### The Baldons and Nuneham Courtenay Newsletter



**March 2015** 

#### FROM THE VICAR, REVD PAUL CAWTHORNE

As Lent arrives, our thoughts move from the celebrations of the wise men to what Jesus taught us about the deeper things of life. St Paul commended as 'fruits of the spirit' the observance of patience, self-control and kindness among love, joy, peace and faithfulness (Galatians 5: 22-23) and in Lent we step back from our habitual self-indulgence to try to see what we can learn by giving things up for the good of others and ourselves.

When I lived in Sudan it was a privilege to share in the discipline of Ramadan, which has a lot in common with Lent, with my majority Muslim colleagues. There was a lovely spiritual discipline in enduring the fast from dawn until dusk and offering the tiny discomforts of that up in prayer as a sacrifice to the God who gave so much for love of us. It taught me much I would not have otherwise stopped for long enough to learn. During Lent here in affluent Oxfordshire, what can we show, give up or practise self-control in to make a difference? Can we:

- Spare some clothes or food for an asylum-seeker without money or family support marooned in a foreign land after escaping unknown horrors? -ring Asylum Welcome on 01865 722082 and show an open heart.
- Stop overindulging in puddings or alcohol and see if energy levels and motivation increase as a result? try it and you may be surprised!
- Give of our time to see what that brings vow to visit an elderly neighbour when we are feeling most busy or to give the gift of more attention and listening to children rather than rushing them round everywhere.
- Do a mini-audit of your lifestyle and think of the CO2 cost and what you could cut back on for the sake of the next generation and a healthy planet the sooner we start, the less drastic may be the final need.
- Follow a little programme of daily suggestions try <a href="http://40acts.org.uk">http://40acts.org.uk</a> for some fun ideas.
- Think more creatively of a better suggestion than the vicar's for how to use this Lenten season for our spiritual and personal growth? Do let me know what you come up with!

So Lent is an important time on several levels. It is a time for reflecting how voluntary suffering can sometimes lead to growth if we are in the fortunate position of being able to direct its mini-privations. It's a time for following Jesus through the vicissitudes of life, even when people turned on him for disturbing their complacency- the road to the cross that ultimately led to wonderfully new life. It's a time to look deeper into ourselves to see what we need most to become what one writer called a 'soul survivor'. If we ignore such things, we may be able to preserve an outward face but inside we can feel the shrivelling. If we engage, we may surprise ourselves and find the light can shine brighter than we imagine.

Paul

#### ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Items for April 2015 newsletter

#### by 16<sup>th</sup> March 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 a mail each month for payeletter contributions.

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.





#### **Short courses with leading tutors**

200 courses, all 1-3 days • Beginners welcome Textiles • Jewellery • Upholstery • Printmaking and much more...

www.ardingtonschoolofcrafts.com

01235 833433

**OX12 8PN** 

#### FROM MARCUS BRAYBROOKE

#### My Beacons of Light is now available as a Kindle e-book.

Beacons of Light, describes the life-story and spiritual wisdom of one hundred holy people who have shaped the religious history of the world. All faiths at their best emphasise the love of God and a yearning for peace, an end to poverty and reverence for the natural world. This 'treasure of a book,' as one reviewer said, 'both informs and inspires.'

I am not sure how you have a Book Launch for an e-book: but free copies are available in Holy Week. Like a Sunday School child I am also keen to collect stars!

Beacons of Light is available at <a href="www.Amazon.co.uk">www.Amazon.co.uk</a> (in Search, enter Beacons of Light Marcus Braybrooke) for £3.33. ISBN 978-1-942844-11-2

Special offer: available free from 30.3.15 to 3.4.15.

A paperback edition is available at www.o-books.net

#### THE INCREDIBLE WORLD OF THE HONEY BEE

At the March meeting of the Wallingford Gardening Club, Steve Moll will give an illustrated talk on The Incredible World of the Honey Bee.

Through the eyes of a beekeeper we will follow the activities of a bee colony through the calendar year; looking at how the colony survives winter, their sophisticated methods of communication, and why they swarm. Many fascinating facts about this incredible insect will be uncovered - did you know that bees gather nectar from two million flowers to produce a jar of honey! On a more sombre note we will look at some of the pest and disease challenges facing honeybee colonies throughout the world.

Steve Moll has always had strong links with the countryside and agriculture, inspired by his upbringing on a Suffolk farm. A biologist by training, he spent his career working for multinational companies specialising in crop protection products and crop seed variety development. After moving back to the UK, Steve and his wife Vivien started beekeeping in 2006, first with a single hive in their garden. Their love for the beekeeping craft has seen hive numbers grow, to over seventy located at sites across South Oxfordshire and Berkshire.

The talk will be held at Ridgeway Community Church, Wallingford at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th March.

Visitors very welcome - £2.



# Maximise your property's letting potential

Short Let Space is your local, specialist holiday lettings agency.

We can offer you:

- Competitive commission rates
- Intensive marketing
- Friendly local team
- Excellent occupancy

Please contact us on 01993 811711 or stay@shortletspace.co.uk

www.shortletspace.co.uk



# BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Visit your Local Library and see what we have on offer

Books Photo Knit and Natter 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month 2.30pm

17th March

21st April

19th May

16<sup>th</sup> June

# Photo copying Free use of the computers

Funtor all the children

One to One Computer lessons for over 50s Friday mornings Book and a Bun Reading Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month 2.00pm

12<sup>th</sup> March

9th April

14<sup>th</sup> May

11<sup>th</sup> June



Here to help



join in ● explore ● discover ● log on

#### Wallingford's Royal Castle Revealed

Wallingford Museum enjoyed record numbers in 2014 but is now looking forward to its 2015 season, which will bring a wonderful new special exhibition - 'Wallingford's Royal Castle Revealed'. It will display for the first time the fantastic results of fresh historical



and archaeological research into the life and importance of one of the greatest royal strongholds of Medieval England. This new research shows Wallingford Castle's importance as the third great stronghold of the Thames Valley - Tower of London, Windsor and Wallingford - wonderful new details of the life of the castle, its buildings, people and activities. It will bring to life the amazing details discovered in these newly translated documents, revealing the daily life and the layout of the Castle.

Alongside, to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta there will be an additional display 'Magna Carta and All That!' highlighting Wallingford's role in the events of 1215, and why it is only one of four towns mentioned in Magna Carta. King John was at Wallingford Castle on several occasions during his falling out with the barons which led to Magna Carta.

The Museum is open for its 2015 season from Tuesday 3 March as follows: Tuesdays - Fridays 2.00pm - 5.00pm Saturdays 10.30am - 5.00pm Sundays (June - August only) & Bank Holidays 2.00pm - 5.00pm www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

# Children and War - children's experiences of WW II in Oxfordshire

March's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be by Liz Wooley. She will



present 'Children and War - children's experiences of WW II in Oxfordshire'. Oxfordshire escaped major bombing during World War II but the county's inhabitants were, none-the-less, heavily affected by the War. Preparations for possible attack and invasion altered the familiar landscape and everyday life in towns and villages was disrupted. Thousands of evacuees found refuge here and became part of residents' homes and schools. Liz's talk looks at how the lives of Oxfordshire children – both those born in the county and those evacuated here – were affected by World War II. It is likely to prompt older listeners to recall and share their own wartime experiences, whether from Oxfordshire or elsewhere. The talk is presented in association with the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust, whose major 2011-13 exhibition, Children and War, examined war-time evacuation, boy soldiers, war toys and commemoration, from the Boer War to the present day.

This talk will be held on **Friday 13th March**, **7.45 for 8pm at Wallingford Town Hall**. Visitors (£3) are most welcome.

www.twhas.org.uk

#### ARIAS AT THE ABBEY 2: SATURDAY 14TH MARCH, 2015 7.30PM.

Following the success of the October 2012 concert, 'Arias At The Abbey 2' will be held at Dorchester Abbey on Saturday 14th March 2015 at 7.30pm.

This second evening of popular classical music and song will feature soloists Stuart Pendred, Hannah Pedley, Kylie Watt and Anthony Gregory; The Oxford Chamber Orchestra conducted by Neil Farrow and the award winning Wallingford Parish Church Choir directed by Sue Ledger, in aid of the Bone Cancer Research Trust.

The programme will include excerpts from Carmen, Tosca and Les Miserables, and drinks and canapes will be served in the interval. Tickets £25, students/U18 £15 at www.bcrt.org.uk/ariasattheabbey, enquiries to ariasattheabbey2@bcrt.org.uk or tel 01491 825680.

#### LONG WITTENHAM PRE-SCHOOL EVENTS

# Family Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday 29th March 2015, 11am-2pm, The Plough, Long Wittenham

The Long Wittenham Pre-School Family Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday 29th March 2015, at The Plough, Long Wittenham (by kind permission of Kim and Liam). Starting and finishing in The Plough garden, the Egg Hunt clues will take you down to Acklings Field (where we hold our Forest School) and back again. To complement the Egg Hunt there will be face painting, egg and spoon races, a raffle, tea and cake stall and more! £2.50 per child, adults are free. The Plough will be open serving delicious homecooked food and country ales - please book early!

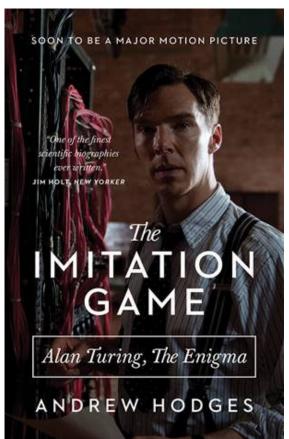
#### Nearly New Sale, Saturday 18th April 2015, 10am-12noon, Long Wittenham Village Hall

Long Wittenham Pre-School is holding a Nearly New Sale of top quality baby and children's clothes (0-7 years), toys, games, equipment and maternity clothes on Saturday 18th April 2015, from 10-12 noon at Long Wittenham Village Hall. £1 entry (per adult, free for children). There will also be a cake sale of delicious homemade cakes and biscuits. Please remember that early birds always get the best bargains!

If you want to make some extra cash, support the Pre-School, and your house is full of baby and children's things (0-7 years) that are good as new, contact us for details about selling at the sale. Sellers will keep 70% of the sale price of all items sold. If you would like to donate items to be sold at the Nearly New Sale, please do get in touch and we may even be able to arrange collection!

For more information, please contact Claire by emailing nearlynew@longwittenhampreschool.co.uk

#### NUNEHAM COURTENAY VILLAGE HALL NEWS



A new season of events is about to start at NC village hall. If there is an event you would like to see offered, let us know and we will see what we can do! There is a thriving mixed ability **yoga group** on Monday evenings, 7:30 – 9pm. Stop by and give it a try.

Our next **movie** will be the Imitation Game on Friday 6th March. Doors open at 7pm. Popcorn, hot dogs, and drinks are available to purchase. Tickets are four pounds per person or a group of 4 for £14. Grab some friends and come along!

#### **Easter Bingo!**

Our eggstraordinary Easter Bingo will be on Friday 27th March. Doors open at 7pm. Lots of great prizes, drinks to purchase, and a lovely old fashioned night out. All are welcome.

For the diary.....

Jumble sale 2-4 pm on Saturday 25th April

Disco in May date to be confirmed

#### FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH GILLESPIE

On the post-fire situation I am pleased to report that the officers are continuing to manifest a stalwart front in what are extremely difficult conditions and that our main services, to all intents and purposes, are running as per norm. Our Crowmarsh offices housed 400 staff and currently the officers are having to share / alternate with the 40 places available at the Vale offices and work from home. Their networking has been impressive.

I would ask everyone to be patient with the Planning Department as they are running a little behind, but catching up fast. My personal plans for changes to the Grants policy have had to be put on hold now until after the election and, providing I am still in post, we will bring about any changes deemed advisable at that point.

In the short term we have negotiated the rental of a suitable building to re-house the staff, as it is less readily accessible to our public we have made the decision that all public meetings will be held at locations on Howberry Park, Crowmarsh Gifford, which is virtually next door to our old offices. We are still looking at our various options for long term office solutions and are in continuous dialogue with our insurers and assessors, but it is early days yet. In the meantime if anyone has any queries or problems please do not hesitate to contact me.



# Antiques Valuation!

Thursday 26 March 2015 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Benson Parish Hall Sunnyside, Benson

Dig out your treasures and bring them along for valuation by the experts! If the item is too big, bring along a photo.

£5.00 entry to include 2 items and £1.50 per subsequent item. Refreshments available.



For more information, please contact Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire on 01235 511152

In aid of Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire, supporting local families Registered Charity Number 1113941

#### **BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

#### Fire at the South Oxfordshire Distrct Council (SODC) offices

The fire, which started in the early hours of Thursday 15 January almost completely destroyed the South Oxfordshire offices in Crowmarsh Gifford. South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Councils are nearly back to business as usual with around two thirds of staff working out of temporary offices in Abingdon and the remainder working from home, at Cornerstone in Didcot and the Beacon in Wantage.

The main public front line services such as waste collections and leisure centres weren't affected by the fire, and other emergency council services, like homelessness prevention were immediately up and running the morning after the fire from the councils' temporary offices in Abingdon. As the councils are only operating with about half their staff in the office at any one time, it does mean it's likely to take a little longer than normal to deal with people's enquiries and process licensing and planning applications, but anybody with an emergency or urgent enquiry will be seen to quickly.

The planning department's entire office was decimated by the fire. Their work relies mostly on large data files, which had to be restored from backup systems, but they were up and running just eight days later. They're currently estimating around a fortnight's delay in deciding existing planning applications. Anybody who is submitting a new application should do so online or by email with attachments in PDF format. The planning team are asking that they ALSO send two printed copies of the application to the temporary offices in Abbey House in Abingdon. This will help them deal with the planning application much more quickly.

While the long term future of the Crowmarsh site is decided, the councils will need a temporary home for the staff. They're expecting to be in the temporary home for as long as two or three years. They have appointed an agent to negotiate a deal on a couple of properties they've identified, and hope to have made a decision in the next few weeks.

#### Village Clear Up - Sunday 12th April

A reminder that the annual village clear up day will be held on Sunday 12th April. Please put this date in your diary and come and help. For Marsh, please meet on the Green at 10.30am. For Toot, please liaise with John Maskell. Pick-up sticks and waste bags will be supplied by SODC but please bring strong shoes / wellies and gloves. We will then frequent the Seven Stars afterwards for a deserved drink!

#### **Trees on the Green**

The PC has contacted the SODC Tree Officer to support tree works within the Marsh Baldon conservation area as a few of the Chestnuts are showing signs of disease. A reminder that villagers are being encouraged to sponsor replacement trees. Please contact Cllr. Attewill on 01865 343336 for further information.

#### **Planning applications**

P14/S2919/HH - College Farmhouse, The Green Marsh Baldon OX44 9LW.

Erection of open fronted shed / garage.

BPC replied by 24/10/14 expressing serious reservations as this application for retrospective planning permission appears to be a deliberate breach of the previous permission.

Awaiting a decision by SODC. No decision issued at 13/2/15.

P14/S4081/HH - Manor Farm Road, Toot Baldon, OX44 9NG.

Erection of a detached garden store.

BPC replied by 30/1/15 and recommended APPROVAL in principle subject to there being no concerns by SODC at the proposed height of the building.

Awaiting a decision by SODC. No decision issued at 13/2/15.

P14/S4053/FUL - Land off Baldon Row, Toot Baldon, OX44 9NE.

Proposed new residential dwelling with granny annexe.

BPC replied by 4/2/15 and recommended REFUSAL.

Awaiting a decision by SODC. No decision issued at 13/2/15.

#### Next Parish Council meetings (all 7.30pm in the Village Hall)

- Tuesday 10 March 2015
- Tuesday 21 April 2015 (Annual Joint Parishes Meeting)
- Tuesday 19 May 2015 (Annual General Meeting and first meeting of the newly elected PC)

If you have any items you wish to raise on the agenda please contact the Clerk, Paul Isaacs on 01844 278040.

#### Parish Council Elections - Thursday May 7th

Further information has now been provided by SODC regarding the Parish Council elections to be held on May 7th (alongside the District and General elections). Marsh Baldon has four council seats and Toot Baldon two seats with separate elections taking place for each parish. Please see the attached elections timetable.

#### Parish Council Elections: Thursday, 7 May 2015

#### **Timetable of main statutory dates**

Monday 30 March 2015 Last day for publication of Notice of Election

Thursday 9 April 2015 (4pm) Last day and time for delivery of nomination

papers and consent to nomination

Thursday 9 April 2015 (4pm) Last day and time for delivery of notice of

withdrawal of candidature

Friday 10 April 2015 (4pm) Last day and time for publication of

Statement of Persons Nominated

Monday 20 April 2015 Deadline for receiving applications to be

included in the register of electors for the

election

Tuesday 21 April 2015 (5pm) Deadline for receipt of applications to vote by

post, or from existing postal or proxy voters

wishing to change their arrangements

Tuesday 28 April 2015 Last day for publication of Notice of Poll

Tuesday 28 April 2015 (5pm) Deadline for receipt of applications to vote by

proxy

Wednesday 29 April 2015 Last day for the appointment of counting and

polling agents

Thursday 7 May 2015 (7am -

10pm)

ELECTION DAY

#### **BALDONS VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

#### BALDONS VILLAGE HALL SPRING SALE on Saturday 9th May 2 - 5pm

Do you have <u>any</u> items (bric-a-brac, books, toys or nearly new clothes etc.) you would like to donate? If so, please bring them along to the Village Hall between 4.00 pm and 8.00 pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.





In addition to the above, we would like to hear from anyone who would be willing to donate any plants from their garden or a raffle prize. Please contact John 343203 or Chris 343388. Your contribution will be very much appreciated.

Why not come along and support your local village hall, there will be many bargains available.

The Baldons Village Hall is for everyone's use: we have a fully equipped kitchen and can provide toddler toys, and children's chairs and tables. To book, please contact Ali or Darren on: 01865 340264 or dbaber@rm.com

#### NUNEHAM COURTENAY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

- Our newly formed Parish Council have had two meetings since the February newsletter.
- We appointed a new Vice-Chair: Cllr Garfoot.
- We are committed, along with our new Clerk, to creating clear, transparent and up-to-date governance documents, including finance, regulations, and processes.

#### Website

- It is our intention to update our Parish Council website, make it fit for purpose, and user friendly. This will allow us to have it up and running for 1<sup>st</sup> July with our codes of transparency for smaller councils.
- All groups within the parish will, of course, be able to inform the parish of any events or information on the website. We will keep you up-to-date when this is live.

#### **Police Report**

- Our PCSO, Sue Harris's report informed us there have been a spate of burglaries recently, and cylinder locks were being snapped in order to gain entry to properties. Residents were asked to ensure their locks were not the sort that could be snapped.
- PCSO Harris offered to carry out security checks for any concerned locals. She can be contacted by email at: <a href="mailto:sue.harris@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk">sue.harris@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk</a>
- We have invited her to give a talk at our Annual Parish Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April at 4pm.

#### Report from Cllr Ian Hudspeth

- The report was discussed, including the possibility of Oxfordshire becoming a Unitary Authority. It was noted in the report that the transport focus needs to shift from the Science Vale to the whole of Oxfordshire.
- Finally, he has invited us to comment on ways of saving money for Oxfordshire. All ideas are welcome. Please forward these to Cllr Love care of our Clerk.

#### Bypass

- The proposed bypass route mentioned in the Clifton Hampden Newsletter was discussed.
- This route would go through Nuneham Park and is considered as unacceptable by the Parish Council. We are exploring this further. Although a bypass was previously identified within the parish, and also within the Village Plan process, the route would need a proper consultation process.

#### **Nuneham Courtenay Church**

• Cllr Brookes requested that a water supply be reinstated at All Saints Church. This item is being pursued.

#### **Planning items**

- P14/S2431/FUL Amendments to Brewer's Garage application. Cllr Pritchett left the meeting whilst this item was discussed.
- All our Councillors resolved to support this application.

#### Laybys

- The meeting had a discussion on the issue of laybys being used by commuters thereby reducing parking available to residents.
- Highways to be contacted to see whether 'Residents Only' restrictions could be placed on them.

#### **Community Defibrillator**

• It was noted that it would be useful – not only for locals and groups, but for the thousands who pass on the A4074 – if one were placed on the phone box opposite the Village Hall.

#### **Village Plan Steering Group**

- Minutes were presented and discussed. The Village Plan Steering Group thanked SODC for its grant towards helping complete the village plan and final processes.
- A housing survey for a snap-shot of perceived needs for the future was sent to all parishioners.

#### NCSPFA (Nuneham Courtenay Sports & Playing Fields Association)

- It was reported that the gate had now been installed.
- The meeting agreed a grant request for costs towards fencing.
- Along with the erection of the sign allows the Association to move towards next steps.

#### NC Adult Luncheon Club

- The meeting discussed the request for a grant towards the cost of the new cooker in the Village Hall.
- A grant of £300 was awarded.

#### Parish Magazine

- It was reported that the parish magazine has found a cheaper printing company, saving £300 £400 over all of the parishes.
- The NC Parish Council extends its thanks to the team for their efforts on this.

#### Village Hall

- Thank you to the Village Hall Committee for all its support in letting the Parish Council install Wi-Fi and a BT line for 999 emergency calls as the mobile phone reception is poor there. This is important, especially for the NC Adult Luncheon Club.
- Once the Village Hall has applied for ORCC (Oxfordshire Rural Community Council) membership, we can apply for a grant for the improvement of ramps and access to the hall.

• Cllr Love is happy to help with this.

#### **Governance Documents**

• These were reviewed at our last meeting. We committed to the lengthy process of updating all our documents and making them available on our website. This process has begun, including improving our systems.

#### Annual Parish Meeting – 20th April 4pm at The Village Hall

- We are offering high tea and all are welcome. This is our Annual Open meeting.
- The Parish Council will give its annual report, and parishioners are welcome to raise items for discussion.
- It will be the last village meeting of the current council prior to the general election in May.
- At the end of the meeting we have invited our local police and others (tbc) to the event. Further information to follow.

#### Our next Parish Council meetings are:

- o 9<sup>th</sup> March 2 4pm at The Village Hall
- o 20<sup>th</sup> April 2 4pm at The Village Hall
- o 20<sup>th</sup> April Annual Parish Meeting 'High Tea' 4 5pm at The Village Hall.

Thank you from the Chair, Cllr Love.

The Parish Council can be contacted through the Clerk. If you have an item you wish to raise on the agenda, please contact: Julia Evans (Clerk):

- Nunehamcourtenay.clerk@gmail.com
- 01235 833 466



#### **JOYCE JONES**

Many residents will have fond memories of Joyce Jones, who ran the shop in Nuneham for many years, and who sadly passed away shortly before Christmas.

Her son Duncan has kindly allowed me to use these photos of her, which might raise a smile or two.... who's that with the giant gin bottle?! Next month we will include a fuller tribute to Joyce: if you would like to add your own memories, please let me know: 01865 343478 or tashaandjames@btopenworld.com.











#### **Live Music Events 2015**

CHINESENEWYEAR CELEBRATION - Friday 20 Feb with KAREN CARPENTER

BEST OF BUBLÉ - Friday 27 Feb

LIPSTICKONYOUR COLLAR - Friday 6 Mar

**CLASSICSINATRA**-Friday 27 Mar

MICHAELJACKSON-Friday24Apr

ROBBIE SOLO - Friday 1 May

ROD STEWART TRIBUTE - Friday 29 May

BACK TO THE EIGHTIES - Friday 26 Jun

ABBA DUO - Friday 24 Jul

RODSTEWARTTRIBUTE - Friday 28 Aug

To Be Confirm - Friday 25 Sep

ADELETRIBUTE - Friday 2 Oct

**ELVIS TRIBUTE** - Friday 30 Oct

THE BRYAN ADAMS EFFECT - Friday 27 Nov

For bookings call **01865 341030** or email info@cockadoo.co.uk

Please go to cockadoo.co.uk for detail

#### **DORCHESTER TEAM LENT TALKS 2015**

Revd Dr Michael Lakey: Understanding St Paul and his Epistles

The writings of St Paul have been immensely significant for the theology and practice of the Church for most of its history. From St Augustine reading Romans, to Luther reading Galatians, and beyond, St Paul can be found, just below the surface, in nearly all Western Christianity. However, though he is everywhere, St Paul is sometimes not read as much as he could be. Partly this is because we favour the Gospel readings, but can also be because St Paul's writings contain much that is difficult (whether for ancient or modern readers).

These five short Lent talks in Dorchester Abbey on Sunday evenings (35 minutes + questions and discussion) aim to offer an introduction to some of the issues and ideas that might help us to understand and appreciate St Paul better. When and where did he write? How ought we to think about his transformation from persecutor to apostle? Why did he write the way he did? What were his views about God, the World, salvation, men and women? You do not need to be a specialist! They will be followed by a short act of compline-style worship (apart from 22nd February and 15th March).

22nd February 6pm - Paul on the Damascus Road : from persecutor to apostle Followed by Taize@7 for those who wish to stay

1st March 6pm - Paul and the Galatians

8th March 6pm - Paul and the Corinthians

15th March 6pm - Paul and the Romans (this talk will be part of the regular Evensong)

22nd March 6pm - Paul and Resurrection

#### **DORCHESTER FESTIVAL 1ST-10TH MAY**

Dorchester Abbey once again hosts their fifty event 10 day festival raising funds for the Abbey and, this year, local charity PACT.

A great programme with everything from The Tallis Scholars to a Come & Sing with John Rutter, a Comedy Night, a Food Fair and Cookery Demonstrations by famous chefs.

There are lots of events for children of all ages, including Frozen princesses, a Duck race and comic art workshops. Even OSCAR winning CGI expert Ben Morris with his film clips!

This is an amazing festival run entirely by volunteers to raise money for local charities so well worth a visit.

www.dorchesterfestival.com

#### THE HARCOURT ENSEMBLE

Chamber music for flute, harp and strings

7.30pm, 21 March St Peter's Marsh Baldon

Music by Bach, Debussy and Ravel Proceeds towards the Church development fund

Contact Elisabeth on 343369 or at elisabeth@flutesinspired.co.uk for more information.

# Construction & landscaping Domestic, Industrial and Commercial New Builds Drainage Extensions Patios Porches Fencing Structural Alterations Driveways Hard Landscaping Brickwork t. 01869 249424 m. 07801 380 681 e. matt@mattwestconstruction.co.uk www.mattwestconstruction.co.uk

#### **SERVICES FOR MARCH 2015**

1 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Toot Baldon</b>
	6.00pm	Lent Talk	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am please note time	Women's World Day of Prayer	Warborough
8 <sup>th</sup> March	6.00pm	Lent Talk This is in place of the normal Evening Service	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30am	<b>Mothering Sunday Service</b>	Marsh Baldon
	6.00pm	Evensong with Lent Talk	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
22 <sup>rd</sup> March	8.30am	Said Communion	Marsh Baldon
	9.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	Marsh Baldon
	6.00pm	Lent Talk followed by Taize@7	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
29 <sup>th</sup> March Palm Sunday	<b>4.00pm</b> please note time	Palm Sunday Walk followed by tea	Marsh to Toot
	6.00pm	Team Service	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> April	6.30pm	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>Dorchester Abbey</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	10.00am	<b>Good Friday Devotion</b>	Marsh Baldon
5 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>	Toot Baldon
FLOWERS	Marsh	Toot	
LENT		NO FLOWERS	
SIDESDUTY	Marsh	Toot	
1 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30am John		hn Mason
15 <sup>th</sup> March 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.30am Graham Hobbins		
29 <sup>th</sup> March 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	9.30am Tom Saw 4pm Palm Sunday walk, Marsh to Toot: Stephen Dance 10.00am Sonia Hobbins		
5 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am J & H Maskell		