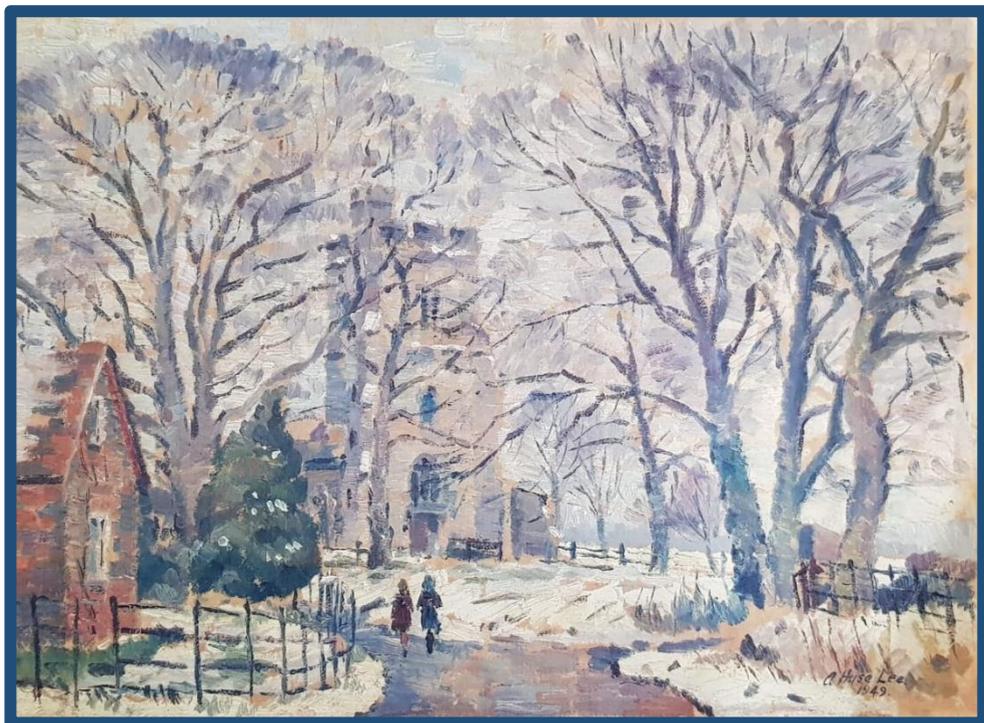


# THE WESTON TURVILLE TIMES

WINTER 2020



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THE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISH  
OF WESTON TURVILLE

Published by Weston Turville Parish Council

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## Message from the Editor

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Well it is December 2020, and the world is more topsy than when we published the Spring edition. What an unusual year we have experienced.

At the time of writing, a second lockdown has just been announced and Christmas celebrations as we know them may be cancelled. We may not be able to celebrate the season with our friends and family, but we could at least try and remember the origins of Christmas and the message that often gets lost amongst alcohol and presents.

Whatever your personal beliefs are: be kind and do good, enjoy whatever you can do.



From the Editorial Team of the Weston Turville Times

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***Contributions to the magazine are welcomed subject to space and the Editor's decision on suitability. The copy deadline for the Spring issue is 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.***

*We reserve the right to edit all articles.*

The Weston Turville Times is a community magazine for the parish of Weston Turville. It is published quarterly and distributed free of charge to every house and many businesses in Weston Turville. Past editions can be found on the Parish Council website - [www.westonturville-pc.gov.uk](http://www.westonturville-pc.gov.uk).

*The views expressed in articles are not necessarily the views of the editorial team or the Parish Council. We do not endorse any of the suppliers advertising in the magazine.*

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Tel: 01296 612838  
[clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk)

Editor

[c/o clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:c/o_clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk)

Advertising

Michael Foote  
[wt-advertising@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:wt-advertising@westonturville-pc.gov.uk)

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# Weston Turville Emergency Plan

## CAN YOU HELP!

We put a shout out several times for volunteers to help with collecting, shopping and delivering during this current pandemic. I, for one, was amazed at the number of responses we had and how willing some of you are to assist in emergencies. However, this way of getting volunteers is slow and haphazard. We need to get a list together of people with certain skills or equipment we can call upon first before shouting out to the whole parish.

We will not hold you to being at home when an emergency occurs or prevent you from moving to a new house at some stage, but whilst you are here we would like to utilise you! What we need is a name and contact number for us to call in the first instance; if you are out or busy or have had a skin full.....we will call the next person on the list.

Examples of emergencies that may affect Weston Turville are:

- Heavy snow
- Aircraft Incident
- Major Transport Incident
- Fire, explosion
- Gales / Storms
- Heat wave
- Pandemic, eg flu

This list is not prescriptive and may include other events but hopefully not alien invasions, our plan doesn't cover that!

For information: our Emergency Plan is activated when an emergency occurs and it is clear that the emergency services will be overwhelmed, or they are unable to reach the scene in a reasonable time or they require extra support. It may also be activated on the advice of emergency services or appropriate organization of an impending emergency, eg heavy snow, severe weather.

We would like to keep a list of volunteers who have:

1 <sup>st</sup> Aid skills (human and animal)	Camping equipment inc. gas bottles
4 x 4 owners and drivers	People with rescue skills (retired emergency etc)
Chainsaw owners	Wheelchairs/ mobility scooters to borrow
Plumbers	People to assist with general duties.
Electricians	Caterers or people who can assist with catering
Trailer owners / tow bars	Heavy lifting gear or any lifting gear

Again, this list is not prescriptive and depending on the type of emergency; other skills or equipment may be required.

If you have any of the skills or equipment mentioned above and do not mind your contact details being kept for emergency call out purposes only: please email, phone, write to or send smoke signals to the Parish Clerk. Details below.

Mandi Simons

Parish Clerk contact details:

Email: [clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk)

Tel: 01296 612838

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Many older people would describe themselves as 'technophobes' however, during the **COVID-19 crisis** we have learnt that **many of you have proved yourselves wrong**.

A smart phone **is becoming considered to be an essential in maintaining** connections with loved ones, interest and social groups and increasingly, faith communities

**The current COVID-19 crisis has resulted in people making connections in many ways we could never have dreamed of** and we want you to stay connected long **after the current crisis** has passed.

If you are an **older person living in Buckinghamshire** or know an older person who might find this very beneficial, please contact us on the following number and select the 'Befriending' option 2 on the dial pad to get the right person to contact you.

**Include your name and number**

Thank you.

AgeUK Buckinghamshire

## **Weston Turville Coronavirus Support**

Are you in quarantine or self-isolating and unable to arrange delivery of essential items?

If so, please contact someone you know and trust in the **first instance** to help you.

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If they are not available to help you, then please contact Mandi Simons on 01296 613958 and help will be arranged through one of our volunteers.

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***To avoid this service becoming overwhelmed please use us as a last resort not the first port of call.***

Please give as much notice as possible.

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## Further Ramblings.....

Since the last edition of the magazine we have had the schools start back, Halloween, Fireworks night and Remembrance Sunday.

Of those people who follow the Everything Weston Turville on Facebook, you will be aware of the exploits of monkey who lives of the corner of Church Lane. Monkey has amused many with his antics and advice during the lockdown and beyond and I am pleased to see that he joined in the pumpkin trail for Halloween. Monkey will be giving us good advice later on. The pumpkins carvings were excellent and showed again what a great community we live in to come together in difficult times.



**Remembrance Sunday** was a muted affair this year in order to comply with Government COVID 19 guidelines. Wreaths were laid and parishioners asked to paint pebbles in memory of someone they lost or in the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us.

The pebbles will be incorporated into the rose and/or wildflower gardens by the memorial.



So, it is December, the season of good cheer and joy to all. A time when according to the television ads, we should get together with our families and exchange presents, a time to overindulge in food and drink. But this year we may not be doing it because we may be in lockdown and not be allowed to do it. We may not be allowed to meet up with family and friends for fear of killing them or doing serious harm. For some, they have already lost their nearest and dearest as a direct consequence of this virus and they will be spending a Christmas alone. We may not be allowed to give gifts unless they are essential (I believe you can buy some very pretty prewrapped toilet rolls!). For others who have suffered financial loss or are concerned about their work prospects as a result of the pandemic, putting food on the table is of higher import. Please be aware that there is help out there and if you contact, in confidence, the village volunteers' number you can be directed to appropriate assistance. If any one can assist with the volunteers please make contact. We need more 'Pals' who can make calls to those living alone or who need someone to chat with to help them get through this difficult time. It is not to replace any existing official organisation but a cheery voice on the end of a phone. If you have time to chat please contact us. The volunteers contact details are in this magazine.

On the good news side, a walking Christmas advent calendar has been devised so you can walk around and see the decorations around the village. Further details to be found on Everything Weston Turville on Facebook or local notice boards. The Parish Council has purchased a permanent Christmas tree located in the village hall car park to replace the tree that was removed last year. The tree will be decorated with lights and hopefully be a place where we can sing carols around next year!

Mandi Simons



## **Weston Turville Women's Institute**

The Weston Turville W.I. meets on the second Thursday of each month in  
Weston Turville Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, unfortunately we are currently unable to hold  
our monthly meetings. Please look on the Weston Turville WI. website for any  
further information and updates.

## Advice from monkey:



Monkey says to wear your mask properly and not leave your nose hanging out!

Monkey says if you can meet your friends outdoors then it will be safer for all of you. Remember the rule of 6.



Monkey says if you need help with your shopping if we stay in lockdown or under other restrictions, then contact the village virus volunteers who can assist. Other supermarkets are also available.....

Monkey says be careful out there with the colder weather and dark evenings. It's very easy to fall, hurt yourself and squash someone's flowers!



Monkey says if things are looking glum and you are worried then have a cup of tea and call someone. Don't stress out alone.

Monkey will be celebrating **Diwali** (the Indian festival of lights) and Christmas so look out for him in his garden in Church Lane.

*Mandi Simson*

*Thank you to Emma Gurney for Monkey and the photos.*

There's something for everyone on at the village hall – please check with organisers before turning up to ensure activities are going ahead:

- Socialisation and basic training for your puppy, **Puppy Training Classes** on Mondays run by Puppy Stars [www.puppystars.co.uk](http://www.puppystars.co.uk)
- Entertain your preschoolers at **Cha Cha Chimps** on Wednesday mornings, contact [sarah@ccchimps.com](mailto:sarah@ccchimps.com) for further information.
- **Tap and Ballet** Dance classes for children aged 2-18 years. [www.jolatusdance.co.uk](http://www.jolatusdance.co.uk)
- Hone your camera skills with **Imagez Camera Club** which meets on Tuesday evenings, [www.imagezcameraclub.co.uk](http://www.imagezcameraclub.co.uk) (meeting virtually via Zoom until Sept 2021)
- There are several options for Pilates classes in the hall throughout the week which cater for all abilities, for further details contact:
  - Sandra Ferguson - 01296 338140
  - Fran Gerrans – 07739 322627
  - Elaine MacWhirter – 07515 252331 [www.physioandpilatesinbucks.com](http://www.physioandpilatesinbucks.com)
- Keep Fit class on Friday afternoons, run by Jan Rance.
- Learn more about our local history with **Weston Turville Historical Society** who meet on the last Friday of the month. Meetings are currently suspended due to COVID, see [www.wthsoc.org.uk](http://www.wthsoc.org.uk) for further information
- Make new friends and learn new skills with the Weston Turville Women's Institute, contact Denise Sissons on 01296 614814 for more information (meetings currently suspended due to COVID)
- If you prefer to be outside, "Boot Camp" suitable for all fitness abilities is run on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on the field behind the hall. For more information about this fun, friendly group, contact Caroline Shrewbridge on 07566 204524



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## Wendover Community Board – making a difference to where you live



Buckinghamshire's Community Boards are a new way of working, The boards will influence how decisions are made and how services are delivered by:

- Bringing together key community partners and residents
- Representing the voice of local people
- Capturing thoughts ideas and suggestions
- Identifying local needs and working to produce creative solutions

Each Community Board decides its own priorities and for 2020-21 Wendover's have been agreed as:

- Support our local community to recover from COVID-19
- Focus on the Health and Wellbeing of our local residents
- Support our adults, vulnerable residents, and children to live their best lives
- Work towards sufficient Transport, Highways and Infrastructure for the area
- Ensure that the area is a safe environment for local residents

These priorities will help us determine where we take action and allocate funding to improve the local area.

**Get Involved** – by joining your local Community Board you'll be able to have your say on issues that affect where you live. How involved you become is up to you. We'll

- Invite you to the Board meetings and events
- Give you the opportunity to get involved with working groups
- Let you know about local consultations
- Share information on funding for communities

**Working Together: Local Choices, Local Voices, Local Action**

**Contact : [michelle.parker@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.parker@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)**

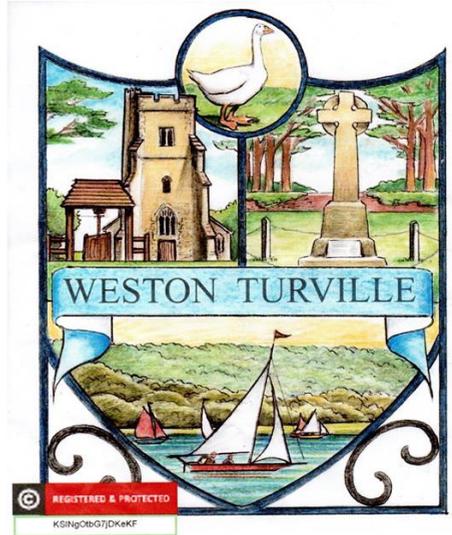
**[www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-board](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-board)**

# Village Sign

The Parish Council have been working with The Village Sign People to design a new village sign. Planning permission has been applied for to site the sign on the green outside the chapel, which will be sometime around summer/autumn 2021.

We have chosen to depict the church, war memorial and reservoir. Also, from comments received it was clear that the Aylesbury duck, which used to be raised in the village, was a must.

The illustration is not quite the final design as we are still tweaking details and colours, but gives a good idea of how the sign will look.



## Grass verges

The Parish Council has been approached by a local resident asking that some of the grass verges and green areas around the parish are left to grow rather than cut monthly, in order to encourage grasses and wildflowers to grow. Currently the verges are cut monthly from April to September.

The Council would like to hear your thoughts on this please. Do you agree with the suggestion? Which verges would you like to see left to grow? Please let us know:

Email: [clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk) or Tel: 01296 612838



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Hello everybody of Weston Turville,

I very much hope that you are all okay and managing under the circumstances. I thought I would write you a little article to say keep going but more to the point what you can do while still a little bit trapped in these times. So, here are a few child friendly and fun things to do this winter while we cannot really gather and much remains closed due to coronavirus.

### **1. Make a bird feeder out of a milk bottle.**

This one's a classic and really simple to make; apart from the cutting! Sharpies are definitely recommended for this task and give the best finish. To hang from a tree, just cut a bit of string and put it under the bottle lid. All you do is cut a small enough hole for birds to come in and out and then enjoy decorating! When you are done you can add in some bird food to attract the birds!

### **2. Invest in a Create this Book 1 or 2.**

This is a less well known thing to do but can be just as fun and creative as any other arty project and helps with thinking outside the box. Create this book 1 and 2 are books filled with inspiring prompts for kids and adults to work through alone or as a family. The author, Moriah Elizabeth, has created many great tutorials to follow along online. To buy one of these, just visit Amazon or eBay as they are not sold in many shops.

### **3. Take a family walk or just alone.**

This is a very simple one but can be great fun for anybody. In Buckinghamshire there are some great walks to participate in. One of the best places to visit is Wendover Woods. They have many unique and modern takes on making walks more interesting, and with their brand new cafe, there is a great treat waiting at the end!

### **4. Get a magazine subscription.**

From Grazia, to National Geographic there are so many amazing magazines you can have ordered right to your door. Packed full of interesting things tailored to their readers. Even if you do not find your perfect magazine straight away, keep looking and one day it will land right in your hands.

### **5. Get active with Joe Wicks' PE at home workouts.**

From Pe with Joe to senior's chair workouts and stretching, Joe has got a workout for everyone. You can watch any of these straight from your TV or a mobile device under The Body Coach TV. So I highly recommend trying one of these to lift your energy and higher those endorphins.

## 6. Read through that book which you have just 'not had the time to read'.

It's time, finish that book which has been sat in the draw for two years as the days tick by. Winter is great to curl up on the sofa and have a good read so sit back and relax and enjoy the less obvious things in life.

## 7. Bake something!

This is the best one in my opinion. From cookies, to cakes to breads or doughnuts there are so many yummy foods to bake for the family. Recommended and trusted websites include BBC Good Food and Baking Mad. If you are looking for something healthier than the food above but still just as tasty, Joe Wicks has made some amazing books to curb those cravings.

Sophia Pluck

Age 11

---

## No Hell, No Hell (Noel, Noel)



Weston Turville at Christmas, was hardly divine,  
No-one was about, singing carols sublime.  
Where were the relatives usually seen?  
The family do's that always had been.

No soggy brussels to go with the roast,  
Aunt Sadie's burnt mince pies missed almost the most.  
Each little house, standing sad and alone.  
Inside the connection by zoom or by phone.

Masked dog walkers braved it, led by their pets.  
Conditions are dire, but all must be met.  
Government guidelines change every day,  
Will we ever get used to living this way?



*Susan Conolly*

---

Please send any letters or articles for the magazine to [clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westonturville-pc.gov.uk)  
*Contributions to the magazine are welcomed subject to space and the Editor's decision on suitability. The copy deadline for the Spring issue is 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021.*

Although many, if not all, events planned for 2020 were cancelled due to coronavirus and some projects put on hold, the Parish Council continues to work on your behalf to help make our area a pleasant place to live and work.

We are coordinating a **Community Fibre** project to improve broadband connections and speeds to those in poorly served areas. Although the initial expressions of interest have been submitted to the provider, it may still be possible to get involved. Contact the Clerk for more information.

We have committed to working with Climate Action Wendover to reduce our carbon footprint and will be looking at alternative green energy options for the village hall. See our website for ideas of how you can reduce your personal carbon footprint.

You will see in the magazine the draft design for a village sign being commissioned by the Council. It will be installed on the old green outside the Union Chapel in Worlds End Lane, the planning application has been submitted and at the time of writing, we are awaiting the outcome of this.

A lot of work went into making the village hall and processes covid safe to allow it to reopen in September, we are pleased to say that bookings are steadily increasing and that although we currently cannot accept bookings for parties, as soon as government restrictions are lifted the hall will again be available for these.

We are also delighted to be able to lease the football pitches to two local football clubs for the 2020-21 season. Both clubs have commenced games and enjoying the season.

## Litter Pick



The September litter pick was very successful, 28 litter pickers turned out and between them collected 30 bags of rubbish from around the village. A huge thank you to all those who took part.

We are planning to organise two litter picks per year in April and September, look out for details next year.



## **Skate Park and MUGA**

Following an objection from Sport England, we are taking advice on a new layout for the recreation ground that will accommodate sports pitches, tennis courts, children's playground as well as the proposed new skate park, MUGA and Petanque court before a new planning application is submitted. We hope to finally start building during 2021.

## **Grass verges**

The Parish Council has been approached by a local resident who has suggested that the grass verges are not all cut but some left to grow wild to encourage wildlife. The verges are currently cut 6 times a year throughout the 30mph areas and some 40mph areas of our parish. We want to hear your views – please email the Clerk to let us know if you think this is a good idea or if the grass should continue to be cut regularly.

## **Projects for next year**

- Rumble strips in Brook End at the start of the 30mph zone
- Bus shelter to be installed in Worlds End Lane by the new housing development
- New dogs bins to be installed following the recent consultation
- Picnic benches and teen shelter for the recreation ground
- Footpath around the recreation ground “Walk a Mile a Day”
- Community Orchard

Parish Council meetings are currently being held electronically via Zoom. You are all welcome to log in and take part or just listen to local democracy in action! Look at the website for agenda and log in details, or contact the Clerk.

Weston Turville Parish Council  
Village Hall, School Approach, Weston Turville HP22 5RW  
Telephone: 01296 612838 or 07909 485369  
Email: [clerk@westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk)  
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**We wish all our residents a very  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**



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## The Climate and Ecological Emergency and Residents of Weston Turville

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 our UK Parliament declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency<sup>1</sup>. This was in response to scientific evidence which told us (in October 2018) that we had only 12 years in which to reduce our greenhouse gases to zero to stand any chance of keeping below a 2°C average rise in global temperature. If we did not succeed we would face catastrophic, irreversible consequences that threatened our very existence on the planet<sup>2</sup>. Despite a series of UN Climate conferences and treaties our atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have continued to rise exponentially.

### What can we do?

Most of us want to do the right thing, but it's hard to know what "right" is. Almost none of us want climate change, endangered wildlife or plastic pollution but, the reality is, it's a consequence of the lives many of us lead today.

A recent baseline study of the carbon footprint of Wendover highlights the biggest areas of carbon emission for communities like ours. It's very helpful because it shows the choices that we can make as individuals to reduce our emissions. Will it make a difference? The answer is an emphatic "Yes!" By living lightly and choosing what is best for us and the world we encourage those around us to do the same things – and the community of those who care grows.

### These are the headlines:

- **Petrol and diesel-driven car journeys** are the biggest source of emissions for communities like ours. Switching to electric or hybrid vehicles will have an enormous impact but consider other options including car sharing, public transport and, of course, cycling and walking for short local journeys.
- Reducing the number of **flights** we take, or not flying at all. This applies equally to personal flying and business miles – although we may have less control over our business travel.
- We can reduce our emissions at home (and our bills) by installing **solar P/V panels**. Also we can improve the **insulation on our homes** by making the most of the Government **Green Homes Grant Scheme**, a £2bn package designed to make homes more energy efficient and save you money<sup>3</sup>.
- The fourth area is **diet and food waste**. By eating less red meat and dairy we can significantly reduce our emissions. High meat eaters are estimated to have an

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48126677>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://greengrantfund.com>

annual carbon footprint of 2,624 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e nearly double the 1,391 for vegetarians<sup>4</sup>.

**Reducing food waste** cuts our emissions and saves money too.

## Community level

Here in Weston Turville our **Parish Council** is committed to reducing the carbon footprint of our parish, at the same time as promoting biodiversity and increasing local renewable energy generation. This could be achieved through a solar P/V installation on the village hall, through more tree planting and wildflower protection, and through traffic speed reduction through the village and to encourage more walking and cycling.

If you are interested in joining an informal group to promote these things please get in touch: [racheljblackmore@gmail.com](mailto:racheljblackmore@gmail.com) 07792 475 094

David and Rachel Blackmore

<sup>4</sup> <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-014-1169-1>



## Weston Turville U3A

Although Coronavirus has curtailed some of our activities, the monthly general meetings have continued on Zoom with some interesting and entertaining talks and more are planned for the early part of 2021.

Some of our outdoor activities such as walking and petanque have continued, albeit with restrictions in place. Other sections are meeting in small groups whilst many others are accessing social media to keep the group active.

So despite lockdowns and restrictions we are still going strong and further details about the various activities of the Weston Turville U3A branch can be found on the website: [www.wtu3a.org.uk](http://www.wtu3a.org.uk) or from our Secretary on 01296

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*The Old Crown, West End*

# WESTON TURVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the Historical Society has reluctantly made the decision to cancel all meetings for the remainder of the year. It is hope that monthly meetings will be able to resume in January 2021.

For further information on the Society, visit [www.WTHSoc.org.uk](http://www.WTHSoc.org.uk), or email: [secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk).

New members and visitors welcome.

## Weston Turville Historical Society Speaker Programme

Date	Speaker	Title of Talk
January 29 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Judy Dewey	Wallingford Castle, Royal Stronghold of the Thames valley
February 26 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Denise Beddows	Buckinghamshire Spies & Subversives
March 26 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Michael Hardy	Lacey Green Windmill after 350 Years
April 30 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Penny	Dunstable and the Hat Trade (T.B.C.)
May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Emily Toettcher	Amersham in Victorian Times
June 25 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Glynn White	AGM + The History of Weston Turville

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## Christmas in Jamaica

A while ago my then wife and I went to Jamaica for Christmas to visit her father and her brother, Calvin, and his family who lived in Constant Spring on the outskirts of Kingston. Getting off the plane, we were greeted by a wall of heat and a welcoming Jamaican family. As you can imagine, Christmas in Jamaica is somewhat different. The island is extremely hot all year round with a short wet season in August. It is bright, colourful, noisy and both exciting and excitable. Much of life is conducted outside in the early morning or in the evening.

Christmas for Jamaicans is certainly not about snow, illuminated conifers or robins on Christmas cards. They are a religious and devout people, so Christmas is taken with due reverence but with such joy. As a people, they adore parties and one another's company. The country is also a haven of creativity. I mention Bob Marley and the reggae tradition, a local school of painting reflecting the colour and brightness of the environment, the theatre in Kingston of eighteenth century origin, wonderful punches with or without rum, and would you believe it, English Christmas pudding flavoured ice cream!

My brother-in-law's house was cool and open. It was shared by his wife, his three daughters, three dogs and a goat. More of the goat later. Christmas was a specially good time to visit Calvin. His birthday was on the 27th so there were days of celebration and conviviality ahead. Although Cecile had lived in London for a number of years, she had kept contacts with many friends from her earlier life. There was too much to enjoy and celebrate. On Christmas day, she and I had been invited to a party that started at six in the morning! We set off on foot for her friend lived just a little further on. The rum and the whisky flowed. It was not long before we were slightly oiled and very relaxed. At eight we decided to walk back to Calvin's. He might be a little worried about our absence. We were not wrong for he met us in the car looking a tad concerned. Middle-class Jamaicans do not walk they drive.

As we arrived home were greeted by an aggressive goat, tethered to the front of the house. The house dogs avoided it for it proved adept at defending itself when another animal approached. This was Christmas dinner. I doubt whether Jamaicans eat turkey. Goats run wild on the island and are a common source of lean meat. You may have come across 'curry goat' served with rice, a Jamaican speciality. I do wonder why we don't eat more goat in Britain. Christmas dinner was awaiting Mr. Northstreet, who provided executionary services in Constant Spring for Jamaicans too squeamish to cut the throats of angry goats. Christmas dinner was an amazing variety of dishes. Jamaican cooking is extremely varied, reflecting the culinary expertise of the groups who compose the population.

A Christmas to remember.

Michael Conolly



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anna.burnside@theburnsidepartnership.com

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## **A joy-filled Christmas and a better 2021**

The Good News is that Christmas is not and can never be cancelled. As yet we do not know how we might celebrate it but this year, is not, and will not be as in years past.

I know many who would say 'when are we going to get back to normal' or to how we are used to doing things and celebrating events. I would like to suggest we look forward. Forward to emerging from the current Covid-19 crisis. I appreciate tradition and custom but I think that as the world emerges from this pandemic we might want to look forward; building upon what we have learnt this year. It would be so good to enter a time, and hopefully better world than previously, building upon what we have learnt ....

We have discovered the most important people in our society are those who work in our hospitals, medical facilities and community caring for those who are sick, those who keep the infrastructures going, electricity, gas, water, transport systems and those who deal with our rubbish, those who work in shops, teach in our schools (I am sure we could all add more). Hopefully they will be better appreciated and valued in terms of their wages.

The whole world has been affected and many have worked across the globe to help everyone through this. May the desire for peace and co-operation, mutual respect and care, continue and grow.

More personally we may have discovered things about ourselves and our lives. Compare what you now think important in your life to what may have been the case pre-lockdown. Perhaps we have discovered new things to do, or appreciate the old ones more.

This year has not been easy and the future is fairly wonky too. Jesus never promised an easy, pain free life. God does give us all the chance to live our lives fully and on Christmas Day, as on any day please remember God has not saved us from life but saves us in life.

I hope 2021 is a better year for all of us.

Fr. David.

Email: [d.wales512@btinternet.com](mailto:d.wales512@btinternet.com) Telephone: 01296 613212

The Rev'd Susan: Email: [susan.sefellows@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.sefellows@btinternet.com) Telephone: 01296 424982

## St Mary's Weston Turville Improving Facilities Team, SWIFT

As forecast in the September issue of Weston Turville Times work on the church extension for the SWIFT Community Project did start in September. Our contractor is Edgar Taylor Ltd who has been responsible for wonderful extensions and major works at several other local churches, including Wendover and Princes Risborough, so we are in good hands. The necessary demolition of the outside toilet and other minor outbuildings has been completed and the excavation for the foundations and floor slab are also complete.

There has been some concern at inaccurate information about human remains being found. This was inevitable as this area was used for burials prior to about 1900. Any such remains found will be afforded a new Christian burial in the same area and at the appropriate time. Archaeologists were present throughout the excavation to ensure all regulations were followed and any remains treated with full respect. I have great admiration for their work and for the inch by inch accuracy and respect of the mechanical digger driver. No marked graves have been or will be disturbed.

The excavated soil is gradually being spread within the churchyard, again in accordance with regulations that it must remain on consecrated ground. This and any other grassed areas damaged by the heavy machinery will be levelled and reseeded at the completion of the works. It is hoped that the extension will be complete by March, subject to delays caused by winter weather or Covid 19.

Following our leaflet drop around the Parish we have received a number of generous donations and many enthusiastic messages of support, for which we thank everybody involved. We have had some unexpected additional costs, including for removal of asbestos and would welcome further donations to help us to meet a shortfall, still in the region of £15,000.

Please help us now by sending your donation to the Rector, Revd David Wales, The Rectory, Church Walk, Weston Turville HP22 5SH or to Roger Fellows (SWIFT Treasurer) at 65 Craigwell Avenue, Aylesbury, HP21 7AG. Cheques should be made payable to "PCC Weston Turville, SWIFT". Transfers can be made to our bank account, PCC Weston Turville, SWIFT, a/c number 51685922, sort code 60-01-31. Please use Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25% at no additional cost to yourself. Contact me if you need a form to do so.

For information about SWIFT or any other ways in which you can contribute, eg by standing order, loan or through your will, please contact Roger Fellows.

On behalf of the SWIFT team and, indeed, the PCC and all at St Mary's Church, I hope you are reading this while in good health and managing to lead a near-normal life in these extraordinary times.

**Contact for all of the above: Roger Fellows 01296 424982 or [roger@rffellows.co.uk](mailto:roger@rffellows.co.uk)**

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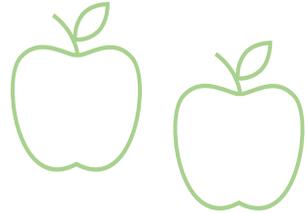
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# *Sian's Apple Cake*

## Ingredients:

- 450g cooking apples – peeled and chopped into small chunks
- 350g self raising flour
- 225g butter or marg (Stork works really well)
- 175g caster sugar
- 125g sultanas
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 3 eggs



## Method:

1. Turn oven to 150°C / 300°F / Gas 2
2. Mix butter and sugar, sift in flour and beaten egg, add sultanas and spices
3. Finally mix in the chopped apples
4. Cook for approx. 1½ hours
5. Dust with icing sugar while still warm

Enjoy 😊

---

# *Cranberry Relish*

## Ingredients

- 250g frozen cranberries
- 250g dried apricots [or pears]
- 350g golden granulated sugar
- 2 oranges
- 6 tbsp port

## Method

1. Boil cranberries in 6 tbsp water until skins have burst. Add chopped fruit, sugar, orange rind, juice and port.
2. Simmer for ages until it starts to thicken, it will still look quite liquidy.
3. Put in jars, it will thicken up.
4. It will keep for up to year – keep in fridge once opened. Lovely with turkey / chicken / pate on toast, put a dollop in stews.

*Credit: Sian Lorimer*

## How to make a Christmas Tree out of an old paperback book or magazine.

This is something that everyone can do whatever the age and skill level. All you need is an old paperback book or a magazine with at least 40 pages in!

**Step one:** If using a book remove the front and back covers.

**Step two:** Take top right-hand corner and fold to centre spine (as if you are making a paper airplane)

**Step three:** Take long diagonal edge and fold to centre spine (as if you are making a skinny plane!)

**Step four:** You will find you have a little triangle at the bottom which over hangs the bottom of the book. Fold this bit down using the bottom of the book for guidance and tuck under to hide it from sight.

**Step five:** Repeat steps 1 to 4 until you run out of pages.

**Step six:** Decorate with buttons, ribbon, stars or whatever you like. You can paint or glitter your tree before hanging decorations and you could also mount on a plastic deodorant type lid to raise it up.



*Thanks to Glenda Bennett for this craft project idea.*

## Snow Way

With the winter months, also comes the chance of snow. Some love it, some hate it but most agree it looks beautiful and can be lots of fun. You can scrunch about in it, make snow angels, build a snowman, sledge, ski and lots more.



Not every snowflake is unique. In 1988 a scientist called Nancy Knight found two identical flakes that came from a storm out of Wisconsin.

Did you know that the Inuit have many more words for snow than in English. It has at least 53 separate words including 'pukak' to refer to crystal-like snow that looks like salt; 'matsaaruti' meaning wet snow to ice a sleigh's runners; and 'qanik' to refer to falling snow.

The world's tallest Snowman was in Maine USA in 2008, it took over a month to build and was over 122 feet tall.

Can you spot the 5 differences in the pictures below?



## Snow Joke

What do you call a snowman with a six pack?

- An abdominal snowman.

What do you call a snowman on rollerblades?

- A snowmobile.

What do you get from sitting on the snow too long?

- Polaroids!

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Allotment Association	01296 613998
Aston Clinton Surgery	01296 630241
Bedgrove Surgery	01296 330330
Buckinghamshire Council	01296 395000
Citizens Advice	0344 411 1444
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Electricity Emergency (UK Power Networks)	0800 783 8838
Environmental Health out of hours	01296 585093
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999
Hospital – High Wycombe	01494 526161
Hospital - Stoke Mandeville	01296 315000
NHS Direct	111
Police – non emergency	101
School – Weston Turville Combined	01296 613436
Transport for Bucks	01296 395000 opt 2
Village Hall, Weston Turville	07909 485369
Wendover Health Centre	01296 623452
Wendover Library	01296 382415
Weston Turville Parish Council	01296 612838
<b>Local Councillors</b>	
Cllr Bill Chapple OBE	01296 426814
Cllr Carole Paternoster	01296 630710
Cllr Michael Collins	01296 632039
<b>Support Services</b>	
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Domestic Violence Hotline	0808 2000 247
Mind	0300 123 3393
Samaritans	116 123

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Dog bins (full or damaged)	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858 (please quote the bin reference number eg AV123 which is on each bin)
Environmental Health issues – including noise complaints	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Fly Tipping	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Highways and Rights of Way	Transport for Bucks – 01296 395000, option 2 Or <a href="http://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/">www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/</a>
Litter – missed bin collections, overflowing public litter bins	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Park and recreation ground	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Planning matters, including enforcement	Buckinghamshire Council - 01296 585858
Street furniture, eg benches, bins, bus shelters, noticeboards	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Street lights located in Hampden Hall, A413 or A41	Transport for Bucks – 01296 395000, option 2 Or report online via <a href="http://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/">www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk/</a>
Street lights located in Weston Turville village	Parish Council – 01296 612838
Village Hall	Parish Council – 01296 612838
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