

Greetings from REMENHAM

Sharing the latest news, events, and little moments
that bring the Remenham community together.



Letter from the (new!) editors

Hello Neighbours,

We're Claire & Matt, and we are pleased to introduce ourselves as the new hands behind the Remenham Newsletter. For those who don't know us, we moved to Remenham in 2021 and live happily on the hill with our 4 year old son. Matt is a freelance graphic designer so has given the layout a bit of a refresh, and it's Claire's job to collate the content.

Many thanks to Felicity for doing such a good job on the newsletter for the past 20-or-so years, we will try our best to live up to the high standards she has set.

This newsletter is for the community, so it's important to us that it's accessible to all. If you, or someone you know, would prefer a printed copy then please do reach out and let us know. It's also worth noting that printed copies are made available in the church each month (thanks to Charlotte Every), and we are exploring the possibility of making them available in a few other local venues too.

Our goal is to make this newsletter a true reflection of life in Remenham, but we can't do that without your input! Whether you have a news story, a stunning local photo, or an upcoming event you want to shout about, please do get in touch. And if you run a local business or service and would like to advertise in upcoming issues, we'd love to have you on board.

Looking forward to hearing your ideas!

Claire & Matt

newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk



Remenham Parish Council

📍 PO Box 4748, Henley on Thames RG9 3ET 📞 01491 412908

✉ remenhampc@btinternet.com

Remenham Annual Parish meeting

Parish Hall

Monday 11th May 2026

8:00pm

(following a Parish Council meeting at 6pm)

All residents are welcome to attend, to speak on any matter followed by a glass of wine (etc) & sandwich

Business to be transacted

1. Apologies for absence
2. Signed Notes of the last APM
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Financial/Data Report - The Clerk
6. Matters raised from the floor

Signed: _____

Date: 23rd February 2026

Cllr Bill Ronald
Chairman

Parish Diary *(See articles for more information)*

March

9th: Parish Council Meeting - including guests from Rewind South, Henley Festival and Copas Partnerships to share community plans for 2026. Please do attend if you're interested. **6pm**

21st: Remenham litter pick - meet at the Parish Hall: **9:30am**

29th: Palm Sunday - sung Matins (BCP) with hymns: **11.15am**

April

3rd: Good Friday - said Matins (BCP): **12pm**

5th: Easter Day - Holy Communion (BCP) with hymns: **11.15am**

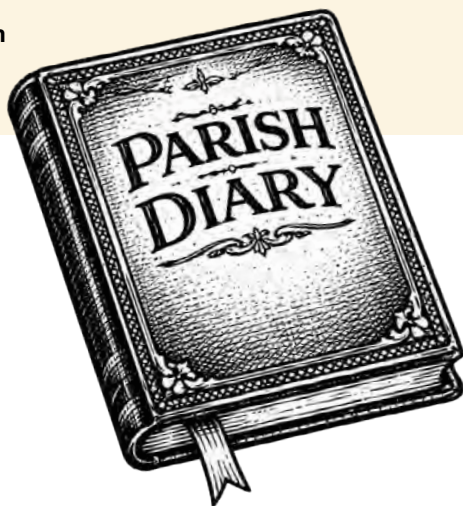
13th: Parish Council Meeting: **6pm**

18th - 19th: Remenham History Exhibition at the Parish Hall: **10am - 4pm**

May

2nd - 4th: Henley Arts Trail (bank holiday weekend)

11th: Parish Council Meeting: **6pm**
Followed by the Annual Parish Meeting: **8pm**



Newsletter deadlines

Issue	Deadline	Circulate
June	29 May 2026	7 Jun 2026
September	14 Aug 2026	23 Aug 2026
December	27 Nov 2026	6 Dec 2026

Remenham History Exhibition 2026

18th - 19th April, 10am - 4pm Parish Hall

Free admission but donations to the Parish Hall most welcome!

Thank you to all our contributors to date - a veritable wealth of material has been gathered and there is something for everyone in the show.

We have great insights from our community into our Parish Past, as well as sourcing material from the River and Rowing Museum, Oxfordshire Heritage Centre, Royal Berkshire Records, Henley Library, British Museum, British News Archive, Parish Magazines (going back to the Henley and Remenham Record in 1881), Women's Institute, census records and our own oldest parishioner – Jim Bland.

The exhibition covers topics including the army, clubs, events, rascals, residents, silver screen, schools, sports, transport, weather, architecture, horticulture, animals, monuments and landscape.

Although our parish has always had a relatively small population, in the past we have had our own policeman, two post offices (three if you include the mobile one that used to accompany Henley Royal Regatta), a bakery, a car maker, diamond polishing factory, five pubs, boat makers, lavender producers, film stars, settings for television, mountaineers, a pottery, military exercises, four schools (the Remenham CE, Park Place, Remenham Place and Tower Park Place), a well-respected choir, sporting events and much more! >

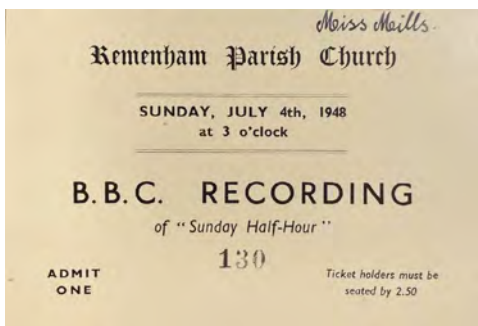


**A hot air balloon
at Park Place**

*(courtesy Oxfordshire
History Centre)*

We have a fantastic collection and wish to thank everyone again who has already contributed. Personal colour and context make any exhibition truly come to life. If you have a story to share, photographs or memorabilia there is still time for inclusion. Please reach out to the history@remenhamparish.org.uk email address or contact any one of Madeline Duffy, Sue Laing or Charlotte Every. Any articles or photos can be scanned and reproduced, and precious items photographed so there is no risk of any damage.

Closing date for submissions: Friday, 20th March 2026.



Clockwise from top left:

The car manufactured in Remenham

A ticket to the BBC recording in 1948 at Remenham Parish Church
(courtesy River & Rowing Museum)

A boat decorated to look like a dolphin near Marsh Mills
(courtesy Oxfordshire History Centre)

Event Details

Dates: Saturday 18th – Sunday 19th April 2026 **Time:** 10am – 4pm

Location: Parish Hall **Entry:** Free

Remenham Archaeology

Artefacts at Aston

Mr. Winter-Jones, of Underwood, late Principal of the British Museum, is kind enough to send us the following valuable report on the interesting question of the discovery of an Anglo-Saxon burial place:

The discovery of human remains and other relics at Aston, on **Mr. Headington's farm**.

It is to be regretted that no one was present at the time to observe the position of the skeletons (seven or eight in number), and also that a ceramic bowl, nearly perfect, which was found with the spear-heads and fibula, has not been preserved.

The opportunity has thus been lost of forming an opinion on the question whether the bodies had been formally interred or hastily committed to the earth, perhaps after a battle.

The practice of burying the dead in barrows or mounds has prevailed at all times and in many parts of the world, particularly in Europe and some parts of the East. These barrows are composed of earth heaped up, in which are deposited the remains of the dead – sometimes consisting of the burnt ashes of the body placed in urns; sometimes the remains are placed in rough coffins, consisting of six or more slabs of stone, into which the body is compressed; sometimes the body is surrounded by small blocks of stone forming an oblong square, and at other times it is left unprotected save by the superimposed earth.

In some countries and localities, as in Scandinavia, Brittany, and Cornwall, stone is much used, and the spot in which the body is deposited is protected by huge slabs of stone, supported by four or more stone pillars. These are called cromlechs, and many still exist in this country. The spear-heads and brooch, or fibula, found in the mound at Aston show that this grave was formed by Anglo-Saxons about the fifth or sixth century of our era. At this period the Saxon invaders were over-running the West and South of England, prior to their final settlement in Lancashire.

The proximity of Aston to the river Thames may have made it a convenient spot either for a temporary lodgment or for the simple burial of some of their companions.



Donated by: Miss Stapleton in 1882; Gilt copper alloy saucer brooch (or fibula) with chip-carved animal decoration encircling a face-mask.

© The Trustees of the British Museum. Shared under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) licence.

Henley and Remenham Record, April to June, 1881



QR code to items at the British Museum associated with Remenham

Remenham Parish Hall

Normal hire charge: **£25.00 per hour**
(*minimum two hour booking*).

Commercial hiring charges by negotiation

The charges include the use of tables and all kitchen equipment except the crockery and cutlery which attract an additional fee depending on requirements. Local residents may hire the tables, chairs, etc for use at their own homes.

For further information and bookings contact: **Claire Fletcher-Hobbs**

remenhamhall@remenhamparish.org.uk



Parish Hall Committee

Revd Jeremy Taylor
Chairman

Nigel Gray
Treasurer

Claire Fletcher-Hobbs
Secretary

Charlotte Every

Allan Henderson

Sue Laing

Pat Sly

John Laing

Jacky Ronald

Others are also co-opted from time to time.

The Parish Church of St Nicholas Remenham

Rector of St Mary's Henley

and St Nicholas Remenham _____ **Revd Jeremy Tayler** rector.hwr@btinternet.com

Churchwarden _____ **John Laing** churchwarden@remenhamparish.org.uk

Churchwarden emeritus _____ **Mike Dowsett**

Organist _____ **Sebastian Thomson** sebthomson@gmail.com

All services begin at 11.15am

First Sunday Matins (BCP)

Sidesmen: *Antony & Rosemary Duckett*

Second Sunday Holy Communion (BCP)

Sidesmen: Hugh & Penny Whitfield, Tim Came

Third Sunday Matins (BCP)

Sidesmen: Charlotte Every, Anne McDermott

Fourth Sunday Holy Communion (BCP)

Sidesmen: John & Sue Laing, Frances Plowman

Fifth Sunday Matins (BCP)

Sidesmen: John & Sue Laing

Parish Office: Monday & Tuesday 9.30am-12.30pm, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am-4.30pm

Tel: **01491 577340**, email: office.hwr@btinternet.com



St Nicholas, Remenham Easter services 2026

Sunday 29 March – Palm Sunday

11.15am sung Matins (BCP) with hymns

Friday 3 April – Good Friday

12 noon said Matins (BCP)

Sunday 5 April – Easter Day

11.15am Holy Communion (BCP)
with hymns

www.remenhamparish.org.uk

email: office.hwr@btinternet.com

Telephone **01491 577340**



Remenham Parochial Church Council

The Rector	Revd Jeremy Tayler - 01491 577340
Churchwarden	John Laing - 07778 464162
Treasurer	Nigel Gray - 01491 572024
Secretary	Mandy Sermon - 01491 412908

Charlotte Every, Sue Laing, Paul Sermon, Hugh Whitfield, Anne McDermott, Frances Plowman

Church cleaning

March	Sue Laing, Sarah Tait, Gillian Murdoch
April	Lene de Wesselow, Anne McDermott
May	Rosemary Duckett, Minnie Wilson, Jenny Morrow

Church flowers

March	Lent no flowers
April/Easter	The whole team!
May	Mandy Cook

News from St Nicholas

Dear All

Our candlelit carol service took place on Sunday 21 December.

There were candles on all the windowsills and on five wheels suspended from the ceiling and the church looked very pretty. Charlotte (Laing) put together an excellent scratch choir who sang beautifully with Anelise Whitfield starting proceedings singing solo the first verse of Once in Royal David's City. Our thanks to Charlotte, the choir and our organist, Sebastian Thomson.

The church was packed to overflowing with a congregation of 175, including a great many children, coming from near and far. This was well excess of previous attendances and was lovely to see, and the service had a wonderful atmosphere. People then enjoyed mulled wine and homemade mince pies in the Parish Hall. The whole event was a great success and an excellent kick off to Christmas. We hope to see you all again this year.... Our services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day were also well attended.

We are now in Lent and looking forward to Easter which is early this year with Easter Day being on Sunday 5 April. There will be a service of said Matins at noon on Good Friday (3 April) and an Easter Day service with Holy Communion (BCP) and hymns at 11.15am.

We have the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (held in church) to which all Parishioners are invited on Sunday 19 April at 10.15am. At this meeting there will be a summary of activities from the Rector and the Churchwarden and the election of Churchwardens, Parochial Church Council members, Deanery Synod representatives and sidesmen. We are always looking for new volunteers for these roles so if you are interested or would like to know more about what they involve please contact the Rector or me.

John Laing - Churchwarden



From the Rector

Dear Remenham friends,

This Friday (27th) the Church of England remembers the life and witness of George Herbert, priest and poet. Herbert was born into a wealthy and powerful aristocratic family in 1593, and initially pursued a career in politics. Gifted in Greek and Latin, a skilled rhetorician, and in the good books of King James I, a glittering political career seemed to be ahead of him. But setbacks, including the death of the King, led him to a radical change of direction, and in 1629 he entered the priesthood. Given his connections, he might have been expected to have found a prestigious, high-profile appointment. But instead he became Rector of an obscure rural parish outside Salisbury. As well as the wonderful body of religious poetry that was published after his death, he wrote the first manual for parish priests in the post-reformation Church of England. "The Country Parson" offers fascinating insight into rural life in seventeenth century England, with the Parish Church and Rectory serving not only as the centre for religious life, but also fulfilling many of the functions now associated with the NHS and the Social Services. Herbert's care for his parishioners – visiting the sick, providing food and clothing to the poor, as well as faithfully celebrating the offices of the Church – shines through in the pages of his book.

Herbert died of consumption at the age of 39, fondly remembered by his parishioners and friends, leaving behind a wonderful body of poetry, and a model for parish ministry that is more-or-less impossible to live up to! But the story of one who was willing to leave behind a life of privilege and the prospects of a career at court, to pour himself out instead in the service of the people of a village in rural Wiltshire, is as inspiring and relevant in our generation as it was to Herbert's contemporaries.

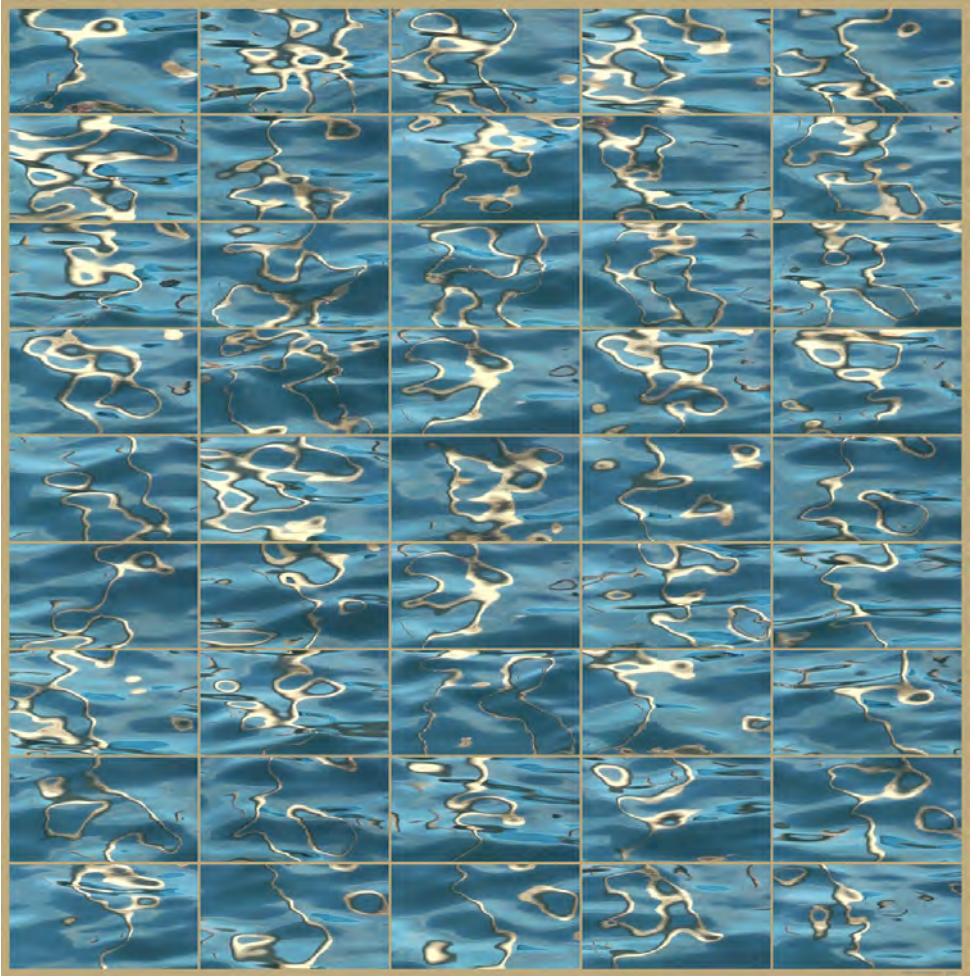
With my prayers,

Fr Jeremy

Parish mailing list and WhatsApp groups

If you would like to be added to the parish mailing list to receive the Parish Newsletter and other Remenham news, please email newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk

To add your names to the Remenham WhatsApp group contact Janette Brown on 07768 166764 or janette1brown@yahoo.co.uk and for the Aston one contact Charlotte Every on charlotteevery@gmail.com



Local Talent on Display

The 20th Anniversary of Henley Arts Trail

Mark your calendars for the May Bank Holiday weekend (**2nd – 4th May 2026**), as the Henley Arts Trail returns for its landmark 20th year! This much-loved community event is a wonderful opportunity to explore the creative heart of our local area, with over 30 venues across Henley and the surrounding villages opening their doors to the public.



We are particularly delighted to highlight that two of Remenham's own residents, **Allan Henderson** and **Jenny Law**, will be exhibiting their latest work in the stunning river front room at the world-famous **Leander Club**.

Allan and Jenny are long-standing contributors to our local artistic community, and their exhibition at Leander offers a unique chance to see their work in a stunning riverside setting. Whether you are a seasoned collector or simply looking for inspiration, their display promises a vibrant mix of styles and subjects that reflect the beauty of our region.

The Leander Club will be open from **10am to 5pm** each day. It's the perfect spot to start or end your trail walk; refreshments will be available, allowing you to enjoy a coffee or a treat while soaking in the artwork and the iconic views of the Thames.

Event Details

Dates: Saturday 2nd – Monday 4th May 2026

Time: 10am – 5pm daily

Location: Leander Club, Henley-on-Thames (RG9 2LP)

Entry: Free

The Henley Arts Trail is a fantastic way to support local makers and discover the hidden studios and galleries right on our doorstep. For a full map of all 30+ venues and a digital brochure of participating artists, please visit www.henleyartstrail.com

Come along, support Allan and Jenny, and celebrate two decades of local creativity!

Notes from Remenham Parish Council

February 2026

Well it's a record breaking start to the year in Remenham. More rain than since records began and as I look out of my window it has begun again! Not even any Olympic medals to cheer us up. We are going to have to rely on our indefatigable cheery Remenham disposition to keep smiling through to March. With Spring just around the corner our gardens and hedgerows are chomping at the bit to burst back into growth and remind us why we live in this beautiful part of the country.

Your diligent and committed Parish Councillors are also chomping to maintain the very best standards around the Parish. Meeting every four weeks in the Parish hall to discuss and act on priorities required to keep Remenham as a wonderful Parish to live in or visit. We do need the ongoing support of and engagement with Parishioners to do the best job possible. Please do have a look at the RPC website to get to know your councillors and make sure you stay in touch with them.

In recent meetings we have been discussing some familiar topics. Aston Lane road condition has been a persistent issue. Last month it was potentially the worst road in Wokingham district. With support from our district councillor Wayne Smith we managed to get attention from Highways. In January the drains in the midsection and outside The Flowerpot were cleared and inspected. Much patching with hot bitumen took place in the midsection

but already shows signs of failing due to the action of rainwater pouring down the hill. We have another road closure planned imminently (weather dependent) to properly repair the drain soakaway and hopefully lay more permanent tarmac surface in the midsection. We know funding is very tight in WBC so the challenge is to get the job done properly before the kitty is empty!

To give credit where it is due we also have to thank WBC for recently sending a team to clear the wildly overgrown pavement on the A4130 heading past Middle Culham.

“Your diligent and committed Parish Councillors are also chomping to maintain the very best standards around the Parish.”

The long promised rebuilding of the Aston slipway is being funded by your Parish Council and implemented by Cooks Piling....a local company who set up the course for Henley Royal Regatta. We had hoped this work would take place before Regatta but unfortunately the persistently high river levels means the work will now be done post Regatta. Parking and access to Ferry Lane slipway will be restricted during the works.

We have also agreed to replace the small metal kissing gate downstream from Hambledon lock which has been

impassable for pushchairs and often dog walkers due to deep mud. With the support of Culden Faw estate team we are installing a more appropriate wooden gate with better footing materials. Thanks to our deputy chair Polly for coordinating this initiative.

As good community supporters we have also recently agreed to share funding with the Parish Hall committee on Porch, gate and signage refurbishment for the hall.

A note for your diaries. On our March 9th meeting we are hoping to have guests from Rewind South, Henley Festival and Copas Partnerships to share community plans for 2026. Do come along if you are free and interested.

On March 21st we are also coordinating the annual Remenham litter pick. All are welcome to put on appropriate footwear and weather proof clothing to meet at the Village Hall at 9.30am. You will be supplied with Hi Viz jackets and those clever 'picker upper devices' to remove any unsightly detritus from around our paths and lanes. The reward for so doing will be a hot cup of tea or coffee and a slice of cake around 11am in the hall. It's a fun morning out with visible benefits for all to see.

Please stay in touch with your Parish Council and feedback where we are doing well or could do better.

Best wishes to all.

Bill Ronald
Chair, RPC

Remenham Parish Council

Bill Ronald (Chair): billronald@aol.com - 07850 357 653

Paul Sermon (Parish Clerk): clerk4remnpc@gmail.com - 07425 131 861

Polly Hogan (Vice Chair): polly@clearlyeducation.com - 07805 336 090

Franky Cookson: franky.cookson@btinternet.com - 07712 834 151

Nigel Williams: nigelwilliamsrpc@gmail.com - 07951 994 599

Paul Binney: paulbinney8@hotmail.com - 07425 607 978

Emma Abbott: zitzeeb@gmail.com - 07877191614

Meetings are currently held in the Parish Hall on the second Monday in the month at 6.00pm, except on the evening of the Annual Parish Meeting (usually in May) when it is immediately beforehand. There is normally no meeting in August.

Wokingham Borough Councillors, Thames Ward:

Sam Akhtar, Wayne Smith and Katrin Harding

MP for Wokingham:

Clive Jones (Liberal Democrat)

December report

Remenham WI met in December but before their regular meeting, several members met at The Mill at Sonning to enjoy an excellent production of My Fair Lady. Two members, a few days later also attended the Christmas meeting at Knowl Hill WI, another pre-Christmas cheerful evening. Our own members met a little later in the month, ready to welcome Christmas. After the business of the day, tables were cleared to make ready for a painting session. Armed with paints and brushes, members chose their Christmas figure from angels, trees, soldiers, baubles and stars and soon faces showed deep concentration while applying paint in all the right places!

There was still time for plenty of chatter while listening to some Christmas music with plenty of perennial favourites.

Eventually everything was cleared away in time for a traditional Christmas tea.

It was a few days later that the group met for the last time this year at Hennerton Golf Club. Here, everyone enjoyed a glass of prosecco on arrival before sitting down to a delicious Christmas lunch. All the ladies



were delighted with a WI tea towel while the gentlemen were equally delighted with a personally named bar of chocolate. Judy Palmer won the Christmas hamper and programmes were given out for the programme for 2026

January report

It was with sad hearts that Remenham WI met in January for their penultimate meeting after 73 years. The meeting was entitled, A Walk Down Memory Lane, which it certainly was! The meeting commenced with a rousing rendition of Jerusalem and after the business of the day, the memories started to flow. Do you remember were you there when when did you join Remenham do you remember the outing to do you remember how we kept in touch during Covid and the book and the poem that we wrote, what fun. What had we gained from WI? Friendship, help and concern for each other, charities supported, new crafts gained, the fun of outings and such a wide assortment of speakers.

There was a huge array of memorabilia for members to look through, photograph albums and committee and meeting Minutes dating back to the 1950s, handwritten and many in beautiful italic script. Old programmes, invitations, competition entries, recipe cards and reports were all available and exclamations of delight as old friends were recognized in photographs, many of whom were sadly no longer with us.

There then followed, in true WI fashion, a quiz centred around the WI. After this, there was a demonstration of jam making. While not following any WI recipe and with a lot of fun, members were presented, quite magically from the preserving pan, small jars of jam to take home!

Tea, in the style of the 1960s was enjoyed with sandwiches of the day and a delicious Black Forest gateau. The raffles were won by Joyce Tivey and Margaret Spratley.

The Book Club met later in the week to discuss **The Letter Writer** and were all in agreement that the completely controlling husband needed a hard lesson! However, a good read. The next book to be read and discussed is **The Silent Resistance** by **Anna Normann**.

Their final meeting will be in February when Remenham WI will be suspended. However, long standing friendships will not be lost as a new group **Remenham Rebels** is being formed. Meetings will still be held with old and new ideas being put in the calendar and if you are interested in being a member of this fresh and innovative group, **please give Daphne a call on 07919 358979**



February report

This month saw the final meeting of Remenham WI. Although in very many ways a sad occasion, members retained their joie de vivre. The meeting commenced with a delicious fish and chip lunch amidst a lot of chatter.

There were three meetings during the afternoon, their regular meeting agenda which was followed by the AGM.

The secretary gave a full report on the activities of the year, the speakers who had visited the group, the social events which had been well supported and the charities for which monies had been raised and donated. The President, then briefly reiterated the events of the year, emphasising the constant efforts made by the committee to ensure an interesting and varied programme. She then thanked Irene Parker for all her hard work as secretary, Anne Francis for looking after the accounts and Jen Terry who has organised the delicious teas over the last year and lastly thanks were given to other committee members and all members for their help and support over the last year.

The suspension meeting was chaired by Sarah Denly-Ball. The eventual decision to suspend Remenham WI was due to a falling membership and sadly Anno Domini. The proposal to suspend the Remenham group was made and a vote taken which was unanimous that Remenham WI should close. There were a few reflective moments of the last 73 years since the founding of Remenham WI and also some interesting facts about what was happening in the WI 73 years ago!

Suspension papers were signed which brought to a close Remenham WI, BUT, members were delighted to receive their envelopes and booklets giving all the details of the new group, **REMENHAM REBELS**. The Rebels will be meeting on an ad hoc basis, with visits to a concert and theatre already in the diary in addition to the continuation of the book club. Art and craft meetings are also in the pipeline as well as a coffee morning and lunch outing.

If you are interested in joining this new group for friendship and fun, **please contact Daphne on 07919 358979**



A royal upgrade for our storage

Great news for everyone who uses the Parish Hall! We are pleased to announce that our 2025 addition, the King Charles III shed, has recently had a bit of a glow-up, both inside and out.

Inside, the shed has been fully organised and fitted with brand-new shelving, thanks to the hard work of Allan Henderson and Bill Ronald. This upgrade has created a significant amount of extra space, allowing us to neatly store items that aren't needed on a daily basis - including all of our essential Fayre equipment.

To complete the makeover, Jacky Ronald has added some beautiful new planting outside the shed, which will bloom into an attractive and well-kept border.

What this means for our hirers:

More Breathing Room: By moving bulkier items to the new shed, our existing storeroom is no longer cramped or cluttered.

Better Accessibility: With more floor space and organisation, it is now much easier and faster for hirers to find the equipment they need.

A Welcoming Space: The new exterior greenery ensures the area will be a pleasant addition to our Parish grounds.

A huge thank you to Allan, Bill, and Jacky for volunteering their time and talents to improve our community facilities!



Allan and Bill proudly presenting the signs they definitely didn't just make to avoid actual work.

Help restock the Aston Lane Library!

If you've passed by the refurbished red phone box on Aston Lane recently, you may have noticed that our shelves are looking a little lonely. The book swap has been so popular lately with passing walkers and cyclists that the books are flying out faster than they're coming in!

To keep our community book swap thriving, we are putting out an appeal for fresh reading material. If you have finished a great book and it's currently just gathering dust on your shelf, why not give it a second life and share it with a neighbour?



What we're looking for: Fiction & Non-Fiction: Thrillers, biographies, history, or classic novels.

Children's Books: Always a favorite for local families.

Great Condition: Please ensure books are clean and readable so the next person can enjoy them.

How it works: It's simple - take a book, leave a book. Let's fill those shelves back up and keep Remenham reading!

Introducing Wokingham Borough's Community Engagement Officers

We're Petra and Zara, and we're delighted to introduce ourselves to the Remenham community. Our work is to help ensure that residents feel informed and aware of what services are available to everyone.

We're looking forward to getting to know more of you, so if you see us around or have information about groups or activities that you take part in and would like to share with us, please do say hello!

If you'd like to get in touch, email us on communityengagement@wokingham.gov.uk



Petra (left) and Zara

Last Will & Testament

I, [Your Full Name], of [Your City, State], declare this to be my last will and testament, hereby proving all prior and codicils, revoking all in purview, and my estate as follows:

I appoint [Executor's Name] (as desc) as the Executor of my estate, my next

To [Beneficiary's Name], I leave [Description of Gift] Final expenses of Gift.

To [Another or an (than)], I Author Reserves of Gift; Another from (Gift).

All the rest and residue of my estate, I give to [Residuary Beneficiary].

AI is much cheaper than asking a solicitor to write my Will... what are the risks?

We can't avoid it, AI is taking over every aspect of our lives. From "helping" kids with their homework to making life-saving medical diagnoses. But can AI write a Will that is legally valid and takes into account your personal circumstances both now and in the future?

The stark truth is that if your Will doesn't tick all the legal boxes, it's invalid. It must be signed, and witnessed by two independent witnesses, present at the same time, who watch you sign. AI can't supervise your signing, nor can it tell you whether your chosen witness is legally "independent".

Your Will must also be clear and unambiguous, leaving no room at all to spark family disagreements. Can AI take into account all the complexities of your life and wishes, ask all the right questions that mean you can't possibly forget that investment you made 20 years ago, and produce a watertight Will?

And a glaring risk: AI scrapes data from all over the world. When you ask it to draft a document it takes information from everywhere from Atlanta to Zante. Can you really rely on it to prepare a Will valid in England and Wales?

Finally, AI doesn't have insurance, nor is it heavily regulated, unlike your local solicitor. This means that if everything does go wrong, you have no recourse, and your family may end up with a costly legal tangle.

Your local solicitor will listen to you, ask the questions that are key to drafting a legal document that will adapt to your changing circumstances, and which, crucially, you can rely on to make sure your wishes are carried out after you die.

If you would like to discuss making a Will in the real world, contact Bethan Chant at The Burnside Partnership in Marlow at bethan.chant@theburnsidepartnership.com

Articles for the Newsletter and Editorial Policy

We love hearing from you! Please continue to send in any interesting or topical items regarding local events and community initiatives for possible inclusion in future editions.

Visuals and Cover Photos: We are always looking for high-quality photos or artwork related to the parish. If you have captured a great local moment or a scenic shot that would look stunning on our front cover, please share it with us!

Editorial Guidelines

Editing: The editorial team reserves the right to edit, amend, précis, or reject submitted articles.

Opinions: The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the position of the editorial team.

We Want Your Feedback

Is the newsletter providing the content you want to see? We would love to hear your thoughts on what you enjoy, what you don't, and any new features you'd like us to include. Your input helps us keep the publication relevant to our community.

Editor:

newsletter@remenhamparish.org.uk



Cuddles
DOG WALKING

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