

INKPEN AND COMBE BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2024



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let's We Forget

CHURCH LETTER

Van Gogh

Four years ago, at the beginning of the Pandemic and just before the first lockdown in Britain in March 2020, Olivia and I went to Arles in Provence, France. In fact, in less than a week we flew to Marseilles, spent three nights in Arles including a day trip to Avignon seeing the mighty palace of the popes there. We spent a night with Olivia's French exchange friend at Aix-les Bains of fifty years standing, and finally had two days in Lyon, exploring the Roman remains for future writing by me on Irenaeus, a 2nd Century Bishop and theologian. Breathless but wonderful.

And now Arles has come to London in the form of an art exhibition in the National Gallery of many of Van Gogh's best loved works including the Sunflowers. What is clear is that in a life hitherto studded with disappointments, unrequited love, psychotic episodes, a career as a scripture teacher in London and a trainee minister in Belgium, he found two wonderful years (1888 and 1889) of almost pure fulfilment in his time in Arles. The exhibition contains, among many others, The Yellow House, The Night Café, the Triptych with the Sunflowers called La Berceuse, The Stevedores on the Rhone and sketches from the nearby hill of Montmajour. They all show a wonderful talent luxuriating in the warmth and variety of flowers and trees, and an enjoyment of simple things well-depicted, like his chair in the Yellow House. So much more could be said of the sheer exuberance of his work, not least the ever-increasing use of colour which Vincent thought was the future. Sadly, those two years in which he painted some two hundred canvases, a quarter of all his oils, did not last. He was again admitted to a mental sanatorium at Saint-Remy, nearby Arles. Later he returned north again to near Paris where a year on, in July 1890, he shot himself. Now his artworks are valued beyond all others, except Leonardo da Vinci.

In one of the rooms are lines from a letter to his much-loved brother Theo. He wrote from Arles that "instead of painting the dull wall of the mean room, I shall paint the infinite". In one picture which he painted in Arles entitled, "The Sower with setting Sun", one imagines Vincent recalling his Bible teaching of the Parable of the Sower and his familiarity with the text. His own sun was setting far too early; but what seeds he sowed of pleasure and joy for countless millions in the exuberance of those years in Arles! He was able to use his great talents to their full extent. Arles and its joy have come to London, if you get a chance, go and see the Exhibition called *Vincent Van Gogh Poets and Lovers*, and rejoice in his perception and gifts. And be inspired to use your talents to the full, whatever the difficulties. Patrick Whitworth

NEWS FROM ST. MICHAEL'S

Special thought this month is of **Remembrance**. So during the service of **Compline** which is at **6pm on the 3rd** there will be an opportunity to light a candle, which will be provided, in memory of a relative or loved one who died or suffered because of war. Then the main **Service of Remembrance** is at **9.45am on the 10th** and will be led by Colonel Freeman. As always, we will remember with gratitude those who

lost their lives so that we might be free. And our hearts go out to all who suffer through no fault of their own in the war-torn world of today. As usual the collection at the Service will be given to the Royal British Legion. The Service of **Parish Communion** which is at **9.45 on the 17th** will be led by Canon Patrick Whitworth.

Looking forward to happier things, our **Services at Christmas** start with a **Nativity Service** at 4pm on the 14th, **Christingle** at 4pm on the 15th, our **Carol Service** at 6pm on the 22nd and our **Family Service** on Christmas Day at 9.45am then followed by **Holy Communion**. More details will be given on the December Bulletin.

Finally, as last year, we hope to form a small **Choir for the Carol Service**. If anyone would be interested in doing the same this year, please email Christopher Sears at: treasurer.inkpenchurch@outlook.com.

INKPEN

Sunday 3rd November – Compline at 6.00pm

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Service at 9.45am

Sunday 17th November – Holy Communion at 9.45am

COMBE

Sunday 11th November – Remembrance Service at 10.45am

WEST WOODHAY

Sunday 11th November – Remembrance Service at 11.15am

Sunday 24th November – Holy Communion at 11.15am

Special Family Services and Events this Winter

December 14th 1600hrs - Nativity

December 15th 1600hrs- Christingle

December 22nd 1800hrs - Carol Service

CHURCH CONTACTS

Benefice Administrator: Tamara Laing, part-time at the **Benefice Office** Email: wbb.office.contact@gmail.com **07359 327072**

Churchwardens:

Inkpen: Charlotte Bampfylde (inkpenchurch@outlook.com)

Combe: Tina Fiertz (tel. 668529), Katherine Astor (katherine@kirby-house.co.uk).

CHURCH SERVICES AT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HUNGERFORD

Our Lady of Lourdes, Priory Road, Hungerford RG17 0AF. Parish Priest - Fr Zbigniew Budyn 01635 40332. **Sunday Mass** - every Sunday at 9.00am. **Weekday Mass** - every Wednesday at 10.00am.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

Please don't forget your change for our collectors or pop a cheque in one of our Gift Aid envelopes. If you don't have cash all collectors have a QR code on their collection tins so you can donate via your phone.

As well as house to house collections there are also poppy boxes at the Crown & Garter Pub and Honesty Shop/Bakery – they also have a QR code on the collection tin.

If you have any questions about our collections, please contact claire@clairejjones.com
Thank you as always for your support it is very much appreciated.

There are still so many service men and women who need help. For some, the physical and mental toll of confronting huge challenges like health issues, debt, homelessness and unemployment alone can be overwhelming. PTSD has a massive impact on mental health and the challenges of life. RBL is the lifeline support to those who need it.

Please consider helping with collections next year. It is a great cause and only requires you to collect in a small area near your home. Thank you.

INKPEN STITCH AND KNIT

We meet again on Wednesday, November 6th, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Although this will be a relaxed evening with us working on our own projects, drinking tea, and chatting, if you have some stitching or knitting you are having an issue with, please bring it along, and we will do our best to help.

Moving on to December our Christmas meeting is on Wednesday 4th December and we will be making Christmas Wreaths so start saving all your offcuts of ribbon and fabric. The wall hanging to celebrate 100 years of the Village Hall is almost complete and hopefully will be hanging in the hall very soon.

INKPEN PLAYING FIELD & PAVILION

Defibrillator Awareness Session

at

Inkpen Pavilion on Friday 15th November at 7pm



Please come along to the Inkpen pavilion to learn how to use the Inkpen defibrillator – this simple action could make the difference to save a life in an emergency – either the life of a child or the life of an adult.

By using the defibrillator before the ambulance arrives you can significantly increase the chance of

survival – the defibrillator is sited at Inkpen Pavilion – act quickly in an emergency, use the defib. and CPR.

Join us at Inkpen pavilion of **Friday 15th November 2024 at 7pm** when Dave Lester will lead a session on 'Defibrillator Awareness'.

Please email if you can attend to: gloriakeene@hotmail.com

DAISY CHAINS – INKPEN PAVILION

TOYS TOYS TOYS for the Daisy Chains Playgroup

We have plenty of toys for the younger pre-school play group at Inkpen pavilion. We have a delightful venue to restart the former Daisy Chains playgroup with lots of small tables and chairs for the little ones and baby changing facilities available if required.

Mums, Dads and Grandparents are welcome to come and let the little ones play safely. There is plenty of play space as well for siblings outside the pavilion in the children's play and woodland area. If you are interested, we have a few names already, please let us know your contact details by email: gloriakeene@hotmail.com



COPY DATE

Please email aliedesforges79@gmail.com by 24th November with all features, news and events. Please note we will need much thinking ahead as it is the bumper December and January edition.

THE VILLAGE HALL



Inkpen Village Hall - Regular Clubs & Activity

www.inkpenvillagehall.org email:- inkpenvh@gmail.com, tel:- 0756 828 4750

Carpet Bowls	Thursdays	1.30-4.30pm	Sandy Wilson, 01488 668336
Darts & Cornhole Social Club	Monday evenings <i>Fortightly (14th Oct onwards)</i>	7pm	Mark, tel:- 0756 828 4750
Guitar Tuition	Tuesdays	4-8pm	Russ Timms, 07860 830515
Pilates	Thursday mornings	11.45am	Caroline McCord, 07817 503546
Market	3 rd Sundays	10-12.30pm	Christine, Email: inkpenmarket@hotmail.com
Stitch & Knit	1st Wed every month	7.30pm	Jan Honey, 01488 668222
Table Tennis	Wednesday	4pm-6.30pm	Linda Pateman on 07774 775599
U3A Table Tennis	2 nd & 4 th Mondays	1.30-4pm	As above
Yoga	Tuesday Thursday	9.30am 7pm	Olivia Boydall Tel: 07554 446502



INKPEN POP-IN CAFÉ

Remember penny for the guy or the smell of fireworks? Well, things like the cost of insurance have put an end to that for most of us. Luckily, we have the Pop-In Cafe to fall back on. Some people come and sparkle, some glow, most make noises. Hopefully everyone enjoys it.

Well, the next one is on the first Thursday of November, the 7th, 10am until 12:30pm at the Inkpen playing field pavilion. As always, the follow-up is on the 3rd Thursday of the month, same time same place.



Now we come to the Christmas warm up. That's also the first and third Thursdays 10 till 12:30, but there's a little something special. You'll have to come to find that out. See you there.

STARGAZERS

There was a presentation looking at how we might with the group to develop. Technology is changing so quickly that things that seemed impossible just a few years ago are enabling even a complete novice to get spectacular results. That said, doing some things the traditional way seems somewhat more authentic. So, we had a pitch for fund raising for a piece of new technology, and a pitch for something that would foster traditional stargazing.

Now that we are into the season of dark evenings, we will aim to meet more regularly enable all interested to come and view some of our planets and galaxies. Just keep an eye on the village website for further details, inkpenvillage.co.uk.

CROWN & GARTER

We'll be hosting a wreath making the date is to be confirmed but if people can register their interest via email, it would be a massive help. crownandgarter@honestygroup.co.uk We have lots of little events in the pipeline so please do keep an eye on our Instagram. We would love to host your Christmas party here so, again, please so get in touch if you would like to discuss. We will also be revealing our Christmas menus soon and they will be on our website at <https://www.crownandgarter.co.uk/> .

INKSPOTS

We give a warm welcome to all our new children and families that have joined Inkspots over the past few weeks. As we head into half term, the children have been so busy learning all about Autumn.

One of our main focus's is Habitats. The children are super busy in class, making their autumn habitats. We're thinking about where hedgehogs live, and what might their habitats look like. The children are busy learning the importance of shelter, water, food and space within a habitat. Also learning about how, within an animal's home, they'll have everything they need to be able to find food and successfully raise their babies. Focusing on autumn, the children are exploring colour, and texture. What can we see, and where might we see these arrays of colours.

INKPEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

October has been a particularly busy month at Inkpen Primary School, filled with events that not only enrich our students' educational experiences but also strengthen our connection to the local community. We kicked off the month by participating in a spirited tag rugby tournament at Hungerford Rugby Club, where our budding athletes showcased

their skills and sportsmanship. It was a delightful opportunity for students to engage with peers from nearby schools, fostering camaraderie and teamwork.

In addition to our sports achievements, we hosted the first of a series of inspiring poetry challenges that allowed our children to express themselves creatively. Students embraced the art of language, crafting works that highlighted their unique perspectives and talents, which were celebrated in a special assembly.

Furthermore, our Year 6 children enjoyed a memorable residential trip to Grittleton House, where they participated in a variety of enriching activities, fostering independence and teamwork in a beautiful setting.

To conclude the month, we held our annual Harvest Festival, a heartwarming celebration of gratitude, showcasing the importance of community support and the bounty of local produce. Thank you for your continued support in making Inkpen Primary School a thriving hub of learning and growth.

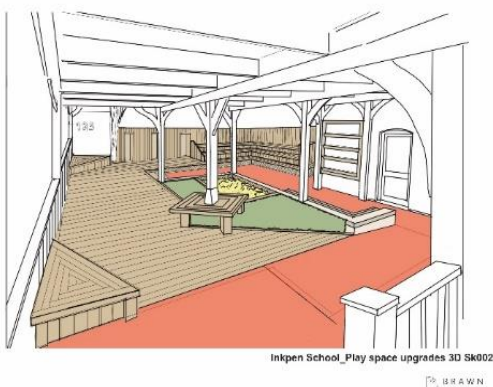
INKPEN SCHOOL EARLY YEARS OUTSIDE PLAY AREA

58% there with fundraising

Help us turn £1,719 of donations in to £3,438 of funding

Every £1 donated is matched

Please help us raise the funds necessary to do the essential work to improve the Outside Play Area at our school, recent flooding has made this work event more essential.



This area is so important to the school and the children at the school and the school is an important part of our community.

We have already raised over £16,572 (58%) towards this important project for our local school.

There is still over £1,719 of match funding available so please do donate. Every £1 is matched so every donation counts and £1,719 of donations can provide £3,438 of funding towards this much needed works and take us to 70% of what we need.



This area is essential in the education of the early year children – research shows that play improves the cognitive, physical, social and emotional well-being of children – this is something very low on the list of funding by the education department and so our fund raising is essential to make this improvement.

If you can support our fund-raising campaign on The Good Exchange with any funding, please do visit our funding page. The link to our page is:

<https://app.thegoodexchange.com/project/20445/inkpen-county-primary-school-psa-association/early-years-outside-play-area>

or simply Google the Good Exchange, click on the heading Charitable Projects and Search for 20445

If you have any events planned like a cake sale, coffee morning or bridge event or a challenge do please consider raising funds for our school which is so important to Inkpen.

If you don't want to donate via the Good Exchange get in touch with claire@clairejones.com or kworley94@hotmail.com for other ways to donate.

Thank you so much in advance for your support.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Having been victorious (8-4!) in their last match vs Stratton U16, HTJFC will again be at the IMPFT Pavilion for two fixtures in November. The U15 Crusaders play against AFC Corsham U15 on the 10th November at 1:30pm and a week later, on 17th November, the U16's Hurricanes play against Croft at 10:30am. The festive season starts with a bang with a further four matches scheduled from 1st December when the Crusaders face a Croft U15 XI. It is great to see local residents too enjoying the games from the touch lines

although should there be local children wishing to join the HTJFC ranks, please contact HTJFCSecretary@outlook.com for more details.

All matches until Christmas have been listed in the IMPFT bookings website.



THE INKPEN HISTORY SOCIETY

Well, we had a good meeting presenting the Lidar scan of Gallows Down and Inkpen Hill, the surprising results of the dowsing day and finally the translation of one document from the 14th century folio.

The Lidar still must be turned into false colour to enable us to see the indentations in the ground that have arisen over the centuries and millennia. At that point it will be joined to the Lidar scan of Walbury Hill, so that we have a full representation of our bit of the North Wessex Downs. Additional scanning will take place using a multispectral drone which will hopefully highlight evidence of ancient habitation.

Now the dowsing results. It seems clear that these were not random. There was a significant superposition with the previous resistivity results obtained on the land in question. But some points didn't coincide with anything identified with either resistivity or magnetometry. Understanding how dowsing works or the full significance of the results is challenging. However, there is sufficient coincidence with conventional geophysics to be worth a second test. This will be arranged soon.

The medieval latin court rolls for Inkpen posed a huge translation problem. There are so few scholars that can even attempt a translation. With the help of a local resident, we were able to find someone for a one-off attempt, which I think was very revealing. The original and the translation will be posted on the website for all to see, as soon as possible.

The history society has several other projects on the go and every offer of help is very welcome. Help us reveal the people that used to call our Inkpen, home.

HUNGERFORD REPAIR CAFÉ
HUNGERFORD

REPAIR		CAFÉ	
<p style="color: #e67e22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;"><i>Bin it? No Way</i></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Electrical goods Toys Tool sharpening Simple bike repairs Clothing Furniture</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">Saturday 10:00 am to 12:30 pm</p> <p style="color: #e67e22; font-weight: bold;">The Croft Hall, Hungerford</p> <p style="font-weight: bold;">16th November 2024</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Supported by</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Hungerford Rotary Club</p> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Hungerford Environmental Action Team</p> </div>
	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #0056b3; font-size: 1.1em;"><u>What is a Repair Cafe?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fixing a broken toaster - Keeping stuff out of landfill - Chatting over coffee <p style="text-align: center; color: #e67e22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">all for a voluntary donation</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; text-align: center;">For more information visit www.repaircafe.org/en/cafe/hungerford-repair-cafe/</p>		

The Inkpen Saga - Julia White and Manor Farm. A request.

Dear fellow villagers. I am writing a book that is partly based around Julia White's 1985 account of her time bringing Manor Farm, Inkpen back to life and farming it between 1941 and 1955. I have full permissions to do as much and the book aims to bring her and her remarkable achievements as a real community champion as well as a farmer, 'back into the light' with a bit of a 'glow up!' It's a respectful retelling, with some added historically researched characterisation / imagination that will run alongside a narrative of my own rural life. To this end, I am in the process of speaking to people that have memories or knowledge (first hand or passed on) of Manor Farm, Julia White and her farmworkers during the war years and up until 1955 - and would love to hear from anyone I am sure I have missed, this month. I can be contacted via email nicolawriting@gmail.com or 07557 120 810. Very many thanks, Nicola Chester.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Waste: Residents are invited to have their say on the WBC Draft Waste Management Strategy, which outlines a vision for a greener future, including:

- Moving to three weekly bin collections.
- A review of the containers used by households.
- Increasing recycling rates to at least 60% by 2030.
- Cutting residual waste to 120kg per person per year by 2042.

Residents should complete the survey by midnight on 6th November 2024. Paper copies of the survey are available on request. Please ring: 01635 519 080 or email: recycle@westberks.gov.uk to request a copy.

Copies are also available at the Council Office Reception, Market Street Newbury, RG14 5LD during opening times Mondays - Thursdays 8:30am – 5:00pm and Fridays 8:30am - 4:30pm.

Upcoming Planning Applications:

Bay Cottage Lower Green Inkpen Hungerford RG17 9DP

Ref. No: 24/01984/HOUSE

Removal of existing conservatory, and erection of single storey orangery.

Oak Dene Inkpen Hungerford RG17 9DJ

Ref. No: 24/01418/FULMAJ

Erection of replacement dwelling and garage, following removal of existing; with associated parking, turning, landscaping, access, ecological enhancements, and extension to residential curtilage.

Parish Council and Planning Meetings are displayed on the notice boards outside the Crown & Garter Pub and on the Lower Green Triangle, online on the Inkpen Residents Facebook page and at www.inkpenparishcouncil.org.uk. Both Council and Planning meetings are open to the public so please feel free to attend if you wish to raise any parish issues or have any comments on any village planning applications. Parish meetings now have an open forum session which allows villagers to raise any issues, ideas, and questions.

Inkpen Parish Council can be contacted at clerk@inkpenparishcouncil.org.uk



**West Berks
Foodbank**

If you're worried about money and struggling to afford essentials, call our free helpline for personalised support.

0808 208 2138

**Help Through
Hardship Helpline**

free phone service open
Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
closed on public holidays

The Help through Hardship helpline is a free phone service delivered in partnership with Trussell Trust and Citizens Advice.

For all other information call:

07836 500610



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