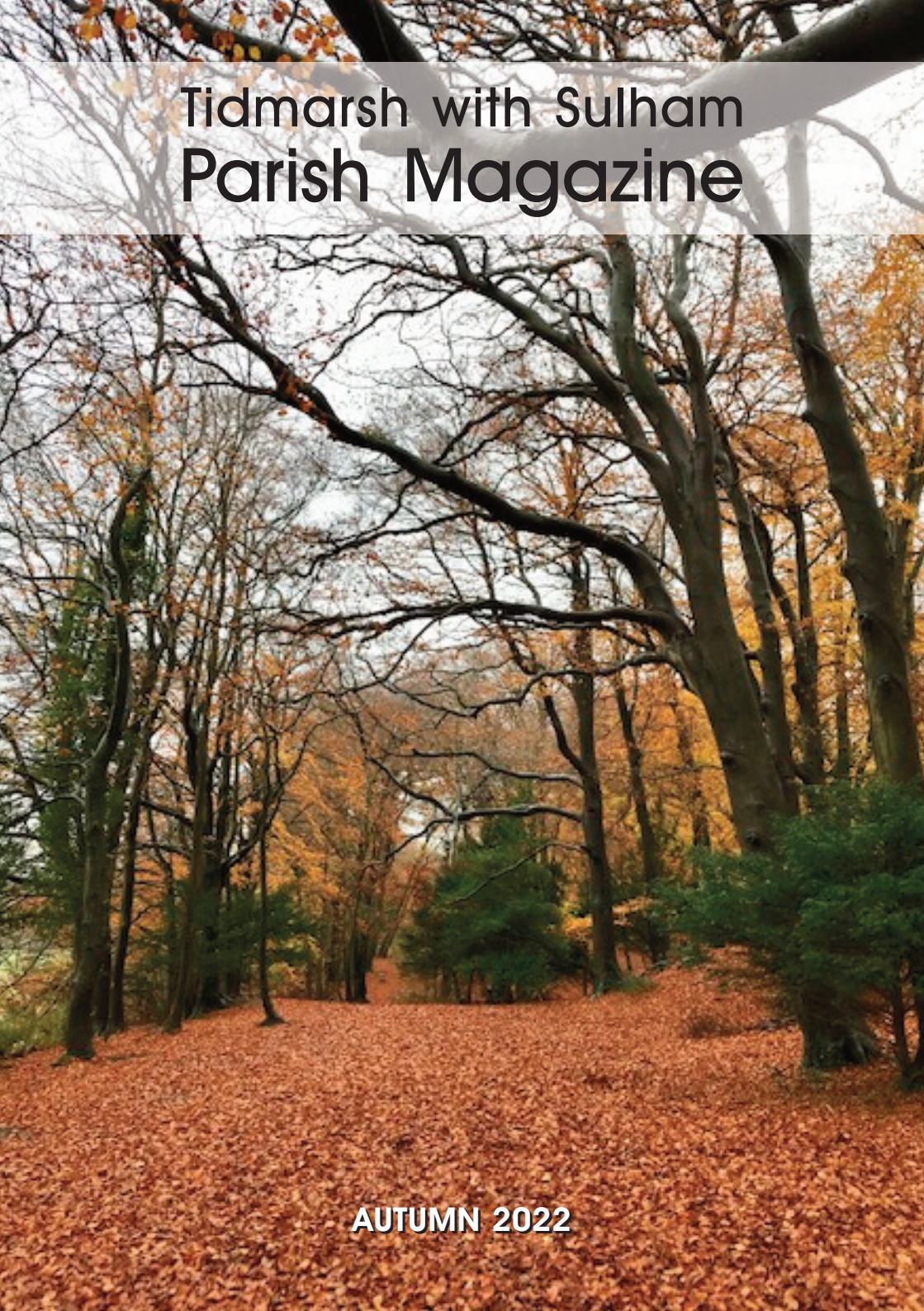




# Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Magazine

**AUTUMN 2022**

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### THANK YOU

As you will have read in the summer editorial, Jenny Cope has decided the time is right for her to hand over the reins of our Parish Magazine. Jenny has edited the magazine for over 10 years having originally agreed to take on the task for just one year!

The small team who have supported her throughout this period would like to say how hugely grateful we are for her excellent editorship. Jenny has managed all aspects of the magazine's production from gathering content to liaising with advertisers, printers, contributors and Parish Council.

Having simplified the process as much as possible to make handover easy, Jenny has now passed the editorship to Lucy Clow in Sulham and has kindly offered her continued support as part of a phased handover. We are all very grateful to Lucy for volunteering to take on this role and will continue to support her going forward.

---

Hello and welcome to the Autumn issue of the magazine. The long hot summer is coming to an end and I am pleased to say that we have an edition to keep you occupied, full of interesting news, articles and upcoming events.

Thanks to Gillian Alderton for the very seasonal front cover photograph.

### Special Appeal – the magazine needs your help!

In considering taking on the editorship, I was reminded of how few in our community contribute regularly to this magazine. I have always found it an interesting read, and packed with useful local information. To ensure that we keep it relevant and going strong for the future, please play your part too by sending in interesting articles and ideas, and also supporting our local advertisers.

In addition, the magazine needs additional funding. As we move our focus to the Winter and 2023 editions, there will be a shortfall to fill in order to cover production costs. If you are able to make a donation – however large or small – please either contact me (for cash) or make a deposit to the Tidmarsh & Sulham Parish Magazine: Lloyds Bank, Sort code: 30-96-96 Account No. 58794260. And Thank You to those who have already donated.

Calling anyone with desktop publishing experience; please contact me if you can help.

Lastly, we need a means of contacting as many households as possible specifically for matters regarding the magazine. If you are comfortable, please send me your email address.

*Lucy Clow, Editor*

*lucy.clow@gmail.com, Tel: 07500 937607*

## QUEEN ELIZABETH II

---

Shortly before going to print, the death of Queen Elizabeth II was announced, at 96 years of age and after a 70 year reign. There followed ten days of national mourning, with the Queen's coffin being transported first from Balmoral to Edinburgh to lie in state at St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh. The coffin was then flown to London and Buckingham Palace, from where it was placed on a gun carriage and accompanied by the King's troop, King Charles III and the immediate family along the Mall to Westminster Hall in the Palace of Westminster. There followed four days during which the public were able to file past and pay their respects.

The long reign of the Queen was marked by her strong sense of duty and her determination to dedicate her life to her throne and to her people. The nation responded to her death with an outpouring of gratitude as well as sadness. Tens of thousands visited the royal residences to pay their respects and lay flowers, most notably at the memorial garden in Green Park outside Buckingham Palace (as we did) and also at Windsor Castle.



For the Queen's lying in state at Westminster Hall, the queue quickly extended to five or more miles, with people queuing overnight and for up to 24 hours before entering the building. Despite the wait and the crowds, the atmosphere was calm and with a strong sense of community. There are estimates of over 400,00 people attending the event.

During the lying in state, moving vigils were held around the coffin by the Queen's children and grandchildren. Indeed, the Royal family were very present publicly during the events and engaged with the public regularly, in spite of their evident grief.

On Monday, 19 September, the coffin was taken by gun carriage from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey where the Queen's funeral was held, attended by 2,000 dignitaries and guests. The Queen's coffin was then taken to St George's Chapel in Windsor to lie alongside Prince Philip, her father, mother and sister. As a lovely personal touch, her riding pony watched the procession move up the Long Walk and her two beloved corgis were sitting outside the Chapel. As always, the staging and spectacle of all events taking place over the ten days of mourning was immaculate and the weather was kind throughout.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| DATE        | EVENT                                                                                               | TIME              |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2 October   | Holy Communion – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh                                                       | 11.15am           |
| 7 October   | Village Walk – Meet at Village Hall                                                                 | 9.30am            |
|             | Coffee Morning – Village Hall:<br>Macmillan Cancer Support                                          | 11.00am           |
| 16 October  | Family Worship – St Nicholas Church, Sulham                                                         | 11.15am           |
| 22 October  | Table Top Sale – Tidmarsh Village Hall                                                              | 2.00pm            |
| 22 October  | Village Quiz – Tidmarsh Village Hall                                                                | 7.45pm            |
| 4 November  | Village Walk – Meet at Village Hall<br>Coffee Morning – Village Hall                                | 9.30am            |
| 6 November  | Holy Communion – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh                                                       | 11.00am           |
| 20 November | Family Worship – St Nicholas Church, Sulham                                                         | 11.15am           |
| 2 December  | Village Walk – Meet at Village Hall<br>Coffee Morning – Village Hall                                | 9.30am<br>11.00am |
| 4 December  | Holy Communion – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh<br>Carols by Candlelight – St Nicholas Church, Sulham | 11.15am<br>4.00pm |
| 11 December | All Together Worship – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh                                                 | 10.00am           |
| 18 December | Crib Service – St Nicholas Church, Sulham                                                           | 11.15am           |
| 24 December | Christingle – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh<br>Midnight Mass – St Laurence Church, Tidmarsh          | 3.00pm<br>11.00pm |
| 25 December | Christmas Family Worship –<br>St Nicholas Church, Sulham                                            | 10.00am           |

### ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

Regular 3rd Sunday family services are held in St Nicholas church. These short services are followed by time to chat and meet new friends over coffee and cake. Everyone is welcome.

### VILLAGE WALKS AND COFFEE

Village walks: meet at Tidmarsh Village hall on the first Friday of every month at 9.30am for a gentle paced walk lasting 1.5 hours. Sociable doggies are welcome.

The Village Hall is open for coffee from 11am following the first Friday walks. Everyone is welcome.

### OCTOBER 7TH COFFEE MORNING

There will be a Coffee Morning held in **Tidmarsh Village Hall** on **Friday October 7th** at **11am** raising funds for **Macmillan Cancer Support**.

Please come for coffee and cake to help raise money for this charity that offers essential support to people living with cancer.

### TIDMARSH VILLAGE HALL ART GROUPS ART EXHIBITION

On Sunday July 10th the two Village Hall art groups held an exhibition of art works.

The sale of paintings totalled £280 of which £152 was kindly donated to Duchess of Kent Hospice.



After adding hanging fees and generous donations the final amount that the two art groups donated to the Hospice was £581.20.

The art groups would like to thank the anonymous donor who generously paid The Hall rental fee.



### SULHAM IN NEW MUSIC VIDEO

For those indie rock music fans among you, you'll be interested to know that footage of the Sulham gun placement is featured in local band The Amazons' recently released music video for their new album. To see it, type 'The Amazons How will I know video' into a search engine and the YouTube video will come up as the first option.



## BEE MURAL – PANGBOURNE STATION

Those of you travelling by train from Pangbourne station will have noticed an amazing new mural appearing in the station underpass. This mural and the bee friendly gardens in front of the station are a collaboration between the Bee Friendly Trust and Earthborn Paints with support from GWR. The mural artists are Zase Designs.

**[beefriendlytrust.org](http://beefriendlytrust.org)**

## WELCOME

The Sulham Estate is delighted to welcome Andrew Clay as their new farm manager, following the retirement earlier in the summer of John Haggarty, after 34 years at the helm. Andrew is from a farming family and comes to Sulham from managing an arable and sheep farm in Epping. For any and all enquiries relating to the farming at Sulham, Andrew may be contacted by email, at [andrew@sulhamestate.co.uk](mailto:andrew@sulhamestate.co.uk).



Sulham Village also extends a warm welcome to Andrew and his partner Celia who have moved into Corner Cottage with their dog Tom. We hope they will be very happy here.

## CARE BUS

Did you know there is a community bus that goes to West Berks Hospital, Newbury Parkway and Newbury Retail Park every Friday departing between 9 am and 10 am returning at lunchtime? Cost is £4.80 return. Wheelchair accessible.

There are two Carebuses and a Carebus wheelchair accessible car that can be booked by groups as well as private cars for individuals. Passenger based contributions are requested to cover fuel, insurance etc – all drivers are unpaid volunteers.

The transport can be booked for a wide variety of journeys local or further afield, anywhere within a days travel. Doctors appointments, family trips, social club outings, garden visits etc.

The Village Hall Art Group recently used the Carebus for a day out to Kelmscott Manor and can highly recommend it.

Call 0118 930 4837 to book

*[www.carebus.org](http://www.carebus.org), email: [info@carebus.org](mailto:info@carebus.org)*



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# **Tidmarsh Village Hall Quiz Night**

Saturday October 22nd

7.45 for prompt 8.00pm

Light Ploughmans provided

Bring your own drinks and glasses

Come as a team or join one on the night

£7.50 per person

Contact [alanmaskell56@gmail.com](mailto:alanmaskell56@gmail.com) or  
phone 0118 984 5326 to book a table

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### CHURCH SERVICES

St James | St Laurence | St Nicholas

For up-to-date details of all worship visit our website: [www.pangbournechurches.org/services](http://www.pangbournechurches.org/services)

### SEPTEMBER

#### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10 am   | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Holy Communion | St Laurence |

#### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>

|        |                      |             |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James    |
| 10am   | All Together Worship | St Nicholas |

#### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10am    | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Family Worship | St Nicholas |

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

|        |                      |          |
|--------|----------------------|----------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James |
| 10am   | Holy Communion       | St James |

### OCTOBER

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10 am   | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Holy Communion | St Laurence |

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>

|        |                      |          |
|--------|----------------------|----------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James |
| 10am   | Harvest Festival     | St James |

#### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10am    | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Family Worship | St Nicholas |

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>

|        |                      |          |
|--------|----------------------|----------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James |
| 10am   | Holy Communion       | St James |

#### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>

|      |                |          |
|------|----------------|----------|
| 10am | Holy Communion | St James |
|------|----------------|----------|

#### Midweek Holy Communion

10am every Wednesday morning in St James. All welcome

#### How can I donate to the Pangbourne Churches?

There are various ways you can donate money to the Parish of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham.

Visit our website for more information or scan this QR code to go straight to our online giving page.



#### A WORD FROM REVD MARK HOPKINS, RECTOR

Dear friends,

As a new school year begins this Autumn we have much to be thankful for as a church, and also many challenges to face. By the time this is printed we will be expecting a new prime minister, and we are approaching harvest at a time when our Summer has seen intense heatwaves, a cost of living crisis, and shortages of grain due to the war in Ukraine.

Looking back over the past couple of months as a church there have been many special moments. In July we were honoured to host internationally renowned musicians as part of the Berkshire Chamber Music Festival, who played Dvorak's "American" String Quartet and a Clarinet Quintet by Coleridge-Taylor.

It was also a great pleasure to welcome children from Englefield Primary and Pangbourne Primary for our "Schools Day", to learn about church life and how the building is used for worship, alongside a fun time of singing, crafts and parachute games.

Looking forward on 9th October our annual Harvest Festival service will be at 10am in St James the Less, and we will be supporting ReadFood which provides food to the most vulnerable at this crisis period.

We will also have a Harvest Supper that evening, with food, games and light entertainment—see overleaf for more details and information about tickets.

Blessings to you all,  
Rev Mark

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

WHAT'S ON



**HARVEST SUPPER**  
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monthly on the third Wednesday in 2023)



**NOAH'S ARK**

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# The Parish of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham

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



Sharing God's love with the people we serve

## CHURCH SERVICES IN THE PARISH

For up-to-date details of all worship visit our website: [www.pangbournechurches.org/services](http://www.pangbournechurches.org/services).  
Our main 10am service each Sunday will be live-streamed via YouTube.

### NOVEMBER

#### Sunday 6th

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10am    | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Holy Communion | St Laurence |

#### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>

|         |                                                         |          |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 7.45am  | Holy Communion (BCP)                                    | St James |
| 10.30am | All Together Worship<br>(to include act of Remembrance) | St James |
| 3pm     | Royal British Legion<br>Service of Remembrance          | St James |

#### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10am    | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Family Worship | St Nicholas |

#### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>

|        |                      |          |
|--------|----------------------|----------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James |
| 10am   | Holy Communion       | St James |
| 6pm    | Advent Carol Service | St James |

### DECEMBER

#### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

|         |                       |             |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 10am    | Holy Communion        | St James    |
| 11.15am | Holy Communion        | St Laurence |
| 4pm     | Carols by Candlelight | St Nicholas |

#### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>

|        |                      |             |
|--------|----------------------|-------------|
| 7.45am | Holy Communion (BCP) | St James    |
| 10am   | All Together Worship | St Laurence |

#### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>

|         |                |             |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| 10 am   | Holy Communion | St James    |
| 11.15am | Crib Service   | St Nicholas |
| 6pm     | Carol Service  | St James    |

#### Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup>

|      |               |             |
|------|---------------|-------------|
| 3pm  | Christingle   | St James    |
| 3pm  | Christingle   | St Laurence |
| 5pm  | Christingle   | St James    |
| 11pm | Midnight Mass | St James    |
| 11pm | Midnight Mass | St Laurence |

#### Christmas Day 25<sup>th</sup>

|      |                                            |             |
|------|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 10am | Christmas Celebration                      | St James    |
|      | <i>All age worship with Holy Communion</i> |             |
| 10am | Christmas Family Worship                   | St Nicholas |

These service times were correct at the time of going to print but may be subject to change. Please refer to our website for up-to-date service times and information.

[www.pangbournechurches.org/services](http://www.pangbournechurches.org/services)

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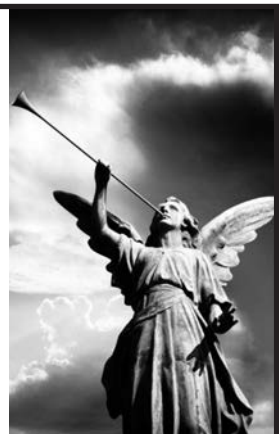
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## TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### **A Change of Clerk**

The Clerk is the Council's only employee and after being with us for three years Jennie has moved on to a larger parish in Oxfordshire. We wish her well with her future plans and are delighted to welcome Katherine West to the Council. The email address for the clerk will not change but please see below, and the Council's website for Katherine's telephone number and address.

### **Small Grants**

Small grants are available from the Parish Council for local not for profit and/or charitable organisations that provide services to residents in Tidmarsh and/or Sulham. The Council can award the grant via Greenham Trust's grant platform [www.thegoodexchange.com](http://www.thegoodexchange.com) or direct to the organisation. Please contact the Parish Clerk for further details.

### **Monthly Meetings**

The next Full Council meetings will be held on 12th October 2022 in Tidmarsh Village Hall. The Council meets monthly, throughout 2022 these will be held on the second Wednesday of the month.

The public are always welcome to attend Council meetings. Please contact the Parish Clerk or visit [www.tidmarshwithsulham.co.uk/pc.htm](http://www.tidmarshwithsulham.co.uk/pc.htm) for the agenda for the meeting.

### **Contacting the Parish Council**

Residents are welcome to contact the Parish Clerk (details below) or to directly approach a Councillor (listed in the Local Information section).

*Parish Clerk, Katherine West,  
[clerk@tidmarshwithsulham.co.uk](mailto:clerk@tidmarshwithsulham.co.uk), 07585 828285*

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS AT SULHAM FARMS

---

Following the farm walk in Sulham in May, which focused on the current environmental features, I have been asked to review what type of work we have done associated with this in the past few years.

DEFRA introduced the Environmental Stewardship programme over 15 years ago. It was set up as a way to encourage farmers throughout the country to look at their farming with a view to enhancing the environment as well as providing habitat and benefits for wildlife. The wider picture on this would be to enhance the quality of soil, air and water. For this to occur, payments would be made to farmers for the loss in any potential crop or grass production and for any capital costs to get things going.

At Sulham, we were very proactive in applying for this at the earliest opportunity as we could see many benefits. The aim was to have a whole farm approach and to bring in as many features as possible. The application process was long-winded and competitive, with only the best schemes accepted. The farm entered the Higher Level with the most environmental options. To enter, the farm had to be involved for an initial minimum 10-year period, after which, if all went well, it could be renewed.

Our first focus was on the old parkland areas which surround Purley Hall. These had been growing arable crops, and we wanted to return them to grassland with no input of fertiliser or pesticides. The areas had to be fenced and a water supply installed so that they could be grazed by the farm cattle.

The other important area was the grassland adjacent to the River Pang near Pangbourne. This area had been grazed and has an interesting mix of some rare plants and flowers. A small area here was designated as SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). The whole area was entered into the scheme, and no fertiliser or chemicals were applied to this block. The cattle graze the fields in a controlled way and are taken off the fields in the winter to avoid damage to the grass. The no fertiliser policy also ensures that no nitrates can enter the river. Piped water supply was also introduced to reduce the amount cattle drink from the river and cause any pollution.

To have a whole farm approach, several schemes were introduced over the arable cropping. The hedges are a significant part of the farm and benefit birds and small mammals. The hedgerows were surveyed, and a rotational hedge trimming was set out so that some are cut every two years instead of every year.

We also planted various field margins, taking the areas out of growing crops and establishing grass and wildflower margins. These then act as corridors for wildlife to move to each area. It is also vital for farmland birds, which have reduced in numbers in the past few years due to a change where most fields are now planted in the autumn, thereby denying them of any food supply over the winter. To correct this, we left a large amount of area unplanted in the autumn, leaving the straw stubble untouched to give a food supply for birds from the weeds and grass seeds that grew up there. We also planted areas with a mix of plants for overwintered bird feed.

Other features of the scheme were grass buffers around ponds and water courses to prevent any fertiliser or chemicals from getting into the water and planting trees and hedges over the farm.

The scheme here has now been in operation for 15 years, and next year a new plan will be set in place, and more options will be included, especially to encourage bees with nectar-rich species. In the time this has been in place, we have seen a significant increase in farmland birds, especially skylarks, lapwing, sparrows, grey partridge and barn owls. The number of hares seen in the fields has also increased as well as reptiles such as newts, frogs and slow worms. The parkland areas can be seen with lovely displays of cowslips and wild orchids.

Please take time to enjoy all these benefits as you walk the numerous footpaths around the Sulham area.

*John Haggarty*

### GARDENING by Alan Maskell

*This summer has seen challenges. Parts of the country differ. The mixed weather is probably an indicator of future years. Good soil, plenty of organic material and mulching help keep moisture in the roots, a necessity when rain is in short supply. Lawns will need attention during autumn but the hosepipe ban will make growth difficult if there are not a lot of rain showers. Both seeding and turf will have mixed results. If you have a fitbit you will be doing lots of steps with a watering can!*

#### October

October is ideal to move trees and shrubs, and plant hedges. Hardwood cuttings can be taken now from deciduous shrubs. Clear up fallen rose leaves to prevent diseases such as black spot from overwintering – don't compost the leaves, put them in general waste or burn.

Tidy borders and mulch with bark chips, well rotted manure, leaf mould or spent mushroom compost to insulate plant roots for the winter and keep weed growth in check. Reuse spent compost from containers.

Change summer bedding for winter bedding plants such as pansies, primulas. *Plant daffodils not tulips.*

Sow winter peas, broad beans and winter lettuce. Prepare bean plots for next year with well rotted manure. Divide clumps of rhubarb with spade and replant the healthiest looking pieces.

To test when apples are ripe, gently lift them in the palm of your hand or give them a gentle pull – they should come away easily.

A last mowing can be made this month before leaving your lawn for the winter. Aerate your lawn with a garden fork, rake thatch from the surface and repair dead patches. Autumn lawn feed can be applied and is a good time for turfing as long as rain is expected in the next day or so.

#### November

Tender plants will need protecting from frost, gales and freezing rains. Move plants into the greenhouse, or into a sheltered spot, but if you can't, it is worth wrapping plants or pots in situ. Remember our feathered friends by leaving out food and especially water.



Winter flowering shrubs like fragrant honeysuckle, daphne, sweet gum are very fragrant to tempt insects; others such as dogwood have colourful stems or foliage.

Clear up fallen leaves – especially from lawns, ponds and beds.

Raise containers onto pot feet to prevent water logging.

*Plant tulip bulbs.* Prune roses to prevent wind-rock which affects the roots.

### December

Keep an eye on winter protection, and if you have a greenhouse, make sure the heater works.

Check your winter protection structures are still securely in place. Prevent ponds and stand pipes from freezing.



Prune open-grown apples and pears except those trained against walls. Prune acers, birches and vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding. *Don't prune plums or cherries.*

Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted. Keep mice away from stored produce.

Reduce watering of houseplants.

***Alan tends gardens in Tidmarsh and the RG8 postcode area***

---



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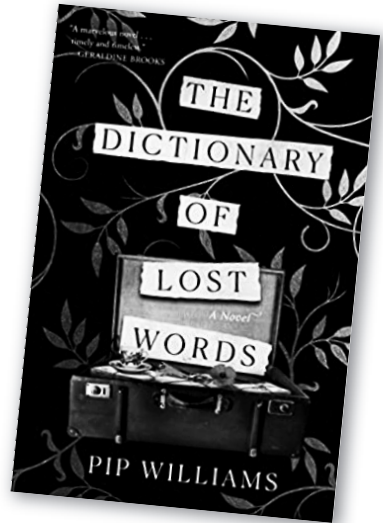
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## THE DICTIONARY OF LOST WORDS BY PIP WILLIAMS

This book about the writing of the Oxford English dictionary was an interesting read. The story is cleverly interwoven with true historical references of the history and process of lexicography. The story evolves as the protagonist, Esme, matures into a woman. Her daily life and emotions are tangled with the Scriptorium, where her father works, and her work with the suffragette movement. The characters are likeable and warmly described. Although the story unwound rather slowly the book is beautifully written and was enjoyable.



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We have just reached the end of another school year; this one with fewer disruptions (thankfully). We have been able to enjoy trips, visitors and residentials. We have also been able to send children out to sporting and musical events as well as some enrichment days at local independent schools. In addition, our parents have been able to join us in school and in the grounds for celebration assemblies, concerts, performances and several sociable events.



Our Year 3/4 children has a fabulous time at the Englefield Countryside Day; they particularly enjoyed finding out about birds of prey and having a tour of 'The Big House'! Thank you to Englefield Estate for providing this opportunity.

Nine Year 5/6 pupils spent a day at Bradfield College, taking part in a Kwik Cricket tournament with 9 other local schools. The weather was kind and they ended up with perfect cricketing weather. The confidence and the skills of the team grew enormously as the day went on, and some extra coaching in the nets from the Bradfield College sixth-formers really helped. They managed to clean bowl 9 children, took several catches and hit many runs; the teamwork and support for each other was superb. Overall we came second in our league – WELL DONE, TEAM!

Twelve of our Year 5/6 pupils joined children from six other schools to take part in a Pop Workshop in the Greek Amphitheatre in Bradfield College. It was a fantastic setting and the vocal coach, ably assisted by Bradfield College pupils got the children and staff singing their hearts out. A fabulous opportunity.

Sports Day began with the older children racing the Englefield Mile up and down the Englefield House private drive. Meanwhile on the school field, the younger children were taking part in a carousel of sporting activities to earn points for their houses. After the mile the older children had their turn at the field events. At lunchtime the field filled up with picnicking families. The skies looked ominous but the rain held off. In the afternoon we all enjoyed a full programme of races from sprints to dressing up, football slalom to toddler and parent races. We had a light sprinkling of rain but otherwise we were blessed with fine weather. While the children enjoyed ice lollies, Mrs Bushnell totted up the scores and the winning team were ... Poseidon! Well done to them and to everyone who took part and supported this wonderful school community event.





The Year 5/6 class, ably assisted by Miss Langston, Mrs Rose, Mrs Smith and Mrs Kelly, gave us three superb performances of *The Pirates of the Windy Bean*. There were some side-splitting jokes, uplifting and tender singing, including several solo performances, and great character acting... a truly enjoyable experience. The best thing is that everyone on stage loved being there.

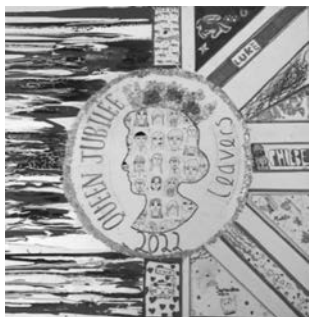
Thank you to Mrs Sheppard, Mrs Carney and Rev Mark and his team at St James the Less, Pangbourne for organising a super Schools Day last week. The children were joined by Pangbourne Primary and they did a wide range of activities to increase their knowledge about life in church. Our children made thoughtful contributions and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

We are truly delighted with the academic results our pupils have achieved this year – this is down to the hard work of the pupils, staff and parents and the great teamwork that has developed between the three. The disruption that has affected education since March 2020 has had a huge impact on the levels of attainment across the country. Although we have seen some impact at Englefield, we are delighted that our teamwork has kept this to a minimum.

Sadly we have had to say farewell to Jon Chishick who has been a governor at Englefield for 28 years! He started when his own children came to the school and has given loyal service ever since. With a background in accountancy, Jon has been a great support as Chair of our Finance Committee. A huge thank you from all of us at Englefield for so many years of dedication.



We said goodbye to our Year 6 children at a poignant service led by our soon-to-be vicar, Rev Julia. This group were hard-working, conscientious and thoughtful, with mature ideas and well-rooted views on fairness and justice; the embodiment of our school values. They added much to our school over the years and each and every one of them will be sorely missed. To help us all remember this special group, they worked with Ms Alvarado, one of our parents, to produce a beautiful piece of jubilee-related artwork which will hang in the hall for all to see.



We look forward to welcoming our families back to school in September.

A . B .

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### CONTINUING THE HISTORY OF THE TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM VILLAGE HALL – PART 5

So it was soon into another decade, the 1980s and during this period teenage parties were very popular, but they soon began to cause problems with gatecrashers and general disruption. After several of these unfortunate upsets the hall committee decided to ban such events and seek other ways of raising income. One suggestion was dog training classes, but after discussing the matter it was felt maybe the dogs would cause just as much of a problem (with each other) as the teenagers, so that idea went into the bin.

One event held in 1980 was by a local company from Purley called the Bull And Bush Company. They were based in the old music hall style of entertainment and proved very popular, so popular they came back several times and this helped to swell the funds considerably.

1981 saw the revival of the Youth Club, which continued for three more years until the youngsters all grew up and moved on.

The Bar and the Kitchen were re-furnished with new units, and crockery and cutlery were new additions. Also, the electric metres were changed to take 50 pence pieces, which was just as well because severe weather set in that winter and the hall suffered burst pipes. A revue by Theale Green School

pupils had to be cancelled due to the weather conditions. Four new tables were also added and it was decided to raise more money by hiring out the crockery and furniture. Although a deposit was required for damages and breakages it turned out to be difficult to keep track of every piece on loan, so that was abandoned.

But it was not all bad as in July of that year the Prince of Wales married Lady Diana Spencer and like the rest of the country, the hall marked the occasion with a Barn Dance and Bar-B-Que. It also planted two trees in the front of the hall to commemorate the Royal Wedding: a White Beam and a Red Sycamore. The White Beam sadly had to go when later the gateway was widened but the sycamore is now a fine specimen.

1983 saw the first quiz between Tidmarsh and Sulham and has now become an annual event. It is always an enjoyable evening with much good humour and rivalry.

A Photographic Exhibition was staged in 1984 entitled "Bygone Berkshire" with photos and artefacts from Pangbourne, Tidmarsh & Sulham. It was held over two days and brought in people from all around the area, some of whom had moved away but had heard about it. Many were only too

## TIDMARSH WITH SULHAM VILLAGE HALL

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happy to recall the old days. The sum raised was £100 and it was divided between the hall and the church at Sulham as many of the albums were from that village.

The hall roof began to leak and needed urgent repair but a grant of £2,000 was made available from Newbury District Council. Also a second hand typewriter was purchased to make the life of the Secretary easier.

Another new money making idea began in 1985; The 100 Club, and has proved popular to this day. As well as helping annually to swell funds it gives all the participants a chance to win some money for themselves. It was also decided to try a Car Boot Sale but this was not a success and also in that year several other events were cancelled due to lack of support. So the hall has had its good years and some not so good ones. Of course, every five years the hall is taken over as a polling station for the general elections and in between for other council elections and these are always useful in bringing in rent.

In 1987 the shed at the rear of the hall used for storing waste paper was burnt down by vandals. As it had been situated fairly close to the kitchen it was lucky it did not set fire to the hall as well. As it was, it broke all the windows in the kitchen and toilets, burnt the fascia boards and melted the drain pipes and guttering, plus a few

burst pipes. As the waste paper collections had almost dried up due to several of the collection firms going out of business it was decided not to replace the shed. Instead it was thought it better to do something about the front entrance by erecting a new wooden fence and this was duly done.

Once more, gaps appear in the records from 1987 to 1991. In 1991, the then committee decided to hire Pangbourne Village Hall for the jumble sale, even though this had always been one of the money making efforts. It appears it was thought that, by holding it in Pangbourne, it would attract more people and raise more money. This occurred over the next year or so but as the rent for the Pangbourne Hall had to be paid out of the income raised, it did not earn a lot of profit and so the Tidmarsh & Sulham Jumble Sale is now back where it belongs. Still, in 1992 another successful event was a Fashion and Model Show and as well as showing off the clothes, hair styles were part of the show as well.

In the nineties the curtains once more had to be replaced as it was now required that they had to be fire retardant, and each year these days the hall has to keep up with all the rules and regulations now in force. There is no doubt that some of the practices that were used in those early years would most certainly not be allowed today.

In the mid nineties the hall was offered a Loop System for those with hearing difficulties by the Meridian Broadcasting Trust but the general feeling of the committee at the time was that the hall would not warrant such a system.

The Village Fruit, Vegetable, and Flower Show which was introduced in 1975, had after a few years been discontinued through lack of entries but it was decided to re-start it again in 1995, and this time it would include crafts as well. This was to take the place of the Arts and Crafts show which, although always an enjoyable event, was considered a great deal of hard work for the volunteers to stage as numbers of those exhibiting had dwindled. This was a reluctant decision to make as it had achieved great success over many years. However the Village Show which has replaced it has flourished and is continuing to do so. Also that year a Red Cross Course in First Aid took place and another Photographic Exhibition, this time entitled "Down Memory Lane" were all well attended events.

In 1996 it was suggested that the villages of Tidmarsh & Sulham would benefit from having a Village Green, somewhere where villagers could go and relax, take the children for a picnic and hold Village outdoor events etc. A parcel of land opposite the Greyhound Pub was deemed an ideal spot and so a

meeting for villagers to come and hear the views on this and make suggestions was held in The Village Hall. Many plans and meetings were to take place before the end result was achieved but it was hoped it would be ready for the year 2000. Indeed it was and is now known as "The Millennium green". Although the Green and the Village Hall are separate items they are nevertheless all part of village life. The Village Hall plays its part in helping out at most of the events held on the Green such as organising the children's sports at its opening fun day, (now an annual event ) and again in 2002 to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

A cookery demonstration with wine proved popular that year as did a wine tasting evening.

Hand dryers were put in the toilets and more plants were added to the front of the hall.

In 1997 the Parish Council who held their meetings bi-monthly in the hall made a grant of £200 and this was used to add more tables and chairs as the hall now became busier with more outside bookings.

That year another touring company, The Gilt & Gaslight Theatre Co. entertained villagers with songs and sketches and was a great success.

The first of what was to be many Educational classes began in 1997

starting with an upholstery class every Tuesday morning. This was so well attended that later another class was added on Tuesday afternoons to accommodate the extra students. These classes are very important to the running of the hall as not only do they provide an extra income but more importantly act as a meeting place for villagers and others from outside the area to learn new skills and many friendships are formed.

Another attempt to hold a Car Boot Sale, (to see if the response would be more successful than in previous times.) was held that year. This time the car park of the hall would be the venue but once more it was not to be the case and so was not repeated.

A craft fair of a different style was also held where stallholders rented a space for their display in the hall, but once again entries for this were thin on the ground and that too was not repeated.

As the hall was once more needing to be brought up to date, ways of raising money were discussed and it was decided the best plan of action might be to apply for a grant from the Lottery Charities Board. So the wheels were set in motion and then the long process of form filling began and waiting to see if success had been achieved.

As the hall waited to see if it was to get a grant (by now it was 1998) the fund

raising still had to continue and new ideas put forward, so first on the list was the Village Quiz with an added interest, an Auction of Promises. No doubt some who left the hall that night wondered what they had let themselves in for, but it was all in a good cause. And then came the news everyone had been waiting for, we were to get a grant of £8,400. Now, many changes could be made and one of the first items was to get rid of the overhead heaters fed by the 50p metres and install central heating. New kitchen units were needed as the ones installed some years before were by now well past their sell by date, with all the hard wear and tear they had received over the years. It was also proposed that the main doors into the front entrance hall should be moved from the side to the front of the building to give better access. It was also felt once the doors were moved it would be nicer if a porch with a ramp for wheelchairs was added and so planning permission for this was applied for and granted.

A Village appeal was launched and this brought in a further £1,175.00. As well as the Village Appeal, voluntary help too was another added and welcome asset and work continued throughout that year.

So at the start of 1999 it was time to make plans for celebrating the Grand re-opening of the hall (fortunately whilst all these alterations were

carried out the hall was still able to be operational).

Planning began in the New Year and June 27th was the date when it was hoped all would be ready and indeed it was. Everyone was given a welcoming drink of wine and after the opening speech by the Chairperson, Mrs Tessa Hutchison, the Treasurer Mr John Harland as one of the longest serving members on the committee was asked to unveil the wall plaque from the Lotteries Board. A Bar-B-Que followed and to keep the children happy there was a Bouncy Castle and games and of course the usual super raffle. It was a great afternoon, attended by villagers and those who had helped on the project.

In that year more education classes were added; Decorative Paint Effects, Gardening, and Art, and these were all well attended with students coming from within the two villages and surrounding area.

It was also decided to erect new picket fencing and add double gates so as to make the front of the hall more attractive. The fencing was purchased and put in place by a hard working band of volunteers and some good second hand gates were added. Sadly the gates were not to remain in place long, as during one night in 2001 some kind person decided they were just what they needed and stole them!

Pine Furniture Sales were an added source of income that year but after a year or two, this type of income had to be discontinued due to the wear and tear on the floor by heavy furniture items being pulled across the floor.

Another very successful show was held in the hall in 1999 put on by a local resident and four or five colleagues. It was called Brut Farce and it proved to be one of the funniest revues the hall has had in a long time. It also raised a lot of money for the funds.

*Jean Harland*

## LOCAL INFORMATION

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### Advice and Support

#### **West Berkshire Citizens Advice Bureau**

Bartholomew St, Newbury 01635 516 605

#### **Pangbourne and District Volunteer Centre**

Mon-Fri (ex Tue) 9:30-11:30 am 0118 984 4586

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### Ecclesiastical

The Church of England Parish of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham (PTS)

Priest in Charge of Pangbourne with Tidmarsh and Sulham

#### **Rev Mark Hopkins**

The Rectory, St James Close, Pangbourne  
0118 984 2928

rector.ptschurches@gmail.com

#### **Church Administrator**

Vanessa Saunders

Church office open Tuesday and Friday  
12.00-3.00pm

office.ptschurches@gmail.com

#### **Church Wardens for St James, Pangbourne; St Laurence, Tidmarsh; St Nicholas, Sulham**

Jill Palfrey 0118 984 2698

Julia Sheppard 0118 956 1820

#### **PCC Treasurer**

Stephen Billyeald 0118 981 3368

#### **PCC Secretary**

Helen Hopwood 07733 106020

#### **Friends of St Laurence**

##### **Chairman**

John Chishick 0118 984 3666

##### **Treasurer/Secretary**

John Butler 0118 984 2621

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Alok Sharma (Conservative) 0118 945 4881

#### **Councillor for the Pangbourne Ward**

Gareth Hurley (Conservative) 07891 508906

#### **Tidmarsh with Sulham Parish Councillors**

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John Butler (treasurer) 0118 984 2621

Jennifer Nutt 0118 984 2370

Karen Fountaine 07867 854420

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#### **Katherine West**

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clerk@tidmarshwithsulham.co.uk

#### **District councillor**

Gareth Hurley 07515 624899

or gareth.hurley1@westberks.gov.uk

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## Village Hall Committee

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| Alan Maskell                 | 0118 984 5326                   |
| Hall Bookings (Hilary Innes) | 0118 984 2561                   |
| Emergency Contact            | 07954 140048                    |
| Email:                       | tidmarshvillagehall@hotmail.com |

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