

# Chilton Chronicle

Published by Chilton Parish Council

## No. 526 August 2025

### Vacancy

Are you interested in being part of the community of Chilton? If so, there is a vacancy for a parish councillor following the recent resignation of Joshua King. If you are interested, please contact Chris Broad on [broadcj@yahoo.com](mailto:broadcj@yahoo.com) or Jacquie Berry on [parishclkchilton@btinternet.com](mailto:parishclkchilton@btinternet.com) for more information. The Council meets 11 times a year, usually on a Monday evening in the Village Hall.

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### VJ80 celebrations

On **Friday 15th August** it will be VJ80, the 80th anniversary of the end of the war in Japan and the Far East.

There will be a National Commemorative Event at the National Memorial Arboretum to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day and the end of the Second World War.

There will be a local wreath laying at the Harwell War Memorial at 1200 noon on the same day, followed by a wreath laying at the Harwell War Graves in Harwell Cemetery.

Many people celebrated VE80 at the pub or by having small street parties. Why not do the same to celebrate VJ80 2025?

Hazel Benton, Chilton Poppy Appeal Organiser.

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**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

### Macmillan Tea Party

**Saturday 6th September**, 2-5 pm, Crafts End Green. Come along and support this amazing charity and enjoy some lovely cakes! Tea and coffee will be served and we will be having a raffle with lots of prizes. Donations to the raffle and cakes are welcome, contact Liz Robbins Tel: 834501 or Shona Sugden Tel:831723.

### August Charity Market

The next market will be held on **Saturday 9th August** on Crafts End Green between 9am and midday. The charity we will be supporting this month is the local branch of CAP, **Christians Against Poverty**. They provide a free service to empower local people who are in debt with budgeting skills, and confidence to better manage their finances.

Come and try Liz's delicious, nutritious individual chicken pies, beef pies, hot pasties, and goat's cheese tarts. There will be a wide range of cakes, brownies, scones, homemade jams, marmalade and chutney and also jigsaws and a few plants.

At the July market we raised the amazing total of £1,013.18 for "**Dementia Oxfordshire**". Thank you so much to everyone who supported the market that day.

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### Warm Welcome Café

Open every Tuesday in the Morris Room from 9am until 2pm. During this warm weather come and find a cool space and enjoy a chat over a refreshing drink. Stay for longer for cheese scones, a cup of soup and a slice or two of homemade cake.

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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. There will not be an Oasis Café in August so the next Café will be held in All Saints' Church on **Saturday 20th September** between 10.00 and 12.00. See you there!

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### Chilton WI

We will not be meeting in August so the next meeting will be on **Thursday 18th September** when Jane Abbott will talk about her herd of alpacas and share her passion for felting with us. For more information, please contact Liz Robbins 834501 or Shona Sugden 831723.

## **D-Day Service at the RAF Harwell Memorial Stone 7th June 2025**

This years' Commemoration was supported in good numbers, despite the poor weather forecast. Fortunately, the rain stopped and the skies cleared just for the duration of the Service.

The event was jointly organised by the Harwell Branch of the Royal British Legion (RBL) and Natalie Gelder of Harwell Campus with the support of Harwell and Chilton Churches.

The attendees were welcomed by Group Captain David Drew, President of Berkshire and the Vale County RBL. The Guest of Honour was Major Jim Sibbald, National Trustee of the RBL. He explained the significance of the site and commemoration, and the new artwork which had been unveiled during the previous week.

A total of 40 wreaths were laid by a wide range of organisations: The wreath laying was led by the Guest of Honour, followed by Chilton Parish Council, Vale of the White Horse District Council, Didcot, Wantage and Abingdon Town Mayors, and Councillors from Harwell and Grove. The Armed Forces were represented by Officers from 4 Regiment Royal Logistics Corps from Dalton Barracks, 11 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Regiment from Vauxhall Barracks, and RAF Benson. Wreaths were also laid by many Veterans organisations from across Oxfordshire and Berkshire, as well as representatives from Campus businesses and other local organisations, concluded by Chilton School pupils who laid Poppies and Crosses.

A joint Guard of Honour was formed by the Didcot Detachment Army Cadet Force, and the Wantage and Didcot Squadrons of the Air Training Corps. Standards were not paraded due to the weather conditions, so the Standard Bearers formed part of the Guard of Honour.

The Parade was marshalled by Angela Logue of Newbury Branch and Berkshire County RBL. The Service was conducted by Rev. Jeremy Parsons, and The Last Post was sounded by Richard Selvidge of the Wantage Silver Band.

Poppy Appeal collection buckets and a card reader were circulated during the event and raised £115, with thanks to Hazel Benton for her efforts.

Thanks are also due to Natalie Gelder of Harwell Campus for the site preparation and management,

printing a significant number of service sheets and granting permission and access to hold the event, and to Alan Proctor (and team) for managing the car parking and event security, also St. John Ambulance for providing first aid cover.

Peter Cox, Secretary, Harwell RBL Branch

## **July update from Chilton Primary School**

July is always a busy and exciting month in primary schools across the nation and this was also the case for us at Chilton. As well as celebrating the achievements of our children, who performed fantastically in their national multiplication, phonics and key stage two assessments, we celebrated our community at the unveiling of our artwork project. Our heartfelt thanks go to the Village Hall Management Committee and to the Parish Council for all their support and to those who came to see the installations.

July is also a time where we reflect on the year which has passed and set goals for the year to come. Not only did we say goodbye to 34 wonderful year sixes this year, but also to a much-loved member of staff - Mrs Holme-Turner. Mrs Holme-Turner has been part of our school community for over twenty years and has held many roles. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication, care, and enthusiasm she has shown our children during this time and are sure, that like us, the Chilton community wishes her all the best for her future endeavours.

Looking forward, one of our development points is to update our KS1 resources to encourage play-based learning. We are on the look out for any of the following to help us achieve this:

- Fabric measuring tapes
- Guttering off-cuts of variable lengths
- Plastic spades
- Large tyres – lorry or tractor tyres.
- Brio Construction
- Planks of wood, that are new/ treated (ones without lots of splinters), these may be decking off-cuts for example. We need planks of different lengths so most offcuts would work.
- Sturdy crates for storage - ideally ones that are not collapsible.


If you do think you could help us with this, please do get in touch via the school office.

Our incredible PTA continue to work tirelessly to help us provide the very best for our pupils and are currently fundraising to help us build a new playground. There are many ways you can support us with this project, detailed below.



 **Crowd Funder**



 **Easy Fundraising**

We wish all our students and families a safe and happy summer break and look forward to seeing you all in September.

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### **Didcot and District U3A**

"Are you a recently retired or semi-retired individual living in or around Didcot and looking for new interests whilst making new friends, then look no further and consider joining the Didcot & District U3A to . . . . 'Learn, Laugh, Live'!

With over 30 Interest Groups, such as learning a new language, delving into your family history, enjoying walking with friends, learning to play an instrument, and many more (full details can be found on Didcot.u3a site.uk)!

New members are always warmly welcomed to join (first visit is 'free to see') and chat over tea and biscuits at the monthly meetings for this nationwide self-help teaching and learning organisation. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month in the Didcot Civic Hall, meetings, starting at 2:30pm.

At the monthly meetings there is an interesting presentation by a Guest Speaker. The next 2 months speakers and topics are:

**August 19th** - *Fraud and Scam Awareness!*  
Viviana Salmon

**September 16th** - *Coleshill* - the Nerve Centre for British Resistance by Gillian Cane

For further information concerning matters u3a please visit: [didcot.u3asite.uk](http://didcot.u3asite.uk)"

### **Linda's Quiz**

#### **General Knowledge**

1. In which city is Heriot Watt University?
2. In Squid Game which piece of classical music by Johann Strauss is used to signal the start of the games?
3. Who is the British number one male tennis player?
4. Which Queen single was often heard on TV's Gladiators?
5. For which Parliamentary constituency was Tony Blair the MP?
6. According to Mark Twain which vegetable is "nothing but a cabbage with a college education"?
7. The Radcliffe Road End is on which Test Cricket ground?
8. Which former football manager advertises Trivago on TV?
9. Who was the UK's second Eurovision Song Contest winner?
10. Add together the last event of a women's heptathlon & the last event of a men's decathlon-how many metres?

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

#### **Hello from Hayleigh and Debra:**

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](mailto:hayleigh.gascoigne@whitehorsedc.gov.uk) and [debra.dewhurst@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/CllrHayleigh) &

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

### **Oxfordshire County Councillors**

Dear Parish Councillors and residents,

Last month I mentioned my membership of the People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC), where we scrutinise policy and performance, and

challenge decisions made by the council that affect vulnerable adults in our communities. I have now also attended two Education and Young People OSC meetings as a substitute. It is no secret that there are areas in our Special Educational Needs provision that have been heavily criticised and need marked improvement. I have done my best to provide fair and just critique at these meetings, to influence future policy and improve experience for young people and their families as they navigate education services, including SEND provision, and care services. After the last meeting, I was asked by one of the Young co-opted members if I would consider joining the committee as a permanent member. After some consideration of whether I have capacity to take on an additional responsibility, I have agreed to take over the position from another councillor. I will continue to press for a formal review into how we manage co-production – working with parents and young people to co-create processes and guidance that meet their needs, not just the bare minimum required.

I have already been in contact with many caregivers who have had difficult experiences with our SEND services; it's part of my role to take your concerns forward, and it's an area I feel very passionately about, so if this affects you, please do get in touch with me by email.

#### **Transport update**

There are lots of roadworks planned in the coming months. These include water and gasworks planned in Harwell, Chilton and Blewbury.

**A34** – diversions - from 5th – 8th September National Highways will be repairing the A34 Northbound Chieveley - Chilton. The diversion route is convoluted and I would strongly recommend avoiding. Delays are likely.

#### **Household waste recycling centre consultation.**

Closing 11th August: OCC is reviewing its HWRC opening hours, van and trailer permits, reuse and recycle policies, all with a view to reducing the amount of household waste we throw away. If you regularly use our local HWRC, please fill in the survey <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/hwrc-consultation>

**The Oxfordshire Way** – this is our adult social care strategy and it's very close to my heart. Our aim is to help people live fulfilling, healthy lives for as long as possible. It has a strong community focus and is worth a read:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/social-and-health-care/adult-social-care/oxfordshire-way>.

**Unpaid Carers' Coffee Morning** – Tuesday 19th August. I've been to this myself, and I really recommend it for those able to join. A low-stakes, casual chance to meet other local carers and have a chat. You can just drop on the third Tuesday of the month.

**Libraries Summer Reading Challenge** – until 6th September, children can join in with the summer reading challenge at Didcot Library. This year's theme is Story Garden, celebrating the connection between nature and storytelling. Participants will need to be members of Oxfordshire Libraries (but it's free to join!) and can collect stickers for each book they read. Mini challenge also available for under-4s.

You can also keep updated on my activity via Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CllrBekahFletcher](https://www.facebook.com/CllrBekahFletcher)  
Best wishes, Bekah

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

Much of my time recently has been spent fighting for our area to get the attention and resources we deserve from government. From speaking to BBC and ITV News about failures in local postal services, to holding the Health Secretary to account in the House of Commons over Oxfordshire's status as an NHS dental desert.

Despite the challenges, it is a pleasure to represent our area on the national stage. I was pleased to be able to tell the Culture Secretary about my visit to the Cornermen Project during a session in the House of Commons, and to meet constituents at the recent Act Now, Change Forever climate lobby. At the lobby, I learned about the inspiring work of the Cholsey School Eco Warriors: it is encouraging to see constituents young and old taking an active role in the politics that affect them.

I have been following the court hearing about the huge reservoir south of Abingdon and continue to argue for greater public scrutiny of this Thames Water project. I am in regular contact with campaigners and constituents and will be meeting the Water Minister soon to raise our concerns about the risks of this such an unprecedented, large and complex scheme, and put forward the case for greater transparency.

As ever, I have enjoyed meeting many constituents and local organisations over the past few weeks. On a visit to Vale Community Impact, I heard about the vast range of support and advice on offer to local people, I also had a lovely evening at the Aureus School Awards Evening, recognising the achievements of students and school staff. After a meeting arranged by parish councillors about making Cholsey Station more accessible, I raised the need for government funding for local rail infrastructure in a speech about transport reforms at Westminster.

During Parliament's summer recess, I am holding advice surgeries in many villages across the constituency and spending more time in the rural communities I represent. I hope, by the time you read this, I will have had the chance to speak to many of you as I make my way around, but if there is anything you feel I can help you with please do not hesitate to contact me and my team at [olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk), or leaving a voice message 0207 219 7657.

Thanks again, Olly

## **Parish Council Notices**

### **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. The Wantage and Grove Neighbourhood Policing Team cover Chilton and they recently held a 'Have your Say' event in the village. If you were unable to see them or would like to share your views to help them focus on what matters most to you, please complete their online survey:

<https://forms.office.com/e/h0s2Vp2d0S>

The team can also be contacted 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 1<sup>st</sup> September 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://chilton.parish-council.com>. The website includes details of all the Parish Council meetings, your Councillors and other useful information including upcoming events, monthly newsletters and bulletins from the Vale of White Horse and Oxfordshire County Council, Healthwatch Oxfordshire, Neighbourhood Watch and Police and Crime Commissioner.

Items to be included in the next Chronicle should be sent to the Clerk by **Wednesday 27th August**.

**Clerk:** Jacquie Berry

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

**Parish Council Chairman:** Mr Chris Broad

14 Latton Close, O1235 834347

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

### *Answers*

- 1 *Edinburgh*
- 2 *Blue Danube*
- 3 *Jack Draper*
- 4 *Another One Bites The Dust*
- 5 *Sedgefield*
- 6 *Cauliflower*
- 7 *Trent Bridge*
- 8 *Jurgan Klopp*
- 9 *Lulu in 1969*
- 10 *800 + 1500 = 2300*



## **What's coming up during August and September 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.**

**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** 14<sup>th</sup> August and 11<sup>th</sup> September held in All Saints' Chilton. 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 too).

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

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

**10<sup>th</sup> August**     9.30am Morning Prayer (BCP), All Saints' Chilton  
                     10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell  
                     6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP), St Matthew's Harwell

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

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

31 <sup>st</sup> August	9.30am Morning Worship, All Saints' Chilton 10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell 6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell
<b>7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton</b> <b>10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell</b> <b>6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30am Chilton Village Hall Service 10.30am Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell 6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP), St Matthew's Harwell
<b>21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>9.30am Holy Communion, All Saints' Chilton</b> <b>10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell</b> <b>6.00pm Evening Worship, St Matthew's Harwell</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30am Morning Worship, Saints' Chilton 10.30am Morning Worship, St Matthew's Harwell 6.00pm Holy Communion, St Matthew's Harwell

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