

Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

June 2016





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Dorchester News

June 2016

A DoT view

We thought May was a busy month with various concerts at the Abbey. Culminating with the English Music Festival. It looks as though the pace is not slowing up for June.

We start with narrated opera (narropera) on the 4th performing *The Marriage of Figaro*. A trio from New Zealand will tell the story and perform the music with the words of the arias read out before they are sung, so you don't miss a word. Sounds interesting and you get a complimentary glass of wine. A few days later on the 8th we have Ivo Varbanov and Fiammetta Tarli, founders of ICSM records a pair of talented concert pianists giving their interpretation of pieces from Schumann to Schoenberg. Then on the 18th Benson Choral Society will perform, amongst others, Carmina Burana, including 'bawdy student songs celebrating a variety of earthly delights'.

The one I am really looking forward to is Mike Heron, formerly of Incredible String Band, and Trembling Bells on the 25th. I am old enough to have seen the ISB first time round but if you have never experienced their quirky songs, you should. (The Archbishop of Canterbury chose one of them amongst his Desert Island Discs—but then he is much the same age as me.)

If we are not careful, though, May next year won't be as busy. For me the biennial Dorchester Festival is a major part of Dorchester life and I would hate for it not to happen. And it won't if we don't all pull together. Please read Steph Forman's piece on page 4, and see how you can contribute to making it happen in 2017.

Ian Brace

Cover picture: Wisteria in the High Street.



**Deadline for
July/August
Dorchester
News**

email: dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

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Copy Deadlines for Dorchester News

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Advert Deadlines for Dorchester News

One week before copy deadline
Items in electronic form may be sent via e-mail attachment to e-mail address at foot of page.

For newsletter for other churches in the Team send to admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk by the 9th of the preceding month.

Advertising in Dorchester News

There are ten issues per year with double issues in July/August and in Dec/Jan. For an eighth of a page the cost is £11.75 mono, £12.75 colour; for a quarter page £23.50 mono, £25.50 colour; for a half page £35.25 mono, £38.50 colour and full page £47.00 mono, £51.00 colour.

All charges are put towards the cost of the paper, printing and postage of copies being sent outside the village.

To incorporate a logo or artwork, please supply a copy, preferably via e-mail: to address at foot of page or contact the editor.

One-time adverts, please send a cheque, payable to 'Dorchester Abbey PCC', to Nick Forman, Willoughby House, 73 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames, OX10 7HN.

Printed by Higgs of Henley.

I wonder what you think of when you hear the term 'vocation'? It's commonly associated with a particular career or occupation to which one feels strongly drawn, perhaps also to work regarded as worthy. You may have heard the saying that 'your vocation in life is where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need'. This was actually said by Frederick Buechner, an American writer, theologian and priest; and is a quote I have often seen used. I wonder if you have a sense of such a vocation? Does something in your life feel 'vocational'; are you fortunate enough to have a job which feels vocational? For many it will come, not through employment, but through family, home, learning, maybe through a pastime or hobby.

This word vocation comes from the Latin word 'vocare', meaning 'to call'. This brings in another dimension; that this might even come from outside of ourselves. I remember once being in a meeting with a group of good people doing a

very worthy cause. Someone asked me 'why did I choose to get ordained and work for the church as a vicar'? I struggled to answer this, and ended up saying that I didn't 'choose' it, that I felt 'called' to it. I even added (and this is still true even to this day), that there are many days when I'm still not sure if it is what I 'want' to do.

There was real surprise upon this person's face. It seemed the notion of committing oneself to a job, or profession, without it being what I personally wanted for myself, was perhaps incongruous to how some would make significant life decisions.

I wonder if this chimes with anyone else? That sense of feeling designed for something, maybe even destined or created for something; a role, job, place, maybe another person? Yet, this not being purely for one's own personal enjoyment, but for some other, deeper, sense. Perhaps this is about a deeper sense of 'who I am', perhaps it's more about 'I want to help';

but this is your vocation.

For me, this vocation is what God has called me to, to ordained ministry in the Church of England. In June this year, both myself and Revd Jennifer Morton, both Curates in the Dorchester Ministry Team, will be ordained priests in Dorchester Abbey, along with some of our colleagues and friends. This will be the next step along our own vocations.

I wonder what's yours? Where do you go from here? Where might God be calling you to meet the needs of others, and where might you find that fulfilment that comes, not from work alone, not from merely your own personal choice, but from that deeper fulfilment of who you are in what you do? I hope you find where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need.

God bless.

Sung Eucharist with MU Speaker Sunday 5 June

In a change to our normal pattern of services, there will be a Sung Eucharist on **5 June** at 10.30am at which the speaker will be Alison Bennett, President of the Mothers' Union in the Oxford Diocese.

Ordination Service Sunday 26 June

We are delighted that Jon Roberts and Jennifer Morton are to be ordained Priest at 10.30am on **26 June** in Dorchester Abbey, along with 6 other ordinands. This is an important occasion for the Team, and in particular for Jennifer who has many years of service in the Team and will be known in many parishes. Jon has recently joined the Team and has quickly become a valued member.

People from across the Team are invited to come to this joyful occasion – regular services have been cancelled so we can join as one. The service will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the Abbey/Cloister Gardens, so please look out for a sign-up sheet in due course so we know how many to expect.

Jennifer will be celebrating her first Communion at Toot Baldon on **Sunday 3 July** at 6pm; Jon will celebrate his on **Wednesday 29 June** at Berinsfield at 9.30am.

Working together for the common good

A Janaway Lecture by
the Rev. Dr. Marcus Braybrooke

Tuesday 7 June 7:30 pm in St Helen's Church, Benson.
Following this there will be complimentary refreshments

Tickets: £7.00 (students and school children £5.00) are available from Derry's Den in Benson or by calling **01491 200737**

New Priest for the Bridge Group of Parishes

We are delighted to announce that the Reverend Doctor Michael Lakey has been invited to fill the vacancy in the Dorchester Team. Michael has been employed as a New Testament Tutor at Ripon College, Cuddesdon for many years and his specialism is St. Paul. He was Ordained Deacon in 2014 and Priest last year. Michael is already licensed to the Team as a curate and his work has been predominantly in Dorchester although during this last year he has worked in parishes across the Team to cover services during the Vacancy and for clergy sickness and holidays. He is therefore known to many of the parishioners he is now being called to serve. For the first year of this appointment, whilst he completes his Curacy formally, Michael will be styled 'Curate in Charge' following which he will become an Associate Team Vicar.

Michael will continue to live and work at Cuddesdon with whom a clear agreement has been made for him to be available in the parish for two days each week in addition to his Sunday duties. Michael will have one regular day in the parishes every week which will be well advertised and he will use the time in the second day across the week to be available for funerals, schools work and any meetings that he will need to attend. On days when Michael cannot be available the Rector and other colleagues will be available for ministry in the Bridge Group and we are all looking forward to increased collaborative working within the Team and particularly between the parishes of the Bridge Group and Dorchester.

Chiropodist

Third Thursday of each month, 1.00–4.00pm
Belcher Court Sitting Room

16 June

For an appointment, Jo Bennett, **07903 133469**
Cost £15

The 'Burning Bush' ministry

In a much forgotten part of South Africa, which is semi-desert and far away from the sea and the city, there is a small village called Brandboom ('Burning Tree'). It is wracked by high rates of unemployment (70-80%), Tuberculosis, HIV, and alcoholism.

Moved by the needs of their neighbours, and inspired by a Christian conference to do something about it, some years ago women at the local church decided to open their kitchen cupboards to the children in the village. At the start they were feeding just a few children once a week, but very soon they found themselves feeding more and more children. There are now over 300 children being fed, and very recently they started providing food three times a week. Importantly, the children are not only fed physically but also spiritually. There is much joy and laughter as the food is eaten and Gospel songs sung. The children are offered love and care by those running the 'soup kitchen', and there is the vital opportunity to find out how things are going at home.

The different churches in the Dorchester area offer support through standing beside these women and children in prayer, friendship and also financial assistance. So far we have helped to build up the infrastructure of the church's kitchen in order to meet the demands of feeding so many, assist in funding the meals, and look forward to building up the capacity and sustainability of the project moving into the future.

Very excitingly, on the 17 June 2016 Sarah, Susanna ('Cheeks'), Natalie and Teresa, who are all leaders in the project in very different ways, will be coming over from South Africa for a two-week stay with us. There will be the opportunity to meet them on **Sunday 26 June**, at the Abbey Tearoom, when funds will be raised for the ministry. And also as they visit homes in the area for meals, and join the various parishes at services, Lunch Clubs, coffee mornings etc.

So please do take advantage of the chance to know more about the ministry, and be inspired by these remarkable women.

Shirley Hoy

Should there be a 2017 Festival?

Over the last 10 years we have raised over £105,000 for the Abbey and local charities and done a huge job raising awareness and creating opportunities for schools (as well as having some fun in the process!). This is an amazing achievement for a small village and something to be really proud of, but which still, to me, feels a small gesture considering how hugely fortunate we are to live privileged lives in a beautiful place.

We need to make a decision in the next few weeks about whether we will do it all again next year. This year's decision is much more difficult for me because, following a year of serious illness, I need to be sure that next year's Festival is not a personal commitment too far!

Many people in the village gave their time to deliver last year's Festival so I need to know if anyone would consider doing more this time or perhaps getting involved for the first time. I know from early soundings that we need some party/bash/ball and food/craft fair organisers. Both have been done many times now so have all the material ready to go, and the groups only met about 6 to 8 times over the year, although there was, of course, valuable work done outside those meetings.

I have already been approached by charities keen to benefit from another Festival and you may be involved in a local charity that could be next year's partner – but without more help there is a real chance that 2017 won't happen.

Please do offer your support if you can.

Steph Forman

01865 340434

steph@forman.org.uk

Hospital Visits

Clergy really appreciate the opportunity to visit people from the villages who have to be in hospital and we are aware that many parishioners appreciate these visits. Often it happens that we are told at second hand that someone has been taken to hospital and it used to be possible to contact the Hospital and find out where to come and visit you. This is no longer the case and whilst we remain keen to visit people we cannot do so unless we know which hospital and which ward you are in. If you know you are going to be in hospital do let the Rectory know in advance, otherwise staff on the ward can be advised that you would like them to disclose your location if asked by the clergy or you can ask a family member or friend who knows where you are to let the Rectory know.

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DADS

Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society

dads.org.uk  30 Nov-3 Dec

ALADDIN

Its Panto time again.....Oh yes it is!

Can you act? Can you sing? Can you dance?
Yes? A little bit? Not at ALL?

No matter...come and have a go anyway
All levels of experience are invited
First time actors/crew are very welcome

Read-through / Auditions :
Thursday 16th June and Monday 20th June
7.30pm in the Green Room at the
Village Hall

Come along and have some fun!
Email: membership@dads.org.uk

Sports Club AGM

Thursday 2 June

The AGM of the Dorchester Sports Club will be held on Thursday June 2 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground. We are looking for two new members of the Committee, so anybody who is interested, please come along.

Mike Stimpson

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society

In the New Year's Honours list of 2010 Mary Tame was awarded the MBE 'for services to heritage and the community of Dorchester on Thames in Oxfordshire'.

What a well deserved accolade to a remarkable lady.

When she retired in 1974 Mary became involved in many village activities including the Dorchester Historical Society and the Dorchester Abbey Museum. Her enthusiasm was infectious, her knowledge knew no bounds. No longer can we say 'Ask Mary' or 'Mary will know' we will just have to follow her example and find out the answers for ourselves.

The Historical Society is proud to have had Mary as an Honorary President. Her regular articles for the Dorchester News were always of interest and the fact that her last contribution was made in time for the May edition was remarkable. Mary had a special interest in the history of education in Dorchester and her book 'Lessons from History: 350 years of education in a small Oxfordshire village' can still be obtained from the Museum shop.

A born teacher and friend, Mary we will miss you

Gail Thomas
Chairman

More tributes to Mary Tame will appear next month—ed



Dorchester Gardens Open

Saturday July 9th
2pm-5pm

Refreshments

Children's treasure hunt

Maps £5 / £10 for a family (2 adults)

available from the Coop, Lily's Team Room
& Hair of Dorchester

in aid of Dorchester Abbey



"90 years of Dorchester's life"



(Coronation Day, 1953; Dorchester High Street)

An Exhibition

To celebrate 90 years of HM Queen Elizabeth II's life

Dorchester Abbey & Dorchester Abbey Museum, OX10 7HH

Thurs, June 9, 12.30-1700; Fri 10 and Sat 11, 1000-1700; Sun 12, noon-1700

We plan to illustrate each decade from 1920s to 2010s to bring our community's history to life. Events, groups, families and individuals, businesses, built-environment, the landscape, schools, sport etc.

If you have any artefacts to illustrate the decades of the Queen's reign, either national, international, or just plain local we would love to display them in a temporary exhibition in the museum. Artefacts may be brought to the museum any day between 1400 and 1700 until Monday, June 6. The items will be displayed and curated by the Museum curator and volunteer stewards during the museum's opening hours which will be throughout the time of the exhibition. We will ask you to fill out a short form so that we can reunite the item with you safely after the event.

Photographs and some documents will be displayed in the Abbey itself and we are delighted that many will be exhibited for the first time.

WERE YOU BORN IN 1926? 'HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER BORN IN 2016?

Please join in the special opening celebration on Thursday, June 9. Please contact either Denise Line on **07596 524335** or The Parish Office on **01865 340905**. Transport can be arranged, if you wish.

Fishmonger

The travelling fishmonger comes to Dorchester every Tuesday and will stop at :

10.00 - 10.05am in High Street near War Memorial

mobile LIBRARY

Alternate Thursdays, 2.55–3.15pm
Lay-by opposite the War Memorial

9 June, 23 June



Pre-School News

We have been busily enjoying the 'All About Me' topic and the self-portraits that some of the children have produced are uncanny!

There was extreme excitement when the Fire Safety Officer came to visit, particularly when each child got a turn to use the fire extinguisher. I'm not sure the safety drill should produce such a thrill, but alongside that, the children really did appreciate the more serious side.

As usual, joining Big School for their annual May Dancing was a real treat, particularly being able to reunite with the children that left us last July. It was another opportunity for our older children to integrate with their soon-to-be peers. We have also had visits from school teachers so the transition for our School starters should be a smooth one.

Today, Pre-School smelt like a bakery! The children loved making bread rolls to take home. We talked about how the dough felt - 'gooey, sticky, fluffy!' and we each discussed our favourite sandwich filling. Mine is a Victoria sandwich, which leads me nicely on to cakes and our fundraising afternoon at the Tea Room and Cloister Garden! By the time this edition comes out we will already know how much money we've raised, but right now all I can feel is hope that the weather is kind to us, and relief that this time, I'm not on face painting duties!!

Matthew Kestner, Chair

May Morning in Dorchester

On Bank Holiday Monday morning, and for the nineteenth time, Two A Part, eight a-capella singers based in Dorchester, welcomed May with their concert in the Abbey, preceded by the traditional rendering of *Now is the Month of Maying*, *Calon Lân* (in Welsh) and *Cwm Rhonda* (in English) from the top of the tower.

An enthusiastic audience of about 100 enjoyed a continental breakfast whilst listening to a short but eclectic programme including *Bridge Over Troubled Water*, a new arrangement for the group, as well as some Two A Part favourites.

Ticket sales raised £440, to be shared between the Abbey and the Nasio Trust's appeal for a new medical centre. Two of the young volunteers who had been to Kenya to work at the Trust's Centre impressed the audience with moving accounts of their experiences, and further donations on the day were made to support their work.

Many thanks to all those who gave of their time, talents and cash, Dorchester Coop for ticket sales and for getting up early to cook the croissants and the Abbey for once again providing such a unique venue.

For pictures of the May Morning see back page.



Queen's Birthday Sunday 12 June

The Queen's Birthday Celebrations will take place on **Sunday 12 June**. There will be a special morning service at 10.30am to celebrate the faith of H.R.H. Queen Elizabeth over her exceptional lifetime. Everyone is welcome to come and give thanks – we hope you have already requested the hymns and readings that will make up the service. The Dorchester Abbey (children's) Song School, founded this year, will also join us to perform and we hope you will join us for coffee afterwards.

Everyone is invited to a Family Picnic from 1pm in the Cloister Garden. Please come and enjoy a fun afternoon of music, entertainment and children's games. Bring your own picnic or visit the Abbey tea-room, which will be marking the event with a special 'Tea fit for a Queen'.

In the Abbey during the afternoon there will be a chance to meet the volunteers who bring their skills and talents to the Abbey – the stewards, bell ringers, gardeners and flower arrangers and find out what goes on behind the scenes and how many gifts are offered in service here in the same way that Her Majesty has offered her gifts over the years. There will be a special exhibition of photographs in the Abbey and our Ringers will also ring for the occasion.

In the event of the British summer getting the better of us, we will be prepared with marquees and gazebos to keep you dry and your spirits high!

Please note that the Fun Family Sports Day scheduled for the 11 June has been cancelled. We are very sorry to disappoint but unfortunately are short of volunteer helpers. We hope to run a similar event later in the year.

**Claire Andersson
Sue Boosy**

Wanted for Narnia!!

Have you got any items just cluttering up your homes/attics/garages that could be used for our *Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* exhibition at Dorchester Abbey? We'd be grateful for any/all donations listed below (please indicate if you would like them returned to you at the end of the exhibition). For further information and/or to discuss a possible donation please contact Margaret Craig the Education Officer on **343164** or drop her an email on: education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

We're looking for the following items: old coats (real/faux fur if available!) and/or cloaks, children's table and chairs, children's play tea set (preferably not china as we worry there could be breakages!), tea tray, white fairy lights, play crowns, play swords/shields, small tables, armchair, bow and arrows, horn, quilting wadding and/or white polyester stuffing, old fashioned non-electric kettle, old fashioned sewing machine AND a free standing working old fashioned looking street light!

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Earth Trust June events

Rest in Peace

Please let us remember two of our past members and Presidents - Mary Dermody and Mary Tame.

Both ladies left this world recently. May they Rest in Peace. Sadly, I did not know Mary Dermody although many will have. I first met Mary Tame seven years ago when I joined DOTWI. I remember her talking with passion to a NFWI Motion for Conference regarding farming and the pros and cons of enormous farms. Many of us attended Mary's 100th Birthday celebrations at Dorchester Abbey, which was a joyful occasion. Last year all the WIs were celebrating The Centenary, the South Oxfordshire Institutes had a ceremony in Dorchester Abbey which included passing the baton from member to member. This Baton had been passed from WIs throughout the country. Mary being the oldest WI member present at the Abbey was being led to cut one of the festive cakes. As she approached the front with one of the Oxfordshire Federation officials, Linda Hender whispered to me 'Mary won't miss this opportunity to speak to us'. Sure enough she did, finishing with 'Keep up the good work'. Fortunately, Mary only spent a few days in bed before she 'slipped away'. Her body, she donated to medical research. For those of us who wish to join together with her family to celebrate Mary's life, the service will be in Dorchester Abbey on Thursday 2 June at 2.00pm.

9 June 2.30pm in the Village Hall

'Artistic and Literary Footprints of the Thames Valley' with Nick Brazil

Thursday 23 June at 3.00pm

Our Summer Tea Party by kind invitation of Pauline and Christopher Kenway-Jackson

2 Monks Close **01865 340746**

Our Committee will kindly provide the refreshments.

Sunday 10 July 2.30-5.00 Abbey Tea Rooms

Please make cakes and scones. Helpers needed.

Monies for our Institute funds.

The next one is 14 August at the same time.

Thursday 14 July 2.30pm Village Hall

'Bishops, Sex and Money' with Tony Stafford

11 August Henley Boat Trip

More details nearer the time but please let Susan Jupp have the money now as she has already paid.

OAP £12.50 Younger £15.00

Cheques made out to Susan Jupp personally.

01865 341066

6 October 7.30pm Shillingford Group Meeting

Dorchester Village Hall hosts DOTWI

Please keep this date free, tickets will be £5 each.

Thanks to the generosity of members we have a new Committee

President: Pauline Kenway- Jackson (01865 340746)

Secretary: Gill Haworth (01865 340775)

Treasurer and Vice Chair: Susan Jupp (01865 341066)

Programme and Events: Anne Parker (01865 340746)

Welfare (please let Irene know if a member is ill): Irene Cadman

Assistant Secretary: Haley Poole (01865 340119)

Publicity and Assistant Treasurer: Jill Love (01865716557)

MCS (All membership details on computer for NFWI. Without

this service we do not exist beyond our own WI)

Thank you Linda. Linda Hender (01865 340032)

Our WI Adviser: Christine Denton

Many thanks to our past Programme Secretary Audrey Houlston for all her hard work producing the exciting Programme for 2016-2017 and for continuing to offer her expert help to Anne when needed.

Jill Love

Public Exhibition: Improving visitor facilities at the Earth Trust Centre

Wednesday 1 June to Tuesday 7 June, times vary

Would you like to find out about plans to improve visitor facilities here at the Earth Trust Centre? Drop in to this informal exhibition (rescheduled from April); please check website for opening times and further information.

Woodland Adventure

Wednesday 1 June, 10am-12pm

An expedition for 5-8 year olds. Use your detective skills to discover the Earth Trust's woodland, where we'll explore, build and play. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

Wildlife Wednesday at Thrupp Lake

Wednesday 1 June, 2pm-4pm

Our roving Wildlife Wednesdays visit a different Earth Trust community nature reserve during each school holiday. This half term, come out and play at Thrupp Lake (OX14 3NG); learn about local wildlife and have lots of outdoor fun! £2 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free; no need to book.

Sling Walk

Thursday 2 June, 10am-11.30am

Bring your baby for a ramble around our nature reserve. A great opportunity for you both to get out in the fresh air and enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the countryside with other local parents. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

Discover and Play

Friday 3 June, 10am-12pm

Forest School for the under-5s. Join the Earth Trust for a morning of play and discovery in our woodlands. Forest School offers hands-on learning experiences in a natural environment. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

Summer Birds at Thrupp Lake

Sunday 5 June, 10am-12pm

Local expert Ben Carpenter leads a morning stroll around the lake (OX14 3NG). Discover more about the birds you can see there over the summer. £5 adult, £2 child, booking essential: **01865 407792**.

Summer Picnic

Sunday 5 June, 11am-4pm

Love local food at the Earth Trust summer festival! Bring your own picnic, or pick up some tasty local treats, and join in some traditional summer games. £5 adult, £2 child, £12 family.

Basket Weaving

Wednesday 15 June, 6pm-8pm

Make a simple Catalan style basket out of willow with local weaver Christine Brewster. Suitable for beginners and those with some experience; bring secateurs if you have them. £25; booking essential: **01865 407792**.

Archaeology Night

Thursday 30 June, 6pm-9pm

Hear all about the University of Oxford's latest research projects in the area. Free (donations welcome) but please book: **01865 407792**.

As always, more information can be found on our website www.earthtrust.org.uk. All events take place at the Earth Trust, Little Wittenham, OX14 4QZ unless otherwise stated.



'DOGS'

Next Events

Tuesday 7 June. Play 'Aunt Sally' in the Fleur de Lys garden. Come along to join in or to just watch, have a drink and maybe stay to eat from their excellent bar menu. It's all for fun so you'll be warmly welcomed whatever you choose. No entry fee but do let us know beforehand if you'd like to eat so we can give the Fleur's kitchen a bit of advance notice.

Monday 20 June. Golf at Tadmorton Heath GC. 18 holes. A first for DOGS at this superb heathland course. It's a pairs competition so only the better of the two scores is recorded. We'll happily pair you up if you're on your own. Again, it's all for fun and friendship so no pressure. It's one of our most desirable outings and it'll cost £41.50 per head, to include a snack lunch.

Monday 18 July. Just 9 holes at the super Springs GC (just up the road from us). We take advantage of an early evening tee-time to keep costs down and encourage busy people and juniors to turn out. Details next month.

For these and other matters call Mike and Jan Rimmer **01865 343719**



Dorchester Village Hall 200 Club Prize Draw

Congratulations to the winners of the March draw.

1st Prize	£75	No.117	Mrs H Juniper
2nd Prize	£45	No.76	Mr A Smith
3rd Prize	£25	No.71	Mrs A Brucker

The next draw will be in June, so join now for a chance to win!

The 200 Club is a quarterly prize draw to raise funds for the village hall. There are only 200 tickets and some are still available at £12 for the year (4 draws from when you join). To join, contact Elaine Moore on **340441** or email admin@dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk for a form.

Dorchester News online

Remember that Dorchester News is available to download from the Abbey website each month (go to the homepage at: www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk and click on Dorchester News) and from the village website (go to www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk and click on the Dorchester News tab).

Remind your friends and family who have moved away from the village that they can catch up with what's going on in Dorchester.



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Hempcroft Allotment News

The National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners, of which we are a member, has reported on concerns about the use of glyphosate-based herbicides for weed control on allotments. In a non-binding resolution, the European Parliament called for a ban on all uses of glyphosate-based herbicides (such as Roundup) in private and public green areas, including spraying in and around public parks, playgrounds and gardens. MEPs also said a new glyphosate licence should be limited to seven instead of 15 years. The Parliament also called for full disclosure of the scientific evidence behind an assessment of glyphosate by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). Environmental and transparency organisations have called for the full publication of this evidence, and criticised glyphosate producers for their reluctance to publish carcinogenicity studies evaluated by EFSA.

In March 2015, the WHO's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified glyphosate as a probable carcinogen. However, the EFSA said in November 2015 that there was no evidence of a cancer link. Under EU law, a classification as a presumed carcinogen would result in an automatic ban.

The EU licence for glyphosate runs out at the end of June 2016, although an assessment of the weed killer by the European Chemicals Agency will not be completed before the end of 2017. In March 2016, the Commission was unable to muster enough support among EU member state representatives to extend the lease of glyphosate.

Edward Metcalfe

Urgent Village Notices

The Parish Clerk sends urgent village notices via e-mail as the occasion warrants. If you would like to be added to his e-mail list, please send a message to parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk.

When you receive the message, you will view only your own e-mail address: as a security precaution, all other residents' addresses are hidden. This is standard practice to protect your e-mail address.

It works!

When a dog was recently found in Bridge End, the family who found it alerted the Parish Clerk who sent out an email to all those on the Urgent Notices list—see above. Within minutes the dog's owners replied and were rapidly reunited with their pet.

The moral is to sign for the Urgent Village Notices. You never know when or how you might need them.

.....

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society Visit to Baddesley Clinton Saturday 2 July 2016

This moated manor house has been a sanctuary since the 15th Century and was the home of the Ferrers family for 500 years. Baddesley Clinton was a sanctuary not only for the Ferrers family but other persecuted Catholics in its priest's holes. The gardens include fish pools, walled garden and a lakeside walk.

The Barn Restaurant serves hot meals, drinks and snacks and light refreshments are available in the Stables. Picnics are welcomed. There is a National Trust Shop and second-hand bookshop.

9.15 Departure from Bridge End Car Park.
11.00 Baddesley Clinton.

I will organise the tickets for entrance to the House (these are timed and there is a guide and I cannot book in advance) and Gardens after which you will be free to explore on your own. If you are member of the National Trust please remember to bring your membership card with you.

4.00 Departure.

The cost is £29 (coach and entrance to Baddesley Clinton), cheques payable to Dorchester Historical Society. Please send to **Gail Thomas**, 14 Herringcote, Martins Lane, Dorchester on Thames, Oxon OX10 7RD. (Tel. **01865 341977** or email: gail.thomas8@btinternet.com)

Earth Trust Apprenticeships

Earth Trust has launched its first apprenticeship programme which will help young people develop skills and confidence with the aspiration that they will go on to find jobs locally and help boost business across the county.

The apprenticeship programme is the latest addition to the ways people can get involved with the Earth Trust, learning about the natural world and looking after it for future generations. The first three apprentices will experience different aspects of the charity's work, with on-the-job training in land management on the Earth Trust Farm and its woodlands, marketing and events, and business administration.

The **Land Management Apprentice** will gain skills in managing and maintaining habitats for wildlife and visitors alike. The **Marketing and Communications Apprentice** will support the busy Communications and Engagement Team, engaging with the thousands of visitors the Trust receives each year, including over 3,800 pupils attending Earth School sessions, 11,500 individuals attending festivals such as lambing weekends and almost 2000 people attending our courses and workshops. The **Business Administration Apprentice** will provide crucial support for the day-to-day running of the organisation, particularly the Earth Trust Centre including the booking of Fison Barn and running the café at events, as well as gaining valuable experience of a busy office environment.

The apprenticeships are offered in partnership with Abingdon & Witney College and Oxfordshire Apprenticeships. For further information, including details on how to apply, please see www.earthtrust.org.uk.

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We welcomed Mrs Jane Eacopo to our staff at the beginning of Term 5 to be the teacher of Red Class (Year 4/5/6), she is a great addition to our school team.

On the first day back for the children, Revd Sue invited a group of children to come to the Abbey to meet a very special visitor at the Abbey, which was kept very secret and certainly kept us guessing. The special visitor was the new Bishop of Oxford and it was a privilege for us to be part of the service. We were also featured on the BBC South News that evening, sadly for the viewing public there was rather too much of me and not so much of the children.

Blue Class were back in the Abbey a couple of weeks later to take part in a specially prepared workshop on the Passover and its links to the Last Supper. A big thank you to Margaret Craig (Abbey Education Officer) and Denise Line for all their hard efforts in the preparation and presentation of this event. The children really enjoyed experiencing the aspects of the Passover meal.

On 29 April, we held our annual May Dancing, which despite a little rain at the beginning; the weather once again was very

kind to us. It is always great to see the children perform the dances they have carefully prepared and a well done to Annabelle in Blue Class, who had to dance with me. We completed the event with a group dance of parents, children and staff – which gets better each year! I think the parents are secretly practising.

We are very excited this year as we are now able to return to a four class structure from September, which is brilliant news – so we are now working through the recruitment process for a new teacher in the new class. This adds to the news about our After School Club which started at the end of April and is continuing to grow over time – I think you would agree we are certainly in an exciting era for the school. If anyone wants any further information about any of these developments, please feel free to contact me at school.

Each month, we have our Writers of the Month – this recognises children who have shown a great improvement in their writing during that month. Congratulations to Harry Ferry, Jezreel Shijo, Zachary Fowler, Phoebe DeMaine, Jemima Fowler and Tom Smith, our Writers of the Month for April.

Russell Leigh
Headteacher

Dorchester St Birinus CE Primary School



Photo : Steph Forman



Come make Aslan's Head!

Come in September and join in our free workshop to contribute towards the large-scale head of Aslan that will be a focal point in our *Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* exhibition in Dorchester Abbey in October 2016! We are looking for adults and children who want to have fun whilst helping make our sculpture!

Dates for your diary: The workshop dates will be after school on the following dates:

Tuesdays 13 September and 20 September, 3.30-5pm

We will be working on the head in the Abbey. We will have tea/coffee available for adults and squash and biscuits for the children. Please come along and add your contribution to our Aslan sculpture!

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If you would like to learn more about becoming a volunteer please contact:

David Williams

Volunteer & fundraising coordinator, John Masefield House

@ david.williams@leonardcheshire.org

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Focus on... Dorchester Cricket Club

As April goes into May, so each year the Saturday afternoon soundscape for people living in Drayton Road and Oxford Road perceptibly changes. In place of the concentrated ninety minute bursts of shouts and the thud of boots on ball comes the calmer sound of willow on leather, accompanied by the occasional 'Owzat'. The cricket season has arrived and with it, we hope, the first glimmer of summer.

Don't be fooled by the change in the nature of the soundscape. The intensity of the competition, the skill and the desire to win won't have changed. This is Dorchester Cricket Club starting its season, with Saturday afternoon devoted to the skill of cricket for the next five months.

It is not entirely clear when Dorchester Cricket Club first started. Village cricket was well-established in the south of England by the mid-17th century and was being played at Oxford University in 1673. We know, though, that the second ever issue of the Dorchester Parish Magazine, in June 1888, reported that in the previous season Dorchester had played 14 matches and won eight; that in 1887 the club consisted of 28 members; and the annual membership fee was 2/6 (12½p) for seniors, 1s (5p) for juniors. The low fees were set to encourage more local people to join, because the team relied heavily on people from outside of the village to make up a team.

It was reported that the 1888 season had opened with a defeat at the hands of



The first team, ready to face the bowling of Sunningwell

Clifton Hampden by six wickets on 9 May on the Clifton Cricket Ground.

Dorchester CC did not appear to have had a regular home ground. Only one of the first dozen matches of 1888 was to be played at home. This was to be at Overy, 'in a meadow kindly leant to the Club by Mr. F. Shrubb'. This situation continued, with the occasional game being played at 'a field near Day's Lock' or at Warborough until the 'New Recreation Ground' was opened on 6 June 1892, Whit Monday. This was leant to the village by local Burcot landowner Mr Jabez Balfour MP.* On the day, there were great celebrations including a speech from Mr Balfour in which he said that 'in

the middle of the ground, which will be practically reserved for the Dorchester Cricket Club, we shall be able to provide plenty of first rate cricket.' He would be undoubtedly pleased that we are still seeing plenty of first rate cricket there. In the afternoon there was a friendly cricket match between Mr Balfour's XI (which included two Dorchester men) and a team 'from Surrey'. The crowd to watch this game was reported to be 'in the thousands' which suggests that this might have been the Surrey County side. The report goes on to say that 'Such a game of cricket has never been seen in Dorchester before' and I think we can safely say that such a crowd of spectators has never been seen since. The Surrey team won by five wickets.

Dorchester Cricket Club played its first match at the Recreation Ground six weeks later on 27 July 1892, beating Ipsden by 17 runs. This result was based on the first innings totals, because the second innings had not been completed when failing light stopped play. No Duckworth-Lewis method in those days.

For the following 124 years Dorchester Cricket Club has continued to play on the Recreation Ground, which still sees plenty of first-rate cricket.

And it is not just Saturday afternoons. Dorchester is a flourishing club and frequently plays up to four times a week. The first team plays in Division Four of the Oxford Cricket Association (to which they were promoted in 2014), whilst the second team plays in Division Eight. Sundays regularly see friendly games,



Phil Goodliffe keeps wicket against Sunningwell

giving an opportunity for some of the more senior players, and on Wednesday there is 20-over cricket, in the South Oxfordshire Friendly League, giving a mid-week fix to those who want it. The Recreation Ground is well used throughout the season.

All of this use means that the pitch has to be well maintained and kept in top condition. Keeping it like this is a major operation. Work is carried out all year, but it is in February and March that preparing it up to match standard really begins. From then on groundsman Kim Rockall has plenty to do, cutting or rolling every few days, cutting the square as short as possible and giving a final cut to the outfield on the morning of each game. This level of attention is needed in order to give the wicket consistency. Without that, bowlers and batsmen would be faced with the ball flying off in random directions from a soft patch or bump, turning the game from one of skill to one of chance. A. G. McDonell well knew the importance of the square when he wrote *England, their England* in 1933. (The Dorchester outfield bears no resemblance to the one that he describes.)

The constant attention needed for the pitch contributes to the game being relatively expensive to play. Hundreds of pounds are spent each year on diesel for the mower and roller, and every other year the pitch has to be scarified and re-seeded, with new soil costing several hundred pounds. On top of this are the groundsman's wages, umpires to be paid and new balls to be bought for each game.

The club always has to think about where its income is going to come from. Most comes from the annual subs of the members (now rather more than the 12.5p of 1888) and the match fees that each player pays. Other sources include the sponsorship of the match balls and events such as quiz nights in the Village Hall.

The current target is to buy some new portable nets so that they do not have to

go to Berinsfield for practice sessions.

Currently there are 32 members, just a few more than in 1888, many of whom live outside of Dorchester (*plus ça change...*). Some are former residents and some, such as Thom Airs, live away during the week but return to Dorchester at weekends and play cricket.

So far this season the first team has played three and won one. A good win over Watlington was followed by losing to Sunningwell at home and then defeat to West Ilsley away. But it is early days and with 15 matches still to go there is time to notch up a few more wins, spurred on by their shout of encouragement: 'Do it for Dorch'.

Like most clubs, Dorchester likes to emulate the international sides and go on tour. For each of the last 15 years they have toured at some point during the season. Not for them, though, the delights of the Sydney Cricket Ground or the Eden Gardens, Kolkata. In recent years it has been Taunton, Bristol, Bude, and Newquay, whilst going north they have been to York, Nottingham and Leicester. Generally the tour starts with a match on a Thursday; another on Friday; a day off on Saturday to go golfing, paintballing or watching more cricket is followed by another match on Sunday, hopefully somewhere *en route* home.

Wives and girlfriends may think the tours a bit of a jaunt, but they are important not just to be able to learn by playing sides from outside of Oxfordshire but to allow the team to really get to know each other better. Cricket is a team game, but during the course of a seven-hour match, there is often little time to talk; not while you are fielding, and certainly not when you have bat in hand. So tours give the team members a real opportunity to create the understanding between them that is so important to success in any team game. Of course, if there's some fun to be had as well...

Currently Dorchester CC is still getting over the loss of Peter Andrew, club president, who died in April and to whom a tribute appears elsewhere in this issue.



Richard Sharman hits a four against Sunningwell

He will be much missed by all the members of the Club and a Memorial Game is scheduled for 21 August. I am sure that many who do not regularly go to watch the cricket will turn out for that game.

Looking to the future, though, the club is well supported by younger players. The youngest players currently, Tom Ferris, Will Clayton and Lucas Pugh are all 14, so the team undoubtedly has a good future.

And like most institutions, there are some practises that are a mystery not only to outsiders but also to recent arrivals at the club. Here they include:

- the secret of starting the mower;
- the secret of stopping the mower;
- and heaven help anyone sitting in the front seat of the tour bus who has not worked out who has the right to do so!

So the cricket season is here and for the rest of the summer, residents of Drayton Road can relax to the gentle sound of cricket, punctuated by the shout 'Do it for Dorch'.

**Just a few months' later Balfour went bankrupt. Dorchester shopkeeper Mr Minchin bought the field and donated it to the village, where it is still sometimes known as Minchin's Field.*

With thanks to Ian Ferris for explaining some of the mysteries of cricket to me.

Do it for Dorch!

The cricket field itself was a mass of daisies and buttercups and dandelions, tall grasses and purple vetches and thistle-down, and great clumps of dark red sorrel, except, of course for the oblong patch in the centre—mown, rolled, watered—a smooth, shining emerald of grass—the Pride of Fordendon, the Wicket.

From *England, their England*
by A G Macdonell, 1933

Betty Madden 1934-2016

Betty Madden was born to Henry and Nora Cartledge, in Howden, East Yorkshire, on 5 July 1924. Betty had an elder brother and sister, Jack and Jean, and another sister called Dorothy, who had died from meningitis before Betty was born.

When Betty was three, the family moved to Bridlington, to live in a large house on the seafront. Here, Betty developed her lifelong love of swimming and the seaside. Her mother Nora passed away when Betty was ten, leaving Jean to act as mother to Betty and Jack. The family moved in 1934 to a smaller house not as close to the sea, but that did not diminish Betty's enthusiasm for swimming even though it was now quite a walk. In 1935, Henry married an old family friend, Dorothy Straker.

In the summer of 1939, Betty met her future husband Brian. Romance blossomed, but due to the war, Brian had joined the Royal Navy, flying fighter aircraft from aircraft carriers. Things were put on hold pending more stable times. In May 1944, Betty married Lt. Brian Madden RN, and for several years they moved from one air station to another.

Peter was born in March 1945, and after some time in Macrihanish, in the Mull of Kintyre, the family moved to north Cornwall, and had an idyllic lifestyle mostly by the sea. Simon was born in February 1950, after which we moved to what was then, RNAS Culham, here in Oxfordshire. While there, in February 1952, Susan was born. Not long after that, they found and fell in love with "Windyridge", on the Abingdon road in Dorchester. The house was named by Betty after the title of one of her favourite books.

In July 1956, the family went to Malta for two years where, our youngest sister Carolyn was soon born. Here, life was more idyllic than it had been in Cornwall. Betty spent her time sunbathing, swimming, and attending parties, as all the officers' wives had maids. Sometimes, Brian would hover over the house in his helicopter, and a sock would come down with a pound of sausages or other in it and a note saying "Home at six". In 1958, the family returned to England and resumed life at Windyridge.

In 1961, Brian retired from the Navy, and began a second career in the management of Premix concrete. Betty made many lasting Premix friends. Following her stepmother's death, Betty's father Henry came to stay. He died a few years later, and was buried here in Dorchester. Over the years, Betty became a member of the WI, the Dorchester young wives, of



which she was chairman for 13 years, and the Mothers' Union. She cleaned the Abbey brasses for over 30 years, and delivered parish magazines for over 40. She and her friends also regularly baked cakes and made tea at the Cheshire Home at Burcot. She grew plants for the Dorchester British Legion memorial, and for others in the area who affectionately referred to her as the 'plant lady'.

Over the years the children married, and by 1980, Betty had three grandchildren, Kim, Stephen and Charlotte, on whom she doted. In 1981, Brian retired from Premix, but shortly afterwards tragedy struck, and he was killed in a road accident. Betty would not leave Windyridge, especially as Simon built a house next door, and she had regular visits from the family. Betty's garden was a major feature of her life, and she made it look beautiful.

Betty enjoyed travelling to see more distant family, visiting Jack and Jean in Yorkshire with nephew John and, while her health allowed it, visiting Carolyn in Australia. At home, she took up making tapestries, and knitted for the children and grandchildren well into her old age. She loved to walk around the sailing lagoon at Dorchester, a familiar sight in her favourite lilac clothing. The family built a summer house in which

she spent happy hours reading and admiring her garden. Carolyn visited several times.

More grandchildren, Daniel, Mathew and Megan came along, and there were not many days when she was not visited by at least one of them. Kim kept her horse at Windyridge and would often wave to her grandma through the lounge window. In time, Betty was thrilled to become a great-grandmother to Hollie, Sophie, Alex, Diego and Henry. Had she lived a little longer, she would have seen two more great-grandchildren from Stephen and Kate, and Charlotte and Jack.

Over time, it became evident that Betty's memory was declining, and she needed more support from the family, and from Tracy, a local lady. In 2012, after a bad fall, and due to her increasing dementia and care needs, Betty moved into The Close nursing home in Burcot. We all made regular visits, right up to Betty's passing, Susan travelling from Cheshire as regularly as she could, supported by her husband Neil.

In many ways, the family lost Betty several years ago, but liked to think that the smiles which suddenly crossed her face, and the brief sparkle in her eyes were moments of loving recognition of who they were right up to the end.

Become a Friend of Dorchester Abbey

The Friends of Dorchester Abbey is an association with a legal identity separate from the Parochial Church Council and raises funds to be used exclusively for the restoration, maintenance, embellishment and improvement of the structure of the Abbey Church and the Abbey Guesthouse. These have included major repairs to the roof and stonework of the abbey, new sound and lighting systems, restoration of the historic wall paintings and a new high altar frontal.

The Friends, formed in 1959, promoted and supported social events such as concerts, lectures, flower and craft festivals as well as visits to cathedrals and other abbeys. The subscription is not fixed, but we do ask for a minimum annual subscription of £20. Life membership is also available for a single payment of £300 person or £500 for a couple.

Details of the work of the Friends together with application forms can be found on the Friends' notice board in the Abbey and on the Dorchester Abbey website www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For further information contact Mrs Honor Juniper. 01865 343228 or email friends@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Peter Andrew

1955-2016

Peter was born in Wincanton, Somerset on 8 February 1955, the only boy in a family of three sisters, Terri, Mari and Julie. His father, George was a carpenter who made bows and arrows and other wonderful wooden toys. As the only boy Pete was spoilt by his adored Mum, Ivy and had the advantage of not having to share a bedroom or clothes - though in later years he loved to dress up!!

Pete went from the junior school in Wincanton to King Arthur's comprehensive. He was always physically fit and in the school football and cricket teams. He enjoyed woodwork - although some of his pieces- an egg rack guaranteed to break and a stool with inadequate dovetail joints were not ideal offerings to bring home to a father who was regularly teaching 30 apprentices! On taking up metal work Peter's artistic talent blossomed. His most impressive piece a plant stand with roots for feet and ivy leaves wrapped around a metal basket for the pot is still in use at home today! Peter's first job was with Burton Tailoring but he remained a keen cricketer - living in Bruton in Somerset with his wife Sue and two sons Gareth and Tom of whom he was enormously proud.

Peter and Annie were together from 2002, marrying in 2007. When they moved to Dorchester in 2005 Peter immediately phoned the number in the Dorchester News to enquire about cricket - little did he know he was phoning Chris Sleigh whose house backed onto their new home and was watching the boxes stacking up. This began a wonderful time during which Pete and Annie made many friends

Ian Ferris recalled Justin Barnes' words, about the coming together of the Gentlemen and the Players in the '*Random History of Cricket*': 'The only differences, between "gentlemen" and the "players" seemed to be that the gentlemen got a bigger and better dressing room and that their initials were put before their surnames on scorecards'. Pete was a gentleman - he had many old fashioned values. He always introduced himself to new people and made a real effort to mingle with new players,

partners of players, opposition, and he and Anne were most hospitable, hosting the annual garden BBQ, complete with water slides!

Peter made 50 on his debut for Dorchester, helped coach younger players, donated kit to the juniors. He and Anne were amongst those who drove the improvements that made the Pavilion and Ground a useable facility—painting, rolling, cleaning, mowing, burning - you name it, Pete did it - and he managed to get the bigger changing room! He became Club Chairman and finally President: President Pete



Peter joined Cherwell Software as a Sales Manager in 2012. His colleague Andy White paid tribute to him as a man who gave much to his work, to his customers, partners and especially to his colleagues. He was a true professional, hard-working, passionate, exacting and extremely perceptive,

contributing significantly to the development of the European organisation.

Pete was full of character and charisma - he ran his life at 100mph... he also drove at 100mph - Andy recalled a 'circular' conversation with a US executive when we were out on the road with Pete. 'No you take the front seat. **No Please** you take the front seat...'

Another work colleague recalled - 'We went snowmobiling; not really my thing and there was no way I was driving one on my own! So I went on the back of Pete's snow mobile, I wouldn't have gone with anyone else. I trusted him implicitly, in spite of his fast road driving!'

Many tales were told by those paying tribute, the sense of which were summed up by Ian Ferris 'our world will be like a team one man down - we'll just need to help each other a little harder.'

Compiled from Tributes given at the Thanksgiving Service by Keith Davis (brother in law), Ian Ferris and Andy White

Mary Dermody will be remembered by many in Dorchester for the time that she lived here, and particularly as president of the WI .

She was born Mary Teresa Carroll in 1938 in Co. Limerick, the third of five children. Her father became station master at Birdhill, Co. Tipperary and was a keen gardener with a love of nature and his legacy informed her love and knowledge of gardening and the countryside.

In 1953 she came first in a national Irish Prose essay-writing competition and was presented with a medal by President Eamon de Valera. She met Matty, her husband to be, at a dance in Rathkeale, Co. Limerick and they were married in 1958 in the church of St Agatha in Dublin. They moved to England and settled in West London. In their first five years in England they lived in rooms in two homes with

Mary Teresa Dermody

1938-2016

two children before finally buying their own first home in Feltham.



Mary studied for a history degree at Strawberry Hill College and then in 1966 started teaching at St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School, where she was teacher to some of her own children.

She gained a love of boats and spent days at a time exploring the length of the Thames during weekends, half terms and holidays.

In 1986 she reluctantly took early retirement for health reasons. Shortly after, they moved to Dorchester where they lived for 13 years, before moving to Oakley.

She leaves behind family and friends who have all been touched in some way by her and who will always be grateful that she was a part of their lives.

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From your district councillor...

John Cotton
May 2016

Governance

At the elections last May, South Oxfordshire Conservatives captured 33 of the 36 seats.

The one-party dominance of the council has changed the nature of governance: group meetings are now almost the Full Council meetings. It also brings heavier responsibility to get things right and I hope some of the changes I've made to the way we do things is helping with that. Underlying those changes is the intent to a full member-led authority.

Finance

SODC has frozen its council tax this year, following a reduction of 3% last year. Of the 300+ district councils in England, only six now have a lower tax than South Oxfordshire. There have been no service cuts to achieve this, just plain old good financial management with a strong control of costs.

Within three years, we are expecting our grant from government (once more than 50% of our income and worth millions of pounds) to be gone. In its place will be a series of "incentivising" income sources such as New Homes Bonus (for each new house built in the district) and retention of business rates. South Oxfordshire is placed as well as any council to cope with that change.

Corporate Services Outsourcing Project

Driving down costs has been key to our financial success and the Corporate Services Project is a perfect example of that. SODC is already at the top of any list of innovation in local government; our plan to unite multiple authorities in different parts of the country to align and jointly commission services breaks the mould once again. Working with councils in Somerset, Hampshire and our neighbours at Vale of the White Horse, the project is set to save the five authorities over £50m, including more than a million pounds each year for the next 9 years for South Oxon. Areas covered include HR, IT, licensing, car parks and property management.

Best of all, the Government liked the idea so much, they paid nearly all the costs of the tender and procurement!

Devolution

Alongside other authorities in Oxfordshire, since last summer, the council has been seeking devolution of powers from central government. It became clear that the initial bid was not sufficiently strong and so – together with six other district councils – I have proposed to government that we look at a series of unitary councils in the county. That initial proposal has been well received and so we are now working on the detail of how that will work. A key element to the new proposal is the complete integration of health and social care. If that goes ahead as planned, Oxfordshire will be leading a generational change in local government.

Local Plan

Our current Local Plan identifies the need for nearly 11,000 houses by 2027. More recent work – looking ahead a little further to 2031 – suggest that figure needs to be closer to 15,000. On top of that, Oxford City Council claims it has insufficient space to build the homes it believes it needs and wants us to build more to backfill. The Localism Act 2011 requires that authorities co-operate on how to deal with this situation. Whilst the Act does not insist on agreement, inspectors at Local Plan inquiries have tended to come down hard on those councils that don't take sufficient extra numbers.

As such, it is possible that we will need to build nearly 20,000 new homes by 2031. Expect to see significant public consultation on those ideas in the Summer.

From your MP...

John Howell
May 2016



The refugee problems that we have are the result of complex situations which do not have easy answers. Many of the reports that we see and hear about the plight of refugees are shocking and I share the concern expressed by many. Many of the reports that we see and hear do not give the full picture. Many of the reports that we see and hear fail to distinguish between refugees and economic migrants. Numbers and locations have been bandied around in the news which seek to make political capital out of a critical humanitarian situation especially where children are involved. I want to take the opportunity this month to share my views and to try to bring some clarity to what the Government has been doing on this important issue. The question that governments have to ask is how we can best help those in need without, as far as possible, inflaming already difficult situations.

Firstly there is much that the Government does through the Department for International Development (DfID) and I am completely committed to the UK meeting its commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of our economy on aid despite many people suggesting that we cannot afford to do this.

On unaccompanied children I fully support us helping them. I am deeply concerned that we do not set conditions which create a perverse incentive for families to entrust their children to people setting them on the dangerous sea crossing to Europe. This is why the government has agreed that only children who were already registered in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal on 20 March will be eligible for resettlement where it is in their best interests and why the focus is on taking children from the camps around Syria. I am also pleased that we are supporting professional agencies well experienced in this work such as UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee. I am pleased too that we are supporting our neighbouring governments in Europe. The UK is the largest bilateral contributor to the humanitarian response to the crisis in Europe and is assisting countries build their capacity to manage the situation.

Refugees are usually in a traumatised state when they arrive in a place of safety. This is why it is important to work with local councils who have responsibility for housing and other support services to establish their preparedness to receive refugees. We need to ensure that they have support networks in place to enable them to settle.

There will always be new challenges in these situations and we must be careful to take measured action that protects people's interests and not rush into emotional responses that puts lives at risk.

John Howell MP

.....
John Cotton continued....

Berinsfield

Last month, the district council committed £1.5m to consultation, research and master-plan development to help tackle some of the challenges faced in Berinsfield. Over the next 18 months, a plan will be developed for significant investment in social and community infrastructure in the village. The cost of that could be around £50m in total. The idea is to use the up-lift in land value if housing permission is given to pay for this investment.

Didcot Garden Town

Didcot is the district's largest town and a significant amount of the council's energy goes into improving it. Our latest project is Garden Town status. We have already received £0.5m from Government and will be using this to make long-term plans for an upgrading of the infrastructure and urban realm in the town.

John Cotton,
Councillor for Berinsfield West and Leader of the Council

Parish Council

Chairman's Report 3 May 2016

This is a summary of the report and if anyone would like to see a copy of the full report or copies of the Financial report, PAGE, District councillors or County councillors reports these are available in full from Geoff Russell,

Council Membership changes: It was not until August that Oliver Margison joined us to make our complement of 8 councillors. A qualified architect with his own business had recently moved into Meadside. All was well until December 2015 when Claire Andersson resigned to focus her energies on a new business venture. Then, in March this year Sue Graney resigned to start a business and for family reasons. The Council offers thanks to Claire for her tremendous work on the tennis club and the multi user games area, as a member of the Sports Club committee, organising the Fete and to Sue for her initiatives with the village web site, the defibrillators, the Christmas tree and the fireworks display.

We are very fortunate that both Claire and Sue have promised to remain involved in these activities as non-council members. We are very fortunate to have Viviane Quirke - a senior lecturer at Oxford Brookes University and Rob Ballantyne who has been a Town Planner and manager in the NHS among other roles - who have recently replaced them offering the parish council a range of new experience and skills.

Neighbourhood Development Plan: Chris Smith who had been the project leader resigned at the end of December and early in the new year; there were further resignations from Mike Kitson and more recently John Metcalfe. We thank all of them for their hard work and dedication over the last 3 years. We are only sorry that they will be unable to witness the conclusion to all their efforts. In their place we now have the addition of Mark Williams, Mike Rimmer and myself, who has been acting as vice chairman in the meantime.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan has reached an important milestone in its progress towards completion and the public referendum as reported in the last DN. The document was sent to SODC on 30 March and their review ended on 11 May. The response will provide us with advice as to whether we need any additions, whether any elements require amending and also that we have adhered to all the processes that are necessary. Other 'statutory consultees' such as Historic England, Natural England, local employers and utilities have also been consulted. As we have had an SODC planning officer supporting us and attending many of our meetings we hope that there will not need to be major changes. A professional company is organising the layout and produce a high quality document in readiness for the next stage as recommended by SODC to meet the needs of a Planning Inspector, before it is then ready for public consultation. With the uncertainty of what the response will be it is difficult to assess how long this process will take. It could be as little as a few months or longer if there are significant changes, but we want to make sure that we do not lose the momentum we have generated over the recent past.

Finance: Geoff Russell provided our financial report which stated that your council set the precept for the current year back in January at £42,280; about £100 or £2 per household per week, very good value from hardworking volunteers. This is the same as for the previous year as we did not consider that an increase was justified this year. This will be supplemented by the Community Infrastructure levy starting recently in April 2016. This is intended to provide district and parish councils with a payment on every square metre of new development in our village and the money can be used on infrastructure projects chosen by the village.

Grant money: Mike Stimpson, on behalf of the Sports Club, applied for a grant towards the cost of repairing the flat roof on the pavilion in September. The total cost was just over £4,400 and we were granted £1,875 towards the project. In December Southern Electric Power Distribution offered grants for emergency equipment to cope with bad weather. An application

I prepared was awarded £1,500 with which we have bought a mobile petrol generator and other equipment. If you know of somewhere to store these items near the village centre, secure but accessible, for four storage boxes and the generator please let us know. We also received a grant of £540 from SODC towards the cost of the celebrations of the Queen's 90th birthday in June. We will make sure it is spent well.

Sport and Recreation: The Dorchester football team has unfortunately dropped another division and as a result the second team will be disbanded. Their meteoric rise of the last few seasons has reversed and sadly things are moving in the other direction. The cricket teams have continued in the same divisions as before - another year older and seeking new players to swell their ranks and bolster their position. The tennis club continues to thrive and has attracted some regular younger players. The total membership is now about 25.

The pavilion project did not progress when it was found that the finances for a new building could not be realised. The new Parish Council wanted to be reassured of the costs to reach its final overall end point, and what intermediate stages would cost. In the past few weeks a novel design has emerged to make better use of the space available within the same footprint. More will be reported in the coming year. In order to make it more attractive to use the pavilion, it has undergone a 'deep clean' in the past few weeks and some further work is planned to recover seating with new material. Many thanks to Sue Graney for making a huge improvement.

Planning: Each year the number of planning applications increases. This year there were 43 applications being considered compared with 38 last year and 36 the year before. The year began with a deer - the White Hart planning application received at the very first meeting of the new parish council in May. A challenging start to the year. Most applications are less so, as the council is a consultee and we do not have the final decision but we hope some decisions are better with our local knowledge.

The Demesne Field: We perceived a potential threat of unwelcomed development raised by the SODC Green Belt Review, that identified the Demesne Field as a possible parcel to be removed from the Green Belt. Your council had a real concern and we felt we must share this with the residents and obtain a mandate for action should it be necessary. The fear was that a speculative developer might apply to develop the field, which, in the worst case, could support 300+ houses. Nearly 150 residents attended our public meeting in January. We received reassurance from Mr John Cotton that there was very little risk, certainly over the next five years, as SODC have nine year land housing availability in this area. However, the land owner might attempt to apply for planning permission in the meantime. This situation is unchanged and as far as this council is aware there have been no discussions for such planning permission to date. We hope this will remain the case until our NDP is ratified, at which time we will have greater security to defend any such attempts.

The Abbey closed churchyard: Damage to graves and gravestones by moles has recently been tackled by a new contractor on the churchyard. Results are already encouraging and many thanks to Keith Russell for getting to grips with this problem.

Bus services: A bus user questionnaire survey is being analysed to ascertain passenger usage as it now looks as though with OCC cuts we will be left with just one bus to Abingdon in the morning which is used by the schoolchildren and one returning in the afternoon.

Chairman's Report Continued...

Speeding: Results of a speed survey carried out in both directions in Abingdon Road and the Henley Road were published in DN.

Continued on next page...

The question of whether measures might be taken to curb speeding created strong views on both sides for and against so we have decided to leave more time for anyone who wishes to make comments to be able to send them to Geoff Russell

The Village school: I am pleased to report that the OFSTED report before Christmas rated the school as Good. This is a tremendous step forward for the school and is a great tribute to the hard work of the teachers, the school governors and especially Russell Leigh, the Head Teacher. Here I would also like to thank Val Howells as our parish council representative school governor for her role in this process.

The Geese: The rampant geese that we believe had been dumped at the fishing lake in Drayton Road had been wandering, probably hungry, across to the play area on the Rec and harassing parents, children and sports players alike. They had chased terrified children and even pecked people. The prospect was bleak, to consider destroying them as a public nuisance, but Geoff made enquiries and happily found them a new home at a nearby farm. Hopefully they are now being fed and content and will not find their way back to terrorise the village.

The Coming Year: As much of our work involves maintenance much will be the same as last year. But among new initiatives we will be undertaking is the revision of the pavilion plans to provide more and better facilities. Another is the removal of the hump of excess weed laden soil from the top end of the cemetery that backs on to Page Furlong to complete the tidy up of the cemetery. Help from volunteers for this project would be most welcome.

Finally, thanks were conveyed to all the councillors for all the hard work they have done throughout the year and to our very competent Parish Clerk Geoff Russell for all the work he does quietly and unobtrusively in the background.

Cllr Chris Hill

Neighbourhood Policing Wallingford Sector Newsletter May 2016

Here is the latest Wallingford Sector neighbourhood update from PCSO Tarran Golby.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

After reports of ASB in the Wallingford area, patrols were increased and several ASB warning letters given out to offenders. Please contact us using the non-emergency number 101 if you have any anti-social behaviour concerns.

Traffic offences

In the last month we have received several parking complaints resulting in tickets being issued. Thanks to those who report illegally parked vehicles; we appreciate your support in assisting to keep the roads safer for our local community. We conducted road safety checks in Shillingford on 16 April which resulted in 65 speeding fines being issued and one seizure for no insurance. Road traffic intelligence gathering was performed on 27 and 29 April between Nuneham Courtenay and Berinsfield and Crowmarsh Gifford roundabout using Automatic Number Plate Recognition - 12 cars were found to have no tax out of 400 checked.

Offenders brought to justice

A male was arrested for a racially aggravated public order offence.

Multi Agency Community Engagement

PCSO Lewis and Harris attended Cholsey Day Centre and played Crime Reduction Bingo with the elderly residents. This is a fun and interactive way to get the elderly to think about personal safety. PCSOs get involved in as many community events as possible; please call our non-emergency number

Parish Council Notices Newly Co-opted Parish Councillors

Rob Ballantyne and Viviane Quirke have been co-opted to the Parish Council to fill the vacancies created by the resignations of Claire Andersson and Sue Graney.

At the recent Annual Parish Meeting Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Chris Hill, said a big thank you to both Claire and Sue for their contributions to the Council during their time in service; to Claire for her tremendous work on the Tennis Club and the Multi User Games Area, as a member of the Sports Club committee, and organising the Fete; and to Sue for her initiatives with the village web site, the Defibrillators, the Christmas tree and the Fireworks display. The Council is very fortunate that both Claire and Sue have promised to remain involved in these activities as non-council members so we will have the help of two additional pairs of hands to share the Council's ever increasing workload.

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 11 May Cllr Chris Hill and Cllr Mark Williams were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the year 2016/17.

June Meeting of the Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 8 June. The venue will be the Village Hall and the meeting will start at 7.30 p.m. The agenda for the meeting will be displayed on Village notice boards at least three clear days in advance.

All are welcome to attend and, at the beginning of the meeting, may raise any matter of concern.

Contacting the Parish Council

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons (next to The Fleur de Lys), 5-7 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames OX10 7HH

Telephone (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency) **01865 340759**

e-mail: parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Cllr Chris Hill, the Chairman of the Council, can be contacted via chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

More information about the Village is available at www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

...Neighbourhood Policing continued

101 and ask to be put through to Wallingford neighbourhood team if you would like to enquire.

Crime

A cannabis farm has been located and shut down in Brightwell cum Sotwell and the neighbourhood team have also seized alcohol and cannabis from young people at the Wallingford fair. We have recently worked with local housing agencies to deal with complaints of drug taking by using swabs to test the presence of drugs at two properties with positive results. If anyone suspects drug use at a property then please call us on 101.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email:

WallingfordBerinsfieldCholseyNPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Benson Choral Society Summer Concert

Music at the Abbey

18 June 7.30pm

Our summer concert comprises two major works: Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* and *Chichester Psalms* by Leonard Bernstein.

Carl Orff described *Carmina Burana* as a 'scenic cantata'. It was composed in 1937, and was originally designed for the stage, with dancing and mime accompanying the extraordinarily compelling and rhythmic music. Our presentation in the magnificent setting of Dorchester Abbey will certainly be exciting and dramatic, albeit without the dancing and mime, but with the required vast array of percussion instruments.

The text is a selection from a large collection of secular poems of the 12th and 13th centuries discovered in a Bavarian Monastery. The poems are mostly in Latin, the universal language of the day. Given their source, it is somewhat surprising to learn that, apart from some poems that are of a morally uplifting nature, most are most un-monk-like bawdy student songs celebrating a variety of earthly delights. A rumbustious celebration of life, and great fun whether singing, playing or listening. Small wonder that it is Orff's best remembered and most performed work.

Chichester Psalms, was commissioned by Chichester Cathedral's organist and Dean in 1965 for the Southern Cathedrals' Festival.

Bernstein's three-movement setting of a selection of Hebrew Psalm texts, including Psalm 23, blends occasionally acerbic harmonies with sublime musical tranquillity, together with plenty of his own unique jazz-inspired rhythmic excitement. Indeed the frightening aggression of Psalm 114 *Why do the nations rage?* is based on musical material originally intended for *West Side Story*.

Of *Chichester Psalms* Bernstein remarked:

*But there it stands – the result of my pondering,
Two long months of avant-garde wandering –
My youngest child, old-fashioned and sweet.
And he stands on his own two tonal feet.*

Whatever its origins it's a great work – not to be missed.

Tickets from Stephanie Martin. Ring (evenings only) on **01865 407395**, or email her on tickets.bensonchoral@gmail.com
Tickets are £15, £12 and £10.

Narropera

4 June 7.30pm

One Wine, One Woman, Ten Songs

With Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, a new, entertaining, approachable way to enjoy opera called 'narropera' (narrated opera), will be introduced to Oxfordshire by the three musicians of the Mozart Narropera Trio in the lovely Shrine Chapel of Dorchester Abbey. The narropera performance begins at 7.30 and lasts 90 minutes, without interval. The story of the opera is made crystal clear as one is swept along by its intrigues and resolutions and by Mozart's wonderful music.

For *The Marriage of Figaro*, Mozart wrote a total of 10 arias for the soprano voice (for five different characters). Only seven of these ten arias are generally known to the opera-going public, though in this Dorchester Abbey narropera performance, one will get to hear all ten soprano arias. The spoken story is woven between the ten arias, which in their turn heighten and continue the story itself. The 'star of the show' is German soprano, Dorothee Jansen, whose beautiful voice and outstanding artistry have made narropera an international success, in three short years since narropera's invention.

The local village of Watlington will have an effervescent connection to the narropera performance of 'The Marriage of Figaro', in Dorchester Abbey on 4 June, in the form of wine, sparkling New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc! The Trio's pianist and narrator, an Oxford graduate, was born in New Zealand and initially educated in Christchurch before winning a scholarship to study at Christ Church. With his two brothers, Haydn Rawstron owns prize-winning Marlborough vineyards, producing highly sought-after 'Rossendale' wine, several varieties of which are imported by Watlington Fine Wines. On 4 June in the Abbey itself, WFW's proprietor, Martin Chapman, will offer each concert patron a complimentary glass of the 'family sparkling', before the performance: Rossendale's 'Narropera Special Edition' 2013 Sparkling Sauvignon Blanc.

Shrine Chapel, Dorchester Abbey

Dorothee Jansen, Hanns-Heinz Odenthal, Haydn Rawstron

Bookings: c/o The Oxford Playhouse **01865 305 305**

www.ticketsoxford.com

£20 incl. complimentary glass of sparkling 'Rossendale' or a CD

ICSM Records – The Artists Live, Wed 8 June 7.30pm

Husband and wife Ivo Varbanov and Fiammetta Tarli are both experienced concert pianists and musicians with a passion for unconventional music production of the highest quality.

When in 2013 they joined forces and started performing as a piano duo, a chemistry of musical personalities was immediately evident beyond their bond as husband and wife. Their encounter at the house of Ilona Deckers in Milan, an eminent Hungarian teacher, explains their refined central European sound culture; yet in many aspects they seem to complement each other in rich textures of a never-ending dialogue. Despite their success as a duo, they have not ceased their performing activity as soloists and in various other chamber music formations.

In 2014, their decision to start an independent audiophile record label, ICSM Records (Independent Creative Sound and Music Records) was due to their growing exigency to 'have artistic and financial control over our recordings' (Interview with Norman Lebrecht, August 2014), as well as a search for 'uncompromising quality in every aspect of the recording, creating artistic statements beyond time and fashion'. In the same interview, following the launch of their label in May 2014 at the Kings Place, London, they mentioned their dislike for the modern recording trend whose results often 'stink of surgical spirit' and

are made of plastic because of excessive interventions. Ivo and Fiamma's 'slow music' credo, inspired by the 'slow food' movement, aims at reproducing 'the realism of the concert experience as close as possible'. 'Slow music' does not mean a preference for slow pieces, they explain, but the fact that 'music, as every art form, needs time to develop and show its inner qualities from all sides', performers as well as audience.

Their first Kickstarter project, partially founding their first four outings, has been the highest financed project in the UK for classical music. Ivo has subsequently won another Kickstarter project for the recording and publishing of the Dimitar Nenov Piano Concerto with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Maestro Emil Tabakov for Toccata Classics.

Robert Schumann, *Fantasiestücke*, Op.12

Schoenberg, *Sechs kleine Klavierstücke*

Beethoven, *Bagatelles* Op.126

Brahms, *Ballades* Op.10

Stravinsky 'Rite of Spring', Reduction for Piano Duet

Booking:

<http://www.oxfordplayhouse.com/ticketsoxford/#day=2016-6-8>

Box Office **01865 305305**

Tickets: £20 / £15 / £10

SUMMER CONCERT

Leonard Salzedo

Divertimento for Brass

Leonard Bernstein

Chichester Psalms

Carl Orff

Carmina Burana

Saturday 18th June 2016
Dorchester Abbey, 7.30 pm

Benson Choral Society with Anita D'Attellis, Piano
 Wallingford Children's Chamber Choir (Director Emma Parr)
 Brass and Percussion of The Elgar Orchestra
 Conductor: Christopher Walker

Soprano - Lorena Paz
 Tenor - Panos Ntourtoulis
 Baritone - Dominic Bowe

Tickets £15, £12 and £10
 (£10, £7 and £5 for concessions (under 21) and free under 12)
 From tickets.bensonchoral@gmail.com or 01865 407395
 More details: www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk



Oxfordshire County Music Dorchester Abbey Fri 1 July, Sat 2 July

Oxfordshire County Music service will again be returning to perform two concerts in the Abbey. Both concerts mark the end of the season for the young musicians taking part.

Friday 1 July: the Oxfordshire County Youth Orchestra will be performing an exciting programme with the 2nd half dedicated to British music in commemoration of the Queen's 90th birthday. It will include Wood's *Sea Songs* and Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance no 1*, finishing with the rousing *Land of Hope and Glory*. The first half's programme will be Dvorak's *Carnival Overture* and Richard Strauss's *Death and Transfiguration*. **Start 7.30 pm**

Saturday 2 July: the concert will be performed not only by the Oxfordshire Schools' Symphony Orchestra, but also the Oxfordshire Youth Wind Band and the Oxfordshire Schools Orchestra. The programme will be very varied and there will be music to suit all tastes, including well known music by Rossini, Sibelius, Gershwin, Strauss, and also John Williams. **Start 7.00pm**

Tickets are available from Tickets Oxford

www.oxfordplayhouse.com/ticketsoxford/



Oxford County Music present two concerts with young people in July



The narropera trio who perform *The Marriage of Figaro* on 4 June



Ivo Varbanov and Fiammetta Tarli who appear on 8 June



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Here at Footsteps Foundation we are feeling really lucky to be situated in Dorchester-on-Thames. As well as being a lovely location to work, making lunchtime breaks a pleasure, the community spirit here is really strong and we feel valued and supported as a small charity in your midst.

This month we would like to say a big **Thank You** to all our supporters in the village. Thanks to you all and especially to Claire Andersson, Linda Hender, Laura Bristow, The Kellys, The George, The White Hart, The Fireworks committee, The Fleur, Trevor Greenaway, Massage Matters, The Taylors, Susan Graney, Sarah Pickford, Colin Fleet, The Co-op, Jenks, Lily's tea room, Dorchester WI, The Rev. Sue Booyes, and Dorchester Abbey, Dr Peter Pritchard, The Parish Council, Edward & the team at Halliday's and of course the Dorchester News team!

You have all helped in numerous valuable ways by fundraising, providing auction and raffle prizes, volunteering at events, putting on events, promoting the charity,

providing meeting space, providing venue space, joining our volunteer committee, making regular donations, baking cakes, nominating Footsteps Foundation as a charity of the year at your workplace, providing sponsorship, providing muscle-power, shaking our collection buckets and looking after our collection tins.

It is really heartening for us to enjoy all this support in the village. The families that come to Footsteps from all over the UK, to get the best care for their disabled children, are immensely grateful and comment on what a friendly place Dorchester is.

These three children in these pictures all have different conditions and abilities but one thing is certain: their life chances will be better because of your help and the support you give to your local children's charity!

If you want to get involved, or arrange a visit to see the centre in action, please contact Maggie on **01865 343851** or maggie@footstepsfoundation.com

To see our latest news and sign up for regular newsletters please do so through our website at

www.footstepsfoundation.com



John Masefield House

Leonard
Cheshire
Disability



Leonard Cheshire Disability, John Masefield House held a sponsored Swimathon at Radley College in Abingdon to raise funds for their new dining patio appeal. Three teams of swimmers took part, one consisting of JMH volunteers, staff and friends, one from RAF Benson and one from Oxford University Air Squadron (OUAS). Each team put in a storming performance and covered the combined distance of 26.2 miles or 1,676 lengths of the pool in one hour fifty minutes. At the end of the two hours completed laps per team were Volunteers (530), RAF Benson (592) OUAS (700). The swimmers were assisted by a diligent team of lap counters

and the very helpful Radley Sports Centre lifeguards. David Williams, Volunteer Coordinator at JMH added 'This was a terrific achievement by all involved. A big thanks to Les Newell and the staff at Radley Sports Centre for allowing us to use the pool and for all their assistance throughout. It was great to see so many swimmers and learn that everyone enjoyed taking part. The event went extremely well on the day and was a great success'.

The Swimathon has raised £1,000 so far. All sponsorship amounts and donations will be used to start the JMH dining patio appeal.



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Wallingford Historical Society Benson: Anglo-Saxon Estate to Airfield

Drawing on his recent work for the Victoria County History, Simon Townley's talk to the Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will review the evidence for Benson as an Anglo-Saxon royal estate centre and its impact on medieval settlement and estate formation, before touching on a few more recent developments including coaching and the changes of the 19th and 20th centuries.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 8 June, 7.45 for 8pm**, at **St Mary's Church**, Wallingford. Please note that TWHAS talks are now being held on the second Wednesday of each month at St. Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

www.twhas.org.uk

Wallingford Model Railway Show Sunday 19 June

Wallingford will host its second annual model railway exhibition on **Sunday 19 June**. The event is being held at the Wallingford School, St George's Rd, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 8HH.

More than 12 model railway layouts, along with a number of trade stands, will be on show in a variety of scales from tiny Z gauge to garden sized G scale.

The exhibition is being well supported by clubs and modellers from around Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Hampshire and many of the layouts are new to the exhibition circuit.

Of particular interest is Clara-Zetkin-Stadt, a layout behind the iron curtain of East Germany. You will see a Great Western branch line in Much Muckle very similar to the Cholsey to Wallingford branch line and Novion 1940 a French town scene during the Second World War.

It is down the road from Wallingford station, which is running father's day steam specials on the day from Cholsey to Wallingford so why not travel by train to the exhibition. Free parking onsite at the school.

The exhibition will be open from 10am – 4.30pm.
Admission is £5 for adults, £2.00 for children and families £12

Wallingford Country Market

Now open even longer between 8.30am – 12noon, every Friday in the Regal Centre.

Our annual Outside Market will be held on **Saturday, 11 June** in the Market Square replacing our usual Friday market.

Plants aplenty during May/June for bedding, baskets and borders as well as herbaceous and perennials.

Friday 24 June – 'Fruity Friday', (baking with seasonal berries, and fresh ones on sale too)

We Bake, Craft, Grow – do come and visit us soon.
Enquiries to: Market Manager Tel: **01865 890649**

What's on in Wallingford



Wallingford Museum Wallingford Walks

There has been an excellent response from volunteers from Wallingford and surrounding villages to the recent appeal to lead regular walks of local interest in Wallingford. Training has been ongoing by Judy Dewey, from Wallingford Museum, and it is intended to organise both regular and *ad hoc* walks from June onwards.

Every Saturday at 11am there will be a regular Town Walk starting from the Town Hall in the Market Place. The walk will last between 90 minutes and two hours, and will cover a wide variety of interesting areas around the town.

More specialist walks can be arranged for alternative dates by enquiry at the Town Information Office, or directly with Philip Burton (pburton6@talktalk.net).

These additional guided walks could be of general interest, or focus on specific locations such as Wallingford Castle or specialist interests such as Midsomer Murders or Agatha Christie.

Philip Burton has kindly offered to co-ordinate this new initiative, and it is hoped that it will appeal to local residents and visitors alike. If you would like to assist in this venture please contact Philip (pburton6@talktalk.net). There will be a charge of £5 per person as a donation to Wallingford Museum.

Music at St Peter's Wallingford

11 June 8pm

Cello & Piano - Beethoven, Schumann, Glazunov, Ravel and Poulenc.

2 July 8pm

Piano music by Schubert – Sonatas & Impromptus.

16 July 8pm

Guitar recital - Bach, Albeniz, Villa-Lobos, Sculthorpe and Brouwer.

30 July 8pm

Saxophone & Piano - de Falla, Piazzolla, Bernstein, Rachmaninov + more!

Tickets £14/£12 **01491 824792**

www.musicatstpeterswallingford.org.uk

Friends of Wallingford Day Centre

As part of the Summer Fair which they are organising on **9 July 2016** to raise funds for the Centre, 'The Friends' are running a jewellery stall. They would be delighted to receive any unwanted jewellery to sell on the day of the fair. If you have any you would like to donate, please take it to the Wallingford Town Information Centre (under the Town Hall) or telephone me on **01491 839425**.

Eira E Hoare



What's On June

Cinema: Performances start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

Wed 1	The Jungle Book (PG) at 2.30pm
Wed 1	Captain America: Civil War (12A)
Thurs 2	Captain America: Civil War (12A)
Fri 3	Robinson Crusoe (PG)
Sat 4	Robinson Crusoe (PG) at 10.30am
Sat 4	Hard Tide (15)
Sun 5	Robinson Crusoe (PG)
Mon 6	Florence Foster Jenkins (PG)
Tues 7	Florence Foster Jenkins (PG)
Wed 8	Florence Foster Jenkins (PG)
Thurs 9	NT Live Encore The Audience (12A) 7pm
Sun 19	Miles Ahead (15)
Mon 20	Demolition (15)
Tues 21	Glyndebourne Live, Il Barbiere di Siviglia . 6.30pm
Sat 25	The Angry Birds Movie (PG) at 10.30am and 2.30pm

LIVE

June 13-17: **The 29th Wallingford Corn Exchange Drama Festival 2016**. Amateur drama groups from all over the area and beyond compete in an adjudicated competition for a variety of awards. In addition to an entertaining evening of diverse drama from both youth and adult drama groups, it's a great opportunity to learn about all aspects of stagecraft from the adjudicator's comments. This year's adjudicator is Colin Dolley. Tickets are £5 per night or £20 for the omnibus ticket which entitles you to vote for the winner of the Punter's Prize. 7.30pm

June 24: **Charlie Baker Comedy Night** SOLD OUT

June 29: **Encore Showcase**. Sinodun Players' very own Encore Youth Theatre's exciting new film venture, which includes a music video, adverts and even a complete short-story film called *Care*.

Suitable for all ages, come and have a giggle, singalong and shed a tear, at this unique screening, which will even include a blooper reel and interviews with cast and crew. 6.30pm. £5

COMING UP

July 13-16: Sinodun Players present **The Chalk Garden** by Enid Bagnold. Set in an English country house in the mid-1950s at a time when the Empire and English aristocracy are in decline. Features a child on the cusp of womanhood, her estranged mother and formidable grandmother. Out of the blue arrives the governess from Heaven – or is she? Tickets available soon.

July 23: **Andre Rieu Maastricht Concert** 2016. The King of Waltz screened live from his home town. 7pm. £15, concessions £12.50. Tickets on sale now.

Tickets and more programme information, including films booked after going to press, from www.cornexchange.org.uk or box office **01491 825000**. Please note that as from May 3rd, prices for general release films increased by £1, to £7 adult and £5 for under 15s.

Wallingford & District Art Club

Tuesdays, 7.30–9.30 pm,
Centre 70, Goldsmiths Lane

On 21 June Joanna Stone will be demonstrating 'From Sketch to Painting in watercolour'. Non-members are welcome for a fee of £3. On the other Tuesdays of the month there will be the usual untutored workshops, where non-members are welcome for a small fee. Please bring your own materials and a project to work on at painting workshops. For further details about this or future demonstrations contact either Wallingfordartclub@hotmail.com or Rebekah Robinson on **01865 858463**

Wallingford U3A

June 1. Our speaker will be Tony King; his talk will be 'Hollywood to Broadway by Train'. Join us at Crowmarsh Village Hall at 2.00 pm. Visitors are always welcome.

Thursday June 16: Our June outing will be visiting Lacock Abbey, near Cheltenham. £20.00 for the coach, plus entrance costs if not a member of the National Trust. For more information, phone Eileen on 01491 825156. There are still a few places on the holiday to Yorkshire, based at Harrogate, from 1 to 5 July. Eileen has information on that too.

Village Bus Services				
From Dorchester (War Memorial)				
No.	To	Dep	Arrive	
114	Abingdon	07.30**	08.09	
97	Wallingford	09.07	09.19	
97	Didcot	09.36	10.16	
97	Wallingford	10.57	11.09	
97	Didcot	11.26	12.06	
97	Wallingford	12.47	12.59	
97	Didcot	13.26	14.06	
97	Shillingford	14.47	14.51	NS
97	Wallingford	14.47	14.59	SO
114	Abingdon	14.56	15.16	
114	Wallingford	16.08	16.26	NS
To Dorchester (War Memorial)				
No.	From	Dep	Arrive	
114	Wallingford	07.15**	07.30	
114	Abingdon	08.34	09.07	
97	Wallingford	09.25	09.36	
97	Didcot	10.20	10.57	
97	Wallingford	11.15	11.26	
97	Didcot	12.10	12.47	
97	Wallingford	13.15	13.26	
97	Didcot	14.10	14.47	
114	Shillingford	14.52	14.56	NS
114	Abingdon	15.38	16.08	NS

NS= Not Saturday. SO=Saturday only.

** = Mon-Fri in school term. Five minutes later Mon-Fri in school holidays

No services on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

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Day by day

Thurs 2 June	Memorial Service for Mary Tame 2.00pm Dorchester Abbey
	Sports Club AGM 7.30pm Pavilion, Recreation Ground
Sat 4 June	Narropera <i>The Marriage of Figaro</i> 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 5 June	Trinity 2 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Michael Lakey) 10.30am Sung Eucharist
Mon 6 June	Friends of Dorchester Abbey AGM 6.45pm
Tues 7 June	DOGS Aunt Sally 7.00pm (eating from 8.30pm) Fleur de Lys
Wed 8 June	ICSM Records Piano Recital 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey Parish Council Monthly meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 9 June	Queen's Birthday Exhibition 12.30-5.00pm Dorchester Abbey and Museum Mobile library Opposite War Memorial 2.55-3.15 WI <i>'Artistic and Literary Footprints of the Thames Valley'</i> Nick Brazil 2.30pm Village Hall
Fri 10 June	Queen's Birthday Exhibition 10.000-5.00pm Dorchester Abbey and Museum
Sat 11 June	Queen's Birthday Exhibition 10.000-5.00pm Dorchester Abbey and Museum
Sun 12 June	Trinity 3 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Michael Lakey) 10.30am Village Service Queen's Birthday Exhibition Dorchester Abbey and Museum 12.00 noon-5.00pm Family picnic and fun after-noon 1.00pm Cloister Garden



Mon 13 June	Schools' Festival of Voices 6.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Tues 14 June	10.15am Short Communion Schools' Festival of Voices 6.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Wed 15 June	Schools' Festival of Voices 6.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Thurs 16 June	Schools' Festival of Voices 6.30pm Dorchester Abbey Classic Car Show, George Hotel 1.00-4.00pm Chiropodist Belcher Court (see p3) DADS Aladdin Read-through 7.30pm Village Hall
Fri 17 June	Schools' Festival of Voices 6.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 18 June	Dorchester Cricket Club First Team v Swinbrook 1.30pm Recreation Ground Benson Choral Society Concert 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey Moveable Feast 7.00pm All over the village
Sun 19 June	Trinity 4 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy) 10.30am Family Service 6.00pm Evensong
Mon 20 June	DADS Aladdin Read-through/Auditions 7.30pm Village Hall DOGS Golf at Tadmerton Heath

Church services in the Abbey appear in red.
More details can be found at :
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For details of services at St Birinus RC Church go to:
www.stbirinus.co.uk

Thurs 23 June	Service at the Cheshire Home 1.30pm Mobile library 2.55-3.15pm Opposite War Memorial WI Summer Tea Party 3.00pm
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Sat 25 June	Dorchester Cricket Club Second Team v Marcham II 1.30pm Recreation Ground Trembling Bells Concert 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 26 June	Trinity 5 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd David Haylett) 10.30am Ordination Service NB No Taize Service this month

Weekly events

Monday	Watercolour Painting 10.00am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-4.00pm Abbey Guest House. Full details from www.rebeccahind.com
Tuesday	Coffee in the Abbey 10.30am-12noon Bellringing Practice 7.30 pm Abbey Fishmonger 10.00am to 10.05am by War Memorial (p.8)
Wednesday	Holy Communion at Berinsfield Church 9.30am Lunch Club Village Hall 12.30pm
Thursday	Baby & Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.00am Village Hall: (term time only)
Friday	Choir Practice 7.00pm Abbey

Regular events also appear in the Parish Council's website:
www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Parish Registers

Memorial Service

15 April	Peter George Andrew
29 April	Nicholas Eric Dudley

Funeral at crematorium

6 May	Thomas James Dean
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CONTACTING THE POLICE

To report a non-emergency crime, or to give information to Thames Valley Police, call **101**. Alternatively, call Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555111**. In the event of an emergency dial **999**.

HEALTH SERVICES

DIRECT LINE TO URGENT LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Dial **111** to access urgent local NHS health care services. Where possible, they will book you an appointment or transfer you to the people you need to speak to or send an ambulance if they think you need one. For non-urgent health needs you should contact your GP in the usual way.

MINOR INJURIES

The Minor Injuries Unit at Abingdon Hospital, Marcham Road, daily from 10.00 am to 10.30 pm: **01865 903476**.

A&E

The nearest A&E units are at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford (**01865 741166**) and the Royal Berkshire in Reading (**01183 225111**).

SURGERIES

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Clifton Hampden: **01865 407888**
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To hire the Abbey Guest House for private functions, meetings, exhibitions, etc, contact Hilarie Rogers on **01865 340007**.

HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Brenda Edwards; **edwards.dorchester2@virgin.net** or telephone **01865 343062**. Please telephone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange collection of the key.

THE COMMUNAL LOUNGE AT BELCHER COURT

The communal lounge at Belcher Court is available for rent. Contact the Scheme Manager, Caroline Major, on **01865 343128**.

FAULTS AND COMPLAINTS

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Report any problems with a street light to **0800 317802**, available 24 hours a day. Callers will be asked for the address of the site and the nature of the fault.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

Ring Oxfordshire Highways on **0845 3101111**, available five days a week, with a 24-hour answering facility. Complaints can also be sent via e-mail to **southernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk**.

BLOCKED DRAINS

Ring Thames Water for blocked drains on **0800 316 9800**. Callers will be asked for the postcode of the address where the drains are blocked.

REFUSE COLLECTION

If your rubbish is not collected on the due date contact the contractor direct. Call **03000 610610** and the website: **www.morerecycling.co.uk**

ANIMAL WELFARE

RSPCA (wildlife): **0300 123 0206**
St Tiggywinkles animal rescue: **01844 292292**
Swan Lifeline: **01753 859397**

Useful Information

BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Green Furlong, Berinsfield **01865 340771**
Free Internet access. DVDs can be ordered.

OPENING HOURS

Mon - closed
Tues, Wed, Fri 10.00am - 12.30pm
Tues 2.00-7.00pm
Weds, Thurs 2.00-5.30pm
Fri 2.00-5.00pm
Sat 10.00am - 12.30pm

TRANSPORT

BUS SERVICES

Information about bus services, both local and national, is available from **www.traveline.info**, and **0871 200 2233**, which also provides information about trains, London Underground and Overground and ferries throughout the UK.

OXFORDSHIRE DIAL-A-RIDE

Door to door minibus service for shopping trips. For information please contact **0845 310 1111**.

SHOPMOBILITY

Free loan of wheelchairs and electric scooters to people who need them for shopping in Oxford. For information please ring **01865 248737**.

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons (next to The Fleur de Lys), High Street, Dorchester on Thames OX10 7HH; **01865 340759** (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency); **parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk**.

More information about the village is available at: **www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk**

USEFUL CONTACTS

ANGLICAN PRIEST

Dorchester Rectory
Revd. Canon Sue Booy
01865 340007

EDUCATION OFFICER

Margaret Craig
01865 343164
education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

ABBEY E-MAIL:

admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk
Contact details for Church Wardens and other Abbey information are on the notice board in the Abbey.

ABBEY WEBSITE

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST

The Presbytery
Fr. John Osman
Bridge End
01865 340417
www.stbirinus.co.uk



REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Sat 4 June	Black
Fri 10 June	Green
Fri 17 June	Black
Fri 24 June	Green

Fridays from 7.00am.
Saturdays from 6.00am.

Weekly: food waste (in bio-degradable starch-based bag or wrapped in newspaper, in green caddy).

The recycling centre at Oakley Wood (off the A4130) is open 8.00am - 5.00pm seven days a week.

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Events in DoT

Monday 2 May

For the nineteenth year in succession, Two A Part greeted the May Day Bank Holiday morning from the roof of the Abbey tower, followed by a breakfast concert inside. Money was raised for Nasio Trust.



Sunday 24 April

On the Sunday following St George's Day, the Thames Chiltern District Scouts held their parade through Dorchester to the Abbey for their annual St George's Day Service.



All photographs by Gordon Roberts