

# Chilton Chronicle

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## No. 521 March 2025

### Update from The Crown

'Work on The Crown continues, with the inside now fully redecorated, the bar refurbished, and new furniture, fixtures and fittings arriving. New lighting, electrics and internet are currently being installed, as is the new beer cellar, bar fonts and pumps. A new barista coffee machine will be installed imminently. The outside is also about to be repainted, with new signage and lighting, and much more to follow in the weeks ahead as we build a brand new kitchen in the old beer cellar area.

We were hoping to open 7th March, but due to the carpet order running late, this could end up being the following week. Please keep an eye on social media - as soon as we can open, we will! Our new website will also launch soon, but in the meantime, there is a Crown section on our George website at: [www.thegeorgeatupton.co.uk](http://www.thegeorgeatupton.co.uk)

Thanks to everyone who has popped in to offer their encouragement, and for all your kind emails and messages in recent weeks. It's never too late to make suggestions to help us make The Crown a thriving village pub again, please email us at [hello@thecrownatchilton.co.uk](mailto:hello@thecrownatchilton.co.uk)

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### March Charity Market

We will be raising funds for Chilton children's clubs and activities, for example the Cubs, Guides and Chilton school. The market will be held on **Saturday 8th March** on Crafts End Green from 9am until midday. There will be a great selection of mouth-watering savoury pies, goats cheese tarts, hot pasties and a large variety of cakes, brownies, jams, marmalade and chutney. There will also be some spring plants for sale. Please come and support your local market.

A fantastic £1,045.75 was raised at the **February market** for "Prostate Cancer Research". Thank you to everyone who made this market so successful.

### Oasis Café

Oasis Café is an opportunity for villagers to gather once a month for a coffee (or tea!) and a friendly chat in relaxed surroundings. The next Café will be held in All Saints' Church on **Saturday 15th March**, between 10.00 and 12.00, and is free to allcomers.

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### Warm Welcome Café

We had a surprise visitor at the Warm Welcome on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February when a cyclist who had spent 4½ years cycling through Canada, America, Africa and parts of Europe, sleeping in a tent, joined us for coffee and cakes. He entertained us, relating some of his fascinating adventures. Refreshed he set off on his well laden bicycle towards Oxford, making his way to London and then to Holland and onwards through Europe before eventually returning to Canada.

Everyone is welcome on a Tuesday morning at the Warm Welcome Café, Morris Room, Village Hall, between 11am and 2pm.

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### All Saints' Group

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 11th March** at 7.45pm in All Saints' Church. Our speaker John Adams will tell us about "Bridewell Gardens". Bridewell is a mental health recovery service providing social and therapeutic horticulture in a working garden to adults living in Oxfordshire.

Everyone is most welcome.

For more information, please contact Judy Goodall on 01235 834503.

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### Chilton WI

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March** at 7.45pm in the Village Hall when we will have a talk on 'Colour and Style'. This will be an interactive demonstration about making the right choices when wearing colour and putting outfits together.

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

## Chilton County Primary School

### Nursery class

We currently have spaces in our onsite nursery, for children who are turning 3 years old. All children aged 3 and 4 years are entitled to 15 hours of government funded nursery provision, currently split across 5 mornings. Our nursery is run by a qualified teacher, supported by an experienced nursery nurse. Children follow the Early Years curriculum and attend our onsite Forest School weekly. If you are interested in a place, please contact the school office on 01235 834263 to arrange a tour.

Moving forward, we are considering offering an option for families who might be interested in transitioning from the current 5 mornings a week to 3 days of nursery care, running from 8.45am (with soft drop off) to 3.15pm. This is a total of 19.5 hours per week. Parents would be able to put the free 15 hours of government funding towards the 3 full days, but there would be an additional cost for the remaining 4.5 hours and lunch (if taken). Is this something you might be interested in? Or would it not work for you? We'd love to hear your views, so please email to let us know at:

[sbm.2555@chilton.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:sbm.2555@chilton.oxon.sch.uk)

### Community Art Project

The project will involve students in designing and creating three pieces of art that represent the unique characteristics and spirit of our local area. The finished artwork will be hung in the Community Room and is intended to add vibrant and meaningful decoration that reflects our community's identity. Chilton Parish Council is contributing to the cost of materials.

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### Cryptic Quiz Sheets

The next quiz sheet Number 79 will be out later in March at a new price of £2.00 to include an answer sheet and will be available from:

Atomic Hair

Audrey Slater 9, Latton Close

Judy Goodall 43, Crafts End

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### Didcot & District U3A

As the days stretch ever longer during these winter months what better time for all retired and semi-retired individuals to start or expand on existing

interesting subjects such as learning a second language, become a better photographer, being musical on the ukulele, walk with friendly groups, and 25 other interesting subjects? Then look no further than joining the **Didcot & District U3A!**

**'Learn, Laugh, Live'.**

New members are always warmly welcomed to join and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings held on the **third Tuesday of every month** for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation in the **Didcot Civic Hall starting at 2:30pm.**

At the monthly meetings there will also be an interesting presentation by a Guest Speaker, and over the coming months we have the following speakers and topics:

**18th March** - Shrunken Gardens by Timothy Walker - moving and making a new small garden from scratch!

**15th April** - Women and the Victorian Army by Dan Allen - of the Victorian Military Society

**20th May** - AGM plus Be Free Young Carers by Hannah Waugh - Didcot Charity

For more detailed information about this locally nationwide organisation for retired or semi-retired individuals still wishing to **'Learn, Laugh, Live'** then go to: [membership@didcotu3a.org](mailto:membership@didcotu3a.org)

We shall look forward to seeing you there!

Brian & Lynn - PR Didcot and District u3a

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### Linda's Quiz

#### General Knowledge

1. Which famous jazz club is located at 47 Frith Street Soho?
2. Jones The Steam drives which steam train?
3. In which country is Bali?
4. Maggie Keenan was famous for a little while as the first recipient of what in 2021?
5. In the books written by Jeff Kinney, who is Greg Heffney known as?
6. In criminal trials how many members are there on a jury in Scotland?
7. Collectively who were Flick, Babs, Ruth, Louise, Cherry & DeeDee?
8. The Khyber Pass links Pakistan to which other country?
9. Which part of a pig is used to make brawn?
10. If 1 = 5, 2 = 27, 3 = 144 & 4 = 1679 what does 5 equal?

## **Vale of White Horse District Councillors**

Hello from Hayleigh and Debra. We hope you've had an excellent start to the year!

All the parishes will be happy to note that finally a new planning application has been submitted for the GP surgery on Great Western Park. Assuming planning permission is given, Woodlands (who will run this surgery) will be working with their chosen developer to build it.

During the first week of February, the government announced which councils will have postponed elections and therefore be on a fast track to their new devolution deal. Oxfordshire was not one of them and so county council elections will be going ahead this year. It is not clear what form a new unitary authority would take here. An Oxfordshire wide one would be larger than the government has recommended. There have been suggestions of two authorities in Oxfordshire – with a larger Oxford and a doughnut around the outside. It will not be the current councils or the public who decide but it is important we make our views known. At the end of January, ahead of the announcement Cllr Bethia Thomas, leader of the Vale wrote to Cllr Liz Leffman, leader of Oxfordshire County Council with her views (available on the Vale website).

When the government decides what new structure we will take, there will likely be more elections – expected in 2027.

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](https://www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh) and [www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell](https://www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell) Please get in touch with any issues or concerns: [hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk) and [debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)*

## **Changes coming this spring to the garden waste service**

Residents who use the garden waste service in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse districts will have a change to their service subscriptions this year. The Councils are introducing a permit scheme from April 2025 that will involve customers receiving a sticker permit for their bins to identify them as fully paid-up garden waste customers. This kind of scheme is offered successfully by many other local authorities, including in West Oxfordshire.

When the new system goes live, all existing customers will be notified directly, with full information on the council websites and each house getting a bin hanger flagging the changes. Customers will then need to make an annual payment for a permit – this replaces the existing direct debit scheme. Everyone's payment year will run from 1 April to 31 March each year.

## **Vale pledges to represent local communities following reservoir announcement**

Following the recent announcement from the Chancellor, which includes support for Thames Water's proposed new reservoir near Abingdon, the Leader of the Vale of White Horse District Council has pledged to do everything she can to represent the views of residents and businesses across the district.

## **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)

## **February Update from Olly Glover, MP**

'The severe weather in January brought flooding challenges for many, and I've been in touch with local councils to ensure your concerns are addressed.

It was a busy month in Parliament, with debates on local, national, and international issues. I voted in favour of The WASPI Bill, supporting women affected by retirement age changes, the Climate and Nature Bill, a priority many of you asked me to

support, and the Sunshine Bill, ensuring solar panels put on new homes. I've raised concerns about medication shortages for epilepsy, ADHD, and Parkinson's patients, and I was pleased to show support for our local post offices. Education featured heavily this month, and I spoke about the need to improve services for children with special needs. Local school visits were inspiring, and the students at Didcot Girls School gave me a grilling as strong as we see in parliament! I also praised the Bikeability scheme, teaching cycling safety in schools.

At my MP surgeries and at local events, I've met constituents, addressing issues such as affordable housing, the management of new estates, and transport. The Chancellor's recent statement and her very public support for the reservoir has caused concern. I continue to push for a public inquiry – the anguish of those affected by flooding and the rise in water bills is a clear signal that Thames Water does not have the trust of those of us living locally.

My team and I continue to serve constituents in addressing a wide range of personal matters. Please contact me if you need support or would like to meet or wish to invite me to a local event (I can't make them all, but I try to fit in as many as I can)!

**Contact:** [olly.glover.MP@parliament.uk](mailto:olly.glover.MP@parliament.uk)

For more regular updates you can follow me on Facebook and Bluesky (@ollyglover.bsky.social).

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## **Parish Council Notices**

### **Temporary Traffic Regulation Notice**

The Parish council has received advanced notice that Hagbourne Hill and the village roads (Townsend, Church Hill, Main Street and Lower Road) will be subject to temporary closure between 9:30 and 15:30 during the period 27th April - 1 May 2025. The roads will receive 'surface dressing' following their recent 'patching works'. Further details will be posted on the Parish Council's website as they become available.

### **Neighbourhood Police Team**

[wantageneighbourhoodpoliceteam@thamesvalley.police.uk](mailto: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 **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall**. 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 March**.

**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. *Ronnie Scott's*
2. *Ivor the Engine*
3. *Indonesia*
4. *Covid vaccine*
5. *The Wimpy Kid*
6. *Fifteen*
7. *Pan's People*
8. *Afghanistan*
9. *Head*
10. *One*