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e did celebrate our 40th What's On birthday in March, as you might have expected. We've published some photos in this issue, but our cover picture includes some of those invaluable volunteers who deliver copies to dwellings in Wing each month...do you know who delivers yours?

Don't forget that if you have mislaid the latest copy of What's On in Wing, you can always read it online by going to: https://bit.ly/43qX0C3, or www.whatsoninwing.info. We would really like to have back numbers available there as well, but we need help creating a new website for this and other features. Can you recommend a website designer to us? If so, please let us know via admin@whatsoninwing.info.

Hugh Wooley is editing a series of articles for us over the next few months. Hugh is a student at Aylesbury Grammar School. His work with us is contributing to his pursuit of a Duke of Edinburgh's Award. You'll find his first article on page 19.

We're always looking for new and interesting content for What's On, so if you have an idea for a contribution, or have pictures, stories, comment or news - all are welcome - just send it to us at: editorial@whatsoninwing.

Best wishes to all our readers from the What's On team.

CORRECTION

In our March issue the important last line of the winning poem by John Keen, published in What's On in 1984, was missing. The complete poem reads:

There was a young lady from Wing Fell in love with a fierce bandit king. He yelled 'rape and pillage' And raided the village, But she missed it 'cos she was in Tring.

Thank You!

We are immensely grateful to our village community choir, The Wing Singers, for a donation of £100 towards our printing costs.

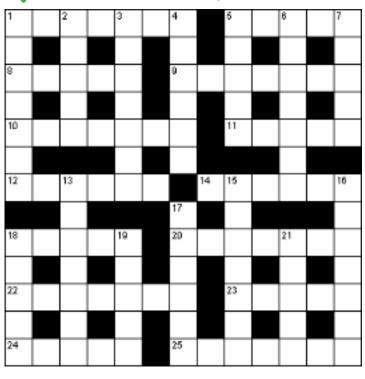
What's On In Wing is published by What's On Publishing CIC, registered number 14178082

Comments, criticisms and feedback are welcome. Contact us at: editorial@whatsoninwing.info

DEADLINES

If you are an occasional advertiser with WOiW, or are intending to advertise with us, please note that you **must now book your advertising space no later than NOON on 5th of the month before publication** (contact Jacqui at advertising@whatsoninwing.info). Space will then be held for you. The **absolute deadline** for receiving advertising material and editorial content is NOON on 15th of the month preceding publication.

Quick crossword



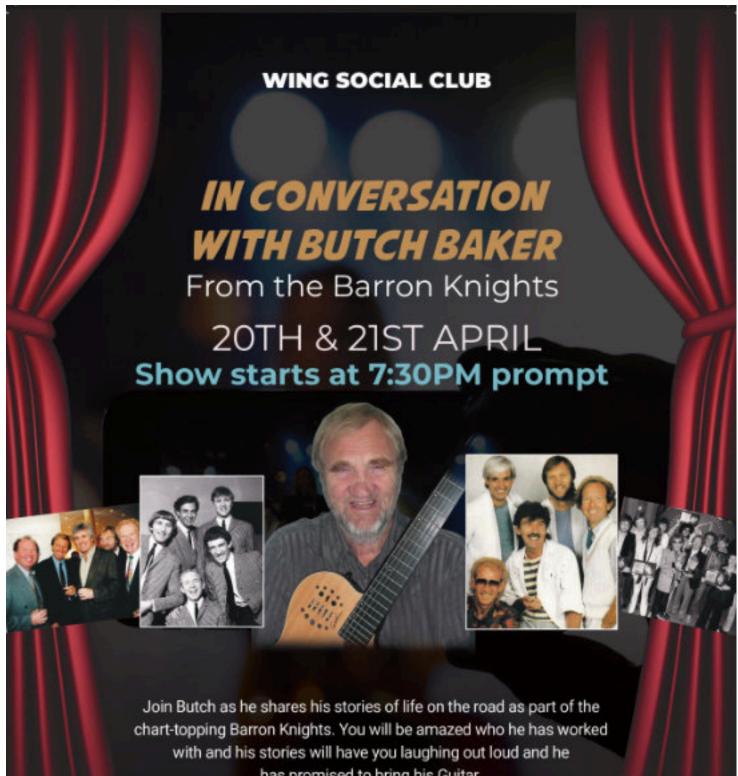
Across

- 1 Small kind of kangaroo (7)
- 5 Rubbish (5)
- 8 One on horseback (5)
- 9 Not artificial (7)
- 10 Dishonourable (7)
- 11 Hazardous (5)
- 12 Scarcity (6)
- 14 Deer's horn (6)
- 18 Fatigued (5)
- 20 Withdrawal (7)
- 22 Midriff (7)
- 23 Bullion bar (5)
- 24 Convenient (5)
- 25 Intellectual (7)

Down

- 1 Anxious (7)
- 2 Burdened (5)
- 3 Gymnastic performer (7)
- 4 Over there (6)
- 5 Private instructor (5)
- 6 Spray can (7)
- 7 Prickly evergreen shrub (5)
- 13 Forsake (7)
- 15 Zero (7)
- 16 Revolved (7)
- 17 Alloy of copper and tin (6)
- 18 Anger (5)
- 19 Scrumptious (5)
- 21 Large bird of prey (5)

Solution p36



has promised to bring his Guitar.

The evening will be hosted by Wing resident and life-long friend Nick Smith.

TICKETS ARE PRICED AT £10 WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO TEENAGE CANCER TRUST. TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY VISITING WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK "IN CONVERSATION WITH BUTCH BAKER". BOOK QUICKLY, AS NUMBERS ARE LIMITED

From the Vicar



April Services						
7	1100	Holy Communion				
14	1100	Morning Prayer				
21	0830 1100	BCP People's Praise				
28	1100	Holy Communion				

The New Life of Easter

First of all, happy Eastertide to everyone. Eastertide comprises fifty days of celebration concerning the Resurrection of Christ, and it is rightly said that this is a celebration of the promise of a new form of life – a new way of being as we are drawn to participate even in the life and the nature of God Himself in Christ. Resurrection is not merely some form of resuscitation, in which life just somehow comes back but otherwise continues exactly how it always had done.

People often remark on Easter as being fittingly represented by the reemergence of life in the springtime, but this doesn't actually capture the more 'radical' sense of newness suggested by the Resurrection Life, since the new growth of Spring is simply a resprouting of what we are already accustomed to. The word 'radical' comes from the Latin word radix, meaning root. Eastertide, in this sense, aims to get nearer to the *root* of what a truly fulfilling life – one that is actively drawn into the Life of God through and in Christ – actually is. This is the Easter promise of an ultimate renewal of life, known in the New Testament texts as the 'new creation'.

In Christian tradition this new creation is something we are called to explore, and to do so means learning from the lesson of Lent that other things might need to be 'let go of' first. A classic Easter Sunday text is therefore the story of a woman called Mary Magdalene encountering the risen Christ outside the empty tomb. Though she doesn't recognize that it is Christ at first, as soon as she does her first reaction is to cling to Him, and she is immediately told by Christ not to do so, because He, the Son of God, must return to the Father, in order to draw her and others into the Life of God. Like Mary, our journey does not simply end at Easter, nor does it end by clinging to our first conception or partial recognition of the risen Christ. Instead, Easter is the new beginning of a new form of exploration concerning a newly promised transformation of life to come.

A blessed Eastertide to you all.

Andrew Krauss

For enquiries regarding weddings, baptisms or funerals, please contact Team Rector Howard Robson (01296) 688593.



CAREY LODGE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



Our much-loved local care home closed in September 2021. With facilities for 60 local authority funded dementia and end-of-life patients, Carey Lodge was a valued part of our community. Adjacent to our two schools, it thrived as a key element in the circle of life, and was a happy home to its residents. At the time, the possibility of its re-opening after a pause of around 12 months provided some reassurance to the village.

But Carey Lodge has stayed shuttered and unused for almost two and half years. In that time, enquiries about the future of the home have drawn no helpful responses. Meanwhile, local people who might have been eligible for residence at Carey Lodge have been forced to uproot for care in homes in unfamiliar places, far from their home community, family and friends, while a modern, purpose-built facility remains empty and unused.

Apart from Carey Lodge, The Fremantle Trust runs six other care homes (and five nursing homes) in Bucks. In February this year, the Fremantle Trust merged with the Order of St John Care Trust. The OSJCT (it's easier that way) is a charitable Trust, a not-for-profit care provider, which owns and operates over 60 care homes in England. Carey Lodge represents more than 15% of OSJCT's new assets. It seems unlikely that a merger process would have been completed without consideration of the future of that asset.

We contacted the OSJCT, but at the time of going to press we had received no further news.





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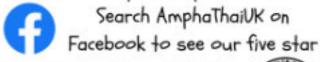
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reviews





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Choose from a variety of colours, or have your own fabric incorporated into the weave.

Proceeds from WEAVERs are divided between All Saints Church, Wing and the Motor Neurone Disease Assn.

Made by Sally Barnes in Wing Contact: 01296 688046 sallysababarnes@icloud.com

6 3 3 2 7 1 4 5 4 6 3 9 5 3 1 4 5 8 4 6 9 7

Solution p36

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Here in Canada 10-12 days ago, we had a decent period of snow lasting two and a half days, which was much needed because of the serious three year drought. On the whole it has been a relatively easy winter with temperatures only once dipping to -40°C, the rest of the time above average. At present it is above average again at +10°C and the 30cm of snow is rapidly thawing. Unlike Wing we are not out of the woods yet.

Because of the drought, the talk everywhere is about the forthcoming fire season, as people are very worried after the record number of fires in 2023. As the northern tree forests are so vast, I don't think anybody can have any idea on the effects on the environment and on the native flora and fauna, both now and in the future.

I see that some people in Wing have been getting involved planting trees in the new wood. It's a fantastic thing to do and in a short period of time, four or five years, the benefits should be clear. My only worry is that they will be left to 'do their thing' unattended, especially with the frequency of dry summers. Without water the losses could be considerable. HS2 have planted and are planting millions of trees to supposedly compensate for the ancient woods that were felled. To them that was the end of their responsibility, as they had complied with the contract. However, there was no aftercare such as watering and 18% died in the first year (November 2017 - March 2018), 89,000 of a total of 234,000. In some sites 80% have died over five years with an overall average of 44%. They say that replanting is cheaper - will Wing be able to do that? HS2 has planted 7,000,000 trees.



Townsend's solitaire

Things should begin to change here in Canada on the bird front. Interestingly I had a bird in the garden that really should not be here yet - a member of the thrush family called Townsend's solitaire. It is only the second time I have seen this bird. Not being particularly colourful, it is pretty well uniform grey in colour with a conspicuous eye ring, but as with most of the thrush family it has a beautiful song. It is quite rare and nests on or near the ground, often in road banks along the forest roads.





I have been trying to make a bit of a comparison of the birds feeding at bird tables. In Wing I used to have feeding blue tits, great tits, coal tits and long-tailed tits. Here we just have three types of tit, the commonest being the black-capped chickadee which I have mentioned previously. Now I have photographed the other two mountain chickadees and most recently the elusive boreal chickadee. The latter looks like a black-capped that needs a bath!



Boreal chickadee



Mountain chickadee

As for woodpeckers in Wing, the great spotted was as regular as clockwork and occasionally the green woodpecker would feed on ants in the lawn. There is of course another woodpecker, the lesser spotted, but this is rare now. I mention it because it is about the size of a sparrow and the one we have here in Canada is about the same, called the downy woodpecker. The other attendee is the northern flicker, which is brown with a spotted chest.

So you see visitors to the bird table are very similar and in some cases very difficult to identify. Common redpolls are indeed common here and lesser redpolls are just passing through Wing now, the difference being an extra wing bar. Both will move north to breed.

April sees nearly all the summer migrants arriving in Wing. Here we may not see anything much until the first week of May, weather depending. Hopefully next month I will be able to include other things apart from birds.



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WHAT'S ON at WING HALL REGULAR ACTIVITIES

				The second second	1
MONDAY	Rainbows & Brownies	Small Hall	1730-1830	Carolyn Saunders	01296 688508
	Tai Chi (2 classes)	Large Hall	1000-1100 1115-1215	Norma Collins norma.tai.chi@hotmail.co.uk	07947 672069
All except 1st in month	Badminton Club	Large Hall	1900-2300	Gary Stevens	07769 074570
1st in month	Bingo	Large Hall	1930 start	Malcolm Rickard	01296 688428
	Library		1400-1630		
TUESDAY	Dance Class (adults)	Large Hall	1000-1300	Adrian Marsh	07906 988880
3 rd in month	Pop-In (Age Concern)	Small Hall	1330-1600	Janet Ratcliffe	01296 720946
Term time only	Street Dance	Large Hall	1530-1830	Kiri Fitzgerald	07988 161043
2 nd in month	Gardening Club	Small Hall	1930-2130	winggardeningclub@hotmail.co.uk	
	Badminton Club	Large Hall	1900-2300	Gary Stevens	07769 074570
Last in month	Parish Council Meeting	Small Hall	2000-2200	wingparishclerk@gmail.com	
Term time only	11+ tuition for years 4 & 5	Library	1705-1915	Rachel Harris hello@rachelharrisprofessionaltutoring. co.uk	
	Library		1400-1630		
WEDNESDAY	Zumba	Large Hall	0900-1000	Gabriel	07459 488547
1st in month	Art Appreciation	Small Hall	1400-1600	Bobbie Ward	01296 681982
Fortnightly	Lunch Club (over 60s)	Small Hall	1200-1400	Sue Nightingale Richard Webb	01296 682999 01296 681516
Term time only	Spanish Lessons (18 mths - 11 yrs)	Library	1545-1630	Rebecca Salter rebecca.salter@kidslingo.co.uk	07967 357227
	Dance Class (adults)	Large Hall	1830-2200	Adrian Marsh	07906 988880
	Table Tennis	Small Hall	1830-2300	Bernie Raffe Leightonbuzzardttc@gmail.com	07957 215657
	Library		1000-1230		
THURSDAY	Tots Bop	Large Hall	0930-1200	Rachel Kenning	01525 237474
Term time only	Lacemaking	Small Hall	0930-1130	Bobbie Long	01296 624179
	Yoga	Large Hall	1900-2000	Kim O'Hanlon	07770 450788
3 rd each month	Wing WI	Small Hall	1900-2200	Val Fielder	01296 688044
FRIDAY					
2 nd each month	Line Dancing	Large Hall	1100-1300	Adrian Marsh	07906 988880
	Library		1400-1630		
	Table Tennis	Large Hall	1900-2230	Bernie Raffe Leightonbuzzardttc@gmail.com	07957 215657
SATURDAY	Library		1000-1230		
SUNDAY Term time only	Wing Singers	Large Hall	1645-1915	Angie Varey wingsingers@yahoo.co.uk	07908 653006
Any day	Snooker Club			David Turner	07392 482415

Hall rental charges are in a separate notice in this issue.

CONTACTS Regular bookings

Sheila Lambert: 01296 682795 sjlambert49@gmail.com

One-off bookings (parties, weddings etc) Stephen Payne: 07555 722315 stephenpayne3@hotmail.co.uk



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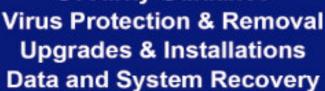
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The Patient Support Service is one of the many services offered by the North Buckinghamshire Primary Care Network (PCN) and is available to patients aged 18+ registered with a GP practice in North Buckinghamshire - 3W Health (Norden House, Wing, Whitchurch), Ashcroft, Edlesborough & Pitstone and Waddesdon surgeries.

What is Social Prescribing?

Social Prescribers are an important part of the Patient Support Service, providing a free and confidential service that supports patients with a range of social, emotional or practical needs. The focus is on improving health and wellbeing and maintaining a patients independence in their own home for as long as possible. The Social Prescribers work with many services, including GPs, adult social care, mental health services.

citizens advice bureau, voluntary and charitable organisations, local councils and housing associations. Following referral to the team a Social Prescriber



The Community Drop-in takes place at the Wantage Crescent Community Lounge.

will either telephone a patient or visit them at home, and together they will complete a holistic assessment. This helps the Social Prescriber find out what matters to the patient most and direct them to services that can help.

Meet



Teresa, Jane, Sarah and (not pictured) Susie.

The Social Prescribers also have information

on local groups running wellbeing activities. These can include walking groups, coffee mornings, lunch clubs and gardening sessions.

At the start of 2024 the Social Prescribers introduced a new initiative - the Community Drop-in.

The Community Drop-in takes place at the Wantage Crescent Community Lounge, between 10am and 12pm on the last Friday of every month. One of our Social Prescribers will be there for a chat and to offer help and advice. A representative from Fairhive homes will also be there and each month there will be a guest speaker. Anyone is welcome to pop in and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

If you'd like to know more about your local Patient Support Service, call 01296 91427, email: Northbucks.pss@nhs.net or visit the PCN North Bucks website: www. NorthbucksPCN.co.uk.

by Emma Lancaster

Some of the areas Social Prescribers can help with are:

- · Housing, benefits, financial support and advice
- Access to Social Care and care
- · Employment training, education and learning opportunities
- · Healthy lifestyle advice
- Befriending and social activities
- · Accessing support for your mental health and wellbeing
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My family have had to deal with my exceptional grumpiness from me in the mornings as I leave the house to a day of horizontal rain and wind! As the days are starting to get a bit longer and the daffodils rise out of the ground there is hope of spring on its way, and an end to what's felt like a long winter!

We are growing high grade milling wheat on this farm, and plant nutrition is vital in order to grow a high quality product for bread making.

It's going to take some time for the ground to dry up. Our best hope is that the plants will grow well and take up the water into the plant life. We are yet to venture onto the fields for the crops' first dose of fertiliser, but I'm hoping that by the time this goes to print we would have completed the first application.

Crop nutrition can have a great impact on the quality of the harvested grain. We plan applications to achieve the required quality targets. To achieve the highest value for the grain we have to meet a combination of specifications. Nitrogen and potassium are the most influential of the macronutrients on grain quality. Nitrogen is important for protein or starch content whilst potassium maintains the crop structure to prevent lodging (when wind or rain knock the plants over, so it looks like it's been trampled or flattened) and helps enzyme content and specific weight.

The secondary nutrients, or micronutrients, sulphur and magnesium, influence grain protein and specific weight respectively, whilst

the zinc also helps nitrogen metabolism that improves protein concentrations. There's plenty of science in modern agriculture

Our household has been on a mission to cut out processed food, and I was shocked to find the bread we were using had three E numbers along with a list of preservatives! Bread simply requires flour, salt, yeast and water, nothing more is needed. Wing market





The yards at Old Park Farm are busy and bustling with new life. Calves run around the yards at pace, eager to cause mischief. This is usually in the form of escaping and bothering the customers of the nearby physio/pilates clinic.

I've been busy doing fencing work, ready for turn out! Its such a relief for us when the cows can finally get their own food rather than us taking it to them all the time!

Unfortunately we have had a local farm go down with TB. This requires us to test our livestock in case any have contracted the disease from any local wildlife.

It's an extremely annoying job to do this time of year with new animals being born all the time and the vets who supervise the tests are fairly busy, but we will get it done because we always do!



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Are you or is anyone you know interested in gaming? Take a look at this article about interesting video games coming out this month!

GAMES REVIEW BY HUGH WOOLEY

Outcast: A New Beginning



Set on the alien planet named Adelpha, Outcast: A New Beginning is a 3rd person,

open world, action and adventure game. During fast-paced battles against invading robots, players help the local residents of the planet to keep their home. Released on Windows, PS5, and Xbox Series X/S.

The Outlast Trials



After being out for almost a vear on Windows, the game is now released on PS4 and PS5, Xbox

One and Xbox Series X/S. The Outlast Trials is a first person psychological horror, where players are put through a series of situations that they have to survive, else they will never escape...



Expeditions: MudRunner Game

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game, players can embark on exciting scientific expeditions. Players lead research missions as they drive a variety of all-terrain vehicles, managing their camp and crew and using hightech tools to obtain success in the wild. Released on Windows, PS4 and PS5, Nintendo Switch, Xbox One and Xbox Series X/S

WWE 2K24



This year's instalment of WWE 2K brings an iconic roster with legends like Steve Austin.

Undertaker, and Andre the Giant, alongside current superstars like Cody Rhodes, John Cena, Rhea Ripley, and Roman Reigns. There are all

new match types too, from Guest Referee to Casket, Gauntlet, and Ambulance matches. WWE 2K24 is released on Windows, PS4 and PS5, Xbox One and Xbox Series X/S.

As Dusk Falls

This game is now released on PS4 and PS5. In this game players explore the entangled lives of



two families across thirty years. The character's lives are controlled by players, the way they play it is up to them.



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What the Government has offered is an off the shelf 'level 2' deal. The main benefits are:

- Skills and education: the transfer of the Adult Education Budget (AEB) to the council from 2026/27. This also means that the funding for Free Courses for Jobs which are offered by local colleges, will be devolved to them and ring-fenced.
- Trade and investment: working more closely with the Department for Business and Trade to make it easier for businesses to access the information, advice and support they need to invest in Buckinghamshire.
- Housing and land: as a unitary council Buckinghamshire already has access to additional land assembly and compulsory purchase powers for housing and regeneration purposes. The council will

explore expanding these powers.

- Transport: the potential for bus franchising, although the council is not currently actively seeking this.

A stakeholder group has been set up for Wing Wood including the parish council, Unitary Councillors and a Long Spinney group representative.



There have been almost as many potholes already this year as during the whole of last year following a wave of storms, a period of freezing temperatures and the wettest February since records began. There are a record number of teams out fixing them -30 highways teams are out across the county doing emergency repairs. During the succession of storms they worked through the night to try to make the morning rush hour safe. Cllr Gareth Williams put forward a motion for £5m more for potholes and other repairs because of the exceptionally damaging winter for road surfaces. The extra funding was agreed and will be used for the whole county.

OTHOLES & DEVOLUTION

In the Spring Budget it was announced that Buckinghamshire would be one of three counties in the country to benefit from Devolution. This is the transfer of some powers and funding from national to local government. More decisions that affect local people will be made within Bucks in an attempt to tailor policies to the specific needs of this area.

If you have an iPhone (Version 8 or later) and are using iOS 15 or above, there is a Look Up function on your phone that enables you to identify plants, insects and butterflies, works of art, landmarks, and pets, amongst other things, simply by taking a photo.

Either take a photo or choose one you took earlier from your Photos library. When you go



1. Look for the star...if there, your iPhone supports this function

DID YOU KNOW?

to that photo in your library you will see a small star alongside the 'i'symbol .Tap on that and you will find that you are offered 'Look *Up – Plant, Dog...* 'etc. Click on this and you'll get the name of the item. Clicking on the wording will bring up a Wikipedia reference. Wikipedia photos have apparently been



2. Click on 'Look up - Plant

searched to make a match, although the results are not always 100% accurate.

Be warned...this function is quite addictive and you may find your walk is taking you much longer than usual as you check out wild flowers and trees, butterflies and spiders along the way!



3. It worked! (Sometimes the identification is incorrect)

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Wing Parish Council News

Recreation Ground

The grant funding application to the Football Foundation for £20,323 has been awarded. These funds are being used to remove the wooden fence around the boundary with the A418 and replace it with green bow-topped railings and a self-closing gate at the Park Gate entrance. A contractor has been appointed.

You may see a small barrier fencing outside the pavilion over the next couple of months. This is to protect the area as it has been rotovated and reseeded. Once the grass is established the fencing will be taken down and accessible picnic benches will be installed.

A new bin has been installed by the fence leading into the field behind the tennis courts. The bin by the football pavilion is also being replaced with a new one.

Portrait of HM the King

A free portrait of HM the King has been ordered and will be displayed in Wing Village Hall.

Small Grants

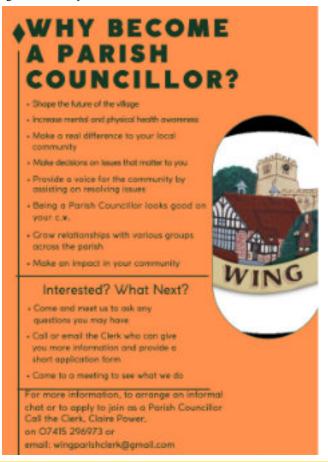
Wing Parish Council wishes to support a wide range of local charities and voluntary organisations whose services or activities support Wing residents and the community. To achieve this, Wing Parish Council has a grant scheme in place whereby applicants are able to apply for up to £1,000. For more information, please email wingparishclerk@gmail.com.

Jubilee Green

Our next large improvements project will be Jubilee Green. To initiate the project we have arranged for a few play equipment providers to attend the site in April. We will be looking to set up a working party to carry out research and focus groups etc. If you would be interested in being part of this exciting project, please contact the Clerk.

Dog Poo

Polite reminder to all dog owners to please pick up your dog's poo and dispose of it one of the many bins around the parish. We have received an increasing report of dog poo left along public footpaths, particularly through the cemetery.





COMMUNITY GROUPS

If you would like to provide a report at the meeting, either by a member of your group or read out by the Chair of the meeting, please contact the Parish Council Clerk at wingparishclerk@gmail.com.

PROJECTS AND FUNDRAISING **CO-ORDINATOR - JOB VACANCY**

Wing Parish Council has a job vacancy for a Projects and Fundraising Co-Ordinator. This is a new role to assist the Council in securing additional funds through grant applications.

The role will be involved in all aspects of the funding application process, including preparing a grant funding application, accepting awarded grants, project management to ensure the project is completed in a timely manner, and reporting to the funding organisations.

The tasks would include:

- Liaising with the Community Board Manager for funding opportunities
- Researching and contacting companies inviting them to quote for work
- Carrying out site visits to gain quotes for the work
- Work with Councillors when applying for funding and ensure all criteria are met and supporting documentation is included
- Monitor ongoing projects, liaise with councillors and provide progress reports
- Manage grant funding spreadsheet with information on the grant funding, including receipt/claim requests
- Submit end of grant forms
- Be the liaison with funding organisations, answering any questions or queries arising

For more information, please contact the Clerk at wingparishclerk@gmail. com or call 07415 296793.

Deadline for applications: Monday 26th April 2024

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As March 2024 saw the 40th birthday of What's On in Wing, a small celebration was held in Wing Hall to which all our delivery volunteers, regular contributors and production team were invited - that's an amazing 60 people (to say nothing of even more who contribute occasionally)! Our front cover photo shows just some of our brilliant distribution team, who make sure that your copy of What's On is delivered, rain or shine, every month.



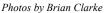
Back Row, L to R: Martyn Latch, Steve Jones, Becky Salter, Bob Hollas, Bryn Blake, Gail Trew, Ian Foster.

Middle Row, L to R: Wendy Clarke-Darby, Chris Duke, Alan Wiseman, Simon Kimber, Mavis Kimber, Jill Latch, Jean Lloyd.

Front Row, L to R: Hazel Wiseman, Ann Page, Barbara Barber, Pat Jones, Gill Alexander.

And the remaining members of the team, not in that photograph but no less important:

Peter Ayris, Jill Bliss, Berni Blunden, Kate Byrne, Pat Gibbins, Julie Hawkins, Pat James, Irene Jelley, Margaret Jelley, Sarah Kelsall-Patel, Sheila Parris, Meena Prasad, Andy Pye, Kim Sibley, Bob Tring, Doug Ward and Ann Weight.



























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Gardener's Diary by Ginny Hollas Wing Gardening Club





The rose is said to be our most favourite flower and England's national symbol. They are attractive, easy to grow, smell beautiful, long lived, very hardy and have been cultivated for thousands of years all over the world. It is believed they were first grown in Central Asia, spreading slowly throughout Europe. It has always been associated with love and passion, still today symbolising true love. Aphrodite was the Greek Goddess of love, Eros being an anagram of rose. The Romans strew their floors, scented their baths and even ate them! A bunch included in a meeting room indicated all subjects discussed were to remain confidential

The Chinese cultivated roses as early as 2700BC. Our native variety then was the very simple single bloom, but in the late 1700s began the introduction of Chinese cultivars into Europe, producing the many varied hybrids we see today.

I am sure you have at least one rose in your garden, but because they will grow even if you treat them like old boots, we tend to neglect them and therefore do not see them in their full glory. To get the best blooms you need to choose the right plant for place; plant; feed; water and prune.

Choosing your plant - there are three basic types of rose:

- Bush/standard to be free standing in beds
- Climbers to go on trellises, arches and walls,
- Ramblers that will grow really tall and scramble up the side of a house or in a tree.



Old fashioned varieties smell wonderful, but usually only have one flush of bloom. Modern hybrids flower repeatedly, though the first flush is always the most prolific and hybridisation has in some varieties reduced the perfume. The main flush of blooms will be in late May/June and then lesser flowerings right up until Christmas. Ramblers usually flower just once and are quite rampant, but climbers are much slower growing and easier to keep under control. Climbing rose varieties differ in height so check your labels carefully for this and also for perfume strength.

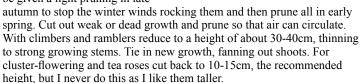
Planting - the cheapest way to buy roses is by ordering them bare-rooted and planting from late autumn to early spring. Container grown ones can be planted at any time of the year. Never plant when the ground is frozen and always prepare the ground. Dig a hole twice the width of the plant's roots and to a depth that will cover the graft union. Break up the bottom of the hole with a fork and add a good bucketful of organic matter - well-rotted garden compost if you have some. Bare-rooted plants need soaking for a couple of hours prior to planting. Mix some slow-release fertilizer and then tease out the roots so they all have space and plant, backfilling and firming the soil, then water well. You can add mycorrhizal fungi to enhance root growth but it is not essential. Just sprinkle a little over the root, but don't add fertilizer if you are using this.

Feeding - just as the leaves begin to break in the spring, give a good feed of general or rose fertilizer (about 100g per sq m) and repeat again in mid-summer. Ideally put an 8cm mulch around the plant after feeding.

Make sure that during the first year you water a good bucketful twice a week in dry spells.

Pruning – many people worry that they are not doing this correctly, but there is no need to. In an experiment at St Albans' rose garden, they pruned half the garden with hedge trimmers and half the traditional way, resulting in no noticeable difference!

Old-established plants should be given a light pruning in late



Dead-heading- this will keep the blooms coming. Take the dead heads off before the hips start to form.

Main Problems - black/green fly. Don't use chemicals. Instead, wash off with the hose or wipe off with your fingers, using a tissue if you are squeamish! The bane of my life is black spot virus: yellow leaves with black spots, with leaves that fall off so you are left mid-summer with bare areas. There are chemical sprays to use, but I hope that you will not. I will try out something different this year, a natural remedy using 2 tsp bicarb soda mixed into one part milk and two parts water, regularly sprayed on the leaves from early spring throughout the growing season. This was suggested by one of our Gardening Club speakers, Steve Malsher. He did have a bit of a twinkle in his eye when he told us so I hope he was not pulling my leg!

Wing Gardening Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month in Wing Village Hall. For further information e-mail winggardeningclub@hotmail.co.uk



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Would you like someone to call for you and take you to the meeting? If so, or for more information please contact: President: Maureen Lomas

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- maureen@lomasfamily.plus.com
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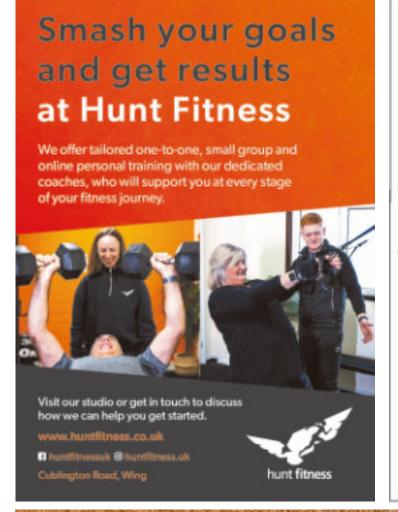
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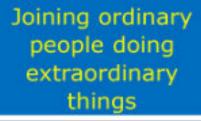
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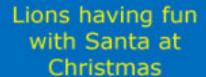
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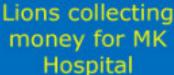
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WING TENNIS CLUB NEED YOUR OPINION AND HELP!!

As a small, but very important facility in the village, Wing Tennis Club have always aimed to provide affordable and friendly "activity" within Wing. It may be a "Private" club, but this is purely to ensure that sufficient funds are raised and to cover insurance requirements.....we really are a village facility and welcome all!

We have 3 good quality hard courts and are awaiting the installation of floodlights, as part of the Parish Council Recreation Ground Project, which will allow essential additional user time on the courts.

Over the years, we have provided Junior and Adult Coaching sessions for beginners to improvers, "Rusty Racket" sessions for those coming back to the sport and Sunday Social tennis for all levels. We have entered competitive teams in Summer and Winter Leagues for Men, Women and Mixed and have been highly successful playing at a level expected by much larger clubs.

We have also run a number of successful Social events, raising funds for the club and charities.

During COVID, we provided free Membership and access to the courts to allow Wing villagers the opportunity to get out and enjoy fresh air and exercise. Covid was a difficult time and has changed the face of many clubs. We now need to rebuild with new ideas and new people.

We want to understand what the community wants from the Tennis Club and allow this to direct changes being made.

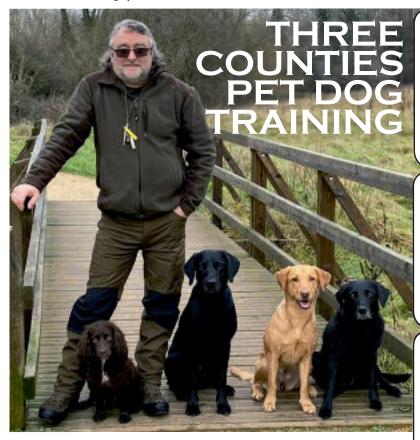
We will be holding a meeting at the Sports and Social Club on Sunday 28th April from 10:00 -12:00 where we would be delighted to meet potential members and discuss where you want the club to go.

As an incentive, anyone from Wing attending, who signs up on the day, will receive:

1 year's FREE membership!!

Come along, get involved and help us grow the club and utilise this wonderful facility.

For further information, please see our website: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/WingTennisClub or message us via Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/wingtennis



Contact us for more details or to book a place on any of the courses. NEIL SMITH 07774 159618

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Trained for life is a course which is tailored for all breeds and abilities, covering basic obedience training and life skills for your pet dog.

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Overstone Combined School



Reporting from the O2

Twenty eight children from Overstone School took part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena. This concert was run by Young Voices, who have been running the event since! This made us part of the World's Biggest Children's Choir which is pretty exciting!

Since the start of the school year, we have been practicing the songs each week in our after-school club and we had over 30 songs to learn either all or part of. Some songs we even had to learn two parts! These songs included a wide variety of genres — from Matilda the Musical to Glenn Miller. We sang Gospel, pop and even a song in Korean! On the day itself, we arrived at the O2 Arena for a full afternoon of rehearsals with over 8,000 other children in our choir that day! These went on until 5pm when we took a break and prepared ourselves for the evening concert!

Our parents, friends and family arrived - a sell-out audience in the thousands as well as the 8,000 children in the choir. We were sat almost up at the top of the arena – it was absolutely incredible to see all the other performers. When the lights went down it was just magical to be part of such a huge crowd. We also got to sing with Natalie Williams – a famous Jazz singer, MC Grammar and Lydia White who plays Miss Honey in the West End Musical Matilda.

It was an excellent experience and one that we won't be forgetting in a hurry. "Young Voices was so much fun. The best part was probably when we sang 'A Sky Full of Stars' and everyone put their arms around each other and swayed side to side." Tabatha.



We also performed at school so that anyone who couldn't attend the concert could come along and we were also able to show our singing to all our classmates too. It was so lovely to see so many members of our families there supporting us and feeling proud of us all.

"Young Voices was a life-changing experience and I will always remember the shining lights, the rush of excitement, singing our hearts out." Alice.





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from
Elaine Morris

(Morris of Hoggeston and Wing Thursday Market)

Lamb Tray Roast with Mustard, Leek and Tomatoes



Ingredients

- 2 leeks, sliced
- 2 red peppers, deseeded and cut into chunks
- 4 whole garlic cloves, peeled and lightly crushed
- olive or rapeseed oil
- 400g tin borlotti beans, drained
- 250ml hot lamb or chicken stock
- 400g cherry tomatoes on the vine
- 4-8 lamb cutlets or chops
- 2-4 tbsp wholegrain mustard
- crusty bread or potatoes to serve (optional)

Method

Heat the oven to 200°C fan/gas 7.

Roast the leeks, peppers and garlic on a baking tray, drizzled with a little oil and seasoning, in the oven for 10 minutes.

Add the borlotti beans, stock and cherry tomatoes to the tray and mix, then roast for a further 6-8 minutes. Meanwhile, coat the lamb cutlets on both sides with the mustard ($\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp per cutlet), add them to the tray and roast for 12-15 minutes or until cooked to your liking.

Serve the lamb with the pan vegetables and juices, with crusty bread or potatoes.

Send us your favourite recipe!

A monthly recipe has become a regular feature of WOiW. We know there are enthusiastic and capable cooks in Wing, so if you are one, please send us a recipe that we can use. It doesn't have to be 'seasonal' as favourites are always going to be welcome!

Send your recipe to: editorial@whatsoninwing.info

FOOLISH PRIDE

Sisters Waka and Winta are proud of their patch, And now Malik's arrived – a handsome young catch. In the wild they would hunt while the brave male protects, But in here they are fed, as they've come to expect.

Close by, down the hill, a seasoned rival appears. He's scrubbed up quite nicely, though you can't see his ears!

He's getting ready to roar and go on the prowl, Spruced up by a band wielding rakes, picks and trowels.

He's ninety-one this year, and an icon in white, Seen for miles around in the brightening light., His Spring clean is no joke, but a labour of love, On the windswept chalk downs with dark rain clouds above.

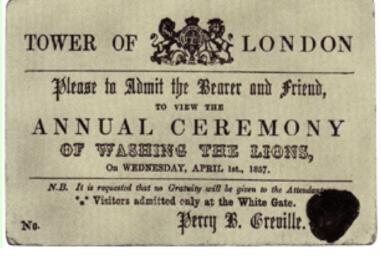
Do the volunteers know of that old tradition? In April the hoaxers will make it their mission. In the Tower, the lions were washed once a year With a good pinch of salt and a fair dose of fear.

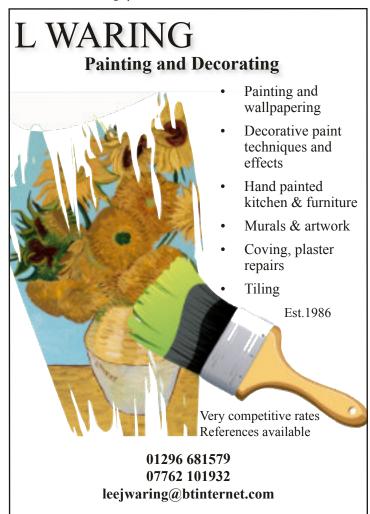
© Sally, 14.3.2024

In Whipsnade, volunteers have been grooming the white lion.

In London, on April 1st 1857, tickets were issued for the "Annual Ceremony of Washing the Lions" at the Tower.









APPOINTMENTS ONLY

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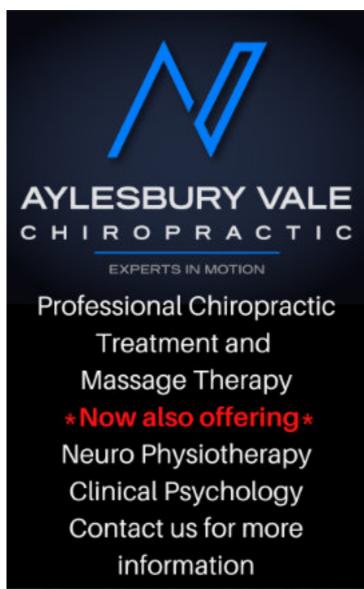
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OUTGABOUT

with Gill Jeffries. Map by Arthur Jones

Photos by Liz Tring

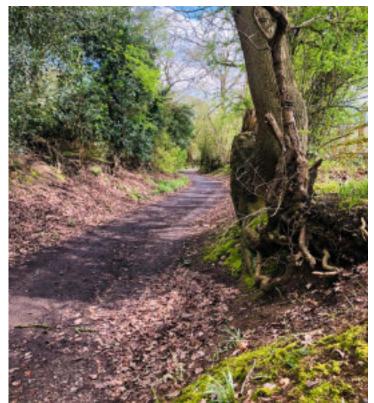
1 hrs 45 mins Approx. 4.4 miles (7 km) Map: © OpenStreetMap contributors (Equivalent OS Explorer maps: 181, 182)

A Walk on Dunstable Downs

- Park at the visitor centre on Dunstable Downs (free for National Trust members).
- Leave the car park, walking away from the visitor centre towards the woods, following the track.
- At the edge of the woods bear left down a footpath.
- Continue along this path, bearing left at the first footpath intersection.
- Follow the path behind the mobile home site and continue until you reach Whipsnade Common.
- Cross the road heading towards a large cream coloured house, then follow the mown path on your left down the slope.
- Opposite the Old Hunters Lodge pub bear right, following the path through the trees.
- Cross the Studham road then turn left and head towards the Whipsnade Heath car park, crossing the Kensworth road.
- Walk up the slope through the car park and pass through the gate on the footpath.
- Follow the path up the slope, then between the trees.
- Continue along the path then pass through a gate into a field.
- Cross the field and arrive at Isle of Wight Lane.
- Turn right down the lane, then cross the road and take the footpath on your left.
- Follow the footpath to a track, then turn right down the track.
- Follow the track down hill into farmland and continue, passing a barn on your left.
- At the bottom of the hill, turn left through the hedge following the path up hill, keeping the telegraph pole on your right.
- ► Walk along the edge of a bramble bank to the gate at the end of the field.
- Turn left downhill through some trees, then follow the path up hill, bearing slightly right to go round the edge of an arable field.
- Continue to the end of the arable crop then onto a pasture field.
- Turn left following the path through the trees, then along the edge of the wood with the trees on your right.
- Turn left onto the quarry driveway up to Isle of Wight Lane.
- Turn right along the road, to the road over the Downs.
- Cross the road and turn left to return to the visitor centre and the car park.











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Notable Dates

1st Easter Monday (we are closed)
...and April Fool's Day (Ha! Ha!)

7th World Health Day

14th National Gardening Day

15th World Art Day

18th World Heritage Day

22nd Earth Day

23rd St. George's Day Shakespeare's birthday (1564) ...and the day he died, age 52

25th World Penguin Day

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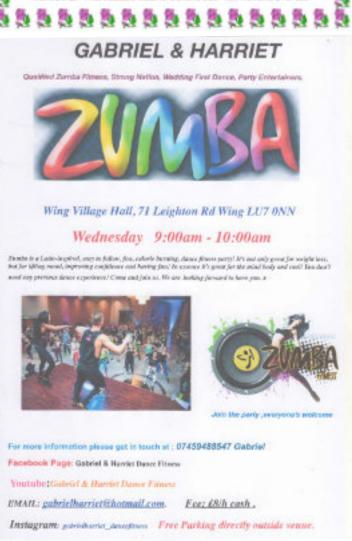
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We would like to thank Wing residents and guests for their generous support of our choir's carol concerts last December.

We have made donations to each of the following deserving causes nominated by our members:

> Chiltern Dog Rescue Chiltern Music Therapy Flutterby Fundraisers Motor Neurone Disease Association National Autistic Society What's On in Wing

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Babysitters



The following young people* have offered to babysit:

Name	Born	Contact	
Tilly Forrest	Dec 2007	07854 918457	
Jemima Pye	Jan 2008	07840 944111	

* The inclusion of a name on this list is neither a recommendation nor an endorsement by the What's On in Wing team.



N.B. If you would like your name included on this list, please email editorial@whatsoninwing.info with the same information shown above (please only do this with the approval of your parent or guardian).



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YOUR STARS

For April by Maggy La Grenouille MBE

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19 8, 11, 12, 16, 44, 4, 7. If you were lucky enough to pick those numbers in the Euromillions, you will have won £3.20, and are now probably living it up in Lidl.

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20 You are remarkable - things start falling into place for you this month. But be careful. Only you can turn coarse fishing into a dangerous sport.

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20 At last, you're feeling strong enough to take the bull by the horns. And face down your fears. Toad in the Hole really isn't that difficult, so just go for it.

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22 Ganglion meets Perihippedes in a rare double consternation, and you'll start feeling truly empowered. For that, thank Spatula's proximity to Cornucopia. But don't forget to duck

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22 For you, April could be challenging. Don't be put off. Just because nobody else can see that fast-moving herd of buffalo doesn't mean it isn't very real.

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22 Caution is the watchword for Virgoans right now, especially around the 25th, when an ink cartridge could prove dangerous.

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22 You'll be tempted to try and make things better. Resist that urge to interfere. Nothing good can come of retouching those family

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21 Prepare to bump into some real money, some real style. Feel that electricity. The Tesla was parked crookedly. It wasn't your fault.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21 Self-control must be the byword for you, for most of April. Not everyone will share your enthusiasm for the green anaconda.

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19 Right now is a great time to be thinking about money. Just sit there, and think about it. Nothing will happen, but you can

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18 2024 is the year of the Dragon, so you'll need to pack a bag for a fairly long and slightly weird stay somewhere near Lower Ascott

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20 Sometime around the 29th, you will buy a parakeet.

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Editorial and News

To submit editorial or photographic material, contact Lance Redler at: editorial@whatsoninwing.info

The absolute deadline for all advertising and editorial content is noon on the 15th of the month preceding publication. Credit or refunds cannot be applied when artwork is provided after the deadline. Unfulfilled bookings will be charged at cost.

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For payments or accounts, contact Carmen James at: accounts@whatsoninwing.info

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