

# The Chronicle

October 22 Issue 429

**21 April 1926 - 08 September 2022**



***ER 06 February 1952-08 September 2022***

***Thank you and God Bless You Ma'am***



***Long Live the King***



# ***Best Kept Village (BKV) Champion of Champions Presentation***

A lovely afternoon gathering of villagers on Saturday 12th September for our BKV presentation. Whilst eagerly awaiting Buckinghamshire Council Leaders, we were treated to a drive past by Cate Waite on her 100th birthday. The crowd burst into song and applause to wish Cate a great birthday.



In a simple ceremony Council Leader, Bill Chapell and Organiser, Clive Parker, spoke about the competition and Aston Abbots successes within it. They presented the Tindall Cup, for the first time, to Jane Prouting, Chair of our parish council, and the official certificate to our BKV Co-ordinator Chris Phillips.





Thanks to everyone who contributed to this great achievement including Michael Gould Photography for the photos.

Special thanks to Chris Phillips, AABKV Co-ordinator, Parish Council for their support, Liz Van Hullen, Parish Clerk for

much organising, Andy Bystra, for the Bus Stop Library set up and The Green Planting, Colin Higgs and team of litter pickers, Tony and Matthew James for their monthly litter pick. (See Your Emails further on), The Church yard experts.

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## ***From the Editor***

After a brief break of three weeks or so, the tippers started rumbling through the village again, some clearly above the speed limit.

Along with Jane Copping, Robert and Lili-An Boyer, Helen Roberts and others the calls started from us to their office complaining, receiving polite replies but little action apart from slowing down. But still they came.



A resident explained what happened just before this photo was taken.

*“15.12 this nearly ripped the side of the house off opposite the church”.*

I partially blocked two tippers hoping the drivers would find it too

annoying to use Aston Abbots as a rat run to and from the A418.

Each time the drivers had to stop, I and another passed on our views as to why their trucks should not use our village roads. As I write this column, no tippers have been spotted since. But I'm sure it's not over.

Thanks to Jane, Robert, Lili- An, Helen, Diana Blamires and others.

Everyone, please join the protest by calling the company everytime you see them using our village.  
01525381107. 07836548838.  
07789605815.

### ***Suggestions***

I do hope you enjoy the Chronicle as a source of relevant information. I do welcome suggestions for different or additional articles and styles etc.

Please contact:

[editor@aachronicle.co.uk](mailto:editor@aachronicle.co.uk)

Hope to see you at the Quiz Night, Saturday 8th October. Take care.

**Pete**

***Editor***

# **News from in and around Aston Abbotts**

***And yet another bites the dust. Queens Head Wing closes.***

Fears are raised in Wing following the failed Queens Head pub closing its doors on 4th September and developers eyeing up the village for building on, including talk of a relief road. The owner stated,

*'When taking over the pub, this was not the outcome that we had envisaged but it is clear that this simply is not a viable business and is currently losing money each week, add in the ridiculous utility bills and spiralling food and liquor costs, it leaves us no option but to close the business.'*



*A parish Councillor said, 'It seems unlikely the owners would consider selling it to the community. There is no evidence at all that there are any plans to develop the site, and the Queen's Head has a long history of being both popular and profitable, so it would be hard to prove that, after less than two months in new and*

*inexperienced hands, the business is suddenly no longer viable. But if such plans were to emerge, the village would then be under a triple threat of development - the Dove, Chesterfield Crescent, and the Queen's Head. (Both closed). The Neighbourhood Plan is in revision now - and may be headed for a significant stress-test. Your Parish Council needs You...'*

**The Chronicle has learned that the Queens Head is to be developed into flats. The Dove is to be demolished to make way for flats and two houses.**

And to top that off, It's the end of an era for Ivinghoe as the village's beloved King's Head restaurant closes its doors for the final time on September 30.



The ivy-clad, 17th Century posting house has been "a by-word for fine dining" for more than two-thirds of a century, beating the credit crunch of 2007 and offering tempting takeaways to survive the pandemic.

It was bought in 2001 by a four-strong team of friends: Annie Cooney, Jonathan O'Keeffe, Georges de Maison, and the late Patrick O'Keeffe. However, after a "wonderful" 21



years, the owners have decided that the time is right to move on.

It was good news to hear that the **Rose & Crown** has reopened and under the management that ran The Stag in Mentmore, Alessio and Ross.

**Revd Bob Willmott** Many villagers will be saddened to learn that the Revd Bob Willmott, who was Vicar of Wingrave, Aston Abbots and Cublington for 17 years, from 1989-2006, has died. His funeral is to be held at Wingrave Parish Church on Friday 14th October at 3pm.

**Amy and Curtis Marry.** On a much happier note, We were treated to a wonderful, traditional style wedding in our village during September.

Andy Bystra explains, "A path had been mown from the bride's parents farm across several fields to just behind our Church, enabling her to ride a white horse, accompanied by seven bridesmaids, family and friends to our Church in style. Another horse was waiting so the happily married couple could ride to the wedding breakfast."



The Bride's Father, James Dell said, "Our daughter and son-in-law had an utterly fabulous wedding on Saturday. It was lovely to see some villagers there to watch and the bellringers did a fantastic job. It was a super service in a beautiful church and the horses and dogs all behaved impeccably. Thanks to Rob Hunter who saved the day by driving James back to the farmhouse to collect a forgotten bridesmaid's bouquet, and for keeping the cows contained so we could pass through the fields with calm horses! Hope we didn't disturb any of you with our partying"



## Stolen Caravans recovered.



It was a busy night for the Thames Valley Police Rural Crime Task Force in September. Following information about 3x stolen caravans being at a camp site location near Aylesbury they attended the site, identified the caravans and recovered them. The caravans will be returned to their respective owners.

One caravan was stolen from Newcastle-Under-Lyme, one from Tingewick and the other from Dorset!



Officers also identified an uninsured vehicle leaving the site. The vehicle was stopped and checks confirmed the driver was disqualified. Following a roadside interview he has been reported to court for driving whilst disqualified and uninsured!

## Local Health issue reported.

Mediterranean Kebab House, Aylesbury received a one out of five grade which indicates that major improvement is needed.

A food safety officer indicated that the hygienic food handling and cleanliness of the building was good but was critical of the outlet's management of food safety.



Systems and checks have now been put in place to ensure that food sold or served is safe to eat.

Cannot tell you anymore about this picture, only that it was taken on Aston Abbotts Road.





**Crash in Wingrave.** On 20th September at 08.30 two vehicles collided by the pond. One was still in the road just after the bend by Leighton Road, a blind turning.

A passing driver stopped and started managing the traffic. He said, "nobody else had stopped and with where it was I could see another crash happening. I was just glad the village kept flowing as it was school run time as well."

0900 road cleared.

**Reported Field fire Wing.** 23rd September, smoke spread over Wing from a barn, hay bails and tyre fire at Burcot Hall farm. Smell said to be horrendous.



Fears were raised for the many horses within the farm.

The Fire Brigade attended and extinguished the fire.

## Your Emails

Dear All

### Fireworks Saturday 5th November

I am pleased to announce that the annual Aston Abbots Fireworks Display is scheduled for Saturday, 5th November, in the Recreation Ground.

We are planning to provide Soup, Mulled Wine, glowing things for kids, as well as a Bonfire and Fireworks display. The event will start at 17:45. A bonfire will be lit at around 18:00. Fireworks will start at 18:30 and last no more than 30 minutes.

You are welcome to bring Friends and Family to the event - the more, the merrier.

The event is paid for partly by the Fete profits along with donations made on the day. Contributions can be made via the Donation Buckets that will be located throughout the spectator area.

Important Information:

- Please do not bring any Fireworks to the event.
- Please do not bring any wood or other materials for the bonfire on the day.
- Sparklers are welcome but must be used in the designated area - the Children's Play area.
- Please follow all directions provided by the Marshals or Fireworks Team for your own safety.

- **Please do not drive to the Recreation Ground if possible. If you have Friends and/ or Family coming, it is best to have them park by your homes. This is to ensure access for Emergency Services is maintained.**

Finally, if you would like to offer your assistance with this event, please contact Martyn Simpson.

We recognize that Fireworks can be distressing for Pets and other Animals. We will ensure that the display is run at the timings provided above to allow people to plan accordingly. For advice on looking after Pets and other Animals during Bonfire Night, please refer to the RSPCA's website -

<https://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceand.../pets/general/fireworks>.

**Martyn Simpson.** 6 Nashs Farm.  
07538 177 977

[martynjsimpson@gmail.com](mailto:martynjsimpson@gmail.com)

### **Hello lovely villagers**

You will have seen from the Fete update in The Chronicle that I received £75.00 to purchase spring bulbs - as agreed by all those villagers that attended the Annual Parish Meeting.

You get an awful lot of bulbs for £75.00 so I'm now looking for help to plant them.

If you'd like to brighten up your corner of the village ( or indeed, anywhere else in the village), please contact me by text, what's app or e mail by 27 September to pick up some bulbs.

I've thought of the following planting areas... these are only suggestions and I'm sure you'll have many more and better ones.

1. Aston Abbotts signs as you enter from the crossroads
2. Bus shelter by allotments
3. Wingrave Road sign near parking bays
4. Sides of allotment gate
5. Bench on corner of The Green opposite old Bull & Butcher
6. Bus shelter on The Green
7. Post box
8. Ross Road sign
9. Best kept village sign
10. Bench x 2
11. Around new fenced rockery
12. Chapman's Lea sign
13. Hunters Way sign
14. Aston Abbotts sign as you enter village from Cublington
15. Gate towards Weedon
16. Aston Abbotts sign as you enter village from Weedon ( around the planter already there)
17. Bricstock sign x2
18. Childrens play area on recreation ground



19. Bench in corner of the recreation ground looking across the Vale
20. Anywhere else you can think of - please let me know!

There are plenty of bulbs available and we've had plenty of rain so it should be easy enough.

We will all appreciate the results next Spring and hopefully many more to come. 😊

If you have any thoughts or queries please contact me directly

Thank you

**Deirdre Whyte**

07980067967

[deirdreawhyte@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:deirdreawhyte@hotmail.co.uk)

681685

*Dear Ed, Cornish Bard*

As some of you know, I've been learning Cornish for some years and passed the final exam (roughly equivalent to A-level) last year. I was astonished to be invited to join the Cornish Gorsedh this year as a bard! So I am now an official supporter of Cornish culture, language, St Piran, pasties, wreckers, Fishermans Friends, Gwenno and Show of Hands. While I doubt there will be a Cornish language class here any time soon, if by any chance someone else wants to learn, there are online options so do ask – good fun, no more difficult than

any other language and quite like Welsh.

If Pete manages to get the picture in you'll see me in my robes with a few other new bards and the Grand Bard, in Hayle in September. I had to choose a Cornish name, which is (of course) Red Kite – Skowl Rudh. Agas gweles (see you around)! **Caroline Lane**

<https://gorsedhkernow.org.uk>



**Hi Pete** You've previously mentioned seeing myself and my son Matthew regularly litter picking in and around the village.

Matthew has been doing this for the past year as the volunteering part of his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award – he has now set up a Just Giving page in aid of Dementia UK where people can show their appreciation of his efforts with a donation. His Just Giving site is

Matthew's Aston Abbotts Litter Picking. Just put this into the 'Just Giving site. Many thanks

**Tony James** – Chapmans Lea

## ***What's on in Aston Abbotts for October***

<b><i>What</i></b>	<b><i>Where</i></b>	<b><i>When</i></b>
<b>Quiz Night*</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Saturday 8th from 19.30</b>
<b>Whist Drive*</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Thursday 6th/20th. 19.30</b>
<b>Rambling Club</b>	<b>Willen Lake</b>	<b>Sunday 9th. 14.00</b>
<b>Bingo</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Thursday 13th. 19.30</b>
<b>Morning Cafe</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Every Thursday 10.00-11.30</b>
<b>Bus Trip</b>	<b>09.00 bus to L/Buzzard</b>	<b>Friday 28th 09.00</b>
<b>Clocks go back 1 hour</b>		<b>Saturday 29th Bedtime</b>

***\*Next Quiz Night Saturday 8th October from 19.30. Tickets £3 in advance from Pete Lucas 07544227991***

***\*If anyone is interested in the Whist Club, Colin Higgs BEM will arrange coaching sessions. 681343***







***Aston Abbotts Village Hall***

***Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October***

***7.30pm for 8pm start.***

***Cash Prize plus others (Play your cards right)***

***Bring your own booze / drinks. Crisps & Nuts etc on tables***

***Tickets £3 per person in advance from Pete Lucas 07544227991***

***Strictly a Maximum of 6 to a team. Join the fun on a cheap night out***

# Aston Abbotts Mobile Hairdresser

COVID-19 SAFE



Covid-19 SAFE

Hi, I'm Sam and have lived in the village for 5 years. I am a freelance hairdresser (He & She) and have been in the business for over 20 years.

If you are looking for a change or can't get to a salon, please contact me on 07800743856 or email:

[bowleysamanthat@gmail.com](mailto:bowleysamanthat@gmail.com)

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## Suggestions and Bookings Aston Abbotts Village Hall

The Village Hall is open for bookings for a wide range of activities, such as band rehearsals, children's parties and exercise regimes.

To enquire please contact Nigel or Sally on  
astonabbottsvillagehall@yahoo.com

Tel. 01296681152

Mobiles. Nigel 07918928897 Sally.  
07547604072

The coffee Morning on Thursdays from 10am is particularly popular and all are welcome. Bacon butties are available at a great price.

We are constantly looking to upgrade and would welcome any thoughts or suggestions.

Current plans include exploring changes to the acoustics. At a recent event, which attracted a healthy attendance, some people experienced difficulty with clarity of hearing. We are open to ideas on how we might make improvements, if anyone has any experience to offer.

John Whyte (Chair)

Trustees/Management

John Whyte (Chair), Caroline Lane  
(Secretary), Nigel Palmer  
(Treasurer/Bookings, Sally Palmer

(Bookings), Liz Hall, Peter Shorrock.

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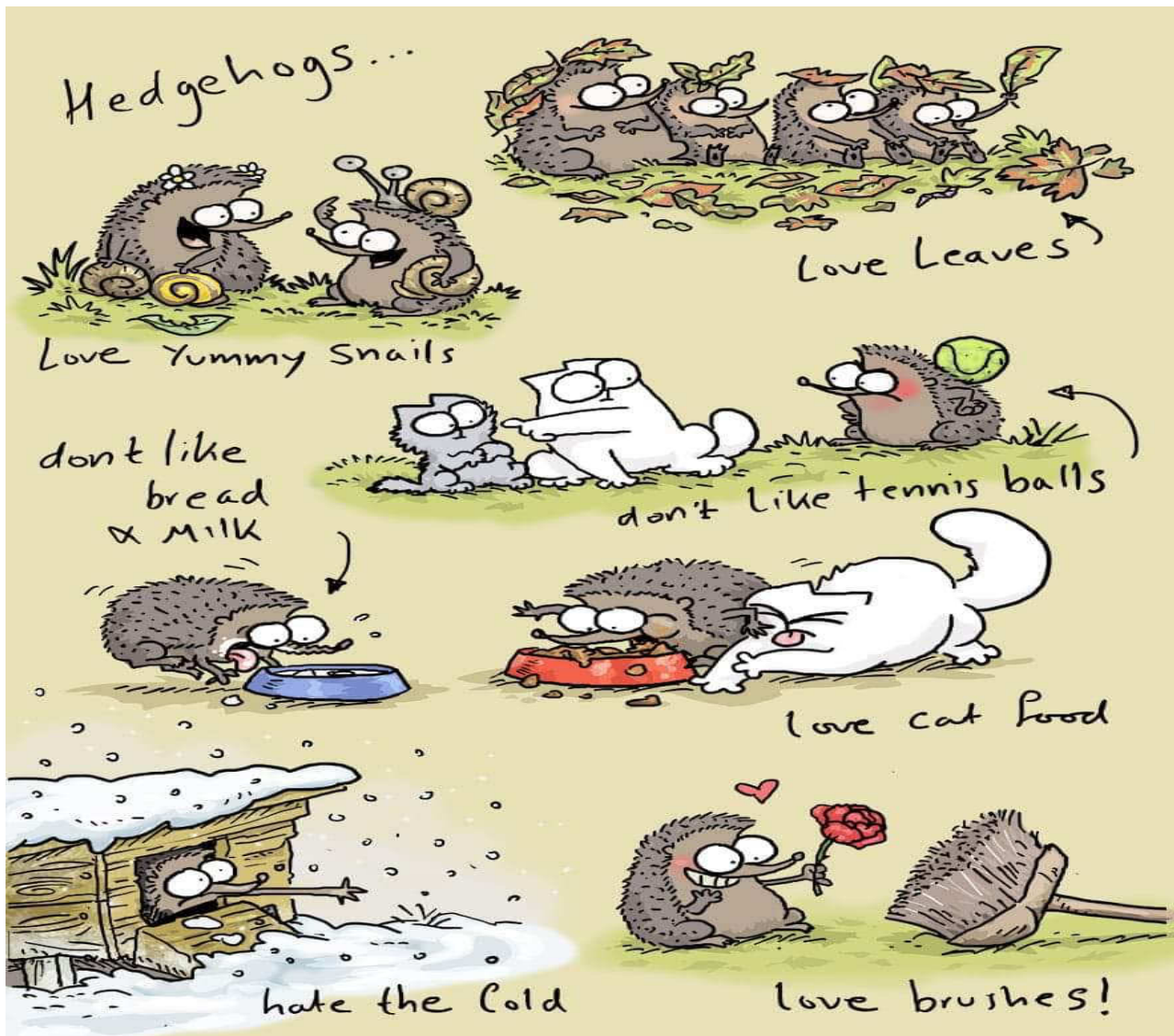


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## Help Hedgehogs in your garden.



## Autumn at our historic houses

Get out and about this autumn, enjoy the changing colours and have some family fun with the National Trust.

### Hughenden

Hughenden, once home to Victorian prime minister Benjamin Disraeli, has acres of beautiful parkland, woodland and more formal gardens which always look stunning as the leaves change colour. On Monday 26th Sept and 1st Oct, you can enjoy

a walk with a ranger as Hughenden celebrates British Food Fortnight. The two hour walk will include looking for edibles from nature's bounty around the grounds and you'll learn loads more besides. If painting is your thing, you can join in a watercolour workshop on Wednesday 12th Oct with a volunteer who will take you for a short walk to find inspiration before you create an autumn view of Hughenden that you can take home. And on Oct 25th, children between 3 and 12 can enjoy a minibeast hunt



where they will learn all about the creatures they discover. Booking applies for all these events.

### **Cliveden**

Cliveden is creating a scarecrow trail round the grounds from Oct 22nd where you can explore the grounds, find the scarecrows made by local community groups and end up in a craft tent where children can make their own bamboo spoon scarecrows. From Sept to Dec, you can also take a peek round the elegant Cliveden House Hotel, not normally open to non-guests. Admire the stunning interiors and amazing views and you won't be surprised that Megan Markle chose this 5 star hotel to stay in the night before her wedding to Prince Harry.

### **Stowe**



For leafy autumn walks and stunning scenery, head to Stowe gardens and parkland. The awe-inspiring classical buildings set in the beautiful parkland with follies, statues and bridges make for a unique autumn walk. Enjoy the changing colours of the tree-lined avenues, relax on the quiet lake-side benches, collect conkers, watch the wildlife and grab a breath of fresh air.

### **Canons Ashby**



The gardens and parkland at Canons Ashby are a delight in autumn and you can enjoy an autumn creature trail so the children can learn all about the creatures and wildlife typical of English woods and parkland; there's an apple harvest weekend on 24th and 25th Sept; a guided countryside walk on 13th Oct and a creepy creature trail starting 22nd Oct, just in time for half term, when children can find out about the creatures they are more likely to see in the colder months.

### **Waddesdon**

The grounds at Waddesdon are always a pleasure and autumn is no exception, with gorgeous trees throughout the parkland and gardens that are always beautifully maintained. With spooky afternoon teas, a fancy dress competition and autumn-inspired family activities, Waddesdon is the perfect place for a family day out this October half term. From 22–23 Oct, visitors can also enjoy locally produced, artisan products at the new Autumn Food Fair set within Waddesdon's picturesque grounds.

# ***Brief roundup of local pubs & eateries***

***Councillor Diana Blamires***

Hubby has been away in Ireland fishing on a boat on The Shannon with Son #2 so a mix of pubs and cafes in this month's Buckinghamshire hospitality tour.

Jamie, owner of Wild Raven Farmshop and Tearoom in Rowsham near Aston Abbots, is trying to get us to change the way we shop by swapping supermarkets for small shops for the weekly shop.

As well as an exceptionally well-stocked farmshop - there are also refills, a florist, cosmetics, clothes, pictures, plants and gifts. He's encouraging shoppers to boost the local economy with regular visits to independents and markets.

Lovely warm welcome from the owners of Blackthorn Nursery, just outside Wing. Loved the huge mural by Wing artist Emma Bracken.

Had a lovely meal at The Watermead Inn, Watermead, overlooking the lake. The boy liked the menu, which included pulled pork burger.



There's a new coffee shop at the back of Watermead, Just the Crust. The patio is a sun trap at breakfast time.

The Horse and Jockey, just outside Aylesbury, has a new menu. I had a mushroom and halloumi burger and the boy said the rack of ribs was "perfect" - the meat came off the bone easily.

Fellow councillor Caroline and I enjoyed being back at the newly reopened George pub, Winslow, which now has a wood fired pizza oven van some nights.



We still have more local hostelryes to visit so watch this space.

Pete Lucas wasn't happy with his visit to the Caldecotte Pub & Grill, next.

## The Caldecotte Pub & Grill Betcham Way nr Milton Keynes

*Pete Lucas*

Once, one of my favourite pub/  
Restaurants for a Sunday roast.  
Today is Saturday Brunch. A  
different story.



Despite looking to be over staffed, management decided that, for the few tables outside on the balcony, would not be serviced. We cleaned the table and had to do everything at the bar. Ok. Although with one person serving and not on all cylinders, service was slow and becoming annoying. Fifteen minutes of nothing. Staff walked around with tablets attached to them but with next to nothing to do including taking orders.

A stocky guy, the manager I believe, appeared, and as service was slow but happening, only at the side bar, placed a notice in front of me that stated, 'No service at side bar'.

Blood pressure rising and the air about to turn blue, I asked, "Where is your \*/+=&^%-` service then?"

The egg & Bacon Ciabatta boasted 6 rashers of bacon. What a lot of cobblers. 6 tiny bits of McDonalds type of bacon.

That said, despite the lack of service, it was very pleasant to sit outside this wonderful building looking over the lake.

My guests both used the facilities. They both commented on how un serviced they were. Tissue over the floor of the ladies and no soap in the dispensens.

That was it for me. A good helping of my experience was exchanged with the stocky guy!

To be fair, this was a 'one off' for me but still annoying. 4/10



*"Susan, this might be just the wine talking,  
but I think I want to order more wine."*



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# BINGO NIGHT

**13**  
**OCTOBER**

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VILLAGE HALL

IN AID OF  
STROKE  
ASSOCIATION

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# ***Let your taste buds do the travelling***

**Pete Lucas chats with local chef Sarah Leary of The Nomadic Kitchen.**

**I'm intrigued by the name The Nomadic Kitchen. What does it signify?**

I'm glad you asked me that! Simply put, I travel, cook and teach wherever I'm needed. The fact that I don't operate from a single location gives rise to the "nomadic" theme.

**I've noticed that there's a full stop after "The Nomadic Kitchen." I'm assuming that's not a typo!?**

Well spotted! It's supposed to signify that all of your culinary needs begin and end here- with an element of tongue in cheek I hasten to add!

**You advertise cookery classes which are delivered in people's own homes. How does that work?**

Customers can choose from a range of cuisines; Thai, Indian, Spanish, Italian or Middle Eastern for example. I arrive with all of the ingredients that they need prepared in advance so that all they have to do is cook- no chopping required. The session would typically last approximately 4-5 hours and would include a minimum of five dishes. Great hints, tips and hacks are all part of the service. A recipe pack is provided for the customer to keep.

**What is your culinary background?**

I trained at Leiths School of Food and Wine in London. I have many years experience in event catering and supper clubs and have been a freelance cookery teacher for a number of years, principally at The Cooking Academy in Rickmansworth but also The Jericho Kitchen in Stadhampton and One Can Trust in High Wycombe. I contributed a number of recipes and assisted with the home economy for the recipe book "A Cupboard Full of Spices" which was published in 2018.

**Have you had any thoughts about running a supper club in the village!**

Absolutely! I think that the village hall would be a perfect location. I'm just not sure at this stage as to how much interest there might be.

**So it's watch this space then?.....**

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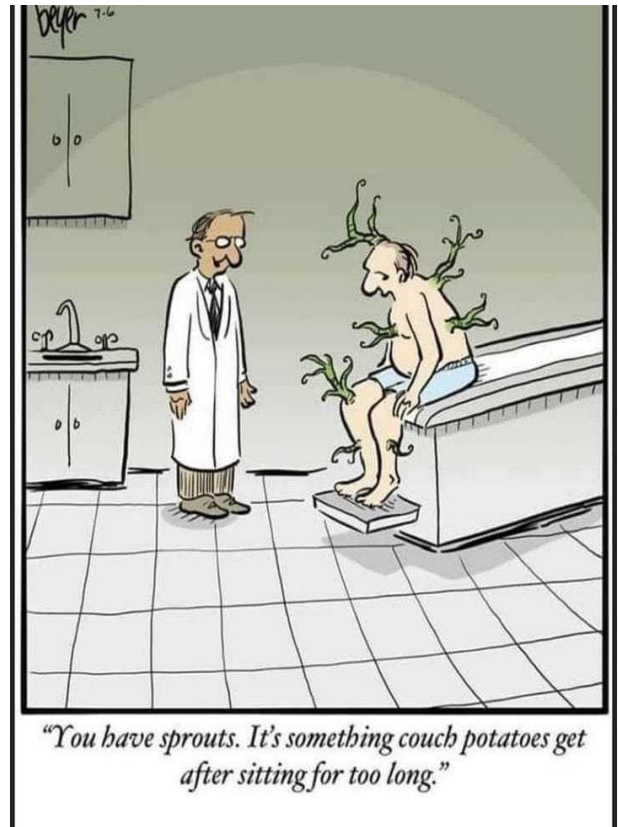




Many have used dating sites to find love. Some may have met their partner on a blind date. But what do you do if the person you meet at a restaurant or pub is not what you expect? How do you make your exit? Here's a few tips from students, that quite frankly, should be studying 🤔 :

- Pull out a mouth organ and play some blues if your date starts talking about him/herself.
- When ordering, inquire whether the restaurant has any live food.
- Without asking, eat off your date's plate. Eat more from their plate than they do.
- Lick your plate clean and offer to lick theirs.
- Drool.
- Repeat every third word you say.
- Insist that the waiter cuts your food into small pieces.
- Chew with your mouth open.
- Eat everything from your plate within a minute.

- Discuss boils and lesions, as if from personal experience. And
- Recite your dating history. Improvise. Include pets and relatives.



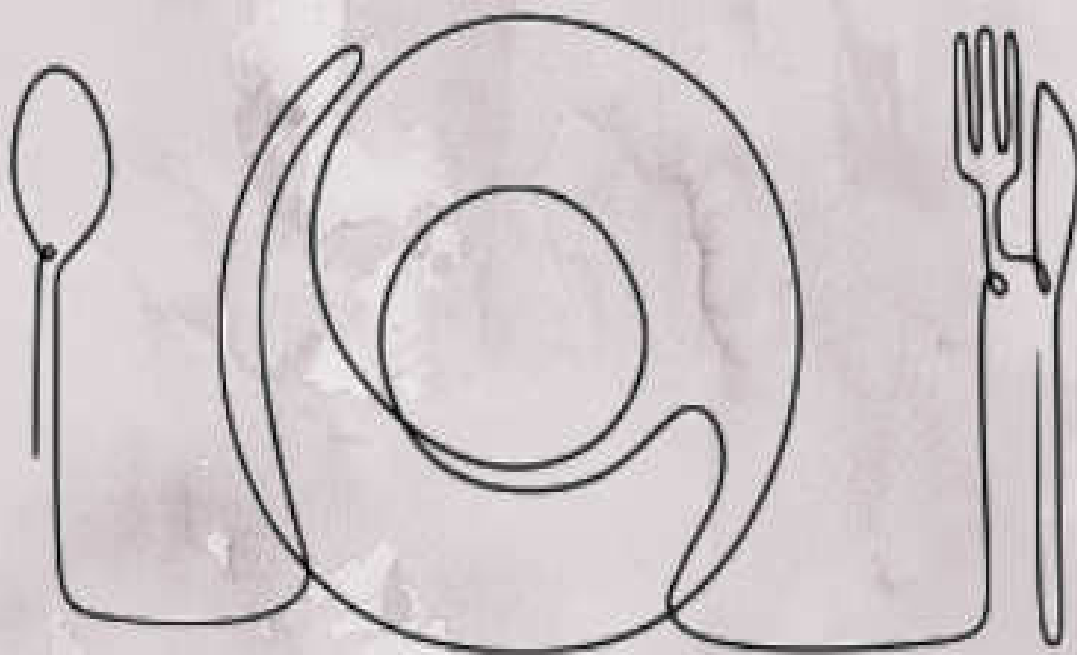


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## **Wingrave School Latest**



Dear School Friends and Neighbours

The new school year is well underway and has started very positively. Our new EYFS intake were full time within a week and the parents have been very appreciative of the transition work which took place both before and since the summer holiday.

With several new families securing school places throughout the August, we now have 210 children on roll, our highest to date. Although we have a few places in our older classes, we have been able to offer some flexibility for catchment families and siblings so we can continue to serve the local community in the best way possible.

New playground and safety markings were also installed while fewer feet were around.

Towards the end of August we hosted our first Holiday Club provided by S4A which was very successful. Non-school families have been very complementary about our outdoor facilities and spaces. Thank you to our

school neighbours who have been supportive of the provision.

Although a smooth start to the term overall, the passing of Queen Elizabeth obviously affected us all in some way and this was especially poignant for the children following the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. As a church school, we held a special assembly with a time of prayer and reflection, looking back at Queen Elizabeth's example and her many achievements. Needless to say her meeting Paddington Bear struck an immense cord with our youngsters! Having planted a tree as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Jubilee initiative, we invited our school families to lay flowers by the sapling in the school grounds.

Looking ahead, we are optimistic this could be the least disrupted year for some time with better health and fewer restrictions for pupils and staff. One resource that has been the least used due to circumstances is our library and we are pushing ahead with a refurbishment project to fully makeover and furnish an increased library space. This has been made possible by a very generous donation from The Raven Trust for which we are very grateful. This project ties in with our priority for inspiring writing through reading, providing quality texts for all tastes and ages both for learning and enjoyment, something which can sadly be overlooked within the pressures of the curriculum.

**Matt Tomson. Headteacher**

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## Outdoor plants for autumn colour

### 1. Acer



If you love the look of fiery foliage, it's difficult to beat an Acer. Also known as maple trees, Acers are deciduous trees or shrubs that are famous for the spectacular display they put on each autumn.

There are many different types of Acers – though if you're looking for leaves that will turn a flaming, fiery red, you might want to opt for the Japanese maple tree.

Other Acer options include 'Sango-kaku' – the coral-bark maple – known for its beauty throughout the year. With vibrant green leaves in summer; deep yellow leaves in autumn; and bare, bright red stems in winter, this tree will look lovely all year round.

Acers are compact trees and non-invasive growers, and while larger varieties look lovely in gardens, smaller varieties grow happily in containers and look beautiful on patios or balconies. They grow best in lightly shaded positions and do really well beneath the shelter of taller deciduous trees. Just be aware that their delicate leaves need protection from strong winds or blazing direct sun.

**2. Crab apple** Another tree that comes into its own in autumn is the crab apple. With red-flushed fruits and warm orange leaves, these eye-catching trees have gorgeous autumn foliage, and their beauty continues well into winter. Their fruits also provide food for birds in the cold winter months, so they're a smart option if you want to attract wildlife.

### 3. Callicarpa



If you'd like to add a more unusual colour to your garden, you might want to think about callicarpa.

Better known as the beautyberry, this deciduous shrub has clusters of pretty pink flowers in spring and summer – and when autumn rolls around, clusters of deep violet, bead-like berries appear on the purple-tinted leaves.

Even after the leaves have fallen, the glossy, gorgeous berries remain, injecting colour and beauty into your garden well into winter.

Plus, the beauty berry looks lovely throughout the year. The young leaves are often a bronze-purple colour, turning to deep green in summer before darkening to golden-purple in autumn. You can also cut the berry-laded branches to make striking



flower arrangements for your home. These shrubs thrive in dappled shade.

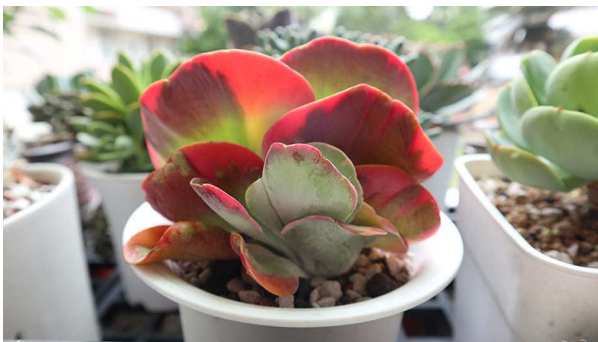
**4. Pyracantha** Another plant that has beautiful, colourful berries is the pyracantha; a popular and hardy shrub that's often grown as hedging, trained against a wall or fence.

Because it's evergreen, it guarantees your garden always has some colour, even in the drab winter months. In autumn, an abundance of bright red, deep orange or vibrant yellow berries appear all over its foliage. The berries remain throughout winter, and frothy white blossoms take centre stage when spring arrives.

If you want red berries, go for the 'Red Column' variety of the pyracantha, and if you'd prefer orange, opt for 'Golden Charmer'. The 'Flava' variety produces bright yellow berries, and 'Saphyr Rouge' has clusters of coral berries.

Due to its dense, prickly stems, Pyracantha also makes a great security fence.

#### **5. Katsura tree**



Another excellent autumnal option is a tree that smells as good as it looks: the katsura tree. Officially called *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, the katsura tree originates from Japan, and this medium-sized deciduous tree looks fabulous during the autumn months

when its leaves turn pink, yellow, and orangey-red.

Its smell is also a major plus. When autumn comes around, the fallen leaves give off a lovely sweet aroma – a scent of toffee apples, burnt sugar, or candyfloss, depending on who you ask!

The katsura tree is a spreader, so it's best to have a good amount of room. When young, the tree forms a conical shape, but it's fast-growing and can spread to six metres.

**6. Autumn crocuses** If you're looking for colourful flowers rather than trees or shrubs, what about the autumn crocus or the *Colchicum*?

These large blooms appear in September and last until late November, giving your garden a striking pop of colour. These goblet-shaped violet flowers appear out of nowhere – from the bare ground without any leaves – which is why their nickname is 'naked ladies'!

In the spring, the leaves look lovely but don't be alarmed when they wither away – they're just getting ready for their grand autumn show! If you've bought these flowers too late for them to bloom in the ground, you can keep them indoors and plant them in the spring to enjoy their colours next autumn.

**7. Guelder-rose** The guelder-rose is another deciduous shrub that will brighten up your garden throughout the year. It has vibrant green, maple-like leaves that turn beautiful shades of red and purple in autumn and, in spring, the bushy foliage is



cloaked with clusters of small, fragrant flowers that are a brilliant white.

In the autumn months, glossy, translucent red berries also appear all over the foliage, attracting and feeding all kinds of birds, including bullfinches and mistle thrushes. In winter, the guelder-rose's berries are a favourite food of waxwings, which are pretty, pinkish-grey birds that come to the UK from Scandinavia. So if you're hoping to attract wildlife, this shrub is an excellent choice!

## 8. Amaryllis



If you're looking to bring some autumn colours into your home, one of the best indoor plants is definitely the Amaryllis. These bulbs are also incredibly easy to grow, so they're perfect if you don't have much gardening experience. All they require is good soil, water, and indirect light – and their exuberant blooms will make an appearance six to eight weeks after planting.

These big, showy flowers are some of the most dramatic indoor plants, and with a wide array of colours – from bright red to warm orange and pink – you can always pick a selection and put on a seriously colourful display. If you plant in early October, the flowers will

appear in November and last until Christmas.

**9. Croton** Crotons might not be the most unusual plant – though they're popular for a reason. Not only are these houseplants really easy to grow, but their large, leathery green leaves are splashed with autumn colours like scarlet, orange, and yellow.

The 'Eleanor Roosevelt' variety has thin leaves that are often burgundy coloured, and mottled with deep yellow, while 'Oakleaf' has oak-leaf shaped bronze leaves and scarlet, yellow, and orange veins.

Crotons are easy to care for, though be sure to keep them away from draughty windows. It's also important to know that all parts of this plant are poisonous, so if you have pets who like to munch on plants (or curious children or grandchildren!), you should be extra careful.

**10. Paddle plant** Or why not think about a succulent? Officially known as *kalanchoe thyrsiflora*, this unusual-looking plant is a real head turner that grows in a rosette of round, flat leaves. The leaves are a cool green when kept inside, but if your paddle plant gets enough sunshine in winter, the edges of the leaves turn a glorious deep red, treating you to lovely seasonal colours.

## *Horticultural Winners September*

**Cup Winner** Val Smith

**Runner up** Simon Guy

**3rd** Alex Radbourne / Caroline Lane

## ***Rev' Howard pays tribute to Queen Elizabeth 11***

Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>, this is the first opportunity in the parish magazines to pay tribute to her. The Queen's seventy years reign meant she walked the public stage far longer than any politician could or would. Such a time period thus presented HM with many changes to our common life demanding immense resolve, perseverance and love. The Queen began her reign with an Empire which became the Commonwealth; there were freighted political issues which the Queen, on ministerial advice, had to negotiate; UK society saw a sea change in matters of divorce, abortion, sexuality and latterly, the law surrounding marriage; and there was the perceived need to modernise the Monarchy's image. These are what are called paradigm shifts. And throughout it all, HM openly declared her Christian faith.

As we reflect on HM reign, we realise two facts; one, societies never stand still and secondly, no-one should ever pretend that the impact of change is ever completely clear. Happening to have been monarch for seventy years is not the point; more so than all her speeches, the opening of this and the unveiling of that, perhaps the Queen's greatest contribution was to have

demonstrated what dealing with questions of change looks like; in imitation of the Christ who addressed the spirit of the Law and the motivations of the heart, HM's continuous faith declaration showed a willingness to explore all life presents hand in hand with faith.

Just as HM kept an active interest in our common life, as we anticipate a winter of much uncertainty, please feel that you can come to any of the village churches and ask for help. There is no shame in that. We are discussing with parish councils having a rota of public buildings open for warmth during the day, there are foodbanks and advice with money and cooking. Please do not sit and worry.

With every blessing,

**Rev'd Howard Robson.**



***Thank you Caroline Lane for  
including this picture of the book  
of condolence***

## **Church Matters**

**COMING UP.** Harvest (all ages) breakfast and informal service on 16 October led by the Revd Howard Robson. Do join us! Details will be on church notice board and postie soon, but as usual it's a 9.30am start with breakfast in the village hall.

**'Tea and Tots'** – anyone at home with a child under 5? Would you like to bring your child to a monthly drop-in at St James's church on a Wednesday morning? Refreshments, games and songs, a prayer and a chat. Already happening at Wingrave and we are thinking of starting this here in the New Year. Please let one of the PCC know if you might be interested (see below).

**LAST MONTH.** The Queen. The church was open following Her Late Majesty's death from 9am - 7pm until the day after the funeral and a book of condolence was set up. There is still time, if anyone else would like to add their personal message, but please now contact Caroline AS on 681001 to do so. Thank you to the bell ringers for tolling 96 times on 8 September and again on the morning of the Queen's funeral.

**Church opening hours** Anyone, churchgoer or not, is welcome to use the church for quiet reflection and/or prayer. We usually leave it open during daylight hours in the summer. After the clocks change at the end of October it will be locked, but Caroline

Abel Smith or I will be happy to let you in (see below for contact details).

**Ride and Stride 2022** on Saturday 10 September was quiet everywhere (four visitors and two dogs came to our church). I visited 16 local churches on my bike and so far, have raised nearly £200 to be shared between our own church here and Bucks Historic Churches Trust; thanks to everyone who sponsored me. My online page is open until the end of October, and any further contributions would be very welcome, either online or in person:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/caroline-lane12>

**PCC NEWS.** Welcome to Tatiana Butler and Francesca Bean, our new treasurer team, who have joined the PCC! And also to Andy Bystra, for leading on the maintenance of the church building. Very good to have you with us.

**David Gray** Thank you so much to David for all he has done as Treasurer and much more over the last few years. A hard act to follow.

**Caroline Lane, PCC secretary (01296 681373, carolinelane@btinternet.com)**

**Caroline Abel Smith, churchwarden (01296 681001, cbjlas@talk21.com)**

**PCC members: Anita Parker, Lesley Clough, Ro Knight, Ann Goodman, Annie Pettie; Andy Bystra (fabric); Tatiana Butler, Francesca Bean (finance)**



## Church Duties October

Date	Cleaning	Flowers
6/7	David/Colin	TBA
13/14	Alex/Anita	Harvest
21/22	Ann/Caroline L	Harvesy
28/9	Colin/Gay	Donated



## *St James Aston Abbotts Church Services October*

<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Evensong</b>
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	<b>09.30</b>	<b>Harvest Breakfast then to Church for all ages Lay led service</b>
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 30th</b>		<b>No service here</b>
<b>Sunday 30th</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>Wing Benefice Service</b>

### 100 Club Draw September

1<sup>st</sup> prize, £50 – Venita Dixon. 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, £10 – Les Smith

**Not too late to sign up! Join any time during the year and support church funds.**

**Monthly draw July 2022 to June 2023, tickets £15 from PCC secretary**

**carolinelane@btinternet.com, tel 01296 681373**



## ***Wingrave Diary October***

Sun 2 09.30 Harvest Festival service followed by Harvest Lunch Parish Church

Wed 5 10.00 WI meeting Methodist Church

Sat 8 08.45 Men's Breakfast Talk: How can we achieve more balanced media reporting? Methodist Church

**Sat 8 19.00 Aston Abbotts Quiz Night AA Village Hall**

Sat 8 19.30 Music in Quiet Places concert Parish Church

Mon 10 09.30 Weekday Walking Group ramble, contact Jan: 07813 085211

Mon 10 15.00 Friendship Group Baldway House, Leighton Rd

Fri 14 14.30 The Slow Walk: Finding Your Feet Again Village Green

Sun 16 09.30 Local ramble 4-5 miles Nup End Lane

Wed 19 18.00 Copy deadline for Communiqué

**Fri 21 19.30 WwRHA talk: Hughenden Manor Community Centre**

Mon 24-1 No School half term holiday

Sat 29-30 Wingrave Singers at St Albans Abbey

### **Wingrave Art Club**



We have had a very enjoyable and successful year. Members contributed excellent ideas which we all attempted with varying degrees of success! Trees, Mexican art, life drawing, collage, abstract painting, illustrate a poem, textured acrylic painting are just some of the weekly topics that we attempted over the year. At the end of each term, we have a social and discussion evening.

The club is open to everyone, whether you paint regularly or have never drawn or painted and would like to have a go. You are very welcome to come and try it out. There is no tutor, but we have occasional workshops.

We meet on a Tuesday evening at the Methodist Church, Nup End Lane, 7.30 – 9.30pm. You will receive a regular email reminder of the meeting and future plans.

If you are interested in joining or you would like to try it out, please contact me.

If you prefer only daytime activity, we do run occasional day workshops so let me know if you would like to be just on my daytime contact list.

**Jane Muir      Windmill Hill Farm,  
Wingrave.**

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**Chronicle Advertising John Whyte 07988001843**

**Chronicle Distribution Sally Palmer/Jill Wenble  
681152/681877**

**Parish Council Chair Jane Baylis 01296 681042**

**Councillor Trevor Hall**

**Richard Lakin**

**Councillor Sally Palmer 681152**

**Councillor Marisa Abel Smith**

**Councillor Heather Langdon 01296 688946**

**Councillor Jane Plested 01296 681740**

**County Councillor Peter Cooper**

**Vicar Revd Howard Robson 01296 688593**

**Church Warden Caroline Abel Smith 01296  
681001**

**Church Secretary Caroline Lane 01296 681373**

**PCC members: Caroline Abel Smith  
(churchwarden), Caroline Lane, Anita Parker,  
Lesley Clough, Ro Knight, Ann Goodman, Annie  
Pettie, Andy Bystra**

**Pop up Pub & Quiz Night. Pete Lucas  
07544227991**

**Book Club Sally Palmer 01296 681152**

**Village Hall Hire Nigel & Sally Palmer 01296  
681152**

**Men's 630 Club Andy Bystra 01296 681690**

**Women's Gnomes Club Carol Spooner 01296  
681544**

**100 Club David Gray 01296 681952**

**Bingo Pam Dixon 01296 681626**

**Rambling Club & Whist Drive Colin Higgs (BEM)  
01296 681343**

**Orchard Gordon Smith 01296 681373**

## **Community Services**

**Post office & shop Wingrave Deva 01296 682964**

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**NHS Direct 24hr Advice 111**

**Doctor Out of hours Surgeries 01296 331511**

**Stoke Mandeville Hospital 01296 315000**

**Police Non-Emergency 101**

**Buckinghamshire Council 01296 395000**

**Citizens Advice 08701264056**

**MP Greg Smith (Con) 01296 714240**

**Anglian Water 01296 385995**

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**Wingrave School 01296 681436**

**Cottesloe School Wing 01296 688264**





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Tuesday 1400 – 1630

Wednesday 1000 – 1230

Friday 1400 – 1630

Saturday 1000 – 1230



## INVITATION



You are invited to join us  
at the Village Hall and Community Library on  
Saturday 5th November  
2pm to 4pm.

There will be refreshments and cake; **children's activities and displays**. The Library will be open for tours and normal service. Help us to celebrate the **10th Anniversary** of this wonderful local asset: **a welcoming space** to pop in to **borrow books**; entertain children; **use the public computers** and the photocopier; **have a chat** and maybe a cup of tea or coffee.





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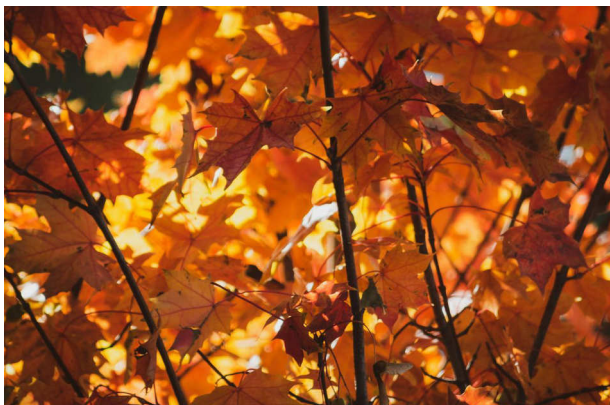


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## ***Best walks in Buckinghamshire to enjoy this Autumn season***

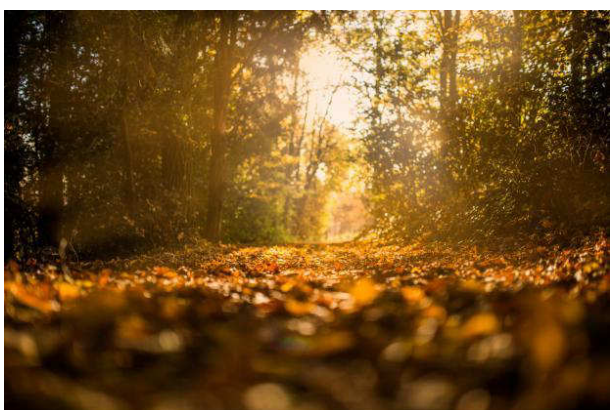
By Rebecca Carey



A countryside walk in the fresh Buckinghamshire air is the best way to welcome Autumn.

As the nights start to draw in, we can also start to enjoy the leaves changing colour and take in some of the best countryside walks that Buckinghamshire has to offer.

Here is a list of just some of those routes that should help you get out exploring what is on your doorstep.



### **Cliveden woodlands**

Overlooking the River Thames, walkers can take advantage of beautiful gardens and woodlands whilst also taking in the striking

views from the top of the chalk cliffs. The route is described as moderate and is around 2 miles long and should take you around 2 hours to complete.

You should be advised that you would need to be a National Trust member or pay an entrance fee to admire the Cliveden estate.

You should also note that the route isn't accessible to dogs.

Find out more via the National Trust website.

### **Whiteleaf Cross**

See the leaves changing colour up close by taking a brisk Autumnal walk up Whiteleaf Hill.

You will be rewarded with breathtaking views on top of the Chilterns over Buckinghamshire and there are plenty of other delights along the way.

The woodlands from Whiteleaf to Pulpit Hill and beyond are all linked by The Ridgeway National Trail so you can venture as far as you would like.

Plan your route by visiting the [Chilterns: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty website](#).



### **Coombe Hill and Chequers trail**

If you are up for more of a challenge, why not take on the Coombe Hill and Chequers trail?

The circular route, which ranges from 5 to 7 miles long will delight you with glorious vistas across the Aylesbury Vale.

It will certainly blow away the cobwebs as you take in the sights of the rare chalk grassland, tranquil woodlands as well as the pretty village of Ellesborough and the Prime Minister's country retreat at Chequers.

The picturesque route is ideal for families looking to pack a picnic or take the dog out too.

See more about the walk by visiting the [National Trust website](#).

### **Fingest and Skirmett Circular**

Fancy walking in the footsteps of your favourite TV and film stars from the likes of The Vicar of Dibley, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and Midsomer Murder? Look no further.

Starting in Turville, the 3.29 mile circular trail starts with a worthwhile climb up Turville hill which opens for stunning views over the Chilterns and the rest of the county.

The route is considered fairly easy and is popular with fishers and hikers alike.

Plan out your journey by visiting the [All Trails website](#).



### **The Ridgeway**

Take in the highlights of the season by trying out some of the 87-mile-long Ridgeway.

One of the most popular routes is located in Buckinghamshire, starting in Chinnor and ending in Bledlow.

The secluded and calming walk will take you through chalky and picturesque woodland where you can enjoy views of the Chiltern landscape.

Learn more about the Ridgeway trail by visiting the [Visit Buckinghamshire website](#).