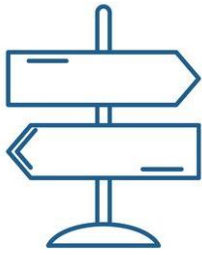


The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



November 2019

FROM REVEREND TERESA STEWART-SYKES: Are we there yet?



No, I'm not talking about Brexit! I'm talking about journeys. What a journey my husband Jon and I have had so that I can take up the post of Team Vicar in the Dorchester Team! Jon has left a town that he has lived in all his life (Dorchester, Dorset by weird coincidence); we have just sent our last two children off to university and are experiencing an 'empty nest'; and we are both embarking on new challenges in our working lives. Our physical journey to Dorchester has been challenging but very exciting!

November is a month that draws us all on an emotional journey too, a journey during which we remember those who no longer walk with us. All Souls on 2nd November is a date in the Christian calendar when we commemorate the faithful departed, giving thanks for their love, the joy of their memory and recall the Christian hope that we will be reunited with them in the Kingdom of God. November is also a time for remembering those who gave their lives to protect our democracy and freedoms; in the words of the epitaph written by John Maxwell Edmonds and inscribed on the war memorial at Kohima: "When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today."

Are we there yet? Whatever journey we are on, whether it's a physical, emotional or spiritual journey, I have been wondering if the destination is less important than how we get there? It might be particularly helpful to think about **who** we journey with especially if we are on an emotional journey or remembering and mourning a loved one. Are we travelling alone or with friends who are supportive? When times get tough, it's good to have someone to lean on, someone who will put the kettle on and just listen. Maybe a challenge for us this November is to ask ourselves, can I be a friend like that? Can I help someone who is struggling through these dark months?

Are we there yet? My experience of journeying to live in the Dorchester Team has also made me reflect on the importance of **how** we travel. Sometimes it's good to slow the pace of our lives in order to make room for what's important. We often find ourselves frantically rushing from one activity to another in order to achieve our destination, but perhaps taking a more leisurely pace will enable us to look after ourselves, to de-stress and to be more available to enjoy the company of our family and friends? How often do we stop and remember God in the midst of our daily routines? Mindfulness and meditation are very 'on trend' these days, but the most mindful activity is prayer, especially a simple repeated prayer such as "Be still and know that I am God". Try it and have a go this November, give yourself a bit a space and give God a window into your heart.

Are we there yet? I still feel that I have stuff to unpack from my recent journey, and very soon our children will be journeying home from university, bringing a whirlwind of noise and activity to the Vicarage! Whatever your journey is this

November, look after yourself and look out for those around you who might be struggling; and know that God will be with you every step of the way.

Rev Teresa

The Revd Teresa Stewart-Sykes is Team vicar for The Baldons with Nuneham Courtenay, Berinsfield and Drayton St Leonard.

e-mail: RevTeresa@outlook.com and tel: 07823 809112

A clergy person can always be reached in a pastoral emergency by ringing the Dorchester Team Office 01865 340007



THE PET SERVICE 2019

The Baldons said farewell to Rev Jon Roberts in true Baldons style – at the annual Pet Service, accompanied by dogs, hamsters, sheep and horses!



A big thank you to Tom and Sarah Hunnings for these lovely photos

CHRISTMAS CHOIR



The Carol Service this year will be on
Sunday, 22 December at 5 pm
in Marsh Baldon Church.



Rehearsals will start after half term and the carols will include "The Baldon Carol" which was found in the Marsh Baldon Psalter of 1814, belonging to James Bridcut, who was the Gardener at Baldon House 200 years ago.

At that time St. Peter's had a West Gallery, typical of many village churches. The music was led by a Band of miscellaneous singers and instrumentalists, the emphasis being on enthusiasm! So, if you are an enthusiastic singer or player of stringed or wind instruments, do get in touch.

Rehearsal days can be adjusted to fit with busy diaries so if you would like to sing, or play, please get in touch and I will send you a "Choir email" with potential rehearsal dates and times.

The Carol Service is a wonderful start to Christmas - do come and sing!

Veronica Sandilands
vsandilands@btinternet.com
01865 340562



Wednesday 13th November
7.30pm

Marsh Baldon Village Hall
OX44 9LL

All are welcome to join us at our November meeting of the South Oxfordshire Filling Station. We are a group of Christians from various churches, and none, who come together once a month to celebrate our faith in an informal way.

Coffee/tea and cake from 7.30pm, informal 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.

If you are interested just come along or contact Catherine Mason (southoxfordshire@thefillingstation.org.uk, 07879 626828) or Tom Hunnings (07778 104806).



Keep the Date!

Rambling with
Dogs and Dog Collars on
Saturday 23rd November



Hello! I'm the new Vicar for the Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay and I would like to invite all villagers of every age to join me for a community ramble to introduce me to your villages.

Bring your dogs (or not) and join me for a time of conversation and to make new friends. We will be stopping at various points for refreshments, so even if you don't fancy a walk do come along for a chat and to say 'hello'.

Look out for posters around the village, and the notice on Baldons Info, for more details of times, routes and refreshment venues!

See you then, Rev Teresa



**SHEAF OF CORN BREAD
MAKES BEAUTIFUL
HARVEST CENTREPIECE**

This stunning Sheaf of Corn bread was made by Caddy Attewill, using flour from Parsonage Farm.

It formed a beautiful altar-piece for the Harvest service and was then carried to the village hall for the Harvest Supper. It made a wonderful accompaniment to the home-made soup and other delicious dishes brought by villagers.



FIREWORKS NIGHT

Bonfire, Fireworks, Funfair, Bar, Mulled Wine, Food and more

SATURDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

Marsh Baldon Green

6.15pm Lighting the Bonfire

7.15pm Fireworks

Bonfire – We need your help. We shall be building the bonfire on the morning of 2nd November so bring material suitable for burning to The Green between 9.30am and 1pm. Please **DON'T** leave anything on The Green before 2nd November (we've had tyres and other totally unsuitable stuff dumped there presumably by people from outside the villages which costs a lot of money to dispose of). Start collecting now!

Helpers - If you can offer any help, whether putting up marquees, marshalling (which is simply wearing a hi-viz jacket and helping in the event of an emergency) or car parking on Saturday or litter picking etc. on Sunday please do get in touch.

If you have any questions about bonfire night, feel free to get in touch with one of the committee, or email baldonsevents@hotmail.com



THE BALDONS FUEL CHARITY

The Trustees would like to thank John Wright and Ray Claridge for the service they gave to the charity over the many years they served as trustees. Both retired this year. John served for 32yrs and was chairman for several of them. Ray served for 39yrs.

We welcome Alison Barne and Alan Johns to the charity as their replacements.

Chris Nichols (chairman)

BABYSITTER WANTED

We live on The Green and have two children, aged 5 and 7, who go to the village school. We're looking for someone who would be interested in occasional babysitting in the evenings.

We'd be very happy with a responsible teenager looking to earn some extra money if there are any about! Please get in touch on either 07813 957435 or 01865 341065. Or, alternatively, please feel free to forward this message to anyone who might be interested.

**Thank you very much,
Matt and Becca**

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

New villagers

Recently following the sale of a number of houses we now have some new families living in the village. On behalf of the Parish Council: welcome! We hope you enjoy living in our community.

SODC Local Plan

Many of you may have read or seen in the news the problems that are occurring in the development of SODC Local plan, and it might be helpful for you to be aware of what is happening.

Changes which occurred in the political make up of SODC in May has led councillors on the new council to wish to change the draft plan proposed by the previous council. There are concerns at, and a wish to review and change, the excessive amount of housing being required of it prior to its submission to a planning inspector for the necessary public enquiry.

The draft plan has included significant housing provision for what is termed Oxford city's unmet housing need and has proposals for development in the Green Belt south of Oxford, off Grenoble Road and nearby, which has implications for the Baldons and other villages e.g. Garsington which we have been consistently opposed to.

Councillors at the SODC council meeting on 10th October were proposing to vote on a motion to instruct officers to withdraw the plan to allow it to be revised for the following reasons:-

- The overall supply of homes in the Local Plan period is considered excessive as it is over 5,000 homes greater than the need identified for South Oxfordshire, even allowing provision for Oxford City's unmet housing need.
- The Local Plan does not give sufficient weight to responding to the climate emergency that we face as recognised by the decision of Council of 11 April 2019.
- Concerns about site selection issues including:
 - that the scale of Green Belt release is not justified
 - flawed site selection having regard to the sustainability and deliverability of strategic allocations

Just prior to the meeting SODC received a letter of instruction from the Government Minister for Communities Housing and Local Government using his powers under an Act to stop the council taking any action. Therefore the committee was unable to debate or vote on the item.

Our District Councillor Sam Casey-Rerhaye has written a briefing note for Parish Councilors and expressed her concern at the uncertain position SODC is left in and it is hoped she will be at our next Parish Council meeting on November 11th

to update us. Meanwhile the threat to local democracy and the Green Belt remains.

Oxford to Cambridge Expressway

We have no new information on this as yet.

There was no Parish Council meeting in October and no new planning applications.

Date of Next meeting

Monday November 11th 7.30 pm Village Hall

At this meeting we will be discussing the priorities and budget for next year prior to making a recommendation on the precept. If you have views, come along.

All our meetings are open to the public and we have an open session on the agenda for anyone wishing raise a matter with us.

Citizens Advice launches energy advice drive



Your local Citizens Advice is launching its annual initiative to help people in financial need who find it hard to pay their energy bills. The project, called the Energy Advice Programme (EAP), is going live throughout Oxfordshire South and Vale from October to March 2020. It includes comprehensive steps to help people who have to spend a significant proportion of their income on fuel bills.

At an EAP appointment our advisers, depending on your particular problem, can do one or more of the following:

- Help you understand energy companies' tariffs and bills.
- Provide information and support on switching tariff or supplier, identifying any savings you might make.
- Give advice on energy efficiency measures and list any grants available to pay for these.
- Carry out benefit entitlement checks and help you claim any benefits to which you might be entitled. We can help you apply for the Warm Home Discount and the Priority Services Register, if applicable.
- Assist with any customer service complaints you might have against your energy company.

The Citizens Advice website www.citizensadvice.org.uk will give you more information. You can also telephone our Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or visit a local branch of Citizens Advice during opening hours. Details of office locations are on www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

I admit it, I got it wrong in the last Newsletter: the next Parish Council Meeting is not on Tuesday 4th November 2019, it's on Tuesday 5th November – Guy Fawkes Day, as some might say. The other details were correct: it will be at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Whatever is going on outside in the village that night, don't expect any fireworks inside at the meeting. The meeting will probably discuss a lot of ongoing issues but also anything else a parishioner wants to raise. All the meetings are open to the public so if you want to raise something, turn up just before the start and let the person chairing the meeting know that you want to speak.

The Nuneham Courtenay Sports and Playing Field Association has kindly invited Madhvi Saini, who chairs the parish council, to come to their next meeting a fortnight later on 19th November. Otherwise, I can't think of any progress to report on any of the other topics occupying the Council's time such as speeding or the condition of the footways along the main road.

Geoffrey Ferres, Parish Clerk, Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council

NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Nuneham Courtenay: A Landscape for an 18th-Century House –
Thursday 7th November

This is a talk by Dr Geoffrey Tyack of Kellogg College Oxford on the Grade 1 listed gardens of Nuneham Courtenay. Dr Tyack's interests are in British and European architectural history, especially from the C18 to the C20, and the history of urban planning since the Renaissance. As well as teaching, he has authored many books, is a trustee of Oxford Preservation Trust, President of the Oxfordshire Architectural and Historical Society, a council member of the London Topographical Society, and Editor of the Georgian Group Journal.

Tickets are £5 and include a complimentary drink. Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start. Tickets in advance may be purchased from June Harris at 28 Nuneham Courtenay or by contacting jenny@datadaysolutions.com

Jumble Sale

November 9th from 12-2. Come along and bag a bargain. Or rent a table for £6 and have a clear out. Call Jenny on Ox 343459 to reserve a table. Donations of jumble are gratefully received as all funds go to benefit the village hall funds. Tea, coffee, and refreshments are also available.

Christmas Bingo

December 6th. Doors open at 7:30, eyes down at 8pm. Join us for a fun Christmas themed night out



**Nuneham Courtenay:
A Landscape for an 18th-Century House**

By

Dr Geoffrey Tyack

Thursday, November 7th

Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall

Doors open 7pm for 7:30

Tickets £5, including a glass of wine or soft drink

Tickets available in advance from

June Harris at 28 Nuneham Courtenay or

jenny@datadaysolution.com

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the December / January double issue newsletter
by 16th November 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.

ADVERTISING CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED:

COULD YOU SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS A MONTH TO HELP RUN THIS NEWSLETTER?

For most of the last decade, Sheila Harris has coordinated the advertising for the newsletter. This is a critical role, as without the income from advertising, it would be difficult to provide the newsletter for free to every household, so we are immensely grateful to Sheila for all her work.

She now wishes to pass this role to someone else, so we are looking for someone who could take over in the New Year. The key parts of the role are

- Communicating with advertisers about the frequency and size of their adverts
- Producing simple invoices (no accounting software is required here!!) and
- Liaising with the PCC treasurer to ensure that payments are made.

If you might be able to help, please do get in touch with either Sheila
(sheilaharris778@yahoo.co.uk or 340403)
or Natasha (tashaandjames@btopenworld.com or 343478)

THE MAPLE TREE

Thank you to everybody that either donated to, or bid on our Silent Auction, we made a staggering £3,000. This will enormously help with our running costs.



We have lots going on at The Maple Tree this autumn:-

From Wednesday 13th November, we are excited to announce that we will be involved in the running of a new Baby & Toddler group at Forest Hill Village Hall from 1-2.30pm. We look forward to meeting many more local families. We are always pleased to work in partnership with the surrounding villages and are open to any further partnership suggestions.

We have a special one-off Fun in the Woods session on Thursday 7th November from 9.30-11.30am. We will have a campfire, stick bread, stick decorating and much.

We will be re-introducing our popular Sling & Buggy walk on a regular basis from Wednesday 7th November 12-1.30pm.

In the lead up to Christmas, we will be selling Christmas Trees in partnership with Wheatley Scouts. These will come from a sustainable plantation in Scotland – more details to follow.

Saturday 7th December is our Family Christmas Craft session at Holton Village Hall from 2-5pm. Come along and make wreaths, gifts and much more.

Coming soon: Maple Tree Baby Massage

See our new Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley> for more information about any of the above or contact hayley@mapletree.org.uk

FROM JOHN HOWELL MP

Whilst one particular issue dominates the media, I know that another very important issue concerns many constituents – that of climate change. I have already said that I share this concern and am pleased that this is now given prominence in our national and international debate.

It seems to me that what is important now is not continued debate on whether or not we have the correct figures but policies and action to move us in the direction of net zero. The research will carry on, but we can make a start. If we find that the policies need strengthening, then we can do so.

The independent Committee on Climate Change (CCC) advised that 2050 would be an 'appropriate UK contribution to the Paris Agreement' that is 'in line with other climate leaders' and is an 'achievable' target for the UK. The CCC also suggests that this is achievable with known and developing technologies, alongside improvements in people's lives. I acknowledge that it is for Government to drive this forward and I agree entirely with the progress report that decisive cross-cutting action is needed. There is much work to do nationally, internationally and at a local level.

I am pleased that we have groups in our communities coming together to work out what each can do in their own lives and what we can do in our communities. I have met with a couple of such groups and enjoyed good discussion. We are all on a journey with this. It is not always possible to make instant changes, but we can start to plan for change in the way we do things.

There are, of course, economic considerations. We need to be mindful of the impact of transition on consumers and business and working life. There are also economic opportunities. There are currently some 400,000 jobs in the low carbon economy. There is opportunity for many more.

A key aspect of our transition will be taking people with us and also making sure that being 'green' is affordable for everyone. In South Oxfordshire we have a good track record on waste recycling but this is not replicated right across the country. When this was introduced here, some years ago now, there were people who complained about the new system. The council did their best to make it easy for people to recycle and by and large the public has risen to the challenge. We need to do the same now with other initiatives.

If you have initiatives towards this agenda in your community, please do let me know. I am interested in sharing in your learning and hearing what are the most important aspects to you. Whether on this or something else, if you have an issue that you would like to raise with me please do email me at howelljm@parliament.uk, phone on 0207 219 6676 or 01491 613072 or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).

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Elgar

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Sunday 8 December 2019, 5pm
Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford

Conductor:

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Ed Lyon *Tenor*

Roderick Williams *Bass*

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Tuesday 5th November & 3rd December

Reading Group 2.00pm

Thursday 14th November & 12th December

Coffee Morning 10.30am Tuesday 19th November

Christmas Coffee Morning 10.30am

Tuesday 17th December

All Welcome

Berinsfield Library Opening Times

Tuesday - 10.00 - 12.30 & 2.00 - 7.00pm

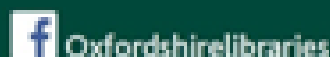
Wednesday - 10.00 -12.30 & 2.00 - 5.30pm

Thursday - 2.00 - 5.30pm

Friday 10.00 - 12.30 & 2.00 - 5.00pm

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SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2019

3 rd November	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon
10 th November	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday	Toot Baldon
17 th November	9.30am	Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
24 th November	8.30am	Said Holy Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	Family Worship	Marsh Baldon
1 st December	9.30am	Holy Communion	Toot Baldon

SIDESDUTY

	Marsh Baldon	Toot Baldon
3 rd November		9.30am Ann Druce
10 TH November		10.45am Sonia Hobbins
17 th November	9.30am Graham Hobbins	
24 th November	9.30am Natasha Eliot	

FLOWERS

3 rd & 10 th November	C Attewill & V Sandilands	S Hobbins & J van Dijk
17 th & 24 th November	P & J Slaney	H Maskell & J Knight
ADVENT	NO FLOWERS	

EVENTS IN DORCHESTER ABBEY

OSJ Music in the Abbey: Mascagni Intermezzo Cavalleria Rusticana
Saturday 23rd November 7.30pm

Rachmaninov piano concerto no 2 soloist Maki Sekiya (www.makisekiya.com);
Rosauro marimba concerto soloist Gregor Thomson; Verdi Prelude from Traviata
and Bizet Suite from Carmen. Tickets from www.osj.org.uk

BCS Baroque Concert Saturday 30th November 7.30pm

Bach's Magnificat, Handel's Chandos Anthem O praise the Lord, Vivaldi's Beatus
Vir for choir and soloists, and one of his many concertos for Strings. Tickets from
www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk

Renaissance Music for Advent and Christmas York Waits Concert with
Deborah Catterall, singer. **Saturday 7th December 7.30pm.**

Festive renaissance music from around Europe, performed on shawms and
sackbuts, curtal, crumhorns, great recorders, flutes, harp, gittern, rebec, fiddles,
portative organ and the joyful, rustic bagpipes and Vielle. Tickets £10/15
available in advance from Eventbrite or on the door.