

GRAPEVINE

SPRING 2016

THE VILLAGE PUB THEN AND NOW

The building was first built and used as a woollen mill. It became a pub called the New Inn in the early 19th century. It was taken over by the Langley family in the 1830s. In 1910 Howard Langley took over as landlord from his father.

The photograph below, taken in November 1939 shows various members of the village helping with the cider making. Local cider apples and any fallers brought to The New Inn had to be pulped.



The pulp was shovelled on to the press between layers of straw. The layers would be squeezed in the press and the juice that ran out of the bottom was collected and stored in six hogsheads (each hogshead held 52½ gallons). After some months, or maybe a year, the cider was ready to drink.

Mr Langley is the man shovelling the pulp on to the press. The gentleman holding the basket of

apples is Vivian Newman (Richard and Jeff's father) whom many of us remember.

Following Howard Langley the pub changed hands several times. In the 1970s the structure was found to be in a dangerous condition so the whole structure was razed to the ground and rebuilt. Being a listed building it had to be rebuilt to the same architectural design.



It was at this time when it was reopened and renamed The Linnet. The photograph above shows it in the last year of its life as a pub.

It was auctioned and converted into two houses which is how we see it today.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 7th May: Village quiz night

£5 per head to include cheese and biscuits platter. Bring your own drink.

Sunday 12th June: Afternoon street tea party to celebrate Queen's 90th birthday To be held at top end of Peppercorn Orchard. Bring and share gathering. Further details to follow later in the year.

Sunday 4th September: Closing date for entries for KC Cup photo competition

You should have all had a flyer through your door by now, so get those cameras out and get snapping!

There will be an exhibition of all your wonderful photos at the Art and Craft show (see below). Prizes will also be awarded at the exhibition.

If you have lost the flyer – there is one the hall, one on the notice board and also on the website.



Weekend of 15th and 16th October: Great Hinton Art and Craft Exhibition

So, if you would like to join the Art & Craft Group to create something for that exhibition or, indeed would prefer to contribute something that you have made at home, then please let Carol Clarke know (870635).

ART & CRAFT GROUP

WATCH THIS SPACE! A group of about 8 of us meet regularly on Fridays between 10am to 12 noon and we enjoy a relaxed time of conversation and often finishing a project that has been hidden in the back of a cupboard for years. Some of us have agreed that, without the Friday morning dedicated time, our unfinished project would still be in the back of the cupboard. It is this relaxed attitude that is making the club successful at the moment because we bring along what we feel like creating or completing.

Watercolour and Acrylic painting still have a place in our sessions, but now that we have added silk painting, embroidery, quilting, crochet, appliqué, knitting, tapestry and dress-making (with a lot of expertise if anyone would like to learn these skills) we have decided we would like to organise another Art and Craft Exhibition in October in the village hall.

New members would be most welcome. The cost is £2 per session with free coffee and biscuits. Carol Clarke 870635

VETS

No! This nothing to do with animals except the human variety. This is an emergency call system for anyone in the village to use. It consists of an emergency telephone number which reaches someone in the village.

To gain more information on how it works there are instruction posters on the village notice board or contact Carol Birch (clerk to the Parish Council) to obtain the emergency number.

THANKS

My grateful thanks to Jemma Batten who lives in the village and kindly offered to lend a hand with the production of this issue of The Grapevine. Audrey

AN UNUSUAL REQUEST:

HOLLY, BLACKTHORN AND IRISH YEW TREE BRANCHES NEEDED

I live in Great Hinton and am currently learning the dying art of carriage driving whip making. There are very few people now left making these in the traditional manner and so I am working alongside one of these remaining whip makers to gain a better understanding of the skills, techniques and materials involved.

In order to construct a driving whip, the wood used must dry out for a minimum of three years, and so I am on the lookout for Holly, Blackthorn and Irish Yew tree branches to start building a material base for the future whilst I am documenting all the methods involved in making them. It is very difficult to find the perfect pieces to use as they need to be relatively straight (although they can be steamed) and strong. Holly branches ideally need to be the second growth and at least a thumbs width.

I am therefore looking for anyone who may be able to help with these branches by either letting me know if you have anything available or would give me permission to access your woodland/land to have a look. We are literally talking the odd branch here and there as finding the ideal pieces is very few and far between. Any offers would be very much appreciated and come the spring you may find us out and about driving in the village and new grooms are always welcome. Please contact me (Hannah) on: 07790160532 or by email on contacthannahking@gmail.com



GREAT HINTON INDOOR BOWLING

We are now coming to the end of our seventh year in bowling in the Village Hall with Finals night looming on 11th April when Sue and Sandra will be in the final of the knock-out competition for the 2015/16 Champions Cup. Good Luck to them both.

We have seventeen very keen regulars who either play on Mondays at 2.30pm – 4.30pm or 7pm – 9pm, which makes me very happy as unfortunately I will be unable to take part in the future due to ill health.

I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and I know the bowls is in good hands and I am sure that in 2018 there will be a big celebration for the tenth anniversary.

Bowls is a lot of fun and any new members would be most welcome, especially for the afternoon sessions – no experience necessary, except a sense of humour!

So why not give it a go and meet some new friends at the same time.

Mike

BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2016

The Parish Council has again entered the village in the Best Kept Village competition. We usually do well so let's keep up our high standard. First round judging generally starts in May so be prepared!

FROM JONATHON SEED ...

My experience of Great Hinton is of a small but independent village, well represented with a strong Parish Council and excellent community spirit. Residents are not afraid to engage and help where something or some opinion is needed. Parish highways issues and development matters are good examples of positive community action as well as projects like the new bowls mats and the telephone refurbishment. The village always finds someone to take some project or issue on. This is also the case where there are concerns at developments in and around the village as we have recently seen with the Lansdowne Travellers site. As the local Councillor and together with the Parish Council we supported the recent extension of the traveller site but on condition that there was no burning of waste on the site. This has not happened and waste burning fires are being regularly lit. The result is that local Parish Councillors, with my support, are pressing Wiltshire Council for meaningful action to prevent the burning of waste on the site adjacent to the A350. We will have to wait to see how effective this enforcement is or whether the residents decide to comply with the permission of their development.

Youth services as with all other council run services remain under financial pressure but it is good news that the local youth network for our community area is making provision for young people across our community area. In the past Council youth services concentrated on towns and it really is progress that free transport is being provided for (and used by) our young village residents to enjoy youth facilities at the Canberra Youth Centre every Thursday evening. Anyone who wants to take advantage of this and book a 'pick up' should contact Jack Oatley at jack@youngmelksham.org.uk.

Finally residents will want to know that I have recently been reselected by my local Party to stand again for election as your local Wiltshire Councillor in the elections of 2017.

Jonathon Seed

Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding

Chairman, Melksham Area Board

Member for Summerham and Seend

Wiltshire Council

www.jonathonseed.com. Tel. 07770 774463



LADIES CLUB SPRING 2016

The Ladies Club year got off to a great start in September with our annual cheese and wine get together. We enjoyed an informative talk from Tom about our chosen charity for this year – The Hope Nature Centre. We invited friends and partners along in October for our skittles evening. It was a fun night as ever with lots of friendly competition and banter! Well done to Cathy Baker for winning the Golly Cup as the highest scoring lady. Many thanks to Adam and Daniel who patiently stood up the skittles all evening. In November Debbie Wood from 'Beadsparkle' in Devizes demonstrated how to make Christmas bead decorations. With her help we all managed to go home with something pretty to put on our Christmas Trees!

In December Carol Clarke again organised a wonderful evening of Christmas Carols and Readings with mulled wine and mince pies. It was lovely to have so many of the children taking part and playing their piano pieces, not forgetting their rousing rendition of Jingle Bells!

We finished the year with our Christmas meal at The Lamb – a great evening was had by all.

The first meeting of the New Year was an interesting talk on growing and showing sweet peas – it was fascinating to learn how much work and dedication goes into this process. We all gained some useful tips (and seeds) for our own more modest sweet pea growing. In February we were entertained by Jean Collins who shared with us her amusing observations on life through witty stories, poetry and even song!

We chose a Great British theme for our Gourmet Dinner in March in recognition of the Queen's 90th birthday. We invited along partners and had a lovely evening with some delicious home cooked food!

As well as enjoying these various activities we have been busy fund raising. So Far we have raised £300 for Hope Nature Centre and £100 for The Village Hall Trust.

Forward dates for the diary:

Wed April 20th AGM

Wed May 25th Fete Planning at Rebecca's
- 5 Peppercorn Orchard

Sat June 25th Village Fete

Ladies Club is on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8pm in the Village Hall from September to April. New members and ideas always welcome.

For further information please contact:

Rachel Lawes 01380 870070

email: rachaellawes@hotmail.co.uk or

Rebecca Locke 01380 870588

email: rebeccalocke@live.com



LUNCH CLUB

The Lunch Club is still flourishing and producing delicious meals on the first Thursday of each month from September through to April.

We also have a yearly outing to an open garden somewhere following a pub meal at a hostelry in the vicinity of the garden. This year we are going to Forest Lodge, Pen Selwood in Somerset after dining at the Bell and Crown at Zeals.

It has been suggested that we publish some of the delicious recipes served at the Lunch Club, so here is what Carol Clarke served at our April lunch which was followed by a light steamed pudding served with lashings of syrup. It was cooked by Susie Selwyn Smith and I think we all indulged in second helpings!!

Enjoy !

To eat

Chicken pie with chunky potato topping

Serves 6-8

Prep 25 mins **Total time** 2 hrs 30 mins

Get ahead Make the day before; chill. Bring to room temperature before baking. The assembled pie freezes well. Defrost, then bake following the recipe

300ml white wine
600ml chicken stock
1 x 1.7kg whole chicken
2 bay leaves
5 sprigs of thyme
2 carrots, peeled and thinly sliced
2 leeks, halved and sliced
2 celery sticks, sliced
1kg potatoes, peeled and cut into 1cm cubes
75g butter
75g plain flour
100ml double cream
75g mature cheddar, grated

- 1 Pour the wine and stock into a large saucepan, add the chicken, breast-side up, the bay leaves and thyme. Bring to the boil, then cover and simmer for 1 hour.
- 2 Add the carrots, leeks and celery to the pan, bring back to the boil, then simmer for a further 30 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through and the vegetables are tender. Remove the herbs and discard, then transfer the chicken and vegetables to a bowl. Strain the cooking liquid into a large

jug; you'll need 900ml altogether, so if it comes up a bit short, add a little more hot stock.

- 3 Put the potatoes in a pan of cold salted water, bring to the boil and cook for 8-10 minutes until just tender; drain. Remove the meat from the chicken and chop. Return it to the bowl with the vegetables. Preheat the oven to 200°C, fan 180°C, gas 6.
 - 4 Meanwhile, melt the butter in a pan over a high heat, add the flour and whisk for 1 minute. Gradually add the 900ml of hot cooking liquid and whisk until you have a smooth, thick sauce. Season to taste, then remove from the heat. Pour half of the sauce over the chicken and veg in the bowl, mix together, then spoon into a 2-3 litre ovenproof dish.
 - 5 Add the double cream to the remaining sauce, stir in the cooked potato cubes, season and pour the mixture over the chicken and vegetables in the dish. Sprinkle with the cheese. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until lightly golden on top and bubbling. Serve with wilted spinach.
- 499cals; 20g fat (12g sat fat); 40g protein; 4g fibre; 30g carbs; 4g total sugars; 0.7g salt ↗

100 CLUB

The village 100 club is a major source of financing the running costs of the village hall. We have 113 members. Around half the income is redistributed as prizes. There are five monthly cash prizes of £20, £15, £12, £10 and £8, and two bonus prizes - one in the summer and one at Christmas. It will soon be time to start collecting the subscription (£15) for the coming year. In order to align the monthly draws to the financial year of the Village Memorial Hall Trust the subscription year will now run from April 2016 - March 2017. Good luck all members and I look forward to delivering any winnings to you!! Thank you for your continued support.

Rachael Lawes

100 Club 2015/16 – Lucky winners:

	No.	£20	No.	£15	No.	£12	No.	£10	No.	£8
March 2015	100	Ross Cornelius	53	Audrey Plummer	102	Carol Clarke	42	Clive Blake	34	Carol Burch
April 2015	83	Jon Lawes	51	Alex Cooper	2	Steve Haynes	6	Cathy Baker	36	Ruth Blake
May 2015	21	Monica Meade	63	Catherine Cooper	55	Debbie Burston	15	Ken Young	1	Mary Jones
June 2015	81	Sylvia Baker	99	Joyce Newman	102	Carol Clarke	113	David Cuff	27	Lynn Wiltshire
July 2015	7	Sue S. Smith	9	T. Cunningham	52	Gill Verschoyle	92	Pat Putt	27	Lynn Wiltshire
Aug 2015	113	David Cuff	110	Will Scott	95	A & M Crumpler	6	Cathy Baker	111	Debbie Scott
Sept 2015	35	Keith Strickland	120	Katie and Evie	29	K. Gorman	37	Mary Strickland	18	Peter Doel
Oct 2015	59	Susan Horton	8	Derek Saville	47	Terri Dodd	106	Hilary Davis	57	Bill Mannings
Nov 2015	37	Mary Strickland	111	Debbie Scott	97	S. Tapper	20	C. Kingwell	45	John Putt
Dec 2015	45	John Putt	83	Jon Lawes	115	Sally Cuff	76	Rachael Lawes	54	Diane Norris
Jan 2016	79	Jillian Fennell	50	Sylvia Tarrant	57	Bill Manning	97	S. Tapper	124	Alan Seddan

Summer Bonus (£25): 104 Min Squibbs

Christmas Bonus (£50) 89 P. Thorne

KIOSK LIBRARY

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our Library, long may it last.

Beryl and I had a huge changeover of books early in the New Year – taking five bags to The Dorothy House shop in Trowbridge – and we will be reviewing the situation shortly after Easter as have quite a few new titles in our overflow bookcase in the village hall.

So please keep donating books in good clean condition, including those for young children, and as always, keep reading.....

Anne (870607)



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Over the last few weeks there have been reports of three separate incidents in the village which have been reported to the police. These were all classed as "attempted burglaries" and nothing was stolen, but kitchen doors were left open in two of the properties therefore very distressing for the occupants. Please report any attempted thefts to the police at all times so that they are aware of these incidents and can be more proactive throughout the villages. Please ensure your doors and windows are locked and your outbuildings are secure.

Again, internet fraud and phone scams are definitely on the increase. Never give your details to anybody on the telephone. If they are from a legitimate source, they won't mind you checking their details and returning their call.

If you are new to the village and would like to be alerted by email/text of any local incidents and information from Neighbourhood Watch, please either call or email me to add you to the mailing list.

Useful Information

Emergency Calls	999
Non-emergency Calls	101
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Action Fraud	0300 123 2040

Debbie Scott
NHW Area Coordinator
870410
deb.scott@virgin.net



WHY PARENTS DRINK!

The boss wondered why one of his most valued employees was absent but had not phoned in sick one day.

Needing to have an urgent problem with one of the main computers resolved, he dialled the employee's home phone number and was greeted with a child's whisper. **'Hello'**. 'Is your daddy home?' he asked. **'Yes'** whispered the small voice. 'May I talk with him?' The child whispered **'No'**. Surprised and wanting to talk with an adult, the boss asked 'Is your mummy there?' **'Yes'** 'May I talk with her?'. Again the small voice whispered **'No'**. Hoping there was somebody with whom he could leave a message, the boss asked, 'Is anybody else there?' **'Yes'** whispered the child **'a policeman'**. Wondering what a policeman would be doing at his employee's home, the boss asked, 'May I speak to the policeman?' **'No, he's busy'** whispered the child. 'Busy doing what?' **'Talking to mummy and daddy and the fireman'**, came the whispered answer.

Growing more worried as he heard a loud noise in the background through the earpiece on the phone, the boss asked 'what is that noise?' **'A helicopter'** answered the whispering voice. 'What is going on there?' demanded the boss, now truly apprehensive. Again the child answered... **'The search team just landed a helicopter'**

Alarmed, concerned and a little frustrated the boss asked, 'what are they searching for?' Still whispering, the young voice replied with a muffled giggle... **'ME'**

Sandra