



## MENTMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Volume 26, Issue 2

June 2019

### “DIARY PAGE”



#### PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council is currently set to take place on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June**, at **8.00 pm** in the Village Hall.

Village Hall Committee meetings are generally held about a week before the parish council meeting.

Agendas for both meetings are posted on the noticeboards. Members of the public are welcome to attend both the Parish Council meetings and the Village Hall meetings.

Please check the web site [www.mentmore.org](http://www.mentmore.org) for further details.

#### HISTORICAL PARISH WALK

A Parish walk is being planned for **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June, starting from The Stag car park at 2.00 pm**. The walk will take us round Mentmore Park and golf course to Crafton Lodge, up to Helsthorpe Farm, returning through Crafton village past Crafton Stud Farm, taking in the mediaeval settlements and will arrive back in Mentmore at aprox. 5.30 pm.

Short talks will be given at appropriate points along the route on subjects such as the local history and wild life. There will be a refreshment stop in Crafton, where tea and delicious homemade cakes will be provided.

A secondary starting and finishing point at Crafton Lodge would be an alternative for those who do not wish to do the whole walk. Walking boots and suitable clothing are recommended.

Numbers may have to be limited so please phone or email as soon as possible to book a place or to ask for further details. Please call 01296 661141 or 07860 910034 or e-mail: [dchmja@gmail.com](mailto:dchmja@gmail.com)



#### VILLAGE EVENT – RETURN OF THE FÊTE

We are holding a fete this year! Keep the date free - **Sunday 21st July**

The fete will be followed by music and a community bring-your-own picnic.

Caroline Gates ([gates\\_caroline@hotmail.com](mailto:gates_caroline@hotmail.com)) is our chief organiser and is whipping the team into shape. It will be the usual traditional afternoon of

tombola, competitions, raffle, barbecue, teas, children's games, dog racing, bric-a-brac, local produce and tug-o'-war. We plan to erect a large marquee so that the event will go ahead through the afternoon and evening whatever the weather.



We really need offers of help to make this the most successful it can be. Any money raised will go towards the Epileptic Society.



## BUCKS HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE & STRIDE

Ride & Stride is an event like no other! Why not take part this year and find out for yourself what extraordinary things lie quietly behind the churchyard gates and creaking doors of Buckinghamshire's many churches and chapels. The aim of the day is to raise money (by being sponsored for every participating church one visits) for the repair and restoration of churches and chapels of any Christian denomination in Buckinghamshire. Half the money raised goes to the church or chapel of the participant's choice - we hope St. Mary's, Mentmore - and the other half is added to a general fund which is administered by the Buckinghamshire Historic Churches Trust. Churches are open between 10am and 6pm. Many of the churches that participate provide delicious refreshments for the riders who visit, as well as a friendly face and someone to talk to! This year's ride takes place on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September**. If you would like to take part please contact Sally Smith (07769 697696) for more information.

## Thanks Thanks Thanks



### PLANT SALE – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Despite finding ourselves facing a cold and very windy April day, the Mentmore Plant Sale was once again a great success. As always people rallied together to help, and braved the chilly conditions. Big thanks to all who volunteered, baked cakes and donated goods for the plant stall. We raised over £1,500 and will be using the funds for a variety of local projects including a much needed footpath extension and more marquees to make future events even more successful.

Please do let us know if you'd like to get involved with the organisation for next year's sale.

**Hannah and the plant sale team**



### MENTMORE ARTS FESTIVAL – 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May

Another Mentmore Arts Festival has come to a close and the Committee would like to thank everyone who helped for all their hard work and support over the weekend. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Our wonderful artists once again wowed us with their work and the church and Village Hall displayed the show perfectly. Apart from a few showers on the Sunday, we enjoyed fine weather which led to crowds of visitors enjoying the art as well as the lunches, tea and cakes and the odd glass of Pimm's.

Once again we've had an extremely successful year in terms of fundraising and will be in a position to make substantial donations to our charities. The exact amounts will be announced after our next Committee meeting. Thanks to all the artists and visitors who make the Festival a success every year.

**Stephanie  
Arts Festival Committee**



### LITTER PICK

A big thank you to everyone who was interested or involved in the litter-pick on 7<sup>th</sup> April. It was a stupendous effort and we managed to cover the entire parish between us. Twenty-four people turned out in the space of a few days, collecting the usual bottles, cans, car parts, tyres, fast food wrappers and items of clothing from verges under hedges and in ditches. Although it has inevitably started to creep back, particularly by the railway bridge, we are able to make a difference, and people are less likely to throw litter onto areas which are clean to start with (that's my theory anyway). AVDC were prompt in removing the mountain that we left for them outside the Village Hall.

If you see flytipping, go to [fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk](http://fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk) to report it. We will have another litter pick in the autumn once the grass has died back to some extent. If you would like to play a part, please contact me - [elizadack@outlook.com](mailto:elizadack@outlook.com)

# YOUR VILLAGE IN FOCUS



## NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S CHURCH

**House for Duty Priest Update:** We are very sorry to pass on the news that, due to her husband's deterioration in health, Lesley Holman has withdrawn from taking up the post of 'Vicar' of Cheddington and Mentmore. Our prayers are with her and Martin

**New Churchwarden for St Mary's:** Sally Smith of Rosebery Mews has been appointed Churchwarden and is looking forward to working with the new vicar. Part of the Churchwarden's role is to represent the members of the parish. If there are any issues you would like Sally to raise with the P.C.C. you may contact her on 07769 697696 or [sallysmith@waitrose.com](mailto:sallysmith@waitrose.com).

Following the break-in at St Giles, Cheddington at the beginning of May, the P.C.C. would appreciate people keeping a look out for any suspicious behaviour. St Mary's is fortunate in having an enthusiastic working party from the village who groom the churchyard on an ad hoc basis and any such presence will help deter thieves. A special thank you goes to those volunteers - they have made a huge difference and it is much appreciated.

**Sally Smith**  
Churchwarden

## Schedule of Services for St Mary's Church

| Date        | Service                        | Time    |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| May 30th    | Ascension Day – Holy Communion | 8.00 pm |
| June 2nd    | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |
| June 16th   | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |
| July 7th    | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |
| July 21st   | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |
| August 4th  | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |
| August 18th | Holy Communion                 | 9.00 am |

## PARISH SERVICES AT ST GILES

Every Thursday at 9.15am Mid-Week Communion

On the second Sunday 9.am B.C.P. and 10.30 am Family Service

On the fourth Sunday 10.30 am Morning Worship

## 5th SUNDAY

A combined service for all is held at the Methodist Chapel, Cheddington at 10.30 am

## **MENTforMORE** – the fundraising initiative for St. Mary's Church

To help support your parish church and raise funds for St Mary's why not join our Mentmore Club 200. For only £24 per year, per ticket you could win over £1000 per annum! You can have up to a maximum of 10 tickets and the prizes range from £10 to £300.

£24 per annum OR £2 per month, per ticket (Max 10 tickets) - YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

- £300 in December, £200 in June
- £100 in Feb, April, Aug and Oct
- All other months £30
- PLUS an extra prize of £10 per month

If you would like to support our village church by purchasing a 200 Club ticket, please contact Carol Cox on 07920 140740 or email [carolcox48@gmail.com](mailto:carolcox48@gmail.com). Thank you.

**March winners:**

1st prize of £30.00    John & Sue Sutton of Mentmore  
2nd prize of £10.00    David Morgan

**April winners:**

1st prize of £100.00    John & Sue Sutton of Mentmore  
2nd prize of £10.00    Brian & Penny Hibbert of Crafton

**CHURCH TREASURER REQUIRED**

Do you have a few hours a month spare to help out as Treasurer to our beautiful Village Church. Church accounts are currently prepared using excel so it would be helpful if the applicant has this facility and can work the basics.

Full support from the current Treasurer will be given as well as from the Treasurer for St Giles Church, Cheddington.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact Carol Cox on 07920 140740 or [carolcox48@gmail.com](mailto:carolcox48@gmail.com).

**You do not have to be a churchgoer to take on this voluntary role.**



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

**Your Parish Councillors are:**

Clerk to the Council: Bridget Knight

[clerk@mentmore.org](mailto:clerk@mentmore.org)

Chairman:            Peter Brazier  
Vice Chairman:     Jonathan Langley  
Councillors:        Liz Dack  
                              Rob Fletcher  
                              Iain Butler

The Parish website has minutes and agendas for meetings, planning applications, upcoming events and wildlife reports, contact details for AVDC and BCC, a booking service for the village hall and much more. If you have an issue you would like to see on the agenda please contact the parish clerk.



**BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION**

Mentmore has entered the Best Kept Village Competition again this year (Gurney Cup). The judging will take place sometime in June or July - watch out for people with pursed lips and clipboards taking an unusual interest in gardens, verges and hedges. As a community, we can show that we take a pride in our village and be aware of how it looks to anyone passing through. Jonathan keeps the grass on the Green and verges well-mown and volunteers have done excellent work, particularly in the churchyard and with regard to litter. The village at the moment looks splendid.

## VILLAGE HALL

Refurbishment of the hall is moving forward. The kitchen is complete, the hall has been re-decorated and the floor refurbished. We aim to install a new, efficient and easy to use heating system as our next project, and put new flooring in the lobby area. Grants are available to mitigate the cost of improvements.



### BOOK SALES

We continue to sell books in the hall at weekends when the hall is not in use. Please feel welcome to browse and find yourself a remarkably cheap read. All the books have been kindly donated and the money raised is donated to hall funds.

## MENTMORE VILLAGE HALL

The hall can accommodate up to 50 adults and is ideal for children's parties, family get-togethers and educational or social functions.

Hire includes the use of a fully equipped kitchen, tables & chairs and a garden area with patio.  
Wi-Fi Internet is available

**Price: main hall - £12 per hour, £10 per hour for parishioners  
and £7 for the small meeting room.**

The small meeting room is available for hire separately as appropriate.  
Hall furniture and marquees are available for separate hire; rates on application.

To book and for all hire enquiries please call **07707 218 719**  
or book online at [www.mentmore.org](http://www.mentmore.org)

## RIGHTS OF WAY

Use footpaths to keep them open and functional. Please do report any problems to

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/environment/public-rights-of-way/report-a-rights-of-way-issue/>

## VILLAGE HALL STAG PUB BASH



The Village Hall pub bash has now become a regular event with excellent attendance creating much of our traditional pub atmosphere. It is open to all parish residents and friends, **taking place on the first Friday evening of every month,** Village Hall doors open at 6.30pm, closing time is 11pm.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. Glasses, plates etc will be provided.  
If the weather shows promise we will get the barbeque out.

**NEXT EVENT: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June.**

Please put this in your diary, we look forward to seeing you there.



## MENTMORE SUMMER FÊTE Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> July

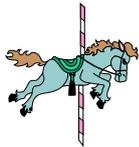


We have fantastic plans for another wonderful event. Importantly, this is where **YOU** come in!

If you can help deliver leaflets, run one of the stalls, set up tables, tents and stalls on the morning of the fête or by providing help in any other way, please contact: Caroline on 07761 199520 **We really need YOU!**

We would be particularly grateful for any offers of:

- Bric-a-Brac (Jane – 07840 489543)
- Crockery for the “Crockery Smash” Jonathan – 07795 383086)
- Cakes for teas and the cake stall
- Home Produce
- Tombola items



## WILDLIFE NEWS



This year seems to be heralding a good year for most of our local wildlife, despite the somewhat dry weather! From a personal point of view we have been delighted to see more brown hares than we have seen for probably five years or more – but the real bonus has been the evenings spent quietly watching them and getting a few good photos too! Hare coursing is still a problem, so if you see anything suspicious please do report it to the police.

My work with BORG has also been proving successful – with over 14 Tawny Owl chicks ringed in the area Lynne and I monitor (echoed by our colleagues across Bucks). We are now into prime time for Barn Owls, Kestrels and Little Owls and so far so good. Nests have been showing signs of high occupancy and egg numbers, together with plenty of stashed food, so we could be in for a very busy season if the weather and food supplies remain good...

Our colleagues in other parts of the county have been finding some very unusual, if not to say odd, inhabitants in our boxes. We thought that finding a Mandarin Duck in a Barn Owl box last year was interesting, but this year has seen a Barn Owl box with a Gooseander in residence and several others with a combination of eggs from upwards of three different species of birds!

Please do check out the BORG web site ([www.giveahoot.org.uk](http://www.giveahoot.org.uk)) for updates on these stories and our work throughout the county and how you can help these wonderful species, or just give me a call or e-mail and I'll be happy to help.

Karen Thomas  
01296 661509

[karen@giveahoot.org.uk](mailto:karen@giveahoot.org.uk)



### A SWARM OF HONEY BEES - WHAT DO I DO?

Please contact: **MBBKA Swarm Hotline 07770370132** or use the British Bee Keepers Association website, <http://www.bbka.org.uk>

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## Advertising Costs For the Mentmore Newsletter – June 2019

| Copy Size  | Boxed Display Rates<br>Commercial<br>Parish | Boxed Display Rates<br>Commercial<br>Non- parish | Boxed Display Rates<br>Charity & Fundraising<br>Parish | Boxed Display Rates<br>Charity & Fundraising<br>Non- parish |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Full Page (A4)   | £10   | £24  | Free   | Negotiable  |
| ½ Page<br>13 x 18.25cm<br>landscape  | £6  | £12  | Free   | Free  |
| ¼ Page<br>6.25 x 18.25cm<br>landscape  | £3  | £6   | Free   | Free  |
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| ⅛ Page<br>8.8 x 6.25cm<br>landscape  | £1  | £3   | Free   | Free  |
| 20% discount is given on all commercial advertisements which run for a year (4 issues) |   |  |  |   |

*If you have an item which you would like included in the next Newsletter (September, October & November) please contact either Liz (Tel 661309 /email [elizadack@outlook.com](mailto:elizadack@outlook.com)) or Karen (Tel 661509 / email [karen.thomas@dial.pipex.com](mailto:karen.thomas@dial.pipex.com))  
**Newsletter deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019***

To offset costs we are looking for small business advertising. Would you like to sponsor an issue? Your ads could be anything from one liner to more striking boxes and graphics. For more information please contact Liz or Karen.

**This newsletter was sponsored by The Little IT Company and The Aarlon Practice.**