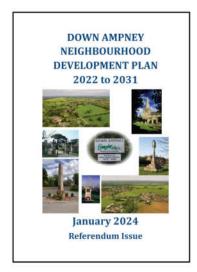


Down Ampney Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2024

DOWN AMPNEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

REFERENDUM DAY 29th February 2024



Copies of the Plan, the subject of the vote, are available to view in Down Ampney Village Shop

Please vote on this important document





Foodbank Fundraiser



The total taken from the 3 Soup Lunches was, I think, £1,267.87. This includes the holiday draw which was won by Geraldine Busby. This sum has to be verified by our Soroptimist Treasurer. This will be presented to Cirencester Food Bank (cirencester.foodbank.org.uk) at our next meeting. Thank you to all my helpers and all in Down Ampney who supported it.

Jackie Gloyn – Soroptimist International – Cirencester & District, sigbi.org/cirencester/

When life gets tough



FIND THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

Be Well Gloucestershire is a local campaign supported by the county's NHS and care organisations aimed at promoting health and wellbeing support and information to help when those challenges become hard to deal with.

Visit www.bewellglos.org.uk to find out more about the range of support available for you in Gloucestershire.

#BeWellGlos

If you would like to receive a digital copy of the Newsletter (PDF format) in addition to your paper copy, please send your email address to **downampneynews@gmx.com**

Digital copies are also available on the 'Down Ampney Online' facebook page, and the village website: https://www.downampneyvillage.co.uk/

Deadlines and Advertising

The deadline for contributions is 15th of each month. Please submit your copy (but not paid adverts) by **noon on 15th** to **DownAmpneyNews@gmx.com**, or post/deliver to Fieldview, Down Ampney GL7 5QW (behind the phone box).

If you would like to advertise your business, please email us with your contact details and to discuss prices and requirements. Charity adverts benefit from special rates.

Please send submissions in MS Word, Word compatible, or Publisher format, or as a JPG or PNG, as we do have to reformat or resize some contributions. It would also help if you use Calibri font, size 11 or 12. Please avoid underlining or formatting. Emails are also acceptable.

Thank you — Su Moody, Editor

NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, DOWN AMPNEY

Dear Friend

CHURCH SERVICES - FEBRUARY 2024

At the start of February the season of Christmas comes to and end (I bet you thought it was over in December!). The 2nd February is the Feast of Candlemas when the church remembers Jesus' parents talking their baby to the Temple in Jerusalem, as was the custom, to be presented before God. It is a time in the church calendar between Christmas Day and Easter. Of course we have the 'Twelve Days of Christmas' – which run from Christmas Day; and then the Feast of the Epiphany, when we remember the Wisemen seeking out the Christ Child in Bethlehem. This joyful season of Epiphany lasts for a month.

At the same time as lots of people are starting their New Year regime, following New Year resolutions buying gym membership or weight watchers, or doing 'Dry January' - the church is still 'Feasting' until Candlemas!

But then – paraphrasing the Dog's Trust – the church is not just for Christmas, we are here all the year round offering Sunday Services in our parishes, the opportunity to join together in song, prayer, praise and fellowship. Its great that our churches are where people can meet and make new friends.

There are always those life events too – a wedding, wedding blessing or a baptism, when the church will be there to celebrate with you and make these times really special. Or in different times to draw alongside in time of trouble, and from time to time to mark the passing of a loved one, both mourning their loss yet celebrating their life.

We have some beautiful, ancient, special buildings which are open each day for visitors to use for prayer or simply to enjoy their peace and beauty. And it you ever want to talk – about anything at all – please simply call.

'The church' is not just for Christmas!

As ever — John



Sunday 4th February Candlemas Sunday 10am Parish Communion Down Ampney

Sunday 11th February Sunday before Lent 10am Parish Communion Driffield 10am Word & Worship Harnhill

Sunday 18th February 1st Sunday of Lent

10am Parish Communion **Ampney Crucis**

10am Word & Worship Harnhill

Sunday 25th February 2nd Sunday of Lent 10am Parish Communion 10am Word & Worship Harnhill

Sunday 3rd March 3rd Sunday of Lent

10am Parish Communion Down Ampney

10am Word & Worship Harnhill

-00000-

LENT LUNCHES

You would be welcome to join us for a Lent Lunch (homemade soup, cheese and a roll) at The Rectory, Ampney Crucis – near the Village Hall:

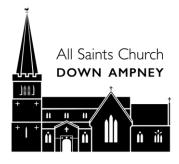
12.30 Tuesday 27th February
12.30 Wednesday 27th March

Donations towards Youth and Children's Work in the Cotswolds.

Please let us know if you are planning to join us. You would be very welcome. Thank you.

-00000-

There will be a Coffee Morning on Wednesday 28th February at Down Ampney Village Hall 11-12 - coffee, cake, chat and good company! All welcome.



Church website: www.ampneychurches.info



Down Ampney Arts & Craft Circle

Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 1:30pm-4pm Down Ampney Village Hall



Watercolours, acrylics, pencil, pen & ink, crafting, knitting, crocheting, etc. - anything creative you wish. It's a friendly space to create, explore, develop, help and support each other, share, be inspired, and express yourself. Feel free to come along for a cuppa and to see what's happening.

The next meetings will be Tuesday 13th and 27th February

(Membership £40 for 2024 including SAA group membership, £3 per session as a visitor)

Occasional workshops will be notified and priced separately.

Contact: DAACCGL7@gmail.com www.facebook.com/groups/DAACC/





Cotswold Writers Circle

This is a small group of people who enjoy writing stories, both short and long. You don't need to have published - we meet on a **Tuesday morning at 10.30** in the Dakota Room of our Village Hall.

Paying £2 for our coffee and biscuits, having a laugh together and enjoying writing and listening to our friends.

For further information contact Derek Skinner. Phone 01793 750598 or email derekskinner1@talktalk.net



FRIDAY NIGHT FILM NIGHT

7 for 7:30pm, Down Ampney Village Hall in the Dakota Room. Open to all (over 18's only), the bar will be open before and after. Entry is £2, all profits going to the Village Hall.

APOLOGIES FOR CANCELLING THE JANUARY FILM — "Knives Out" will be shown in March

FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY: "Book Club" - starring Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen, Diane Keaton, Mary Steenbergen, Don Johnson, Andy Garcia, Craig T. Nelson, Richard Dreyfuss

This romantic comedy follows the new journey of four best friends as they take their book club to Italy for the fun girls trip they never had.

Contact www.facebook.com/DAFilmNight/ or FNFNmail@gmail.com for information or with your film suggestions



Cricklade and District Probus Club

We are looking forward to our coming group meetings when the following talks will take place.

8th February The Story of a Violin 15th February The President's Lunch

22nd February Putin's Russia

The meetings normally take place fortnightly on a Thursday at 10.00 am at the White Hart Hotel in Cricklade. Ours is a friendly group who enjoy keeping our minds active and socialising over a drink in the bar after the meetings. We are actively seeking to expand our numbers and look forward to welcoming new members to the Club.

For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Richard Roberts on 01793 751063



The cafe is now selling drinks, sandwiches, pastries and savouries to order.

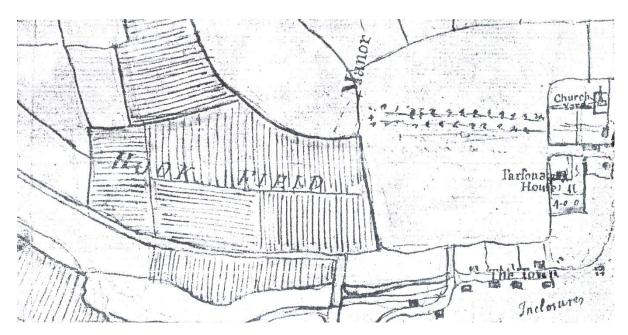
New Special Meal Deal: Sandwich + Crisps + Drink £3.95

Opening hours: Shop 9-12 every day. Post Office 9-12. Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri

The shop offers a wide range of essentials and if we don't stock it we can try to get it for you. The shop is run by volunteers and we badly need new ones to help out, even if only occasionally.

If you're interested or for more information please contact:

Tony Peel simpeel@btinternet.com or Peter Baillie davs2016@hotmail.com



SYCAMORE WALK

This is part of a 1773 map of Down Ampney. It shows 'Parsonage House', 'Church Yard' and the group of houses in the main 'street' is rather grandly called 'The Town'. It also shows avenue of trees leading up to the gates of Down Ampney House.

Normally, avenues such as this would line a carriage drive up to the gates of such a house, but this is unlikely to be the case here as the 'other end' of the lines of trees do not lead to a road which carried traffic between villages. Oak Road was, and still is just an access road to fields. In fact, the main road to the village was via Latton and was the route taken when Queen Elizabeth I visited in 1592.

Then what was its purpose if not to line a carriage drive? They were probably planted just to provide a pleasing aspect- and why not!

There was outrage in some quarters in 2000 when the Co-op ordered the trees to be cut down, but many had already fallen and many more, it transpired, were rotten inside.

In the twenty-three years since they were planted, the new trees have grown to maturity and we can enjoy them as our forebears did all those years ago.

Pamela Varey



NOTE THE DATE!

At last, at the culmination of four years' work by the Steering Group and, indeed, the engagement of Down Ampney residents, Cotswold District Council has announced the date for the referendum on the Down Ampney Neighbourhood Plan:

Thursday 29th February 2024

Poll cards will have been sent out to all registered electors around 25 January. Anyone not already registered, can do so online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and the deadline is Tuesday 13 February.

Postal votes will be issued as usual to anyone with a postal vote in place. If anyone would like a postal vote, they can apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote or contact CDC for a paper form to be sent.

The Steering Group urges everyone to vote on this very important matter.

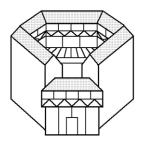
We would also urge everyone to study the policies put forward: there are policies affecting Duke's Meadow (the Millennium Field), surface water flooding and sewerage problems, and the general look of the village. Voters must make their own decisions as to what is important to them.

Printed copies of the plan, the subject of the vote, are available in the Village Shop.

Please, please vote, it's important!

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

FAIRFORD THEATREGOERS



We currently have a few membership places available to join the Fairford Theatregoers. Every member receives a show offer for each month (usually about 10 offers a year in practice). All the theatres are within a two hour coach trip of Fairford and they leave and return to Fairford marketplace. Shows in 2023 costs ranged from £30 - £47.50 per person, which included the coach. Every member can also invite one guest per show and the guest is charged £2 extra for their ticket.

The annual membership is £7 for a single membership or £11 for a couple, to cover the running costs.

If you would like any further information or an application form please call Alison & David: 01285 713182 or email: bookingftg@btinternet.com

From Down Ampney Parish Council

January has been a quiet month though it is nice to see some blue sky and cold crisp days. Let's hope the ground has time to dry out before the next downpour.

Due to the timings of writing this, for publication, we don't yet have the results from the Consultation.

Bromford, via their contractors have been clearing out the drains in Broadleaze and have committed to doing this fortnightly until a permanent solution is found.

Some of you may have noticed that they were digging the road up to test whether a soakaway is viable to alleviate the flooding in Broadleaze.

THE HUB

We have, at last, managed to arrange for the District Council's clothes recycling bin to be removed from the village hall car park. Subject to further discussions with the village school, we are proposing to allow them to locate their recycling bin in the car park in its place. permission will be on a three-month trial basis and subject to the school removing any bags that are not put into the bin. That said, we would again, sincerely request, that villagers do not place bags alongside the recycling bin as inevitably, the bag contents are subject to weather damage and must be disposed of as general refuse.

The other item that we are investigating, is the possibility of relocating the shops red refuse container to the entrance to the car park and housing it in a wooden enclosure.

More work will be undertaken on the tall hedge that runs parallel to the tennis courts. It will be reduced to approximately 6ft-6.5ft by cutting into mature wood, and the sides will have a further trim. The reduction will allow CCTV to monitor the play areas and we anticipate the work will be done before the end of February, well before the nesting season.

GRASS CUTTING

Having accepted the bid from Glebe Contractors, the Parish Council are now in the process of signing a new three-year contract with this company to cut and maintain designated grassed areas and verges throughout the village.

VILLAGE CLEAN UP

This will take place on Sunday, 17th March, meeting up at the Village Hall at 11.00. Please try to take part in this activity to keep our village tidy. More details will appear in the March Newsletter that is delivered at the end of next month.

LORRY WATCH

Cllr Hedges has had a report giving details of two heavy lorries passing through the village. However unfortunately there is a high volume of lorry traffic entering the village with building materials for the Broadway Farm housing development and it is difficult to check if any are passing through in contravention of the weight limit restriction. The report concerning the two lorries is being investigated.

Please continue to contact Cllr Hedges on the email below details (and ideally pictures) to include vehicle registration number, time, and direction to Cllr Hedges Brian@downampneyvillage.co.uk.

PLANNING

No new planning applications.



Key Stage Two visit to the Mosque and Gloucester Cathedral

On Monday 15th January, all of the children from Key Stage two travelled to Gloucester to visit the Mosque and join with other church schools at the cathedral for a Christingle Service.

At the Mosque, the children learnt about the 5 pillars of Islam, as well as experiencing the washroom and having a chance to try on traditional Muslim clothing. The Imran answered many questions the children had. At the Cathedral, we came together with other church schools to celebrate the work done by the Children's Society. Each school donated money to the charity before coming together in prayer and song by candlelight.



Raffle Prize Winners at the Christmas in the Community Event at Down Ampney Village School

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the festive occasion held in the school hall. The children sang beautifully, the mulled wine was enjoyed and the variety of stalls made for a lovely event.

First Prize of £200.00 Denis Quittenton

2nd Prize Tickets to the Wildlife Park Ally Richards

3rd Prize Champagne Tea at The Crown, Ampney Brook Sue Mills

4th Prize The large hamper Sue Quittenton

5th Prize Cotswold Driving Experience Mrs Walters

6th Prize A bottle of Malt Whisky Lilian Stevens

7th Prize A bottle of Malt Whisky Sam from Broadleaze

8th Prize Champagne Tea at The Crown, Ampney Brook Mrs Keech of Wychwood

9th Prize Bottle of Prosecco Elaine Eddy

10th Prize Chocolate and Wine Gift bag Mr and Mrs Berry

11th Prize Moulton Brown set, Cotswold print & chocolates Mrs Newman

12th Prize 2 Tickets to Gateway Ice Rink Ben Gemsa, I Knowle

13th Prize Roves Farm Tickets for 2 Nellie Frost

14th Prize Child's Gift Bag Amanda Johnson

15th Prize Clifton Photography photo shoot Mr J. Kiernan

16th Prize Clifton Photography photo shoot Pip Taylor

17th Prize Craft hamper for children Anit, 53 The Farm

18th Prize Sweet Hamper Nicky, 4 Charlham Way

19th Prize Child's gift bag Mrs Robson

20th Prize Giant box of craft 23 Down Ampney

21st Prize Bag of chocolate and beauty item Mr and Mrs Berry

22nd Prize Cotswold Christmas Duo set from Poulton Hill Chris Parsons

23rd Prize The Corinium Museum family ticket Liz Haywood, c/o T H Willis

24th Prize Christmas Cake from Sister Bakes J. Pearse

25th Prize Rugrats and Halfpints family ticket Milton of Nell Farm



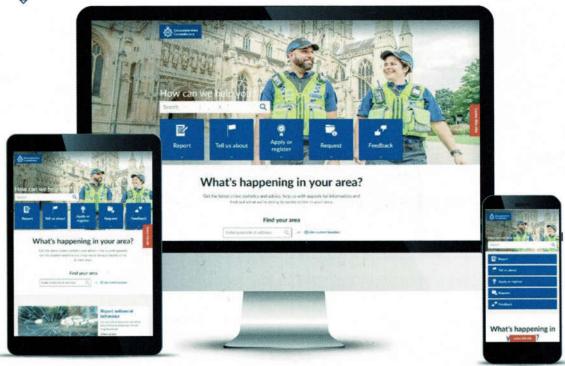
Down Ampney FC Social Club Bar opening times

Friday and Saturday 7:30 till 11 pm. Sunday 7:30 till 10:30 pm. Membership of the Social Club is £2.50 for the year.

Sunday nights are bingo nights starting at 8.30pm







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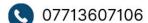
The Edna Dawes Lunch Club is organised by The Friends of Fairford and Lechlade Communities at Fairford Hospital.

The Lunch Club is ideally for the isolated and lonely members of the community aiming to provide a sociable day out on a regular basis. It can also be used to support carers who can benefit from some respite.

The Lunch Club includes a morning activity, a hot meal with pudding, a group activity and hot drinks throughout the day. The cost for the day is £10 which includes transport if necessary.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW

Contact Katie Bull, EDLC Team Leader



EDLC@friendsoffairford.org.uk

www.friendsoffairford.org.uk



COME AND BAG A BARGAIN AT THE SOUTHROP SCHOOL PTA



SOUTHROP VILLAGE HALLSATURDAY 2ND MARCH 2024

1 - 2.30PM

CLOTHING, BOOKS, TOYS, BRIC A BRAC



ENTRANCE £1 CASH ONLY



Donation Times: Wednesday 28th February 9-11.30am Friday 1st March 1-2.45pm, Saturday 10-11.30am For more information contact PTA@Southrop.gloucs.sch.uk

LOGS FOR SALE

The Cotswold Canals Trust provides a delivery service of seasoned Ash logs for wood burners and open fires

Delivery is available within a 16 mile radius of Driffield

The Trust is a charity and exists to progress the restoration of the Cotswold canals. If you support this ambition, or would just like some logs, please visit www.cotswoldcanals.org/support-us/log-sales or call 01453 752568 for details

Your support will directly help the restoration of the Thames and Severn Canal and Stroudwater Navigation



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Tuesday: 5:30pm – 7:30pm Down Ampney Football Club Car Park

UPCOMING DATES

13th February 27th

12th

26th

February N

March

March

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Phil and Nicky Spice
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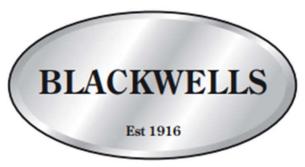
Don't suffer in silence, it could just be wax

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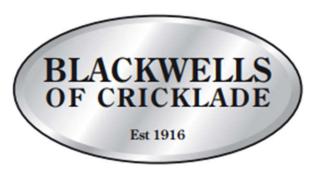
Down Ampney clinic and home visits

ottoewaxremoval@gmail.com 07597764493



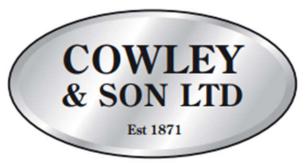
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THAMES HOUSE, THAMES LANE, CRICKLADE, WILTSHIRE SN6 6BH WWW.BLACKWELLSOFCRICKLADE.COM



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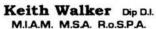
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Village Directory

Timage Billottery	
Down Ampney Newsletter	Editor: Su Moody 01793 750611, DownAmpneyNews@gmx.com. Treasurer: Andrew Scarth
Cotswold District Council	www.cotswold.gov.uk 01285 623000 Cllr. Lisa Spivey, email: lisaspivey4@gmail.com
Gloucestershire County Council	www.gloucestershire.gov.uk 01452 425000 Cllr. Lisa Spivey, email: lisaspivey4@gmail.com
Refuse Collections	Food caddy weekly Friday 7am. All other bins & bags on alternate Fridays.
Parish Council	Chairman: Mr Gareth Cope 07764 829821 Clerk: Mrs Julia Kilminster 07828 855676, email: downampneypc@gmail.com
Gloucestershire Police	The Forum, Cirencester GL7 2QY Mon-Sat 8am-8pm www.gloucestershire.police.uk
Neighbourhood Watch	Report incidents by calling 101 or visit Gloucestershire.police.uk IN EMERGENCY call 999 Co-ordinator: Julia Campbell – 07743930453 downampneyNWS@gmail.com
Village Hall NEW VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED	Available to hire for parties, wedding breakfasts, clubs, meetings, etc. www.downampneyvillagehall.co.uk Contact: NEW BOOKING SECRETARY WANTED, bookings@downampneyvillagehall.co.uk
Village Shop	Next to Village Hall. Open M-F 9am-12 noon, Sat&Sun 9am-12 noon
NEW VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED	Contact: 01793 752590 www.downampneyvillageshop.co.uk Volunteers are always needed. Contact: Tony Peel 07751 723399, simpeel@btinternet.com
Post Office	In the Village Shop. Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am-12 noon 01793 750385
Village Web Site	For news, local information, and useful links. www.downampneyvillage.co.uk
Down Ampney Village Facebook	www.facebook.com/Down-Ampney-Village-176038752590936/community/
Down Ampney Online Facebook	www.facebook.com/groups/DownAmpneyOnline/ Email: su.moody1889@gmail.com to post to the Facebook page if you don't use Facebook
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Cotswold Community Wellbeing Service	A free and confidential service which offers support to help improve your health and wellbeing. Amanda Wragg 07738 106384 email: cws.grcc@nhs.net
Football & Social Club	Open Fri & Sat 7:30-11pm, Sun 7:30-10:30pm. Contact: Sandra Wyndow 01793 750983
Village Primary School	Contact: School Administrator, Mrs S Woodruffe 01793 750294 admin@downampney.gloucs.sch.uk www.downampney.gloucs.sch.uk
All Saints' Church	Open daily 10-4. Services: see pg 3 / Church notice board / www.ampneychurches.info Contact: The Rev'd Canon John Swanton, The Rectory, Ampney Crucis 01285 851309 Church Wardens: Mr G Newman 01793 750087, Mrs A Stokes 01793 750674
Fix My Street	Report issues within Down Ampney: potholes, fly tipping, etc. www.fixmystreet.com
Good Neighbours	Collection of prescriptions and transport to medical appointments for older members of our community. Contact: Mrs Caroline McKemey 01793 751780
Library Service	Contact: 01285 659813 www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/mobile-timetables
Down Ampney Fundraising Group	Contact daevents@gmx.com or Maureen Gregory on 07813 035473
Down Ampney Arts & Craft Circle	1:30-4pm on second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in the Village Hall. Email: DAACCGL7@gmail.com www.facebook.com/groups/DAACC/
Gardening Club	Meets at 7:30pm on third Thursday every month except August. Contact: Karen Dangerfield 01793 752529 email: karendangerfield23@yahoo.com
Tennis Club	Courts next to Village Hall. https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/DownAmpneyTennisClub Contact: Tony Peel 07751 723399 email: tennis@downampneyvillage.co.uk

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