

Voice

of the villages

Hunningham, Offchurch, Weston, Wappenbury, Eathorpe

Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023



*Bonfire Night - a much older celebration
than Guy Fawkes*

Editor: David Wray (wraydj@gmail.com)

The VOICE website
www.villagevoice.org.uk



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OFFCHURCH VILLAGE TIDY UP

Could you spare a little time and energy to help keep the Village Hall outside areas looking spick and span please?

We have booked **Saturday 4 November** from 9.30am to blitz the leaves and generally tidy up for the winter.

All help gratefully received. Please bring brooms and tools. Coffee and cake provided.

The Offchurch Village Hall Committee



WESTON BABIES and TODDLERS WEEKLY GROUP

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING at 9.45am

(Restarts September 8th)

VENUE: Weston Village Hall

Come and let the little ones have lots of fun and meet other Mums, Dads, Grandparents, and Carers.



Further information contact Hazel Taylor 01926 632428

THE PILGRIM PUPPETS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

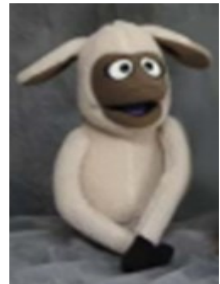
3rd, 4th, 5th November EUROPEAN FESTIVAL –
EQUIP - Rugby College - RUGBY

Saturday 4th November COMPETITION - EQUIP
11.30am

Monday 13th November St PAUL'S PRIMARY
SCHOOL, Leamington 9.10am

Sunday 3rd Dec COME 2 WORSHIP service at HUNNINGHAM
CHURCH 11.00am

Ring Hazel Taylor 01926 632428 if you are interested in our
Puppets being part of your events.



For information about the Pilgrim Puppets, please have a look at [their web page](#) .

1st Stretton-on-Dunsmore



Bonfire & Firework Display

Fosse Way Playing Field

Saturday 4th November

Bonfire lit at 6.15pm, fireworks at 7.00pm

Hot Dogs, Beefburgers, Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate & Lightsabres will be on sale

Family Ticket purchased in advance: £15.00 from Brookside Stores, Stretton on Dunsmore

On the night: £5.50 Adult, £4.00 Children

Bonfire wood: *please contact Gary on 07570 809975*

- Small/medium collections may be possible
- Deliveries must be booked in: 10-12am using only light road vehicles or agricultural tractors

Please note: no sparklers





**It's time for the
famous Eathorpe**



**Eathorpe Village Hall
Saturday November 11th
Doors open: 6.30pm
Quiz begins: 7.00pm sharp**

Hot dogs served in the interval

Tickets £6.00 per person (including a hot dog)

Please purchase **in advance** from

David Wray 0770 2022684 (Text, phone or WhatsApp);
wraydj@gmail.com (email); Woodbine Cottage, Eathorpe,
CV33 9DE

**Teams of 4 preferred but we'll organize you if you don't
have a group of 4**

Offchurch Flower Club



Meets at Offchurch Village Hall 7.30-9.30 on the second Wednesday of the Month.

Future Dates

8th November: Professional Demonstration of Autumnal and Dried Flower Wreaths

13th December : A Christmas decoration using three stems of flowers and some imagination.

Your first meeting is free except for a contribution towards materials used, or professional fees to cover - as in Nov. £5. Thereafter, £3 per meeting payable in advance until December.

Biodegradable Oasis is available @ £1 per block.

Please bring some garden scissors and a bag for offcuts.

Photographs are of the variety of different arrangements produced at the October Meeting at which the theme was “use a kitchen utensil not usually thought of as a vase to have fun being creative with foliage and flowers”.

For more information contact the Secretary : patriciafollett@hotmail.com



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BONFIRE NIGHT

Saturday 4th November



We are really excited to be hosting Bonfire night again this year! On Saturday 4th November, Zacks Barn will be open (to ticket holders only) for a sparkly night of fireworks, delicious hot food & drinks, live music, a well-stocked bar and of course a big old bonfire!

Doors open at 4pm and the bonfire & fireworks will be lit around 7pm.

EVENT

info



Tickets will be on sale in our Farm Shop from Monday 16th October. Everyone attending the event will need a ticket and they will not be available on the door, so must be purchased in advance.

Adult tickets are £7, children are £4 (under 5's free), family tickets (2 adults & 2 children) are £20.

Here's some useful info for the evening:

- Gates open at 4pm, when the bar opens and we start serving food.
- The bonfire will be lit at 6pm and the fireworks will start at 7pm.
- [@zacks_barn](#) will be serving up their famous pizzas and burgers alongside a hog roast and hotdogs too.
- The bar will be fully stocked with a wide range of [@purityale](#) beers with plenty of mulled cider & mulled wine to warm the cockles!
- Live music will kick off before the bonfire is lit and there will be more after the fireworks too
- There will be face-painting to add some glitter to your evening and glow sticks (and other glowy items) on sale too!
- We will be taking both cash and card for payments on the night

We look forward to seeing you soon!

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www.coolbreezetechnologyservices.co.uk

Date for your diary:

**Sunday December 3
from noon till 5pm**

Christmas Art and Craft fair

At

The Plough, Eathorpe

A variety of stalls will be offering seasonally themed gifts, cards, paintings, jewellery, edible treats, decorations and knitwear. If you are creative and would like to book a stall, get in touch as soon as possible. Please contact Stevie on 07879 844397 to book yours or for more information.

Note: the stalls are filling up fast with only a few still available on a first come first served basis.

All visitors to the fair will be offered entry to a draw to win a meal for two with a complimentary bottle of wine.

Festive refreshments will be available throughout the day.

BONFIRE NIGHT AND HALLOWE'EN



Hallowe'en is celebrated each year on October 31, but the heavily-American influenced version we have nowadays disguises the much older tradition underpinning Hallowe'en - and other celebrations linked to it. Hallowe'en originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off malevolent spirits. In the North of England, Mischief Night is celebrated either on the night before Hallowe'en or on the evening of November 4th. Its link to the supposed presence of wicked and naughty things is an obvious link to Samhain and it results in children or teenagers engaging in jokes, pranks, and vandalism. (More tricking than treating!)

Maybe because of the demonic tinge to Samhain, in the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honour all saints. Soon, All Saints Day incorporated some of the traditions of Samhain. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, and later Hallowe'en, and, over time, evolved into a

day of activities such as carving pumpkin lanterns, festive gatherings, wearing costumes and eating treats. Much later, in the United Kingdom, the state decided it needed to celebrate the King NOT being blown up in Parliament, and instituted the annual celebration of Bonfire Night. Guy Fawkes was actually burned to death (after a great deal of torture) in January 1606, but the chance to link the celebration of his death to Samhain was too good to miss, and November 5th it has been ever since.

We should probably know more about this ancient Celtic festival and how it has come to be so significant in our world. The key features of Samhain were:

- 1) It marked the transition between seasons: from the lighter half of the year to the darker half.
- 2) It was a time when the Celts believed that the veil between the mortal world and the Otherworld was at its thinnest so the spirits and souls of the deceased could more easily cross over into the world of the living.
- 3) One of the most prominent features of celebrations was the lighting of bonfires, which were not only a means of protection from malevolent spirits but also symbolised the sun's power and kept it alive as it grew weaker with the approach of winter.
- 4) During Samhain, the Celts would often make offerings to their ancestors and spirits. These included food, drink, and gifts to appease and honour the spirits.
- 5) The Celts believed that dressing up in costumes helped to confuse and ward off any malevolent spirits that might be abroad during Samhain.



OTHER CELTIC FESTIVALS

Many of our annual celebrations had their roots in Celtic festivals.

Winter solstice marked the longest night and the shortest day but it was a day of hope, the day the sun would begin to return.

Celebrations included a large feast and a bringing together of family and community. This festival was given the name Yule.

Beltane (May Day) was a time to celebrate life. The theme of new life overlapped with the slightly earlier Spring equinox festival dedicated to the goddess Eostre.

Summer solstice (Midsummer Day). This event marks the longest day of the year and the peak of summer. The land is alive with life and greenery once again, and the fairy world was also close. Shakespeare's original audience for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* would have had no problem accepting the interaction between the fairy and the human world. They were not Celtic but those traditions have lasted a long time!

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Attempted Fraud - Scam Calls Warning

Please be aware that scam telephone calls are being made to Warwickshire residents. Warwickshire Police's Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the Warwick, Leamington Spa and Kenilworth areas are appealing to all residents, especially the elderly or vulnerable and those who may care for them, to be aware of these scam calls.

On Thursday, 5 October, a resident in Kenilworth was contacted by an offender who purported to be from the Fraud Department of a well-known bank. They told the resident they were trying to catch a scammer and even provided the name of the so-called suspect. They then asked the resident to transfer £28,000 to a specified account in order for them to trace the suspect.

Believing this to be true, the resident went to her bank and transferred the amount. Luckily, the staff at the resident's bank picked up what was happening and cancelled the payment. These things can be embarrassing for those who become victims.

However, no one should feel embarrassed as the offenders making these calls can sound very professional and plausible.

This event highlights:

- Scam Telephone calls are being made to local homes.
- The caller on these scam calls sounds plausible and can easily deceive people.
- Residents, especially those who care for elderly or vulnerable people, need to be extra vigilant.
- Do NOT give bank or personal details, such as your date of birth, to anyone over the telephone.
- Banks nor the Police Do NOT telephone people to discuss their personal accounts or ask them to transfer money.
- Put the phone down on anyone who calls whom you believe to be suspicious.



Remember, Remember
Your Pet This November

**Bonfire Night may be fun for you,
but it can terrify pets.**

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MONDAY CLUB

On a lovely sunny afternoon, the Monday Club met together in St Michael's Church, Weston for a presentation on *The World of Moths and Butterflies* given by one of our members, Celia Davis. She gave us a very interesting talk illustrated by wonderful slides explaining life cycles.



Their main food is nectar so plenty of flowers year round is important, as well as wild areas. These provide breeding grounds and food sources for caterpillars and larvae. Connectivity between areas is essential to ensure that breeding doesn't just occur in one area as this leads to the problems of inbreeding.

Afterwards, we all got together for tea, cake and a chat which rounded off our afternoon. Our next meeting is on Monday 13th November at the Hunningham Parish Room for a talk on fire safety in our homes.

Jean Smith

Eddie Croxall

Painter & Decorator

120 Kinross Road
Leamington Spa,
CV32 7ET

Tel: 01926 882

420

Mobile: 07778 283

244



WELCOME TO OUR VILLAGES

Welcome to Offchurch!

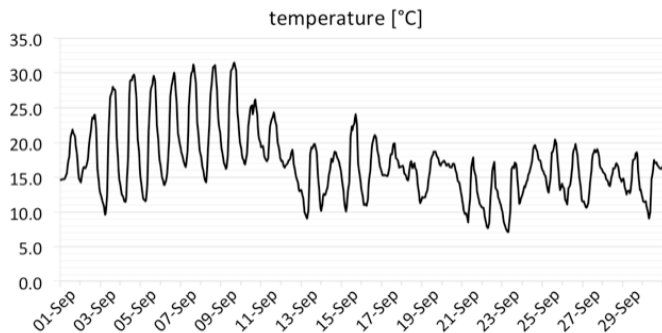


We would like to extend a warm welcome to Carole and Steve Sulston who have recently moved in on the Welsh Road, Claire and William Philpot (not forgetting Sasha dog) on Village St and Alex Grzegorzczuk, also on Village St.

We hope that they all settle happily into the village and make new friends. We look forward to seeing them around.

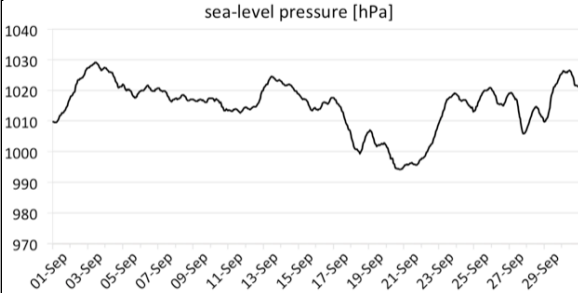
WEATHER WATCH: SEPTEMBER 2023

Whilst the 51 mm of rain for this September was very close to the average for the area (50.8 mm), the mean temperature was well above average. There were 16 days with no measurable rainfall, which occurred mostly in the second half of the month with the 18th being the wettest day at 18.4 mm. We experienced several days of unusually high temperatures at the beginning of the month. The highest



temperature at my location was 31.8°C on 9 September. The mean daily temperature for this month of 17.2°C was just 0.05°C above July and 0.25°C below that of August this year. The sea-level atmospheric pressure was generally quite high, averaging

1015 hPa, with a maximum of 1028 hPa and a minimum of 996

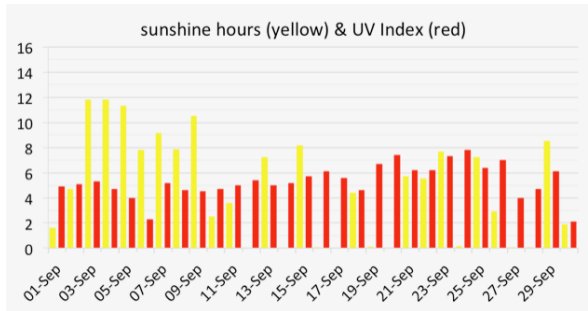


hPa. Easterly winds were variable but strong at times with a maximum gust of 32 mph on the 19th.

Days early in the month were very sunny contributing to a

total of 142 hours of sunshine for the month, which is around the average for our area.

There were four days with no sun at all, and two days at the beginning of the month enjoying 11.8 hours of sunshine which, given the shortened day-length, is remarkable



and compared exactly with the maximum daily sunshine hours in August.

Unusual autumnal warmth

At the start of this September we enjoyed (or maybe endured) eight really warm days, with four well in excess of 30°C. This period was classed as a heat wave because three or more contiguous days experienced maximum temperatures of at least 27°C. This heat wave value varies across the UK, being 25°C in the north and 28°C in the south [1]. It was also referred to as an Indian summer, or more preferably as a Second Summer [2], but actually this is not the case according to the Met Office. As David wrote in the last edition of *Voice of the Villages* an Indian summer is said to originate from the Indigenous North Americans who, if there was a spell of warm, dry and hazy autumnal weather, were able to

continue hunting later into the year. First used in the UK in the early 19th Century, such spells of warm autumnal weather had been known across Europe as “Saint Martin’s summer”, since 11 November is Saint Martin’s Day. However, whatever the name, this year’s event in September was not classed as a special named event because it occurred so early in the month, and so



really was still a part of the summer period, despite 1 September being the first day of meteorological Autumn. The Met Office Meteorological Glossary first published in 1916, defines an Indian

summer as “a warm,

calm spell of weather occurring in autumn, especially in October and November”. [3] Other definitions include a warm spell after the first frost of the season or even the first “killing frost”, which would mean it was a particularly severe frost. However, as I write this article in early October, it’s probably true to say that the spell of warm, calm weather expected this weekend might be a Second Summer. For local weather details and forecasts go to: <https://offweather.hopto.org>

Richard Seaton rkseaton@outlook.com

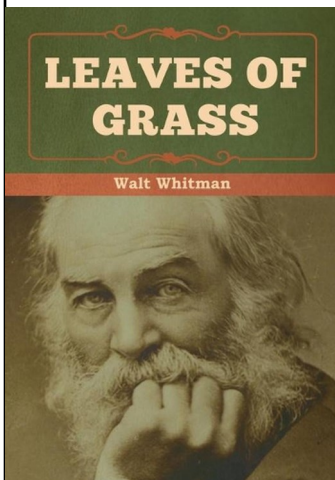
References: [1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_summer, accessed 5/10/2023

[2] <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/press-office/news/weather-and-climate/2022/heatwave-on-the-way-for-many>, accessed 5/10/2023.

[3] <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/temperature/indian-summer>, accessed 5/10/2023.

POETRY PAGE

This month the focus is on one of America's most celebrated and influential poets, Walt Whitman. I bought a paperback copy of his magnum opus "Leaves of Grass" in 1970, on the recommendation of a student friend who was studying a degree in American Studies. I have to confess that I didn't read any of those poems for at least another 10 years (life got in the way!) but when I finally did, I realised what I had been missing.



Walt Whitman was born in 1819, in New York and grew up during a period of great change in American society, with the country transforming from an agrarian society to an industrialized nation - a change which greatly influenced his poetic vision. His poetry is often characterized by its exuberant celebration of life, an unwavering belief in the inherent goodness of humanity, and a deep connection to the natural world. One of the most significant aspects of his poetry is his innovative use of free verse.

He broke away from the rigid structures of rhyme and meter that had dominated poetry for centuries, instead embracing a form of open, flowing, and organic verse, reflecting the rhythms of natural speech. This innovation allowed his work, it is claimed, to give voice to a new, democratic vision of poetry, where every person's voice and experience could be heard. There are too many wonderful Whitman poems to explore in a short space. I recommend getting a paperback version of "Leaves of Grass" (from £4.10 from Amazon!), carrying it around with you and dipping into it when you have a moment! Here I want to focus on 2 poems, both written when Whitman learnt of the fatal shooting of Abraham Lincoln just a few weeks after leading the United States to victory over the Confederate rebels. These

poems are among his most poignant and emotionally charged works.

O Captain! My Captain!

*O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won,
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;*

*But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.*

*O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills,
For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding,
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;*

*Here Captain! dear father!
This arm beneath your head!
It is some dream that on the deck,
You've fallen cold and dead.*

*My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still,
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will,
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done,
From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won;
Exult O shores, and ring O bells!
But I with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.*

"O Captain! My Captain!" is a poem of lament and mourning. It uses the metaphor of a ship's captain to represent Lincoln, who guided the nation through the tumultuous waters of the Civil War. The title itself, with its exclamation and personal address, reveals the depth of Whitman's sorrow and admiration. The poem moves from the elation of victory to the despair of loss, capturing the mixed emotions that accompanied the end of the Civil War. The image of the ship returning to port with its fallen captain is a powerful symbol of the price of leadership and the cost of preserving the Union.

When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd

(First 4 stanzas only - of 16)

1

*When lilacs last in the dooryard bloom'd,
And the great star early droop'd in the western sky in the
night,
I mourn'd, and yet shall mourn with ever-returning spring.*

*Ever-returning spring, trinity sure to me you bring,
Lilac blooming perennial and drooping star in the west,
And thought of him I love.*

2

*O powerful western fallen star!
O shades of night—O moody, tearful night!
O great star disappear'd—O the black murk that hides the
star!
O cruel hands that hold me powerless—O helpless soul of
me!
O harsh surrounding cloud that will not free my soul.*

3

*In the dooryard fronting an old farm-house near the white-
wash'd palings,
Stands the lilac-bush tall-growing with heart-shaped
leaves of rich green,*

*With many a pointed blossom rising delicate, with the
perfume strong I love,
With every leaf a miracle—and from this bush in the
dooryard,
With delicate-color'd blossoms and heart-shaped leaves
of rich green,
A sprig with its flower I break.*

"When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" is a more extensive and complex elegy. It is a meditation on death, nature, and the cyclical renewal of life. Whitman uses the lilac, a symbol of mourning, to explore the profound impact of Lincoln's death on the American people. The poem begins with the image of lilacs



blooming and a "western star" (representing Lincoln) disappearing into the "western sea" (representing death). Throughout the poem, Whitman weaves together themes of mourning and hope, emphasizing that while death is an inevitable part of life, it does not diminish the beauty and vitality of the world.

In these elegies, Whitman not only pays homage to a great leader but also provides solace and catharsis for a wounded nation. His words are a reminder that even in the face of tragedy, art has the power to console, inspire, and heal. Whitman's poetic exploration of Lincoln's death stands as a timeless tribute to the enduring legacy of the late President and a testament to the power of literature to help us navigate the complexities of human experience.

WOMEN AND THE MARATHON

“Women are not physiologically capable of running a marathon.”

In 1966, a young woman named Roberta (Bobbi) Gibb applied for an official place in the running of the Boston Marathon, one of the most prestigious marathon races in the world. Her application was refused and, if the person replying to it had left it there, history might well have been different. Instead, he (it was almost certainly a ‘he’) felt obliged to add in the sentence above as a reason for the rejection. For Bobbi Gibb, the rejection was bad enough but the patronising and derogatory comment on her capabilities as a woman made her angry – angry enough to cheat. She determined there and then that she WOULD run the Boston Marathon whether they would let her or not.

In the mid-1960s, women's long-distance running was still considered dangerously radical. Female runners had completed 26.2 miles many times, but groundless ideas lingered that a woman's body was not built for such extreme exertion.

The 1928 Summer Olympic Games saw women compete in



The start of the women's 800m final at the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam - the event wasn't staged again for another 32 years

athletics events for the first time, and on 2 August three of the nine women who ran in the 800m final broke the world record, with Germany's Lina Radke claiming gold.

However, what should have been a giant stride forward for women's athletics degenerated into a remarkably nasty media campaign in which newspapers

worldwide reported incorrectly that many women had collapsed with exhaustion after the race and that such exploits were far beyond the female sex. The New York Times falsely reported that "six out of the nine runners were completely exhausted and fell

headlong on the ground", while the Montreal Star shrieked that the race was "obviously beyond women's powers of endurance and can only be injurious to them".

The media firestorm led officials to cut the 800 metres from the women's Olympics, with the event not appearing again until 1960. Women's perceived fragility was underpinned by some preposterous medical theories that wound their way into the public consciousness.

Ask Google who was the first woman to run the Boston Marathon and you'll find the name Kathrine Switzer, along with a photo that appears to show a group of men chasing and manhandling a woman with the number 261 pinned to her midriff.



Switzer (no 261) evaded an attempt to remove her race number by Boston Marathon co-director Jock Semple, over her right shoulder, in the 1967 race.

It is a shocking image that easily fits a narrative of misogyny, but this is not the real story of the first woman to run the world's oldest continually staged marathon. The truth, as so often, is far from black and white. Switzer, in fact, had gained her race number illegally by disguising her gender on the application and having her male coach pick it up.

Bobbi Gibb had determined that ludicrous ideas about female capability would not stop her. A few months before the marathon, she applied for a runner's number to be one of the 540 that would eventually start the race, but was rejected with the now famously curt assessment of women's physiological capabilities. So she decided just to turn up and run it anyway.

Her mother drove her to the start line on the morning of the race. She was wearing her brother's Bermuda shorts, with a swimsuit underneath, and a big sweatshirt with a hood that was pulled over her head. After running a few warm-up miles she

returned to the starting area, where she did her best to hide by creeping into a set of bushes nearby. When the starting pistol cracked, Gibb loitered, allowing the faster runners to move down the road before joining the moving crowd.

She realised that the men around her knew she was a woman and was afraid that she would be stopped from running. Her fears were unfounded. Instead of hostility, camaraderie quickly flourished. When it became clear she needed to take off her sweatshirt or suffer the heat in it, she expressed her fears of being ejected from the race to the men around her. "We won't let them," came their assurance. Buoyed by the companionship, Gibb removed her outer layer and ran freely and proudly - her blonde ponytail swinging from side to side. Spectators lining the street - men, women and children - applauded her as she passed, with news of her participation spreading along the course via radio bulletins.

Gibb was not only blazing a trail, she was doing it quickly. She ran the first 20 miles at a sub-three hour pace, but with her newly-bought men's running shoes cutting into her feet, her speed began to drop. Her race had changed. Anxiety over being pulled out by officials was now replaced by that feeling all too familiar to any long-distance runner - painful determination and a longing for the finish line. She completed her first Boston Marathon in an impressive three hours, 21 minutes and 40 seconds - faster than two-thirds of the competitors.



A now iconic image shows her running alone, her face grimacing as she nears the finish line. On both sides, spectators crane their necks, ignoring other runners passing by, desperate to glimpse the first female finishing the famous race.

Gibb ran the Boston Marathon twice more.

Though it wouldn't be until 1972 that women were given numbers and allowed official entry, the pioneers had lit a fuse. In 1973, the first all-women's marathon was held in Waldniel, West Germany, but the 1980 Summer Olympic Games in Moscow came and went, still without a female marathon event. The following year, the International Olympic Committee voted that a female marathon event would be included at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles - and it has been ever since.

The effect this has had on women's marathon running has been dramatic. In the last 60 years, the women's world record for 26.2 miles has plummeted by an astonishing one hour and 23 minutes. As a comparison, the men's record has dropped by only 54 mins in the last 115 years.

Bobbi Gibbs' running exploits have continued to inspire. In 1996, she was finally recognised as an official three-time winner, receiving her medals while also having her name inscribed on the Boston Marathon Memorial in Copley Square.

In 2016, 50 years after that momentous race, Ethiopia's Atsede Bayisa presented Gibb with her Boston Marathon winner's trophy after learning of the events of 1966.



*Gibb crosses a ceremonial finishline in 2016
- 50 years after her debut in the race*



Working Together as a Community

Joint Parish Council Meetings

The Parish Council website can be found at
www.ehow-jpc.org.uk

Our next meeting is scheduled for 21st November 2023 at 7:30pm and is being held at Eathorpe Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings.

Residents can still email or phone Parish Councillors if they have issues to raise.

For further information or an emailed copy of the meeting Agenda or minutes please contact the Clerk on Clerk.jpcehow@outlook.com

The meeting dates for 2023

The dates below follow the usual JPC pattern of meetings.

October	No Meeting	
November	21 st	Eathorpe Village Hall
December	No Meeting	



Planning Application

Highlands Farm, Long Itchington Road, Offchurch, Leamington
Spa CV33 9 AP
Application number W/22/0198

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the
decision of Warwick District Council to refuse planning
permission. (Ref. W/22/0198).

If you wish to make comments, or modify/withdraw your previous
representation, you can do so online at
<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

or by emailing
west2@planninginspectorate.gov.uk to Jenni Ball, The Planning
Inspectorate, Room 3C, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square,
Bristol, BS1 6PN


All representations must be received by 17/11/2023

Eathorpe Joint Parish Councils


FAMILY HOSPITALITY

My 2 sisters & I were 4,8 and 11, just after the War, when Mum & Dad decided to invite a Jewish refugee from Czechoslovakia to share our home - she was called Margarita Hamerstein - Auntie Hamer to us children.


She was a very frightened little lady, having survived many dreadful things. She always liked to feel secure and safe - when Mum went outside to hang the washing out, Auntie Hamer would lock the door - so that when Mum tried to get back in she had to bang the door and shout - eventually Auntie would let her in! This happened again and again - when Mum went to fetch the vegetables or collect the eggs, or worse getting the washing


in when it was  .

Auntie Hamer had arrived in a luxurious fur coat - she had put her expensive jewellery in little pockets which she'd sewn on the inside. So when she had her afternoon nap, we three would take turns to put it on and hide our dolls and teddys in these secret pockets!! Daddy would come in from work, all smiles and ask if we'd had a good day - we would all say yes Dear

Mummy would just smile, and raise her eyebrows  .

Auntie Hamer loved us all dearly, but she would say YOU ENGLISS - YOUR LETTISS IS SO WET, and she'd wave it about and spray us all, and when she said THAT SWEETS YOU she meant

'that suits u'  But many of her emotional stories would move us to tears. The ever memorable Auntie Hamer stayed for over 15

years! 

Wendy Green

Warwickshire Mobile Library



Eathorpe Village Hall

12.00 - 12.20

Offchurch Village Street

9.15 - 9.30

The mobile
library will be
available on:

3rd November
1st December



CONTACT THE TEAM

01926 851031

mobilelibraryservice@warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mobilelibraries

CHURCH SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2023



Sunday 5th	11.00am – Service of the Word / Patronal + Zoom	St Margaret's Hunningham
Sunday 12th	10.00am – Remembrance Sunday + Zoom	St Gregory's Offchurch
Sunday 12th	6.00pm - Evensong	St Michael's Weston
Sunday 19th	10.00am – Holy Communion + Zoom	St Gregory's Offchurch
Sunday 26th	10.00am – Service of the Word + Zoom	St Gregory's Offchurch

COMMUNITY CAFE

The Community Café 'Drop In' is now seasonal.
Everyone welcome for refreshments & a chat at the café.

During the Winter months ...

On the last Wednesday of **September, October, November,
January, February**

Do come and join us for **HOMEMADE SOUPS**, conversation and
company..

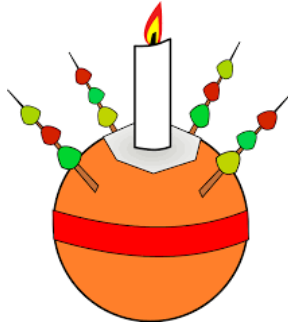
It saves making lunch!

In Offchurch Village Hall
Wednesday 29th November

We will keep in touch with regular attendees but for
up-to-date information ring Hazel on 01926 632428



Messy Church Christingle



Saturday 16 December 2023

3pm to 5pm


**Weston under Wetherley Village
Hall, Sabin Drive**

**Make your own Christingle, games, songs,
refreshments and much more – All welcome**

Let us know you are coming by texting
Jane on 07850 444316 or email

messyoffchurch@gmail.com

ST GREGORY'S CHURCHYARD: A SANCTUARY FOR WILDLIFE



Expect Saint Martin's
summer,
halcyon days.
Saint Martin's summer
lasts three days and a
bit.

Saint Martin's Day is the 11th November, Martinmas. Unfortunately Saint Martin's summer is a myth, but the second adage shows a 35% chance of being correct, which to me seems reasonable. Anyway we must wait until the 11th but keep our jumpers handy just in case.

The November weather is often difficult for us. The late autumn storms usually continue until about the 13th. Mid-month a brief quiet interlude from the 15th to the 21st. Then late November to early December the first of the winter storms. "No dawn no dusk, no proper time of day, November".

Yes the days are getting shorter and not so much to see in the Churchyard on the surface. But bugs in our bug boxes I hope, not to be disturbed, so I haven't had a poke around. Activity too in the base of the long grass and nettles, other insects and small mammals. I don't think the hedgehogs have gone to bed for the winter. Still signs of activity.

We must start cutting back the wild growth as it looks as though there has been little or no response from villagers to volunteer and keep the wildlife Churchyard going. The three of us working at present can't keep it going I'm afraid. We are in the last chance saloon.



Redwing - winter visitor

Our winter visitors are here now, the redwings and fieldfares are in the field next door to the Churchyard. So good to have them again. Of course our permanent robin is still singing away. Very few of the other birds sing much at this time of the year. No morning chorus.

Finally, a big thank you to our team of volunteers for this year's work. THANKS.

Also thanks to you for your support; so sorry but this looks like my last report on the Churchyard after 28 years.

Mike Porter 01926 624909



Welcome to The Red Lion Hunningham



At The Red Lion Hunningham, food is made strictly for the soul. Bright, beautiful and mouthwatering, our food is a true sensation for the eyes and the belly. This is the kind of food that is cooked simply and cleverly while showcasing the great British palette at its culinary best.

We are positioned within the peaceful village of Hunningham, 3 miles to the north-east of Leamington Spa, yet inside the Radford Semele Ward. The Red Lion Hunningham offers enviable views along the River Leam while overlooking the spectacular Warwickshire countryside. We are open 7 days a week for food and drink.

