

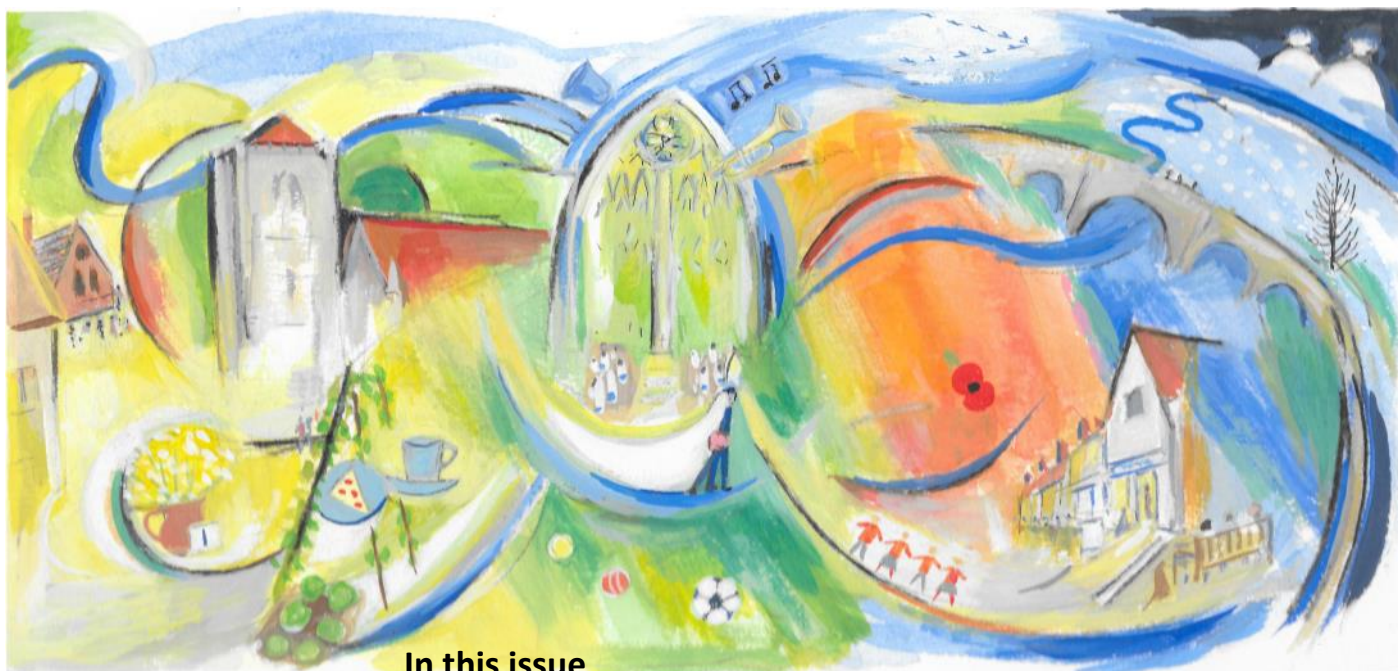
# ***Dorchester News***

*Free to every home in the parish*

***April 2019***







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Cover picture: Lambing time in Dorchester

## Deadline for May Dorchester News



email:

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

## DoT view

In April we see the new born lambs in the fields around Dorchester, like the ones pictured on this month's cover. It is sad, therefore, to read about dogs killing sheep. See the police appeal for witnesses to an incident early in March on page 30. This sort of incident is not only obviously cruel, but does not help the relationship between the village and the local farmers. The perpetrators in this case we hope were not local, and we should all do what we can to try to prevent such behaviour from occurring.

On a more pleasant note, it is nearly Easter. This is a big week in the church calendar. I'd like to draw your attention to the 'Easter Lillies' item on page 4. This should have appeared last month but due to the incompetence of the editor it failed it. There is still time to make a donation in memory of a loved one and help towards the cost of flowers that will adorn the Abbey at this time.

Easter also means the re-opening of the Abbey Tea Room for a new season. As ever, there will be a need for home made cakes, such as a feature of the tea room, and for home made jam, as we saw in the appeal for jam last month. Time to get cooking all you bakers!

And then we have the 2019 Dorchester Festival. If you've not yet got tickets for the events you want to go to, you'd better get on with it before they sell out.

Ian Brace

### Editorial Team

Ian Brace, Kathy Glass

### Distribution Co-ordinator

Maurice Day

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## Talking Point

## Canon Sue Booy

Storm Gareth is howling outside my window and it seems a strange contrast to the beautiful and balmy February we were all enjoying only a few weeks ago. Just as a bright morning can set the tone for a whole day when the weather is dark and cold the whole of life seems more gloomy than usual. It's equally true I think that when we are facing difficult things our minds and hearts can feel pervaded with a darkness that shuts out the light of the brightest day. Darkness is not only about the lack of physical light dark times are those when our inner compass just spins, we lack direction and the ability to find a way through – we lose sight of hope. At those moments we hate the person who talks about the light at the

end of the tunnel. That sense of confusion is present all around us at the moment. Between political uncertainty, fears of violence from disturbed individuals and extremist groups, and the Friday 'wake-up call' from young people across the world that in our environmental short-sightedness we are wrecking their future; the world can feel like a dark and directionless wilderness indeed. We have learned to be good at hiding this:

*In times of trouble and insanity,  
I carry masks to disguise  
the pain I carry  
secure behind my eyes.*

These few lines from a poem published on the internet remind me of power of our dark times and also the way that

trying to cope can become a place to hide.

For me and for many Christian people across the globe the season of Lent is a time to try and replicate the wilderness as a way of recalling the darkness that Jesus suffered – alone in the desert, in the garden where his best friends slept moments after he had asked for their company, on trial – when they would not admit to knowing him and in the desolation of death – accused for doing what he believed was right.

For me, when I am strong enough to remember it, the great promise of Easter is that the light does not remain at the end of the tunnel – there is a time to come out into the light.

### Palm Sunday 14 April

Come and meet the donkey! Kindly provided by the Brightwell Donkey sanctuary our donkey will help us to re-live the experience of walking through the community with palm leaves. Meet at the War Memorial at 10.15am.

### Church Annual Meeting

This will take place after the Palm Sunday service in Church at approximately 11.30am. All members of the village community are invited to attend the Vestry Meeting which is the first part of this meeting.

### Maundy Thursday 11.00am 18 April

This year, because the Cathedral is undergoing major works, the Abbey is the venue for the annual Service of Blessing the Oils and Clergy and Reader renewal of Vows. Anyone is welcome to be a member of the congregation and we particularly need volunteers for stewarding. Please be in touch with the Office if you would like to help.

### Team Agape Meal and Solemn Stripping of the Altar

As usual the Team will gather at Dorchester Abbey to remember together the last night that Jesus spent with his disciples. The evening begins with a shared meal at 6.30pm during which we will remember the events of the Last Supper. Weather permitting we will go out into the Garden as Jesus and his disciples did and then return to the Abbey for a Communion Service with the Solemn Stripping of the Altar at about 8.00pm. (Timings cannot be precise). Please sign up if you wish to join us.

### Easter Day 21 April

I do hope that you will join us for the Easter morning services at 8.00am or 10.30am. Before the 10.30 service we will (weather permitting) light a new fire outside to kindle the Easter candle.

### Talking it Through

The Reverend Joanna Collicutt McGrath will join us on **8 April** at the Rectory for supper and conversation to help us think about dementia – its effect on those who suffer it, on those who care for them and the community within which they live. If you are interested in joining me please call **01865 340007**. I'd be very interested in hearing of other topics that you might like to discuss.

### On a personal note:

The Bishop of Oxford has invited me to help appoint the next Bishop of Reading. This seemed to be an important opportunity to help the Diocese but it does mean that I shall be away for a total of three days at the end of this month and in early June.

### Lent Lunches 2019 Everyone welcome

The remaining Lent lunches this year are as follows:

- **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.

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.



## Easter Lilies 2018



As we look forward to celebrating one of the most important festivals of the church, the Abbey flower arranging team invite you to participate by making a contribution towards the cost of flowers which we will use to decorate the Abbey at this joyous season.

Perhaps you would consider making this a donation in memory of a loved one whose name would be displayed close to the Easter Lilies, the centrepiece arrangement.

Please complete the form below and send it to me:

Sandie Griffith, 7 Castle Close, Benson OX10 6SN 01491 832598

or hand it to one of the flower arranging team - Kathy Glass, Helen Wigmore, Susan Jupp or Vera Baker

Name .....

Contact phone number .....

Amount of donation .....

Donation in memory of .....



**Are you interested in Woodworking?**  
**Do you love making things?**  
**Are you looking for a project that will**  
**great deal of joy to many people**

If the answer is YES to all of the above, then we have a project for you. We need someone who can help make a full size sleigh for the staging of Narnia in early 2020. Ideally we need to have the sleigh completed by the end of December 2019, so if you can start before December you'll have your very own Christmas sleigh. We can pay for the materials you use. We need it to be a minimum of at least four people (like the last time we staged Narnia in 2018) to be happy to paint and decorate it after you have completed it.

For more information and to offer your amazingly kind assistance, please contact Margaret Craig, Education Officer, Dorchester Abbey, [education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk) or telephone 01865 251111



## Hempcroft Allotments April

Between 3 and 19 May the 2019 biennial Dorchester Festival will take place. There will be numerous additional visitors to the village during this time. As part of the Festival there will be a Scarecrow Trail and this will take people along the public rights of way across the Hempcroft Allotments.

Whilst there is no archaeology trail for the allotments this year there is a talk in the Guest House entitled 'Ten Years of Roman Archaeology in Dorchester's Allotments' on 8 May and I am sure that this will inspire people to visit the Allotments. This is an opportunity to show off the allotments in their best light and so can I urge people to do a little bit of 'spring cleaning' of their plots in preparation for the Festival.

This year many of you will have noticed the absence of Bill Downey's friendly face from the Allotments: unfortunately Bill had to return to his native Norfolk. In his role of Allotment Manager Bill used to mow or strim a number of the grass paths between the plots. Can I ask that when people mow or strim the grass path around their own plot that they move a little further afield and cut some of the grass on the communal paths.

**Edward Metcalfe**  
340160

## Dorchester Lunch Club

The last Lunch Club lunch before we stop until October will be our Easter Lunch on **Wednesday 10 April**. Everyone who has attended a Lunch Club in the past and anyone new, who would like to join us, is most welcome to come on 10 April. The Lunch will be held in the Main Room of the Village Hall starting at 12.30. I would be grateful if **everyone** who wants to come to this Easter Lunch could phone me as soon as possible to confirm they will be coming so I know the numbers some time before the day for catering purposes.

When the Lunch Club starts

## Thursday Club

The Thursday Club (a new venture) who meet for a cup of tea and a chat has got off to a good start. Anyone is welcome to come and it is aimed at keeping in touch with other people in the village who might not see each other very often and also a way of getting to know new people, while enjoying a cup of tea and biscuit, we just ask you to give £1 to cover our costs.

We meet in the Back Room of the Village Hall from 3.00 to 4.00 on the second Thursday in the month, so the next meeting will be on **Thursday 11 April** and then our final one before the summer break will be on **Thursday 9 May**. There will be no meetings between June and October as the Abbey Tea Room will be open on Thursday afternoons during that time. We will be starting again on Thursday 10 October.

**Susan Jupp**  
01865 341066

## Culham & District Horticultural Club

**Wednesday 17 April 2019**

7.30pm Abbey Guest House,  
Dorchester-on-Thames



*Allergic to Annuals*  
by Marina Christopher

Marina will describe the various uses of annuals, for example as fillers, as drifts to create cohesion to a planting and many others. The talk will be illustrated by plant material and various sundries. Her nursery, Phoenix Perennial Plants, supplies unusual plants to many Chelsea Flower Show designers, winning Best in Show many times. In 2006 she published her book 'Late Summer Flowers'.

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**



## Pre-School News

We have had the pleasure of recently welcoming another

new starter, Blaise and her family to the Preschool, who settled in instantly thanks to the friendliness and inclusive nature of the setting and the children. Well done Blaise, and thanks to the children.

The children are making enormous developmental strides thanks to the efforts of all the staff. They are practicing hand-writing and recognising numbers and letters along with all the other fun activities they take part in on a daily basis.

We have had fun experiencing the varied weather conditions we have all been subjected to recently - being blown around by the wind, saturated by the rain but perhaps more favourably warmed by some unseasonably sunny weather. Unfortunately, the sun cream has now returned to the cupboard, and the umbrellas are back out!

Since the last newsletter, the Mangers Awards has been bequeathed to Jenson, Ptoly, Harry and Blaise. A big congratulations to you all and keep up the good work.

We have a healthy eating policy at pre-school and encourage parents to support us by bringing in snack items to share such as fresh fruit, bread sticks, dried fruit crackers etc on a daily basis.

We have some places available for the summer term and are also taking enrolments for the new school year to start in September. For enquires please call **01865 341805** or email [admin@dorchesterpreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@dorchesterpreschool.co.uk).

Wishing you a Happy Easter from all of us at Dorchester Preschool.

**Lauren Collett**  
Secretary







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Above: An example of a pop-up shrine children could create.

Below: Children enjoying classroom based outreach work we delivered on the Anglo-Saxons theme.



Above: Adrian's 'Travellers in Faith' shrine from the exhibition, a pilgrimage themed shrine



#### **NARNIA: Back by popular demand in January 2020!**

Advance notice that we will be re-staging Narnia in the Abbey again early next year! There will be some old favourites to be seen, but we will also be introducing some new things, including an immersive audio-visual element! Come and explore the imaginative world of Narnia!

#### **Dorchester Abbey Education**

Margaret Craig, Education Officer. You can contact me via email on [education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

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

See our website for more details:

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

**LIGHT: A Spiritual Journey:** As you all know the Abbey hosted our local artists work in a very successful exhibition from mid October 2018. We had to extend the closing date to mid-January 2019 to fit in some extra school visits due to pre-Christmas constraints!. I found it incredibly moving reading the comments in the visitor's book. It demonstrated that this exhibition spoke to so many people on a range of levels. Furthermore, it showed that we had visitors from all over the UK and from over 14 different countries leaving comments about how touched they were by the immersive experience and its spiritually up-lifting effects.

We didn't have as many schools as we would have liked involved, but the ones who came were mesmerised by it and fully enjoyed their experience. We developed an amazing shadow puppets play (presented by the remarkable Gill Whitten and her super helper Sally!), which was based on one of the Canterbury Tales (*Chanticleer and the Fox* from the *Nun's Priest Tale*). They were able to make pop-up shrines to take home, both of which were hugely successful with schools. We hope to develop these further within our pilgrimage visits, as we linked the exhibition to the spiritual journey of pilgrimages and our own shrine. One thing the schools really enjoyed was using origami boats to symbolise their own start on their pilgrimage journey through the exhibition, and receiving their special pilgrim's passports stamped at the end! Here is some feedback from some of the schools that came: 'The outcomes for this visit were excellently met, as I wanted the children to have a better understanding of Dorchester Abbey and explore spiritualism.' 'I also liked the story telling element to the session as it really inspired the children. Finally I felt the passion demonstrated by all the leaders was inspiring and enabled the children to develop a keen interest in what was being said.'

**House of Wessex educational partner links:** Since early last year we have been involved as education partners in this amazing project to authentically recreate an original Anglo-Saxon great hall, based on the evidence found on site and archaeological findings. I have helped deliver outreach work to schools who have found it fascinating and exciting. The building will be fully erected this summer and we will also be able to use the building in future to deliver some of our own schools work if desired. Make sure you get a taste of it all at the Dorchester Festival on **11 May** when the Wulfheodenas (Anglo-Saxon re-enactors) will be there in all their regalia!



## Friends of Dorchester Abbey Visit to Worcester Monday 13 May 2019



Photo: [www.visitworcestershire.org](http://www.visitworcestershire.org)

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

We should arrive in Worcester at about 11.00am.

### **Free time to explore and have lunch.**

The city is best known for one of England's loveliest cathedrals, a magnificent, inspiring building, with Royal Tombs, Medieval Cloisters, an ancient Crypt and Chapter House and magnificent Victorian stained glass, a place of prayer and worship for fourteen centuries.

The city's rich history includes both the start of the Civil War and its final battle in 1651.

The city is also famous for the world renowned Worcester Porcelain. A museum on the site of the works was completely refurbished and refreshed last year.

There are walks and boat trips along the River Severn, and places to relax and enjoy the view.

### **Guided tour of Worcester Cathedral at 3.00pm.**

#### **The coach will leave Worcester at 5.00pm.**

Traffic permitting, we should arrive back in Dorchester by 7.00pm.

Further information will be sent to participants in the week before the visit.

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

£32.00 per person for non-Friends of the Abbey

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

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

Your name, address and phone number to:

**Mrs Yvonne Lawden, 9 Queens Close, Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford, OX10 7LR**  
by **Friday 12 April.**

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

**Yvonne Lawden**

## Dorchester Historical Society Summer Outing Salisbury Cathedral and Close Saturday 6 July 2019

Salisbury, with its iconic Cathedral and quintessential English Close has much to offer. Even if you have been before I expect you will not have had the time to visit everything. The Cathedral and Chapter House are a must and the Magna Carta is now back on display. There is also a restaurant in the Refectory.

In the Cathedral Close you can visit:

**Mompesson House**, now owned by the National Trust (**National Trust members remember to bring your card**), featured in the film *Sense and Sensibility*. A Queen Anne style town house it houses a fine display of English 18<sup>th</sup> century drinking glasses and a collection of stumpwork (raised embroidery). There is a lovely garden and tea-room.

**Arundells, 59 The Close**, was originally a medieval canonry, with the first recorded occupant being Henry of Blunston, Archdeacon of Dorset, who lived there from 1291-1316. The House has a fascinating history, the last occupant being the late Sir Edward Heath. It houses a very interesting art collection including paintings by John Piper.

**The Salisbury Museum** is also in the Close and well worth a visit.

9.00 bus leaves Bridge End car park

11.00 approx. arrive in Salisbury

16.00 depart from Salisbury

18.00 approx. arrive back in Dorchester at Bridge End car park

**COST: £25 (for the bus journey only – no refunds).** Please make your cheque payable to the Dorchester Historical Society and send to Gail Thomas, 14 Herringcote, Martins Lane, Dorchester on Thames, OX10 7RD. tel. **01865 341977** or [gail.thomas8@btinternet.com](mailto:gail.thomas8@btinternet.com) if you need further information.

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



Photo: [visitwiltshire.co.uk](http://visitwiltshire.co.uk)



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## St Birinus Primary School News

Just before half term we had an Art week, all the classes had the opportunity to draw a shoe either in colour for KS1 or in sketching pencils for KS2. Every piece was then displayed in the hall in our gallery. The quality of the artwork was amazing, and it was good to see the progression of skills from the youngest to the oldest,



World Book Day was this term and I must say that the costumes were out of this world. I know this day can be a challenge each year to think of new ideas, but I was so impressed with the effort that went in to all the costumes. As part of the World Book day theme – the children were encouraged to bring in a scene from a book in any medium. There were some great ideas from painting on pebbles to scenes in boxes or jars from a variety of books. Well done to all the children that took part and congratulations to Loveday, Jacob H, Rose and Theo for being the class winners and winning a £5 book token.

Our Easter Service in the Abbey is at 1.15pm on 5 April as always there is an open invitation to join us for the service – it would be great to see you.

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



I often congratulate the children on their successes within school. This time, I am going say congratulations to Mrs Eacopo, who for the past year (and a bit) has been attending college, writing essays and completing her portfolio as well as working in school. In February, she has heard that she has passed her National Award for SEN Coordination (a master's level qualification). Well done Mrs Eacopo.



## ST. BIRINUS SCHOOL PLAYGROUND APPEAL

Please help us raise £15,000 to resurface our playground to create a multisport, intergenerational area for our children to enjoy, which we hope will include a Pickleball court for use by the local community.

To pledge your support online:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-birinus-playground](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/st-birinus-playground)

To pledge via bank transfer or cheque, contact Val Howells:  
[valhowells@btinternet.com](mailto:valhowells@btinternet.com)

Our Parish Council have already pledged £3,000.

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01865 340074



[www.white-hart-hotel-dorchester.co.uk](http://www.white-hart-hotel-dorchester.co.uk)





## Dorchester on Thames Village Hall

200 Club Prize Draw

Congratulations to the winners of the March draw.

1st Prize	£75	No.25 Ms F Roddis
2nd Prize	£45	No. 7 Mr G Russell
3rd Prize	£25	No.15 Mr R Smith

The next draw will be in June, 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*

## HENGE

A sense of place



Marking an Ancient Landscape and the Autumn Equinox

Save these Dates

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

## Dorchester on Thames Historical Society

Wednesday 24 April 2019

7.30pm, Village Hall Back Room

Members free, Visitors welcome (£3)

**Tony Hadland on: 'Covert Catholics of Dorchester and District'**

After the Reformation, a minority of our ancestors – known as 'popish recusants' – refused to abandon Roman Catholicism, despite it being made illegal in England. Some others who were Catholic at heart conformed outwardly to the Church of England and were known as 'church papists'. This talk reveals how recusants and church papists ensured the secretive survival of Catholicism in Oxfordshire and Berkshire during the long period in which 'the old faith' was outlawed. It also incorporates a more detailed look at the recusants of Dorchester and district.



Born 1949 in Reading, Tony is a retired chartered building surveyor, information scientist, operational risk manager and museum administrator, who has also been a freelance broadcaster. Today he is an historian specialising in bicycle history, Thames Valley recusancy and family history. He has lived most of his life in Berkshire and Oxfordshire and has been chairman of the Oxfordshire Local History Association for the past seven years. He was previously vice chairman and journal editor of the Oxfordshire Family History Society. He is currently working on a volume for the Oxfordshire Records Society and on another for the Veteran-Cycle Club.

Looking forward, the speaker on 22 May will be Alex Davies on 'The archaeological dig at Great Western Park, Didcot'

Visitors and new members are always very welcome to our talks and outings.

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Chairman

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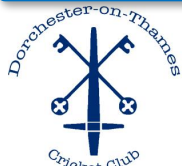
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Purely Plants Nursery, 142a Wantage Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 0LU

April Play Reading - Free Wine!  
7.30 pm Tuesday, 16 April  
Dorchester Village Hall

**DADS**  
Dorchester Amateur Dramatic Society



Contact [spwsixty@dads.org.uk](mailto:spwsixty@dads.org.uk)  
for more information



## Dorchester Cricket Club announce exciting new sponsorship

It is with great pleasure that Dorchester on Thames Cricket Club can announce a new shirt sponsorship with AwesomeBooks for the next three years.

In 2004, AwesomeBooks was founded by a group of people who loved reading and wanted to spread the love with like minded bookworms. They found that despite the sometimes pricey nature of tomes on the high street, there were many other cheaper sources of books which were either being thrown away, were sitting around idle on dusty bookshelves or being sent directly to paper recyclers for pulping. Having experimented in one unfortunate mother's basement to see if these could be sold online, they found there was great demand for used books and that customers always knew a good bargain when they saw one.

Since then, AwesomeBooks has grown many times over to find new sources of quality books (ranging in condition from used to brand new) and to make these available to customers at low cost. They now stock over two million items at a distribution centre in Wallingford so that they can provide customers with the widest possible range of books, in as many different conditions as they might prefer - used if on a budget, or new for that cosy feeling of turning a crisp new page for the first time. When someone places an order for a book, it almost always leaves one of the warehouses within 24 hours, travelling to the waiting soul who snapped it up. Customers might be serviced from any one of the warehouses located in the South East of the UK or on the East Coast of the USA.

**awesomebooks**



## Your Museum Needs You!

**Wanted: Local person with relevant expertise to provide IT support for Dorchester Abbey Museum's computer, new server and databases, and to help provide a hands-on information experience for our visitors.**

This is a volunteer role which would suit someone recently retired or working part time who's keen to get involved in a very worthwhile and interesting activity in the local community. The databases are small and simple so it's not an onerous role – once up to speed with the system, approx. a day or so per month.



For further details please contact

**Candy Madeley:** [candymadeley@hotmail.com](mailto:candymadeley@hotmail.com) or **01865 341490**

**Nick Forman:** [treasurer@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)



**TENNIS CLUB**

## Spring Mixed Doubles Tournament

Join us for our tournament which is on **Sunday 28 April** at 2.00pm on the courts. Cost is a very reasonable £6 for members and non-members and will include a delicious afternoon tea.

## Coach Required – Junior Section

We are continuing with our popular adult coaching sessions but are in urgent need of an additional coach for our Junior Section for the summer season; please do contact us if you can help us with this.

## Brains in gear for quiz night

Off court activity has recently included a fun and successful quiz night, raising welcome additional funds for the Club; thanks to all those who attended and supported us. Congratulations to the winners; the Woolley Mammoths (and their hairy mascot) who wowed us with their extensive quiz trivia knowledge.

Don't forget our regular sessions listed below and contact Chris Smith if you would like to join our very sociable club; all abilities welcome – just come along!

## Spring Tournament – Sunday 28 April

### Sunday

10.30 am to 1.00pm - Open club session

### Wednesday

9.00am – 10.00am Adult coaching

10.00am – 11.00am Adult coaching

### Thursday

10.30 am - 12.30 pm - Open club session

### Friday

10.30am – 12.30am – Ladies Open session

## Autumn Tournament - Sunday 8 September

Enquiries to Chris Smith

[chrisccsmith@btinternet.com](mailto:chrisccsmith@btinternet.com)

Tel **01865 341947**



## Football Results North Berks League Div 3



16/02/2019 Dorchester First 0 2 Letcombe First

09/03/2019 Hagbourne United First 0 1 Dorchester First

16/03/2019 Milton United 'A' 1 1 Dorchester First



## Putting New Life into One of Our Lanes

A group of local residents, with the support of the Parish Council, has recently been putting new life into the lane between Page Furlong and the Demesne field.

Over the years the area next to the lane had become sadly overgrown with ivy, dead trees (some not safe), old cut wood stacked all over the place, as well as a build-up of litter, and new growth struggling to establish itself.

In October a group of local residents put a management plan together to tackle these issues and presented this to the Parish Council.

Two of the key objectives included providing:

- an aesthetically pleasing experience for walkers using the lane
- a mosaic of wood / scrub / hedge-based habitat for wildlife and carbon storage; this would involve a variety of different species, ages, heights, colours, shapes and management practices

Some of the main activities that have taken place include:

- tree surgery to thin trees, make them safe and chip wood
- reducing the amount of wood and ivy
- planting 110 bare root stock consisting of hawthorn, hazel,



- spindle and crab apple
- improving natural conditions to allow existing species to regenerate, mainly blackthorn, bramble, but some dog rose and honeysuckle present
- increasing the diversity of flowers by planting snowdrops, blue bells, wood anemone, foxgloves, cowslips – estimate that over 1,200 bulbs planted
- installing 20 bird boxes and 4 bat boxes
- litter sweeps.

Such a project would not succeed without volunteers and generous donations of money and in-kind goods. As an example, on Friday 22 February thirteen volunteers helped with clearing, planting and putting up bat and bird boxes.

During the coming seasons we will be monitoring the site and looking after new growth. As the area regenerates we hope that it will again become a pleasant walk with a wider variety of wild-life habitat.

Please take a look, help us keep it clear of litter – and enjoy.

**Andrew Clements**

On behalf of local residents who have contributed to this project.



### VILLAGE HALL CLEANER REQUIRED

We're looking for someone to check the village hall each week and spend time if required to keep it clean and tidy, maybe an hour, maybe a couple of hours. There may be odd occasions, with agreement, when an additional visit is required on a Sunday, eg after a wedding or party. Payment can be discussed if required.

### VILLAGE HALL CARETAKER REQUIRED

We could do with someone to carry out occasional tasks to help keep this valuable village asset in a good state of repair for our hirers. Examples could be touching up paintwork, replacing light bulbs, repairing broken door catches or sweeping up outside. Rarely, may be asked to sort an issue at short notice. Payment can be discussed if required.

For more details contact Keith Russell, 01865 340838 or Mark Williams, 01865 340441

*Dorchester Village Hall is a registered charity No. 900244*

## HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR TICKETS?

Just one month to go until an amazing set of events lands on your doorstep so buy now!

## CAN YOU SPARE TIME TO HELP?

If you can find just a little time to pour tea, bake a cake or take ticket money please contact us. There is a job for everyone regardless of age or ability.

Email [festival@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:festival@dorchester-abbey.org.uk) or call Steph on **01865 340434**.

People often ask what events we are looking forward to most, so our advice is below— if you miss these you may just regret it!

## Festival Gems

### Romeo & Juliet

**Weds 15—Fri 17 & Sun 19**

Come and experience Shakespeare's most famous story of love as it fills the space of our ancient Abbey with romance, sword fighting action, tragedy and comedy.

### Family Dog Show

**Sat 4 May**

The dog show is a fun day out for all the family and your dog with categories to suit all ages from child handler to veteran & fancy dress.

### Teddy Abbey Sleepover

**Sat 4 May (all ages!)**

Bring your teddy for a sleepover in the Abbey, make a sleeping bag and then watch social media to see what they get up to while you're asleep (sorry you can't join them!)

### Mad Hatters Tea Party

**Sun 12 May from 2.00pm**

A completely mad afternoon with amazing (drink me!) tea and (eat me!) cake! From the moment you walk through the rabbit hole you will be immersed in the rather incredible world of Alice in Wonderland.

**Workshops & Tours with amazing local experts** We have some incredible local residents who, it's easy to forget, are experts in their field and some amazing local history to discover.

**Ghost Trail**—Sun 5 May & Weds 8 May (after dark)

**Local Artists Exhibition**—Sat 4 May—Sun 12 May

**Hurst Water Meadow Wildlife Walk**—Sat 11 May

**Dorchester's Dig** with Paul Booth—Weds 8 May

**House of Wessex Trail led by the Wulheodenas**—Sat 11 May

**Pubs & Shops tour** —Bank Holiday Monday 6 May & Sat 11 May



## Festival Silent Auction from 6th April

Great prizes, including holidays, private tours and cake! This is a great opportunity to support our Festival charities and buy a special gift for your friends or family at the same time. See the website and get bidding!

**Book on line from the website [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)  
or through the ticket hotline 0333 666 3366**



# Dorchester Festival Folk Night

*BH Monday 6th May 7.30pm  
Dorchester Abbey Festival Tent  
Tickets £16*



## Sam Kelly & The Lost Boys



## Open Mic

*Sunday 5th May 8pm  
The White Hart Dorchester  
Free - online booking available*



[www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)  
or call our box office 0333 666 3366





# Dorchester Scarecrow Trail

## Part of Dorchester Festival

**3 – 12 May 2019**

During the festival, display your scarecrow in your garden or on a windowsill – it just needs to be visible from the street.

This year's theme: **song titles**

Scarecrow entry is £5. Entry forms available at Lily's Tea Room or download at [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)

Post your entry form at Lily's Tea Room by **Sunday 21 April**.

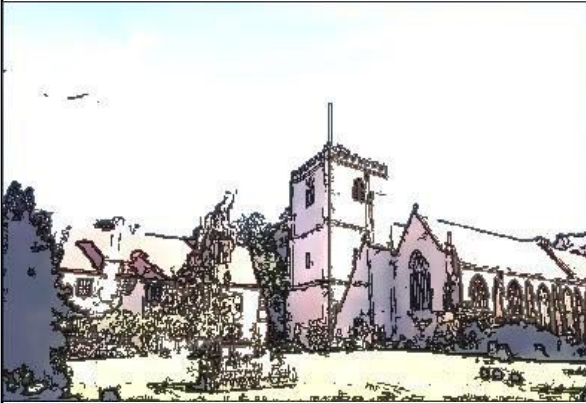
Which song title will you choose?





## **Dorchester May Morning** **Sunday 5 May. (Note SUNDAY not MONDAY as previously)**

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



### **Continental Breakfast**

From 8.30am in the Abbey

### **Two A Part**

Sing from the Tower at 9.00am, then in the Abbey

Breakfast tickets £5

**MUST BE BOUGHT IN ADVANCE**

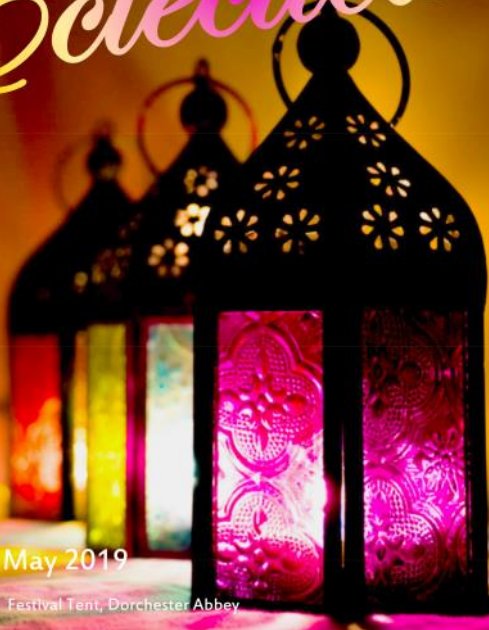
Available from Dorchester Co-op,

[tim.cook12@btinternet.com](mailto:tim.cook12@btinternet.com) or



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

The Dorchester Festival Bash 2019

# *Eclectica*



Friday, 3rd May 2019  
7pm – 1am Festival Tent, Dorchester Abbey

Tickets £44 Includes Food & Entertainment by  Style Acre  
Available for purchase at [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com) 



**Come and enter the Dorchester  
5K Fun Run on Bank Holiday  
Monday, 6th May at 11a.m.**

**You don't have to run, come  
and walk, bring the whole  
family and even the dog!! You  
might even win a prize...**

**Application form on  
[www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com) or  
entries on the day.**



## Dorchester Cricket Club: With the sound of leather on willow soon to be heard again on the Re

Dorchester Cricket Club is gearing up for another long hot summer of action, with four sides fulfilling well over 60 fixtures.

Cricket has existed in the village since the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the current setup is thriving in testing circumstances. Participation across the country has dwindled, with the Saturday league in which Dorchester compete down from 11 full divisions in 2012 to nine smaller ones this year.

Bucking the trend, Dorchester introduced a second Saturday league side in 2012 and continue to play competitive

in their 50s and 60s, so you're never too old or too young to join!

This year, for the first time ever, we will wear a sponsor's logo on our league shirts thanks to a very generous donation from Awesome Books in Wallingford. (See page 14—ed.) Running a cricket club is a constant financial battle. The cost of equipment, umpires, pitch preparation and general maintenance runs to thousands every year. The village's support at our regular quizzes and events is always hugely appreciated.

one league side, Tom has been present ever since.

Initially a bowler, he is now firmly a batsman and has been instrumental in the successes of the second team. As fixtures secretary he's also responsible for the unenviable task of compiling our playing calendar.

### Mike Ottrey

Now a Wallingford resident (he lives above the antiques shop that bears his name), Mike grew up in the village and knows the club's history inside out. One of the longest-serving Dorchester players, Mike is a top-order batsman who's scored thousands of runs for the club across at least four decades. He's seen it all and remains as keen as ever.

### Ian Ferris

The former PE teacher, who taught at John Mason, Larkmead and Wallingford schools, is originally from Nottinghamshire but has lived in the village for many years.

Often seen on grass-cutting duties at the rec, Ian is a true clubman who's always on hand to do the behind-the-scenes work that makes a cricket club tick.

A swashbuckling batsman, occasional spin bowler and part-time wicket keeper, Ian lives and breathes Dorchester CC.

### Tom Ferris

Ian has taken immense pride in playing alongside his son Tom, who is currently studying for his A-Levels at Wallingford School.

Tom is one of the best young hockey players in the county and is unsurprisingly quite handy with a cricket bat. 2018 was his breakthrough year, scoring two crucial half centuries for the first team.



Mike Ottrey batting at home

Wednesday-evening games and Sunday friendlies throughout the season.

The club's two Saturday sides compete in divisions three and six of the Oxfordshire Cricket Association. In 2017, the second team won Division Eight South and the firsts were promoted from Division Four.

Having two league sides means there's almost always cricket on at the recreation ground every Saturday between May and September. Games begin at 1.30pm and follow a 45-overs-a-side format. Spectators are always welcome, as are new players of all abilities.

We know it can be daunting joining a new club, but we pride ourselves on a friendly welcome and can ease you in gently with a Sunday friendly. Our current squad includes teenagers and league cricketers

Dorchester CC is very much a village side, proudly representing OX10 across the county and beyond (we play three games on tour every season – this year we're off to Cambridge). While the days of residents-only village teams have long gone, there's a strong core of Dorchesterians in the club, so let me introduce you to them...

### Tom Kitson

Son of former St Birinus Primary School teacher Sue, Tom is part of the fabric of the club. He made his debut in the league side aged just 16 back in 2000 and, bar a single season at Steventon when Dorchester only had



Ali Line faces De





*Lawrence Belcher bowling and Mike Ottrey fielding with face to camera Timo Smith wicketkeeping*

#### **Ali Line**

Son of Denise Line (née Atkins) with family rooted in the village, Ali is a former Dorchester resident who has been at the club for many years. Another decent hockey player in his youth, Ali is a middle-order batsman and fearless wicket keeper with an ability to conjure up at least one wonder catch a season. He suffered a nasty back injury at the end of last season and, as the sports press might say, faces a race against time to be fit for our curtain raiser at Combe on May 4.

#### **Conor Graney**

Arguably our most naturally gifted batsman, 21-year-old Conor is currently playing high-level rugby in Italy as part of his studies at Cardiff University. He can see the recreation ground from his bedroom window, but, being a student, he's still often the last to turn up to home games! His degree and his rugby skills have sometimes hindered his availability for

the club, but we're stealing his passport for the 2019 season. Capable of playing at a higher level, Conor's runs will be invaluable to the firsts this year.

#### **JJ Cooper**

An example we would love to repeat over and over again – JJ moved to the village two years ago and found out about the club at a 'welcome to Dorchester' night in the village hall. Instantly settling into club life, the left-handed all-rounder initially bowled spin but has shown some devastating quicker bowling in pre-season nets at Berinsfield Sports Centre this winter.

#### **Steve Fowler**

Until this year Steve was the longstanding club treasurer, gently dissuading us from spending the petty cash on a massive telly for the pavilion and post-game massages for all players. The Abingdon Road resident is an occasional player these days, keeping wicket and batting in his distinctive maroon helmet.

#### **Thom Airs**

I won't write about myself in the third person and I'll keep it brief! Born and raised in the village, I made my debut in the same game as Tom Kitson (we were born just days apart), thanks to a call up from the late Graham Howard. I try to bowl as few wides as possible. It's still a work in progress.

We can't wait for the 2019 season to begin, and we cannot stress enough how welcome you all are to be part of it as a spectator or player. We are also on the lookout for paid umpires, so if your playing days are over but you still have a passion for cricket please contact us.

Follow our progress at [www.dorchesteronthamescc.com](http://www.dorchesteronthamescc.com) or [www.facebook.com/DorchesterCC](https://www.facebook.com/DorchesterCC) and feel free to email [thom\\_airs@hotmail.com](mailto:thom_airs@hotmail.com) to get involved in any way.

*Thom Airs practices batting at Chadlington*



*Chadlington bowling*





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Dean Smith-Dawson 07827 299079  
4 Beechcroft  
Dorchester-on-Thames, OX10 7LS





It has been a while since we shared any Footsteps stories with you so I hope that you

will enjoy hearing about a young welsh lad Cory, who is making great progress at Footsteps:



### Cory's Footsteps

Cory, age 8 has been coming to Footsteps for a year, and has had four sessions. We chatted to his mum Emma about their experiences.

#### Tell us about what brought you to Footsteps:

'When he was diagnosed with cerebral palsy as a little boy, his prognosis was bleak. We were warned that he would never walk, sit or talk. Throughout my journey of finding the best support for Cory, I have tried a lot of different therapies and you get know what works quite quickly – with Footsteps we knew straight away. We drive from Wales, and have to pay for accommodation in the area, but you do what you have got to do'

#### What improvements, if any, have you noticed since coming to Footsteps?

'Cory's stability is much better as is transferring between positions. The other day he tried to take his first steps! London Orthotics, where he goes for fittings for his splints, noticed the difference right away and were impressed with the improvement in a year! Two years ago we went for a power wheelchair as I had given up any chance of him walking – now I have hope! He wasn't supposed to even sit up by himself and now he's walking along with a rollator!'

#### What do you do in between Footsteps Sessions?

'I also see the improvements at home after a session. Him being able to transfer his own weight from wheelchair and sitting has saved my back. I used to have constant back pain – that's gone now. We are a very proactive family – Cory loves the TV but we try and keep him busy in other ways. My husband does therapy with him at home with parallel bars and a rollator whenever he can and we want him to join in whatever we do. We are really outdoorsy and even took him to the summit of Pen Y Fan.'

**Does Cory enjoy the sessions here?** Cory is non-verbal but I know him – he enjoys the sessions! He is happiest on his feet – so even though he can't talk I know he is happy and heading towards fulfilling his dream.

**Sum up Footsteps for us in a sentence:** 'Wish I'd found it earlier!'

For more Footsteps stories, head over to our website

<https://www.footstepscentre.com/footsteps-foundation/> and facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/footstepsfoundation/>



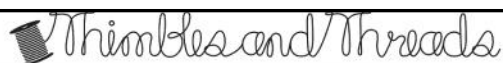
### A Poppy Appeal Organiser Needed to coordinate this year's Poppy Appeal in Dorchester on Thames

We currently have a vacancy for a Poppy Appeal Organiser to work with our team of volunteers and coordinate the Poppy Appeal in Dorchester on Thames. This role can be carried out by an individual or a team of people.

The support for our armed forces provided by the Royal British Legion is as relevant today as it was back in the years following the First World War. From Sports-based rehabilitation courses and careers advice to dedicated care homes for older veterans, the Legion is here to ensure every member of the Armed Forces community and their families receive the support they need.

Without local volunteers we would be unable to have a Poppy Appeal presence throughout Oxfordshire and the local community in Dorchester on Thames has always been very generous to the Poppy Appeal so it would be great to keep a presence there.

If you would like to find out more about this important role, please contact Jess Jenkins, Community Fundraiser Oxfordshire by emailing [jjenkins@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:jjenkins@britishlegion.org.uk) or telephone **07500 225215**.



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## RULES

1. The Show is open to any person residing in Dorchester-on-Thames, Burcot, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield.
2. No exhibitor may exhibit more than one exhibit in each class, excepting Classes 14 & 21, where three entries may be made.
3. **All entry forms and fees to be submitted no later than 7.00 pm on Wednesday evening before the show.**
4. Entries in Classes 16 & 17 must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least the previous 4 months. Other plant classes with the exception of Classes 23 & 24 must have been grown by the exhibitor. Classes 25 - 37 must be made by the exhibitor.
5. Exhibitors must provide their own dishes, stands etc. Every care will be taken of the exhibits but the committee will not be held responsible for loss or damage.
6. On the relative merits of the exhibits, the opinion of the judges shall be final, but the committee reserves to itself the decision on any other points in dispute.
7. The Committee reserves the right to inspect any competitor's garden or allotment before or after the day of the show.
8. **All exhibits for competition must be staged between 9.00 am and 10.15 am on the day of the show.**
9. All competitors must leave their exhibits on show until after the Prize giving and raffle and clear immediately afterwards.
10. Any protests must be made in writing before 3.00 pm on the day of the Show, accompanied by 50p. deposit which shall be forfeited to the Committee if the protest is not upheld and found to be groundless.
11. Any exhibitor infringing any of these rules shall forfeit all claims to any prize.

## Definitions

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

**Please label varieties whenever possible**  
**Please note Rule 4**

# DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES SPRING FLOWER SHOW and Plant Sale/Raffle

**DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL**  
 on  
**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

Staging 9.00 am – 10.15 am  
 Viewing 2.30 pm- 4.00 pm

Raffle draw and  
 presentation of prizes from 3.40 pm

Exhibitors will be competing for:

The Robert Soffe Cup (Long Trumpet Daffodils)  
 Short Trumpet Daffodil Cup  
 Vegetable Cup, Spring Flowers Cup  
 Domestic Classes Cup  
 Britain in Bloom Cup  
 The Blackwell Photography Cup  
 Mary Tame Handicraft Plate

## Class

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

- 16) Plant, flowering or not, in pot no more than 10" - not exhibited in last 3 years.
- 17) Bulb or bowl of bulbs of same variety, not more than 10" pot.
- 18) Leeks - 3
- 19) Stored Onions - 5
- 20) Stored Shallots - 7
- 21) Any other vegetable or fruit (up to 3 entries)
- 22) Rhubarb - 3 sticks

## FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

- 23) 'Spring Sunshine' (45x45x45cm/18x18x18")
- 24) Posy for a desk (15x15x15cm/6x6x6")

## COOKERY

- 25) Lemon drizzle cake
- 26) Flourless cake
- 27) Chelsea buns - 5
- 28) Quiche Lorraine
- 29) Breakfast bars - 5
- 30) Pot of marmalade

## PHOTOGRAPHS - all unmounted and not exhibited previously.

Conventional or digital camera  
*Must not be manipulated or enhanced in any way.* Max 8" x 6"

- 31) Winter Garden
- 32) Subject beginning with 'C'

Image manipulation - up to A4  
 33) Any subject

## HANDICRAFTS

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

## CHILDREN (Please state age on exhibit)

- Aged 9 and over:  
 36) Easter hat
- Aged 8 and under:  
 37) Decorated boiled egg

## ENTRY FORM

Please return no later than **7.00 pm Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April** to: Christina Stores, 55 High Street (post through letterbox please)

Class Nos .....

Full name of Exhibitor .....

Address.....

Telephone No ..... Entry Fee 10p. per Class .....



## Parish Council Notices

### Annual Parish Meeting – 17 April 2019

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on **Wednesday 17 April**. This meeting is open to all residents and will include the Chairman's Annual Report together with the presentation of the Council's Draft Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019. The Agenda will be posted on Parish notice boards on Wednesday 10 April. Business will include reports from our County and District Councillors; PAGE; and proposals for affordable housing. The meeting will include an opportunity for residents to raise any other business.

The April Parish Council meeting will take place after the Annual Parish Meeting has concluded.

### Children's Play Area, Drayton Road

Recently completed work has included new and improved safety surfacing, and repairs and maintenance work on the swing, the multi-play structure, the see-saw and the cradle swing. It is hoped to have some action pictures from the Play Area in the next 'Dorchester News'.

### Replacement tree in the Recreation Ground

Following a report from the Council's arboricultural advisor, the large London Plane tree near the corner vehicle entrance has had to be felled as being unsafe. The Recreation Ground is surrounded by more than 30 substantial trees of varying types but this was the only London Plane and the Council is open to suggestions from residents about its replacement. Please contact the Clerk (details below).

### Parish Council Annual Meeting – 8 May 2019

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place in the back room of the Village Hall on **Wednesday 8 May** commencing at 7.30 p.m. This is the meeting at which Councillors will elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2019/20. The Agenda will be posted on Parish 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.

### Parish & District Council Elections

Please note that these elections, which take place every four years, will be on **Thursday, 2 May 2019**. Parish councillors represent their communities on issues that affect them by commenting on planning applications and other proposals, and maintaining community buildings, land, play areas, allotments and cemeteries.

Residents wishing more information should contact the Clerk (details below). Please see Parish notice boards for full details of nominations, arrangements for postal and proxy voting etc or consult the Elections page at <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk>

### Fishmonger

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

## Parish Council

### Speedwatch



Our Volunteers met in early March to plan the first Speedwatch Campaign of 2019. Sessions will take place prior to Easter along Henley Road and Abingdon Road. The Speedwatch Equipment has been obtained.



No additional Volunteers have come forward so far but you will be most welcome and training will be provided. Please consider joining us in this important initiative.

A proposal has been made to the Parish Council to consider the following:

1. Installation of a speed limit of 20mph through High Street and around Queen Street and Martins Lane.
2. Installation of four permanent speed indicators similar to the one in Burcot. Locations would be Meadside, Bridge End, High Street and Abingdon Road.

Our County Councillor would be requested to arrange funding for the Speed Limit and Speed Indicators.

The Parish Council will consider this proposal in a future meeting and will be looking for Villagers' opinions.

### 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)

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.

### Marsh House Bed & Breakfast

Comfortable B&B in Shillingford.

Please ring **01865 858496** for further details.

### Chiropodist

Third Wednesday of each month,  
1.00–4.00pm

Village Hall (back room)

**17 April**

Tel: **07850 196714**



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

## Communities to be offered help with youth services

Youth Provision across Oxfordshire was given a £1 million boost at the budget-setting meeting on 12 February. Young people and their families in Oxfordshire will now benefit from improved community-run youth services. Youth groups will be invited to bid in to a £1m fund over two years, with encouragement to find match-funding from their local communities. Details of the application process will be published shortly.



## Investment in repairing Oxfordshire's roads continues

OCC will be spending an extra £13m on capital funding on road maintenance in the coming financial year. This is on top of its existing £18.5m programme of work and follows last year's additional £12m boost which saw more than 37 extra miles of road being resurfaced through a range of methods which make road surfaces waterproof and extend their life. This year's additional money will be spent across Oxfordshire on resurfacing, drainage, bridge repairs and footways.



## Healthwatch Oxfordshire publishes findings of day-time support review

OCC's Adult Social Care department asked the health and social care watchdog to undertake an independent review of the services after major changes in how they were delivered in October 2017. On that date, OCC's Health and Wellbeing Centres and Learning Disability Daytime Support Services were replaced with a new Community Support Service as planned, securing the services for the future. The services are located in Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Didcot, Oxford, Wallingford, Wantage and Witney. They provide daytime support for both older people and those with learning disabilities. The review focused specifically on user experiences during the process of change to help evaluate the impact it had on people. The service has been working hard since the launch to ensure that people are at the centre of all service developments. The review found that people said that daytime support made a difference to their lives and they valued it for: social connection and friendships; meaningful activity; independence; reducing isolation and loneliness; and supporting carers to continue caring.



## Delayed transfer of care improvements

The latest published figures on people who are unnecessarily in hospital while they await care have been published. The figures for December 2018 show that on average 85 Oxfordshire residents had their hospital discharge delayed. This is five fewer than in November and 20 less than the same time last year. Oxfordshire's improvement remains better than nationally. In the last 12 months delays have dropped by 19% locally compared to 11% nationally.



## County Council to invest in schools, transport and streetlighting

Other measures that form part of the approved Budget include highway improvements, new school buildings and energy-efficient street-lighting thanks to a £1 billion investment over the next ten years. However, the county council is also warning that funding pressure on services remains as demand for social care for vulnerable children and adults continues to grow and continued financial prudence is required to meet those demands.

Transport schemes across the county will improve journeys for drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. Nearly £20m will be invested to increase the provision of school places for children with special needs in the county, including rebuilding Northfield School in Oxford with more pupil places.

Capital funding is for large one-off projects such as highway repairs or building work to assist the council meet its obligations, such as creating extra school places – as opposed to the normal revenue budget which covers funding for the costs of day-to-day services. Most of the funding for capital programme is made up of government funding and developer contributions, which cannot be used for any other purpose.

The capital programme includes a £41m street-lighting improvement programme with traditional lanterns being replaced with more energy efficient LED lighting, saving money in the long-run.

Pressure on funding for day-to-day council services continues as the council increases funding to support Oxfordshire's most vulnerable children and adults. To make sure that children at risk of abuse and neglect are protected, the children's social care budget has increased annually. It was £46m in 2011 and is forecast to be £95m in 2022/23 – more than doubling in ten years. The council's budget for adult social care will increase by £5m in 2019/20, with further annual increases reaching nearly £6m by 2022/23.

The planned redesign of the council around the changing needs of residents and communities will maintain or improve services, with investment in digital technology enabling us to save money in the process – OCC is now reviewing the digital technology needed to make the council run more effectively and efficiently, including making it easier to access services online. The council has identified savings of £50m from changing the way services are delivered and has already started implementing these changes, including improving online 'self-service' HR and finance systems used by staff. As part of the partnership with Cherwell District Council, legal services for the two councils are being joined up.

## The Friends of Dorchester Abbey and the Beauforest Society

Help to support your Abbey.



The Friends of Dorchester Abbey and the Beauforest Society are charities that support the Parochial Church Council but have a separate legal identity. They raise funds to be used exclusively for the restoration, maintenance, and improvements to the structure of the Church and the Abbey Guesthouse. Recently these have included new sound and lighting systems, and major repairs to the stonework of the Abbey. Further major projects are under discussion.

The Friends and Beauforest Society have promoted and supported social events such as concerts, flower and craft festivals, lectures and visits to other cathedrals and abbeys. All members receive a regular newsletter and the Beauforest society

members are invited to an annual event in the Abbey, usually in the autumn.

The annual subscription for the Friends is a minimum of £25 or Life Membership of £350. For the Beauforest Society the annual subscription is £100.

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

For further information contact the membership secretary,



## Deadline threatens mixed age couples' benefits

Legislation that will come into effect on 15 May 2019 could mean difficult choices for mixed-age couples deciding whether to live together or separately.

The law has changed so that, from that date, a 'mixed age couple' (in which one partner is a pensioner and the other is under pension age) will be considered to be a 'working age couple' for the purposes of means-tested benefits. This means that if they apply for benefits after that date, they will need to apply for Universal Credit instead of Pension Credit, leaving them much worse off financially. (The standard rate of Pension Credit guarantee is paid at a higher level than the standard rate of Universal Credit.)

From 15 May, both partners in a couple will need to have reached state pension age in order to claim Pension Credit or pension-age Housing Benefit.

Mixed-age couples will face a stark choice between living separately so that one of them can receive Pension Credit, or living together and claiming Universal Credit. However, the new ruling only applies to NEW claims, so those already receiving pensioner benefits before 15 May will keep those benefits unless their circumstances change.

If you are in a mixed-age relationship and claiming or expecting to claim benefits, Citizens Advice is encouraging you to examine your financial situation before the crucial date of 15 May.

Please bear in mind that claims for Pension Credit can be backdated for up to three months. Therefore, on or before 13 August 2019, claimants can start to receive these benefits if they meet the entitlement conditions on 14 May.

Legislation is changing quickly at time of writing, so those affected are advised to keep up with the latest information by visiting <https://www.gov.uk>



An ongoing TV Licensing phishing campaign, first identified by the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) in September 2018, continues to be reported to Action Fraud in high numbers. Fraudsters are sending the public fake TV Licensing emails that are designed to steal their personal and financial information. Since April 2018, Action Fraud has received over 900 crime reports with victim losses totalling more than £830,000.

### How you can protect yourself:

- Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.
- Don't assume a phone call or email is authentic, even if someone knows your basic details (such as your name or address). Remember, criminals can use spoof phone numbers and email addresses to appear as companies you know and trust, such as TV Licensing.
- Your bank will never call and ask you for your PIN, full banking password, or ask you to transfer money out of your account.

### What to do if you've fallen victim:

- Let your bank know as soon as possible and monitor your bank statements regularly for any unusual activity.

If you suspect your identity may have been stolen you can check your credit file quickly and easily online. Use a reputable service provider and follow up on any unexpected or suspicious results.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to Action Fraud at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk), or by calling **0300 123 2040**





# From your MP...

# ...John Howell

Crime has been in the news this month. Some specific crimes that shock us all and types of crime too. In this constituency rural crime has long been a problem and it was good to see the police have a 'Rural Crime Week' at the beginning of the month. This was a week to draw attention to the problem of rural crime which is often misunderstood and goes unreported. It can impact on insurance premiums, food prices and damage local communities not to mention the damage to livelihood and the emotional impact on victims.

Rural crime tends to fall into one of four categories - agricultural, equine, wildlife and heritage. It can also fall under environmental crime, which covers illegal waste dumping, fly tipping, polluting watercourses and land.

Agricultural crime covers working farms, farm machinery, farm buildings and smallholdings. Offences include theft of equipment or fuel, damage to property and livestock worrying. In similar vein equine crime covers working stables and equestrian centres and includes offences like tack theft and livestock worrying. Wildlife crime includes hare coursing, poaching and interfering with protected species and heritage crime is an offence which 'harms the value of England's heritage assets and their settings to this and future generations.' This can include offences like lead theft from churches, damage to ancient monuments and illegal metal detecting. Rural crime is indeed wide reaching and has been on my agenda in work with our farmers and the police for some time.

Knife crime has hit the news headlines too with fatal attacks. The Home Secretary is looking closely at this and it is interesting to look at crime statistics to see the fluctuations in different types of crime over time. Knife crime has increased - but it is not a new problem. In the Thames Valley Region this crime has doubled in the past five years. Only last Autumn when police forces across the country had a Knife Crime Awareness Week, during which there was a knife amnesty, over 100 knives were handed in within the Thames Valley Police area. Inevitably the issue of funding has been raised and it is right to question this. However as one BBC reporter pointed out this week it is not clear that money alone will solve the problem.

When an Urgent Question was raised in the House of Commons on this issue on 7 March I asked the Minister what role MPs can play in this process so that we are not just observers of the problem but participants in seeking solutions. The Minister supported the suggestion and agreed to look at how MPs can help promote the message against knife-carrying in their constituencies. As a start she suggested that we could help with social media in promoting the #knifefree social media campaign. This provides all sorts of information about what someone can do if worried about a young person or if a young person wants help and advice. Social media is a concern as its use can dramatically change the speed in which a trivial dispute escalates into violence. Within minutes rival gangs can goad each other into action.

I meet regularly with our local police Superintendent and both rural and knife crime will be high on the agenda at my next meeting. However I am fully aware that many constituents will be concerned that one crime is not overly prioritised to the detriment of other crimes that affect us. Balance is important and this is a key task for our police when setting their priorities.

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 constituent's 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 at [howelljm@parliament.uk](mailto:howelljm@parliament.uk) asking to be subscribed. You can also follow me on Facebook [www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire) or on twitter [@JHowellUK](https://twitter.com/JHowellUK) 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).

## Oxfordshire's Citizen Science WaterBlitz

The 8th Thames WaterBlitz will take place on 26 to 29 April 2019. This bi-annual Citizen Science event, first launched in September 2015, involves hundreds of volunteers carrying out quick and easy to use tests for phosphates and nitrates in local ponds, lakes, ditches, springs, streams and rivers. The intensive testing done by volunteers can help identify key pollution sources or clean water spots that act as refuges for some of our special wildlife that's more sensitive to water quality, such as the beautiful but rare fen violet.

Registration is now open for the April Thames WaterBlitz. Please follow the steps on this video to register for the event and request your free Freshwater Watch kit <https://ewgis.org/waterblitz-registration/>. Don't forget to register before 21 April to allow time for testing kits to be posted.

If you are interested in seeing the data collected during previous WaterBlitz events and getting to know more about your local freshwater environment, please visit the Freshwater Links platform: <https://freshwaterlinks.org>. To register for this year's WaterBlitz go to:

<https://freshwaterwatch.thewaterhub.org/>

Waterblitz information: [water@earthwatch.org.uk](mailto:water@earthwatch.org.uk) if you have any further questions.



4-6 April, Cornerstone, Didcot

This epic re-imagining of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* comes to us following rave reviews.

Written more than 100 years ago, *Heart of Darkness* is a tale of lies and brutal greed and of the dark heart which beats within us all.

Now re-sited in a forsaken Europe, lost to the destructive lust for power, it emerges as a tale absolutely for our time.

Digital theatre maker, Imitating the Dog, turns its attention to Joseph Conrad's extraordinarily influential novel, *Heart of Darkness*. This bold re-telling of the Conrad classic is a visually rich, multi-layered work which fuses live performance with digital technology.



South Oxfordshire  
District Council

Thames Valley  
ALERT



## Thames Valley Police are appealing for witnesses following sheep being attacked by a dog.

On Saturday 2 March at approximately 4.30pm a dog called 'Willow' was seen to chase sheep in a private fenced field, biting one sheep several times to the leg and neck causing significant injuries. The dog was off the lead and there was no urgency from the owner to stop it.

One sheep was found dead with two unborn lambs and another suffered injuries requiring veterinary attention.

The location was next to Days Lock, River Thames near Little Wittenham and Dorchester-on-Thames.

The dog is described as possibly a bulldog breed with brown fur. Witnesses heard the name 'Willow' being called. The owner was a man aged approx. 50-60 years old, about 5ft 6in to 5ft 8in, proportionate build with grey/white hair which was collar length. He had facial hair the same colour as his hair and was wearing glasses with thick rims and round lenses. He was wearing a green jumper and grey trousers.

If you know anyone that matches the above description please call **101** (or complete an online form on our Website [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)) and quote reference number 43190065722.

Alternatively if you have information but wish to remain anonymous, please call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** or online by visiting [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org). No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.



## All it takes is one distraction

Did you know that 1 in 3 people rescued from house fires in Oxfordshire are rescued from cooking fires? Or that distraction is the main cause of cooking fires?

It's easy to get distracted - the phone rings, someone's at the door or a TV show catches your attention. If you need to leave your cooking, even for a couple of minutes:

- turn down the heat
- set the timer
- or ask someone to watch it for you

Or you could find that Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service fire-fighters join you for dinner!

Find out more at: [www.365alive.co.uk/cooking](http://www.365alive.co.uk/cooking)



## Dorchester News Crossword No. 7 Solution

Compiled by Slider

<sup>1</sup> D	I	<sup>2</sup> C	T	<sup>3</sup> A	T	<sup>4</sup> E		<sup>5</sup> B	I	<sup>6</sup> P	E	<sup>7</sup> D
I		H		L		X		L		H		E
<sup>8</sup> S	W	E	L	L		<sup>9</sup> P	R	E	F	A	C	E
P		S		E		A		A		L		M
<sup>10</sup> O	C	T	A	G	E	N	A	R	I	A	N	
S				E		D				N		<sup>11</sup> S
<sup>12</sup> A	C	<sup>13</sup> R	O	S	S		<sup>14</sup> B	<sup>15</sup> R	E	X	I	T
L		E					<sup>16</sup> S		A			A
	<sup>17</sup> I	N	S	<sup>18</sup> T	I	T	U	T	I	<sup>19</sup> O	N	S
<sup>20</sup> C		E		A		R		I		M		H
<sup>21</sup> R	E	W	R	I	T	E		<sup>22</sup> O	B	E	L	I
O		A		N		A		N		G		N
<sup>23</sup> P	I	L	O	T		<sup>24</sup> M	U	S	T	A	N	G

### Enjoy receiving Dorchester News?

Distributors are always wanted to help out. Just do your street. Distributors particularly wanted for Bridge End at this time. Contact Maurice Day:

[mauricejday@btinternet.com](mailto:mauricejday@btinternet.com)

### Would you like to know more about your local school?



Pupils at Dorchester St Birinus

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- have extra maths lessons when appropriate
- enjoy French lessons from class one onwards
- take part in a variety of after-school clubs, such as drama, football, athletics, maths and tag rugby
- use the on-site breakfast club
- regularly visit the adjacent Abbey for school events and services
- go on to a wide range of secondary schools, including Wallingford, Didcot Boys and Didcot Girls, and the three Abingdon schools.

**Come along to the events advertised around the village and in *The Dorchester News* to find out more.**

[www.st-birinus-primary.org.uk](http://www.st-birinus-primary.org.uk)

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## The English Music Festival

welcomes the BBC Concert Orchestra to  
Dorchester Abbey to open the thirteenth  
annual discovery of orchestral, choral and  
chamber music gems,

Venues include Radley College and All Saints,  
Sutton Courtenay.

**24 to 27 May 2019**

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

The annual English Music Festival celebrates the brilliance, innovation, beauty and rich musical heritage of Britain with a strong focus on unearthing overlooked or forgotten masterpieces of the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century. Tickets are now on sale.

Launching the festival at Dorchester Abbey this year will be the BBC Concert Orchestra under conductor Martin Yates, who will perform a programme of world première performances of works by **Lord Berners** and **Stanford**, **Robin Milford's Symphony** and **Vaughan Williams's \*The Blue Bird**, alongside pieces by **Delius** and **Arnold**.

Gems of the English choral repertoire are represented in two programmes featuring works by Charles Wood, Stanford, John Ireland, Howells, Parry and Vaughan Williams, Dyson, Finzi, Holst and Howells, performed by the Chapel Choir of Worcester College, Oxford, and the Godwine Choir, along with the Holst Orchestra, under Hilary Davan Wetton.

Intimate chamber recitals featuring works of transformative beauty include song cycles by Herbert Howells, John Ireland, Gerald Finzi and Ian Venables, performed by acclaimed Indian tenor, **Anando Mukerjee** and **Pavel Timofeyevsky**. Venables's *Venetian Songs* are based on words by the Victorian author and critic, John Addington Symonds, and include *The Invitation to the Gondola*; the author's wistful evocation of Venice as 'a city seen in dreams'.

Taking a step back in time, soprano Sara Stowe with Sam Brown and Matthew Spring present songs and duets from the seventeenth-century by John Dowland and John Daniel performed on lute and viola da gamba. Piano-Duet, Lynn Arnold and Charles Matthews, perform York Bowen, William Alwyn, Delius, Bliss and Donald Tovey, and the powerhouse Piatti String Quartet - prizewinner of the Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition - perform Elgar, Britten, Bridge and Walton.

Contemporary music is represented by Israeli-French-British composer Nimrod Borenstein and a new work composed by David Matthews, featuring violinist Rupert Marshall-Luck and the celebrated German pianist, Michael Korstick. Also in this programme is a performance of Elgar's Violin Sonata using a new urtext edition from G. Henle Verlag, stripping back the editorial layers and errors that found their ways into the hitherto published versions, to bring a fresh new version that is true to Elgar's intentions.

A performance of Paul Carr's *Stabat Mater* coincides with the première recording performed by the English Arts Chorale on the Festival's own record label, EM Records.



In lighter vein, EMF regulars, the New Foxtrot Serenaders, perform from *The Great British Songbook* of the 1920's to the 60's in their own engaging style. Poetry is also featured, with a recital by actor Lance Pierson in conjunction with Festival Director Em Marshall-Luck, on the theme of composers and music in poetry, and musical poems. The Chamber Ensemble of London under Director, Peter Fisher, bring the festival to a close with characteristic string works by Bainton, Delius, Alwyn, Ireland, Finzi and Vaughan Williams.

Informative and entertaining talks and interviews, setting the composers and music in context, take place in **Dorchester Village Hall**, and cover English string music; a new version of the Elgar Sonata, and Holst's final years, while Martin Yates, in discussion with Lewis Foreman, explores the premières he has discovered and that will be performed for the first time on the opening night.

Concerts continue throughout the day and late into the evening, taking place at Dorchester Abbey, Radley College and Sutton Courtenay Church. Characterful local inns provide accommodation and the opportunity for convivial social occasions over lunch and supper, and a convenient mini-bus transfer operates between venues and Didcot Parkway station. See website for further details.


Visit the website to see the festival programme:

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

Tickets go on sale from **15 March** and are available via the website and on the door, subject to availability.

**EM Records** is the recording label of the English Music Festival, which includes many première recordings:

[www.em-records.com](http://www.em-records.com)



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We have five advice centres (in Abingdon, Didcot, Wallingford, Henley and Thame) and three outreaches (in Faringdon, RAF Benson and Woodcote). With a work force of 150 trained volunteer advisers and 10 paid staff, we advise 10,000 local people a year face to face, by email and by phone on benefits, debt, employment, housing, relationships and consumer issues. This advice is free, impartial and completely confidential.

For further information, visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk), call Adviceline on **03444 111 444** or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. Locations and opening hours can be found on [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale)

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**Knit and Natter**  
**Tuesday 2 April and 7 May 2.30pm**

**Reading Group**  
**Thursday 11 April and 9 May 2.00pm**

**Coffee Morning**  
**16 April and 21 May 10.30am**

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Tickets £8 for adults, £5 for under 15 unless otherwise stated.

#### April

Thurs 18 **Monty Python's Life of Brian** (15)  
Fri 26 **Fisherman's Friends** (12A)  
Sat 27 **Fisherman's Friends** (12A)  
Mon 29 **Capernaum** (15) BFI World Series in Arabic/Amharic with English subtitles

#### LIVE SCREENINGS

##### Tuesday 23 April, 7:30pm **King and I**

Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)  
Recorded at the London Palladium. The multi-award winning and critically acclaimed Lincoln Center Theater's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King And I* comes to cinemas in this unmissable event recorded live from London's iconic Palladium. Reprising her Tony Award-winning role, 'Broadway musical's undisputed Queen' (The Sunday Times) Kelli O'Hara (Anna) takes to the stage alongside Tony and Oscar nominee Ken Watanabe (The King) in a 'powerhouse' (The Times) performance. Also returning to her Tony Award winning role as Lady Thiang is Ruthie Ann Miles.

##### Thursday 25 April 7:30pm **NT Live: All about Eve**

Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (seniors and under 18s)  
Recorded at the Noël Coward Theatre in London's West End. Starring Gillian Anderson and Lily James, *All About Eve* tells the story of Margo Channing. True star of the theatre. The spotlight is hers, always has been. But now there's Eve. Her biggest fan. Young, beautiful Eve. The golden girl, the girl next door. But you know all about Eve...don't you...?

##### Tuesday 30 April, 6:45pm **Royal Opera: Faust**

Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)  
Live from the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London. David McVicar's wonderfully theatrical production draws insightful parallels between Faust and Gounod, a composer torn between piety and worldly and romantic success. Sets and costumes by Charles Edwards and Brigitte Reiffenstuel pay tribute to the art and architecture of 1870s Paris, and include a colourful Cabaret d'Enfer, a run-down tenement block and re-creations of a box from the Paris Opéra and the organ loft of Notre-Dame. The variety of settings mirrors the variety in Gounod's score, highlights of which include Méphistophélès's demonic aria 'Le veau d'or', Marguerite's dazzling coloratura Jewel Song, the Act IV Soldiers' Chorus and Act V's impassioned trio as Marguerite struggles to achieve salvation.

**Wednesday 10 April to Saturday 13 April**

**7:45pm: Dead Funny by Sinodun Players**

Tickets £12



When the members of the Dead Funny Society learn that Benny Hill has died, they decide to honour him with a memorial get together. Set in 1990s London, an hilarious and poignant comedy about morality and marriage. Expect some nudity, marital disharmony and custard pies.

**Warning: Adults only—scenes of a sexual nature and some strong language.**

#### COMING SOON

##### Saturday 11 May 8pm

##### In Loyal Company

Tickets £12

A sell-out at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe. The incredible true story of missing World War II soldier and prisoner of war Arthur Robinson, written and performed by his great-nephew, David William Bryan. This extraordinary true story of survival is a tour-de-force war epic.

##### Tuesday 14 May 7pm

##### NT Live: All My Sons

Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)

Broadcast live from the Old Vic Theatre in London in co-production with Headlong. Arthur Miller's blistering classic drama starring Academy Award-winner Sally Field (*Steel Magnolias*, *Brothers & Sisters*) and Bill Pullman (

##### Saturday 18 May, 7:45pm

##### Eva Cassidy: The Story

Tickets £12

Elsa Jean McTaggart presents the story of her favourite artist, the iconic Eva Cassidy, through song, story and video footage. Eva Marie Cassidy was an American singer and guitarist known for her interpretations of jazz and blues.

#### Monday 10 June to Friday 14 June

##### Corn Exchange Drama Festival

Come and see the best of Oxfordshire's thespian talent. See up to three plays each evening followed by an assessment of their production from the Guild of Drama Adjudicators (GODA).





## Once Upon a Time ... the changing face of Wallingford ... and the MUSEUM!

January and February were two of the busiest months since the museum expanded in 2005 to take over the ground floor of Flint House. Not only have we re-organised all the 'back-room' space in the museum, but we have created a splendid new all-purpose activities/meeting room, and provided a palatial fully-accessible public toilet! The new Collections / Archaeology store at the back is now in full working order and we have also created 'Once-upon a time... the changing face of Wallingford' a new exhibition for 2019.

Amidst all the building work this year's exhibition has been finished, with new displays to enjoy. These include several 'interactive' features where visitors have a chance to 'take part' in the displays - from plotting elements of the town's past with magnets on an aerial view, to detecting the age of photos and using objects, documents and photos to plot the position of shops of the past. Such activities, together with the 'shoe-bag' challenge (different things to do with objects hidden in shoe-bags), are designed to engage old and young alike.

Thanks to everyone who has given a hand, it has been an amazing team effort!

**Judy Dewey**  
Curator - Wallingford Museum  
[www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)



## Wallingford Town walks

Wallingford's popular Guided Historic Town Walks held on Saturday mornings will commence again at 11.00am on **Sat 6 April 2019** from the Town Hall. Walks last 1 - 2 hours and cost £5 per head, money which will be donated to support Wallingford Museum.

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

If you'd like to organise a Town Walk like this for your group / society / school at a different time, then please contact Philip Burton on 01491-836200 or [pburton6@talktalk.net](mailto:pburton6@talktalk.net)

**Philip Burton**  
[pburton6@talktalk.net](mailto:pburton6@talktalk.net)

## Wallingford U3A

Our speaker on **3 April**, His Honour Patrick Eccles QC, a former judge, will talk about his work in the judiciary.

**25 April.** We visit Bletchley Park, the home of the WWII Code Breakers, and the birth place of the modern computer. There are interesting gardens, and a number of cafes on site.

Our meetings are held at 2.00pm on the first Wednesday of each month in Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome.

For more details please visit our website: [u3awebsites.org.uk/Wallingford](http://u3awebsites.org.uk/Wallingford), or phone Marilyn on **01491 651692** or Jill on **01491 835994**. Better still is to drop by to the Wednesday meeting to see what you think: lecture, tea and biscuits and conviviality.

## What's on in Wallingford



## 'The Turbulent Lifetime of Thomas Vachell'

Tony Hadland will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about 'The Turbulent Lifetime of Thomas Vachell'

Thomas Vachell was the heir of an old Reading gentry family; his wife was a Reade from Abingdon. Thomas's father suppressed the hugely wealthy Reading Abbey, yet Thomas doggedly stuck to 'the old faith'. His story spans five monarchs and four changes of religion. He became the most fined man in Oxfordshire, his wealth was seized in a government raid and, as a result of 'swimming against the tide', he fell out with his wife. Thomas Vachell's story illustrates some of the huge changes England went through in the Tudor and early Stuart era – and it has a fairly happy ending!

Our speaker is a retired chartered building surveyor, information scientist and operational risk manager. Today, Tony is a historian, writer and broadcaster specialising in bicycle history and various aspects of local and family history. Since retiring the first time, he has been administrator of the Vale & Downland Museum and editor of Oxfordshire Family Historian.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 10 April**, 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 Gardening Club

**Thursday 11 April at 7:30pm,**  
Ridgeway Community Centre, Old Buildings off Wood Street  
OX10 0EW.

**The Bill Baker Memorial Lecture**  
**How to be a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Gardener – Timothy Walker**  
We welcome Timothy back; he will be speaking on how the changes we are seeing in our weather and climate can impact us, then the many ways gardeners can reduce this impact on the world's natural resources... *It's much more than global warming and peat!*

Timothy has held positions at Oxford Botanical Gardens, Saville Gardens, and Kew Garden he is a lecturer in Biological Sciences at the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Oxford. He has won four gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show. From 1988 – 2014 he was Horti Praefectus of the University of Oxford Botanical Garden and Harcourt Arboretum.

New members will be warmly welcomed; the annual subscription is £10. Visitors are most welcome, admission is just £3.00.

**Aleck 07734 889717**  
[www.wallingford-gardening-club.com](http://www.wallingford-gardening-club.com)

## Day by day

Fri 5 Apr	<b>Lent Lunch</b> 12.30pm Church House High St DoT  Primary School End of term Service 1.15pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 6 April	<b>Spring Flower Show</b> Exhibitors Viewing Village Hall  Wedding 2.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 7 Apr	<b>Lent 5</b> 8.00am Holy Communion (1662) (Rev'd Rachel Carnegie)  10.30am Morning Service  5.00pm Choral Evensong with the Frideswide Choir
Tues 9 Apr	10.15am Short Communion
Wed 10 Apr	<b>Lunch Club</b> 12.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 11 April	<b>Thursday Club</b> 3.00pm Village Hall
Fri 12 Apr	<b>Wellness Day</b> For cancer survivors 12noon-6.00pm Village Hall  <b>Lent Lunch</b> 12.30pm 24 Bridge End DoT
Sun 14 Apr	<b>Palm Sunday</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy's)  10.30am Sung Eucharist with Procession followed by APCM  6.00pm Team Service

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)



Tues 16 Apr	<b>DADS</b> Play reading evening 7.30pm Village Hall
Wed 17 Apr	<b>Chiropodist</b> Village Hall (see p25)  <b>Annual Parish Meeting</b> 7.30pm Village Hall  <b>Parish Council</b> Monthly Meeting Village Hall  <b>Culham Horticultural Soc</b> Allergic to Annuals by Marina Christopher 7.30pm Abbey Guest House
Thurs 18 Apr	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 11.00 am Blessing of oils service  6.30pm Meal and Communion  <b>Classic Car Show,</b> 1.00-4.00pm George Hotel
Fri 19 Apr	<b>Good Friday</b> <b>Lent lunch</b> 12.00pm Abbey Guest House  1.00pm Devotion  <b>OSJ Concert</b> 6.00pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 20 Apr	<b>Tea Room</b> Season opening 2.30pm Abbey Tea Room
Sun 21 Apr	<b>Easter Sunday</b> 8.00 am Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booy's)  10.30am Family Communion  5.00pm Evensong

Wed  
24 Apr **Historical Society**  
Tony Hadland  
'Covert Catholics of Dorchester and District'  
7.30pm  
Village Hall

Sat  
27 Apr **Wedding**  
12.noon  
Dorchester Abbey

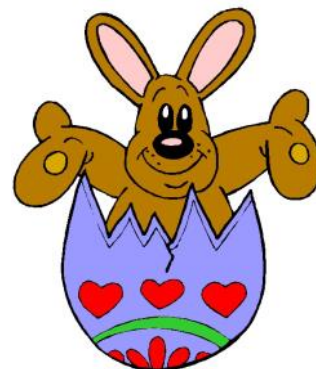
Sun  
28 Apr **Easter 2**  
8.00am  
Holy Communion (1662)  
(Canon Sue Booy's)  
  
10.30am  
Sung Eucharist

**Tennis Club**  
Spring Tournament  
2.30pm  
Recreation Ground

## Weekly events

Monday	<b>Tai Chi</b> 2.00pm Village Hall <b>Fishmonger</b> 3.30pm by War Memorial (page 25)
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)



## Happy Easter



## CONTACTING THE POLICE

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

## HEALTH SERVICES

### DIRECT LINE TO URGENT LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

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

### MINOR INJURIES

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

### A&E

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

### SURGERIES

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

### ROOM HIRE

#### ABBEY GUEST HOUSE BOOKINGS

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

#### ABBEY 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.

#### ABBEY 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 5 Apr **Black**  
Fri 12 Apr **Green**  
Sat 20 Apr **Black**  
Sat 27 Apr **Green**

**Weekdays from 7.00am**  
**Saturdays from 6.00am**

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

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

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The background of the poster is a classical painting depicting the Entombment of Christ. It shows Joseph of Arimathea on the left, looking upwards with a sorrowful expression, holding the body of Jesus. Mary the Virgin is on the right, her face in profile, looking down at the body with a grief-stricken expression. The body of Jesus is wrapped in a white shroud and is being placed into a stone tomb. The scene is dimly lit, with strong contrasts between light and shadow, emphasizing the tragedy of the event.

osj50

Dorchester Abbey  
Good Friday 19 April 6pm

SJE Arts  
Saturday 20 April 7.30pm

Orchestra of St John's  
OSJ Voices  
OSJ Ashmolean Voices

BACH

**Cantata 82**

SCHUBERT

**Stabat Mater**

VERDI

**Stabat Mater**

[osj.org.uk](http://osj.org.uk)