



MENTMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Volume 25 Issue 3

September 2018

“DIARY PAGE”

RECYCLING & WASTE

Don't forget that your recycling and waste day has changed – food waste bins are now collected every Wednesday, while the green (general waste), blue (recycling) and brown (garden waste) bins are collected on alternate Wednesdays. Please see the leaflet posted through your door by AVDC for more details.



HARVEST FESTIVAL

St. Mary's Harvest Festival Service will take place in the church on *Sunday 7th October* at **11.45 am** and will be followed by a “bring and share” luncheon. All parishioners are welcome, but we ask that if you are intending to bring something to share please sign up to the list in church or contact Jean Howlett 01525 376552 to avoid a duplication of food.

The collection from the service is to be donated to charity – to be decided at the PCC meeting next week.



PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting dates: Extra-ordinary Meeting – *12th September*, to discuss planning.

Ordinary Meetings - *Wednesday 3rd October* (8pm) and *Wednesday 5th December* (8pm) in the Village Hall.



HORSES HELPING PEOPLE QUIZ NIGHT

Ken Bruce, BBC Radio 2 DJ and Patron of local charity Horses Helping People will be quizmaster at the charity's fundraising event to be held at The Stag on *Thursday 27th September*. Sorry tickets sold out within hours, but if you've missed out on this one, look out for more fundraising events at The Stag in the future!



LITTERPICK – Mentmoreons United

You will have noticed more unsightly rubbish on the roadsides in our parish, especially since the verges have been cut back. *Sunday 23rd September* is the date for our autumn litter-pick. See feature in Parish Council News for more details.

It makes such a difference, so please do join us! For more details please contact Liz Dack (elizadack@outlook.com).



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

This year's service of Remembrance will be held at St. Mary's Church on *Sunday 11th November* at **10.00 am**. The collection is to be donated to the “Poppy Fund”.

UPDATES THANKS UPDATES THANKS

MAGNIFICENT EFFORT BY THE MENTMORE ARTS FESTIVAL TEAM

The organising committee are pleased to announce the following final results from this year's Arts Festival:

Lindengate	£2000
Seeability	£2000
Church	£2500
NationalAutistic Society (Bucks)	£5500

MENTMORE VILLAGE PICNIC

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Mentmore Village Picnic on the afternoon of August 4th. It was a glorious hot summer's day and we were very glad of the shade provided by the Village Hall gazebos. Everyone seemed to enjoy having the time to catch up and chat with one another with the lovely music from vocal/guitar duo, Aspect, in the background.

The games were also a highlight with croquet, boules and Jenga and even a game of rounders once the sun went down.

We were all so relaxed, we didn't really notice how late it was getting and eventually reluctantly tidied up in the dark!!

Thank you to everyone who helped with planning, setting up and taking down - all much appreciated.

Stephanie

AFTERNOON TEA & MUCH, MUCH MORE.....

My dear wife of some 40 years has recently been diagnosed with breast cancer. She has been going through the ordeal of chemotherapy and is doing well. The treatment has inevitably led to her hair loss.

Our dear little granddaughter, Daisy Sprules aged 10, was most distressed upon seeing her beloved Nana that she immediately vowed to have her own long hair cut off in solidarity.

A plan was hatched to raise some money for the local cancer charity and the date was set for Sunday August 12th. Our village hall was the venue and afternoon teas were served to many people. A barbecue was also on offer together with more cakes than you could poke a stick at!

The occasion was a very well attended gathering.

Once the washing up was done and the hall tidied the small organiser and her team set about counting up the pennies. I am pleased and proud to announce that together with the takings, raffle and most kind generosity of friends and family they are able to hand a sum in excess of £4,500 to the charities. The charities are Stoke Mandeville Cancer Unit, Macmillan Cancer Support and The Princess Trust.

Her hair will be used to make a wig for a child being treated with chemo. This little girl has turned around the negatives that this disease so often brings and has offered hope, love and selflessness. Her hair will grow back, but we will never forget her kindness.

A big thank you to all who attended.

Martin Gates

YOUR VILLAGE IN FOCUS



www.mentmore.org

Your Parish Councillors are:

Clerk to the Council Bridget Knight

councillors@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, upcoming events and wildlife reports, contact details for AVDC and CC, road closures, a booking service for the village hall and more.

If you have an issue you would like to see on the agenda please contact the parish clerk (clerk@mentmore.org).

MENTMORE VILLAGE HALL

The hall has disabled access, 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.

Price: from £7 per hour for parishioners (commercial rates negotiable)

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

Neighbours - there for one another...

Bonfire advice, disposing of garden waste

A bonfire can be a convenient way of getting rid of a large amount of waste. However, there may be other options which are better for the environment and your garden.

The following are recommended alternatives to a bonfire:

- Composting soft garden waste such as grass cuttings and leaves is the best means of disposal as it returns nutrients to the soil.
- Woody garden waste cannot be easily composted so may be disposed of by cutting relatively short and packing into your green wheelie bin.
- Large amounts of household and garden waste can be taken to a local household waste and recycling centre. Alternatively consider hiring a skip from a private company. If you would need to place the

skip on the road or pavement rather than in your garden, then you need to obtain a licence from Buckinghamshire County Council.

Additionally, Aylesbury Vale District Council's Waste Team can collect bulky items of household refuse, e.g. old furniture, mattresses & floor coverings. Further details at: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/bulky-item-collection.

However if you decide to have a bonfire we advise you to follow these guidelines to reduce the likelihood of causing a problem:

- DO advise your nearest neighbours' before you light a bonfire so they can be prepared for any minor inconvenience that may arise.
- DO choose the time of day and weather conditions that will cause the least inconvenience to neighbours and passing motorists. Having a bonfire on a warm day or evening when people want to enjoy their garden and tend to have doors and windows open will cause greater annoyance.
- DO burn material quickly in small quantities so the minimum amount of smoke is created.
- DO be aware of where the smoke is likely to travel, consider your neighbours' and roads.
- DO choose your bonfire site carefully, well away from trees, boundary fences and windows.
- DO NOT burn wet or green garden waste. This will create heavy smoke. Allow clippings to dry and turn brown for a couple of weeks before burning.
- DO NOT burn any oily rags, rubber, plastics or other materials that will create heavy smoke or toxic fumes.
- DO NOT light a bonfire when your neighbours' have washing drying, or are out enjoying their gardens or have windows wide open.
- NEVER leave a fire unattended

Beware of lighting bonfires when there are unstable weather conditions, for example on very windy days it can so easily get out of control. Have a hose pipe and buckets of water handy just in case. Hose it down until cold before you leave and then rake the ashes into the soil as a useful fertiliser and prevent them being blown onto your neighbours' property.

Garden waste service: Arrange a garden waste collection for one annual payment of £45, payable by direct debit, and save a trip to the tip! For more details visit: www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/garden-waste-service

Leaf Blowers: Please consider those around you before rounding up your dead leaves with a leaf blower, which can cause a considerable noise nuisance.

Weedkillers containing Glyphosate: It has been brought to our attention that herbicides that contain Glyphosate are damaging to the environment and 'probably carcinogenic to humans'.

Litter picking: You may have noticed the increase in litter left on the verges in the parish recently, especially visible since the verges have been cut back.

The proposed date for the next organised litter pick for the three villages is SUNDAY 23rd September. The Village Hall will be open as our base from 1pm, with light refreshments provided. Please let me know if you would like to be involved if you haven't done this before. I will notify all the usual volunteers in the near future. If you are not free on that Sunday, another time can be arranged. I will agree a route with you and provide risk assessment, hi-viz jacket, litterpicker, bags etc as needed. You will need gloves and suitable footwear. I will arrange for the bags to be collected by AVDC. Any flytipping is reported separately.

Liz Dack (elizadack@outlook.com)

Best Kept Village Competition 2018, Gurney Cup

celebrating 61 years of the Best Kept Village Competition in Buckinghamshire

As you know the Parish Council entered Mentmore into this year's Best Kept Village Competition and the results are now in! Unfortunately, we did not win, but the results and judges' comments are published below for your information.

Marking Schedule

	Possible Marks	Marks Awarded
Principal features		
1A. Cemetery, graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	10	7
1B. Common, green, playing field	10	9
1C. Children's play area	10	8
1D. Nature conservation areas	5	4D
1E. Village hall, community centre, church hall	10	8
1F. General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream, pump)	10	8
Other features		
2A. Areas around shops	5	4D
2B. Areas around pubs	5	3
2C. Bus stops and bus shelters	5	4D
2D. Notice boards	5	4
2E. War memorial	10	7
2F. Overall appearance, lack of litter and evidence of community effort	15	13
TOTAL	100	79

Judges' signatures:

Date:

Notes:

- The whole village/town will be judged, not solely the specific features identified on the map.
- The community will be assessed as seen by the judges on the inspection day.
- Absent features will be awarded an average mark taking into account the other features in the category.
- Judges take into account that cutting of grass verges outside the settlement is usually the principal authority's responsibility.

Judges' comments

VILLAGE/TOWN: Mentmore

The outstanding feature of Mentmore has to be its Village Green, which appeared excellently managed at the time of our visit.

The Stag's forecourt is serviceable and litter free, as are the Village Hall surrounds. The notice board was up to date and showed evidence of ongoing communal activities.

Perhaps because of its difficult access and awkward topography, the churchyard appeared somewhat sub-standard as regards upkeep, though it was clear that some maintenance had taken place. The war memorial was reasonably well looked after.

Mentmore is a quiet and tidy village with little or no litter to be seen. This in itself shows good evidence of community spirit.

MOVING FORWARD:

We should use the information gained to help us tackle problem areas within the village so that, not only will we be able to improve the look of our village now, but we will stand a better chance of winning in the future!

So, if you want to help improve our parish why not make a start by getting involved in the next litter pick or volunteer to help look after the churchyard – it all makes a difference and will benefit everyone!



NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S CHURCH

PARISH OF CHEDDINGTON WITH MENTMORE

For all queries, would you please contact the Team Rector, Philip Derbyshire (01525 240287) or Parish Churchwardens, Lin Knappitt (01296 668568) and Christopher Shephard (01296 661849). Thank you.

MENTMORE CLUB 200 - 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 £1,000 per annum! You can have as many tickets as you like and the prizes range from £10 to £300.

Email: carolcox48@gmail.com or call 07920 140 740

July winners:

1st Prize of £30 Rosie Knight of Mentmore
2nd Prize of £10 Steve and Elaine Powell of Rowden

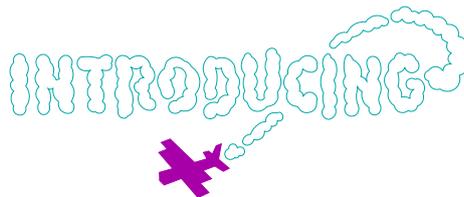
August winners:

1st Prize of £100 Denise Redding of Wing
2nd Prize of £10 Steve and Elaine Powell of Rowden

SERVICE TIMES

	1 st Sunday	2 nd Sunday	3 rd Sunday	4 th Sunday	5 th Sunday
St Mary's	9.00 am HC	-	9.00 am HC	-	Combined 10.30 with Methodists (alternate locations)
St Giles	10.30 am HC	9.00 am BCP 10.30-11.15 AA	10.30 am Morning Worship	10.30 am HC	

HC – Holy Communion; AA – All Age; BCP – Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion;



If you have you just had a new addition to the family, or know of a neighbour with a new baby, then why not tell us so that we can include the details in our "Birth Announcements" section.

Just let Liz or Karen know the details and we'll do the rest!

FOOTPATHS to RECIPES

Liz has now completed her “Parish Footpaths” feature having walked, and reported on, all of the parish’s footpaths over the past couple of years, so we thought we would include something a little different in this issue – one of Liz’s favourite recipes!

SWEET TOMATO AND CHILLI RELISH

Makes about 500ml

1kg vine tomatoes
1 tsp sea salt
200g granulated jam sugar with pectin
1 tbsp finely chopped medium-hot red chilli
3 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
100ml white wine or cider vinegar

Preheat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6
Have ready a large roasting tin or dish about 25cm x 35cm
Pierce the top of the tomatoes with the point of a knife, plunge them into boiling water for 20 seconds, then into cold water, slip off the skins and coarsely chop the flesh, discarding the cores.

Combine the chopped tomatoes with all the remaining ingredients in the roasting dish, and place in the oven, uncovered, for 65-75 minutes, stirring towards the end, until reduced considerably, with the tomatoes sitting in a small amount of syrupy juices.

Spoon the mixture into a hot sterilised jar, or jars, cover and leave to cool. Store in the fridge.

We are considering whether to make this a regular feature in the newsletter, but will have to consider all the legal implications such as copyright etc. before we make a final decision.

As many of you will remember a revised version of the Mentmore WI Cookbook was published in 2009. The book contained a variety of recipes from local residents past and present, and (if they can be found amidst all the re-organisation as a result of building works at home) I do still have a few copies! So, for the princely sum of £5 you can find out what your fellow parishioners favourite recipes are – just give me a call or drop me an e-mail.

Karen Thomas

ADVERTISING FOR LOCAL EVENTS & BUSINESSES

<h1>Town Farm</h1>	<p>Perfectly timed for that special Christmas gift!</p> <p>Paintings, Illustration, Printmaking Ceramics, Sculpture, Woodturning Willow weaving, Embroidery, Jewellery</p> <p>www.townfarmartshow.blogspot.com</p>
<h1>ART SHOW</h1>	<p>Mulled wine & homebaked festive treats in aid of Rennie Grove Hospice Care</p> <p>ONE WEEKEND ONLY Friday 23 - Sunday 25 November 10am - 4pm</p> <p>6 Town Farm, Cheddington, Nr Tring, LU7 0TT PLEASE PARK ON HIGH STREET - NOT IN TOWN FARM</p> <p>Free entry</p>

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Hello from Horses Helping People, your local therapeutic horsemanship centre! There's lots going on here but, as we are tucked away between Mentmore and Ledburn, a lot of people don't realise we are here, or what we do, so we thought it was time to remind everyone who we are.

Horses Helping People is run by Dave Johnson, Debbie La-Haye and their son Morgan, with the help of volunteers. The aim of our centre is to improve life for children and adults that are facing challenges in their lives, by providing the opportunity to spend time with the horses in a natural environment. That might involve taking part in activities (like grooming and leading the horses) that increase confidence and self-esteem, or relaxing in a safe peaceful sanctuary, leaving behind the stresses of daily life and recharging batteries.

REQUEST FOR HELP

As you will have seen from the diary page we are currently organising a fundraising quiz, hosted by Stag landlords Graeme and Gary and with Radio 2 DJ Ken Bruce, our Patron, as Quizmaster.

Although tickets for the quiz sold out within an hour of posting on Facebook local businesses can still help us to raise funds by donating a prize, or prizes, for the raffle. Please e-mail Debbie at info@horseshelpingpeople.co.uk to arrange collection, or drop them into The Stag before September 27th.

Thanks, Debbie.

ACCESS TO NEWSLETTER - Message to anyone with a new neighbour:

Please let Liz (elizadack@outlook.com) or Karen (karen.thomas@dial.pipex.com) know if you know anyone who would like a copy of the newsletter emailed to them every quarter. It can also be found on the Parish Council website www.mentmore.org

*If you have an item which you would like included in the Winter Newsletter (December, January and February) please contact either Elizabeth Dack (Tel 661309 /email elizadack@outlook.com) or Karen Thomas (Tel 661509 / email karen.thomas@dial.pipex.com)
Newsletter deadline: 16th November 2018*

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

This newsletter was sponsored by The Little It Company.