving away from the previous 'gastro pub' style to create a quality local pub more in keeping with its position in a village community. On offer will be home-made pizza, pasta dishes, steak and other grills, with more vegetarian options incorporated into his menus. A selection from the main menu will be available at lunchtime, but in smaller portions in keeping with customer needs at that time of day.

The kitchen now has a dedicated pizza oven and newly installed flame grill. The customer area has had a complete make-over with a variety of seating styles. The

television screen has been moved and will be concealed when not in use. The pool table has gone. The floor area around the new bar has dozens of colour co-ordinated tiles – but no two are the same! The overall impression is a successful combination of modern and classic.

What won't be changing is Kelvin's determination to maintain the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of a local pub that he and Nikki have worked so hard to create and maintain over the years. He will continue to offer free children's events at Easter and Halloween, as well as charity fund raising events.

In the four years since Kelvin came to Watermead he and his wife have had two children. They have moved away from the pub accommodation and settled in nearby to create a family home for themselves. It looks like the 'five year plan' that Kelvin had when he first arrived will expand to fill the foreseeable future.

WATERMEAD REMEMBRANCE DAY 2015

Wednesday 11th November 2015
at 10.45am

Join members of our community to remember the fallen from all conflicts, from all countries. Meet at the Memorial Garden to observe the two minutes' silence together in quiet contemplation.

If you need any assistance with mobility issues or need to drive on to the field we will be pleased to help. Contact Noreen Shardlow 01296 641423 or email noreen.shardlow@watermead-pc.gov.uk



Feed@the Mead

Do you remember the article in our Summer edition about giving our wildfowl a healthy diet? The guys at the Watermead Inn do. That's why they have started supplying bird food at a pound a pint. The food is suitable for all birds and if not eaten immediately will float in the water, giving the ducks at the back of the queue a chance to have a snack as well as the pushy geese at the front!



Eat the World USA

Pumpkins aren't just for Halloween – they make a rich, warming, creamy pumpkin soup too. Serve with hot crusty bread for a lovely autumnal starter. Sprinkle freshly grated Parmesan over the soup with a twist of freshly ground black pepper.

Pumpkin Soup (Serves 12)

Ingredients:

2–3tbsps olive oil,
2kg pumpkin, peeled and
chopped into approx 2.5cm
chunks,
1.2l fresh carrot juice or water,
2 Knorr Vegetable Stock Pots,
50g finely grated Parmesan
cheese,
100ml double cream,
black pepper,

Method:

1. Heat a large heavy casserole dish on the hob. Add in a splash of olive oil, spread evenly in the dish and then add in the diced pumpkin.
2. Cover the dish and cook over a medium heat for 10–12 minutes, stirring now and then, until the pumpkin begins to break down.
3. Add in the carrot juice (it's important to use fresh carrot juice as bottled can be very acidic) and then the 2 Knorr Vegetable Stock Pots, stirring until the Stock Pots have dissolved. Bring to the boil, then reduce the heat and simmer for 8 minutes.
4. Stir in the grated Parmesan cheese and the double cream; these will enrich the soup, adding flavour and a smooth texture. Bring back to the boil and cook for 2 minutes. Remove from direct heat.
5. Working in batches, transfer

the pumpkin mixture to a jug blender and process each batch for 2 minutes until smooth. Alternatively, use a hand blender to process the soup in batches until smooth.

6. For an extra smooth texture, the processed soup can then be passed through a fine sieve, using the back of a ladle to push it through.

7. Gently heat through the blended, sieved soup and serve with extra grated Parmesan on the side, seasoning it with a twist of freshly ground black pepper.

Why not make use of the delicious pumpkin seeds and use them as a tasty snack? Love Food Hate Waste has a great recipe: www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/recipes/roast-pumpkin-seeds

Pumpkin and ginger cheesecake

From Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds

Over 2 hours preparation time,
30 mins to 1 hour cooking time,
Makes 4 individual cheesecakes.

Turn leftover pumpkin pulp into a delicious dessert with these individual no-bake cheesecakes.

Equipment and preparation:

for this recipe you can use four 7cm/3in chefs' rings (about 6cm/2½in deep), but you can also make it in a 20cm/8in springform tin.

Ingredients:

For the filling:
300g/10½oz pumpkin, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces,
25g/1oz butter, cubed,
2 tbsp caster sugar,
3 tbsp ginger syrup (from a jar of stem ginger),
200ml/7fl oz double cream, whipped,
200g/7oz cream cheese,
100g/3½oz thick Greek yoghurt,
3 pieces stem ginger, finely chopped, plus extra for garnish

For the base:
10 gingernut biscuits,
50g/1¾oz melted butter

Method:

1. Preheat the oven 200C/400F/Gas 6.
2. For the filling, place the chopped pumpkin on a baking tray. Dot with butter, sprinkle over the caster sugar and drizzle with the ginger syrup. Bake in the oven for 30–35 minutes, or until the pumpkin is soft.
3. For the base, crush the gingernuts until they resemble breadcrumbs; you can do this in a food processor or by placing the biscuits in a food bag and bashing them with a rolling pin. Place the crushed biscuits in a bowl and stir in the melted butter until well combined.
4. Line a baking tray with baking parchment. Place four metal chefs' rings on the tray. Divide the gingernut mixture between the bases and, using the back of a spoon, press the mixture down to form a smooth base.
5. For the filling, put the roasted pumpkin and any cooking juices in a food processor. Pulse until you have a smooth purée. Taste and add more sugar if required.
6. Mix the whipped cream, cream cheese and yoghurt together in a bowl. Add the stem ginger and mix well. Swirl the pumpkin purée through the cream mixture, then spoon it on the biscuit bases. Smooth over the tops and place in the fridge for 1–2 hours, or until set.
7. When ready to serve, remove the chefs' rings (you may need to run a hot cloth or blowtorch round the outside of the tins to help ease out the cheesecakes) and decorate the top of the cheesecakes with extra stem ginger.

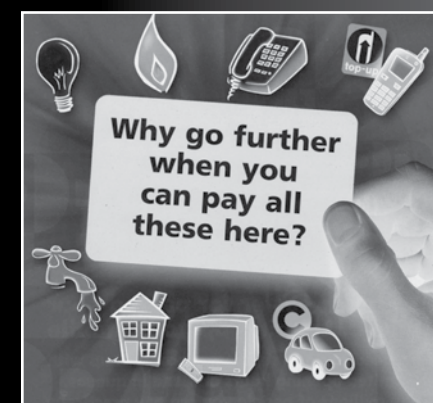
Tip: use a small sweet pumpkin to make this recipe, as the flesh is denser and less watery.
www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/pumpkin_and_ginger_27580

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Food for thought

How much do you know about the food which you feed your pet? How did you choose that food in preference to all the other brands on the market?

Our choice of pet food is often influenced by many factors including advertising, previous experience, advice from other pet owners/friends/veterinarians and what food our pets will or won't eat. There are complete diets designed to cater for all of their nutritional requirements and complementary foods which are supposed to be fed as part of a balanced diet.

When choosing our preferred brand of pet food, how many of us take the time to look at the list of ingredients and compare different foods? For example, the protein content of foods is very variable and each dog's protein requirements are dictated by breed, health status,

exercise level and age. Cats are designed to live on protein rather than carbohydrate (mice and birds are mostly protein!). However many manufacturers of commercial pet foods will add bulk to the diets using carbohydrates. Unfortunately this could be a contributing factor to weight gain and ultimately medical problems.

Adverse food reactions, dietary sensitivities and intolerances amongst our pets appear to be on the increase. The protein source, cereal type or gluten content can underlie a variety of digestive upsets including gastroenteritis and inflammatory bowel disease. The current labelling of pet food allows manufacturers to flexibly interpret words such as "natural" and "hypoallergenic" which increases consumer confusion.

Biologically appropriate raw

food (BARF) diets have been around for many years. In the past they were difficult to source and considerable effort was required to create a safe, balanced diet at home to feed your pet. The ethos behind these foods is to provide as close to a natural diet for our pets as possible. Such diets do not contain many of the bulking agents used by other manufacturers such as "poultry derivatives" and carbohydrates and are gaining favour as a more nutritionally appropriate way of feeding. They are now much more widely available and sold as ready-made formulations which although a little more expensive than other pet foods, are gaining popularity.

As we are encouraged to become more aware of labels, ingredients and calories in our own foods, perhaps it is time to take more of an interest in

what we are feeding our pets. Convenience and price will always influence our decisions but perhaps a little attention to the composition of our pet foods could help improve the health and wellbeing of our four-legged companions.

This information is given by Richard Rallings at Hampden Veterinary Hospital. For any further information or advice about your pets contact: 01296 745373 or call in to see them in The Piazza or in Aylesbury.

Answers to Tea Break Quiz on page 09

1. Epistaxis, 2. Swim the Channel, 3. All shook up, 4. Threadneedle Street, 5. Foxglove, 6. Crocus, 7. Robert Walpole, 8. Farthing, 9. Lumiere, 10. 206, 11. Gustav Holst, 12. Buzz Aldrin, 13. 1976, 14. Palindrome, 15. Bjork, 16. Australia, 17. 1849, 18. 12, 19. Acute, 20. Chess.



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BEST CHRISTMAS DECORATED HOUSE COMPETITION



A COMPETITION OPEN TO ALL WATERMEAD RESIDENTS FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO ARE BRAVE ENOUGH TO ADMIT THEIR ADDICTION TO THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!



Every Christmas in recent years sees more Watermead residents getting wrapped up in the spirit of Christmas and adorning their houses and front gardens with the most beautiful Christmas lights and decorations. I, for one, enjoy walking around admiring our neighbours' winter wonderland creations. For some people this is the highlight of their Christmas!

Running to the window, he opened it, and put out his head. No fog, no mist; clear, bright, jovial, stirring, cold; cold, piping for the blood to dance to; Golden sunlight; Heavenly sky; sweet fresh air; merry bells. Oh, glorious. Glorious! (Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol)

It gives a warm feeling to drive or walk around our beautiful village, seeing more and more residents entering into the spirit of celebration and peace. Garlands of sparkling stars guard the houses' brows, trees light up driveways which come alive in the night, luminous deer walk out of the cold darkness of a late December night, the occasional Santa climbs on a dormer with his sack being blown by the winter night breeze. Dried citrus, holly glowing stars and gilt berries intertwined in a beautiful wreath and candied angels guarding the windows. Oh, how we love it all. The Christmas we dream of!

"What is the matter?" asked the Spirit. "Nothing," said Scrooge. "Nothing. There was a boy singing a Christmas Carol at my door last night. I should like to have given him something: that's all." (Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol)

Watermead Parish Council will launch the "Best Decorated House" competition on 1st December 2015. Your councillors will be judging between Christmas and New Year and the winner will be announced on our noticeboards and on our website on New Year's Day.

The winner will receive a gilded Watermead's Best Christmas Decorated House Certificate and a bottle of Champagne. We will publish a photo of the winner's decorated house along with the runner(s) up (subject to their permission) in the Spring Village View along with the winner's tips for success (if they have any!).

Amaze us with your creativity! Our judges will be looking for the most eye-catching combinations of lights and decorations. Plan, dig through your long lost Christmas decorations gathering dust in your loft and create a masterpiece!

The kind hand trembled. "I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future." (Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol)

Good luck, everyone, and I cannot wait to see your decorated houses welcoming the most wonderful time of the year!

Cllr Irina Schwab

"As far as I am concerned, I will "put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month." Harlan Miller.



Recycle your Christmas tree

In 2016 we plan to recycle your used Christmas tree (real not synthetic!) to help bolster lake banks where erosion is taking place. A news item on the BBC on 29th December 2014 alerted me to this idea: Unused Christmas trees are getting a new lease of life – as river bank protection in rural areas of Cumbria. The tree trunks donated by the Forestry Commission are used to bolster flood defences by the Environment Agency. Large spruce logs are secured at the base of eroding river banks and the Christmas trees are attached to them.

The tree trunks stabilise the river bank while the conifers act as a filter and catch silt from the water. The agency said the “soft engineering” is cheaper than using manmade alternatives such as steel baskets filled with stone, known as gabions. With less sediment dislodging, this also stops fish eggs being smothered, according to the Environment Agency.

Fisheries Officer Mike Farrell said: *“This is the ultimate green gift for people and wildlife living along our rivers. Homes are being protected from flooding whilst new habitats are being created for mammals, fish and invertebrates.”*

See: www.energylivenews.com/2014/12/29/christmas-trees-used-as-flood-protection/ More information in our Christmas issue of the Village View.

It’s berry time! Feel Good Nutrition

Have you seen any yet? Juicy, sweet, organic, local, yummy blackberries. They grow here in Watermead right on your doorstep. If you haven’t seen them yet, keep an eye out on your next walk around the lake. I suggest you take a bag or bowl with you to collect some, but make sure you leave plenty for other pickers though!

If you keep the blackberries dry when you store them they should keep for 2-3 days, or a bit longer in the fridge. If you still have too many to use all at once blackberries are perfect for freezing.

Ripe blackberries will be shiny and firm when you pick them. You may wish to avoid the fruits that are close to the ground as they could have been ‘watered’ by dogs.

Have fun picking! Here are a couple of delicious recipes.

Buttermilk Blackberry Muffins
150g blackberries, 280g plain flour, 3 tsp baking powder, 120g sugar, 2 large eggs, 250ml buttermilk, 6 tbsp vegetable oil, 5 drops vanilla flavouring

Preheat oven to 200°. Place 12 cases in a muffin tin. Sift the flour and baking powder together into a bowl. Whisk together the eggs, buttermilk, vegetable oil and vanilla flavouring. Make a well in the flour and pour

in the egg mixture, then add the berries. Gently fold the ingredients to combine together. Spoon the mixture into the muffin cases and bake for about 20 minutes. Decorate with icing sugar before serving.

Yoghurt Blackberry Dessert (serves 4)
400g blackberries, 250g yoghurt, 8 all butter biscuits, some dark grated chocolate (optional), honey (optional).

Puree the blackberries in a blender and crumble the biscuits. In a dessert bowl or a nice drinking glass, put a layer of crumbled biscuits, then a layer of yoghurt (use the honey to sweeten it if you prefer) and then a layer of blackberry purée. You can keep doing this as often as you like to create multiple layers. Finish by decorating with dark, grated chocolate and/ or whole blackberries (my own recipe).

If you would like to know more about blackberries or you would like some more recipe ideas: www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/how-pick-and-cook-blackberries and www.allrecipes.co.uk/recipes/tag-3128/blackberry-recipes.aspx

Nadine Bennison, Feel Good Nutrition - 07593 611414

Let us give thanks!

Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5: 19-20).

As summer draws to a close and we enter the season of Autumn it feels like a real time of thanksgiving. Maybe you want to give thanks to God for a lovely summer holiday, for weddings, for friends and family or for new beginnings as you go to school, college or university. Looking ahead to October we give thanks at our Harvest Festival here at St James on 18th October for the food that we have in such plenty in this country and as usual non-perishable gifts for the Vineyard Storehouse Food Bank for those less fortunate than we will be welcomed at our Harvest services of 9am Sung Eucharist and 11am Family Service.

In his letter to the Ephesians St Paul encourages us all to live our lives in an attitude of thankfulness. This is a discipline and requires effort. Sometimes I will catch myself in the middle of a great long moan about something, and have to make myself stop. If you’re feeling grouchy for no good reason, try smiling - the physical act of smiling makes you feel more cheerful whether you want to or not.

But living lives of thankfulness doesn’t mean that we should just ignore our sufferings or the suffering of others and say they don’t matter. I’m not saying that we should be mindlessly cheerful all the time. There is a time to laugh and a time to cry. Sometimes people will be almost ashamed about talking to me about their troubles, say they mustn’t grumble and imply that their sufferings are too small to be of value compared to other people. That is not true. All of our struggles and sufferings matter to God, however small they are. St Paul understood that if we can learn to be positive and thankful during the good times, then that will help to sustain us through the bad times. He was in prison when he wrote to the Ephesians. Being thankful didn’t

diminish his hardship, but it did help him to endure it.

So I want to set us all a challenge; a challenge to be thankful and to make the effort to see the positive in a situation rather than the downside. To stop ourselves when we start moaning and give thanks instead. And I think that if we can do that, we’ll discover that whatever life may bring, it will be the better for having consciously tried to live it in an attitude of thankfulness.

Heavenly Father
We give you thanks for all your blessings. Help us to live our lives with thankful hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lived and died for us. Amen.

*With every blessing,
Revd Mark Ackford,
Vicar of the Parish of Berton and Hulcott.*

Dog incident on small lake Monday 8th June 2015

Dear Sue,
I witnessed a disturbing incident whilst walking round the small lake on Watermead today, which I feel compelled to report. As a 10 year Watermead resident I frequently take walks around the lake, and encounter several dog walkers. I am concerned that many dog walkers are not respecting the local environment, and in particular the local wildlife which inhabit the lake. We already have an issue with several dog owners allowing their dogs to foul the paths around the lake, but nothing could have prepared me for what I witnessed today.
I first encountered this particular dog by the flats on the small lake; it was a springer spaniel and had run ahead of its owner and charged headlong into a crowd of ducks resting on the bank, sending them panic-stricken into the lake. The owner was oblivious, calling the dog as it had disappeared out of sight, and it was not responding to any commands. Thinking that this dog should probably be on a lead I continued on, and at the bandstand encountered the owner again, once more calling her dog, who was a short distance away and not responding to calls. To my horror I then saw the dog emerge with a goose in its mouth and refusing to drop it, despite its owner’s requests. At this stage the goose did not appear to be alive, and was eventually released, only then to be thrown into the water by the dog’s owner. I found the whole episode extremely distressing;

I am not sure if the goose was alive before the dog got hold of it, but it certainly wasn’t once he had finished with it.
This I feel has highlighted the risk of dog owners walking their dogs off the lead, and it concerns me greatly that our lovely wildlife is at risk from dogs whose owners have no control over them, especially gun dog breeds whose instinct is to go after birds. Surely we have a responsibility to help protect the many wildfowl which inhabit the lake, especially at this time of year, when they have young families? I have previously seen owners allowing their dogs to charge into the lake at the ducks. If owners cannot control their dogs, surely they should not let them off the lead? There is a large park just off the small lake where dogs can be allowed off the lead, and even balloon meadow, where the banks are off limits, which would not pose a threat to wildlife.
Can we not ask dog owners to keep their dogs on leads at least whilst walking around the small lake? This would surely reduce fouling, as well as protect our numerous ducks, swans and geese from dog attacks. I would hate to witness today’s incident again, as would other residents and the many visitors to the lake I’m sure.

Resident, Lark Vale

Parish Council response:
Thank you for your email and my apologies for the delay in responding. What a distressing and disgraceful example of irresponsibility from this dog owner.
You may be aware that we ran a consultation with residents in Watermead to see what the views were in terms of controlling dogs. It was the overwhelming view that dogs should be kept under control and clearly this dog was not. We also have the issue of dog fouling and our volunteers work hard to mark each example of people not picking up poo which serves the dual purpose of ensuring the poo is covered with anti-bacterial agent and highlighting the issue while helping the substance to degrade as soon as possible.
My purpose in writing is to request that we can quote from your letter in the Village View (minus your personal details, of course) and also on the website to highlight the issues. We can only hope that this dog owner reads it and feels that she must modify her own behaviour as well as training her dog.
Once again, please be assured that we take this matter very seriously and the PC is concerned about the issue. Noreen will keep you up to date if you would like to join the mailing list if you are not already on it?

Kind regards,
Sue Severn,



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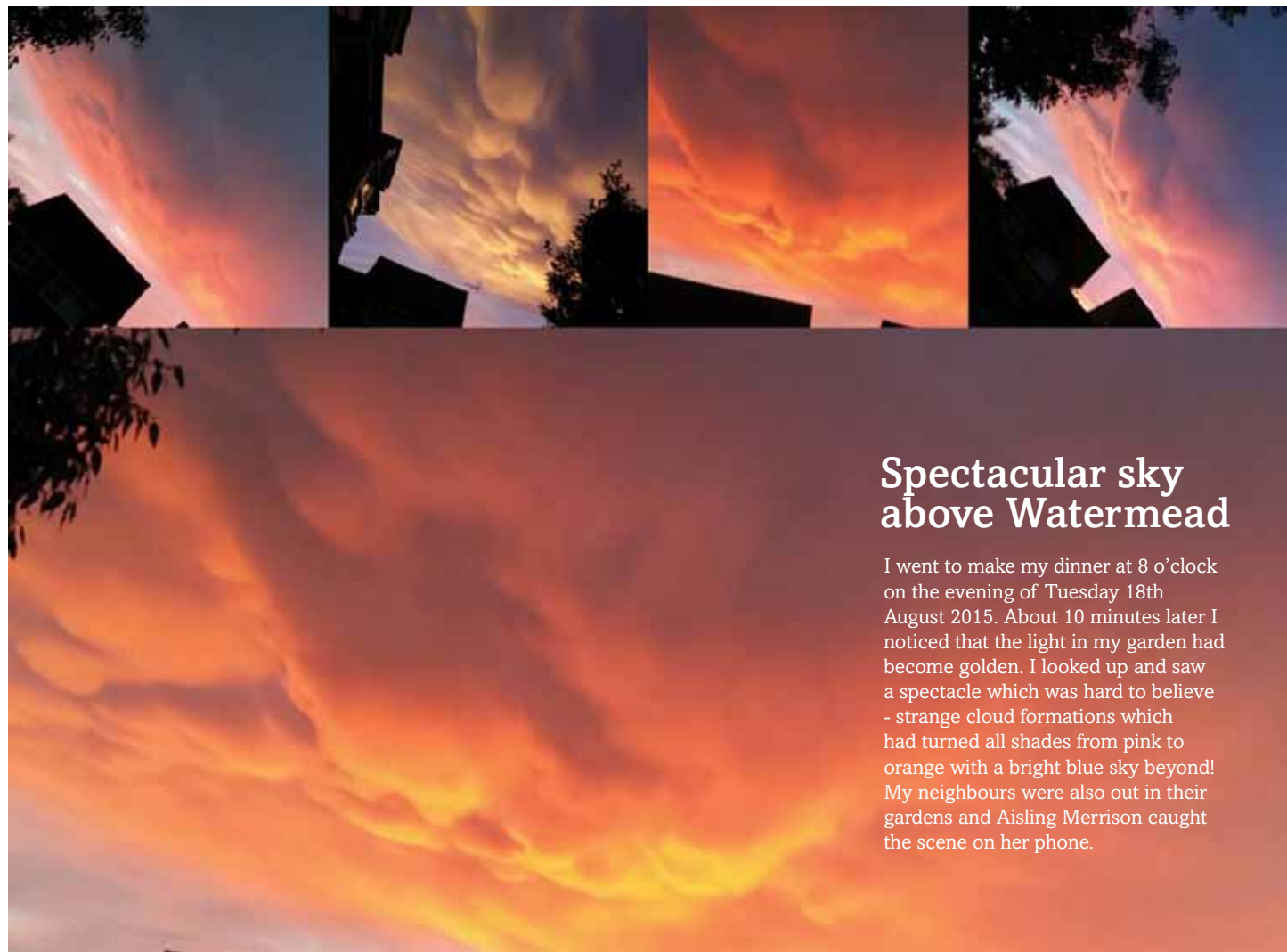


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Spectacular sky above Watermead

I went to make my dinner at 8 o'clock on the evening of Tuesday 18th August 2015. About 10 minutes later I noticed that the light in my garden had become golden. I looked up and saw a spectacle which was hard to believe - strange cloud formations which had turned all shades from pink to orange with a bright blue sky beyond! My neighbours were also out in their gardens and Aisling Merrison caught the scene on her phone.

The DBs cook something up at the Cambridge

Watermead resident, Parish Councillor and 'Dung Beatle' Phil Toler reminisces on a dream night in Cambridge:

The Dung Beatles at the Trinity Hall June Event 2015

Ingredients:
Take one large marquee in spectacular Trinity Hall College, Cambridge (Stephen Hawking's alma mater). Add over one thousand students, well marinated and ready to party. Mix in twenty five songs by Lennon, McCartney and Harrison. And four blokes in black called The Dung Beatles.

Cooking instructions:
Mix well, bring to boil and see what happens!

Well...what happened was nothing short of spectacular...
Thursday 18th June 2.00am: The boys take the stage following Radio 1's Annie Mac, to close the show.
2.15am: 'She loves you', 'I Want To Hold Your Hand', 'Day Tripper' and onwards into the swinging sixties. The DBs are playing loud. The audience, now over one thousand strong, are singing even louder.
2.45am: The place is jumping. The band are feeling the heat. Just four songs to go, can we make it?
3.00am: Last song - they've done it, but hang on, no-one's leaving. "One more song, one more song", they chant, louder and louder.
3.01am: Well, would you tell over one thousand students the band's off for cocoa and toast? No! So it's into 'Hey Jude'. WHAT A RESPONSE! THE

NOISE IS INTENSE! Everyone knows the words, of course!
3.10am: Over one thousand students and four Dung Beatles, together for one night in Cambridge, laughing, still singing, and celebrating a phenomenon; The Beatles.

If it gets any better than this, it probably isn't legal!



The Dung Beatles will be performing live this October 24th at the Waterside Theatre Second Space.
www.atgtickets.com/shows/the-dung-beatles-at-the-waterside/aylesbury-waterside-theatre/
www.thedungbeatles.co.uk

Cub of the Year

Congratulations to James Jackson, Resident of Stonechat, who attends 1st Aylesbury Cubs and has been awarded 'Cub of the Year'.

The Akela, Ashlee Carter, said "He has come along the furthest since he has joined us. We, as a leadership team, are very proud of him and cannot believe the change in him since he was a beaver".

Every year The Scouts help 450,000 young people in the UK enjoy new adventures; to experience the outdoors; interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. The Scouts are the UK's biggest mixed youth organisation who change lives by offering 6 to 25 year olds fun and challenging activities, unique experiences, everyday adventure and the chance to help others so that we make a positive impact in communities.

Scouts develop skills including teamwork, time management, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, cultural awareness and commitment. They help young people to get jobs, save lives and even change the world.

Scouts take part in activities as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, expeditions overseas, photography, climbing and zorbing. As a Scout you can learn survival skills, first aid, computer programming, or even how to fly a plane. There's something for every young person. It's a great way to have fun, make friends, get outdoors, express your creativity and experience the wider world.

You can start as a Beaver at age 6, move into Cubs when you are 8 and on into the Scouts at age 10½; then at age 14 you can become an Explorer Scout. Scout Network (age 18 to 25) is the fifth and final section of the Scouting movement. Scout

Network members take part in a variety of activities, which they undertake and organise themselves with the support of a Scout Network Leader. For more information: www.scouts.org.uk



Elmhurst graded 'Good' with an 'Outstanding' Early Years



What do Ofsted (June 2015) say about Elmhurst?

'Teaching is good across the school and supports the learning of all pupils.'
'The school provides pupils with a wide and interesting range of subjects and topics so that they enjoy their learning.'
'Pupils make good progress in reading, writing and mathematics. They are well prepared for the next step in their education.'
'Children in the Nursery and Reception classes make excellent progress.'
'Pupils are proud of their school and show respect to staff and each other.'
'Pupils' positive attitudes help them to learn.'
'Pupils feel safe in all parts of the school and understand how to keep themselves safe.'

The full Ofsted report is available to view on both the Ofsted website and on our school website: www.elmhurst.bucks.sch.uk

Elmhurst Open Morning - Tuesday 20th October 2015

We would like to invite you to attend our Open Morning on Tuesday 20th October between 9:15am and 11:00am - no appointment necessary; just turn up on the day. Our Year 6 pupils will take you on a tour of the school giving you the opportunity to see the learning that takes place from Reception through to Year 6.

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Two year olds

Within our 'Outstanding' Early Years Foundation Stage we have spaces available for funded two year olds from September 2015. If you are eligible for funding and are interested in joining our Nursery then please pop in to see us at the school office or call us on 01296 481380 (the school office reopens on 2nd September).

Rachel Lee, Headteacher

Another successful year for Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity – with a new Colour Run just around the corner!

The lights have been switched off on another successful Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity (FNHC) Midnight Walk, an annual event now in its sixth year.

The event continues to be popular and well-supported. Five hundred and seventy pink-eared ladies took to pounding the streets of Aylesbury this year raising over £50k for the Charity in just one night!

Despite several light rain showers, each lady proudly showed off her brightly decorated t-shirt as they strode with pride on either the six or 13-mile route, starting and finishing at Aylesbury College, proud sponsor of the walk since the event started in 2010.

Mix96 has supported the Midnight Walk for the last three years and for the first time this year a live broadcast was undertaken during the walk. Breakfast presenter Katy Brown walked 13 miles alongside FNHC's PR & Marketing Manager and Watermead resident, Sam Heggie. Sam spoke to various people along the route and commented: "It was absolutely wonderful to speak to some of the walkers along the route and hear about their personal reasons for walking with us. There was a very poignant story from a Mum, who was walking in memory

of her son who sadly died aged just 28. He had been a patient of the Hospice's lymphoedema clinic for many years. She was walking to fulfil a promise to her son that she would always try and help support the Florence Nightingale Hospice in whatever way she could. It was very moving to walk some of the way with her."



Derek Pelling Photography

Other walkers on the night included Day Hospice patient Annie Leigh on her trusty scooter and Mayor of Aylesbury, Cllr Allison Harrison, with daughter Isobelle. Florrie's Children's Team mascot 'Florrie Bear' also made a special appearance to cheer on and 'high-five' walkers.

There were three pit-stops on the route providing much-needed munchies and drinks so that walkers could keep their energy levels up. Refreshments included Jaffa cakes, Jelly Babies, bananas, Galaxy bars

and even some homemade watermelon sorbet which Kingsbury Square's 'The Works' kindly provided for '13-milers' en route at the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre stop.

As the Charity closes the door on the Midnight Walk, another brightly coloured door has opened with the announcement of a brand new 'Colour Rush' event - a 5 km run, jog, walk or dance, taking place on Sunday 11th October at Green Park, Aston Clinton, with a 2 km 'mini rush' for kids. The event will be held on the final day of Hospice Care Week, a national awareness week to raise the profile of hospice care, so it will be very poignant for FNHC.

Commenting on the event, Sam said: "We're very excited to be bringing a brand new event to Aylesbury and early indications show it's proving to be very popular with many registrations in already! Prepare to be showered with colour during the course, as 'Colour Crusaders' will be stationed at every kilometre ready to cover participants in coloured paint with the aim of getting everyone sprayed from head-to-toe by the end of the challenge." Sam added: "It's a great event for the whole family to be a part of, so hurry up and get yourselves registered today!"

You can sign up to take part at www.fnhospice.org.uk and

click on 'Colour Rush'. Entry costs £20 per adult £10 per child and Under 5s go FREE. There is also a special group offer on sign-up - register nine and get the 10th free, as well as a family of four offer of £50.

Each participant (aged five and over) will receive a white t-shirt and pair of neon sunglasses as part of the registration offer.

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity needs to raise over £600,000 each year to ensure the future funding of local hospice care services for families battling life-limiting illnesses across Bucks, Beds and parts of Oxon.

To listen to footage from this year's Midnight Walk, please follow the link here: www.mix96.co.uk/gemstone-midnight-walk.php



Spring Chickens come home to roost



From left to right: Liz Niven, Carolyn Gibbins, Zoe Lewis, Jeanette Perry, Sue Watkins

Five Spring Chickens, including three ladies from Watermead, completed six miles of the Florence Nightingale Midnight Walk on Saturday 11th July in just two hours and 15 minutes raising a grand total of £665.00 for the Florence Nightingale Hospice. They joined almost 600 other ladies some of whom were doing the full 13 miles. All of them together raised nearly £50,000!!

The night was filled with laughter and excitement with passing motorists honking their encouragement and lots of people turning out to cheer them on. Their energy was sustained throughout the walk with plentiful supplies of water and jelly babies and coffee and croissants at the finish.

All the Spring Chickens have experience of losing close family members to cancer and remember with much gratitude the part that hospices played in making their final months as comfortable as possible – not just for the patients, but their families as well. I am sure those memories will have helped to sustain them through the months of training they have needed to prepare for this – because of course, their team name has a hint of irony; they are not really 'spring chickens' – except for Zoe – and she's got twin daughters only 9 months old at the time, so I don't suppose she's got bags of energy left after caring for them!

A word of praise too for those who volunteer to act as Marshalls. They don't get their picture in the papers but play an essential part in making the night a success. Well done to everyone!

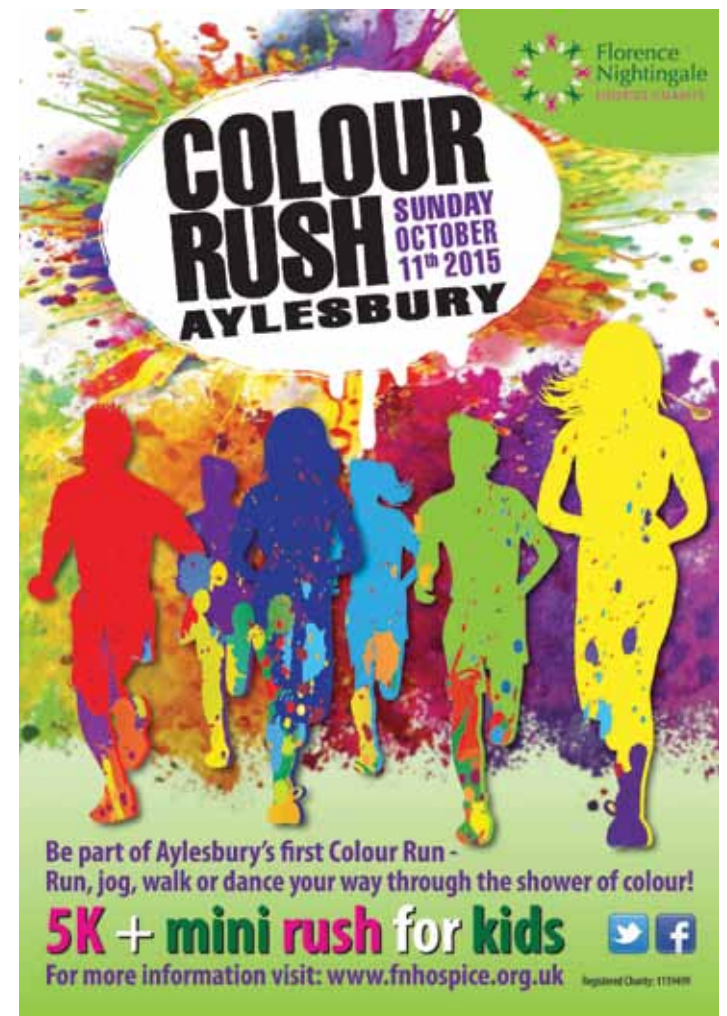
Friends 'like' these?

According to Facebook, the average person has 338 friends, which should mean our diaries are too crammed full of parties and coffee dates to ever contemplate being lonely.

However, we aren't quite the socialites our profile pages would have us believe. In fact, despite the perceived connectivity that technology brings, we are actually becoming more isolated. Around 1 million older people in the UK regularly go an entire month without speaking to someone and almost a quarter of disabled people say they often feel lonely. Not a pretty picture.

Our vision at the Volunteer Hub is a better life for the people of Buckinghamshire, and that means putting an end to loneliness and the physical and mental issues it creates. But where do we even begin?

It starts with people like Linda from Aylesbury, who contacted us in the hope of volunteering to help an elderly person with their shopping and offering a lift in her car. After chatting to Linda, it turns out that her love of people made her the perfect match for Carol, a woman affected by disability. Linda and Carol get together for an hour every week and go to the gardening centre for a coffee and stroll - a simple experience with life-changing potential.



'I work part time but have spare time on Fridays and wanted to do something fulfilling. The whole experience has been so positive. I really enjoy seeing Carol and how much she looks forward to it. I would definitely consider her to be a real friend.'

So, if your social network is in need of some real-life connection and you would like to volunteer to help someone in your community as a friend like Linda or taking your neighbour shopping; why not give us a call to find you a match?

For more information about volunteering, call the Volunteer Hub on 0300 1111 250 or email info@communityimpactbucks.org.uk

The Volunteer Hub actively recruits volunteers for charities and groups in Buckinghamshire who support older and vulnerable adults as part of Buckinghamshire's County Council's Prevention Matters programme.



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Vogue Festival 2015



The Galliano dress was actually made from a man's coat. When he lifted up the dress you could see underneath the outer coat including the arms, pockets, etc.

In RJ Cutler's exploitative 2009 behind-the-scenes documentary drama "The September Issue" the audience is exposed to Anna Wintour's (Editor of US Vogue) merciless quest for perfection when putting together an issue of Vogue. The world of Vogue magazine is painted as relentless, somewhat tedious, but most of all, elite. "I think what I often see is that people are frightened about fashion. Because it scares them or makes them feel insecure, they just put it down," quips Wintour. But with the British fashion industry being worth £26 billion, why is it being put down so frequently?

The annual Vogue Festival in April serves as a two-day microcosm of the fashion industry and its far from cinematic portrayals. There are designers, models, socialites, make-up artists, fashion editors and photographers. The entire experience, on the surface, is exactly what you'd expect - several hundred people descending on this year's venue, The Royal Geographical Society, with eccentric clothes and iPhone's held in their hands with a vice like grip, ready to Instagram their escapades.

However, delving further reveals that a great level of meticulous planning has gone into preparing the schedules for this event. Everything, ranging from one on one conversations with editors to talks with notable people within the fashion industry, is planned with precision.

A definite highlight of the festival is the talks. I attended Fashion, Parties and All-Out Glam, where Olivier Rousteing was interviewed by Alexa Chung. Rousteing was appointed creative director of Balmain at the early age of 25. It has been speculated that since his arrival the brand's revenue has increased by at least 15%. Rousteing was glowing with optimism for the brand and I think it's important to note how down to earth he is, mentioning his desire to eventually open an orphanage (Rousteing was adopted at the age of 1). Rousteing's youth and vitality radiated throughout the lecture hall. I firmly believe that everyone left that room feeling a little bit inspired.

Another talk which I attended was with John Galliano. At the start of the talk Alexandra Shulman (Editor of British Vogue) announced that she had invited him for an interview last year, but

he declined, as he had not accomplished much since his highly publicised dismissal from Christian Dior. After his triumphant return to fashion in London this January for Maison Margiela he now felt ready. The interview was symbolic in several senses, but largely it represented his homecoming; something that has been awaited for several years. With the meteoric rise of designers who aim to create normal, approachable pieces for real women, it's thrilling to have the return of a rule-breaker. Whether the true meaning of fashion really died alongside Alexander McQueen is a question heavily debated amongst fashion circles lately. Galliano truly made fashion and art equal, and he proved the depths to the industry. The man is not only a visionary but a business brain also, stating that he thinks a lot about sales. His accomplishments include a perfume, which outsells Chanel No 5.

Modesty prevailed, but it is clear Galliano is gently immersing himself in the fashion industry once again. He stunned and awed the entire audience, myself included, when he revealed a red wedding gown to be made from the lining of a man's coat.



Phoebe with Fashion Features Director Sarah Harris (Phoebe's heroine)



Phoebe with Editor Kate Phelan, the lady that has made her dreams come true.



Alexa Chung interviewing Oliver Rousteing!

Lining is something Galliano is actively incorporating into Margiela's strands of DNA; he aims for it to be as significant as Chanel's Camellia (the Camellia is the flower adored by Coco Chanel and is used very much with the branding, mainly handbags, brooches and other jewellery).

I can't skirt over the fact that I attended a master class on how to be a successful fashion editor with - yes, you guessed - successful fashion editors. One being Kate Phelan, the woman who scouted me out for the issue of Vogue that I was featured in. It was overwhelming to be reunited with someone who has made such a major positive impact on my life, but to her it's all in a day's work.

This brings me back to my opening point. Why are people frightened of fashion? Every single member of the fashion community that I encountered and spoke to was grateful for their opportunities and very approachable. It's difficult to understand why people keep antagonising the fashion industry, but - oh well - at least there's more Prada for me.

Phoebe Shardlow

A Brief history of the Buckingham Palace Garden

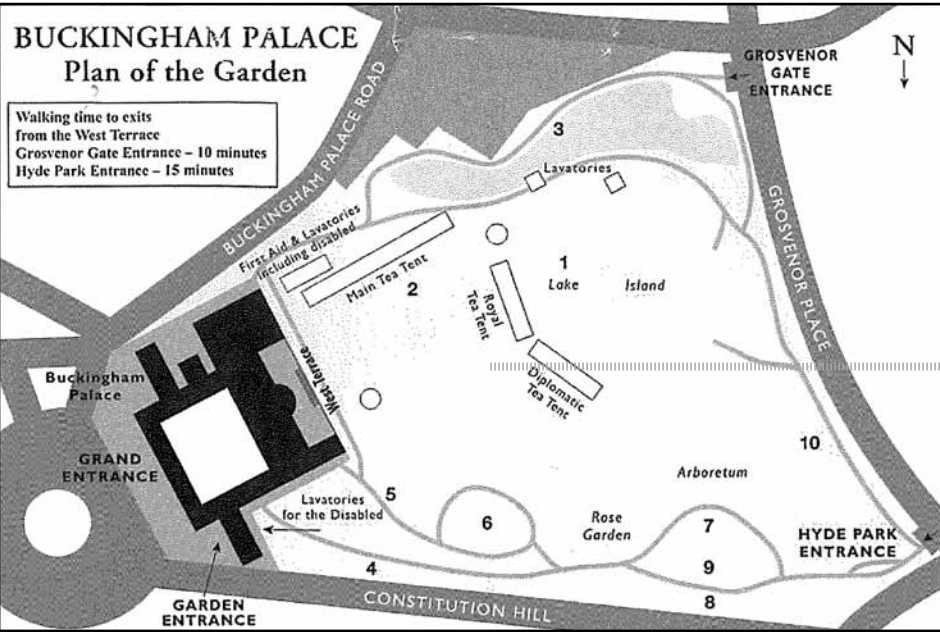
Like the palace itself, the garden at Buckingham Palace has undergone many changes over the years. Covering nearly 16.2 hectares (40 acres), including a 1.5 hectare (3 acre) lake, the north side occupies part of the original site of a mulberry garden laid out by James I in 1609. In 1703 the Duke of Buckingham arranged for a more formal layout and in the 1820's George IV commissioned William Townsend Aiton, chief gardener at Kew, to remodel the gardens completely. It was he who created the lake (1) and the broad stretches of lawn famous for its chamomile (2). He also built the mound (3) and planted many of the London plane trees seen today. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth cleared much of the dense Victorian shrubberies and planted a wide selection of decorative flowering trees and shrubs – notably the tremendous 170 metre long Herbaceous Border (4).

The shrubberies have been continuously improved and in 1961 The Queen added a curved avenue of Indian Chestnut (5) running from the NW corner of the palace. There are more than 200 mature trees in the garden, with London plane predominant. There are fine specimens of choice trees, most of which are labelled, and the commemorative trees (6) planted on different occasions over the years by Members of the Royal Family. Although very much a spring garden, recent additions have provided more plants for summer colour like hoheria, agapanthus and hydrangea. The Rose Garden (7)

contains formal beds of hybrid tea and floribunda roses and behind the Admiralty Summer House (8) there are shrub and climber roses. In the centre of the Rose Garden stands the imposing Waterloo Vase (9), made from carrara marble and positioned here in 1903. Originally made for Napoleon, it was given to King Edward VII. A small waterfall (10) was installed in 1991 to circulate the lake water.

A survey of the garden by the London Natural History Society has revealed a wealth of flora and fauna, some of it quite rare. Two species of fungi new to science were found, including a small mushroom

found growing in a bed of holly bushes. The garden is a nesting site for many native birds and the great-crested grebe has nested on an island in the lake for the last few years. The lake also provides a refuge for water birds including coots, moorhens, shelduck, mallard and geese. Captive birds include red-breasted geese, ruddy shelduck and emperor geese. There is a distinct "long grass" policy in places to provide a range of habitats for wildlife. Since 1991 all of the grass clippings, prunings and leaves gathered in the garden – as well as some of the horse manure from the adjacent Royal Mews – are recycled on site.



The Waterloo Vase

The Waterloo Vase is a huge marble urn situated in Buckingham Palace Gardens. It stands 18ft (5.5m) tall and weighs 40 tons.

The white Carrara marble from which it is made caught Napoleon's eye when he was passing through Tuscany on his way to conquer Russia in 1812. He ordered it to be hewn into a vase with unadorned panels awaiting completion with scenes of his victory. Instead, after his retreat from Russia and defeat at Waterloo on 18th June 1815, it was the triumphs of Wellington that ultimately adorned the Waterloo Vase.

When the grateful Duke of Tuscany presented the vase to the Prince Regent, a fashionable sculptor called Richard Westmacott was given the task of completing it. The handles are figures representing Victory and Defeat. Decorative emblems include

the rose, shamrock and thistle. Wellington is depicted on horseback directing the army while Napoleon is on foot.

The vase was well received by critics and the public, unlike the monument of the classical hero Achilles in Hyde Park, also created by Westmacott as a tribute to Wellington, and paid for by female subscribers. The nude figure was mocked and misunderstood and the offending part had to be adorned with a fig leaf.

The urn proved too heavy for the Waterloo Chamber in Windsor Castle for which it was intended and was presented to the National Gallery. In 1906 it was restored to the monarchy and placed in the garden of Buckingham Palace in a wooded area where it no longer dwarfs its surroundings.

A day to remember – WI centenary Buckingham Palace garden party

I had a wonderful day at Buckingham Palace attending the WI Centenary Garden Party on Tuesday 2nd June 2015 despite the high winds. One person from each WI around the country was invited to attend and I was the only person in Watermead & Weedon WI who would venture there on their own!!!

I met Diana Lewis whilst crossing Cambourne Avenue at Janzel Square in Bedgrove to join the coach. It was starting to rain and we almost lost our hats in the wind - hair destroyed before we had even set off! Diana had her hairdresser come to her house that morning too. Diana was from the newly formed Bishopstone WI. We palled up for the day and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company.

There was a photographer from Buck's Herald taking a photo of some of the ladies and we joined them and then quickly boarded our coach. We arrived in London a little early so our driver took us on a scenic tour of the West End pointing out places of interest. He told us that we would be dropped off in Buckingham Gate however he decided to go up Pall Mall which was fortunate as on arrival the policeman told him he could park there. This saved us a walk to Park Lane at the end of the party which was 'Plan A'.

There were lots of coaches disgorging ladies in their lovely dresses and hats – it was quite a spectacle seeing them walking up Pall Mall causing many people to look and wonder, some actually stopped to ask what the occasion was. Diana had her camera and took some photos of us outside the palace and we then joined the queue of ladies waiting to go in. Everyone was chatting and it was interesting to hear that the group we talked to had had a 5 hour journey from Devon; others had travelled from

further afield and had travelled the day before; some were also staying in London to attend the AGM at the Albert Hall on Thursday.

It wasn't long before we entered the Grand Entrance showing our ID and handing in our invitation – I felt special just entering the courtyard. A few hats went flying through the air which were caught by a kindly police guard and returned to their owners. We walked past the sentries and through the arch into the internal quadrangle which I had seen on many occasions on TV during special events. We then entered the Palace up some steps covered in a red carpet and walked through two entrance halls. There was a long corridor with the walls covered in portraits of royalty and I recognised Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's portraits one each side of the door we went through. We then came out at the famous West Terrace with a vista of the huge lawn ahead of us, a large tea tent on the left, the Royal Tea Tent and Diplomatic Tea Tent on the far side backing onto the lake. Two military bands played alternately from opposite corners of the lawn.

It was time to visit the loo. My neighbour in Watermead had told me that the toilet paper was specially embossed, however this was not the case on this occasion. After a glass of lemon barley Diana and I decided to inspect the large, park-like garden, which together with its lake is the largest private garden in London. It covers 40 acres (16 ha), and includes a helicopter landing area, a lake, and a tennis court. The rhododendrons and lilac were lovely, as were the roses. We walked across to inspect the Waterloo Vase which was very impressive and then on to admire the water fowl on the lake which included a heron, mallards, grebes, swans and a pinkish coloured goose.

By that time it was after 2.30pm and tea was being served. We ventured into the huge tea tent where there were lots of short queues and joined one of them. One took a tiffin tray and there was a choice of dainty sandwiches including cucumber, chicken and rocket wrap, smoked salmon on a blini, prawn canape, and miniature cakes eg strawberry tart, raspberries on a cream scone, coffee éclair, fruit cake,



accompanied by a cup of tea, iced coffee or juice.

The National Anthem announced the arrival of the royal party which consisted of HRH The Duchess of Cornwall, HRH The Countess of Wessex, HRH Princess Alexandra and HRH The Duchess of Gloucester. There were some presentations and then Beefeaters formed two lanes through the crowd for the royal party to move through the guests. Ladies were picked at random to be presented to HRH The Duchess of Cornwall and she also spoke to many ladies lining the route. HRH The Countess of Wessex did the same through the second lane and I was lucky enough to be picked to be presented to her. Quite an honour.

Diana noticed some ladies eating ice creams and we discovered that they were being distributed by the waiting staff

so decided to join them. We chatted to lots of other ladies and also to Michael Taylor from the Royal Household. He asked if we were enjoying ourselves and, being an HR Manager, I found that I had started interviewing him. He had worked for the Royal Household for 18 years since leaving university and now had around 250 people reporting to him at Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and Holyrood Palace.

He said that the Queen keeps them young! I told him that I had heard that the caterers were rather worried about feeding 8,000 WI members and he told me that they were all very nervous about it as the WI have a reputation for being somewhat formidable. He also said that he had never seen so many hats on the lawn!

All too soon The National Anthem was played again which marked the end of the party. We then said our goodbyes to the people we had met and made our way out of the Garden Entrance and up Pall Mall to our bus.

I feel that it was such a privilege to have been able to attend such a wonderful, memorable occasion.

Mary Singleton, Watermead & Weedon WI (Councillor and Editor of the Village View.)

News

Watermead allotments



Summer starts to draw to a close, but we still hope to get some more fine weather in the weeks before the onset of winter and the end of British Summer Time (BST) next month. The clocks will be put back one hour on October 30th heralding earlier dark nights, which means less time for allotment holders to work on their plots, particularly those who come down after work.

BST was first established by the Summer Time Act 1916 after a campaign by builder William Willett, whose original proposal was to move clocks forward by 80 minutes, in 20 minute weekly steps on Sundays in April, then reversing the procedure in September. The first BST period began May 21st 1916 and ended on 1st October 1916. Sadly Willett never got to see his idea implemented as he died in early 1915. There have been various debates, campaigns and experiments over the years on the benefits of Single/Double Summer time, but none have managed to get the standard formula changed.



We had our annual Plant Sale in June at Watermead Village Hall and raised almost £200. After the expenses of the day we were able to make a donation of £87 to the Alzheimer's Society which was our chosen charity this year. The rest of the money raised went to Watermead Allotment Society funds to help with maintenance and other expenses of the site.

The event was well attended. There were stalls with vegetables, flowers, shrubs and harvested produce, including lots of rhubarb and asparagus, plus a large selection of jams, pickles and other preserved goodies provided by allotment members including Watermead's "Jam/Pickle Queen" Beth Woodford.

The Alzheimer's Society manned a stall selling numerous items. Tea, coffee and home-made cakes and buns were also on sale thanks to the help of our lovely Parish Clerk Noreen Shardlow who took charge of the refreshment area.

The sale was organised by Sheena Hudson and Sheree Smith, who provided most of the plants, however others were provided by Mike Carpenter and other allotment holders. Tanya Wheatcroft, who used to be secretary of Watermead Allotment Society, pitched up to help despite no longer having an allotment in Watermead. Plants also came from non-Watermead residents including Jo Cottle.

There are still allotment plots available for Watermead residents. Contact the Parish Clerk Noreen Shardlow via the Parish Council website for more details. I should point out that, unless you are very lucky and take over an established plot, you will get an area of grass and weeds, which will take a degree of hard work to pull round. On the other hand, it will be a "blank canvas", so-to-speak, so you can decide exactly how to organise it and what you want to grow on it.

Colin Smith



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Watermead Cygnets Pre-School

Finally Spring sprung followed by some changeable weather but this did not dampen the Cygnets' learning opportunities!

The children had fun learning about transport, discussing and making some great models of various vehicles for travel across land, sea and air. We explored various materials extending the children's language to describe what they felt, for example: rough, smooth, hard, soft, prickly, sticky, bumpy. The children also learned about different homes with various features, including detached, town and terraced houses, flats, bungalows, and barges!

We looked at fairy tales. The children particularly enjoyed Goldilocks and the 3 Bears and, through some great acting and expression, re-enacted the story. There were certainly some budding performers!

The children also explored jungles and deserts, learning the differences between leopards and cheetahs and discovering where animals live. We also looked at sea-life and beaches, including holidays, and we finished off with an 'I Can' week where the

children thought about all the things they had learned and achieved throughout the year.

We had a busy and fun Dad's day when fathers spent the morning with their children and accepted the challenges set for them such as filling bottles with sand as quickly as possible and a sea-creature modelling competition which was judged by the children. Dad's day is a great opportunity for fathers to interact with their children in a learning environment and it is also great for the children too.

Our end of term trip was a day at Woburn Safari Park, where we travelled by coach; this was made possible by the parents and children who were sponsored earlier in the year for our obstacle race. The children (and parents!) thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially the cheeky monkeys that hitched a ride on our coach!

It was fantastic summer weather for our Sports day where races included a pushchair race, mini-obstacle race, running race, scooter race and beanbag race. The parents and carers had a tyre relay race and the staff took part a mini-obstacle race. The fun day ended with medals and lollies.

Finally we finished off the summer term with our graduation ball. Sixteen children left Cygnets this year to start their full time education and one left for another setting. We had a great afternoon with various activities and even a bouncy castle! It's always sad to see the children leave but we all feel proud to have played a part in preparing them for school and we wish them every success in the future as they start their academic career.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all our staff for their continued hard work over the year - we are especially proud of our Good rating from Ofsted - and would like to say a big thank you to our Committee for their commitment.

Cygnets accepts children from 2½ years to 5 years old. We open from 9.15am to 12.15pm, Monday to Friday, and we provide a lunch club most days from 12.15 to 1.15pm. If you would like your child to attend Cygnets, please visit us in the Village Hall and ask to be added onto our waiting list or call Maree on 07563 783464.

The Cygnets Team



Sports Day pushchair race



Dad's Day



WATERMEAD CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 5th December 2015
Village Hall, The Piazza 11am - 5pm

To book a table at this year's fair please contact Graham for further information

01296 336575
graham.severn@yahoo.co.uk

and don't forget:

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Special Occasions

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Sympathy

We invite the bereaved to personally assist creating floral tributes for their loved ones.



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Learning & creating seasonal decorations. All materials supplied along with refreshments. Check our website for dates and prices.



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water rider 6

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