

# parish magazine

## Bishops' Teach'book

St Chad's



April 14



### St Chad's Civic Service

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**As you read this article, we will be approaching Palm Sunday (April 13<sup>th</sup>), Holy Week and Easter.** In many people's minds Easter is a time of new beginnings: new starts, new life, new birth. This is often symbolised with images of eggs and chicks. We give and receive Easter eggs and maybe cards with pictures of spring sunshine or newborn chicks. But Easter isn't really about eggs or chicks. It's about Jesus! The real reason that we think about new life at Easter is because Jesus, who was crucified on that first Good Friday, rose to new life on the first Easter Sunday!

During Lent as Christians we have been preparing ourselves for this great day in the Christian year and it is good to think about where we go from here. On April 6<sup>th</sup> we will be holding our APCM. The Annual Parochial Church meeting is a time to look back and consider the past year in our church and parish life, and also to look forward to see where we are going next.

This year we have achieved a great deal. The roof of the North Aisle has been fixed and hopefully we will have no more rain coming into church. The next stage of our repairs are underway and soon our Chancel, at least on the outside, should be ready to withstand many years of whatever our British weather throws at it.

Four new trees have been planted in the churchyard and those who care for the churchyard have worked hard to maintain it. We now have a St Chad's presence on the internet via the Parish web-

site, Facebook and Twitter.

We've had many successful services: Harvest was once again well attended as were all the Christmas celebrations, including Carols in the Leopard! Our Civic service was well attended and thanks go to Chris White our MP and Councillor David Shilton for supporting our community. So where do we go next?

I would love to expand our children's work but find I am constrained by space. It would be lovely to reach out to the elderly of our community, the young mums, those who are lonely but again how do we do that? I recently attended a lunch held in St Mark's in Leamington for elderly and retired people. The hall was packed and there were people in attendance from Bishop's Tachbrook. I'd love to offer the same here. Perhaps some of you think that that isn't the church's role anymore but Christ entered into our humanity and into human history when He took on our flesh, by the help of His human mother. While on earth He interacted with many who were considered outcasts; He showed us how to live. In

**Continued on page 5**

Front cover shows: Brownies top right: Left to Right Holly, Daya, Uma, Lily, Cassie & Sophie.  
Bottom left: Chairman of Warwickshire County Council Cllr Dave Shilton with his wife Shirley.  
Centre: Warwick and Leamington MP Chris White with Cllr Andrew Day  
Bottom right: Headteacher of Bishop's Tachbrook Primary School Andy Brettell



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the great passage in Matthew's Gospel, often called the parable of the Sheep and the Goats, we are told that when we help those in need it is as if we are serving Christ. "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matt 25: 41).

I was very hurt recently when someone wrote that he believed that the St Chad's Centre was being built as a "Cash Cow" for the church. It is sad to think that because, as a Christian family, we wish to use the land we have next to the church to construct a Community Centre, not for the use of St Chad's congregation but our community, that someone believes we are cashing in. Yes, we will use it for Sunday School but it will also be used to bring other activities into our village.

As we approach Easter, I ask you to remember that Jesus died and rose for us – for all people, not only those who attend services at St Chad's – faith is a shared adventure not just a solo pursuit - let's enjoy getting together to grow in faith and community. May the spirit of Easter, which is not confined to one day in April, be alive in this community so that together we can move forward in joy, peace, mutual trust and respect as children of a loving God.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter.  
Elaine



## The Garden of Remembrance

**This part of our graveyard is where ashes can be buried after cremation.** St Chad's is required to follow the Rules and Regulations of the Diocese of Coventry. As the individual plots are small special rules apply which help to keep this quiet area in front of the church tidy and well maintained. All memorials are simple stones of the same size and style, laid flat to enable ease of mowing. There is a low wall for floral tributes to be placed.

As with any grave, vases and containers are not allowed as these are easily broken and cause a hazard for others as well as being attractive to vandals. We recognise that family and friends may wish to place floral tributes on the stone of their loved one and have allowed this in the past but over recent months there have been more and more breakable pots and containers left which spoil the overall look of the garden and make maintenance and mowing difficult and hazardous.

We respectfully ask all whose loved one's ashes are buried in the Garden of Remembrance to remove all containers and ensure that their plot is flush with the ground before the mowing begins sometime this month. Any vases etc left will be removed and placed on the wall for everyone's safety. Remaining Christmas baskets and wreath frames are removed from all graves during the Church Spring Clean and Graveyard tidy.

Many thanks for your compliance with this reminder.

St Chad's PCC

## Entertainment for April

Friday 4<sup>th</sup>     Poker Night - come and win some money.

Sat 5<sup>th</sup> Quiz Night - pit your wits against the Judge.

Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Carly entertains us with songs old and new

Sat 19<sup>th</sup>     Becky Rok is back with a variety of music

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> A new singer to the club Torzi Finnie is here to entertain us

**Entertainment starts at 8.30pm**

**Bingo every Sunday and Tuesday at 8pm**

**REMEMBER ALL CHILDREN WELCOME, COME AND HAVE A**

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## Village Events Group Summer Event

**Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>**

(NB change from date advertised in last Parish Magazine)

We are planning an all day event for all the family. Come along and enjoy a day of live music (hopefully made up of local bands, singers and groups) and entertainment that we hope will include bouncy castles, fairground stalls, classic cars, a display from our local country dancing group, burgers, ice cream van, cake stalls, face painting, car boot sale and various competitions and raffles. The night will end with live music being held in the social club hopefully from 6pm onwards.

We have various local groups on board already but we are happy to hear from other groups who may be interested in joining us and making money for their respective causes. All offers of help and support will be very gratefully received.

## St Chad's Dates and Easter Services

30 <sup>th</sup> March	10 am Mothering Sunday. All welcome.
5 <sup>th</sup> April	10am -12pm Coffee morning - 23 Oakley Wood Road. All proceeds raised will go towards purchasing some new altar linen for St Chads.
6 <sup>th</sup> April	11:15 am St Chad's APCM – please come and hear our plans for St Chad's
13 <sup>th</sup> April	10am Palm Sunday Liturgy of Palms, procession and Liturgy of the Passion
14-16 April	Holy Week – the church will be open for prayer Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday between 2-4pm and 6-8pm
17 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist
18 <sup>th</sup> April	1pm Meditation 2pm Good Friday Liturgy 4:15pm Walk of Witness from St Margaret's Whitnash to the Green in Whitnash (Next to the Plough) for a short service.
20 <sup>th</sup> April	10am Easter Sunday Family Communion followed by Easter Egg Hunt in and around the church.



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**Councillor Dave Shilton, Chairman of the County Council**, attended our March meeting. He explained his role as Chairman which involves promoting the county to communities and businesses outside the county, encouraging community involvement – and controlling debates in the council chamber.

**PC Manjit Sidhu** updated the meeting on the crime figures since 1 Jan; 2 anti-social, 2 burglaries on the outskirts of the village and 3 thefts from vehicles. We have asked for police speed checks on Oakley Wood Road; and following representations by residents for checks to be made on parking on Mallory Road at its junction with Wychwood Close. PC Sidhu said police will try to assist us with these requests. She will also be progressing neighbourhood watch in the village. Anyone interested in being involved should contact Jim Poole; or me on: 641220 [parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com](mailto:parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com).

**The Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator** passed some interesting statistics and charts to councillors. The data shows that the 2 visual display signs (VASs) on Oakley Wood Road have made a difference. There is a strong case for a third unit near The Leopard. Your PC is investigating how this might be provided. Meanwhile the Team is turning its attention to Mallory Road. If you are interested in helping with the Community Speedwatch please contact Leigh Carter on 07887 652711 or [leigh@fassi.co.uk](mailto:leigh@fassi.co.uk)

County Councillor Les Caborn reported that a **Fire and Rescue Service Consultation** starts next week which includes a proposal for 2 new fire stations at Gaydon and Ryton. The Fire Service still provides an advisory service for the fitting of smoke alarms. We will try to put details of this on our web-site.

**Planning Matters** Many residents were poised to attend the Planning Committee on 18 March when AC Lloyds Application to build 200 houses on Grove Farm (Harbury Gardens) was on the agenda. But at the last moment it was withdrawn. We expect it to reappear at a future meeting.

Barwoods have applied to build 900 houses on a large site at The Asps. Details of W14/0033 can be viewed on WDC 's web-site; consultation ends on 14 April. Councillors voted to object to this Application. There are 3 further Planning Applications for housing in the Parish which we expect to come forward in the next 2 months. The over-arching new Local Plan - known as the "Submission Draft " - is scheduled to go to full Council on 23 April. Inevitably there will be plenty of rumours and leaks in the weeks before. Read more on page 15.

The **Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Consultation** has started with a deadline for responses by 5<sup>th</sup> May. A report on what the PC and the Residents Action Group are doing is set out on pages 19-22. Councillors voted unanimously to grant a contract to Link UK to steer us through this process. **NB the Drop-In session on Tuesday 15 April.**



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## Croft Medical Centre – Patient Participation Group

In last month's magazine I noted the existence of a **Patient Participation Group**, which welcomes any patients who wish to attend its monthly meetings. Participants hear about/suggest/comment on future plans and have the opportunity to express views on the existing services.

I have attended a couple of meetings and realized I was unaware of some of the excellent services available to all CMC patients. The branch surgery at Bishop's Tachbrook, with its pharmacy facility, is a great benefit to us, particularly if we do not have a car to travel to Sydenham. On the other hand many villagers do have transport and can take advantage of various additional services provided at the main surgery. However, this information has not been displayed in the village and possibly patients, like me, were not aware that:

- ⇒ Equipment for patients to take and record their own **blood pressure readings** is available in a private room – no appointment necessary.
- ⇒ **Evening appointments** with a doctor are available at **Sydenham only** on Monday and Tuesday evenings 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm; this is for the benefit of those who cannot attend during the day.
- ⇒ **A website** - [www.croftmedical.co.uk](http://www.croftmedical.co.uk) - provides a lot of useful information, including the ongoing results of a recent *survey of patients*.
- ⇒ **Online Appointments** for **Sydenham only** can be made via the website.
- ⇒ **Repeat prescriptions** can be ordered on the website.
- ⇒ Free appointments for **NHS Health Checks** are offered for those aged 40-74 (excludes those already monitored for chronic diseases.)
- ⇒ A **new appointment scheme** has been introduced at **Sydenham only**: emergency that-day appointments are allocated to patients phoning between 8 am and 9am each day. (This is being re-evaluated following comments from both the PPG and patients.)
- ⇒ Patients wishing to **speak to a doctor** to clarify a problem may telephone reception and a doctor will return the call.
- ⇒ Croft has a **Triage nurse**, who is trained to deal with minor illnesses and telephone assessments of new on-the-day conditions, referring to doctors as needed and, if necessary, arrange an appointment with a doctor.

***The next meeting of the PPG (open to all patients) will be held at Croft Sydenham on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April - Tea/Coffee at noon; meeting 12.30 – 1.30***

***This information provided for the Magazine by Anne Kirby and approved by Croft Medical Centre***



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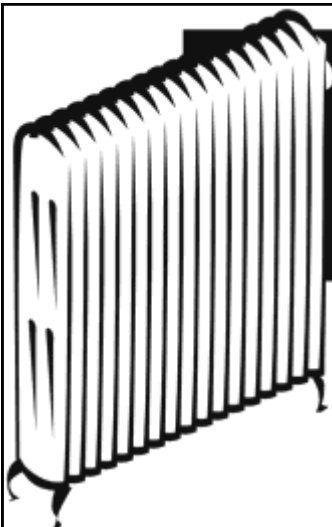


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### **When Henry Ford decided to build automobiles he visited a slaughterhouse – logical!**

He watched the workers disassembling pigs, applied it to assembling cars and hey ho we got a black Model T. One link with food but not the most important!

Toyota moved things on when they devised a method of building cars with plenty of choice on the same production line. Another food link - let's face it a pig is a pig but you can cut it different ways to make it look different.

Post Toyota, cars can be increasingly suited to the individual – you could call it the MINI system. On the production line MINI will give you a prize if you can spot two cars exactly the same. Another food link – a pig is a pig is a pig (3 little pigs!) but if you smoke it, marinate it or slow roast it, it tastes different.

### **Let's apply our piggy car production systems to the way our food reaches us!**

**Fordism** basically provides us with standard products where the only decision we have to make is whether to buy it. Don't ask where the food was produced, in what conditions or by whom? – The classic model for the early supermarkets? The classic eating out experience in McDonalds!

**Toyotatism** saw the supermarkets offering us more choice, more brands, more price bands. The eating out experience in Subway?

**MINIism** sees the supermarkets offering us traceability, more information on the farming system used – free range pork. The eating out experience, perhaps the Gastro Pub?

The supermarkets and the fast food outlets mentioned are what some observers have termed 'business as usual'. In this model the focus is on profit and growth with little regard for the environmental, ethical or humanitarian considerations of what they are doing – MINIism is obviously preferable to Fordism, it's differences in degree.

### **Now let's consider three facts:**

There are an estimated 800 million malnourished people in the world and an estimated 1.3 billion obese people – the world is fat!

70% of the world's farmers/growers produce food for 30% of the world's population whilst 30% of farmers/growers produce food for 70% of the population.

I'm writing this sitting in my kitchen, a kitchen that used to be a milking parlour from which most of the village's organic, local and wholesome milk was produced. There's also a pigpen outside!

### **So what's the link? For me 'business as usual':**

Doesn't care if what you eat is good for you – it just wants you to eat.

Thinks industrial farming methods are correct and would love to remove food sovereignty from all of us so they can control our inputs. Why all the interest in GM crops – not for us, for the major companies and their bottom lines.

Certainly has no interest in local food production - it takes too much effort to make money!

### **To challenge 'business as usual' wake up:**

**Support local small-scale producers and artisans.**

**Buy local where you can e.g. farmers' Markets**

**Grow your own.**

**Reduce food waste.**

For your own personal wake-up call, you can get advice/support on growing your own or reducing food waste by contacting Susan Watt or I on:

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## New Housing – too many runners and riders?

by Graham Leeke

Are you as confused as I am? Sitting here the week after the Cheltenham Festival, your correspondent tries to make sense of the Tachbrook Stakes.



**First up** we had **“Woodside Farm”** – off to a flying start, and away and over the hill before most of the other runners were saddled up – and with a huge prize pot – 280 houses.



**Then in January** the powerful Mahmood aka Barwood stable paraded a plan for 125 houses **‘South of Mallory Road’**. Not a particularly catchy name for a race horse you might think – 85 punters took a dim view of its form, and the Race Marshalls aka WDC Planning didn’t want it to run. It fell at the February fence. Hope you didn’t back it!!



**In March** we had a curious looking runner, with an even odder name **“Harbury Gardens”** – was it 2 jockeys on one horse or one jockey trying to ride 2 horses? The first had fallen in October but the owners, AC Lloyd, hoping to win a prize of 200 houses, appealed to the Jockey Club aka the Planning Inspectorate who make all the final decisions and are difficult for us punters to reach. Anyway without waiting for the outcome, ACL saddled up another horse with the same name (*you are following aren’t you?*) and entered it into the March meeting. 158 punters didn’t care for this and were poised to jeer it on the day - but just as it was coming under starters orders, the stable pulled their horse. Curious – and the bookies weren’t happy either.



**Meanwhile** ACL prodded another runner, **“Seven Acre Close”** into the parade ring. The punters are not sure and odds at 25:1 are long.



**Into the same ring** Mahmoods have now introduced an old nag **“The Asps”** – overweight you might think at 900 houses and a Park & Ride. Witty local McCritic has been heard to say this old fellow should be put out to grass, parked and not ridden. But this stable always fancies its chances, so watch out for it on the bookies boards at a future meeting.



**We hear** Bloors’ **“Oakley Wood Road”** is in intense training. It’s been seen in the parade ring at the Sports & Social Club like all the others. Punters seem to be impressed with its diet and careful management - but we’ll all have to see what appears on the April start line.



**And finally** an outsider in the form of a light filly, blood line **Gilks out of Optimism**, weighing in at 10 houses – but will it get an easy ride running opposite the well fancied and potentially fierce **“Leopard”**?

All these declarations on our small local turf! Does it make sense? And that’s before we consider the prospects of the even bigger Europa Stakes and the Myton Handicap; all due to be run in April. We really need a Clare Balding to sort this mess out. PipPip.

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**Tudor House Inn, Warwick is the imposing 17<sup>th</sup> century black and white timber-framed building on the right of West Street as you leave the town.** Jean

Dodds, our speaker in March, was fascinated by the splendour of this three storey building when she recently moved to the area and

decided to investigate its history as a project for her local history group. We therefore had the benefit of her conscientious and detailed research. It is believed that the building dates

from around 1614,

but the earliest records available noted that John Watson lived there in 1670, when he carried on his tannery business in the cellars of the premises. The site was ideal – on the main road outside the town gate (it was smelly) and adjacent to a stream, which is now culverted under West Street to the River Avon. There were 8 rooms including 3 bedrooms. On his death in 1702 his clothes were valued at £25 – a tidy sum for the period.

The House passed on through several generations of the Watson family and was valued in 1802 at £400 (£12,000 in today's money). It was sold in 1844 to John Mott Farmon for £345 and a rent assignment is dated 1849. In 1880 the house was owned by a schoolmaster and was divided into two – and for the first time was called Tudor House. The premises housed a Furniture Emporium until



1930, when it became first a cafe, then an hotel in 1948. It deteriorated over the years and was eventually used as a store room by antique dealer John Taylor. John was a neighbour of ours in West Street, and when he bought Tudor House he offered us the oak bracket wall lights

with shades showing a hunting scene. He explained that they prevented him leaning large furniture against the walls! The house (along with a more modern house behind) was auctioned in 1978.

The Tudor House is now an Inn, renovated to offer modern standards

of comfort but retaining the charming medieval features. The bedrooms named after historical characters such as Anne Boleyn make it a popular rendezvous with trans-Atlantic tourists, but it also welcomes the locals for drinks and meals.

Perhaps Jean's presentation will inspire some of us to tackle some serious research work into local landmarks.

### Next Meeting

Tuesday, 8th April at 2.30pm  
in St Chad's Church

### ***Cordelia Leigh's Diary of World War 1***

*selected by Sheila Woolf.*

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**Any questions?  
Contact Lisa  
on 01926 334708**



# One Community - Working Together

**Warwick District Council  
Gypsy and Traveller Site Consultation  
17 March - 5 May 2014.**

**Go to: Latest News at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/planning](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/planning)**

**A well-attended public meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, ahead of the Warwick District Council Gypsy and Traveller Sites - Preferred Options Consultation, was good humoured and productive.**

Sean Deely, Chairman of the Parish Council, opened the meeting and set the context for the forthcoming second round in the consultation process. "In the first consultation last summer there were 6 potential sites within the Parish boundary. Our efforts, supported by our specialist planning advisors, have seen that number reduced by three with a further two demoted to "alternative sites". But an additional site at the Brookside Willows Caravan Park has been added into this round. So there are two *Preferred Option* sites within the Parish- Brookside Willows Caravan Park and a site on Europa Way north east of the Traffic Police HQ." Total capacity of these two sites is 15 pitches.

Sean explained the PC and Residents Action Group had spent the previous 6 weeks obtaining initial specialist advice and setting the strategy for the consultation. "The consultation period starts on Monday and we are ready. By then we will have instructed our specialist advisors to progress a significant programme of work accessing the suitability of the sites based on planning factors alone. For example ecology, highways, landscape etc. We will devote significant resources to this and it will be hugely expensive. We will find the money somehow but we may need your help." The opening address concluded with a wish that the community would work together in a co-ordinated way using sound Planning arguments, for the best outcome.

Sean then introduced David McGrath. As well as an expert in Gypsy and Traveller Planning issues, he is a time served community campaigner, ex-Birmingham City councillor and Chairman of Meriden RAID, the group that combated illegal gypsy and traveller site development over a three and half year period.

David addressed the audience on Government Policy and Warwick District's legal obligations. He spoke of his experiences in Meriden explaining that he had never fought against the gypsy and traveller lifestyles, but feels extremely strongly that appropriate sites only should be designated and that there should be no illegal development.

**Continued on page 23**

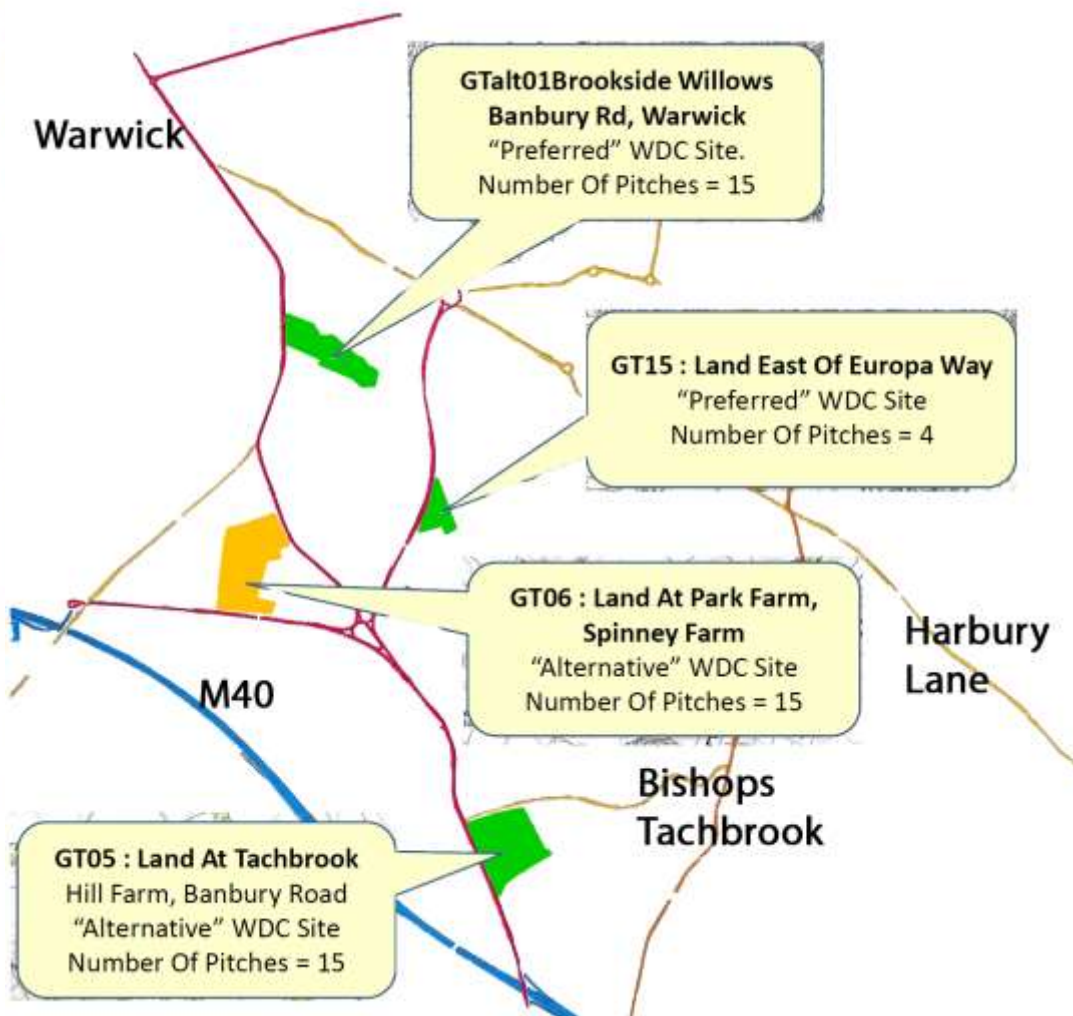
**Pages 20-21 show the proposed locations for the sites**

# Public Meeting On Gypsy & Traveller Sites – Info Sheet

Sports & Social Club

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March

10am to 12 noon.



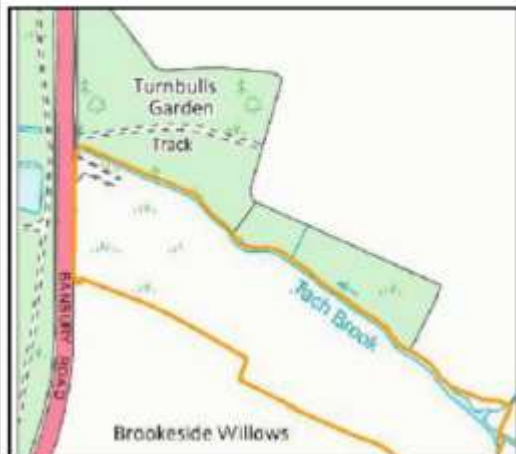
- 31 Pitches Required Over Next 15 Yrs (25 in the next 5 yrs). Requires Circa 4 Sites.
- Total Number Of Sites Considered By WDC = 44.
- Sites Designated By WDC : Red = 31, Amber = 5, Green = 8.

Red = Not suitable, do not meet a number of the requirements criteria.

Amber = Possibly suitable, more data required to confirm.

Green = Most suitable – meets most of the requirements criteria.

**GTalt01 Brookside Willows Banbury Rd, Warwick**  
 "Preferred" WDC Site, Number Of Pitches = 15



Not in Green Belt.  
 Has planning permission for holiday caravan site.  
 Close to edge of urban area, well screened.  
 New access created with turning lane from Banbury Road to highway standards for caravan park.  
 Flooded watercourses drain to road rather than onsite.  
 Planning conditions on existing permission deal with issues of contamination from landfill.  
 Landfill details/potential risks known from previous work carried out for planning application.  
 Existing pedestrian access, close to primary road network.

**GT15 : Land East Of Europa Way**  
 "Preferred" WDC Site, Number Of Pitches = 4



Not in Green Belt.  
 Site area reduced to take account of flooding.  
 Well screened.  
 Close to primary road network.  
 Close to edge of urban area, facilities and services.  
 WCC owned land which can be made available.  
 Deliverable.  
 Access achievable.

**GT05 : Land At Tachbrook Hill Farm, Banbury Rd**  
 "Alternative" WDC Site, Number Of Pitches = 15



Not in Green Belt.  
 Lies within Flood Zone 1 and therefore sequentially preferable.  
 Site area reduced to avoid noise from major roads, high pressure gas main on southern part of site and farm complex.  
 Close to primary road network.

**GT06 : Land At Park Farm Spinney Farm**  
 "Alternative" WDC Site, Number Of Pitches = 15



Not in Green Belt.  
 May cause problems for viable agricultural unit.  
 Proximity to Grade 1 Listed Park and Garden at Castle Park.  
 Contamination issue related to former landfill site on western third of site reduces developable area.  
 May be noise issue connected with proximity to Warwick By-Pass in part.  
 Lies within Flood Zone 1 and therefore sequentially preferable.  
 Access should be achievable north of Park Farm.

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## Continued from page 19

Facilitated by David, the two preferred sites and then the two back up sites were presented and discussed. Residents were encouraged to offer local information and to ask questions about each of the sites in turn. Only Brookside Willows was thought by residents present to have some merits as a potential site.

After an hour and a half David passed the reins back to Sean who concluded the meeting with some closing comments, thanking residents for giving up their time on a Saturday morning to attend.



♦ It is very important that we engage together in response to this round of consultation. Speak to your friends and neighbours.

♦ We must all use sound planning-based comments to respond to the proposals. Emotive comments will not carry any weight.

♦ Warwick District Council will be running a drop in session in late March. They will publicise this.

♦ A Community Engagement Day is being arranged to provide feedback on the studies being conducted and to provide guidance to residents in forming their responses.

### What do you know?

Your local knowledge of these sites could help build powerful responses to the consultation.

**Announcement**  
**Bishop's Tachbrook Community Engagement Day**  
**Gypsy and Traveller Sites**  
**15th April**  
**Sports and Social Club**  
**11am - 8pm**



# Oakley Wood



## Woodland Craft Day

## & BioBlitz

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**10am to 3pm**

Bring  
your own  
PICNIC

### Craft Stalls

Come along and discover the fascinating variety of traditional woodland crafts taking place amongst the beautiful trees of Oakley Wood. A wide variety of demonstrations will be taking place throughout the whole day!

- Blacksmith - Richard Swift
- Bushcraft - Bob Thomas
- Pole Lathe Turner - Matt Jarvis
- Rustic Furniture - Neil Mapes
- Specialist Weaver - Richard Cook
- Spoon Carver - Martin Damen
- Willow Tunnel Weaver - Mike Ashton



### BioBlitz

A BioBlitz is a race against the clock to discover as many species of plants and animals as possible!

This event is for novices and experts alike, both young and old. Together with the help of local experts we will work together to discover as many species as possible at Oakley Wood.

**10:00 - BioBlitz Begins!**

**11:00 - Small Mammal Survey (check traps)**

**12:00 - Wildflower Survey**

**13:00 - Invertebrate Survey/Bug Hunt!**

**14:00 - Pond Survey Dipping & Butterfly Walk**

**15:00 - BioBlitz Ends - Species Count!**



**At our meeting this month the speaker was James Kerr with his talk entitled "Shakespeare's Scenery".** This proved to be a slide show promoting his new book. The only difference being he was a very accomplished photographer and his photos were excellent. They were mainly of the Stratford area but stretched down to Chipping Campden and across to Kenilworth. Anyone who gets up at 3:00 am just to get the right photograph of the mist rising is either mad or very dedicated. The latter in James's case.

**We then went on to discuss outings and events.** A group of us were a little weary having visited the Assay Office in Birmingham earlier in the day. Unfortunately there were no free samples but it had been a very enjoyable tour and we were very pleased we didn't have to walk through airport type scanners to make sure their silver collection was still intact and not on the way to Warwickshire! Some members had also been to the Sleep and Health lecture and found it most informative - I knew I should have gone!! Forthcoming events include a Blooming Clothes Show at Hatton Shopping Village, a treasure hunt, a visit to Oxford Castle, OK I didn't know Oxford had a castle, and a visit to Shrewsbury Flower Show.

**Here we are organising our cake stall hopefully for May 3rd.** I will confirm next month but if you enjoy baking all contributions are most welcome. Also fingers crossed July 1st is a warm evening allowing us play croquet and sample an odd glass or two of Pimms and before

that we hope to have a skittles evening maybe with a fish and chip supper. We have also organised a beading class in early April. A busy few months ahead of us.

In April the speaker is Merleen Watson who will tell us about Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. In May we discuss the resolution to be taken forward to the National AGM, in June we will learn about Philip Larkin's Women and in July we will be going "To the Fringe and Beyond" with Ginny Davis. I am sure something for everyone.

A big thank you for all the used stamps and the old bras. I recently took 13lbs of them to Bravissimo in two very large carrier bags!! In total its approximately 15 to 20 kilos I've collected and at £1 per kilo it all helps towards their charity which this year is Mind.

**If any of this has whetted your appetite to do something different come along to a meeting or give me a ring first. Fun and friendship is what we are all about.**

Anne Allen 424135

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

# Notice Board

## **Churchyard Gardening Group**

We will be meeting again this year on 2nd Saturday and 4th Wednesday of each month, whenever possible from 10-12 noon. If you would enjoy a couple of hours working in a lovely, peaceful place, with refreshments provided, do please feel welcome to join us - but please bring your own tools.

Desnee Fletcher. Tel 330050.

## **Thank You**

Thank you to all who helped with the Spring Clean and Churchyard Tidy, on the day, before and after the day and taking all the rubbish to the tip. The weather was kind and willing hands worked all morning fortified by delicious sausage rolls and mini quiches supplied by Lizzy Pickles. Many thanks to Lizzy and Richard.

Next deadline for magazine items is 15th April for the May issue. Please send to  
catherine.keen@btinternet.com

## **Home at last after 9 weeks**

Through the magazine I would like to thank all of you who sent me cards, flowers and presents and the many of you who came to see me – even when I moved to Shipston.

Two special people to thank are firstly the unknown gentleman who stopped to help me and call an ambulance (if anyone knows his name please let me know.)

The other special person is Pat Taylor of Holt Avenue, who went to get her morning paper and ended up coming to Warwick hospital with me. Due to the fact it was Christmas Eve, the transport problem was terrible. Pat remained with me until 4 o'clock when I told her to go home, just as well as it was 10.30pm when I got to Nichol Ward Stratford (an hour and a half before Father Christmas!) Thanks Pat you really were a friend in need.

At both Nichol ward and Low Furlong Shipston I received the very best of treatment by all the staff, nothing was too much trouble and the food was excellent. I received nothing but kindness. I'm not fully fit, but getting there. Hope to see you around. Kath Reason.

### Team Leopard

Here we go again!! Three regulars and the general manager from The Leopard, all from the village, have been accepted and now registered for the 2 castles 10K (6.2 miles) run between Warwick Castle and Kenilworth Castle. On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June last year Luke (the General Manager of The Leopard), and Eddie Cousins finished the run/walk in good time and were able to amass £1880 in sponsorship for the Myton Hospice – a worthy cause you will agree. This year four of us are taking part for the Myton Hospice so we hope to bring in more than last year. This can only be achieved with your help and generosity.

Donations please to:

Eddie Cousins: 01926 336360

Luke Moss: 07429466522

Matthew Nesbitt: 07825767792

Mark Thompson: 07581430113

Thanking you in anticipation.



### Christmas Shoe Boxes

For quite a number of years I have organised the shoe boxes, I now feel it is time I stepped down and found someone else to take over from this year. Please is there anyone who would like to take on this annual job? Let me know and I will show you what needs to be done. Thanks  
Kath Reason 334642

### Annual Village Litter Pick Up

**The annual village Litter Pick-up will take place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April between 6.15pm and 7.15pm.** The event is led by the Parish Council and the Brownies but really needs some extra support from villagers. With more helpers we could cover a larger area of the village, including the Churchyard, village green and the meadow. If you are able to help out for just an hour, please come along to the Sports and Social club at 6pm.

There will also be a group working on Warwick Gates, meeting at the Community Centre at 6pm.

Any questions, please contact Rob Loveday on 07825 345009 or [robertloveday@sky.com](mailto:robertloveday@sky.com)

### Country Dancing Club

2nd Thursday of every month  
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Contact Julie Jaggard 314286  
All welcome!



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**Last month's meeting was on Shrove Tuesday.** We didn't make pancakes but we did talk about the many traditions across the world connected to it. It's amazing what one can discover with a spot of 'googling'! Shrove Tuesday was so called because in the middle ages, before the six weeks of the Lenten fasting began, people went to the priest and confessed their sins and were given a penance and 'shriven' ie absolved. From then on diets were very meagre and meat and any rich foods were given up – hence the tradition of using up eggs and butter to make pancakes before Lent began. Some towns and villages hold pancake races while others, such as Ashbourne in Derbyshire, hold football matches, the whole town and river becoming the 'pitch'. Shop windows are boarded up and the day is one of fierce competition and rivalry.

France and its former dependencies celebrate Mardi Gras when similarly all the rich foods are eaten up, and other Catholic European countries have their own version of it. The tradition in some countries is to hold a Carnival in the week running up to the beginning of Lent involving processions, music, dancing and masquerade, with the last day being Mardi Gras with a carnival parade. What I hadn't realised was that the word 'carnival' means 'to put away flesh', so it is the same as our Shrove Tuesday when we turn to fasting and Lent.

By the time this edition of the magazine is in your hands our Spring coffee morning will be over and I hope we will have

raised plenty of money for our MU projects. This time a little of our fundraising is staying with our branch to support our work here in Tachbrook. We are knitting little angels to give to children at their baptism and we have bought some labels to sew on the angels saying 'On your Baptism, knitted with love by St Chad's Mothers' Union'. We are also sending out cards to people on the anniversary of their baptism. Peter has made the cards with photos of two of our stained glass windows. The majority of the coffee morning proceeds will be sent to Away From It All, the MU project which gives holidays to families in this diocese who are in real need of a break.

Our next meeting is on **Tues 1st April at 2 pm at 81 Kingsley Road** when we will have our Lent Communion service. This is a reminder that all our work, wherever it is in the world, is undergirded by prayer; we couldn't do it on our own!

Jenny Lister - Branch Leader Tel. 427922







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## Bishops Tachbrook Cycle of Prayer Praying for our Community

I have agreed to write the Prayer Calendar each month. If there are any particular concerns you would like us to include, or you feel I have left out something important, please let me know. I am John Pratt and can be contacted at

[j.a.pratt@btinternet.com](mailto:j.a.pratt@btinternet.com)

**This month we pray for  
those who live in:**

Commander Close  
Court Close  
Croft Close  
Dogberry Way



I have not made a mistake as you might think, looking at the list below. It is just that Easter is so important that no saints can be celebrated in the week following Easter day. So therefore St George and St Mark will be commemorated not on their traditional days but on the first available free days. The actual times of the services will be on the weekly notices beforehand.

### **Dates in April:**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> – Passion Sunday  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> – Easter Day  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – St George, Martyr, patron of England  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> – St Mark – Evangelist

## April Rotas

### **Cleaning**

5th Sue Hitchin  
12th Desnee & Mervyn Fletcher  
19th Jenny & Peter Lister  
26th Jo Shaw

### **Assistant Stewards**

6th Kevin Pantling  
13th John & Ros Pratt  
20th Debra Cokayne  
27th Huw Davies

### **Sidespersons**

6th Ray & Anne Allen  
13th Vera Vale & Joan Alderman  
20th Rod Smith & Mac McGarrick  
27th Sheila Hayward & Kath Reason

### **Coffee**

6th Fiona Meades & Joan Alderman  
13th Jean Coope & Mac McGarrick  
20th Maralyn & Roy Brown  
27th Gill Yarwood & Rod Smith

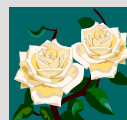
## The Christian Family

### **Baptisms**

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Sophie Thompson  
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### **Funerals**

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Kevin Marshall



### **I saw my first Brimstone butterfly on 7 March and another two days later.**

The lemon yellow males seem to be just the right colour for the time of year, matching the daffodils and primroses. The females are paler, almost creamy but you can distinguish them from a Large White because their large wings have points as if they've been roughly torn from tissue paper. Butterflies had a hard time in previous cool summers but numbers were up after last year's long spells of summer sun and warmth.

The winter weather has caused concern among butterfly conservationists, not because of flooding and wet but because of the mild weather. Early emerging butterflies such as the Brimstone, Peacock and Tortoiseshell have overwintered as adults. They have developed to withstand the frosts and cold of winter and are so vulnerable to disease in mild winters. Mild weather encourages them to wake and search for nectar, exposing them to predators. When they wake early in the year there are few plants flowering that can provide them with food. Unlike the early bees they don't like the snowdrops, preferring Cowslips, and their cousins the Primulas. Early Dandelions are a favourite even if they aren't with gardeners! Later in Spring Aubrietia will attract them even though this is not a native plant.

**Our garden's microclimate is cooler so our daffodils are flowering later than our neighbours'.** It's amazing how small an area is affected. The patio, which is near the house and nearly south facing gets the sun all year whereas the hedge

and fences shade the garden during the colder months. A friend who has had daffodils flowering in her back garden since February has some just about to flower in her front garden. Neighbours across the road from us have lovely displays in their front gardens weeks before us. On the plus side the shade from the hedge creates a woodland environment and we have violets flowering in March. They are wild but I love them. I'm not so kind to the Cleavers and Speedwell, which appear each year despite my efforts. We called Cleavers 'Sweetheart' as children because of their ability to 'stick' onto clothes when thrown at each other. We had fun showing our grandson this trick. Hopefully he will not try it with other plants!

**I thought the blackbirds were trying to nest in the cotoneaster growing next to our front door.** I could see much activity going on, tails flicking, wings fluttering. I had a close look and there was no sign of a nest. If the mess of berries around is any indication I think it's a feast of the end of last Autumn's bounty, just the thing to build up blackbirds ready to nest. I saw a female Blackbird with a beakful of nesting material at the end of February. The milder weather has encouraged the birds to build early and maybe lay eggs but the frosty nights that occurred after the "rainy season" must have caused problems.

A pond owner told me in February they had frogspawn. Hopefully it is developing well and soon there will be tadpoles.

**Do let us know your Spring sightings, birds, insects or plants.**



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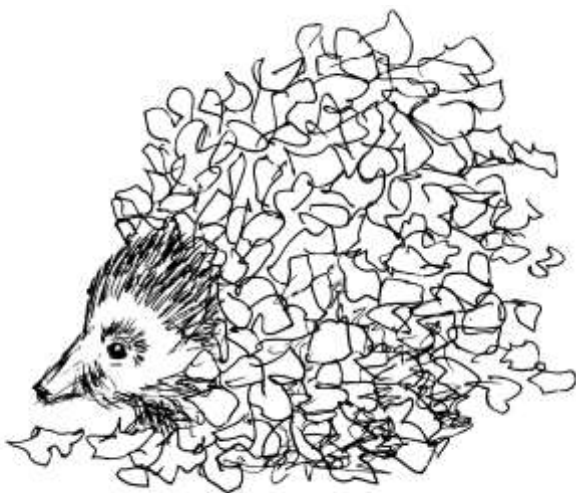
**I heard the first day of Spring on February 18th!** Nature doesn't always agree with our calendar which states that Spring begins on 21st March, nonsense! A chaffinch began to sing its bouncy melody, then its nearest rival followed, then another. I always imagine the first bird waking up, sniffing the air and thinking, "Ok, it's today." So it starts, a Mexican wave of birdsong, rippling across the whole country. Then the Blackbirds joined in, my favourite, a warm throaty velvet tone, the Ella Fitzgerald of the birds for me. Poets go on and on about Nightingales, they are fairly rare and unusual but give me a black-bird anytime.

The day after was warm with a sunny blue sky, a Bumble Bee buzzed loudly past me, Honey Bees had found the open crocuses, and even a very early wasp ventured out. I thought, all I need now is a butterfly and, blow me, a tortoiseshell fluttered by! Great Spotted Woodpeckers started drumming on a specially chosen hollow or dead parts of trees, for maximum acoustic effect, proclaiming their territories just like a song. Although one Swallow doesn't make a Summer, all this and a Sparrow with a beak full of nesting material does make a Spring!

Our Rook has returned to the bird table for the third Spring in a row. It only ever comes this time of year. The crow family are clever a bunch, I like the way this one has learnt where to get fast food just when it needs it for its young and remembers where we are each year.

Early March saw hedgehog poo on the patio! Well I never thought I'd be so pleased to see poo! A small hedgehog was still active around the garden at the end of November. It was underweight and fast running out of time before Winter. I found its nest site next door in a pile of leaves, tucked behind a gate. I put more leaves on top to keep out Winter as best I could. Our neighbours were very pleased to have a hedgehog. Cat food was put down each evening in an attempt to fatten it up. All we could do was wait for Spring with fingers crossed. So poo was the first sign in March, then one evening I saw it emerge, pushing its way out of the leaves. Cat food was put down again to give it a head start. A mild Winter and it had made it.

(Right 'Hedgehog Leaves' by Steve Harvey)







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## Did you know...?

### DINOSAUR FACTS

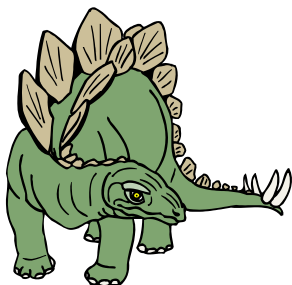
The word dinosaur comes from the Greek language and means 'terrible lizard'. The word was coined by English paleontologist Richard Owen in 1842 and was meant to refer to Dinosaurs impressive size rather than their scary appearance.

**Dinosaurs ruled the Earth for over 160 million years, from the Triassic period around 230 million years ago through the Jurassic period and until the end of the Cretaceous period around 65 million years ago.**

It is believed that dinosaurs lived on Earth until around 65 million years ago when a mass extinction occurred.

**Scientists believe that the event leading to the extinction may have been a massive asteroid impact or huge volcanic activity. Events such as these could have blocked out sunlight and significantly changed the Earth's ecology.**

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz>

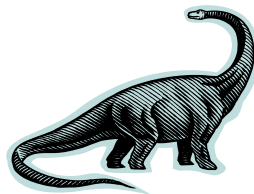


## Test yourself...

### How well do you know your dinosaurs...?

#### TRUE OR FALSE

1. A person who studies dinosaurs is known as a paleontologist.
2. Pterodactyls are not dinosaurs.
3. Birds are descended from a type of dinosaurs known as phelopods.
4. The first dinosaur to be formally named was the Brachiosaurus back in 1924.
5. The largest dinosaurs were actually herbivores.
6. Jurassic Park was a real life documentary.



- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1. | True  |
| 2. | True. They were flying reptiles that lived during the age of dinosaurs but by definition they do not fall into the same category. |
| 3. | False - theropods   |
| 4. | False - it was the Megalosaurus in 1824   |
| 5. | True  |
| 6. | False! Of course it wasn't!   |

### Parish Council News continued

The **Neighbourhood Plan Working Party** is moving forward in developing a plan for this parish. If you would like to become involved they meet at the school on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and contribute.

The deadline for the **Governance Review**, which will decide our parish boundary in the future, is 30 April – details are on the Notice Boards. The PC will be making a further and final written submission on your behalf.

The **BMX track** has been resurfaced. **Grass cutting** has started early on the parish greens and on the Meadow. Quotes are being obtained for resurfacing the **toddler play area**, and for upgrading and fencing the **junior play area**. We have had some useful ideas from residents, and also from the children arising from a project at the school last term.

**Next meeting is on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm at the School. All residents are welcome to attend.**

Mrs. Corinne Hill, Parish Clerk, Gaydon Field's Farm Gaydon CV35 0HF

Tel: 01926 641220 [parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com](mailto:parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com)/[parishclerk85@btinternet.com](mailto:parishclerk85@btinternet.com)

### Bishops Tachbrook Junior Youth Club

Monday 6.30-8pm in the School Hall - during Term Time only  
£1.50 per session and yearly membership of £2 payable in September.

For more information contact Anoushka on 311538 or  
[anoushka76@hotmail.com](mailto:anoushka76@hotmail.com) or come along on a Monday.

We desperately need more adult  
volunteers to come and help at our club, if you can spare a couple of hours on an odd  
Monday then please let me know.

### Church Officers

Vicar Rev Elaine Scrivens Tel: 426922

Church Wardens Andrew Day Tel: 889417 Linda Stevens Tel: 334812

Deputy Church Warden Rod Smith

Treasurer Vera Leeke Tel: 882675

Magazine Editor Catherine Keen Tel: 886980 [catherine.keen@btinternet.com](mailto:catherine.keen@btinternet.com)

Advertising Editor Pam Davies [btachbrookmagad@live.co.uk](mailto:btachbrookmagad@live.co.uk)

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