

Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

April 2018





In this issue

Dorchester Abbey

Annual Parochial Church Meeting	3
Pentecost Pilgrimage Plus	3
Rector's study leave	3
Style Acre Morning Service	3
Talking Point	3
Team Service	3
The Dorchester Team is (nearly) 40! Thy	3
Kingdom Come	3
Friends visit to Wells	4
Dorchester May Morning	4
Abbey museum	21

Schools and education

St Birinus School News	7
Berinsfield Library	7
Dorchester Abbey Education	19

Local and national government

From your County Councillor	27
Parish Council Notices	28
Post Office Mobile Van	28
From your MP	29

Wallingford

Wallingford has a theatre and cinema again	31
Wallingford Corn Exchange	31
Wallingford Archaeological Soc	33
Wallingford Art Club	33
Wallingford Flower Club	33
Wallingford Garden Club	33
Wallingford Museum	33

Advertising

Index of advertisers	35
Advertising in Dorchester News	34

Cover picture: Easter flowers in Dorchester Abbey

Deadline for May Dorchester News



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

DoT view

March has, so far, been rather winter-like with little sign of Spring. The few daffodils that have shown their heads have quickly bowed them again as the low temperatures return. So I hope, by Easter and the beginning of April, that we really do begin to experience at least some suggestion of warmth together with the appearance of colourful Spring flowers.

This will not only help us all to feel that at last we are coming out of a somewhat delayed winter, but also because it will be the Spring Flower Show on Saturday 7 April, and we look forward to a great display to compete with last year's for the number and quality of entries.

There are other sign that Spring is here, though. Easter brings the re-opening of the Abbey Tearoom, so can once more gorge ourselves on lovely home made cakes. There goes my diet! The Friends of Dorchester Abbey, the WI and the Historical Society have all announced visits to locations of interest, another sure sign that the temperatures must be about to rise and the sun is just waiting to warm us with its rays.

We can but hope!

Ian Brace

Editorial Team

Ian Brace, Kathy Glass

Distribution Co-ordinator

Maurice Day

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Village news

Who is that cat?	9
Spring Flower Show	10
Up the Street - Appeal	12
The airman and the police house	15

Music and art

Allotment	13
English Music Festival	22
Intermezzo Vacation Choir	24
Sing for Syria	24, 36

Tributes

Frank Blackwell	16
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Crossword

Dorchester News Crossword No3	30
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Talking Point

Canon Sue Booy

April Fool! As I said last month it's not often that the season of Lent begins on St. Valentine's Day and ends on April Fool's day!! I

hope Lent has been a time when you have experienced love.

The events of the very first Easter Morning were so extraordinary that they must have seemed like a cruel joke at the time. Jesus was put to death on Friday – his tomb remained temporarily sealed on Saturday – the Holy day for the Jewish people – and early in the morning the women went to the tomb to anoint his body. *It was missing!* It seems as if they did think it was a cruel joke and that someone had removed Jesus's body. They asked everyone they met 'where have you taken him' – but nobody replied 'April Fool' – and when Mary asked the man she thought was the gardener it

turned out to be Jesus himself. The gospel tells us that he simply said her name – the surprise must have been greater than the biggest April Fool you ever experienced!

The question is whether these accounts are so extraordinary that they cannot possibly be true or so extraordinary that they must be true – on the grounds that 'you couldn't make it up!' And if the latter is true what does that really mean for us? I remain convinced that the collection of stories around Jesus's death and the period afterwards are true – I'm not sure how individually accurate each of them is but I believe they contain important truths about life. (You can read them in the last couple of chapters of any of the four gospels – the accounts written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and make up your own mind. You'll find an online bible at www.biblegateway.com)

Here are just some of those truths – that there is more to life than all this! That we are changed after death, but we are not unrecognisable. That Jesus's death and resurrection showed us how it would be, but for us that change – or resurrection is not apparent until after death. That the hope of Easter is the same hope that is apparent in the Spring when everything that looks dead comes to life again. God's world offers us a pattern of regeneration and hope – God's Son demonstrates that this same pattern that we observe in nature is true for humanity through eternity. Best of all you do not have to *do* anything to own, earn or win this promise. Only believe!

At the moment you can only guess whether I'm the April Fool!

Rector's Study Leave

Bishop Colin has granted me six weeks' study leave which I shall be taking in two blocks, the first from 11 April and the second later in the summer. You may see me around in the village during this time and I will be working but not 'at work' Hilary and Kate in the office and Rev Jon Roberts will be able to help with all enquiries.

Style Acre Morning Service Sunday May 6

Style Acre is a charity based in Wallingford that enhances the lives of people with learning disabilities and autism. Each and every person we support is valued and helped to lead a meaningful life and realise their potential. Last year Style Acre was one of the charities supported by the Abbey and a number of people in our community volunteer at Style Acre. This is an excellent opportunity to hear more about their work and ways in which we can support this very local charity.

Team Service

The fifth Sunday of the month is the time when all the parishes of the Dorchester Team come together for worship. The service on **Sunday April 30** will be at Long Wittenham Church at 10.30am

The Dorchester Team is (nearly) 40!

The Dorchester Team was created in 1978 and so this year we will celebrate our 40th Birthday. We plan to celebrate on **30 September** with a special Team Service in the Abbey at 10.30am. We will also mark the actual date of the legal Instrument that brought the team into being nearer to its actual date. *We would love to hear from you* if you were involved in the original plans for the Dorchester Team (especially if we have lost touch) or if you have any photographs of past Team events. We are one of the oldest Teams in the country – something worth celebrating!

Annual Parochial Church Meeting Sunday April 8 after Sung Eucharist

The APCM is the AGM of the Church and will be held in Church at about 11.45am in the Abbey. The first part of the meeting – the Annual Vestry Meeting elects Church Wardens and presents accounts and any villager is welcome to attend and participate in this meeting. This is followed by the APCM which receives reports from Church Officers, elects representatives to the Deanery Synod and the Team Council and elects members of the Church Council. Everyone on the Church Electoral Roll is invited to this meeting and is entitled to vote.

Thy Kingdom Come

Familiar words perhaps – but in the last couple of years these words from the Lord's Prayer have become the title for a worldwide ten days of prayer from **Ascension Day (10 May)** to Pentecost (Whitsun). We will be joining in once again with prayer leaflets and special opportunities for prayer – including a special 'Filling Station' meeting in Marsh Baldon. Thy Kingdom Come will start with a special Ascension Day Eucharist at the top of the Wittenham Clumps with Bishop Colin at 7.30pm – meet at Little Wittenham Church at 7.00pm to walk to the top. For non-walkers the same service will take place in Little Wittenham Church.

Pentecost Pilgrimage Plus

A pilgrimage – whether short or long is a great opportunity to walk and pray – alone or in company. On Whitsun afternoon the Abbey hopes to welcome people who have marked the end of Thy Kingdom Come by journeying locally or from further afield. You may want to walk part of the traditional Birinus Pilgrimage from Churn Knob (contact Parish Office for details) or part of the Thames Pilgrim Way (www.thamespilgrimway.org.uk) which follows the Thames footpath – or simply set off from your own village. Wherever you come from we look forward to welcoming you at the Abbey any time from 4.00pm for a cup of tea, family activities and a special service at 5.00pm.

Visit to Wells Friends of Dorchester Abbey Monday 14 May 2018



Cost: £30.00 per person for Friends of the Abbey, which includes the coach travel and guided tour of Wells Cathedral.

£32.00 per person for non-Friends of the Abbey

The coach will leave from the Bridge End car park in Dorchester at 9.00am.

We should arrive in Wells about 11.45am. (We will have a short comfort break).

Free time to explore the centre of England's smallest city.

Guided tour of Wells Cathedral at 3.00pm.

The coach will leave Wells at 5.00pm.

Traffic permitting, we should arrive back in Dorchester by 7.45pm.

Set in the medieval heart of England's smallest city, Wells Cathedral is widely regarded as one of the finest in the country. As well as its iconic, breathtaking West Front, it has an unusual octagonal Chapter House, a Jesse Window (considered to be one of the most splendid examples of 14th century stained glass in Europe) one of only four chained libraries in the UK, the Wells Clock and the medieval Vicars' Close, believed to be the only complete medieval street left in England.

There is a cafe, with views of the West Front over the moat of the nearby Bishop's Palace.

Friends of Dorchester Abbey will receive this information in the Spring Newsletter.

If anyone else would like to come, please send a cheque for £32.00 per person, payable to 'The Friends of Dorchester Abbey'

Your name, address and phone number to:

Mrs Yvonne Lawden, 9 Queens Close, Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford, OX10 7LR

by Friday 13 April. [Please note: you will not be sent tickets or a receipt, if you have any queries please phone Yvonne Lawden on **01865 340465** or email: y.m.lawden@gmail.com]

Further information will be sent to participants before the visit.

Yvonne Lawden

Dorchester May Morning Monday May 7

TWO A PART will again welcome May by singing from the top of the Abbey tower and then give a free concert in the Abbey. Funds raised from breakfasts and donations will go to Youth Challenge Oxfordshire (YoCO), a local charity established to support young people aged 14 to 21 to develop resilience and confidence so that they can overcome the problems that they face during teenage years. Their year-long programme culminates with a week volunteering at the Nasio Trust centre for AIDS orphans and destitute children in Kenya.



Continental Breakfast: From 8.30am in the Abbey

Two A Part : Sing from the Tower at 9.00, then in the Abbey
Breakfast tickets £5

Must be bought in advance

Available from Dorchester Co-op or
tim.cook12@btinternet.com

Jam please?

Our wonderful Dorchester Abbey Tearoom will be opening for the season on Easter **Saturday, 31 March**. We would be very grateful for any jars of home-made jam you could offer - a chance to empty out those freezer drawers of last year's soft fruit, ready for the new crop.

Please leave any jars you can spare on the table at the back of the Abbey, labelling the flavour and indicating 'for the tearoom'.

With many thanks, in anticipation,

The Abbey Tearoom team

Dorchester Abbey Tearoom Volunteer help

The tearoom is always in need of new volunteers. In particular, we welcome any teenagers engaged on the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme or its equivalent. If you, or someone you know, might be able to help at one or more sessions, please contact

Steph Forman

steph@forman.org.uk tel **340434** or

Kathy Glass.

kathyglass159@aol.com tel **340462**

Thank you,

The Abbey Tearoom team



Hi everyone, April is now with us, goodbye snow and freezing temperatures, what a start for March! Welcome to two new members, John, and Richard.

We now have longer days and (hopefully) sunshine with clear starry nights which means frost, possibly. Watch the weather forecasts and decide on jobs, not working on the ground if frozen. Clear crops that have finished, erect supports for runner beans and sweet peas.

Sowing and planting outside can really start to get under way, busy-busy-busy, sowing, hoeing, raking and planting, your engines should now be running.

Outside

Sow- beetroot, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, parsnips, spinach.

Planting- broad beans, Brussels sprouts, leeks, lettuce, potatoes, summer cabbage, peas and last chance for onion sets,

Hempcroft Allotment News

Next Committee meeting is May 15 - if members have any matters they feel need consideration, please let me know.

asparagus plants if making a new bed.

Crops to sow under cover Sweet corn, courgettes, cucumber, melons, pumpkins, squashes

Diseases and pest alert:

As from this month I will be adding an alert for any pest and disease which members spot on the allotments, so help one another by just letting me know and they will be added to allotment news. Pigeons are hungry and love eating brassicas so keep them netted.

Slugs will eat newly planted seedlings; flea beetle can be a problem this month, leaving tiny little holes all over leaves. Plants do usually recover, though when they are badly affected it can stunt their growth; cabbage root fly can cause a problem by laying their eggs at the base of brassicas, so it is best to

Village News

fit cabbage collars around the base of them.

Continue to check for 'big bud mite' on blackcurrants. The buds will actually look big and swollen if affected.

Check gooseberry and currant bushes for the sawfly larvae which look like caterpillars and pick them off.

Allotment recorders wanted

If any member is interested The Garden (RHS magazine) are asking for volunteers to keep a record of allotment activity for a University of Sheffield research project. You probably know all about it but if not and you think you would be interested, details can be found at www.myharvest.org.uk/2017/12 or email mcdobson@shef.ac.uk

We have professional grade weed mat which is available 4m wide and sold by the linear metre at £2.50 per linear metre. (Example 4m x 10m = £25.00)

Plots available full and half size.

Please call: **01865 340119** or email: stu@horted.co.uk

Stuart Poole

Barbecue to be held this year for members and their families, at the allotment site. Bring your food and drink and buy raffle tickets (email to follow shortly) or check notice board at the allotment.



Dorchester Abbey Tea Room

opens for the 2018 season
on Easter Sat 31st March
in Dorchester Abbey Guest House

2.30-5pm Sat, Sun, BH Mon. Thursdays & Wednesdays from 3pm starting 9th May

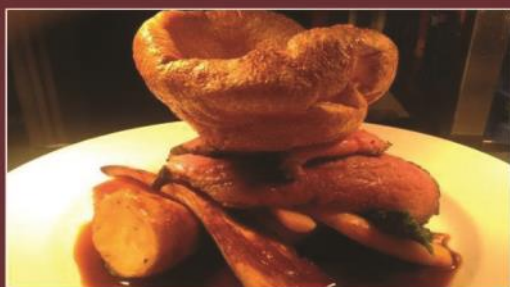
Excellent tea and cake all cooked and served by volunteers.
A real village institution!

Proceeds are given to charities
(over £10k in 2016)

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to serve and bake to keep our Tea Rooms open for 2018.
We are still looking for more even if you have just one cake or afternoon to spare!

Steph Forman
steph@forman.org.uk 01865340434

A 'Harty' Sunday



Enjoy a super Sunday Lunch
at The White Hart
in delightful Dorchester on Thames
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and vegetarian options - £18 for two courses.*



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St Birinus Primary School News

World Book Day is always very exciting to see the variety of characters that walk through our doors – there seemed to be a greater variety this year. I particularly liked the Year 6 girls who had come with a Charlie and the Chocolate Factory theme. A special thank you must go to parents and their helpers who no doubt spent many a happy moment preparing the amazing costumes.

Owl Class joined with the children of St Blaise to experience a STEM day (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) sponsored by Newton Europe. It was a day to support their learning through the curriculum by asking them to think creatively through problem solving. It is great to be able to access this expertise.

The Year 6 children visited the Oxford Fire Station this term to complete the challenging scenarios of Junior Citizen. This programme enables the children to experience real life situations and chances to make a 999 call. I would love to share some of the activities but I will not give away any of the details to avoid spoiling the day for the other year groups.

As you read this we will just have finished for the Easter holidays – so I will share news of the exciting topic afternoons next time.

'Russell Leigh
Headteacher

Dorchester St Birinus CE Primary School

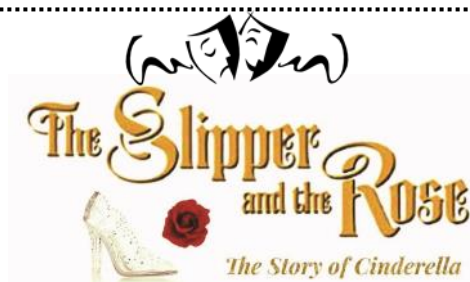


Pre School News

March was a fun month starting with World Book Day, when the children could dress up in their favourite book character costumes. This has tied in well with our topic of the term - 3 traditional stories: The Three Billy Goats Gruff, Cinderella and The Gingerbread Man. The shape of the term was the flower and our colour was green. We had a visit from the librarian from the Berinsfield Library which we all enjoyed. We have also been venturing off site to the Hurst Water Meadow and the Recreation Ground.

It is time to start thinking about the new school year starting in September! There are places available for 2 to 4 year olds. All 3 and 4yr olds (and eligible 2yr olds) receive government funding for 15hrs childcare per week, with up to 30hrs government funding available to eligible 3 and 4yr olds with working parents. More information can be found at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/. Please contact Pre School Manager Helen Morris on **01865 341805** with any enquires or if you and your child would like to visit our friendly Pre School.

Kristina Palm
Pre School Secretary



DADS

DORCHESTER AMATEUR DRAMATICS SOCIETY

**DADS will be performing 'The Slipper And The Rose' (Cinderella) from
21-24 November 2018**

It's a musical for all the family with wonderful songs and costumes.

If you are interested in being part of this magical show, either on stage or behind the scenes, we'd love to hear from you.

Read-through / Audition - Monday 18 June - 7.30-9.30pm
Singing / Audition - Thursday 21 June - 7.30-9.30pm
Combined Read-through/Singing Audition -
Saturday 23 June - 3.00-5.00/5.30

Rehearsals are every Monday and Thursday evening in the back room of the Village Hall from 7.30-9.30pm and will start on Monday 2 July

For more information or to request audition pieces please contact Ann (membership@dads.org.uk)

Fishmonger

The travelling fishmonger comes to Dorchester every Tuesday and will stop between 9.30am and 9.50am (9.40am in winter months when weather bad, but 9.30am in summer months) in High Street near War Memorial.

BERINSFIELD LIBRARY

Visit your Local Library
and see what we have on offer

Easter craft Afternoon
Wednesday April 4th 3.45pm

Rhymes for the Under 5's Wednesdays 10.30am

Storytime Wednesdays 3.45pm

I.T Help Thursdays 2.00pm

Knit and Natter
3rd April 2.30pm

Reading Group
12th April 2.00pm

Coffee Morning
17th April 10.30am
All Welcome

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society Wednesday 25 April 2018,

7.30pm, Village Hall

Members free, Visitors welcome (£3)

Helen Russell* and Denise Line

*Back Stories of Baptisms: Customs and Christening Garments
(including Dorchester Social History)*



This illustrated lecture will consider briefly the history of baptism and christening, particularly in the English Church. Research of local records, documents and photographs has provided much material of local interest and there will be antique textiles and artefacts on display, some with specific Dorchester connections.

Helen Russell is a Dorchester resident who taught Textiles for many years and has a keen interest in the subject's history, building a collection of antique textiles.

Denise Line is a Dorchester resident who has a lifelong fascination with family history, photographs, Oxfordshire and Herefordshire customs, and church history.

*(Denise and Helen have worked together on the material for this lecture and, in Helen's absence on business, Denise will present it.)

The Society welcomes new members and visitors – do come along and find out more!

Dorchester on Thames Historical Society Summer Outing

**Lacock Abbey and village including the Fox Talbot
Museum
Saturday 30 June**



Lacock Abbey, founded in 1232 by Ela of Salisbury, was originally a nunnery and over the years has become a family home set in wooded grounds, with a botanic garden, greenhouse and orchard. The Museum is named after William Henry Fox Talbot who created the first photographic negative and established this as the birthplace of photography. There is plenty to see and do at these National Trust properties.

Lacock Village is often used as a film set and has plenty of places to eat and drink in. There are two National Trust shops as well as independent village businesses.

Lacock is National Trust Property so if you are a member of the National Trust PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR CARD. *If you are not a National Trust member you will need to pay £13.40 at the entrance to the village.* This covers the entrance to the Abbey and Museum and the village.

09.15 bus leaves Bridge End car park

11.05 arrive at Lacock

16.00 depart from Lacock

17.50 arrive back in Dorchester at the Bridge End car park

COST: £22 (for the bus journey only). Please make your cheque payable to the Dorchester Historical Society and send to Gail Thomas, 14 Herringcote, Martins Lane, Dorchester on Thames, OX10 7RD tel. **01865 341977** or

gail.thomas8@btinternet.com if you need further information.

N.B. You do not need to be a member of the Historical Society to enjoy this visit. Everyone welcome.



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Our WI has just completed the year with the AGM last month. We finished the year's programme with two inspiring meetings, one a beautifully illustrated talk on 'Intriguing Oxford' given by Brian Lowe, which even those of us brought up in Oxford learnt a lot from, making us want to rush into Oxford to go and have a look. Then we were persuaded to forget about the horrible cold wet windy weather outside the Village Hall with 'Spring in the Garden' given by a representative from Nottcuts Garden centre, who brought many beautiful spring bulbs, flowers and shrubs to tempt us to be more adventurous with our spring planting and gave useful information as to what conditions and positions in the garden the plants like.

We start our new programme this month on **Thursday 12 April** at 2.30pm with a talk on 'All about Trees' to be given by Chris Caddy. Visitors are always welcome to our meetings, a donation to cover refreshment expenses would be appreciated.

Who is that cat? - It's Gizmo



The picture on the cover of the February issue of Dorchester News included the cat shown above. I remarked that I did not know the name of the cat.

I have now been told that he is Gizmo, who lives with Margot Stevenson in Malthouse Lane, not far from where the photograph was taken. Margot says of Gizmo: 'He is an avid hunter and often brings me "wildlife" presents that are deposited with great pride by my armchair.'

Visit to Highclere Castle

The WI have booked a coach to go to visit Highclere Castle on **Thursday 9 August** but there will be several spaces on the coach for other people to come too (men as well as women would be most welcome).



If you would like to come please let me know as soon as possible, a group booking is much cheaper than individual bookings. The cost will be £30 which is for the coach and entry ticket to Highclere seeing inside the castle and the gardens and the Egyptian Exhibition.. We will leave Dorchester at 12.00 am and leave Highclere Castle at 5.30 pm to return to Dorchester.

As I need to confirm the provisional group booking I have already made at least 8 weeks before we go, it is very important that you let me know as soon as possible if you would like to come.

Susan Jupp

Email: susan@jupp13dot.force9.co.uk

Phone: 01865 341066



Spring Mixed Doubles Tournament

Sunday 22 April

2.00pm at the courts

£6 entry fee including afternoon tea
Open to members and non-members

Membership enquiries to

Chris Smith

01865 341947

chrisccsmith@btinternet.com



Football Results
Oxford City
League
First Division



24/02/2018	Dorchester First	5	0	Union Street First
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Couling Cup Cup

17/02/2018	Florence Park	6	1	Dorchester First
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Boys Firsts

RULES

1. The Show is open to any person residing in Dorchester-on-Thames, Burcot, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield.
2. No exhibitor may exhibit more than one exhibit in each class, excepting Classes 14 & 21, where three entries may be made.
3. All entry forms, together with fees, to be submitted **not later than 7.00 pm on Thursday evening** before the show.
4. Entries in Classes 16 & 17 must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least the previous 4 months. Other plant classes with the exception of Classes 23 & 24 must have been grown by the exhibitor. Classes 25 - 37 must be made by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors must provide their own dishes, stands etc. Every care will be taken of the exhibits but the committee will not be held responsible for loss or damage.
6. On the relative merits of the exhibits, the opinion of the judges shall be final, but the committee reserves to itself the decision on any other points in dispute.
7. The Committee reserves the right to inspect any competitor's garden or allotment before or after the day of the show.
8. **All exhibits for competition must be staged between 9.00 am and 10.30 am on the day of the show.**
9. All competitors must leave their exhibits on show until after the Prize giving and raffle and clear immediately afterwards.
10. Any protests must be made in writing before 3.00 pm on the day of the Show, accompanied by 50p. deposit which shall be forfeited to the Committee if the protest is not upheld and found to be groundless.
11. Any exhibitor infringing any of these rules shall forfeit all claims to any prize.

Definitions

Class 1: Long trumpet: one flower on a stem; trumpet as long or longer than petals.
Class 2: Short trumpet or cup: one flower on a stem; trumpet shorter than petals.
Classes 23 & 24: Any natural material may be used.

Please label varieties whenever possible
Please note Rule 4

DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES SPRING FLOWER SHOW

and
Plant Sale/Raffle

DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

on
Saturday 7th April 2018

Staging 9.00 am – 10.30 am
Viewing 2.30 pm- 4.00 pm

Prizes will be presented at 3.40 pm
followed by Raffle Draw

Exhibitors will be competing for:

The Robert Soffe Cup (Long Trumpet Daffodils)
Short Trumpet Daffodil Cup
The Helen Belcher Cup (Pot Plant)
Vegetable Cup, Spring Flowers Cup
Domestic Classes Cup
Britain in Bloom Cup
The Blackwell Photography Cup
Certificates for Floral Art and Vegetables
Mary Tame Handicraft Plate

Class

- 1) Daffodils, long trumpet 1 variety - 5 stems
- 2) Daffodils/Narcissi, short trumpet or cup, 1 variety - 5 stems
- 3) Daffodils/Narcissi, miniature, 1 variety - 5 stems
- 4) Daffodils, double - 5 stems
- 5) Narcissi, multiple heads - 5 stems
- 6) Narcissi/short trumpet daffodils - 5 stems, 1 of each variety
- 7) Tulips, 1 variety - 3 stems
- 8) Blossom from a tree or shrub, 1 variety - 3 sprays
- 9) Blossom from a tree or shrub, 3 varieties - 1 stem each
- 10) Polyanthus - 5 stems, mixed colours allowed
- 11) Pansies/Violas - 5 stems, mixed colours allowed
- 12) Hellebores, 1 variety - 3 stems.
- 13) Hyacinths, 1 variety - 3 stems
- 14) Any other spring flower, 1 variety - 3 stems (up to 3 entries)
- 15) Mixed Spring Flowers, 5 stems

- 16) Plant, flowering or not, in pot not more than 10" - not exhibited in last 3 years.
- 17) Bulb or bowl of bulbs of same variety, not more than 10" pot.
- 18) Leeks - 3
- 19) Stored Onions - 5
- 20) Stored Shallots - 7
- 21) Any other vegetable or fruit (up to 3 entries)
- 22) Rhubarb - 3 sticks

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

- 23) An arrangement in a basket (forward facing, W18"xH18"xD12")
- 24) An arrangement in a coffee cup (space 6" x 6" x 6")

COOKERY

- 25) Coffee cake
- 26) Dundee cake
- 27) Savoury bread
- 28) Scotch eggs - 3
- 29) Flap jacks - 5
- 30) Pot of marmalade

PHOTOGRAPHS - all unmounted and not exhibited previously.

Conventional or digital camera
Must not be manipulated or enhanced in any way. Max 8" x 6"
31) Water
32) Subject beginning with 'A'

Image manipulation - up to A4
33) Any subject

HANDICRAFTS

- 34) Any item of needlecraft, incl knitting
- 35) Any other handcrafted item

CHILDREN (Please state age on exhibit)

Aged 9 and over:

- 36) Treasure map (not to exceed 12" x 12")

Aged 8 and under:

- 37) Drawing of the Abbey (not to exceed 12" x 12")

ENTRY FORM

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There will be an illustrated talk on the subject on **26 September** and, in the meantime, we would love to hear your memories of those shops, pubs and businesses. We know of some that you may not have heard of – for example, did you know that Dorchester once had its own fish and chip shop?

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metcalfe.margot@btinternet.com or
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Photo from the collection of Denise Line.



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Allotment



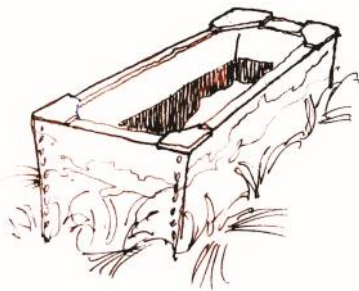
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Due to limited space, places must be reserved. These can be booked from March 20 by e-mailing adrianhbrooks@hotmail.com or tel **01865 340792**. Payment is £5 at the door including refreshments.

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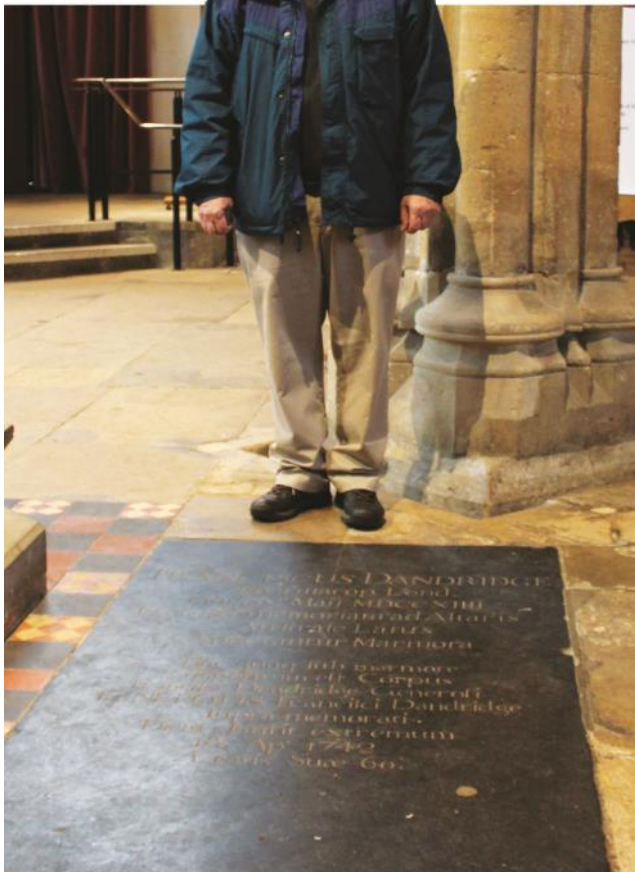
The Airman and the Police House. A story of discovery, chapter two.

Last month we reported how Dr Walter Powell of Plymouth Massachusetts, historian of the US 8th Air Force, had come across some photographs of US airman Richard Schlayer and friends, Larry and Vera, that he made in Dorchester during the war, together with some post war letters between them. Thanks to Denise Line, Larry and Vera were identified as the Fitzgeralds of Oxford Road, and Denise managed to put Dr Powell in touch with their daughters, Margaret and Patricia, the latter of whom was seen in her pram in some of the photographs.

Since then, not only have we received more photographs from Dr Powell, but whilst visiting London recently he came to Dorchester and met up with Margaret and Patricia, together with Denise, and has seen for himself the location of some of his mystery photographs.

It was a great delight to meet Dr Powell, who is interested in anything to do with US 8th Air Force, in particular the 7th Photo Reconnaissance Group and the time it was stationed at Mount Farm Air Base. If anyone has memories or memorabilia of their time there, he would be delighted to hear from you, and you can get in touch with him via Dorchester News.

Whilst here, he visited Dorchester Abbey, and was delighted to find the memorial plaque to the men of the 8th Air Force in the cloister garden, and the tomb of Frances Dandridge. Being an historian, he knew instantly of her connection with the USA and its first president.



Dr Powell at the tomb of Frances Dandridge



Margaret and Patricia (Trisha) with Denise Line, taken by Dr Powell.



Above, a blurred but instantly recognisable picture of The Plough, taken by Richard Schlayer about 1945 and captioned 'This is a typical pub'.

Right, US airmen enjoy a drink with some British sailors at The Plough. The licensee's name, Charles Greenaway, is clearly legible above the door.

Photographs courtesy of Dr Powell.



Frank Blackwell 1927-2018

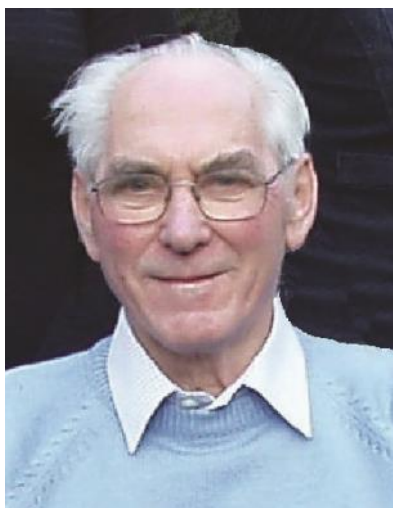
Frank Blackwell was born on 30 January 1927 in Tylers Green, Buckinghamshire, the youngest of four children. When he was four his family moved to Oxford and Frank spent most of his childhood living on the Florence Park estate. He won a scholarship to Oxford High School for Boys, leaving before completing the sixth form in order to join the Navy, keen to follow in the footsteps of his only brother (who was by then a Japanese Prisoner of War). While waiting to be called up, he joined Barclays Bank, where one of the machinists was a certain Joan Read, later to become his wife.

Frank duly joined the navy in 1944 and his basic training took place at the Butlin's Holiday camp in Skegness, which had



been commandeered by the Armed Forces for the duration of the war. He was understandably proud of being one of the select group who could boast of having manned a machine gun on top of a Butlin's holiday camp! On completion of his basic training, he decided to specialise in photography and was transferred to the Fleet Air Arm base at Lee on Solent, followed by a posting to the aircraft carrier, HMS *Illustrious*. On board, one of his duties was to photograph the landing of its planes. For safety reasons, he couldn't be on the flight deck, and so had to be in the steel nets that were slung from its edge. This meant that he was suspended high above the sea, while *Illustrious* was still travelling - no mean feat for someone with a dislike of heights!

After being demobbed in 1947, Frank returned to his job with Barclays, now working in Wantage where he became involved with The Brains Trust. After the meetings he joined other members in a local hostelry to continue the discussions. The members included John Betjeman, who later became Poet Laureate. This left Frank with a deep love for his poetry.



After a few years, Frank applied to be a photographer in the Anatomy Department of Oxford University. In 1951 he married Joan, and a tied house was available in Coverley Road, Headington, which they later bought. Martin was born in 1953, followed by Julia in 1957. Frank later decided to train as a teacher, which led to his joining Berkshire College of Art and Design in the late 1960s as a Lecturer (later Senior Lecturer and Head of Photography), based in Reading, where he stayed until his retirement. He became interested in the history of photography and researched the portrait studio in Reading of the photographic pioneer, Fox Talbot.

In 1977 Frank and Joan moved to Dorchester, together with Joan's mother, Peggy Read. They all immediately fell in love with the village and wholeheartedly embraced village life, making many life-long friends. For many years, Frank both judged and set the categories for the photographic entries in the village flower show, writing words of encouragement for every entry. His appreciation of the photographic efforts of others led to him donating the Blackwell Photography Cup, awarded for the Best Photo in Show.

Frank loved the Abbey and his time as church warden. The Abbey helped satisfy his love of spirituality, of history and architecture, and of community. Unsurprisingly, he took numerous photographs - many of the photographs you see around the church and the village were taken by Frank.

In 1989, when he was 62, Frank retired from teaching. He was awarded the Fellowship of the Royal Photographic Society, that organisation's highest level of distinction. However, Frank, never idle,

continued to work as an A level examiner and he quality assured Further Education courses in photography, visiting colleges throughout England, in the Irish Republic and in Cyprus.

Frank was also the Diocesan Photographer, and his work included taking a photograph each month for the page of the Diocesan magazine 'The Door' entitled "God in the Life of ...". This brought him in contact with many fascinating people, both famous and less famous, and he would take a very skilful photograph which reflected their life. There were photos of religious leaders including Archbishop Desmond Tutu and at least three Archbishops of Canterbury; entertainers including Kathryn Jenkins, Harry Secombe and the actor Richard Harris and politicians including Jonathan Aitken in Belmarsh Prison.

A licence is needed to take commercial photographs of the Queen and Frank was the local licence holder, abiding by the many strict rules that apply, which include not photographing the Queen eating or



drinking. When the Queen visited Berinsfield in 1997, Frank was the official photographer. The Queen visited a Mother and Child group who were having a tea party and she joined in, pretending to drink from a doll's cup. Thus Frank managed to take an extremely unusual photograph of the Queen appearing to drink from a cup.

Frank embraced new technology, being an early user of computers and Photoshop. He was intrigued by all manner of mathematical and scientific topics, such as quantum mechanics and imaginary numbers. The mathematical work of Charles Dodgson fascinated him, and the interest in Dodgson's alter ego, Lewis Carroll, led to an in-depth knowledge of 'Alice in Wonderland' and the life of the real Alice, Alice Liddell.

Frank found plenty of time to spend with family and friends. He loved spending time with his four grandchildren and was

interested and involved in everything they did. The family particularly enjoyed the annual Whit Week holiday: a cottage was hired, with Frank and Joan being there throughout and other family members coming for as much of it as was possible. The tradition started nearly 40 years ago and even last year, when his health was failing, Frank was determined to have his week in Charmouth with the family. He also enjoyed celebrating notable events with his family. These included his 90th birthday last year as well as his and Joan's Diamond, and then 65th wedding

anniversaries. Last July, Frank and Joan celebrated 66 years of marriage, a marriage in which their love, companionship, mutual respect and a shared sense of humour were very evident.

Sadly, over the last three years, Frank's health steadily deteriorated. Despite this, he always looked forward. Frank and Joan got fantastic support from all their friends and neighbours, as well as the health care teams at Berinsfield Health Centre, Sobell House Hospice and the Oxford Hospitals. The family is very grateful for all the compassionate support he received. For the last six weeks of his

life, Frank had additional support from wonderful live-in carers who maximised his quality of life at this time. Frank actually lived significantly longer than his doctors predicted, probably due to his steely determination, his often mischievous sense of humour and his optimistic outlook.

On the evening of 22 January, Frank went to bed with Joan by his side as he had done for over 66 years. He died peacefully in his sleep in the early hours of the following morning.



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Newsletter from the Education Department, Dorchester Abbey

Dorchester Abbey Education



Angels in the Abbey, Advent and Epiphany: In the autumn term leading up to Christmas the Abbey welcomed images of a range of fantastic artworks with angels in them from the National Gallery and other galleries, which we hung in the Abbey. We also had a number of school visits, all of whom really enjoyed engaging with the Abbey space, the artworks and creatively responding to them. Children were able to write poems and create artworks, as well as recreate scenes from the artworks in a tableau ('picture freeze') grand finale in front of fellow classmates! Teachers loved the experience too, as these comments indicate:

'Thank you for yesterday's visit. All of the school really enjoyed it and the teachers have lots of information and inspiration for whole class work.'

'Thank you so much for such a wonderful day! The children were buzzing all the way back to school - I will be planning some follow on activities for the next couple of lessons. Thank you for giving us such an inspirational (and aspirational!) start to our new Unit of learning in RE.'

Below are some extracts from an angel themed poetry workshop:

Angels, shining like the
sun '
They like to help
They fly around
But they do speak to me.'

Angel, angel make us happy
But not in darkness –
Angels bring light
To people in darkness'

Angels are like butterflies
That are swooping in the sky
Angels have big wings
To help them go down
To us and up high.'

Angels are beautiful
Wonderful, kind
True hearts
Love inside
Helpful and loving.'

Angels guide us
They are a light of hope in
darkness
Angels shine brightly'

'Angels are here to remind
us of God
They sing to Jesus
They like to praise him
Angels are happiness'



Above: Mixed age R-KS2 artworks produced in an art workshop at one of the Angel themed school visits

Dorchester Abbey Education

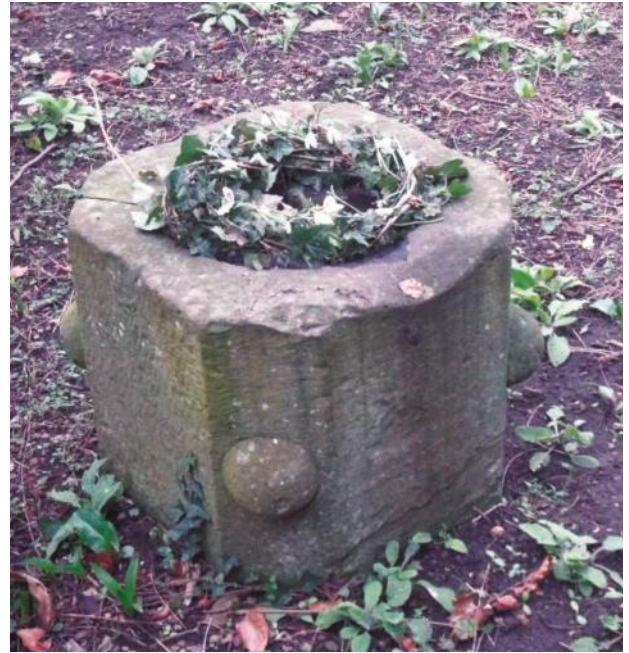


Anglo-Saxon Experience Days: This time of the year, as usual, has proved very popular with schools booking our Anglo-Saxon Experience Days, we have had several bookings. They love the different monthly themed rituals the children can participate in, particularly February, which is Solmonth, or Month of the Cakes – eating the specially made honey oatcakes as part of the Anglo-Saxon gods' ritual is always a big hit with the children and their teachers!

Roman Experience Day

For well over a year now we have been running our Roman Experience days, a natural development from our Anglo-Saxon Experience Days. We had another visit this term, but a rather chilly and damp one! This didn't prevent the students from having a great time, eating the Roman bread, experiencing the Roman smells, making their curse tablets and focusing on the 'Roman water shrine'! We are also now looking forward to more of our Roman Archaeological Experience Days linked to the local Discovering Dorchester dig in July. This summer will sadly see the last year of the dig here in Dorchester. We are hoping schools will take advantage of this fantastic opportunity and book their visit, as it will be the last time they will be able to do so!

Right: Our version of a 'Roman water shrine'! Do you recognise it?



LIGHT: A Spiritual Journey, 20 October 2018 to 6 January 2019 Looking forward to the autumn term, we will be hosting a fabulous art, music and science linked exhibition on the theme of LIGHT: A Spiritual Journey. This will include a series of specially created individual 'theatres of light', created by the local artist Adrian Brooks, accompanied by commissioned music from a local composer and projected images from the Hubble Space Telescope. Adrian's artworks will be made of resin and decorated with patterns referencing pilgrimage

shrines and medieval art. We will be linking this to the Abbey's pilgrimage history related to our Anglo-Saxon founding St. Birinus and our replica Birinus Shrine. Schools will have the opportunity to take part in literacy workshops on poetry, as well as a selection of RE, science, history and art workshops and be able to participate in the creation of their own theatre to take back to school to display to their whole school. Make your pilgrimage to Dorchester this Autumn to see the exhibition in action!



Adrian Brooks' scale model of our Cloister Gallery, where his exhibition will be located. This gives you a slight taster of how he imagines the exhibition looking, with a large circular screen with projections from the Hubble Space Telescope seen at a slight distance as you enter the Gallery. His 'theatres of light' will be located at different locations in the gallery leading you on your pilgrimage towards the heavenly projections.

Dorchester Abbey Education

Margaret Craig, Education Officer. You can contact me via email on

education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Or call and speak to me about making a booking or further information on any of our educational visits **01865 343164** (Mondays and Tuesdays).

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The museums of Cologne

Anne-Marie Joffrin makes a visit



As the voluntary Curator at Dorchester Abbey Museum (Dorchester on Thames, UK), I became an affiliate member of the South East Museums Federation (SEMF) a few months ago and had the privilege of joining the Study Trip 2018 in Cologne. SEMF offers many opportunities to exchange knowledge and expertise with other professionals, freelance consultants, mentors and volunteers from different environments. These few days visiting museums and exchanging with other participants were particularly enriching. In addition, as new member I felt particularly welcome.

We visited four museums in two days. The Roman Germanic Museum was particularly interesting. Indeed, Dorchester village lies over an old Romano-British walled town, which later became a Saxon settlement. Following many excavations of the Roman town through the 'Discovering Dorchester-on-Thames Project' (Heritage Lottery funded) the Museum treasures a few exquisite pieces in its collection.

The Roman Germanic Museum was created in 1974 at the very place where the Dionysos mosaic was excavated. Colonia Agrippina or the Roman Cologne left numerous artefacts, one of which is the impressive main entrance arched gateway you can admire upstairs in the Museum. The unique collection of Roman glass artefacts will remain the most amazing objects I've ever seen. Our Guide Christina Kempcke-Richte was very engaging and knowledgeable.

The second museum we visited was the Museum Schnütgen in one of Cologne's oldest Churches, St. Cäcilien. Their collection of medieval religious art is exceptional, and their wooden sculptures are unique. We were welcomed by a Canadian Curator and researcher Adam Stead who also gave us an overview of the way in which Cologne City museums are managed. As part of the rationalisation of the City's collections, the museums have moved artefacts or collections to show more coherence within the collections. As a French curator in England I found this cultural approach most interesting.



We were also invited to visit the bowels of the Museum. A huge lift took us deep down to the storage spaces, including the stone collection store. This was a real privilege for our group of curators. Such facilities would be unimaginable in the small space of Dorchester Museum!

Once again, this Museum was of particular interest to me. Despite very little medieval archaeology found in Dorchester, our Museum can trace major developments through the historic records. From the first Norman church to the building of Dorchester Abbey as a monastery for Augustinian canons, Dorchester is today well known for its 12th century Abbey church and its wonderful stained glass and carved stone sculptures.

During our free time we were able to visit Cologne's renowned Cathedral and walk along the banks of the Rhine with its cyclists and 'promeneurs'.

On the second day we went to the East Asian Museum which revived my personal interest in Japanese art and design. At a glimpse the architecture reminds us of Le Corbusier for its geometrical structure. The renowned Japanese architect Kunio Maekawa (1905–1986), former pupil of Le Corbusier, recreated the perfect Japanese retreat where the inner garden invites you into meditation. The inside rooms merge into the outside spaces, and the Museum display doesn't disturb this peaceful setting immersed in natural light. We could have spent many hours listening to Dr. Adele Schlombs, the Curator. We were travelling through time and suspended Zhong clapperless enigmatic bells, quietly ringing at the tip of the Curator's finger! Dr Schlombs made us appreciate the beauty and the philosophy of Chinese culture, as well as Japanese art and craft. It was difficult to leave this museum.

The journey from Roman times through to Medieval Christian art and the East Asian culture was refreshing.

Closer to us in time and consequently even more moving, Käthe Kollwitz (1867–1945) was an artist who focused on the suffering of the poor and left behind by society in the late 19th century. The Museum's collection of charcoal drawings and pencil sketches shows a very dark human fate and family suffering where mothers were fighting to keep their children safe from political and economic turmoil. Her drawings express the love between mother and child, husband and wife, brothers and sisters and the threat of Death, an unwanted visitor, who is constantly willing to take what is most precious to human kind. The Käthe Kollwitz museum is owned by the Kreissparkasse Köln savings bank.

So much to take on board in a few days. This trip was a nice break and a good opportunity to meet museum professionals and share personal experiences as a voluntary curator. Thank you to the SEMF for welcoming me as a new member. I am personally looking forward to next year's trip but also welcome our members to Dorchester-on-Thames Abbey Museum!

Anne Marie Joffrin

Each year we at the Festival of English Music (EMF) strive to do something a little different – an innovation of some kind, perhaps that will enable us to reach, engage with and appeal to new audiences.

Whether you love baroque, classical, romantic, contemporary music, light music, jazz or folk, the EMF is increasingly able to offer something to everyone. Last year our innovation was the joint Dorchester Abbey and EMF Service of Eucharist, in which EMF audience members, volunteers and Trustees joined the Dorchester Abbey choir, and the usual congregation was swelled by EMF attendees. The music was wonderful; and Revd. Sue delivered a truly inspirational and thought-provoking sermon.

This year our innovations are our first ever Young Artist's Recital, and our dramatic programmes, whilst we are eagerly anticipating, for the first time in eight years, the presentation of a semi-staged opera: 2018 will see Dorchester Abbey hosting the Carthaginian court, a witches' cavern and a pastoral grove in a production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* given by the illustrious Armonico Consort.

The opening night of the EMF – Friday 25th May - will feature a rare performance of Delius's magnificent Double Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra given by the English Symphony Orchestra under the baton of John Andrews. We are especially privileged to be presenting the UK première of Richard Blackford's Violin Concerto in this concert. This thrilling and richly colourful work, with its inspiration drawn from Russian Orthodox chant, was first performed in Brno in 2008, and we are delighted to have been asked by the composer to host its first performance in the UK; we are even more pleased that the composer himself will be conducting this work. The third piece in the opening programme is the world première of Christopher Wright's accessible, attractive, and lyrical, yet powerful Symphony. This promises to be a gloriously memorable and important event.

It has always been a part of the EMF's policy to host concerts given by outstanding musicians in the early stages of their careers, and we have now decided to



formalise this aspect of the Festival by dedicating a concert each year to showcasing such a young professional. This year's Young Artist's Recital will be given by the flautist Emma Halnan, who appeared at Dorchester Abbey in the 2016 EMF with the Holst Orchestra and City of London Choir conducted by Hilary Davan Wetton and made a tremendously favourable impression on her fellow artists, audience members and the Directors of the Festival alike through the professionalism and polish of her performance. She will return this year along with her pianist colleague, Daniel King Smith, in a flute and piano recital given on Saturday 26 May in Dorchester Abbey featuring works by Malcolm Arnold, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Ernest Tomlinson, Richard Rodney Bennett and York Bowen.

After a lute and song recital which will be held in All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay, featuring the world-renowned lutenist Jacob Heringman and tenor John Potter, the much-loved conductor Hilary Davan

Wetton will return to Dorchester Abbey for a concert featuring the young and brilliant Godwine Choir along with the Holst Orchestra.

Hilary's concerts are among the most popular events at each EMF, with high audience members and even higher levels of audience satisfaction! This year he presents another attractive and exciting programme of works by Edward Elgar, Gustav Holst, Sir George Dyson, Vaughan Williams, Sir Arthur Bliss and Gerald Finzi.

This will be followed, still in the Abbey, by a scintillating piano recital from Radio 3 presenter and pianist Paul Guinery. Paul has prepared a programme ranging from Billy Mayerl to Madeline Dring, with an eye to the lighter side of music, and to providing an hour's delightful entertainment.

Two of our concerts in this year's EMF are dramatic programmes, and this is the first time we have presented such events. The first is a concert devoted to Dame Ethyl Smyth, and will feature her music along-

Below: Paul Guinery





Above: Roddy Williams. Photo by Benjamin Ealovega

Below: Armonico Consort & Orchestra



cated to this type of folk-music and we anticipate an engaging, joyful and poignant evening.

A highlight of this year's EMF – and one for which we are recommending advance booking – is the concert given on the afternoon of Monday 28th May by that fabulous baritone, Roderick Williams, along with pianist Michael Dussek and the Bridge Quartet. Williams will sing songs by Ivor Gurney, alongside Gurney's *The Western Playland*, and the Quartet will also perform Edward Elgar's enigmatic and heart-wrenchingly beautiful Piano Quintet and Herbert Howells's Phantasy Quartet.

Alongside all these exciting events, we continue to present rare works by composers with whom the EMF has been strongly associated over the past eleven years, so on the final night of this year's EMF, Monday 28 May, the conductor Owain Arwel Hughes will conduct Camerata Wales in a programme of little-known music by some of Britain's foremost composers, with rare pieces by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Gerald Finzi, Frederick Delius, Peter Warlock, George Dyson, Herbert Howells and John Ireland rounding off what will surely be another thrilling year's Festival.

In addition to these concerts, we continue putting on talks in Dorchester Village Hall, which will put the music in context and further knowledge and understanding of these fascinating composers; meanwhile we are collaborating with the White Hart this year, who will be offering the official EMF pre-concert meals (while The George kindly supplies food for our artists and many local volunteers and interns!)

As usual we are offering a discount to those who are local to our EMF venues – and locals are able to take advantage of this by booking through our new website (just enter your postcode and a discount will be applied automatically if you are within the catchment area!), as well as on the door with a copy of our local discount flier.

I do very much hope you will join us for what promises to be one of the best Festivals yet!

Em Marshall-Luck

www.englishmusicfestival.org.uk

side readings from letters and journals: this will at once put the music into context and bring the composer herself vividly to life. The second is a powerfully moving and, at times, harrowing exploration of soldiers' lives in the First World War. Piano music composed during the years 1914 to 1918 will be interspersed with readings by a costumed actor of poems by Wilfred Owen, Edward Thomas, Siegfried Sassoon and Vera Brittain. These events, along with a piano recital of works by Sir Hubert Parry, Sir Arthur Bliss, York Bowen, William Alwyn and William Sterndale Bennett, will take place in Radley College on the Sunday and Monday.

Each year, the EMF stages at least one event focusing on a non-classical genre: Britain has a strong heritage of dance-band music, jazz, and early music and we have celebrated this through concerts given by such groups as the New Foxtrot Serenaders and Joglaresa. This year, we have been fortunate to engage the celebrated folk-singer John Kirkpatrick, who on the evening of Sunday 27 May, in Dorchester Abbey after the semi-staged performance of *Dido and Aeneas* and excerpts from Purcell's *The Fairy Queen*, will present a programme of traditional songs, bringing to our audience the music that has been a vital part of this country's communities for generations. This is the first time we have hosted an event dedi-

Intermezzo Vacation Choir at Dorchester Abbey Saturday 28 April, 7.30 pm

Intermezzo is an acclaimed chamber choir that rehearses during Oxford University vacations, specialising in beautiful contemporary music. Members include students and staff of the University, as well as local residents. Intermezzo will perform music with a "Psalms" connection, including:

- **Rachmaninov** - *Blazhen Muzh* from *All-Night Vigil*,
- **Whitacre** - *Oculi Omnium*,
- **Augustinas** - *Cantate Domino*,
- **Pärt** - *Two Slavonic Psalms*

and music by Klatzow, Tallis, Kreek, Elberdin, and others.

Tickets, priced at £9 (£6 concessions) will be on sale from 2 April – visit <http://www.oxfordintermezzo.co.uk/> for more information.



Sing for Syria Saturday 19 May Dorchester Abbey

Singing for Syrians, a positive and upbeat campaign run by the Hands Up Foundation to get as many people in the UK raising their voices to raise funds for aid to Syria, is holding its second **Come and Sing of 2018 in Dorchester Abbey on Saturday, 19 May, 2018.**

If you're local, you love to sing, and you're happy to watch Harry and Meghan's wedding on playback (or better still avoid World Cup fever), then please come and join us!

We are thrilled to have **David Wordsworth of the Addison Singers** conducting us once again, and under his expert guidance we will be singing **Mozart's ever-popular Requiem**.

We would love you to join us for an inspiring day of singing, with an informal concert in the evening for friends and family. Please follow this link for more details and to reserve your place: <https://billetto.co.uk/e/come-and-sing-mozart-s-requiem-tickets-256407>

The war in Syria will soon enter its eighth year and recently the intensity of the war has been scaling up. Several of the projects Hands Up supports have been affected by recent bombing (for more information, please read [here](#)), but this only makes us more determined to keep raising funds for those most in need inside Syria and demonstrates to us that we are working where the need is greatest. For more information on Singing for Syrians (www.singingforsyrians.com) and the Hands Up Foundation (www.handsupfoundation.org), please visit their respective websites.



We Are Only Just Beginning To Explore.

Reading the garden literature that's out there, you can quickly get the impression that the health and wellbeing of our garden is only of interest insofar as it is necessary for optimising the flowering quality and productivity rates.

It's far wider than that but that may be enough for what we gardeners want on a day to day basis. But that thinking can often distract the way we view and perceive our gardens.

We try and tend, manage and control our garden plots. Often acting like overbearing parents and stewards. Nature's stewardship helps show us humans how to appreciate the complex ways our gardens interact with the wider environment that its placed in, building and sustaining the less obvious, yet highly important, food chains.

It's easy to overlook how over-

bearing our gardening habits often are, and how those habits can impact on our gardens ecosystems, which is part of any garden's 'success'.

Allowing a place for nature to colonise, draws our attention to the role gardens play in making our world the kind of place that we want to inhabit.

Not only that but wildlife gardens in all their forms hide many natural wonders that in many ways we are only just beginning to explore.

Give yourself permission to step out into your garden and find the nature that's there, right under our noses, often, unnoticed.

A garden with a healthier and happier ecosystem can often be more productive. Give it a try. Happy Gardening

Stuart Mabbutt



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From your County Councillor...

...Lorraine Lindsay-Gale

OCC Budget 2018/19

OCC agreed its budget at a Full Council meeting on 13 February following a five-hour meeting of all 63 county councillors. Council Tax will rise by 5.99%, the maximum amount allowed without a referendum. Key points include:

- Finances are sound compared to other councils, with difficult decisions having already been taken
- The Council Tax rise will deliver extra money for adults and children's social care
- Proposal to extend £500,000 contribution for homelessness for an extra year in 2019/20 (subject to consultation)
- 10-year programme to improve transport network and release more money for road maintenance
- £15,000 for each of the 63 county councillors to spend on local priorities in their area

OCC steps up pothole work as winter hits the roads

Repeated cycles of ice, thaws and snow have created the worst possible weather conditions for roads over the last few months leading to a rise in reports on Fix My Street from 3,000 pre-Christmas to 7,000 during January. OCC has drafted in more staff to carry out inspections and contractors Skanska are sending out more teams to carry out repairs. An additional Dragon-Patcher is now in action on the road network travelling round on an 'inspect and fix' basis on the rural network. There is also good news in the form of almost £1m in extra funding from the Department for Transport in recognition of damage done to the roads by bad weather. This money will be spent on road patching later this year as that will give longer lasting benefits and better value for money. Defects that make roads hazardous will be dealt with within 24 hours as usual. Remember, if a defect has paint markings around it then it has already been scheduled for repair and does not need a new report.

Care Quality Commission (CQC) re-view in Oxfordshire

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) visited Oxfordshire in November 2017 to carry out one of 20 targeted reviews taking place in England. The CQC report, published on Monday 12 February says: *'People were treated with kindness when they moved between health and social care services. Frontline staff were dedicated and provided person centred care, going the extra mile for people they cared for.'* Across all areas of health and social care, an above-average proportion of services achieve a 'good' or 'outstanding' CQC rating in Oxfordshire, compared to the national average. However, there remain significant challenges to join up services across organisations in Oxfordshire. The final report has provided areas of action for senior managers in the NHS, social care and other bodies to act upon to make the whole health and care system work better. All of the CQC's recommendations for actions have been agreed by the organisations involved.

CQC inspectors found the problems of recruiting care staff in Oxfordshire were holding back improvement. Incompatible computer systems also hampered integration of services. The inspectors did find that Oxfordshire had made progress in tackling 'delayed transfers of care'. Health and social care leaders from the five organisations involved in the inspection have already met with the CQC to develop an action plan. The key points of the action plan are:

- Making services more local by using a 'place-based' approach to design and delivery of care
- Improving information available to people who fund their own care so they can get the support they need more quickly
- Investing more in recruitment and retention of care staff so more care packages can be delivered, particularly for older people.

Plastic pollution in Oxfordshire

Residents in Oxfordshire have been amongst the best at recycling (including plastics) and composting for a few years now, and the countywide recycling rate is around 60%, one of the best in the country. However, the ambition is to do better. Plastic is a topical target. The OCC Recycling Team has put together top tips to kick the plastic habit:

- Remember your reusable bags when shopping.
- Invest in a reusable water bottle (stainless steel bottles are more sustainable than plastic)
- For takeaway coffee, use a reusable mug. Collapsible ones that fit easily in a bag are obtainable, or there are ones made from bamboo to avoid more plastic. (Disposable coffee cups are lined with plastic and hard to recycle.)
- Look for products with less packaging, or no packaging, such as fruit or vegetables.
- Buy concentrated products and refill packs instead of fully packaged products, such as fabric conditioner, washing powders and some beauty products.
- Recycle the packaging where possible. While 90% of packaging is recycled in the kitchens, only 50% is being recycled in the bathroom. Shampoo, conditioner, make up, hand wash and cleaning product bottles can all be recycled (pump trigger must be removed).
- Buy larger or economy sizes of goods such as breakfast cereal, tomato ketchup, toilet rolls and soap powder. This saves money and creates less packaging in the long run.

All the councils in Oxfordshire are working together to seek views on reducing waste and increasing recycling. Respond to the consultation here:

www.recycleforoxfordshire.org.uk

Parish Council Notices Monthly Meeting - April

The March meeting will take place in the back room of the Village Hall on **Wednesday 11 April** commencing at 7.30 p.m. The Agenda will be posted on Village notice boards and on the Parish Council section of the Village website – www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk - three clear days in advance of the meeting. All Parish Council Meetings are open to the public; a resident who wishes to raise any matter of concern is welcome to do so at the start of the meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting 2017

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on **Wednesday 9 May**. This meeting is open to all residents and will include the Chairman's Annual Report together with the presentation of the Council's Draft Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Any suggestions for agenda items should be sent to the Clerk in advance and no later than Monday 30 April. Business will include reports from our County and District Councillors; PAGE; the Hurst Water Meadow Trust; proposals for Village Hall development and the latest news about the route for the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.

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 Please note new direct line for calls and texting **07745 311439**

The e-mail is parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Cllr Chris Hill, Chairman of the Council, can be contacted via chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk More information about the Village is available at

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Post Office Mobile Van

The Post Office has appointed the Postmaster from Warborough Post Office to run a mobile van service to a number of local villages, including Dorchester where they are proposing that the van will be outside the Co-op between 10.30 and 11.30 each Wednesday.

They are currently running a public consultation on the proposals. This runs until **17 April** and you can see more detail of the proposals and make your comments by accessing the link:

[Consultation Hub - Warborough OX10 7DD](#)

Further information should also be available in the Warborough Post Office.



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From your MP...

...John Howell



Each month I write my newsletter around the middle of the month as this is the time that seems to capture most of the many and varied copy deadlines for the parish magazines that go out in communities across the constituency. This month it happens to coincide with a Parliamentary recess and also half term. I hope that those who had a break enjoyed it – despite the varied British weather.

When Parliament is in recess it does not mean that MPs are on holiday. Recess offers a time when we can undertake visits which do not fit with the Parliamentary cycle of business when the House is sitting. For example, in my role as the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Nigeria I sometimes visit the country in recess. Recess can also offer the opportunity to be out and about in the Constituency much more than in a usual week. In this recess that is precisely what I have been doing. I have spent most days out walking in a number of different communities stopping and chatting to those I meet. These 'conversations on the street' have proved to be very valuable to me in learning what issues are uppermost on people's minds. I have had discussion on many things from Brexit to potholes including health, traffic, parking, Neighbourhood Planning and housing along the way.

With our system of central and local government it can be both confusing and frustrating to find out who to contact on particular issues. I do not sit at the top of our system of government where I have authority over our local councils. (I'm sure those who serve on our councils will be pleased to have this stated!) Each council has specific responsibilities devolved to it. Whilst I am always interested to know what is going on and where things are not working as well as they could, there are some issues raised with me that I cannot directly assist with. I have to refer to the relevant council for their view on the problem and to ask them to respond. I am happy to do this but it seems that there is an often underused resource in our local councillors. In addition to an MP every resident has an elected representative at the County Council, the District Council and several representatives on the Parish Council or Parish Meeting. All of these people have put themselves forward to work for the good of their communities. For all of us elected representatives it is

important to know what issues are important to those whom we represent and to assist, as best we are able, with particular problems experienced in relation to the services of the organisation on which we sit.

Communications are vital and that is why I have taken the opportunity for these 'conversations on the street', which is an extension of what I do at the weekends throughout the year. I also produce a periodic electronic newsletter and briefings on specific issues as well as writing in these parish magazines. If you would like to subscribe to these, please email me at john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com. You can also follow me on Facebook www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire or on twitter @JHowellUK

If you would like to share your thoughts on an issue with me you can email me at howelljm@parliament.uk or call my office on **01491 613072**.

If you would like to know more about my work in Westminster, on behalf of the Government and the Constituency please do look at my website which is regularly updated. The address is www.johnhowellmp.com. Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at www.parliament.uk. As always, I am interested to hear constituents' views on the proposals before the House.

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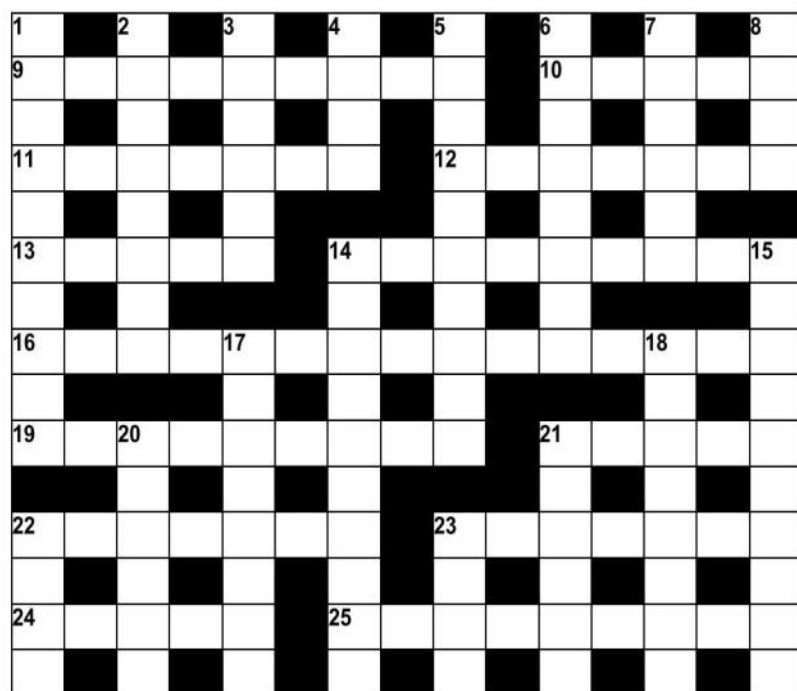


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The Dorchester News Crossword No3

Compiled by Slider



Across

- 9 Fifty-fifty article no good ? Negative for a Welsh town.(9)
 10 The tearoom is back in an easy liltng way.(5)
 11 Finish a king - off with his head! (7)
 12 You are missing nothing with quiet birds, products of the eighties. (7)
 13 Aimlessly get to the meaning.(5)
 14 Nitre, a mad mixture infused. (9)
 16 First out, genetically modified space or for instance small – these will stay with you. (7,8)

Crossword Prize!

Crossword No2 was a prize crossword. There were a number of correct entries, from which the winner was drawn who is Merah Edgecombe.

Solution next month. This month's is not a prize crossword, but watch out for another prize one in the future.

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- 18 Subtle transactions sound like a quiet prison. (4,4)
 21 Local banker's article around before lunch. (5)
 22 Part of the soiree, Victoria put out again. (2-5)
 23 Mild annoyance at nothing bloody and given a lesson. (7)
 24 Sherlock's lady shows anger on Tyneside perhaps.(5)
 25 Almost entirely at sea. (2,3,4)

Down

- 1 Reeds fully blown at the inn. (5-2-3)
 2 Take care, slip mixture into some jewellery. (8)
 3 A medic has no sex appeal, that's handy. (6)
 4 Part of the commune delights in going back to the garden (4)
 5 Evergreen length to be taken away demands the bishop (or the deacon) (4,6)
 6 A mistake to be keen to put on something comfortable. (4,4)
 7 Place on common is not resulting in a moan. (6)
 8 A really dangerous flower? It's not far away! (4)
 14 Such a huge stone, a jewel set up then fired, and this for a Roman. (10)
 15 A policeman is taking care of the blowing up. (10)
 17 Not out, pointed and got fired! (8)
 18 Have a good soak, stir it up to become absent-minded. (2,1,5)
 20 Runs away round the cross and gets the bends. (6)
 21 Named junction is covered in tesserae. (6)
 22 He's done much fencing on personal details. (4)
 23 A portion of spaghetti tomorrow for the old leader.(4)



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Wallingford has a theatre and cinema again!

On Friday, March 2, Edward Hall, Artistic Director of Hampstead Theatre and Propeller Theatre Company, formally re-opened the Corn Exchange in Wallingford. Edward is the son of the late Sir Peter Hall, doyen of the RSC back in the 60s and director of the National Theatre in the 70s and 80s. Edward has strong connections with the area having lived here as a boy, and he began his theatrical career as theatre director at the Watermill Theatre in Bagnor.

It is particularly poignant that Edward Hall reopened the theatre as his father first opened the Corn Exchange in December 1978 when it had been converted from a derelict building over a three year period by volunteers.

In his remarks Edward Hall told the audience of principal donors 'It's a delight to look round a theatre like this where all the departments are under one roof. That is something quite rare, even in professional theatres. It is the people who give soul to a company and what we see is how you have managed to retain the heritage of this building and at the same time create an environment with soul. The Corn Exchange is a fabulous theatre, run by such a passionate, dedicated group of people which I have no doubt, will be thriving forty years further down the line.'

After a £650,000 renovation programme to replace the roof, heating and ventilation and several items of theatre equipment, the Corn Exchange finally opened its doors again in January with a stunning performance of Cinderella by the resident company Sinodun Players, their 70th pantomime. And proof that the residents of Wallingford and district were more than ready to resume their patronage was shown by the tremendous sales of tickets which peaked at 99% capacity over the fifteen performances.

So the 162 year old Corn Exchange is now back in business, with a full programme of theatre, cinema and other entertainment. Resplendent with a new watertight roof, modern heating and ventilation system and a new look in the auditorium. The seats are refurbished, the carpet is new, the walls have been freshly painted and it is possible to view much more of the original Wilder ironwork which supports the roof.



CORN
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Cinema: Performances start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

April

- Mon 2 **I, Tonya** (15)
 Tues 3 **Lady Bird** (15)
 Wed 4 **Lady Bird** (15)
 Thurs 5 **Get Out** (15)
 Fri 6 **I, Tonya** (15)
 Sun 15 **Red Sparrow** (15)
 Mon 16 **Red Sparrow** (15)
 Tues 17 **Red Sparrow** (15)
 Wed 18 **Walk Like a Panther** (12A)
 Thurs 19 **Walk Like a Panther** (12A)
 Fri 20 **Game Night** (15)
 Sat 21 **Game Night** (15)
 Wed 25 **Giselle** (U) 7.15pm
 Akram Khan's highly acclaimed production for English National Ballet
 Tickets £12 Adult; £10 Students and Children

LIVE

Lettice and Lovage by Peter Shaffer - 11 to 14 April 2018
 7:45pm

A comedic and satirical play by Peter Schaffer
 Lettice is a tour guide in a stately home but her tendency to embroider the facts leads to conflict with a more literal-minded colleague.
 All Tickets £10

OTHER VENUES

Cholsey Silver Band at St. Mary-le-More, , Wallingford,
Saturday 28 April at 7:30pm
 A benefit concert in aid of the Corn Exchange 21st Century Theatre Fund
 Tickets £10 Adult; under 16s £5
 Price includes a free drink on arrival

COMING SOON - Productions by Sinodun PLayer
Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard
 23 to 26 May 2018

The Odyssey by Ginny Avery
 28 to 30 June 2018 (The Encore Youth Group)

A Murder is Announced by Agatha Christie
 17 to 20 October 2018

Tickets and further information, including additions to cinema programme included after going to press are available from www.cornexchange.org.uk or box office 01491 825000.

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Wallingford's Guided Town Walks

Guided Historic Town Walks are taking place on every Saturday morning from 31 March to 29 Sept, starting from the Town Hall at 11.00am. Walks last 1 - 2 hours and cost £5 per head, money which will be donated to support Wallingford Museum.

These are general walks covering the rich history of Wallingford, but also touching on the links with Agatha Christie and 'Midsomer Murders'. They will appeal to residents and visitors alike.

These walks also provide an ideal opportunity to visit Wallingford Museum, which has just re-opened with great interest in its 'Treasures with Tales' exhibition. Residents from Wallingford and the surrounding villages have loaned the museum a wide variety of fascinating objects, each with its own special significance - from exotic to fun to poignant! Visitors are able to follow the 'Treasures Trail' and discover these things for themselves throughout the museum. Each has its own 'tale' displayed and can be enjoyed by the whole family.

The treasures are woven in amongst other exhibitions which include not only the story of Wallingford's Saxon origins, its great Royal castle, the town's links with Agatha Christie, but also updates on the recent archaeology that is being uncovered by new developments around the town.

www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



Wallingford Garden Club

At the Wallingford Gardening Club meeting (in the Ridgeway Community Church Centre), on **Thursday 12 April 7.30pm** Rachael The Gardener from Wantage will be talking on 'Wildflower Meadows, Nectar Bars and Attracting Birds to Your Garden'.

Rachael is a professional gardener and plant smith, and has published nearly 30 Books about gardening and botany (available on Kindle). She described her style as 'chatty and informal' also 'appropriately bossy', in addition she strives to de-mystify Botany both for beginners, and improvers.

Visitors are most welcome for whom the admission is just £3.00.

Aleck Harrison
01491 826121

Wallingford Flower Club

Wednesday 11 April 2018

Door Open 7.00pm for 7.45pm
At Crowmarsh Village Hall,
Benson Lane, Crowmarsh OX10 8ED

A Floral Demonstration
by Anna Steven "Do you See what I See"
Visitors welcome £5 per person
Visitors welcome £5

What's on in Wallingford



Making History - TWHAS and Wallingford Museum 1973-2018

Judy Dewey will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about the development of historical research in Wallingford and its surrounding area.

Judy Dewey and her late husband Stuart were respectively founder Secretary and Chairman of TWHAS in 1973. Judy has been Curator of the Wallingford Museum since its opening in 1981 and Stuart was its Artistic Director from 1981-2012.

The talk will, inevitably, be a personal overview of the history of these closely linked volunteer organisations, but it will also set them in the wider context of evolving public attitudes to history and archaeology since 1973. It will consider how the initial purpose of the Society and the Museum - to research and present the history of Wallingford and its surrounding area - has developed, and what impact it has had on the community. Where are we now, and what might the future hold?

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 11 April**, 7.45 for 8.00pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

www.twahas.org.uk

Katharine Keats-Rohan

Wallingford Art Club

Following on from a workshop and demo in March, Wallingford and District Art Club have a demo on Water soluble oils on the 17 of April 7.30-9.30pm at Centre 70. Our demonstrator will be Alex Roch and she will be painting figures. She has a web site so you can look at her work.

We have our untutored painting evenings on the **3,10 and 24 April**, same place and time. Just bring your paints and join other artists. Free to members and at a small fee for non members.

Finally a reminder that our annual exhibition will be held on the **12 and 13 May**. Posters will be appearing soon. A date for your diary.

All events are held at Centre 70. Kinecroft. Goldsmith Lane, Wallingford, and further information can be obtained from **01491 681400** or

www.wallingfordartclub.org.uk

Day by day

Sun 1 April	Easter 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Michael Lakey) 10.30am Family Communion 5.00pm Festival Evensong
Sat 7 April	Spring Flower Show Staging 9.00 to 10.30am Viewing 2.30 to 4.00pm Village Hall
Sun 8 April	Easter 2 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booyes) 10.30am Sung Eucharist followed by APCM
Tues 10 April	10.15am Short Communion
Wed 11 April	Parish Council Monthly meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 12 April	Dorchester WI Chris Caddy 'All about Trees' 2.30pm Village Hall
Sun 15 April	Easter 3 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Jennifer Morton) 10.30am Family Service 5.00pm Evensong
Mon 16 April	Service at The Close 2.30pm
Wed 18 April	Chiropodist Village Hall (see p31) Culham Horticultural Society 7.30pm Abbey Guest House



Thurs 19 April	Classic Car Show, 1.00-4.00pm George Hotel
Fri 20 April	Cranford House Founder's Day Service
Sat 21 April	Music for Autism Concert 12noon Dorchester Abbey
Sun 22 April	Easter 4 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Jon Roberts) 10.30am Sung Eucharist Tennis Club Mixed Doubles Tournament Recreation Ground 2.00pm
Wed 25 April	DoT Historical Society Helen Russell and Denise Line <i>Back Stories of Baptisms: Customs and Christening Garments (including Dorchester Social History)</i> 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 26 April	Allotment A work by Jan Harvey and Adrian Brooks Abbey Guest House
Sat 28 April	Intermezzo Vacation Choir Concert 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 29 April	Easter 5 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Jon Roberts)

Weekly events

Tuesday	Coffee in the Abbey 10.30am-12noon Bellringing Practice 7.30pm Abbey Fishmonger 9.30am to 9.50am by War Memorial (p.7)
Wednesday	Holy Communion at Berinsfield Church 9.30am
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

Funerals

15 Feb Frank Blackwell

Memorial Event

5 March Peter Pritchard

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

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.

Despite increases in production costs, we are pleased to announce that our rates to advertisers remain unchanged for 2018.

Please send artwork to
**dorches-
ternes@dorchesteronthames.co.uk**
one week before the deadline for editorial copy given on page 2.

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.



William Shakespeare's birthday 1564

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

Berinsfield Health Centre: **01865 340558**
Clifton Hampden: **01865 407888**
Millstream Benson: **01491 838286**

ROOM HIRE

ABBEY GUEST HOUSE BOOKINGS

To hire the Abbey Guest House for private functions, meetings, exhibitions, etc, contact Kate Herbert on **01865 343164**.

HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Tracey Francis; **bookings@dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk** or telephone **01865 340352**. Please telephone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange collection of the key.

FAULTS AND COMPLAINTS

STREET LIGHTING

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 310111**, 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.more recycling.co.uk**

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

Useful Information

ANIMAL WELFARE

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

TRANSPORT

DORCHESTER FLYER

The Dorchester Flyer runs every Friday from Dorchester to Wallingford at 10.15am and 12.00noon, returning at 11.40am and 1.00pm. Tickets must be bought from Lily's in advance.

OTHER 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 TRAVEL ADVICE LINE

Free journey planning and advice for people over 65 and those needing a high level of support whilst travelling. **01865 323738**

AGE UK

The UK's largest charity working with older people For help and advice etc. go to **www.ageuk.org.uk**

WALLINGFORD VOLUNTEER CENTRE

WVC Volunteers provide help for the elderly, disabled or vulnerable, especially by giving lifts to medical appointments at hospitals in Oxford, Abingdon and Reading. You need to register as a client. Contact the Centre for more information. **01491 836345**
www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com

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; **07745 311439** (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency); **parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk**.

USEFUL CONTACTS

ANGLICAN PRIEST

Dorchester Rectory
Rev. 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

Dorchester Abbey Museum E-mail
museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Sat 7 April **Black**
Fri 13 April **Green***
Fri 20 April **Black**
Fri 27 April **Green**

Green* = extra garden waste for green bin users.

Weekdays 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.

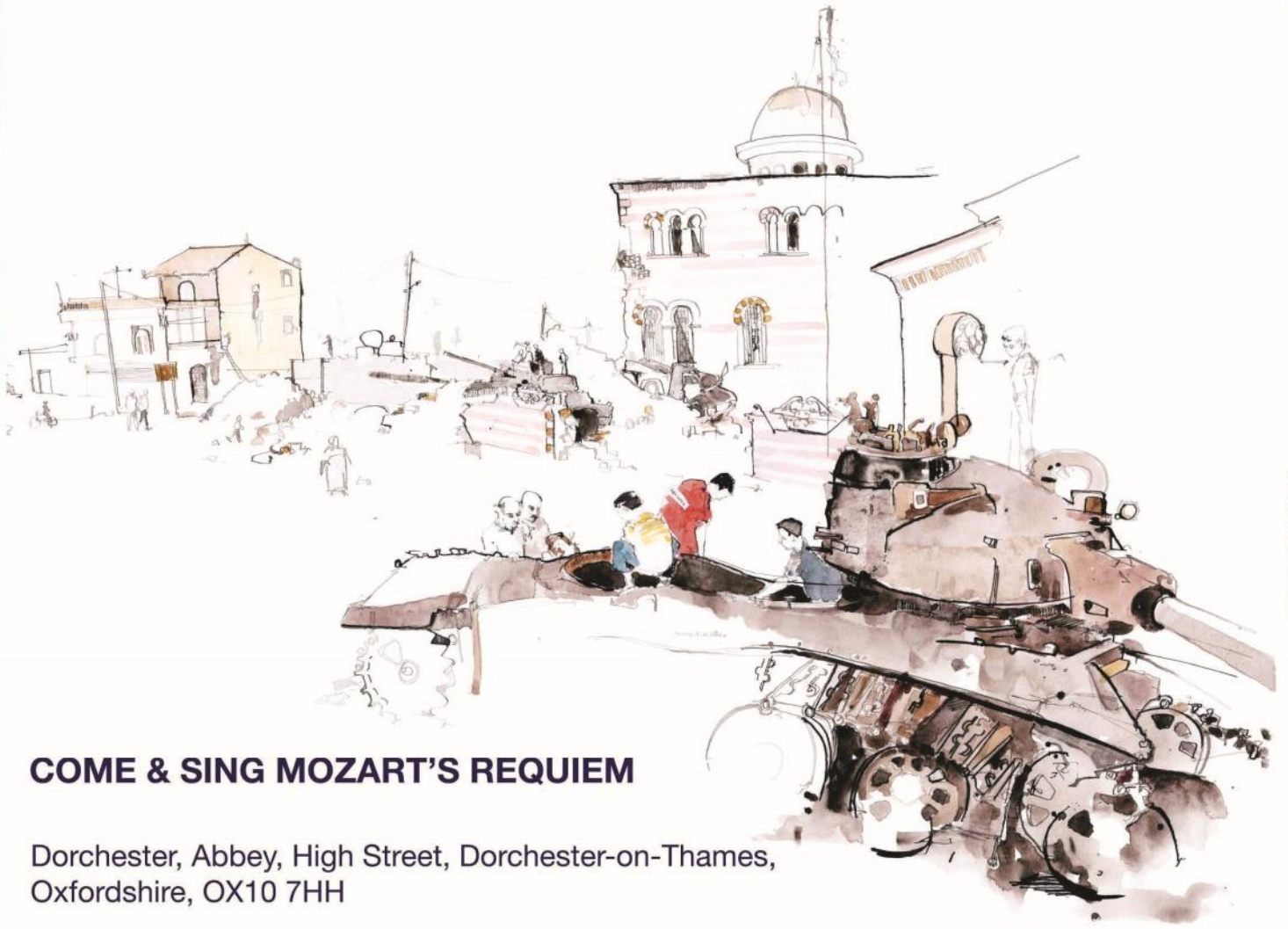
Index of advertisers Page

Acupuncture Barn	32
AKT Planning	17
Altom tree care	28
Anderson Orr	6
Arbocare	26
Beauty Essentials	11
Bell Motors	26
Ben Smith Carpentry	20
Berinsfield Community	
Business	32
Brannfords	30
Bristow	8
Bryan's Locks	25
Busy Baskets	24
Dorchester Fireplaces	32
Dorchester Window cleaning	12
Fixit Driving School	12
Four Winds	25
Full Circle	11
George Hotel	20
Graceful Gardens	13
Howard Chadwick Funerals	28
In House	17
JEM chimney sweep	12
Jemini	12
Jenks	30
Larkmead Vets	32
LB Plumbing	17
Martin Drew Logs	32
Massage Matters	29
Millstream Pilates	31
Q Self storage	6
Remloc Plumbers	8
Revival	13
Ringrose	25
Roy Passey Builders	28
St Mary's Dental	26
Steve Wilkinson	26
T W Hayden	26
Verity Hickman	28
Victoria Dyde	25
White Hart	6
Winterbrook Nursing Home	26

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For tickets and more information: bit.ly/2EbtpA1

The Hands up Foundation
Registered charity in England and Wales
number 1156491
www.singingforsyrians.com



HANDS UP
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