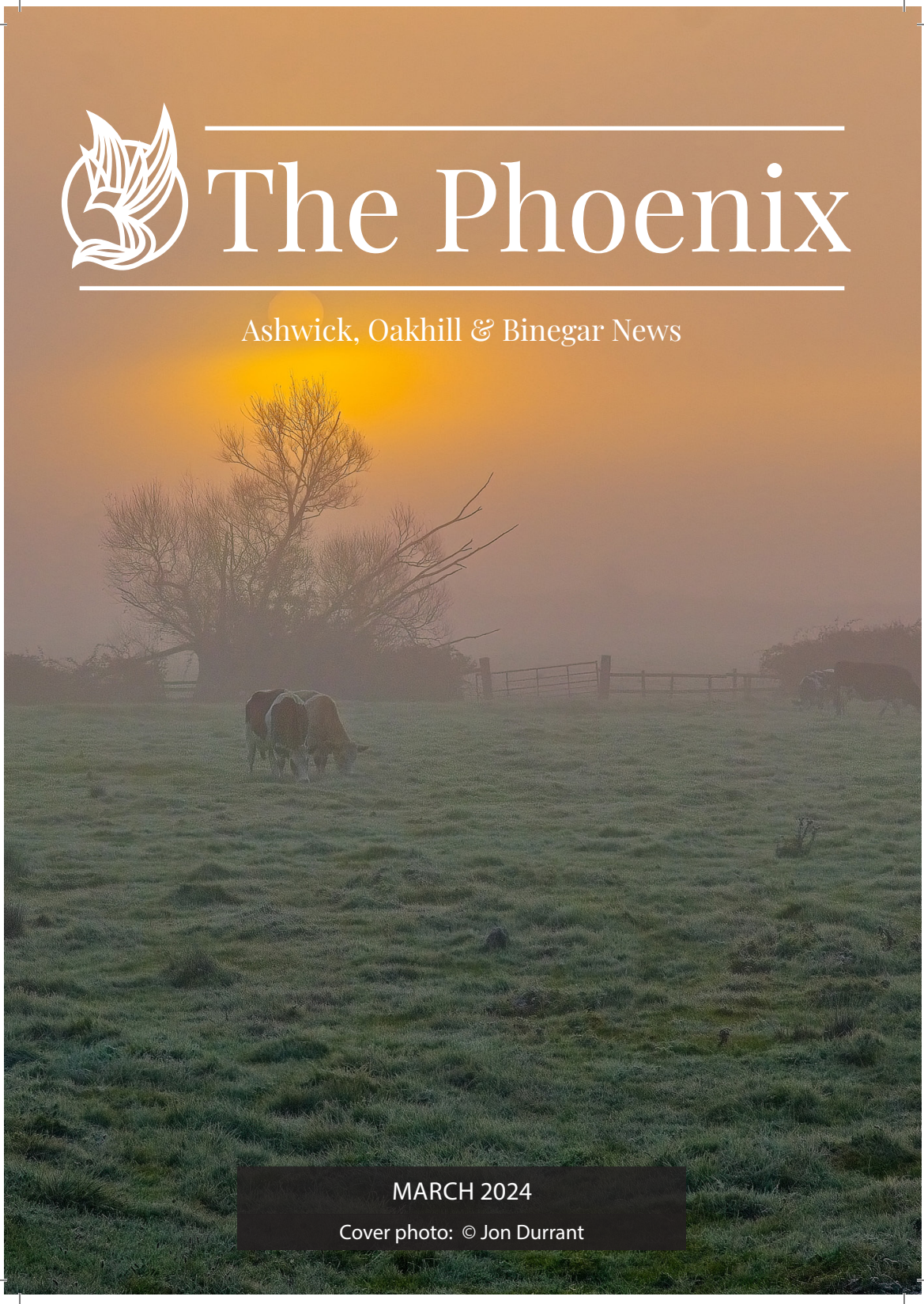
The Phoenix

Ashwick, Oakhill & Binegar News



MARCH 2024

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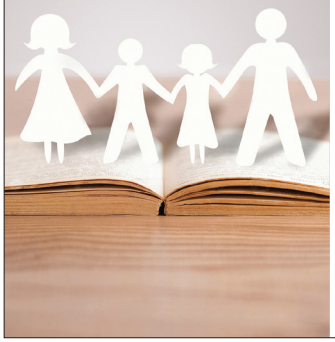

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H2SJP28802 05/18

A Foreword from the Phoenix

The days are getting longer, Spring is in the air, and Easter is only a matter of weeks away. We hope that The Phoenix has kept you informed of the activities available in and around our area during the winter months and we would be delighted to publish reports from our Clubs and Societies of events that have taken place, or that are being planned for the coming months.

The Crossword Conundrum appears to be popular; although there was no winner for February, there were two entries which came very close. Did you spot the "deliberate" mistake? The anagram in the 1 Across clue should have been "Lethal Postmen" (not Lethal Postman). Also, our proofreading let us down in giving the No 7 clue as Across when it should have been Down. Our apologies – we will try to do better in the future!

We are always keen to have historical content, and thank Lin Thorley of the Local History Group for the wonderful photo of the Oakhill School Football Team from 1935. Watch this space – we have plans for more photographs of local personalities from times gone by. If you have any you would like to share, please send them to us at phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com.

As you know, The Phoenix is distributed free to all residents of Ashwick, Binegar, Gurney Slade and Oakhill. We run a tight ship to make sure we can continue but any financial help would be very welcome. If you would like to make a donation, please email us at phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com or make a bank transfer to our following account:

Phoenix Community Magazine CIC
Account No: 55947867
Sort Code: 60-14-24

Did you Know?

Monthly quiz
(with thanks to Lin Thorley, Local History Group)

Q Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries who was granted ownership of the Manor of Ashwick? (please see April issue for the answer)

Last month: Q: What was the Pound used for?
A: Each village had a Pound, which was used to corral stray animals. Owners then had to pay a fine to get them released.

Whats on

BISHOPS PALACE

5th March Spring Flowers Colouring Workshop 10.30 - 15.30

10th March Mothering Sunday Lunch 12.00, 14.00 or 16.00

17th March Rare Plant Fair 10.00 - 16.00

29th March - 14th April Easter Family Trail

2nd April Easter Storytelling 11.00 & 13.30

CEDARS HALL

8th March Einsteins Music 19.00 - 21.00

9th March After The Flood The Church, Slavery & Reconciliation (Film) 13.45 - 16.45

22nd March Ensemble Bash 19.00

BATH & WEST SHOWGROUND

8th March International Women's Day 10.00 -12.30

9th March Lampshade Making Workshop 11.00 - 15.00

9th March VMCC Autojumble 9.30

15 - 17th March Antique & Collectors Fair Fri 12.00 - 17.00/Sat 9.00 - 17.00/Sun 10.00 - 16.00

23rd - 24th March The Bath & West Food & Drink Festival 9.00

31st March Giant Flea Market 9.30

SHEPTON MALLET

2nd March Hip City Classic Soul Art Bank Cafe 19.00 - 23.00

Visit www.helloshepton.com for full list of events & activities

STON EASTON

17th March Mendip Farmers Point to Point 1st race at 12.30

FROME

2nd March Sir Ranulph Fiennes Mad, Bad & Dangerous 19.30 - 22.30 Frome Memorial Theatre

3rd March & 7th April Frome Independent Market

6th/ 13th/ 20th/27 March & 3rd April Frome Collectors & Flea Market Cheese & Grain 9.00 - 14.00

9th March Frome Farmers Market Cheese & Grain 9.00 - 13.00

15th March Frankenstein (Dance) Mark Bruce Company 19.30 - 22.00, Frome Memorial Theatre

26th March Madam Butterfly Live Streaming from ROH 19.15 - 22.30 Merlin Theatre

30th March Big Clothes Swop (cheeseandgrain.com for details) 10.00 - 13.00

Visit www.discoverfrome.co.uk for details of all events

Services for March

3rd - 10am Ashwick
10th - 10am Oakhill - Mothering Sunday
17th - 10am Ashwick
24th - 10am Binegar - Palm Sunday
28th - 11am Ashwick - Maundy Thursday reflection
29th - 12noon Oakhill - Good Friday Meditation and contemplation
31st - 10am Binegar - EASTER SUNDAY Celebration

During Lent we are having Lent Lunches in Ashwick Church Rooms 6th and Binegar Memorial Hall 13th. These are at 12noon – 1.30 and are FREE with donations welcomed. ALL WELCOME.

This the Bishop of Bath and Wells writes:
New life for all the world

Sowing seeds, chitting potatoes, choosing varieties. Easter acts as starter's orders for the gardening year. Beds are cultivated, lawns mown, plans for all the growth and new life that spring and summer will bring made and then turned into action.

There's a much greater connection between gardening and Easter than it merely being the time to dust off forks and spades. For in the Bible, a garden is the setting for Easter itself. In John's Gospel (Jn 20:1-18) Mary Magdalene meets the risen Jesus in a garden. Indeed, Jesus's appearance to Mary is so unexpected that at first she can't believe it's really him. So she mistakes the man she meets 'supposing him to be the gardener' (John 20:15).

In John's account, all the new life contained in the first Easter chimes with a much earlier story set in a garden too. This is of the new life of another man and woman, the creation story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and contained in the book of Genesis (Genesis 2:4- 3:24). In that story, Adam is the gardener (Gen 2:15), only for things to go wrong. In John, Jesus is portrayed as the new Adam – come to bring new life that has no end.

What would happen if we were to think of our churches as gardens, primed to welcome the spring that is the new life of Jesus this Easter? What would happen if we imagined ourselves called to be gardeners – like our father Adam and the new Adam, Jesus? What would we expect to grow? What might need pruning or weeding? What new plans for the coming season would we make and turn into action? What would be the harvest that we'd sow for, tend and then reap?

For I reckon we should see Easter as the starting point of all that God wants to do among us and with us. Jesus's resurrection opens us to being part of God's new creation. Easter offers us a fresh start for life, relationships and the life of our churches: new life for all the world.

Happy gardening and a very Happy Easter to you all.

Bishop Michael

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Buff Tip Moth

Phalera bucephala

This moth has the most wonderful camouflage; as you can see from my photograph, it looks just like a twig of wood and is seen regularly in June.

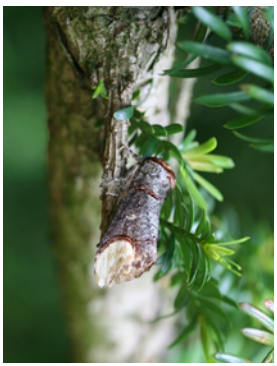
The name Phalera - phaleros = having a white patch, which is on the bottom edge of this moth's forewing. The name Bucephalos literally means bu, bos = ox, cephalus = head, meaning 'bull-headed' which refers to the large square head of the moth. It was also the name of Alexander the Great's famous horse.

Around 450 BC, Greek Pharsalus horses were noted for their quality and were branded with an ox head; Bucephalus was thought to be one from this breed and area of Thessaly. Greek horses were known for their stamina and surefootedness, not for their size, but just occasionally there would be one born much larger than the others. Bucephalus was a large black horse with a white mark on his forehead. In Latin 'phalerae' also means 'a shiny ornament for the forehead of horses'. He was wild and untamed and reared up when alarmed. The caterpillars of this moth will also rear up their heads when alarmed and remain in this way till reassured!

A horse dealer offered Bucephalus to King Philip II of Macedonia but because no one could tame the animal, Philip was not interested. However, Philip's thirteen-year-old son Alexander was. He promised to pay for the horse himself should he fail. He spoke soothingly to it and turned it towards the sun so that it could no longer see its own shadow, and successfully tamed the horse.

Alexander and Bucephalus were inseparable and fought together in all Alexander's battles. Bucephalus died of old age at thirty, though some say he died of wounds. Alexander founded the city of Bucephala in Pakistan where he buried his horse with full honors; the town now has a modern name.

Joan Oakley



Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

The Village Hall on Zion Hill (BA3 5AN) is a great local venue for parties, wedding and christening celebrations, clubs, societies, meetings and fundraisers. The main hall has a capacity of 125 (70 seated). Hire includes use of a kitchen, tables and chairs, and piano.

Other Facilities for hire include a football pitch & various sound/lighting equipment.

Oakleaf Community Café

Outdoor Gym WICKSTEED

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or **Phone:** 01749 841 688

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at the Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall

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(opening times may change, please check social media)

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Clubs & Societies

Are you a member of a club or society that you would like to promote? Are you thinking of starting a local club? Do make an entry here by emailing us at phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com

East Mendip Gardening Club

On Tuesday 28th March the East Mendip Gardening Club will meet in the Oakhill Village Hall at 7.30p.m. when Clare Hart of Grassroots PR will advise on Plants for Problem Spaces. So if you have such a space do join us for ideas and advice. Further details from our Chair Mark Manley *markamanley81@googlemail.com* or see *https://www.ashwickparish.org/clubs-and-societies/east-mendip-gardening-club/*

Beetlecrushers

Clog and step dance - Wednesdays at 7.30pm, Gurney Slade & Binegar Memorial Hall email *beetlecrushers@hotmail.com* or phone *01373 812227.*

Weekly practise and tuition sessions are held each Wednesday evening and new (adult) beginners are welcome to come for instruction, which is free. Clogs are available on loan. Musicians are also welcome.

Ashwick & Oakhill Short Mat Bowls

We are looking for new members for our friendly small group. You do not need to be able to play bowls as we are there to help, also to provide bowls for you to try. Come along and give it a go, and join us for tea and biscuits at half time!

If you are interested, please come along on Tuesdays 2pm-4pm at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall. Or ring Kate on *01749 343589* for more information.

Knit and Natter or Crochet and Chat

2nd Wednesday of the month, 10:30am-12:00 at Gurney Slade & Binegar Memorial Hall. Whether you're a total beginner, a knitting expert, or just want to come along for a chat, you'll receive a warm welcome. We have a group of ladies of all ages, some of us knit, some crochet and all of us chat! Please call Carole on *07980 979365* for more information.

OPUS III

Thursday evenings, 7:30-9pm, Downside. The ability to read music is not essential as we spend plenty of time to learn things thoroughly and at a steady pace. Our choice of music can vary from modern, pop, folk, ballads, to classical etc. For further details, email *annstilton@btinternet.com* or call *07803 038287.*

Announcements

Congratulations to Harry and Harriet Lewis on the birth of their daughter, Allegra Lyra Tor, on 24th January, weighing 3.4Kg

Garlic Prawns *with thanks to Zac Cambourne*

5 prawns per person // 2 cloves garlic // Half a lemon // Salt // Cracked or ground black pepper // Chili flakes or fresh (optional) // 2 Tbsp mayonnaise // Olive Oil

Take 5 king prawns (shelled) and de-vein. This is done by slitting the prawn lengthways and removing the tube – try not to cut all the way through. Harts sell bags of frozen prawns which are perfect for this recipe and great to have in the freezer for a quick starter or dinner.

Add the prawns to a bowl with the zest of half a lemon, a good pinch of salt and the garlic (crushed). You can add some chilli at this point if you like.

Squeeze the half lemon and add about half of the juice to the mayonnaise with a large pinch of freshly ground or cracked black pepper, mix well. Add more lemon if you like and even a small pinch of salt.

Get a frying pan nice and hot with a splash of oil, take the prawns out of the marinade, shake off the lemon and garlic and cook for a minute on each side. Serve with the mayo dip or in a wrap or even on top of some risotto.

I have done these on a skewer (soak them first if using wooden ones) on the bbq or they work well on a griddle pan and look really good.

Ashwick Parish Update - February 24

David Barlow & Kate Egan
(clerk@ashwickparish.org)

The bench that had fallen into disrepair and recently removed from Pound Lane near the junction with Five Ways in Ashwick has now been repaired and is due to be reinstalled at the beginning of March.

Reports have been received about street lights out on Withy Lane and the time being taken to repair them. This has been reported to Somerset Council both on the website and via our Somerset Councillor. REMEMBER, parishioners can report faulty street lights using the Somerset portal: *https://service.somerset.gov.uk/report-problem-with-a-street-light*

The wet weather has brought the parish its share of problems. Most recently reports have been received about flooding on the A367 just north of Oakhill School due to blocked gullies. This was also reported to our Somerset County Councillor and photographs sent to support our concerns. This is a recurring problem and one which needs to be remedied. The A367 is after all a major road into Bath, carrying a lot of traffic. The site of the flooding is on a bend, coming into the village or exiting towards Nettlebridge. REMEMBER, flooding issues can be reported on the Somerset website. *https://service.somerset.gov.uk/report-a-problem-on-the-road*

The Council has been asked to consider the purchase of a dog bin to be installed on Heckley Lane leading towards St James' Church, Ashwick.

Planning updates - The following planning applications were scheduled for discussion at the Council meeting on February 28th:

(a) 2023/2434/FUL Demolition of existing stables and construction of two storey dwelling and attached garage. Land at 362036, 145587, Windsor Hill Lane, Downside.

(b) 2024/0069/FUL Erection of curtilage building for use as ancillary residential accommodation. Oakhill Cottage, Zion Hill, Oakhill.

(c) 2024/0191/FUL Erection of a dwelling to replace the extant dwelling permitted under planning permission 2019/1154/FUL. Little Oakhill, Brewery Lane, Oakhill.

(d) 2024/0192/LBC Erection of a dwelling to replace the extant dwelling permitted under planning permission 2019/1154/FUL. Little Oakhill, Brewery Lane, Oakhill.

Community Review - Did you volunteer? (January Update) It is really essential that the Steering Committee brought together to work together on the proposed Community Plan is representative of our community. It is a document prepared by the community to develop a shared understanding of the features and characteristics of their community. It identifies what the residents want to improve or achieve in their area including a range of actions that can be delivered for the benefit of everyone locally. The nucleus of a Steering Committee has been created but additional volunteers are required. The Committee must reflect the diversity of our Community: young and old, newcomers and long term residents, representatives of the various businesses, social groups and service/health providers, and include members of different socio-economic groups, etc. Please consider registering your interest with one of the following councillors:

Cllr.Thorley@ashwickparish.org (Project Lead); Cllr.Simons@ashwickparish.org; or

Cllr.Briscoe@ashwickparish.org Further background information is available at: *https://ccslovesomerset.org/community-review/*

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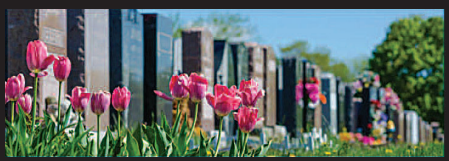

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www.njmaggsfuneralservices.co.uk

News from the Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall Committee

Quiz Night and Raffle – Wednesday 13th March

We have had a fantastic response already in advance of our first Community Social Club event with lots of teams already signed up for our quiz night and raffle on Wednesday 13th March. We do still have some tables available, so if you are thinking of joining us, don't delay and book your space! The quiz will start at 7.30pm and costs £2 per person to enter. There will be a licensed bar throughout the evening, serving Uley Ale (plus other alcoholic and non-alcoholic alternatives) which will open from 7pm for your pre-quiz tipple. To book your space please either email *aandovillagehall@gmail.com* or text *07853 112241* with your name and numbers of people in your team/group.

Future Events

Thank you to everyone who responded to our online survey to tell us what you would like to see at the Community Social Club in future. The most popular requests, in order of popularity, were as follows: Quiz nights, film/movie nights, dancing classes, art/painting classes, pottery classes, craft classes, murder mystery nights, cookery demonstrations, special interest/local history talks, repair shop, and board games club. This gives us a really good list to start planning future events. If you are able to help organise any of these items, or have an interest in supporting this venture, please do get in contact – if we have plenty of people supporting these events, it will enable a variety of different activities to happen and ensure that there is always something of interest coming up soon!

Easter at Oakleaf Café

We can't believe it's nearly Easter already – time is flying!! Oakleaf Café will be open as normal on Easter Saturday, 30th March (9.30-3.30) and there will be special Easter activities set up for the children, so if you are around over the bank holiday weekend, do call in to see us!!

Wells Fruit & Veg Stall

Thursday & Saturday
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RICS

Binegar and Gurney Slade –
Parish Council News - March 2024

Annual Parish Meeting, on Tuesday 30 April 2024 6:00 – 7:00 pm at Binegar Memorial Hall. The meeting is open to all and everyone is welcome. Come and find out more about the activities of the Parish Council. Bring along your ideas and questions. Refreshments will be served.

Local Community Networks (LCN's)

At the February meeting of the LCN it was agreed to set up sub-committees for flooding and road safety. The Parish Council will keep you informed of progress. Last month we mentioned an Active Travel Working Group, if you would like to be involved in the Active Travel Project please let us know.

Flood Mitigation

Flooding was also discussed at the February meeting of the Local Community Network raising the question of how a record is kept of homes that have experienced flooding. We await clarification of the reporting system in the meantime if this is something you have experienced please let us know.

Textile Bank

Thank you to everyone who has continued to contribute textiles to the Parish textile bank which brings valuable funds into our villages. May we ask if you could please pack your clothes in smaller bags that will fit into the bank. This will prevent larger bags left out to the elements. Many thanks.

Meetings

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the Village Hall on Tuesday 5 March at 6.30pm.

Diane Abbott Parish Clerk: binegarpc@hotmail.co.uk
www.binegar-pc.org.uk

Your councillors - Jon Abbott, John Bridges,
Cath Law, Phill Roberts, John Scadding, David Stone and David Wilson.

Health Check

To contact the surgery, the details are:
Tel: 01749 840233.
Email: oakhill.surgery@nhs.net

Practice opening times, both in person and via the telephone are:
Monday to Friday 8.30am – 6.30pm

Dispensary opening hours are:
Monday to Friday 9am – 12pm and then 3pm – 6pm.
Patients seen by a GP and prescribed medication outside of these times will also be able to collect at the time of their appointment.
To request repeat medication there are various methods:
**request via the NHS app*
**via email Somicb.oakhill.prescriptions@nhs.net*
**paper request dropped off at the surgery collection box outside*
**leave their repeat slip with the dispensary for monthly issuing*

All Our Yesterdays

This photograph of Oakhill School Football Team was taken in 1935, in the year of the Silver Jubilee of King George V, and the names of the players will be familiar to many of our readers:

Back row from L: George Fear, Alfred Moon, Ewart Emery, Albert (Golly) Tucker, Ron Skirton, Cyril Fussell
Front row from L: Harold Skirton, William James Padfield, Joe Tucker, Michael (Mick) Reeves, Maurice Skirton

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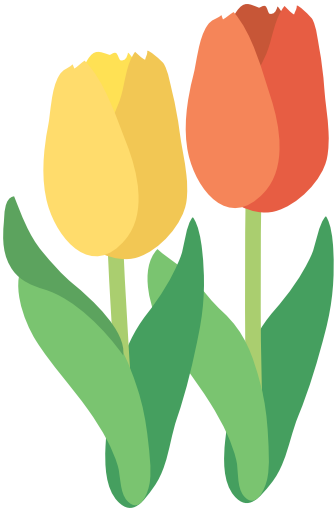
Poetry Corner

with thanks to Jill Townend



Now the Green Blade Riseth,

by John Macleod Campbell Crum

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Furry Bear

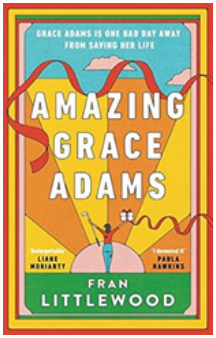
by A A Milne

If I were a bear,
And a big bear too,
I shouldn't much care
If it froze or snew;
I shouldn't much mind
If it snowed or frizz –
I'd be all fur-lined
With a coat like his!

For I'd have fur boots and a brown fur wrap,
And brown fur knickers and a big fur cap.
I'd have a fur muffle-ruff to cover my jaws,
And brown fur mittens on my big brown paws.
With a big brown furry-down up to my head,
I'd sleep all the winter in a big fur bed.

Phoenix Book Club

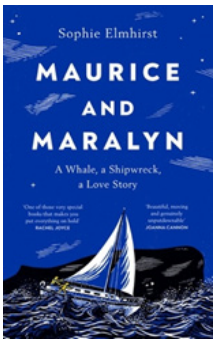
In case you missed it…



Amazing Grace Adams by Fran Littlewood (Michael Joseph, PB available nationwide)

Ever found yourself stuck in a traffic jam with a birthday cake for your moody teenager swiftly melting on the back seat and thinking your day couldn't possibly get any worse – and then it does? Welcome to a day in the life of Grace Adams, a brilliantly relatable, fearless and unconventional heroine you can't help but root for as she takes you on the twisting, turning journey of her life – and disastrous day. Warm, believable, funny and often devastating, this novel is an enjoyable emotional rollercoaster.

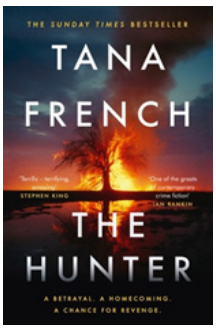
Hot off the press…



Maurice and Maralyn by Sophie Elmhirst (Chatto & Windus, HB available nationwide)

Publishing this week, this eye-opening true story about the extraordinary adventure and survival of Maurice Bailey and Maralyn Harrison – a conventional suburban couple who set off on an around-the-world sailing adventure in the 1960s that ended in shipwreck after colliding with a whale – delivers an unexpected but delightful dose of comfort, tenderness and warmth alongside a thrilling tale of survival. Whether you remember the ensuing headlines or are new to the story, this is a fascinating reconstruction of their astonishing adventure.

Keep your eyes peeled for…



The Hunter by Tana French (Viking, HB available for pre-order)

Almost ten years after The Searcher was published, here comes the sequel, which you could enjoy as a standalone if you're new to Tana French's crime thrillers. During a sweltering summer in a small village on Ireland's west coast, two men arrive looking for gold, bringing trouble with them… Former Chicago detective Cal Hooper moved to the area looking for peace, which is now disturbed by these unwanted men, one of whom is the father of a young teenage girl Cal will do anything to protect. But instead of protection, she wants revenge…

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Pub Quiz

On the last Monday of each month, the Oakhill Inn holds a pub quiz. Many congratulations to Ream the Wranglers, who won the January quiz!

How would you have fared? See some of the questions below – answers found on page 34.

1. In what year was the movie Titanic released?

2. In 'The Great British Bake Off', what is the first bake of the show called?

3. What is the 11th sign of the zodiac when alphabetically listed?

4. What singer released the song 'Hotline Bling'?

5. Which came first: John Lennon is shot, MTV launches, or Sony Walkman goes on sale?

6. Which band released the 1987 album 'Appetite for Destruction'

7. In May, what singer died at the age of 83?

8. Why was Jennifer Hermoso kept in the spotlight after her achievement on 20th August?

9. An infection known as 'Cordyceps' appeared in which TV show?

10. Which movie has the line "A boy's best friend is his mother"?

11. Which movie has the line "I am serious… and don't call me Shirley"?

12. Which movie has the lines "Walking around like regular people. They don't see each other. They only see what they want to see"?

13. In a non-leap year, January always starts on the same day of the week as what other month in the same year?

14. What state became part of the US in January 1959?

15. When was the Euro first used? Jan 2000, Jan 2002 or Jan 2004?

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This month in your garden...

By mid-March, we're ready to welcome the start of spring. There's lots to be done outside, now the slower winter months have passed. In milder parts of the UK the soil is starting to warm up for outdoor planting, but if you're still getting frost, there are plenty of seeds that can be started in a propagator.

If any of your garden plants or climbers need supporting this year, put them in now, so plants can grow up through them.

Move deciduous trees or shrubs. Now is the time to do this task, provided the soil isn't frozen or waterlogged.

Prune roses now to encourage strong new growth

Finish cutting back cornus and salix cultivars, and other shrubs grown for their colourful winter stems. Cut them right back to their bases to encourage new stem growth for next winter.

Prune winter-flowering jasmine (Jasminum nudiflorum) after flowering, to encourage new growth for next year's blooms. Cut back the previous year's growth to 5cm from the old wood.

Plant native hedges to encourage wildlife.

Mulch rhubarb with a thick layer of well-rotted manure to keep it healthy and reduce moisture loss through the soil. Take care not to cover the crown, as this is where the growth happens.

Cut autumn-fruiting raspberry canes to the ground to stimulate new canes, which will fruit in the autumn. Cut the tips of summer-fruiting raspberry canes that have grown beyond the top of their supports; cut just above a bud.

Feed blueberry plants with ericaceous plant fertiliser.

Build a compost bin before growing season.

Create a comfrey bed to make your own organic fertiliser. Sow into a seedbed in an unused corner of the garden.

Sow half-hardy annual seeds inside now, ready for planting out in June. Start ageratum, aster, brachycome, cosmos, celosia, petunia and salvia in a heated propagator or on a warm windowsill for summer and autumn border colour.

Sow dahlia seeds indoors to plant out in summer and provide tubers for lifting in the autumn.

Direct sow wildflower seed mixtures into raked soil in a sunny position.

Lift and divide established perennial plants - this improves vigour and will create new plants for your garden.

Start off aubergine, sweet pepper, cucumbers, gherkins and mild chilli seeds in the propagator — these plants can stay in the greenhouse over summer.

Sow celeriac seeds under cover — they need a long growing season.

Plant onion, shallot and garlic sets now in all soils after the risk of frost has passed.

From Thompson & Morgan's "What to do in the Garden this month"

Bluebell-Scented Reed Diffuser

(With thanks to Christine Iverson's The Hedgerow Apothecary, Summersdale Publishers)

©Earthboundmisfit/Shutterstock.com

Nothing is more uplifting than walking through woodland in spring and catching the scent of wild bluebells, so bring the bluebells in with this easy-to-make reed diffuser.

INGREDIENTS
Clean glass bottle with a narrow neck
60 ml carrier oil
30 drops bluebell fragrance oil (available online)
Handful of reed sticks

METHOD
Pour carrier oil into the bottle and then drip in the bluebell fragrance oil and give it a swirl. Add your reed sticks.

After a couple of hours, turn the reeds upside down in the jar to help the oil travel up the stick. You can use any essential oils that you wish for this diffuser and it is much more economical than the shop-bought version

As bluebells are a protected species, when making our reed diffuser we use the bluebell fragrance oil which is a synthetic blend so as not to harm any bluebells. It is also worth noting that bluebells are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). The Act prohibits anyone from digging up bulbs in the countryside and landowners from removing bluebells from their land for sale. The species was also listed on Schedule 8 of the Act in 1998 which makes trade in wild bluebell bulbs or seeds an offence. It is also illegal to pick and sell their flowers.

It is best to enjoy bluebells in their natural environment and to be sure to refrain from picking any of their flowers or accidentally treading on any part of the leaves or stems. This will help to give these beautiful springtime flowers the best chance of sustaining their populations in our ancient native woodlands.

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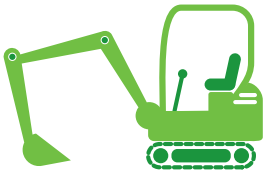

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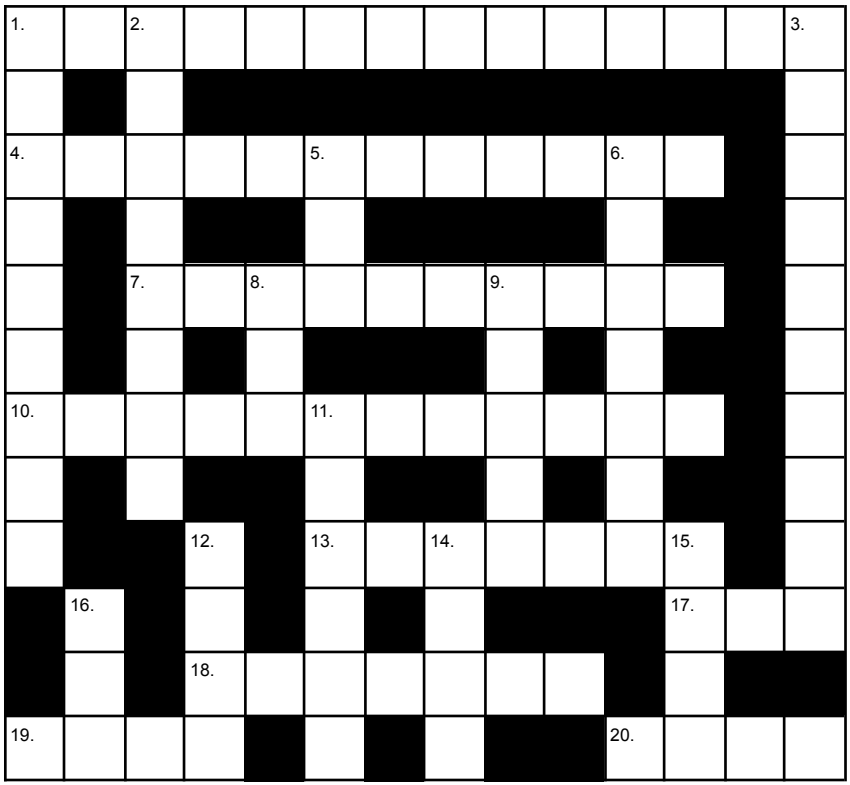
Crossword Conundrum

The gift of a drink and delicious cake at the Oakleaf Café will be given to the first correct answer to be received by email at *phoenixmagazine2023@gmail.com* ! For the solution, see the March issue of The Phoenix.



Across

1. Stourhead monument (6,2,6)
4. Cheese ravine (7,5)
7. Light mound (6,4)
10. Roe dip (12)
13. Impends - anag. (7)
17. Straw (3)
18. Bearing - anag. (7)
19. Factual (4)
20. Forewarning sign (4)

Down

1. Noughts and crosses (3,3,3)
2. Local iron age hill fort (8)
3. Compulsory (10)
5. Curve (3)
6. Jersey Milk (4,3)
8. Limb (3)
9. Sunk a golf ball (5)
11. Nut (6)
12. Cylinder (4)
14. Nearly here (4)
15. Fake (4)
16. Motor (3)

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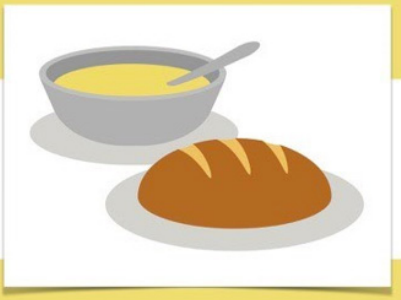

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Answers to Pub Quiz

1. 1997; 2. The Signature Bake 3. Taurus 4. Drake; 5. Sony Walkman goes on sale; 6. Guns & Roses; 7. Tina Turner; 8. That kiss from the Spanish Football president; 9. The Last of Us; 10. Psycho; 11. Airplane! 12. The Sixth Sense; 13. October; 14. Alaska; 15. Jan 2002

Crossword Conundrum Solution

At the time of going to press, we have not received a winning entry! We have had two 'near misses' and regret we are unable to offer the prize of coffee and cake at the Oakleaf Café to either entry. We apologise for any confusion caused by the 7 Down clue being given as 7 Across, and some of you may have picked up on the error in 1 Across (should have been Postmen, not Postman) – we hope that this month's crossword is error free!

The solution for the February puzzle is given below:

Across: 1 Shepton Mallet; 6 Street; 9 Tor; 10 Fret; 12 Oakhill; 13 Way; 16 Benter; 17 Liner; 20 Arrow; 21 Downside; 22 Stoke; 23 Grip.

Down: 2 Par; 3 Nettlebridge; 4 Leaf; 5 Bath; 7 Orion; 8 Pound Lane; 11 Rear; 14 Clarks; 15 Anew; 18 Twig; 12 Dean.

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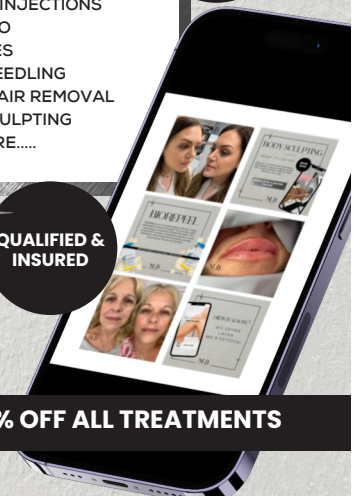

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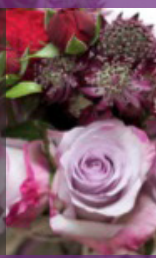

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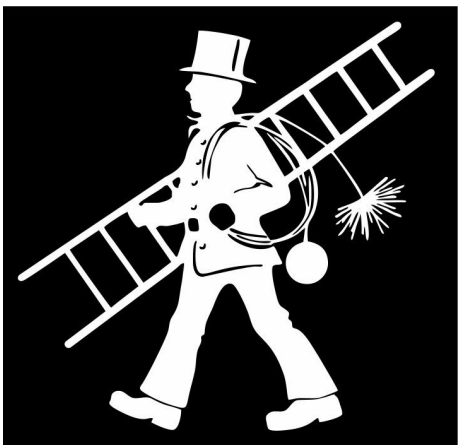

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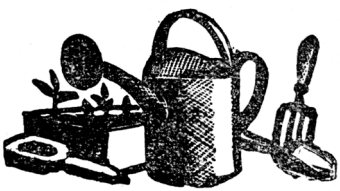

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