

The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



September 2019

TALKING POINT FROM REVEREND JENNIFER MORTON, ASSOCIATE VICAR IN THE DORCHESTER TEAM

Just lately I seem to have developed a penchant for detective fiction. Easy to read and the perpetrator in true Agatha Christie style is always discovered and brought to justice. However, what is most fascinating is that the circumstances of the crime (often a murder) is not always obvious or straightforward but is solved by the investigation of the character and personalities of the people involved and their relationships with each other. Rather obvious I suppose!

Unfortunately, all too often the news is full of real life violent incidents and I find it is difficult to always understand the frustration and anger that drives people to destroy not only someone else's life but inevitably also their own. Whatever the circumstances it seems people are becoming more self-serving and do not care about the good of their fellow human beings. Surely each person has a right to be accepted for who they are regardless of background and to live their lives in a safe and just world. Healthy relationships within society can surely only develop if worked at and attitudes that promote equality and justice for all are key.

As a Christian I believe we are all made in the image of God. We have the potential to develop the loving kindness we see reflected in the character of the person of Jesus. He tells us to "love one another as he has loved us". The self-interest of the authorities played a part in these events and resulted in Jesus himself dying a violent death. But for Christians that was not the end. Jesus overcame death by being raised to life on the third day. Today we too are offered the life in all its fullness that Jesus promised.

As I spend time with my newest grandchild, I wonder what sort of world he will grow up into. My hope is that he will know and express the deep love that treats everyone around him with the care and respect that Jesus showed during his life on earth. Surely we human beings have the responsibility to learn to treat the whole of the created world with tolerance and respectand loving kindness?

LICENSING OF TERESA STEWART-SYKES, NEW VICAR FOR THE BALDONS AND NUNEHAM COURTENAY MONDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM, DORCHESTER ABBEY

We are delighted that Bishop Colin will be joining us to License the Reverend Teresa Stewart-Sykes to the Dorchester Team on Monday 30th September at 7.30pm. Teresa will live in Berinsfield and her primary pastoral responsibility will be there and in the Baldons & Nuneham Courtenay and Drayton St Leonard. Please do join us to welcome her and her husband Jon!

Sue Booy 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).

TERESA STEWART-SYKES: MY DESERT ISLAND DISCS

I am thrilled to have been appointed as Team Vicar with responsibility for Berinsfield, the Baldons and Drayton St Leonard and look forward to meeting and getting to know the community which makes up the Dorchester Team. I have been asked to provide a short biography to introduce myself, so being a fan of Desert Island Discs, I thought I'd share my 8 discs:

1. Lark Ascending- Ralph Vaughan Williams (Nigel Kennedy's recording): I have lived in many areas of the country but I regard the Cotswolds as my 'home' and Cheltenham is where I spent most of my childhood; it's where my sister and her family still live. This piece reminds me of home and walks through the Cotswold Hills
2. Flying Saucer Attack- The Rezzillos: Who can forget the thrill of the Punk era? I was a student at Bristol University (Theology and Indian Religion) and after that spent a few years living in Alf Garnet territory in the East End doing youth work at the Mayflower Centre
3. Ex Ore Innocentium - John Ireland : I was ordained Deacon in St Albans Abbey in 1989 and served my title in Stevenage
4. Ragga Ragga - Red Plastic Bag: I was very fortunate to serve at Holy Cross Church, St John, Barbados for a few years in the 1990s. Situated on the spectacular Atlantic coast the parish was rural and steeped in the tradition of the Mirfield Fathers who had a community house nearby in the 1950s-1960s. This piece of Soca music was often played at church picnics and fetes
5. New York, New York! - Leonard Bernstein: I was also fortunate to spend a few years at the General Theological Seminary in Chelsea, Manhattan (close to the infamous Chelsea Hotel!). This was where my children (triplets!) were born. New York truly is a wonderful town!
6. Tomorrow shall be my dancing day- Traditional: This is the song that was on my phone and that I listened to during the retreat prior to ordination to the priesthood at Salisbury Cathedral in 2016
7. English Birdsong: I love being out in the countryside, hiking, running, kayaking and until very recently walking the dog at dawn (she died a month ago). Whenever I have lived abroad, it is the song of the blackbird that I have missed the most about Britain.
8. Un bel di vedremo (from Madam Butterfly)- Giacomo Puccini (Freni, Pavarotti and von Karajan recording): I adore the opera! My husband Jon and I go as frequently as we can afford to live opera and a trip to the Met in New York is very much on our bucket list!

Book: The Bible

Luxury: a DAB radio -I cannot live without the Today Programme each morning!

Cover Photo: Blackberries (Natasha Eliot)

Sunday 13th October at 5pm

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE AT TOOT BALDON

followed by

HARVEST SUPPER IN THE BALDONS VILLAGE HALL

More details in the October Newsletter but please put the date in your diary and if you might be able to help either with decorating the Church or contributing to the supper please contact Veronica Sandilands:- vsandilands@btinternet.com Tel: 01865 340562

DORCHESTER LECTURE WITH THE VERY REVD MARTYN PERCY
MILLENNIALS: FAITH IN THE FUTURE

THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM, DORCHESTER ABBEY

What do faith, religion and spirituality look like for the emerging generation? Specifically, are young people 'spiritual but not religious' or 'believing without belonging'? What cultural issues do we have in society in relation to faith and belief – and what happens to ethics/morality when it is not rooted in a religious tradition? Tickets £10 from 01865 343228 or friends@dorchester-abbey.org.uk or online www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk



Wednesday 11th September
7.30pm

Marsh Baldon Village Hall
OX44 9LL

Come and join us for the first Filling Station of the autumn term. The South Oxfordshire Filling Station is one of a network of Filling Stations that meet nationwide (www.thefillingstation.org.uk), where friends gather to meet with God and grow their Christian faith.

It is not a new church denomination; anyone of any denomination, any faith or no faith is welcome. You don't have to be a member or let us know you're coming, just turn up on the night. All are 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.

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

Churches for Mission and the Community

A Forum for Friends of Churches and Chapels

Dorchester Abbey, September 28th 2019

all denominations welcome

Programme

Registration: from 9:30 (dedicated parking available nearby)

Introductions (10:00)

Plenary I

The Importance of Friends of Churches

Sir Tony Baldry TD DL (Church Estates Commissioner 2010-15)

Sustainability of Churches

Dr David Knight (Senior Church Buildings Officer, C of E)

Refreshments

Workshop I

Plenary II

The National Churches Trust: support for churches & chapels

Nigel Mills (NCT Church Support Officer)

Buffet Lunch

Workshop II

Panel Discussion

with Bernard Taylor DL (Chair of the 2017 Review of the Sustainability of English Churches and Cathedrals), Sir Tony Baldry and other presenters

Close and Evening Prayer (3:30)

Workshops

Leaders with experience in each area will support discussion and foster an exchange of ideas. Participants will be asked to select two topics from:-

- Setting up Friends Organisations
- Practical help from your community
- Major projects in small churches: what they can achieve - experiences of two Churchwardens
- Project planning: key tasks and the order to do them in
- Quinquennial inspections: a users' guide
- Fundraising
- Make your church a place of pilgrimage for schools
- Moving on in faith: using your building to support the church's mission

Tickets (£10 including lunch) available at ohct.org.uk/events/



Oxfordshire Historic
Churches Trust
Supporting Oxfordshire's
Churches since 1964



DORCHESTER
ABBAY

CHURCH
OPEN
WELCOME!
PLEASE
COME IN



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

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you to the Baldons community for their support in helping to raise funds for our new Early Years play frame. We met our £10,000 target before the end of the summer term and the play frame has been fitted over the holidays. This means that we will be fully equipped when we greet our new four year olds in September. We hope to open up the school's new facilities to our community through 'Stay and Play' sessions. These sessions are for children from 3 upwards. Please look out for dates in our next newsletter.

The school is hosting a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This will be on Friday 27th September at 9.30am – 11.00 am in the school hall. There will be breakfast goodies, cakes and biscuits as well as hot and cold drinks. Please join us if you can. We always enjoy a good turn out from the community at this event.

At the school, we have an eco council who over the past few months have been looking at ways to reduce the impact of the school on the environment and climate change. The children at the school have become particularly interested in the actions of Greta Thunberg and following a school referendum have voted to declare a Climate Change Emergency. They will do this through a public event in September (date to be decided), after which the school will write a 5 year plan to significantly reduce its carbon footprint. If you have an interest or any special expertise in this, we would love to hear from you.

Following the school's Ofsted inspection last Autumn, the number of children attending our school is rising again, helping the school to go from strength to strength. We will hold another open day in November, but please encourage any families you know are looking for a school place to book an appointment to visit us anytime.

And lastly, we are launching 'Friends of Marsh Baldon' in place of our school PTA. We are inviting community members to join us and would therefore love to hear from you if you would like to be more directly involved with the school.

We look forward to welcoming you to the school soon

Best wishes

Beccy Harris - Headteacher



THE BALDONS FUEL CHARITY
(But not just fuel)

Need help with education costs for school, college or university? Maybe travel, books, uniforms, computers?

The Charity gives financial help towards energy bills and personal alarms.

The Charity has an annual income of about £17,000.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, or know anyone in the villages who is, please let us know. Either talk to one of us or obtain an application form for a grant from the Clerk, Mrs Barbara Wright (343276) or any of the Trustees. All applications are dealt with in the strictest confidence by the Trustees.

Trustees:

Chris Nichols (Chair) - 343388

David Greenaway - 343496

Graham Hobbins - 343227

Alison Porter – 340405

Ali Barne – 343624

Alan Johns - 343268

SEVEN STARS FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL

27th SEPTEMBER

The Seven Stars is a community owned asset in the heart of our villages. It is run by Matt and his team 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.

On Friday 27th September BNCS will be hosting its third annual community event in the Seven Stars. All are welcome, whether or not you are a shareholder in BNCS. Please come along and enjoy an evening of socialising with friends and neighbours, particularly if you are new to the village and/or would like to learn more about becoming a BNCS shareholder. Members of the committee will be there to answer any questions about BNCS and to explain the benefits of becoming a shareholder (which include earning a favourable rate of interest on your investment).

You can also find more information about BNCS on our website: www.bnctltd.com or can email us on info@bnctltd.com. If you would like to receive emails from Matt with information about upcoming events and offers at the Seven Stars, please contact Matt at info@sevenstarsonthegreenco.uk.

BNCS Committee: info@bnctltd.com

Baldons Village Hall

Quiz Night

Saturday October 12th
7.30 pm

Maximum 6. per team
Superb Prizes
Chicken & Chips Supper
BYO Drinks

£10.00 per person
Tickets Available From John Maskell
Call 343 203

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

School Play Equipment

The parish council have been asked by the school governors for help to secure funding for a replacement climbing frame for the younger children. As there has been a small sum left over from the Millennium celebrations the council consulted the remaining members of the Millennium Committee and councillors have supported their recommendation to grant £1500 to the school for this important piece of equipment.

Improvement in Ecology and Biodiversity in the villages

Approaches have been made to the council by villagers keen to see action to help improve the environment and biodiversity and make our own contribution to preventive measures for global warming. Some new tree planting has already taken place through the initiative of Sue Shaw and ideas have been discussed with the council and the Millennium Committee. As a small amount of Millennium money is still available, the council is supporting the Millennium committee members to explore the possibility of new initiatives and make a recommendation to us by the new year. See separate note for details.

A number of trees have been lost in the villages in recent times and we hope that villagers will be enthused by this initiative to look afresh at what and how we can make an improvement.

Parish Council Communications

As part of the necessary compliance with privacy legislation the council are adopting generic email addresses for all communications to allow the full separation of personal communication from that of council business. The changes will be effective from 1st September 2019.

New email addresses will be

Dorothy Tonge chairman@baldonspc.org

Thomas James clerk@baldonspc.org

Lauren Collett lauren.collett@baldonspc.org

Other councillors will be: name@baldonspc.org

Standing orders

The council has now reviewed all its standing orders for the conduct of business, meetings, finance, privacy etc. All can be found on the Baldons website.

Oxford/Cambridge Expressway

We are waiting on Highways England to make public their preferred route options having initially only indicated corridor options. We were told that this information would be made public late summer/early autumn. We are expecting there to be a number of routes in each of the currently proposed corridors, these being: B1 – to the West of Oxford and B3 – to the of South of Oxford. The Baldons would be directly impacted by any of the likely routes in B3 and we, as a Council are using all possible routes to stave off this threat. Councillor Elizabeth Gillespie is a member of EAG, and villagers John Clark and Dawn McGiveron are also active members. The Group, representing forty three villages are fighting on the ground at every level to attempt to ensure that, if the Expressway is to be built, we produce evidence to persuade that B1 is the least damaging to the Green Belt, is cheaper

and ultimately of better strategic worth. There is likely to come a point when we need funds for legal representation and surveys, therefore EAG will be looking for – supportive financial – help in procuring these funds. The Parish Council is already committed to contributing but any individual contributions will be gratefully received by EAG which is our vehicle of defence.

SODC, under its last administration, signed a non-disclosure agreement about any discussion held by the Council with Highways England about the proposed routes. On the 18th July, at Full Council, Robin Bennet for the Greens put forward a motion that the Council oppose the Ox/Cam Expressway coming through South Oxfordshire and that all and any references to the Oxford/Cambridge Expressway be removed from all our Planning Documents. This motion was passed by the whole Council, except for the former Leader and Lyn Lloyd.

There could be serious implications for the Baldons by this development. We would ask our villagers to read the information sent by the Expressway Action Group circulated on Village email and which is also on the Baldons website and the EAG web site and to respond to their call to:

1. **Petition: Cancel the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.** If this gets 10,000 signatures, it will force a response from the government: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/264401>
2. Volunteer to help campaign: contact Elizabeth Gillespie, John Clark, Dawn McGiveron
3. Give any financial support (details to be found in the EAG report on the Baldons website)

Contact details for the Expressway action group are

Website: www.expresswayactiongroup.com

Contact: contact@expresswayactiongroup.com

Social Media: Follow expresswayactiongroup on Facebook.

Planning applications

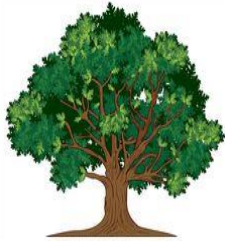
Kingfisher Cottage, Toot Baldon. P19/S1897/HH and P19/S One application for an amended garage, plan supported by the council with conditions recommended to SODC. The second application for an amendment to plans P14/S1287 for a partial change in the roof finish to install solar panels, also supported by the council.

Durham Leys Farm, Marsh Baldon. P19/S2022 An application to relocate a hay barn and tractor storage barn supported by the council.

Low Hill, Marsh Baldon. P19/S2180 An application to convert an existing barn to a 2 bedroomed ancillary accommodation.

Date of next meeting

September 9th September 7.30 pm Village Hall



Funding for a Baldons Eco-project

Do you have a good idea on how to improve the green environment of the Baldons? On how to protect or encourage biodiversity in our villages? This may be in the form of new hedgerows, tree planting, ponds, insect enhancement or other biodiversity initiatives.

The Millennium Committee has a fund of £900 to help fund or part-fund an eco-project in line with infrastructure priorities identified by The Baldons Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Please email your idea, plus costings and a timeline by 10th December 2019 to Alison Barne:

alibarne13@gmail.com or post it through the letter box at 8 The Green.



THE BALDONS GARDEN GROUP INVITE YOU TO:

GARDEN AND HOME PRODUCE SWAP AND BUYand CREAM TEAS!

SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER, 3pm to 5pm
MARSH BALDON VILLAGE HALL

**Bring your garden produce and home preserves to swap.....or just
come along and buy**

**Come and see what the local gardeners are growing and have a
delicious cream tea.**

As usual proceeds will go to charity.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for the October newsletter
by 16th September 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.

Pension Credit entitles over-75s to free TV licence – Citizens Advice



The BBC is planning to start charging over-75s for their TV licences unless they receive Pension Credit. Pension Credit is a benefit for people on low incomes who have reached the state retirement age.

Currently, those aged 75 or older receive free TV licences which cover them and anyone else they live with. However, as from June 2020, over-75s will be means tested for the free licence. It is thought that more than three million people will no longer be eligible to receive it. **But if you can provide evidence that you get Pension Credit, you can continue to receive a free TV licence.** Over a million people who qualify for Pension Credit aren't claiming it, the government says, so it's worth checking your eligibility.

Call the Pension Credit claim line on 0800 991 234 Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to find out about your entitlement. Alternatively visit <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit> You'll need to quote your National Insurance number and be able to give details of your savings and pensions, as well as the account into which you want your Pension Credit paid.

If you live in a care home or sheltered housing you can get an Accommodation for Residential Care licence which costs £7.50. You only need this if you watch TV in your own separate accommodation.

If you need help understanding this change, telephone Citizens Advice Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or come and see us in person. For locations of offices and opening hours visit <https://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.

With more than 15 years' experience in business administration I am able to offer fast and efficient administrative support working from home, offering flexible hours to suit your needs. **Please call Gill on 07823 883376 or email: gillyke@hotmail.co.uk**

From Oxfordshire to the Orne: Normandy 75th Anniversary exhibition comes to the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum



The new exhibition, Normandy 75: Oxfordshire to the Orne, will go on display at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum from 7th August – 3rd November 2019. This exhibition will combine a travelling exhibition from the National Army Museum with stories that staff at the museum have collected from around Oxfordshire. These stories will be told through objects, a map of key locations, and quotes from Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire-born soldiers who served on D Day and beyond.

The National Army Museum's touring exhibition marks the 75th anniversary of the Normandy Campaign. The exhibition will tell the courageous stories of soldiers who fought in Normandy and during D Day, and will detail the events that helped secure an allied victory.

To enhance the National Army Museum exhibition, staff at the museum have been working to collect stories of World War 2 from around Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

Peggy Ainsworth, Collections Manager explains, 'In addition to our own regimental stories, we wanted to use this exhibition as a way to represent the local soldiers who contributed to the Normandy campaign. There have been many fascinating stories coming in from the public, which we will be telling through artefacts from our collection and information gained through our Stories of Conflict and County campaign launched last year.'

Soldiers from the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry were some of the first to set foot in Normandy on the 6th of June 1944, and were perhaps most famous for the capture of Pegasus Bridge in the early hours of the morning, prior to the beach landings. Visitors can put themselves in the shoes of these soldiers and sit inside a life-size reproduction of a Horsa Glider's compartment and listen to recorded interviews of D Day veterans.

The exhibition will run from the 7th August – 3rd November 2019 and will end with a special collecting day on the 2nd November. SOFO's 'We'll Meet Again' Collections Day will encourage members of the public to bring objects to the museum and tell their stories of Oxfordshire from the Second World War to the 1970's. Any objects donated or loaned on the day will be used to form our Second World War and Reminiscence displays.

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum is open from Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 2pm-5pm. The county's only military history museum is located in the grounds of the Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Bonfires

Please show consideration for your neighbours!

A resident contacted the Parish Council to complain about the number of times the pleasure of a warm summer evening has been spoiled by the smoke from neighbours' bonfires. Bonfires should be well ventilated and controlled. There is no law preventing people from having them unless they are proven to be a nuisance or endangering health. So please make sure you don't burn wet material or allow smoke to billow across the main road.

Playing field

Unfortunately, another summer has passed without the children of the parish being able to make proper use of the Playing Field. After the discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting in April, the Council had a meeting with the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association. The Parish Council has resources it could allocate to this village asset and has made a proposal to the registered owners of the playing field that the land should be transferred to the ownership of the Parish Council, the grass cut and some basic play equipment installed for younger children, and it is hoped that a positive agreement can be reached.

Public transport

Mandy Rigault took on the role of Parish Transport Representative at the Annual Council Meeting – no one had performed the role in recent years. She attended the Public Transport Representatives meeting at County Hall on Wednesday 3rd July where she made contact with a former colleague, Philip Earnshaw, and told him of the concerns at the loss of the bus service between Nuneham and the doctor's surgery at Clifton Hampden. Philip said that he had heard there were possibilities linked to development at Berinsfield and that he would keep her posted. Nuneham residents with a public transport query or concern should contact her (mandy@nunehamcourtenay.org.uk) and she will either take it to the next meeting in October or liaise directly with the County Council if it's more urgent.

Primary School's Early Years play frame

A parishioner asked the Parish Council in May to make a donation to the appeal to replace the Marsh Baldon Church of England Primary School's Early Years play frame. The July Council Meeting discussed the request and agreed to make a donation. Parish Councils have no special power to fund schools, so the Council believed the only power available to it related to the well-being of parishioners and the way the power worked the most the Council seemed able to give was £81.

Gates

The white wooden gates at the north and south entrances to the village on the main road are there as one small way to discourage drivers from speeding through the village. The northern ones have become very scruffy and less conspicuous because the County Council has been reluctant to repaint them because of their design which means they are too tall to be repainted without a ladder!

The Parish Council has agreed to replace the gates at the northern entrance, so they do not have to be repainted with a ladder and has accepted the County Council's offer to share the cost of their replacement. How long will it be before the County Council installs the new gates? Not too long, we hope.

Defibrillator

Little by little the Parish Council is making progress on the idea of installing a public access defibrillator in the village, to be attached to the outside wall of the Village Hall.

Next Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7pm on Tuesday 3rd September in the Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to watch the meeting but if you want to address the meeting, please contact Madhvi Saini, who chairs the Parish Council, in advance.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Village Jumble Sale, Saturday the 7th September, 10-12

We have so much great jumble donated lately that we are holding an event early in the autumn! Book a table for £6 by contacting Jenny on 01865 343459 or jenny@datadaysolutions.com As ever though all donations are gratefully received. All sales go to benefit the costs of running the Village Hall.

Scarecrow Competition

There has been much talk as ever on ways to slow down the traffic moving through the village and remind everyone of the historical importance of this village. To this end, we would like to hold a scarecrow competition. More details on this will follow next month. However, if you want to get making, this is what we have in mind: make a scarecrow of any size or theme and place it so it can be viewed from the road. Of course we would be happy for those in Nuneham Park and the old farms to join in too. The more creative the better! We will arrange a place for villagers to vote on their favourite scarecrow. Prize to be announced.

Next activities

We are hoping to have another talk on the history around Nuneham. This is still being arranged. However, we hope to hold it in November as Cardinal Newman is due to be canonized in October. He stayed in the Old School House with his family after leaving Oxford University. There will be Bingo in December, date to be confirmed. We also hope to hold a games evening in January.

Yoga

Yoga is every Monday evening in the hall, from 7:30 (ish). We are a small but friendly group. Text Jenny on 07787507304 to make sure that it is meeting. Cost is £2 a session.

Bookings

Contact June Harris on 01865 343 371 if you wish to hire the hall or borrow crockery, chairs, etc for an event

And Finally

The village hall is one of the only assets owned by the village. As ever, everyone is welcome to join the village hall committee. If you have any activities that you would like to hold or help plan do get in touch.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY PLAYGROUND



Nuneham Courtenay Sports
& Playing Fields Association

We are the Nuneham Courtenay Sports and Playing Fields Association (NCSPFA), the oldest community group in Nuneham Courtenay. It was set up in 1949 by the War Memorial Committee, following Lord Harcourt's generous donation of an acre of land in 1947 for Nuneham Courtenay's children and elderly residents to enjoy.

As you can see from the photographs on www.nunehamcourtenay.info in the 1950s there was a sandpit and a cycle path. Over the years a playground existed, but the equipment rusted away and was later removed. With the advent of new health and safety guidelines, it was no longer just a matter of putting up new equipment, as expensive ground work, matting etc was now required, as well as regular inspections and insurance in case someone was injured using the playground.

The NCSPFA has eight trustees made up of long established and new members – an excellent balance – some of whom played on the playing fields as children. The Charity began discussions with the Village Plan Steering Committee and Parish Council following the identification of a need for an active children's playground in the Village Plan surveys (2011 to 2017), ensuring that all parties were involved in the stages of re-development, design, and funding for the playground site.

Various consultation events allowed the whole community to contribute to the design and choice of equipment of the site (some of you will remember the 'Big Brother' shed interviews where each child said what they wanted). This consultation period also involved Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association (OPFA), who advised on funding and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), who advised on compliance with health and safety equipment inspections. Following the tender process, *Wicksteed's* design was chosen as a clear winner (coincidentally, the same company that supplied the original play equipment in 1948). The design you can see below was on the Parish Council website during this period.

At this point, the Parish Council and NCSPFA discussed the next steps with SODC and established that it would be necessary to register the land with the Land Registry and this was done with the help of an OPFA-recommended solicitor who provided the necessary expertise at minimal cost. This process took 18 months, with the Parish Council providing a community grant to assist. The next stage was to create a lease from the legal owners of the site (NCSPFA) to the Parish Council, which would provide the necessary legal framework for funding applications. The proposed lease is at a "peppercorn rent", i.e. at £1 per annum. Regrettably, agreeing this lease with the Parish Council has proved more difficult than anticipated, despite the earlier constructive working relationship with the Village Plan Steering Committee, the Parish Council, RoSPA and OPFA. As a result, it

has been impossible to apply for funding or make further progress and the project is in limbo. We are very keen to meet with the Parish Council to review and agree the lease, in order for the land to be protected and for the children to have what they have asked for.



DOG GROOMING

I now have a grooming room in Sandford and can make appointments for Mondays and Saturdays. As yet I only have room for small or medium dogs, for bathing, grooming, nail clipping or stripping.

I am qualified and insured, with local references.

Please contact me for a leaflet and more information.

Anna Morgan

doggrooming19@yahoo.com 07368 256770

CLIFTON HAMPDEN SURGERY PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2019 – FROM VERITE REILLY COLLINS

Emergencies: Understanding the importance of basic questions

You may have to call 111 (when it's late, or at the weekend), and you can be asked what might seem silly questions. Whilst waiting on the phone you are asked if you can feel your/patient's skin to see if they are cold/hot, asked if there is unusual sweating, have you taken a temperature, etc. and yes, this is a tickbox exercise but goes onto a page which gives a paramedic a quick overall view. So, whilst you are waiting, someone can already be assessing what you need. So, bear with the system – once the call centre has an overall picture of what you DON'T need, it can send you to the right person you DO need.

Feet - The Podiatrist at Wallingford hospital is keen that we protect our feet, particularly if you are elderly.

Hydrotherapy – Hydro pools are used as a gentle exercise, for those with a variety of issues including orthopaedic rehabilitation including joint replacements, balance issues, spinal and musculoskeletal disorders, neurological and arthritic conditions and lasting effects from Polio. There are two excellent NHS pools in the area: at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading and the other at The Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in Oxford. The private Circle Hospital in Reading also has an Aqua Treadmill.

Travel Insurance – until we leave the EU, UK citizens will still be able to take advantage of the EHIC agreement if taken ill abroad. This entitles NHS patients to reclaim certain medical costs – but not all, so you still have to insure yourself and your family for repatriation costs. This means that if you are taken ill abroad and have to be flown home in an air ambulance, it is up to you to pay the costs. EHIC cover does NOT pay for it. AGE UK, Macmillan and other charities can advise on companies who provide insurance cover for this risk, but ask around as they can vary.

Wellness Day in Dorchester – From this event has come several initiatives, aimed at providing services for cancer survivors. Visitors found over 20 vastly different companies offering services that can help survivors, from massage therapy to specialist suncreams. The end result means that there will be different mini-businesses able to offer special treatments locally for cancer patients, and leave something lasting in place. Watch this space!

Dr. Lynch-Blosse – Dr Lynch-Blosse will be retiring from the practice on 31 December 2019 after many years of service to the community. We will all miss his wise counsel and help.

PCNs – Primary Care Networks are a new way for several general practices to collaborate, whilst remaining as separate independent surgeries. Clifton Hampden Surgery is joining “Abingdon and District Network”, together with Berinsfield Surgery, Long Furlong Medical Centre and Marcham Road Surgery in Abingdon. The four surgeries together comprise 30,000 patients. There will be benefits to the patients of having access to a Clinical Pharmacist and a Social Prescriber.

If you have any suggestions or ideas which will benefit the community in the health area, contact Gerry Moscrop: geraldmoscrop@btinternet.com

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Storytime Wednesdays 3.45pm

IT Drop in

Need help with computers, tablets, phones or cameras
pop in and see Ellen Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter 2.30pm

Tuesday 3rd September & 1st October

Reading Group 2.00pm

Thursday 12th September & 10th October

Coffee Morning 10.30am

Tuesday 17th September & 15th October

All Welcome

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SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

1 st September	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon
8 th September	6.00pm	Evening Worship <i>Marcus Braybrooke</i>	Toot Baldon
15 th September	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jon Roberts</i>	Marsh Baldon
22 nd September	8.30am	Said Holy Communion <i>Jon Roberts</i>	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	Family Worship <i>with Jon & Pets</i>	Marsh Baldon
29 th September	4.00am	Team Confirmation Service <i>Bishop Humphrey</i>	Dorchester Abbey
Monday		Licensing Service	
30 th September	7.30pm	Teresa Stewart-Sykes <i>Bishop Colin</i>	Dorchester Abbey
6 th October	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon
13 th October	5.00pm <i>Please note time</i>	Harvest Service followed by Supper in the Village Hall <i>Teresa Stewart-Sykes</i> <i>Jennifer Morton</i>	Toot Baldon

SIDESDUTY

	Marsh Baldon	Toot Baldon
1 st September		9.30am Ann Druce
8 th September		6.00pm Ian Gillespie
15 th September	9.30am Natasha Eliot	
22 nd September	9.30am Catherine Mason	

FLOWERS

1 st & 8 th September	P & J Slaney	S Hobbins & J van Dijk
15 th & 22 nd September	A Lyall	H Maskell & J Knight
29 th Sept & 6 th Oct	L Martin & I Wright	J Brook