

# QUAINTON ·NEWS·

THE PARISH MAGAZINE & VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



**WADDSDON  
CE SCHOOL  
QUAINTON CONCERT**

St Mary's Church QUAINTON  
**FRIDAY 22nd MARCH**

## Waddesdon School Concert in Church

Enjoy a night of incredible live music from Waddesdon School's best singers and musicians raising funds for the school's music dept and our church. See p.7.

ISSUE NO. 587

MARCH 2024

## WELCOME FROM HOLY CROSS & ST MARY'S CHURCH



Dear friends,

I think it's true that we all have things that irritate us! For me, middle lane drivers on the motorway, potholes(!), trolleys at the supermarket where one wheel has a mind of its own, the table at a restaurant that has the wobbles, more potholes(!). I must confess, I do get irritated by people who say they don't believe in God when they have never actually taken the time to explore the historical, archaeological and mathematical evidence for themselves. For me, the question as to whether there is a God or not is the most important question of our time. If He exists, it changes everything. If He doesn't, we are all a product of random chance without any ultimate purpose other than to do the best we can, while we have our limited time on earth.

The Easter story according to Christians is astounding. It is also an essential and core belief in the life and work of the church and the faith of Christians. If anybody came up with credible evidence showing that Jesus was never raised from the dead, the worldwide church would collapse.

One of the many people who set out to disprove the resurrection and thus the Christian faith was a lawyer named Frank Morrison. Using his clever legal skills, he examined all the evidence he could find, including the writings of eye witness accounts, and the testimony of ancient historians writing at the time of Christ. He ended up publishing his findings in a book called, "Who Moved The Stone?" in which he confesses that he had become a Christian after being convinced from the evidence that Jesus did actually come back to life again on Easter Sunday.

Lee Strobel was a top flight investigative journalist. He also set out to disprove Christianity and interviewed scientists, archaeologists, historians and theologians in his quest to discredit Christian belief. He also ended up becoming a Christian and has since written a series of books the first of which was entitled, "The Case For Christ."

Dr Francis Collins is an eminent scientist who led research to decode human DNA as director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, yet he converted from atheism to Christianity after reading several books by C.S. Lewis including, "Mere Christianity." On becoming a Christian, he says, "I had made a decision to reject any faith view of the world without ever really knowing what it was that I had rejected. And I was supposed to be a scientist!"

Whatever view you take on the issue, Easter time is a great opportunity to explore the facts because if it's true, it has a huge implication for us today and gives us great hope for the future.

Happy Easter!

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](http://www.quaintonchurch.com) [www.ovingchurch.com](http://www.ovingchurch.com)

## WELCOME TO THE MARCH ISSUE



Louisa Richards, Editor  
quaintonnews@gmail.com

Hello everyone!

Check out the Village Calendar on the back page and you will see there are all sorts of things going on in March! Plus, on page 31, there's a whole page of news and events from the pub alone! As well as Waddesdon School's Big Gig Concert coming to our church this month, there are also lots of church services from Mothering Sunday to Easter; plus, we're celebrating 100 Years of Quainton's branch of the Royal British Legion! There's also a PTA Race Night fundraiser, a Girl Guides taster evening; and a Working Party at Quainton's Wild Garden behind the church. So much to choose from – please support all these amazing causes which make our village such a warm and wonderful place to live!

Enjoy the read,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Louisa'.

## NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH

**Waddesdon School singers and musicians are coming to our church for their popular concert! See p.7 for details!**

**Please see this month's Church Services – including Holy Week and Easter on p.39**

**Lent Walks: Give up the couch for Lent – established 1999**

Starting at 2:30pm from a Church near you starting on 18th February and linking the communities of the Schorne Team.

- |             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 3rd March:  | Oving – Granborough (2.4 miles)  |
| 10th March: | Granborough – Dunton (4.2 miles) |
| 17th March: | Dunton – Whitchurch (2.2 miles)  |
| 24th March: | Whitchurch – Weedon (2.4 miles)  |

Whilst HS2 continues to restrict “public right of way” along the Waddesdon to Quainton footpath, we'll start at Upper Winchendon Church on Sunday 18th February.

The walks are suitable for most ages. We walk at a leisurely pace, keeping to footpaths across fields and avoiding roads whenever possible. Each walk takes between 1½ to 2 hours. Participants should also think about co-ordinating transport to enable “safe” transfers back to the start of each walk.

A great way to meet some new and old friends. All are welcome. Contact Martin Wright: martinwright@gmail.com

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Warren's London Marathon Fundraiser at The Railway**

Saturday 27th April 2024

Tickets £10 each \*\*\* Live Band: The Spokes \*\*\* Bar and dancing!

Raising money for The Oxford Hospitals Charity

Email: [louisarichards@gmail.com](mailto:louisarichards@gmail.com) or call 07711 398289 for tickets

**At Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Station Road, Quainton, HP22 4BY**

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**Celebrating 100 Years of Quainton Royal British Legion!**

**Quainton Branch of The Royal British Legion  
invites you to an afternoon of Refreshments and  
Music by Winslow Concert Band  
to celebrate 100 Years of Quainton RBL!**

**Saturday 23rd March 2024 from 13:30 to 17:00  
at Quainton Memorial Hall**

**The afternoon will conclude with a short service of remembrance.**

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Phone: 07923 537874

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Monday to Friday 8am-6pm

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# WADDSDON CE SCHOOL QUAINTON CONCERT

St Mary's Church QUAINTON  
**FRIDAY 22nd MARCH**  
**7-9PM**

Enjoy a night of incredible live music from Waddesdon C of E School's best singers and musicians to raise funds for both Quainton Church and Waddesdon C of E School's Music Department



Adults £7 cash  
16 and under FREE  
Refreshments available during the interval (cash only)

Tickets available from David Leeming by pre-booking 07531005855 or at church door  
Cash only please



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](mailto:gumbootsandroots@gmail.com) ★



**A first class day out  
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### **See our news on p.23**

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[www.bucksrailcentre.org](http://www.bucksrailcentre.org)

### **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!



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## Quaintwood Players' Treasure Island!

What a wonderful performance we were treated to for the Quaintwood Players' production of Treasure Island last month! Amazing actors, costumes, make up and brilliant script full of laughs and interaction with the audience! Such fun! Can't wait for the next one!

*Photo by Richard Vining*



## 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://quainton.org.uk/Media/Councillors/P-Councillor-Role.pdf>

**To contact the council** use the Contact Form on the website:

<https://quainton.org.uk/contact-us> or contact the clerks by email on: [parishclerk@quainton.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@quainton.org.uk)

### **Parish Council lines of Communication:**

**Quainton Village Website** on <https://www.quainton.org.uk/>

**Physical message boards** on the Green and at Quainton Memorial Hall

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

Subscribe to the **Quainton Alert** email list to receive up to date weather warnings and other important information via [parishclerk@quainton.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@quainton.org.uk)

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**The last Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on 8th February.**

**NEXT MEETING: 14th March 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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### **COUNCILLOR VACANCY**

We now have a vacancy for one Councillor to join the Parish Council. Sarah Smith has joined the team! 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](mailto:philip.gomm@buckscc.gov.uk) In case of an Emergency call him on 07778 177647

**The Quainton 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](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

Please email them and copy [parishclerk@quainton.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@quainton.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.

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## **STATION ROAD BRIDGE**

We continue to raise concerns re the pot holes especially either side of the Station Road bridge and concerns re the speed at which some vehicles are going along Station Road.

## **ROAD CLOSURES:**

Fiddlers Field is now closed for 2 years due to HS2 works. 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.

## **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.

## **PLANNING**

We continue to contact enforcement re Trail Flatt Farm, the junction at North End Road and Ladymead Farm.

## **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](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)

## **FINANCE**

The budget for 2024/25 has been approved and submitted.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We have some ad hoc small maintenance jobs that need doing and therefore we are looking for volunteers to help with the smaller jobs. If anyone is interested, please contact the Parish Clerk. We are in the process of drawing up a list of jobs we need support with.

## **MUGA**

A working party has now been set up and the first meeting was held on 15 February 2024. If anyone would like to be part of the working party please let the Clerk know.

## **HS2 UPDATE**

What happens next? Now we have completed our engagement events, the designs will be submitted to the local authority for approval in a process called Schedule 17 submission. When approval has been received, the main works to construct this structure will begin. For more information and to find out how to receive regular updates, please visit: [www.hs2.org.uk](http://www.hs2.org.uk) and visit the Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire local area pages. You can contact our HS2 Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on: Freephone: 08081 434 434 Minicom: 08081 456 472 Email: [hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk) uk 1MC12-EKF-SE-PRE-CS08-70000





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## Quainton Memorial Hall News:

### Use of the Car Park

A reminder that the car park at the Memorial Hall is for hall users only, or non-users with prior agreement with the hall.

The hall is used throughout the week, weekends and holidays.

As agreed with the school, the car park may be used for school drop off and collection only, and not for extended school visits. Thank you.

### Art and Craft Exhibition

Saturday 11th May

Plans are underway for a celebration of local creativity on May 10th from 10am-4pm at Quainton Memorial Hall.

If you are a local artist, crafter, photographer or have other creative skills, amateur or professional, and would like have your work on display and/or for sale at the exhibition, please contact:

Kath Heirons: [kathheirons@gmail.com](mailto:kathheirons@gmail.com) or mobile 07825 001620

## Quainton Tennis Club

**Do come and join us!**

We are a friendly club of varying standards.



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

Tuesday Mornings:	Mixed Doubles	9.30am - 11.00am
Thursday Evenings:	Ladies	7.00pm - 8.00pm
	Men	8.00pm - 9.00pm
Friday Evenings:	Men's Team Practice	6.00pm - 7.00pm
Saturday Afternoons:	Mixed Doubles	2.00pm - 3.30pm

Coaching is available on request to those who want it.

For more information about joining Quainton Tennis Club, please contact Noel Ratcliffe on 07827 442787 or alternatively by email: [noelratcliffe@btinternet.com](mailto:noelratcliffe@btinternet.com)



Come and see what Guides is all about at our  
taster evening, with the chance to have fun and  
make an unusual Mothering Sunday present.

DATE:- Monday March 4th

TIME:- 6.30 till 8.15p.m.

PLACE:- The Saye and Sele Hall, Lower Street,  
Quainton.

For any girl of 10 and over.



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Girlguiding

Registered charity number: 306016

To join please email : - [sevans33@live.co.uk](mailto:sevans33@live.co.uk)

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## Quainton Support Network

If you need help with a lift to a medical appointment, the Quainton Support Network could help. A team of local volunteer drivers can take you there, and usually back again, for petrol expenses of 45p per mile, plus any parking expenses. They can also collect emergency prescriptions.

For March and April, Alison Shields is coordinating the network so please phone her instead of Claire. Alison's number is 01296 655033.

If you would like to join our volunteer list please contact Alison. The more volunteers, the more chance we can offer a lift. Huge thanks to all the volunteers who continue to help residents. Claire and Alison

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# QUAINTON CHURCH MOTHERING SUNDAY

March 10th

**At 9.30am**

A time to give  
thanks for and  
to remember  
the women in our  
lives who have  
given so much.

All are welcome.

**Tea & cakes will be served  
after the service**

*For all  
the family...*





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**Quainton  
Windmill  
1832**

# Quainton Windmill Society

## Fiftieth Anniversary

### 1974-2024

Fifty years ago residents of Quainton met and agreed to try to save our windmill, which had been derelict for over 85 years. As can be seen in the photo below, the mill was in a dreadful state. Three sails and the fantail had fallen off, the cap was open to the elements and many of the floors inside had partially collapsed.



In **May 1974** they agreed to set up the Quainton Windmill Society with the objective of restoring the mill. Over the last fifty years there has been several restorations and much ongoing maintenance to provide a community asset and visitor experience.

#### **Life in the Mill Prior to 1974**

**1832** – Built by James Anstiss, an ancestor of Colin Dancer who still owns the windmill.

**For 48 Years** – powered by the wind from 1832-80 and operated by the Anstiss family.

**For Nine Years** – converted to steam power from 1880-89. It was adapted for steam to increase its productivity. Milling was abandoned because flour roller mills had become established.

**85 Years** – The building became redundant and gradually deteriorated from 1889 to 1974.



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# Café Club Zest

Spring is nearly here!

Time to come out of hibernation and come along for an afternoon of singing, socialising and a delicious afternoon tea. We are a welcoming group, open to all, but especially those who maybe are not as active as they once were.



Next meetings; Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 6<sup>th</sup>  
April and 2<sup>nd</sup> May at  
2.30pm at St John's Hall, Whitchurch  
Contact Jane 07739 985440



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## Calling all musicians

Could you help lead our sing-a-long at

# Café Club Zest?



At **Zest** we enjoy a sing-a-long of popular songs for about 45 minutes before a delicious afternoon tea. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at 2.30pm but we are desperately short of people to lead the singing. We are not expecting a concert just someone or a small group to lead the songs. Keyboard available.

If you think you could help, please ring Jane on  
07739985440



## CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE

Hello to all Quainton Garden Society Members

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members.

Over the last few weeks, the Quainton Garden Society committee has put together several events for 2024 and we hope you will all find these of interest?

Our first major event will be our annual plant sale on Saturday May 18th at the Quainton Memorial Hall between 2pm-4pm. In previous years we have put on a great sale, let's hope we can continue. Please start taking cuttings, splitting up perennials or planting up self-seedlings in readiness. Please bring along your plants donations on the day or drop them off at 135a Station Road before the day.

On Thursday June 20th 2024 our annual visit will be to RHS Hyde Hall Garden in Chelmsford. This is a new location with the society, something new and quite exciting.

The cost to members will be £18 and for non-members £22. This is to cover the coach costs which has increased by 20% since last year. Quainton Garden Society members will have priority until the end of April. Please contact Mrs Sonja Taylor-Lane, our coach trip organiser on [sonjataylorlane@gmail.com](mailto:sonjataylorlane@gmail.com)

And it's not too late to renew your membership. Please contact Debbie Bragg on [debbiebragg61@gmail.com](mailto:debbiebragg61@gmail.com)

Early in July we are planning a car share visit to Red Kites Garden at Bledlow Ridge. More details will be available shortly.

Further dates for your diary: September 7th – Annual Garden Show  
November 18th – AGM

Allan Carter, QGS Chairperson

### **COACH VISIT TO RHS GARDEN HYDE HALL**

**Chelmsford, Essex CM3 8ET on Thursday 20th June 2024**

Departing The Green, Quainton at 9.30 am and departing Hyde Hall at 4.30pm

Cost £18 each (£22 to non-members) Includes entry fee & coach hire

Tickets sold on a first come first served basis with a closing date of Friday 14th June

Enquiries for places to Sonja Taylor-Lane | 01296 658273 | [Sonjataylorlane@gmail.com](mailto:Sonjataylorlane@gmail.com)

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## GARDENING ADVICE FOR FEB/MAR

1. As the weather has been so wet, try not to get on the ground too soon just because the sun may be shining but the soil still needs to be warmed up by keeping it moving.
2. Mow your lawn but keep the mower adjusted to high .
3. Divide Snowdrops.
4. Sow seeds for early salad crops and spring flowers. Sow either in a greenhouse or in the ground under a cloche.
5. Rake up any leaves left from winter. Feed and weed the lawn ready for its first cut.
6. Clear your veg beds. Fertilize to encourage good growth in the coming weeks.
7. Prune roses and other perennials.
8. If you have a greenhouse, give it a good clean. And sharpen your tools.
9. Plan now what you may be able to grow in order to enter the Garden Societies Show of Produce on September 7th 2024.
10. Order your dahlias.



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## ANNUAL PLANT SALE

IN

**QUANTON MEMORIAL HALL CAR PARK**

ON

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# AFFINITY


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
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kinds of fabrication

Possible Collection and Delivery Service

Feel free to call with any questions.

**Alan 07775 315788**

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## An afternoon of passionate and powerful classical music

On Sunday 17th March Aylesbury Vale Concert Orchestra is performing an afternoon of classical music favourites at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre from 4pm-6.30pm. All proceeds from the event will be donated to Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity.

The Aylesbury Vale Concert Orchestra comprises both amateur and professional musicians who are committed to playing live music together.

A range of tickets are available now from ATG Tickets. Find out more about this concert and why all proceeds are being given to this charity by visiting [www.fnhospice.org.uk](http://www.fnhospice.org.uk)

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## To All Dog Walkers

Can all dog walkers please take responsibility and clean up after their dogs. Not only is it against the law it is very unpleasant, especially when outside people's houses and even inside other peoples' properties. This is now getting a serious problem especially down Station Road. Thank you. Station Road resident.

---

## News from Buckinghamshire Railway Centre



There's so much going on here at your local heritage railway down Station Road – it's not just steam trains! We've got the Repair Shop starting up and another community initiative I'd Like to Borrow. We've also got Beekeepers on site starting up our own Apiary and we hope to plant an orchard soon for community use – watch this space!

Plus, we've got a new leader for our Junior Vounteer Section, Q Branch, for volunteers aged 14-18 who'd like to come and help out with a group of people of a similar age. Email: [qbranch@bucksrailcentre.org](mailto:qbranch@bucksrailcentre.org) if you have a young person who may be interested in joining the team.

Hopefully next month we'll have news of a locomotive called 'Arthur' that we have been restoring for a few years. The work is nearly finished, so we'll have photos in the next issue hopefully! He will play a large role on our Thomas event days!

## Coming in March:

**Peppa Pig:** Sunday 3rd March

**Day Out With Thomas:** Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday

**Remember to bring proof of address to get your 25% Quainton Discount on the door!**

We are then open for the Steaming Season (Easter to Halloween). Steaming every Sunday (and some other days), with regular special events! Check out all the details and booking at [www.bucksrailcentre.org](http://www.bucksrailcentre.org)

Don't forget our **Railway Cafe** is open Monday to Friday 9.30am-2pm for good value breakfast and lunch and snacks, and why not enjoy a wander around the visitor centre? (No ticket required, free entry).

---



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## The late DENIS ALCOCK

Born in Aylesbury on 21st November 1934, Denis was educated at Queens Park School. He worked for many years at Rivets, marrying Doreen in the late 1950s. With their two children, Stephen and Joy, they lived in Upper Street before divorcing in the late 1980s.

Leaving Rivets, Denis became a chauffeur for Arrowtax Executive Car Hire where he met Gillian. They married in 1999, living first in Aylesbury before moving to Northend Road, Quanton. Denis always dressed smartly and transported several celebrities, notably Bob Monkhouse, during his driving work. Denis was in the Radio 2 studios the evening Gill interviewed her idol Justin Hayward on Jameson's Guest Request Spot.

In his early days, Denis was a volunteer at Bucks Railway Centre being close friends with Mick Rolley and David Morrison, who he often chauffeured in David's position as Oral B's chief executive. With another friend, Jim Horwood, Denis belonged to Buffs, the Royal Antediluvian order of the Buffalos. After his laryngectomy in 2015, Denis could no longer wear a tie. He found speaking difficult and consequently his self-confidence suffered, which, in turn, lessened his social life, although he often visited friends at The Fountain Inn, Steeple Claydon until Gill's stroke led to the cancellation of her driving licence.

In his latter months, Denis was in and out of hospital, passing away in Stoke Mandeville, aged 89, on December 28th 2023. R I P.

(Information supplied by his widow, Gill)



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## Valerie Ann Alcock: 27th July 1942 - 4th January 2024

Valerie Alcock (nee Pigott) lived her early life in Kings Road, Aylesbury with her parents Wilfred and Kathleen Pigott, before moving to Aston Clinton. She married Ray Alcock in 1965 and together they first lived on Fleet Street in Aylesbury, in a house which they built. In the early 1970s, they moved to Torbay in Quainton where they lived for the rest of their lives. They had two children, Linda and Susan, and five grandchildren. Sadly, Ray passed away in August 2020.

Valerie owned and ran Valerie's Florist for many years until she retired, but is probably most well known (in Quainton anyway!) for the 20 years she spent as a Guide leader. She took over Quainton Guides when Rosemary Robinson retired and ran it until she herself retired.



### Tribute from Sue Evans:

Valerie ran Quainton Guides for 20 years! Without Val, Quainton Guides would have closed causing so many girls to be deprived of many experiences not easily available back then.

I started helping out at Guides because I had three daughters wanting to join and, at the time, Valerie was doing it all on her own, so thought I should help out – 40 years later and I'm still there! One of Valerie's young Guides, Sonia, went on to become our very capable Quainton Brownie Leader; and several other girls are returning as Young Leaders, and it's all thanks to Valerie keeping Guides running for so long!



Rest in peace, Val, you deserve it.



### Whitchurch WI

Tuesday 5th March

Air Miss: an illustrated talk with photos and cartoons  
by Jo Laurie on her time in the WRAF.

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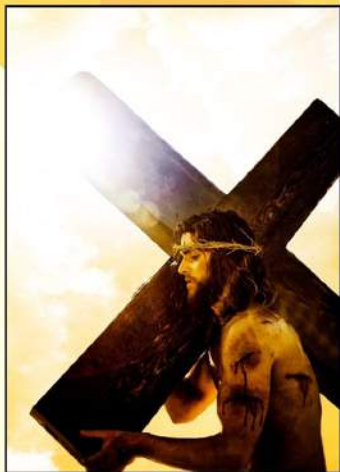


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# Easter Services at Quainton Church



## Holy Week

Every evening from Mon 25th  
to Maundy Thurs 28th March  
7.30pm Holy Communion

## Good Friday

29th March at 10.00am  
"Carrying The Cross" Service  
12noon to 3.00pm  
Time to think & pray  
(Come and go as you please)

## Easter Day

9.30am Service  
"A Celebration  
Of Life"  
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and an  
Easter Egg Hunt



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## What's on at The George & Dragon:

There's loads going on at The Pub in March! All of the **Six Nations** games will be shown, so why not come and join us and have a couple of drinks with your friends.



**Sunday 10th March is Mother's Day**, why not book a table for Sunday roast and save time preparing, cooking and washing up so you can spend more time with mum? Tables are filling fast, so ring us on 655436 to reserve your table.

**Thursday 14th March is Steak Night.** Pop in and enjoy a Parrott's Butcher steak and a nice glass of wine (we have a new wine list, which is proving very popular!)

**Friday 15th March:** Maya street food van will be here, plus, we've got Francesca & Martin, a duet performing music covers from all genres and decades.

**Saturday 16th March is Super Saturday for Six Nations Rugby:** the final day – three games in one day... Who will be crowned winner of the tournament? Come and watch one game or all three!

**Thursday 21st March is Ladies night!** Quite what this will entail I'm not 100% sure yet but wine, fizz and nibbles, are a 100% on the menu! So get the girls together and come and join us for the evening. Share a bottle of wine and have a laugh together and maybe meet some new faces.

**Tuesday 26th March:** We are hosting a brush party! This is not booked through us but you can book at [www.brushparty.co.uk](http://www.brushparty.co.uk) – there are limited tickets available.

**Friday 29th March Good Friday:** Keep your eyes on social media as something will be happening!

**Easter Saturday 30th March:** Pub open all day with food served lunch and dinner.

**Easter Sunday 31st March:** Our monthly Charity Quiz night charity! Charity TBC - we're open to suggestions! Is there a charity that affects many that we could maybe do a quiz or event to raise money for? Suggestions welcome. If you haven't been to a Sunday Quiz here yet, grab a team and come and join us - we are consistently raising £250-350 at every quiz for charities. For example: Thames Valley Air Ambulance, Florence Nightingale and Motor Neurone Association have benefited from our quiz nights.

**Easter Monday 1st April:** We will be open 12-6pm and food served 12-2pm

## April Dates for the Diaries!

**Sunday 7th April:** 7.30pm Open Mic night, anyone interested please email [pub@georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk](mailto:pub@georgeanddragonquainton.co.uk) and make yourself known to me please.

**Saturday 13th April:** Friends & Flavours chicken van returns

**Saturday 20th April:** Vintage vehicles and traction engines will be coming up from Buckinghamshire Railway Centre some time after 5pm

**Looking forward to seeing you all here sometime soon! George and the team!**

---



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## Quainton Wild Garden News:

Quainton's Wild Garden is situated at the very end of Church Street, past the church, round the bend and then through the gate off the driveway to The Old School House.

### **A bit of history for those residents who haven't been in the village long:**

In August 1986, with permission from the then churchwardens, I assembled a group of villagers in the derelict area below the church to clear the area of rubbish, docks and brambles in order to start creating a small wildflower meadow and village amenity.

Then, in the October, again villagers of all ages with wellies, forks and wheelbarrows bent their backs continuing to clear the two-thirds of an acre while excavators tackled the job of digging out the 12ft wide pond linked to the stream which runs through the garden and building the steps up to the churchyard.

The project was Highly Commended in the 1987 Bucks Village Ventures competition and the following year a grant of £300 was won from the Shell 'Better Britain' Campaign, which helped with the purchase of a lawnmower, seeds and plants. From then on work parties met twice a year to maintain the area which was visited by the Brownies and Beavers for activities, pond watchers and people just enjoying sitting in a peaceful place. Attempts at creating a wildflower meadow sadly proved difficult as the heavy clay soil is far too fertile for wildflowers. But new trees were planted, log piles created, and bird boxes put up, and we now have an offer of an insect habitat.

Unfortunately, Covid had a serious effect and the working parties stopped although a path was regularly mown through the garden.

Now 38 years later, I am no longer able to physically help which also applies to many of the past helpers, and many are no longer with us or have moved. In order to continue looking after the garden a new team of volunteers is needed to help preserve this area so if you are interested in wildlife, want some outdoor exercise, PLEASE think about joining us on Saturday 23rd March 10-12. Refreshments provided. Rakes and pruners useful.

Sue Wright: s.wright862@btinternet.com

### **Quainton Wild Garden Working Party! Saturday 23rd March 10am-Noon**

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## Quainton Primary School PTA News:

### **100 Club Draw for February**

1st Prize:	18	Neil Richards
2nd Prize:	31	Alex Adams
3rd Prize:	47	Chris Elliot
4th Prize:	24	Dawn Gordon
5th Prize:	17	Angela Willmot



To enter our 100 Club, please email: [quainton.pta@gmail.com](mailto:quainton.pta@gmail.com)

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

Mud, mud glorious mud. If you feel the need to wade and wallow in gloopy, sticky, slippery mud, Finemere is the place to be. There has been so much rain over recent months, natural ponds have appeared in dips in the footways and many of the paths through the wood present challenges to even the sure-footed. And yet the volunteers struggle on regardless.

As we wait in anticipation of Spring, and its biotic boom, energies are channelled to managing great thickets of blackthorn. Out on the edge of the Finemere meadows, a footpath meanders through an area of relatively new woodland, planted some 20 years ago. Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) grows densely along much of the path, blocking out sunlight, it is becoming dark and gloomy. The trees are slender and very tall, their upper branches twisted and entwined with adjacent plants. There is little growth at the base of the blackthorn.

Amidst this entangled jungle of fiercely thorny vegetation, the woodland workers slip and slosh in mud as they lay a section of *Prunus spinosa*. Partially cutting through the stem a few inches above the ground, allows the tree to be pushed over on to an ever-growing pile of fallen blackthorn. This is conservation laying, the benefits of which are numerous.

The blackthorn trees are given a new lease of life. From the cut stems, new shoots explode, providing young growth where the rare brown hairstreak butterfly may lay its eggs.



The trees will continue to flower, and produce sloes, despite their horizontal stance, feeding many a wild thing. The interwoven pile of *Prunus spinosa* is now a thick, compact hedge where birds will nest and small mammals will live, protected from predators by a thick mesh of thorns. And, the path, no longer shadowed by tall trees, will be bathed in sunlight allowing flowers and grasses to bloom, biodiversity will soar.

Mission accomplished, the volunteers stagger through the mud, limbs aching from wrestling tangled, spiky branches. Dishevelled, damp and grimy, they look a sorry state. But still they smile and laugh and I don't doubt they will be back for more of the same in a couple of weeks.

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

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## PACE BIG WALK: 21st April 2024

This year's Pace BIG Walk routes will take in the ancient Ridgeway Trail. There is a choice of 18m, 12m, 6m or The Superhero Mile routes.

There is something to suit all ages and abilities. This is a great opportunity to set yourself a challenge for 2024 and have some outdoor fun. By taking part in the BIG Walk, you will not only have the opportunity to explore this beautiful countryside in a completely unique way, but you will also be helping us to provide life changing support to babies, children and young people with neurodisabilities.



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## Remember a loved one this spring with a Forever Red Rose

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity has partnered with the magnificent Waddesdon Manor to launch a very special Forever Flowers event to celebrate and remember loved ones this spring. A stunning, temporary display of 750 bespoke metal Red Roses will be installed in the Rose Garden at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury in April. Each flower will represent the life, love and memories of a loved one. The Charity is offering you the opportunity to be a part of this event by dedicating one of these limited Forever Red Roses, and an invitation to a private viewing of the display on Monday 15th April whilst the grounds are closed to the public. The installation will then remain on display to the public for two weeks. Once the installation is removed, those who have dedicated a flower will be able to take it home to display as a forever keepsake.

By dedicating a Forever Red Rose you will be helping us to provide excellent local hospice care and be there for more patients and families across Buckinghamshire and its borders. To dedicate a Forever Red Rose visit <https://www.fnhospice.org.uk/foreverflowers> or call 01296 429975 for more information.





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## Quainton Golf Society

Our next golfing year starts in March. Our first event will be on Thursday 28 March 2024 at Oxford Golf Club.



We are friendly Society of golfers of varying standards, and we meet monthly for events at local courses. An event usually consists of tea/coffee and bacon butties on arrival, 18 holes of golf in the morning, lunch and then a further 9 holes in the afternoon. The golf days usually take place on the last Friday in the month from March to October, with the exception of the Xmas event in December (and the next event in March!) At each event we play for a trophy which is awarded at the end of the season.

For more information about joining the Society please contact Vince Hemsley on 07427 555656 or vince.hemsley63@virginmedia.com.

---

## 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/>

## QUAINTON MEMORIAL HALL

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.

**Please note: the hall will be closed to all activities for maintenance Tuesday 5 March through to Sunday 10 March inclusive.**

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME
<b>Monday</b>	Day Centre (Main Hall) Craft Club (Conference Room)	10:00 – 14:30 13:30 – 16:30
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ukulele Group (Conference Room) Pilates (Main Hall) Art Club (Conference Room) Pilates (Main Hall)	09:30 – 11:30 10:30 – 11:30 13:30 – 16:30 17:30 – 18:30
<b>Wednesday</b>	Bridge (Main Hall) Carpet Bowls (Main Hall)	13:00 – 16:30 19:30 – 21:30
<b>Thursday</b>	Coffee Morning (Main Hall) **	10:00 – 12:00 – just turn up!
<b>Friday</b>	Community Choir (Main Hall) * Badminton (Main Hall)	10:00 – 12:00 18:30 – 21:30
<b>Saturday</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	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](https://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](mailto:quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com)

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# GARDENING AMBITIONS

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### Gardening services

- Hedge cutting
- Grass cutting (pedestrian and ride on)
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  - Garden tidys
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## GARDENING AMBITIONS

## March Edition 2024 – HS2 in Quainton

### Supporting the community

We are always looking for ways to enhance community green spaces. One of the ways we can help is through donation of materials. In Waddesdon, we were thrilled to be able to assist Waddesdon Village Primary School with a delivery of wood chippings in January. They will be put to good use around the school and will help enhance the grounds for the students and staff to enjoy.

This winter, EKFB also donated £500 towards Quainton's 'I would like to borrow' scheme, which is open to all residents and encourages collaboration within the community by sharing tools for household maintenance and improvement. Residents who wish to borrow tools can make a request and access the library, which is located at Buckinghamshire Railway Centre. If you would like to know more about the project or get involved as a volunteer, please visit their website: <https://idliketoborrow.com/>



### Upcoming HS2 works

UK Power Networks will be diverting and removing overhead power lines in Quainton in the coming months. Once these works have been completed, we will be able to share with the community details of the next stages of construction in the area. This will include the east Station Road new alignment, which is likely to start at the end of 2024. An event will be organised locally to provide both residents and the wider community with an opportunity to find out more about the works, see detailed maps and visuals of the Station Road and ask questions.

Please see below for updates on upcoming and ongoing work around the area:

- **Blackgrove Road** – Full daytime road closure to enable utility works and earthworks (25 – 30 March)
- **Snake Lane/Fiddlers Field** closure for the construction of bridges and structures associated with the Station Road realignment (2 January 2024 to December 2025)

*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](http://www.hs2.org.uk) and click the 'in your area section' to view the interactive map, or simply scan the QR code provided.*





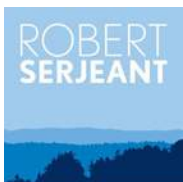
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## WEATHER FIGURES FOR QUANTON



### Average and Extremes for January 2024

Temperature	°C	Date	Rainfall		Date
Maximum	12.1°C	24th	Total for the month	68mm	
Minimum	-9.5°C	18th	Wettest day	23.5mm	4th
Average Minimum	0.6°C		Rain days	13	
Average Maximum	7.7°C		Dry days	18	
Highest Minimum	9.1°C	29th			
Lowest Maximum	3.1°C	8th			
Wind			Pressure		
Highest gust	42mph	22nd	Highest	1028hPa	11th
			Lowest	963hPa	2nd

Figures supplied by Mike Beales

For the latest weather at Quainton go to: [wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IQUAINTO2](http://wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IQUAINTO2)



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## QUAINTON 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](http://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 Alison on 01296 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](mailto:quaintonmemorialhall@gmail.com).

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

**Winwood Almshouses:** For enquiries contact: [winwoodalmshouses@outlook.com](mailto:winwoodalmshouses@outlook.com)

## REFUSE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH

Monday 4th March	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin **Brown Garden Waste Bin**
Monday 11th March	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
Monday 18th March	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin **Brown Garden Waste Bin**
Monday 25th March	Blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin and food bin
** Tuesday 2nd April **	Green refuse wheelie bin and food bin **Brown Garden Waste 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 March	8.00am BCP Holy Communion 6.00pm Quainton: A Service of the Word
Sunday 10th March	9.30am Mothering Sunday Family Service 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Sunday 17th March	6.00pm Holy Communion Palm Sunday Sunday 24th 6.00pm Praise And Worship Service

### Holy Week hosted at Quainton Church

Monday 25th March:	7.30pm Holy Communion
Tuesday 26th March:	7.30pm Holy Communion
Wednesday 27th March:	7.30pm Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday 28th:	7.30pm Holy Communion
Good Friday 29th March:	10am Good Friday Service 12- 3pm Meditations for Good Friday
Easter Sunday 31st March:	9.30am Family Service for Easter Day with Family Communion and an Easter Egg Hunt

## PARISH REGISTER ENTRIES

Valerie Alcock: Funeral on Tuesday 6th February

## CHURCH ROTA FOR MARCH

	3 March	10 March Mothering Sunday	17 March	24 March	31 March
<b>Evening Reader</b>	Arthur Evans	Tom Morrison	David Letheran	Martin Dorrell	Tom Morrison
<b>Evening Sidesman</b>					
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	LENT – NO FLOWERS				Cicely Davey
<b>Pedestal Flowers</b>					Helen Ratcliffe
<b>Church Cleaning</b>	Sheila Hammond; Claire Lucas; Greta Nicolls; Natalie Carlisle	Lesley Tarbox; Marilyn Beales; Louise Woodliffe-Thomas		Carol Cooper; Alison Heath; Margaret W; George	

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



Thank you to Alice Carlisle (age 12) for sending in this early morning frosty photo take on February 24th across the fields behind the church.

If you would like to see your photo in print here, please send your favourite photos of our church and/or its surroundings to [quaintonnews@gmail.com](mailto:quaintonnews@gmail.com)

Thank you!

## VILLAGE CALENDAR – MARCH 2024

2nd March:	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea, QMH.
4th March:	Guides Taster Evening, Saye & Sele Hall, 6.30pm, p.14
10th March:	Mother's Day Service in Church, 9.30am, p.15
14th March:	PC meeting, QMH, p.10
22nd March:	Waddesdon School Concert in Church, 7pm, p.7
23rd March:	Quainton Wild Garden working party, 10-12, p.33
23rd March:	Quainton RBL Celebrates 100 Years! 1.30pm-5pm, QMH, p.5
23rd March:	Quainton School PTA Race Night, QMH, 6.45pm, p.25
24th March:	Praise & Worship Service in Church, 6pm, p.24
29th March:	Good Friday Services in Church, p.29
31st March:	Easter Day Service in Church, 9.30am, p.29
27th April:	Live Band at The Railway for Oxford Hospitals Charity, p.5

### ***Quainton News – The Parish Magazine and Village Newsletter***

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