

THE WESTON TURVILLE TIMES

March 2017

The Magazine for the Parish
of Weston Turville
Published by Weston Turville
Parish Council



Spring has sprung, the grass is riz
I wonder where the birdie is
The bird is on the wing
Oh how absurd, the wing is on the bird.

It would appear that there are numerous variations to this ditty depending on country and even county: which did you learn?

Contains Local Events, Features, Clubs and Societies,
Useful Information, School News, Church and Chapel News
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EDITORIAL

The current and all previous copies of the WTT are available on our website at www.wt-times.co.uk

Welcome to this edition of WTT and hopefully by now winter is loosening its icy grip. WTT is the community magazine for the parish of Weston Turville. We appreciate your comments and are pleased that the magazine continues to inform and entertain.

Many thanks to everyone who has supported Weston Turville Times during 2016. In particular, thanks to our contributors, advertisers, deliverers and all of you as readers. We could not do it without you.

We welcome contributions and articles of interest and news from local societies and clubs and advertising by local businesses, see below for a couple of our upcoming news:

The Chequers in Church Lane has information about forthcoming wine and beer tasting evenings around the log fire.

“Buckmoorend Farm shop has some exciting plans for 2017 with expanded product ranges and of course their super tasty home-reared meats straight from their farm. Steph and Daniel will be delighted to welcome you in 2017”.

If you would like to advertise or support us in other ways, please do get in touch. Advertising helps towards the cost of printing; we do not make a profit. Advertising rates are: whole page £250; half page £125; ¼ page £65 Per Year for all 4 editions! The WTT is delivered to every house and business in Weston Turville. Extra copies are delivered to the shops, church and chapel and hostelrys in Weston Turville.

Jill Todd
Editor in Chief

Please note that the views expressed in articles are not necessarily the views of the editorial team or the Parish Council.

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St George's Day in England remembers St George, England's patron saint. The anniversary of his death, which is on April 23, is seen as England's national day. According to legend, he was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.

Celebrate St George's Day

St George's Day used to be a national holiday in England. It is now an observance that is celebrated with parades, dancing and other activities. Flags with the image of St George's cross are flown on some buildings, especially pubs, and a few people wear a red rose on their lapel. Church services on the Sunday closest to April 23 often include the hymn 'Jerusalem', written by the poet William Blake. The words describe a supposed visit to Glastonbury, England, by Jesus Christ during his youth.

About St George's Day

St George was born sometime around the year 280 in what is now Turkey. He was a soldier and rose up through the ranks of the Roman army, eventually becoming a personal guard to the Emperor Diocletian.

However, he protested against the pagan Emperor's persecution of Christians and was later imprisoned, tortured, dragged through the streets and beheaded in Palestine on April 23, 303 and is buried in the town of Lod in Israel.

St George is most widely known for slaying a dragon. According to legend, the only well in the town of Silene was guarded by a dragon. In order to get water, the inhabitants of the town had to offer a human sacrifice every day to the dragon. The person to be sacrificed was chosen by lots. On the day that St George was visiting, a princess had been selected to be sacrificed. However, he killed the dragon, saved the princess and gave the people of Silene access to water. In gratitude, they converted to Christianity. It is thought that the dragon represents a certain type of pagan belief that included the sacrifice of human beings.

St George's Day was once celebrated as widely as Christmas. But the celebrations waned by the end of the 18th century after England had united with Scotland on May 1, 1707. Efforts are underway to make the day a public holiday in England.

St George is the patron saint of a number of other places, such as Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Portugal and Russia. He is also remembered in some regional holidays, such as in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador in Canada and among the Gorani people who live in a mountainous area in the Balkans and were converted to Islam many centuries ago, but still observe St

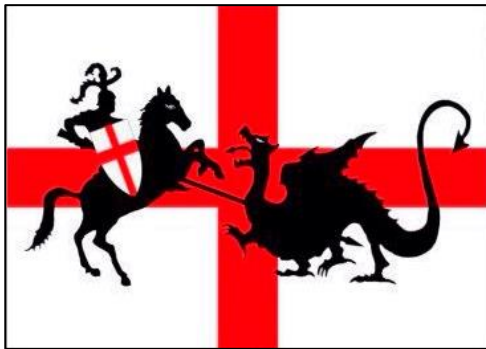
George's Day. Around the world, a number of days are devoted to St George, including April 23 and dates in November and December of the Gregorian calendar.

Symbols

The most widely recognized symbol of St George's Day is St George's cross. This is a red cross on a white background, which is often displayed as a flag. It is used as England's national flag, forming part of the Union Flag, the national flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Saint George's cross was originally the flag of the maritime Republic of Genoa. Around 1190, the King of England started paying the Doge of Genoa to protect ships originally from the city of London and the rest of England that sailed in the Mediterranean.

During the crusades in the 1100s and 1200s, English knights used St George's cross as part of their uniform. It has been the official flag of England for centuries, but the Union Flag, a combination of St George's cross, St Andrew's cross and St Patrick's cross, is the national flag of the United Kingdom. In Britain, St George has also inspired medals for bravery. During the Second World War, King George VI established the George Cross - the highest such award that a civilian can earn. The George Medal is second behind it. Both medals depict the patron saint slaying the dragon atop his horse.

The St George Cross has a prominent place on the arms of the City of London and the flags of the city of Barcelona, Spain, and the country of Georgia.



With thanks to www.timeanddate.com/holidays/uk/st-george-day for the majority of this information!

Weston Turville Historical Society



Meeting Logistics

When: Last Friday in month, Sept – June; excluding December.

Time: 20:00 - 22:00; Doors open at 19:30 for welcoming refreshments

Venue: Weston Turville Village Hall;

Cost: £2 for members, £3 for visitors

Upcoming events

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 25 th Feb | Keith Parry "Thames Valley Millionaires" |
| 24 th Mar | Colin Oakes "Pagan Eostra to Christian Easter" |
| 28 th Apr | Thea Young "Sulgrave, A Hidden Gem" |
| 26 th May | Spring Outing to Sulgrave Manor £17 including
High Tea. Contact Barbara Bittenbender
barb@blbhive.demon.co.uk |



Contact

For further information on the Society, visit www.WTHSoc.org.uk, or email: secretary@WTHSoc.org.uk. New members welcome.

Weston Turville Trivia



Hansard 22 August 1893

“MR. TALBOT (Oxford University) I beg to ask the Vice President of the Committee of Council on Education, in view of the fact, in addition to other considerable improvements and alterations, the Education Department are requiring the Managers of Weston Turville School, in the County of Buckingham, forthwith to paint the whole exterior of the school, will he state by what section of the Code this requirement of a matter which affects neither the comfort nor the wellbeing of the children is authorised?”



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racheljblackmore@gmail.com

Read more at www.wellsfortanzania.org

All welcome!



Dandelion Wine

It is not known if St George celebrated his heroic act of dragon slaying with a glass of dandelion wine, but for some reason, his Saint's day (April 23) is the traditional time to pick the flowers for purposes of fermentation.



Traditional wisdom also prescribes harvesting dandelion blooms at 1pm, though this is less likely to be a result of superstitious necessity and more that 1pm is when the blooms will be at their most awake and golden!

Gather roughly **2.5 litres of dandelion heads**. Providing you have a location awash with dandelions this doesn't take as long as it sounds. But it will leave you with yellow fingers. Get them home and start work on the wine before they begin to wither. Snip off the green bases and chuck the petals in a sterilised bucket or bowl. When severing heads thoroughness is not vital so don't worry about some greenery joining the party.

Take a **handful of dried fruit** (if you're copying us exactly then sultanas are required). Roughly chop the fruit and add to the bucket. If you use campden tablets (to kill unwanted yeasts and bacteria) add a crushed tablet now. And if you use pectic enzymes (to help prevent pectic haze) this is also the time to be adding it. Boil up **4.5 litres of water** and pour it over the dandelions, stir well and loosely cover. Set aside for two days.

If you're following tradition it's now April 25, and on this day you should be straining the liquid from the dandelions into a clean, sterilised bucket containing **white sugar**. Our recipe uses **1.3kg** of the stuff and it also requires the **juice of three mighty oranges** and **two of your finest lemons** (no rind, no pith, no pips. Just juice). Stir everything until the sugar has dissolved then add **white wine yeast** and some **yeast nutrient**. Loosely cover and allow to ferment for around five days.

After this time transfer the bubbling liquid to a demijohn, fit an airlock and set aside to ferment. Rack off the wine after one month and bottle after three to five months. If you're lucky the wine will be ready for Christmas but we'll be holding on until next April 23 when we'll raise a glass to St George and his dragon slaying antics.

Weston Turville Youth Cafe

Whatever you're into:

There's something for you at Weston Turville Youth Café:

X-box kinect, Nintendo Wii, pool, table tennis, cooking, art and crafts, games indoors and out, smoothies and toast and places to relax and chat. It is all free, and we open:

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At: Weston Turville Village Hall

For more details contact

Rachel Blackmore 01296 614751 or 07792 475094

ATTENTION ALL FLOWER ARRANGERS!

Would you like to join our flower arranging team on a rota basis at St Mary's church?

This could be anyone who likes working with flowers and who wishes to help provide a warm welcome to the congregation and visitors throughout the year.

If you are interested in joining us please contact: Jan Potter on 01296 580686



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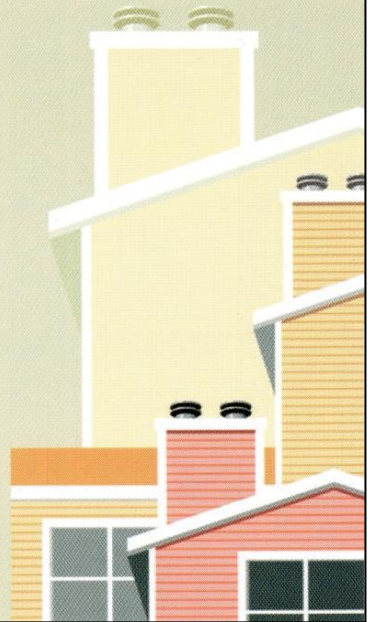
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Is it just me or.....

Being retired may in the words of Del boy may sound like a cushy life, being able to do what you like when you like has a certain appeal. However, jobs still need to be done, some of which require more concentration than others. Then there is the luxury of being able to spend over an hour on the phone, if the battery lasts that long, to a utility company to put right their wrongs. But being at home leaves you open to those dreaded unsolicited phone calls. ‘Hello Mrs **** is it ok to call you (insert forename)’? Hackles rise and you cannot wait to get away and back to that task in hand. As for saying you are subscribed to the telephone preference service rarely these days seems to have any effect.

“Don’t you remember I called you in July” (8 months ago) if I did remember-do I want to?

Sometimes I like to string the caller along with a tale or two or pretend to look for the bill payer or home owner, this usually takes forever.

It’s often hard to hear or understand what they are saying too-a bit like the BBC and muffled voices - although I do admit to not wearing hearing aids when at home.

And yes you’ve guessed it I have had a particularly bad phone day today. Do I need to be reminded to go to the hairdresser when my hair is in my eyes and driving me crazy and the date is on the calendar, in my dairy and etched into my memory?

Having got that frustration over – cue the next day. The phone is quieter but the doorbell goes, welcome parcels arrive but then I have to put up with the sales pitch of doorstep sellers, double glazing salesmen and roof cleaning salesmen, but no not just cleaning, the whole works, and would I like a non-obligation quote?



I am not grumpy or old or wish to be left in peace (maybe sometimes) but please stop pestering me.

It’s enough to drive you to drink-now where did I put my glass! And that’s another story.

Anon from Weston Turville

St Mary's Church Cream Teas.

We are pleased to report a magnificent result helped by the successful Flower Festival. A big thank you to helpers and visitors who supported the teas and gave so generously. The sum raised for this year is £2317.70 including £155.05 from the sale of produce.

A donation of £150 has been given to The MS Centre at Halton and Florence Nightingale Hospice. The remaining money has been paid into Church funds to be used for the daily cost of running the church.

A huge thank you from Liz Arnold and Jan Potter



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1 May Sunday, 28 May Sun, 29 May BH Monday

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



We still hold a vacancy for a Parish Councillor.
Speak to the Clerk or any Councillor for details.

The new dog bins may now installed and will be fully operational for use. The benches scattered around the Parish have all been maintained and painted over the winter and the new bench installed in Church Lane. The tennis courts have also been repaired and are due to be painted in spring; this will require them to be closed for a day so the spraying and line marking can be done.

At the request of parishioners concerned about speeding vehicles, three new sites have been identified for the erection of temporary posts for the mobile speeding indicator (MVAS) to be used. These are going to be located in Brook End, Worlds End Lane and Church Lane. If you would like to help with the speeding issues please contact the clerk.

Proposed new parking restrictions in Hampden Hall: the scheme aims to remove conflict in this area between oncoming vehicles and improve road safety ahead of the 27 new houses being built off Tamarisk Way. It is important to note that these restrictions will apply to all road users including residents, their visitors, tradesmen and delivery vehicles (It will not prevent loading, unloading, setting down and picking up passengers for as long as it takes to carry out those operations). This is an informal consultation process and no decision has been made as to the exact parking prohibitions/restrictions that might be implemented. If successful, the scheme would proceed to a formal consultation, which is mandatory for a Traffic Regulation Order prior to implementation.

A reminder that the Parish Council meetings are normally held on the 3rd Thursday of the month (excluding March when it is on 23rd and August and December when there are no meetings) at 7pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Planning meetings are at 6pm on the 1st Thursday in the hall.
Check the website for any changes to dates.

The Clerk to Weston Turville Parish Council can be contacted on:



01296 531432



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clerk@westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk



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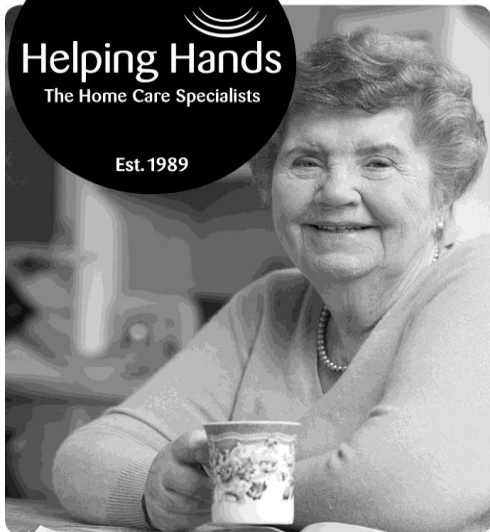
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Weston Turville U3A

You won't get a degree from us. However, you will have the opportunity to make new friends or spend time with old friends having new experiences. There are already almost 40 groups ranging from art to wine tasting and many others in between. If you are interested in archery, chess, bare-back riding or any other activity that is not yet a group we might be willing to support your ideas. If you are no longer in full time employment this is your opportunity to make some decisions about your lifestyle; whether it is to be sporty through walking or table tennis; or something calmer like bridge or book club.

There is a general meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month held at Aylesbury Rugby Club, Weston Turville at 2.30pm open to all members. Here you can meet like-minded people, get the latest news on trips, garden and holidays. We usually have a guest speaker who should be both interesting and amusing. To learn more come along to one of our meetings and let the person you are sitting next to know that it is your first meeting. Alternatively, visit to our web site at www.wtu3a.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming you.

ROTARY in WENDOVER & DISTRICT



St Patrick's Day Quiz

Friday, 17th March, 2017

(7:30 for 8:00pm)

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Mike Collins (AVDC)	01296 632039
Carole Paternoster (AVDC)	01296 630710/585717
Weston Turville Parish Council	07584 040264
David Lidington MP for Aylesbury	020 7219 3432



UPCOMING EVENTS



Every Thursday Evening 7.30pm Bellringers St Marys Church

Every Tuesday in Term time W.T. Youth Café Village hall 4 – 6pm

Every Thursday Wendover Market, Manor Waste, Wendover

Every Wednesday except the first in the month - Mid week Fellowship -Union Chapel 2.30 to 4pm

March 2017

- 01/03/2017 St David's Day
- 02/03/2017 WT Parish Council Planning Committee - Village Hall 6pm
- 07/03/2017 Mobile Library - School Approach 12.40pm to 1pm
- 09/03/2017 Holy Painting 10.30am - Contact Revd Susan Fellows
- 11/03/2017 WTWT Barn Dance WT village Hall 7-11pm
- 12/03/2017 Vale Vintage Fair WT Village Hall 11am to 4pm
- 16/03/2017 Super Loo Lunches - St Mary's Church 12pm to 1.30pm
- 17/03/2017 St Patrick's Day Quiz: Wendover Memorial Hall. See ad.
- 21/03/2017 WT. Lunch Club: meet Chandos 1230 (booking required)
- 23/03/2017 WTU3A monthly meeting Rugby Club 2pm
- 23/03/2017 Parish Council meeting Village Hall 7pm
- 26/03/2017 Clocks change to British Summer Time (+1 hour)
- 31/03/2017 Weston Turville C of E School Term Ends
- 31/03/2017 Fund raising event Topsy Turvy Pre School 1030-12pm
- 31/03/2017 WT Historical Society - Village Hall 7.30pm

April 2017

- 04/04/2017 Mobile Library - School Approach 12.40pm to 1pm
- 06/04/2017 WT Parish Council Planning Committee - Village Hall 6pm
- 08/04/2017 WI Spring Fair 10-12 Wendover Library Room
- 09/04/2017 Palm Sunday music and readings in the church, 6pm
- 14/04/2017 Good Friday BH
- 14/04/2017 Holy Painting 10.30am - Contact Revd Susan Fellows
- 17/04/2017 Easter Monday BH
- 18/04/2017 WT. Lunch Club: meet Chandos 1230 (booking required)
- 18/04/2017 Weston Turville C of E School Term begins
- 20/04/2017 Annual Parish Meeting Village Hall 7pm

23/04/2017 St George's Day
27/04/2017 WTU3A monthly meeting Rugby Club 2pm
28/04/2017 WT Historical Society - Village Hall 7.30pm

May 2017

01/05/2017 May Day BH
01/05/2017 Cream Teas St Mary's Church
02/05/2017 Mobile Library - School Approach 12.40pm to 1pm
04/05/2017 WT Parish Council Planning Committee - Village Hall 6pm
12/05/2017 Holy Painting 10.30am - Contact Revd Susan Fellows
16/05/2017 WT. Lunch Club: meet Chandos 1230 (booking required)
18/05/2017 Parish Council Annual meeting Village Hall 7pm
25/05/2017 WTU3A monthly meeting Rugby Club 2pm
26/05/2017 WT Historical Society - Visit to Sulgrave Manor
26/05/2017 Weston Turville C of E School Term Ends
27/05/2017 Mentmore Arts Festival from Saturday 27th to Monday
29th May 2017 from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm.
28/05/2017 Cream Teas St Mary's Church
29/05/2017 Cream Teas St Mary's Church
29/05/2017 Spring BH
30/05/2017 Mobile Library - School Approach 12.40pm to 1pm

Date for your diary **WT Village Fete – Saturday 24th June 2017**

Topsy Turvy Pre-School would like to take the opportunity to thank the residents of Weston Turville for their amazing support during the week of 12th December 2016 when the Topsy Santa Float came around the streets of the village.

We raised a fantastic total of £1900.00 for the preschool. This figure also included funds raised on our Christmas Fun Morning for the children. This will go towards toys and resources for the children. Our next fundraising event for the preschool is on Friday 31st March 2017 at the village hall between 10.30am and 12.00 noon and will have an Easter theme. We send you all our heartfelt thanks

Lois Beaton

Pre-School Administrator

Greasy Spoon, Silver Spoon

Sometimes life exposes unexpected simple pleasures as moments of unalloyed joy. My wife has an unerring nose for little restaurants including greasy spoons with a bias towards the fried located in unassuming and often inconvenient premises. When we lived in London, she discovered, a mere fifteen minutes' walk away, the one remaining Greek Cypriot restaurant engulfed by a Turkish and Kurdish community. There, one could eat an extensive *meze* for a modest sum. By nine in the evening it began to attract custom. And then the two piece band would arrive, tuck itself into an unobtrusive corner and entertain those of us sitting in the inner sanctum eating a succession of small dishes. I exulted in the fried *Halloumi* on a bed of ham. The restaurant was certainly greasy and utterly unassuming, the outer room dominated by a glass counter revealing plates of *dolmades* (stuffed vine leaves). They were made by the 82-year old mother of the owner. He badly wanted to return to his fishing boat in Limassol but Mama would not leave. He knew that if she did, she would die and as a good Greek Cypriot boy he stayed. By eleven the dancing had begun, the noise rose and plates started to fly the clientele uninhibited by wine, relaxed to the onslaught of dishes. One woman of considerable girth danced with such accomplishment that we could not but admire the subtlety of her gyrations. By three in the morning we were walking home suffused with joy and gastronomic indulgence.

And again in Bruges, down an almost concealed lane my wife did it again, discovering a tiny but breathtakingly good restaurant. No greasy spoon this, rather a silver spoon serving food of a quality she had never experienced and I but rarely. Every mouthful was a taste of paradise. Not cheap, It was worth every euro. And sometimes nearer to home that can happen too. In Wendover one can enjoy an excellent cup of coffee and lovingly prepared platters, created on the spot using the freshest of ingredients. It is expensive, certainly silver spoon if not gold plated.

More recently my spouse has scored again in Aylesbury of all places which is poor for decent restaurants and rich in small unassuming cafes offering mostly indifferent coffee and sandwiches. There, she has discovered a wonderful greasy spoon. Centrally located but sufficiently low key to welcome the local Moslem women to eat and meet. The coffee is wonderful and inexpensive. And the mint tea is incomparable.

Go mid-morning and try a little breakfast - simply a joy to consume slowly, each mouthful provoking a world of gentle but subtle flavours of diced ham threaded though scrambled egg. It doesn't sound much. Taste is what it is all about. If there is a reason to go to Aylesbury, eating at this greasy spoon might be it!

Nearer home, in the village, we have a local silver spoon literally with a chef's tasting spoon is encased on one wall. Expensive but worth every penny, each succulent bite is a revelation of subtle flavours even for such staples as Sunday lunch!

Michael Conolly



WESTON TURVILLE LUNCH CLUB

I wonder how many readers of this magazine are aware of the Lunch Club which has been going since 2015.

We older members of the community get together each month at the Chandos Arms, usually on the third Tuesday of the month at 12:30, and enjoy conversation and laughter over a two course meal, reasonably priced at £7.50. For some of our number living on their own, it is a chance to meet old friends and make new ones, to swap stories, and yes, sometimes to empathise with each other's ailments and operations.

If the idea appeals to you, why not give me a call or leave a message on 01296 612275

There is no membership fee. All you pay for are the cost of your meal, a tip if you are the generous sort and any drinks you may have from the bar.

We only ask that you enjoy yourself.

Michael Foote

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Weston Turville

Concerts, FUNdraising FUNctions and events, 2017



Following on from a very successful 10th concert season in 2016 I am now working to put together another full programme for 2017. No dates are yet confirmed but I am hoping to repeat concerts by the Dung Beatles, Purcell School and a trad jazz group, amongst others. It is too early for this issue but please look out for local advertising as the concerts draw near, starting after Easter.

The village hall is already booked for our Christmas and Craft Fayre on Saturday 2nd December, from 11am to 4pm and I hope it will be bigger and better this year. I you would like to book a craft stall for that event please contact me on 01296 424982.

Please also note our annual Palm Sunday service (not a concert - hence no ticket charge) of music and readings for Passiontide on Sunday 9th April at 6pm in the Church. This is always a selection of beautiful music performed by the church choir and a wonderful start to Holy Week, leading up to Easter.

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 9th April, Palm Sunday music and readings in the church, 6pm.

Saturday 30th September, Harvest Supper in the village hall. Details to follow.

Saturday 2nd December 11am to 4pm, in the village hall, Christmas and Craft Fayre

Sunday December 18th, 6pm, in the Church. Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

All concerts are in church, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets at the door, £10 including refreshments and a glass of wine. Under 18s free.

All enquiries, please, to Roger Fellows. 424982

St Mary's Weston Turville Improving Facilities Team, SWIFT

SWIFT was formed in 2011 to look into ways of improving accessibility to and within the Church for those with any sort of disability.

BIG NEWS! WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED THE FACULTY FROM THE DIOCESE! This means that we are now concentrating on raising the funds to enable us to proceed with contracts and building as soon as possible.

We would welcome any ideas or offers of help or donations towards this project which will benefit all age groups within the village community. We will provide a meeting room available for use by small groups (up to about 30 seated) from the village community, complete with wheelchair-accessible toilet and baby-changing facilities. The church will thus be better able to cater for children, the elderly and less able members of the community.

Plans are already under way for our annual SWIFT FUN DAY, which will include the usual free bouncy castle and many other attractions. This will be on Saturday 10th June from 11am to 4pm.

We hope to arrange many other events during the year for SWIFT.

For information about SWIFT or how you can help by donating or raising funds for the project please contact us as below:

For standing order forms please contact Joan Bridges on 612303 or me, Roger Fellows on 424982

Please use gift aid if you are a UK taxpayer. This will increase your donation to us by 25%

If you wish to receive regular information on our progress please give your e-mail address to Joan or Roger.

For more details please contact Roger Fellows on 01296 424982.

Diary date: Saturday 10th June, FUN DAY at the Church, 11am to 4pm. Much more to follow.

‘Holy Painting’

‘Holy Painting’ takes place on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 10.30 – 12 noon in St. Mary’s Church, Weston Turville. We join together to have fun painting and exploring Bible stories at the same time.

I bring all the paper, paints and brushes at the moment but feel free to bring your own if you wish. I also bring crayons and coloured pencils in case anyone would prefer to use those, but there is something really therapeutic about splashing paint on paper! I tell a Bible story and then we all paint. We have tea, coffee and biscuits and have a nice chat. This is definitely for fun – I cannot teach you. Talent is not required!

Hope to see you there.

Revd. Susan

01296 424982

susan.sefellows@btinternet.com

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Friday	9am – 12 noon

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M Newark - Parent



For more information please contact the Pre-School

Leader [Wendy Harrod](#)
Mobile [07920 425322](tel:07920425322)
Email manager@TopsyTurvy-preschool.co.uk
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Wendover Evening Women's Institute

Registered Charity No: 284827

Wendover Evening WI

Visitors are always most welcome to come to our meetings.

Our meetings are held on a Tuesday at 7.45pm in St. Anne's Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover, HP22 6JG.

We have a varied programme of activities and guest speakers throughout the year.

Members organise "Interest groups" and at present these include play reading, music, craft and films. We also arrange regular theatre trips and coach outings which are always popular.

Dates for your WI diary:

Tuesday March 14th 2017

Join us to hear Dr Jill Eyres talking about 'Minerals, Crystals and Other Rocky Things'.

April 8th 2017 Spring Fair: 10.00am - noon - Library Room, Wendover

Tuesday April 11th 2017

Join us to hear Jean Barrington talk about Well Dressing.

Tuesday May 9th 2017.

This is the meeting where we vote for the resolutions that the National Women's Institute will adopt for the year.

All visitors will be made very welcome.

Contact Sara on 01296 620005 or just turn up on the night.

The Garden in March by *Homo Resupinus*

OK this is not for the horticulturally skilled but people like me who despair each year - getting everything done too late, positioning plants badly, choosing the 'wrong' plants and only managing brief periods of 'tidy' and 'looks OK' (from the right angle!) before Autumn wipes it all out!

So, it's March already. Green stuff showing everywhere – especially where we don't really want it, with weeds spreading, climbing and smothering our roses and other perennials. Also the grass is growing into ugly tufts, some is yellow with frost damage and those weeds are rampant here too.

I always put off the first cut, always a mistake. You'll hear 'those who know' breaking the peace of a Sunday morning with their mowers – follow suit, but don't scalp the turf in one go. First it's likely to be a lot of work and then a gradual reduction in cutting height over successive weeks will promote the grass and give several passes over the dandelions and daisies at least reducing their seeding. Early attack with a forked weed-puller does pay off. OK that leaves gaping holes in the grass but filling in with ordinary soil at the beginning of spring gives the grass a chance to fill in (this also works for the minefield of a lawn you may have, if squirrels occupied your garden over the winter!).

Nothing improves the look of a lawn, at least in my ancient eyes, like neat edges and once the grass cutting is under way and any heavy work on the flower beds completed, I'm to be found with a long plank of wood and a half-moon edging tool (or at a pinch a spade), cutting a neat perimeter to the grass with a couple of inches drop into the flower bed. Mowing then includes cutting that edge with shears – I do that before the grass cut as my mower can pick up most of the cuttings while mowing near the edge. But there, I'm lazy!

Some people promote rolling, spiking and feeding a lawn – if you've the time, energy and kit – fine, but that's a refinement I've not gone for.

Most flower beds around urban houses are rather shallow and inevitably border hard fencing or hedging, often leaving our planting space shaded, dry and possibly mixed with building dust and rubble – not the best start in life for tender plants. So, at risk of creating more of a 'problem' I'd suggest that the above tidying of the borders of your lawn you cut a few more inches of flower bed and keep the root parts of new or moved plants well away from the back of the bed, giving them a better chance of survival and flowering success. (Well, it worked for me!) .

If you have shrubs you like but are not well placed – perhaps they've outgrown their position – now is the time to move them. Ones that lose their leaves in the autumn can be moved in March, evergreen shrubs and trees are best left until April. In every case lift as much of the plant's root ball as possible and replant to the same depth in an oversize hole and fill with loose soil and compact well adding support where necessary (that always looks better done at planting time it stands out less). The above, combined with a heavy attack on the weeds and perhaps replacement or addition of some fresh soil, will give new arrivals a better chance.

Many shrubs can benefit from a pruning at this time and they all seem to have different requirements – a Google search for, say 'pruning hydrangea' will give the right time and, most importantly, extent for pruning to ensure this and next year's flowering is maintained or improved. Getting this right really does produce floral dividends.

Early on, and to avoid actual work for a bit longer, it might be an idea to work around your plot and list what's there you want to keep, you want to move and want to remove – perhaps on a diagram (this could keep you indoors for ages!) and then Google for how they should be treated and what new plants you could er... plant to complement what's there and those that might give ground cover to suppress weeds and those that give the right height to fit in. Investment in hardy perennials really does pay with several years of flowering and development.

Much later on the garden centres will be full of annuals to populate the front few inches of the beds for the colour that just makes a garden and, more annuals and summer bulbs in tubs make for variety as the season progresses.

I'm going to follow my own advice this year – promise!





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Our next magazine is due out in June 2017

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If you wish to advertise in this space or elsewhere in future editions or would like to submit an article for publication, or can assist in any other way, please contact the Editor in Chief, Jill Todd.

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**Contributors and Advertisers please note:
Submissions required before 4th April 2017.**

University U3A

There was a time we were travellers. The souk in Marrakesh proved interesting, as we uncovered an intrepid pair from Great Missenden. Our friendship kindled, and many times after re-establishing life in London, we ventured into Buckinghamshire. A delighted husband commented upon the friendliness of natives, while I plotted a move. It took two years to complete, distributing over a thousand books on the way, but in September 2010 we arrived in Weston Turville. Our close friends provided us with a picnic which was joyous; eaten with laughter and bewilderment, as at the time, we were surrounded by twenty two packing boxes.

However we rolled our sleeves up and started the arduous task of unpacking..... then redesigning the house. I emerged from red brick dust a year later and realised (to my horror) that we still didn't know anyone in the village. Now here's the secret life of Weston Turville. An outsider passing through Weston Turville (maybe on holiday), or a new incomer moving here for the first time, would perceive there is nothing here.

How wrong they would be in this assumption, as you will find out.

We had heard of the University of the Third Age, so decided to investigate.

I think overwhelmed would be my first impression. I was completely taken by surprise that a whole underground was at work around me. Groups for every occasion, gentle to extreme. It was like being a child in a sweetie shop. Gradually we met people, and then more people. Fun and frolics, followed by loads of silliness and giggles; our village became home and we put down roots. Seven years have now passed, and it has all gone in the blink of an eye, as we are kept so busy.

My husband was the first to take the plunge and form his own group; I followed a few years later. We left our car behind when we moved, but thanks to the many trips by coach and group members' cars, we have been able to explore Buckinghamshire and beyond.

So a big THANK YOU to our U3A for taking two strangers in and making them feel welcome, as it does every month to others all over the country. Susan Conolly

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TUESDAYS

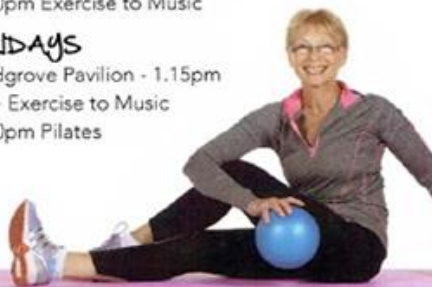
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We will be holding a beer tasting evening with local and a small artisan brewery - where we will be sampling a few new and tasty beers and also finding out more about the brewery and the men and women who run it.

Dritan, Ranka, and all of us at The Chequers Inn look forward to welcoming you, and we hope to meet a few new faces too!

Pop in and see us to find out more. Or give us a call on 01296 613298, via our website www.thechequerswt.co.uk, or email us at info@thechequerswt.co.uk





Notice is given of the

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**To be held at the
Village Hall, School Approach HP22 5RW
on
Thursday 20th APRIL at 7.30pm
Doors open from 7pm*

*Including:- Chairman & Committee Reports from your Parish Council - Village Hall
Committee Reports including;-Parish Accounts 2016 - Budget & Precept for 2017-18
- Future Projections.*

*Chairman Cllr M Jarvis will give a report on the Parish Council, Planning and new
developments in and around the village.*

*Local Charities, Associations & Fellowships Reports- Widow Turpins Charity-Youth
Café report & an open forum to hear views & chance to meet your councillors!*

**Followed by Refreshments-Cheese & Wine at about 8.30pm to which you are
invited and to meet your Councillors to discuss any issues informally that you may
have about the parish.**

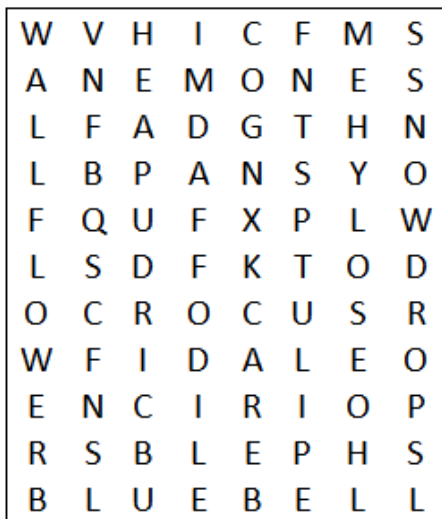
Note - All Public and Press are very welcome to attend.

***Martin Jarvis
Chairman Weston Turville Parish Council***

*For further enquiries - www.westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk
clerk@westonturvilleparishcouncil.org.uk*

Tel: 01296 531432

Spring Word Search



ANEMONES
BLUEBELL
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PANSY
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TULIP
WALL FLOWER

KIDDIES CORNER



Coffee Break Time: Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3x3 box, contains the numbers 1 through to 9 with no repetition.

Easy

	2	7	6	8	3	9		
	3	4	1	5				7
6	5	8	7	4			2	3
4	6	3	9				7	2
8	1	5	2		7	3	9	4
2	7				5	6	1	8
3	9			7	1	4	5	6
7				9	4	2	3	
		1	3	2	6	7	8	

Harder

5						6	3	9
6				4		2	1	8
					3	5		
			7	1	4	9	8	
			5	8	2			
	8	2	3	9	6			
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8	5	3		6				1
4	1	9						6

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