



HanneY News

Number 610 Sept 2026

**IT'S PANTO
TIME –
Oh yes it is!!
See Page 7**



**Church
Restoration**
Page 20



HanneY Michaelmas Fayre

**Saturday 26 September
2.00pm – 4.15pm**

**HanneY's Community Day – when
we can celebrate being part of a
wonderful community.**

Page 5 for details.



Olly's Pearls - page 16

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Editorial

September already, though the first item on the 'What's On' page happens on 26th August. In the hope that you may receive this before the date, I have included it....the details of Peter Packham funeral. He was a much loved member of our community, and his obituary is on page 23.

Onto lighter stuff...last month's cover featured a guillotine that was ready to be used on a couple of our erring staff here at HQ. I went to the printers with the mag on Weds 15th July.

Just a few days later, and high on the 'National News agenda', was that 'Green' chappie Zac Polanski. He'd posted a pic of a bearded, sunglasses and multi-coloured hat wearing fellow, throwing what we used to call a 'peace sign', proudly wearing a t-shirt with a pic of a guillotine on it, along with a slogan hinting that someone called Nigel should perhaps be subject to its machinations!

Well, what a coincidence, or did Beardy happen to see our front cover last month and draw inspiration from it?

Still on politics, I had the pleasure of meeting Ollie Glover our MP the other day. He was polite and charming, obviously realising what an important member of the community I am..... Joke! I'm sure he was equally charming to everyone.

He and I have agreed that I will include his pearls each month, so check his latest ones on page 16.

Simona Cammalleri is a young member of our community who's just taken over as 'Clerk' for West Hanney Parish Council. (See page 7 for details.) The role requires

much more than simply being a 'clerk' of course. It's vital to the running of the PC, but is one of those behind the scenes jobs, as is Lisa Aram's over in East Hanney, that gets little recognition or thanks. We here at Global HQ thank Simona - and Lisa - for stepping up, and wish her all the best.

Michaelmas Fayre time again.....please support this great community event, raising funds for local good causes.

Great news on page 4...the Plough attains the top rating in food hygiene...five *Stars*. I should mention that La Fontana in East Hanney also has that rating. Well done to both establishments.

There's a bit of history nestling on page 35 amongst the contact details for all our wonderful local clubs and societies.

It's the beautiful grave of one Rev James Macdougall who was Hanney's Vicar from 1846 till 1892. A good innings one might say. James was a man of some means and aside from his role as Vicar, he was apparently very generous to the poor folk of Hanney. There were very many back in Victorian times. I will be soon attempting to tidy his grave, once I've got this mag to our fab printers Artisan.....see their ad on page 9.

We lost a great member of our community recently with the passing of Des Thomas who had cut the rides in the Woodland for many years. See April issue. We send our deepest condolences to Des' family.

Friends, please read page 6. Wise words indeed from East Hanney PC.

OK, enough from me.... See you next month.

We here at Hanney News Global International welcome articles, emails, letters, photos, in fact anything you feel may be of interest to our readers. Constructive - or amusing! - criticism always welcome, and if you wanna have a go yourself, just let me know!! Contact me, Jim the Editor.... mob: 07762 239681, landline - 01235 867500, or email: hanneynews@gmail.com

What's happening this month....

Weds 26th Aug, 12 noon, South Oxfordshire Crematorium, the funeral of Peter Packham. Wake at Plough from 1.30pm. Obit, page 23.

Sun 30th Aug, The Plough, West Hanney, 'PloughFest', 12noon - 11pm.

Thurs 3rd, 7pm: Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum. An evening with Ami Bouhassane - Lee Miller: A Woman at War. See page 17.

Fri 4th Sept, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Hanney Film Nights, proudly presents; 'The Devil Weaqr Prada 2'. Doors and Bar open 7.30pm, film starts 8pm. Contactless payment only...no cash. £8, £7 concessions

Mon 7th. 7.45pm, Village Hall, Hanney Gardening Club (HGC) Short AGM followed by a very topical talk by Simon Gulliver 'Climate Change in Your Garden'. Simon is a Garden and Parks consultant for the National Trust and has worked for both Edinburgh and Birmingham Botanical Gardens and RHS Wisley.

Sat 12th 7pm. St Peter and St Paul Church, Wantage, London Welsh Male Voice Choir, a concert in support of the Ray Collins Charitable Trust.

The first ever Black Horse Beer Festival starts Fri 18th Sept from 5.30pm, and continues all day Sat 19th and Sun 20th. See page 19.

Thurs 24th, 7pm, The Church St. Patient Participation Group's AGM will be held at the surgery following a talk given by one of the GPs. All are welcome.

Sat 26th Sept - Hanney Michaelmas Fayre. West Hanney. Details page 5.

And further ahead...

26th Oct - 7th Nov, Wantage Literary Festival For more information see website: www.wantageliteraryfestival.co.uk or find and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

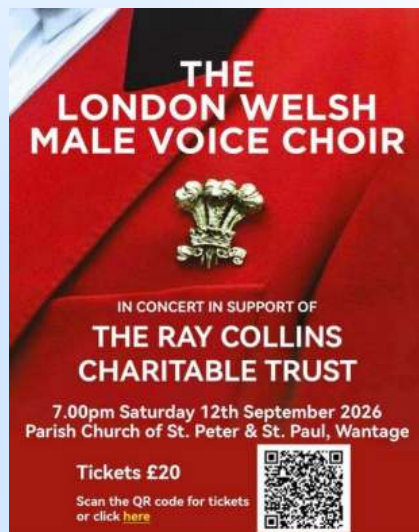
Mon 5th Oct. HGC....'An Armchair Walk Through Blenheim'. Andy Mills gives a fascinating insight into the life of the head gardener at Blenheim Palace.

Mon 2nd Nov. HGC.... 'Roses' Kerry French is the head gardener at the National Rose Society. A perfect chance to get to grips with the ins and outs of growing magnificent roses.

Sat 14th Nov, Village Hall, Cancer Research Charity Sale. Details nearer the time.

Sun 29th Nov 11am - 3pm, Market Place. Wantage, Christmas Artisan Market - 'tree-mendous' fun for all the family!

Fri 4th Dec, 4pm - 9pm, Wantage Market Place, Dickensian Evening, an opportunity to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.



A quick shine of the spotlight on Sir Luke of Chef and Spotless, who, along with his team at the Plough in West Hanney has just been awarded a 5* Food Hygiene rating!

This from Owain, fellow landlord... *"When we took over, we were told that with a building as old as The Plough, getting a 5-star food hygiene rating would be almost impossible.*

Luke didn't accept that. Through hard work, determination, attention to detail and genuine pride in what he does, he's led the kitchen team all the way to the promised land.

This isn't luck. It's the result of years of graft, high standards and refusing to settle for anything less than the best.

So, here's to our Owner/ Head Chef, Luke. An absolute legend, and we're incredibly lucky to have him."

Massive congrats from us here at Global HQ to Luke and his team in the kitchen at the Plough!

Luke in the top pic, and here are two of his team, Michaela and Olly. Chris and Alfie complete the line up, but sadly weren't around when I was at the Plough with the box brownie.



Do You Like Playing Cards?

Every Wednesday afternoon throughout the year there is a very sociable session in East Hanney War Memorial Hall starting at 2pm.

Around twenty-eight people come along to play relaxed duplicate bridge. The number that attend is growing year on year as we also run bridge lessons for beginners and improvers at the same time in the other room.

As the courses progress the students are welcome to join in with the main session.

Bridge can be addictive! Some of our players join with Blewbury Club and play competitive duplicate bridge online on a Thursday evening.



If you would like to find out more about learning bridge or playing on either Wednesday or Thursday, please contact the Wantage Bridge Club at wantagebridgeclubinfo@gmail.com

We would be delighted to hear from you.

Hanney Michaelmas Fayre

Saturday 26 September – 2.00 – 4.15

**Hanney's Community Day – when we can celebrate
being part of a wonderful community.**

Lots to see, do, buy, watch, eat and have fun!



Wantage Silver Band

WI Teas

Book Stall

Games to play

The Plough BBQ

Craft Stalls

Competitions

Community Shop for crisps, soft drinks & sweets

Tug-of-War

The Scarecrow Trail

Max's Ice Cream Van

Bric-a-Brac preloved Stall

Dog Show

Raffle

Hanney Flood Group and Community Woodland Group

Get your competitive spirit up and take part in one of our competitions – categories for children, cookery and floral – and make a scarecrow and be part of the SCARECROW TRAIL.

And take the opportunity to donate all those books you don't want to read again, sheet music or pre-loved bric-a-brac (including costume jewellery, pictures, vases, jugs, 'knickknacks', children's toys and puzzles) – all profits raised at the Fayre are given in Grants to Hanney organisations.

Full details at www.hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk/competitions or collect information from Hanney Community Shop now, or for St James school families, from the foyer after Monday 7th September.

And for more information on anything – info@hanneymichaelmasfayre.co.uk or 07831 690524.

East Hanney Parish Council

Extreme Heat: Hopefully things have cooled down somewhat since writing this, however it is important that residents remain vigilant in regard to potential fire risks. The Emergency Preparedness team not only consider flooding but also fire risks within the village, these are some things you can do to help yourself:

1. Keep hedges and undergrowth trimmed to reduce fire risk near your property.
2. Review your property boundary for potential fire risks - logs stored close to your house, bushes & trees which may fall in strong summer storms,
3. Avoid BBQ's close to your property - preferably refrain from bonfires to avoid rouge embers.
4. Avoid BBQ's in public parks etc.
5. Consider having your gutters cleaned prior to the Summer to avoid debris catching fire from rouge embers.
6. Know where your nearest fire hydrant is and where you can source more water should the fire brigade require it.
7. Obtain fire extinguishers or manual means of extinguishing fires - e.g. fire beaters made of rubber matting or fire blankets.
8. Consider sources of sparks and flame - e.g. metal strimmers causing sparks on dry grass, welding or disk cutting, broken glass
9. On your travels around the village, identify risks and address or inform the clerk@easthanneyparish.gov.uk
10. Prepare before you or your neighbours have a need.

Other Updates:

We will continue to oppose the mega reservoir - instead pushing for a smaller solution or piped water from the Severn river.

Playground - repairs will be made to

lengthen the life of the towers and slides, but replacement is required soon. The toilet was a success, and the council will review options for 2027 at the next meeting. Meanwhile the zip wire has been retensioned (£600) and the weeds removed from the park - to be a regular activity.

Riparian Responsibility - letters will be distributed to all residents along Main Street and the A338 who have a property and therefore a responsibility to maintain the ditch outside their property prior to October. We all know how Hanney is at risk of flooding properties. The ditch maintenance applies to all residents who have a ditch outside their property - it is a legal requirement to maintain this ditch - removing obstructions, avoiding vegetation and grass cuttings from restricting the water flow. The council respectfully asks residents to carry out their legal duties, however if this does not happen then the Lead Local Flood Authority will be informed and asked to action the cleanup at the homeowners expense.

Pavilion - additional funding has been obtained from S106 funds, we are half-way towards the total cost with technical design planning in discussion.

Rugby posts will be installed within the next few weeks - these will straddle the senior football pitch

Car Park - the grid system needs to be re-filled with grit - this will require temporary closure of the car park to implement.

Please continue to feedback your thoughts for improvements, we can't do everything, but we do our best to continue to make Hanney a fantastic place to live.

Next meeting is on 9th September, 7.30pm, Village Hall.

We can reveal that the new Panto for 2027 is

Sleeping Beauty by Warren McWilliams.

Come, one and all, and join us at The Hanney Room, Hanney War Memorial Hall on Thursday 17th September at 7.30pm.

We will be auditioning for the show and hoping to meet new members for both acting and off-stage roles.

Any queries – phone Anita on 07876 823507

<https://www.hanneydramagroup.co.uk/sleeping-beauty-feb2027>



West Hanney Parish Council

Councillors:

Chair: David Corps - cllr.david.corps@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 867454.

Graham Garner - cllr.graham.garner@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 01235 868684.

Vicki Ruston - email: cllr.vicki.ruston@westhanneyparish.gov.uk

Ahmed Farrag - cllr.ahmed.farrag@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 07388 816079.

Parish Clerk: Simona Cammalleri - parishclerk@westhanneyparish.gov.uk 07479 022580

Website: www.westhanneyparish.gov.uk

New Parish Clerk

WHPC is delighted to announce that our new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer is Simona Cammalleri. Simona has lived in West Hanney with her husband and young family for the past 2 years and during this time she has become an active and well-known member of our community. Simona is the first point of contact for general enquiries for the Parish Council.

As we say hello to Simona, we say goodbye and a huge thank you to Barbara Martin who has served as our Parish Clerk for the past 8 years.

Vacancy for a Parish Councillor

Following the sad death of Cllr Peter Packham, we have a vacancy for a new Parish Councillor.

Do you care about our village, its surroundings and its future development?

Do you wish to be involved in overseeing and protecting our community assets: our playing fields, allotments, village greens, community meadow, orchard and woodland? The Council would love to hear from you if you think you could make a contribution to our community, serving as a Parish Councillor.

Please contact the Chairman for further information.

We hope to consider applications at our next Parish Council meeting.

The next meeting of West Hanney Parish Council is on Thurs 24th September at 7.30pm in the Olde Hanney Room, Hanney War Memorial Hall

I found this rather interesting piece from **Layla Moran** in the Marcham and District 'MAD News'.

She's the MP for our neighbouring constituency of 'Oxford West and Abingdon'.

"THAMES WATER News rumbles on about a potential deal with creditors to save Thames Water and see its fines waived by Ofwat until 2030.

I have been clear throughout that the Thames shambles needs to end.

In a meeting with the Minister for Water, Emma Hardy, I raised concerns around the possible deal, and urged her to consider putting the company into Special Administration to allow a new company set up for the benefit of customers, not shareholders.

Meanwhile the service provided by Thames Water just gets worse. The majority of homes in the constituency are now in a 'pressure managed area', with deliberately reduced water pressure to extend the life of their ageing infrastructure.

Most have seen small changes, but some areas of the constituency have seen water pressures halve, with appliances failing and water flows reduced to a dribble.

The latest information I have received from Thames Water suggests that Marcham has only had very small changes to pressure."

Powerful stuff there from Layla... TW probably not on her Christmas Card list?

I wonder if our Olly G shares her views..... they're both Lib Dems.



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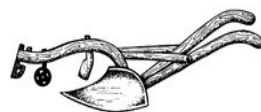
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THE BLACK HORSE East Hanney

The first ever 'Black Horse Beer Festival' which starts Fri 18th Sept from 5.30pm, and continues all day Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th.

Full details page 19

Opening Hours - Monday - Closed

Tues to Sat - Food from 12pm - 2pm, & 6pm - 9pm,

Bar from 12pm - 2.30pm & 5.30pm - 11pm

Sunday - Food from 12pm - 3pm.

Bar from 12pm - 7pm



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The long drought makes us think again about how much we take water for granted. Water the lawn, clean the car, run a bath - all with the highest quality drinking water! We have had to change our ways a bit this summer.

As a child I remember we had no water supply upstairs. Overnight we had a potty under the bed. When we were older, we went downstairs for a pee.

We had no washing machine and I used to watch my mother on her knees washing clothes in the bath, before we put them through the wringer and hung them out on the line. Those were the days when it took a whole Monday to do the washing.

In the drought of 1976 I was on placement in a parish in Essex. I was billeted with an older single lady who told me that I was only allowed 3 inches of water in my bath and then I was to empty the bath water into watering cans and take them out into the garden for the plants. She had no shower.

In the Hanneys we can still see vestiges of the old water supply system: wells in the garden and roadside ditches to carry water from the streams around to people's homes and farms.



35 years ago on a trip to Ghana, I remember being woken at dawn by a procession of women coming back from the river with bowls full of water on their heads. They sang as they walked. The river was the

Black Volta and its water was brown and full of diseases. The women asked the elders of the village for money to dig a well, but they refused:

what would the women do with their time if they did not have to collect water from the river? I heard that eventually the elders relented and a bore hole was dug -- like the one in this picture from South Sudan.

As the climate changes, we are expecting greater extremes of flood and drought. We will go on needing our raised pavements to get past flooded roads in the winter. In the summer we will have to rethink our easy use of hosepipes to keep the

garden lush and green. More water barrels to catch rainwater may stave off the day when we have to walk to a standpipe.

Water is a picture of spiritual life. It is precious. Its presence makes such a difference; and it is an inner thing. As Jesus said, 'If you believe in me, out of your heart will flow rivers of living water.'

Geoff Maughan - Retired minister

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

Associate Vicar : vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk

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

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

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



Table Tennis is back



Yes folks, every Friday morning from 10am - 11am, at the Village Hall, you can enjoy some ding dong ping pong!

All levels are welcome and you're guaranteed a relaxed and friendly session, with bats and balls - and table! - supplied. Just £2.50!

This initiative was started some time back by Peter Packham who sadly died in July. A great loss to our community here in Hanney.

He would have been delighted to know that his table tennis sessions continue.



Last month I mentioned the Plough's winning of the 'OX IN A BOX' award for being the best pub in the world.

This month I'm happy to mention the recent birthday party of the Landlord Owain, who hit 40 in July! Hard to believe I know.

Here at Global HQ, the staff - well those that are left after last month's cull at least - have voted him the loveliest, cuddliest publican in the world. My snap shows him and his fellow business partner and Landlord Luke.

Owain celebrated with a modest party to which Mrs Editor and I were invited, and yes, the odd libation was involved.

We here at Global HQ send our congrats and very best wishes for the future!

If you missed their piece about them gaining 5*s for their Food Hygiene rating, on page 4, check it out!

In our June issue, pages 14 and 15, I was pleased, actually a teeny weeny bit proud, to tell you about donations that we here at Global HQ were able to make to very worthy causes in our community, mainly thanks to the superb financial management of our business empire by our Treasurer Phil Donovan!

One was for waterproof clothing at St James School, and we recently received this from Sarah Hatcher the 'Reception Class Teacher and Early Years Lead'.

'We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the members of Hanney News and the Michaelmas Fayre for the generous donations towards the purchase of a full set of waterproof clothing, for the Early Years Department at St James CE Primary School.

Their kindness will have a lasting impact on our youngest children by ensuring that every child can fully participate in our Forest School sessions, whatever the weather. As an important part of the EYFS curriculum, Forest School provides invaluable opportunities for children to develop confidence, resilience, independence, and a love of the natural world through outdoor learning. Having a complete set of waterproof clothing means that all children can access this enriching provision comfortably and safely throughout the year.

We are incredibly grateful for their support and generosity. The contribution will make a real difference to the experiences and learning of our Early Years children for years to come. Thank you to both of them for helping us create more opportunities for our children to learn, explore, and thrive outdoors'.



Our other donation was towards smoothing the small section of Cow Lane that residents of the Causeway need to use to get to their garages.

Organised by Andrew Wastie, the road is now much improved.....my snap doesn't really show that very welland many walkers, horse riders and others will also benefit.

Well done to Andrew and Sarah for their efforts say all of us here at Global HQ.

Hanney Lottery - July Winners

1st - Karon Gray, 2nd - Lesley Arnold, 3rd - Jane & Andy Bowler.

Not got a number yet or want additional numbers?

Call Hilary on 868590.

Update from the '20's Plenty for Us' campaign.....

"Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) has published details of 'Killed and Seriously Injured' (KSI) reductions as a result of its county-wide 20mph implementation.

The Department for Transport published its provisional personal injury collision and casualty statistics for Great Britain on 28 May 2026.

While the figures remain provisional and may be revised as additional data is confirmed, the early trends are encouraging for Oxfordshire.

Analysis of the data indicates that KSIs on Oxfordshire's roads fell by around 18 per cent compared with the previous year.

Across the Thames Valley area as a whole, KSIs appear to have increased by approximately 20 per cent over the same period."

All good news for Oxfordshire at least, but the 20mph limit is not, and never will be, universally popular. Many vehicles come up and down Winter Lane - where Hanney News Global International have our HQ of course - at speeds well in excess of 30mph, never mind 20.

Worth mentioning that the last road fatality in Hanney happened as far as I'm aware in Winter Lane.

Most of the Lewis Hamiltons I'm sure are travelling through, and do not live in Hanney, so won't read this.

That said, may I just repeat that if I'm driving in Hanney at say, 22 or 23 mph, and a car gets right up my back end in the mistaken belief that I'll speed up, then they should know that their inappropriate familiarity(!) will only make me slow down.



The photo shows our green wheelie bin here at HQ, just after our 'refuse collection operatives' (RCO) - to me they are much more than mere 'dustmen' - have emptied it. You'll notice that it rather sticks out in the road, already very narrow at this point. Twice recently, wing mirrors have been damaged as drivers clip it. 'Wing Mirror v Wheelie Bin' is certainly not a fair

fight.

Now I'm a big fan of our RCOs...often if I'm gazing vacantly out of my front window, they spot me and give a friendly wave. They work hard in all weathers, and I don't blame them for one second for the way they leave our bins.

They rush to empty them, not least so the inevitable traffic build up behind their lorry is delayed as little as possible.

This an opportunity to thank all of them, especially those who wave to the old git in the window!

Joking aside, the other point worth making is that a wheelie bin protruding onto a road - especially narrow ones - can act as a 'width restrictor' and slow vehicles down. If I'm home of course I bring my bin into its usual resting place as soon as I've finished my bowl of Cheerios - my current favourite breakfast cereal ...tasty and high in fibre! - but I'm often out pursuing stories for the mag, so the bin may stand for a long time, precarious but defiant, on the road and ready to pick a fight with any wing mirror that gets too close!

I met our Lib Dem MP Olly Glover the other day. He struck me as a decent young fella, and tho' we don't sing from the same political hymn sheet in some regards, in others, e.g. 'assisted dying' and the 'House of Lords', we most certainly do.



Olly and I have agreed that I would include his pearls on a regular basis, and below is the first. Feedback on its inclusion in Hanney News is very welcome, whilst comments on the content should of course be directed straight to Olly.

“As the Government undergoes many changes during the summer, I am grateful for the time I can spend in the constituency on my summer tour, as well as visiting many local organisations.

The summer tour is a wonderful opportunity for me to speak with constituents from across the constituency, listen to their local concerns and ongoing challenges, and better understand how I can represent their views in Parliament.

So far, I have visited Sandford-on-Thames, East Hendred, Steventon, East Hanney and Childrey. If you were unable to attend a surgery, you can request an appointment at any time throughout the year by emailing olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk.

It has also been great to participate in summer events, including Letcombe Valley's Discovery Day and Didcot's Ed Fest. We are fortunate to have wonderful community cafés, including the Cornerstone Café in Grove and the Talking Shop Café in Sandford-on-Thames. Supported by volunteers, these are fantastic community

spaces, and I enjoyed visiting them both.

I visited the King's Arms pub in Sandford-on-Thames, to understand their business challenges, and to discuss the new support available from South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils for pubs and rural businesses.

The proposed cuts to the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) risk job security and could hinder vital space and science research. I visited Diamond Light Source at Harwell Campus, where staff explained in greater detail the potential impact of these cuts on major collaborative projects and the possible loss of specialist research capabilities.

Alongside my Liberal Democrat colleagues who represent constituencies with significant STFC-funded facilities, I have written to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, urging the Government to protect our vital science centres.

My team and I also welcomed three work experience students from local sixth forms for a week, giving them insight into the work of a constituency office and the role of an MP.

As always, if there is anything I can help with, please contact my team at olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk or leave a voicemail on 0207 219 7657.

Olly Glover
Member of Parliament for the Didcot
and Wantage Constituency

Apols Olly for the rather 'Tory' colour of your text, but Lib Dem orange doesn't really show up very well as the colour of the text!

Sir,

I enjoy reading the Hanney News but would want to urge caution when referring to the 'Elf and Safety mob' (Aug issue, p 23). During the '50 and '60s, being at work was often dangerous. Death or severe injury were commonplace. Those living during that period were, not unexpectedly, hoping that peace following the second world war ought not be as dangerous. Hence the H&S at Work Act in the mid '70s.

The act itself is brief and to the point. However, it is often unscrupulously used to justify restrictions of all sorts which have more to do with commerce or convenience. Nowadays, industrial, agricultural and commercial injuries are relatively uncommon. This is no accident.

Yours,

Phil Bunyan, East Hanney

Dear Editor

I chanced to be in when a card was put through my letter box in Dandridge Close, advertising 'Green Jacket Tree Care'; I know readers of Hanney News will appreciate an endorsement of Matthew Evans, its proprietor:

Matt has all the equipment to give a very competent result and gave me an accurate prior estimate of the work to be carried out, which involved serious lopping of several trees in my back garden, as well as trimming a laurel hedge to two sides of the garden, in the recent very hot weather!

Matthew is a re-trained retiree from the Royal Green Jackets, who saw service in Iraq, Kosovo and Ulster hence the name of his firm. I cannot recommend him enough: he worked consistently (without lunch) through a blazing hot sun to my complete satisfaction. His contact details are: greenjackettreecare@gmail; 01865 306628 or Mobile: 07359 929387

Geoffrey Bourne Taylor, East Hanney.

**Sat 23 May – 13 Sept.
Lee Miller: A Woman
at War exhibition is at
the Soldiers of Oxford-
shire Museum, Woodstock.**



Soldiers of
Oxfordshire
Museum

troops into Europe, a correspondent on battles and the liberation of concentration camps.

It features photographs by the renowned photojournalist, photographer and surrealist, and includes photos taken of nurses at Churchill Hospital Oxford, her first wartime assignment for *Vogue*.

Alongside many iconic photographs taken in wartime Britain, Miller accompanied US

The Museum have also organised this.....'An Evening with Ami Bouhassane – Lee Miller: A Woman at War.' It's taking place on **Thursday, 3rd September** at 7pm. Author Ami Bouhassane, discusses the life and legacy of her grandmother – Lee Miller. Tickets: £15.

You can book via www.sofo.org.uk/whats-on

Why early prison release matters beyond the headlines

Last month we heard the news that under the new 'Sentencing Act' the killers of PC Andrew Harper would be eligible for early release next year. Andrew was killed in the line of duty just seven years ago.

Along with many others, I was hopeful when the story prompted the new Prime Minister to review the policy, but the news this month is that his killers will still be released as planned early in 2027.

There are some welcome changes to the Sentencing Act that will see rapists and child sex offenders remain in prison for longer. This is good news considering just a few months ago the Government rejected moves to do exactly that.

I am the first to accept there is a real problem with prison capacity, frankly more prisons need to be built, along with other changes to our courts, sentencing and more. Nevertheless, the solution cannot be to let dangerous people back out on the streets.

The problem with the Sentencing Act goes far beyond the case of PC Andrew Harper, because it fails to look at the risk individual prisoners might pose, and instead is a blanket approach based on the type of offence.

Where previous early release schemes have been risk based, this new law means that whether someone has a violent past or is a persistent domestic abuser, they will still be released. Rehabilitation matters, but it takes time, and punishment and public protection remain important

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reasons for keeping people in prison.

The current plan will put huge strain on the Probation Service and the police, who will be dealing with more criminals out in the community. The National Police Chief's Council has forecast an overall increase in crime of 6% as a result of the changes. These aren't just statistics, that means more victims of crime.

Andrew Harper's killers have shown no remorse for their awful crime. The potential early release of these two individuals has highlighted the failings in the Sentencing Act.

It is important that some of the worst problems created by the Government's plans are fixed as a result of this case, but it would be a huge disservice to Andrew and his family if, despite a change in the law, two of his killers were released early. This cannot be allowed to happen.

I am working with colleagues in Parliament and with civil servants behind the scenes to try to get this position changed for when Parliament returns in September.

The Thames Valley Police Federation have launched a petition at change.org/pcharper.



Can I once again

mention that old chestnut
....Dog Poo!

I'm sure the vast majority of our community's dog owners collect what Rover occasionally produces whilst out in a public place.

Some - only a very few I suspect - clearly don't pick it up, leaving it for a little kiddie to step in.

Others do pick it up, put it in a bag and leave it hanging from a low tree branch! Slightly preferable I suppose, but still not good enough.

So, may I be blunt here... if you can't or won't pick up your dog's poo, then don't have a dog!

Simple as that really annoying little rodent used to say.

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A WIDE RANGE OF REAL ALES & CRAFT BEERS TO TRY!

AND WE ARE ON THE BUS ROUTE

This is the Portaloo recently installed by East Hanney Parish Council and it's proving to be a great hit, mainly with mums, dads and kiddies enjoying the fab children's playground, which was also installed and is maintained by the council.

The loo is big and is 'disabled friendly'. If your little person is potty training, there's plenty of room to use one in it.

Thus far, no one has abused it. Feedback suggests that it is clean and neat with supplies for all that one needs when visiting.

So, it's massive big ups to the council, who are all dedicated and passionate about providing the best facilities for us all. See their latest pearls on page 6.





No longer can you ‘Skip to my Loo’ outside the church, since both the Portaloo and the skip have gone.
(I thought that was rather clever, and no all you cynics, A.I. was not involved!
I made it up all by myself!)

The church restoration that started last October, continues apace....below are a few snaps of cupboards, kitchen and loo - didn't bother with a pic of that, but it's very smart and spacious.

Pic top right shows the kitchen doors closed, with the one below showing them open, revealing a very practical kitchen. Someone pop the kettle on, and while you're about it, do the washing up!!



Our MP is Olly Glover. olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk www.facebook.com/
See page 16.

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

Sally Povolotsky is our District Councillor:
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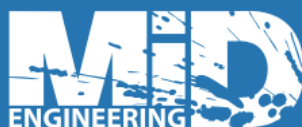
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A fishy tale.

A meander around the churchyard in the warm summer sun is a most agreeable way to while away some time, with many delightful old graves to ponder over.

The one in my photo is on the west side of the churchyard, up against the external wall, and not overgrown, unlike many!

It's far from the grandest of graves, but nonetheless is worth a look.

The gentleman resting in the ground underneath it is a Mr Paul Mackarel.

The stone tells us he was born in 1952 and died in 1995. Underneath is carved 'Racing Driver' and that's it. Nothing else at all, and as you can see from the photo, it looks almost certain that nothing else

has ever been on the stone. My curiosity was piqued...who was this gent, and why was there so little info on his grave?

I was sure Google would reveal all. Sadly, it didn't! Instead it told me that.... *"It appears 'Paul Mackarel' is a misspelling. You are likely thinking of German racing driver **Harry Merkel**,"*

Well no Google I wasn't, and btw, I hate being told what I'm thinking. Only I know that, and at that time I was actually thinking that Google had, on this occasion, been as much use as the proverbial chocolate teapot!

Angela Merkel I have heard of, though she doesn't regularly figure in my thoughts.

So dear readers, can anyone shed any light on Mr Mackarel? I know what curiosity did to the cat, but it would be great to know more about him.



My Grandma fell asleep the other day in a restaurant. The staff told me that it didn't matter cos' the restaurant was a 'Nando's.'

I went to a carpet shop to buy a magic carpet...didn't get one cos I wasn't allowed in.

Obituary

Peter Packham

**December 15th
1957 - 12th July
2026**

"First of all, I'd like to publicly say thank you to everyone I've spoken to in and around the time of my Dad's period of illness and his passing. It has meant a lot to my family and I. We were fortunate to be able to convey all of the positive messages to him and he really appreciated all of them.

My Dad was born and raised in South London. He actually first came to Hanney about roughly 50 years ago, as a close childhood friend's mother lived in the area at that time and, naturally, they ended up at the Plough.

Though we never visited here growing up, Hanney stayed with him all of those years and when he retired, he wanted to move here.

Upon moving here, he actively sought out



to become part of the community and aimed to contribute to it through his involvement with: the Parish council, volunteering at the village shop and hosting his Friday morning table tennis sessions.

He loved going into the Plough and drinking a pint (or several) out his beloved tankard, as well as

frequently going for a curry (the hotter the better) at the Hanney Spice.

I know for a fact that he cherished all of the friendships he made throughout his time here.

His wish towards the end, delivered with his classic dark sense of humour, was to be "carted out of my home in a box."

Hanney was home for him, luckily, he was able to spend his last days here and ultimately get what he wished for.

Thank you again for all of your messages of support and I hope you all are well."

Chris Packham

This 8 page, A4 brochure - clue's in the title - is available free from the Community Shop, the Hall and the Plough. You might find it of interest.

HANNEY HISTORY WALK

You are invited to take a 'taste of sight' walk through West & East Hanney, with old photographs and ration cards of the buildings you will see on your way. Not every 'treasure' looking is included, and even some of the 'treasures' could be wrong - but it's a try!

The map is from the first Ordnance Survey 1" map dated 1900 - not lost for nearly 100 years ago!

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

But if you had been here in the late 17th you wouldn't have seen it, as it had been demolished and the stones distributed around West Hanney.

It wasn't until the early 17th when, organised by Mr Emmott Large, of Pound Croft in East Hanney, a few of the stones were reconstructed and the cross rebuilt.

The picture shows the 'dedication ceremony' in March 1800, led by the Bishop of Oxford. The Old Plough can be seen in the background - we'll visit this ceremony.

We here at Global HQ are pleased to have just paid for a 200 copy reprint.

Why not grab one, pick a warm day and enjoy an historic wander!

The cross on West Hanney's Village Green is a 'Buttercross'. Read all about it in, and whilst there, maybe rest your weary bones on its steps to break up your walk, and have a quick gulp of your favourite tippie.

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A follow up on the piece last month about the Environment Agency chasing a chap for picking litter out of a river.

It was intended as something of a joke, but also to show the sheer stupidity of some of our Government departments, so **please, please, please** don't let it stop you from litter picking here on the Letcombe Brook or anywhere else in our community!

As well as the annual 'litter pick', many individuals and our Flood Group, Community Woodland Working Party regularly pick up litter. Would like to get involved with them? Their contact details are on page 34.

One very community-minded villager sent me a pic of a sack full of rubbish they had just collected along Summertown, much of which had probably been chucked out of cars driving through.

Same old story I'm afraid.

So, big ups to anyone who picks up litterthank you!



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

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

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

Mark & Miriam Fisher Tel – 867105
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Clubs and Societies

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

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

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

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

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

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

HANNEY DRAMA GROUP We produce the village annual pantomime in February. If you are interested in being involved in any capacity please contact Clive Ward: 07885819920 or Charlie East: 07914 380636 www.hanneydramagroup.co.uk

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

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

www.hanneygardeningclub.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HANNEY WINE CIRCLE meets on the 2nd Monday each month and enjoy wine tasting evenings from a variety of presenters. We maintain a waiting list for potential new members. hanneywinecircle@gmail.com
Facebook: Search "Hanney Wine Circle"

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

HANNEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB - all ages from 5 to seniors. For more details visit www.hanneyyouthfc.co.uk

DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB meets every Wednesday at the War Memorial Hall 2-5pm. New members and beginners welcome. Lessons available. Contact the club at wantagebridgeclubinfo@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

ST JAMES SCHOOL HELPING HANDS:
helpinghandshanneys@gmail.com

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

GROVE MONDAY ART GROUP: We meet most Mondays throughout the year in Grove Village Hall, Main Street, Grove, OX127JY from 12.30pm to 3.15pm. All abilities welcome and advice given if required. Each session is £5 which includes refreshments. For more details contact Alan Winter 07591 228737 or alanwinter1@sky.com

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

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

WANTAGE U3A: Visit our website detailing current activities -
<https://wantage.u3asite.uk/>



Hanney



A Guide for Newcomers

Revised and updated January 2024

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Our Defibrillators?

In East Hanney, on the left wall of the porch in the Village Hall and on the fence between the Sovereign building and Motivation entrance on the A338.

In West Hanney it's on the wall of the brick garage opposite the Plough in Church St. All are accessible 24/7

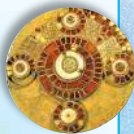
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