

Chilton Chronicle

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Update from The Crown

Thanks for all your support in recent weeks, it's been lovely to see so many smiling faces coming in and supporting us, and we hope you are enjoying what we have done so far.

At the moment, our decorators are painting the outside of the pub, and gradually refurbishing or replacing the rotten windows. New signage will shortly be arriving too, and the pub will really look spic and span.

We have hit a small hurdle in our work on the new kitchen. Unfortunately, it would appear that the electrics in the pub are not fit for purpose, and rather than relying on bottled LPG, which is prohibitively expensive, we need to install 3 Phase electricity. SSE have quoted over £12,000 just to run a cable from outside, and with the associated works to connect and distribute/rewire, we're looking at around £20,000, which is a big chunk of what we had assigned for the new kitchen. If anyone has any ideas on what we can do, please let us know! In time, we would like to make the pub as sustainable as possible and use solar and batteries to lessen our carbon footprint, so a long-term solution is needed.

We'll shortly be offering weekday lunches at The Crown - ploughman's, charcuterie boards, soup and sandwiches, and full bar of course! We are looking at running these Tuesday to Friday, with our hot food offering outside Friday evening and all day at weekends. Watch this space! We'd love to know what Chiltonians think, and if they would support weekday daytimes. It's really important to us that The Crown is a hub for everyone, and we think that some of our mature customers might prefer coming in during the day instead of at night, or both! We're also totally up for local groups, organisations and charities meeting at the pub during the day as well - please speak to Katy, email on hello@thecrownatchilton.co.uk or call the pub on 01235 634090 for more info. We also have great barista coffee and will also be offering cakes soon, so why not have your coffee morning or get together at The Crown? We're just looking at

covering the cost of opening during weekday daytimes, and if the demand is there, we'll be here to serve you with a smile. Opening on Mondays is part of our plans as well, but we'll get weekday lunches running first.

Lastly, some of you might have seen a Permission in Principle (PiP) application to build a new house on the former small raised beer garden area behind the pub. This land is being sold by the previous landlord separate to the pub. The PiP will be able to be viewed on the Vale of White Horse Planning Application Register:

<https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/planning-and-development/planning-registers/planning-application-register/>.

If you are unable to access it, please feel free to contact either us or the Parish Clerk.

We look forward to welcoming you in the pub very soon.'

Katy, Ben and Chris

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June Charity Market

On **Saturday 14th June** the Charity Market will be held on Crafts End Green from 9am until midday and will be raising funds for Brain Tumour Research. There will be some plants for sale and an amazing selection of cakes, brownies, millionaire's shortbread and of course Liz's now famous chicken and mushroom pies, beef pies, cheese tarts, and hot pasties. There will also be pots of marmalade, jams and chutneys and some jigsaws. Come and see us and enjoy all these locally produced items.

Thank you to everyone who supported the plant and produce sale in May that raised £1,041.55 for Christian Aid.

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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 friendly chat in relaxed surroundings. The next Oasis Café

will be held in All Saints' Church on **Saturday 21st June**, between 10.00 and 12.00. See you there!

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Warm Welcome Café

Open every Tuesday in the Morris Room in the Village Hall. This is a great opportunity to meet with other villagers and enjoy a chat and relax over a cup of tea or coffee and over lunch time a mug of soup, tasty cheese scones and homemade cake. Open from 11am until 2pm. There is no charge.

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All Saints' Group

This month we will be meeting on **Tuesday 10th June** at 7.45pm in All Saints' Church. Our speaker will be Steve Launchbury and his topic "Moths". Everyone is most welcome. Next month we are planning a visit to Bridewell Gardens. For more information please contact Judy Goodall on 01235 834503.

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Annual Village Hall Management Committee Meeting

You are cordially invited to the annual general meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee on **23rd June** in the Morris Room. We will be electing the committee and reviewing the past year. We welcome new volunteers especially those people who would like to take charge of organising social events for the village. A small fund is available to support these endeavours. In addition, we welcome ideas from our hirers and visitors regarding any changes we could make to improve your experience of using the halls.

Please do get in touch by e: mail:
Secretary@chiltonvillagehall.co.uk .
Looking forward to seeing you there.

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Chilton WI

We will be holding our annual Garden Party on **Saturday 21st June** at 'Schneeberg', South Row, Chilton, from 1pm. Come and join us for a bring and share lunch. For more information, please contact Liz Robbins 834501 or Shona Sugden 831723.

Chilton Primary School



Chilton School Community Art Project

Calling all members of the Chilton community! Chilton Primary School, in partnership with the Parish Council, will be creating artworks to be displayed in the Community Room on Horsa Lane.



To get involved, simply draw around your hand and the shape with any design you would like.

Together, we hope our handprints will represent the diverse and unique individuals that make our community so special.

Just place your finished handprints into the special post art project post box, which can be found outside of the school before the week ending Friday 16th June and look out for more information about our unveiling event in July.

Cryptic Quiz Sheets No 80

The next cryptic Quiz Sheet No 80 on a theme of European Countries and their capitals will be out on Tuesday June 10th. Copies priced £2.00 will be available from:

- Charity Market on Crafts End Green on 14th June.
- Atomic Hair
- Audrey Slater 9 Latton Close
- Judy Goodall 43 Crafts End

Quiz No 79 raised £186.00 for Hamlin Fistula UK. The winner with 49 out of 50 was Barry Sadler from Harwell. Coming a very close second were Peter and Hilary Groves with 48 ½ and joint third with 48 were Sue Reed and John and Michele Steele.

Thank you to everyone who supports these quizzes.

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Royal British Legion

81st Anniversary D-Day Commemoration Service, 7th June 2025

The annual commemoration of the servicemen leaving RAF Harwell to travel to D-Day will take place at the Harwell Stone, Chilton on Saturday 7th June 2025. The service starts at 5.30pm.

Please come along to the service where a number of local organisations will lay a wreath in Remembrance of those who died.

This service is organised by the Harwell Branch of the Royal British Legion. The branch needs to recruit more members and committee members. Without more, the branch may be in danger of closing. This would mean that the Branch Standard Flag would be retired to the church never to be paraded again, and the membership merged with another branch. This would be a great shame after nearly 100 years of presence and service.

We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in becoming a member or for learning more about becoming a committee member.

The main requirements to be a committee member are: being a member of Harwell Branch, having a couple of hours a month to attend meetings and read some papers. There are no specific requirements to become a member.

If you are interested, please contact Peter Cox on Harwell.secretary@RBL.community

Or contact Hazel Benton in Chilton on hazel.benton@btinternet.com

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Blewbury Tennis Club

Blewbury Tennis Club offers a full range of activities for its members in South Oxfordshire. We have competitive match play, social and cardio tennis, an established coaching programmes for juniors and adults, club tournaments or just a lovely setting to play a game of tennis with family and friends. If you are interested in joining a local tennis club, please do email us on info@blewburytennis.co.uk or take a look at our website Clubspark / Blewbury Tennis Club / Home.

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Cornerstone Theatre Company

An amateur performance group for adults of all ages and experience.

The Group will perform the play 'Bleak Expectations', which is a hilarious, chaotic caper, featuring dastardly villains, preposterous names, pulse-quickenning romances, heart-rending death scenes and hopefully a happy ending.

The show is on Saturday 5th July at 7.30 pm at the Cornerstone Arts Centre and tickets are £5.



Blewbury Players

A Monster Calls, 16-19 July, 2025

Orchard Dene Garden Theatre, Blewbury.

This is a powerful story about family, love, loss resilience, hope and the extraordinary power of storytelling.

BOX OFFICE @ www.blewburyplayers.co.uk

Suitable for 11 years +

Adults £16 Child £9 (up to 18)

Evening performances 16-19 July. Matinee performance 19 July.

Friends of Blewbury Players Box Office opens at 9am on 4 June

General Box Office opens at 9am on 6 June.

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Didcot Health Centre PPG

Are you a patient at Didcot Health Centre? There's a lot happening in the NHS right now - what does this mean for the practice? You're invited to the Patient Participation Group AGM on 9th July at 7.30 pm, in the Health Centre.

You'll hear practice news from Dr Stainthorp, and find out what the PPG is doing on your behalf. We're also hoping to have a guest speaker.

All registered Health Centre patients are invited. No need to book, just turn up – further information will appear on the practice website and Facebook page, or contact:

Shelagh.garvey@nhs.net.

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Linda's Quiz

General Knowledge

1. Who won an Olympic Gold Medal at the Rio Games in 2016 for GB at the age of 58 in show jumping?
2. Who went into space in 1961 in Vostok
3. Who is the only champion flat racing jockey to be knighted? He became a novelist.
4. Who lived from 1918 to 1932 & made 27 Hollywood film yet never spoke. He was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1960?
5. The leader of Britain's most successful big band & a former Prime Minister share what name?
6. Who recorded the instrumental albums Oxygene & Magnetic Fields in the 70s?
7. Who was married to Roy Rogers and featured in many of his films & TV shows?

8. Who played the title role in the 1970s TV series I Claudius?
9. Martin Ruane was a famous UK wrestler better known by what ring name?
10. Who was the first actor to refuse an Oscar nomination in 1971 – he won anyway?

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Vale of White Horse District Councillors

Hello from Hayleigh and Debra:

'It's hard to believe, but we are halfway through our four-year term on the council. As you may have seen from our monthly updates, at the end of 2024, the government produced a white paper on "Devolution" outlining their plans to change the structure of local government. Things have been moving quite quickly and the Vale of White Horse District Council has a preliminary proposal, working together with South Oxfordshire District Council and West Berkshire Council. All councils in the country will have to submit their final proposals by November. What it means in practice, if it all goes ahead, is that Vale of White Horse Council will not exist as we know it in 2 years' time. There will be a new council, with fewer councillors.

As you know, there was a general election in July 2024 which saw big changes both locally and nationally. Locally, we elected a Lib Dem MP for the first time and nationally we saw a change of the government. Councils are already beginning to feel the effects of the Labour government as they push forward with their manifesto on topics such as Local Government Reorganisation, housing targets and changes to the planning system.

Additionally, the Liberal Democrats won a majority, by getting over half of the seats, on Oxfordshire County Council at the 1st May local elections. Cllr Rebekah Fletcher is the new Lib Dem county councillor for Harwell, Western Valley and Blewbury which is a very similar area covered by Hayleigh and Debra.

Although Debra and Hayleigh are elected as ward councillors for Blewbury and Harwell, they may also hold roles on the council outside of this. As in previous years, Hayleigh serves as Chair of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee and a member of the scrutiny committee. She also sits as the council's representative on the Didcot Powerhouse Advisory Board.

As district councillors, we are expected to attend the Vale of White Horse Full Council meetings where we can bring motions to council or ask questions. You can see which motions were approved in the past council year here <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/approved-council-motions-2024-25/>

Over the last year we have continued to ask questions and push for answers regarding the missing GP surgery on Great Western Park. As you will see later in this report, this continued pushing has finally led to some success.

The council publishes performance reports on its website which is located here on the Data Hub - <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/data-hub/>

Feel free to ask us any questions about the work of the council. As usual, the best way to contact us with any issues or concerns is via email hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk and debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

We would like to thank the individuals and organisations who give so much of their time to support the community, as it is you that makes the community what it is. Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report.

We also produce monthly updates to keep you updated on our activities and general council news. Our Councillor Facebook Pages: www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh & www.facebook.com/Debra4BlewburyAndHarwell

Oxfordshire County Councillors

Following division boundary changes prior to the recent elections, Chilton is now divided between two Oxfordshire County Councillors.

Cllr Jane Hanna, (Charlton, Ardington and the Hendreds) has responsibility for the area of the village west of the A34 including Chilton Field, Avon Road and Newbury Road.

Cllr Rebekah Fletcher, (Harwell, Western Valley & Blewbury) has responsibility for the old village to the east of the A34.

Both Jane and Rebekah came to our recent Annual Parish Meeting and introduced themselves and have assured us that they will be working closely together for the benefit of our village.

Message from Olly Glover, MP

'In recent weeks, I've been focused on Planning. I was appointed to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill Committee. I have advocated for amendments to protect nature, ensure genuinely affordable housing with necessary infrastructure, and introduce solar panels above car parks. The committee debated the vital role of planning committees in ensuring transparency and community engagement. While the government may not adopt many amendments, we continue pushing for improvements, and it is important that the government ministers championing the Bill hear the full range of concerns about it.

I also led my first Westminster Hall debate, championing walking and cycling for journeys to school, and urging its prioritisation in the Road Safety Strategy. I raised local examples, including a safe crossing over the A415 in Culham for Europa School students and improvements to the walking and cycling path there, and a much-delayed walking and cycling bridge project over the A34 in Milton, to link Milton Heights and with Milton Park and Milton Village. We discussed safety concerns like pavement parking forcing people using wheelchairs and buggies onto the road and the need for investment in rural cycle and footpaths. Minister Lillian Greenwood is set to visit a local school to observe Bikeability training, which boosts children's confidence in cycling to school. Recent Westminster activities include meeting Lord Vallance to discuss concerns that our local area may not benefit from the proposed 'Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor', and summing up a debate on St George's Day, where I referenced Dragon Hill in Uffington and The George pub in Upton. I also participated in a debate on estate management fees affecting new residents and raised questions with ministers on various local concerns, including export license processing for small businesses, stalking protections, transgender rights, and the lack of coordination in roadworks.

I was glad to meet residents in Wantage and Didcot at my advice surgeries, visit Church Street and Newbury Street GP practices, celebrate VE Day in Wantage, and visit Linda Benton's art exhibition championing beautiful and old local trees in Didcot and East Hagbourne.

Residents in Didcot and nearby villages continue to struggle with GP appointments. While staff funding is one issue, another is the missing GP surgery on Great Western Park. Now that Vale District Council has granted planning permission, I will meet with the developer and the ICB to ensure progress.

Alongside my regular appointment-based surgeries, I am planning drop-in sessions in some villages this summer – look out for details of the dates and times. In the meantime, feel free to contact me at olly.glover.MP@parliament.uk (or leave a voice message at 0207 219 7657) if there is anything I can help with.'

Parish Council Notices

CONSULTATION – Lower Road Chilton, proposed 30mph speed limit

Oxfordshire County Council are asking for your views on the proposal to introduce a 30mph speed limit on Lower Road in Chilton, replacing the existing 40mph speed limit in the process. The proposals are being put forward for road safety reasons following requests received from the Parish Council and local residents. Details are available to view on Oxfordshire County Councils' consultation portal at the address below:

https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chilton_lowerroad_30mph2025

Copies of the following documents are also available on the Chilton Parish website.

- Public Notice,
- Statement of Reasons,
- Consultation Plan,
- Draft Traffic Regulation Order(s).

As stated on the notice, any objections or other representations on the proposals should be submitted by **Friday 20th June 2025**.

Neighbourhood Policing Team

Every neighbourhood in the Thames Valley area has a dedicated neighbourhood policing team that works together with the local community and partners to: reduce crime and incidents, bring more offenders to justice, protect the vulnerable and tackle violence against women and girls and improve victim service and public confidence. Chilton lies within the Wantage and Grove

Neighbourhood Policing Team. Contact the team online at:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/area/your-area/tvp/oxfordshire/wantage-and-grove/contact-us/>

or Phone 101 for non-emergency enquiries.

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 9th June 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 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 25th June**.

Clerk: Jacquie Berry

Email: 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 *Nick Skelton*
- 2 *Yuri Gagarin*
- 3 *Gordon Richards*
- 4 *Rin Tin Tin*
- 5 *Ted Heath*
- 6 *Jean Michel Jarre*
- 7 *Dale Evans*
- 8 *Derek Jacobi*
- 9 *Giant Haystacks*
- 10 *George C Scott*



What's coming up during June and July 2025 in All Saints' Chilton and St Matthew's Church Harwell

Monday morning 9.30am-11.30am – Fledgelings held in St Matthew's Church - 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 within term time only.

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 within term time only.

1st 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 12th June and 10th July held in All Saints' Chilton. Everyone is welcome.

3rd 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 too).

Sunday Services (please check our website harwellandchiltonchurches.org.uk for any updates)

1st June **9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton**
 10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
 6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell

8th June 9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP) All Saints' Chilton (subject to change)
 10.30am Chilton Interactive, Chilton Village Hall
 10.30am Holy Communion St Matthew's Harwell
 6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP) St Matthew's Harwell

15th June **9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton**
 10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
 6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell

- 22nd June** **9.30am All Age Worship, All Saints' Chilton**
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
6.00pm Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell
- 29th June 9.30am Morning Worship, All Saints' Chilton
10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
- 6th July** **9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton**
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
6.00pm Evening Worship St Matthew's Harwell
- 13th July 9.30am Morning Worship, All Saints' Chilton (subject to change)
10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell
10.30am Chilton Interactive, Chilton Village Hall
6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP), St Matthew's Harwell
- 20th July** **9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton**
10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
- 27th July 9.30am Morning Worship Saints' Chilton
10.30am MorningWorship St Matthew's Harwell
6.00pm Holy Communion St Matthew's Harwell

Everyone is welcome to come along to any of our services.