

the communiqué

SERVING (super clean) WINGRAVE & ROWSHAM



WCA presents...



WCA Family BBQs are back for 2026!

- 29th May - BBQ Committee**
- 12th June - Wingrave Church**
- 26th June - PTFA Wingrave school**
- 10th July - Rose & Crown Pub**
- 24th July - Junior Football**
- 7th August - Tennis Club**
- 21st August - Bowls Club**
- 4th September - Twinning**



**Wingrave Community Centre
6.30pm**

THE COMMUNIQUE TEAM



Andy Targell
WCA Chair &
Editorial Team



David Wilton
Content, Design &
Layout Dude



Jan Holmes
Head of Grammar
& Editorial Team



Mary Lawrence
Creative
Correspondent



Nigel Crump
Photo Guru &
Editorial Team

SEND IN AN ARTICLE

Inform, educate and entertain the village



Ever thought about writing an article for your Parish magazine?

It could be monthly or as a one-off. Write about something you're passionate about or perhaps a charity or a community organisation you're involved with.

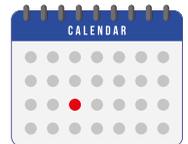
If you're interested, please get in touch with us, we'd love to have a chat with you:

communique@wingrave-wca.co.uk

Editor

COPY & ADVERT DEADLINE

The deadline for the May edition is
6pm on Wednesday 15th April 2026



Articles should be submitted by email to communique@wingrave-wca.co.uk before the cut-off date (above). Articles received after this time are only accepted at the Editor's discretion.

All email submissions are considered for publication unless it is clearly stated as "Not For Publication" in the email subject line.

Articles are reviewed in line with the Communique editorial policy and Editors reserve the right to adjust any submissions in order to comply with this policy. In such scenarios, amended copy will be shared for approval with the writer before publication. The Editorial Team decision is final. The Editorial policy is available from the WCA website www.wingrave-wca.co.uk/communique.

Articles will be formatted to align with our style guide - request a copy by email.

The Wingrave with Rowsham Communique is published by the Wingrave Community Association (WCA). Charity number: 265412

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WHAT'S ON

At the Community Centre



Activities and clubs to suit all ages.

Please contact the individuals listed below for more information.

When	What	Time	Contact	Email
Monday	Wingrave Baby & Toddler Group	09:30 - 11:30	Marianne Card	wingraveplaygroup@gmail.com
Monday	Short Mat Bowls (1st October to 30th April)	17:30 - 19:30	Nigel Crump	shoot@nigelcrump.co.uk
Wednesday	ZKS Martial Arts	18:00 - 20:00	Ben Bobbington	info@zksma.co.uk
Thursday	Qigong & Meditation Class	19:00 - 20:00	Jake Munn	spring.sage89@gmail.com
Friday	WCA Social Events	20:30 - late	Tony Horne	tony@horns.plus.com

The WCA organises activities and encourages and helps local clubs and societies to do so. We even offer free use of the Centre on Friday evenings for all local clubs and societies. If you want to set up a club or society or would like assistance with an event then please contact us.

Commercial hall hire rates published on page 69.

Communique advertising rates published on page 70.



The village defibrillator (AED) is located on the wall outside the main entrance of the Community Centre on Church Street.



Address: Community Centre , Church Street, Wingrave. HP22 4PE
what3words: sheds.fame.driven

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Bookings phone 01296 910 991
bookings@wingrave-wca.co.uk





WHAT'S ON:

SATURDAY CAFE

Every week 8.30-12.30pm



SCAN QR FOR MENU

Sissy Lea Drag Cabaret - Saturday 18th April

Over 60's Lunch - Wednesday 22nd April

Opening hours are posted weekly on Postie and Facebook. There is Sky Sports & TNT available at the Club so please come and watch any sport that is on during our opening hours.

SAVE THE DATE:



The Goat Boat Food Van - Friday 1st May

Start the Bank Holiday weekend off with some amazing Caribbean food & help celebrate my birthday at the same time!



Pha Thai Food Stall- Friday 22nd May

Village Fete - Sunday 12th July

 [wingraveparksportsclub](https://www.facebook.com/wingraveparksportsclub)
wingraveparksportsclub@gmail.com

WINGRAVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WCA**WINGRAVE
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**

Registered Charity Number 265412

Membership Fees 2026-2027

Membership fees for Wingrave Community Association are now due for the forthcoming year.

Your membership fees help support the association including the costs of the Community Centre, the Communique, Postie and a wide range of events and activities for the Parish as well as giving you a voice in how the Association operates by attending WCA meetings.

You can pay your Membership by cheque, online banking or by scanning the QR code below.

£10 per household or £5 for single occupancy

Either place a cheque into an envelope with your name, house name/number and postcode on the reverse of your cheque and take it to the village shop.

OR

Online payment to the WCA bank account s/c 40-28-12 a/c 41552643 using your name, house name/number and postcode as a reference.

OR

Scan the QR code below
Please note - the QR code can only be used to pay the full £10 household rate.



A big thank you to our wonderful village shop for being the collection point for cheque payments.

WARGAS

End of an era



The Wingrave and Rowsham Garden and Allotment Society would like to share that, following discussion at our recent AGM, we have made the difficult decision not to continue with the Open Summer and Sweet Pea Show.

Over recent years, a combination of declining entry numbers and increasing costs has made it increasingly challenging to sustain the event. This has not been an easy choice, especially given the show's long and valued history within the village.

Many will remember that there were once two shows each year, later reduced to a single summer show. It is particularly poignant that our planned centenary show fell during the Covid pandemic and could not go ahead.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported the show over the years

- to all those who entered, attended, and helped in any way, both from the village and beyond.

We are especially grateful to the society members and volunteers who have given their time and effort to organise and run the event.

While the show will no longer take place, the society will continue to manage and support the allotments as before.

Finally, regarding last year's cups, we would be grateful if these could be returned as usual in June, so that they can be engraved with the winners' names. (Adrian Reeve 127 Winslow Road).

Thank you again for your support and understanding.

Adrian Reeve
Chairman WARGAS

Promote your club, group or event

If you have something planned for the village
let us know. communicate@wingrave-wca.co.uk

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JEWELLERY
GOLD

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are coming to your area:

Cash offers / auction consignment available*
***subject to terms & conditions.**

We buy
PAINTINGS
CERAMICS
ANTIQUES
COLLECTABLES
SILVER



Tuesday 14th April (eve)
5pm-7:30pm (last entry 7pm)
Wingrave Community Centre,
Church St, Wingrave, HP22 4PE

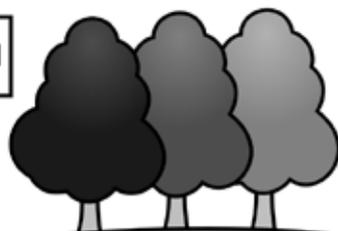
Wednesday 15th April
10am-2pm (last entry 1:30pm)
Roman Park Hall,
Sir Henry Lee Crescent,
Aylesbury, HP18 0YT

Tuesday 14th April
11am-3pm (last entry 2:30pm)
Aldbury Memorial Hall,
The Green, Aldbury,
Tring, HP23 5RR



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WINGRAVE WI

Women's Institute update



On Wednesday, 4th March members had a talk by Robert Brewer on being a TV Extra/Supporting Artist. One head many hats. Industry's, Insights into the Roles of a supporting Artist.

talk Rob was able to show us some clips he appeared in. He has appeared in Holby City, Grantchester, Eastenders, Bond No Time to Die, The Son, Blindly by the Light, The Diplomat and Batman. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed his talk.

Rob has been a TV Extra for the last 7 years. Before that he was in the Police Force. How you can become a Supporting Artist? The film industry carried on during Covid. Along with his

The next meeting is on Wednesday, 1st April at the Methodist Church at 10:00am.

Mary Shurlock

SIMPLE ACTS OF CHARITY

One hand of help, One word of sympathy,
One act of humanity, One smile of charity
And
One sweet hello,
Can change someone's mood and life.



Submitted by
Mary Lawrence

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear."



George Orwell

OVER 60s LUNCH CLUB

Always on the fourth Wednesday

2026 calendar: 22nd Apr, 27th May, 24th Jun, 22nd Jul,
26th Aug, 23rd Sep, 28th Oct, 25th Nov.

Menu: Published via Village Postie.

Venue: Sports & Social Club, Winslow Road, Wingrave. HP22 4QQ

Contact: Joy Parker 01296 688 116



Joy Parker

THE STORY OF THE SONG

They Can't Take That Away from Me



WINGRAVE
COMMUNITY CHOIR

George Gershwin was born in New York City in 1898. Today it seems almost unbelievable that his 'Rhapsody in Blue' of 1924 and 'Porgy and Bess' of 1935 were not acclaimed at their first performances but fortunately George had the happy knack of coming up with great melodies and his older brother Ira (born 1896) was able to write words for them, so by 1937 he was in Hollywood writing songs for movies instead of operas.

"I had to live for this," Gershwin grumbled, "that Sam Goldwyn should say to me, 'Why don't you write hits like Irving Berlin?'" Of course, the Gershwins still had what it took and came up with a jazz-ballet score for Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers – their final film together - 'Shall We Dance' that included 'Let's Call the Whole Thing Off', 'They All Laughed at Christopher Columbus', and 'They Can't Take That Away From Me'. After completing 'Shall We Dance' Gershwin started to complain of headaches but doctors could find nothing wrong with him. He had started work on a new score for Goldwyn when he collapsed and fell into a coma, dying two days later of a brain haemorrhage aged thirty-eight.

Big brother Ira outlived George by many years, dying in 1983 and spent his remaining time guarding George's legacy although he did find time to

collaborate with Jerome Kern, Kurt Weill, and Harold Arlen with whom he wrote 'The Man that Got Away' for Judy Garland. George's 'Rhapsody in Blue' and his piano music eventually gained acceptance but his songs were hits as soon as they were sung.

The Wingrave Community Choir will be offering 'They Can't Take That Away From Me', 'Nice Work If You Can Get It', 'S Wonderful', and others at the summer concert in the Community Centre on Saturday 16th May. → → →

Steven Whitehead

www.wingravecommunitychoir.uk

WINGRAVE
COMMUNITY CHOIR

Pop-Up Café
SATURDAY 6TH JUNE
WINGRAVE
COMMUNITY CENTRE
CHURCH STREET, WINGRAVE,
HP22 4PE
11 AM - 4.30 PM
Cakes and Sweet Treats!
Savoury Bakes
Free From Options
Candles, Crochet and more...
Really Awesome Coffee
Parking Available
Raffle supporting The
Chilterns Neuro Centre



**WINGRAVE
COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Invite you to our popular

Summer Concert

Saturday 16th May at 7.30pm
Wingrave Parish Church

Programme will include medleys of songs by

Irving Berlin and

George and Ira Gershwin

Tickets £12.50

available from the Village shop or choir members

(includes interval glass of wine or soft drink)



Wing Hall
71 Leighton Road
Wing
LU7 0NN

Where Stories Live and Community Grows - Welcome to Your Library



Opening Times

Monday	1400 - 1630
Tuesday	1400 - 1630
Wednesday	1000 - 1230
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	1400 - 1630
Saturday	1000 - 1230

Operated by a dedicated team of volunteers, we provide full access to the Buckinghamshire Libraries service. A friendly and welcoming atmosphere awaits you, and we invite you to visit and explore the resources and support available. We are conveniently located next to the Village Hall with plenty of free parking outside and nearby.

* Look out for our special events *

BOOKS: Children's board, picture, chapter, and non-fiction. Teen, Biography, Large Print, Adult Fiction, Non-fiction, Audio.

OFFICE SERVICES: Photocopying, Printing, Internet, Scanning, Laminating, Shredding. **LOCAL:** Information and Displays.

LEGO + GAMES **WE COLLECT:** Used stamps and small coins.

Go to <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries/> to gain access to the library catalogue and FREE digital resources. Find us on Facebook: [wingcommunitylibrary](https://www.facebook.com/wingcommunitylibrary)

EMMA'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Spanakopita (Greek Spinach Pie)

April sees spinach and other leafy greens at their prime so why not have a go at this easy but tasty pie.

Ingredients (serves 6):

2 red onions, halved and sliced
 1 spring onion, finely chopped (optional)
 2 cloves of garlic, crushed
 500g spinach, washed and roughly chopped
 a pinch of grated nutmeg
 200g feta cheese, crumbled
 2 eggs, beaten
 Butter
 Salt & Pepper to taste
 3 sheets Filo Pastry
 Heat the oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6
 Bake for 30-40 minutes until golden and crispy



Recipe

To prepare the filling for this spanakopita recipe, sauté the onions in a large knob of butter until soft and turning golden. Add the garlic and cook for a couple of minutes. Add the spinach in batches and cook until wilted. Cool, then tip into a bowl (leaving behind any excess liquid from the spinach) and mix in the nutmeg, feta, eggs, spring onion and season.

For this spanakopita recipe you will need a non-stick baking pan, about 25cm. Put the first sheet of filo in the pan and sprinkle with olive oil, letting

the excess hang over the sides. Keep going with the rest of the sheets, turning a little before adding each additional pastry sheet and sprinkling with olive oil. Use 3 filo sheets. Tip in the filling of the spanakopita and fold over the excess pastry to cover. If you like to prepare a larger pan of spanakopita for a big crowd, double the ingredients for the filling and use a 25-35 cm baking dish. Layer the 2-3 filo sheets to form the bottom of the spanakopita, tip in the filling and top with 2-3 more filo sheets.

Recipe created by Emma of Cafe du Jardin

Emma is a local caterer in the Parish, well known for her pizza and curry nights at the Community Centre.

For any catering need get in touch with Emma
 cafedujardin8@hotmail.com or phone 07787 838 167



LITTER PICK

Wingrave spring clean



Wow Wingrave, what a lot of rubbish!! Thank you so much to everyone who came out today. The effort everyone put in was amazing.

So sad to see how much rubbish we collected but so happy we've been able to make our village that little bit cleaner.

Finally, a huge superhero shout out to Mark and his crew who filled his van twice over with everything collected along the three routes into the village.

I even got to spread the word about

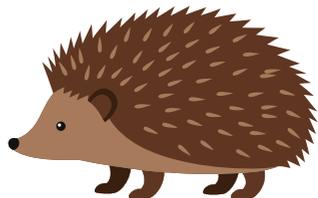


Huge thanks to all the volunteers we couldn't have done it without you. A big shout out to Deva and Nithy for donating the milk and biscuits.

Everyone who baked or bought cakes, these were greatly appreciated and offered the volunteers a well-earned treat after all their hard work.

We couldn't continue to do this without the support of our wonderful Methodist Church and the kind volunteers who helped to serve tea and coffee and wash up afterwards.

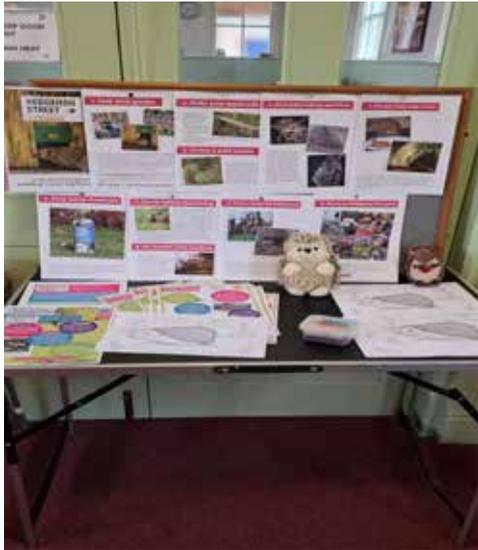
the amazing work Hedgehog Street do for helping our prickly garden visitors. If anyone wants to know more, or register sightings of hedgehogs in our village please visit their website: www.hedgehogstreet.org



THANK YOU

Steph Axten

... LITTER PICK



MEN'S BREAKFAST TALK

March meeting report



Whilst our March meeting didn't quite match the attendance we achieved in February, we still had our second largest crowd to discuss two topics. Firstly, David Harnett introduced a discussion on the impact of travel on global warming.

Of all the sectors that need to decarbonise to reduce the worst effects of climate change, transport is the one predicted to continue rising as a percentage of emissions. While land transport is increasingly being tackled, aviation is the hardest to change. Surveys consistently show that the majority of people support the "polluter pays" principle. But, at present, taxes including air passenger duty do not come anywhere near covering the cost to affect demand. Although aviation is currently around 2% of world emissions, it is predicted to be 4% by 2030 – and continue rising thereafter. There is no tax on aviation fuel, even though most other forms of transport are taxed in a variety of ways. Across the world, a rising middle class yearns to experience the benefits of travel.

The group discussed some of the ethical dilemmas associated with

flying. We considered offsetting and indeed alternatives – virtual meetings and other forms of travel. Whereas we used to cruise around the world, ocean travel doesn't meet the needs of business. And ocean cargo fleets use some of the dirtiest and cheapest fuel. Recent advances in battery technology were thought to be unlikely to impact aviation for some time, primarily due to weight. David then presented some of the ways in which industry is making efforts to tackle the problem. Most of these involve the use of SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuel). This can be made from waste or other plant-based products, but at present, only around 1-2% of fuel used is SAF. It already competes with food crops, and experts predict it will be very hard to increase much beyond 10-20%.

He also highlighted that around 70% of the emissions are caused by around 15% of frequent flyers. These are typically corporate travellers, in premier, first and business class. Airlines can make economy tickets very cheap by selling these premium, expensive tickets to cover the costs of making

... MEN'S BREAKFAST TALK

each trip. One solution could be a FFL (Frequent Flyer Levy), which involves a ramping up of taxes with each extra flight. But governments across the world know that aviation is a growing sector that provides wealth and growth in the economy and are subsequently loathe to tackle the issue.

The group had set aside some time at the end of the meeting to briefly discuss the UK's involvement in the latest armed conflict between the US/Israel and Iran. Opinions were mixed, with little optimism for the

future. No conclusion was reached, other than for a common desire for us all to just get along!

The group meets again on 11th April when Martin Shrubsole will introduce the topic "Smart Land Use" – how do we best use our meagre supply to balance the public's needs? This topic was inspired by Tom Heap's recent book "Land Smart: Our countryside and how to save it". New visitors will be welcomed and will receive a free breakfast.

David Harnett & Mike Atkinson

No sign-up
no membership

Men's Breakfast Talk

Saturday 11th April at 8:45am



This month's discussion topic, introduced by Martin Shrubsole:
"Smart Land Use" – how do we best use our meagre supply to balance the public's needs?

Come to a local Men's Breakfast Group for a thoughtful discussion.
None of us are experts but we've got experience & opinions.

This friendly non-affiliated group has been going for over twenty years.
Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of the month in the premises of
Wingrave Methodist Church in Nup End Lane, Wingrave HP22 4PX.

It starts at 8:45am and finishes at 10:30am and costs £4 for the breakfast.
All fellas welcome, no need to book, just turn-up.



If you have any questions please scan the QR code or
contact Mike Atkinson: matkinson999@outlook.com

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for new
visitors

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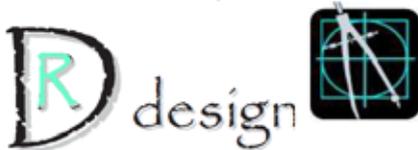
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**Wingrave Baby & Toddler
Group**

Monday Term times
10.00-11.30

£2.50 for one child, 50p for each additional
child

Includes snack

Wingrave Community Centre
Church Street
HP22 4PE

Wingraveplaygroup@gmail.com
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WingRAVE

Saturday 25th April 2026

7PM - MIDNIGHT

TICKETS: £20

Wingrave Community Centre

**When was the last time we had an
over 30s rave in the village ?**

Classics from 90s & 00's

**To secure tickets please email
wingravejfcclubsecretary@gmail.com**

All money raised will Support Wingrave JFC

WINGRAVE WI

Waddesdon Manor
Wednesday 3rd June 2026



Race for Life

Dear Villagers, Friends and Neighbours,

Once again this year the Wingrave WI team will be joining the thousands of other runners and walkers taking part in the Waddesdon Cancer Research Race for Life fundraising event. We know it's only April but several of you have already asked for our new donation details.

Cancer research funds are boosted substantially from this occasion, which in turn is held all over the country at numerous venues.

We hold donation forms and have also set up an online page below.

Donations to individuals are pooled into a team total. We will be grateful for any donations no matter how small.

WI Team Cancer Research fundraising page info:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/wingrave-wi-team-2026>

The WI Team



Messy Church in Wingrave

Methodist / Parish Church
(alternating)

Every 2nd Sunday in the month
4 – 5:30 pm.

Lots of activities, craft, songs,
prayer and food!

All children with their grown ups
welcome

12th April at the Methodist Chapel



Easter Craft

1st April

Parish Church
10 am – 1 pm

All children accompanied by
an adult welcome.

For more details contact:

Sarah 07774652373

John 01296 681226

CCHF

Cancer Care & Haematology Fund



CANCER CARE & HAEMATOTOLOGY FUND

Bucks cancer charity supports exceptional treatment

Nearly 40 years ago a Buckinghamshire nurse working at Stoke Mandeville Hospital had a vision that would help transform the treatment of cancer and haematology illnesses in the county.

In the late 1980s treatment for these serious illnesses was conducted in the general hospital setting and, while it was of a high standard, Sister June Wilson felt strongly that a specialist treatment unit at Stoke Mandeville would not only directly treat patients' illnesses but would also provide a range of other important services that could significantly improve patients' overall experience of what can be a daunting process.



June became the driving force behind a campaign for a dedicated treatment unit and her vision and indefatigable energy were vital for the successful provision of the Cancer Care and Haematology Unit at Stoke Mandeville.

By 1990 June's campaign was in full swing and every month even more creative and sometimes outrageous fund-raising events were being held involving clinical staff, patients, their families and supporters across Buckinghamshire. A charity – the Cancer Care and Haematology Fund (CCHF) – was launched to provide a focus for the fund-raising.

The new unit was planned to be a unique, stand-alone facility designed and purpose-built to provide a wide range of outpatient and day-case treatments for those suffering from cancer, including blood cancers such as leukaemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma. Patients with non-malignant blood problems such as clotting and bleeding disorders, various forms of anaemia, immune problems and haemoglobinopathies, would also be investigated and cared for in the CCHU. By providing treatment locally, patients who previously had to stay in hospital could be treated as day patients while leading normal lives in their own homes.

All of the hard work by campaigners paid off and the new unit was opened in January 2001, allowing both oncology and haematology to be brought together under one roof. With additional funds contributed by CCHF the unit was extended in 2007 and today the outpatient services and

... CCHF

treatments provided in the CCHU at Stoke Mandeville are also provided in the Sunrise Unit at Wycombe Hospital.

A significant donation of £300,000 towards the £1 million cost of CCHU was provided by the Wooden Spoon Society – a rugby union children’s charity. The unit was officially opened by HRH The Princess Royal who is Patron of the society. While some people were surprised at linking the term “wooden spoon” (the Rugby Union losers award) to those being treated for cancer, many patients found it ironic and amusing. Even today many former patients and families still fondly refer to CCHU as the “Wooden Spoon”.

Today the work of CCHF, run wholly by volunteers, in supporting Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust’s cancer and haematology service is as vital as ever.

Incredible fundraising efforts - by patients, their families and friends and many other members of the community - enable the Charity to continue to fund additional comforts and support for patients receiving treatment and care via the NHS Trust.

CCHF Chair, Nicola Gilham, explains: “There are today many more facets to the treatment of cancer and haematology illnesses and there is a growing understanding that significant and tangible benefits come from an holistic approach to treatment.

“Our trustees at CCHF continue to ensure we are available to provide financial support to the clinical teams within Buckinghamshire’s cancer and haematology treatment service in order to bridge the gaps that NHS budgets sometimes can’t stretch to.”

In recent times CCHF have helped by funding:

- key treatment facilities such as a modular eco building, sited alongside the CCHU for use as a pleasant, non-clinical space by staff with patients and their families;
- specialist and most up-to-date clinical equipment, including scalp cooling caps and Plum 360 infusion pumps for more efficient medication delivery to patients
- free wigs for patients;
- a cancer information and wellbeing service for patients during and following treatment;
- environmental improvements in and around treatment units, including upkeep and enhancement of garden areas and refurbishment of staff and patient kitchens.

You can learn more about the work of CCHF - and donate - at www.cCHF.org.uk

Mike Snell
Trustee

WINGRAVE UNITED CHARITIES

— HERE TO HELP —

Are you or someone you know in Wingrave and Rowsham facing financial challenges?



We have funds available to assist with food or household bills, cover the cost of children's club fees, uniforms, or other essentials. There's no strict list – we're happy to hear from you and see how we can support. Please don't hesitate to reach out!

WE'RE HERE TO HELP IN ANYWAY WE CAN

 wingraveuc@outlook.com

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ROSE & CROWN PUB



With the clocks going forward and the sun starting to show itself, we're going to start getting the garden ready for the warmer sunnier days to come. A few of our customers have offered to help us paint and make the garden look more inviting. If anyone else is interested in helping us with this big task, we'd be very grateful. Food and drink will be provided on the day. We were hoping for some help from the brewery but this is no longer going to happen due to all the works going on.

sorry for any inconvenience.

We've had requests for the stalls in the snug to be replaced, a coffee machine to be put in and a few other things to be changed. Please bear with us, after a difficult winter financially we just can't afford to do everything at once. We do always listen to our customers but our main priority is to keep this beautiful village pub open and running smoothly.



You will see some dates for your diary added to this page. We always do our best not to clash with other things going on in the village, if however, we do especially with larger events please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Judi, Arron and Team

Sunday 5th April	19:00	Quiz Night
Wednesday 8th April	12:00	Lunch with the Summer Ukuleles
Friday 10th April	21:00	The Badd Dada
Friday 1st May	21:00	Mr Paul Adams
Wednesday 13th May	12:00	Lunch with the Summer Ukuleles
Saturday 16th May	19:00	Eurovision Final 2026
Friday 22nd May	21:00	Live: Faces Fall

Regarding the works! Arron and myself really didn't realise just how big it was all going to be. We're currently just over 2 weeks behind; it is hoped that work will finish mid-May if no other issues are discovered. Part of the car park will still be accessible for customers. We're

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APRIL SERVICES

Sunday 5th April	10am	Easter Day: David Neville
Sunday 12th April	10am	Rev Dr Hayford Ofori-Attah (with Holy Communion)
Sunday 19th April	10am	Rev Noreen Daley-Lee
Sunday 26th April	10am	Peter Honeyball

MESSY CHURCH

is at the Methodist Church on Sunday 12th April (time changed to 3:30pm).

EASTER – A CELEBRATION OF BREAKING BAD HABITS

Recently, during a school assembly, the topic of bad habits was explored with a creative activity. A child willingly took part, allowing themselves to be wrapped with masking tape by his classmate. The first time, the tape was wound around only twice, and the child managed to escape easily. This illustrated that when we address our bad habits early, they can be broken without much difficulty.

On the second attempt, the masking tape was wrapped around the child

twenty times to symbolise presumptuous sins – those bad habits we often choose to overlook. This time, escape was impossible, and the struggle drew the attention of the entire school. Teachers left their classrooms, and a celebratory atmosphere filled the assembly hall with cheers and laughter. When the child was finally set free, the assembly erupted into applause, marking the moment with joy and celebration.

The masking tape of fear and doubt were wrapped around the disciples more than twenty times. The disciples struggled to comprehend the news of Jesus being crucified, dying, and being buried. They were bound with the

... WINGRAVE METHODIST CHURCH

masking tape so tightly that they were literally trapped, the story of Easter seemed almost unbelievable, an idle tale.

We are given a pictorial view of Mary Magdalene (John 20:1-18), who was wrapped up in the masking tape of grief, who stood at the tomb bound by worry, and disillusionment. She was like the child in the assembly, wrapped up and unable to break free on her own. Only with help could the child escape, and this help symbolised God's power to release us from hidden faults and presumptuous sins (Psalm 19:12-13). Mary herself became free when she heard Jesus call her name, mistaking him at first for the gardener. Her exclamation, "Rabboni!" was filled with joy, mirroring the uproar of the assembly when the child was set free.

She was liberated from her tears, doubts, and fears. Empowered, she

was sent to tell the others, as Jesus instructed, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" As an apostle of the apostles, Mary must have rushed with great haste and excitement to deliver the news, "I have seen the Lord!" Her words were nothing short of a celebration that Easter morning, echoing the jubilant response of the school assembly.

In the same way, Easter gives each of us a reason to celebrate. Through the resurrection power of Jesus, our bad habits can be broken, and we experience a freedom that warrants celebration—just as the assembly did when the child was set free.

Happy Easter!

Rev Noreen

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SERVICES FOR APRIL

2nd April	9:30am	Maundy Thursday service
3rd April	2-3pm	Good Friday Meditation
5th April	9:30am	Easter Day Communion service
12th April	9:30am 4:00pm	Breakfast Church and service Messy Church (Methodist Chapel)
19th April	9:30am 6:00pm	Parish Communion Evening Prayer
26th April	9:30am	People's Praise

The Church is open every day as a place for prayer and contemplation.

EACH WEEK:

Wednesday

2pm - 4pm Wednesday Welcome. A Community Hub time. Come in for a chat and a cuppa, or soup and bread and cake too. All free. All Welcome.

7:30pm Bell Ringing Practice (new ringers welcome).

Contact Charlotte Dorn 07766 545 174

Thursday

9:30am - 10am Morning Prayer on Thursday is taken from the Book of Common Prayer. All welcome.

Friday

8pm – 9:45pm Wingrave Singers Rehearsal Time. New members welcome.

Contact Sylvia Francis 01296 681 566

If you would like prayer (or other support) for you or someone else, please get in touch.

Team Rector Revd. Dominic Wright 01296 688 593 teamrectordom@gmail.com 07732 554 611

Team Vicar Revd. Will Lyon Tupman 07940 795 026

Revd. Sister Pam Reeves 07756 852 907 pamcostin@yahoo.co.uk

Dr Annie Cooper (LLM) 07860 140 041 annie@littlediggers.com

Dr Leslie Kennedy (Churchwarden) 01296 681 749

Joyce Round (Emeritus Churchwarden) 01296 681 621



Wingrave with Rowsham Parish Church



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TEAM VICAR OF COTTESLOE BENEFICE



Happy Easter!

Easter is a celebration of new life and hope, in which we are reminded that death and darkness do not have the last word – but life, light and love will prevail. At Easter, the Church celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the great joy it brings. In His death, Jesus defeated the power of death and Hell – and at His resurrection, He opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all people. Alleluia!

In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus is often described as a light. Jesus, the Light of the World, is the light who shines in the darkness – and the darkness did not overcome Him. At Christmas, we celebrated how Jesus came into the world – as a newborn baby, shining as a light in that cold, dark stable. At Easter, we celebrate the new life and light Jesus brings, quenching the darkness of death, and shining as a light as He bursts from the now-empty tomb. Indeed, Jesus replaces death and despair with life and hope. Today, we are called to share the light of Christ with other people – and especially with those who need it most.

One way the Church in our community is sharing the light of Christ today is by collecting candles for Ukraine. Since

Russia's invasion, about forty percent of Ukraine's power infrastructure has been damaged, leading to mass blackouts in people's homes and public places – often lasting for hours on end. Candles bring people in Ukraine light in times of darkness – and your unwanted candles (all colours, shapes and sizes, new or old, complete or broken, wax and stubs) can be remade into brand new candles, and then sent to Ukraine. It's a really easy, practical way of helping a country and people in need – all while giving your home or Church a spring-clean, and helping the environment. A win-win!

If you would like to help and support this campaign, I would be glad to receive your candles – please get in touch with me to arrange a pickup, or bring them to Church. I plan to take the next vanload to the candle processing workshop at the end of April. Thank you!

This Easter, may we joyfully accept Christ's invitation to new life and light – and may we share that light and life with others, bringing hope to those who most need it.

Rev Will Lyon Tupman
Team Vicar

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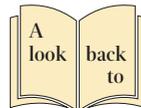


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COMMUNIQUE RE-PRINT

Looking back at an old edition of the Communique.
Our thanks to the Heritage Association for access to their archive.



May
1980

A LONG-STANDING DEBT

When the old Temperance Hall was demolished 5 years ago, Sid Bonner thoughtfully rescued the carved wooden name-plate from the front gable, refurbished it and presented it to the Community Association and for some time it has graced the east wall of the main hall of the Centre.

Now, beneath it hangs a framed acknowledgement of the contribution those last-century temperance enthusiasts, grandparents and great grandparents of many of us, made to the Centre's facilities which are so widely used by the village. It reads :

"The above sign was taken from the gable of the eighty-four year old Temperance Hall when it was demolished in 1975 and a house built upon the site at 31, Winslow Road.

The Hall was built by local subscription in 1891 on leasehold land and housed the Wingrave Total Abstinence Society which was active until the early 1920's. The site was given to the Society in 1919.

For 50 years the building served as a Village Hall until 1971, when the remaining Trustees gave it to the Parish Council for the use of the people of Wingrave. From that time it was managed by the Wingrave Community Association until November 1974, when this building was opened as a Community Centre. Thereupon the Hall was sold and the proceeds used for the improvement of these premises.

The reader is thus reminded that the people of Wingrave, whose labour and money built the Temperance Hall in 1891, made a substantial contribution to this Community Centre and its amenities."

The calligraphy is the work of Mrs. Lynn Onn of Waddesdon.

This article will trigger off many memories of the old Hall; the somewhat drab interior, the ribbed glass in the windows, the two mottoes over the stage, "Union is Strength" and "Water is Best", and the long catalogue of events it housed - one night stands by travelling players, Lawrence Inns and his Dance Orchestra, bazaars, tea-fights and all the celebrations of those distant years.

One might also reflect that the first of those two mottoes would be as appropriate today, if that, too, were put up in the Community Centre, as it was when our enterprising forebears raised it in the old Hall in 1891.

* * * * *

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MONDAY WALKING GROUP

9th February walk report



The White Lion in St. Leonards is situated in one of the highest areas of the Chilterns, to get to it from Wingrave involves a hill climb from either Tring, Halton or Wendover, but there is a wide choice of walks from the pub, east to Cholesbury Common and Wigginton, west towards Wendover. Its other virtue is that it is open on a Monday and has an interesting menu of Spanish-inspired food.

In planning the walk, the writer first confirmed the pub and then checked out a few routes from it. At this time of year, and after weeks of almost daily periods of rain the conditions underfoot were certain to be wet.

After leaving the White Lion car park we used the road (Bottom Road) to St Leonards common and from Lanes End crossed the fields to the

Ridgeway which is reasonably well-surfaced as befits a major National Trail.

We followed the Ridgeway west for a couple of miles through Hale Wood and Barn Wood, turning off the path and going through the wood (this bit was muddy) to pick up the Chiltern Link path. This took us through mostly open fields towards Kings Ash and Lee Gate, passing two, sadly now closed, pubs both still marked on the map.

We joined the Chiltern Way path for the return leg of the walk, crossing Arrewig Lane and Lady Wood to Dundridge Manor, with its fine display of snowdrops in the driveway.

Our final obstacle was a deep pool of water across Oak Lane, fifty yards away from the finish line at the White Lion. A bit of creative thinking and a rather tatty hedge in the adjacent field solved the problem.

Distance walked was just over 6 miles, taking about 2 hours 45 minutes.

Chris Harrison





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MONDAY RAMBLERS

9th March report



12 ramblers and two dogs set off from the usual starting point of the Green for Tattenhoe in Milton Keynes. There we started from the Prince George pub, heading south down Portishead Drive. Joining up with the Tattenhoe Valley walk, we headed east for a little over two miles. Having seen Kingfishers every time the author has walked here, we all saw a Kingfisher which posed on a branch for around 2 minutes, giving us a good view.

The valley walk is a quiet scenic walk and eventually comes to Furzton Lake. Here we paused for a coffee break.

After we walked anti clockwise round the border of the lake, passing the site of the bowl, an iconic venue for pop bands which is now not suitable for such events. We also passed large groups of grey lag and

Canada geese, along with the inevitable mallards and other ducks. We then walked south along Loxbeare Drive, to connect with the westerly route back towards our starting point.

As we walked we passed through Rusland Circle, eventually entering Howe Park wood. There we passed the café, with a collection of frog statues playing musical instruments. We then walked the short distance to the pub with various mobile phones confirming a distance of around 5.5 miles, taking a little over 2 hours. Most of us stayed for some lunch in the pub, before returning home.



Chris Harrison



SUNDAY RAMBLERS

15th March report



Just four of us for this walk so we only needed one car for the run east to Streatley.



We parked at the National Trust's Sharpenhoe Clappers car park and set off towards the very prominent beech woods that cover the top of the 'Clappers', devoid of leaves at this time of the year.

It was a clear, but windy morning giving us superb views in all directions as we

proceeded on our circular walk of a little short of 4 miles.

The first view was west over the Sundon Hills towards Toddington and the M1, looking north we could see Harlington and the prominent water tower at Pulloxhill.

Further round on the more sheltered side of the high ground we could see Barton le Clay and the Barton Hills with the A6 in the valley. We walked into Streatley, passed the Church and Chequers pub and picked up the path under the pair of radio masts. This gave us our final view south over open fields towards the Dunstable Downs with Luton in the lower foreground.

Apart from one wet stretch, the ground was firm and we avoided any steep climbs or descents, getting round the walk in less than 2 hours.

Chris Harrison



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LANGUAGE

Following on from last month's article. Isn't it interesting how we have adopted so many different languages in our everyday conversation. Abbreviations or abbrev. Why is it such a long word? We love shortening words to make a conversation slicker.

A big sticking point is when to use an apostrophe?

Use an apostrophe before the 's' ('s) for singular nouns and most singular proper names (e.g., dog's, Chris's). Place the apostrophe after the 's' (s') for plural nouns ending in 's' (e.g., cats'). For plural nouns not ending in 's', add 's' (e.g., children's).

Key Rules for Possessive Apostrophes:

Singular Nouns: Add 's' e.g. the cat's tail, the bus's arrival, plural nouns ending in 's' add apostrophe after the word e.g. the girls' toys, the parents' car.

The great Apple mystery

iPad, iPhone, iMac, iPod so why iWatch? Apple in their wisdom were creating a prefix for all of their products, some of which had already been taken by other companies. iWatch for instance was trademarked in America, Ireland and China. Massive payouts were made to companies like Cisco for the brand name iPhone. Companies were then trying to predict Apple's next move and they tried to buy up 'i' anything.

From the other side of the Atlantic we can be thankful for Fries, Movies, Trash, Store, Candy, Truck and Elevator. Just bubbling

under is Vacation or our version for 'homies' Staycation- A holiday at home. Romcom, Gastropub, Motel, Advertorial, Anklet. There are many others. Maybe you make up your own.

The term for combining two words to form a new one, like glamping (glamorous + camping), is a portmanteau. These words blend the sounds and meanings of the originals to create a new, often witty, concept. Common examples include brunch (breakfast + lunch), motel (motor + hotel), and smog (smoke + fog).

We touched on popular language last month, each generation will come up with new phrases or idioms and that's great. I'm not even going to try street talk as I'm of an older generation.

I was born in Hemel Hempstead in the 60's and the language or brogue was very much London overspill as it was termed a New Town, like Crawley, Stevenage etc. So, the accent was a bit London, a bit Hertfordshire. In 1967 I moved to Markyate where many of the residents had lived there all their lives. Everyone knew each other and had grown up together. The males were all known as 'Old Boy' whether Father, Brother, or Son. It is said to have come from 1600s and depending on which side of the road you were born it was 'Old Boy' or 'Old Chap'. Old Boys Networks still exist to this day.

Did you know there are many ways to indicate an accent or pronunciation, an ar-

ticulation or inflection. The word cadence is a modulation of the voice; it can be a rhythmical effect in text or a fall in pitch of the voice. Isn't our language wonderful. Another example of the French influence.

So how does the Greek language influence our very own? It's not as if it's on our doorstep.

- Bio- (life): Biography, biology.
- Geo- (earth): Geography, geology.
- Tele- (far): Telephone, television.
- -logy (study of): Psychology, zoology.
- -phobia (fear): Xenophobia, claustrophobia.

Things to remember from school

Verb - It's a doing word that describes an action, whereas an Adverb is a word that modifies a verb. The horse trots along -Verb. The horse trots along quickly - An adverb.

Verbs are used to fulfil the role of the predicate, which is needed to form a complete sentence. While the subject tells us who or what is doing something.

Man (subject) talks (verb) quietly (adverb)

Nouns-people, places, things or ideas

Synonyms - Words with a similar meaning - small, petite (French) marginal, although that carries connotations of beyond just size.

Antonyms - opposites, hot-cold, fast-slow, happy-sad.

Idioms - Where the phrase is not literal, like

'a piece of cake' or 'like falling off a log'

Etymology - The history and meaning of a word.

Let's go on a literary journey and see where it takes us.

We start with a cap or Capital letter, it's great place to start, a comma breaks up a sentence whereas a full stop is exactly what it says, not just a stop, but a full stop. Like reaching the edge of the world. But as we know that doesn't exist so along comes another capital letter to help us out. In olden days they would use illuminated caps, these were decorated with scrolls and swirls, often using gold foil in manuscripts.

Drop caps is where the capital letter takes up more than one line. The height of a drop cap can be two or three lines deep. It is also much larger than the other letters. Type is measured in point size, a point being 1/72 of an inch, it was created as a standard across all typefaces. Within that family you can have italic, bold, semi-bold and other versions of the same font (typeface). So, on our journey we use a hyphen. A little guy that likes to join words or parts of words together. This creates clarity and avoids ambiguity. Much avoided in passwords as it can be mistaken for underscore when written. The rule is a hyphen floats; an underscore sits on the line. On our journey we might

... LANGUAGE

come by a lay-by (set aside) from old English. There's your hyphen. There are many rules on when to and when not to use a hyphen, but that would mean a wide detour and our journey is limited. You will notice the use of a parenthesis, sometimes in brackets. This is used as an explanation of the word. For instance (sic) can be used to indicate thus or just so, meaning it has been written exactly as in the original source. Circa or just C can appear as a suggested date or quantity. It's original is Latin. Example Circa 1066.

We touched on point size; here are some other terms that you might find interesting in typography. This might help you when setting out your letters, forms, any other documents.

If you use Microsoft Word® or Google Docs® or, as I use, Apple Pages® you will see some of these options to change the look of your text.

Kerning: The process of adjusting the space between two individual letters (e.g., V and A,) to make them look more balanced. Logos and branding use kerning to emphasis their brand. Take a look at the NIKE brand and FedEx brand both use kerning to add strength to the brand.

Tracking (Letter-spacing): Adjusting the horizontal space uniformly across a range of characters or a whole word. TIGHT SPACING or **LOOSE SPACING**.

Leading (Line Spacing): The vertical dis-

tance between the baselines of consecutive lines.

Ligature: When two or more letters are joined into a single character (e.g., “fi,” “fl,” or “æ”).

Justification and Alignment: Controlling how text aligns to margins (left, right, centred, or justified/flush on both sides).

Whether you are a PC or Apple Mac user there are two distinct ways of working and never the twain shall meet. Once you get used to one system you very rarely change. It's like a common language; you get used to what you're used to. There are some common ground and similarities. After all, PC programmes were written on Mac computers. If you get the chance to go to Bletchley Park, take a look at the first computers and how much they have evolved over the generations.

We have covered a lot here. If there is something specific readers would like to know or an area you would like to research more, please let me know. I am using Google and basic knowledge for my research. It's not always 100% correct and I'm not an expert by any means. I find our language and its origins very interesting and there are times I may go off on a tangent. But please let me know if you are enjoying these articles. Maybe you specialise in something related to these articles. The editorial team are always on the lookout for contributors.

Nigel Crump

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THE WRITING ROOM

Could you be the next Lee Child or J.K. Rowling?



The Writing Room is a friendly local group of Writers, a mix of professionals and amateurs, who meet once a month, usually 2nd Monday of each month, currently at The Ship Inn, 90 Wing Road, Leighton Buzzard. LU7 2NN at 7.30pm.

It has been going for over 15 years and I took over the running of the group during Covid, keeping it going online. We now meet almost exclusively in person as the members prefer it that way. The Group is free to join, though any adverts, hiring of facilities etc... the cost is split between the members.

Every month we pick a theme (e.g.: “I wish I hadn’t” or ‘write a play’ or ‘write a story from the perspective of the opposite sex’) and members are encouraged to write a short story (no more than 800 words), either on the theme or a topic of their choice, which they read out to other members who give feedback. The feedback is largely positive

but where the story could be improved some constructive criticism also occurs.

Several of the members have had books and articles published, though that is not a prerequisite. All that is required is a desire to write and meet with like-minded people.

We usually have a Christmas party (and sometimes a Summer party) in conjunction with Soulbury Writing Group, and would be interested in hearing from other writing groups in the area with respect to joint Events.

If you would to enquire about attending the meetings please send an email to rstark@tiscali.co.uk.

Look forward to meeting you.

Richard Stark
rstark@tiscali.co.uk

VILLAGE FETE

We are looking for volunteers to help organise and run this year’s village Fete on Sunday 12th July.

The Fete is run by WWRSAL (Wingrave With Rowsham Sports And Leisure) which is the charity that supports all the Sports Clubs and facilities in the village,

an integral part of our community.

Some new ideas and input to the Fete would be welcome so please do get in touch if you would like to get involved.

Emma Snailham 07787 838 167
wingraveparksportsclub@gmail.com



All proceeds go towards the Wingrave CE School PTFA

Wingrave SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2026

Saturday 2nd May -
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THIS YEAR'S THEME IS

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Follow on Facebook "Wingrave Scarecrow Festival"
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WINGRAVE PTFA

Dear Parents & Carers & Scarecrow makers. Wingrave PTFA is thrilled to unveil the theme for this year's Scarecrow Festival.

This year's theme is...

HAUNTED SCARECROWS!

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We can't wait to see scarecrows that surprise, delight, and spark curiosity as residents and visitors explore Wingrave's winding paths and hidden corners.

Want to make your own scarecrow?

Use the link on the poster or the QR code.



Living outside the village? You're still wonderfully welcome!

Just email ptfa@wingrave.school and we'll assign you a great spot in the village to display your creation.

Let your creativity run wild — this year's festival is set to be our most magical yet!

Wingrave School PTFA

THANK YOU

Mariette Uys

07525 369 560

POETRY GROUP

The newly formed Wingrave Poetry Group held a second meeting on 16th March. To the original membership – four people – two new members came along to swell the ranks to six.

The meeting was relatively informal, members contributing and discussing a range of poetry covering many centuries. One new member brought her own writing along – bringing contemporary language and ideas to the group. Indeed, several of the members have written poems – which goes to show that poetry is as alive today as it was in the time of Chaucer.

The group next meets on Tuesday,

14th April at 1 Catte Street Green. New members are very welcome! No special requirements for attendance - just bring along a poem or poems that you like and would enjoy sharing with others.

David Wilton, of the Communique Editorial Team, was kind enough to suggest an AI-inspired logo for the group. So, Wingrave Poetry Group is alive, growing, dynamic and offers a warm welcome to new members. Come and join us on 14th April at 2:30pm.

John Alexander

01296 681295 or 07766 913 961

johnalexander.jba@gmail.com



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH



I recently posted through my social media channels to draw attention to Children's Mental Health week, which runs every February to raise awareness of Children's mental health.

This was launched by Place2Be in 2015 and the 2026 campaign focused on the theme "This is My Place", helping children feel that they belong in both their schools and their communities. Place2Be is a children's mental health charity who provide in-school support and activities and resources for families and schools. Buckinghamshire Council shared links to access this through Children's Mental Health Week.

But, outside of that time, children's mental health continues to be a growing area of concern to professionals and families alike. Something that was not perhaps acknowledged or discussed in past times. Many think that Covid was a strategic turning point for this, and in many ways it was, but it is something that has been increasingly recognised for many years.

I worked within the pastoral care team at one of our large secondary schools for many years and over that time saw an increase in children's own awareness in when they were not ok, and an increase in empathy from their peers. Something we could all take time to do with a little more of.

It can be easy to dismiss pressures on young people, when we have not experienced the same environment they are growing up in today. The internet, fear of crime or war, social media, media representations, feelings of inadequacy when faced with the "picture perfect" lives and appearances flaunted by others, breakdown of family, which can take the form of separation or even incarceration, breakdown of friendships, bereavement of people or pets and so many more.

Social media can be a double edged sword. It can be the cause of much anxiety but also a way of disseminating the information that can make a change.

Young Carers can often be overlooked or not recognised for what they are. Many not even identifying themselves as carers. They could be young people living with the spectre of substance abuse or addiction in their homes, relatives including siblings with disabilities or illness that require additional support of attention.

Numbers of children missing education has soared post Covid.

Yet, school is often the starting point for accessing help and support. Many

... CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

schools now either buy in or directly employ pastoral support which could be in the form of Mentors or Assistants in some way. A trusted adult. This is often the starting point for making a change in both a young person or a family's life.

There are many professionals that will work together once a need has been identified; schools, councils, GP's, CAMHS, religious groups, community groups such as Scouts etc, Young Carers, youth clubs...to name just a few.

But it starts with recognising the need and asking yourself whether you might just be that trusted adult that starts the ball rolling. So, take the time to talk to young people even just in passing. A simple "hello" could be all it takes. If you have a concern and recognise a school uniform...call that school.

The Bucks Mental Health Support Team (MHST) supports young people

who have emotional wellbeing difficulties, including anxiety and low mood, confidence and self-esteem issues. They provide evidence-based therapeutic support both individually and in groups to young people and parents.

You can find help and advice for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and mental health issues on the CAMHS website and in the Kooth app. CAMHS also provides link workers to local schools to help support children with mental health issues.

They say "it takes a village to raise a child" and in today's society that could not be truer.

Place2Be: www.place2be.org.uk

CAMHS: www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/

Kooth: www.kooth.com

Cllr Julie Ward

ARE WE MISSING SOMETHING?

Are there groups, clubs, societies and associations that the Communicue does not cover?

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to tell us anything you like. Add photos, diagrams, instructions, a quiz, absolutely anything you like.

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WILD GROUP

Wild news

Bird News

At the time of writing in mid-March the first of the Summer migrant birds have already appeared with Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps both heard singing in the village from earlier in the month while Red Kites have begun their display flights prior to breeding – usually seen on calm sunnier days the pair will conduct perfect precision acrobatics while flying almost side by side, diving down at speed and suddenly pulling up on stiff wings, they actually seem to be enjoying the moment.

Skylarks are already singing above the surrounding fields on brighter mornings – the few that we have had – These birds are not as common as they were 30 years ago but there is a good resident population around the village fields.

Winter migrants are slowly filtering away North and East. The Redwings and Fieldfares that arrived in the Autumn in noisy flocks just melt away without being noticed as they head off back to Scandinavia and Russia and odd Bramblings have been seen on garden feeders and can continue to be seen into early April. Siskins, which look a bit like miniature Greenfinches, have also been seen and heard passing over and may be returning as close as Scotland to breed but more likely to Scandinavia.

By the end of the month Swallows will begin the return although they don't get



very numerous until mid-April, but they will really herald the end of what has seemed to be the longest, dullest and wettest Winter in years.

More Local Nature

Despite the weather, Brimstone butterflies were seen on sunnier days from the very end of February. These bright yellow butterflies have hibernated over the winter until the warm sunshine wakes them up even on days where the actual air temperature is still quite cold. The warmer days towards the end of February tempted many Newts, Frogs and Toads out of hibernation to start their desperate mission back to their natal pond. Climate change is tricking these amphibians to move earlier and earlier and if there is a short cold snap they can suffer. However, they face the most danger attempting to cross roads, particularly here in Wingrave, the Leighton Road by the pond. On warmer, wet nights they move soon after dusk just as everyone is driving home. Several villagers have been collecting them up from the verges and footpaths and taking them across to the pond – thanks very much to them – the amphibians will thank you!

If you do come across one they won't cause you any harm – despite the fact that Toads that have all sorts of old wives tales attached to them, but use a glove if at all possible.

... WILD GROUP

Hare today...

Thought to have been introduced into the UK in Roman times, the Brown Hare is now considered naturalised. They are at their most visible in early spring when the breeding season encourages fighting much like boxing which is usually females warding off over amorous males. Females can produce three or four litters of two to four leverets a year. They do not dig burrows but shelter in "forms" which are shallow depressions in the ground. They are mostly seen on open farmland, in grass or at woodland edges and they graze on vegetation and the bark of young trees and bushes. Brown Hares are golden brown with a pale belly and white tail. They are larger than the rabbit with longer legs and longer ears with a black tip. They grow to 50-70cm and live for 2-4 years and, when running, can reach speeds of 45mph. Despite the fact that Hares are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, they are in decline and are under threat from farm machinery which can destroy their forms and kill the litters, as well as the illegal practice of Hare Coursing where specially trained dogs are set upon the terrified animals to chase and kill them for bets which is, unfortunately, still rife throughout the countryside. Hare numbers are thought to have declined by 80% in the last 100 years and Hares are the only mammal not protected by a closed hunting season which, in effect, means that they can be shot throughout the year, including the breeding

season, leaving young leverets to starve in fields. The Hare Preservation Trust is working to gain legal protection for hares during the breeding season, and to support research into the reason for Hares decline as well as providing a focal point for information to the public concerning Hares. For more info go to hare-preservation-trust.com

Hedgerows

Hedges form the most widespread natural habitat in the UK supporting a wide variety of flora and fauna. They provide shelter and their flowers, berries and nuts a food source for invertebrates, birds and mammals. Hedgerows also clean our air, capture carbon and reduce flooding. However, in the last century, around 180,000 miles of hedges have been lost, mainly due to agricultural intensity and the expansion of fields to allow access to the increasing size of farm machinery.

Voles, mice and hedgehogs all nest and feed in hedgerows as do birds including blue tit, yellow hammer and sparrow and bats use them as commuter routes for foraging and roosting. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird or take or destroy their eggs or nest or damage a nest while that nest is in use or being built, and it is an offence to block access to a nest.

It does not specify when is nesting season, which can vary from species to species, but it is generally understood

... WILD GROUP

to mean between 1st March and 31st August. This means that, if you are managing a hedge, you must avoid doing any cutting in that period or at the very least carry out a risk assessment before undertaking any work.

As well as providing food and shelter, hedgerows help species move through the landscape from one foraging area to another without the risks that the open spaces contain, such as predators or farm machinery like combine harvesters.

In rural areas hedges are likely to contain hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, ash and oak whereas in more urban settings are often made up from shrubs

such as box, yew, privet and holly.

Planting a hedge is a great way to boost wildlife in your garden. They can be planted at most times apart from summer. First, dig a trench, around a metre wide, and fill with well-rotted manure or garden compost. Position the whips in a double row spacing around 30cm apart. Fill with soil, firm it down and cover with mulch. Remove half of the height of the whips in order to reduce wind stress and encourage bushy growth. The best plants to choose for wildlife are a mixture of native species such as Hawthorn, Spindle, Blackthorn, Hazel, Holly, Rowan, Maple and Beech.

Alison Marchant

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WINGRAVE BOWLS CLUB

News from the green



Club News

Congratulations to Dave Clements and Jane Bookham for reaching the Mixed pairs final of the Indoor Bowls Knock-out tournament. Dave also has secured his place in the Men's singles. Both will take place on Sunday 22nd March at Foxhill Indoor Bowls Club, Aylesbury. We all wish them good luck.

On the 17th and 19th March, we play Wing and Hardwick consecutively at short mat bowls. These will be our last friendly matches of the season.

We are looking forward to warmer climates for our tour to Benalmadena on the Spanish Costa Del Sol. We play three games over seven days, staying at the Estival Torrequebrada. This will be a great warm up for our season. Our first match back home, will take place on 25th April against our local rivals Hazells Bowls Club of Aylesbury.

If you want to come along for a roll-up, please contact one of the numbers below. We will be offering introductory lessons to new members from 27th April and then Mondays and Fridays through May to September. New members have to be confirmed by The General Purposes Committee and the number of social members will be decided according to our constitution.

The maintenance of the green and surrounds is gaining a pace. Fence painting outside and an expected first cut of the green once the weather warms up and stays dry. The new clubhouse looks resplendent. There's quite a lot still to do in terms of seating areas and internal fittings.

The season's fixtures programme has gone to the printers and plans are taking place for our Open Day and Gala Day in June.

We can now begin to plan coaching for new members and a full schedule of rollups through the summer. We have a varied array of bowls for new members to use and get a measure of their 'best weight and size'. The trend is now not to call them woods but bowls, as they are made principally of high-density composite plastic or phenolic resin. They used to be made of a tropical hardwood specifically *Lignum Vitae*.

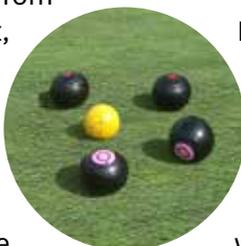
If you've ever watched bowls on TV or at a local green you will have noticed the bowls curve on delivery towards the jack. This is due to the bias on all bowls; some will curve more than others. It adds to the skills required to play the game. Bowls are date stamped for a 10-year validity period. If you're buying new you should always

... WINGRAVE BOWLS CLUB

check the date stamp. They can be re-stamped when the period expires. They are tested for weight, bias and size and most importantly that they all match as a set of four.

There are four key manufacturers of bowls. Henselite, made in Australia, Drakes Pride based in Liverpool, Taylors from Scotland and Aero Bowls also made in Australia. Sizes range from

0000 to size 6 being the largest, although size 6 are not made anymore. Bowls comes in an array of colours apart from standard black. They can also incorporate different grips. Standard grip, dimple grip, deep channel or channel grip and extreme/Pro grip, designed to provide maximum control. But it all comes at a price. Colours, grips, bespoke designs can take you way past £350.00 for a new set of bowls. Many experienced bowlers will have several sets of bowls, some for indoors and some for outdoors, some for different types of green and some for different conditions. There is however a strong second-hand market for bowls, but the



old phrase 'buyer beware', there are also a lot of scams.

If you need advice or somewhere to see an extensive range of products, try Riverain Bowls in Hitchin <https://www.riverainbowlsclub.com/> Or further afield Potters Resort in Hopton Sands, Norfolk. Both locations have a good range of equipment and indoor greens to try out your potential purchase.

If you're trying out for the first time don't go rushing out to buy expensive bowls and all the accessories. Wingrave Bowls club will be welcoming new members in April and we will go through an extensive programme of how, why and where to get the best enjoyment out of the game. There are some important requirements, these will be explained to new members before they deliver a bowl.

Contacts

Dave Clements: Captain 01296 682 518

Nigel Crump: Secretary 07976 220 017

Yvonne White: 01296 681 548

Nigel Crump



Late collection

Monday - Friday: 16:45

Saturday: 09:15

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LONG MARSTON CRICKET CLUB



Cricket Returns in April

Preparation is under way for the 2026 season. Work parties are busy at both our grounds and nets are taking place every Sunday until 12th April.

The season starts on the last weekend in April; we host Hetairoi on 25th and Stoke Hammond on 26th. As well as fielding three teams each Saturday in the Cherwell Cricket League and our regular Sunday friendly fixtures, we have become the sixth member of a midweek T20 league that includes Leighton Buzzard, Lindslade, Buckland and Aston Clinton, Eggington and Eaton Bray. Matches start on Wednesday 6th May.

Overseas Player Arrives in May

We are delighted to announce that our overseas player for 2026 will be Rivaldo Phillips from Guyana. Our thanks go to Mentmore Recruitment for kindly agreeing to sponsor Rivaldo's kit.



Get Involved

We are a friendly and forward-looking club and all LMCC teams are mixed.

New players are always very welcome – please contact Mike Lyons by email develop@longmarstoncc.co.uk if you are interested. Pre-season nets will take place at Vandyke School in Leighton Buzzard every Sunday from 1:45 to 3:45 between 1st March and 12th April.

We are also looking for scorers, umpires and anyone who would like to help us manage our two grounds. Training can be provided for umpires and scorers. Please contact chairman@longmarstoncc.co.uk if you are interested in getting involved.

Club Sundays

The Club Bar is open on Sundays between 12 and 2PM - all are welcome. Please remember that our clubhouse is available for hire for a wide range of events and includes a kitchen, large open area and licensed bar, which we can staff. Please contact Paul Marsh (chairman@longmarstoncc.co.uk) for more information.

Ground Security

If anyone spots anything untoward at either of our grounds at Marlins (Cheddington Lane, Long Marston) or Mentmore then please contact our Chairman Paul Marsh at chairman@longmarstoncc.co.uk. If a crime is in progress please call the police.

Find out more via our website
www.longmarstoncc.co.uk

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WINGRAVE CROQUET CLUB

Established 2006

May you play on interesting lawns



The Club having been established in 2006, we embarked on our Twentieth Anniversary AGM on Saturday 7 March at the Kirby Pavilion on the Recreation Ground. All our attendees had the chance to enjoy tea, coffee and fabulous cakes and pastries along with a good chat and catch up before and after the business meeting (and possibly during). It was good to have our Honorary President Ben Jaques with us once more, we always appreciate his willingness to trek out to Wingrave.

All the usual business was conducted, which as always involves the election of officers for our coming year and the arrangements regarding subscriptions for 2026/27. The Committee remains the same, all members having agreed to continue for a further year. The hard work of the trained gnomes was acknowledged - without their efforts, our chances of play are non-existent. The long run of bad weather since the end of last season has meant that even the hardest of players has been left polishing mallets indoors and dreaming of games yet to come. Thanks were also extended to Alison Worsfold for her efforts in producing our Christmas Tree at the Festival in December and, apparently, she is already working hard on the plans for this year's event.

Various trophies and awards were given out, with cups going to Rob Chatwin

and Roy Bradbury for winning the Spring Doubles Tournament and to Rob Chatwin and Denny Bradbury for the Autumn Doubles. The Wingrave Community Association cup was awarded to our Chairman, Richard Skidmore, for his win of the Singles ladder, and the Doubles ladder trophy went to Jeanette Puddephat and Chris Harrison. Still no joy in recapturing the heady days of our triumphs in the Southern Federation Doubles League, nor were our Ladies Team able to retain the Thames Valley Trophy from the Tournament in August, but we have hopes for the coming season. The Chairman's Awards were presented to Graham Lindon ("Man of the Mallet") and to Lindsey Wilkins as "Player of the Year". Well done and congratulations to them all.

Roy and Denny Bradbury will be continuing their organisation of the Ladder Leagues for this season (thank you), so if you are interested in taking part, let them know. Early requests for names have already gone out to members, sign up now!

We shall be opening (officially) for business on Saturday 11 April at 10.00 (weather permitting). It is hoped that the weather will be on our side in the weeks preceding, so that lawn preparation can take place. Unfortunately, as we are unable to fence off the area, it becomes "unnoticeable" to dog walkers, football players, and general Recreation Ground

... WINGRAVE CROQUET CLUB

users and therefore heavy footfall on wet soil makes a lot of hard work to re-establish a (nearly) flat surface on which we can play. Despite all that, everyone welcome, let's make this a day to remember. Bring your mallets, bring a friend, join in, bring a drink and a sandwich if you wish – see you there and enjoy. It will be good for us to be playing once again, on a regular basis, so get ready one and all. The mowers have been serviced, ready to encourage the court and we have fingers crossed that all will be well on the day!

Please note our Club sessions continue as last year, with play available on Saturdays from 9.30 as a social session to allow fun and frolics before playing from 10 (or just social if the weather is inclement) with Tuesdays and Fridays from 4pm, and finish when everyone

has had enough. Members also have the opportunity to pick up additional play (even at short notice) via our WhatsApp group.

Hopefully, our qualified handicapper will be prowling around on his annual duty to check the GC Handicaps of all members again following changes within the Croquet Association. This relatively painless procedure is available to help with planning for the above Doubles League, Ladder League and Friendlies, so please don't be shy.

Don't forget - there is also a free offer of introductory, tester and coaching sessions as and when required. All are welcome, come along and join us.

For additional information, contact

Richard Skidmore (Chairman) 01296 681 716
or Chris Harrison (Secretary) 01296 688 782



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WINGRAVE FOOTBALL CLUB

Playing since 1891



Wingrave the village and its football team.

They Played in Stripes (Blue and white stripes)

With our journey well on its way, the team would meet some well established teams in the world of Sunday League football. (Remember we was non league).

Rediffusion (Home W 8-4) had been a league team since around 1976, Lloyds Bank away lost 4-3 again, around since 1975-76, Equitable Life F.C. Home won 3-2, 1976-77, and A.F.C. Dutton and Forshaw Won 1-3 away, and won 8-0 at home, was another team from this period. The George Aylesbury home, won 2-1, was another good team from this era. They could be stocked with players from Chesham UTD and Aylesbury UTD respectively, this could happen on a Sunday morning.

Season 1977-78. Sunday 18th Sept 1977, we entertained the George in the recreation Ground. This was a very close match, but we was often on the front foot, we always played with two forwards, and sometimes if we could get away with it, we would play with three upfront. We always felt that we was going to create chances, so the more forwards the better the chance of putting the ball in the net. Michael Higgs was playing in goal and that day. I had spotted Michael kicking about with his mates, he seemed a good shot stopper. He was about 15 or 16 years old. I asked him about playing for us, he said " I would have to speak to his dad". So I went to see his dad, Joe Higgs, and he said "well boy, provided he gets his jobs done around the pub, I don't see why not". Phil Reynolds

had been in goal, but was getting more involved with the 1st team on Saturdays and Andy Frankum wanted to play on the field - I wanted to make Michael the team regular no.1. We defeated the George that particular morning by a 2-1 scoreline. Steve Rickard and Andy Frankum scoring.

Team: M. Higgs Gk. R. Tarbuck, Chalkie, A. Higgs, L. Reynolds, C. Ellis, D. Lewis, N. Bonnick, S. Rickard, A. Frankum, and A.Viszkd.

The Veterans football team are 25 years old this year Easter 2026. I would hazard a guess, that none of this current team would know this.

The first Vets team Easter 2001, took on the football club to mark 110 years of football in the Village Team: Chalkie G.K, T.O Sullivan, M. Sandiford, L. Reynolds, S. Rickard, S. Bignell, E. Greenan, P. Day P. Perkins, N. Holt, & A. Vizsked, then P. Lucas, C. Packer & J. Ravell.

Result: County Cup Quarter Final, 21/2/26 Wingrave 0-3 Mortimer Res.
Oving Village Cup final. Monday 6th April Oving Rec.
Late Result: Oving Village Cup Semi final. Oving 3-1 Wingrave.

Chalkie White

Hon President Wingrave FC
Oving Village Cup Committee



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COMMUNITY CENTRE

Hire rates



To enquire about hiring the Community Centre contact Sophie Ratcliffe.
Email: bookings@wingrave-wca.co.uk **Telephone:** 01296 910 991

OCCASIONAL HIRE		
Monday-Friday **	Parish Residents	Non-Parish Residents
Morning 08:30 - 12:30	£55.00	£90.00
Afternoon 13:30 - 18:00	£55.00	£90.00
Evening 18:30 - Midnight	£55.00	£90.00
** Not including Bank/Public Holidays		

OCCASIONAL HIRE		
Saturday, Sunday & Bank/Public Holidays	Parish Residents	Non-Parish Residents
Morning 08:30 - 12:30	£60.00	£90.00
Afternoon 13:30 - 18:00	£86.00	£126.50
Evening 18:30 - Midnight	£186.00	£285.00

REGULAR HIRE		
Booking	Commercial/Profit Activities	Community Groups or Societies
Minimum booking is a 2 hour session	£17.00 per hour (minimum charge £34.00)	£12.50 per hour (minimum charge £25.00)

Rates effective 1st April 2025. A minimum deposit of £100 will be required for all Centre bookings. Some deposits are subject to increase depending on the event type; the bookings manager can advise. The deposit is returnable following the hire period, subject to the Centre being left clean and tidy and to the satisfaction of the Caretaker. For conditions of hire visit www.wingrave-wca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Conditions-of-Hire.pdf

COMMUNIQUE advertising rates



Rates include this printed edition and the online colour version.

To advertise please contact: treasurer@wingrave-wca.co.uk

Advert Size Width x Height	Quarter Page 63 x 92 mm	Half Page 134 x 92 mm	Full Page 134 x 190 mm
1 edition	£21.00	£29.00	£48.00
6 editions	£95.00	£143.00	£251.00
11 editions	£150.00	£238.00	£396.00

Front Cover: advanced booking required, at Editor's discretion.

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COMMUNIQUE front cover

The front cover is allocated on a first come, first served basis to Parish based clubs, societies, charities, community organisations and good causes.

2026 allocation

Jan/Feb: Twinning Jumble Sale, **March:** WCA Membership, **April:** BBQs, **May:** Bowls Club, **June:** WARGAS, **July:** Fete, **August:** Rowsham, **September:** JFC, **October:** Wingrave Players, **November:** PTFA, **December:** Parish Church.

START A CLUB OR GROUP in the village

The Wingrave Community Association can assist you in starting a club, society, or interest group and provide free promotion in this magazine. For advice on on how to go about this please contact: secretary@wingrave-wca.co.uk

READ & SHARE THE COLOUR EDITION

You can view the 'full colour' version of this magazine and back-issues by pointing your phone camera at the QR code or your browser at: www.wingrave-wca.co.uk/communique



REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Please report errors or omissions to
John Hawkes 01296 681 022
diary@wingrave-wca.co.uk

Additional details for each event listed in the
Wingrave and Rowsham Directory & online

SUNDAY

Services are held in both the Parish and Methodist Churches;
see announcements elsewhere in this issue

MONDAY

Pilates 9:15 and 10:30am
Wingrave Baby & Toddler Group from 10:00am (term time)
Junior Fitness Classes 4pm
Short mat bowls 5:30-7:30pm
Wingrave touch rugby from 7:20pm
Wingrave Community Choir 8-9:45pm

Methodist Church
Community Centre
Fitness Farm Gym
Community Centre
Recreation Ground
Methodist Church

TUESDAY

Croquet from 4pm
Walking netball 6-7pm
Back to netball 7-8pm
Football training from 7pm
Art Club 7:30-9:30pm
Men only netball 8-9pm
Walking football 8pm

Recreation Ground
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Methodist Church
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park

WEDNESDAY

Wednesday Welcome 2-4pm
Martial arts class 6-8pm
Bell ringing 7:30-9pm

Parish Church
Community Centre
Parish Church

THURSDAY

Morning Prayers 9:30-10am
The Hornets girls football (4-11 years) from 6pm
Qigong & Meditation Class 7-8:15pm

Parish Church
Wingrave Park
Community Centre

FRIDAY

Yoga class 9:15-10:15am
Café du Jardin 11am-3pm
Croquet from 4pm
Bowls Club Friday night roll up
Wingrave Singers rehearsal 8-9:45pm
WCA Social Evening from 8pm

Methodist Church
Methodist Church
Recreation Ground
Bowling Green
Parish Church
Community Centre

SATURDAY

Village Running Group 8-9am
Sat Morning Café from 0830am
Junior Netball 5-11 years 9-10am
Croquet from 10am
Senior League Netball 10:15-11:30am
Junior Tennis 10am-12:30pm
Wingrave Wasps Football training and matches
Youth Netball (11-16 years) 11.30am-12.30pm
Adult Tennis 12:30-2pm

Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Recreation Ground
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park
Wingrave Park

DIARY

Diary entries: John Hawkes 01296 681 022 diary@wingrave-wca.co.uk

Community Centre bookings: Sophie Ratcliffe 01296 910 991 bookings@wingrave-wca.co.uk

Methodist Church bookings: Sheila Cotton 01296 681 226 sheilacotton@googlemail.com

Wingrave Park Pavilion bookings: Emma Snailham 07787 838 167 wingraveparksportsclub@gmail.com

APRIL 2026

Wed	1	1000	Easter craft for children	Parish Church
Wed	1	1000	WI: Decorating cupcakes demo—Baked by Alice	Methodist Church
Fri	3		NO WCA social evening	Community Centre
Sun	5		Easter Day	
Sat	10	2100	The Bad Dads Post—Punk, New Wave SKA and Mod Music	Rose & Crown
Sat	11	0845	Men's Breakfast Talk: "Smart Land Use"—how do we best use our meagre supply to balance the public's needs?	Methodist Church
Sat	11	1000	Croquet start of season	Croquet Lawn, Rec.
Sun	12	1600	Messy Church	Methodist Church
Mon	13	0915	Wingrave Monday Walkers walk, contact Jan 07813 085211	The Green
Tue	14		School term starts	
Wed	15	1300	WI: Pub Lunch	Rose & Crown
Wed	15	1800	Copy deadline for Communiqué	
Fri	17	1900	Beetle Drive	A Abbots Village Hall
Fri	17	1930	Family bingo	Community Centre
Sat	18-21		Twinning: La Bouëxière families visit Wingrave	
Sat	18		Sissy Lea Cabaret	Wingrave Park
Sun	19	0930	Wingrave Ramblers local ramble, meet at	Nup End Lane
Tue	21	1930	Parish Council meeting	
Wed	22	1230	Over 60s lunch club	Wingrave Park
Sat	25		Junior Football Club Wingrave	Community Centre
Mon	27		Bowls Club open roll up	Bowling Green, Rec.

MAY 2026

Fri	1	2100	Mr Paul Adams—Country Music Entertainer	Rose & Crown
Sun	3	1400	Swingrave	Community Centre
Wed	6	1000	WI: Taking Flight; journey to Asia & author of Eagle Sisters	Methodist Church
Sat	9	1000	Gardeners' bring and buy sale	Parish Church
Sun	10	1600	Messy Church	Parish Church
Mon	11	0915	Wingrave Monday Walkers walk, contact Jan 07813 085211	The Green
Fri	15	1930	Family bingo	Community Centre
Sat	16	1930	Community Choir spring concert	Parish Church
Sun	17	0930	Wingrave Ramblers local ramble, meet at	Nup End Lane
Tue	19	1930	Parish Council meeting	
Wed	20	1300	WI: Pub Lunch	Rose & Crown
Wed	20	1800	Copy deadline for Communiqué	
Sat	23-24		Wingrave Singers at Sherborne Abbey	
Mon	25-1Jn		School half term holiday	
Wed	27	1230	Over 60s lunch club	Wingrave Park
Fri	29	1800	Family barbecue	Community Centre

Recycling bin collection: Friday 10th Wednesday 22nd April, Thursday 7th Wednesday 20th May

Waste bin collection: Wednesday 1st Thursday 16th Wednesday 29th April, 13th Thursday 28th May

Garden waste collection: as waste bin collection.

