

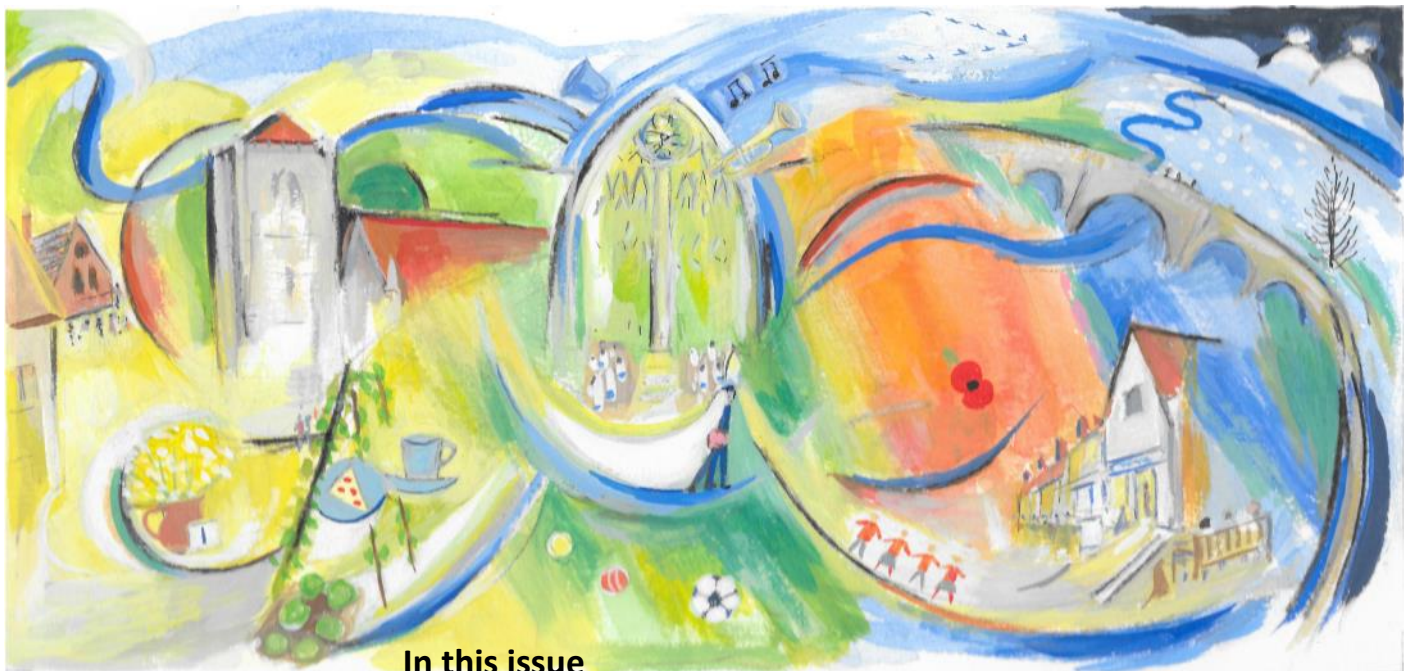
# ***Dorchester News***

*Free to every home in the parish*

*February 2019*







## In this issue

### Dorchester Abbey

Dorchester Abbey Tea Room	3
Morning Service 3 Feb	3
Morning Service 2 March	3
Talking Point	3

### Clubs, Societies and Sports

Dorchester Lunch Club	4
DoT Historical Society	4
Thursday Club	4
WI	4
Culham Horticultural Soc	5
Hempcroft Allotments	5
Village Hall Prize Draw	5
DADS read through and auditions	13
Tennis Club	13
Dorchester Football Results	17

### Village news/articles

A Thanks You...	3
Accommodation in Dorchester	3
Village Carol Singing	4
Play reading evenings	5
Chiropodist	7
Volunteer Museum Curator	7
Volunteers Needed for Museum	7
Dorchester's shops, pubs and trades	9
Festival News	14
DADS Joking Apart review	18
Fly-tipping conviction	21

### Schools and education

Pre-school news	11
St Birinus School news	11
DoT Tots	11

### Tributes

Barbara Nash	15
Frank Norman	16
John Simpson	17
Eileen Steele-Jones	20

### Music

Corona Strings	20
Reading Phoenix Choir	22
Melhuish Farm Opera	32

### Local government

Parish Council Notices	23
Expressway update	23
Affordable Housing	25
From your county councillor	26
From your MP	29
South Oxfordshire Local Plan	31
Oxfordshire Plan	31

### Community and charity

Nasio Trust: Celebrating 15 years	7
Wellness Day for cancer survivors	15
IT Drop In—Berinsfield Library	21
Organising a funeral	21
Taking care on the roads	23

### Wallingford

Wallingford Corn Exchange	32
Wallingford Archaeological Society	33
Wallingford Museum	33
Wallingford U3A	33

### Advertising

Advertising in Dorchester News	33
Index of advertisers	35

Cover picture: The Fleur de Lys on a winter morning.

## DoT view

And so to a new year. May I first of all wish everyone a Happy New Year, belated though it may be by now.

What will 2019 bring to Dorchester?

It is an odd-numbered year so that means the Dorchester Festival will take place in May. We have a schedule for the main events on page 14 and I am sure we will see more about them as May gets closer. Importantly the item calls for volunteers, without which all these events at the Festival can't happen. Whether you want to get involved in organising one of the events or just to help put out chairs, everyone is welcome. And you'll get free entry to the event.

I chose the front cover picture this month in the hope that the Fleur de Lys would be open again by now, but as I write it is operating only as B&B and not a pub or restaurant. Maybe 2019 will bring some certainty as to the future of the Fleur. Let's hope so.

The threat of the Expressway coming within the parish has receded, see page 23, but we should find out this year just how close to Dorchester it will come.

There will be more crosswords courtesy of Slider in Dorchester News in 2019 but pressure of space means that this month it has had to be left out. It will be back in March, I promise.

**Ian Brace**

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### Printed by

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## Deadline for March Dorchester News



email:

[dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

We've been watching and reading CS Lewis' fantas-

tic story, *'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe'*, a fair bit over the last couple of months. We had a 'Narnia advent calendar', we have the old BBC film, and a couple of different versions of the book. My son's really been enjoying this story, and playing with the characters in a lot of different ways.

One of the things I like about the *'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe'* is how the characters wrestling with the seasons reflects the arc of the story. When our four young stars of the story first enter Narnia, they have to battle against the elements; it's not that pleasant a place to be. Bitterly cold, knee deep in snow, not to mention the fear because 'even some of the trees are on the witch's side'. Yet, slowly but surely, the snow begins to melt, the rivers begin to flow... and then (something I loved as

kid as much as my son does now), Father Christmas shows up! And with presents! Shortly following this is the end of winter completely, the trickle of spring becomes a torrent. And Aslan is here, the culmination of everyone's hopes!

The beginning of 2019, like the start of any new year is always a time which beckons possibilities, offers so much in hope and dreams as to what might be this year; but it's also one of the most miserable times of the year! February and March are still very much in winter; cold, wet, dark (we wish we had snow!), and no longer with Christmas to look forward to.

But spring's not far away. Even as I write this I've seen daffodils and snowdrops poking their heads above the ground, there are catkins on the hazel trees, and

## Talking Point

by the time you're reading

this there could be blossom on the trees, frog spawn in the ponds, and we might have even seen a bumblebee or two. Soon this trickle will turn into a torrent, just as in Narnia, and before we know it spring will be in full swing.

For the inhabitants of Narnia, those animal creatures I'm sure we all love, the thought of Aslan their hero has kept them going, kept them hoping for many a year, even without the possibility of Christmas.

I wonder what's kept you going this winter? Or what still keeps you going? I wonder what hopes and dreams you have for this new year which might sustain you as we go forward. And I wonder who's going to be your Aslan this year?

God bless you this Spring and this new year.

## Morning Service Sun 3 Feb 10.30am

Alison Powell from Style Acre will be speaking. Style Acre is this year's Festival partner. The charity works to enhance 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. Do come and find out more.

## Morning Service Sun 2 March 10.30am

Advance notice: Kathy Winrow, Chair of the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust will be speaking.

## Lent Lunches 2019

Lent lunches this year are as follows:

- 15 March with Catherine Paul at 3 Haven Close, D.o.T
- 22 March with Meg Fisher at Little Orchard 4 Drayton Rd, D.o.T
- 29 March with Julie Taylor at The Manor House, Overy
- 5 April with Dawn Dudley at Church House, D.o.T
- 12 April with Carolyn Oakley at 24 Bridge End, D.o.T
- 19 April with Judy Parker at the Abbey Guest House, D.o.T

All lunches are from 12.30-2.00pm except Good Friday (19 April) which is at 12.00pm-1.00pm.

Your donations this year will be sent to charities helping the homeless

## A Thank You...

...to all my Dorchester friends for their kind support, help and good wishes during 2018.

Marcia Farrant



## Dorchester Abbey Tea Room

Thank you to all who responded to last year's emergency request for volunteers to keep our Tea Room Open. We not only managed to open for the full season but achieved the second highest average weekly takings since records began. We took an amazing £16,117!

We would also like to thank our loyal and new customers who bravely did their bit, turning out to eat cake, regardless of the weather, to contribute to such a grand total.

We are already planning our Easter Saturday opening (20 April) and have some small but exciting ideas which we hope you will appreciate.

If you have time to help (even just one afternoon) or bake a cake (even just one cake) between April and September we would be delighted to hear from you—just tell us what day suits you best and we'll schedule you in.

Working in the Tea Room is a fun way to meet new people and support your village!

Steph Forman

[steph@forman.org.uk](mailto:steph@forman.org.uk)  
01865 340434

## Accommodation in Dorchester

Large, two roomed, bed-sit style accommodation available in Dorchester with in room mini cooker, bathroom and access to kitchen with washing machine evenings and weekends. Available for six months at a reasonable rent.

Please contact the Rector. 01865 34007





## Village Carol Singing Thank you!

Thank you to the large crowd who came along to carol sing just before Christmas and to those who dug deep into their pockets to support us.

We raised a record £314 for Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability (ABCD), who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for those children in Palestine suffering from physical, mental and psychological disabilities.

**Steph Forman**

## The Dorchester WI

I regret to report the result of a secret ballot held in December about the future of our WI. The result is that the Dorchester WI has been closed, or to be more accurate, it has been suspended for a period of three years and the remaining money has had to be transferred to the Oxfordshire Federation of the WI in case someone would like to open a new WI in the village. After the three year period the money is then transferred to the WI National Federation.

It is sad to see another society in the village close and I urge you younger women in the village to consider opening a new WI before the three years is up so you can use the money waiting for you! Remember you can use the WI to lobby parliament on topics important to you, as well as have meetings on whatever subject you like for your enjoyment like going sky diving, paintballing or anything you fancy. A lot of young people are opening WIs in towns and they get up to all sorts of interesting and unusual activities. So WI does not have to be old fuddy duddies or 'jam and Jerusalem', it can be dynamic.

**Susan Jupp**

## 'Thursday Club' – A new venture

The Thursday Club is a new venture. I am inviting Dorchester residents of any age, male or female, to come to the back room of the Village Hall once a month for a 'cup of tea and natter' between 3.00 and 4.00 in the afternoon. This is an ideal opportunity for anyone who feels they would like to meet their friends or a few more people who live in the village, to do so. To cover the cost of hiring the Village Hall a charge of £1 at the door will be requested.

The first 'Thursday Group' tea and natter afternoon will be on **Thursday 14 February 3.00pm to 4.00pm** in the back room of the Village Hall. If this proves to be a successful venture then I will continue to hold these once a month on the **second Thursday afternoon of the month**. Any modification or suggestions to the format are welcome, but it is not planned to have a formal committee to run it, and so nothing that requires a lot of organisation can be considered. It is just an informal get together to meet residents and keep in contact with each other.

**Susan Jupp**  
01865 341066

## Dorchester on Thames Historical Society

**Wednesday 27 February 2019**

**7.30pm, Village Hall Back Room**

Members free, Visitors welcome (£3)

Ian Wheeler will talk about:

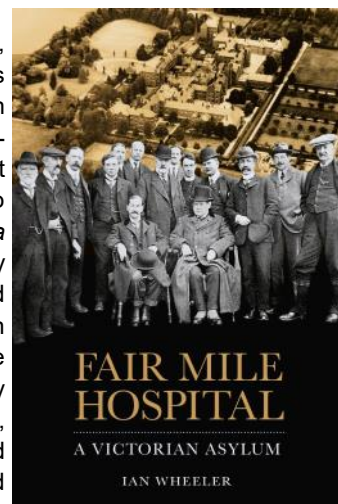
**Four Generations at Fair Mile: The Fair Mile Hospital, Cholsey**



The word *asylum* tends to send shivers up the spine: the mental care institutions set up by the Victorians have long been regarded as repressive places of confinement and untold horrors. In fact, while mental

illness has never been a straightforward subject, the county asylums represented a good deal both for patients and the society that created them. In this extensively illustrated talk, Ian Wheeler blows away some of the cobwebs of misinformation and rumour; he examines why the asylums came to be and how they worked, as seen by nine members of his family who worked at Fair Mile Hospital, in Cholsey, over a period of more than 100 years.

Ian Wheeler's first home was, in fact, Fair Mile Hospital. His family connections led to an extensive collection of photographs and anecdotes about the place, and eventually to his book *Fair Mile Hospital: a Victorian Asylum* (History Press, 2015). Now retired from a managerial career, Ian remains involved in village activities and local history projects. In his leisure time, he is a performing singer and musician, a Morris dancer and would be a railway modeller if there were ever enough time.



Looking forward, the talk on **March 27** will be '*Up the street: the history of pubs, shops and businesses in Dorchester*', by Margot Metcalfe and Denise Line.

**Margot Metcalfe**  
Chairman

## Dorchester Lunch Club

The dates for the Lunch Club lunches from February to Easter are on Wednesdays: **13 February, 27 February, 13 March, 27 March** and end of season Easter Lunch on **10 April**. The lunches are held in the back room of the Village Hall at 12.30 for 12.45pm.

It is always nice to welcome new people to attend, but please phone me the week before you would like to come so I can be sure I can fit you in, as it is only possible to accommodate 24 people each time.

**Susan Jupp**  
01865 341066



### Wednesday 20 February 2019

Abbey Guest House,  
Dorchester-on-Thames at 7.30pm

#### 'Conserving Plants in the National Trust' by Simon Toomer

Simon is the National Specialist for Plant Conservation at the National Trust

Membership is open to all those who have a keen interest in horticulture (annual subscription £20) and visitors are welcome at the meeting (suggested donation £4). For more details telephone **01235 850381** or email [judy@tiggercat.me.uk](mailto:judy@tiggercat.me.uk)



## Hempcroft Allotments February

The long range weather forecast indicates that the cold days of winter could continue well into February and so it could be a quiet time on the allotment. However if the soil is not too wet then some early planting will pay dividends later.

February is the best month to plant out garlic and shallots. Prepare the ground as you would a seed bed and plant using a trowel, don't push the bulbs into the soil. Plant the garlic cloves about 2ins deep and leave the tips of the shallot bulbs just at the soil surface. The birds will pull one or two out leaving them lying on the ground. Replant them as soon as possible the birds will quickly lose interest.

- Check spring cabbage and firm the soil around any that have been loosened by movement, and sow early cabbages.

- Clean established asparagus beds of weeds ready for spring growth. Generously top dress with well rotted manure or compost.
- Put early potato tubers to chit.
- Sow lettuce and radish (under cloches if necessary).
- Lift and divide rhubarb if you found that it was getting too congested last year.

Towards the end of the month it is safe to think about sowing the seeds of early vegetables. Prepare a seed bed and sow 'White Lisbon' Spring onion, early short horn carrots, early types of lettuce; try a "cut and come again" variety it saves on time waiting for a heart to form.

**Edward Metcalfe**  
Chairman



## Dorchester Village Hall 200 Club Prize Draw

Congratulations to the winners of the December draw.

- 1st Prize £100 No.139 Mrs Y Lawden
- 2nd Prize £45 No.38 Dr D Parker
- 3rd Prize £25 No.146 Dr T Cook

The next draw will be in March, with the first prize reverting to £75 so join now for a chance to win!

The 200 Club is a quarterly prize draw to reward supporters and raise funds for the village hall. We need new members to keep the draw worthwhile but there are good odds of winning as there is a maximum of 200 tickets in the draw. A ticket for the year (4 draws from when you join) only costs £12. To join, contact Elaine Moore on **340441** or email [200club@dotvh.org.uk](mailto:200club@dotvh.org.uk) for a form. You can pay by cash, cheque or standing order.

Thank you for your support and good luck

**Elaine**






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## Play Reading Evenings




Come and join us for an informal evening reading plays in Dorchester Village Hall. **It's free!**

All that we ask is that you let us know in advance if you would like to read. This is so that we can select a suitable play to suit the number of readers.

If you plan to come along or, would like more information please contact Mark Wilkin on [markwilkin@gmail.com](mailto:markwilkin@gmail.com) or 07500 410710.

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## Celebrating 15 years of one community supporting another



**Don't book your regular beach holiday just yet, how about this for the chance of a lifetime...**

The support from the Dorchester community has been invaluable in helping over 100 teenagers travel to Kenya over the past 15 years where they have had the most incredible life changing experiences. In celebration of this extraordinary achievement The Nasio Trust are inviting you to tread in the footsteps of our previous young visitors and to visit our projects yourself!

Spend time with the Nasio children, visit their homes, learn to cook Kenyan style, you can even help to build a house. The trip can be tailored to be whatever you want it to be and you can pack in as much or as little as you'd like.

If you are interested in finding out more, The Nasio Trust will be holding an informal chat at 12 Tenpenny, Dorchester-On-Thames on **Thursday 14 March 2019** at 7.00pm. Please come along and find out more or alternatively give John Cornelius a call on **07912 351018** or call Louise Russell at The Nasio Trust on **07766 006214**.



## Volunteer Museum Curator

As I am sure you will know Anne Marie Joffrin has made a big impact on the Museum in her three years as volunteer Curator. The Museum is run by a committee of the Parochial Church Council chaired by the Curator. A small group of members drawn from the PCC and the Museum Committee helped by the local Museum Development Officer will meet shortly to manage the appointment of a new volunteer curator.

The dates of these meetings mean that it will be difficult to make as speedy an appointment as possible and advertise this position formally in Dorchester News. If you are interested in this voluntary post would you please register that interest with the Rector by phone or email and the details will be sent to you as soon as they are available.

Coll **01865 34007** or email [rector@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:rector@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)



## Volunteers Needed!

Our small Museum, which covers Dorchester's history, archaeology and aspects of village life, is staffed entirely by a friendly group of volunteers. Please come and join us – it's a great way of meeting people and doing something worthwhile in the community, as well as finding out more about your village

The volunteers welcome visitors, briefly explain what the Museum offers, and sell items from our shop. All you need to commit to is one or two three-hour sessions each month (or more if you wish!) during the Museum opening period (20 April - 30 Sept 2019). Full training is provided.

We'd also welcome someone who would like to help run the shop – particularly purchasing stock and inventory control – starting now as the shop stocks up for the summer season.

Please contact Candy Madeley for further information:  
email [candymadeley@hotmail.com](mailto:candymadeley@hotmail.com)  
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## Dorchester's Shops, Pubs and Trades – can you help?

The latest project for Dorchester Historical Society's Local History Research Group builds on the Shops and Pubs trail we produced with Steph Forman's help for the 2017 Dorchester Festival.

We are looking at how local businesses have evolved, especially since the 1850s, using sources such as census data, directories, photographs, family records and local knowledge. We are particularly interested in shops, pubs and trades, and the families engaged in them, and how things have changed, especially in the last few decades.

The information will be used to present a talk to the Historical Society in March, and then to lead walks which follow the trail in May during the Dorchester Festival, and, we hope, lead to a small publication in 2020.

You can be part of this project by sharing your memories or by giving or lending us your memorabilia relating to any business in Dorchester you or your family may have owned, managed or worked for, or which you remember as an important part of Dorchester life. Several people have already helped us, but we are sure there is more information out there. Do you, for example, have any old invoices from, say, Exon's bakery or Zoo Garage, or an old menu from one of the pubs? Perhaps you have an old advertisement or photograph.

Please get in contact with us if you can help. And do come to our talk on **27 March** in the Village Hall and share your memories.

**Margot Metcalfe** [metcalfe.margot@btinternet.com](mailto:metcalfe.margot@btinternet.com)

**Denise Line**  
**Gail Thomas**

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## St Birinus Primary School News

The end of the Autumn Term was a busy time – here are some of the highlights –

- We were visited by owls, rabbits and pole cats kindly brought in by Dr Sasha Norris (Siren Charity). Each class had the opportunity to meet the animals in the hall speaking in very quiet voices, which was a welcome change.
- Jezreel, Ryan, Max, Charlotte, Bella, Fern, Joe, Axl, Brynmor, Joshua, Daniel, Courtney and Sasha represented the school in a Dodgeball tournament at Oxford Academy. Jezreel and Ryan reported *'We faced five different teams and our team came second. It was really fun!'*
- The talent show, the inspiration of Annabelle and Carys supported by Mrs Harding helped to raise money for our Children in Need appeal. Well done to all the children who were willing to stand up to perform and thank you to the parents who were able to come and watch helping to raise more money for Children in Need.
- I introduced our new initiative '60 things to do before you leave Dorchester St Birinus' as the name suggests it is a list of activities that we hope the children will have the opportunity to do as part of their time at school. Squirrel class have ticked off one of the boxes on their trip by visiting a castle. I am excited to see everyone try some of these activities (and for me too!)
- We had our two Community Open Days. It was great to see a mixture of prospective parents and members of the

community coming to share our morning with us – Thank you if you were able to join us – it was brilliant to meet you and show you around our school. Well done to Year 6 for their wonderful tours and the staff and children for their hard work in the classrooms and displays. Also, thank you to the PTA and the Governors for their support in preparing these mornings - a great team effort

- Following our successful Bingo evening, I can now confirm that the evening raised £405.00 - which is a great amount. Thank you to everyone who was able to join us and to Miss Edwards for organising the event.
- Squirrel and Hedgehog classes performed their play – 'Born in a Barn'. The children performed brilliantly learning all their songs and words for the actors.
- A Christmas jumper day in aid of Save the children - as always it is great to see the array of colour around school
- Finally in the last week, we all visited the Oxford Pantomime and finished the term with our Christmas service – which is always a great way to prepare for the Christmas holidays.

As I write this, we are just starting the Spring Term, our new writing topic this term is inventions – so I am looking forward to seeing the variety of ideas develop over the next few months.

**Russell Leigh**  
Headteacher  
Dorchester St Birinus  
CE Primary School



## Pre-School News

The Children, Staff and Committee of Dorchester Preschool, would like to wish you all a belated Happy New Year.

What an enjoyable time of the year December was for the Children, who embraced the Christmas Concert whole heartedly this year, singing with gusto and very impressively remembering all the words. Christmas jumpers galore and mince pies a-plenty, the concert was enjoyed by staff, parents and pre-schoolers alike.

Christmas crafts, created by our talented teachers raised a whopping £170 As a charity this vital contribution will go towards some new educational toys for the children. Many thanks to them.

The Children enjoyed being involved in the Dorchester tradition, getting to look after the Posada nativity figures and helping them on their journey around the village.

Spring term started on the 7 January through to the 15 February which will engage the Children with topics such as the light and dark, the letters O - T, the colour white, the number 10, and the shape rectangle.

Finally, if you know of any families that might be interested in a place at our wonderful preschool, there are places available. Further information can be found on the website:

[dorchesterpreschool.co.uk](http://dorchesterpreschool.co.uk) or call on **01865 341805**

If you would like to support the Pre School, donations of books or toys, or perhaps a financial donation are much needed and gratefully received. Thank you.

**Lauren Collett**  
Secretary



## DoT Tots Dorchester on Thames Toddler Group

Just a note to make everyone aware that unfortunately the village toddler group has had to stop running. Our numbers have dwindled in recent months and it is now not viable to continue the group on a weekly basis. We may run one-off sessions and have set up a Whatsapp group to keep connected and arrange meet-ups elsewhere. If you would like any more information, please email [dottots@hotmail.com](mailto:dottots@hotmail.com).

**Louisa Margison**

**DSD PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**  
[DSDPROPERTYMAINTENANCE@YAHOO.COM](mailto:DSDPROPERTYMAINTENANCE@YAHOO.COM)  
Dean Smith-Dawson 07827 299079  
4 Beechcroft  
Dorchester-on-Thames, OX10 7LS

# Imogen Dental score a Hat-Trick!

The team at Imogen Dental are thrilled to announce that they have been awarded their third National Award!

The Dentistry Awards is the biggest awards in UK dentistry, recognising the best in all aspects of general dental practice across the whole of the UK & Irish dentistry.

Imogen Dental attended the glamorous Dentistry Awards on Friday 23rd November which took place at the spectacular Athena Theatre in Leicester.

Having impressed the panel of judges, Imogen Dental, located in Benson & Kingsclere were crowned "Best Team in the South East of England 2018" Successfully defending the same award they won last year!

***The Dentistry Awards 2017 – Best Team in the South East of England***

***The Dental Awards 2018 – Dental Practice Team of the Year South of England***

***The Dentistry Awards 2018 – Best team in the South East of England***

Dr Neel Tank, Owner and Principal Dentist commented "My team have done it again! I'm so proud, a whole hearted thank you to each and every one of the team for their hard work, sacrifice, loyalty and dedication that has led to our success! What a great win to end the year, I look forward to seeing what 2019 will bring!"

The team at Imogen Dental would like to thank their patients for all their support and to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year.



[imogendental.co.uk](http://imogendental.co.uk)

North Street. Kingsclere. Berkshire. RG20 5QX T: 01635 299981 E: [kingsclere@imogendental.co.uk](mailto:kingsclere@imogendental.co.uk)  
14 High Street. Benson. Oxon. OX10 6RP T: 01491 833380 E: [benson@imogendental.co.uk](mailto:benson@imogendental.co.uk)



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TENNIS CLUB

## QUIZ NIGHT SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH

7.30 PM

**DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL**  
BAR OPEN 7.00 PM

Tickets £8 each – includes 'Ploughman's'  
from

**01865 341947**

[mandy.hipkins@btinternet.com](mailto:mandy.hipkins@btinternet.com)

## Read-through & Auditions

### Read-through

Thursday 7th February 7.30 pm

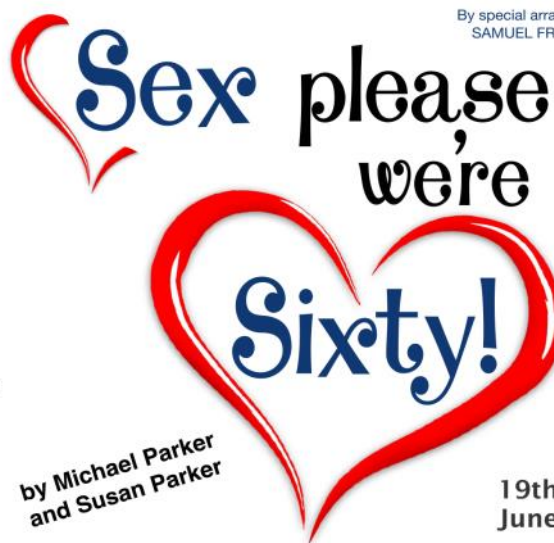
### Auditions

Monday 11th February 7.30 pm

Dorchester Village Hall,  
Queen Street, Dorchester OX10 7HR

For more information contact Mark Wilkin:

[spwsixty@dads.org.uk](mailto:spwsixty@dads.org.uk)



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[www.dads.org.uk](http://www.dads.org.uk)

**DADS**  
Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society

[www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)

Have you got the Festival in your diary? We have a brilliant mix of over 60 events all available on your doorstep. All you need to do is come along and enjoy yourself (and bring friends)! We hope to raise over £40k - shared between Dorchester Abbey and, this year, Style Acre, who provide support for people with learning difficulties.

Below is a sample of our extensive programme. Please DO look on the website to see the whole list including historical tours, exhibitions, more music and more family entertainment.

## The Big Events

Fri 3 May **The Bash**  
Sat 4 May **Family Dog Show**  
**A big Band Night at the Oscars with BBC Elstree Concert Band**  
Sun 5 May **Tentertainment! & Duck Race**  
**Ben Morris CGI & Star Wars**  
**Open Mic Night**  
BH Mon 6 May **Fun Run**  
**John Rutter Come & Sing**  
**Kids Science**  
**Folk Night**

Tues 7 May **Jazz Supper**  
Thurs 9 May **Gin Tasting**  
Fri 10 May **Comedy Night with Angela Barnes**  
Sat 11 May **Food & Gift Fair & Cookery demos**  
**The Tallis Scholars**  
Sun 12 May **Food & Gift Fair & Cookery demos**  
**Mad Hatters Tea Party**  
15-19 May **Romeo & Juliet**

## Brilliant village events

### The Big Bash

**Friday 3 May 7.00pm** The village party of the year! Get a table together with friends, eat great food & dance the night away

### Charity 5k Fun Run

**BH Monday 6 May 11.00am**

The great family event! Get training to win a prize or just walk it with the dog.

### Scarecrow Trail—Song Titles

**3—12 May**

Scarecrows of all shapes & sizes welcome. Enter for just £5 and win a prize for the best! Start planning now—entries by 21 April.

### Duck Race Sunday 5 May 5.00pm

Buy a duck to launch down the river from the Hurst Water Meadow to a nail biting finish next to the Abbey. Prizes for the first three ducks!

### Family Dog Show Sat 4 May 10.00am

A fun day out for you and your best friend

### The Teddy Abbey Sleepover

**Sat 4 May** Adventures for your teddy

The box office (online and phone) is now up and running and printed programmes will be available in the Co-op from March. Get your **10% discount** before March 10 using the code DORFEST

**CAN YOU HELP?** In 2017 over 150 people gave some time to support the Festival, had great fun and made new friends. If you would like to help please contact Steph Forman on [festival@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:festival@dorchester-abbey.org.uk) or **01865 340434**. There is a job for everyone, regardless of abilities or how little time you feel you can commit. Event helpers get free tickets!

## Great music

### The Tallis Scholars

**Saturday 11 May 7.30pm**

World class and sublime. Always sells out—book early! Masterclass at 3.00pm

### Folk Night

**Sunday 5 May 7.30pm**

Sam Kelly & The Lost Boys and Jackie Oates  
An amazing double bill of the best of new Folk

### Jazz Supper with Cate Cody

**Tuesday 7 May 7.30pm**

Every single member of this jazz band has an incredible CV—as a group they are unmissable! Optional supper. Great night out.

### Out of the Blue

**Sunday 12 May 7.00pm**

Youtube sensations and semi finalists on Britain's got Talent. This great all male a capella Oxford undergrad group are also running workshops.

### A Big Band Night at the Oscars

**Sat 4 May 7.30pm**

Our favourite big band returns to the Festival with all your favourite screen music and the fantastic Oxford Collutorium Choir.



1926-2018

Barbara was born on 4 March 1926 at Tudor Cottage in the High Street, the first of four children to John and Ethel Holliday (nee Cobb). Peter, Sylvia and David were to follow. Barbara spent the rest of her life in Dorchester apart from a short spell in Chiselhampton where her early schooling involved walking a mile into Stadhampton. The family returned to Dorchester in 1933 living first at 37 Church View (the thatched cottage in the churchyard) moving to Tenpenny in 1952.

Barbara's first job was at an engineering works in Wallingford; cycling there and doing work towards the war effort. After that she was transferred to Burghfield Common and later Liverpool to work in a munitions factory.

After the war Barbara did clerical work at Milton Ordnance Depot and then at Mount Farm. When the air base closed she transferred to the Royal Navy Air Station, where she met her future husband Harry, staying there until the station closed in 1953. Barbara's certificate of service from the Admiralty described her quality of service as 'highly satisfactory'. This was no surprise - she was always a hard worker, always ready to help out in times of trouble. Barbara was a perfectionist. An excellent knitter, her hand knitted jumpers and cardigans were admired by all.

In 1957, with Barbara now doing accounts work for a wholesale and retail grocer in Wallingford, she and Harry married.

They started married life in a caravan in Orchard Haven, and later bought a plot of land right next door to the family home. The caravan was moved onto the plot, local tradesmen hired and with Harry and Dad doing the labouring the 'bungalow'



was built and Haven Close was born.

From then on every Christmas was spent at No 1 with all the family. Barbara was an excellent cook and always made Christmas special. She enjoyed pottering in the garden, dancing, playing bingo (though not winning very often!) and holidays in Scotland with Harry and her parents.

Barbara's final job before retirement was as a sewing machinist at Pressed Steel. Then she was back on her bicycle cycling through the fields to visit an aunt in Long Wittenham with any spare vegetables from the allotment.

Sadly only three years into retirement she suffered a major stroke and could no longer ride her bicycle or knit, having lost the use of her right arm and leg. She could still walk but was left with very limited speech which was very frustrating for her as she loved to chat, always having an opinion to express. Fortunately her comprehension remained good and she didn't lose her sense of humour or her wonderful loud laugh. Her sister Sylvia gave up her job and came to look after Barbara. They went to 'stroke club' and became friends with a lady who was really down after suffering a stroke. She always said it was Barbara's wonderful laugh which helped her and on birthday and Christmas cards she would write 'to my laughing lady'.

After the stroke Barbara's activities were limited but she looked forward to trips out in the car most afternoons. Sadly in 2010 Sylvia, who had looked after her selflessly for 22 years, passed away, but with the help of a care team Barbara was able to stay in her home for the rest of her life. She enjoyed

watching television, particularly snooker and anything about the two world wars. She liked music, and although unable to converse could sing along especially with the songs of the war years. Barbara was very patriotic, loving anything about the Royal Family and all the ceremonial displays.

Barbara will be remembered by her brother David and everyone who knew her with for her determination and strength of mind in adversity.

David would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kindness and support in the loss of his sister Barbara.

## Wellness Day for cancer survivors in the Thames Valley

Dorchester Village Hall Friday 12 April 12noon – 6.00pm

Top Dermatologist talking on skincare, SimPal will talk about free Sim cards for cancer patients, the NFU are providing info on nutrition, plus massage therapists highlighting approved massage for cancer patients, etc. etc.

The Event is free for survivors

As it is obvious that the NHS is going to make more cuts, the Wellness Day will showcase which services are reputable and don't charge high fees or are free.

Where? Dorchester-on-Thames Village Hall, Queen Street (off High Street) on Friday, 12 April 12noon-6.00pm.

More information on [aftercancers.com/wellness](http://aftercancers.com/wellness)

Verite Reilly Collins

[verite@greenbee.net](mailto:verite@greenbee.net)

[aftercancers.com](http://aftercancers.com)

01865 343536

## Frank Daubeney Norman 1931 – 2018

Frank was born in Cardiff in 1931, the middle child of Audrey and Arthur Norman. He had two sisters Vivien and Helen. Aged 3 months he travelled back to Rio de Janeiro in Brazil where his father was an accountant for the Rio Flour Mills. Frank grew up in a house in Ipanema on the seafront. The family belonged to the local country club and Frank learned to love swimming – even when in later years he had to brave the icy Cornish water on family holidays! In Rio, holidays were taken in the mountains and Frank and his sisters enjoyed horse riding. Aged ten he became a boarder at Mr Armstrong's British School and never again lived permanently at home.



Frank left Rio on one of the first ships bound for England after the end of the war, to board at Canford School in Dorset. School was a new, full and demanding routine. At Canford Frank took to both rugby and hockey and went on to earn his house colours in both sports. He also played squash – a skill he enjoyed passing on to Giles. On one holiday Welsh relatives took him to a rugby match at Cardiff Arms Park and a lifelong love of rugby internationals was born, although he could never quite bring himself to wear the Wales rugby shirt Giles recently bought him - Frank was definitely a shirt and tie man!

At school Frank passed exams in Pure and Applied Maths, Physics and Chemistry and then studied civil engineering at Battersea Polytechnic. From September 1950 he lived in 'digs' with Mrs Robinson near Wandsworth Common for the sum of £3.15 shillings a week. He lived as frugally as possible, sending detailed accounts to his father back in Rio! He attended ballroom dancing lessons, was treasurer for the Students Union and played tennis at courts in Merton, where he was introduced to a girl called Christiane. He took her to a dance the following May! Their relationship flourished. This was the beginning of a new chapter in Frank's life – half of a devoted couple and a great team as many in Dorchester who experienced their hospitality and support will willingly testify.

Frank's 21st birthday present from his parents was a flight to Brazil (28 hours with three stops en route) and a six week holiday with his family.

A family friend recommended that he should apply for a job to Sir Alexander

Gibb and Partners a Scottish consulting firm. When Frank graduated with honours he began a long career with Gibbs. He was always proud to work for them and found his work across the whole world stimulating and rewarding.

Needing site experience to become a chartered civil engineer, he gained it by working at a new colliery in Staffordshire designing buildings, roads and bridges for the site. When he married Chris in September 1955 they bought a 16 foot caravan to live in on site! They were always busy with do it yourself jobs around the caravan, tending their little garden and growing vegetables; skills which remained with them and which Frank enjoyed passing on to his children and grandchildren and using to support his neighbours!

When the site work ended, Frank moved back to offices in London and he began a commute from their first house in Surbiton. Although mainly office based, in 1963 he went to Khartoum for three months and later worked with the Tehran Metropolitan Water board - a connection which lasted until 1981.

Gibbs relocated to Reading in 1974 and a new chapter began. Frank was involved in a drama on the London Road when a huge tree branch crashed down on his car, breaking the roof and windows and crushing the passenger seat. The car was a write off, Frank was unhurt – claiming to be most disturbed by the nurses waking him every hour overnight!

When the children's schooling was complete, Frank and Chris moved out of Reading and arrived in the High Street, Dorchester on Thames in 1983. They

both loved village life becoming bell ringers, raising money for numerous good causes, taking on a very overgrown allotment and helping to organise the village flower shows. Frank sat on the PCC and the Dorchester on Thames Society using his skills to support village organisations. Together they offered great hospitality to both friends and family and took a real interest in many aspects of village life.

Though based at Reading Frank continued to travel abroad regularly. Work took him to Dar es Salaam in Tanzania when he flew over Mount Kilimanjaro in a small company plane, to the Sudan, and for a short time to Tripoli where he lived in a window-less moored ferryboat while working on plans for the airport.

Though Frank enjoyed rare days off while abroad, he always appreciated local hospitality and seeing the sights of whatever country he was working in. Later Frank enjoyed sharing his foreign travels with Chris - they went to Crete, Turkey, Jordan and drove across America with old college friends.

In 1987 Frank became a Fellow of the Institute of Civil Engineers and began to ease into retirement by taking on occasional trips to Turkey and reducing his office days. Ten years later he finally retired and enjoyed attending monthly meetings of Gibbs's Beaumont Club for long-serving engineers. In retirement Frank also used his professional skills to contribute to many village and Abbey projects including the major restorations some twenty years ago.

Chris's early and untimely death was a real blow to Frank, but he persevered and even when times were dark he didn't give up. He took to cruising: he went to Egypt and flew over the Pyramids in a hot air balloon, and enjoyed travelling through the Panama Canal - an engineer's dream! He achieved his dream of visiting St Petersburg and Berlin. Years before he had often spent holidays with his sister Helen, and they were always particularly close, holidaying together more recently and adventuring once again! Frank continued until relatively recently to ring the bells, wash pots and work the allotment, finding amongst his neighbours much mutual support and offering wise advice after his active involvement was curtailed.

He was wonderfully supported by those friends and by the family whose company he enjoyed enormously and of whom he was tremendously proud.



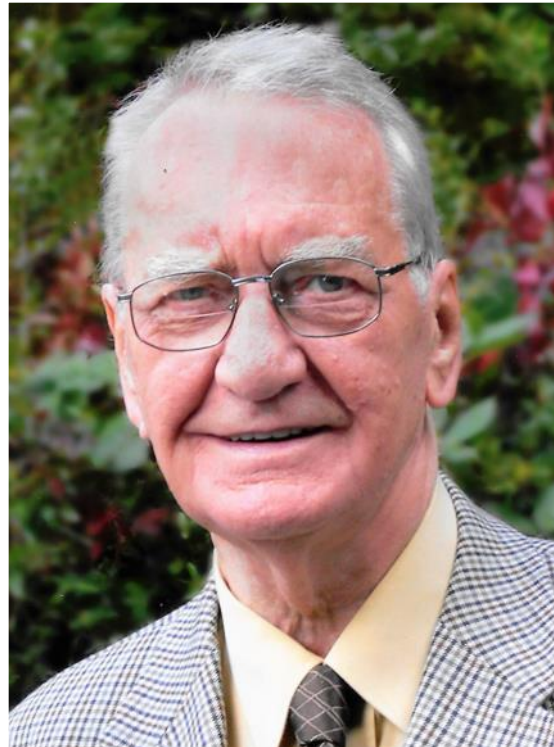
## John Herbert Simpson 1924 – 2018

John Herbert Simpson was born in Caversham, Reading, on the 27 June 1924. His father was a well-known bookseller in Reading, supplying schools and public - libraries. After leaving Reading School, having achieved his School Certificate, John was very soon called up to the R.A.F.

in 1943. He trained as a radar mechanic and was deployed on Mosquito planes - called by many the 'forgotten heroes of the war' - testing the radar on night-flights over the Channel from airfields including Ford in Sussex. This must have been a daunting yet exciting experience to a nineteen-year-old. Like so many, John didn't talk about his time in the war, but in his R.A.F. book it was written that he was a 'keen and hardworking N.C.O. who can always be relied upon to do a job of work well'.

John was eventually demobbed in 1947, and having lost his father in 1945, was plunged immediately into the family bookselling business. In 1956 he married Norma Tarrant of Reading, and his son, Colin, was born in 1958, and his daughter, Clare, in 1961.

In 1972 John felt the need for a career change, and after selling the business, he was appointed Bursar at Reading Blue-coat School, which his son, Colin, attended, and also the Abbey's current organist, Jeremy, who, as an eleven-year-old, remembered John as the School Bursar! Subsequently, John was appointed Bursar at the Jewish Public School, Carmel College, and then at Radley College, where he spent the last ten years of his working life, retiring in 1989. In this year also, John became a grandfather to Darren, Colin's son.



Darren married Amanda in 2016, and they now have a beautiful baby girl called Isabella. We are all so thankful that John was able to see and hold his great-granddaughter before he died.

John's talent as an organist and pianist was first recognised at Reading School, and he passed Trinity College of Music exams. at a high level, and studied for the Associateship of the Royal College of Organists until war-service intervened.

His first post as organist was at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Reading at the age of 16, and he held various posts as organist and choirmaster around Reading and Henley until coming to

enjoyed hosting many Diocesan Choir Festivals when they were held at the Abbey.

His talent for accompanying meant that he was in much demand, not least with Dorchester Amateur Dramatic Society, having great fun accompanying their musical shows.

It was through his enjoyment of accompanying that he met Angela, a professional singer whom he married in 1978, and they began a musical partnership that led to joint recitals, a trip to Holland for an international singing-competition, and travelling with her on concert engagements, often arriving back very late on a Saturday night, only to rise very early the next morning for Sunday services in the Abbey!

John was also very involved in administering concerts and recordings in the Abbey, and stood on the Parochial Church Council, and Standing, Fabric and Worship committees. But his energies were very much devoted to leading the Abbey

Choir, with both seniors and juniors, to the point where the Choir gave memorable concerts of both sacred and secular music, visited other churches, went to Jouarre in northern France as part of its link with Dorchester Abbey, and broadcast a service on Radio 4 which was a highlight in the Choir's history. Several of the Choir members who started originally with John in the Junior Choir, have gone on to become music-teachers and serious singers.

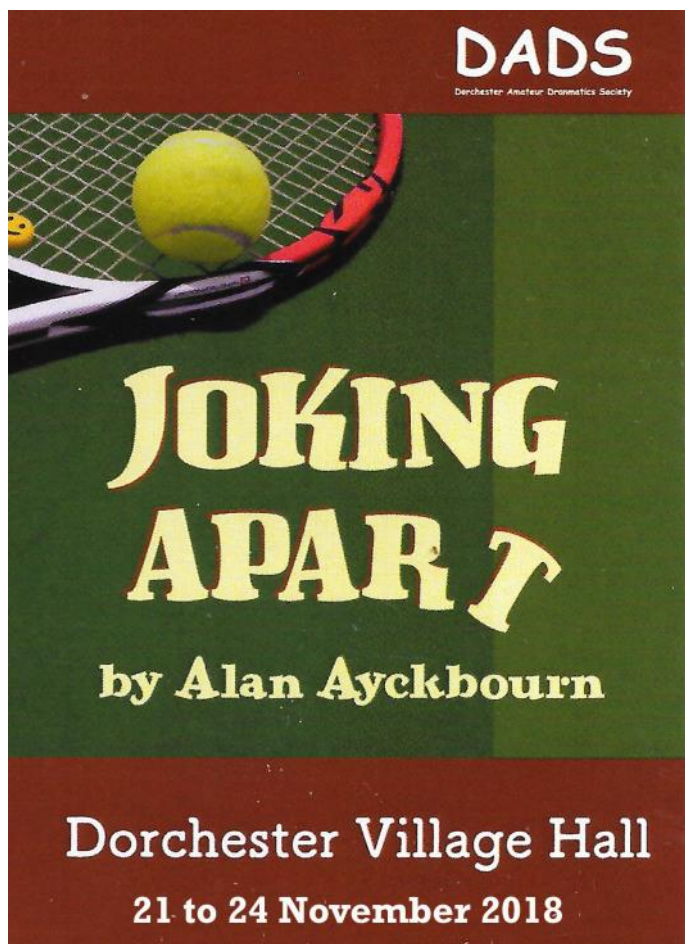
In a letter written by Dennis Silk, the Warden of Radley College, to John on his retirement in 1989, he praises John's total loyalty and commitment to his work at the College. This really sums up John's approach to everything he undertook in his long life. He was always happiest in a specific role, to which he brought calm, patience and diligence. In his last years he was forever stoical through his various illnesses and still managed to greet people with his gentle smile, which so many remember. He and Angela have been so grateful for all the care received from Dr. Lynch-Blasse and Clifton Hampden Surgery, and all the staff at Watlington Care Home where he spent the last fortnight of his life. John's passing will leave an enormous gap in our lives, but we are so proud of him and all that he achieved, and will carry these memories forward for ever.

Dorchester Abbey, where he stayed in post from 1981 to 2005. He was a member of Reading Festival Chorus for thirty years, latterly becoming deputy chorus-master and accompanist, a member of the Henley Singers, and accompanist to the Benson Choral Society after moving to Dorchester. Throughout his time on the committee of the Oxfordshire branch of the Royal School of Church Music, he always

### Football Results North Berks League Div 3



24/11/2018	Dorchester First	3	0	Hanney 66 Club First
1/12/2018	Dorchester First	HWO		Milton United 'A'
8/12/2018	Dorchester First	4	0	Benson Lions First
15/12/2018	Lambourn Sports Reserves	3	1	Dorchester First
05.01/2019	Dorchester First	1	0	Hagbourne United First



Most people having seen DADS in action would agree they're always keen to take on new challenges and this was again conclusively proven with their final production in 2018. The crucial run-up to Christmas usually prompts drama groups to put on a traditional panto or a light-hearted comedy requiring a large cast and lots of stage action. DADS most recent production, '*Joking Apart*', didn't follow this approach.

The play, written by Alan Ayckbourn in 1978, was the author's take on 'ordinary' people facing the stresses and strains of living in socially correct relationships. A small number of business partners, close friends and 'other halves' regularly came together across a twelve-year period to renew relationships and share experiences.



However, these gatherings also provided a melting pot in which to surface long-held emotions and resentments.

The social meetings were always set in Richard and Anthea's extensive estates alongside the new vicar and his wife's tiny fenced-off portion of their land. Things became worse when the host couples' efforts to make everyone feel at home only served to further remind guests how successful Richard and Anthea had become, especially when compared with their own modest achievements. To add further complications, guests brought with them still-simmering feelings from previous relationships with Richard and Anthea.

In business, love and sporting achievements the happy couple reigned supreme and admiration soon turned to envy and darker thoughts. Even worse was to come, Anthea had become the focus for some of their guests' personal hopes and desires. As the plot unfolded each mini-drama was brought into the spotlight, but all remained unresolved and unsatisfactory.

The saga ended with everyone carrying on as 'normal', which may not deliver a dramatic finale to a play but does accurately depict the British way of dealing with such problems.

It's fair to say that this production came as a surprise to some members of the audience who'd assumed that any play entitled '*Joking Apart*' indicated a 'Whitehall' type farce and this certainly was not the case.

As you might expect from a playwright of Ayckbourn's stature this work is a thought-provoking reflection of situations we can all identify with and smile at. It's a tender comedy based on real people living in a real world touched with sadness and unfulfilled aspirations.

In choosing this play DADS accepted there's no hiding from the need to rely solely on acting ability without the usual theatrical safety nets. This they did and a remarkable job they made of it.

Carol-Anne Tilley (Anthea) was very believable as a focus of desire and envy in her role as hostess. Ian Brace (Richard, her husband), slightly upstaged by the totally outrageous wig he was wearing, was convincing as a vibrant business tycoon as well as being an athletic tennis player. A very different role to some of Ian's previous outings.

Richard's business partners had very different views on their relationships. Mark Williams (Sven) delivered a thoughtful and accomplished performance in a difficult role whereby he receives considerable financial benefits from Richard's business skills, but at the cost of being side-lined as an 'equal' partner and a potent force in his own right. This was further underlined when, as a once-famous tennis champion, his





ego was smashed by Richard not only beating him but then reluctantly admitting he'd been playing left-handed to make a match of it.

Kate Phillips (Olive, Sven's wife) agonising on the unfairness of her weight gain, compared to the ever-slim Andrea, displayed a powerful stage presence and a touching portrayal of someone suffering the pain of being a continual loser in life's lottery.

Russell Bailey (Brian), a fairly new recruit to DADS, works for Richard, but is

hopelessly in love with Anthea, although he'd masked this by bringing along the attractive and highly versatile Phoebe Scotland (Melody, Mandy, Mo, Debbie) as his chosen, but mostly ignored, partner.

However, further surprises were still to come.

Neighbours, the new vicar Hugh (Jim Cottrell, first time with DADS) and his wife Louise (Rosemary Mills), found it difficult to protect their own space in a tiny fragment of their host's estates, especially as Hugh read much more into Andrea's friendly exchanges than was intended.

Louise saw her world disintegrating and became ever more neurotic. But these inhibitions were blown away by over-prescribed medication and she emerged as a fully-fledged Hippie, complete with 'flower-power' ideas, love not war philosophies and dream-like happiness. This brought many new comedic opportunities and Rosemary took full advantage of them.

This was never going to be an easy production to stage and Mike Lord, as director, did a good job of allowing the playwright's script to dictate the story. He also encouraged a well-chosen cast to develop their roles and bring their own feelings into the action. This approach paid off.

The players were supported by a thoroughly professional team of costumiers, stage hands, set builders, publicity agents, ticket sales and front-of-house staff, bar staff and general helpers.



## From a member of the audience

Alan Ayckbourn's *Joking Apart* combines many uproariously funny scenes with some moments of poignant pathos. Striking the right balance between them is not easy yet critical for a successful production. Happily, DADS achieved this with style in their latest production running between 21 and 24 November. All the cast were in peak form and well deserved the enthusiastic applause which greeted their curtain call. Mark Williams' Sven gave a particularly powerful account of his ultimate collapse of self-esteem in the fourth Act and Carol-Anne Tilley carried off the pivotal role of Anthea with bravura. A thoroughly enjoyable evening...many thanks DADS

**James Farrell**



The stage set was a clever and creative solution to having an idyllic English garden complete with a tennis court on a tiny stage without the need for major set changes. It caught the mood perfectly.

But special mention really must go to Simon Ratliff whose stage lighting and special effects set new standards for drama in Dorchester village hall. His creation of a spectacular indoor firework display tested the hall's new sound systems to the limit and his pyrotechnics caused this reviewer to have more than a few missed heartbeats.

Overall, '*Joking Apart*' lived up to the very high standards we've come to expect from DADS and few other amateur companies could have put on such an impressive production in a village hall.

**Keith Russell**

## Eileen Mary Steele-Jones 1926-2018

Eileen was born into a farming family at Brick Kiln Farm Islip, one of four children and twin to Peter. When she started school, she met her oldest and dearest friend Joan Airey. They travelled to Europe together and Eileen often spoke about her trips with very happy memories.

Eileen trained as a hairdresser and during this time met her great friend Rosemary. When she met Tony they were married and moved to Dorchester to build their own house, living in a caravan while it was being built. Howard remembers that his Mum often told him and Alison stories about those times. Some of his earliest memories are of his Mum trotting round from the garage to the back garden with a laundry basket of Beagle puppies, for the two children to play with and look after. 'She would get me to help with the laundry by throwing all the clothes down the stairs and then sliding down the stairs on the clothes – I'm not sure I really helped her!'

The family enjoyed many trips to Abingdon to visit Rosemary and Bill, for dinner, Bonfire Nights and Abingdon Fair. These are all highlights of our early memories. Sunday mornings were often spent sat in the kitchen doing homework whilst she prepared the Sunday roast - she could spell anything in her head so was a great help! At 11.00am Tony would come in and Eileen would make a milky coffee, years and years before anyone had heard



of Costa or Starbucks!

Eileen was an excellent cook with her signature dishes, gammon with peach sauce and banana syllabub – absolutely out of this world. Sunday roast was a treat and she continued to cook for all the family well into her eighties. If you dropped in to see her, she always wanted to feed you a meal or at least a piece of cake. Many a happy time was spent at Dorchester with such a delightful host.

Eileen always worried about her family. She didn't like Howard playing rugby as it was too rough – on one occasion he

sustained a bad head injury and had to go the John Radcliffe. Tony, who was watching the game, said 'We'd better not tell your Mum about this.' Eileen was thrilled when his rugby was exchanged for cricket until she saw cricketers starting to wear helmets and then decided cricket was also dangerous!

Eileen loved Dorchester and was involved with the Abbey, Abbey Ladies, WI, DADAV and coffee mornings over the years. She regularly supported the flower and produce show by entering cakes and marmalade and was a prize-winner on more than one occasion. She was always interested in what her family was doing and was good at keeping in touch with family and friends including Rosemary and Bill and Joan who visited Eileen and Tony regularly in the care home in Iffley.

Eileen was a kind and generous person with 'a look' to quell children or grandchildren who had crossed the line. Eileen taught us to be honest, stand up for what is right, work hard and look after your family.

She was a lovely glamorous lady who always looked good and one memory that her family will treasure is of her all dressed up for afternoon tea at The Ritz with all the Christmas decorations and a small choir just behind her singing Christmas Carols. Eileen had wanted to go for years and years so it really was a dream come true!

Janet Lincé's acclaimed Oxford-based ensemble, Corona Strings, perform sublime works for strings in an evocative concert programme

### Best of Britain

**Elgar:** Introduction and Allegro; Elegy  
**Vaughan Williams:** Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis  
**Finzi:** Eclogue, for piano and strings  
**Grace Williams:** Sea Sketches  
**Warlock:** Capriol Suite

Corona Strings. Leader, Catherine Leech  
Piano, Anita d'Attellis  
Conductor, Janet Lincé

Two great classics of British music for strings from the early twentieth-century, Ralph Vaughan Williams's inspired *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis* and Edward Elgar's magnificent *Introduction and Allegro*, will be performed alongside *Sea Sketches* by Welsh composer, Grace Williams. The programme also includes Gerald Finzi's meditative *Eclogue*

## Corona Strings play 'Best of Britain' Dorchester Abbey Saturday 2 March

with piano soloist Anita d'Attellis, Elgar's intensely moving *Elegy* and Peter Warlock's popular *Capriol Suite*. With two of the works calling for additional string quartets within the orchestral forces, Dorchester Abbey provides an exceptional acoustic in which to hear these works.

**Ralph Vaughan Williams's** seminal work, the *Fantasia on a theme of Thomas Tallis*, was composed originally for the acoustic of Gloucester Cathedral, the evocative acoustic of Dorchester Abbey will provide the backdrop for a particularly meaningful listening experience.

**Gerald Finzi**, was another Gloucestershire-inspired composer. The *Eclogue* for piano and orchestra is one of the composer's most moving works. For this performance, the strings will be joined by Oxfordshire-based piano soloist Anita d'Attellis.

**Grace Williams** studied with Ralph Vaughan

Williams and Gordon Jacob. She composed *Sea Sketches* in 1944, suggesting the moods of the sea.

**Peter Warlock's** ever-green *Capriol Suite* has been popular with performers of all ages, becoming one of the composer's most performed works.

**Edward Elgar's** 'brilliant, quick scherzo', *Introduction and Allegro*, as described by August Jaeger, was inspired by Welsh folk tunes. It seems likely that Elgar's poignant *Elegy* for strings may have been composed in memory of Jaeger.

'We are delighted to be performing in one of the most historically important venues in the county', said conductor, Janet Lincé.



Janet Lincé



## Henley woman convicted of fly-tipping in Dorchester

Following a successful prosecution by South Oxfordshire District Council, a Henley woman pleaded guilty to not ensuring her waste was disposed of in the correct way after her details were found in rubbish bags dumped on land at Dorchester-on-Thames.



Melissa Brown, 26, of Crisp Road, Henley, pleaded guilty at Oxford Magistrates' Court on 6 November to a charge of failing in her duty of care under Section 34 of the Environmental Protection

Act 1990 (not ensuring her waste was disposed of correctly).

In April 2018, a couple of bags of rubbish and an artificial Christmas tree were found by one of the council's environmental enforcement officers dumped on land near Queenford Farm at the end of Drayton Road, Dorchester on Thames.

They examined the contents of the bags and found correspondence addressed to Ms Brown at an address in Henley. The district council attempted to contact Ms Brown but she didn't engage with the council or attend court when hearings were held. She was eventually arrested by police officers and taken to Oxford Magistrates' Court, where she pleaded guilty to the offence.

Magistrates imposed a fine of £400, ordered her to pay £300 towards prosecution costs and a victim surcharge of £40.

Councillor Caroline Newton, South Oxfordshire District Council cabinet member for housing and environment, said: *'The council will prosecute people for dumping waste illegally, including those who have failed to make reasonable checks when their rubbish is taken away and then found fly tipped. It is down to individuals to make sure their waste carriers are legal and the council has lots of information to help people make those checks.'*

**South Oxfordshire District Council**  
**01235 422400**

### citizens advice

## Organising a funeral

If you have to organise a funeral for someone and there are no clear instructions in the will, bear in mind that you can organise the procedure without using

the services of a funeral director. The Cemeteries and Crematorium Department of your local authority can offer help and guidance, and there are many sources of help online, for instance the Natural Death Centre at:

[www.naturaldeath.org.uk](http://www.naturaldeath.org.uk)

At the current time, when the prices charged by funeral companies are under government investigation, an alternative funeral can also cost much less. If you're on certain benefits you might be able to get help paying for the funeral.

Citizens Advice has guidance for people planning a funeral for themselves or their near ones:

- Shop around and get quotes from local funeral directors. These quotes can vary surprisingly, sometimes by as much as £2,000. Also, try asking for a 'basic funeral' and get the costs itemized so you can see what you are paying for.
- Choose 'direct burial' – that way, there is no need to pay for embalming or visiting rights.
- Purchase a biodegradable cardboard or cloth-covered coffin, or a wicker basket.

A woodland or 'natural' burial site is an option. There are 200 of them around Britain and several in Oxfordshire.

For more help, contact Citizens Advice on Adviceline **03444 111444**, or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours see

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale)

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## Gold & Brass in an Historic Setting

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 - 7.30pm

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Why not take a take an early visit to Dorchester and the Abbey, take afternoon tea locally or a leisurely pre-concert dinner at one of the local establishments prior to the concert.



The evening will include choral music by Thomas Morley, Anton Bruckner, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Ola Gjeilo and Bob Chilcott. You will also hear brass music by Chick Corea, Billy Joel and that great composer of film music, John Williams. The band and the choir will combine together to deliver some great favourites:

- Handel's *Halleluiah* chorus from the Messiah
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## Parish Council Notices

### Recent Projects Completed

The Parish Council is pleased to announce the recent completion of two major projects.

Boundary hedges and ditches in the Cemetery have been cut back and cleared while areas where perimeter grass was encroaching have been reclaimed. Within the burial ground itself several self-seeded trees have been removed, excess ivy cleared and the whole area made ready for the commencement of the 'Adopt-a-Grave' Scheme early in 2019. New volunteers wishing to join this Scheme should contact the Clerk (see below).

Meanwhile, with financial assistance from both the Football and Cricket Clubs, completely new and improved showers have been installed in the Sports Pavilion.

### Precept 2019/20

For the fourth year in a row the Council has decided that there will be no increase in the Council's Precept (i.e. its share of Council Tax).

<https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

The County Council has informed the Parish Council that the FixMyStreet on-line system should be used by all residents with internet access to report such things as potholes, broken street lights, damaged pavements, flytipping etc. This is now the County's preferred reporting system. Users will be able to inspect the record of any other problems which have been reported.

### Parish & District Council Elections

Please note that these elections, which take place every four years, will be on Thursday, **2 May 2019**. Residents wishing more information should contact the Clerk (details below).

For information about the Parish Council go to:

<https://www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk/parish-council/> This includes the minutes of all Parish Council Meetings and financial information such as monthly bank balances and payments as well as a record of all planning matters upon which the Parish Council has been consulted and reports from our County and District Councillors.

### Monthly Meeting - February

The February meeting will take place in the back room of the Village Hall on **Wednesday 13 February** 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:

<https://www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk/parish-council/> 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.

### 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) **07745 311439**. Text messages are always welcome.

e-mail: [parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

Cllr Chris Hill, the Chairman of the Council, can be contacted via [chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

### Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Update

At the end of November we were relieved to hear from Highways England that Dorchester no longer lies within one of the two possible corridors currently proposed by Highways England for the massive Oxford Cambridge Expressway development. In fact, the most southerly of the two corridor options put forward in the latest plan would be near the Golden Balls roundabout at Nuneham Courtney at the closest point to Dorchester.

However, before we relax and assume that this threat is no longer a cause for concern we ought to be mindful that these are early days and much could change. Our experience with PAGE, the on-going campaign set up to prevent large-scale gravel extraction around our village and neighbouring areas, shows that decisions on this scale often take a lot longer to conclude than anticipated.

Revised Expressway plans have to be expected as everyone else will raise objections and oppositions to any route close to where they live and these might radically change everything.

So it was agreed to continue our support, operationally and financially, for the Expressway Action Group's initiatives to safeguard the environment and countryside around us. We will remain closely engaged in this fight to prevent a multi-lane highway being built next to us and will keep Dorchester residents informed as things develop.



### Please Take Care on our roads in 2019

Many of our mature and very young Villagers cross the High Street to shop in the Co-op. They may confront rainy weather and, sometimes, vehicles travelling above a safe speed.

Please look out for them and help when required. Please remember to drive within the speed limit. This is your village and the aim is to keep it safe for all to enjoy.

Regarding Speedwatch, the Parish Council confirmed that Abingdon Road should be included in future and our Volunteers carried out three sessions during November 2018. Motorists recorded driving at excessive speeds are reported to the police.

During November, 23 vehicles were recorded at above 36mph of which 14 were at 40mph and above and 4 at 45mph and above with two recorded at 48 mph. Of these, 16 letters were issued to the vehicle owners by Thames Valley Police.

During 2018 as a whole, 14 sessions were completed (approximating 14 hours) in the High Street, Henley Road and Abingdon Road. A total of 99 vehicles were recorded with 39 above 40mph and 11 above 45mph. 48 letters were issued to the vehicle owners by Thames Valley Police.

Please remember that the objective of Speedwatch is to deter drivers from excessive speeding and not to enforce speed limits. That is the responsibility of Thames Valley Police



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## Affordable Housing in Dorchester

This is an update on the progress of the proposal to provide a small number of affordable homes for local people in the village. Following the Housing Needs Survey last year, which showed good support for such homes, the Parish Council held a 'Beauty Contest' to decide which Housing Association to work with!

A public meeting was held in the Abbey Guest House on 28 November last year, at which SOHA and Sovereign Housing Associations gave presentations on what they could offer. It was an interesting and lively meeting, with a number of questions for the Associations from Parish Councillors and from members of the public. Following the meeting, and after getting feedback from those present, the Parish Council decided that it would work with Sovereign.

A site known locally as 'Allen's Pit' on Abingdon Road has been identified as the location for the development, and SODC Housing have indicated that they would support a development of six small affordable dwellings, and two 'market' houses (the latter are to make the scheme financially viable).

This will be what is known as a 'Rural Exception Site', which is a site in the Green Belt on which building would not normally be permitted unless it was affordable homes for local needs in perpetuity. The proposed development still needs to go through the normal planning permission process, and anyone will be able to make comments to the Planning Authority in due course, as for any other scheme.

### Taking the scheme forward

Sovereign are currently appointing architects, and they will present

their early ideas to the village when they have had the chance to do some work on it!

But even before that, if any villager has any thoughts on:

- what the development should look like
- the style of the dwellings
- parking and access arrangements
- internal layout and facilities

...or any other design aspects, do let us know and we will pass it on to Sovereign and the architects, so they are aware right from the start!

Please give any thoughts to the Parish Clerk at 'The Pigeons' 5 – 7 High Street [parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

### Get Registered

And if anyone with 'a strong local connection' is interested in living in one of the new homes and feel they could qualify for one, then it is essential to Register their interest with SODC Housing Department, who can also let you know whether you are likely to be eligible.

'A strong local connection' is defined in our Neighbourhood Development Plan as:

*Having lived in the parish for five out of the last eight years and currently resident in the parish... or*

*Having previously lived in the parish for at least five years and their parents or children still live there and have done so for at least ten years.*

**Rob Ballantyne**  
Parish Councillor

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# From your County Councillor... ...Lorraine Lindsay-Gale



## Budget proposals

Tough decisions taken since 2010 have created a route to financial stability at OCC as the council plans to set its 2019/20 budget at a time when all councils face financial challenges. The main budget proposals are:

- Investment of almost £6m by 2023 to increase care packages to meet assessed needs for adults with learning and physical disabilities. (Adult Social Care)
- An increase of £5.8m is proposed to be added to the budget in 2022/23 in adult social care to meet projected increased need as a result of the aging population. The council's existing planning up to 2021/22 already includes provision for budget increases of £5.0m in 2019/20 and 2020/21 and £5.6m in 2021/22. (Adult Social Care)
- Invest £3.2m up to 2023 (£800,000 per year) to support the increasing number of children qualifying for school transport – in particular children with special educational needs. (Children, Education and Families)
- Invest £17m to support the predicted increasing numbers of children in care, including more permanent care staff (Children, Education and Families)

With regard to Council Tax, the council's plan – agreed at the last budget in February 2018 – to raise Council Tax by 2.99 per cent in 2019/20 and 1.99 per cent in the years thereafter remains the same in the new budget proposals. However, funding for local government beyond 2020 is currently uncertain, with councils waiting for funding decisions from central government which will not be known until late 2019.



## OCC best performing county council in England for its recycling rates

Oxfordshire has been named the best performing county council waste disposal authority in England for its recycling rates during 2017/18. The success reflects OCC's commitment to work with districts to protect the environment. Figures published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) show that Oxfordshire is the highest performing disposal authority. Oxfordshire is 'top of the pops' in two categories:

- The highest proportion of waste which is reused, recycled and composted (57.2%)
- The lowest amount of general waste (non-recyclable waste) produced per household (430kg).

All Oxfordshire Councils recycled over 50% in 2017/18, (the national recycling rate is 45%). The county has seven Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRCs) that provide recycling facilities for a wide range of items, from batteries to clothes, fridges to plastic garden furniture, together with an incinerator complex at Ardley near Bicester. The HWRCs accept over 350 different waste streams, recycling around 60% of the waste accepted.

For further information about Oxfordshire County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres, visit [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/waste)



## £10 million programme delivering road repairs gets £7m boost

Journeys on Oxfordshire's roads have already been significantly improved in recent months thanks to an extra £10million being spent by OCC this year on repairing and improving road surfaces. Government announced in November that OCC would get £7.4 in additional funding to top-up this activity.

A range of different methods of road repair and sealing are used to extend the life of county roads and reduce the likelihood of potholes forming which include resurfacing, patching, Dragon-patching and surface dressing.



## Reaction to SODC's local plan proposals

Just before Christmas SODC councillors voted by a large majority to put their re-worked Local Plan forward for government inspection. As a long-time resident of South Oxfordshire and your County Councillor for ten years, I can only watch from the side-lines.

My personal view is one of huge disappointment and frustration. The plan proposes more houses than we need which will completely alter the local environment that residents love and want to protect. However, as a County Council Cabinet Member I am mindful of and accept the County's vision for growth and economic development. Oxfordshire is already one of the best performing areas in the country offering the prospect of a thriving economy for its residents well into the future. With more jobs come more people, and people have to live somewhere. Working families need genuinely affordable housing, which appears to be an impossible goal in this area. The County Council has ambitious plans to improve our infrastructure which I welcome, but much of this can only be funded by accepting more housing. . I just hope the Planning Inspector charged with examining SODC's proposals is up to the job.



## OCC welcomes government's waste strategy

OCC has welcomed the government's new Waste and Resources Strategy for England, describing it as 'ambitious', with the potential to 'transform the way that waste is viewed and managed.' Key points within the strategy include:

- Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers to improve the amount recycled when out and about (known as 'on the go' recycling)
- Improved and extended redistribution of surplus food from businesses, and mandatory food waste collections from businesses and households.
- A national recycling target of 65% by 2035 (current national recycling rate is 45%)

OCC is committed to protecting the local environment as part of its Thriving Communities initiative.



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# From your MP...

# ...John Howell



I write as Parliament gets into full swing again and Brexit looks to dominate media attention once more. However, despite the obsession of the press and media with Brexit I am sure many will be relieved to know that there are a number of other serious parliamentary issues which are still being dealt with. This month I write to share some of the things not in the headlines but, I think, important.

Feedback suggests that Universal Credit is generally welcomed but I know that many people have been concerned with the implementation of it. I was pleased to see changes in the delivery and that with this the rollout remains on track. I have raised queries with Ministers and work with them as we move forward. The changes introduced will give Universal Credit a fresh Parliamentary mandate and will make sure the system is working in the interests of every claimant. In the Budget we agreed to spend an extra £1.7 billion on higher payments that help 200,000 workers.

Oxfordshire Lowland Rescue Charity may not be a particularly well known charity but it does important work assisting the police in the search for vulnerable missing persons. It is part of a national charity and I was delighted to learn of new government funding awarded to Oxfordshire. This funding is part of a £1 million package being awarded to dozens of charities working to keep inland waterways around the country safe, helping with the cost of new equipment to help volunteer search teams save lives more quickly and easily. Oxfordshire Lowland Search & Rescue will receive £11,883.60, to ensure that it can continue to keep people safe. As it says itself, 'if a vulnerable person is missing then it is vital to their chances of survival that they are found quickly'.

It is disturbing to learn that guide dog owners are turned away by businesses because of their dog. I was pleased to be able to support a recent event in Parliament run by the charity Guide Dogs to raise awareness of this discrimination against guide dog owners and to learn of the impact of this on people. Although it is against the law to refuse access to a disabled person accompanied by an assistance dog, except in exceptional circumstances, a Guide Dogs survey found that three quarters of assistance dog owners reported that they experienced this problem.

I share the growing concerns at the increase in mental health problems, especially among young people, and am thus pleased that in Oxfordshire children and young people's mental health services are to be transformed as the county becomes one of 25 trailblazer areas across the country that puts the NHS and schools together to transform mental health care. This is welcome news of much needed support for young people.

Finally, you may like to know that Heathrow's consultation on the use of airspace and future operations has now opened and will run until 4 March 2019. This provides the opportunity to contribute to Heathrow's plans for future airspace use and on their proposals for how the airport will operate. The consultation is the next stage in the process to redesign the airspace for an expanded Heathrow. This is part of the Government's wider Airspace Modernisation Strategy aiming to make airspace more efficient by improving punctuality; cutting CO2 emissions; better managing noise by using multiple routes; reducing holding aircraft at low levels; and ensuring capacity to meet future demand. You can give feedback on line or the nearest location to attend a consultation is Maidenhead on 7 February. More information can be found online at [www.heathrowconsultation.com](http://www.heathrowconsultation.com)

If there is an issue that concerns you please do let me know. you can email me at [howelljm@parliament.uk](mailto:howelljm@parliament.uk) or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).


If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government and the Constituency please do look at my website which is regularly updated. The address is:

[www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com).

Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at: [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk).

As always, I am interested to hear constituents' views on the proposals before the House.

If you would like to receive my periodic electronic newsletters and briefings on specific issues, please email me asking to be subscribed. You can also follow me on Facebook [www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire) or on twitter @JHowellUK



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### Listening Learning Leading

that will be submitted with the plan to the government for inspection.

The formal public consultation began on 7 January and will run for six weeks until Monday 18 February at 5.00pm. This is the final chance for residents, businesses and organisations to have their say on the plan – their comments will be submitted with the plan to the government by the end of March 2019. The examination of the plan by an independent government inspector is expected to follow in the summer.

Cllr Felix Bloomfield, cabinet member for Planning at South Oxfordshire District Council, said: 'This is an important moment for our district and indeed for Oxfordshire. With a robust and sound plan, we can protect South Oxfordshire from unsuitable developments. It also means we are on track to submit our plan on time to unlock hundreds of millions of pounds of vital infrastructure funding for the whole county.'

### Remaining drop-in events are at:

Berinsfield Church Hall	Tuesday 29 January, 3pm-7pm
Wallingford, Ridgeway	Saturday 2 February, 10am-2pm
Thame Town Hall	Tuesday 5 February, 10am-2pm
Chalgrove Village Hall	Thursday 7 February, 4pm-8pm
Horspath Community Hub	Saturday 9 February, 10am-2pm
Oxsrade Sports and Leisure Centre, Marston	Monday 11 February, 4pm-8pm

'This is a plan that will help South Oxfordshire continue to thrive and prosper – it's not just about housing although it will bring many much-needed affordable homes, it is also about high-quality, well-paid jobs; it's about shops, leisure and local green spaces; it's about all the facilities needed to support thriving communities. It will help us deliver the infrastructure our district and Oxfordshire badly need – it's a plan that will enable residents to continue enjoying living and working in South Oxfordshire.'

The plan, supporting evidence documents and copies of the comment form and guidance note are available to view at [www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan) and the locations listed below during their usual opening hours:

- South Oxfordshire District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB
- all public libraries in South Oxfordshire
- Abbey House Abingdon, Abbey Sports Centre Berinsfield, Barton Leisure Centre, Chalgrove Post Office, Clifton Hampden Post Office, Cornerstone Didcot, via Culham Parish Council, Didcot Wave Leisure Centre, Leys Pools and Leisure Centre (Blackbird Leys), the Holiday Inn Grenoble Road, Oxford City Council St Aldate's and the Talking Shop Café Sandford on Thames.

Comments can be submitted by:

- visiting [www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/newlocalplan)
- downloading a comment form from the council's website and emailing the completed version to [planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk)
- collecting a comment form from one of the locations listed above and posting the completed form to Planning Policy, SODC, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB; or
- attending one of the council's drop-in events (see left)



## Oxfordshire organisations provide vision for county's future

'A vibrant and ecologically sustainable community where everyone can get a house and a suitable job.'

This was among the exciting visions for the future of the county outlined by representatives of a variety of organisations at an event for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

The event was hosted by Councillor James Mills, leader of West Oxfordshire District Council and Chair of the Plan Member Sub-Group, and Giles Hughes, Head of Planning at West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire Plan Project Sponsor.

More than 70 delegates from groups spanning the environment, technology, business, planning and government bodies – as well as Oxfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Committee members – took part in the session on December 18 that examined what the county's future should and could look like.

Among the questions posed were 'what is it that makes Oxfordshire great today?', 'what are Oxfordshire's largest challenges today?', 'what are Oxfordshire's greatest opportunities and threats for the future?' and 'what do you want Oxfordshire to look like in 2050?'.

Hundreds of responses were received across the interactive session, tackling issues such as addressing the housing shortage amid a growing population, maintaining access to green spaces, mitigating climate change and improving transport connectivity.

They have now all been collated and will be used to help shape the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – a joint statutory spatial plan for the county.

The plan is part of the £215m Housing & Growth Deal secured by the Oxfordshire Growth Board with the Government.

It will look to examine the aspirations for the county for the next 30 years and set out how they can be achieved in a sustainable way that results in a better quality of life for all.

This will include new affordable housing, transport infrastructure and connectivity, as well as social infrastructure – with an emphasis on health and wellbeing in communities.

You can find out more about the Plan via [www.oxfordshireplan.org](http://www.oxfordshireplan.org)



**Cinema:** All regular performances start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.  
Tickets £8 for adults, £5 for under 15 unless otherwise stated.

## February

Sun 3	<b>Colette</b> (15)
Mon 4	<b>Colette</b> (15)
Wed 6	<b>Colette</b> (15)
Thurs 7	<b>The Old Man and the Gun</b> (12A)
Sat 9	<b>Bohemian Rhapsody</b> (12A)
Sun 10	<b>Stan and Ollie</b> (PG)
Mon 11	<b>Stan and Ollie</b> (PG)
Tues 12	<b>Stan and Ollie</b> (PG)
Wed 13	<b>The Favourite</b> (15)
Fri 15	<b>Mary Poppins Returns</b> (U)
Sat 16	<b>Mary Poppins Returns</b> (U) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Sun 17	<b>Mary Poppins Returns</b> (U) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Mon 18	<b>The Favourite</b> (15)
Wed 20	<b>Bohemian Rhapsody</b> (12A)
Thurs 21	<b>Free Solo</b> (12A)
Fri 22	<b>Mary Queen of Scots</b> (15)
Mon 25	<b>Shoplifters</b> (15) BFI World Series
Fri 27	<b>Mary Queen of Scots</b> (15)
Sat 28	<b>Mary Queen of Scots</b> (15)

## LIVE SCREENINGS

**Tuesday 5 Feb 7.00pm NT Live: The Tragedy of King Richard the Second (12A)**

Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)  
Simon Russell Beale (The Lehman Trilogy, King Lear) plays King Richard II in a visceral new production about the limits of power, directed by Joe Hill-Gibbins (Little Revolution, Absolute Hell).

**Thursday 14 Feb 7.00pm NT Live: I'm Not Running (12A)**

Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (under 16s)  
An explosive new play by David Hare with a cast including Siân Brooke.

**Tuesday 19 Feb 7.15pm The Royal Ballet: Don Quixote**

Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)  
Live from the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden  
The ballet has long been acclaimed for its virtuoso dancing, beautiful and technically demanding 'vision scene' and the famously bravura and breath-taking Act III pas de deux. This is the acclaimed version by Carlos Acosta.

## LIVE SHOWS

**Friday 8 Feb 8.00pm Comedy Night - A double-bill from Mark Simmons and Matt Rees** Tickets £12

Mark Simmons is one of the top one-liner comedians on the comedy scene, as noted in Dave's Top 10 Jokes of the Edinburgh Fringe. Matt Rees is an multi award-winning, Welsh stand-up comedian.

Tickets and further information, including late additions to cinema programme are available online.

[www.cornexchange.org.uk](http://www.cornexchange.org.uk) or box office **01491 825000**



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## COMING SOON

**Friday 1 Mar** 8.00pm Comedy Night A Double Bill with Tom Lucy and Josh Berry

**Saturday 9 Mar** 8.00pm Big Band Concert Blake's Heaven

**Saturday 3 Mar** 8.00pm Dietrich: Natural Duty

Tickets £12 An intoxicating one-(wo) man show revealing the life of a legend

**Wednesday 10th Apr to Saturday 13th Apr** 7.45pm

Dead Funny by Sinodun Players

## Fishmonger

The travelling fishmonger comes to Dorchester every Monday and will stop at 3.30pm in High Street near the War Memorial.





## A busy year ahead at Wallingford Museum

Whilst Wallingford Museum has been closed for winter there has been frantic activity creating new facilities (collections and archaeological store, space for group visits, disabled toilet, new kitchen). These works are nearing completion for our 2019 season opening on 1st March.

Our special exhibition this year presents 'Once upon a time ...' where you can dip into Wallingford's history, through aerial photos, archaeology, artefacts and archives. Wallingford is presently going through many changes and this exhibition invites you to explore the development of the Town through the ages.

Our exhibitions for 2019 also include: 'Wallingford Castle - the Inside Story'; 'The Wallingford Story'; 'At home with the Queen of Crime - Agatha Christie', and the 'Midsomer Murders' display.

Look out for special events this year including Castle history walk (30 March), our regular Saturday Town History walks (commence 6 April), A Night at the Museum (17 May and 25 Oct), Family Archaeology Day (27 July), a surprise event (17 Aug), BunkFest offers, and Agatha Christie Weekend (6-8 Sept).

Lots of fascinating things to see and enjoy!

**Stu Darby**

[www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Can you help us?

Wallingford Museum is looking for people to help with the running of this popular attraction and we would love to hear from you if you have half a day or more to spare once a month. Our band of volunteer custodians are critical to the museum's success and we need people to greet visitors and be in attendance for a morning or afternoon once a month between March and November.

No previous experience necessary other than a desire to meet people!

Please contact Jenny Carpenter on **01491 826734** or [jenacarpenter@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jenacarpenter@hotmail.co.uk)

**Steve Capel-Davies**

[www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

## Advertising in Dorchester News

Costs per issue are for an eighth of a page £11.75 mono, £12.75 colour; quarter page £23.50 mono, £25.50 colour; half page £35.25 mono, £38.50 colour and full page £47.00 mono, £51.00 colour. There are ten issues per year.

Please send artwork to [dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:dorchesternews@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.

## What's on in Wallingford



## 'The Great British Poster Artists: The Golden Age of Posters in Britain'

Dr Graham Twemlow will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about Great British Poster Artists.

Poster art in Britain during the 1920s and 1930s was a thriving industry enabled by enlightened clients such as Shell-Mex, the London Underground, and the four railway companies. Many other organisations, including department stores such as Bobby & Co, Derry & Toms and Heal's followed this lead and advertised their products or services via illustrated posters. This talk will explore the works of the pioneers of British poster art – artists include Tom Purvis; E. McKnight Kauffer; Paul Nash; Graham Sutherland.

Our speaker is a retired University academic. Graham writes and lectures on design history and decorative arts subjects. He is interested in all aspects of the applied arts, but with a particular passion for illustrated posters from the mid 19th Century to the mid 20th Century. An experienced speaker, he has given talks at venues such as the Royal Society of Arts, the Grolier Club, New York, Christie's South Kensington, the River & Rowing Museum, and the Ashmolean Museum.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 13 February**, 7.45 for 8.00pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

**Katharine Keats-Rohan**

[www.twhas.org.uk](http://www.twhas.org.uk)

## Wallingford U3A

Although we had a full house for our first meeting of the New Year there was not a cough, not a creak, not a movement. His audience was entranced as Gary Jordan guided us gently through the story of the Spanish (Classical) Guitar, playing examples as he went. The guitar is always an emotional instrument, and for a short hour Crowmarsh Village Hall was filled with stillness, emotion, memories, enchantment. Quite wonderful.

At our next meeting on **6 Feb**, Jane Stubbs will speak on '101 years on - Sex, Power and Politics. How women won the vote'

Our meetings are held at 2.00pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome. The talk is followed by tea and company.

The new Events programme should be available at the Feb. Meeting.

For more information about what we do please visit our website: [u3asites.org.uk/Wallingford](http://u3asites.org.uk/Wallingford) or phone Hermione on **01865 858024**

## Day by day

Sat 2 Feb	<b>Reading Phoenix Choir and Aldbourne Band</b> Concert 7.30pm
Sun 3 Feb	<b>Presentation of Christ</b> 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd David Haylett)  10.30am Morning Service
Thurs 7 Feb	<b>DADS</b> Read through 7.30pm Village Hall
Sat 9 Feb	<b>Dorchester First v Milton United A</b> North Berks League Div 3 1.30pm Recreation Ground
Sun 10 Feb	<b>4 before Lent</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Canon Sue Booyes)  10.30am Sung Eucharist
Mon 11 Feb	<b>DADS</b> Auditions 7.30pm Village Hall
Tues 12 Feb	<b>10.15am</b> Short Communion
Wed 13 Feb	<b>Lunch Club</b> 12.30pm Village Hall  <b>Parish Council</b> Monthly Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 14 Feb	<b>Thursday Group</b> 3.00pm Village Hall
Sun 17 Feb	<b>3 before Lent</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Jennifer Morton)  10.30am Family Service  5.00pm Evensong
Tues 19 Feb	<b>Play reading evening</b> DADS 7.30pm Village Hall



Wed  
20 Feb **Chiropodist**  
Village Hall (see p7)

**Classic Car Show,**  
1.00-4.00pm  
George Hotel

**Culham Horticultural**  
Simon Toomer  
*Conserving plants in the National Trust*  
7.30pm  
Abbey Guest House

Sun  
24 Feb **2 before Lent**  
8.00am  
Holy Communion (1662)  
(Canon Sue Booyes)  
  
10.30am  
Sung Eucharist

Wed  
27 Feb **Lunch Club**  
12.30pm  
Village Hall  
  
**Historical Society**  
Ian Wheeler  
*Four Generations at Fair Mile*  
7.30pm  
Village Hall

Church services in Dorchester Abbey appear in red. More details can be found at:  
[www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk](http://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

For details of services at St Birinus RC Church go to: [www.stbirinus.co.uk](http://www.stbirinus.co.uk)

## Weekly events

Monday	<b>Tai Chi</b> 2.00pm Village Hall <b>Fishmonger</b> 3.30pm by War Memorial (page 32)
Tuesday	<b>Coffee in the Abbey</b> 10.30am-12noon <b>Bellringing Practice</b> 7.30pm Abbey
Wednesday	<b>Holy Communion at Berinsfield Church</b> 9.30am <b>Keep Fit Senior Circuits</b> 10.00am Village Hall <b>Mobile Post Office</b> 10.30am Outside Co-op
Friday	<b>Choir Practice</b> 7.00pm Abbey

Regular events also appear in the Parish Council's website:  
[www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk](http://www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

## Parish Registers

### Funerals

29 Nov	Eileen Steele-Jones
7 Dec	John Simpson
19 Dec	Frank Norman

### Funeral at Crematorium

11 Dec	Barbara Nash
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Dorchester-on-Thames Parish Council  
Clerk to the Council: Mr Geoffrey Russell  
The Pigeon, 51 High Street, Dorchester-on-Thames, Dorsetshire OX10 1JH  
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**Valentine's Day**  
**Thursday 14 February**



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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

#### ABBAY GUEST HOUSE BOOKINGS

To hire the Abbey Guest House for private functions, meetings, exhibitions, etc, contact Kate Herbert on **01865 340007**, email [admin2@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:admin2@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

#### HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Kate Harris [bookings@dotvh.org.uk](mailto:bookings@dotvh.org.uk) or telephone **07814 458729**. 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 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](mailto: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](http://www.morerecycling.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

### MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post office stops outside the Co-op every Wednesday between 10.30 and 11.30 am

## 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 10.00am and , returning at 12.00 noon. Tickets must be bought from Lily's in advance.

#### OTHER BUS SERVICES

Services X38, X39 X40 go every 20 minutes from the bypass at the end of Drayton Road to Oxford and Wallingford. Information about bus services, both local and national, is available from [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info), and **0871 200 2233**.

#### 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:parishclerk@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](mailto:education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

### ABBAY E-MAIL:

[admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)  
Contact details for Church Wardens and other Abbey information are on the notice board in the Abbey.

### ABBAY WEBSITE

[www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk](http://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

### VILLAGE WEBSITE

[www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk](http://www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

### ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST

The Presbytery  
**Fr. John Osman**  
Bridge End  
**01865 340417**  
[www.stbirinus.co.uk](http://www.stbirinus.co.uk)

Dorchester Abbey Museum E-mail  
[museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)



## REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Fri 1 Feb **Green**  
Fri 8 Feb **Black**  
Fri 15 Feb **Green**  
Fri 22 Feb **Black**

### Weekdays from 7.00am

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	30
AKT Planning	13
Altom tree care	28
Anderson Orr	8
Arbocare	25
Beauty Essentials	27
Bell Motors	28
Ben Smith Carpentry	8
Berinsfield Community Business	8
Brannfords Garden Makers	25
Bristow	30
Bryan's Locks	28
Dorchester Fireplaces	30
Dorchester Window cleaning	28
DSD Property Maintenance	11
Fixit Driving School	28
Four Winds	10
Full Circle	27
George Inn	6
Graceful Gardens	24
Howard Chadwick Funerals	30
Imogen dental	12
In House	6
JEM chimney sweep	25
Jenks	24
Larkmead Vets	30
LB Plumbing	7
Martin Drew Logs	24
Massage Matters	13
Millstream Pilates	28
Q Self storage	24
Remloc Plumbers	5
Revival	5
Roy Passey Builders	30
St Mary's Dental	9
Steve Wilkinson	25
T W Hayden	9
The Cartshed Café	10
Victoria Dyde	28
White Hart	8



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