Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

June 2019





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Cover picture: The Abbey towers over the rooftops on a hot day.

Deadline for July/August Dorchester News



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

DoT view

Several pages in this issue celebrate the success of the 2019 Dorchester Festival, and, as I write, we await the English Music Festival, yet to come. After the busy May of the two festivals, June moves into a slightly quieter mode, with hopefully warm sunny languorous days in which we can luxuriate.

Not that everything goes completely quiet.

On Saturday 15 June Benson Choral Society give us their summer concert after which you can relax looking around the garden of The Manor House in the afternoon of the 16th.

Things pick up again a few days later when the DADS summer offering opens in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th, running through to Saturday 22nd. This year it is Sex Please We're Sixty, an adult farce, in case you hadn't guessed from the title which is very funny.

Also on the 22nd is the Safari Supper; an excellent way to get to meet people, or just to be able to go to a couple of houses that you might not have visited before.

So let's hope for some warm days to go with the long evenings, in which we can relax, but there is still plenty in Dorchester to keep us entertained.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team

Editorial Team
Ian Brace, Megan Parry

Distribution Co-ordinator Maurice Day

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Talking Point

Revd Caroline King

On Sunday 9 June we celebrate the feast of Pentecost (Whitsun). In our church year Pentecost completes the season of Easter. I like to see it as a part of a journey that begins with Ash Wednesday and continues through Lent and Holy Week and into Eastertide. All together it is a journey of about 100 days and one that begins with ashes and ends with fire. The fire of Pentecost is the stuff and breath of life; it is life inspiring; life giving and sends the church out in the world to proclaim boldly.

The Pentecost story is very vivid and can be found in Acts 2. It is a well-known biblical passage, but it is important to read afresh each year. Jesus' friends are depressed, fright-ened, closed in, praying, alone. The spirit strikes suddenly, frightening-ly—like a mighty wind—and blows them out of their depression into the world.

The reading is very dramatic, yet the everyone might have opportunity to spirit isn't always mighty wind. God's experience the dramatic wind of the

Holy Spirit can equally be present in less dramatic ways. The Spirit is at work through the quiet visit of a friend, through the gift of a cake left on the doorstep, and through the gentle word to someone facing an ordeal we can't share but want them to know we care about them.

The biblical story of Pentecost happened in the open air, and I like to think that this reminds us that the place of the church is not behind closed doors, but it is called to be out in the world, amongst people; speaking truth boldly to power, loving the stranger, sharing faith. Pentecost is not a feast about safety and security but of risk and growth.

Our call as people of faith is to find the right words and acts to be Jesus to our own community. What works is using our own gifts, time and energy to take God's mighty wind and quiet whisper out the doors, so that everyone might have opportunity to experience the dramatic wind of the Spirit and that quiet whisper of encouragement. It can be tricky to hold together but I continue to believe that God's Spirit can be both power and gentleness.

Looking back at my life I would have to say that my personal experiences of the nudges of the spirit have always been more of gentleness than power. I have never experienced a powerful moment of conversion or a dramatic experience of the presence of God's Holy Spirit. I would be a fool to suggest that God never came in that way or that God only ever came in power and drama.

Whenever God's Spirit comes, we will recognize it by its fruits. It will break down barriers, it will welcome outsiders, reconciles the separated, and energizes our own spirits. If it drives us further apart it is not of the Spirit. Through the gift of Pentecost God offers inspiration and eternal life to all, and always in a language we can understand.

Ordination Sunday 23 June

On Sunday 23 June we shall once again be hosting the Dorchester Area Ordinations at the Abbey. The day a person is Ordained as a Priest is a major landmark in their lives – almost like a marriage – and we are always delighted to offer hospitality to our Bishop and the Candidates, their families and friends. This is a public service and everyone is welcome to join us. Because it is a major celebration all the things we like in a service are present: fantastic singing, good preaching and a great sense of occasion. Everyone is most welcome to come and greet our Bishop and to share this special occasion.

Team Service 30 June

Culham 10.30am with Revd Michael Lakey.

Lent Lunches raise £775

Many thanks to all who supported the Lent Lunches this year. $\pounds 775$ was raised.

£150 was donated to the Wallingford food bank and £625 sent to The Porch and Stepping Stones, helping the homeless.

Many, many thanks to all the hosts.

Meg Fisher Dawn Dudley

Morning Service Sunday 7 July with Revd Jen Brown

We are delighted that Jen Brown will be sharing her expertise and also leading this service whilst The Rector is at General Synod. The talk title is *To the glory of God and for the good of all: Christianity and the application of science*.

John Mills

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Mills will be held at Dorchester Abbey on **Monday 10 June** at 11.30am.



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The Lunch Club

All members of the Dorchester Lunch Club are invited to a tea at 3.00pm in the garden at Cranmer Cottage, 90 High Street on **Tuesday 25 June**, by kind invitation of Hilary Warburton. If the weather is very wet then it will be held in the Guest House upper room instead. There will be no charge for the tea but if you would like to make a donation to the 'Air Ambulance' then that would be warmly welcomed.

It would be helpful if we knew in advance who would like to come to the tea, so please leave a message on Susan Jupp's phone **01865 341066** to confirm that you would like to attend, if possible please do so before **17 June**. Also any Dorchester resident who is retired and would like to join the Dorchester Lunch Club when we restart the lunches in October, would be welcome to come to the tea, just contact me by **17 June**.

Susan Jupp

(Organiser of the Dorchester Lunch Club)

HENGEA sense of place



Entry to the Underworld - preliminary study

Encounters with Dorchester's ancient hidden landscape. September 20th -22nd.

Village

Salisbury Cathedral and Close Saturday 6 July 2019

For those of you still thinking of joining us for the visit to Salisbury please apply by 10 June at the latest – see below for details.

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 18th 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.

09.00 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 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

Pre School

The Children had a fun return to preschool following the Easter holidays, with the infamous

Easter Bonnet Parade. The highly coveted prizes this year went to Charlie, Cora, Ptolemy and Brook; a 'very well done' to them and also all the children who took part. There were some fantastic creations on display this year.

Many thanks also to the scattering of parents and children who helped with the spring garden tidy up. The time you generously gave up has allowed the children to play in the main garden again, and hopefully more fun can be had as the weather improves. A special thanks to Francesca, Bethany and Nicky alongside the children and the preschool committee members for your efforts. It is much appreciated.

On that note, we would be very grateful if any local residents or parents with green





fingers and some spare time could help We would love to hear from you - the big us with garden maintenance as the weather hopefully heats up. Please contact admin@dorchesterpreschool.co.uk call the preschool on 341805 with your details if you are interested in helping in any way and we will get in touch with

Sticking with the garden theme, there are some budding gardeners at Pre School who have enjoyed planting radishes, carrots and beetroots since their return from Easter Holidays. This is alongside the myriad of activities enjoyed inside, including building a castle and learning about Princes and Princesses. You can see from the photographs that the children really enjoy learning and playing here and there are a few places available for September if you know of anybody who is looking for an exceptional Pre School to send their children to (please use the contact details above).

smile from Alexander, who started recently, shows he is very happy to be here.

The manager's award is a weekly award given to a child who has 'stood out' during the week in one way or another. This could be by doing something kind or caring, helping the Pre School staff. There are many different reasons. Since the last newsletter, Charlie, Alexandra, Fred, Alexandra and Netta have received this - well done to all of them.

I hope you enjoy looking at the photographs!

Lauren Collett Secretary **Dorchester Pre School**

-Victoria Dyde-

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St Birinus Primary School News



Our recent term was the shortest crow trail. Did you manage to of the year – only five weeks, but work out our song – it did have a with so much to squeeze in. We little link to school life (*I'd like to* started the term by making our *teach the world to sing*). scarecrow for the festival scare-





Our Annual May Dancing was held on 3 May, a chance for the children to show a variety of country dances and dancing around the Maypole. It is always a highlight of the year for me and this year was no exception despite the rain that started as soon as the first dance began until the big finale of the Circassian Circle with parents, friends and the children.

We followed this with our opening ceremony for our new play equipment – the children and I had managed to get the red ribbon around all the equipment without it slipping down. Thank you to the PTA for helping to raise some of the money and to Paul King for coordinating the project. We all certainly love playing on it.



Finally, well done to Mrs Harding for her great abseiling during the Dorchester Festival – we are all so proud of her.

Early warning — on the evening of **Tuesday 23 July**, Mrs Gauden is busy getting parents and even me to perform in a special concert in the Abbey to raise money for the school. We hope you will all be able to join us — more details are given below.

Russell Leigh Headteacher Dorchester St Birinus CE Primary School

Tuesday 23 July, 6.00pm in Dorchester Abbey A Summer Concert

Are you a parent or former parent at our village school? Do you work here or

have you in the past worked here? programme, featuring staff and would like to hear from anyone types of music are very welcome.



We are putting together a concert parents, past and present, and who would like to perform. All

types of music are very welcome. Proceeds will support music within the school.

Please contact the school on **01865 340081** or sarah.gauden@btopenworld.com

Dorchester Parochial Education Trust

The Dorchester Parochial Education Trust exists to 'promote the education of persons under the age of 25 who are resident in the parish or who attend a school in the parish'.

This means that we are able to support financially in cases where a child or young person in Dorchester or Dorchester St Birinus School would otherwise find an educational activity prohibitively expensive. Examples may include school trips, music lessons, equipment for art or sport, or a book grant for further/higher education. The trust is able to consider applications for a wide range of support, where a grant would enable participation.

If you feel that your child or young person would benefit from such support, please contact the Trust directly, by email or letter. Your application would be treated in confidence.



Richard Winslet Secretary to the Trustees richardwinslet@gmail.com

c/o Dorchester Abbey Office 8 Manor Farm Road **Dorchester on Thames** Wallingford Oxon. OX10 7HZ

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Dorchester Golf Society

On 2 May the DOGS set out for Flackwell Heath, it seemed to be a much better idea than worrying about the election.

Flackwell Heath is set in the Chilterns alongside the M40 near High Wycombe. The course certainly was hilly, testing skills honed on the flat courses in South Oxfordshire. Uphill lies,



downhill lies and balls above and below one's feet led to a plethora of duffs and tops until we acclimatised. This was reflected in the scores with only two players breaking 30 points.

Only Tom Metcalfe and Steve Puddifoot came to terms with the course scoring 32 and 33 points respectively, Steve's thanks to a very impressive 21 points on the back nine.

Mike Rimmer was nearest the pin on the 3rd and Tom Metcalfe on the 18th. Tom claimed the birdie pot and generously donated his winnings to the Captain's charity.

The day was completed with a few beers and an excellent curry in the Club House.

Our next outing is to Calcot near Reading on 21 June.

If anyone would like to join our low key golf escapades they are very welcome.

John Edwards 01865 343062 Wimbledon 2019

Two lucky members' names were drawn in our club ballot and received a pair of tickets for Centre and No.1 courts. I'm sure they will have a great day at the championships.



Spring Tournament

We had a good turn-out to our Spring

Tournament at the end of April, and there were some close fought matches. Congratulations to Mandy Hipkins and Chris Smith who surprisingly beat Liz and Duncan Lochhead for the trophy. Pimm's and afternoon tea was enjoyed by everyone.

Adult Coaching

Wednesday morning coaching continued through April and May - if you would like to find out more please contact us.

Weekly Court Schedule 2019

Sunday

10.30 am to 1.00pm - Open club session

Wednesday

Adult coaching 9.00am – 11.00am 11.00am – 1.00pm Open club Session

Thursday

10.30 am - 12.30 pm - Open club session

Friday

10.30 am - 12.30 pm Ladies' morning

Saturday

9.30 am - 1.00 pm Gentlemen's morning

Enquiries to Chris Smith chriscssmith@btinternet.com
Tel **01865 341947**



Dorchester Cricket Club

Results, 4 May 2019:

Combe (157/8) beat Dorchester I (123 all out) Dorchester II (121 all out) lost to Hook Norton II (193 all out)

The opening day of the league cricket season brought double disappointment for Dorchester.

The first team travelled to newly promoted Combe and restricted the hosts to 157 on a tricky pitch. Dan Alderson took 3/27 and Steve McComb took 3/25.

Sadly, Dorchester lost regular wickets in reply, with only manof-the-match Alderson providing any resistance with a classy

The second team hosted Hook Norton seconds at Dorchester and also fielded first. Lawrence Belcher showed his experience with a miserly 3/16 from 10 overs but the visitors had already made an imposing 193 by the time they were bowled out.

A number of Dorchester batsmen made starts, but only John Hyde (30) scored over 20 and eventually the villagers were all out for 121.



Above: Dan Alderson batting against Combe Below James Neal plays on the front foot (Dan Alderson at nonstriker's end)



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This year marks the 175 anniversary of the opening of the line from Didcot to Oxford and the opening of Culham Station.

You probably know that Culham Station is the nearest railway station to Dorchester, although the infrequency of trains that stop there means that few of us ever use it. Did you know, though, of its historic importance, in that it is one of the few, remaining stations built by Brunel and still standing as it was originally built.

The line from Didcot to Oxford was opened by the Great Western Railway on 12 June 1844, along with a new station at Didcot and intermediate stations at Appleford and Culham (which appears as 'Dorchester Road' on initial drawings but was opened as 'Abingdon Road' by which name it was known until 1856). Radley was opened later in 1873. The line was built to the broad gauge of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, with a track gauge of 6ft 0¼ins which lasted here until 1872 until conversion to standard gauge.

To mark the opening of the line, a series of events are being held om **Saturday 15 June**. These include:

- A special all day ticket for travel anywhere between Didcot and Oxford by train or by special bus
- A display at Culham station
- A steam-themed fête at Appleford
- Special events at Didcot Railway Centre
- Exhibitions and tours in Oxford

It is also expected that *Flying Scotsman* will pass from Oxford to Didcot between 6.00pm and 6.30pm at the head of a special train from Paddington to Worcester and back.

Although the official celebrations will be on Saturday 15 June, the exhibitions at Culham Station will also be open on **Sunday 16 June**, Father's Day.

For more detail about what's on at Culham see the panel to the right.

Culham Station 175 and the Didcot to Oxford railway 15/16 June

What's on at Culham Station Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 June

At the Old Ticket Office:

- Display of GWR memorabilia including original books, staff magazines, tickets, jigsaws and uniforms
- Display of model railway items in four scales from '0' down to 'Z' including wagons from local coal merchants
- Illustrated history of Culham station, featuring original plans from 1843
- Display of items from 1935 celebrating the centenary of the GWR
- Video display of steam excursions that have passed through Culham
- Learn about the links with Nuneham House and how the station was visited by the King in 1909

Free souvenirs to collect and take home:

- Souvenir vintage style ticket
- Coloured information leaflet
- Postcards of the Old Ticket Office and potted history of the station
- Colouring sheets
- Discovery Trail booklet for children and grown ups too
- Building sheets to download and make your own models of the Old Ticket Office on Platform 2 and the original Waiting Rooms on Platform 1
- Sample packs of acid free card, ideal for model making

Books and memorabilia for sale:

- Original GWR wooden jigsaws from the 1930s
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Flying Scotsman passing through Culham in 2017







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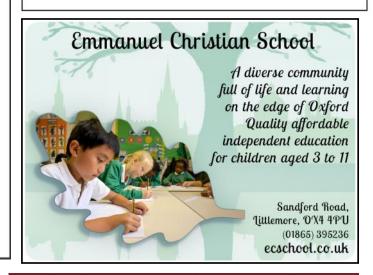


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URST WATER MEAD

ver two days at the beginning of May (and just in time for the Festival Duck Race) engineers worked on the access bridge to the Hurst meadow in order to widen it.

The work was carried out by JR Hill and Sons of Henley and involved fabricating new steel base-plates for the stanchions and then cantilevering these out on either side of the concrete bridge. Three new quard rails were also fitted to replace those damaged by the hay baler last year. The increased bridge width is necessary to allow the passage of larger farm machinery to take the annual hay cut on the Hurst.

Work by our volunteers is still required to align fences and the pedestrian gate with the outer sides of the bridge, as well as to fit a safety barrier to prevent small pooh-sticks enthusiasts from slipping under the lowest guard rail and into the river.

This has been a necessary expense for the Trust and one reason why we are so grateful for your donations that help us to undertake such work.

Exciting news from the Trust is outlined in the press release below. We are participating, in partnership with the Earth Trust, to enhance areas of wetland on our meadows that border the Thame between Dorchester Bridge and the Thames confluence. The proposed overall scheme involves land on both sides of the Thames and funding has been granted to the Earth Trust for



this work, subject to receiving all necessary permissions. Walkers will see surveyors (land, water and archaeology) in the meadows during the coming weeks and we will keep everyone informed of progress by means of Dorchester News, the Parish Council, and notices posted on site. If you have any particular questions or concerns about this proposal please contact us.

> Gillian Johnson (Hon Secretary) Richard Farrant, (Chairman) hurstwatermt@gmail.com www.hurst-water-meadow.org.uk

Creating vital wetland habitats: Earth Trust and partners to embark on River of Life II

new partnership project to revive and create natural riverside wetland systems and increase biodiversity. Building on the first wetland creation project, River of Life, near Shillingford, Earth Trust is partnering with local landowners, Church Farm Partnership and The Hurst Water Meadow Trust, to improve water ecosystems Chief Executive of Earth Trust. along the Rivers Thames and Thame.

Land next to rivers and streams can provide healthy life support systems for all life through biodiverse, functioning, natural freshwater ecosystems. To do this, land needs to be able to slow down and filter water. This can be done through the addition of wetland features such as ponds and water channels within the floodplain. The creation of these features improves the quality of the landscape. These features also provide havens for spawning fish and wildlife essential to a thriving living system, from dragonflies to kingfishers and otters.

Earth Trust is delighted to announce it is 'Our first River of Life landscape scale The project will also fund the creation of to receive a Water Environment Grant, project was hugely successful and pioneering. several new ponds in Little Wittenham through the European Agricultural Fund It created an incredible new wetland eco- Wood, home to one of the country's most for Rural Development, for an exciting system on the Thames, demonstrating significant populations of great crested the management of water and wetlands in newts. These new ponds will help the landscape, and the benefits and value strengthen the population of newts and of water to society. We're delighted to other amphibians as our climate changes receive this funding enabling us to work in the future. Little Wittenham Wood is with other local landowners to build on managed by Earth Trust and is a designated this success, and re-wild more of Oxfordshire's riverside,' said Jayne Manley,

> River of Life II will create these vital wetland habitats at three locations within the Parishes of Long Wittenham, Little Wittenham and Dorchester-on-Thames: at Earth Trust's Clifton Meadow on the south bank of the River Thames; at Church Farm north of Days Lock; and at Overy Mead on the banks of the River Thame, managed by The Hurst Water Meadow Trust. The new habitats will include 16 ponds and seven backwater channels, plus wet woodland at each of the three locations, all of which will connect to the main river to provide a refuge habitat for fish.

a Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Area of Conservation due to its importance as a habitat for great crested

The funding will enable Earth Trust to put in place boardwalks amongst the features and way marking so that people can access and explore the wetland ecosystems.

Pre-construction work will begin this year and include discussions with local communities and other interested stakeholders, negotiating access agreements, archaeological and ecological surveys, and refining designs. The main earth works construction period will take place in summer 2020, followed by the final physical elements of the project relating to access and interpretation.











OXFORDSHIRE

art

WEEKS









Oxfordshire Art Weeks was in Dorchester between 1 and 19 May. Sophia Stewart Liberty (above) exhibited her watercolours, as well as exhibiting at the Festival Art Exhibition.

Gill Whitten showed her quilts, seen left with a quilt depicting her family history. Showing with Gill was Ann Batchelor, who works in denim and made these storage pockets, left, from old jeans.



The Friends of Dorchester Abbey and the Beauforest Society

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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** and the Friends' notice board in the Abbey.

For further information contact the membership secretary, Mrs Honor Juniper. **01865 343228** or email

friends@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



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15 Dorchester News June 2019

May Morning in Dorchester

n the morning of Sunday 5 May, and for the twenty-third time, TWO A PART, a group of a-cappella singers based in Dorchester, welcomed May with their concert in the Abbey, preceded by the traditional rendering of *Now is the Month of Maying, Calon Lân* (in Welsh) and *Cwm Rhondda* (in English) from the top of the tower.

An enthusiastic audience of around 80 people enjoyed a continental breakfast whilst listening to a short but eclectic programme including new compositions and arrangements for the group, as well as some TWO A PART favourites.





As a prelude to the Teddy Bears Service, which followed the concert, the programme began with the Teddy Bears Picnic and included three madrigals from the 16th Century, a couple of lively church anthems, an arrangement of *Hey Jude*, two original compositions for the Group (*The Lobster Quadrille* and *The Blue Cuckoo*) and, as a finale, *When the Foeman Bears his Steel* from *The Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert and Sullivan. The programme ended with this year's YoCO group, led by John Cornelius and accompanied by the TWO A PART drum-and-bass section, giving a rousing rendering of *Jambo!*, YoCo's African Anthem.

Ticket sales raised £380, shared between the Festival Charities and Youth Challenge Oxfordshire (YoCO) www.yoco.online. Donations on the day for YoCO raised a further £283.

YoCO is a local charity established to support young people aged 14 - 21 in youth groups following a guided 18-month pro-



gramme designed to help them overcome the problems that they face during teenage years, by developing resilience and confidence. The programme includes a week-long visit volunteering at the Nasio Trust's Centres for AIDS orphans in Kenya.

Many thanks to all those who gave of their time, talents and cash: the team providing breakfast, Dorchester Festival for ticket sales and publicity, Dorchester Co-op for ticket sales and for getting up early to cook the croissants. Particular thanks also to the Abbey for once again providing such a unique venue.

Tim Cook

Photographs: Top: TWO A PART'. Left: Drum and bass section. Bottom right: YoCo singing. All Copyright Jim Asher



Royal Institute of British Architects







Dorchester Festival 2019

The 2019 Dorchester Festival is over. As I write we don't yet know how much has been raised, but judging from the number of events, more than 60 over the course of the two weeks, the number that sold out and the sheer number of people around the village, it has been another great success, bringing fun and delight to many, regardless of what has been raised.

With that number of events no one, not even Steph and Nick Forman can have been to everything, although they will have been at most of them, making sure that things

went smoothly. But on these pages are my take of the 2019 festival, reflecting some of the events that I attended. Everyone will have different memories but here are some of mine.

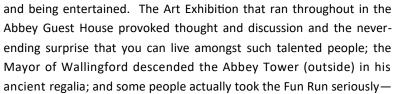
Once the scarecrows were up, we could start properly with The Big Bash. Someone said to me afterwards that they thought they wouldn't go this year, but then they sat at home that Friday evening saying to each other 'They'll be starting now' and 'I expect the band will be playing soon' and regretting their decision. And so they should. It was a great evening with good food and a great band and everybody dancing until they could dance no more. What a start.

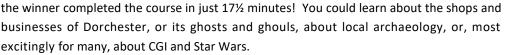
The marvellously-decorated tent with its hundreds of hanging tassels ('I've not seen so many tassels since my days in the West End' said one friend) was the venue for much of



what was to follow: children's entertainers (Dizzy Dean certainly made me laugh), the folk , jazz and comedy nights, as well as the Food and Gift Fair on the second weekend.

But it wasn't just about sitting back







the Abbey with sound on the first Saturday, the Tallis Scholars on the second, and Out of the Blue on the second Sunday, with John Rutter and early evening concerts in between.

One of the most surprising events for me was the Open Mic, held at The White Hart. There were some excellent musicians, but



ean entertains







what made it such a fascinating evening was the variety, with our own James Pratt kicking things off with some poems and songs, setting a standard that not everybody else was able to live up to! There was talk of making this a more frequent event, which I for one would support.

Fortunately, when it mattered the rain held off. Many of the scarecrows got battered by the rain and storms mid-week, but the dog show, duck race and Fun Run on the first weekend it held off and for the second weekend the sun appeared and we had two quite nice days. Just as well given that the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, exploring wildlife on the Hurst and other outdoor activities were scheduled, as well as the street food on offer and al fresco performances by the Rock Choir, Our of the Blue and others on Sunday afternoon.

For many, well some, a highlight was the gin tasting on Wednesday evening. I was not there myself but members of my family returned from that looking very happy.

Lots of people, including many families, continued to do the Scarecrow Trail right through the end of the Festival. What a great way this is of getting both villagers and visitors to get out and about in

Dorchester and discover bits that they might not have previously known. And well done to the 30 families who created the scarecrows. Unfortunately some of the scarecrows were vandalised this year. Whoever thought that that was clever or funny, it wasn't.

The second weekend was not only the Food and Gift Fair, covered on the following pages, but the cookery demonstrations from renowned chef Nick Galer and our own Claire Andersson, and Christine Wallace this year judged our own mini Bake Off for cakes submitted by both adults and children. But a lot of cakes were not being judged but served on the other side of the tent, along with what must have amounted to thousands of cups of tea over the course of the week.

The people who served the teas and cakes were a part on army of volunteers who made all these events happen from moving chairs and stages, hanging (and removing) all those tassels, and the thousand and one other jobs that make Dorchester Festival happen. And that wouldn't be possible without all the work and panning put in by Steph and Nick Forman who once again masterminded what a lot of us have come to expect—a brilliant Dorchester Festival. We all owe them a he debt of gratitude.

And I can't believe that I missed the rector walking on custard! She is just going to have to do that again at the next Festival!

Ian Brace











Dorchester Festival Food and Gift Fair

The Food and Gift Fair was officially opened at 10.00am on Saturday 11 May by Nawamin Pinpathomrat., a finalist in the 2018 Masterchef television series. Here he is seen on the Style Acre static bike, helping to raise funds, and far right, Masterchef meets Bake Off, when he was pictured with Christine Wallace.

Below, pies from Mighty Pie Company were piled high here but had mostly gone by the end of the fair.

Bottom: Fabulously Faux Flowers put on a colourful display.





Right: Chris Ellis is seen here displaying her jewellery.

Bottom right: Elise Barnard shows her pictures and cards of local and other scenes.









Top left: Emma Armstrong of *Mugs, Jugs and More* with her much admired Polish pottery. **Above**: Immy Howard displayed lovely hairpieces and hats. **Below left**: The *Made by Me* stall included these bottle tops collected in West Africa and turned into magnets and key rings to raise money for primary schools in Gambia. For more about this see Wullingkamma Nursery School on Facebook.

Bottom left: Fresh food from Riverford Organics

Here: Debbie Farrell with her amazing embroidered landscapes



Norman Blissett 1933-2019

From the graveside funeral service in Dorchester Cemetery on 29 April 2019.

Happy The Man: John Dryden

Happy the man, and happy he alone, He who can call today his own; He who, secure within, can say, Tomorrow do thy worst, for I have lived today.

Be fair or foul or rain or shine The joys I have possessed, in spite of fate, are mine.

Not Heaven itself upon the past has power.

But what has been, has been, and I have had my hour.

I hope Norman would have appreciated that sentiment, 'what has been, has been and I have had my hour'.

In the passing of Norman Blissett, we have lost another of Dorchester's village characters. With his door always open at his cottage at 52 Watling Lane, not much passed Norman by, and at 85 years he lived his life to the end, just as he wanted, his own way.

Norman was born in Roke and moved to Dorchester with his parents and elder brother Brian, when the boys were young. Brian met Ruth, married and moved to Switzerland, where he had two daughters Angela and Karen. Brian is 91 years old and unable to travel, yet, he and his family are with us in spirit today.

Unlike Brian, Norman never left. His ...well, that and the army of friends and brief time in the Close at Burcot brought to close a life spent in Dorchester, and with that in mind we felt it was important that he was returned to the village he loved and to the cemetery where his nurses' appointments and the market. parents Rose and William are buried.

Norman loved the outdoors, so we asked Reverend Sue if she would conduct a graveside service.



He was a skilled carpenter and builder having learned his trade here. He was a very keen angler, particularly loving flyfishing and his trips to Scotland with his friends. His spiritual home was The Chequers pub, with his friends and Jane, the landlady.

He had a hard life - it was his dogged determination that kept him going, cutting wood, his daily trips to the Co op to see Ethel and Carol, digging his allotment and picking fruit...

neighbours upon whom he grew increasingly to rely (although he would never admit it) to bring him wood, coal, take him to Wallingford, to doctors' appointments, Often it came as a last minute request as he would arrive on the doorstep with a request to be transported somewhere in the next 20 minutes, and the line: 'Don't worry, I'll find my own way back.'

Norman wasn't always easy. He could be stubborn and opinionated. but he knew that the village of Dorchester was the only place he would ever get the love and support he depended on. In recent years Social Services suggested housing him in Oxford, he told them he would 'bloody walk home'. And when Bishops Court Farm was being fenced with barbed wire he told me he had sharpened his wire cutters and was ready for action. His currency was the blackcurrants, apples and walnuts he would deliver as thanks.

We all have memories of this village character and his many stories, and by coming together and sharing them in The George over a pint, we hope we will have brought a smile to his face and done him proud.

> **Becky Waller Chrissie Wright Catherine Paul**

May we, through Dorchester News, express our, and others, profound admiration to Mrs Becky Waller, and Norman's near neighbour Chrissie and Catherine Paul, who between them made such appropriate arrangements for Norman Blissett's graveside funeral ceremony, which internment was conducted so sensitively by The Revd. Canon Sue Booys, with a touch of humour and with the backing of such a bright day. Norman Blissett was a rural character who over many years was such a part of the village life.

Terry & Beryl Fisher





Hempcroft Allotments June

23



April at the age of 86. He and his father before paid up. him had the same allotment plot on the Hempcroft allotments since 1947, right opposite

the house in Watling Lane where he later lived.

At the time of the Second World War there were many allotment of the Hempcroft Allotments. sites around Dorchester on Thames. The largest was the Hempcroft site but there were others; some were situated just

to the south of Watling Lane (behind present day 38 to 50) and others were near the old Abbey Barns. A large allotment is now the cemetery and Page Furlong was also an allotment (at the time known as Peach Furlong).

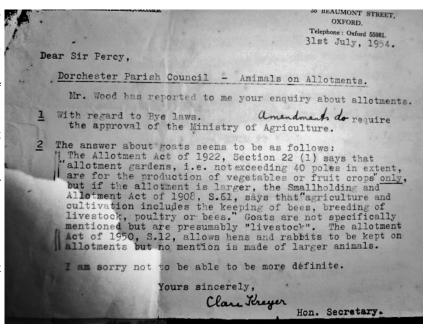
In 1944 Norman Blissett's father tried to get one of the Hempcroft allotment plots but there was a three year waiting list. Instead they took one behind the houses on Watling Lane. In 1947 Mr Blissett got a Hempcroft allotment and they kept a goat on it for some years. By all accounts the goat was a cantankerous smelly old thing which led to a number of complaints and finally correspondence between the Clerk of the Parish Council, Sir Percy Marsh, and the National Allotment Association with regard to the keeping of goats (see below)

During my tenure as Chairman of the Allotment society Norman Blissett never paid his rent on time and each year I had to go and collect it from him. I learnt most of the above from sitting around

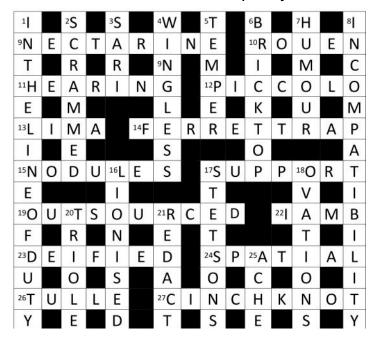
Norman Blissett passed away at the end of Norman's kitchen table listening to his stories until he finally

It seems appropriate that Norman is now buried in the Dorchester on Thames cemetery which used to be an allotment years ago. In the passing of Norman we have lost one of the old characters

> **Edward Metcalfe** 01865 340160



Dorchester News Crossword No. 8 Solution Compiled by Slider





Dorchester News June 2019

Inconsiderate parking on the footpath in the High Street

There have been increasing incidents of inconsiderate parking along the footpath in the High Street. At the narrowest point near Hair and the War Memorial it occurs on both sides of the road. And, at the southern end near the Abbey, in spite of the use of cones to try to deter parking, it is increasingly occurring outside the Lychgate and on the stretch around the blind bend to the Abbey Rose Walk gate.

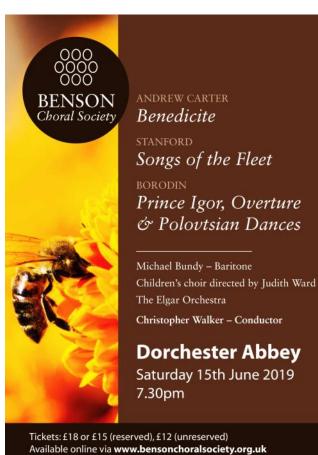
This has led to complaints to the Parish Council from parents of children and elderly residents who are unable to pass by using wheelchairs, pushchairs and buggies on the footpath as it is often blocked.

We would request that those responsible either use off street parking, the public car park in Bridge End or other designated free parking areas avoiding the footpath. If this practice continues the Parish Council will request that the police take appropriate action.

Dorchester on Thames Parish Council

Map showing parking pinch-points in red

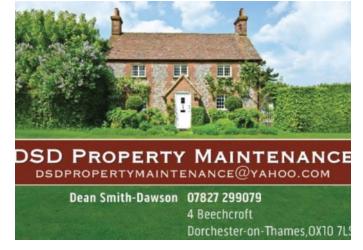




or phone Stephanie 01865 407395







Members

At the uncontested Parish Council Elections which took place on Thursday 2 May the following Councillors were elected: Michael Corran, Maurice Day, Chris Hill, Michael Rimmer, Keith Russell and Mark Williams. At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council which took place on Wednesday 8th May the following were co-opted to the Council: Rob Ballantyne and Viviane Quirke.

Officers 2019/20

Following the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council which took place on Wednesday 8 May the Chairman of the Parish Council is now Cllr Mark Williams and the Vice-chairman is Cllr Rob Ballantyne.

June Meeting

The June Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on **Wednesday 12 June**. The meeting will take place in the back room of the Village Hall. The Agenda will be posted on Parish noticeboards and on the Parish Council section of the Village website – https://www.dorchester-on-thames.co.uk/parish-council/ - three clear days in advance of the meeting.

All Parish Council meetings are open to the public; a resident who wishes to raise any matter of concern is welcome to do so at the start of the meeting.

Contacting the Parish Council

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

Telephone (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency) 07745 311439. Text messages are always welcome. email: parishclerk@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.



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Speedwatch

Speedwatch sessions will be taking place over the Summer months along with similar sessions in another village with whom we share the equipment. As previously requested, further volunteers will be most

welcome to join this important initiative.

The proposal below, previously included in the Dorchester News, has been amended to minimise the impact of additional street furniture. In addition, a detailed consultation will be required so that the Parish Council can assess the level of support for the suggestions:

'A proposal is to be 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 two permanent speed indicators similar to the one in Burcot; locations would be Meadside and Abingdon Road
- 3. Our County Councillor would be requested to arrange funding for the Speed Limit and Speed Indicators.
- 4. The Parish Council will consider this proposal in a future meeting and will be looking for Villagers' opinions.'

It is of note that our County Councillor has awarded funds to Culham Parish Council to support an application for speed limit reduction, as reported in the May issue of Dorchester News.

Contact email: parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

To Chris Hill (an open letter from a grateful resident)

Dear Chris,

Chris, you announced at this year's annual parish meeting that you would be stepping down as Chairman of the Parish Council at the end of your current term after four years in the role. Those of us in the village (me included) who have not been prepared to offer ourselves for service as Parish Councillors owe a debt of gratitude to you and your colleagues who have.

I would however like to take the opportunity on your retirement to thank you in particular. I am aware that in addition to keeping the ship on a steady course throughout the period, when it comes to:

- getting proverbial hands dirty in the implementation of a particular village initiative,
- agreeing to take the chair of a village sub-committee when other residents might have been unwilling to do so,
- attending outside, often time-consuming, meetings on a variety of subjects on behalf of the residents,

you have always been prepared to step forward.

So thanks from me for the last four years, and I'm relieved to hear you are continuing to stand as a parish councillor, at least for the time being.

Richard Winslet



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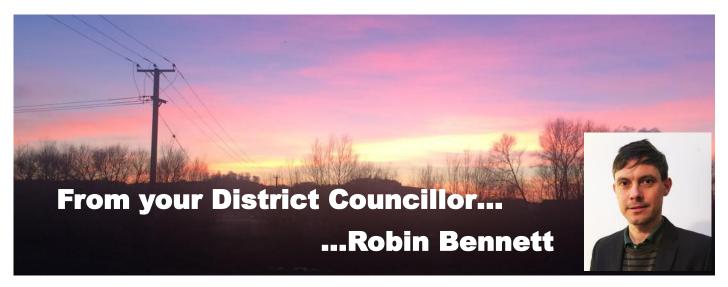
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Dear fellow residents,

This is my first report as District Councillor for Berinsfield Ward, which includes Dorchester and Drayton St Leonard as well as Berinsfield, written three days into my official tenure as councillor.

With the help of many local people, delivering leaflets and putting up posters, I was elected in the early hours of 3 May as the first Green councillor in South Oxfordshire with over 59% of the vote. By 9.00am (the full district vote count took 10 hours!) I had been joined by a further four Green councillors and an independent (who is a Green member), between us covering the entire A4074 corridor from Oxford to Reading.

change and supporting our convoice over the next four years.

The nature and scale of the indicate that people really feel if and that is what I will be working.

As someone who has voted Green forever, this is an exciting moment. When I lived in Oxford, I just put up a poster in my window and left it that; after I moved here I fortuitously met Mark Stevenson, who had stood many times in this ward and many of you will know, and helping him in 2015 was my first ever active political involvement. So perhaps one of you who generously put up my posters will be the next future councillor.

It is a real honour and privilege to represent you all – however you may have voted – and there is much to do.

The consequence of this electoral shift is that, at the time of writing, no party or goup has overall control of the District Council, so precise roles and policies are yet to be determined, but it is clear that the Green message of protecting our natural environment from over-development, combating climate change and supporting our communities will have a considerable voice over the next four years.

The nature and scale of the votes across South Oxfordshire indicate that people really feel it is time for a change of approach and that is what I will be working towards.

Thanks again for all your support and please feel free to contact my any time.

Robin Bennett
District Councillor for Berinsfield Ward
4 Meadside,
Dorchester on Thames

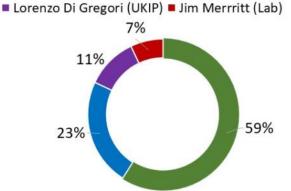
For casework please use Robin.Bennett@southandvale.gov.uk

Election to South Oxfordshire District Council 2 May 2019

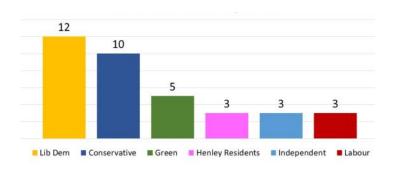
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Berinsfield Ward result

■ Robin Bennett (Green) ■ Stuart Scott-Ely (Con)



SODC Council composition



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More than 93 per cent get their first choice of primary school for 2019

More than nine out of ten parents whose children are set to enter the classroom for the first time this September have been offered their first choice of primary school in Oxfordshire. A total of 93% of the 7,125 applicants have received their first choice – above all recent national averages across the UK. The consistent high number of first choices achieved in Oxfordshire is due to the county council's careful forward planning to make sure the right numbers of school places exist – since 2010 the council has created more than 10,000 new primary school places. That means that since 2010 the number of primary school places in Oxfordshire has risen by 22%. About a fifth of that has been achieved via the building and opening of new schools and the rest through expansions of existing schools – new buildings, making better use of existing accommodation, or marginal increases in admission numbers. This year's figure of 93.4% for first preference offers compares with the 2018 figure of 92.8%. Oxfordshire remains ahead of the averages for 2018 (91%) and 2017 (90%).

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Henley-on-Thames revealed as start location for women's cycling race

Henley-on-Thames will be the start location for stage three of the OVO Energy Women's Tour professional cycling race. Full details of the Oxfordshire route were revealed at a ceremony at the town's Leander Club home to rowing greats like Sir Steve Redgrave CBE and Rebecca Romero – on Wednesday 12 June. The famous South Oxfordshire town will host a Big Bike Breakfast on the morning of the race, Wednesday 12 June. Crowds will line the streets, cheering off participants on the 145 kilometre-leg that will finish outside Blenheim Palace in West Oxfordshire. Elite cyclist Sophie Wright announced that Oxfordshire's race section will start from Market Place in the centre of Henley. Oxfordshire's county, city and district councils announced last month that a stage of the OVO Energy Women's Tour, the UK's most prestigious women's cycle race, had been agreed to race through the county for the next three years, in partnership with event organisers SweetSpot Group. From Henley, stage three will traverse the Chilterns via Pishill to Watlington, before returning via the climb of Britwell Hill to Goring and Wallingford, then through Didcot, Harwell and Wantage, crossing the Vale of White Horse to Faringdon, before looping through the West Oxfordshire towns of Burford, Charlbury and finally Woodstock in the closing kilometres.

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Dorchester News June 2019



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In recent weeks we have seen concern about climate change growing to unprecedented levels with it moving firmly into our national consciousness. It is an issue that I too take very seriously and am among those pleased that in Parliament we have declared a climate emergency - which now needs to be followed with action.

Last year, after the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was published, the Government asked the UK Committee on Climate Change for advice on setting a 'net-zero' emissions target. This committee published their findings on 2 May and the Minister is now looking at this evidencebased advice to determine just what actions we need to take. I look forward to some practical proposals with targets to which we can commit. Although historically in the UK we had indeed contributed to the problems our more recent track record of action on this is good and thus I am confident that we can rise to the challenge.

Whilst we cannot, and must not, be complacent, there is some good news. The UK passed the world's first Climate Change Act over a decade ago with cross -party support. This gave us both a framework to set statutory carbon budgets and set up the independent Committee on Climate Change. Since 2000, independent analysis shows that no other major industrialised country has done more than the UK to cut CO2 intensity (the measure of carbon for each pound of GDP). Overall the UK has cut emissions by more than 40% person basis than any other G7 nation.

We are on track to meet the 2050 target to reduce emissions of all greenhouse gases by 80 per cent - but now we may need to move the goalposts and set more ambitious targets.

Taking just one example, renewable electricity generation has quadrupled since 2010 and clean electricity now gives us over 50 per cent of our total. At the beginning of this month we had the news from the National Grid Electricity System Operator that we had reached a major milestone of 1000 hours without using coal to power our homes. I understand that this equates to a whole week, and is the first such week since the 1880s.

I am aware that there are differing views on the merits or otherwise of different measures, and rightly we should continue our research. But above all I would encourage positive action. We must all ask what we can do as our contribution to resolving this problem. I am pleased to see some of our local councils making their own Climate Emergency declarations and committing to work towards zero emissions in their operations. I am also pleased to see community groups getting together to see what each of us can do in our everyday lives and would be delighted to hear from the different groups about what you are doing. Often small changes replicated across the country can make a big difference. I was recently delighted to be introduced to 'Young Climate Warriors' an initiative of a Henley mum which encourages young people to take part in while growing the economy by more than collective action to help tackle climate two thirds, the best performance on a per change through a weekly shared challenge.

However, climate change is too broad a challenge for us to tackle alone. It is a global problem which needs global commitment to the solution and this is why international conferences on this are so important. We played an influential role in delivering the historic Paris Agreement in 2015 and only last year we helped create the first 'rulebook' to bring the Paris Agreement to life at the latest round of UN talks in Poland. We also need to help developing countries where action is needed. In Paris it was collectively agreed to include \$100 billion of support for poorer nations to mitigate, and adapt to, the impact of climate change. For the UK this amounts to £5.8 billion in international climate finance from 2016 to 2020. The UK has also offered to host the 2020 UN climate change conference (COP26).

I welcome learning more about what our communities are doing on this. You can email me at howellim@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 be on the circulation list for my e-newsletters and briefings please email me at

john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com.

For more information about my work both in Westminster and in the constituency please do visit my website which is regularly updated. The address is

www.johnhowellmp.com. You can also follow me on twitter @johnhowellmp or on Facebook

www.facebook.com/john.howellmp



Cinema: All regular performances start at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated.

Tickets £8 for adults, £5 for under 15 unless otherwise stated. Please look on www.cornexchange.org.uk for further updates on screenings

| OII SCIECII | iligo |
|------------------|---|
| June | |
| Sun 2 | Wild Rose (15) |
| Mon 3 | Mirai (PG) |
| Tues 4 | Wild Rose (15) |
| Wed 5 | John McEnroe - In the Realm of Perfection (PG) |
| Thurs 6 | Blue Angel (1930 black and white film starring Mailene Dietrich) |
| Sun 16 | Amazing Grace (U) |
| Mon 17 | Rocket Man (R) |
| Wed 19 | Rocket Man (R) |
| Thurs 20 | Rocket Man (R) |
| Fri 21 | Rocket Man (R) |
| Mon 24 | The Workshop (15) (part of the BFI world series films) |
| Tues 25 | Sometimes, Always, Never (PG) |
| Wed 26 Fri 28 | Sometimes, Always, Never (PG) Aladdin (PG) |
| Sat 29 | Aladdin (PG) 2.30pm |

LIVE SHOWS

Sat 29

Saturday, 1 June, 7:45pm: She Stoops to Conquer LAST NIGHT

Tickets £12

Sinodun Players present the classic comic play by Oliver Goldsmith. A timelessly funny farce about mistaken identity and class.

Belly laughs from beginning to end.

Aladdin (PG)

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).

Saturday 22 June, 8.00pm: Orlando Tickets £12

Dyad Productions present Rebecca Vaughan in this adaptation of Virginia Woolf's satirical novel. Drawing on a decade's worth of critically-acclaimed theatre-making, Dyad Productions – performer Rebecca Vaughan and writer/director Elton Townend Jones – explore what it means to find our place in the world whilst remaining utterly true to who we are.

LIVE SCREENINGS

Saturday 8 June, 8.00pm: Take That – Live Concert via Satellite from Cardiff
Tickets £12.50

Take That's 2019 tour will come to an exciting conclusion in Cardiff this summer. Gary Barlow, Howard Donald and Mark Owen are heading out on the road for their Greatest Hits Live tour. Their final show before heading abroad, taking place at the Principality Stadium in Cardiff on June 8, will be broadcast live at over 600 cinemas across the UK and Ireland. The entire concert, plus exclusive cinema content, will be shown at cinemas from 8pm. Take That said: 'We're so excited to be able to bring all our fans together for the last night of our UK tour – it's going to be a really special night for us. To have cinema audiences all around the UK and Ireland joining us here in Cardiff will be incredible – we can't wait. See you all really soon!'

Tuesday, 18 June, 7:15pm: The Royal Ballet: Romeo and Juliet

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

Recorded live at The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Conductor: Pavel Sorokin, Cast: Yasmine Naghdi, Matthew Ball

Kenneth MacMillan's passionate choreography for Romeo and Juliet shows The Royal Ballet at its dramatic finest. Sergey Prokofiev's iconic score provides the basis for the ballet's romantic pas de deux and vibrant crowd scenes, while 16th-century Verona is created by Nicholas Georgiadis's magnificent designs.

In 1965, MacMillan's Romeo and Juliet was given its premiere at Covent Garden by The Royal Ballet and was an immediate success: the first night was met with rapturous applause, which lasted for 40 minutes, and an incredible 43 curtain calls. The title roles were danced by Rudolf Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn, although the ballet had been created for Christopher Gable and Lynn Seymour. It has been performed by The Royal Ballet more than four hundred times since, as well as touring the world, and has become a true classic of the 20th-century ballet repertory.

Thursday, 27 June, 7.00pm: NT Live: Small Island Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (seniors and under 18s)

From the National Theatre in London, filmed live on stage as part of National Theatre Live's 10th birthday celebrations.

Andrea Levy's Orange Prize-winning novel Small Island comes to life in an epic new theatre adaptation directed by Rufus Norris.

Small Island embarks on a journey from Jamaica to Britain, through the Second World War to 1948 – the year the HMT Empire Windrush docked at Tilbury. The play follows three intricately connected stories. Hortense yearns for a new life away from rural Jamaica, Gilbert dreams of becoming a lawyer, and Queenie longs to escape her Lincolnshire roots. Hope and humanity meet stubborn reality as the play traces the tangled history of Jamaica and the UK. A company of 40 actors take to the stage of the National Theatre in this timely and moving story.

What's on in Wallingford

What did you say?

Didn't realise it was so extensive - (Wallingford resident)

The kids loved it - such fun! - (Oxford resident) A very well planned and laid out museum. One of the most interesting museums I have visited - (South African visitor) Haven't been for some time. Great to see changes - new exhibits and other archive rooms - (Wallingford resident)

These are just a few comments in Wallingford Museum's Visitors Book - visits that have been appreciated from far-andwide.

One of our exhibitions this year is the special 'Once upon a time ... the changing face of Wallingford'.

In this engaging journey of discovery throughout the museum, you are invited to share any local knowledge you may have and to reminisce about your own history. Old and young alike can enjoy 'hands on' activities, discovering the secrets of garden archaeology and tracing the passage of time through photographs and objects, all of which reflect the changing face of Wallingford.

This 'Family Friendly' exhibition runs throughout the museum, with a sheet to guide people round with a number of 'hands on' things for children.

Why not complement your visit by joining Wallingford's popular Guided Historic Town Walks, held on Saturdays starting from the Town Hall at 11.00am. The Walks are led by knowledgeable volunteers from Wallingford Museum, last 1 - 2 hours and cost £5 per head.

Stu Darby

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www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

Wallingford U3A

Our outing to Bletchley Park went well. Even people who had been several times before found lots of interest in the new refurbishments. Our visit to Highgrove is fully booked. In June we go to Petworth House. This is a National Trust, late 15th century, country house with wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons and an extensive art collection which includes many Turners. In July we are going to Buckingham Palace. At the time of printing there were still a couple of places for the October holiday in Cornwall. These holidays are great for couples and for singles: very friendly and lots of laughter.

5 June. Our speaker will be the inimitable and irrepressible Ken Fitt, who will talk to us about Alan J. Lerner. Another great Jazz musician, Ken will provide live music and flawless information.

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

For more details please visit our website:

u3awebsites.org.uk/Wallingford, or phone Hermione on 01865 858024, or Jill on 01491 835994.





'Oxfordshire in the British Civil Wars 1642-51'

Stephen Barker will talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society about 'Oxfordshire in the British Civil Wars 1642-51'.

There are few places in the county with no connections to the Civil Wars. Oxfordshire played a significant part after Oxford became the Royalist capital in late 1642 and the county was on the frontline with parliamentary Buckinghamshire. The county's story is that of King Charles, Prince Rupert, Cromwell, Fairfax, Waller as well as a number of women who played significant parts and whose stories are being widely told for the first time. Oxfordshire's story is that of the battles at Chalgrove and Cropredy; of amazing castles that once stood at Wallingford and Banbury and of Cromwell's raids in the Spring of 1645. This presentation will be fully illustrated, with personal accounts, archaeology and what can be seen today.

Stephen Barker is an independent Heritage Advisor who works with a number of museums, universities, charities and other heritage organisations to design exhibitions and make funding applications on their behalf. He is currently working with the History Faculty, University of Oxford and the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum. Stephen specialises in military history, particularly the First World War and British Civil Wars.

This talk will be held on **Wednesday 12 June**, 7.45 for 8.00pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford.

Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

Katharine Keats-Rohan www.twhas.org.uk

Chiropodist

Third Wednesday of each month, 1.00-4.00pm Village Hall (back room) 19 June

Tel: 07850 196714

Fishmonger

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

> Dorchester News June 2019

Day by day

Sat **Oxfordshire Cricket Association** 1 Jun Dorchester v Risinghurst Recreation Ground

Sun **Sunday after Ascension** 2 Jun 8.00am

> Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Caroline King)

10.30am

Morning Service with Church Army

12 noon **Baptism**

Sat 8 **Oxfordshire Cricket Association** Dorchester v Marcham Jun

Recreation Ground

Sun **Pentecost** 8.00 am 9 Jun

Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Michael Lakey)

> 10.30am Sung Eucharist

Tues 10.15am 11 Jun **Short Communion**

Wed **Parish Council Meeting**

12 Jun 7.30pm Village Hall

Thurs **Thursday Club** 13 Jun 3.00pm Village Hall

Sat Oxfordshire Cricket Association 15 Jun Dorchester II v Steventon II

Recreation Ground

Benson Choral Society

Concert 7.30pm

Dorchester Abbey

Sun **Trinity**

16 Jun 8.00 am

> Holy Communion (1662) (Canon Sue Booys)

10.30am **Family Service**

5.00pm

Choral Evensong

Manor House

Open Garden 2.00-4.30pm



Mon **Festival of Voices**

17 Jun 6.30pm

Dorchester Abbey

(Each evening to Fri 21 June)

Wed Chiropodist

19 Jun Village Hall (see p33)

DADS

Sex Please We're Sixty

Village Hall

Classic Car Show, Thurs

1.00-4.00pm 20 Jun George Hotel

DADS

Sex Please We're Sixty

7.45pm Village Hall

Fri **DOGS**

21 Jun Outing to Calcot

DADS

Sex Please We're Sixty

7.45pm Village Hall

Sat Oxfordshire Cricket Association 22 Jun

Dorchester v Broughton and NN

Recreation Ground

Safari Supper

7.00pm

The Manor House

Sex Please We're Sixty 7.45pm

Village Hall

Church services in Dorchester Abbey appear in red. More details can be found at:

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For details of services at St Birinus RC

Church

go to: www.stbirinus.co.uk

Sun **Trinity 1** 23 Jun 8.00am

> Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Michael Lakey)

10.30am Ordination

Lunch Club Tues 25 Jun Tea

3.00pm 90 High St

Trinity 2 30 Jun 8.00am

> Holy Communion (1662) (Revd Marcus Braybrooke)

Weekly events

Monday Tai Chi

> 2.00pm Village Hall Fishmonger 3.30pm by War Memorial (page 33)

Tuesday Coffee in the Abbey

10.30am-12noon **Bellringing Practice** 7.30pm Abbey

Holy Communion at Wednesday

Berinsfield Church

9.30am

Keep Fit Senior Circuits

10.00am Village Hall **Mobile Post Office** 10.30am Outside Co-op

Choir Practice Friday

7.00pm Abbey

Regular events also appear in the Parish

Council's website:

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Parish Registers

Baptism

21 April Felix Sean Oliver Goodwin

Marriage

27 April Sarah Jane Keat and Gordon

Latimer

Funeral at cemetery

29 April Norman Blissett



vou be in June? Trooping the Colour or Glastonbury Festival?

Where will



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

HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Kate Harris bookings@dotvh.org.uk

or telephone 01865 689452.

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.

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.morerecyling.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, 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

WALLINGFORD VOLUNTEER CENTRE

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

www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com

CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons (next to The Fleur de Lys), High Street, Dorchester on Thames OX10 7HH; 07745 311439 (during normal office hours, please, unless an emergency);

parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk.

....... **USEFUL CONTACTS**

ANGLICAN PRIEST **Dorchester Rectory** Revd. Canon Sue Booys 01865 340007

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

ABBEY E-MAIL:

admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Contact details for Church Wardens and other Abbey information are on the notice board in the Abbey.

ABBEY WEBSITE www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST The Presbytery Fr. John Ósman Bridge End 01865 340417 www.stbirinus.co.uk

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

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REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Sat 1 June Black Fri 7 June Green Fri 14 June Black Fri 21 June Green Fri 28 June Black

Weekdays from 7.00am Saturdays from 6.00am

Weekly: food waste (in biodegradable 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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19th-22nd June 2019 Village Hall, Queen Street, Dorchester OX10 7HR

Wednesday £8 Thursday - Saturday £10 Tickets available from:

dads.org.uk | Dorchester Co-op

Ticketsource | tickets@dads.org.uk

01865 340792

