

PARISH MATTERS



NOVEMBER 2018

Monthly newsletter for
Ambrosden, Arcott, Blackthorn,
Merton & Piddington

VILLAGE VIEWS & LOCAL NEWS



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CONTENTS

Letters from the Clergy Team	4
Church Services - September	5
Clergy Contacts	6
Ambrosden News	8
Arcott News	13
Blackthorn News	19
Merton News	23
Piddington News	27
Otmoor Garden Society	32
Bus Timetable	34
Vet's Report	35
Otmoor Womans Institute	37
Advertising and Contacts	38

Welcome to the November edition of Parish Matters.

If you have any questions about advertising, or if you wish to place an advert, please contact Russell Thompson on 01869 246093, or via e-mail, rthom91543@aol.com

Parish Matters Committee

LETTER FROM THE CLERGY TEAM

Throughout the benefice we have celebrated Harvest in style. We have pressed apples and made apple juice and cider, we have had quiz nights, we have built a pyramid of tins, we have had a scarecrow competition, we have held auctions and we have had harvest lunches and suppers. And that's not to mention the harvest services we have enjoyed.

Thank you to everyone who has helped decorate our churches and to everyone who has contributed towards the services and harvest collections. We will be taking a van load of goodies to the Bicester Foodbank (including over 200 tins!) and have taken the opportunity to express our thanks to God for His provision by sharing His generosity with others in need. We have also celebrated Lisa's licensing as a house for duty priest to the benefice this month. Lisa is well known to many of us and has lived in the area and served on the team for a number of years. She and Matt have moved into Charlton-on Otmoor and we look forward to her ministry thriving as she takes on this new role.

That means that our team is now comprised of myself as rector, Lucy and Lisa as house for duty priests, Glenys as a licensed lay minister and Lynne as our administrator. Between us we are able to lead our 30 regular services each month across the benefice as well as provide services for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Visiting the schools and arranging pastoral visits complete pretty busy timetables but we try to be as available as possible across

the parishes.

Christmas is on the horizon but before that we have our Remembrance services where we have the opportunity to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for us. This year marks the 100th year since Armistice Day and there will be bell ringing and exhibitions to mark that occasion. At Ambrosden we have 5 silhouette figures which are placed in the pews – outline reminders that we wouldn't be enjoying the lives we do today had brave men and women not served in our armed forces.

Harvest reminds us that we have a debt to God and a resulting responsibility. Remembrance Day reminds us that we have a debt of gratitude to those who have served in the past and those who serve today. All Souls' Day is an opportunity to remember those who have gone before us and left us such a legacy. We have so much to be grateful for and it's good to have these opportunities to express our gratitude to both God and our fellow men and women.

Steve Hayes, Rector

CHURCH SERVICES NOV.

RAY VALLEY SERVICES November 2018

Draft 2

Church	Time	Leader	Service
Sunday November 4th	All Saints & All Souls		Isaiah 25.6-9 Revelation 21.1-6a John 11.32-44
Ambrosden	10.30	Lucy	Holy Communion
	18.30	Steve	The Xtra One
Merton	09.00	Lisa	Holy Communion
Piddington	10.30	Steve	Family Service
Islip	10.30	Brian	Parish Communion – Brian Mountford
Noke	17.00	Lucy	Evening Service
Oddington (Charlton)	10.00	Glenys/Lisa	Toy Service
Sunday November 11th	Remembrance		Micah 4.1-5 Romans 8.31-end John 14.23-end
Ambrosden	10.30	Steve	Remembrance Service (Arncott 3pm)
Piddington	09.00	Steve	Holy Communion
Islip	10.55	Lucy	Remembrance Service, beginning at the war memorial
Noke			No Service
Woodeaton	09.15	Lucy	Family Service
Charlton	10.00	Lisa	Remembrance Service
	10.50	Lisa	Cemetery
	18.00	Steve	Evening Prayer
Sunday November 18th	2nd before Advent		Daniel 12.1-3 Hebrews 10.11-25 Mark 13.1-8
Ambrosden	10.30	Lucy	Holy Communion
Merton	09.00	Lucy	Holy Communion
Piddington	18.00	Steve	Evening Prayer
Islip	10.30	Steve	Parish Communion
Noke	09.15	Lisa	Holy Communion
Charlton	10.30	Lisa	Family Communion
Oddington			No Service
Sunday November 25th	Christ the King		Daniel 7.9-10,13-14 Revelation 1.4b-8 John 18.33-37
Ambrosden	10.30	Lay	Morning Prayer
Merton	10.30	Steve	Family Service
Piddington	9.00	Lisa	Holy Communion
Islip	10.30	Lucy	Family Service & SC
Charlton	9.00	Lucy	Holy Communion
Oddington	18.00	Steve	Evening Prayer
Thursday November 29th	Patronal Festival		
Oddington	19.00	Lisa/Steve	St Andrew's Festival followed by supper - preacher Andrew Rycraft

CLERGY CONTACTS

CLERGY

Church of England contacts:

Rev Steve Hayes (Rector Ray Valley Benefice)	01869 247813
Rev Lisa Holmes (Ambrosden, Merton and Piddington)	01865 331279
Rev Lucy Thirtle (Islip, Noke and Woodeaton)	01865 379470
Mrs Glenys Edwards (based in Oddington)	01865 331233
Lynne Lewis Benefice Administrator	01865 331225

Methodist: Rev Steve Mann (Bicester Methodist Church) 01869 323030

Methodist services: Please consult the website: www.bicestermethodist.org.uk

Roman Catholic: Fr John Batthula jbatthula@googlemail.com 01869 253277

Catholic services: Please consult the website: www.immaculate-conception.org.uk

CHURCHWARDENS

Ambrosden: Matt Holmes, Holly Tree Cottage, Merton Road	01869 240435
Angela Jones, 16, West Hawthorn Road, Ambrosden	01869 323960
Piddington: Margaret Hutchings, Kings Cottage, Lower End, Piddington	01844 238724
Merton: Lawrence Comiskey, 2 Church Close, Merton	01865 331429
Robert Kerr, Merton Croft, West End Lane, Merton	01865 331870

ORGANISTS & BELLS

Ambrosden: Mrs Pam Newell (bells only)	01869 241667
Organist (vacant)	
Piddington: Mrs Betty Newell	01844 237236
Mr Tony Pearce	01844 237688
Merton: Mr Russell Thompson	01869 246093
<i>(no ringable bells)</i>	



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AMBROSDEN NEWS

Ambrosden Parish Council meetings held in the Village Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month. At 7.30

Parish website

www.ambrosden.info/parishcouncil

Ambrosden Parish Councillors:

Mark Longworth (Chair) – ambrosden@mlongworth.co.uk

mlongworth.co.uk

Maureen Cossens (Vice Chair) –

01869 252722

Chris West

Philip Blazdell

Serinne Mills Curtis

Sue Posselwhite

Wendy Cheeseman

Parish Clerk

Lynne Bustin

11 Otmoor View, Merton, Oxon

Ambrosden.parishclerk@gmail.com

District Councillors

Three District Councillors represent the ward of Ambrosden and Bicester South.

David Anderson (Conservative)

david.anderson@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Lucinda Wing (Conservative)

lucinda.wing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Dan Sames (Conservative)

da.sames@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

County Councillor

Dan Sames (Conservative)

dan.sames@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Facebook Community message boards

Ambrosden Community

Ambrosden and Caversfield Forces Wives

St. Mary's Church

www.ambrosdenchurch.org.uk/

Five Acres School

www.fiveacres.org.uk/

Children's Centre

www.oxonchildrenscentre.org

Ambrosden Village Pre School

8.20-11.20 Monday - Friday term time only

Jackie Floyd - 07759755179

ambrosdenvillagepreschool@hotmail.co.uk

Tiddlywinks Playgroup

8.30-11.30, 11:50-14:50.

Debra Cherry 01869256555

tiddlywinks_playgroup@msn.com

Ambrosden Doctors Surgery

01869 256336

Parish and Village Hall Notice Boards

Costcutter and Merton Road (outside village hall). Community Notice Board

Public board – Ploughley Road bus shelter

Garrison Gym and Swimming Pool

Contact Garrison centre for latest updates on opening times and availability.

Army Welfare Service Community
Development Worker

Lynn Waite - 01869 256135

Recycling

Bottle banks, behind Spar

CHILDRENS POSTER COMPETITION, BAG IT AND BIN IT

In conjunction with Five Acres School, the Parish Council will be launching an A4 poster competition for all school children under the age of 12 who live in the village or go to Five Acres School, to create the best poster combatting dog waste around the village. The posters will be placed around the village, and the winners will also be able to name the dog waste bins. Here are a few ideas for starters - Richard The Third, and Doggy McDogFace.

Winner and runners up will be rewarded with book tokens. An Entry form will be available from the Parish Clerk at the end of October, Ambrosden.parishclerk@gmail.com and entries must be received by the end of November.

Remember, there is up to a fine of £1000 if you are caught dog fouling.

AMBROSDEN CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2018

The members of St Mary's Church, Ambrosden are delighted to announce that they will once again hosting a Christmas Tree Festival. The Festival is an opportunity for organisations and individuals to get to the heart of Christmas by decorating a Christmas tree for the delight of the wider community. The festival will run from Friday November 30th – Sunday December 2nd.

The festival is not a competition, there are no prizes, it's simply a great opportunity to show case your organisation/business in an imaginative and festive way and to be part

of a unique mixture of heritage, community expression, and fun.

During the festival, the community will be invited to come and feast their eyes on the wonderful displays; at times they will be able to enjoy live music and other activities. There will also be the opportunity to purchase Christmas goodies or maybe even sit and treat themselves to a lovely home baked and freshly brewed coffee (or tea or hot chocolate....)

We ask participating organisations to make a minimum donation to cover the cost of the tree and to provide their own lights and decorations. We will purchase the trees and provide stands and power for the lights (please use LED lights if possible) minimum donation £25 for non-profit groups, £40 for businesses.

The trees are limited in number and we will allocate them on a first come first served basis. When the festival is over tree sponsors will be free to take their tree away; if the tree is not wanted we will dispose of them on your behalf.

To participate in the festival, please send a cheque or cash with the tear off strip below.

**WE CAN ONLY RESERVE A TREE WHEN
THE MONEY IS RECEIVED.**

Please e-mail any queries to:
ambrosdenchristmastreefestival@rayvalley.com

FLYTIPPING AND POTHoles

Broken Street Lights, Pot Holes and Fly tipping and overgrowing hedges obstructing footways, along with many other highways issues can be reported direct to the County and District Councils, via <http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

GLADMAN – PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 85 HOUSES IN MERTON ROAD

Residents have requested that villagers do not respond developers questionnaire, as this will give the developer the opportunity to rebut any claims that this development has no impact on the setting of the village.

FIVE ACRES SCHOOL

The Parish Council is highly supportive of the emerging proposals to replace the portacabins with two new permanent class rooms. This will cause a small amount of disruption while being built, but will significantly improve the quality of the school buildings, but will not increase the capacity of the school.

HIGHWAYS

The Parish Council is awaiting a meeting with the County Council Highways Team, in relation to the proposals to replace the railings on the north side of Ploughley Road, the state of Merton Road, grit bins for Ambrosden Court and Springfields, speed surveys and to install a piece of missing footpath on Merton Road by the bus stop.

The Parish Council is also considering in detail a proposal to install a number of Speed Activated signs around the village and adjacent the school.

The Parish Council has also had some initial conversations with the Highways Department about lowering the speed limit to 20mph. We are advise that this might be possible in Merton Road, but not Ploughley Road.

LITTER

A new litter bin with additional recycling has been installed next to the village shop.

The damaged litter bin at the entrance to Park Rise has been replaced.

All events in Village Hall unless stated. It is likely that the village hall will need to be closed for a short period of time, so that the floor can be repaired. Please contact the organisers of each event to confirm the location.

Turners Arms Public House- Ambrosden

Bicester Lions – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 8pm - Turners Arms- Merton Road

Contact Facebook – Bicester Lions

Open from 7pm onwards on weekdays additionally a on Saturday it is also open lunchtime 12-3 and then from 7pm. On Sunday it is open from 12-4.30 and then from 7pm.

Monday

Ambrosden4Children STAY AND PLAY (Term time)

0930-1100 £2.50 entry (additional £1 for siblings) Refreshments included

Email: Ambrosden4Children@gmail.com

Aqua Splash Swimming lessons for Primary/secondary School Age at Ambrosden's Garrison Pool. Contact Georgina Newell 07544 360500

Boxing for fitness class

6.45pm (45mins)

Contact Simon Charles via Facebook

Girl Guides 6pm till 8 pm

The Silibaravi Centre, Ambrosden

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/>

Ambrosden Gaming club first three Mondays of the month every month Selection of

table top wargames such as bolt action and warhammer. Minimum age 18

Contact 07887 761154

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

Tuesday

Taekwondo

Juniors age 7 years and over 6:30pm - 7:30pm.

Contact Adrian - (07979) 524923 - <http://www.buckstkdacademy.co.uk/>

Aqua Splash Swimming lessons at
Ambrosden's Garrison Pool.

Yoga 6.30-7.30pm

Contact jadewells@live.co.uk to book.

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

Wednesday

Bingo

Doors open 7.15 – Eyes down 8pm. - Contact:
- 01869 244785

Bicester Bereavement Support Group - 1st and
3rd Tuesday 10am – 11.30am

Residents Lounge, Hanover Gardens,
Manorsfield Road, OX26 6DG

Youth club – 12-17yrs - 7-9pm

Contact read Lynn Waite on 01869 256135

1st Ambrosden and Arcnott Scouts

Cubs - 5:30-6:45.

Arcnott Village Hall

Bicester Military Wives Choir - 7.30pm –
9.00pm

Silibaravi Families Centre, Ambrosden

Karen Rea

Bicester@militarywiveschoirs.org

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

Thursday

Thrift Shop – behind doctors

10.30-3.30

Ambrosden4Children STAY AND PLAY
(Term time)

St Mary's Church, Church Walk, OX25 2UJ
0930-1100 £2.50 entry (additional £1 for
siblings) Refreshments included

Parish Council

Every Third Thursday – 7.30pm

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

Friday

Rainbows – (age 5-7) – 5-6 pm

[http://www.oxfordshiregirlguiding.org.uk/
index.php/rainbows](http://www.oxfordshiregirlguiding.org.uk/index.php/rainbows)

Brownies Ages 7-10yrs from , 6.30-8pm
www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

1st Ambrosden and Arcnott Scouts

Scouts - 7-9pm

Arcnott Village Hall

Saturday

Kebab Van – Costcutter car park -evening

For any errors or omissions please contact
Mark Longworth - [ambrosden@mlongworth.
co.uk](mailto:ambrosden@mlongworth.co.uk)

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

ANDY & LISA CAMPBELL - ANDYAMP-
AIR@TESCO.NET - 01869 321318

Christmas Tree Festival

St Mary's Church, Ambrosden

Friday 30th November – Sunday 2nd December



Friday 30th – 7:00pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday 1st – 12:00 – 6:00 pm
Sunday 3rd – 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Christingle & Carols – 4:00 pm

Free Admission



Refreshments,
Christmas Raffle & more!!

If you would like to sponsor a tree please e-mail:
Ambrosdenchristmastreefestival@rayvalley.com

The Bulletin Board

Ray Valley Benefice

For November 2018

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Fri 2nd | - 10.30am Tiny Tots, Fencott |
| Sun 4th | - 10.00am Toy Service, Oddington |
| Wed 7th | - 10.0am Holy Communion, Ambrosden |
| Fri 16 th | - 9.30 ABC for pre- schoolers, Islip |
| Sat 17 th | - 10am Mindfulness Retreat, Ambrosden |
| Wed 21st | - 10am Holy Communion Charlton |
| Sat 24 th | -10-12 Wreath Making, Piddington
-11-3 Christmas Fair, Merton |
| Thu 29 th | - 7pm Patronal Service & Supper, Oddington |
| Fri 30 th | - 7-9pm Christmas Tree Festival, Ambrosden |

*Fellowship/Bible study 1st & 3rd Monday of every month at Ambrosden

ARNCOTT NEWS

REPORT FROM ARNCOTT VHMC & ACA
MEETING 25th SEPTEMBER & PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING 2nd OCTOBER 2018

johncooper47@btinternet.com
Christine Dunkin (Village Hall hire) - 01869
249560 – avhlettings@gmail.com

Arcott Parish Council meetings usually take place in the village hall at 7:30pm on the 1st Tuesday of every month. All parishioners are welcome to attend. If you have any issues that you would like to raise, then please come to the meeting, contact a parish councillor or send an email to the parish clerk or the parish council email address.

Your current Arcott Parish Councillors are ;
Paul Wilson (Chairman) 01869 245514
Lee Savidge (Vice Chairman) 01869 246565
Martin Byrne 01869 9794532
Ade Doore 07850 979455
Di Selby 01869 243527
Andy Poppitt 07921 436489
Peter Barnard 01869 570569

Parish Clerk: Anne Davies 01865 379645 -
clerkatarncott@gmail.com
Parish Council Website: <http://www.parish-council.com/arncott>
Parish Council Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/arncottpc/>
Fix My Street: <http://www.fixmystreet.com>
Parish email: arncottpc@gmail.com
Parish Matters Magazine: marionmoore20@btinternet.com

Your contacts for the Village Hall
Management Committee are:
John Cooper (Chairman) – 01869 323349 –

Remembrance Sunday

This year's Remembrance Sunday is November 11th. There will be a Memorial Service at the village War Memorial Garden starting at 3:00pm. Please come along to the service and pay your respects to all of the brave people who have given their lives on behalf of us all.

Dog Poo

Yet again, selfish and inconsiderate people are not doing what they should. There are NINE dog poo bins within our village. Most dog owners use them. A few morons do not. These days, almost everyone has a mobile phone capable of taking pictures and video. If you see anyone not picking up after his / her dog then PLEASE take photos / videos of him / her and email it to the parish council and / or the CDC dog warden - Christopher Cundy – telephone number 01295 221633 – email Christopher.Cundy@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk. Pictures and / or video will support a prosecution attempt.

Woodpiece Road parking

No further updates have been received from CDC.

Green Lane / Village Green

The majority of the wooden posts on the village green next to Green Lane are loose

and need removing. The parish council would like your opinion as to whether you think the posts should just be removed and not replaced or, if your opinion is that they be replaced with something, please let us know what you think that something should be.

Defibrillator Units

Two public defibrillator units are within the village. One unit is fitted to the village hall outer wall facing Murcott Road – ID number AR84. The other unit is fitted at The Tally Ho Hotel and is located on the building end wall in line with the hotel car park entrance – ID number AR82. To gain access to either unit dial 999 and speak with the ambulance service. The call desk operator will decide if the use of a defibrillator is necessary. If asked for then tell the call desk operator the ID number on the cabinet door. You will then be given the code number to open that door.

Grant money for sports facilities

No reply from CDC has yet been received with regard to the parish council asking if the grant money can be used to provide a new building next to the village hall and, if yes, would planning permission be required. The parish clerk has been asked to contact CDC yet again for its response.

Community emergency response

To date, it appears that no-one is interested in this initiative. If you decide that you want to be involved with this then please let us know by emailing the parish clerk or the parish email address. Again, due to GDPR regulations, the parish council will need your permission in writing for your contact details to be kept on record.

Village Hall public address system

This project is ongoing. A meeting with a possible supplier will be arranged to discuss

the most suitable option(s).

Speeding

It's been reported that some vehicles leaving / entering Upper Arncoft are speeding as they approach / go through the new Murcott Road build out. Volunteers are needed to record the details of these vehicles. This info can be passed onto the police. To get involved with a speedwatch program contact the parish clerk or any parish councillor. Due to GDPR regulations, the parish council will need your permission in writing for your contact details to be kept on record.

Moto Parc

The Moto Parc events calendar can be found in the library section on the parish council website and on the Moto Parc's Facebook page. Occasionally, scheduled events get cancelled and re-arranged for another day. If you have any questions / concerns regarding the Moto Parc then please contact CDC and / or the operators of the Motor Parc – telephone 07377 988580.

Community Play Bus scheme

The play bus visits our village on Tuesdays between 1:00pm and 2:30pm and parks next to the village hall. Free play and support sessions / stay & play are available for children aged up to 5 years old along with parents and carers.

Playing Field Seats

The parish council agreed that the existing broken / vandalised seats on the playing field next to Murcott Road will be removed and replaced with new ones. The new seats have been ordered and will be installed on new concrete bases.

Football field fencing

To prevent vehicles being driven onto the

the football pitch, the parish council agreed to make arrangements for the installation of concrete bollards from the end of the village hall play area fence to the back fences of the gardens in Hopcraft Close.

Illegal drug use

If you are aware of or see this happening anywhere in the village then please report it. You can phone the police, make the report anonymously by telephoning Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or fill out an anonymous form online.

Litter louts

If you witness people leaving bottles / cans / litter in public spaces then please report it to CDC. Again, video / photographic evidence is useful. If the problem persists, CDC can assign an enforcement officer to get involved.

Anti-social behaviour

The parish council has no legal power(s) to deal with this. We can only reiterate previous advice – whenever possible, get witness statements, take photographs and / or record video of the behaviour and report it to the police.

Roads and streetlights

Please report any road / pavement / street light issues on www.fixmystreet.com. This is how we report them and it is very easy to do.

Village Hall / VHMC/ACA

Meeting dates for the VHMC are the last Tuesday in each month except for December when no meeting will be held.

Hall Administration

Email addresses for the officers and committee are being moved over to an umbrella gmail address, arcottvhmc@gmail.com, to help improve the security of those currently using

their personal email addresses for village hall business.

Projects and Improvements

Painting of the disabled toilet and the corridor between the kitchen and bar should be completed in October

Installation of a sound system – Bicester Music and Lighting will be asked to brief the committee on the various options available.

Future Events

There will be a charity quiz night on 10th November

The Christmas Craft fair will take place on 17th November

The children's Christmas party will now be held on 9th December rather than the 8th.

Family Christmas Carol Service December 11th at 7pm in the village hall.

Arcott Community Association will be hosting a Carol Service for the village.

There will be tea, coffee, mince pies and mulled wine. The Army Cadets Band in full uniform to play and lead the Carols.

A short service from Steve the Minister from the Methodist church in Ambrosden

A fancy dress competition for the Children and a fabulous Father Christmas too!

What's your favourite Christmas Carol? Email me at arcottctreasurer@gmail.com

We need 7 carols - here's your chance to join in singing your favourite Christmas Carol with the cadets band and other villagers

The senior citizen's Christmas lunch will be on 5th January 2019

Julia Donnelly will be running Tumble Tots sessions for 6 months to 5 year olds at Arcnott Village Hall on Tuesdays (9.30am - 2.15pm) Starting every week from Tuesday 22nd January 2019.

A one-off trial class is available for £6.50, after which classes are booked in half-term blocks and work out slightly cheaper than £6.50. The online booking link is www.tumbletots.com/aylesbury,

till 3.45pm. Our activities include plenty of tea/coffee drinking, along with cakes, sandwiches and a good old chat. We do a quiz, bingo and of course a raffle. Why not come along and meet up with old friends and make new ones. For more information ring Christine on 01869 249560.

300 Club Winners
127..... Mr A Wizard
27..... Mrs A Gonella
139..... Mrs L Mundy
68..... Mr E Street
105..... Mrs L Mundy

Ska Martial Arts Tang Soo Doo.

New martial arts and fitness class at Arcnott Village Hall every Monday from 6.45 till 7.45. All welcome from 5 years - 65 years. First lesson is free. Please contact Sean on 07740684164 or turn up on the night.

Dance Fitness

Every Wednesday at 7.15 at Arcnott Village Hall. £2.00 per person. Come along and enjoy a good evening.

Craft Club Every Thursday

Everyone welcome from 6.30 p.m. onwards in the Greenfields Common Room

Scout group

The Scouts meet on Fridays, 7.00 to 9.00 pm, and the Cubs meet on Wednesdays, 5.15 to 6.45 pm, both in term times only.

Arcnott Friendship Club

The friendship club has being going now for about 25 years and at one time there was about 40 members, but due to the sad loss of members and some moving away our numbers have dwindled. We meet in the Greenfields common room on the second Wednesday of each month at 1.45pm

If anyone is interested and would like to start or rejoin the 300 Club, please contact Wendy Wilkins by email at Arcnott300club@gmail.com.

Material required for the parish magazine please. Please email it to marionmoore20@btinternet.com

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VILLAGE HALL 17TH NOV
1PM TILL 4PM

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Bianca Pallatt's tennis coaching provide weekly tennis coaching, tennis camps each school holiday and private coaching for all ages and abilities.

For more information about membership or coaching options, visit www.bicestertennisclub.co.uk or call Bianca Pallatt on 07938 145736.

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BLACKTHORN NEWS

BLACKTHORN CLASSIC CAR SHOW 2018
A Big Thankyou to the Blackthorn Community. Blackthorn is a relatively small village with a little over 300 inhabitants (including children) and some 110 households.

It is therefore both a major challenge and achievement for Blackthorn to lay on its biennial classic car show planned by its organising team of ten villagers and then set up and run on the day entirely by volunteers from the village. This year over 40 members of the Blackthorn Community and friends joined the organising team to set up the Showground on Saturday, run the event throughout Sunday and then, despite having been on their feet for much of the day, cleared it all away before departing for their homes.

The Blackthorn Classic Car Show 2018 welcomed over 2000 visitors into the Showground (kindly loaned and prepared by the Cross Family) to enjoy the 374 classic vehicles on display. Blackthorn based Major Motor Sport Ltd ran the exhilarating Real Rally Experience, so once again many thanks to the Mauger Family, while comedian Fred MacAulay travelled from Scotland at his own expense to be our Celebrity Guest.

Entry prices remained at the modest level established for the first BCCS in 2015, however the growing popularity of the event enabled us to raise in excess of £10,000.00. £5300 is to be donated to The Hummingbird Centre in Launton while the remainder is targeted for Blackthorn Community projects.

Quite simply if it were not for the commitment of our large band of enthusiastic volunteers this event simply could not happen. Each member of the organising team wishes to express their gratitude to each and every one of you; the heroes of the day.

The BCCS Organising Team

BLACKTHORN VILLAGE HALL

We are now in Autumn and over the next few months we have a number of events planned at the Village Hall. Full details for each event will be posted on the Village FB page.

If you would like to receive email updates and reminders of events being held in the village, please send an email to blackthornvillagehall@gmail.com

Look out for the flyers and reminders on Blackthorn village Facebook page.

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Councillors are:

Jenny Lamont (Chair)

Randal Rue (Vice Chair)

Sandie Stevenson

Richard Burden

Diane Procopiou

Rachel Lamont

Tracey Charlesworth (Clerk)

Meetings are usually on the first Thursday of the month. Correspondence should be through the clerk at clerkblackthornpc@gmail.com

Weir Lane White Gates Change

You may have noticed the white gates on Weir Lane have been repositioned. The original gates were erected in a location that caused access difficulties for the adjacent property. With Parish Council agreement, the householder has had the gates moved a few metres at his own expense to resolve the issue. The signage is back on the gates and he is planting more daffodils.

Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Update

Randal Rue has drawn a detailed map of the probable Expressway route. This will be on display at the next Pub night Friday 26 October.

If you have any news or other items you would like included please email John Henderson at j_henderson@btinternet.com by the 10th of each month.

Opportunity to audition in Blackthorn's very own Vicar of Dibley – The Parish Council

Blackthorn Parish Council has a vacancy for a volunteer to join the team...

While the BBC Vicar of Dibley frequently presents a hilarious picture of Parish Councilors – it is not the whole story. Over years the Parish Council together with other voluntary groups have delivered for the village projects such as the play area and broadband to name but 2.

Our meetings are informative and topics range from discussions on our new pond project to the latest privacy legislation.

Our team is small and while we have Cllrs who have portfolios such as planning, traffic calming, drainage and ditches, grass-cutting, website development, GDPR, with more team members we could do more.

The Council meets once a month on a Thursday evening at the hall, though our Cllrs work on projects throughout the month – but how much time you give is dependent on how much time you have to give

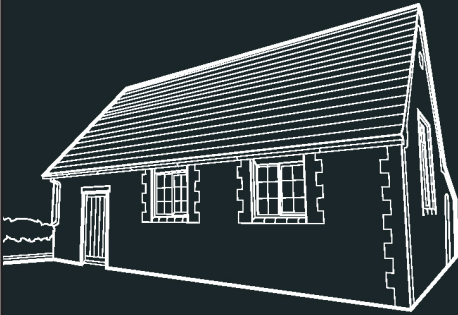
This is an opportunity not only to learn what our Parish Council does but also to liaise with other local parish Councils and bring that best practice to our team.

So turn a no, no, no into a Yes and join Blackthorn Parish Council

Contact Tracey Charlesworth – Clerk to the PC clerkblackthornpc@gmail.com

Or Jenny Lamont – jmblackthornpc@gmail.com

Chair Parish Council



www.blackthornvillagehall.org.uk

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St Swithuns Christmas Fair
Saturday November 24th 2018

11am - 3pm



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MERTON NEWS

Merton Parish Council

If you wish to contact a councillor, please use the following information:

Tony Bradley (Chair): ajrbradley@hotmail.com

Jo Copping: jcoppingmerton@gmail.com

David Richardson: cllr david@penguinmail.co.uk

Lucy Katz: cllr lucy katz merton pc@gmail.com

Steve Kelly: stevenkelly.mertonpc@gmail.com

Parish Council Clerk - Mrs Charlesworth:
clerkmertonpc@gmail.com

The Parish Council meetings schedule has now been changed to once every two months – next one is on Monday 19th November 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

News from Merton Parish Council

The Parish Council is hard at work trying to get our finances back in shape, and to improve the services we can offer to you. This work is ongoing, but we hope to have some exciting news for Merton in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, we wanted to share with you some of the very useful information which comes to us from a wide range of organisations working in our area. We've cherry-picked the most helpful information, but if you'd like more detail please contact cllr lucy katz merton pc@gmail.com

Healthwatch Oxfordshire

The Parish Council has received its monthly briefing from Healthwatch for Oxfordshire

You might not have heard of Healthwatch, but they actually have quite a lot of clout.

They are the county's health and social care watchdog. They collect your opinions and experiences and use them to inform and influence those who run your health and social care services.

Share your thoughts and experiences of any health or social care services with them. Your ideas may genuinely be passed on to the people with the power in the NHS and social care within Oxfordshire.

The newsletter is quite long, so, we've included edited highlights briefing below. We've chosen the bits that we think will have the most relevance for our parishioners, but there's more information available via their website at www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

Latest CQC reports published

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has published its latest round of inspection reports, including several Oxfordshire care providers. If you're looking for up to date reports on the services available to you and yours, this is a good place to start.

New open visiting hours at Oxford hospitals
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has introduced a new open visiting policy. The new visiting hours at the Trust's hospitals will be from 10.00am until 10.00pm, except for critical care and high dependency units.

The Police are offering support for sex assault victims by launching new a new SARC in Bicester

SARC stands for Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC).

This new Bicester SARC provides a discreet and confidential service to survivors of sexual assault and abuse. Support is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Clients can access health and forensic medical services, as well as crisis support.

The service employs specially trained doctors and crisis workers to care for clients and, if the client wishes to report the assault to the police, they can arrange for an informal talk with a specially trained police officer.

To contact our Bicester-based SARC you should:

- All on 0300 130 3036, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Sending a secure message via the website (www.solacesarc.org.uk).

Discharge fact sheet from Age UK

Being discharged from hospital can be a confusing experience. To help tackle any issues you, or a relative might have, Age UK Oxfordshire has produced a new fact sheet with some good advice. It contains lots of useful information about what to expect, and practical information on aspects such as how to get home, what support is available, and who will be involved. If you type in Age UK discharge factsheet into google, you'll find it right there.

Flu vaccination campaign launched by the NHS
The annual flu vaccination campaign has been launched in Oxfordshire and people are being invited to get their vaccination against the virus.

Here's some information from the Islip GPs' surgery:

The Islip Medical Practice is hoping to keep

everyone well this winter, so we're offering the seasonal Flu vaccine to anyone who is eligible.

If you fall into any of the "high priority" categories outlined below, the Surgery would like to encourage you to make an appointment as soon as possible.

High priority people include anyone who is:

1. Aged over 65
2. Aged under 65 in a clinical risk group (such as asthma, cancer patients)
3. Carers
4. Healthcare workers

Flu vaccination clinics are being held on Saturday 3rd November from 9.30 until 12.00.

There are also other week day dates available in October if you can't make one of these dates. Please telephone the Surgery on 01865 371666 as soon as possible to make your appointment. (Appointments for flu vaccinations are not available via the on-line appointment service). If you are eligible for the jab but don't want to take the offer up, we'd be grateful if you could let the Surgery know. This will help us by save time in issuing reminders, and stop us bothering you unnecessarily.

Hope to see you soon

New service from Macmillan Cancer Support
We've received some information from Macmillan Cancer Support, which sounds as if it could be very helpful indeed to people with cancer.

Trained volunteers will help you cope with the physical, practical and emotional effects of cancer. Cancer can leave you feeling isolated and sometimes unable to perform essential tasks. Coping can be especially difficult if you don't have family or friends close by or if you worry that you are asking for too much support from the same people over and over again. But Macmillan's trained volunteers can give you a helping hand.with things like:

helping hand with things like:

- light gardening or housework
- shopping
- lifts to one-off appointments in the community
- preparing a light meal
- having a chat and a cup of tea
- going out for a coffee, visiting a garden centre or going for a walk
- support over the phone
- referring you to other relevant support services.

You can contact them on 01904-756402

Free film show in Merton Village Hall:
“Dunkirk” on Thursday 15th November

Did you know we run a programme of high quality films once a month at the Merton village hall?

ALL residents of Merton and neighbouring villages are warmly welcomed to these film showings.

What's more they're all free of charge. So, if you'd like to share an evening of film, good company and light refreshments, at no cost to yourself, please do come along. You'll be sure of a warm welcome.

Dunkirk is our next film. It plays in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 15 November.

Dunkirk is a 2017 historical drama about the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940 seen from 3 different perspectives: those of land, sea and air. As usual, there'll be (free!) tea/coffee and biscuits afterwards. And if you fancy a glass of beer or wine during the film, please feel free to bring your own!

The provisional programme of films for the rest of the 'season' is as follows:

- The Lunchbox (2013) on 20th December,
- The Railway Man (2013) on 17th January
- The Darkest Hour (2017) on 21st February
- Eddie the Eagle (2016) on 21st March

- Churchill (2017). On 18th April

If you have any suggestions on suitable films to show in the future, please contact us on patmurphy153@btinternet.com (or 01865 331643).

Please do come along – we're looking forward to seeing you.

St Swithun's Christmas Fair
Saturday 24th November, 11am – 3pm

Yes, it really is that time again – Christmas is hoving in to view.

Which is why it's great news that the annual Church Christmas Fair is taking place in St Swithun's in Merton.

There's lots on offer. Highlights include:

- Fashion items and Jewellery
- Trinkets and bric a brac
- Books and puzzles
- Bottlebola, a raffle and a tombola
- Mulled wine and mince pies

Come along – it's a fun event, with great gifts and activities – and it supports our local community.

Hope to see you there!

Merton Beer Festival

Dear Village

To all our friends in the village and beyond, we are writing to let you know that Merton Beer Festival have decided that after many years of organising beer festivals the time has come to hang up our pint glasses. The Beer Festival came about following the closure of The Plough Inn, and for many years saw both a summer and winter festival. Over the years Merton Beer Festival has been able to raise funds for the Village Hall, Playground, Church and Woodland and we would like to think has played its part in improving village amenities. We appreciate that this news may disappoint many of you, but we feel that the time has come to pass on the baton to others. Thank you to everyone who has supported this event over the years, we have had a blast and hope you have too.

All the best

Fin, Loz, Lynn and Barry

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PIDDINGTON NEWS

PIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th November at 7.30pm. If you have any concerns or questions the Parish Council is always keen to hear from you, details below. The first 30 minutes of our meetings are an opportunity for villagers to address the council. Agendas and minutes from the meetings are available to view on the village website and the two Parish Council noticeboards: www.piddingtonvillageoxfordshire.org.uk/meetings.html

Planning applications for the parish will be listed here in future and can be viewed in full on the Cherwell District Council planning portal. Planning applications currently under reviewed are: 18/01314/F and 18/01230/F

Parish Clerk:

Anne Davis

Tel: 01865 379645

Email: piddington.parish.clerk@googlemail.com

Councillors:

Francesca Darby (Chair)

Tel: 01844 238294

Email: francesca.darby@piddingtonpc.com

Pam Feltbower (Vice Chair)

Tel: 01844 237523

Email: pam.feltbower@piddingtonpc.com

Andrew Coleman

Tel: 01844 237582

Email: andrew.coleman@piddingtonpc.com

Lynda Galloway

Tel: 01844 237584

Email: lynda.galloway@piddingtonpc.com

Ken Howard

Tel: 01869 320950

Email: ken.howard@piddingtonpc.com

Mike Nixon

Tel: 01844 239209

Email: michael.nixon@piddingtonpc.com

Mario Terzino

Tel: 01844 238154

Email: mario.terzino@piddingtonpc.com

VILLAGE EMAILS

Piddington News & Events. To receive regular updates of what is going on in the village, and important issues affecting our locality, go to the home page of the village website and register: <http://www.piddingtonvillageoxfordshire.org.uk/>. You will receive a welcome email. If this does not appear in your inbox within 5 minutes, please check your spam folder and add us to your 'Safe Senders' list.

APPEAL REFERENCE APP/
C3105/W/18/3209349 GYPSY/TRAVELLER
SITE ON WIDNELL LANE

The deadline for submissions to the Inspectorate has passed. Further to the village meeting held in October PPC have now appointed legal representation for the parish to act on its behalf through the Appeal. At the time of writing PPC had received £6500 in pledges from villagers towards these costs and have set aside £3000 from parish funds. We cannot be complacent. If you are in a position to help, no matter the amount, please contact the Parish Clerk. If sending an email, please head it 'Legal Costs'.

Anne Davies: piddington.parish.clerk@googlemail.com or 01865 379645. jmg.galloway@gmail.com

WIDNELL PARK, PLAYING FIELD AND MEADOW

The Parish Council have been advised of dog owners from the village not picking up after their pets. The individuals concerned will be sent a warning letter. Further infringements will result in their details being passed on to the dog warden. Not only is it an offence to allow dog fouling at the park and playing field but it is inconsiderate and irresponsible. If you have forgotten to bring your own poo bags, you will find a small supply beside the dog poo bin.

CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

The play area at the back of the village hall has now been dismantled. A small team of volunteers is now trying to raise the £20,000 needed to replace it. Over £1500 has been raised at village events so far, which is a huge achievement. Help is needed with the application of grants. Can you spare some of your time to fill in forms? Contact Olivia: olivia_329@hotmail.com.

APPLE DAY 2018

The rain may have poured but it didn't dampen spirits. Villagers washed, chopped, scrapped and pressed for several hours producing 170 litres of juice. Many thanks to all the many volunteers who made the day (and evening!) a real village event. £100 was made on the bar, which will be split between the village hall and church refurbishment programmes. We now await updates from the Piddington Alchemists on how this latest brew is faring!

ALLOTMENTS

A couple of plots have become available. The annual subscription £15 per year for a single plot to include affiliation to The National Allotment Society. If you would like to apply for an allotment, please contact John Galloway:

DOG POO BINS

Cherwell DC are responsible for the emptying of bins. If you notice that bins are overly full you can contact Cherwell directly and it should be emptied within 24 hours. To report a full or damaged bin use Cherwell's website link: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/193/dogs/396/dog-bins>, call 01295 227007 or contact the Parish Clerk. A new dog bin will shortly be installed in Lower End, close to Shady Lane.

OXFORD – CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY

Details of the preferred corridor have been published and it is likely that Piddington and its neighbours will be affected. Highways England have produced a booklet 'Oxford to Cambridge Expressway: The Preferred Corridor' (<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/>). It is expected that one million new houses will be built along the agreed route, of which 300,000 are allocated to Oxfordshire. A public consultation is likely to take place in Autumn 2019, with the announcement of the preferred route in 2020 and construction starting in 2025. The Parish Council will send out updates as they become available.

RURAL POLICING

Contact the police directly if you have any concerns or wish to report suspicious behaviour or vehicles in the village (email BicesterRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk).

The NFU and Crimestoppers have also launched a new rural crime reporting line as part of the NFU's ongoing work to tackle the serious issues surrounding criminal behaviour on farms and in the wider countryside. Phone 0800 7830137 or visit www.ruralcrimereportingline.uk.

ROAD-CALMING MEASURES FOR THE VILLAGE

The Parish Council is still waiting to hear back from Cherwell regarding help with funding for the purchase of white gates for the village entrances. The Vehicle Activated sign on Arncott Road has been recalibrated and is proving a great success. The Parish Council is investigating its possible siting elsewhere in the village. If you are interested in being part of the village road safety group, please contact Ian Darby: isdarby@btinternet.com.

SSE PRIORITY SERVICE

The SSE Priority Service is free and offered to people who may have special needs, particularly in the event of a power outage. These might be health issues, mobility problems or having young children. The Parish Council fully supports this initiative and encourages registration. Contact the SSE Careline team directly on 0800 622838 or email careline@sse.com for more information.

PIDDINGTON'S INFORMATION CENTRE

A range of useful information can be found on the village website, including phone numbers and email addresses: www.piddingtonvillageoxfordshire.org.uk/information-centre.html

T94 BICESTER MARKET SERVICE

There is a request bus service from Piddington on Friday mornings to Bicester, returning early afternoon. Bus passes are not accepted on this route.

VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN

The Village Hall Management Committee are pleased to report that work on the refurbishment of the kitchen and bar has been completed. This was achieved with the support of a grant from the WREN Landfill Communities Fund. The Committee thank WREN for all their help and advice. A donation of £3000 was also made by The Pantry.

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

Many thanks to all who decorated the Church so beautifully for Harvest Festival, and also thanks to all who supported the Harvest Coffee Morning. Donations of groceries were collected for the Bicester Food Bank.

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP

Come and make a Christmas Wreath on Saturday 24th November between 10 and 12 noon. Cost £10 to include all materials and mulled wine and mince pies. To book contact Margaret on 01844 238724 or Maggie on 01844 237688.

PIDDINGTON 200 CLUB WINNERS

Drawn at Village Hall Ukulele Night on 28th September 2018.

1st	047	Al Hopkins
2nd	109	Jason Best
3rd	160	Sandra Innes
4th	018	Joyce Bayliss

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All at the village hall.

26th October – Halloween Pop-Up Pub – fancy dress optional; kids can dress up for a chance to win a goody bag.

23rd November – Pop-Up Pub, Happy Hour 7-8pm and games night!

25th November – Deck the Hall from 11am - come along to help if you can!

1st December – The Pantry Christmas Market 10-2pm

14th December – Village Christmas drinks and hot nibbles, mulled drinks and mince pies

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Village emails:

Register on the Piddington website

Piddington village website:

www.piddingtonvillageoxfordshire.org.uk

Piddington village Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/piddingtonoxfordshire

Piddington Swap Shop Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/447881082064329/>

Twitter:

@pidding_pantry – for all things relating to The Pantry

@Piddingtonoxon – for general items of interest
The Pantry blog:

piddingtonpantry.wordpress.com

THE PANTRY
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**CHRISTMAS
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OTMOOR GARDEN SOCIETY

Each year in the garden society we have a little competition which can be anything garden related. This year's competition was to grow a geranium (or more correctly Pelargonium) from a tiny seedling provided in April. At our September meeting this was judged by our speaker, Chris Day, and I have to say several of the entries were magnificent! Congratulations to Alison Paine who won and Val Fitzgerald runner-up. Alison is an organic gardener, so she used peat-free compost and organic feeds, and her tip was she treated it as though it was in the Mediterranean – not difficult this summer



perhaps! A well deserved victory. Photograph alongside of Alison (left) and Val (right) with their winning entries. I must say Alison's blue top matched her blue pot and set off the red geranium beautifully, but this perhaps does not translate too well in black and white!

As well as judging the competition (not in his remit!), Chris gave us a great talk on Bulbs for Every Season. It was a practical demonstration and he was full of useful and unusual tips. One I particularly liked was to lag the inside of your winter pots with bubble-wrap which insulates

the bulbs but does not make the pot look unsightly. He also potted up a bulb lasagne to demonstrate how to get a longer season of interest. I wasn't aware that the things he brought with him were for sale, but half of it certainly seemed to have disappeared by the time he left the building!

Our final speaker of this year will be on 27th November at Murcott. There has been a change to the speaker listed on the programme, but the topic remains the same – John Ellis has kindly agreed to talk to us on Growing and Showing Vegetables. This will be a little late to help you with the Fencott and Murcott Annual Produce Show this year, but hopefully lots of tips to improve your entries for next year's show.

Plans for the 2019 programme are already well underway and you can renew your membership and get your hands on the new programme at the November meeting. So come along, and enjoy a mince pie or two with us as well, to celebrate the end of another successful year in the gardening society. On behalf of all the committee we hope you have enjoyed it!

Happy Gardening,
Judith Rawlinson

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BUS TIMETABLES

Oxford - Islip - Ambrosden

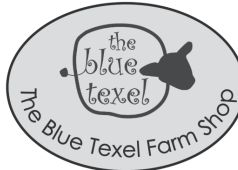
Oxford St Giles (Stop C5)	16:10	17:10	18:10
Gosford, o/s Kings Arms PH	16:30	17:30	18:30
Islip, opp The Red Lion PH	16:35	17:35	18:35
Oddington, opp Glebe Barn Bus Shelter	16:40	17:40	18:40
Charlton-on-Otmoor, opp Bus Garage	16:45	17:45	18:45
Merton, o/s The Plough Inn PH	16:50	17:50	18:50
Ambrosden, adj Birch Road	16:55	17:55	18:55

Ambrosden - Islip - Oxford

Ambrosden, opp Birch Road	07:00	07:45
Merton, opp The Plough Inn PH	07:05	07:50
Charlton-on-Otmoor, o/s Bus Garage	07:10	07:55
Oddington, o/s Glebe Barn Bus Shelter	07:15	08:00
Islip, o/s The Red Lion PH	07:20	08:05
Gosford, opp Kings Arms PH	07:25	08:10
Oxford St Giles (Stop C5)	07:40	08:25



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VET'S REPORT

Hock Fracture for Akira

When Akira popped through the Saturday night his owner, Chris, spotted a major problem with his back leg which was dragging behind him. Chris went upstairs to call Bicster Vets but before he knew it, Akira was behind him as if nothing was wrong. He had climbed up the stairs on three legs and was behaving as normal.

At the surgery, Vet Kyra quickly spotted that Akira's right hock was dramatically out of alignment – (the hock is the equivalent of our ankle). X-rays showed that the bottom end of the tibia (or shin bone) had detached from the bone, presumably due to a car accident or a bad fall.

The important thing for now was to ensure our patient was comfortable for the weekend and that nothing else was damaged. So, on Monday morning, Kyra and I set about putting his leg back together and fixing it back in place so that the bone could heal again. The broken piece of bone was only a few mm thick and difficult to get purchase on. So, to ensure a solid repair, a pin was driven down the middle of the tibia and through the broken piece which was now back in place. For added strength the pin was pushed through the other

cat flap on

bones of the hock to temporarily fix it all in position whilst the fracture heals. (See the xrays – before & after)



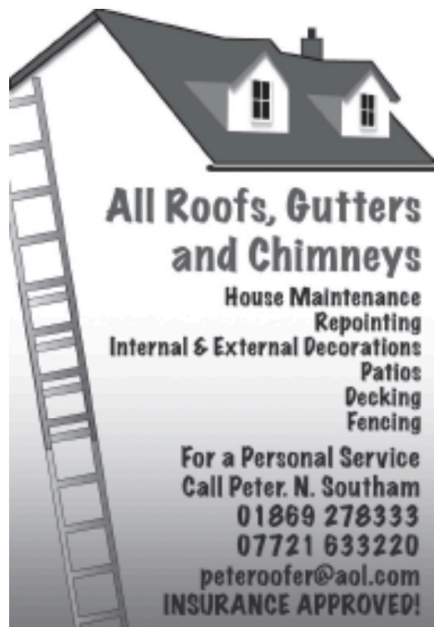
Within hours of the surgery Akira was awake and asking for food. His bandaged leg seemed to cause him little concern and we expect him to go home to start his crate rest in another day's time.

We have a period ahead of us where the owner needs to ensure Akira doesn't run upstairs or try jumping onto window sills or worktops. We'll take the support bandage off after a week or so. It should be a straightforward matter to remove the pin after a follow up x-ray in 2 months' time. We then can start some physio to return movement to the joint.

Hopefully, Akira will be back on the window sills by Christmas when his accident and surgery should be a distant memory.

Enjoy your pets
Jason Williams
Bicster Vets

Ps Young animals have areas in their main leg bones called growth plates. Growth plates allow for rapid lengthening of the bones during growth and these don't fully calcify until the skeleton is mature. Before then, the growth plates can act as a weakness and that is where Akira's bone fractured.



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OTMOOR WOMANS INSTITUTE

Otmoor WI October Meeting

What does your handwriting reveal about you? What are the characteristics to look out for? These were some of the questions members and guests at the October meeting of Otmoor WI hoped to have answered by their speaker for the evening, graphologist Sandra Grayson. In a talk illustrated by examples from the great and the good, Sandra gave a simple introduction to the complex subject of graphology, showing characteristics to be observed and traits they might indicate. She explained how it was not just the elements of the writing itself, such as the way the letter I was written or the slant of the writing, but also the pressure applied, the spaces between words and how the writing was placed on the page that offered the clues a graphologist would use.

A break for refreshments provided by the committee offered a chance to discuss the topic further, to sign up for upcoming events and check out the entries for the competition for the most interesting famous autograph. Sandra kindly offered her thoughts on the signatures people had brought along for the competition. The business of the evening included arrangements for a pop-up café in half term, details of the trip to the Postal Museum in London in November and dates for events leading up to Christmas. The famous autograph competition was won by Anne Baker with Rosemary and Angie in joint second place. The speaker for our next

meeting on November 13th will be Kevin Little, a fishmonger, talking on Fishy Tales and Eccentric Customers.

Diary Dates

November 13th 7.45 Fishy Tales and Eccentric Customers (CCH)

November 15th 7.30 Coffee, Craft and Cake (MVH)

December 11th 7.30 Members Christmas Meal (MVH)

There is no craft meeting in December

January 8th 7.45 The Wartime Housewife (CCH)

January 17th 7.30 Coffee, Craft and Cake (MVH)

For further information please contact Virginia on 01865331521

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COST OF ADVERTISING (PER MONTH)

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THE COLLECTION AND EDITORIAL TEAM

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All items for the next magazine and all adverts should be given to the village collectors by the 13th of the month preceding publication, and to the editor by the 15th.

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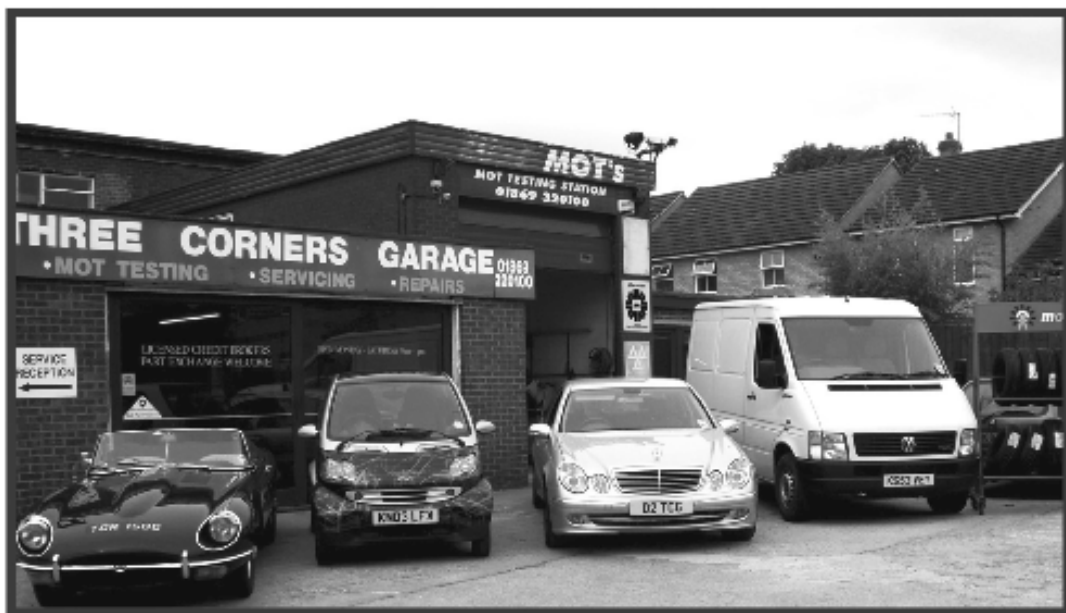


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