



## Annual Parish Assembly Report 2019

The Shrivenham Village Fete Committee organises several events throughout the year, the largest being the August Bank Holiday Summer Fete (Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August).

We kick off our year on 5<sup>th</sup> May with a free "Party on the Rec", with live music, food and drink, and fun events for the children like pony rides and inflatables so that they can let off steam safely. This is just our way of saying thank-you to the village for supporting all of our events (as well as having an excuse for a party!)

Each year we purchase and put up the village Christmas Tree; and organise the Village Christmas Carol service, accompanied by a Silver Band, where villagers can congregate for some festive fun and a visit from Santa! Each Boxing Day we hold Shrivenham's unique "Woozel Hunt" where we get together to walk off any Christmas Day excesses, and finishing with more mulled wine and mince pies!

Any monies collected through public donations during the year are topped up from the Fete profits; and distributed at the February AGM to local good causes in the Shrivenham area. To-date we have supported many deserving causes: the local school, church, guides and scouts wanting to travel to international events, our junior football team, a local charity providing woodworking lessons for people with learning difficulties, people in the village who want to set up their own events, our village choir and multiple nursery/pre-school activity groups just to mention a few.

## SHRIVENHAM BOWLS CLUB

Bowling is a sport suitable for all ages, shapes and sizes. Whether you are simply looking for a new outdoor hobby or want to become an accomplished Bowls player, we will make every effort to help you enjoy your time at Shrivenham Bowls Club.

We offer free introductory sessions to help you decide whether or not Bowls is for you.

We give reduced membership fees for the first two years to all new players and the opportunity to have free sessions with our Coaches.

We are fortunate to have such wonderful facilities. The clubhouse is our social centre with a splendidly equipped kitchen and an equally attractive bar, while our Green is regarded as being one of the best in Berkshire.

Every Saturday or Sunday throughout the summer, the Club plays Friendly Matches against other local Clubs. These afternoon games are social occasions that provide an opportunity for you to play on other Greens, meet new people and enjoy a drink and refreshments afterwards.

During the past year our Ladies did extremely well to play in the National Rinks Finals at Leamington, to win the Swindon & District Ladies Double Rinks Competition and were the Runners Up in the Swindon & District Ladies Evening League. Our membership of 94 players is looking forward to another successful season in 2019.

We have an Open Day on Saturday 11th May when all are invited to have a go at bowling. Just come along to Martens Road with either flat-soled shoes or trainers.

Brian Cope  
Club Secretary  
01793 740955

Shrivenham and District Gardeners Club

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2019

### MEMBERSHIP

We had 92 members in 2018. The club is only successful with the support of the local community and we hope this will continue.

### PROGRAMME IN 2018

We have enjoyed a varied and interesting programme of speakers which started the year with a talk on science in the garden. We then celebrated the S&DGC 20 year anniversary by a truly memorial meeting entertain with Chris Beardshaw. A wonderful evening. We shouldn't leave it for another 20 years if we can get this quality of talker! We had a talk on Clematis by Marcel Floyd in May followed by British Wild Flowers in nature in June. In the autumn we were given three excellent talks on diverse subjects of extending the season, helibores and gardens and climate change. All of the speakers we have had have been extremely knowledgeable in their chosen topic and presented the talk in an interesting and enjoyable manner and all for the princely sum of £1 per visit, certainly good value for money in my opinion!

### ANNUAL DINNER

Was a success with an enjoyable meal at Carpenter's Arms @ **South Marston** which **32** attended.

### HOLIDAY

This year the club holiday was in Llandudno **and 29** members and non members went on the trip and thoroughly enjoyed the weekend.

### ANNUAL PLANT SALE

We used Valley Roundabout Nurseries and they didn't let us down. This is our main fund-raiser and helps cover the cost of our speakers, and again this year we did extremely well. Thanks to all the help we managed to raise £299.4 and nursery gave us £150 as a 10% of their takings, so total for the club of £449. So again a big thank you for your continued support of this important event for the Gardeners Club and the surrounding district.

### OTHER OUTINGS

Members enjoyed a trip to RHS Wisley Flower Show. Which judging by the plants bought was an enjoyable and enlightening visit.

### LOCAL COMMUNITY

The club offers an important social event for the local community. Club. We have continued to enjoy our oak tree in Coppidthorne Meadow. The Club also looked after the maintenance of the pump flowerbed. Thanks to all those that supported and to Steph for organising the rota. It has looked amazing this year.

We also dressed a window in St Andrews Church for Harvest Festival. We have once again planted purple crocuses on the grass area at the junction of Townsend Road and

Station Road in the aid to eradicate Polio across the world in conjunction with the Rotary Club.

#### 2019 PROGRAMME

This next year promises to be another enjoyable year with speakers talking about, the gardener's friend the Honey Bee. Followed by Snowdrops, Growing Vegetables in a small garden and then Evergreen. Alpines and Wildlife in the garden complete our summer topics before we have our annual club dinner. In the autumn we have talks on Unusual plants and how to grow fruit to assist us in eating 5 fruit a-day. We finish our talks in 2019 in a BREXITED Britain with a talk about our European neighbour's France and their beautiful gardens. We have a holiday planned in June to Cambridge and a trip to the world-famous Kew Gardens. We will also squeeze in our Annual plant sale in May. Hopefully many items to look forward to in 2019.

2018 was a year that we lost one of our founding members. Don Allen was ever present on the committee and was a man of wise words which we have sorely missed. Not only did he assist in setting up Shrivenham and District Gardeners Club but he was a great friend to many fellow gardeners in the village. We are delighted that the club have agreed to commemorate Don by installing a bench at the corner of Fairthorne Road and the High Street. A location close to his home and the Memorial Hall where he served for many years on the Council and the Fete Committee.

**Shrivenham Village Choir - Generations of Sound**  
**Report for Parish Assembly May 2019**

Generations of Sound is a village choir open to everyone.

The aims of the choir are threefold: To promote community activity through singing, to provide educational, recreational and social opportunities for members and to promote friendship through music. We meet at 7pm each Wednesday evening in the Methodist church and adjourn to the Prince of Wales for a drink at 9.00. New members are always very welcome.

2018 saw the choir giving a Summer and a Christmas concert at the Memorial Hall where we are accompanied by a band. A very wide range of music was presented from pop songs and songs from musicals to choral works as well as the much loved 'singalong' and 'dance along' songs and both evenings were very successful.

In addition to our concerts the choir opened the village fete and contributed to the 'carols round the tree'. We also performed a range of singalong songs in two different care homes and sang in two WW1 Centenary Commemorations as well as singing Christmas Carols at Nationwide for charity and joining in two musical evenings held at the Barrington Arms.

2019 has seen a change of committee and an increase in our social activities. This year's Christmas concert will take place as in previous years but the summer concert will take the form of a soiree on a Sunday evening in the summer. The emphasis will be on voices accompanied by a pianist and we will run a bar.

There are plans for more social events including a quiz night to raise funds and the possibility of an exchange with a choir from the Somme in France. We are also developing a website to promote our activities.

## **Shrivenham FC**

The 2018-19 season has brought great success on and off the pitch for your local Football Club. This has been the result of a very committed ambitious group of volunteers who really want to make a difference to our local environment and drive change for the greater good. The 1st Team will secure its highest ever finish, The Development team will also amass the most points its ever achieved. Off the pitch we had our best ever attended fireworks display and successfully arranged a brilliant Beer Festival which will become an annual event for all the Village to enjoy. We went from one junior team to five! At least 80% of our younger players live in Shrivenham and the neighbouring villages.

## SADS 2019

This last year SADS has put on and been involved with four performances. We took part in the St Patricks fund raising evening for St Andrew's church, a fun evening of music and sketches which we did again this February. The Summer performance was "The Mummy" a play written and directed by Michael Garland. To mark the World War 1 commemoration SADS joined together with members of Generations of Sound and Chris Bartle for "Armistice Remembered". The first half was a selection of poems, letters and songs from First World war. This was directed by Richard Bartle with Tracy Warner as the Musical Director. The second half was a poignant one act play "After the flags and banners" directed by David Pratt. This years Pantomime was Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood written by Michael Garland. It was directed by Michael Garland and Sharon Rose and choreographed by Kym Rose. It was a great success and it was wonderful to see so many young people on stage.

SADS is now in the midst of rehearsing for "Building Bridges" a comedy written by Colin Calvert and directed by David Pratt.

# SHRIVENHAM CRICKET CLUB.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018.

Following its promotion to Division 4 of the Oxfordshire Cricket Association (OCA) league, the 2018 season proved to be a challenging one for Shrivenham Cricket Club. As expected the Club faced stiffer opposition, but with some determined performances the team managed to finish in a creditable mid-table position, thereby retaining its division 4 status. The team battled well in the OCA's Telegraph Cup competition, losing to Hook Norton, one of the league's strongest teams, in a close fought semi-final. The match was lost in a tense final over, and could have gone either way.

Disappointingly two of the Division 4 Clubs withdrew from the league during the season, which reduced the number of fixtures to be played, but the OCA has re-configured the league structure so that 2019 will provide a full fixture list, with some tough games ahead.

The long dry summer presented significant challenges for the Club's grounds team. The outfield took on the appearance of something out of a spaghetti western, with much of the grass being burnt to a crisp. However skilled management and a careful programme of selective watering, overseen by Dick Burrough, the Club's long serving and experienced groundsman, saved the cricket square itself and ensured that the Club could fulfil all its home fixtures.

At junior level the Club continued to participate in the ECB's "All Stars Cricket" programme, with some 27 juniors signing up to take part. Our coaches also provided coaching sessions for older juniors during the early season. Both the "All Stars Cricket" and older juniors' programmes are set to continue this season beginning in May. Details will be available on the Club's website.

Off the field the Club is continuing to work with the Barrington Trust on the project to construct a new sports pavilion on the Memorial Field. Planning permission has now been granted by the Vale of White Horse District Council and it is hoped that construction can begin in the autumn. With a fair wind, 2020 could see the Club using a brand new purpose built building, which should do much to enhance its image and allow it to provide facilities to match any in the league. The Club is confident that the major expansion the village is experiencing will result in more players wishing to play local cricket. Players of all abilities will be welcome and the new pavilion should ensure its off the field facilities can match their expectations and encourage them to join the Club.

Rodger Hood Chairman.



VISCOUNTESS BARRINGTON'S HOMES FOR DISABLED EX- SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN (Charity 205219)

This Charitable Trust, administered under the auspices of the Charity Commission and managed under Almshouse Association guidelines, currently owns 13 homes (7 houses and 6 apartments, housing 17 adult residents).

The Trust was established in the early 1920's to promote well-being in the village and to provide homes for veterans returning from the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. Most of the homes were built in the 1920's and included workrooms to encourage occupants to provide for a living for themselves. The newest block of 4 apartments, closest to the Fairthorne Rd. roundabout on the High Street, was completed in 2005.

The criteria to be a resident of one of the homes include a strong Military Service link, a local connection, a physical disability, and the financial need for charitable housing. There is no waiting list per se for residency, rather a list of interested persons. When a vacancy arises it is advertised in various local and Service publications and the most deserving case within the criteria is selected.

The properties are all self-contained homes and are easily visible from the Recreation Ground which is managed by our 'sister' Trust - The Viscountess Barrington Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground Trust.

Residents are charged a 'below market rate' weekly maintenance contribution in line with Almshouse Association guidelines, which the Charitable Trust relies on to fund ongoing cyclical and emergency maintenance. Major refurbishment is usually undertaken when a property becomes vacant, within financial limitations.

Demand for existing properties upon vacancies occurring encouraged the Trustees to explore the possibility of enlarging the property portfolio. Planning permission was been obtained to build additional properties on Trust owned land adjacent to the Football Club, but unfortunately this lapsed in 2018. Funding this development is proving an ongoing challenge.

Although the Trust is not responsible for the welfare of the residents, occasional help is provided in dealing with agencies such as the local council and care centers as and when appropriate.

Further information is available from the Clerk to the Trust, Graham Vizer, on 783684.

Shrivenham & District WI

Annual Report 2018 - 2019

Presented at the AGM on 21 March 2019

This report covers the period from April 2018 to March 2019 and is written on behalf of the whole committee. We currently have 47 full members and 2 dual members. We have had 2 new members join us: Bridget Penrose-Lyall and Margaret Joan West. We hope they have felt warmly welcomed and are enjoying our meetings.

It has been a year of interesting speakers and performers on a wide range of topics: the story of the Windsor Chair, Dog Training, making of bags in the Philippines and a chance to buy them, The Wartime Housewife, Aromatherapy, Life as a Cold War Spy and the work of our very own Pennyhooks Farm Trust; enjoyable musical evenings with Tracy Warner and the Military Wives Choir and two most entertaining Quizes arranged by John Hern. Our traditional Christmas lunch was held at the Barrington pub in Shrivenham in early December - delicious. We hosted the Vale Group Meeting in May and heard the story of a Suffragette with wine and nibbles served.

Shrivenham WI was formed in 1919 by Vicountess Barrington and as this is our Centennial Year we have been planning a number of activities to celebrate this coming year. To commemorate our founding President it was suggested by the Parish Council that we frame a picture of the Vicountess which now hangs next to her husband in the foyer of the Memorial Hall. A plaque has been added to acknowledge her work for the WI.

The Shrivenham Village Fete WI stall raised £267 and Barbara Goodland became our 'Campaign' Representative to further promote the latest resolutions.

As it was the year of GDPR (Data Protection) and we all completed forms sent to us by OFWI which were collected and collated.

Our bursary winner at our December meeting was Kate Curzon.

As always a very big thank you goes to Jean for the exemplary efficiency with which she regulates our financial affairs, to Alison and Barbara Hornsby, who are the welcoming faces of our WI, as well as being our raffle queens. Gail Sudlow ably looks after our events boards encouraging us to attend worthwhile events. Freda Dawes was warmly welcomed to the Committee in September 2018. Huge thanks to all our committee members who work hard to ensure that we have fun as a WI.

It has been another successful year for Shrivenham and District WI with Mary as our President who works tirelessly ensuring that all runs smoothly for us. A big thank you to her.

