

PARISH MATTERS



MAY 2019

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

VILLAGE VIEWS & LOCAL NEWS



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Welcome to the May edition of Parish Matters.

**If you could offer a few hours a month, as a volunteer,
to help sell more advertising space in Parish Matters
please call Russell Thompson 07915 331443 or email rthom91543@aol.com**

Parish Matters Committee

LETTER FROM THE CLERGY TEAM

It's a wonderful time of year! I know that song is traditionally associated with Christmas, but it's just as true for Easter. We have much to be grateful for.

I don't know how many of the Easter events you managed to attend with reflections in Holy Week around the benefice and a whole host (no pun intended!) of Palm Sunday and Easter Day services. As always, there is much to reflect on and plenty of food for thought.

Easter epitomises the need for sacrifice and forgiveness in our world. It's very easy to point the finger and say that people the other side of the world need to forgive each other or, more locally, to see the need of our friends and neighbours to be more forgiving, but Easter reminds us that we need to seek forgiveness too.

I am often amazed by how often people seem not to read notices – myself included – and manage to turn up at the wrong time or on the wrong day for a meeting or a service. How often do we hear people say: 'I didn't know anything about that', when we know for a fact that they had been told about it several times?

I worry that the Easter story is a bit like that too. If we are not careful, we can become so familiar with it that we wash over the truth. Jesus' death and resurrection are crucial to our understanding of being forgiven by God and being offered eternity in heaven. We ignore it or disregard it at our peril.

As a society we have glossed over the significance of Easter by drowning it in chocolate and rabbits! Just as Christmas has become commercialised, so too has

Easter and we need to reclaim it. A quick look at the TV guide for the Easter period gives a fairly strong indication of where our nation's heart is.

Thankfully, it's not all doom and gloom – we can say Happy Easter and mean it! As well as the spiritual significance of Jesus being prepared to die on the cross for us that we might be forgiven our sins, there are plenty of other wonderful things to celebrate at this time of year as Easter coincides with Spring the associated blossom and birds chirruping away.

The smell of freshly cut grass, the changing of the hour bringing longer evenings, the prospect of barbecues, the possibility that England might succeed at one cricket series hopefully and, of course, the prospect of sharing bank holidays with friends and families.

As we look around us in this beautiful part of the countryside, we see nature repeating itself and a wonder of growth taking place before our very eyes. Consistency and constancy are always reassuring elements in our seasons' natural cycle and it won't be long before the seeds we plant bear fruit.

Growth and development is a natural part of our world physically – Easter reminds us we need to grow spiritually as well. How much more have we understood about God since last year and how much will we have learnt before we hear the stories again next year, I wonder.

Rev Steve Hayes

CHURCH SERVICES MAY

RAY VALLEY SERVICES MAY 2019

Draft 2

Church	Time	Leader	Service
Wednesday May 1st	May Day		
Charlton	10.00	Lisa	May Day Service
Sunday May 5th	3rd of Easter		Acts 9.1-6(7-20) Revelation 5.11-end John 21.1-19
Ambrosden	10.30	Steve	Holy Communion
	18.30	Steve	The Xtra One
Merton	09.00	Steve	Holy Communion
Piddington	10.30	Glenys	Family Service
Islip	10.30	Lucy	Parish Communion
Noke	16.00	Lucy	Spring Service – Starting in church & processing to Hill End Farm
Charlton	10.30	Lisa	Family Service - Rogation
Sunday May 12th	4th of Easter		Acts 9.36-end Revelation 7. 9-end John 10.22-30
Ambrosden	10.30	Steve	Family Service
Piddington	09.00	Steve	Holy Communion
Islip	10.30	Brian	Parish Communion - Brian Mountford
Woodeaton	09.15	Rosie	Family Service – Rogation Walk - Rosie Hayes
Charlton	09.00	Lisa	Holy Communion
	18.00	Steve	Evening Prayer
Oddington	10.30	Lisa	Holy Communion
Sunday May 19th	5th of Easter		Acts 11.1-18 Revelation 21.1-6 John 13.31-35
Ambrosden	10.30	Lisa	Holy Communion
Merton	09.00	Lisa	Holy Communion
Piddington	18.00	Steve	Evening Prayer
Islip	10.30	Lucy	Parish Communion
Noke	09.15	Lucy	Holy Communion
Charlton	10.30	Brian	Family Communion – Brian Mountford
Sunday May 26th	6th of Easter		Acts 16.9-15 Revelation 21.10,22- 22.5
Ambrosden	10.30	Lay	Morning Prayer
Merton	10.30	Steve	Rogation Family Service – Astley Bridge Farm
Piddington	09.00	Steve	Holy Communion
Islip	10.30	Lucy	Family Service
Charlton	09.00	Lisa	Holy Communion
Oddington	18.00	Lisa	Songs of Praise
Thursday May 30th	Ascension		
Islip	19.00	Steve	Holy Communion

CLERGY CONTACTS

CLERGY

Church of England contacts:

Rev Steve Hayes (Rector Ray Valley Benefice)	01869 247813
Rev Lisa Holmes (Charlton and Oddington)	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:

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

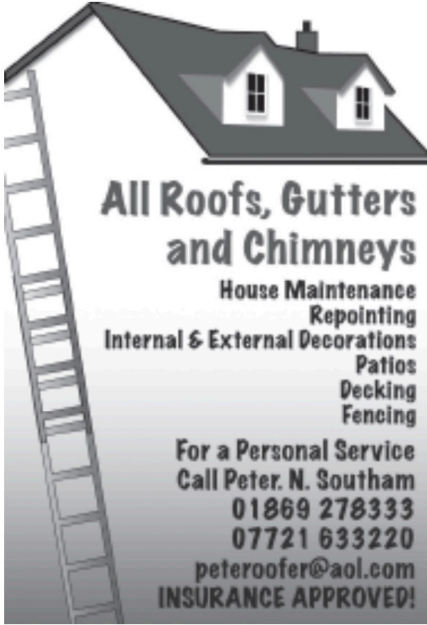
Ambrosden: Mrs Pam Newell (bells only) 01869 241667
Organist (vacant)

Piddington: Mrs Betty Newell 01844 237236

Mr Tony Pearce 01844 237688

Merton: Mr Russell Thompson 01869 246093

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AMBROSDEN NEWS

Ambrosden Parish Council meetings held in the Village Hall 3rd Thursday of each month, In May Parish Council 7-8pm and the Annual Parish Meeting starts at 8pm

Parish website
www.ambrosden.info/parishcouncil

Ambrosden Parish Councillors:
Mark Longworth (Chair) – ambrosden@mlongworth.co.uk
Maureen Cossens (Vice Chair) –
01869 252722

Chris West
Philip Blazdell
Serinne Mills Curtis
Sue Posselwhite
Wendy Cheeseman

Parish Clerk
Ambrosden.parishclerk@gmail.com

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

Lucinda Wing (Conservative)
lucinda.wing@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
Dan Sames (Conservative)
Daniel.Sames@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk
Vacant seat

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/

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

Ambrosden4Children
Ambrosden4children@gmail.com
Rosie Hayes 01869 247813

Parish and Village Hall Notice Boards
Costcutter and Merton Road (outside village hall. Community Notice Board
Public board – Ploughley Road bus shelter

Army Welfare Service Community
Development Worker
Lynn Waite - 01869 256135

Recycling
Bottle banks, behind Spar

Facebook Community message boards
Ambrosden Community
Ambrosden and Caversfield Forces Wives

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Development Worker
Lynn Waite - 01869 256135

Recycling
Bottle banks, behind Spar

FLYTIPPING AND POTHOLES
Street lights, pot holes, fly tipping, hedges
obstructing footways, and many other
highways issues can be reported direct to the
County and District Councils, via
<http://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 8PM - 16TH MAY – VILLAGE HALL

The Annual Parish meeting, is your
opportunity to hear from speakers from
throughout the village community and Mod
about events and community groups.

This will include annual updates from the
Parish Council, Garrison, Church, Village Hall
Committee, Guides, Brownies, and Scouts,
and hopefully updates on the allotments,
and your opportunity to ask questions to the
speakers. We look forward to welcoming
everyone to the meeting.

A41 FOOTWAY WIDENING

After a couple of years engagement with
OCC Highways, they have secured funding
which has enabled to grass encroaching on the
cycleway from the Ploughley Road Junction
to Rodney House roundabout to removed
reinstating the original width of the footpath/
cycle way. This work reinstates the cycle way
from Bicester to Arncott Via Ambrosden.

DOG WASTE

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

ALLOTMENTS

The District Council's enforcement team
remain on the case chasing Bloor Homes to
complete legal paperwork to hand over the
allotments. A corrected legal plan has been
signed off by the Parish Council and the final
paperwork for the handover of the allotments
is now underway. Thanks to Cllrs Lucinda
Wing and Dan Sames for chasing this.

NEW PLAY AREA AT MARSH ROAD (AMBROSDEN COURT)

Croudace Homes will be installing a play area
in Marsh Lane for smaller children. Works
will commence in June. This play area formed
part of the original planning requirements for

for this scheme to achieve planning permission and is for the use of the whole village, providing a much needed play area at this end of the village.

LABURNUM CLOSE PLAY AREA

After complaints about the state of this Play Area, Cllrs Dan Sames and Lucinda Wing has negotiated on behalf of the Parish Council for this play area to be refurbished.

SPEED SURVEYS SHOW REDUCTION IN SPEEDING

Additional speed surveys have now been received by the Parish Council in relation to vehicle speeds on Ploughley Road, adjacent the junction with Old Arncott Road, showing 85th%ile speeds of about 45 mph.

The Parish Council are meeting with the OCC Highways in May to review strategies to address this issue.

MERTON ROAD REPAIRS

After three years campaigning by the Parish Council, OCC Highways Department have obtained compensation from Network Rail and comprehensive repairs have been undertaken to Merton Road. We understand this will be white lined and topped later in the year.

AMBROSDEN DIARY

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.

Bike Night – Dates to be advised on Facebook

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.

Due to problems with the Village Hall, the committee are no accepting bookings from new users at the moment.

Day and Time	Group or event	Information	Location
Monday 9.30-11am	Ambrosden4 Children Stay and Play	£2.50 entry (additional £1 for siblings) Refreshments included Ambrosden4Children@gmail.com	Village Hall
Monday 6.45pm	Boxing	Simon Charles on village FB group	Village Hall
Monday 6- 8pm	Girl Guides	https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved	The Silibaravi Centre
First three Mondays of the month	Ambrosden Gaming Club	Selection of table top wargames such as bolt action and warhammer. Minimum age 18 Contact 07887 761154 https://www.facebook.com/Ambrosden- Gaming-Club-539843919418164/	Village Hall
Tuesday 6.30 – 7.30 pm	Yoga	Contact jadewells@live.co.uk to book	Village hall
1 st and 3 rd Tuesday 10am– 11.30am	Bicester Bereavement Support Group	Residents Lounge, Hanover Gardens, Manorsfield Road, OX26 6DG	
Wednesday 7.15pm	Bingo	Eves down 8pm. - Contact: - 01869 244785	Village hall
Wednesday 7-9pm	Youth Club	12 – 17 years Contact read Lynn Waite on 01869 256135	Village Hall
Wednesday 5.30pm – 6.45pm	1st Ambrosden and Arcott Scouts Cubs	https://www.facebook.com/1stambrosden/	Arcott Village Hall
Wednesday 7.30pm – 9pm	Bicester Military Wives Choir	Karen Rea Bicester@militarywiveschoirs.org	Silibaravi Families Centre
Thursday 10.30 – 3.30 pm	Thrift Shop		Opposite bottle banks
Thursday 9.30 – 11am	Ambrosden4 Children Stay and Play	£2.50 entry (additional £1 for siblings) Refreshments included Ambrosden4Children@gmail.com	St Mary's Church, OX25 2UJ
Third Thurs of month 7.30pm	Ambrosden Parish council	Monthly meeting – check website for agendas and minutes	Village hall
Friday	Rainbows 5- 6pm Brownies 6.30 – 8pm	www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested	Village hall
Friday 7- 9pm	1st Ambrosden and Arcott Scouts	https://www.facebook.com/1stambrosden/	Arcott Village Hall
Wednesday Thursday, Friday and Saturday	Kebab Van		Costcutter car park


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ARNCOTT NEWS

REPORT FROM ARNCOTT VHMC & ACA
MEETING 26th MARCH & PARISH
COUNCIL MEETING 2nd APRIL 2019

Arncott 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 Arncott parish councillors are ;
Paul Wilson (Chair) 01869 245514
Lee Savidge (Vice Chair) 01869 246565
Martin Byrne 01869 246532
Ade Doore 07850 979455
Andy Poppitt 07921 436489
Peter Barnard 01869 570569
Linda Hooper 07803 592183

Parish clerk : Anne Davies 01865 379645
- clerkatarncott@gmail.com
Parish council website : <http://www.parish-council.com/arncott> (also contains pages for the ACA)
Parish council Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/arncottpc/>
Parish council email : arncottpc@gmail.com
Parish Matters Magazine : arncottvhmc@gmail.com
Fix My Street : <http://www.fixmystreet.com>

Open meeting

This year's open meeting of the Arncott

Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 7th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

HS2

OCC have been asked to keep the parish council informed as to any possible plans it may have for upgrading the road and rail options in to / out of the village to provide haul routes for hard core and aggregate. No updates from OCC have been yet been received.

Woodpiece Road

The parish council has asked CDC for an update regarding its plans to commence work on the phase 2 parking provision. No updates from CDC have been received.

Grant money for sports facilities

Cllrs Wilson and Barnard have again met with a representative from a potential supplier for the construction of a new building next to the village hall. As mentioned previously, the intention is to remove the existing garage and erect the building which will provide for changing room / showers, a referee's room and storage area. The parish council is now waiting for the quotation.

Vehicle activated speed (VAS) signs

The parish council agreed that this project should be continued. Work is being done to determine the best option available. It is likely that new mounting posts will need to be installed into the roadside verges for fixing

the VAS units to so that the units are clearly visible to drivers. There are rules that have to be adhered to when placing VAS units at the roadside so permission and agreement as to how and where to place the VAS units will be needed from OCC highways.

Speedwatch campaign

The parish council was hoping that this initiative would start up again this Spring-time. Comments are often made about vehicles speeding through our village but it would seem that no-one is prepared to do anything about it. Sad to report that not one person throughout our village has volunteered to help with this program. If you can help then contact the parish clerk or any parish councillor for more information.

Dog Poo

Don't forget - take photos / videos of anyone you see who does not pick up after his / her dog. Email them to the parish council and / or the CDC dog warden - Christopher Cundy – telephone number 01295 221633 – email Christopher.Cundy@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk.

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.

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.

Village Hall public address system

A purchase order for the work to be done will be placed as soon as the terms and conditions for the purchase of the equipment have been finalised.

Fete Day football match

The parish council is making arrangements for the football goals to be re-installed by a certified contractor. The goals were taken down last year because the goal post footings were loose in the ground. The goals were leaning over which was a dangerous condition. The goals will be in place before fete day.

Summer Aunt Sally league

The Plough pub in Arncoth is looking for players to sign up for the summer Aunt Sally league competition starting in April. If you fancy playing Aunt Sally for your local then please call in at the pub and have a chat with Josh, K or D about signing up and fixture dates. You can also text / ring Josh on 07956 970839.

Community emergency response

For the village hall to be used as an emergency accommodation facility, a

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community help group of volunteers is needed. If you can help with this initiative then please email the parish clerk or the parish council email address.

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

With regard to the pothole on the level crossing near to C site entrance, Cllr Hooper has been chasing this up with the MOD. The parish council is hopeful that repairs to the road will get done sooner rather than later. Potholes need to be fixed in Woodpiece Road. This has been reported to OCC via the www.fixmystreet.com.

OCC have not yet advised the parish council as to when this work will be done. Please don't forget to report any road / pavement / street light issues you see on www.fixmystreet.com. This is how we report them and it is very easy to do.

Village Hall / VHMC / ACA

VHMC meetings take place on the last Tuesday of each month in the village hall at 7:00pm except for December when no meeting will be held.

Your contacts for the Village Hall Management Committee are:

John Cooper (Chair AVHMC) – 01869 323349 – johncooper47@btinternet.com

Christine Dunkin (Chair ACA and Village Hall hire) - 01869 249560 – avhlettings@gmail.com

Village hall email address - arncottvhmc@gmail.com

ACA – arncottca@gmail.com. Telephone - secretary 07716 812430

300 club – Wendy Wilkins – arncott300club@gmail.com

Facebook - www.facebook.com/groups/arncottCA

View hall availability on the calendar page at <http://www.parish-council.com/arncott/> Updated monthly.

300 Club winners - Draw date Tuesday 26th March

126 – Mrs M Gomersall

270 – Mrs J. Mummery

67 – Mr I. Thompson

143 – Mrs R. Jones

194 Mr J. Gonella

If anyone is interested and would like to start or rejoin the 300 Club, please contact Wendy Wilkins by email at Arncott300club@gmail.com.

Clubs at the hall

Ska Martial Arts Tang Song Doo / Tia Kwon Do – Mondays 6:45pm to 7:45pm. Contact Sean on 07740684164 or turn up on the night.

Mindfulness Meditation and Deep Relaxation Classes on Monday night at 8.30pm to 9.30pm and Thursday morning at 10:00am to 11:00am. You will be made most welcome by Charlotte.

Tumble Tots – Tuesday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Cubs – Wednesday 5.30 pm to 7:00 pm. School term times only.

Dog Training - Thursday 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Scouts – Friday 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. School term times only.

Yoga with Mindfulness – Friday 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Mini courses of 4 sessions that blend exercises for the body with relaxation for the mind.

Note – contact details for clubs are included only with written consent. If you wish your details to be included or wish to amend any entry for your club please email to arncottvhmc@gmail.com

Community events at the hall

Friendship club – Second Wednesday of each month 1.45pm – 3:45pm. The friendship club has been 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. 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.

ACA Open Meetings – Quarterly - see the hall calendar for details.

Other community events

ACA AGM – 21 May 2019 The tenure of all trustees involved in the ACA ends at this meeting. Community members willing to undertake the role of trustee are urgently sought.

VHMC AGM 28th May 2019 - The tenure of all trustees involved in the VHMC ends at this meeting. Community members willing to undertake the role of trustee are urgently sought.

Craft Club – Thursdays from 6:30pm to 9:00 pm in Greenfields Common Room. All welcome no matter what your craft or standard.

ACA – The ACA would like to thank the community volunteers whose efforts continue to be the backbone of all community activity within the parish. With their efforts the ACA will continue to seek ways to provide local events for local people.

ACA indoor boot sale - Monthly on the first Sunday 10:00am – 1:00pm.

your village, your news ... your village, your news ...

May 31st 2019 – Paintballing at Arncott Motor Park. Safety certificate issued and an event for 60 people approved. Arncott residents will go to the front of the ticket queue. Full details to follow shortly.

Halloween event – October 31st 2019 – Details to follow.

AVHMC - The Village Fete will be held on Sunday 21st July 2019 at the village hall and playing field. Please contact any VHMC or ACA committee member if you would like to be involved in planning and organizing the fete, or helping on the day.

Information correct at the time of printing. Contact the event organiser for further information.

Projects and improvements

Internet access in the Village Hall is being researched.

Material for the parish magazine

If you wish to submit any Arncott related item for publishing in the Parish Matters magazine then please e-mail to arncottvhmc@gmail.com or in person to the parish council chairman. Entries submitted by the 20th of the month will be included in the following month's edition.



The Bulletin Board

Ray Valley Benefice For May 2019

- Wed 1st - 10am Holy Communion, Ambrosden
 - 10am May day Service, Charlton
- Fri 3rd - 10.30 Tiny Tots, Fencott
- Sun 12th - All Day Big Bike Ride, Islip
- Thu 8th - 7pm Intercessions Workshop, Oddington
- Mon 13th - 10am Coffee & Contemplation, Charlton
- Wed 15th - 10-12 Coffee & Prayer, Charlton
- Thu 16th - 7.30pm Talk - Questions of Belief in a
Secular Secular Age - Islip Village Hall
- Fri 17th - 9.30 ABC for pre-schoolers, Islip
 - 3.30 Coffee Church, Charlton
- Sat 18th - 10-12 Coffee Morning, Piddington
 - 10am Christian Aid Coffee Morning, Charlton
- Thu 30th - 7pm Ascension service, Islip

*Bible Study 2nd & 4th Monday every month @
Ambrosden church 7.30pm

BLACKTHORN NEWS

NEWS

Congratulations to David and Katie Cross on the safe arrival of their second daughter Evelyn born on April 1st 2019. A sister for Robyn aged three.

Congratulations to Colin and Karen White who became grandparents again on the 10th April to a 3rd grandson named Mason, from Claire and Mark, a brother for Jasper.

VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR

A couple of years ago, Blackthorn Classic Car Show donated monies to fund a defibrillator for our village. The device is registered with South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust. The defibrillator is in a locked cabinet at the village hall and the 999 operator has access to the code. In case of any emergency, the process is to always call 999 first.

An individual requiring assistance, calls 999 to report a person in difficulty. The emergency service will ask for the location of the individual, address, postcode etc and determine the help required. The emergency service will take the necessary action.

The village defibrillator is there to provide additional help and the emergency service may ask a helper to go and get the device. They would then guide the helper in its use. The defibrillator is simple to use, speaks and tells

the user what to do.

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust hold the information related to our defibrillator, including access code, local contacts to ensure the device is properly looked after.

They have asked for additional help. They have requested a couple of local contact mobile numbers – call ahead numbers.

The “call ahead number” would be used for example if the member of the public (who is often in a state of panic) is unable to locate the defib. The emergency call taker has a number for someone with local knowledge who can guide them in finding or accessing it. The village defibrillator is, by its nature easy to see but this is in case help is needed.

The number is not used to ask someone to attend an incident and administer first aid. In the case of a working cardiac arrest a CFR, dual crewed ambulance and a Rapid Response Vehicle are sent so there would be no requirement for a guardian to attend.

If you would be willing to volunteer as a call ahead person, please contact John Henderson at j_henderson@btinternet.com or Lee Butler at leebutleracu@gmail.com You would then be shown where the defibrillator is and advised on what to do if needed.

BLACKTHORN VILLAGE HALL

Planned events at the Village Hall:

- Sun 5th May – Sunday Brunch 10 am
- Thu 9th May – Coffee Morning 11 am
- Fri 31st May – Pub Night 7.30 pm
- Thu 6th Jun – Coffee Morning 11 am
- Sat 22nd Jun – Summer BBQ
- Fri 28th Jun – Pub Night

Further details on each event will appear in future Parish Matters, on the Village FB page and via email. 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

If you would like to hire the Blackthorn Village Hall please phone Sandie on 01869 321542 or email Blackthorn Village Hall at blackthornvillagehall@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL

Oxford- Cambridge Expressway

There is a pressure group that has been formed to campaign against the express way - <https://www.noexpresswayalliance.org/>

The latest Progress report from Highways England is below and more information can be found at <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/>

Progress Report – Highways England Update

We were asked to explore the case for a fast, high-quality road link to better connect Oxford, Milton Keynes and Cambridge. This included filling the missing link, a 30-mile gap in the network between the M1 at Milton Keynes and the M40 at Oxford, including the development of new capacity at Oxford to relieve pressure on the A34.

We've been working with stakeholders and

partners on the first phase of the project, using analytical and evidence-based reviews to understand which of the proposed corridors should be taken forward for further development.

Following technical analysis and stakeholder engagement, Corridor B has been identified as the best performing option. This will deliver better benefits for the region as it out-performs Corridor A and C in supporting strategic transformational growth, regeneration and redevelopment.

They have rejected Corridor B2 - while it offers similar benefits at a similar predicted cost to B3, the environmental impacts around the Horspath and Wheatley areas are substantially more difficult to overcome. There are also a number of significant constraints as the corridor heads north toward Bicester, including Otmoor Nature Reserve.

We'll be developing viable route options for Corridor B1 and B3 (see description below) for public consultation next year:

Corridor B1 – a central corridor broadly aligned with the proposed East-West Rail route from Abingdon to south Milton Keynes via Winslow. This option passes to the west of Oxford

Corridor B3 – a central corridor broadly aligned with the proposed East-West Rail route from Abingdon to south Milton Keynes via Winslow. This option passes to the south east of Oxford.

You can find out more information about our findings and assessment in our Oxford to Cambridge Overview booklet.

The website address above will show you the route options on the Highways England map.

What's next?

Now we've established the corridor, we'll provide everyone with the opportunity to get involved and help shape the final project. In the next stage we'll continue to engage with a wide group of stakeholders to help us identify all the information we require in order to shortlist viable routes. We'll consult widely before making any decisions on the route's location. We'll then consult again, asking for your feedback on more detailed plans before we submit the planning application to build the scheme.

Timeline

Date Event

Autumn 2017 Commitment by the Chancellor for construction to commence on the missing link before the end of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) in 2025

2018 Corridor announcement

Autumn 2019 Public consultation on route options*

2020 Preferred route announcement*

2025 Construction starts*

2030 New link opens to the public

*Indicative timetable, subject to preferred route options.

Parish Council Update

While the Corridor announcement has been made as above – there has been no indication yet of possible routes for consideration. Members of the Parish Council have attended planned events and will continue to do so.

There is an opening on the Council for anyone who feels passionately about the Expressway and would like to become Blackthorn's champion once the route options are identified. Please contact Jenny Lamont (07968 745199) in the first instance if you are interested. Being a volunteer councillor is a rewarding experience.

BLACKTHORN PARK

Following the removal of the NO DOGS sign we have replaced it – NO DOGS are allowed in the park – instances of dog fouling has spoilt the enjoyment of the park for younger children.

In addition, we would request that rubbish be placed in the correct bins and that nappies are wrapped in bags before putting in the bins. The park is cleaned by volunteers and dirty nappies left in the bushes is not very nice.

Parish Council Members:

Chair – Cllr Jenny Lamont

Vice Chair – Cllr Randal Rue

Cllr Richard Burden

Cllr Sandie Stevenson

Cllr Rachel Lamont

Clerk – Tracey Charlesworth

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.



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(Beside Costcutter)

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4.00pm

-

10.00pm



WESTMINSTER TO ISLIP

Big Bike Ride!

Sunday 12th May 2019

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Big Bike Ride: 70 miles - Westminster Abbey to Islip

Halfway: 30 miles - Great Missenden to Islip

Nearly there: 15 miles - Thame to Islip

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In aid of Dr South's CE Primary School,
Islip and St Nicholas' Church, Islip



MERTON NEWS

Merton Parish Council

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

Tony Bradley (Chair): clltonybrad@gmail.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

Simon Ward: simonwmpc@gmail.com

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

Apologies for the lack of information from Merton for this issue. The news collector has been unable to offer the service this month. A normal News service will be resumed as soon as possible.

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OXFORD CAMBRIDGE EXPRESSWAY

NO EXPRESSWAY GROUP

Update - 9th April 2019

WHAT'S NEW

- **SAVE THE DATES!** This year's "Walk the Moor" event will take place on Sunday 7th July. A picnic is being organised by NEA on Brill Hill on 27th July.

- The No Expressway Alliance conference was held on 30th March with many attendees from local action groups and communities. From our group Sarah Foxcroft spoke about our group's campaign to date and David Rogers presented on the impact on the environment of the proposed Expressway, in place of BBOWT. Both were received really well and the group made useful contacts with other villages to share information and knowledge.

- Oxfordshire County Council votes on 2nd April – the council voted unanimously, with no abstentions, to aim for zero carbon growth by 2030, yet voted against the Labour motion calling for the proposed Expressway to be cancelled by 41 to 39 votes, along party lines. This was hugely disappointing, especially as all but one Councillors spoke against the Expressway and the over inflated housing targets leading up to the vote.

- As part of the Oxford Literary Festival, George Monbiot gave a talk called Out of the Wreckage: A new Politics for an Age of Crisis

on 30th March, at the Sheldonian. This was an excellent talk including criticism of the expressway plans.

- We are aiming to produce a series of short films which tell stories about our campaign. The first will be filmed over the next week about sites on Otmoor which have inspired people as children.

WHAT'S NEXT

- Continue to put up new signs & raise awareness locally and with other groups

- John Howell meeting for Parish Councillors only in the Millenium Hall to be rescheduled.

- Oxford Civic Society Expressway Debate (Ian Hudspeth vs Danny Dorling), 17th June, Assembly Rooms, Oxford Town Hall (booking essential)

- 7th July Walk the Moor event, more information to follow

- 27th July picnic on Brill Hill, more information to follow.

CONTACT –

Olivia Field on olivia_field@hotmail.com

WHAT CAN YOU DO??

- Write to your councillors & MP:

• object to the lack of public consultation & visibility, lack of Strategic Environmental Assessment, over inflated housing targets for the area (without focusing to have these in the right location at the right price) and the ongoing threat to our area,

- **remind them** it is critical that they are involved in and contribute to Highways England processes now, and that they should be representing our views.

Our County and District Councillors and the below MP's
Leader of the Oxfordshire County Council - Ian Hudspeth - ian.hudspeth@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Councillors for Beckley, Forest Hill and Stanton St John:
District Councillor – John Walsh, john.walsh@southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor – Tim Bearder, tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Councillors for Horton-cum-Studley:
District Councillor – David Hughes, david.hughes@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
District Councillor – Simon Holland, simon.holland@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

District Councillor – Timothy Hallchurch, timothy.hallchurch@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
County Councillor – Dan Sames, dan.sames@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Henley constituency – John Howell, howelljm@parliament.uk

Chris Grayling - chris.grayling@dfp.gsi.gov.uk
Michael Gove - secretary.state@defra.gsi.gov.uk
James Brokenshire - james.brokenshire@communities.gsi.gov.uk

Sign this
Cancel the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway (Petition on change.org) - https://www.change.org/p/the-secretary-of-state-for-transport-chris-grayling-mp-cancel-the-oxford-to-cambridge-expressway?utm_medium=email&utm_source=petition_signer_receipt&utm_campaign=triggered&share_context=signature_receipt&recruiter=6981912&j=319113&sfmc_sub=192659342&l=32_HTML&u=57423160&mid=7233052&jb=322251

Support BBOWT's legal challenge to the government for not following due process and completing a Strategic Environmental Assessment prior to choice of corridor for the proposed Expressway. If you'd like to find out more about this and donate, you can use the below link.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/charity-web/charity/displayCharityCampaignPage.action?charityCampaignUrl=expressway>

Website for more info....
Noexpressway.org
horton-cum-studley.org.uk/
beag.org.uk/

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#noexpressway
#saveotmoor

@sarahfoxcroft
@hcssaveotmoor
@NorthOtmoor

PIDDINGTON NEWS

PIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 21st May at 7.00pm to be followed by the Parish Annual 'Open' Meeting at 8pm. 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. There are no planning applications under review at the time of writing.

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.

ANNUAL PARISH OPEN MEETING

This will be held on Tuesday 21st May at 8pm after the Parish Council Annual Meeting. Everyone welcome. The evening is an opportunity to support councillors in the work they do for the parish, discuss village and parish matters and interests, and look forward. Refreshments will be available at the end of the meeting.

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

The Appeal Inquiry has been delayed until Monday 29th July and is expected to continue

for a week. This is due to the involvement of the MoD. The Parish Council will continue to advise through the village email and noticeboards.

The 'Legally Ska'd' fundraising evening was a huge success, raising over £2500 towards the parish's legal costs for the Appeal. Thank you to Lynda and John for all the hard work they put into organising the event. Thanks also to those volunteers who helped set up, worked behind the bar and with clearing up and for those villagers who donated such a great selection of auction items and raffle prizes. At the time of writing the total amount raised is approx. £12,500, with a further £3000 set aside by the Parish Council.

If you have not yet made a donation and would like to do so, or would like to increase your donation, please contact the Parish Clerk, Anne Davies, for the Parish Council's bank details.

OX-CAM EXPRESSWAY

The Parish Council were apprised of the work being undertaken by the No Expressway Group (NEG) at its meeting on 16th April and subsequently agreed to fully engage with the movement alongside many other parishes in Oxfordshire. A preferred route will be announced in the autumn from a number being considered, with Piddington positioned within this locality. A number of posters have been purchased and will be used around the parish. The NEG will be invited to address villagers at the Annual Parish Meeting on 21st May. The Parish Council has subscribed to receive regular updates from NEG, which will be forwarded to the village email system and Parish Matters. To receive these updates please sign up for village emails.

THE PIDDINGTON FITNESS TRAIL AT THE PLAYING FIELD

The Fitness Trail equipment has now been installed and is ready to use. However, the land around the equipment is still uneven so

care should be taken when using it. To get the most out of the Trail users are encouraged to download the Proludic Sport App, which is available for Apple and Android. An official opening event is planned for June where a member of the Proludic team will take those attending around the Trail and explain how the app is used. Everyone is invited, however the equipment is not suitable for children under 11. If you intend to take part, please make sure you are wearing trainers and suitable clothing. It should be a fun event.

There have been reports of some minor vandalism of parish property. The Parish Council asks that anyone using the field and park does so with respect for the hard work that has gone into providing the facilities for the enjoyment of villagers.

ALLOTMENTS

If you would like to apply for an allotment, please contact John Galloway: jmg.galloway@gmail.com.

The Parish Council has accepted an offer of sponsorship to pay for the installation of a water supply to the allotments, which also includes payment of the water usage for the first year. The Allotment Committee is now investigating the logistics. This is a very generous and exciting development, which should improve maintenance at the site in future years.

VILLAGE HOUSEKEEPING

To report a full or damaged dog bin contact Cherwell District Council (01295 227007) or the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council is still looking for someone to work for them on DIY issues in the village. When this has been done a new dog bin for Shady Lane will be installed.

There have been a number of reports of grass cuttings being left on the verge on Lower End. Such behaviour is a form of fly-tipping and

your village, your news ... your village, your news ...

makes the entrance of the village look messy. Grass cuttings can be easily composted or failing that placed in the brown bins. Extra bins can be purchased from Cherwell at a nominal cost.

FLY-TIPPING

We have had a number of incidents recently. To report local fly-tipping please use Cherwell's website (<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/7/environment/374/fly-tipping>) as it will help to have a number of reports to speed up the process. If you cannot access the internet contact the Parish Clerk with an accurate location.

RURAL POLICING

The next meeting of the Police Liaison/Resilience Committee will be held at Chesterton village hall on 12th June. All welcome to attend. If you have experienced any problems locally or wish to raise any concerns please contact Ken Howard (ken.howard@piddingtonpc.com). 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.

LOCAL GP SERVICES CONSULTATION

A public meeting will be held at the John Paul

II Centre (Webb Court, Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW) on Tuesday 14th May to discuss the future siting of a new GP surgery complex in Bicester. More information to follow.

EMERGENCY PLANNING & SSE PRIORITY SERVICE

The shed to house the new emergency generator will be installed once work at the village hall has been completed.

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

PIDDINGTON VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Piddington Village Hall Management Committee will be held in the village hall on Tuesday 14th May 2019. The meeting will start at 7.45 pm, when the accounts and village hall matters will be presented. After the meeting there will be a glass of wine or two

to finish off the evening. The committee would like to see as many people as possible from the village attend and support the committee in the all the work they do on behalf of the village.

PIDDINGTON 200 CLUB WINNERS

The Piddington 200 Club March draw took place at the Pop-Up Pub on 22 March 2019.

- 1st. 055. Martin Brown
- 2nd. 184. Derek Joy
- 3rd. 107. Malcolm Tipping
- 4th. 026. Bill Howarth

Please note that the current club year ends with the May draw. Collectors will call during the second week of May to pick up dues for the 2019/2020 200 Club year. If you have any questions ring 01844 238707.

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.

BICESTER ART WEEK

Piddingtonians Karen Joy and Francesca Darby will be exhibiting work at The OYAP Centre, St Edburg's Church at Bicester Artweeks (part of Oxfordshire Artweeks). From Friday 24th May until Monday 27th May. Please come over for a coffee and cake and say hello.

VILLAGE DIARY

* Dates to be confirmed C - Church; VH - Village Hall

14 May – Village Hall Management Committee AGM, 8pm (VH)

21 May – Parish Annual Open Meeting at 8pm (VH)

30 May – Book Swap Coffee morning, 10.15 – 11.45 (VH)

15 June – Pamper Evening (VH)

23 June - Greatest Hits Choir Concert, 3-5 (VH)

27 June – Book Swap Coffee morning, 10.15 – 11.45 (VH)

29 June - The Great Piddington Bake Off (VH)

25 July – Book Swap Coffee morning, 10.15 – 11.45 (VH)

July/August – Bingo night* (VH)

17 August - Arts & Crafts Exhibition, 10-2 (C)

22 August – Book Swap Coffee morning, 10.15 – 11.45 (VH)

7 September - The Pantry Autumn Market, 10-2 (VH)

21 September - Apple Day (VH)

4 October - Decorating the church for Harvest Festival (C)

5 October - Harvest coffee morning, 10-12 (C)

6 October - Harvest Festival, 10.30 (C)

18 October - Sports Talk with Rob Bonnet (VH)

29 November – Ukulele Night! (VH)

30 November - Wreath Making, 10-12 (C)

7 December - The Pantry Christmas Market, 10-2 (VH)

13 or 14 December – Village Christmas drinks (VH)

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

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/booking-calendar



SATURDAY
11th MAY



Otmoor Garden
Society's
Plant Sale

at Charlton-on-Otmoor
Community Hall
Doors open 11.00-1.00pm

Whether you are just looking to fill a small corner or want to bring new interest into the garden you will find something here.

To keep you refreshed while you shop there will be the usual teas, coffees and cakes.

OTMOOR GARDEN SOCIETY

March was a funny month! Our planned speaker had to cancel at three days notice, and we were extremely grateful to Sue Bedwell from Bletchingdon who stood in at very short notice for us. Sue gave an entertaining talk which aimed to address reducing maintenance in the garden as you get older or your lives get busier. In fact I think she proved that for true gardeners this is very hard to do. It seemed that as she got rid of one thing that was causing her work she introduced another! Perhaps she was describing the typical life of a plantaholic. Attendance was very high, trips were booking fast, and it was a good evening despite being not quite what we had planned.

Our Willow Workshop on Sunday 14th April was fully booked, and I believe greatly enjoyed by all who took part. Norah Kennedy is an excellent teacher by all accounts, and there were certainly some large and adventurous obelisks being made when I popped in. I believe the morning group also made willow flowers, and some achieved trellis pieces. The day included a social lunch, and many thanks go to Jo Copping for organising it all. Rumour has it she is already thinking about what next year's workshop will be! That's what we like – enthusiasm!

On Saturday May 11th it is the biggest event in our gardening calendar THE PLANT SALEthe thing that makes all the trips and workshops and good quality speakers possible. Once again we will have great plants at great prices. We've scouted some of the garden centres and nurseries again this year, and we aim

to pitch our prices at half what you would pay there. We very much appreciate all the support we get from members and non-members alike, so make a note in your diary now for 11am sharp! Don't miss it.

Friday May 17th we have an afternoon visit to Ablington Manor, a private garden near Bibury in the Cotswolds. This garden has featured in Country Life Magazine and looks lovely. I think this will be a new garden to most of us, so somewhere completely different to explore. Transport will be car sharing. You can book for this trip, and our other summer visits, at our next meeting or by contacting Alison on ali@hinksey.plus.com

This year again we have managed to fit in an extra speaker at the end of May. On Tuesday May 28th at Murcott, Dr Wilson Wall's talk will be entitled "Growing Native Orchids in the Garden". This will be a very scientific approach to conservation in your garden. Wilson is from Bewdley Orchids who promote

the very few native British orchids we have through plant fairs and talks. They produce them from seed, so as not to endanger wild populations. The talk will describe the process of growing orchids in your garden. How to introduce them into lawns, meadows and flower beds. Identification of different species, plant care and naturalisation. There will be some orchids for sale, but if you wish to buy I believe you will need to bring your cheque book! Due to the work and time involved

! Due to the work and time involved these are not cheap items.

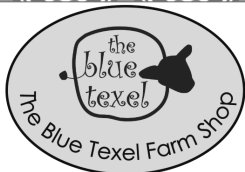
I seem to be running a little late this month, which I am putting down to plant fever ahead of the plant sale. So thank you to the editor for the reminder, and I hope this makes it to print. Oh dear, must try harder!
Happy Gardening,

Judith Rawlinson

For more details, or to join, contact Brian Eadle on 01865 331472
www.otmoorgardensociety.org.uk or find us on Facebook



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OTMOOR WOMANS INSTITUTE

Otmoor WI April Meeting Report

Glorious Coloured Gems was the subject of the talk given to members of Otmoor WI at their April meeting. The speaker, Helen Plumb, an internationally recognised gemmologist, explained how an early interest in gems and a career in geology lead to her hobby becoming a new career. With a shop in Winchcombe in Gloucestershire she now sources gemstones and advises clients around the world.

This was a look beyond the familiar diamond, sapphire, ruby and emerald world to the many colour variations of these gems, dependent on where they are mined and the factors that determined their formation. Helen introduced the beauty of tourmaline and spinel, debunked the idea of opals being unlucky and explained why some gems, such as emerald and amethyst may not be a good choice for rings due to the fragility of the stones. She explained how gems are weighed in carats, how impurities within the stone may affect their value and how their cut enhances their appearance. Finally, she invited members to view the wide selection of gems and jewellery she had brought along.

A break for delicious refreshments served by Beryl, Margaret and Mary Hatwell was an opportunity to take a closer look at the gems and ask questions, to sign up for upcoming events including a trip to Aston Pottery in July and to vote for the favourite item offered in the competition for a joyous gem. During the business of the evening, Sandie was awarded

the Competition Cup 2018/19. Maureen presented her report on the Oxfordshire Federation Annual Meeting which celebrated the centenary of the Federation with talks by Emma Bridgewater and Helen Sharman, Britain's first astronaut. Arrangements for the pop-up café and the village litter picks were finalised and names were taken for the Group Meeting where there will be an Antiques expert testing our knowledge. The competition was won by Joy and Sandie with Beryl second and Angie, Anne Lucas and Nicky sharing third place. Members were reminded that the May meeting on May 14th would be an opportunity to discuss and vote on the two resolutions selected for discussion at the WI Annual Meeting in June.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 14th May Resolutions (CCH) 7.45pm

Thursday 16th May Coffee, Craft and Cake (MVH) 7.45pm

Tuesday 11th June Garden Meeting

Thursday 20th June Coffee, Craft and Cake (MVH) 7.45pm

Tuesday 9th July Recycling with a Difference (CCH) 7.45pm

Thursday 18th July Coffee, Craft and Cake (MVH) 7.45pm

Please note that Coffee, Craft and Cake sessions at Murcott Village Hall, which are open to non- members, now start at 7.45pm

ADVERTISING & CONTACTS

COST OF ADVERTISING (PER MONTH)

Ad. Size	Black & White	Width (mm)	Height (mm)
1/4 page	£15.00	66.25	97
1/2 page	£30.00	136.5	97
Full Page	£60.00	136.5	198

Measurements are in mm - no bleed. All adverts should be submitted as a press-quality PDF. Any bitmap images or photographs used within the artwork must have a minimum resolution of 280 dpi. If you don't have artwork ready we'd be happy to design it for you. For a specially discounted price and a personalised quote please contact us. To advertise in this publication please contact ParishMattersOxfordshire@gmail.com.

SPECIAL OFFER! Pay for 2 issues, and get 1 free! Pay for 4 issues and get 2 free! Pay for 7 issues, and your advert will run for an entire year!

Ads received before the 13th of the month will be included in the next month's edition. Adverts received after this date will be included in the following edition.

THE COLLECTION AND EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Lucy Gordon parishmattersoxfordshire@gmail.com

Advertising: Russell Thompson rthom91543@aol.com 01869 246093

Village News Collectors:

Ambrosden Wendy Cheeseman wendy@plantalittlemagic.co.uk

Arcott arcottvhmc@gmail.com

Blackthorn John Henderson j_henderson@btinternet.com

Merton Lucy Katz cllrucykatzmertonpc@gmail.com

Piddington Chris Howard 01844 237928 chris.howard38@btinternet.com

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.

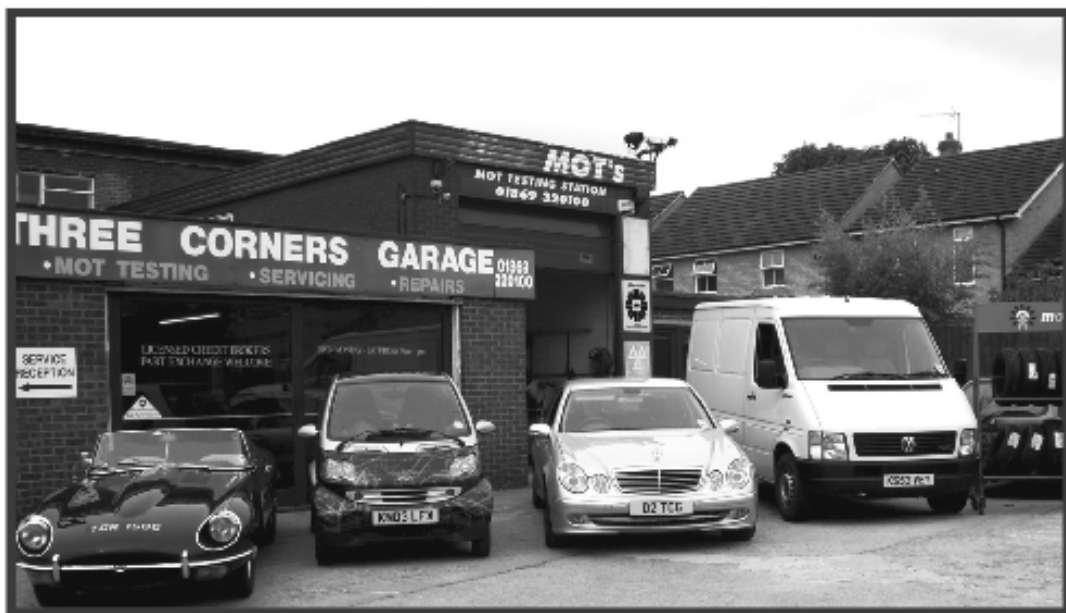


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