

The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



July - August 2019

TALKING POINT FROM CANON SUE BOOYS (TEAM RECTOR)

Plastics

In the early 1980's we always seemed to have a sack of plastic milk bottles on our doorstep! If you know me, you might think I was collecting for some kind of craft activity – I wasn't! In fact, we collected plastic bottles as part of an early experiment into plastic recycling.

Once we let it be known that we were interested in collecting bottles for this purpose there was a constant – almost overwhelming supply on our doorstep. Although we didn't then have the full picture of the appalling damage plastic was wreaking on our planet we were seriously concerned about overproduction and the problem of disposal. This early project proved and developed the ability to recycle plastic. In the 1980's little plastic was recycled and I can remember the excitement of seeing products made from recycled plastic for the first time and the gradual introduction of labelling for recycling.

Today recycling at some level is part of 'normal' for the majority of households and is an important part of our care for the environment. We are a long way from getting plastic right but greater awareness, paying attention to the small things, not using plastic unless you have to and being well informed are all important environmental steps that anyone can take. Did you know for example that 'non' recyclable black trays used for food packaging are usually made of plastic that has been recycled more than once?

Care for the environment makes sense – practically it represents our best hope for the future and spiritually it affirms the value of creation and is a way of giving thanks to the Creator. The Church of England is part of the move to value creation throughout the country – nationally, as leaders in the challenge to the oil industry and locally in churches where people are joining campaigns, installing solar panels, turning lights off or down and switching away from plastic whenever possible.

Comings and Goings...

In the Dorchester Team. I am delighted to report that we have appointed a new Team Vicar who will work mostly in Berinsfield, Drayton St Leonard and the Baldons with Nuneham Courtenay. The Reverend Teresa Stewart-Sykes is currently working in the 'other' Dorchester Team and we look forward to her joining us in the Autumn. Sadly Michael Lakey will leave the Bridge Group of parishes for Chalgrove – a great move for him and the family – we wish them well! Jon Roberts and Jennifer Morton have completed their curacies – this means that Jon now has to look for a move to a non-Curate role and Jennifer was Licensed to serve in the Dorchester Team on Wednesday 12th June.

IN THE BALDONS....

We are looking forward to the arrival of our new Vicar in the autumn. In the meantime, we continue to greatly appreciate all those people who keep our church life running smoothly and we are especially indebted to Jennifer Morton. As Sue Booy's has said, Jennifer has now completed her curate's training and, at a service in the Abbey on 12 June, was licensed by the Bishop of Dorchester to serve in the Dorchester Team. Her great contribution to the work of the team was especially commended by the Team Rector.

On 11th August, the service at Toot Baldon will be led by the PCC. It will be a Songs of Praise and we are asking for your requests (see below). Have you ever wondered how hymns are selected each week? In our cluster of churches a list of hymns is chosen in advance, every two months, by a rota of six people. The hymns are chosen according to the season and to fit in with the bible readings set for each Sunday. The system makes sure that that we sing a good range of hymns but a "Songs of Praise" creates an opportunity to widen the choice and perhaps revisit hymns that have slipped out of fashion. So do please let us know your favourites.

SONGS OF PRAISE AT TOOT BALDON

Sunday, 11 August at 6pm

Do let us know your requests so we have
a varied and uplifting service

Please send your choices to Veronica Sandilands
vsandilands@btinternet.com or write them on the list we will put
in both churches.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a Team Confirmation Service in Dorchester Abbey on the 29th September at 4pm. If you are considering being baptized or confirmed or know someone who is, please speak to someone in the clergy team. They can be contacted through the parish office on 01865 340007 or directly as listed on the weekly pew sheets in church.

Sue Booy's is Team Rector for the Dorchester Team. Any queries about services, or if you would like to speak to someone about a baptism, wedding, or funeral the person to contact in the first instance is the Administrator in the **Dorchester Team Office** on **01865 340007**. Or, if you prefer, email admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk.

01865 340007 is also the number you can ring **at any time** if you need to contact a clergy person urgently.

Baldons Churchwarden: Ian Gillespie (341398).

BEHAVIOURS, SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES

Flaming June arrived, on schedule this year, well, its flaming to me, as anything over 18 degrees is too hot for my liking. For many of the plants we grow in our gardens, it's a struggle too, with some showing signs of not liking the changing weather patterns we now face in the UK, as a climate crisis seems to be heading our way.

My view of the climate emergency we face is that climate change is a naturally occurring phenomenon, which in some ways is worsened and sped up by human behaviours, systems and processes, which we can all feel locked into. Lots of people talk about slowing down or even reversing climate change. We need to choose our battles wisely, and I for one, would like to see the focus switched across to the art of adapting to whatever nature throws at us. Whether that's humanity's survival thousands of years into the future, not just a few generations hence, or just that we start to live better, simpler and more sustainable lives. I say simpler, not easier. I think trying to make our lives easier has led us up the garden path as it were.

The adapting process can start in our own gardens. We potentially need to adapt our planting to accommodate the conditions. Something us gardeners do quite naturally anyway. Long-termism of thought relates to gardens as well as the wider environment. So how will you adapt your garden going forward? Will UK gardens and the concept of them, look very different in years to come?

Happy Gardening

Stuart Mabbutt

Wildlife Gardening Specialist

01865 747243 / www.wildmaninpsires.co.uk

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

30 th June & 7 th July	A Lyall	S Hobbins & J van Dijk
14 th & 21 st July	L Martin & I Wright	H Maskell & J Knight
28 th July	F Ardern	H Maskell & J Knight
4 th & 11 th August	F Ardern	J Brook
18 th & 25 th August	C Attewill & V Sandilands	V Bowler
1 st & 8 th September	P & J Slaney	S Hobbins & J van Dijk



Wednesday 10th July
7.30pm

Marsh Baldon Village Hall
OX44 9LL

The South Oxfordshire Filling Station is one of a network of Filling Stations nationwide (www.thefillingstation.org.uk), where Christians gather in friendship to build faith and meet with God. It is not a new church denomination; anyone of any denomination, any faith or no faith is welcome.

Coffee/tea and cake from 7.30pm, worship at 7.50pm, a talk starting at 8.15pm, finish 9.30pm. You are welcome to come and go at any point in the evening.

No Filling Station meeting in August.

If you are interested contact Catherine Mason (01865 343503 or 07879 626828) or Tom Hunnings (07778 104806).

EXCITING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 7th July – OPA Wheatley and Holton Fun Day

Thursday 25th July – Family Learning Event at Shotover,

for families with children 0-10, 9.30-2.30. More details to follow

Saturday 27th July – Bubble Workshop at The Maple Tree (10am-3pm) in conjunction with Oxford Museum of Natural History. This is primarily suitable for children aged 7+ and their families, but younger children are very welcome too. You can experiment with bubbles; watch a professional bubble artist and you will also receive a bubble kit to take home too. Families that attend will also be invited to the Museum of Natural History on 10th August to watch a special bubble show, meet scientists and show off some bubble experiments. Let us know if you are interested.

See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/500731153419935/> or to volunteer, hire the MT or just for more information contact hayley@mapletree.org.uk



Would you be interested in running a Youth Club or Toddler Group?

The Baldons Village Hall is currently home to a wide range of equipment suitable for running both a Toddler Group and a Youth Club: in previous years there has been both a thriving Youth Club and an active Toddler Group, and the Village Hall Committee would be delighted if a new generation could benefit from the equipment.

Toddler equipment includes a range of toys and games, including ride-on toys, play kitchen equipment, craft stuff etc, as well as a full set of child-sized tables and chairs.

Youth club kit includes a pool table, a number of table tennis tables, sound system, air hockey table etc.

If you would be interested in re-starting or helping to run either of these clubs, please get in touch with one of the following village hall committee members:

James Bufford (340091 / james.bufford@btinternet.com)

John Barne (343624 / johnbarne282@gmail.com)

Darren Baber (dbaber@rm.com)

Natasha Eliot (343478 / tashaandjames@btopenworld.com)

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the September newsletter
by 16th August please

Any villager is welcome to send items for publication in the newsletter - this can be anything from articles, poems or pictures, to publicising your event. In addition, if you have an image you would like us to consider for the cover, do send it in!

If you would like to receive a reminder e-mail each month for newsletter contributions, please let me know.

Natasha Eliot: tashaandjames@btopenworld.com. Alternatively, I can be contacted on 343478 or at Baldon House East, Marsh Baldon.

For advertising queries, please contact Sheila Harris on:
sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk or on 340403.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

The house to house collection raised **£643.16 plus gift of £43**. As Churchwarden, I would like to thank the peoples of Marsh Baldon, Toot Baldon and Nuneham Courtenay who gave money to Christian Aid.

I would also like to thank the people who collected from house to house i.e. Stephen Dance, John Mason, John Barne, Japh Slaney, Sonia Hobbins and Fran and Bruce. Best wishes, Ian



Marsh Baldon CE Primary School

The Green, Marsh Baldon

Oxford OX44 9LJ

Telephone (01865) 343249

Facsimile (01865) 341496

Email: office.3188@marsh-baldon.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Beccy Harris

Chair of Governors: Mr Kevin Moyes

www.marshbaldonschool.co.uk

Dear Community

We are writing to you to find out if you would like to support us. We are raising funds to replace our Early Years play frame which has been condemned and is now unsafe to use.

The play frame was a central feature of our children's outdoor classroom and we need to raise £10,500 to replace it.



Delilah has raised over £50 cleaning her neighbours' windows!

Are you interesting in supporting us? You can do this by:

- Making a financial donation
- Giving up your time to help with fundraising activities
- Donating goods or raffle prizes for the school summer fair
- Joining us for the school summer fair on Thursday 18th July at 3.15pm

Any contribution, however small, is helpful to us so we would like to thank you for considering our cause.

You may also be interested to know that this year's end of year theatrical production of The Wizard of Oz is on Tuesday 16th July at 2.00 pm and on Wednesday 17th July at 6.00 pm. Tickets are available from the school office between 8.30am and 3.30pm. We would love to see you if you would like to join us.

Best wishes

Beccy Harris
Headteacher

Universal Credit being used in new scam

citizens
advice

Oxfordshire
South & Vale

Universal Credit has well and truly arrived - but now scammers are using the benefit as a pivotal part of a new sting to target vulnerable people.

Citizens Advice says scammers are offering loans to their victims and then using their personal banking details to apply for Universal Credit in their names.

The scam is usually carried out by telephone, so do not accept a loan if you have been contacted by cold calling. If you are contacted in this way, just hang up. In general, personal details should not be divulged on the telephone or in an email.

The Universal Credit scam is also being carried out in public places. As victims leave job centres and pubs, they are approached by smartly dressed people claiming to be from the Department of Work and Pensions, who then offer "government loans". Instead, the victim is signed up for Universal Credit. The scammers then apply for an advance payment of the benefit. This payment goes to the victim's bank account, but the scammers then charge a huge fee, around 50 per cent, for this unnecessary "service".

Citizens Advice has its own free service to help those applying for Universal Credit for the first time. "Help to Claim" is available over the telephone, face to face, and online through "webchat" and Internet content.

The national Freephone number for Help to Claim is **0800 144 8444**. Telephone and webchat services are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Monday-Friday).

For any other issues you might need help with, telephone Citizens Advice Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or come and see us in person. For locations of offices and opening hours see www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale

Virtual PA/Administrator Oxfordshire

Do you need help with your business? Someone to organise your diary and take responsibility for all of your administrative needs? I can offer help with emails, diary management, 'phone calls, typing reports and letters, billing and invoicing, booking travel and hotels plus various other administrative tasks.

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BELL RINGING OPEN MORNING

in St. Peter's Church, Marsh Baldon

Saturday 13th July

10.30-12.00 noon

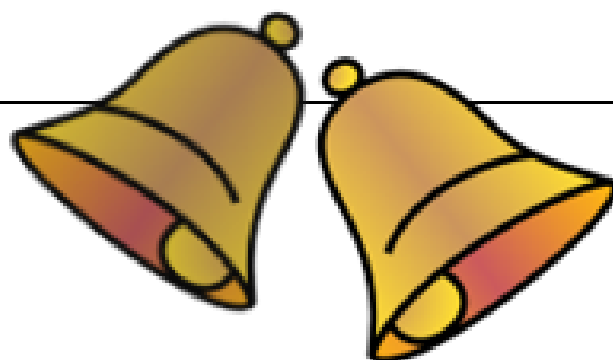
with coffee and cake

Have you ever wondered how the bells work? Would you like to have a go on a bell rope? In any case just come for a chat and a cup of coffee and some cake.

The church bells are an ancient and intrinsic part of village life and might be described as the first form of Baldons info. Traditionally they were used for calling folk to church services, but they were also used to communicate events, for example to signal a warning of danger.

During the Second World War they were silent so that they could be rung to signal an invasion, which fortunately never came. They were subsequently rung out to signal the end of the war. Church bells, including those of St. Peter's, rang out across the land last November 11th on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day 1918.

We would be delighted for anyone to drop in on Saturday 13th and have a look.



BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual report from the Clerk and RFO to the Parish Council

The financial year has come to an end for the Parish Council and I am delighted to report that the Council has successfully passed its Internal Audit, which was undertaken by Auditing Solutions, an independent company specialising in Parish and Town council auditing. The prime objective of the Audit is to provide the Council and local electors with an appropriate level of assurance as to the soundness of the systems of internal financial control. As the Baldons is a relatively small council, the auditor scrutinized all financial transactions for 2018-2019, as well as a complete review of all the procedures and policies. No issues were identified with the maintenance of account records and bank reconciliations. In addition, it was acknowledged that further procedures had been implemented to safeguard all financial transactions.

As a result of the Internal Audit, the auditor was able to duly sign off the Internal Audit Certificate. In line with the Transparency Code (2015), the end of year accounts, the Internal Audit Certificate and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) form are now published on the village website. These documents, along with the actual receipts are available for public inspection for the next 30 working days, beginning 10 June 2019. If anyone would like to view these documents, then please email me to arrange a mutually convenient time.

In terms of parish finances, the reserves held by the council decreased last year from £1983 to £17801. This was as a result of the cost of repairs to the road outside the school. All other expenses were within 15% variance compared to last year. While, the precept for 2019-2020 rose from £7848 to £8084, the council has identified a number of significant projects for this year and so reserves are predicted to decrease by a similar amount.

Tom James
Parish Clerk and RFO

Planning applications

Durham Leys Farm: The recent application for a development of 6 houses has been approved by SODC with conditions applied to control impact on neighbours during the development by a Construction and Traffic Management plan and for a scheme of repairs to the track and the Green consequent on the damage during the development.

Street Cleaning

Many may have noticed a dead badger on the road opposite the Seven Stars which was reported to SODC/Biffa for removal shortly after the May bank holiday and again a week later. A complaint has been made at their failure to find and remove it as it became more offensive and this has now received an apology.

If villagers do report a street cleaning issue in future and there is any uncertainty by Biffa as to a location it may be well to provide a Post Code where this is possible

Oxford to Cambridge Expressway

We have no new information about this at the present time. There is an expectation that there will be a period of consultation on the project announced in the autumn and that will be made public via the Expressway Action Group when we get it.

District Councillor

Sam Casey Rehaye our New District councillor is hoping to attend the July meeting of the Parish Council. For any villager wishing to contact her for advice or help her email address is: Sam.casey-Rerhaye@southoxon.gov.uk

School Climbing Frame Fundraising

A question was asked at the parishes Annual Meeting in April about the use of the small residual amount of money in the Millennium Fund. Subsequently counsellors have become aware of the fundraising at the school to replace a climbing frame which is unsafe and the council and school governors have approached the original members of the village Millennium committee with a view to support for this. The use of this money would be in line with the original intentions of the fund for play equipment and has the support of councillors.

Dates of Next Meetings

8th July 7.30pm Village Hall
9th September 7.30pm Village Hall

OWN A PUB – BECOME A BNCS SHAREHOLDER!

The Seven Stars is a community-owned asset in the heart of our villages. It is run by Matt and his team and supported by the Baldons and Nuneham Community Society (BNCS), which was set up to save the pub. Villagers chipped in to buy shares and it's now owned by over 150 shareholders, represented by the BNCS committee.

There is an opportunity to buy shares in BNCS, which will give you not only a stake in the pub but also a small rate of interest annually. We'd love to have new members, so if you are interested click on the website: www.bnctltd.com, e-mail us on info@bnctltd.com or contact any of the committee. There are also leaflets in the pub.

FAMILY ARCHAEOLOGY DAY



On Saturday 27 July from 11am – 4pm, Wallingford Museum has organised another exciting Family Archaeology Day at the Museum.

This event will show the role that metal detecting can play, and see some results it has achieved in the Wallingford area. Meet local metal detectorists and see their favourite finds. Bring along your own finds for identification by our archaeological experts or bring along your fossils to show our expert, Steve Head, who will be on hand to identify anything you might have found. Steve will also be able to show you some of his own fossil collection from around the world.

You'll be able learn all about how archaeology is done and see the results of recent work carried out throughout Wallingford. Then you can find out how to begin to identify the sort of pottery that helps to date the finds from archaeology, and even try making your own pots for fun!

Entry is by Museum ticket at the door - £5 per adult (which gives unlimited entry until 30 November) but accompanied children are FREE.

www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

JOHN LELAND - A TUDOR TRAVELLER AND WHAT HE SAW



Tim Porter will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about 'John Leland - A Tudor Traveller and what he saw'.

Tudor traveller John Leland is regarded as the father of local history. His extensive journeys round England and Wales were published in a series of books called the Itineraries. He described the towns and countryside he saw in some detail. One of his visits covered Berkshire, which contained the great castles of Windsor and Wallingford. Such eyewitness evidence is invaluable. In this talk Tim Porter will look at John Leland in the context of his descriptions of the local area.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 10th July 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

www.twhas.org.uk

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Cello in the Church

Benjamin Dry will play solo Bach Suites on the cello in this beautiful church on Saturday 27th July 2019 at 8pm

Tickets £10 from www.wegottickets.com (plus £1 booking fee) or reserve a seat and pay cash on the evening by emailing dmundy@hccct.org.uk. Proceeds to The Churches Conservation Trust.

The concert will take place at the Old All Saints Church, Nuneham Park, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire, OX44 9PQ. Free parking in the Global Retreat car park. There is no toilet at this venue.



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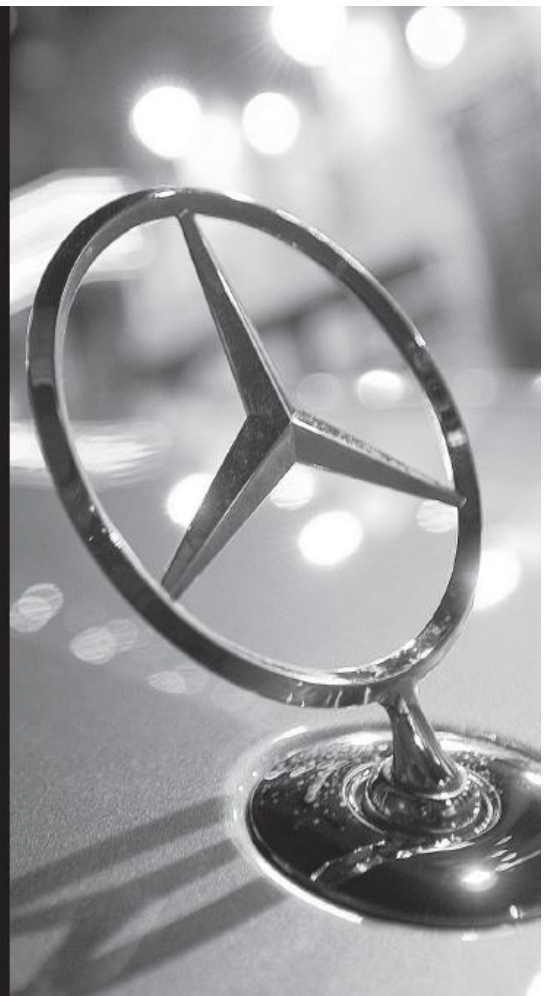
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local library...

13th July to 14th September

August 4th Face Painting afternoon 2.30pm

August 28th Story and Craft afternoon 2.30pm

Rhymes for the Under 5's

Wednesdays 10.30am

Storytime Wednesdays 3.45pm

IT Drop in Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter 2.30pm

Tuesday 2nd July & 6th August

Reading Group 2.00pm

Thursday 11th July & 8th August

Coffee Morning 10.30am

Tuesday 16th July & 20th August

All Welcome

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries



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SERVICES FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2019

30 th June	10.30am	Team Service <i>Michael Lakey</i>	Culham	Culham
7 th July	11.00am	Aircrash Memorial Service <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon	
14 th July	6.00pm	Evening Worship <i>Marcus Braybrooke</i>	Toot Baldon	
21 st July	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Marcus Braybrooke</i>	Marsh Baldon	
28 th July	8.30am	Said Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Marsh Baldon	
	9.30am	Family Worship <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Marsh Baldon	
4 th August	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon	
11 th August	6.00pm	Evening Worship <i>Songs of Praise</i>	Toot Baldon	
18 th August	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Marsh Baldon	
25 th August	8.30am	Said Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Marsh Baldon	
	9.30am	Family Worship <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Marsh Baldon	
1 st Sept.	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon	

SIDESDUTY

7 th July	Marsh Baldon	Toot Baldon
14 th July		11.00am J & H Maskell
21 st July	9.30am Catherine Mason	6.00pm Sonia Hobbins
28 th July	9.30am Natasha Eliot	
4 th August		9.30am Jenny van Dijk
11 th August		6.00pm Ian Gillespie
18 th August	9.30am Stephen Dance	
25 th August	9.30 Graham Hobbins	
1 st September		9.30am Ann Druce

FLOWER ROTA INSIDE – SEE P4