

QUAINTON ·NEWS·

THE PARISH MAGAZINE & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



Remembrance Day

Holy Cross & St Mary's Church, Quainton
Sunday 12th November 2023

Remembrance Sunday saw all five sections of Quainton's youth organisations represented by young people and their leaders. At the Remembrance Day Service at Holy Cross & St Mary's Church on Sunday 12th November, members from Quainton Guides, Scouts, Brownies, Cubs and Beavers came together to parade their standards and lay wreaths, alongside members of the Royal British Legion.

WELCOME FROM HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH



Dear friends,

Part of the traditional Christmas feast in Medieval times was known as "The Great Pie", which contained huge quantities of ground beef and lamb layered with boiled hens, rabbits, ducks and game birds. The pie was so big, they used iron bands to hold the pastry case together! In contrast "Umble Pie" was made with the 'umbles' of the deer – the heart, liver, tongue, feet, brains and ears! These days the traditional family Christmas is centred around Christmas Trees, crackers, Father Christmas, mistletoe, stockings, presents, parties and lashings of roast turkey!

In Charles Dickens famous book, "A Christmas Carol", Mrs Cratchet made the most of very little. "There never was such a goose... its tenderness and flavour, size and cheapness were the themes of universal admiration. Eked out by apple sauce and mashed potatoes, it was a sufficient dinner for the whole family."

On 23rd December 1822, Dr Clement Moore, a university professor, wrote a Christmas poem beginning with the words, "Twas the night before Christmas." The jolly, red cheeked elf of the poem, bore little resemblance to the real Saint Nicholas but after the highly successful advertising campaign for Coca Cola by commercial artist Haddon Sundblom in 1931, the red tunic white beard and high black boots of our Father Christmas, stuck in the minds of millions around the world.

Celebrating Christmas with family and friends makes this a special time of year as long as we don't miss the main course – the message of the angels: "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day a Saviour, who is the Lord. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all people!" (Luke's Gospel) In such an uncertain world, where so much hangs in the balance, we need to hear once again the voice of the Christmas angels.

Late on Christmas Eve, 1968, the crew of the Apollo 8 spacecraft sent their Christmas message to earth in the form of a reading from the creation story according to Genesis in the Bible. The message ended with the voice of Frank Borman: "And from the crew of Apollo 8 we close with goodnight, good luck, a merry Christmas and God bless all of you – all of you on the good earth."

This Christmas time I'm praying for the gift of peace in my parishes, remembering those who have lost loved ones, those who are lonely and isolated and those for whom family is a distant memory, and those who are afraid for the future. May we all bring Christmas peace that will bring a blessing to all around us through our celebrations this year.

On behalf of my wife and I, may we wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Blessings all,

Rev'd Steve Flashman, Vicar

Holy Cross & St Mary Quainton & All Saints, Oving with Pitchcott
The Rectory, 27, Church Street, Quainton, HP22 4AW
Phone: 01296 655237 Mobile: 07950 000910
Church Websites: www.quaintonchurch.com www.ovingchurch.com

WELCOME TO THE DECEMBER ISSUE



*Louisa Richards, Editor
quaintonnews@gmail.com*

Hello everyone,

For new residents to the village who may not know, Christmas is a time our village really shines its light!

We hold a Christmas party for our senior citizens; we have a huge Christmas tree on The Green, which is adorned in decorations made by the children at our village school; we have Christmas trees for sale; you can enjoy festive music at The Windmill; see Father Christmas on a steam train at the railway; he then comes round the village on his sleigh on Christmas Eve evening, which is one of the highlights of every child's Christmas here! We have a carol service in church, as well as our legendary live nativity service on Christmas Eve (when the children can dress up and process from The Green to church). There is the midnight service at 11.30pm, and then the Christmas Day family service! It's a busy but wonderful time!

There's fantastic news from our primary school after their recent Ofsted inspection! Huge congratulations to James Vernon and his team for all their hard work, which is finally paying off! See p.13.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Louisa', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Please note that the deadline for the January issue is earlier than usual!
Next deadline: Sunday 10th December!**

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH

Christmas Services

We have so much going on in church in December!

Carols, Christingle, Crib, Midnight Service and Christmas Day and more... All our services are listed on p.23 and p.43! We hope to see you there!

ANNUAL CHURCHYARD CLEAR UP

Saturday 2nd December 10am-12 noon

It is a big churchyard, and your help would be invaluable even for an hour. Refreshments will be made available, so still time for a chat and catch up, which is one of the best parts of the gathering. It is a very social event apart from being a good workout! If you could bring your own rakes, and wheelbarrows if you have one, that would be great. If you have large pruners then that may be useful too. Please come along and support us!

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Quainton's Father Christmas Float

Christmas Eve from 4.30pm

It's that time of year again when Father Christmas and his construction elves are dusting off the sleigh and getting it ready to travel around Quainton on Christmas Eve. They are looking forward to seeing all the good children and adults, as well as giving anyone on the naughty list an opportunity to get back on the good list!

Our Route: We will be starting at the Railway Centre around 4.30pm as usual, and then heading up Station Road, after stopping in on Romney Meadows. We then turn right onto Lower Street, past the top of Torbay, down The Strand and right again into White Hart Field and Mallets End. We will then drive around the church and down Church Street before turning down The Green. (Because of space we can only go down the George & Dragon side of The Green, so watch out for us and come over to see Father Christmas.)

We then turn right at the bottom of The Green and go along Lower Street, turning left down Cautley Close and then Piggott Orchard. As we get towards the end of our route we head up North End Road and then complete our journey by going along Upper Street.

Donations Please: As usual, we will be collecting donations on the night, which will be shared across a variety of charities. We will set up a Just Giving page, as well as have elves with collection boxes on the night, so if you're able to make a donation, we'd be very grateful. This year Father Christmas has decided that anyone who volunteers to walk with the float on Christmas Eve will be awarded Temporary Elf Status and will also get a vote for a charity of their choice to receive a share of the donations collected on the night.

Volunteers Please: If you want to be an elf for the night, meet us at the entrance to the Railway Centre car park around 4.15pm on Christmas Eve.

Don't miss out! Listen for us! We will be playing our Christmas music loud and proud, to make sure no-one misses the chance to see Father Christmas, so listen out for us!

See you on Christmas Eve.

Ho Ho Ho x



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News from Quaintwood Players: Ahoy there landlubbers!

Quaintwood Players is excited to announce their next production will be Treasure Island! You can be sure of fantastic family friendly entertainment with plenty of booing, cheering and singing opportunities... and maybe even some 'it's behind you!' Tickets will be on sale during the first week of January 2024.

SAVE THE DATE!

Quainton Memorial Hall: Fri 2nd Feb evening, Sat 3rd Feb matinee and evening.

Grendon Underwood Village Hall: Fri 9th Feb evening, Sat 10th Feb matinee and evening.

Café Club Zest

It's party time!

Come and enjoy a Christmas sing-a-long, a glass of bubbly and a special festive afternoon tea.

Note 2pm start time



Christmas Party December 2nd
2pm at St John's Hall, Whitchurch
Contact Jane 07739 985440
Dates for New year; 6th January,
3rd February & 2nd March at 2.30pm



Quainton Memorial Hall Update

GOOD NEWS... no price increase for 2024

In spite of a massive hike in energy costs for the hall, (increasing from £4700 to £6100), the committee decided not to increase hire charges for 2024. QMH finances are tight but it was decided that any shortfall will be taken from reserves.

Main hall floor: The hall is nearly 20 years old! To keep it looking good, plans are underway for refurbishing the floor. The hall will be closed in March for 1 week to allow for re-sanding and sealing. Apologies to our regular users who will not be able to use the hall during this time.

Lighting: As many users have noticed, the main hall lighting is also in need of refurbishment. This gives us an opportunity to move to more energy efficient LED lighting. Advice and quotations for the work are being collected at the moment, with the hope that the lighting can be upgraded early in the new year.

Many thanks to all our users for your support this year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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Harvest Auction at The George and Dragon – 13th October 2023

Friday 13th is not a very propitious day to many, and the weather forecast was not good. However, Darren and George had put up an additional gazebo and once we started the rain just about stopped. Clearly the forecast had put some people off joining us but those that did come along certainly were generous with their bidding.

The Rev'd Steve Flashman opened with some well-chosen words before handing over to our auctioneer John Blanchard who was helped this year by Brian Fludgate recording all the bids, and many others holding up the items being auctioned.

We raised £2600 which is a little less than last year, a tribute to the generosity of the village in these challenging times. It was also very pleasing to see so many new residents of the village again taking part.

As is the norm, distribution of the money seeks to take into account village needs and recognise those organisations who donate sale items or generally support the event. This year the following groups and activities will benefit as follows:

Senior Citizen's Christmas Party	£400	Brownies	£100
Table Tennis Club	£200	Netball Club	£100
Pre-School	£100	PTA	£400
Bonfire and Fireworks	£200	Beavers	£100
Windmill Society	£300	Monday Club	£200
Community Orchard	£100	G&D Christmas Lunch	£400

This last noted donation is an innovation by Darren and George to provide a cooked lunch for those in the village living by themselves and those who cannot get out to join others over Christmas.

Thanks as ever go to Darren, George and the team at the George & Dragon for hosting the event, to Rachel and John Quigg for the event posters and to all those who donated items including, in no particular order:

The George & Dragon, North End Nurseries, Signature Flowers, Affinity Hair Design, Sandie Finnie, Quainton Windmill, Quainton PTA, Beavers, Monday Club, Pete Leybourne, Parrott Bros Butchers, Dayla Drinks, Chiltern Brewery, Holdsworth, Derek Piggott, Waddesdon Manor, Upper South Farm, Netball Club, Acorn Nurseries, Steve Boyd, Friends & Flavours Burgers, Farm Slice Pizza and many individuals and societies. If we have missed anyone, please accept our apologies.

For those who have not yet attended this village institution, please do try to come along next year, and demonstrate your support for local groups and activities whilst having a good evening out.

And finally, please also look out for, and donate to, the Father Christmas Float on Christmas Eve, another important fundraiser for the village.



QUANTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



Chair: Sue Weldon. **Vice Chair:** Nick Butler

Councillors: Lee Whitlock, Peter Woodliffe-Thomas, Martin Pacetti.

Clerk: Katherine Richardson

Two positions vacant: <https://quinton.org.uk/Media/Councillors/P-Councillor-Role.pdf>

To contact the council use the Contact Form on the website:
<https://quinton.org.uk/contact-us> or contact the clerks by email on: parishclerk@quinton.org.uk

Parish Council lines of Communication:

Quinton Village Website on <https://www.quinton.org.uk/>

Physical message boards on the Green and at Quinton Memorial Hall

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/QuintonParish> and we will endeavour to share important updates onto **Quinton Village Life**.

Subscribe to the **Quinton Alert** email list to receive up to date weather warnings and other important information via parishclerk@quinton.org.uk

Parish Council Report

COUNCILLOR VACANCIES:

We still have vacancies for two Councillors to join the Parish Council. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you would like further information on what the role of the Councillor entails.

BUS SERVICE / STATION ROAD BRIDGE / HS2 / ROADS:

Your Ward Councillor Phil Gomm will keep you updated on these issues via Facebook. Any issues, please contact Cllr Philip Gomm, Buckinghamshire Unitary Councillor, via email so he can keep a record: philip.gomm@buckscc.gov.uk In case of an Emergency call him on 07778 177647. We have been informed that Station Road will open early next year when the bridge is reopened.

The Quinton Emergency Team is still available to help people get to appointments. Any issues with HS2 contact their Helpdesk: Freephone: 08081 434 434 Minicom: 08081 456 472 – Email: hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk

Please email them and copy parishclerk@quinton.org.uk so we have a copy and a record of how many complaints are being submitted to HS2/EKFB and we can hold them to account.

STREETLIGHTS:

The streetlights which have been reported as not working have been reported to our contractor to come out to site and check and hopefully fix.

AGAR:

There are no actions from our AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Ref	Details	Location	Status
23/03059/APP	Proposed infill of the 3 railway arches	Station Road	For comment
21/00289/APP	Change of use of 1 bed to 2 bed holiday accommodation	Blackgrove Barn, Blackgrove Road	Approved
23/02468/23PIP	Application in principle for 2 houses	The Croft, 15 Church Street, Quainton	Refused
23/03427/AGN	Creation of agriculture track	Dry Lees Farm, Quainton	For comment
23/03020/APP	Application for 1st floor side extension and side elevations	42 Upper Street, Quainton	For comment

FIREWORK NIGHT:

We would like to say a massive thank you to the Firework Committee for a very successful and well organised Firework Night. The display was amazing! A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this event so successful.

ROAD CLOSURES:

Due to road closures constantly changing it is impossible to keep up to date via printed media like Quainton News. We recommend people keep checking the internet on <https://one.network>

Ward Cllr Phil Gomm will inform you via Quainton Village Life on Facebook.

NOTICEBOARD :

The noticeboard at the top of The Green has sprung a leak! A couple of brilliant volunteers have offered to fix it! Thank you.

KEEP REPORTING:

Potholes continue to be reported via FixMyStreet and continue to follow up with Buckinghamshire Council on the list of roads that need repairing. Please keep reporting and let us know if there are concerns.

THAMES VALLEY POLICE:

In order for the local community to be kept up to date with what is going on in the community Thames Valley Police are encouraging the public register to receive crime alerts and information. To register please go to www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

The last Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 9th November 2023.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 14th December 2023 at 8:00pm in the Memorial Hall.

This will be an Ordinary Meeting of the Council. Parishioners are invited to attend.




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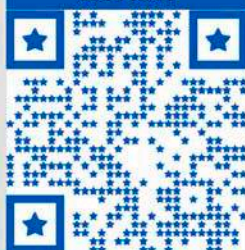
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Exciting News from Quainton Primary School!

I am very pleased to finally be able to share the results of our most recent Ofsted inspection, which took place on 26th/27th September 2023.



We have been officially graded as a 'GOOD' school in all areas of inspection. This is an 'upgrade' from our previous 'Requires Improvement' inspection grading in 2019. I am immensely proud of this result. It is validation of all the hard work, effort and time that we have put into improving the school over the last four years. I want to thank everyone, past and present, who have contributed to this achievement. The wonderful teachers, support staff and all other members of staff who have all played a part in improving the school; the children who truly 'let their lights shine' everyday; the governors who give up their spare time to drive the school forward; the parents for their continued support and patience; and the local community who continue to support us. It is by working together that we have been able to achieve so much for the school.

I want to reassure you that we will not be resting on our laurels. Yes, this is a time to celebrate our achievements but it should not be the limit to our ambitions for Quainton School. We are already looking forward to what we can further improve, not just to sustain but to provide the children, parents and the community with a school that we can all be proud of for many years to come.

Kind regards,
James Vernon, Headteacher

Quainton Primary School PTA News

Bonfire Night:

The PTA Bar on The Green proved highly successful on bonfire night, with the bar selling out of beer for the first time ever, as well as doubling our profits compared to last year! We are thankful to everyone who came to buy a drink or glow stick from us. Thanks to George Newman for sponsoring two barrels of beer, as well as donations of stock. Thank you George and Dragon! Thank you to the Fireworks Committee for their ongoing support of the PTA, the team do an amazing job and ensure a truly memorable fireworks display – we will have beer for you next year!

New Shed:

Following a shoutout for help replacing our broken PTA storage shed, we are very grateful to Fairhive who has provided us with a new shed. We are hoping to have additional funds from a second source to complete the groundwork needed soon.

100 Club:

We still have numbers left to sell. If you would like to support our village school then this is the easiest way to do it. £18 buys 9 opportunities to win cash prizes or a George and Dragon food voucher. If you would like to buy a number, scan the QR code and enter your card details when prompted, then email the PTA to receive confirmation of your number. Or, you can email to arrange a bank transfer: quainton.pta@gmail.com





Gumboots and Roots Pre-school is based
in the Saye and Sele Hall in Quainton.



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Contact Kerry or Pam on 07495 030325

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Quainton Family Pass: £45

Quainton Residents can buy our special Quainton Family Pass (2a+4c). It includes entry all events except Halloween, Christmas, Thomas and any evening events. Call 655720 to buy yours or find the form on our website and bring it in when you next visit. Proof of address required.

Quainton residents can also get a 25% discount on ALL events, including Halloween, Thomas & Christmas!

Coming up at the Pub!

Our Christmas menu is available now, please pop in or email for a copy: pub@georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk



1st December: Mistletones Christmas Singalong. Live music from 7:30pm in aid of Inspire Bucks Christmas Fundraiser.

Entry is a toy or money donation on the evening.

16th December: Farm slice Pizza and Traditional pub games night

23rd December: Live music from Daz & Chave, our local band.

28th December: Quiz Night from 7:30pm in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance – £5 per person

31st December: NYE Celebrations, Silly Shirts and Short Skirts from 6pm, DJ Pete from 7:30pm – Free entry

1st January: Pub open from 1pm to 6pm (no food being served)

2nd January: Closed

Full festive opening hours on p.19

New Toddler Group at Quainton Church: Tots, Toys & Tea!

Every Tuesday during school term time. FREE!

Calling all toddlers and tots - and their parents/family/carers! Quainton Church is running a new playgroup on termtime Tuesday mornings 9-10am. There will be toys and singing and stories, and tea and toast! Free entry and refreshments. Contact Rachel 07880 323901 or Jane 07739 985440 for further details. Or just come along and please spread the word! Christmas and New Year dates: Tuesdays 5th, 12th and 19th December and then restarting on Tuesday 9th January.



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For two Sundays in December between 10.00-12.30 we will be offering free mince pies, mulled wine and soft drinks to all our visitors, along with carols and Christmas songs.



**Quainton
Windmill**

Sunday 10th December – The Ukuleleans Group
Hosts Pippa Evans & Marian Swain

Sunday 17th December – The Marsh Gibbon Silver Band
Hosts Gill Roberts & Jane Diggory

Remembrance Sunday

The Quainton Windmill Society were delighted to welcome Martin Dorrell, playing the Last Post, from the windmill gallery at 11.00 hrs on Remembrance Sunday.

A poignant moment of reflection.



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
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Alan 07775 315788

Village Shop Festive Opening Hours:

Quainton Village Store opening hours will be normal until 23rd December then

CHRISTMAS EVE:	9am-12 noon
CHRISTMAS DAY:	CLOSED
BOXING DAY:	9am-12 noon
Thursday 28th Dec:	9am-12 noon
Friday 29th Dec:	9am-12 noon
Saturday 30th Dec:	9am-2pm
NEW YEAR'S EVE:	9am-12 noon
NEW YEAR'S DAY:	9am-12 noon
Tuesday 2nd Jan:	Open as usual...



George & Dragon Festive Opening Hours

CHRISTMAS EVE:	Open from 4pm (Drinks only)
CHRISTMAS DAY:	11:30am - 2pm (Drinks only)
BOXING DAY:	Open all day from midday (Drinks only)
Wednesday 27th Dec:	Open 4pm - 10pm Food served from 5pm - 8pm
Thursday 28th Dec:	Lunchtime open 12 - 2.30pm. Food served 12 - 1.45pm Evening open from 5pm. Food served 6pm - 8pm Quiz night in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance, 7.30pm. £5 per person
Friday 29th Dec:	Lunchtime open 12.00 - 2:30pm. Food served 12 - 1.45pm Evening open from 5pm. Food served 6pm - 8pm
Saturday 30th Dec:	Open all day from midday Food served 12 - 2pm and 6pm - 8.30pm Bring your old photos to the pub between 3pm - 5pm
NEW YEAR'S EVE:	Lunchtime open 12 - 3pm. Set Menu served 12 - 2pm Evening open from 6pm. DJ Pete from 7.30pm. Theme: Silly shirts and short skirts – Free Entry!
NEW YEAR'S DAY:	Lunchtime open 1 - 6pm (Drinks only)
Tuesday 2nd January:	CLOSED
Wednesday 3rd January:	Open 5pm - 9pm



For Pub December events and dates see p.29

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Christmas Tree Sale

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Quinton Community Choir

Christmas CONCERT



QUINTON
MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

AT 4.00PM

FREE ENTRY

DONATIONS TAKEN

FOR CHARITY

Christmas at

Quainton Church

Christmas Praise & Worship

Sunday 26th Nov 6.00pm

Come and join us for a Christmas special with our Worship Band, Choir and Singers

Quainton Community Choir

Christmas

CONCERT AT QUANTON MEMORIAL HALL
SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER AT 4.00PM
FREE ENTRY DONATIONS TAKEN FOR CHARITY

Christingle At All Saints, Oving

A special joint service with our friends at All Saints, Oving for all the family
Sunday 10th December at 11.00am

Crib Service with Live Nativity

Sunday 24th (Christmas Eve)
 Gathering on the Green at 2.45pm and processing to the church at 3.00pm

Christmas Carols

Sunday 17th Dec 4.00pm

Quainton Church

Christmas Praise & Worship

Sunday 26th Nov 6.00pm

December

Sunday 3rd Advent Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion.
 A traditional, reflective service
9.30am Christmas Cafe Breakfast Church.
 All families welcome.

6.00pm Advent Sunday Service at St John's, Whitchurch

Sunday 10th
11.00am Joint Christingle Service at All Saints, Oving
 (No service in Quainton)

Sunday 17th
4.00pm Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 24th (Christmas Eve)
3.00pm Joint Crib Service and Live Nativity at Quainton Church
2.45pm Gathering on the Green and processing to the church
11.30pm Midnight Communion as we welcome the arrival of the Christ child

Monday 25th (Christmas Day)
10.30am Christmas Day Celebration with Christmas Holy communion

Sunday 31st
NO SERVICES TODAY

Info: Revd Steve on 07950 000910 or email: steve@stevflashman.com

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What's on this Winter at The Railway!



PANTO EXPRESS:

The Panto Express train, with Father Christmas on board, will be here for four weekends in the lead up to Christmas from Saturday 25th November.

Bring the family to see Santa on a steam train, but also enjoy our mini pantomime, **Beauty and the Beast**, brought to you by a professional touring theatre company.

TICKETS FOR PANTO EXPRESS MUST BE PRE-BOOKED!

Call us or pop in to get your Quainton 25% discount!

You can still get your 25% Quainton resident discount at Christmas, but please call to book (655720) or pop in during the week between 9am-4pm and bring proof of address.

Winter Closure:

After our Christmas event, the main Heritage Railway closes until February half term, but the Railway Cafe remains open:

The Railway Cafe:

The Railway Cafe stays open Monday to Friday all year round with a break for Christmas and New Year. Come and see us and enjoy breakfast, lunch or just a drink and a snack. Good value and generous portions! Our snug Oxford Room is always warm and cosy!

February Half Term: Paddington in coming on Sunday 11th February!

Peppa Pig: Peppa will be making a special out-of-season visit to us on Sunday 3rd March!

All details are online at www.bucksrailcentre.org or pop down and see us!
Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Station Road, Quainton HP22 4BY



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Charlotte Newman and Joe Holland

On Saturday 9th September 2023, the wedding took place between Charlotte Ruth Newman, daughter of Graham and Ruth Newman, and Joe Holland, son of Andy and Lizzie Holland. They were married by Rev'd Steve Flashman at Holy Cross & St Mary's Church, Quainton, on the most beautiful sunny day. Joe and Charlotte, who met in Quainton in 2012, both grew up in Quainton, so there was never any doubt where they would get married! The stunning flowers were, of course, by the bride's sister, Emma at Signature Flowers, and the reception held at Creslow Manor.

This is what Charlotte had to say of their wedding:

"Our wedding day was beyond what we could of wished for. Not only that but who would have thought it would be on the hottest day of the year?! It was a day filled with all our family and friends, and a lot of laughter and happy memories in our favourite place, Quainton. One of our favourite parts of the day, after our gorgeous service at the church by Rev'd Steve Flashman, was being taken over Quainton hills in one of Neil Tucket's incredible Ford Model T vehicles on our way to Creslow Manor for our reception. We could never have imagined getting married anywhere other than Quainton, where we both spent the majority of our upbringing; it will always remain a very special place to us both."

Congratulation to Charlotte and Joe!



Coffee Shop News

Festive treats available throughout December:

- * Chocolate Orange Hot Chocolate *
- * Toffee Nut Latte *
- * Homemade mince pies, tarts and Christmas cake *
- * Festive sandwiches, paninis, toasties and specials *
- * Homemade winter soups *



All available to take away or sit in and enjoy next to our log burner!

Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 9am-3pm.

The new phone number for the coffee shop is 658415

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Bonfire Night Thank You!

Another very successful Bonfire & Fireworks event this year! We hope you all enjoyed the display. As always, however, we could not run the event without the amazing support of very generous volunteers, individual households and businesses.

Particular thanks go to Ann and the new owners of The Village Shop for pre-selling tickets for us; to Ruth and Graham Newman for the pallets; Mick and the team at Class Act; Linda Puttick and the Coffee Shop for the teas and coffees to keep us going on the build up; homeowners on The Green for the use of their electricity/water supply, Graham Wray, Olivia & Martin, Colin & Caroline, Helen at Windmill Cottage, The Windmill and Colin Dancer; Susie and James Christopherson for allowing us to set off fireworks in their paddock again. And finally, of course, our incredible volunteers: Malcolm Vowles, Martin Dorrell, Martin Knight, Diane Curtis, Chris Winston-Partridge, Heidi Dickman, Clare Bragg, Louisa Richards, Jackie Giblin, Paul Muscroft, Estelle Bartlett, Niki Cook, Nat Massa, Bella Massa, Ben Bragg (plus his mate Matt) and Max Green (plus his mate Lee). Thanks everyone and see you again next year!

Quanton Parish Council Bonfire & Fireworks Committee: Ian, Warren, Steve, Pete & Tim

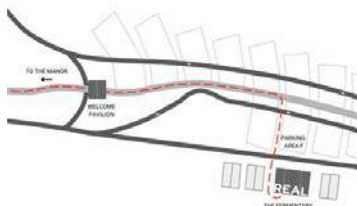
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RAMBLINGS FROM FINEMERE WOOD: *Charlotte Karmali, Volunteer Warden*

November, the woodland workers meet for their biweekly fix of nature, physical challenge, and companionship. Having briefed the eager troop on the project for the day, I watch them march off into the woods armed with loppers, saws, and cake. A flock of long-tailed tits dart across the woodland ride behind them, with high-pitched calls resounding through the wood.

Aegithalos caudatus is an exquisite bird: tiny, with a long black and white tail, a round body, and a pinkish breast. Easy to spot, these enchanting creatures stick together in groups of about 20, huddling together at night for warmth. Never still or quiet, they flit from tree to tree feeding on insects and invertebrates, often hanging upside down to feed. Long-tailed tits can be seen across the UK throughout the year, in woodlands, hedgerows, and also in gardens, where they will visit bird feeders when food is scarce.

Nests are constructed of moss, lichen, and spider silk which allows them to expand as the chicks grow. This incredible construction is lined with 1500 feathers or more, where 8-12 eggs can be cocooned. *Aegithalos caudatus* remain social throughout the nesting season, helping others to rear their young.

I catch up with my own flock, which is equally exquisite and enchanting. I find the volunteers huddled together in a ditch, cutting and clearing willow that has migrated into the water. Alongside them is Estelle Bailey, BBOWT's chief executive, who has joined us for a day of ditch-dwelling. This area was cleared several years ago by this league of labourers to make way for sunlight, flora, and thus butterflies and other invertebrates. Fast growing, the coppiced willow trees are soon shooting upwards and outwards, their many stems increasing in girth rapidly. In another seven or eight years, we shall be back here, clearing the ditch again. Nature is resilient and I find this grounding. No matter what is going on in the world, or in our personal lives, these trees will continue to grow and thrive as they are repeatedly coppiced.

For further information about volunteering opportunities at Finemere Wood, Calvert Jubilee and other BBOWT reserves, please email volunteering@bbowt.org.uk. All enquiries will now be dealt with centrally.





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GARDENING AMBITIONS

Quainton Golf Society

Our first event of the new 2023/24 season was for the Colin Hammond trophy at Redbourn. This was the first event for the Society's new Captain John Lucas, who rose to the challenge of the Captain's Drive-in with a cracking tee shot down the first hole. The weather was mild for the event which was in stark contrast to the deluge on the preceding 2 days.



We had another excellent turnout of 23 players for this Stableford format. The winner on the day was Mark Hughes with 35 points, 2 clear of Steve Mitchell (Junior) who was runner-up with 33 points. Mark was a last-minute replacement, who only played because the golf he was scheduled to play the day before was cancelled because of a waterlogged course.

The top five was follows:-

	Colin Hammond Trophy	Strokes Received	Points
1st	Mark Hughes	22	35
2nd	Steve Mitchell (jnr)	12	33
3rd =	Neil Mack	23	32
3rd =	Dave Payne	17	32
5th =	Brian Cuddy	19	30
5th =	Kevin Miles	14	30

Our next event is at Whipsnade Park for the Xmas Shield on Friday 15 December.

If you are interested in joining the Society, please contact Vince Hemsley on 07427555656 or vince.hemsley63@virginmedia.com.

Claydon House by Candlelight



It's not too late to book tickets for Tours on Saturdays and Sundays:

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www.nationaltrust.org.uk/claydon

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The music we play is varied and exciting – from Bach to Beatles and beyond! All the music is arranged for your standard and you are encouraged to learn to improve on your instrument over the course of your membership. No patronising tutor books here, we learn REAL music together. Give us a go, come along and find out what it's all about.

Mondays 1.30pm for an hour.

To arrange a free trial or a visit to us, email: seniorstrings@hotmail.com



QUANTON FOOTBALL CLUB 200 CLUB DRAW



End of an Era

Some of you may have been wondering why you have not had a knock on the door during the last month from your friendly QFC 200 club collector. Sadly, the committee had to make the difficult decision to stop the 200 club, as it has always been a fund-raising lottery for the club, and we have not been able to field a football team for nearly three years, so we did not feel it was fair to continue.

The origins of the club are from the 1960s, when Andy Gray, son of George Gray set it up. George was one of the main collectors in those days, collecting about 130 subscribers in the beginning and until a few years ago, still collecting nearly 100 members. Over the years we have had quite a few collectors and we would like to thank them for their involvement, it is hard work getting cash out of some villagers!

Do you remember the prizes when it started, you could win anything from a set of knives and forks to a kettle, and Jim recalls one member winning six clocks over the years and another two dart boards! In the mid 1990s, we changed to cash prizes and only put the price up once in the whole history, from £22 to £25 for 12 months subscription; a real bargain when you consider the cash prizes we awarded to the lucky winners.

The committee would like to say a really big thank you to all our loyal supporters, many being in the draw from the beginning and to those who came on board later. I hope over the years you have won something; I still have the table cloth I won in 1989!

DBB

Quanton Football Committee (Jim Styles, Deb Barker Boyd, James Sloan, David Wilkinson, Steve Barker Boyd)



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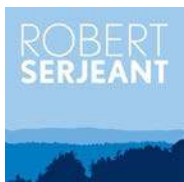
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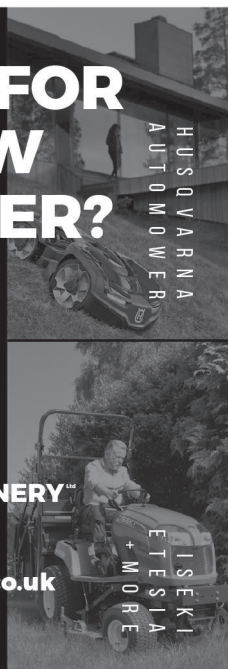
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HS2 in Quainton: December Edition 2023

We at HS2/EKFB are always looking for new ways to help impacted communities through our social value and legacy programme. In November, EKFB installed closed board fencing, post and rail fencing, constructed a 60-meter footway and installed two access gates to link the overflow carpark at Buckinghamshire Railway Centre to the visitor centre, improving visitor experience and making the railway centre more accessible – see image right.

If you'd like to find out more about the environmental projects that HS2 and EKFB have been involved with in your area, why not take a look at our Green Corridor online mapping tool here:



<https://www.hs2.org.uk/building-hs2/environmental-sustainability/green-corridor/>

Moving into our construction update, from November 2023 we will be continuing preparations for the Station Road realignment.

- On Station Road, there will be a lane closure managed by temporary 2-way traffic lights between 29-30 November. This is to allow for core sampling and testing of the soil to help inform material choices ahead of the road realignment.
- From 27 November until 17 December 2023, there will be traffic management at the junction of Station Road, Fiddlers Field and Quainton Road to complete water main connection works.

Please note, these dates may change due to conditions outside of our control. Please refer to the HS2 website regularly to check for any changes and updates or to view the detailed Advanced Works Notification.

If you would like to read more about the works and view the advance works notices and maps, then please go to HS2 website www.hs2.org.uk and click the 'in your area section' to view the interactive map, or simply scan the QR code provided.

Alternatively, If you have a question about HS2 please contact our HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434 434 or email hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk



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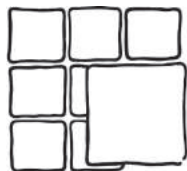
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Calendar of Activities

Detailed below are the regular weekly activities in Quainton Memorial Hall. As there may be breaks for holidays, please check the online calendar first at <https://booking.quaintonmh.co.uk/>

If you are interested in joining one of these groups, please contact QMH and your enquiry will be forwarded to the relevant contact. New members are always welcome.

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME
Monday	Day Centre (Main Hall) Craft Club (Conference Room)	10:00 – 14:30 13:30 – 16:30
Tuesday	Pilates (Main Hall) Art Club (Conference Room) Pilates (Main Hall)	10:30 – 11:30 13:30 – 16:30 17:30 – 18:30
Wednesday	Bridge (Main Hall) Carpet Bowls (Main Hall)	13:00 – 16:30 19:30 – 21:30
Thursday	Coffee Morning (Main Hall)	10:00 – 12:00 – just turn up!
Friday	Community Choir (Main Hall) * Badminton (Main Hall)	10:00 – 11:30 19:00 – 22:00
Saturday		
Sunday	Table Tennis (Main Hall) *	17:00 – 20:00

If you'd like to book the hall for either an ad hoc event or a new regular activity, please either book online at booking.quaintonmh.co.uk or contact our bookings clerk, Deb Barker Boyd, on 01296 655379. Alternatively, you can contact us by email at quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com



Whitchurch WI

Meeting at St John's Church Hall, Whitchurch
on Tuesday 5th December at 7.30pm

Christmas meeting with festive refreshments.

Visitors welcome (£5 per head)

WEATHER FIGURES FOR QUANTON



Averages and Extremes for October 2023

Temperature	°C	Date	Rainfall		Date
Maximum	23.1°C	8th	Total for the two months	123.7mm	
Minimum	-1.2°C	16th	Wettest day	30mm	13th
Average Minimum	8.3°C		Rain days	14	
Average Maximum	16.3°C		Dry days	17	
Highest Minimum	16.1°C	1st			
Lowest Maximum	10.1°C	15th			
Wind			Pressure		
Highest gust	25mph	3rd	Highest	1017hPa	15th
			Lowest	963hPa	20th

Figures supplied by Mike Beales.

For the latest weather at Quanton go to: wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IQUAINTO2



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QUANTON NEWS

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Quainton News Online: <https://quaintonnews.wixsite.com/quainton-news>

• • • NB Copy deadline for JANUARY 2024 is 10th DECEMBER • • •

VILLAGE SERVICES

Quainton Website: Quainton Parish Online: www.quainton.org.uk

Quainton Village Life: This is a very active Facebook page for Quainton residents. Photos shared, local history discussed, questions answered, advice given, recommendations, plus lots more! There is also "Quainton Buying and Selling" Facebook page.

Quainton Support Network: A team of volunteers to help. Call Clare Lucas on 655552 or Alison on 655033.

Quainton Oil Group: Residents can receive regular deliveries of heating oil on group negotiated terms from Lovells. T: 01844 202777 and ask to join the Quainton Oil Group.

Quainton Dog Warden: Lost your dog or found someone else's? Call Jan, our local contact point, on 655800 or 07941 946870 for help reuniting lost dogs with their owners.

Memorial Hall Bookings: <https://booking.quaintonmh.co.uk/> or contact Deb Barker Boyd on 655379, E: quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com. Call 07704 851945 to report noise/nuisance.

Saye & Sele Hall Bookings: Call John Knox on 655275.

Winwood Almshouses: For enquiries contact: winwoodalmshouses@outlook.com

REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Monday 4th December	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 11th December	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 18th December	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Wednesday 27th December	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin
Wednesday 3rd January	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin

Please make sure your bin is out for 6.30am

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SERVICES AT HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH

Sunday 3rd December: (Advent)	8.00am BCP Holy Communion 9.30am Sunday Café Church for Christmas 6pm Schorne Team Advent Sunday Carols at Whitchurch
Sunday 10th December:	11am Joint Christingle Service at All Saints, Oving
Sunday 17th December:	4pm Christmas Carol Service, at Quainton
Christmas Eve	3pm Joint Crib Service with Live Nativity at Quainton Gather on The Green at 2.45pm for procession to church. Children invited to dress up as Christmas Story characters. 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist (Quainton)
Christmas Day	10.30am Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion at Quainton
Sunday 31st December	NO SERVICES TODAY
New Year's Day	New Year's Day Concert at 11am at Quainton

PARISH REGISTER ENTRIES

Arthur Watson:	Baptism on Sunday 29th October
Patrick Tooms:	Funeral on Wednesday 15th November

CHURCH ROTA FOR DECEMBER

	3 December <i>Advent</i>	10 December	17 December <i>Carol Service</i> 4pm	24 December <i>Crib Service</i> 3pm	25 December <i>Midnight</i> <i>Eucharist</i>
Evening Reader	Schorne Team Advent Service – Whitchurch 6pm		Jane Vowles	Arthur Evans	Tom Morrison
Evening Sidesman			Richard Clark		TBC
Altar Flowers	Advent				June Hanson
Pedestal Flowers					Carolyn Turnbull
Church Cleaning	Kate Dalton; Fiona Ginger; Ann Parrott		Carolyn Turnbull; Helen Ratcliffe; Cicely Davies		

HOLY CROSS & ST. MARY'S CHURCH – OUR FAVOURITE PHOTOS



Thank you to Sophie Nickless for sending in this photo of our church basking in the sunshine.

If you would like to see your photo in print here next month, please send your favourite photos of our church and/or its surroundings to me at quaintonnews@gmail.com

Thank you!
Louisa, Editor

VILLAGE CALENDAR – DECEMBER 2023

1st & 8th December:	Christmas trees for sale at QMH carpark, p.21
2nd December:	Churchyard Clear up, 10am-12 noon, p3 Community Choir Concert, 4pm, QMH, p.9 Zest Christmas Party, p.7
5/12/19th Dec:	Tots, Toys & Tea Toddler Group in Church 9-10am, p.13
9th December:	Senior Citizens' Christmas Party
10th & 17th Dec:	Christmas events at the Windmill, 10-12.30pm, p.17
14th December:	PC Meeting, 8pm, p.11
24th December:	Crib Service in church, meet on The Green at 2.45pm, p.23 Father Christmas Float around the village from 4.30pm Midnight Service in Church, 11.30pm Christmas Day Family Service, 10.30am in church
25th December:	Christmas Day Family Service, 10.30am in church
31st December:	New Year's Eve at the pub, p.15
1st January:	New Year's Day Concert in church, 11am
Future dates for your diary:	
February 2nd/3rd:	Quaintwood Players Treasure Island, p.7

Quainton News – The Parish Magazine and Village Newsletter

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