

# TOCKENHAM

"Wiltshires best kept small village"

Winner 2023



PARISH MAGAZINE

April 2024

## **From the editor.**

To see the Daffodils in full bloom last month was truly spectacular and what better way to remember the lovely June Strange for whom they were planted. Well done to all those who attended the Dodecantus concert. It was a beautifully soothing evening, very well attended and helped raise a goodly amount for the Church bell-tower shingles. Your Village Hall Committee (social club) are working hard to not only put together a social calendar for us all but also keeping the hall itself in good order and financially afloat. Take a look at the events calendar enclosed and put the dates in your diary for a guaranteed great time.

## **From Robert Cutler**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in the church at 7pm on Tuesday April 23rd to which all church Electoral Roll Members are welcome.

## **Welcome Aboard**

We are delighted to welcome most warmly new Tockenham residents Helen Clowes, of Field View, 1, Tockenham

&

The Gadby family, Petra, Vernon, George and Hannah at 34 Greenway.

We know that all the ingredients are here for a wonderful and friendly life as any of the locals will confirm.

## **Village Hall Coffee Morning**

Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, from 10.30 a.m. until 12 noon in the village hall, to which everyone is invited. As this will be raffle month, it would be much appreciated if you could donate a small prize – thank you.

Thank you everyone for your support – and do come along and join us for coffee/tea, biscuits and a chat – we look forward to welcoming everyone.

If you are unable to join us in April, please add 7<sup>th</sup> May to your diaries for the following coffee morning.

## **Poets Corner**

### **Spring**

Oh, what a joy to see,  
Everyone is busy as a bee.  
As they tend their garden plot so well,  
By clearing weeds, planting seeds and lots to tell.

The playground has come to life once more.  
With childrens happy laughter to the fore.  
Suddenly we see more people around,  
Villagers are taking walk's I'll be bound!!

It's great to enjoy our village scene each day  
And hear the clip clop of horses hooves on their way.  
Tractors and trailers, cars and bikes travel through.  
Whilst those on foot enjoy the view.

One big happy family is our special way.  
With everyone ready to help each other every day.  
It's so very heart warming to us all,  
Knowing kind gestures are there at a call.

## **Allotment News**

Although meteorologically we are now in Spring, it is hard to believe it in Tockenham and especially in the allotments. The only spring-like feature in the village are the still wonderful daffodils planted in memory of June Strange. The neat and fruitful allotments which greeted the Best Kept Village judges have changed to very damp, rather scruffy plots. Hopefully some hours will be spent cutting the grass when drier which will improve the look. There are some onions and garlic growing well, rhubarb showing its heads and fruit trees budding. Meanwhile we have all studied our seed catalogues trying to remember which ones were successful last year and which were disappointing. Windows cills are being pressed into use for early sowings and early potatoes are chitting. We are making plans and just need some sunshine.

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**Beginners class on Tuesday 11.30-12.30**

**Starting March 2024**

Contact: Mark **07905632539** or **mark@greenchi.co.uk**

**Village Fair Raffle**

Dear Villagers

We are asking for contribution to this year's Tockenham Fair Raffle.

We hope to broaden the range of hampers this year and would like items that could form part of a Spa Hamper, a Gardening Hamper, a Food/Wine Hamper and a Toy/Games Hamper, however, any contribution to prizes for the Raffle would be greatly appreciated.

Also, if you have any unwanted baskets or wooden crates that would be suitable for a Raffle these would be very welcome.

Please contact Tamsin Rowe at, [Tamsin.Rowe@gmail.com](mailto:Tamsin.Rowe@gmail.com) or on 07990790617, if you have any items that you can contribute.

Raffle tickets will be distributed in May's Parish Magazine.

Many thanks in advance for your support.

The Tockenham Village Fair Committee.

**Tockenham events during 2024**

- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, Curry Night. **SOLD OUT**
- Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Morning walk & Ploughmans back at the hall. Contact [Kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Kirbydrew@yahoo.co.uk)
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Tockenhams famous Summer Fair. Contact [Kevin@tockenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Kevin@tockenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Quiz night.
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August, Beer & Cider festival. Held at the Gaisfords farm. Hog roast, (Veg/Vegan options) Beers / Ciders / soft drinks and plenty of dancing to a live band.

## **Benefice Services, April 2024**

### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April:**

Communion, **Broad Town**, 10.30am

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March:**

Communion, **Bradenstoke**, 9.00am

Communion, **Tockenham**, 10.30am

Communion, **Hilmarton**, 10.30am

### **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April:**

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.00am

### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April:**

Communion, **Clyffe Pypard**, 8.00am

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.30am

Morning Prayer, **Tockenham**, 10.30am

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April:**

Communion, **Lyneham**, 10.30am

All-Age Service, **Hilmarton**, 10.30am

Evening Service, **Clyffe Pypard**, 6.00pm

Evening Service, **Broad Town**, 6.00pm

### **Dodecantus Concert**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> St Giles hosted a very well attended and successful fund-raising event when the Dodecantus Choir performed a lovely concert and we enjoyed drinks and canapés to accompany the beautiful singing. The concert was in aid of the Church Bell Cote fund and St Giles is pleased to announce that the profit from this event was a brilliant £335. Many thanks to all those who attended, sold tickets, provided canapes, and set up the church. Not to mention Dodecantus themselves!

### **April Reflection**

Last month the reflection was about journeys and this month, as the year journeys deeper into spring, thoughts once again turn in this direction. As the blossoms and flowers emerge, we start to think of possibilities and, often, travels to different places. Chaucer began his story of pilgrimage entitled 'The Canterbury Tales' with a speech to the month of April referencing the stirring of the soul that entices people to journey and discover. However, a thousand years before that the early Celtic Christians set out from Ireland, Scotland and Wales to journey for God. They made no plans but trusted that God would direct them. Records suggest that they would even set out to sea rudderless, letting the currents, tides and winds direct them. They also allowed themselves to be led by animals and the pathways they make. Wanderers, determined to go forward in faith, in the face of hardship and difficulty.

These days, we may find it more prudent to rely on travel timetables, maps and schedules. Although, the traits that kept the early pilgrims going are still relevant today. They surely needed patience, resilience, great faith, humility to accept help and compassion to give it where they could, as well as resourcefulness to make the best of situations in which they found themselves.

As we journey into April it may be an interesting exercise to use the points of the compass to reflect, in the way a retreat course recently described:

North points to what's stable, rooted, reliable and certain in our lives.

South offers the opportunity to connect with what's alive, flourishing and joy-bringing.

West gives time to be with and process our losses and griefs.

East is about dawn and the invitations that are present for growth, change, fresh vision and new ways of being.

Happy travels this month be they physical or contemplative!



