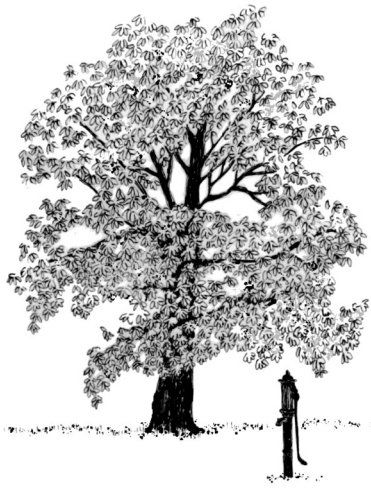




Cuddington Village Voice

November 2021

Royal British Legion 100th Anniversary



Dear Villagers,

I am writing to you all to remind you that the Royal British Legion's Annual Poppy Appeal this year supports the Legion's 100th anniversary. Last year our collection was very limited because of "Lockdown". This year we will again be doing a house to house collection around the village during the fortnight leading up to Remembrance Sunday, 14th November. The service will be held at 10 am in St. Nicholas Church, with the Act of Remembrance being held outside at the village War Memorial just before 11 am for the two minutes silence and the laying of wreaths.

We do hope that as many people as possible will come and mark this very solemn occasion. Children who attend will plant "poppy crosses" and the Chairman of the Parish Council will lay a wreath on behalf of the village, remembering all those men and women throughout the world who gave their lives for King and country.

From the end of the First World War and all conflicts that have taken place up to the present day, the British Legion has been remembering and caring for all those brave men and women who have been badly injured, who gave their lives that we might live, and those who have been bereaved. We would especially like to ask you to join us in marking this most special occasion.

With heartfelt thanks and best wishes,

Jennifer Schram De Jong

CUDDINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (CNP) UPDATE



Buckinghamshire Council have confirmed that, subject to any last minute issues, the Draft Cuddington Neighbourhood Plan will be published for public consultation from Nov 5th for six weeks. This is called the Regulation 16 stage, and is an important step in the formal approval of the Plan.

After consultation, and the Council's confirmation that the CNP meets the necessary planning requirements, the Draft CNP and the responses to consultation will be submitted to an independent Planning Inspector for examination.

The plan will be modified to take account of the Planning Inspector's comments and it is then presented for approval at a referendum. This is the last and final stage of the process and requires a simple majority in favour for the CNP to be adopted. Ken Trew

Cuddington Playing Fields Association

PLANT A TREE, SAVE THE FUTURE

THE WILDLIFE TRUST HAVE DONATED THE CUDDINGTON PLAYING FIELDS A NUMBER OF SAPLINGS TO CREATE A BEAUTIFUL HEDGEROW AROUND THE PERIMETER.

JOIN US ON SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER
AT 2PM TO PLANT A TREE

BRING A SPADE AND DIG IN!



The UK needs millions more trees to reach its 2050 carbon net-zero target. By digging in with us, you'll help bring the UK nearer this important goal



Throughout the year Cuddington generously supports the Aylesbury Food Bank.



There are two collection points in the village – one in St Nicholas Church, and one in Cuddington Stores. Items are regularly collected from both, and a really easy way to make a donation is to buy something in the shop, and leave it in the basket for collection. You wouldn't even have to make a separate journey!

And, as well as supporting the Food Bank, you would be supporting one of Cuddington's great assets.

We are really lucky to have a village shop.

Thought for the month...



In Praise of Kindness

As I write tributes are being published to Sir David Amess who died so tragically. One word is in every tribute – he was kind.

Kindness may be seen as a pale insipid quality, but Sir David demonstrated that it was not. He was a passionate politician with strong views that he promoted with fervour. He was far from insipid, but he was always kind.

In the great list of essential Christian values in the famous Bible passage 1 Corinthians 13, kindness is second only to patience. Kindness is essential for our family and community life.

People need to be able to disagree. We need arguments or we don't get anywhere. Families without arguments mean that one dominant member imposes their way. It is control and coercion. Societies without arguments are violent and oppressive – North Korea comes to mind. But when we disagree, we need to do so with kindness. We need to place the needs of others before our own. We need respect and love.

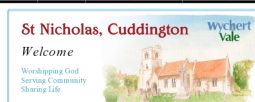
We need politicians. We need people who will argue with passion about what makes a better world. We need them to be kind to one another and we need to be kind to them. Our politics can sometimes be too adversarial – too often disagreement becomes abuse. We need to change that and we need to be kind to and about those we disagree with as well as those we agree with.

Our local MP is just that: local. Greg lives on our doorstep and is part of our community. We can agree or disagree with him and his party and, when the time comes, we can vote for him or for another candidate, but in all we must exhibit kindness. He serves us and all and he needs our respect and personal support.

I urge us all to pay our ongoing tribute to Sir David by exhibiting kindness.

Phil Groves

Services in November



7 th November	Holy Communion in Church; children's activities in Bernard Hall
14 th November	Remembrance Sunday – All-Age act of Remembrance
21 st November	Morning Worship in Church; children's activities in Bernard Hall
28 th November	Advent Sunday – All-Age Holy Communion

Opening Hours



Haddenham
Community
Library

Tuesdays 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm

Thursdays 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm

Fridays 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm

Saturdays 10am - 1pm

Methodist Church Notice

Please note we meet each Sunday at 10 30am
and not in the evenings.

Our Carol Service will be on

Sunday 19th December at 2:30 pm

More details will be available in the December issue

Cuddington Playing Fields Association Chairperson

We are currently looking for a chairperson for the CPFA, ideally we would be looking for someone who is passionate about seeing the playing field and club house succeed.

This role includes chairing meetings (aprox 6 a year) be able to delegate various roles to other committee members and be willing to get involved in the organisation and the running of fund raising events which are a vital part of keeping the playing field a viable asset for the village.

There is an EGM scheduled for Thursday 11th November at 7.30pm in the club house to elect a new chairperson, if you are interested in this voluntary but rewarding role then please come along. If you require further details or have any questions then please contact Lorraine Ray on 290606.

Lorraine Ray CPFA Hon Secretary

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We would like to thank everybody who came to our recent coffee morning, in the Playing Fields Clubhouse, to help us raise funds of MacMillan nurses; and also, a big thank you for everyone who donated a cake.

We raised a fabulous £600.00 for this very worthy cause.

Thank you to our helpers Gill, Amanda, Michelle and Karen, and the CPFA for the use of the building.

Hopefully, we'll see you all again at 2022's MacMillan Coffee Morning.
Laura Ewers and Helen Lewis



Wildflower, Wildlife & Wellbeing Project—Update

It has been a busy month in October as the project has got underway.

On Sunday 10th volunteers turned out to re-plant daffodil bulbs along the grass verges on the Aylesbury Road. Originally these had been planted by Stephen Turner, Brenda and Terry Williams. Many were lost when the build out was installed so they have now been replaced.

The Sunday School children also volunteered and planted woodland bulbs, including wild daffodils, anemones, bluebells and lily of the valley in the trees at the top of the playing field. Saturday 16th saw the volunteers out again planting tulips, muscari, iris and crocuses on the triangle at the junction between Holly Tree Lane and Aylesbury Road. In total 2000 bulbs were planted.

A big thank you to Mike & Gilly Cottman for donating the bulbs and planting them! Thanks to the volunteers - Lynne & Andy Devey, Ken & Viv Birkby, Jessica Ecott, Harry Mitchell, Laura Ewers, Margaret Russell, Matt Giorgi and all the Sunday School Mums and children. And of course, Lorraine Ray for the much-needed cups of tea!

The next stage will be wildflower planting on the Playing Fields along the verge by the footpath – many thanks to Simon Brown for donating and planting the seeds. The footpath to the club house has also been cleared.

Plans are going ahead for 2 listening benches to be installed – discussions are ongoing with the residents and landowners to decide on the Locations. Then there will be bird and bat boxes installed in various locations around the village.

In Spring 2022 Cuddington should be full of colour!

Lorraine Stevens



Cuddington Tennis Club

CUDDINGTON TENNIS CLUB

held its Annual General Meeting at the Playing Fields Club on Tuesday 19th October. The main matter of note was that the Club now has a record membership number of 93. Although the Club is short of adult playing members, there has been a large increase in family membership which is encouraging for the future. It is now over 31 years since Angela Sanderson coordinated



the construction of the courts, and her husband Charles has served on the committee without a break from the very beginning. He has been Chairman for a large part of that time, but stood down from the role on Tuesday evening, although he will continue to be a member of the committee. Chris Vane proffered a vote of thanks to Charles which was echoed by all those present.

The Club is now looking for a new Chairman, and would welcome any offers from members who live in Cuddington. It is not an onerous position, and there is no need for the new Chairman to be a playing member.

A customary barbecue followed the meeting, and despite torrential rain the BBQ chef Chris Vane managed to keep the BBQ alight and prepare a delicious meal – many thanks to you Chris.

Cuddington Bonfire & Fireworks Party



Gates open 6pm, Bonfire 6.30pm, Fireworks 7.30pm

FREE ENTRY

Cuddington Playing Fields, Bernard Close, HP18 0AJ

SUNSHINE CLUB

dates for our diary

Monday 8th November

2pm Club tea

Monday 13th December

1pm for 1:30pm Club buffet lunch

At the Playing Fields Clubhouse

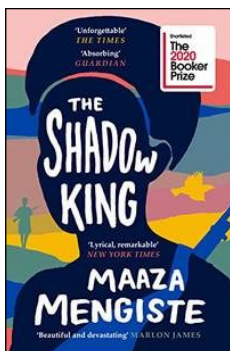


Bookworms review

The Shadow King by Maaza Mengiste,
Published by Afrori Books

Like a lot of families, we had our Christmas in the June sunshine enjoying a back garden barbecue. Our first get together since before Christmas '20 and an opportunity to open those sparkly, seasonally wrapped gifts. My adult children always buy me books I wouldn't choose myself - are they trying to educate me or broaden my outlook away from those predictable choices - I begin to suspect they are. So, two books this year by black female authors, one set in the Southern States and this book set in pre-war Abyssinia (Ethiopia). Definitely not my usual setting of English-speaking main characters.

The book was shortlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize, and I can see why, the writing is lyrical at times and the storyline whilst based on historical fact is from an unusual perspective – a female warrior. The author wanted these valiant women to be recognised and not erased from history.



The heroine is called Hirut, she is a maid to Kidane an officer in Emperor Haile Selassie's army.

The Italians are invading Abyssinia as part of Mussolini's plan to create an Italian empire. The Ethiopians mobilise, but they are overwhelmed, Hirut offers a plan to maintain morale. She is captured and becomes a prisoner of one Italy's most vicious officers.

An Italian Jewish photographer (Ettore), is forced to photograph these events to save himself. Many years in the future this brings Hirut and Ettore after his long search, together again.

Why does he need this reunion?

It is a gripping story and at times disturbing, but at the end I felt I had read a novel that will stay with me a long time because of its unusual setting, the rich language and wonderful characterisation. ***Reviewed by Amanda Carroll***



The Gossip...from the pub

Well here we are two months in, time has flown but we have been made to feel very welcome thank you all!

A lot has happened, we have launched a new menu - we welcome your feedback and look to introduce some weekly specials as the new menu beds in.

The Christmas menu is in draft and will be available soon, we are already taking party bookings and will be offering this from Tuesday 30 November.

During Half Term we welcomed a new part-time Chef, Fiona, to the team. Fiona runs her own company, 'Roasties' offering an eclectic mix of services, private chef, wedding photographer and she also holds her own Arty Paint parties, look out for a date in the New Year for one at the pub.

With Fiona joining the team we are able to expand our food offering to 7 days a week. We are opening Monday and Tuesday eat in or takeaway. She is also cooking for our first theme night, bookings are open for Caribbean Food night on Monday 15 November. Fiona is not the only new member to join our team, we would also like to introduce Tim, who will be helping behind the scenes as a kitchen assistant. He comes fresh from his seasonal assignment in the Isle of Wight. Front of house we welcome Sam a Cuddington local who's brother has also previously worked at the pub. We put Sam through his paces at our first, very successful and buzzing Charity Quiz Night, we raised around £150 for the Miscarriage Association. The next quiz is planned for Monday 29th November, with the charity nominated by Liz Keating. If you want to nominate a charity or local organisation to benefit from our quiz in January please get in touch hellothecrowncuddington@outlook.com or pop in and see us.

We have Live Music booked for Saturday 27 November with Nick Preston another local. Singer and guitarist Nick, has previously performed with the Searchers, and has been travelling the country with live performances through the Summer as it became possible to 'gig' again!

We look forward to a fun night with the opportunity for a dance and sing along to some family favourites.

Phew! That's it for now, other than to say we continue to be vigilant in relation to Covid-19, with plenty of hand sanitisers around the pub and regular cleaning of all areas.

Cheers G&T

Thame Choral Society

***MUSIC, MINCE PIES
& MULLED WINE***

Christmas Carol Workshop

Come along and sing the world's greatest carols, learn and get in the mood for Christmas with members of Thame Choral Society

**Saturday 20th November 1-5pm
Haddenham Junior School**

**Tickets: £8
(includes mince pies)
To book contact: thamechoralsociety@hotmail.co.uk**

Lower Farm Regenerative Project

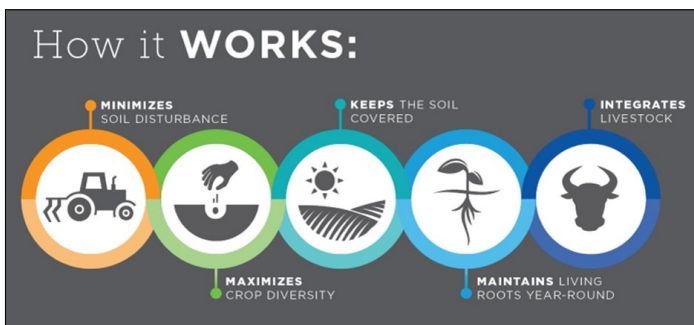
November Update

We're now on our second cycle of rotating the livestock within small strips of pasture without cutting, mowing or ploughing. We can already see the difference this is making. There is a mat of vegetation underfoot, which is protecting the soil beneath. When it was hotter there were no bare parched areas, and when the weather was wetter, the soil and vegetation seemed to absorb and hold the water. The insect biodiversity and abundance of grass and flower species is already increasing (although this is our perception and not objectively measured!). We are looking forward to spring/summer 2022 bringing even more.

The carpet of grass above the soil seems to harbour more small mammals, when you stand very still you can hear rustling and noises as the smaller animals move safely within runs. In more sparse landscapes they would not have the cover and now they are invisible to predators. We can only believe that this increased density of insects and small mammals will be of benefit to birds, bats and birds of prey and improve the biodiversity of our village. We believe that we have observed more activity from Sparrowhawks, Owls, Buzzards and Red Kites in the areas we have left the pasture uncut.

Our livestock appear to be content with daily and controlled restrictions on their diet instead of giving them a full larder. They change their eating habits from grazing their perceived 'best' bits to getting a more balanced and rounded diet – something that we may benefit from as humans when we are barred from accessing all the high energy intensive foodstuffs we can easily access.

We were originally inspired by the movie 'Kiss the Ground' and now the Regenerative movement can be followed through www.regenerativefoodandfarming.co.uk and lots of other sources that any Google search would reveal!



This type of farming does not replace organic farming it's dovetailed in terms of the belief that farming needs to complement nature but the regenerative principle focuses on the protection of soil to sequester carbon and absorb the impacts of climate change.



Ben & Karen Clayton

In the greenhouse

Pumpkins leftover from Halloween?

All the seeds can be scraped away from the flesh, washed and dried and saved to plant next year, eaten in savoury dishes or put out for the birds in winter.

The flesh can be chopped up and used in preserves eg pumpkin and ginger jam, chutneys or as in America, pumpkin pie. The oven roasted flesh makes great soups, curries, hummus and a wide variety of savoury dishes and can be used in cakes like courgettes and beetroot.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/top-20-pumpkin-recipes>



There shouldn't be any left over pumpkin in our food waste bins this year!

Cuddington Playing Fields Club
Opening Hours

Friday 5pm - 10pm
Saturday 5pm - 8pm
Sunday 3pm - 5pm

Cuddington Bar and Social Club is a members only bar.
Annual membership fees are: £10 Family, £5 Individual,
£3 Concession. Guests must be signed in and a fee of £1
per session applies

Local solution for a bountiful Christmas!

by food writer:
Franky Cookson



Just when I was looking forward to a Christmas shared with friends and family, the world was bombarded with news about food shortages.

But I believe I can find everything I need to put on the Christmas table. I will shop locally. This not only makes environmental sense, it's also supportive of local businesses, such as farm shops and farmers' markets. The turkey and goose farm at Starveall, for example, has been ticking all the sustainable and welfare boxes for many years. Farmer, Mike Lambert, explains,

"Our farming ethos gives us exceptional resilience, which is helping to overcome industry issues. For instance, products grown on the farm, such as grain, straw and grass, sustainably support our poultry enterprise. Our production and packing is carried out on-site – using the same team of experts, year after year. All this, combined with over thirty years' experience in rearing poultry, delivers what I truly believe to be the best tasting birds in the country!"

Starveall's traditional and free-range turkeys and geese are reared slowly, to allow them to develop at their own pace. The result is an award-winning succulence and flavour that keeps Starveall's customers coming back for more, year after year.

They quickly sell out, of course, so I shall waste no time in ordering mine.

As for the roasties and sprouts...I'm heading for my local Farmers' Market.

www.starveallturkeys.co.uk 01296 747 549



ADVERTORIAL

Tree Wardens

As I write this, the leaves on many of Cuddington's trees are turning and falling. The walnut on the corner of Bernard Close and the hornbeam on the Upper Green seem to have made it through their first summer in their new home, and are both looking healthy. I would like to thank Merryn, Sarah, Tim, Jessica and Ken for weekend watering duties, and Simon for mid-week watering. Thanks must also go to Brian and Will for letting us use their hosepipes. It's been a pleasure watering the trees; I've had a lot of positive comments, particularly about the hornbeam which seems to have been appreciated as a replacement for the horse chestnut that used to stand nearby.

I was very pleased to hear that the Parish Council is aiming to plant a substantial field maple at the playing fields as part of the "Queen's Green Canopy" project to celebrate the platinum jubilee next year, and I hope that the saplings that are being encouraged around the edge of the playing fields make it through to next year as well. The northern edge of the playing fields along the Aylesbury Road is a fine example of what a bit of planting can do, as is the avenue down to Nether Winchendon with its cherries and oaks.

The tree wardens are fewer in number now, and I am conscious that between us we have not found enough time to gather on a regular basis and to develop new ideas.

We have talked about creating a thorough inventory of trees, and also of organising walks to take in some of the more striking trees. Some of us have experimented from time to time with different ways of mapping the trees of Cuddington.

Having tried a couple of web-based approaches, I am beginning to wonder whether a map and some coloured stickers might actually be a better way to take stock of what we have, and to help us to raise awareness not only of the environmental benefits of trees but also of the sheer variety we have here. A first step in this direction has been taken, thanks Ken Birkby for providing a map.

From time to time, we do seem to lose fine trees. Sometimes this may be due to disease, which may mean that a tree has to be taken down for the safety of people nearby, but I do worry that we have not yet made sure that everyone is aware of the legal protection that is (in theory at least) afforded to trees in the conservation area.

I have learnt a lot about trees since volunteering as a tree warden, but realise there is a lot more to find out. For the time being, I am trying to make notes and take photographs of some of the less ordinary specimens. By way of an example, I've been spotting more and more walnut trees tucked in hedgerows – there's a substantial one by the stile at the east end of the tractor field, and we've even found one by our front gate while trying to keep the bamboo under control. It would be very helpful to hear from residents about the trees that they value, regardless of where they are in the village. It might be a majestic copper beech like the one at the Old Place, or a fig tree tucked away on Spurt Street. If you send me an email (ridout359@btinternet.com) or drop a note through my door (Skittle Green Cottage on the Lower Green) I would be happy to add your favourite trees to our map (if it's not already there) so that we are better able to protect them and to share knowledge about them.

Paul Ridout

Who's Who

Cuddington Parish Council
 Clerk: Venetia Davis cuddingtonpc@gmail.com Tel: 201899

Cuddington Churches

St Nicholas' Church Warden:
 James Stonham james@holymans.co.uk Tel: 292221

Methodist Chapel:
 Colin Watts colinwatts39@outlook.com Tel: 291661

Cuddington and Dinton C of E School

Headteacher: Mrs Kim Price office@cds.school Tel: 291206

Waddesdon and Haddenham Neighbourhood Police Team
haddenhamandlongcrendonpht@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Transport

Arriva Buses (for Aylesbury/Oxford) Tel: 0344 800 4411
 Redline Buses (for Aylesbury/Thame) Tel: 01296 426786
 Chiltern Railways Tel: 0345 6005165
 Cabco Taxis (Haddenham Station) Tel: 299444
 Village Cars (Princes Risborough) Tel: 342551

Medical & Veterinary

Haddenham Health Centre Tel: 293300
 Unity Health (Long Crendon) Tel: 208228
 Pharmacy (Haddenham) Tel: 291960
 Dentist (Haddenham) Tel: 292118
 Vet (Haddenham) Tel: 290400 or 01296 745372

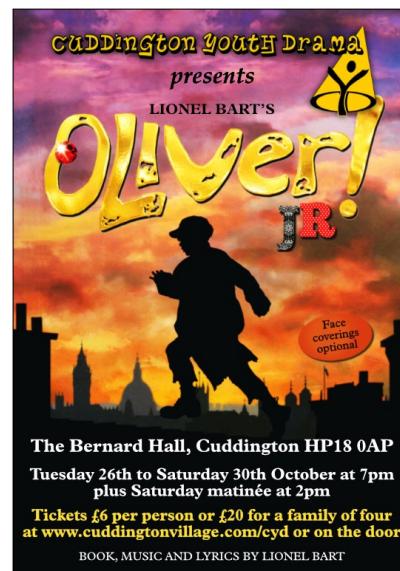
Allotment Society	Laura Ewers ewersl@live.co.uk	Tel: 299027
Banner Group	Angela Sanderson asanderson@waitrose.com	Tel: 291626
Bellringing	Caroline Stonham caroline@holymans.co.uk	Tel: 292221
Bernard Hall	Zoe Gibson zegibson@yahoo.co.uk	Tel: 291349
Cuddington Youth Drama	Elaine English maryelaine.english71@gmail.com	Tel: 01296 655698
Denise's Hairdresser		Tel: 291277
Footpath Working Group	Charles Sanderson charles.sanderson7@gmail.com	Tel: 291626
Fête Committee	Karen Clayton info@porkandginger.co.uk	Tel: 290404
Gardening Club	Carol Hayward caspy24@yahoo.com	Tel: 292295
Greener Cuddington	Doug Kennedy doug@doug-kennedy.com	Tel: 290602
Nicholas Almond Charity	Jennifer Schram de Jong jschramdejong@yahoo.co.uk	Tel: 291501
Post Office & Shop	Jeyan & Sugi	Tel: 291372
Playing Fields Association	Neal Waters (Chairman)	Tel: 07799066891
- CPFA & Bar Committee	Ellen Dyer (Secretary and Bookings) cuddingtonclubbookings@gmail.com	Tel: 01844 761984
Sunshine Club	Sherry Scott admin@tcap.co.uk	Tel: 291526
Tennis Club	Robin Nash robin.nash7@btinternet.com	Tel: 07900980912
The Crown	Glyn & Tracy Jones hellothecrown@cuddington@outlook.com	Tel: 299255
Toddlers' Singing Group	Christine Jackson Christine.jackson@alive.co.uk	Tel: 292120
Cuddingtots	Amy Hall amyaxhall@gmail.com	Tel: 07782199707
Tuesday Group	Rosemary Bradbury rosemary.bradbury@btinternet.com	Tel: 290249
Village Picture House	John Cooper johnkayecooper@gmail.com	Tel: 299269
Village Voice	Helen Keeping wichertcot@gmail.com	Tel: 291635

For further information and website links visit the village website: www.cuddingtonvillage.com

**Please sir,
I want some
more...**



**Cuddington Youth Drama's 2021
performance of Oliver! was a
delight from start to finish.**



The cast, made up largely of local children and teenagers was excellent. From Fagin's hilarious side glances to the superb singing throughout and Widow Corney's pantomime touch. They knew exactly how to entertain the audience, which was a sell out every night. The ensemble is expertly led by CYD's dedicated Director, Elaine English who somehow managed to overcome this year's COVID issues combined with the children being intermittently unavailable to rehearse together, to make another masterpiece. They had the audience laughing and smiling throughout and not just because of the quality beer and wine available at the hall! What makes this 5 night run even more impressive, is that the technical crew, scenery and props were also all expertly operated by CYD members. On a more serious note, although the cast and crew are made-up of children and amateurs, the production costs due to copyright and costumes, are very definitely professional. So it was really lovely to see lots of villagers supporting the production and helping out in the hall. We should be incredibly proud that our community can pull together to produce memorable nights like this.

Well done CYD.

Lizzie Greenwood-Hughes

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(Gluten Free Option Available)

To order please contact Pam via email or phone:

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Note: Last Day for Ordering December 5th

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Tel: 01844 215555

Tel: 01844 237070

Greener Cuddington

When I was growing up in the 1950s, coal was the source of energy for generating electricity, home heating and industry, and in London, we were plagued by pea-soup fogs (coal smog) and the buildings in all our main cities were black with soot. The gas that we cooked and heated with was made from coal in a very dirty process.

Following the Clean Air Act in 1956, things started to change and 'natural gas' started to replace coal gas, and was regarded as the answer to the air pollution problem. From then on, the smogs became increasingly rare and buildings were cleaned, giving our cities much more cheerful countenance.

In 1956, the concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in our atmosphere was 331 parts per million (ppm) which was regarded as the way it was and would be for a lot longer than our lifetimes. So while coal was, and continues to be used for electricity generation and oil for transport and plastics across the World, burning 'natural gas' was seen as the clean solution to our energy needs. These are all carbon-rich fossil fuels with the result that our atmospheric CO₂ concentration has increased by 30% to .410ppm, and we now recognise that this has a profound effect on global temperatures and weather. Our demand for energy keeps rising while we are beginning to believe that we need to reduce the amount of carbon we are putting into the atmosphere, but in spite of promises made back in 1989, global governments have failed to make progress with this, leaving us all with a big problem.

That is, how do we dramatically reduce the use of

carbon-based fuels whilst energy consumption is increasing? Probably inevitably, energy prices, particularly natural gas, are increasing rapidly which is making our domestic energy bills much more expensive than even a year ago. Many of us live in older houses that are difficult to keep warm with solid walls, draughts and which are difficult to insulate well. Even a lot of the newer housing being thrown up is a lot less energy-efficient than is the case in other European countries.

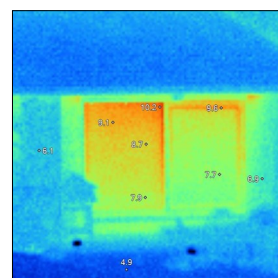
These factors combined make saving energy in homes heated by gas or oil imperative, but where should we start? The Green Homes Grant might have initiated country-wide action by getting expert advice on measures to be taken and financial assistance with the cost of improvements. However that was badly thought through and implemented and was abandoned early. So it is down to us to get on with it.

One way to find out where the heat is leaking, out or the cold blowing in, is by using thermal imaging. This can be done with an infra-red camera, and back in 2012 I was able to

borrow one from Haddenham In Transition and used it to survey twelve Cuddington properties whose owners were then able to use the images to focus on where the worst heat loss was happening.

I may be able to offer this service again this winter, so if you are interested please send me an email, and include your address and phone number.

Doug Kennedy (doug@doug-kennedy.com)



New Footpath at Cuddington Mill

Cuddington Mill is located on the River Thames to the west of the village. For many years it was a grain mill serving the needs of local farmers and a cart track from the village ran to and from the Mill. In more recent times public access has been maintained via a public footpath from the village that continues on from Cuddington Mill across the fields to Chearsley.

Cuddington Mill is now a private residence owned by Keith and Jean McCullagh, who have lived there since 2001. As many recognise, the current public footpath (CUD13/1) passes through the private gardens and driveway of Cuddington Mill in close proximity to the windows and front door of the house and its outbuildings and intrudes on the privacy of residents at the Mill. In addition, the scaffolding bridge over the River Thames at the Mill is partly or wholly submerged at times of high river flow and represents a hazard for walkers.

In August 2020, Mr & Mrs McCullagh received approval from the Environment Agency to install new footbridges across the two River Thames watercourses upstream of Cuddington Mill. Their intent was to create a new permissive footpath from Cuddington to Chearsley that bypasses Cuddington Mill and its grounds and garden. The new bridges were installed this summer and the new footpath is now open to the public. It extends the CUD13/1 footpath that runs from Bridgeway through Mr & Mrs Greenwood-Hughes field.

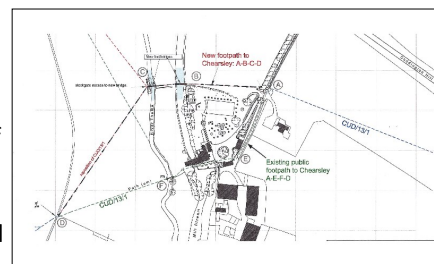
The new path starts from the stile into Cuddington Mill Lane, crosses the lane and passes through a gate in the new parkland fencing and runs directly across the field in front of Cuddington Mill (originally named "Great Meadow") towards the river.

The bridges over the River Thames watercourses are constructed entirely of steel that has been allowed to rust naturally to resemble wood and the low profile

curved design gives them an elegant appearance against the tall willows along the river banks.

The bridges were manufactured and installed by Greenford Engineering of Wheatley and the undersides are approximately 900mm above maximum flood levels. Greenford has also raised the bridge approaches to protect walkers from flood waters. On the western side of the River, the new path connects to the existing footpaths to Chearsley and Cannon's Hill.

Keith and Jean McCullagh would like to invite members of the village and the public to use the new footpath as an alternative to the existing public route through the Mill. They would also be interested to hear from members of the village and others with thoughts and observations about the new footpath, the bridge designs or the views of the river, countryside and wildlife. Otters have recently been seen along this section of the river. Please send your feedback to keith.mccullagh@btinternet.com



THE VILLAGE PICTURE HOUSE

CUDDINGTON



Our first film for November at the Village Picture House – the BAFTA and Oscar winning **Bombshell** (cert. 15) on Thursday 4th November – could well be described as the first movie of the #MeToo era. This true story of three women who conspired to fight back against the culture of harassment at Fox News is led by three outstanding performances from Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie and Charlize Theron. The film portrays how anchor Megyn Kelly, Gretchen Carlson and producer Kayla Pospisil overcome a culture of silence to strike at the abusive executive Roger Ailes. Sharp and complex, this is a story of rotten institutions, misogyny and what it costs to speak out. “Jay Roach’s Fox News drama celebrates the bravery of individual actions without heroising the people behind them,” says *The Independent*. “One of the most compelling stories of the #MeToo movement is told unflinchingly, empathetically and authentically,” says *Empire*. “This post-Weinstein movie is explosive,” says *The Times*. In complete contrast, on 11th November our film will be



The Last Bus (cert. 12A), starring Timothy Spall and Phyllis Logan. Tom, a pensioner whose wife Mary has just passed away, travels from John O’Groats to his original home town at Land’s End using his free bus pass. He carries with him his wife’s ashes in a small suitcase, travelling the length of the country to take her back home. Along the way, his adventures are recorded by the people he meets and helps, and by the end of his trip he has unwittingly become a social media celebrity. “Touching and ultimately very moving, with a brilliant performance from Spall,” says *close-upfilm.co.uk*. “Spall makes believable if not always generous company, and you’ll find yourself cheering him on to his destiny,” says *The Radio Times*. “Timothy Spall holds up every scene with great presence and embodies his character credibly and charmingly,” says *theupcoming.co.uk*. On 18th November we’ll be screening **The Father** (cert. 12A), starring Anthony Hopkins, Olivia Colman and Mark Gatiss. Anthony is 80, mischievous, living defiantly alone and rejecting the carers that his daughter Anne encouragingly introduces.



Yet help is also becoming a necessity for Anne; she can’t make daily visits any more and Anthony’s grip on reality is unravelling.

As we experience the ebb and flow of his memory, how much of his own identity and past can Anthony cling to? And can Anne cope as she grieves the loss of her father, while he still lives and breathes before her? This highly affecting film won two BAFTAs and two Oscars. “An unbearably heartbreaking film ...the performances from Hopkins and Colman are superb,” says *The Guardian*. “Anthony Hopkins is peerless in this crushingly sad version of Florian Zeller’s hit play,” says *The Times*. “A brilliant portrayal of not just a man but also the disease from which he is suffering,” says the *Evening Standard*.



On 25th November our film is **Love Sarah** (cert. 12A) with Celia Imrie, Bill Paterson and Rupert Penry-Jones. Determined to fulfil her late mother’s dream of opening a bakery in charming Notting Hill, 19-year-old Clarissa enlists the help of her mother’s best friend Isabella and her eccentric estranged grandmother Mimi. These three generations of women strive to overcome grief, doubts and differences to honour the memory of their beloved Sarah, while embarking on a journey to establish a bakery filled with love, hope and colourful pastries from all over the world. “A warm-hearted Notting Hill drama with echoes of *Fleabag* and *Richard Curtis*,” says *The Guardian*. “A feel-good, lifestyle-led drama ... a professed love letter to London,” says *The Radio Times*. “A slice of cinematic comfort food ... a sweet-natured comedy-drama,” says *Time Out*.



Looking ahead to December: on the 2nd we’ll be screening **Nowhere Special**, starring James Norton as a single father given only a few months to live attempts to find a new, perfect family for his three-year-old son. On the 9th, we’ll be showing **Promising Young Woman** starring Carey Mulligan as a wickedly smart, lethally beautiful medical school dropout living a secret double life by night. Finally, on the 16th, our film will be **Last Christmas**, the chart-topping Christmas movie of 2019 starring Emilia Clarke, Henry Golding and Emma Thompson. Please note that if the Government decides to implement its so-called “Plan B”, we may need to restrict numbers and/or insist on the wearing of face coverings.

Visit the web page for more details of all features:
www.cuddingtonvillage.com/cinema

Dates for your Diary



"Rich colours actually look more luminous on a grey day, because they are seen against a sombre background and seem to be burning with a lustre of their own. Against a dark sky all flowers look like fireworks." **G.K. Chesterton**

November

Wednesday 3rd, 8.00pm	Bookworms Book Club at Playing Fields Clubhouse
Thursday 4th, 7.30pm	'Bombshell', Village Picture House
Friday 5th, 6pm	Cuddington Bonfire & Fireworks Party, Playing Fields
Monday 8th, 2pm	Sunshine Club Tea, Playing Fields Clubhouse
Thursday 11th, 7.30pm	'The Last Bus', Village Picture House
Saturday 13th, 2.00pm	Tree planting, Playing Fields
Sunday 14th	Remembrance Sunday
Monday 15th	Caribbean Night at The Crown
Thursday 18th, 7.30pm	'The Father', Village Picture House
Thursday 25th, 7.30pm	'Love Sarah', Village Picture House
Saturday 27th	Live Music with Nick Preston at The Crown
Monday 29th	Charity Quiz at The Crown
Tuesday 30th, 7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting, Bernard Hall

December

Thursday 2nd, 7.30pm	'Nowhere Special', Village Picture House
Saturday 4th 10am	Christmas Craft Fayre, Playing Fields Clubhouse
Wednesday 8th, 8.00pm	Bookworms Book Club at Playing Fields Clubhouse
Thursday 9th, 7.30pm	'Promising Young Woman', Village Picture House
Monday 13th, 1pm	Sunshine Club Buffet Lunch, Playing Fields Clubhouse
Thursday 14th, 7.30pm	'Last Christmas', Village Picture House
Saturday 20th	Family Christmas Party, Playing Fields Clubhouse

And every Wednesday, at 9.15am, in termtime, Cuddingtots takes place in the Playing Fields Clubhouse; and every Friday, at 10.00am, also in termtime, Toddlers Singing Group takes place in St Nicholas Church. Everyone is welcome, but places are limited for both groups, so please book. For more details please contact Amy (07782199707) for Cuddingtots, and Christine (christine.jackson@live.co.uk) for Toddlers Singing Group. For more information please refer to the village website – cuddingtonvillage.com

Cuddington Playing Fields & Clubhouse Events

Fri 5th Nov 21	Village Fireworks Party, free entry. Doors open 6pm
Thur 11th Nov 21	CPFA EGM - All welcome
Sat 13th Nov 21	2pm Tree Planting
Sat 4th Dec 21	10am - 4pm Christmas Craft Fayre at Cuddington Playing Fields
Sat 18th Dec 21	Family Christmas Party

For more information please email cuddingtonclubbookings@gmail.com

Cuddington Playing Fields, Bernard Close, HP18 0AJ.

Contributions for Village Voice

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire at the village party. We are very grateful for your feedback and welcome your support and ideas.

If you would like to write an article, review a play, share a recipe or tell us your Cuddington history, please email your item to the editorial team.

Best wishes, Helen, Rachael & Clare

Editorial contact details can be found on page 2.

Thame Choral Society

THAME CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thame Choral Society are very excited to return to St Mary's Church in Thame for our Christmas Concert! It will be two years since we have performed.

The programme includes carols, both by the choir and for our audience to join in.

Vivaldi GLORIA and Christmas Favourites

Directed by Helen Swift

Saturday December 4 2021 7.30PM

St Mary's Church Thame

Tickets £12 (under 16 free) on the door

Or book online at

www.thamechoralsociety.org.uk

Craft Fayre

Cuddington Playing Fields
Saturday 4th December 2021

10am-4pm

Candles
Cards
Bouncy Castle
Refreshments
Cakes
And Much, Much More
Personalised Bottles
Frames
Tombola

Free Entry



If you would like a stall, Please contact Josie 07769682070

Please come along and support our local crafters

Christmas Gift Fair

11 am - 3pm 20th November 2021

A beautiful selection of gifts including Christmas decorations, jewellery, food, homeware, skincare and more...

Buckinghamshire College, Oxford Road, Aylesbury, HP21 8PDF

FREE PARKING

Entrance £3 / Concessions £1.50



Pace is a charity providing an outstanding education and first class therapy for disabled children.
thepacecentre.org

Charity No. 101153

The children have had a great first half of Autumn term. In particular they have been learning about harvest and where our food comes from. The highlights were the CHUF bakery (using real items made by the children), the farm shop, planting vegetables, climbing hay bales, and having real live chickens visit us. One of the chickens, Chickoletta, hatched at CHUF during the summer term and it was great for the children to see how she had grown since then.

After half term the children will be learning about animals and their habitats and behaviours, as well as the various important celebrations and commemorations that occur during this period. Children will take part in Children in Need activities, Remembrance Service activities and learning about Diwali, the Hindu festival of light. We also start to look forward to Christmas and begin learning about the nativity and taking part in the celebrations surrounding this festival. This is always a very exciting time at CHUF!

This term we sadly said goodbye to our wonderful Administrator of 14 years, Sally Smith. Sally has been an integral part of the daily running of CHUF for parents and staff alike. She is leaving us to pursue a new career and we wish her the very best in her new adventure.

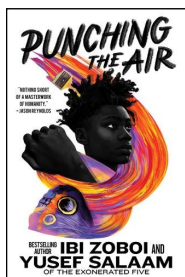
We would like to welcome on board Debbie Whale as our new Administrator.



Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam,

published by HarperCollins

Punching the air is a moving and deeply profound story. It follows a black teenager, convicted of a crime he didn't commit. When filled with rage and despair, Amal turns to his words and his art for refuge. Can he fight for the truth and maintain his humanity in a system designed to strip him of both? Can he change his story?



I really enjoyed this book. It opened my eyes to what it is like to be a black teen in America and gave me an insight into Amal's life in prison and how he uses the power of his art and words to change his story.

I like the fact that this book is written in a poem form, as it means that I was able to read it much quicker than other books with the same number of pages. I feel that the style of writing that Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam have used is very powerful and enables the message of the book to stand out clearly to the reader. It also makes the reader feel closer to the authors and also Amal, because it is written in the first person, and also because writing is a way that Amal expresses himself, so it helps the reader to have an insight into his brain and feel all of his feelings alongside him.

Throughout the book there are various different images and patterns printed onto the pages, which not only break up the words on the pages, but also can help the reader visualize the story and Amal's thoughts and feelings.

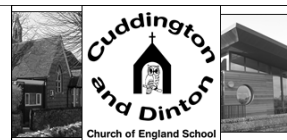
Although this book is targeted towards a young adult audience, my mum read the book after me and also loved it which proves that you don't have to be a young adult to read and enjoy it!

Overall I loved this book and would give it 5 stars!

Warning: this book contains swear words and violence.

Reviewed by Olivia Winnicott

What a delight it was to have all the children together in Church for the first time in 18 months to celebrate Harvest! The highlight for the children was having playtime



altogether, and the Infant staff also loved seeing how grown up the Junior children were. We raised £364 for UNICEF, a pile of bedding for the Women's refuge in Aylesbury and food for Vineyard Storehouse.

This month we have had a first for the school. To help prepare our year 5&6 children for their trip to France, we usually take them away to a local centre when they are in year 3&4, due to COVID restrictions this was not possible so a school sleepover seemed like a great alternative. We had a year 5 sleep over (although 5 ½ hours sleep doesn't equate to a lot of sleep!). The children had a fantastic time- making their own food, playing games, roasting marshmallows, star gazing and 'sleeping' in the year 5 & 6 classroom.

Year 5&6 also had a virtual visit to the British Museum to look at Greek artefacts. They had to design their own Greek temple using their knowledge of architectural columns, Greek geography, Greek Gods, and the use of the religious artefacts. Years 1&2 and 3&4 were also inspired through visits from an Architect and an Explorer.

We finished the half term with two Family Services; to see all the parents, grandparents, younger siblings, and members of the Cuddington Church community together in one place was joyous. We were able to repeat the experience in Dinton the following week. It made me realise what a wonderful community we live in.

Mary Skold, Yr 6 represented Greg Smith's Buckingham Constituency at the online Children's Parliament debate on Friday 29th October. Mary Skold had a private meeting with Greg Smith, the local MP. They talked about how politics works and the average week of an MP, he gave her tips on how to speak formally in a zoom meeting. Thank you to Greg for giving his time to speak to Mary.

I am finishing the half term with a warm sense of things getting back to 'normal' in school.

Kim Price, Headteacher

Kids bonfire wordsearch

Hot chocolate	G	E	R	R	O	C	K	E	T	S	I	S
Firework	U	A	S	F	R	W	E	R	L	S	O	E
Bonfire	Y	E	L	L	O	Q	E	U	K	C	B	V
Gloves	F	W	Z	L	Z	L	C	R	R	Y	P	O
Guy Fawkes	A	W	G	E	K	R	O	U	I	B	N	L
Rockets	W	M	K	R	L	W	X	R	T	Y	U	G
Glow	K	Q	A	W	E	E	R	O	T	E	P	U
Dazzle	E	P	E	R	T	C	R	A	C	K	L	E
Crackle	S	X	I	H	B	O	N	F	I	R	E	L
Sparkler	Q	F	Z	V	T	R	E	R	C	X	M	O
	E	L	Z	Z	A	D	F	I	R	V	T	Y
	H	O	T	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E