

AUTUMN '23

Established in 1989

£1.00

HOLMER GREEN TODAY

A Quarterly Publication containing News, Views, Reports and some History of the Village and locality,
produced by Villagers for Villagers. All profits go to good causes within the Village.



See more about this stunning artwork in the
Holmer Green First School and Pre-School article on page 10



All aboard Lantern Club Members! More on Page 9

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and much more... !

Editorial

by Ann Miller



Where

does the year go? A question I seem to ask every time I sit down to write my editorial. Halfway through the school summer holidays and very little sun to show for it. I have managed to have a few barbecues, partly because I need to use up twenty-four bags of briquettes, a wrongly placed internet order. I also managed, stupidly, to destroy my glass patio table. Don't ask!

An event that proved very popular, after an eight year absence, was Open Gardens. Many folk enjoyed visiting different gardens in the village. A wonderful opportunity to poke around the spaces behind the houses and pick up tips along the way. The weather was hot and for a few weeks in June we were lulled into hopes of a good summer.

Sadly, this was not to happen, and the very inclement weather meant that the work undertaken by many people from various groups and clubs was to be disappointed, as Music on the Common had to be cancelled. It was obviously a great disappointment for all involved as so much work and organisation had gone into the planning for the event. It seemed that many participants were able to sell their prepared wares in diverse ways and outlets. Hopefully, next year we will be back on track to enjoy the community event once more.

Thankfully our many contributors, have again, submitted a variety of different items and stories. Good luck to all of those competing in the Chiltern 3 Peaks challenge in September. I very much enjoyed the story about "Red Ellen" and learning more about the history of High Wycombe. Also, Penn Street Church on the map once again, but not Midsomer Murders instead "Spiders."

Enjoy the rest of the summer and hopefully an "Indian Summer" to come.

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Please note the copy deadline for the final 2022 edition is: **9th November** and two weeks in advance for Advertisements.

Advertising Rates

Full Page: Black & White - £52.50; Colour - £70.00, Half Page: Black & White - £31.50; Colour - £40.00, Quarter Page: Black & White - £18.00; Colour - £22.00, Eighth Page: Black & White - £10.50; Colour - £12.50



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Village Contacts



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CHADWICK LADIES CLUB Mrs Gaynor Spiller - 713739	CHERRY GARTH CARE HOME 711681	CHRIST CHURCH (C OF E) Priest-in-Charge: Parish Office: Featherbed Lane, 715195. www.pshg.org
CUB SCOUTS 8-10 YEARS Mrs J. Sorenson - 713877	GIRLS FOOTBALL Mr Andrew Jackson - 713433	HAZLEMERE AND WIDMER END GOOD NEIGHBOURS Mr P Pearman E: peterpearman@btinternet.com
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HOLMER GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL 713000	HOLMER GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Ms Helen Hodgson - 717838	HOLMER GREEN METHODIST CHURCH Minister: Rev Vida Foday - 5662788 Steward: Mr Richard Dorme - 716897 HG Prayer Link: Mrs B Illingworth - 712236. E: barbaraillingworth@yahoo.co.uk
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HOLMER GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY Mrs Penny Thickett - 07976 230371	HOLMER GREEN WI Mrs Pauline Ellis - 713625	HOLMER GREEN YOUTH CLUB Mr Michael Turner - 711970
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SHORT MAT BOWLS AT HGSA Chair:- Mr Bob Day - 712284	SIMPLY WALK Ms Fiona Broadbent - 475367	SOUPER LUNCH FOR A LIGHT LUNCH AND CHAT, CHRIST CHURCH CENTRE Mrs Carol Hornsby - 714075 Mrs Joan Wainman - 716726
SENSORY GARDEN VOLUNTEERS Mr Martin Little - 07384633259	SQUASH Mr Trevor Howes - 865478	THE LANTERN CLUB Mrs Ann Sollars - 713420
THE HOLMER GREEN CHURCHES TOGETHER WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Ms Mary Jay - 814767	TIDDLYWINKS BABY, TODDLER AND UNDER SCHOOL AGE GROUP Mrs Joan Toye - 718466	VILLAGE CENTRE - (BOOKINGS) Paul Fleming - 08707 656 450 bookings@holmergreenvillagehall.org.uk
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GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION 2018 (GDPR)

We believe the magazine complies with GDPR.

However, should anyone wish their details removed from this list please advise a member of the Team, whose information is on the page opposite.
Equally, if you would like your organisation to be included, please contact Ann Sollars on 713420

WHAT'S ON — AND WHERE

WHY NOT CUT OUT AND KEEP THE DATES AND THE ADVERTISERS PAGES SUMMARY
ONCE YOU HAVE READ YOUR MAGAZINE AND RE-CYCLE THE REST!

4 th Sept.	Chadwick Ladies - <i>"The Barmaid who built 'Spitfires'"</i>	Village Centre - 2.00pm
9 th Sept.	The VPA Annual Village Show (all are welcome)	Village Centre - 2.00pm
18 th Sept.	Chadwick Ladies - <i>"A Policeman's Story"</i>	Village Centre - 2.00pm
20 th Sept.	Holmer Green WI - <i>"Natural Skincare"</i> by Ian Merry	Village Centre - 2.00pm
21 st Sept.	VPA Talk - <i>"The Blitz: Catalyst for a Greener London"</i> by Katherine Hersee	Church Centre - 7.45pm
24 th Sept.	The VPA Trading Store closes	Beech Tree Road
25 th Sept.	The Lantern Club's Annual General Meeting followed by Cheese and Wine	Village Centre - 8.00pm
2 nd Oct.	Chadwick Ladies - <i>"Take My Hand"</i> by author Trudie Thomas	Village Centre - 2.00pm
16 th Oct.	Chadwick Ladies - <i>"Bandstands"</i>	Village Centre - 2.00pm
18 th Oct.	Holmer Green WI - <i>"Klimt and the Revolution in Viennese Art"</i> by Mike Grundy	Village Centre - 2.00pm
19 th Oct.	VPA Talk - <i>"Monet and his Garden"</i> by Sandra Hurst	Church Centre - 7.45pm
30 th Oct.	Chadwick Ladies - Social Afternoon	Village Centre - 2.00pm
4 th Nov.	Fireworks - Tickets at https://buytickets.at/holmergreenvillagesociety/977565	Holmer Green Sports Assn
16 th Nov.	The VPA Annual General Meeting and Social	Church Centre - 7.45pm
27 th Nov.	Chadwick Ladies - <i>"Wallis Simpson and her King"</i>	Village Centre - 2.00pm
30 ^h Nov..	Holmer Green Players present <i>"Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang"</i>	Village Centre - 7.45pm
1 st & 2 nd Dec.	Holmer Green Players present <i>"Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang"</i>	Village Centre - 7.45pm
7 th to 9 th Dec.	Holmer Green Players present <i>"Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang"</i>	Village Centre - 7.45pm
7 th Jan. '24	The VPA Trading Store Opens	Beech Tree Road

REGULAR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, BUT PLEASE CHECK WITH THE ORGANISERS

Holmer Green Boys' Brigade & Girls Association — Methodist Church. Mondays, Boys & Girls aged 5 to 17 - 6.00pm - 7.30pm
Holmer Green Brownies — Village Centre. Wednesdays, weekly 5.30 – 7.00pm.
Holmer Green Brownies — Village Centre. Tuesdays, weekly 5.45 – 7.15pm.
Holmer Green Brownies — Church Centre. Thursdays, weekly 5.30 – 7.00pm.
Holmer Green Guides — Village Centre. Fridays, weekly 6.30 – 8.00pm.
Holmer Green Guides — Village Centre. Tuesdays, weekly 7.30 – 9.00pm.
Holmer Green Rainbows — Holmer Green Village Centre. Tuesdays, weekly 4.45 – 5.45pm.
Air Training Corps — ATC Hut, Sir William Ramsey School, Hazlemere. Wednesdays and Fridays, weekly 7.30 - 9.30pm.
Holmer Green Beaver Scouts — Scout Hut. Mondays, 5.30 – 6.30pm. Wednesdays, 6.00 – 7.00pm.
Holmer Green Cub Scouts — Scout Hut, Parish Piece, Thursdays, 6.45 – 8.00pm.
Holmer Green Scouts — Scout Hut. Wednesdays, 7.15 – 8.30pm.
Holmer Green Methodist Church — Services every Sunday at 10.30am. All are Welcome.
Holmer Green Short Mat Bowls Club — Holmer Green Sports Association. Tuesdays 7.30 - 11.00pm.
Holmer Green Stroke Club for persons affected by communication problems - Christchurch Church Centre. Tuesdays, weekly 10am-12noon.
Holmer Green Youth Club — Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, weekly 6.30 - 9.00pm & 7.30 - 9.00pm, depending upon age.
Lantern Club — Village Centre. Mondays, weekly 10.30am - 2.30pm.
Link-Up Friendship Group — The 3rd Friday of each month. Church Centre - 11.00 am - 12.00 noon, followed by a shared lunch.
Oasis Kids — Baptist Church - Every Sunday morning 9.45 - 11.00am.
Oasis Toddlers — Baptist Church - Every Tuesday morning (Term time only) 9.30 - 11.00am.

The list continues on the next page

PLEASE DO SHOP LOCALLY

Please support the below advertisers (and our local shops!) and tell them that you are responding to **their** advertisement in **Holmer Green Today**
“use ‘em or lose ‘em! ”

THE MAGAZINE COMMITTEE ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SERVICES ADVERTISED HEREIN
 WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME A NEW ADVERTISER THIS MONTH - HIGHLIGHTED BELOW

SERVICE	ADVERTISER	Page	Telephone
Blind Manufacturers and Installers	Alan McDonald Blinds	14	01494 713242
Conversion Service for 'Older Audio'	Convert Old Audio	11	01494 713553
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Day Nursery	Blue Willow Day Nursery	11	01494 490230
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Funeral Directors	Beacon Funeral Services	34	01494 818181
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Hall Hire	Holmer Green Royal British Legion	26	01494 711144
Hall Hire and Sports Facilities	Holmer Green Sports Association	30	01494 711485
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Newsagent and Tobacconist	J Walsh	30	01494 714466
Window, Door Repairs & New Installations	The Window Doctor	8	01865 891776
Reflexology, Head Massage etc	Clare Reflexology	14	07751 013698
Supermarket	SPAR	14	01494 713364
Take Away Food	Holmer Green Kebab & Pizza	27	01494 717755
Take Away Food	South Hill Fish & Chips	28	01494 711240
Unisex Hairdressers	Jennie's Hair Care	28	01494 713580

**AN ADMIN CO-ORDINATOR IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO
 JOIN THE MAGAZINE TEAM.
 FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL JUDY ON 01494 714838**

REGULAR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Souper Lunch for a light lunch and a chat – Church Centre, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 12.30 – 2.00pm.

Sunday Service — Baptist Church. Every Sunday Morning, 9.45am – 11.00am.

Tiddlywinks Toddler/Parent Group – Church Centre, Mondays term time only, 1.30 - 3.00pm.

Toddler Group — Baptist Church. Every term time Tuesday, 9.30am - 11am.

Wednesday Service — Baptist Church. Every Wednesday afternoon. 1.30pm - 2.15pm.

Wednesday Pop-In — Baptist Church. The first and third Wednesdays of each month. 1.30 - 1.30pm.

Wednesday Service — Baptist Church. Every Wednesday afternoon. 1.30pm - 2.15pm.

Whist Club — Rossetti Hall. Thursdays, 1.30pm - 3.30pm.

Women's Fellowship — Christ Church Centre or Baptist Church. 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month from 2.00pm

Who Let The Dads Out — Baptist Church. 2nd Saturday morning of the month. 9.30am - 11.00am.

Women's Institute — Village Centre. 3rd Wednesdays, 2.00pm.

Wycombe Centre National Trust Supporter Group — The fourth Friday of the month at Hazlemere Community Centre.
 October to March, 2.15pm. April to September

Youth Club — Baptist Church. Every term time. Sunday, years 6 to 8, 6.45 - 8.00pm; Years 9+ 8.00 - 9.30pm.

It would be prudent to check that the events, locations and times are correct!

OUR CONGRATULATIONS GO TO THE PARENTS OF
SUMMER THEADORA WALTERS WHO ARRIVED ON 6TH JUNE
&
OUR CONDOLENCES GO TO THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF
ANN SACHS – AUGUST 1936 - APRIL 2023
ROSEMARY WHEELER – JUNE 1937 - MAY 2023
VIVIEN TYLER – AUGUST 1945 - MAY 2023
ALLY JAMES – JUNE 1969 - MAY 2023

SOME USEFUL NAMES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

British Gas - Emergencies	01753 – 571 570
Chiltern District Council	01494 – 729 000
Chiltern Dial A Ride	01494 – 766 123
Chiltern House Medical Centre, High Wycombe (formerly at Dragon Cottage, Holmer Green)	01494 – 439 149
Chiltern Railways	03456 – 005 165
Eastern Electricity, Loss of Supply	105
Hazlemere Library	01296 – 382 415
Holmer Green Dental Practice	01494718 318
Highfield Surgery, Hazlemere	01494 – 813 396
MP for Chesham and Amersham: – Ms Sarah Green, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. E: Sarah.Green.MP@parliament.uk	0207 – 2193000
Police – Thames Valley	999 or 101
Police – Thames Valley/Community Support Officer	101
Refuse Collection	01494 – 586 550
Stoke Mandeville Hospital	01296 – 315 000
Thames Water - Emergencies	08459 – 200 800
Traveline	0871 – 200 2233
Tourist information - High Wycombe Library	01296 – 382 4152
Wycombe General Hospital	01494 – 526 161
Minor Injuries and Illness Unit (at Wycombe General Hospital)	111 or 526 161

PARISH COUNCILLORS SERVING HOLMER GREEN

Mr Neil Darvill	ndarvill@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Mrs Michaela Darvill	mdarvill@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Mr Alan Egleton	egleton@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Mrs Jane Fallon	jfallon@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Mr David McMillan	dmcmillan@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Vacancy	
Vacancy	

If you care for our Village and would like to serve your community, why not consider becoming a Parish Councillor?
If so, please contact the Parish Office in Rossetti Hall for more information – 715429

Deputy Clerk – Ms Dianne Camier E: clerk@littlemissendenpc.co.uk
Assistant Clerk – Ms Lynne Lusby E: assistant.clerk@littlemissendenpc.co.uk

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLORS SERVING HOLMER GREEN

Mrs Isobel Darby	Halfway Cottage, 2 Copthall Corner, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks, SL9 0BZ. E: Isobel.Darby@buckinghamshire.gov.uk	01753 888055
Dr Michael Smith	c/o Buckinghamshire Council The Gateway, Gatehouse Road Aylesbury HP19 8FF E: Michael.Smith@buckinghamshire.gov.uk	01494 729000
Mr Mark Titterington	"Trymme House", Elm Rd., Penn, HP10 8LQ E: Mark.Titterington@buckinghamshire.gov.uk	07500 546651

LOCAL VILLAGE SERVICES

The Holmer Green Village Society's web site - www.holmergreenvillagesociety.co.uk
contains some recent electronic editions of **Holmer Green Today**.

CHADWICK LADIES

The club has welcomed many new members over the past few months and we have enjoyed a variety of talks on Hanging Baskets, Beekeeping, Cliveden Gardens and the history of famous jewels.

A cream tea was enjoyed by all, before the club closed for August. We meet again in September and wish all our members an enjoyable summer.

Judy Gilligan

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE CENTRE

The big news in the past few months is that the Main Hall has been completely re-decorated.

Our old 'shades of grey' scheme was looking a bit tired and so Vicki Fleming and her First Holmer Green Guides developed some potential schemes from which our committee selected one based on various greens. The work had to be scheduled around the various school holidays when the Hall is less used.

We are extremely grateful to Michael Bickerton, of Amersham Dec, who kindly donated the paints used in the re-decoration. The actual work was contracted to local painter and decorator Denis Dwyer.

Initial feedback on the new scheme has been very favourable.

To facilitate the re-decoration, it was necessary to take down the heavy velvet curtains over the windows and it was evident that, before re-hanging, they would need an extensive and expensive clean. Instead, and after consulting the Centre's users, we have installed blackout blinds which seem to have been well-received by our users.

James Cadle - Chairman



CELEBRATION OF A 100TH BIRTHDAY

Joan Hay was born on July 1st, 1923, at Spriggs Holly Cottage, Crowell on the Hill, (between Radnage and Chinnor). She was the fourth of six children born to Mabel Turvey. The cottage they lived in had no running water or electricity with a well in the garden.

Joan would walk down the hill into Chinnor to attend school, which was about two and a half miles, whatever the weather. When she was fourteen, she went to work as a parlour maid at the vicarage attached to Wycombe Parish Church.

When the Second War started, she moved to Mrs Taylor's house to live at Beamond End and work as a seamstress making uniforms for soldiers. She met Bill Hay, his father was Head Groom to Lady Clementi, at a farm in Beamond End.

Bill and Joan got married on August 7th, 1948. They were married for fifty-nine years. Bill sadly died on 10 December 10th, 2007. Initially, they lived in a cottage in Factory Street (now Orchard Way).

In 1957 they bought a piece of land at the corner of Earl Howe Road and Hogg Lane and had a bungalow built. The bungalow was built by a local builder Jack Pratt, who lived along Beech Tree Road. Bill was a French Polisher and worked at Dancer and Hearn, furniture factory, at Penn Street. He cycled to work through Penn Street Woods every day.

Joan continued working as a seamstress for Mr Kettle, making sheepskin coats, then working for Mrs Perfect, from Haleacre Workshops, making dresses and skirts, although she worked from home with the sewing machine in the kitchen.

Their daughter Gillian was born in 1951 and their son Andrew was born in 1953.

Bill and Joan belonged to the British Legion in Holmer Green where Bill played bowls and Joan enjoyed social events.

Joan went to work at the Shrubbery Hospital, which was formerly the maternity hospital in High Wycombe, where she worked in the sewing department, altering nurses' uniforms and making screen curtains for all the hospitals in the area. These can still be seen today with the local buildings on them.

Joan now has four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. The youngest celebrated her first birthday on Joan's 100th birthday this year. Joan is now happily living at Cherry Garth.

Anthony Aver



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THE LANTERN CLUB

On July 24th The Lantern Club, for its summer outing, had a lovely trip on the Grand Union Canal. The boat, operated by Waterways Experiences, was purpose built for easy access, very comfortable, with large viewing windows, especially appreciated as the weather was a bit changeable!

A delicious fish and chips lunch was enjoyed during the cruise and everyone, members and volunteers alike, had a really great time.

Thanks go to the boat crew and their excellent service.



The fish and chips are lovely,
will someone please pass the vinegar!

The Club continues with its varied programme of activities and fun each Monday in the Chadwick Hall at the Village Centre and it is very encouraging for us when we hear from our members or their families how much they enjoy it. It is obviously a service that is needed as we have a waiting list of local elderly residents hoping to join us. We are fortunate in our lovely team of Monday volunteers and cooks, a huge thank you to them; however, to continue to deliver this level of service we still need more. About half our members come in on the Good Neighbour's minibus - we are short of drivers and escorts to offer this facility to our otherwise housebound members, at the moment volunteers are doubling up on their commitment to fill the rota. If you have a couple of hours free on a Monday morning or afternoon, please consider whether you could help us here on a rota basis once or twice a month. Also, our Treasurer relocated recently and although she is still in post using on-line banking it would be far better if someone local would come forward. Chris Longman on 01494 715624 would be very happy to hear from you about either of these volunteering opportunities, or drop in and see us any Monday apart from Bank Holidays, 10.30 am - 2.30 pm. It would really help us to maintain the high level of service we are so proud of.

Our AGM, followed by cheese and wine, takes place in the Village Centre on September 25th at 8pm. Please feel free to come and hear about our year's achievements and future plans.

Ann Sollars, Hon Sec

THANK YOU, AIREDALE!

Regular readers of this magazine will, no doubt, have seen the adverts by Airedale that have been published in the magazine over the years and hopefully benefitted from their financial advice.

If you now look at their frontage in Lynford Parade, you'll see the name has changed to 'Perspective', Airedale is no more and we would like to thank them for all the sponsorship they have provided to the Village - The Cricket Club, our Village Pond and, of course this magazine to name but three.

We wish Trevor Herbert and his colleagues the very the best for their future, whatever that may be!

NEW SEATS FOR THE COMMON!

In the near future, two new seats will appear on Holmer Green Common. One is a replacement for the seat commemorating Elsie and Wilfred Stevens, founder members of the VPA, that had to be removed because it had become unsafe, and has been jointly paid for by *Holmer Green Today* and the VPA, The Holmer Green Gardening Association. A long-standing member of the gardening club, the late Dorothy Kirby, had always wanted more seats on the common.

The second seat is a new one presented by the VPA to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the organisation's foundation as the Holmer Green Village Produce Association in 1944.

Ann Miller



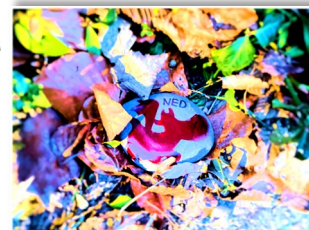
Holmer Green First School and Pre-School

As a school, we value being an integral part of our wonderful community. Throughout this year, we have made it a priority to focus on spreading happiness and kindness within our school and the wider community. We strongly believe that teaching our children the value of kindness and empathy is fundamental to building a caring society. In this spirit, our children have embarked on various 'community random acts of kindness' that have brought positivity and happiness to others.

One such initiative involved our children walking around the village, gifting flowers and messages to brighten people's days. The smiles and warmth that resulted from these encounters were truly heartwarming. Additionally, we have hidden NED pebbles around the village, to be found by others and then re-hidden. Have you found one yet? In the lead up to Christmas, the children created beautiful cards that they personally delivered to spread festive cheer amongst local residents.



Teaching our children the importance of taking care of our environment and local area is another aspect we emphasised this year. Small groups of children took part in litter-picking activities, allowing them to actively contribute to looking after our surroundings. It has had a positive impact not only on them but also on the appearance of our local area.



Each year group also had the pleasure of visiting the Holmer Green Sensory Gardens. The children thoroughly enjoyed exploring these enchanting surroundings, and were particularly delighted to see their textured Union Jack creation on display.

Lastly, we would like to remind you about our Community Library located at the front of the school. This valuable resource is for all to enjoy, so we warmly invite you to come along and share our books. The love for reading is contagious, and we greatly encourage both adults and children to make use of this library facility.

We are now looking forward to another wonderful year ahead!

Never give up, Encourage others,
Do your best!



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THIS IS YOUR LIFE — PETER ROLT

June 20th, 1933, Mr & Mrs Rolt, who were living in Holmer Green had a third son, they named him Peter Ronald George. Peter had three brothers and one sister. He is the last remaining family member. Peter attended the schools in Holmer Green. He met a lady in Holmer Green, they fell in love and were happily married for nearly sixty-two years. They settled in Holmer Green where he still now lives. Together they had six children, only three daughters are still living plus six grandchildren and eighteen great grandchildren.

Peter joined the Royal British Legion and local army cadets aged fifteen and when he was seventeen, he enrolled in the Royal Army Service Corps. He started as a private and eventually became a sergeant, he trained as a Marshall Drill now known as a Parade Marshal. He joined the Loudwater Legion and was a member for thirty-five years, a Poppy appeal organiser for thirty years and a standard bearer for twenty-five years. He has carried the standard in many counties and countries, especially at the Menin Gate four times and also at the Royal Albert Hall. He met the late Queen four times and has always carried the standard with pride and elegance. He entered the Standard Bearers competition and for five years he came second.

When the Loudwater Branch closed he became a member at the Holmer Green Branch. He joined the committee and took on the task as a Poppy Appeal organiser. This he has done for many years and is still doing it. One year Peter and Don Brook held a Remembrance Service at the Senior School. Every year the public gathers in Holmer Green on Armistice Day. Peter says The Exhortation, standards are carried by Gordon Howland and Tom Cook and are dipped for the Last Post followed by two minutes silence. The service of Remembrance is held at the Baptist Church with many groups and members of the public attending. The service is taken by Padre Anthony Smith and follows with the Standard bearers and the congregation marching to the War Memorial. Wreathes are laid and the names of the fallen are read by Lt. Col. Craig Turner. The Last Post is played and there is a two minute silence.

Peter celebrated ninety happy years in June, a party was held for his family and friends. His granddaughter made a lorry-shaped cake as this was his job after leaving the army. On his birthday the staff at High Wycombe Hospital, where he had had a pacemaker fitted, sang to him and presented him with a cake and balloon.

On June 30th Peter was persuaded to visit the Royal British Legion, Amersham-on-the Hill with the Chairlady, Wendy Tomlin, both dressed in uniform. At the hall many members and three officers were present. Peter received a certificate from the Bucks County Chairman, Andrew Seymour, in gratitude for his many years and work for the Royal British Legion. Peter was unaware of the event but was honoured to receive it.

The Royal British Legion is Peter's second home. The motto being SERVICE NOT SELF

Wendy Tomlin – Chairlady Women's section

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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION

Our usual tea party was held in the British Legion Hall with various games and ended with a raffle. In July we had an interesting talk from Peter Turner about his life as a resident in the Royal Chelsea Hospital London. He told us what they do there, how many people live there and about their uniform. They wear scarlet coat and trousers when outside the home and black uniform when inside. After the talk the members were queuing up to have a photo alongside him. As usual we ended with refreshments and a raffle.

We meet in September for the Harvest Festival where items are auctioned then a well deserved cuppa. Harvest Festival is not just for edible items, what about linens, flowers etc. Come and join us on Tuesday September 12th at 2.30 Royal British Legion Hall.

Wendy Tomlin

HOLMER GREEN WI

A talk on the History of Commonwealth War Graves in April was both interesting and moving. We were shown photos of the graves in France and were told how the bodies were identified. Our trip to the National Arboretum, intended to follow this talk, was unfortunately cancelled.

The subject of Pearls followed in May, a talk given by Frances Carlaw. We learnt how pearls were historically considered extremely valuable, which is why Royalty had them on their crowns. May was the month to discuss the National WI Resolution which this year is 'Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife'.

For our birthday party in June, we enjoyed a lunch prepared by the committee of ham and turkey salad, followed by delicious homemade desserts. Dave Dunbar then entertained us with songs by the Rat Pack - Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jnr.

The WI provided tea and cakes in the Rossetti Hall for the highly successful Open Gardens afternoon held by HGVS and the VPA. The weather was excellent and the event was well supported.

Unfortunately, 'Music on the Common' had to be cancelled due to adverse weather. The WI were due to provide tea and cakes once again, so the cakes were stored in our freezers, and scones, jam and cream were served with tea at our July meeting, following Bingo and a Quiz.

Several members seized the chance to board a coach taking us to Waterperry Gardens. We had a delightful day wandering around the gardens looking at the plants, visiting the gift shops, and enjoying lunch.

We are sad to report the deaths of two of our members:

Sue Rogers who passed away in March. She had been a member of the WI since the 1970s, and in the early years before her sight deteriorated, she was proficient at lace making, and had trained as a florist. She continued crocheting, and never lost her skills at flower arranging.

Jean Browning died in July after a short illness. She was famous in the WI for her wonderful cake decorating and sugar work. She always iced our Birthday cakes. She was always ready to help out with cake baking and various committee tasks. She will be remembered for her sweet nature and lovely smile.

Recently the Bucks Free Press reproduced an old photo which was then posted on Facebook. The picture is of the WI drama group from 1968, and the Facebook thread identified the names of most of the ladies in it. The WI drama group would perform pantos and plays, and eventually led to the formation of Holmer Green Players.

Details of our programme for the coming year can be viewed on our website holmergreen-wi.weebly.com

Visitors are welcome to attend most of our meetings. Our posters are also displayed on the Village noticeboard by the shops.

Annie Greateorex



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PHOTOGRAPHY IN HIGH WYCOMBE

I recently met with a young at heart man named Alan who in 1949 started working in Fleet Street at Picture Keystone press agency. He worked in the dark room developing and printing pictures and then moved to the publications department taking photos for magazines.

His first memorable trip was to Helsinki for the Olympic games in the summer of 1952. The year of the late Queen's coronation. The company sent him out and he remembers when he got off the plane there was a mist in the distance, no one around, except a road sweeper who he asked for directions to his hotel.

Alan met his wife Marion, she lived in Brentford, on a holiday. When they married, they lived with his parents in Chingford, but they wanted a house of their own. Marion, who worked in Marks and Spencer saw a job going at the Wycombe branch. She attended an interview and was offered a job, but she would only accept if her husband, Alan, could get a photographic job nearby. They stayed with friends in Flackwell heath and whilst travelling around saw houses being built in Forge Close. They put down a deposit and were one of the first to move in. Alan was able to get a job at M.W. Keens in High Wycombe and worked in the dark room at the back of the shops. His first camera was a Box Brownie. He started to branch out taking photos at weddings and events for the Bucks Free Press. Alan's claim to fame is that he took pictures, at the parish church in High Wycombe, of the wedding of the son of Barnes Wallis, the English engineer best known for his invention of the bouncing bomb used by the R.A.F in the Dam buster's raid in the Ruhr area of Germany during the 2nd World War.

At Keens Alan worked on the commercial side of the company, which was situated in Mill End Road. He took photos at the stud farm in Fulmer and was asked to take photos of the M40 in 1973. He climbed the Stokenchurch British telecom tower, but nearing the top there were only ladders against the walls to climb further up. He had to carry his equipment to the top, his assistant saw that there were ropes provided for the bags to be hauled up. They were able to see the post office tower in London from there.

After working for many years with anti-social hours and weekends he looked for another job and started working for Amersham International in Chalfont. He worked there for 18 years often working with radioactive material. At the front of the site was a house called Chilcote House, during the war a consignment of radium bromide was intercepted in Europe and brought to England. This was used for making luminous dials and gunsights for ships and aircraft. The site is now closed, but the land remains contaminated.

I am told that many service men and women had their pictures taken at Sweetlands on the High Street, before they went off to fight. I think lots of Holmer Green residents had pictures taken there to record highlights of their lives.

Bob Dunning, a local man, told me of his experiences in the R.A.F. during the war. He was responsible for placing cameras on aircraft so they could photograph large areas of land in Europe. He then developed the pictures when the aircraft returned and detailed maps were given to the pilots who were fighting the Germans. He was in Egypt and later went to India where the British were fighting the Japanese. He also saw the partition of Pakistan from India and has pictures of Mountbatten descending from an aeroplane. In 1950, after the war, he was in Kenya taking aerial photos of the Mau Mau warrior's terrain.

Linda Meatyard



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HOLMER GREEN VILLAGE SOCIETY

A season of goodwill

No, it's not a mistake and I haven't written the Christmas edition too early (although it does give me the chance to mention that the *Christmas Calendar* will be available to purchase from the 1st September from Walsh's and direct from us online) but the season of goodwill really did come early for the village society this July. Sadly, it was as a result of having to cancel *Music on the Common* at very short notice because of weather. Maybe it was because our advertisers and supporters felt sorry for the event team and all the volunteers who had been planning the event for the last 6 months or maybe it's just the good people of Holmer Green doing what they do naturally, but we were delighted that the vast majority of our supporters donated their payments and charges so that the Village Society could continue to add to their funds to support the activity that we carry out in the village. We are really grateful to our primary sponsors and all the other vendors for their generosity. The *Music on Common* will be back next year, weather permitting.

In the meantime, lookout for the signs for the next two events before Christmas, the *Fireworks at Holmer Green Sports Association* on November 4th, online booking will be available from the 18th September here > <https://buytickets.at/holmergreenvillagesociety/977565>, and Christmas on the Common on December 3rd which is free to attend.

Thankfully, the weather held off for the *Open Gardens* event which was hosted by the VPA and the Village Society in June. We were really grateful to the residents who opened their garden gates to let us enjoy their gardens and the WI for providing the teas, coffees, and cakes at Rosetti Hall. With a really special thanks to James Cadle and Jane King for leading the organisation of the event. Latest news is that £1000 was raised which is being split 50:50 between Rennie Groves and the Jubilee Sensory Gardens.

A lot of our fund raising goes into supporting the *Jubilee Sensory Gardens* which continue to grow and develop. It's been quite a summer for the gardens team who have been busy building new sensory features and welcoming groups of guests who are now a regular presence coming to enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the space.

The gardens teams had their regular review meeting at the end of July where twenty volunteers and supporters got together to discuss the years activity and plan for the future. If anyone would like to join them or would like more information about the gardens, please go to the HGVS website or Facebook page for more information.

Since our last update where we advised that we had met with Bucks County Council, the society has now met with both building companies (Bellway and Blacks / Hawridge) about the *HW8 development*. We shared with them the same concerns that we presented to the Council, namely the lack of any meaningful consultation with residents (from any of the parties) and the detrimental effect that the development will have on Holmer Green residents. We focussed particularly on the traffic emerging onto Wycombe Road and the effect of hundreds of extra residents trying to identify services (particularly doctors) in the village. We also reminded the developers that all these new residents are also going to want services that they are not considering in their plans for hundreds of new houses.

Our case focused on the lack of a development brief which, in addition to the lack of proper consultation and communication plan, has resulted in a set of consequences that are part of the fragmented approach with no appreciation for the effect on current or future residents.

One of the key parts of the developer's plans is a financial payment called the CIL levy and an S106 payment which was identified as being approx. £287,000 for one development and £105,000 for the other to enhance local medical facilities. Our case to the Integrated Care Board [the ICB] is that this levy needs to be spent in this area and not to expand medical facilities in other areas. We have also pointed out that the nearest medical facilities in Hazlemere are constrained by space and that a proper consultation with the residents (or resident organisations) would identify these short comings and might be a significant resource to include in any planning application.

Our follow up meeting with Bucks Council, the two developers and the ICB is in early September which gives us time to consider their proposals before the plans are presented to the Strategic Sites Committee later in the year.

As always, my final request is for any residents who are not already members of the society to consider joining. Membership is only £5 for the year and in supporting us it helps us to support the village.

And anyone who would like to volunteer or get involved in projects or events, please do contact us. There's a lot we can do but we need people to join us to make a difference.

Simon Jones. Chairman, Holmer Green Village Society

LOCAL THEATRE-GOER'S DIARY : SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2023

For your entertainment, close to home, are some really great nights out locally during the next three months. There are also many big name, One Night Events, so do check out all the websites for full details.

Compiled by Mark Thorburn

High Wycombe - WYCOMBE SWAN (4 miles from Holmer Green)

St Mary Street, High Wycombe HP11 2XE 01494 512000 : www.wycombeswan.co.uk

BUDDY *The Buddy Holly Story* (11 to 12 September) This musical tells the phenomenal, but short life story of the one and only Buddy Holly. It is full of 1950s hits, huge energy and is a great night out, of its type.

BLIPPI *The Wonderful World Tour* (19 to 20 September) Another t.v. children's phenomenon, translated onto the stage. It has been seen in the West End and your youngsters will no doubt know more about it than we adults ever could.

STICK MAN (7 to 8 October) Touring yet again, this magical, award-winning tale for the younger generation is guaranteed to be riveting for them and a lot of fun for adults. Only an hour, but well worth it.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE 1936 (10 to 14 October) You may have caught this at it's Watford Palace Premiere last autumn. Or at the Swan Theatre in Stratford, presented by the RSC. Shylock (in 1936) is played by TracyAnn Oberman as an East End matriarch, battling with the brown shirts of Oswald Moseley's Fascists prior to WW2. A fascinating version of the classic play. Please note, this is an adaptation of the original text, which contains themes of racism, including anti-Semitism.

MURDER IN THE DARK (31 October to 4 November) The world premiere of a thrilling new ghost story. After a car crash on a lonely road, a family arrives at an isolated holiday cottage in rural England, where a sequence of inexplicable events begin to occur... and then the lights go out. Starring the hugely popular, Tom Chambers. Chills aplenty.

DAWN FRENCH IS A TWAT (19 November) You may have caught this at Aylesbury in 2022. This is a second countrywide tour. If you love La French, you'll love this wonderfully relaxed and hilarious evening.

Please check the website for full details of the many one-night stands and filmed specials for all ages.

Chesham - THE ELGIVA THEATRE & CINEMA (8 miles from Holmer Green)

St Mary's Way, Chesham HP5 1LL : 01494 582900 : www.elgiva.com

RUSSELL BRAND *Bipolarisation* (2 Sept)

ENGLISH SINFONIA *From Screen to Stage* (10 Sept)

TONY STOCKWELL *Psychic Medium* (11 Sept)

LDN Wrestling (24 Sept)

FORBIDDEN NIGHTS *Male Sexy Circus* (it says) (28 Sept)

HANCOCK's HALF HOUR *The Lost Episodes* (29 Sept)

Dreams of FLEETWOOD MAC (30 Sept)

The SIMON & GARFUNKEL Story (6 Oct)

The BIG COUNTRY MUSIC SHOW (7 Oct)

G2 Definitive GENESIS (13 Oct)

AN Evening of LAUREL & HARDY with Neil Brand (29 Oct)

STEPHEN K AMOS *Oxymoron* (1 Nov)

Dung BEATLES (10 Nov)

Chiltern Made CRAFT FAIR (25 Nov)

For full details of all presentations, please check the website.

Aylesbury - WATERSIDE THEATRE (13 miles from Holmer Green)

Exchange Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 1UG 0844 871 7615 :

www.ambassadorsickets.com/Aylesbury-Waterside-Theatre

PETER PAN GOES WRONG (3 to 8 October) Mischief Theatre created the series of haplessly hilarious evenings with "The Play That Goes Wrong." This disastrous version of the Christmas classic has recently played on Broadway and goes back into the West End later in the year.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK (10 to 14 October) After 33 years in London's West End, the hugely successful chiller is back on the road.

DIVERSITY (25 to 27 October) An extra performance this year after last year's sell-out from Ashley Banjo's exciting, all-male modern dance troupe.

PEPPA PIG'S FUN DAY OUT (28 to 29 October) Absolutely sure that this will be so much more entertaining than watching Boris Johnson lose his way in his CBI Conference speech and cling onto Peppa for help.....

GREATEST DAYS *The Take That Musical* (7 to 11 November) There have now been three stage musicals based on the song catalogue of Take That. This is a revised version of the **BAND**, which played all around the country and in the West End of London. A fun story. You go into the theatre humming the tunes.....

(Continued on the next page)

(Local Theatre-goers Diary continued.)

MADAGASCAR The Musical (15 to 18 November) A second National Tour for this stage musical based on the Dreamworks cartoon film. Another one for the kids, or the kid in you.

THE FULL MONTY The Play (21 to 25 November) the film is a firm favourite, but this stage version failed to achieve a long West End run. However, it grossed so much on its hugely successful first tour that it has a completely new cast and will be a fun night out for everyone, rest assured.

Plus a huge number of big name One Night Events.
Please check website for full details.

Watford - PALACE THEATRE (18 miles from Holmer Green)

20 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts WD17 1JZ 01923 25671 : www.watfordtheatre.co.uk

One Night Stands only this autumn, except for

KINKY BOOTS (7 to 11 November) **Cassio Productions (Amateur)** The Cindy Lauper Award Winning musical version of the hugely successful British film about the Boot and Shoe manufacturer who staves off bankruptcy making boots for the Drag Market. Fun, sassy and tuneful.

CINDERELLA (30 November to 31 December) The Watford Palace Pantomime this year returns to the most popular story of them all. Family fun by the coal-bucket-load.

Check the website, or apply for a brochure by post, for full details of all activity.

Windsor - THEATRE ROYAL (19 miles from Holmer Green)

Thames Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1PS : 01753 853 888 :
www.theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk

CALENDAR GIRLS The Musical (30 August to 16 September) A brand-new touring version of Tim Firth and Gary Barlow's award-winning musical, featuring a re-imagined book and new music. The much-loved story launched a global phenomenon: a million copycat calendars, a record-breaking movie, a stage play and this musical version with unforgettable songs. Each performance continues to add to the millions already raised for charity.

BLOOD BROTHERS (10 to 14 October) 2023 sees the 50th Anniversary National Tour of the phenomenal British Musical. Seen it? Go again, you know it's that good.

TWELVE ANGRY MEN (18 to 28 October) the return of Reginald Rose's classic knife-edge courtroom thriller with Patrick Duffy, Tristan Gemmill, Michael Greco, Ben Nealon, Gary Webster and Gray O'Brien.

HEATHERS The Musical (31 October to 4 November) The National Touring production of the West End Phenomenon finally closes here at Windsor. The end of an era.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL On Air (14 to 18 November) A revival of last year's hugely successful 'Windsor-on-Air' Production of the Dickens classic Festive Story with costumes, a star cast and a Foley artist (recreating sound effects and atmospherics, live on stage).

ALADDIN (25 November to 14 January) 98 performances of the famous Windsor Pantomime featuring 'Dame' Steve Blakeley, 'Calamitous' Kevin Cruise, family favourite Basil Brush, Music Icons Patti Boulaye and Anita Harris. It's all you could wish for.

Please check the website for full details of these plays and many Concerts and Tribute Nights.

Sonning - THE MILL AT SONNING (20 miles from Holmer Green)

Sonning Eye, Reading RG4 6TY : 0118 969 8000 www.millatsonning.com

Dinner Theatre : Ticket, Pre-Show Meal, Programme & Parking included

HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES (to 23 September) is one of Alan Ayckbourn's cleverest, funniest and most ingeniously entertaining comedies. Frank Foster employs Bob Philips and William Featherstone. Fiona Foster is having an affair with Bob. Teresa Philips is suspicious of Bob, who covers up his adultery by shoving the blame onto his colleague, William. William suspects his wife, Mary is having an affair. Fiona, to ward off Frank's questioning, tells him that she has been comforting Mary, who also suspects that William is having an affair. Of course, William & Mary are the innocent parties tangled in Fiona & Bob's web of deceit, all culminating in a scene where the Featherstones are dinner guests of both the other couples...hilarious.

IT'S HER TURN NOW (28 September to 18 November) Adapted by Michael J. Barfoot from "Out of Order". Ray Cooney's classic farce about MPs behaving badly, has been turned on its head and adapted so that it is female MPs behaving badly. Rebecca Willey, a government Junior Minister and her 'special advisor to the opposition', check into a hotel for a naughty night. Except they didn't expect to encounter a conniving waiter, a suspicious hotel manager, an alert private detective, an angry wife, a furious husband, a bungling secretary, an unconscious nurse, and a dead body, no less, which all put Mrs Willey's career in serious jeopardy. This classic farce is absolutely jam-packed with all the hilarious ingredients of a fun evening's entertainment.

HIGH SOCIETY Cole Porter's Musical (29 November to 20 January) You're invited to the wedding of the year, and what a swellegant, elegant Musical Christmas party it's going to be! Cole Porter's classic feel-good musical is based on Philip Barry's "The Philadelphia Story" and the 1956 film starring Bing Crosby, Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra, full of songs you know from True Love to Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?

Check website for details of innumerable Sunday Concerts and Backstage Tours with a luscious Cream Tea.

THE PARISH OF PENN STREET WITH HOLMER GREEN

CREAM TEAS have proved as popular as ever. If you haven't visited us yet in Holy Trinity, Penn Street on Sundays from 3-5pm, try to do so before our last of the season, on 10th September. As well as the delights of our home-made scones and cakes, there will be some live music. See you then.

Many of our activities take place in the Church Centre, Featherbed Lane, Holmer Green, HP15 6XQ. For more information contact the Parish Office in the Church Centre, 01494 715195, open on Tuesday and Fridays from 8.30-12.30, email office@pshg.org or visit the website www.pshg.org.

Community Café is held on the morning of the fourth Saturday of the month from 10.00 - 12 midday. We have been delighted with the way those who come can enjoy getting to know each other and sharing a sociable time on a Saturday morning. Our next Cafe will be on 26th August. Our September Cafe is a special one! On Saturday 23rd September we will combine the usual Cafe with our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning, a national fund-raising event to support this wonderful charity. We will be serving home-made cakes, tea and coffee so please come and join us to raise funds for Macmillan!

Just to make sure that our supporters are well-nourished, **Souper Lunch** is providing a varied selection of home-made soup and cakes on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month with service starting at 12.30 pm.

Tiddlywinks News. The term ended on 17th July with our Summer Event. This was very well attended, and the children had lots of fun on the Bouncy Castle. The new term begins on Monday 11th September, without some of our regulars who will be starting school. We shall miss them. All babies, toddlers and under school age children & their carers are welcome and no booking is required. We meet in the Church Centre, Featherbed Lane, Holmer Green. HP15 6XQ, on Mondays in term time from 1.30pm to 3pm. For more information, please ring Joan Toye 01494 718466 or the Parish Office.

Linkup meets as usual through the Summer on the 3rd Friday morning of the month at 11am onwards for coffee & biscuits, followed by an optional bring and share lunch from 12 noon- 1.30pm. All who have been bereaved either recently or longer ago are welcome to join our friendly group. For more information, please ring Joan Toye 01494 718466 or the Parish Office.

The Churches Together Women's Fellowship meets again after the summer break on Thursday 21 September, when Rev Ruth Boughton will be leading a Holy Communion service in Christ Church. On Thursday 5 October Bob Davy will be telling us about "Life as a First Responder" - this meeting will be in the Baptist Church. We meet on the first and third Thursdays in the Church Centre or the Baptist Church, usually at 2 pm, and all ladies are welcome.

Hilary Hide

In August, a film crew visited Holy Trinity Churchyard, Penn Street. Read all about it in 'Spying on Spiders' on page 23.

ANOTHER NOTABLE BURIAL IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD, PENN STREET

Ellen Cicely Wilkinson who with others lived in Penn Bottom in the autumn of 1939. She was not typical of those who enjoyed the rural atmosphere of Penn Bottom between the wars, as she was the MP for Jarrow, led the Jarrow March and was a founder member of the British Communist Party. She travelled to Russia and met Leon Trotsky. Following the Labour Party landslide in 1945 she became Minister for Education. She died in office in 1947. A term she was known by was 'Red Ellen' due to her fine red hair which she accentuated by wearing green dresses and her fiery personality.



Although keeping a London flat she must have retained fond memories of the area as she is buried in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Penn Street. She died in a London Hospital in February 1947, aged fifty-five.

However, there is still more to be told, as Ellen shared the house in Penn Bottom - known as Twixtlands - with other notable socialists of the era.

Probably best known was Herbert Stanley Morrison, he of the Morrison shelter widely promoted and used in WW2. One-time leader of the London County Council, he became Home Secretary in the Coalition Government 1940-1945 and then Deputy Prime Minister in Clement Attlee's 1945-1951 Labour Government.

The third Labour MP present that autumn was John Jagger who had represented Manchester Clayton since 1935. A committed trade unionist he became Morrison's PPS in 1940 until his death in a road accident 1942. This accident took place in Clay Street, Penn Bottom when his auto-cycle collided with a motor car driven by a local farmer. Jagger was on his way to Beaconsfield station to catch a London train.

The remaining two residents were Anne & Doris Wilkinson, sister & sister-in-law to Ellen. Anne was a staunch supporter of her sister throughout her political career both sharing various London addresses for many years.

Twixtlands still stands today but is now called Little Penn Farmhouse.

Hilary Hide

With thanks to Peter Strutt and Ron Saunders



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- Adjustments are made in mind of arthritis and other symptoms which you might feel are holding you back from giving this a go.
- Class structure is typically: a warm-up, 4 dance-fitness sections, 2-3 band sections, balance practice and a cool down.



Dates for the autumn term:

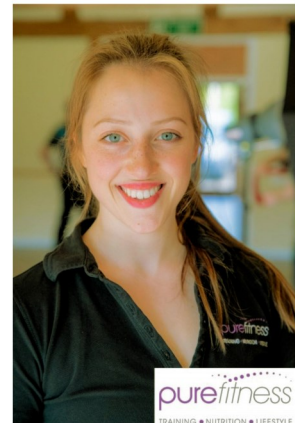
Every Tuesday from 8 August-19 December 2023 inclusive. However please note that there will be no class on the following three dates: 15 August, 12 September and 19 September.

For more information, or to book a class, please contact me with your name, email address and contact number by:-

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GARDENING MATTERS

Many years ago, a lady asked me to come and visit her garden mainly to identify the plants that she did not know the names of so that she could label them. She also felt that there was a lack of colour in the garden throughout the year and she asked me to suggest some ideas how to make improvements. One thing that I noticed was that there were many different tones of green colouring represented in the foliage of the plants. She had not really appreciated that and when I told her that green was a very restful colour and she also needed to see the complete picture of the garden, she immediately took an interest in plant foliage. We then walked around the garden again, and I enabled her to appreciate the different types of leaves that were displayed on the plants as well as the different shades of green. I also pointed out all the plants that have simple and compound leaf shapes and variations in their sizes, the many different leaf-margin variations and the differences in the tips and bases of the leaves.

For me, this garden visit brought back lovely memories of my time as a student at RHS Gardens Wisley over 50 years ago. I so much enjoyed the botany lectures and practical sessions, and also completing a native plant collection as part of the Wisley Diploma examination. But most important of all we regularly had plant identification tests, and the marks from these also contributed to the final grade. As a result, I learned so much about foliage and I have used this knowledge throughout my gardening career.

After visiting the lady's garden, I compiled a lecture entitled "The Beauty and Diversity of Plant Foliage" which I have presented to many gardening clubs and groups. My lectures on this topic on cruise ships was often followed up by visits to gardens in order to appreciate the diversity of plant foliage. Simple leaves are those that only have one leaf-blade (leaf lamina), and a leaf stalk (petiole). If they have no lobes or indentations, they are referred to as entire leaves. A lobed simple leaf may have many lobes or segments and the spaces between the lobes do not reach the centre of the leaf. Examples of plants that have simple leaves with no lobes are Rhododendron, Apple and Hosta. An example of a plant that has a simple leaf with two lobes is Ginkgo biloba, commonly called 'the Maidenhair Tree' as the leaves resemble those of a Maidenhair fern. I can only think of one other plant that has simple leaves with two lobes and that is Bauhinia often called 'The Orchid Tree,' or the 'Bull Hoof Tree' which is commonly planted in tropical and sub-tropical gardens for its spectacular large flowers which resemble those of an orchid.

Examples of plants that have from three to thirteen lobed leaves are different types of Acers, commonly called Maple. There are so many different species and varieties of Maples and by counting the number of lobes on the leaf helps with the identification of a plant. The Snake Bark Maple has leaves with three lobes, the common or Field Maple usually has leaves with five lobes and Japanese Maples, which are grown for their spectacular colour autumn foliage, can have from seven to thirteen lobes on their leaves. As I am writing this a beautiful shrub that I have seen growing in several gardens called Linder trioloba comes to mind. Its origin is from Japan, and it is renowned for its three lobed leaves that turn a glorious shade of yellow prior to leaf fall.

One plant that is native to Britain is Trifolium repens or Wild White Clover which has leaves with three sections that meet at the top of the leaf stalk. A plant that is often grown as a ground cover plant is called Trifolium Repens 'Purpurascens Quadrifolium.' This is a variation on the Wild White Clover in that it has very dark leaves with four segments.

The sizes of leaves of plants can vary when grown on different types of soils, the amounts of sunlight and rainfall, the amount of nutrients that are supplied to the plant and also by pruning. If trees and shrubs are pruned severely in the spring, they will develop very large leaves. A good example of this is the Fig tree which will produce its five lobed glossy, dark green leaves which will then be approx. 30 cm across. Another plant that produces much larger leaves by pruning down hard in the spring is the Cornus sanguinea (Dogwood) and with this plant another benefit is that the shoots will then produce highly coloured bark in the autumn when the plant is grown in a sunny situation.

There are many shapes of simple leaves and these are given botanical descriptive names. Some of these shapes are linear (narrow), lanceolate (lance shaped), oblong, oval, cordate (heart shaped), sagittate (arrow shaped).

There are other factors to consider about leaves and these will be discussed in my next article. In the meantime, enjoy walking around observing the different variations in leaf shapes and colours. Finally, does the name of the plant tell you something about its leaves, e.g., Hydrangea quercifolia, Ribes laurifolium?

to be continued



Brian Fisher

HOLMER GREEN OPEN GARDENS 2023

For the first time since 2015, we staged an Open Gardens event in the village, organised by the Holmer Green Village Society, the VPA, and the Holmer Green Gardening Association.



Eleven gardens were open, including the Jubilee Sensory Garden in Earl Howe Road and, despite June 11th being a very hot day, two hundred visitors went round and had a great experience. The event raised nearly £990 which will be donated in roughly equal shares to Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care and the Holmer Green Jubilee Sensory Garden.

We want to thank the following for opening their gardens: Val and Roy Allcorn; Diana and Michael Britnell; Dan and Gemma Fairless; Brian and Rosemary Fisher; Margaret James; Michael and Jane King; Martin Little and the Sensory Garden team; Sandra Small; Penny Thickett; Les and Jen Witts; and Sue Edmunds and Mark Crawford.

We also want to thank the ladies of the Holmer Green W.I. who provided refreshments at the Rossetti Hall and donated their takings of £140 to our funds, and the team at the Sensory Garden who provided cold refreshments.

*Jane King &
James Cadle*

SPYING ON SPIDERS

Wildstar Films are a natural history production company, based in Bristol. They are currently filming a wildlife series called "Sentient" for National Geographic.

They sought and obtained all the necessary permissions from Penn Parish Council, and Holy Trinity Church, to allow filming spiders and webs by moonlight, with the church as the backdrop, in the afternoons and evenings of early August.

They were filming a sequence which explored the research of Peter Witt who studied how various drugs (such as caffeine, marijuana and LSD) affects a spider's ability to build its web. They will be visually recreating the study first by filming a real-life spider spinning a web unaffected by drugs, and then using computer generated imagery to show what the drug induced webs looked like. The aim of the study is to show that animals are affected in the same way as humans by drugs.

Compared to "Midsomer Murders", this is a much smaller operation with only a handful of people, and no heavy equipment needed.

Robert Duerdoth



HIGH WYCOMBE

The earliest written reference to High Wycombe dates from a document of AD970 in the Cartularium Saxonicum.

Another early mention is in the Domesday Book of 1086 where Robert D'Oilly was lord of the manor of Wicumbe which consisted of 1200 acres, sixty households and thirty ploughs. Also, eight slaves - 10% of Englishman were slaves at this time. Attached to the manor were six corn mills one of which was undoubtedly Pann Mill, the only working mill on the river Wye today. The next Pann Mill open day is on Sunday 10th September from 11.00- of Wycombe 17.00.

The earliest borough record of Wycombe dates from 1237 when the burgesses were given the right to hold markets and fairs and to charge rents and fines. Burgesses owned property in the High Street and in due course elected alderman to the town council who in turn elected a mayor. The first mayor was Roger Outred from 1285 to 1303 and from that date the office has been continuous.

In 1478 the borough inside the town became known as Chepping Wycombe. (The prefix Chepping means market.) Chepping Wycombe was the borough name until 1945 when the whole area reverted back to High Wycombe.

But why is the town named High Wycombe?

Nearby are West Wycombe and Wycombe Marsh and at one time there was East Wycombe, so it simply means the main Wycombe as in the high street being the principal street. For Wycombe is at no height at all above sea-level standing at just two hundred feet.

Through the ages the town has also been called Much Wycombe and Great Wycombe and a name that had it stuck would, in my opinion, add £10,000 to the value of every house in the town - Wycombe Magna! But from the reign of Charles I the town has been known as High Wycombe.

The name Wycombe comes from two different words: Wye, a stream and Combe a valley. However, the name of the river in old maps is always the "Wick." This would mean the town's name being "Wick Ham" which would also fit as it translates into "trading settlement in the vicinity of a water meadow."

And this is probably most likely as surrounding the town are places like Amersham, Bradenham, Bisham, Burnham, Chesham, Cookham. I think what happened was that some enterprising town clerk may have decided that as Wycombe was the most prosperous town in the locality it needed to be underlined with a different spelling from the other. And it stuck!

Coat of Arms of Wycombe - a white swan gorged ducally and chained. However, you will notice the chain is loose signifying that the town only owed allegiance to the monarch. It became the borough's coat-of-arms in mediaeval times and was that of the De Bohun family who owned a manor close by in the 14th century. The Wycombe - swan has closed wings whilst the Buck's swan has open wings. Look more closely at the Wycombe swan though and you will notice the beak and talons of an eagle!

Motto of Wycombe - "Industria Ditat" work enriches adopted in 1911. This is potentially an inspired choice for it could be said work enriches not just financially but also physically and mentally too as it means you have to get to and back from work and there use your brain. Also, Public Health England estimates that 1 in 6 deaths can be traced back to laziness and inactivity. At the same time, according to a Swedish survey, a parent's ambition and will to work rather than class or culture is what most affects a child's life chances. And according to Voltaire, the prolific French writer in *Candide*, "work saves you from three great evils: penury, boredom and vice."

Willie Reid

THE LEMON JUICE CHALLENGE!

In a local bar the barman/owner was so sure he was the strongest man around that he offered a standing £1000 bet. He would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran into a glass, and then hand the lemon to a patron.

Anyone who could squeeze two more drops of juice out of it, would win the money.

Many people had tried, over the years, but nobody had ever been able to do it.

One day, a scrawny little fellow came into the bar, wearing thick glasses and a polyester suit.

He sat down, ordered a beer and after reading the sign on the wall about the lemon challenge, said in a small voice: "I was just reading your sign, and I'd like to try the bet."

After the laughter had died down, the barman said: "Ok..."

He grabbed a lemon and squeezed all the juice out of it and then handed the wrinkled remains of the rind to the little fellow.

The crowd's laughter turned to total silence as the man clenched his little fist around the lemon, and six drops fell into the glass.

As the crowd cheered, the barman paid the guy his £1000 and then asked little man:

"Do you mind if I ask what do you do for a living? Are you a builder, a tree feller, a weight-lifter, or what?"

The little fellow quietly replied: "I work for UK Revenue and Customs".

CHERRY GARTH NEWS CELEBRATIONS AT CHERRY GARTH ALL SUMMER LONG...

Cherry Garth's Summer Fiesta

Kicking off the summer we held the annual BBQ which as always went well, sun was shining, with the usual foodie fare on offer to residents and visitors. With many attractions such as tombola, bar and musical entertainment provided by Andy Luke.

As always there's only one thing on peoples minds when it comes to July, and that's fresh fruits, and cold drinks, so there was strawberries and cream available whenever requested, especially as we celebrated 2023's Wimbledon season.

Staying Al Fresco, Kennett was provided with some food for a celebratory lunch as Fremantle Trust Trustees visited for the judgement of the popular yearly Fremantle in bloom competition. Kennett's garden is bright with colourful flowers and raised beds, and Trent's garden is full of fruit and vegetables. We were invited to the prize giving at another home for the results. Hurrah we were the winners for the BEST FLORAL GARDEN; A thankyou again to Nathan and local garden centres Peterlee for providing plants for our pots.

We also kept the party feeling going when a resident had her 100th birthday, and was one of our first residents to receive a card from the newly crowned King. Our local greengrocer, Nathan, donated Joans massive bunch of flowers. There were many, many birthday cards, from the local shops and friends over a 100 to celebrate her 100 years.

Previously we have celebrated King Charles coronation, all happy creating their own crowns to be fellow royals for a day. Receiving a lovely note to thank the resident's efforts for the card they sent to congratulate him.

Other events included a pet a pony where we had a visit from a lovely pony to the main garden in which residents were able to interact, pet and have such a lovely time with such well behaved animal.

Also in the animal world, we have inherited a lovely feline friend who visits us from a neighbouring house, Raja the Bengal cat can often be found in Trent's Garden, and pops in to say hello to the residents, a beautiful print on its fur coat and very coy in mannerisms.

As always, there's the regular activities' including the monthly church group, keep fit with Zumba and so much more. We are all supporting the Lionesses in the Ladies World Cup.

We hope to have a French themed activity "viva the croissant", and also a pub experience evening, "bring on the darts", and as always any excuse to have a celebratory get together as well as having a coffee morning every Thursday.

The local children's nursery, Poppies, come in monthly to do activities with the residents and keeps us connected to the local community. Visits to the jubilee gardens in Earl Howe Road are much enjoyed to see the changing seasons.

Laura Sansom



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1ST HOLMER GREEN SCOUT GROUP

The summer term saw a very active outdoor programme.

Beavers had a sleepover and campfire. Both Colonies enjoyed a sports evening on the Common and a football match. Eight Beavers attended the District Camp at Paccar where they built a model sedan chair and carried it in a race against other Colonies.

The Cubs camped at Paccar where they enjoyed many activities plus Paddleboarding at Taplow lakes. Their final meeting in July was sports on the common where Albi was awarded his Chief Scout Silver award, the highest a cub can achieve.

The Scouts attended District Camp at Paccar with six other Groups, where again multiple activities took place. Sam Cross was awarded his Camp Leader certificate and has our congratulations. At the end of term, we said goodbye to four scouts who reached the leaving age of 14. We wish them well for the future. I am grateful to the leaders of all sections for giving up their time at weekends as well as weekly meetings.

I would also like to thank the committee for ensuring that the fire station site remains weed free with the area now covered in pebbles which is a big improvement.

I recently commented on how the Group continues to grow with requests to join almost weekly. There has also been a change this year. We usually receive requests of those approaching six and now we regularly are asked to take children at eight and ten directly into cubs and scouts. We have two healthy Beaver Colonies, over forty cubs already, and the Scout Troop will soon grow again.

Scouting remains popular in Holmer Green

Neil Spencer CBE Group Scout leader



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RENNIE GROVE'S PEACE CHARITY SHOP NEWS

Chilterns 3 Peaks

Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care is encouraging local people to put their best foot forward and sign up for the return of its annual Chilterns 3 Peaks challenge event this September.

Taking place on Sunday, 10 September 2023, the walking event offers three alternative routes, which all take in some of the Chilterns' most spectacular peaks.

All three routes begin at Princes Risborough School with 6.5, 10 and 18-mile options available.



The longest of the routes tackles all three peaks - Whiteleaf Cross, Coombe Hill and Ivinghoe Beacon - before a bus takes walkers back to the start point. Transport for the day has kindly been donated by Arriva which is providing both vehicles and drivers to support the event.

This year's event is supported by headline sponsor, Origin Doors and Windows, as well as R. Benson which is supporting this event for the second year.



Laura Elliot, Head of Supporter Fundraising at Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care, says:

"The Chilterns 3 Peaks is a long-established event in the area that has been well supported by local people over the years. Every penny raised by the event is used to provide patient care and as we have extended the reach of our services through our recent merger, we're aiming to make it even more successful than ever before - so we can reach more people in our local area."

"For this we really need the support of our local communities. Whether you have a personal link to the cause or want to take on a physical challenge, this event is perfect for you. Each year we see walkers taking part with their friends, family, colleagues or even their four-legged friends! So why not get a group together, sign up and play your part in raising funds to support care for local people with a life-limiting illness?"

Tickets are available now and cost £15 for adults over sixteen, and £7.50 for children (5-16), with under five-year-olds walking for free. A group ticket is available, priced at £40 for two adults and two children. Visit renniegrovepeace.org/C3P to sign up today.

Kath Pezet

THE SENSORY GARDEN

Have you visited the Holmer Green Jubilee Sensory Garden yet?

If you haven't, we would like to extend an invitation for you to come and see us!

Located on the Earl Howe Road, opposite Holmer Green Service Centre, this beautiful sensory garden is created for the community, by the community.

The garden is divided into sections with different sensory displays to enjoy, we have two bug hotels, a magical woodery, rich plant and wildlife and of course plenty of benches to sit down for a picnic or catch up with a friend.

The garden has a variety of things to see, smell, hear and touch, it is also pushchair, dog (kept on leads please), mobility scooter and wheelchair friendly, which means it is a really accessible space for everyone.

We are open every day, all day and is free to enter.

Our garden is run and cared for by volunteers from our community and we are always on the lookout for new volunteers. If this is something you think you might enjoy, we'd love to hear from you.

Why not drop us a line at: info@holmergreenvillagesociety.co.uk or call our project leader - Martin Little - on 07384 633259.

You can stay up to date with our events and progress on social media, either on Facebook: @Holmer Green Jubilee Sensory Garden or Instagram at @hg_sensory_garden.

Sarah Crowner

[There are some images of what has been achieved on the back page]

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★ **And ...** if anyone or local organisation would like to submit articles for future ★

★ publication? ★

★ **If so,** please contact the Editor whose details are also on page 2, it's free! ★

HOLMER GREEN FC - SUMMER UPDATE

After a hectic summer for the senior club, the 1st XI have just played their first league match in The Combined Counties Football League. A league originally formed in 1922 as The Surrey Senior League, as it expanded the league adopted its current title in 1978. Holmer actually sought to join the league some 25 years ago but were told that we did not meet their geographical requirements, as we were "north of the M40". Now that the FA have taken over the placement of clubs in the NL Pyramid on a yearly basis, and the CCL along with the United Counties League have been "awarded" an extra premier division each, a switch to this league was always likely. Two Hampshire teams which we may have been expected to face, have been transferred to the Wessex League. Our most difficult away trips would appear to be on the Kingston By-pass, the other side of Richmond Park. Much better than Leicester, Rugby, and north Northamptonshire, surely.

Another bonus is local derbies versus Amersham Town, and Penn & Tylers Green. Along with games versus some other teams that we played against recently in The South Midlands Football League, namely Oxhey Jets, London Colney, Hillingdon Borough, Windsor, and Brook House.

The Development Team are currently scheduled to play in The UHL again, and the Allied Youth team will also continue in their usual league.

All three senior teams will have new managers this season. Last season's 1st XI boss was offered and accepted a position at a higher level, and the uncertainty of the situation here caused our Development Team Manager to move to another local club. Tranell Richardson has been appointed as our new CCL Team Manager, assisted by Travis Blackbeard, Craig Bowman, and Kevin Butcher. Our Allied Youth XI will this season be managed by Frankie and Taz Bashir.

In The FA Vase our First XI team has a difficult home tie against Milton Keynes Irish Club in late August.

Fixtures, Results, Match Reports, Statistics etc., can be found on the Club Website www.holmergreenfc.co.uk

Results and Fixtures of the three main teams along with those of the Rangers (HW Sunday) can also be found on the FA Full-Time website.

The main event coming up is the Junior Tournament which takes place as curtain-raiser to the local junior season. Over the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of September. Matt Brades and Samantha Lewin have organised the fullest possible programme over the two days with the pitches that we have available. An entrance charge covers the action on each day, with a comprehensive printed programme to follow the results.

The various age group teams have improved their average league placing over the past few years, but unfortunately last year's U-16 team run by Shaun and Nicole Martin along with Gordon Clark will not be carrying on as U17's, due to lack of numbers.

Of the Minors teams and squads, the "results" of the youngest age groups are not displayed. Up to the Under 12 teams our players participate in The South Bucks Mini Soccer Conference. From Under 13 to Under 16 we come under the Rules of The Wycombe and South Bucks Minor Football League.

They have their own website at www.football-results.org

The whole Club is still looking for someone to become our Website Manager. An appointment would take some of the pressure off many other Officers, and Committee Members. The person appointed would not actually be required to join the committee if they didn't wish to do so.

Finally, a quick update regarding the Artificial Grass Pitch (3G). We are now scheduled to make our final submission to the Football Foundation in September but still await Planning Permission. We have spent the past 4 months debating how to deal with the Greater Crested Newt if we ever find one. No one at the Club has ever seen one but we are told we are in a red zone so must satisfy the demands of Buckinghamshire Councils Newt Officer. Hopefully, a resolution soon.

John Anderson - President - HGFC

AUTUMN MEMORIES

I love the poem that begins "Seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness, close bosom friend of the maturing sun" by John Keats, which I learnt at school in the 1950s. Recently I have been reminiscing on the activities that took place in the autumn in my childhood years.

- Beating the bushes in wooded areas so as to disturb the pheasants and partridges. Men would stand in the field with their shotguns and try to shoot them as they flew overhead. My father used to beat alongside me, and we always took home some pheasants from the shoot and were each paid with a ten shilling note, which was a lot of money in 1960.
- Young children would walk to school in their wellington boots and jump in every puddle. At a very young age I walked a distance of two miles each way.
- We would walk in the woods and kick the leaves about and looking for horse chestnuts for playing conkers and sweet chestnuts for roasting on the fire.
- I would collect autumn leaves and press them between sheets of newspaper and boards, with bricks on top to weigh them down. I would later mount the pressed leaves on to stiff paper.
- I would collect mushrooms from the field most mornings for a short while. The mushrooms had to be recently emerged ones because the older ones were full of maggots.
- Alongside my father I would rake up leaves and make a leaf mound.
- I helped with the digging up and drying and storing of potatoes and carrots, and picked and stored the pears and apples. If there was excess fruit, I sold it at the garden gate and was allowed to keep the proceeds. We would also string up the onions and leave them in the greenhouse to dry.
- We turned over the compost heap together and often rats would run out, and my father had a shotgun, and I had a metal bar but most of the rats got away.
- I would collect fallen branches in preparation for making a bonfire for 5th November and also made a guy and pushed it round in a pram, saying "penny for the guy". Any small coins I got boosted my pocket money to buy some basic fireworks. In those days, the fireworks were not very large or spectacular, often fizzling out straight away. I used to buy Mount Vesuvius, Roman Candles, Catherine Wheels, Rockets and penny Bangers.
- I helped my father saw up wood for logs with a two-handled saw and chopped up off-cuts for kindling wood.
- My mother would spend the evenings knitting woollen socks, gloves and jumpers ready for the winter.
- My mother would also preserve produce as much as possible, pickling beetroot and onions and storing runner beans in earthenware jars in layers of salt.
- She would make her Christmas puddings in October, which was a lengthy process because of all the steaming for hours. I got to stir the mixture.
- Once autumn began the coalman came to deliver coal in one hundredweight sacks, and I was given the job of counting all the sacks as they were unloaded into the coal cellar.
- Harvest Festival was a big event back in the fifties and most people in the village were involved with growing, displaying and distributing the produce. Very few tins were brought in those days.
- On wet days, as a family, we would either play Snakes and Ladders or play the card games, Knockout Whist or Rummy, and listen to the Light Programme on the wireless.
- Living in the countryside I studied the wild birds and also kept lots of white Fantail pigeons. Autumn was a very special time as large flocks of starlings, house martins, swallows and lapwings would gather in the sky and fly off to warmer regions, hopefully returning again the following spring.

As Autumn gave way into winter there was all the excitement of looking forward to Christmas.

Brian Fisher

BEWARE OF FAKE MICROSOFT 'SPYWARE ALERT' POP-UPS ON YOUR COMPUTER

Scammers are impersonating Microsoft in pop-ups claiming your computer has been infected with spyware.

These pop-ups appear out of the blue on your screen and ask you to call a phone number for support. If you do this, you'll be contacting a scammer who will encourage you to download remote access software, allowing them to take control of your computer.

- * If a pop-up appears on your screen, don't call any phone numbers or click on any links.

A small pop-up appears on your screen. It claims 'a virus has been detected on your device' and states 'your personal and financial information is at risk'. It includes a fake number to contact Microsoft's customer support department. The pop-up includes two buttons - one reading 'deny' and the other 'support'. Clicking on either option may result in malware being downloaded onto your device.

Behind this small pop-up is a larger one that states: 'Microsoft security - spyware alert'. It informs you that your device is infected with a 'Trojan:S Locker' virus, which 'could result in a loss of personal and stored data', 'confidential information leak' and 'browser errors'.

On its website, Microsoft states that genuine error and warning messages never include a phone number and that you should only download software from official Microsoft partner websites or the Microsoft Store.

- * What happens if you call the scammer?

There's been reports of a couple of different outcomes for people who called the number on these pop-ups.

One victim said the person on the other end of the line told them 'illegal content' had been downloaded on their computer and requested remote access to the device to 'fix' the issue. While in control of the computer, they asked the victim to access their bank account to check for any unauthorised transactions.

Another victim was told their device would be scanned while on the call. The scammer said the victim's financial information had been compromised and they would connect to their bank using a 'secure' line. The representative of the 'bank' was another scammer who informed the victim they must move their money into a bitcoin account to secure it.

- * How to remove a dodgy pop-up

If one of these pop-ups appears on your screen, close the browser and shut down your device. Some victims have reported their screens being frozen - if this happens, hold down the power button on your computer to turn it off.

You might have received the pop-up because your device has been infected with malware or you've inadvertently visited a dodgy website in the past. Once you've turned your computer back on, conduct a scan using your antivirus software before going online again.

- * What to do if you've given a scammer access to your device

If the remote access software is still running, press the disconnect button. Next, shut down your device and turn your wi-fi off at the router.

When you switch the device back on, remove the software. You should be able to find it under your recent downloads. Check for any new programs or files installed by the scammer. Finally, reset the passwords for any accounts you access using the device.

If you've lost money to this scam, call your bank immediately using the number on the back of your card and report the scam to Action Fraud.

<https://data.actionfraud.police.uk/cms/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/AF-service.pdf>

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LOOK AFTER CHILDREN AND STOP THEM BEING SCAMMED

Surprising numbers of children have invested in cryptocurrencies online as a way to 'secure their future' - with nearly one in four aged between 13 and 16 either investing in them or planning to.

The findings are revealed in a report launched by Internet Matters, which is urging parents to speak to their children about the risks of being targeted by scammers and calling the government to do more to address the dangers.

The report shows that 8% of children have already invested in cryptocurrencies despite the risk of scams, while 15% of children are looking to invest.

The top reason (49%) given was to secure their financial future - worrying given the level of financial risk involved in trading in cryptocurrencies, especially against the backdrop of the cost of living crisis.

Four in 10 (40%) of those who have signed up to crypto or would do, said it was 'to earn lots of money', while 38% saw it as 'the future of money'.

Nearly one in 10 children surveyed (9%) had invested in non-fungible tokens (NFTs).

The report showed that the primary concern among both parents and children who are familiar with cryptoassets, including the ones who would not consider investing in them, was the risk of falling victim to cryptocurrency or NFT scams.

The top three risks cited by parents and children are falling victim to fraud or scams (46%), children being taken advantage of and encouraging them to buy crypto (35%) and people trying to target or steal from children (35%).

And despite the impact financial harm can have on children's lives, it is mostly out of the Online Safety Bill's scope - with the exception of paid-for scam advertising.

Internet Matters is calling for new anti-fraud lessons, promised in the recent Fraud Strategy, to include a focus on online scams and cryptoassets.

The ongoing involvement of parents and professionals such as teachers in this area is of significant importance. This underlines the relevance and value of recently released media literacy strategies by the Government and Ofcom.

In the absence of regulation designed to protect children from the risks of NFTs and cryptocurrencies, Internet Matters has provided parents with advice on how to support their children from these dangers.

Educate yourself

Learn about NFTs, cryptocurrencies, and the risks associated with them. Remember cryptoassets are not regulated in the same way as normal financial services, so you will have limited protection, if any, if something goes wrong.

Encourage children to apply a 'Should I trust this?' checklist

This should include asking themselves these questions:

Do I trust that the URL of the cryptocurrency website is legitimate? Check against other sources like social media profiles and price-tracking websites.

Is this trending cryptocurrency too good to be true? Don't buy into the hype, do your homework first, not everything that is heavily promoted is real.

Is this post from an influencer real advice or an ad? All post that are promoted by influencers need to be flagged, watch out for #Ad on the post.

Do research before investing

Advise your child to do a search of the cryptocurrency name or company alongside keywords like 'scam', 'fake' and 'review' to see if there is any mention of potential risks around it.

Keep apps official

Download crypto mobile apps from official stores like Google Play and Apple App Store. If your child is asked to download them outside these stores this is known as 'sideloading' and they run the risk of downloading a fake mobile wallet and getting their cryptocurrency stolen.

Keep credentials private

Encourage your child never to share cryptocurrency wallet information with anyone. People may ask for it to allow you to take part in an investment opportunity, but it can be a scam to steal your money.

Discuss the value of NFTs and how they change

As NFTs' value goes up and down with trends, it's important to talk to young people about what a realistic amount to invest looks like and the potential of NFTs losing value very quickly so they are aware of the risk.

The entrance to the Sensory Garden and some of the structures within it

