

# Chilton Chronicle

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### Update from new owners of the Rose and Crown:

“The team behind The George at Upton have purchased the freehold of The Rose and Crown, which we are re-naming as **The Crown at Chilton**.

Our priority is to re-open the pub as soon as possible for drinks only from Wed-Sun, with our food offer and seven days a week opening hours starting later in the Spring. The George is now fully open for brunch, lunch and dinner and of course Sunday lunch to keep you going in the meantime!

We will be installing a brand-new kitchen, beer cellar and various other updates to the building, which will take place in stages over the months ahead, but we are expecting to stay open throughout this period.

We'll be offering something different to The George, and running the two businesses side by side, so that both can complement each other. Our early plans are certainly to include a small village shop and food for takeaway, as well as casual dining inside, and a strong emphasis on locally produced food and craft drinks suppliers.

Most of all, we want The Crown to be the hub of the village, a real community asset, and we look forward to your support in the months and years ahead to secure its long-term future.

We'd love to hear from you on what you'd like from your village pub, and if you are interested in helping us in whichever way. Whether you're looking for work, want to be our pub quizmaster, or just have some general ideas, we are all ears. We are also looking for any volunteers who can help us empty the pub of the years of accumulated rubbish and help us get it looking spic and span. The quicker we can get these works done, the sooner we can get up to full speed.

Please email us at:

[hello@thegeorgeatchilton.co.uk](mailto:hello@thegeorgeatchilton.co.uk)

If you're popping into The George, you can also speak to any of our team who will be happy to help. We'll be arranging a 'meet the team' event at The Crown shortly after we get the keys - please watch this space for more info. In the meantime, you can follow us on our new Facebook page for The Crown at Chilton

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572250766554>

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Team George”

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### February Charity Market

We will be raising funds for “Research into Prostate Cancer” at our Charity market on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February** on Crafts End Green from 9am until midday. There will be a Valentines theme to the market, as well as Liz's famous chicken and mushroom pies, beef pies, goats cheese tarts, hot pasties and a wide mouthwatering selection of cakes, jams, marmalade and chutney.

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### January Charity Market

Thank you to everyone who supported the market in subzero temperatures especially the stalwart stall holders keeping warm with hot water bottles. An amazing £800 was made for “Standing with Giants”.

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### Oasis Café

Oasis Café is an opportunity for villagers to gather once a month for a coffee (or tea!) and a convivial chat in relaxed surroundings. The event is held in All Saints' Church on the 3rd Saturday morning of each month, between 10.00 and 12.00, and is free to allcomers.

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### Warm Welcome Café

Open every Tuesday from 11am until 2pm in the Morris Room in the Village Hall. Come and enjoy a hot drink, homemade cakes, cheese scones and a

mug of soup with other villagers, in a warm and friendly environment.

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### All Saints' Group

The next meeting of All Saints' Group will be held on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.45pm in All Saints Church. We will be exploring the contents of one of the boxes from the Oxfordshire Museum's Resource Centre.

Everyone is welcome on which should prove to be a fascinating evening.

Any enquiries please phone Judy on 01235 834503.

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### Chilton WI

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February** at 7.45pm in the Village Hall when we will have a talk by Lucy Gasson entitled, 'Saints, Stunners, Marmalade and Medicine', about the remarkable women of Oxford.

We are a very friendly group and look forward to seeing everyone at our meetings and welcoming new members and visitors. Please just turn up or for more information, contact Liz Robbins 834501 or Shona Sugden 831723.

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### Linda's Quiz

#### **General Knowledge**

1. Vera has now retired from the police force as of last month: which police force did she work for?
2. In which city do Feyenoord play their home games?
3. Which literary character only ate snozzcumbers?
4. Which city has been announced as City of Culture for 2025?
5. What 3-digit number is usually found on items made from 9 carat gold?
6. Which actor has played Lee Harvey Oswald, Winston Churchill & Sid Vicious?
7. A dish served Lyonnaise is usually garnished with which vegetable usually fried?
8. Which TV supernatural series of the 70s was centred around 2 characters who were guardians of the flow of time in the Universe?

9. In cricket what is the umpire signalling by raising his right arm and touching his right shoulder with his right hand?

10. How many Harry Potter films have been released?

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### Vale of White Horse District Councillors

Happy New Year! We hope you had a restful and joyous festive period and are looking forward to whatever 2025 has to bring for you.

There were quite a few updates from national government just before Christmas that will affect our council and our area.

Firstly, the approval for the HIF1 road was issued by the Secretary of State. The aim is that the impact will be positive and ease congestion around Didcot and the surrounding area, improving air quality and increasing active travel options. We know this will be welcome news in our parishes. The project includes, widening of the A4130, Didcot Science bridge connecting Great Western Park over the railway to Didcot power station, a new river crossing point and the Clifton Hampden bypass.

When local authorities make planning decisions, they refer to the National Planning Policy Framework. This document gives planning officers the guidance they need, alongside our local policies in our local plan, to either approve or refuse applications. On 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024, the government issued updates to the NPPF. Whilst there are further parts to come – such as reform of how planning committees work in the Planning and Infrastructure Bill due this year – the intention of the new government's NPPF is clear, to build more and faster.

The government issued a devolution white paper on 16<sup>th</sup> December. *What does this mean?* The paper outlines Labour's plans to reorganise local government structures across the country, essentially abolishing District Councils in favour of larger unitary authorities, strategic authorities and elected mayors. Although, the paper is named 'Devolution', the paper is removing a layer of local government that sits more closely with our local areas and decisions will be made more remotely. We do not yet know what this will mean for our

District area but be assured that although we may not agree with this ideology – our leader on Vale of White Horse, Cllr Bethia Thomas, and the officers intend to cooperate with the government and our neighbouring councils to seek the best deal possible. You can read the leader’s letter to the Oxfordshire County Council leader, Cllr Liz Leffman on our website.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for us as councillors, please do email us. As a reminder, council meetings are held in public and if you wish to address council or committee, you can contact Democratic Services ahead of time. If you need more guidance on this, please let us know!

*We use these monthly updates to keep you updated on our activities and general council news. We also post on our councillor Facebook Pages:*

[www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh](http://www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh)

[www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell](http://www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell)

Please get in touch with any issues or concerns via email:

[hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk) and

[debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

### **Full Council – 18<sup>th</sup> Dec**

For the council papers for this meeting, head to [the Vale Website](#). During the meeting Cllr Hayleigh Gascoigne asked for an update about the Great Western Park GP surgery. The response was:

"The council is currently working with key stakeholders to progress the GP surgery on Great Western Park. The next step in the project is for the medical centre's appointed developer to submit a planning application, which we are expecting before the end of January. The Local Planning Authority will then need to determine the application, which will take a few months. In line with the LPA’s published timescales, we are anticipating a decision by mid-2025. In the meantime, work is well underway to arrange transfer of the site from Taylor Wimpey to the council; all parties are finalising their due diligence before transfer can take place. Once the site is transferred, respective legal teams will work together to complete the various lease and funding agreements. Whilst these matters are already well progressed, timescales will depend on resolving some final matters and making sure the necessary steps are taken to complete the

agreements in the right order. Council officers meet regularly with the NHS Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board, medical practice and their appointed developer, to ensure things continue to progress".

### **Oxfordshire County Councillor - Councillor Sally Povolotsky (Hendreds & Harwell Division)**

Hello Residents,

Please find Latest News and Information online:

<https://hendredsandharwell.mycouncillor.org.uk>

You can call me on - 07939 912997.

Email me at: [sally.povolotsky@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sally.povolotsky@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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### **Message from Olly Glover, MP**

"My warmest wishes to all readers of the Chilton Chronicle for the new year. It was wonderful to join in local social and festive occasions such as the switching on of Christmas lights.

Before parliament ended, I was able to address ministers about important matters. These included: how local communities can benefit from clean energy schemes, the need for improvements in services provided by coroners following the sudden deaths of those with epilepsy, and the need to address electoral reform. Some responses were more helpful than others!

I was able to speak in debates about the problems faced by those with disabilities, shared concerns raised by poor estate management and championed the BBC (which I am sure many of us watched and listened to over Christmas).

The Transport Select committee meet to hold the Department of Transport to account. Two key areas discussed have been rail services and infrastructure, and the backlog of driving tests, which so many constituents have aired concerns about.

Flooding remains a significant concern. I chaired a meeting with Thames Water and the local councils to facilitate working together. I will continue to provide updates about this vital piece of work as we need to see real improvements.

My team provides support for all our constituents. Please contact me if I can help, or if you would like

me to attend a local event or meet with a local organisation. My parliamentary email address is [olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk)

If you use social media, you can follow me for more regular updates on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD/> and Bluesky - as I have moved away from X/Twitter: @ollyglover.bsky.social

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in 2025".

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## **Parish Council Notices**

### **Neighbourhood Police Team**

wantageneighbourhoodpoliceteam@thamesvalley.police.uk phone 101

### **Defibrillators**

Chilton has three defibrillators, one is on the wall outside the Village Hall, one is on the wall outside the Community Room on Chilton Field and there is also a defibrillator at Chilton Primary School, which is accessible whenever the school is open.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 8.00pm in the Community Room**. The agenda will be published on the Council's website. Members of the public are invited to attend.

The Parish Council's website can be found at <https://www.parish-council.com/chilton> where you will be able to find out details of all the Parish Council meetings, who your Councillors are and other useful information.

Items to be included in the next Chronicle should be sent to the Clerk by **Wednesday 26th February**.

### **Clerk: Jacquie Berry**

Email: [parishclkchilton@btinternet.com](mailto:parishclkchilton@btinternet.com)

**Parish Council Chairman:** Mr Chris Broad

14 Latton Close, 01235 834347

**Please Note:** The Parish Council does not accept any responsibility for the adverts placed in the Chilton Chronicle

## *Answers*

- 1 *Northumberland & City Police*
- 2 *Rotterdam*
- 3 *The BFG*
- 4 *Bradford*
- 5 *375*
- 6 *Gary Oldman*
- 7 *Onions*
- 8 *Sapphire & Steel*
- 9 *One run short*
- 10 *Eight*

## Rules of the Game

Are you a mystery lover? 2025 marks the centenary year of *The Viaduct Murder*, the first mystery novel by Ronald Knox. Having trained as a Church of England minister, he is best remembered for Knox's Ten Rules for Detective Fiction, a kind of Ten Commandments for writers to "play fair" with readers, giving them a realistic chance to solve the whodunnit. Examples include, "No hitherto undiscovered poisons may be used, nor any appliance which will need a long scientific explanation at the end." His rules were adopted by The Detection Club, where he was a founder member alongside Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers and other notable Golden Age authors.

Life itself is a mystery far beyond anything that Poirot, Vera or Ludwig has faced. No surprise, then, that self-help books are such big sellers every January. If only we knew the rules, our lives would make so much more sense. But which book, which rules, where do we even start?

People have been asking that question for as long as we have written records. When Jesus was travelling around Israel, a religious teacher asked him what was the most important of all the many, many rules that were current. His answer? First, he said, love God with your whole heart, soul, mind and strength; then love your neighbour as you love yourself.

Many people would skip that first rule and go straight to how you can and should love yourself and those around you. Certainly, most people, when you get to know them, genuinely want to be thought of as good people, and to be a help and support to others, whatever their beliefs about life, the universe and everything. So, can't we just start there? Look out at the world, and ask yourself, "How's that going for humanity?" It's a mixed picture at best. I don't need to list the wars that rage around the world. Even in our communities and families, most of us will know people whose lives are hurt by poverty, injustice or abusive relationships.

That's why I for one need to take Jesus seriously and look beyond myself. Because if it all depends on me, however hard I try, however well I seem to be doing, sooner or later I'll run out of love, patience and wisdom. It's happened before, and it will happen again. I need a better foundation for when storms come, a better supply for when all I need to flourish or to help you flourish has run out. The best answer I know is to look to God as the source of all that is good.

I love a good mystery, and just occasionally I work out whodunnit before the sleuth wraps up the case. For the mystery of life and how best to live it, I'm grateful that Jesus gave us



this vital clue. So, my New Year's Resolution? I'm going to try and hold on to those two simple rules. I'll let you know how it goes!

Jeremy Parsons  
Rector  
Harwell and Chilton Churches

## **What's coming up during February and March 2025**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month –10.30am-midday** Community Café at St Matthew's Harwell - please come along, bring friends and family for good free coffee and home-made cake.

**Thursday midweek Communion (BCP) 11.00am** 13<sup>th</sup> February All Saints' Chilton and 27<sup>th</sup> February St Matthew's Harwell. 13<sup>th</sup> March All Saints' Chilton and 27<sup>th</sup> March St Matthew's Harwell. All midweek Communion services are Book of Common Prayer (BCP). Everyone is welcome.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month –10.00am-midday** Oasis Café at All Saints' Chilton – Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy free coffee and a chat (always delicious biscuits and cakes too).

**Monday morning 9.30am-11.30am** Fledgelings held in St Matthew's Church and **Wednesday morning 9.30am-11.30am** held in Chilton Community Room - a free playtime with refreshments for grown-ups and a snack for children. Singing songs and a short Christian focused story reminding us of God's amazing love for us and the world. ***Both mornings run during term time only.***

**Sunday Services** (please check our website [harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk](http://harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk) for any updates)

**2<sup>nd</sup> February** 9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell  
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell

9<sup>th</sup> February 9.30am Morning Worship (BCP) All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Chilton Interactive, Chilton Village Hall  
10.30am Holy Communion St Matthew's Harwell  
6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP), St Matthew's Harwell

**16<sup>th</sup> February** 9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell  
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell



23<sup>rd</sup> February 9.30am Morning Worship, All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell  
6.00pm Evening Communion, St Matthew's Harwell

**2nd March 9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton**  
**10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell**  
**6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell**

9<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am Morning Worship, All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell  
10.30am Chilton Interactive, Chilton Village Hall  
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell

**16<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am Holy Communion All Saints' Chilton**  
**10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell**  
**6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell**

23<sup>rd</sup> March 9.30am All Age Worship, All Saints' Chilton  
10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell  
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell

**30<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am Morning Worship**  
**10.30am Holy Communion**  
**6.00pm Evening Worship**

### **Special Services during March**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March **Ash Wednesday** All Saints Church  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March – **Mothering Sunday**

Everyone is welcome.