

QUAINTON ·NEWS·

THE PARISH MAGAZINE & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

quainton HARVEST AUCTION at THE GEORGE AND DRAGON

The Annual Quainton Harvest Auction

Friday 17th October at 7.32pm

Help the village's clubs, charities and societies raise funds at this fabulous annual event, which has been running for decades at the pub!

Come along and bid and/or bring a donation to be auctioned. From cakes and bakes, to wine and beer, vegetables and plants and so much more, you never know what you might end up taking home and it's such a fun night out!

More details on p.5 and p.23.

ISSUE NO. 604

OCTOBER 2025

WELCOME FROM HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH



Dear friends,

I must confess that although I have been ordained for decades, I never wore robes until coming to Quainton and Oving! I did start wearing all the correct liturgical colours and appropriate priestly wear from day one, out of respect for the traditions of the church. And quite right too.

However, people often associate the 'vicar stereotype' with wet fish handshakes, blue anoraks with orange quilted lining, 'Jesus Sandals', endless cups of tea and the eating of cucumber sandwiches every afternoon when visiting people! For me the amusing part comes when eyebrows are raised as I jump onto a motorbike, or play contemporary rock on my Fender Strat! Of course, there is nothing worse than a vicar trying to be trendy! Conversely, it's rather disconcerting when other people try to fit you inside their own expectations of what they think you should be!

I have always felt at home in the villages because from day one, the wonderful people with whom I work, just expected me to be 'who I am' without the pressure of trying to live up to everyone's expectations. I am here, together with my dear wife Sarah, to build relationships, support community life, to be alongside people in the ups and downs of life, and to offer spiritual guidance and direction wherever I can.

On Saturday 18th October at 7.00pm, contemporary rock music hits our parish church, as I strap on my Fender Strat, Yamaha SG1000S, Ovation Balladeer, Irish Bouzouki, and Korg O1W Keyboard. I hope you feel you can support this concert to raise funds for the conservation work in Quainton and Oving churches. This concert will see the release of my tenth studio album, "Lighting The Beacons."

The whole concept of "Lighting The Beacons" has captured my imagination since reading Bishop Jill Duff's book of the same name. It is inspirational and motivational. In the film "The Return of the King" (2003), Peter Jackson's remarkable interpretation of Tolkien's Lord Of The Rings books, there's an iconic sequence showing the beacons flaring one by one across the mountains. Pippin Took, one of the four hobbits who leave the Shire with Frodo at the start of the first film in the trilogy, climbs up and secretly lights the first beacon at Minas Tirith to call for help. Visually, it's one of the most striking sequences in the film.

It's the little people who make the biggest difference! Same today. Inspiring! Beacons can signal danger, call for help or announce a celebration. I remember standing on Mill Hill, Quainton, as the Beacon was lit at the Platinum Jubilee of our late Queen Elizabeth II to celebrate her 70 year reign. Beacons inspire me. They should inspire us all because we all play our part in making a difference in a world of need - we light the beacons.

God bless, and look forward to meeting you over tea and cucumber sandwiches!

Rev Steve

Holy Cross & St Mary's, 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 OCTOBER ISSUE



Louisa Richards, Editor
quaintonnews@gmail.com

Hello everyone,

As usual, it's a busy and social month ahead here for the residents of Quainton!

Of note, we have the infamous Harvest Auction, which has been running for decades (for so long, in fact, that no one really knows when it started!), plus, the primary school is running a Bingo Night; Vicar Steve has his concert in church, there's a Christmas Craft Fair raising money for RUSH Kenya; and there are also a handful of AGMs and, of course, there's Harvest Festival in church.

There's a whole host of goings on at the pub and at the railway too. Put that kettle on, and settle down for a read of your parish magazine!

Enjoy the read!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'Louisa'.

QN Advertising 2026

The advertising renewal activity for the next advertising year is due to get underway towards the end of October and I'll be issuing an email with details of the cost to all existing advertisers. If you are an existing advertiser, please reply to the email by the deadline specified to confirm whether or not you wish to continue advertising.

Thank you for your support – it would be great to get this completed before Christmas!

Melanie Curtis

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH

October is a busy month in church

We start with Harvest Festival on Sunday 5th October, which is followed by a Bring & Share Supper.

Then, on Sunday 12th October, we have a Memorial Service to remember those we have loved and lost.

Our Vicar Steve then has his concert in church on Saturday 18th October.

We end the month with a traditional Choral Evensong on Sunday 26th October.

We also have several other services, including morning services and Holy Communion – please check the services list on the inside back page.

We look forward to welcoming you in church soon.

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Quainton HARVEST AUCTION

at THE GEORGE AND DRAGON
Friday 17th October

Starting at 7.32 pm

Donations of produce etc. will be gratefully received
and may be taken to the George and Dragon at any
time on Friday.

Please come along and join in the fun, all proceeds go to local
deserving causes.

Telephone bids will be accepted!





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2025 Quainton Heavy Onion Competition, founded 1982

Dave Raynor retains the Cup

In a year of low weights Dave came out on top again with an onion a full 2 pounds less than his 2024's 7lb 6 oz champion. In fact, most entries were down on last year, with four 'no lifts', except for two who bucked the trend. Kathryn and Tim Friedlander claimed the Silver Salver having jumped up 23 ounces – by finally moving the plants into sunlight and sharing 3rd place with Darren Raynor on 3lbs 14ozs. Steph and Carl Toop leapt up by a magnificent 6 ounces to 10oz, missing out on the pickling vinegar which went to Libby Thomas's 6oz effort, which was at least an improvement on last year's 'no lift'. Coming up Station Road, Tony Read, a multiple winner over the years, was in the lead at 4lbs 6ozs until we reached Northend and he was demoted into second spot.

A new entrant, Joe Hall, eventually brought his 3lbs 6oz onion into the village having successfully navigated his way around the joy that is HS2: a very creditable first attempt. In fact, a very good effort by everyone considering the four heatwaves that we enjoyed.

Normally, the annual reports finish by inviting entries for next year's competition. However, after 21 years of propagating the onion plants, Bob has decided to call it a day and retire. He would be happy to continue with the administration of the competition with Ruth's help, but would like someone else to propagate the plants please and if they want to take on the organising of this annual competition that's fine too. Please email: Ruth and Bob at: rbleasdale@quainton.info or Jim Styles at: jstyles@hotmail.co.uk

Fingers crossed entry forms will be available next March.

The Over 50s Monthly Lunch at the George & Dragon

12.30pm on Wednesday 15th October

£15 per head for two courses

Mains:

Beef and vegetable casserole, herb dumpling and baked potato GF

Root vegetable casserole, herb dumpling and baked potato GF

Puddings:

Rice pudding and jam GF or

Banana split GF



Booking and menu choice is essential by Friday 10th October

Come and join us, all welcome, on the third Wednesday of every month. All choices gluten free adaptable. To book please contact Mary McDermott on 01296 658128 or email: mmcdermott2712@gmail.com, please do not contact the pub.



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



We offer all day childcare to 2, 3 and 4 year olds as well as after school care. We have a wonderful outdoor space with a variety of resources to keep children stimulated, learning and having fun!

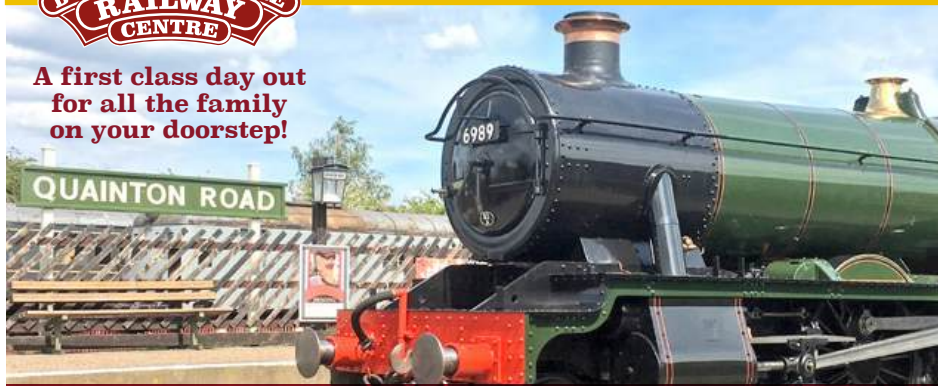
We pride ourselves on our friendly welcoming atmosphere and believe this is key to ensuring children feel 'at home' and have the best chance at thriving in our care.

Contact Kerry or Pam on 07495 030325

★ gumbootsandroots@gmail.com ★



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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!

The background of the poster is a vibrant orange with a radial sunburst pattern emanating from the center. Scattered around the edges are several colorful bingo balls (yellow, purple, green, blue, orange) and fragments of bingo cards with numbers. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold red and white fonts.

**Quinton School PTA
Presents**

BINGO NIGHT

SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER
Quinton School Hall
Doors open at 5.30pm

Bar - Pizza - Snacks
Fun - Cash Prizes!

For more information email quinton.pta@gmail.com

QUANTON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



Chair: Ben Harris **Vice Chair:** Sue Weldon

Councillors: Nick Butler, Peter Woodliffe-Thomas, Martin Pacetti, Sarah Smith

Clerk: Helen Hudson

To contact the council use the Contact Form on the website: <https://quinton.org.uk/contact-us> or contact the clerk 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

The last Meeting of the Council was held on **12th September 2025**

NEXT MEETING: 9th October at 6.30pm in the Memorial Hall

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

The Chairman's Report:



Dear Residents,

Quinton Parish Council is back from its August recess and hitting the ground running with the projects we are driving forward. Autumn is fast approaching, and with the noticeable change in weather, you'll soon see increased street cleaning activity from our contractors to keep our roads and paths safe for everyone.

As many of you may know, I recently met with the Thames Valley Police Crime Prevention Officer, who offered great support and follow-up actions. In response to recent thefts, we'll be hosting a tool tagging session at Quinton Memorial Hall alongside Thames Valley Police, where you'll be able to tag everything from electrical tools to farm machinery. We will also provide contact details of the crime prevention officer to local farmers and landowners. While the date is yet to be finalised, we'll keep you informed as soon as it's confirmed. The council encourages everyone to take necessary precautions, so please be vigilant, look after your property, and avoid inadvertently advertising valuable items.

Cllr Weldon and I also met with our PCSO team to tackle speeding and other criminal activity. We have completed the theory training and are preparing to finish the practical training required to become fully operational. We will soon launch the Quinton Parish Council Speed Watch Group, and I want to thank all volunteers who have come forward so far. If you're interested in joining, please contact the council through the usual channels.

To help reduce speeding and make our roads safer, the Speed Indicator Displays around the village will now show red when speeds exceed 20 MPH. The legal limit remains 30 MPH, but this measure has been approved by the council to encourage safer driving, with the trial running until April 2026.

I'd also like to highlight that crime in Quainton remains relatively low compared to surrounding areas, which is something we can be proud of. That said, we will continue to pursue crime prevention efforts to keep our community safe.

Unfortunately, we were unable to pass the 4-year plan strategy at the recent council meeting due to some elements still needing final refinement. We aim to have this document completed and ready for implementation by the end of October 2025.

We've received three quotes from contractors for the Multi Use Games Area. These will be reviewed and finalised by Full Council in October, with the successful contractor announced shortly after approval from Buckinghamshire County Council. This marks a significant step forward for this long-awaited project, and I look forward to sharing a timetable of works once approvals are complete.

In addition, we've been busy updating the Upper Street Play Park now the lease has been fully negotiated. Funded by the Parish Council and the Fireworks Committee, with extra funding to enhance safety, we expect the work to be finished by 1st October, despite some delays due to weather. We're excited to reopen the refreshed park for children and young people to enjoy.

Kind Regards

Cllr Benjamin Harris

Quainton Bonfire Night

Saturday 8th November on The Green

Quainton Parish Council Bonfire & Fireworks Committee is proud to present another amazing bonfire and fireworks extravaganza on Saturday 8th November on The Green.

Pre-purchased wristbands will be £8 (under 5s free) and will be on sale from Quainton village shop from Saturday 4th October.

Entry on the night will be £10 per person (under 5s free).

Gates open at 6pm.

Bonfire and fireworks from 7pm.

As usual, the Sports Club will run a BBQ, the PTA will run a bar on The Green and there will be plenty of other food stalls to tempt you.

We look forward to seeing you all!

Ian, Pete, Tim, Steve and Warren
Quainton Parish Council Bonfire & Fireworks Committee

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HAIR BY KIM

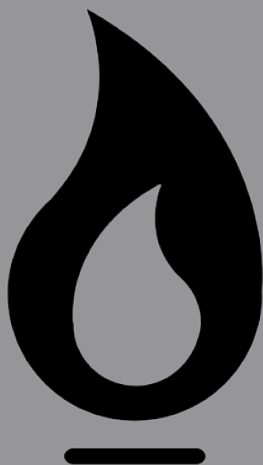
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Quainton Football Club – The Season has Begun!

Quainton FC kicked off their season with a hard-fought 1–1 draw against Thame C.

After falling 1–0 behind, the team showed real character to battle back. Harry Collins produced a superb 20-yard strike into the top corner, with Harry Andrews providing the assist. Quainton continued to create plenty of chances and were unfortunate not to take all three points, with a late headed effort from Harry Andrews being controversially ruled out.

Manager Mike was pleased to see the lads get off the mark with a point, praising the strong team spirit throughout the match.

Congratulations go to Wilson Hall, who was voted Supporters' Man of the Match after covering every blade of grass and giving everything for the team.

A special thank you goes to George at the George & Dragon for sponsoring us this season and for providing fantastic after-match food – it's hugely appreciated by everyone at the club. Thank you also to the Quainton football family for the brilliant support – it makes a real difference to the players.

Please follow us on Facebook for upcoming fixtures!

We look forward to seeing plenty of local support at the games.





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Quainton Carpet Bowls

Wednesday evenings in the Memorial Hall

7.30pm–9.30pm approx.

Come and join in and “have a go” for free! No experience necessary!

It isn't serious, we only play for fun and an evening out with friends and neighbours.

Meet new neighbour, Justin...

When new businesses arrive in Quainton, I think it is nice to let the community know, so with that in mind, let me introduce you to Justin:

Hello, my name is Justin, and I'm excited to announce that I've recently moved to Quainton with my wife and two children, bringing my business 'Patio Revive' with me.

For the past 15 years, I have been based in Fairford Leys, where I built strong ties with the community and helped countless homeowners restore and maintain their outdoor spaces. Now, I'm looking forward to getting to know the people of Quainton and offering the same trusted services here.

At Patio Revive, we specialise in patio and driveway cleaning and treatments, roof de-mossing and treatments, and gutter clearance – along with a range of other outdoor cleaning and maintenance solutions. Our goal is to help keep your home's exterior looking its best, while also protecting it from long-term damage.

I'm really looking forward to meeting my new neighbours, becoming part of village life, and providing a friendly, reliable service to the community. If you see me around, please do say hello, and if you'd like to find out more about what I can offer, I'd be delighted to have a chat.

Best regards,

Justin, Patio Revive

(Justin's new advert is on p.24)

Royal British Legion

POPPY APPEAL WHIST DRIVE

QUAINTON MEMORIAL HALL

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Time for lunch and a chat with friends old and new

Venue: Holy Cross and St Mary's church, Quainton

Re-starting Tuesday September 9th, then Tuesdays after... 12-1.30pm

Come for free soup lunch, cake and a hot drink. Everyone welcome!

Please let us know if you are coming along to the first session so we have an idea for catering, and please tell us if you have any food allergies/intolerances.

Travel arrangements also available

Phone Claire or John on 01296 655552, or message/call: 07564086949

If you are willing to help for an hour on a rota basis, welcoming, serving and washing up (and a free lunch) please let us know.

Supported by Quainton Parish Council and Quainton PCC
and the John Laing Charitable Trust

2025 Year of Hope

Quainton School PTA News

After a wonderfully warm Summer, welcome back to a new academic year and a new target for the PTA! The school have asked us to support them with replacing some tired Chromebooks for use by the students in class.

We hope to make a good start by hosting a bingo night at the school hall. We promise you plenty of bingo, a well stocked bar, pizza, cash prizes and normal-sized chairs! Join us on Saturday 18th October, doors open 5.30pm. See our poster on p.9.

Another date for your diary:

The PTA Annual General Meeting will take place on 7th October at 7pm at Quainton School.



Whitchurch WI

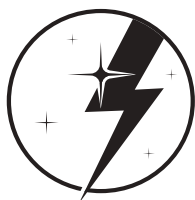
Next Meeting:

Christmas Tree Decorations: Come and help create tree decorations for this year's farm themed display at Oving church. Bring along your old button supplies to make wheels!

Please join us at St. John's Church Hall, Whitchurch on Tuesday 7th October from 7.30pm

Visitors warmly welcome on the night (£5)

For further info contact: whitchurchwibucks@gmail.com



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Milling Expressions Used Today!

Milling has been important to everyone's lives through the years. You may not have known the connection, but here are a number of expressions that originated in mills and have survived for centuries.

How many have you heard in recent times and how many have you in fact used yourself without knowing the meaning!?

"Three Sheets to the Wind"

Early windmills used canvas sheets to cover the sails. If the miller managed to cover only three of the four sails, before a gust of wind caused the sails to start turning, they would be unbalanced, and would begin to wobble. Thus, the term is applied to drunkards.

"Show Your Metal"

Millstones had to be "dressed" regularly, and itinerant workers would do this skilled work. An experienced stone dresser would have blackened hands and arms from the embedded fragments of grit and metal from the tools used in this work.

"Keep Your Nose to the Grindstone"

Assessing if the flour was too hot?

"Rule of Thumb"

Is the flour too course?

"Run of the Mill"

Flour of the required quality.

"Grind to a Halt"

No wind, and so the millstones would stop.

"Put Your Shoulder to the Grindstone"

Miller rotating an entire post-mill by pushing the tail-pole.

Visit the windmill, any Sunday morning between 10.00 & 12.30. It is one of only 40 working windmills in the UK.



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What's on at The G&D

I'm sure time is disappearing faster than sound the last couple of months, how I'm writing this thinking about October is beyond me. Early October is pretty quiet but the end of October sees the start of all things autumnal.



The trial for opening on Monday nights is now over and unless we have an event on, we will not be open on Mondays. However, I am going to bring something back that we haven't done for some time... BINGO! It's been some time since Bingo has been in the pub so let's see how things go, maybe it can become a regular event again.

Monday 6th October: Eyes down 7pm - the return of Bingo! 5 games and 1 round of stand-up bingo will be the format. Cash prizes for line and house; the more people the higher the prize money! Pub open to all from 6pm.

Saturday 11th October: Darts knockout £5 entry, all welcome. First darts 7pm knock out stages 501 (1 game) semi-final 301 (best of 3) final (501 best of 3) entries will be pulled at random for the knock out stages. Entries by 6.45pm!

Monday 13th October: Brush party. If you haven't been to one yet they come highly recommended. You don't even have to know one end of the paintbrush from the other, its all taught step by step. Book online at www.brushparty.co.uk Pub open to all from 6pm.

Friday 17th October: Harvest Auction! This annual event by tradition starts at 7.32. If you have something to auction (your time, produce, home made items, we have previously auctioned a bike!) please bring to the pub from 10am on Friday. If you haven't attended, you must get it in your diary. It's a great village event raising money for all village clubs, groups and charities. Are you an organiser of a non-profit group? Why not get your attendees to bring items in and create a hamper clearly marked with the group's name so we can mention on the night. Viewing from 6.30pm. Sniks catering will be with us to provide warming food 5–8.30pm. ALL ITEMS BOUGHT MUST BE PAID FOR AND COLLECTED ON THE NIGHT!!

Saturday 25th October: Live music from Ed Cusick (8pm) his first time at the pub but has performed locally at Booby Trap and the Five Arrows. We will also be joined by We Will Wok You street food van 5 – 8.30pm.

Monday 27th October: Quiz Night returns starting at 7pm. This month's charity is Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Friday 31st October & Saturday 1st November: Fine dining returns. A menu of autumnal flavours, light spices and maybe wines to match, (lamb, pumpkin and white chocolate all feature). Bookings being taken now!

15th November: Music by Kel Billy Stomp. Snax of India (who were here on VJ day)

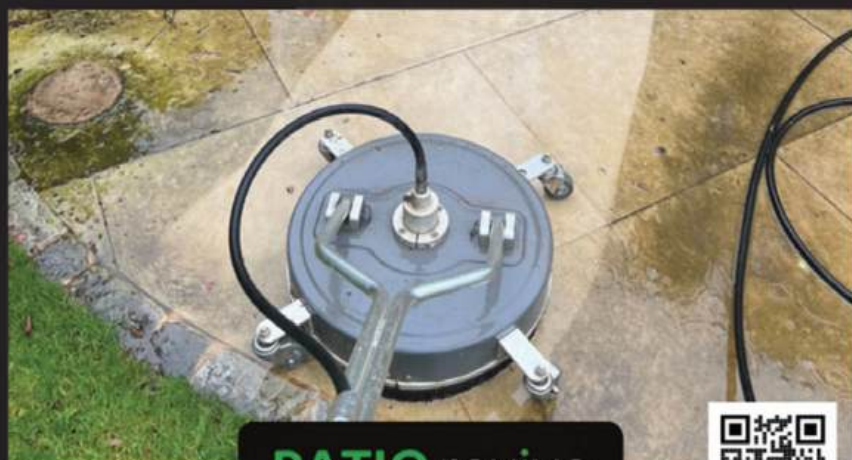
21st November: Christmas menu starts. Please get your dates booked for your Christmas Get Togethers as the diary is filling fast!

30th November: Jamie Felton. Step into Christmas Sunday session

21st February: Charity event hosted by the G&D at the Railway Centre. Featuring Alvin, Soundproof and maybe one more. Including food and pay bar.

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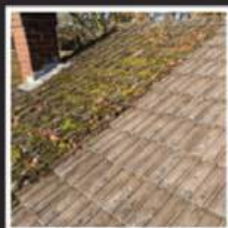
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Did you hear our exciting news? Our beautiful steam loco *Wightwick Hall* (pictured below) has been chosen to play the role of the iconic locomotive for the Hogwarts Express in the highly anticipated Harry Potter television series!

Having been rescued by our volunteers from a scrapyard over 40 years ago, we gave her a full restoration and now she will play the role of one of the most iconic steam engines in the world! It's a real rags-to-riches story! *Wightwick Hall* has undergone a new paint job for the role (her original livery is green!) and she has recently completed her first filming session with HBO.

She will be returning home to Quainton for a short time this month and visitors to the Railway Centre on two special Steaming Days – Sunday 5th and Sunday 19th October – will be treated to passenger rides pulled by the TV star herself. This will be the first time the public has ever seen her in her shiny new red livery! *Wightwick Hall* will return to the film set in 2026. As always, Quainton residents can get a 25% discount with proof of address. She'll be arriving in Quainton by low loader very soon - so keep a look out!

What's on at The Railway this month:

Sunday 5th October: **Steaming Day with Wightwick Hall**

11th & 12th Oct: **Day Out With Thomas**

Sunday 19th October: **Steaming Day with Wightwick Hall**

Sunday 26th October: **Steaming Day**

NIGHT FRIGHT: Fri 31st October and Sat 1st November

Do you dare?! If so, come to our evening event Night Fright with more scare mazes than before! Plus, enjoy the live band, tarot card readings and a bar. Recommended for over-16s only. Must be pre-booked. Call to get your Quainton discount on 01296 655720. (Not included in the Quainton Pass).

PANTO EXPRESS:

Our sell-out Christmas event is on sale. Starting 29th November, this year's mini-Panto is Aladdin. Come and meet Father Christmas on a steam train, see Mrs Claus and the Elves in Santa's workshop. Use your 25% Quainton discount – must be pre-booked. Call 655720 or pop down. (Not included in the Quainton Pass).

More info at: www.bucksrailcentre.org





QGS October Gardening Tips

Get your garden autumn-ready with these seasonal must-dos!

Planting & Prep:

Spring Bulbs: Plant daffodils, crocuses, tulips, and fritillaries for a cheerful spring display

Evergreens & Hedges:

It's the ideal time to plant conifers and evergreen shrubs while the soil is still warm.

Garlic & Onions:

Pop garlic cloves and autumn onion sets into well-drained soil for next summer's harvest.

Maintenance & Protection

Lift Tender Plants:

Dig up cannas, dahlias, and chocolate cosmos to store indoors before frost hits.

Wrap Up:

Protect banana plants and tree ferns with fleece or straw.

Raise Containers:

Elevate pots to prevent waterlogging—use bricks or pot feet.

Fruit & Veg Care

Harvest & Store:

Finish picking beans, tomatoes, and pumpkins—store in cool, dry spots

Cut Back:

Trim asparagus, Jerusalem artichokes, and raspberry canes

Wildlife & Sustainability

Collect Seeds:

Save seeds from hardy perennials like astrantia and achillea for next year.

Mulch Beds:

Use compost or leaf mould to insulate soil and feed microbes.



Christmas Craft Fair

Gifts

Food

Craft

Cake
raffle

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Christmas shopping without
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**Sunday 16th November
11 am - 2 pm, Quainton Church
Refreshments available
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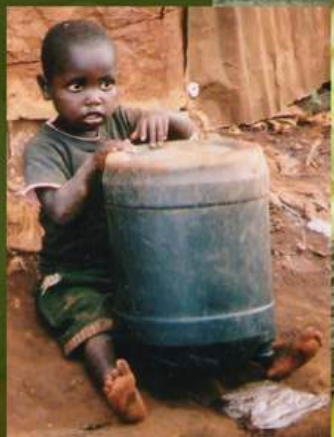
A decorative header featuring a close-up of fresh vegetables, including a large red bell pepper, a sliced tomato, and a green leaf, set against a rustic wooden background.

Quainton Church

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Sunday, Oct 5th at 6.00pm
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(ADMISSION £4 TO NON-MEMBERS)

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IN QUAINTON MEMORIAL HALL

AT 7.30PM

(NOTE AGM AFTER THE SPEAKER)

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Quainton Golf Society Results

The event for August was the Captain's v. Vice Captain's Matchplay challenge event at The Springs Golf Club near Wallingford.



We were not blessed with the high temperatures and unbroken sun that we have experienced for most of the Summer, but we did get lucky with the weather as the early morning rain ceased just as we started, and we only had a couple of very short light showers despite the ominous grey clouds and afternoon rumblings of thunder.

The match saw a very narrow win for Vice Captain Darren Knibb's team over Captain Brian Cuddy's team by 6.5 to 5.5.

The full results were as follows:

Captain's Team player shown first	Result
Brian Cuddy lost to Darren Knibb	2 & 1
Brian Cuddy lost to Vince Hemsley	2 & 1
Neil Richards lost to Billy Bacchus	1 Up
Phil Hughes lost to Dave Clouting	3 & 1
Terry Curtis lost to Chris Rymer	4 & 2
Mark Hughes beat Steve Mitchell jnr	1 Up
John Jones beat Steve Curran	6 & 4
Mike York beat Dave Payne	3 & 1
Mark Carter beat Jamie Carlin	3 & 2
Ali Whitehead and Keith Payne	All Square
Alan Hughes lost to John Lucas	2 & 1
Andy Scott (guest) beat Joe Ward	5 & 4
Vice Captain's team win by 6.5 to 5.5	

The Afternoon's Texas Scramble was won by the team of Terry Curtis, Chris Rymer, Mark Hughes and Steve Mitchell Junior.

Captain's Prize of longest drive with a hickory stick driver was won by Mike York
Our next event is The Hammond Trophy at Buckingham Golf Club on Friday 31st October.

For more information about joining the Society please contact Vince Hemsley on 07427555656 or vince.hemsley63@virginmedia.com

Ramblings from Finemere Wood by Charlotte Karmali, Volunteer Warden

And just like that, the long scorching summer of 2025 came to a close. The heavens opened and the rain came tumbling down, the parched earth absorbing it greedily. Within days, the sunburnt rides of Finemere Wood flushed green once more, and woodland workers could be seen huddled together beneath the trees as yet another downpour swept through.

In amongst this flock of volunteers is Philippa, who has a permanent smile on her face whilst in the woods. She first appeared in Finemere in 2015 at an event to mark the inaugural National Coppice Day. By her side, her three young children. Having spent much time volunteering for BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) in her student years, she was keen to introduce her offspring to this way of life.



Recovering from cancer treatment and with an extended period of sick leave stretching ahead of her, Philippa was absorbed into the Finemere team. Like many of us, she discovered a quiet refuge amongst the trees. Thoughts of illness faded as her attention shifted to the tasks at hand, to shared purpose, to the quiet pride of completing something together, the gentle support of others unfaltering.

After studying Geography at university, Philippa followed a diverse career path, taking on roles as varied as mortgage advisor, teaching assistant, Nordic walking instructor, and university admissions officer. Ever adaptable. Ever resourceful.

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Sick leave came to an end, and Philippa felt the wrench from leaving the woods behind as she returned to the demands of full-time work. Still, she found her way back to Finemere whenever she could, working longer hours during the week just to carve out time for that essential escape to the solace in the wood. She rejected the confines of the running track, finding freedom and challenge in cross-country running. In her forties she ran the London Marathon, though, by her own admission, once was enough!

Her favourite Finemere activities and why? Scything and bonfires. There is quiet mindfulness to scything, its steady rhythm offering both focus and calm. It keeps you in the present moment, and you can see clearly what you have achieved. Managing bonfires, likewise, keeps you anchored in the moment, and its raw elemental power is grounding.

Her favourite wild species? The stonechat. Why? Because it is a unique birdsong that she can recognise. Wherever she hears it, it reminds her of the first time she heard it – at Finemere.

Nine years later, the cancer returns, more treatment, more sick leave. But her woodland family is still here, she joins us for tea, bonfire potatoes, cake, whenever well enough to do so. The overwhelming sense of isolation that illness brings dissipates through the connection with others in the place we all love.

And, now well again, Philippa has embraced her “make the most of life era”, trading work for adventures that make her feel alive: coastal walks, whizzing down lochs in canoes and a camper van, aptly named Bluebell. The summer has been spent travelling to beauty spots around the British Isles, for time alone, under the stars, cocooned by nature, connecting with others on similar adventures. The joy that Bluebell has brought her is contagious, woodland workers sharing in the excitement as Philippa rolls into Finemere with her new companion.

“So, tell me something not many people know about you,” I ask. “My youngest daughter was born in a farm gateway, in a patch of daisies,” she replies. And somehow, that doesn’t surprise me at all.

For further information about volunteering opportunities at Finemere Wood, and other BBOWT reserves, please email volunteering@bbowt.org.uk.



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James Lucas and Rose Bourne

On 28th June 2025, the wedding of James Lucas and Rose Bourne took place at Holy Cross & St Mary's Church. This was a small and intimate service for close family only, with a more formal wedding ceremony planned for August (photo below right), which took place in the mountains near Malaga, and which was officiated by the Groom's father, John Lucas.

At the service here in Quainton, the bride, Rose Bourne, daughter of Rick and Anne Bourne from near Harrogate, wore a floral cream dress and carried a bouquet of silk flowers made by her mother. She was attended by her sister Olivia Taylor, and her nieces Grace and Lara Taylor.

The Groom, James Lucas, grew up in the village. His Best Man was James Taylor and his sister, Stephanie Lucas, played music and did a reading.

White silk roses were wound round the choir stalls where the ceremony took place; and Steph Toop lent the pew flowers she had made and recently used at her daughter's wedding (something borrowed!) Rev Steve lead a wonderful service. Rose's Grandad Pete walked her down the aisle, and her cousin Jo flew over from Thailand especially to attend.

The reception was a small party for family and friends at QuaintFest, where they enjoyed a lovely picnic on the village green and listened to the live music. It was special day for all, blessed with good weather and wonderful entertainment!

The newly-weds enjoyed a mini-moon to San Antonio in Spain, and have a honeymoon to Asia planned for next year. Having met in Oxford, the couple have made their home in Maidenhead.

Congratulations James and Rose!





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Quainton Garden Society AGM Notification

Dear QGS Members & Quainton Residents,

We're delighted to share that all our events and trips this year have been wonderfully supported—especially the Annual Produce Show held last month. It's been heartening to welcome a few new members, and we hope the success of these events inspires more of you to get involved in the future.

We warmly invite you to attend our upcoming Annual General Meeting on Monday 17th November at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall. The evening will begin with a talk from the Lindon Gate Charity, Wendover, followed by the formal AGM proceedings.

- ◎ Free entry for QGS members
- ◎ £2 entry for non-members (or why not use that to become a member?)
- ◎ Our Membership Secretary will be available on the night for new sign-ups and renewals.

This is a great opportunity to share your ideas with the committee—whether it's suggestions for talks, outings, or other gardening-related activities. We're especially keen to hear your thoughts on how we can encourage more young people to take part in next year's Produce Show.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes,

Allan Carter, Chairperson

Nomination of New Officers and Committee Members

If you wish to nominate someone for a position (ensuring they agree to having their name put forward) please complete this form and deliver to: Helen Hudson-Butler, 119 Station Road or by email to HUDSONBUTLERH@GMAIL.COM

Nominee name:

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Nominated by:

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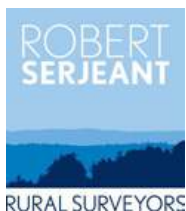
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QUINTON MEMORIAL HALL

Calendar of Activities

Detailed below are the regular weekly activities in Quainton Memorial Hall. As there may be breaks for holidays etc, 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)	10:00 - 14:30
	Craft Club (Conference Room)	14:00 - 16:30
Tuesday	Ukulele Group (Conference Room)	09:30 - 12:30
	Pilates (Main Hall)	10:30 - 11:30
	Art Club (Conference Room)	13:30 - 16:30
	Pilates (Main Hall)	17:30 - 18:30
Wednesday	Bridge (Main Hall)	13:00 - 17:00
	Carpet Bowls (Main Hall)	19:00 - 22:00
Thursday	Coffee Morning (Main Hall)	10:30 - 12:00 – just turn up!
	Badminton (Main Hall)	19:00 - 21:30
Friday	Community Choir (Main Hall)	10:00 - 12:00
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

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WEATHER FIGURES FOR QUANTON



Mike Beales has supplied the weather figures to me for years, but is currently having trouble with his instruments, which he has found are not recording totally accurately at the moment. So he is having to stop providing the figures to me. Is there anyone else out there who can supply similar figures for us each month? If so, please get in touch, quaintonnews@gmail.com

Huge thanks to Mike for producing these interesting results for us each month for so long!



Whitchurch WI

October meeting:
Christmas Tree Decorations:

Come and help create tree decorations for this year's farm themed display at Oving church. Bring along your old button supplies to make wheels!

Please join us at St. John's Church Hall, Whitchurch on Tuesday 7th October from 7.30pm. Visitors warmly welcome on the night (£5)

For further info contact: whitchurchwibucks@gmail.com



Quanton Tennis Club

Lee Road, Quanton, HP22 4BH (at the end of the village, next to the football pitch)

Friendly social tennis for all ages and ability

Members can book a court whenever they want or come along to any of these sessions:

Tuesday mornings: Mixed Social Tennis 9.30am - 11.00am
Tuesday evenings: Group Coaching 7.00pm - 8.00pm (all welcome)
Thursday evenings: Ladies Social Tennis Ladies 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Men's Social Tennis 8.00pm - 9.00pm
Friday evenings: Men's Match Practice 7.00pm
Saturday mornings: Mixed Social Tennis 10.30am

Non-members: Courts available on pay and play basis, contact John Lucas
01296-655552 or e-mail quaintontennis@gmail.com

Team practice and County/District league matches for competitive players

Individual and group tennis coaching available at Quanton contact James Woodward
07834 826130 or info@jwcoaching.com

Membership Enquiries: e-mail quaintontennis@gmail.com



GARDENING AMBITIONS

Gardening, Fencing and Tree care

Gardening services

- Hedge cutting
- Grass cutting (pedestrian and ride on)
 - Paddock flail mowing
 - Garden tidys
 - Lawn care
- Garden clearances
 - Turfing

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GARDENING AMBITIONS

October Edition 2025 – HS2 in Quainton

Works in your area

Earthworks to construct Bicester Road Embankment are continuing at pace. This embankment will carry HS2 over the area between Fleet Marton and the Waddesdon South Cutting, over where the A41 used to be. It features several culverts and the Waddesdon Greenway bridge crossing, the abutments for which have been built.

At the Waddesdon South Cutting, we are continuing with topsoiling the sides of the cutting ready for planting later in the year. Near Wayside Farm and Waddesdon North Cutting, we have also been installing drainage ditches for landscaping features in the area.

At Putlowes overbridge and the Thame Valley Viaduct, we're installing precast concrete parapets, to form the barriers on either side of the structures. The Thame Valley Viaduct, an 880m long structure which will carry HS2 over the river Thame and surrounding floodplain, now has the first 140 out of 716 parapet sections installed, with around 44% of the concrete deck now poured.

Our Aylesbury HS2 Autumn Newsletter will be published in October, containing further updates on the main works in your area and local community projects we have delivered. You can still download a copy of our current summer newsletter online here: <https://www.hs2.org.uk/work-items/summer-2025-newsletter-aylesbury/>

One of the best ways to see the progress we are making on site is from our aerial footage. Scan the QR code below to view the latest HS2 works in your area.



Upcoming and ongoing works

Details of the upcoming and ongoing work around your area are shown below:

- Along the A41 Bicester Road, permanent signage installation is expected in autumn 2025, which will involve periods of traffic management. The dates for these works are yet to be confirmed.
- Station Road South traffic management 29 Sept to 3 Oct 2025 for de-vegetation works.
- Along the A41 Bicester Road we will be receiving delivery of 2 abnormal lorry loads for the Waddesdon Greenway bridge deck, which will arrive in 2 halves and be assembled on site. This delivery will happen overnight on 7/8 October via Waddesdon.
- The Grendon Underwood Public Right of Way or PRoWs (GUN 28) will remain open every Sunday until 30 November 2025 8.00am until 7.00pm and from 1 December 2025 to 28 February 2026 8.00am to 4.00pm.
- Station Road North, 2-way lights in place to safely manage the traffic flow and will continue until the eastern side of the new road realignment which leads onto Fiddlers Field Road, opens at the end of January 2026.

Continued overleaf



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Continued from previous page

- The closure on Shipton Lee to enable the alignment of the new road over the new Edgcott Road overbridge will be completed by late February 2026.
- Fiddlers Field will remain closed until the new Station Road re-alignment opens in April 2026.

Please check the HS2 website for regular updates and note that dates for planned works may change.

Community Engagement Activities

As we move into autumn, we near the end of this year's very busy program of community engagement events. There is still time to come and speak with us, as we host the final drop-in events for 2025 in October:

- Wednesday 8th October, 1pm to 3.30pm, Poundon Sow and Pigs car park
- Wednesday 8th October, 4pm to 7pm, Marsh Gibbon village hall car park
- Thursday 16th October, 10am to 3pm, Aylesbury Town Centre market square

We are committed to positively supporting local communities wherever opportunities are available. During the Summer, EKFB worked in partnership with our sub-contractor Clancy to build a running track at Broughton Junior School in Aylesbury. Students can now enjoy using this outdoor space to enhance their well-being (see Figure 1 below).



*Broughton Junior School,
the finished running track*

Did you know that funding for community projects is available through the HS2 Community and Environment Fund (CEF) and the Business and Local Economy Fund (BLEF)? Since 2018, £1,450,000 has been awarded across 14 different projects in the Aylesbury area alone. Schools, sports clubs, youth groups and community organisations have all successfully applied for this HS2 funding.

You can find out more about this by following this link [Community and business funding - HS2](#). Since 2017 HS2 awarded over £18m funding across the project.

We recommend signing up to our mailing list and checking the HS2 events page for future events in your area. If you would like to talk to us and find out more. Alternatively, if you would like to book onto a site tour then please contact the HS2 helpdesk, HS2Enquiries@hs2.org.uk.

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 this QR code. 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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QUANTON NEWS

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

• • • *Quainton News* copy deadline: 16th of the month • • •

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 residents, for example, needing a lift to a doctor's appointment. Call Alison on 01296 655033 or Claire 655552.

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.

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

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

REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Monday 6th October	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 13th October	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin **Brown Garden Waste Bin**
Monday 20th October	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 27th October	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin **Brown Garden Waste Bin**
Monday 3rd November	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin

Extra recycling items collected at 13 Winwood Drive: Batteries, light bulbs, water filter cartridges, printer ink cartridges, spectacles, bras, used postage stamps, coffee pods, empty medicine blister packs.



LOOKING FOR A NEW HAIRDRESSER?

The Room at Berryfields is more than just a salon, it's a community of talented hair stylists who share a passion for creating stunning hair and unforgettable experiences. At the heart of everything we do is our team, a group of dedicated professionals who bring creativity, expertise, and warmth to every client interaction.

Our journey began with the dream of building a space where stylists could thrive and clients could feel at home. From humble beginnings as a home salon, The Room at Number Four quickly grew thanks to the overwhelming support of our wonderful clients. In 2020, we expanded to The Room at Berryfields, a larger salon designed to provide a welcoming environment for both our team and our clients.

Our team members are the cornerstone of our success.

Each stylist brings their own unique flair and expertise, working together to ensure that every client leaves feeling confident and cared for. We believe in nurturing creativity, fostering growth, and providing a supportive environment where our team can achieve a healthy work-life balance.

At The Room at Berryfields, we believe great hair isn't just about looking good, it's about feeling incredible. Our highly skilled stylists are passionate about creating stunning, bespoke looks that enhance your natural beauty and reflect your personality.

Whether you crave a daring transformation or a subtle refresh, we take the time to listen, advise, and craft a style that's uniquely YOU.

 The Room at Berryfields
 [theroomatberryfields](https://www.instagram.com/theroomatberryfields)
 theroomatberryfields.com

 01296 322427

 Unit 7, Goodchild Parkway, Berryfields, Aylesbury, HP18 0PE



SERVICES AT HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH

Sunday 5th October:	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am	Prayer Breakfast
	6.00pm	Harvest Festival followed by Bring & Share Supper
Sunday 12th October:	9.30am	Morning Service
	6.00pm	Memorial Service for those we have loved and lost
Sunday 19th October:	6.00pm	Holy Communion
Sunday 26th October:	9.30am	Morning Service
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong

PARISH REGISTER ENTRIES

Monday 1st September:	Burial of Ashes	Ian Rae
Saturday 6th September:	Wedding	Harriet Nickless & James Way
Thursday 11th September:	Burial of Ashes	Doris Butler
Saturday 20th September:	Wedding	Craig Blunt and Penni Cullip

CHURCH ROTAS

	5th October	12th October	19th October	26th October
Evening Reader				
Evening Sidesman				
Altar Flowers	Helen Foster	Kathy Blanchard	Penny Allen	Celia Prideaux
Pedestal Flowers	Viv Craker	Fiona Morrison	Fiona Morrison	Helen Radcliffe
Church Cleaning	Susan MacQuarrie, Marilyn Beales, Louise Woodliffe Thomas		Carol Cooper, Fiona Morrison, Margaret Willoughby and George	

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



We've had some wonderful rainbows over the village this month.

Penny Allen took this fabulous photo of a rainbow over our church!

If you would like to see your photo printed here, email your favourite photos of our church and/or its surroundings to me at quaintonnews@gmail.com

Thank you, Louisa

VILLAGE CALENDAR – OCTOBER 2025

For all pub dates, see p.23, Railway events on p.25 and Church service dates on p.55

5th October: **Wightwick Hall steaming day**, The Railway, 10.30am, p.25
Harvest Festival in Church, 6pm, p.28

9th October: **Parish Council** meeting, QMH, 6.30pm, p.11

14th October: **QVS AGM**, QMH, 7.30pm, p.29

15th October: **Over 50s Lunch**, The G&D, p.7

17th October: **Harvest Auction** at the G&D, 7.32pm, p.1/5/23

18th October: **Quainton School PTA Bingo Night** at school, 5.30pm, p.9

Revd Steve's concert in church, p.21

19th October: **Wightwick Hall steaming day**, The Railway, 10.30am, p.25

Save the Date: **Bonfire Night:** 8th November, p.11
Royal British Legion Whist Drive: 1st November, p.15
Christmas Craft Fair in Church: 16th November, p.27

Quainton News – The Parish Magazine and Village Newsletter

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