

parish magazine

Bishop's Tachbrook

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St Chad's



Feb 15



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As I sit writing, it is a beautiful day, the sun is shining and outside my study window I have seen a number of visitors this morning. There was a little wren, followed by a couple of blue tits and then along came a robin. It has been magical. Tiny snowdrops are emerging, reminding me of pleasures yet to come and moments that will be shared. It is also that time of the year when shops suddenly become festooned with hearts and the card and confectionery industry go into overdrive! Valentine's Day is on its way.

This is great for those who partake but I don't. I'm not a party pooper but I think like so many "special" days it has become far too commercial, and I don't like its focus on romantic love because it can feel exclusive rather than inclusive.

Love can be and indeed should be embraced in many forms: the love of two people, the love parents have for a child, the love that close friends can share. Essentially, love is about people; it's heart-warming, passionate, refreshing, and full of potential and ideas. Ultimately, love is about giving and receiving – it is certainly worth celebrating.

Love is not about segregation but unification; it's about what you can share. In the first letter of Corinthians, Chapter 13, Paul reminds us what love is really all about. It says: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,

endures all things. Love never ends." This is truly beautiful and inclusive, and that's how God loves us: totally and completely, always and forever, and love is at the heart of all the different relationships we have with God and one another.

Thanksgiving, celebration and sharing are the central purposes of who and what we are, bringing people together in all their differences to share love in the present and in moments yet to come. So, as we see snowdrops poking up through the hard frozen ground, let them be a symbol to us of moments of pleasure and celebration of our love for one another, in all its different forms.

As a parish we celebrate that love and care each year at a Civic Service. This service recognises the good that happens in this parish. We bring together our many organisations and give thanks for all they do for us and with us. This year our service will be on **March 1st at 10am.** Do come along and help us celebrate and give thanks to those in our parish who give tirelessly of their time to help others. Whether that is by running Brownies, Rainbows or Cubs; by organising talks and visits and here I'm thinking of the WI and the History Group; by compiling, and delivering, this magazine; by being part of our district or Parish Council. These are just a handful of groups, there are others. This year our Primary School will be putting on a short play about St Chad and the children will also lead us in song. Please come if you can and enjoy a time of thanksgiving followed by refreshments. I look forward to welcoming you.

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Tachbrook Stores

As the new owners of Tachbrook Stores, we would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves to the people of Bishop's Tachbrook, and thank those we have already met for their kind welcome. As an essential part of the village, we hope to make the village shop one that serves the local community as completely as possible and we would welcome any feedback that helps to improve the experience of shopping at Tachbrook stores. We're very happy to be joining the village of Bishop's Tachbrook, and hope the improvements we are making and have planned will be well received.

All the best for the New Year

Bobby & Surj



Parish Magazine Editor

I've very much enjoyed putting together the Parish Magazine, I feel it's a great asset to our community and I know it's read and appreciated by many people. We are lucky to have many excellent regular contributors who give their time each month to keep everyone updated on events and activities in the parish. However, after 6 years it's time to find someone to take over from me as editor and bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the magazine.

Each month contributors email me their pieces, and I then edit and present the magazine content before sending it to Ann Marie Wells for proof reading and then to Cadmans for printing. Once the magazines are printed Kate Wellsted takes charge of the distribution.

A new dedicated laptop installed with Adobe Indesign (including Illustrator and Photoshop) and Microsoft Word and Publisher will be provided. I will help to set you up and get you started, and you can then choose whether to continue producing the magazine in Microsoft Publisher using my template (this is very simple and easy to use!) or experiment and develop the layout using Indesign.

The magazine committee meets informally each month to chat through the month's content and provide suggestions, support and advice so you will never feel on your own.

Please do think about taking this on; it's a worthwhile and rewarding thing to do for your community and there are many exciting possibilities taking the magazine forward, including closer links with the parish website.

If you are interested please get in touch catherine.keen@btinternet.com 01926 886980 to talk further. Catherine Keen

Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies

As I am sure a lot of readers are aware, BT Brownies is very popular and currently full to the brim with lovely girls who are thoroughly enjoying the Brownie experience.

Going forward, we will have to give priority to the girls of BT village and the section of Warwick Gates that comes under the Parish of BT and to any girl who attends BT School. This has become necessary as we are oversubscribed and can only realistically take a certain number due to the hall size and Brownie leaders.

We also need to know how many girls to expect and ask that if your daughter is in Reception or Year 1 and would like to be a Brownie when she is 7, please email carolineloveday@sky.com to register your interest in Brownies. Even if your daughter is a Rainbow, you still need to put her name on the Brownie waiting list.



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I have recently taken over running Tachbrook Tinies, our village playgroup for babies and preschool children.

Before I had my twin boys, I was a full time working mum and I didn't know any other mums in the village. I had heard about Tachbrook Tinies and although I was a bit apprehensive about walking into a room full of strangers, I wanted to get to know local mums, so I came to the group. I was so happy I did because everyone was so friendly and welcoming. There was always someone willing to hold or even feed one of my boys, and always a cup of tea and biscuit brought to me!



In September, after my daughter started school I volunteered to run Tachbrook Tinies. I have made a few changes: a new baby area with soft playmats and toys and a large craft table on the upper floor. Refreshments for the parents and carers are available throughout the session, and a healthy snack for the children is available at 10.00. We finish the session with songs and rhymes, which the babies and children really enjoy.

In December we had Crazy Kiln come to the group and the children made some lovely handprints on pottery baubles! I hope to arrange more events in the new year. It would be lovely to have some new members, so if you are a local mum or carer, please come along to the Sports and Social Club, Thursdays (Term time) 9.30 – 11.00.

I will take the opportunity to thank Emma, our kitchen volunteers Jacqui and Meg, and all the mums who come straight from school/preschool to help set up. The group couldn't be run without you! Volunteers to set up/make tea/wash up are always welcome, so if you are free and would like to help, please contact me on 07854427213.



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February Rotas

Assistant Stewards

- 1st Fiona & Ewan Meades
8th Andrew Day
15th Graham Leeke
22nd Huw Davies

Cleaning

- 7th Jo Shaw
14th Liz Sheehan
21st Fiona Meades & Jo Jordan
28th Esther Boyle & Gill Yarwood

Coffee

- 1st Volunteers required
8th Maralyn & Roy Brown
15th Gill & Paul Yarwood
22nd Ros Pratt & Jane Everett

Sidespersons

- 1st Sheila Hayward & Kath Reason
8th Bernard & Jean Fisher
15th Simon & Melissa Odling
22nd Mervyn & Desnee Fletcher

Bishops Tachbrook Cycle of Prayer

Praying for our Community

If there are any particular concerns you would like us to include in the Prayer Diary or please let me know. I am John Pratt and can be contacted at j.a.pratt@btinternet.com

This month we pray for those who live in:
Banbury Road, Beale Close, Bishop's Close, Bolingbroke Close and Bradford Close.



Sunday the 1st of February is Candlemas, or the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, the very first special thing Mary and Joseph could do for Jesus. The 18th is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent.. Do think what your special Lent discipline might be this year - not a matter of giving up something but a way in which you can help someone else, perhaps even without their knowing!

What's on at St Chad's

February 1st 10am **Candlemas** Come and join us in a special service of Light – children all get glowsticks as we remember the Presentation of Jesus as represented in our Morris window.

March 1st **Civic Service** 10am All welcome

March 15th **Mothering Sunday** Come and honour all those who have cared for us.

March 22nd **Annual Parochial Council Meeting**

March 29th **Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week.**



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The Christian Family

Baptisms

Poppybelle Liberty-Damp

William Thomas Higgs

Rebecca Frances Higgs

Thomas Ellis Kane

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Funerals

Mary Poole

Kenneth Hitchcox

*We pray for their souls and
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After an action packed 2014 with the Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, World Cup in Brazil, Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and the amazing battle of Rosberg and Hamilton for the Formula One world championship you would think that 2015 would be a quiet year, but that is not so. There are hundreds of sporting events going on so let's begin with January.

Between the 8-11th of January there was the **Autosport international show** at the NEC in Birmingham. This year's show had 7 star guests from 4 series. They were former F1 driver David Coulthard, Endurance and Le Man driver Allan McNish, World Rally champion Petter Solberg and 4 BTCC drivers including current champion Colin Turkington, Honda teammates Gordon Shedden and Matt Neal and 2013 champion Andrew Jordan. On show were all the cars from the 2014 F1 championship excluding Caterham and Marussia who have gone into administration. Each of the star guests had a go at the tyre change competition to get one tyre off and another on in the quickest time and it was won by Andrew Jordan who did it in just over 24 seconds.

This month was the **Skeleton Bob World Cup** and Olympic gold medallist Lizzy Yarnold made her return to the sport after her success in Sochi. After experiencing dizziness in Canada she came back strong in Germany and finished 0.04 seconds behind Russian Maria Orlova. In one of the previous World Cup event in Lake Placid she took gold. Later this year there are more World Cup

events:

Igls, Austria – 2-8th February
Sochi, Russia – 10-15th February

Football this month had two FA Cup rounds and some Premier League scares and shocks. Everyone in England would know about Spurs' win over Chelsea and Manchester City then losing points to Everton to allow Chelsea a two point lead. Over in Europe PSG have allowed Bayern Munich to become the only unbeaten team in Europe except Norway which have yet to kick off their season. Also this month it has been up and down for Leamington Brakes as they lost on New Year's Day 3-1 away to Oxford City but then went on to win 4-3 against Bradford Park Avenue.

This month was the much loved **X – games** in Aspen, Colorado in the United States. This event includes many sports like freestyle snowboarding, snowcross and skiing.

In Australia England were involved in some **cricket** against India and Australia. On the 16th England played Australia in Sydney. On the 20th England played India in Brisbane. On the England played Australia in Hobart and finally England played India on the 30th in Perth. (Results for these games are unknown when written).

What to look for next month:

The Super Bowl
Six Nations
Champion's League
African Cup of Nations
Cricket World Cup
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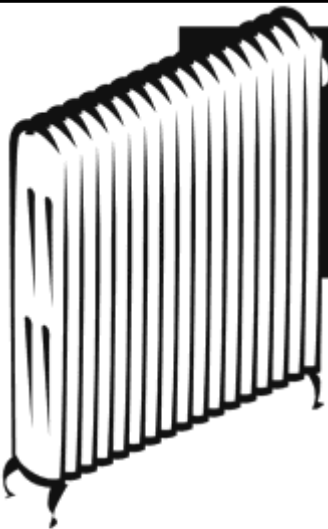
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So, in addition to straight roads, baths, towns, the Romans also brought us nettles!

They introduced them to our island as a salad vegetable.

Here's a Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall recipe for nettle soup. I aim to try this when nettles start growing in February. Apparently it's a Valentines Day must in Hugh's household.

Ingredients

Around 150g nettle tops
30-35g knob of butter
1 onion, peeled chopped
1 large or 2 smallish leeks, trimmed, washed and finely sliced
2 celery sticks, chopped
1 clove garlic, peeled and chopped
2 tbsp white rice, such as basmati
1 litre vegetable (or chicken) stock
Sea salt and freshly ground pepper
6 heaped tbsp thick, plain yoghurt, and 1 small bunch chives, to finish

What to do

Pick over the nettles, wash them thoroughly and discard the tougher stalks.
Melt the butter in a large pan over medium-low heat, add the onion, leek, celery and garlic, cover and sweat gently for 10 minutes, stirring a few times, until soft but not brown.
Add the rice and stock, bring to a simmer and cook for 10 minutes.
Add the nettles, stirring them into the stock as they wilt, and simmer for five minutes or so, until the rice and the nettles are tender (very young nettle tops will need only two to three minutes).
Season with plenty of salt and pepper.
Purée the soup in two batches, reheat if necessary and check the seasoning.
Serve in warmed bowls, topping each portion with a large dollop of yoghurt and a generous sprinkling of snipped chives.

The Romans also brought us cherries, cabbages and peas, as well as improving the cultivation of crops such as cereals. And they brought us wine!

The Saxons were excellent farmers and cultivated a wide variety of herbs. These were not used just for flavour as they are today but to pad out stews.

Saxon Hare, Rabbit, Veal or Chicken Stew

Ingredients

50g (2oz) butter
1 -1.5kg (depending on the amount of bone) of hare or rabbit joints, stewing veal or chicken joints
450g washed and trimmed leeks, thickly sliced
4 cloves garlic, chopped finely
175 g pot barley
900 ml water
3 generous tablespoons red or white wine vinegar
2 bay leaves, salt, pepper
15 fresh, roughly chopped sage leaves

What to do

Melt the butter in a heavy pan and fry the meat with the leeks and garlic till the vegetables are slightly softened and the meat lightly browned.
Add the barley, water, vinegar, bay leaves and seasoning. Bring the pot to the boil, cover it and simmer gently for 1 - 1 1/2 hours or till the meat is really tender and ready to fall from the bone.
Add the sage and continue to cook for several minutes. Adjust the seasoning to taste and serve in bowls— the barley will serve as a vegetable.

If you need any advice / support on growing nettles (ha, ha), onions, peas, or any other vegetable contact your history making Master Gardeners Susan Watt or I on:
suzwatt@gmail.com or 07711 498047
keithwellsted@btconnect.com or 0771 8196577

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**Bishops Tachbrook
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A busy start to the new year yet again.

The **Mallory Road Safer Crossing Point** working party met on 16th January to review options. Three local residents came and gave their views, along with Parish Councillors and a County Highways engineer. Also Cllrs. Leeke and Gabbitas met the County Council to discuss bus shelters and bus stop locations. We hope to have an update on both projects in the next edition.

Cllr. Brookes is looking into the safety issues that have been raised regarding the **fencing around the solar park, maintenance of Warwick Gates perimeter fence and the ownership of the traffic "islands" in Warwick Gates.** We would like to see these features maintained to a higher standard but at the moment we are having difficulty finding out whose responsibility this is.

Councillors agreed make a **Section 137 grant** of £350 to Tachbrook Tinies; the mother and toddler group which meets on Thursdays at the Sports and Social Club.

Vehicle Activated Sign on Oakley Wood Road should be installed by 31st March 2015. A local business has kindly donated £1,500 towards this and the Parish Council has received a grant for £3,000 which makes the shortfall (if there is one) minimal.

The proposed **traffic signal scheme** on the Tachbrook Road at the junction with Othello Avenue and the access into the new estate has been reviewed. A suggestion has been made that a mini roundabout might be a better solution. This has been put forward to County Highways. Within this scheme we are requesting a bus stop, bus shelter and a lay-by to serve both Stagecoach passengers and school bus services.

The **block paving** around the junction of Bolingbroke and Cicero have been removed because they were lifting and becoming hazardous. As a temporary fix tarmac has been laid. The District Council is liaising with the Forestry Services, as they believe the roots of the trees need attention before the paving can be re-laid.

The **BMX noticeboard** has been removed for repairs. It will be returning shortly.

The draft **Neighbourhood Plan** is ready for adoption by the Parish Council. Councillors will be considering this shortly. Once approved the plan will then be forwarded to the District Council and then the examination should begin.

Cllr. Leeke has walked the parish, with an officer from the District Council, pointing out the **vegetation which needs cutting back, the condition of the bins and litter.** We hope that this will be actioned shortly.

Cllrs. Bullen and Leeke met with residents and Severn Trent Water to discuss the **sewage issues** in the village. Severn Trent has now carried out a CCTV survey of the sewer and they have cleansed the pipe. They are now investigating what is causing the flooding and the best way to resolve it. We have been told that this process can take

Continued on page 17

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Parish Council news continued

some time to complete as they need to make sure that any solution they propose will resolve the flooding in the long term.

The budget has been set and councillors have reluctantly agreed to raise the precept by around £2.50 per year on a Band D property. This rise has been necessary because of the amount of money spent this year on professional advice required to respond to Gypsy and Traveller Site planning consultations.

The next meeting is on Thursday, 12th February when we hope to receive an update from the Police.

Any questions please contact:

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

Tel: 01926 641220

email: parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com/parishclerk85@btinternet.com

ADVERTISEMENT

The Parish Council would like to hear from anyone who is interested in maintaining the grass in the village as part of a commercial arrangement. The grass is normally cut between March and October averaging between 14 and 18 cuts a year. The Parish owns mowing equipment. If you are interested in providing a quotation, please contact the Clerk on 641220 or email parishclerk@bishopstachbrook.com

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Worship at St Chad's

Sunday

10am Holy Communion (Sunday Club is held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month)

First Sunday of the month

8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10am Family Service

Wednesday

11:15am Holy Communion (BCP)

Are these times convenient for you? Would you like a mid-week communion service in the evening or an early morning service? Please let me know, the church is here to serve you and if you find that you cannot come to church on a Sunday but that a Tuesday evening would be great, then I am happy to provide what you need. Elaine

Our last meeting was in the form of our Christmas party. Everyone was wearing their festive clothes, tables were laid with crackers for all and the food table was groaning with delicious delights prepared by the members. Our entertainment was provided by Gareth and friends, who sang songs from the shows interspersed with amusing anecdotes and yes I did walk straight into one!! As always an excellent start to the festive season.

On the previous Monday we had hosted the Group Carol Concert. This consisted of carols and readings, many of which were humorous, followed in true WI style with wine and mince pies or even coffee if preferred. About 70 members of the Avon group attended. A fitting end to the end of Bishops Tachbrook year as host WI.

In January, 19 of us enjoyed an excellent meal at the Leopard including the present County Chairman, Jeryl Stone. The weather was kind to us, no ploughing through the snow or being washed away by rain this year.

Wendy Sankey held her annual coffee morning in aid of the Air Ambulance. This was very well attended. A big thank you to all who came along and supported this event. Over £200 was raised. Keep the similar date free for next year, it's usually the second Saturday in January.

We start meeting again in February when our speaker will be Pam Sutton who is going to tell us about Troop Aid. In March, Laurence Thatcher will explain all about Roman Alcester, and in April Alan

Benjamin will be regaling us with tales about Royal Visits.. All something to look forward to.

A big thank you for all the packets of used stamps posted through my letter box. I will be contacting Marie Curie Cancer Care shortly to arrange collection so if you have any lurking in the drawer do let me have them as soon as possible. I also delivered another 7lb of unwanted bras to Bravissimo just before Christmas, so if Santa brought you a little something in your stocking, and you need a home for your old unwanted.... Bravissimo donate £1 per pound to their designated charity which last year was Mind.

If your New Year Resolution is to get out and meet more people, then come along to one of our meetings and find out what we get up to. Friendship and fun is what we are all about. You can also find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bishops.wi. Please give me a ring if I can give you any more information.

Anne Allen 424135

The logo features the text 'the WI' in a large, bold, green font, with 'the' in a smaller, lowercase font and 'WI' in a larger, uppercase font. Below this, the words 'INSPIRING WOMEN' are written in a smaller, bold, green font. The entire logo is set against a white background.

Having just ushered in a new year the parish is beginning an exciting new chapter in its history.

Since 1945, as the village was expanded with successive new housing developments added, various community attempts were made to create a village and church hall facility – all have failed. With permission granted for up to 150 new homes to be built off Oakley Wood Road, the population will further increase. Locating this important amenity at the heart of the local community will benefit all ages of residents.

The absence of such a hall in Bishop's Tachbrook is actually quite an anomaly. Did you know that Bishop's Tachbrook:

- Is the only Parish or Town Council area in Warwick District not to have the benefit of a village, or even a church, hall.
- Is the only village in Warwick District with a population larger than 150 people, which is not able to use such a facility.
- Has the 3rd largest population of the Warwick District parish council areas (2,558 people at 2011 Census) and will expand as the new homes are built.

Consultation, surveys and research dating back more than a decade identified community facilities residents in Bishop's Tachbrook would like. The agreed plan was for a new building to be centrally located on land previously set aside for this purpose in the churchyard, adjacent to the village green.

To realise this plan, in 2012 The St Chad's Centre Trust Company Ltd was established and registered as a charity.

Trustees were nominated by the Parish Council and the PCC, as well as others from potential users of the new facility.

A 99 year peppercorn land lease was granted to the Trust and over £100,000 raised from personal donations and community fundraising, almost all of which has been spent completing the detailed Centre design, obtaining consents for planning, listed building, ecclesiastical faculties and completing pre-commencement conditions. The short section of foundations constructed protects the Centre's planning permission in perpetuity.

The 2013/14 tendering process identified a preferred building contractor and, allowing for contingencies, a further investment of £500,000 would be required to complete the building. BT Parish Council granted £50,000 and Warwick District Council added a grant of £300,000, and agreed to underwrite the additional fundraising for the remaining £150,000 required.

So what's new for 2015? With pens poised over the contracts the Trustees are delighted to announce that the construction phase is planned to begin in April 2015, running through until the end of November 2015. This then allows time for commissioning and an official opening before the end of the year.

By Christmas, Trustees expect the Centre to be up and running for bookings. It will be available to book through the Parish website, with users registering to enable them to view availability. Rates and a timetable of events/groups will be pub-

lished.

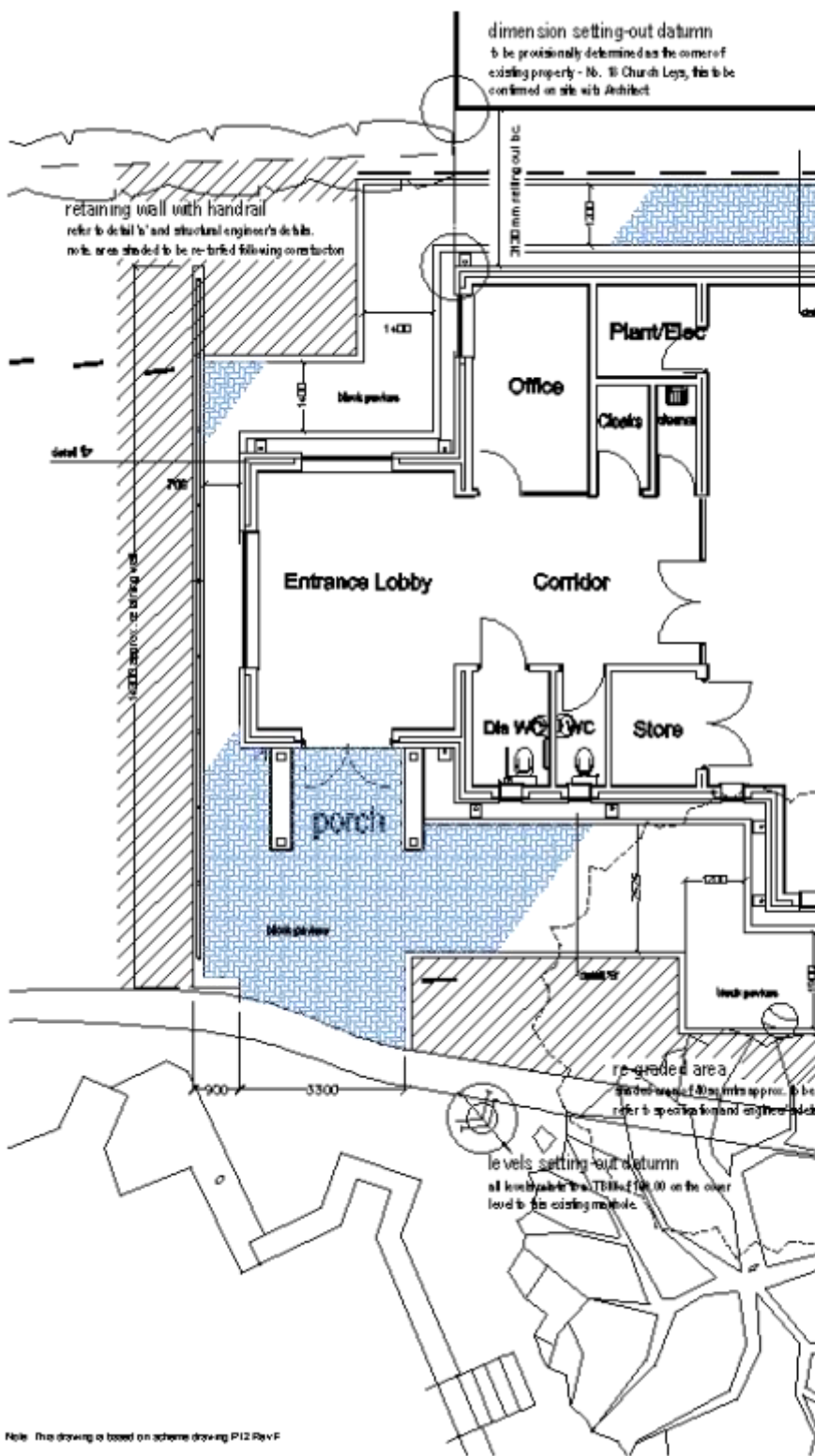
The Trustees and all who have been involved in the creation of the St Chad's Centre believe it will stand at the heart of our community, transforming village life and afford safe and comfortable facilities that encourage interaction and sustain interest in activities and events that directly enrich resident's lives. In a few years time we will look back and wonder how we coped without simple amenities like toilets for events on the village green or a base for groups who have stoically managed using the church's mediaeval facilities.

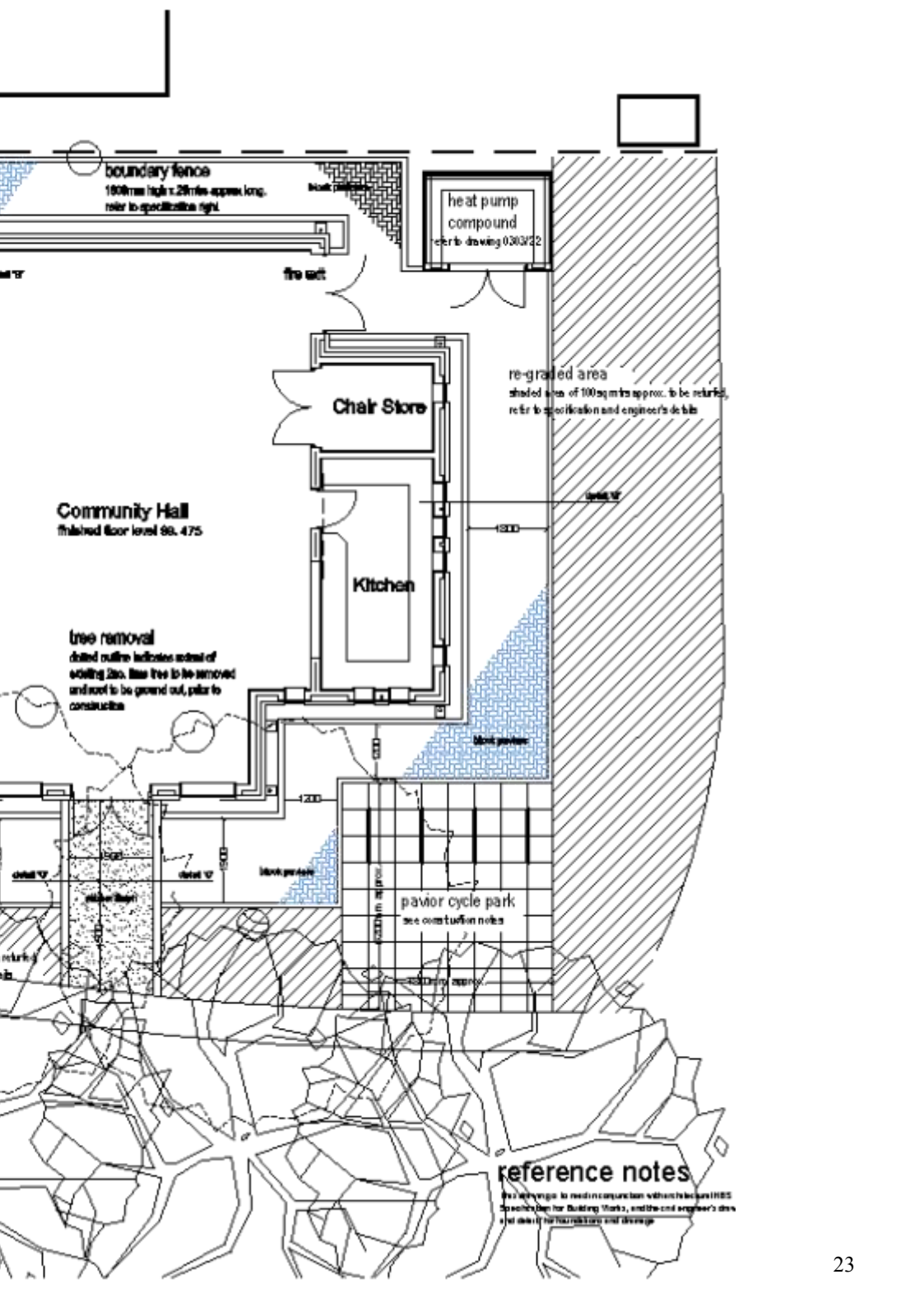
Trustees will judge if the St Chad's Centre has been a success if it is being used, with utilisation rates over 50%, by a diverse range of groups of all ages who are coming together not just for their own benefit, but to also serve the wider community.

For further information go to: www.bishopstachbrook.com and see detailed plans on the next pages.



**Croft Surgery Patient Participation Group - Next Meeting
Tuesday, 17th February – 12.30pm at
Croft Medical Centre, Sydenham
All Croft Patients Welcome**





boundary fence
100ft tall x 25ft in approx. long.
refer to specification right.

heat pump
compound
refer to drawing 0303/22

Chair Store

re-graded area
shaded area of 100sqm in approx. to be retained
refer to specification and engineer's details

Community Hall
finished floor level 99.475

Kitchen

tree removal
dotted outline indicates extent of
existing tree. tree to be removed
and used to be ground out, prior to
construction

block paving

pavior cycle park
see construction notes

reference notes

the drawings do not require a separate specification for Building Works, and the civil engineer's drawings refer to the relevant drawings.

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Contact Kev Harris

Tel 01926 774795 Mobile 07769 551318

We hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas season? Mothers' Union members attended an Advent Carol service at Holy Trinity church, Stratford, followed by lunch. We also enjoyed a Deanery Christmas Carol service at St Margaret's Whitnash, just before Christmas, with the collection going to a South Sudan MU project.

New Year started with evening drinks and nibbles where we decided to scale down our expectations for monthly meetings. Our branch membership has fallen to 8 or 9 members and it is unusual for every member to be present at a meeting. This means that inviting a visiting speaker can be rather embarrassing when numbers are so low. It was decided to have maybe two afternoon and two evening meetings, plus two coffee mornings each year. For those who wish to attend a day time meeting, we are always welcome to go along to the Whitnash branch meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

'Why don't they close the branch?', you may say. Well, we still believe in what the Mothers' Union does across the world and we want to retain our membership, but mainly because, with the tremendous support we receive from the people of Bishop's Tachbrook, we raise a good deal of money each year for our projects. **In 2014 we raised over £600!**

£475 of this has been shared among: Away From It All holidays for families in great need of a short break; the Mothers' Union Overseas Fund which helps to support self-help projects abroad; Action & Outreach and Parenting projects in our area; our diocesan General Fund; and the Angel Tree project which gives small Christmas gifts to the children of prisoners. The balance has funded two projects at St Chad's: giving knitted angels to children at their baptism; and presenting a decorated wooden spoon to couples at their marriage in our church. None of this could have happened without your support, so we would like to thank you and hope that we may continue to count on your help in the future.

Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting and will take place on Tuesday 3rd February at 81 Kingsley Road, starting at 2 pm. The examined accounts will be accepted and the above proposals for our future meetings formally ratified. Do get in touch with me if you would like to know more about Mothers' Union.

Jenny Lister 427922 jenny.lister@waitrose.com





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What Price Cabbages?

The overall average value of English farmland in 2014 is currently reported to be £10,000 per acre. Clearly various individual factors will impact on the value any particular packet of land, but one can use this published average to do some admittedly crude sums.

For instance, 16.13 acres of farmland might have a value of £160,000. Should this land get outline planning permission for housing development, its value can apparently soar 60 fold, maybe even higher, when it could then be sold for upwards of £9,600,000.

If 150 houses were built and sold on that land and if the average price of those houses was £275,000, the sum total of those transactions would be £41,250,000.

Food for thought, if not for the table! David Taylor

Bishop's Tachbrook Weekly events

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Mondays | Rainbows | Sports and Social Club | 6.00-7.30pm | Jadecoc@aol.com |
| Mondays | Youth Club | B. T. School | 6.30-8.00pm | Anoushka76@hotmail.com |
| Tuesdays | Pilates | Sports and Social Club | 9-9.30am | 07769222524 |
| Tuesdays | Bingo | Sports and Social Club | 8pm | 01926 421621 |
| Wednesdays | Brownies | Sports and Social Club | 6.00-7.30pm | carolineloveday@sky.com |
| Thursdays | Tachbrook Tinies | Sports and Social Club | 9.30-11am | Elissa 07854427213 |
| 1st Thurs of each month | Country Dancing | Sports and Social Club | 8pm | 01926 314286 |
| 3rd Thurs of each month | Parish Council Meeting | BT School | 7.30pm | 01926 641220 |
| Sundays | Bingo | Sports and Social Club | 8pm | 01926 421621 |

If you have any items you'd like included in the March calendar please email Marion Smith on marismi913@aol.com by Friday 6th February with the following information about your event:

Date – Time – Organisation – Event – Venue - Contact name and number

Thank you.

Notice Board

History Group - Next Meeting

Feel like tea and homemade cake?
Come along on Tuesday, 10th February
2.30pm in St Chad's Church

Short AGM and a talk by Jeannette Oubridge
'The Re-Birth of Warwick Priory'
and

Video Presentation by the school on suggested
Street Names for the new
Village Housing Developments

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
or come along on
a Monday.

We desperately need more
adult volunteers, if you can
spare a couple of hours on
an odd Monday then please
let me know.

A Message from The Leopard

On New Year's Eve our fireworks were stolen
from the garden (hidden under cover so we
believe the culprits came through the field)
between 9-10:30pm. It was to be a huge dis-
play. If anyone saw or knows anything please
contact Luke at the pub 01926 426466.

Events in Oakley Wood

TREE FELLING

WWF contractor Phil Betts will carry out another phase of
ride clearance. Detailed maps are posted up in the Wood.

The work will start on 20th Jan and take 2 or 3 weeks.

BRASH CLEARANCE

Sunday, 8th Feb 10.00 – 13.00

For Feb's **practical task day** we will be tidying brash
and creating habitat piles within the wood.

Find out more at oakleywood.org.uk/events

This is our wood, so do come and join in, if only for an hour!

Stitch 'n' Time

Since starting up our Village Craft Group with a Parish Council Grant, we have produced Bunting for the Village Fete; Teddies for Charity; knitted and crocheted scarves, hats and blankets for Children's Christmas Charity Boxes; made doll's Clothes and completed sewn, cross stitch and applique items for gifts and also experimented with beading, loom bands and macrame.

We have recently lost our original weekly meeting place but have still managed to meet up at different venues or do things individually at home, keeping in touch with one another.

As a temporary arrangement, until further notice, Glenys Tew has offered fortnightly hospitality, on the first and third Wednesdays of the Month, at 33, Kingsley Road, from 1pm until 3pm, starting on Wednesday 4th February. Our Sewing Machine will be available for use at these sessions.

Piano

Upright modern, medium coloured wood Ronisch piano free to good home.
Tel 01926 336907

Country Dancing Club

2nd Thursday of
every month
8pm
at Sports and Social Club
Contact Julie Jaggard
314286
All welcome!

Church Electoral Roll

A revision of the Church Electoral Roll will take place from 1st February to 1st March 2015. If you would like to add your name to the roll, application forms can be obtained from the church, Elaine Scrivens (vicar) or Joan Alderman (Electoral Roll Officer) Tel: 651643. All those whose names are already on the roll do NOT need to re-apply.

Membership of the electoral roll enables worshippers to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Thank you

Thank you from the cats at Avon Cat Rescue and the dogs at Honiley Dogs Trust to everyone who sent us food and treats to help feed us through the winter. Also blankets to keep us warm and towels to dry us. Our carers also thank you all and send their best wishes for 2015.

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

BT SCHOOL IS OFFICIALLY RATED AS “GOOD” BY OFSTED

The Head teacher, staff and Governors are delighted to announce that in Ofsted’s recent visit the school has received a ‘GOOD’ rating. Whilst many of us already knew this was a good school, this inspection included GOOD in every single category! These days being ‘Good’ is certainly no mean feat. You can read the full report by following the link on the school’s website www.btschool.co.uk. The report summarised that:

The headteacher and deputy headteacher form an effective senior team who have managed and created an improving school where the teaching and pupils’ achievement are good.

Governors hold senior leaders to account with their detailed knowledge and understanding of the school and its practice.

Behaviour in and around school is good. There is a very strong community spirit. Pupils get on extremely well together in an environment where they love coming to school.

Pupils and parents strongly agree that school is a safe place. Safeguarding arrangements meet all requirements.

Teaching is good because teachers know their pupils well. They carefully track their progress to ensure that they make good progress.

The attainment of pupils is above that found in schools nationally.

In Reception, staff have strong links with parents. Children get off to a good start, making good progress. When they start Year 1, they are well prepared for the requirements of the National Curriculum.

The curriculum is effective in making pupils enthusiastic learners. Wider opportunities – for example, to represent the school in sports – are enthusiastically grasped by pupils.

Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good. Art and music permeate the school. Pupils are supported strongly in becoming active members of the school and wider community. This prepares them well for life in modern Britain.

Support and training for the professional development of staff by school leaders helps the school to address its identified priorities for development. It also enables staff to improve their personal expertise. This contributes well to making this an improving school.

QUIZ AND PUDDINGS NIGHT

The BT School PTA are holding a Quiz Night at the School on Friday 6th March.

Licensed Bar and Raffle. Doors open 7.30pm for an 8.00pm start. Tickets cost £5 per head and are available from the PTA via the school. Do come and join us for a really fun evening! Watch out for Full Details on www.btschool.co.uk next month.

KIDS RUN FREE

The School launched a brand new initiative this month called KIDS RUN FREE. This scheme gives every pupil the opportunity to run a marathon over the course of a year by recording the laps each child runs over a set distance at lunchtime. The scheme has been kindly sponsored by the Leamington Round Table who have made it possible for us to take part. Mr Mark Chambers who is a parent at the school and a Round table member explained: "Its very important to us that the Leamington Round Table get involved in supporting local initiatives which have a benefit to this community." Mrs Potter, the teacher responsible for PE and Sport, is now working with colleagues at the school to encourage all the children to adopt an active lifestyle.





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As we all know practise makes perfect. That can apply to birds too, especially those determined to get the food others seem to enjoy. Our resident Robin's balance has improved since last year and I can only conclude that all the effort it put in to try and hang on to the little perch on the feeder has paid off as it can now perch and feed for a few minutes, that is as long as the feeder does not start swinging.

Two Long tailed Tits appeared on the feeders in early January. I wondered where the rest of their gang were but decided these two were the stragglers and, as so often the case, I was not looking out during those brief minutes as they pass through. The Blue Tits and Great Tits are visiting regularly and enjoy the fat balls as well as the sunflower hearts.



I caught a brief glimpse of another bird - was it a Great tit, no - I wished it would not keep disappearing into the Buddleia so I could be sure. Several days later I caught sight of it on

the birdbath and then I was sure it was a Blackcap, a male with a black cap not the brown of the female. They are supposed to be summer visitors but some have overwintered with us. I must try to recognize the song, as it is a member of the warbler family and so has a pretty trilling song.

Friends of mine who live in Holt Avenue have friendly Blackbirds who know exactly what they need and how to communicate those needs to their humans. So, one frosty morning, the humans were alerted to a pressing need by the noise of the Blackbirds sitting by the birdbath. Eventually the humans realised what was needed and while the Blackbirds waited on the fence the ice was broken and fresh water provided so the blackbird morning bath could take place. The humans kindly refilled the bath after the blackbirds had emptied it and required a refill.

The activity of the bird life reminds us that all of nature is not sleeping through the winter and there is evidence of other creatures still busy. There are fresh molehills along the verges and in some fields around the village. It is probably warmer underground.

The badgers are also busy but some have not learnt about road safety and have ended up as road kill. We also saw a dead fox and a young deer at the roadside.

So what about the flora? Just before Christmas we spotted our first Hazel catkins and by the second week of January there were plenty although they don't usually appear until February.

I was surprised to see a daffodil in a garden in Surrey having just welcomed the first snowdrops in our garden but then a friend in Wellesbourne showed us her first daffodil three days later. If there are any early butterflies or other insects about there is a chance of a nectar feed.



The weather is cold and windy as I type this and more bad weather could be on the way before we are truly into Spring.

Let us know your "first sightings".

Barbara sent us her report of a Boxing Day sighting:

Boxing Day. Attracted to a beautiful bird with tail continually wagging! on foliage in pond. Spent about 20 minutes pecking around the foliage in pond. Very confident about the water, where other birds are very wary of committing themselves, even if they want a drink. Identified as Grey Wagtail. Grey above, yellow under tail, long white wing bar, very long tail with white sides. Length 18cm. They visit garden ponds, or flat roof tops where there are puddles in winter.



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Steve Harvey's Nature Page

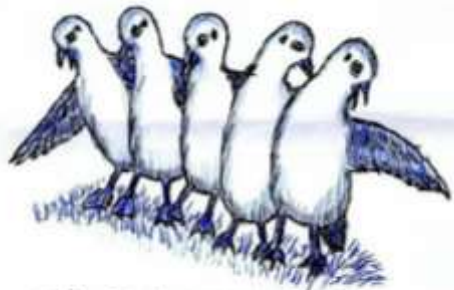
Just beyond the bottom of the garden stands a young Hawthorn tree. It is not just any hawthorn; it's the chosen community centre for our sparrow colony. This tree is the place to be, it catches the sun all day, should there be any. Some days just the male sparrows sit in its branches, often chattering to each other, a bit like gentlemen who sit in the Royal Priors watching the world go by. At other times the females join them, then there is more chattering and moving around.

At the other end of the garden around 30 Goldfinches take turns on the feeders - they've been there since first light. Now and then the sparrows decide to launch a raid on the sunflower hearts. On a signal only known to them the sparrow squadron takes off zooming up the garden. They quickly muscle in pushing the finches aside. After a few minutes the squadron returns to base to preen and chatter. That is until a Black-bird sounds the alarm call. A Sparrowhawk moves through at speed, wings out-stretched hoping to live up to its name. In a split second all the Sparrows disappear deep inside the thorny branches. The Hawk passes them by. All for one and one for all.

When the settlers arrived in America they missed the chirpy Sparrow so a small number were shipped across the Atlantic. They did well and soon spread. I can see why they missed the chirpy chappies.

I was told by Margaret in Hunningham of her close relationship with a Robin. It would often follow her around the garden grabbing any insects she disturbed and watching everything she did. One day she stooped down to look at a plant the robin landed in front of her. She felt something brush the side of her face as a Sparrowhawk flew over her shoulder and the Robin was gone. She hardly realised what had happened. Fingers crossed the robin didn't either. That was a bit "Tales of the Unexpected" wasn't it?

On the brighter side I watched a group of eight Black-headed Gulls, they only have black heads in the breeding season and even then its chocolate brown! In winter they have what looks like a chocolate button to the side of each eye. Anyway, they were all parked in the playing field squabbling and squawking (boy can they squawk!) all arguing over small areas of grass. After some time they had spread themselves out and sorted a pecking order. Then, to my surprise, each one began a little dance standing in one spot and paddling their webbed feet up and down, they would stop and look down at the grass. If they had been lucky the vibrations had made worms come up to the surface. Then the dance continued, feet moving and shoulders dancing from side to side. I didn't know they did this. I so wanted to set it to music; "Riverdance" would fit nicely.



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Kevin Marshall



Hello and Happy New Year to you all!

What a busy few weeks we have had in the nursery!

Firstly we had a visit from a lovely OFSTED Lady who said we were all beautifully behaved and VERY clever! Our teachers were pleased that the Lady rated our Nursery as GOOD and told them that they taught us very well, but we already knew that, **we are brilliant!**



Just before Father Christmas arrived we were helping him in the nursery by pretending to be his Elves and making toys and wrapping presents for him to put on his sleigh. We had a Christmas Party and sang songs to our Mummies and Daddies, we then went home with all our goodies that we had made in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

As we go into the New Year we are going to be having so much fun! Some of us will be getting ready to go to "big " school later on in the year and so we have to learn our letters and sounds and learn our numbers, whilst trying to write our names and have fun, phew! So much to do and so little time.



If you want to join us in having lots of fun please call 01926 313508 and speak to one of the "grown-ups." You will love it!



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Oakley Wood Crematorium

The past few months have seen a lot of work finalising the designs for the improvement work, tweaking the layouts and determining the final details of car parking spaces and arrangements. There have also been some essential changes to the programming of the work to reduce the disruption to bereaved families. If you've been on site recently you may have noticed that some work on the trees that needed removing/pruning has been largely completed, and some 'marking out' has taken place. The work to convert the old Lodge into offices has been completed and the new customer reception is looking excellent! We've also put up a notice board and will be using this to keep site visitors up to date with what's going on from week to week.

As for the rest of the project...

The main works will happen in two stages. The first stage will be to build the new car park near to the south chapel. During this phase, the south chapel will be closed but the north will remain open. Saying that, there will be a few days where the necessary work will be particularly noisy – services aren't being booked for these particular days as it won't be an ideal time for a funeral. At the same time, the old offices in the south chapel will be knocked through and turned into a larger waiting room.

The second phase will see the south chapel and new car park reopened, and the contractors moving to the north of the site to alter the existing car park and extend the north chapel. As with phase one, there will be a number of days where services will not be held, but the south chapel will otherwise remain open throughout.

All in all, the whole package is expected to be complete in the autumn of 2015 (October time).

What happens next?

The contractors for the main works (Kier Construction) will be moving onto site on Monday 12th Jan. The first week will be a gentle start to things, with site setup taking place and fences going up around where the new car park will be built near to the south chapel. From here, work begins to prepare the ground for the rest of the construction.

It's expected to take around 8 weeks to complete the works in the south before moving on to stage 2 of the project. During the works, the crematorium will remain open for visitors and anyone who wants to use the surrounding woodland as normal though work will, of course, be happening throughout.

As always, please let me know if you'd like to have a chat about anything or ask any specific questions.

Richard Jones
Organisational Development Officer

Warwick District Council

Ext: 01926 456 506

Bishops Tachbrook Sports and Social Club

Spring Entertainment

February

7th February – Charity Quiz Night

A very popular quiz night raising money for The Encephalitis Society. It's always very busy so get here early.

14th February – Valentines Skittle Night

Skittle night this year falls on Valentines day. We'll have some love songs on the sound system, free jacket potatoes and the skittle alley out for a great evenings fun for all the family

21st February • Insomnia

Following their successful set at Tachfest last year, a great local band playing some modern classics for us

28th February – 80's Disco

Break out your leg warmers and frilly shirts and come and join us for a disco with an 80's twist. Fancy dressers welcome...

March

7th March – Quiz Night

A quiz night with a difference, every team wins a prize! Come and pit your wits against The Judge. Cash Rollover could be over £220

14th March – Bob Marley Tribute

Time for some classic Reggae. Our Bob Marley tribute has supported Curtis Mayfield, Third World-The Wailers and others and will be reproducing Reggae classics such as One Love, Stir it Up and 3 Little Birds

21st March – Race Night

A great family night, sponsor a race, back a winner or just come and enjoy all the fun of being at the races, at your club

28th March – Distorted Decade

New to the club, Distorted Decade are a covers band from the Midlands playing hits from the 50's right the way through to today

21st March – Table Top Sale

£5 a table. From 1-4pm, book your table with Karen soon as numbers will be limited

Kids Easter Disco – 29th March 3-6pm.

£2 a ticket for children between 2 and 11 in age. Ticket only event, available from behind the bar.

DON'T FORGET THAT ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME, COME AND HAVE A GREAT NIGHT OUT

We have a newly decorated family room with jukebox, TV, pool and darts, 2 full sized tables in the snooker room plus our spacious members lounge, which also has a big screen for sports.

Entertainment starts at 8.30pm. Bingo every Sunday and Tuesday at 8pm

FUNCTION ROOM FOR HIRE at very reasonable rates

Telephone: 01926 421621 or email: enquiries@bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk

Call Karen Capehorn 07855 709051 for details.

Find us on Facebook (BishopsTachbrook SocialClub), Twitter (@BTSSClub) or visit www.bishopstachbrookclub.co.uk

How much do you know about creepy crawlies?

MINIBEAST FACTS

A minibeast is literally a small animal.

They are invertebrates which means they do not have a backbone and do not have a skeleton inside.

Dragonflies have been around on earth since before dinosaurs.

Honeybees communicate with each other through dancing.

Moths use the moon to help them navigate.

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Grasshoppers have 5 eyes.

Woodlice are related to lobsters and crabs. However much a woodlouse drinks, it never wees. Instead, its shell lets out a smelly gas.

Daddy longlegs are also known as harvestmen. They can hear, taste and smell using their legs.

If a centipede loses a leg, it can grow another one.

To qualify as an insect, an animal needs to have 6 legs and a body divided into 3 parts – a head, a thorax and an abdomen.

To be an arachnid, an animal needs to have 8 legs.

Test yourself...

True or false minibeast facts

1. Entomology is the study of insects.
2. All insects grow from eggs.
3. Spiders makes webs of silk 5 times stronger than steel of the same thickness.
4. Grasshoppers hear through their tummy.
5. Millipedes breathe through their feet.
6. Dragonflies can live in the water for a year.
7. Daddy longlegs are spiders.



- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | True |
| 2. | True. |
| 3. | True. |
| 4. | True. They don't have ears. |
| 5. | False. Through holes all along the side of their bodies |
| 6. | True |
| 7. | False |

Ist Bishop's Tachbrook Rainbows

Is your daughter aged 5, does she like having fun, playing games, making things and being part of a group?

Then Rainbows could be for you.

Rainbows are part of the Girl Guiding group.

If your daughter is interested email Jade at jadechoc@aol.com



Are you interested in being a Brownie?

Bishop's Tachbrook Brownies meet on a Wednesday at 6 - 7.30pm. We have fun, make, work on badges, go on outings, sing, play games and meet new friends.

If your daughter is in Reception or Year 1 and would like to be a Brownie when she is 7, please contact Caroline Loveday on 429082 or 07796 034371 or carolineloveday@sky.com to find out more and register your interest in Brownies. Even if your daughter is a Rainbow, you still need to put her name on the Brownie waiting list.



Warwickshire Young Voices

We rehearse Thursday Evenings during term time at Harbury Village Hall from 6.30-7.30pm. We take all children age 7-16 and offer a free trial session (normal subs £30 per term), We already have children from Bishop's Tachbrook who attend regularly and we would welcome more. Please go to www.warwickshireyoungvoices.org for more information.

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This is a non-profit magazine supported by personal donations and contributions from St Chad's Parish Church Council and Bishop's Tachbrook Parish Council. All adverts are printed in good faith. The Bishop's Tachbrook Parish Magazine cannot take any responsibility for the contents of the advert or the services provided by the advertiser. Printed by: Cadman Printers Unit 7D Jenton Road, Sydenham Industrial Estate, Leamington Spa CV31 1XS Tel: 01926 423742

FISH & CHIPS

The  Leopard

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