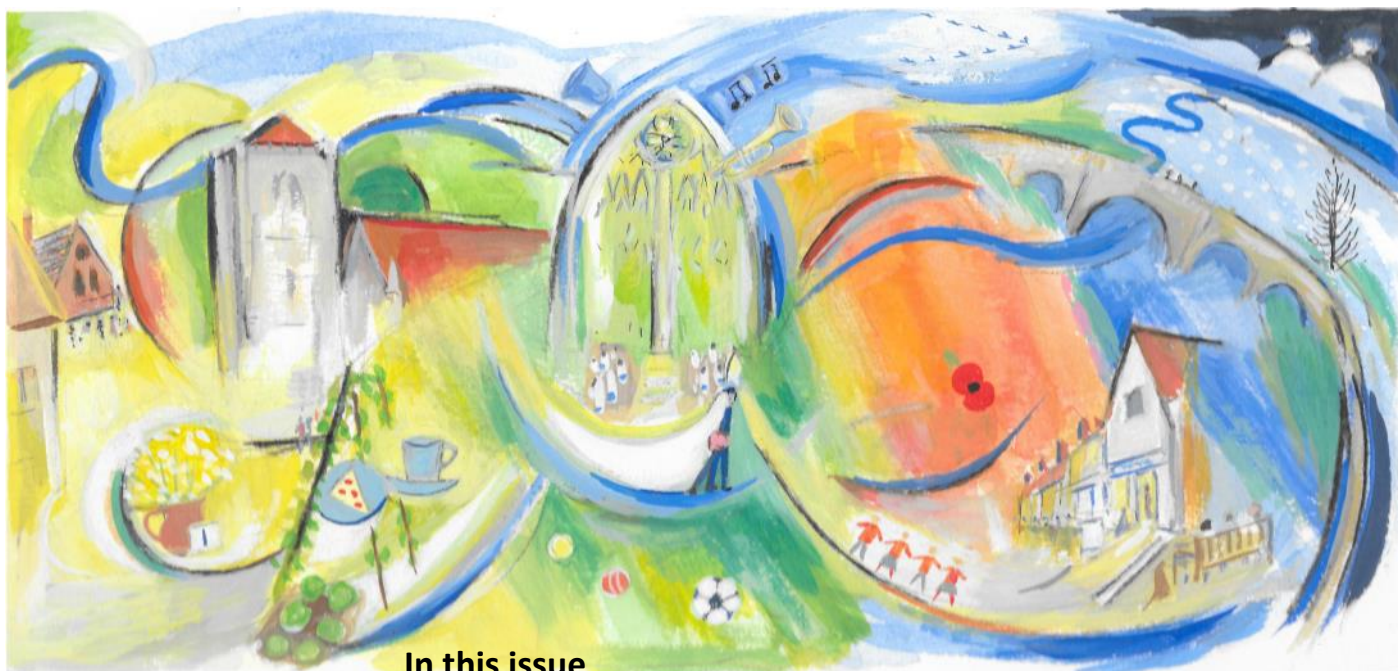


Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

November 2022





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Cover picture: Pumpkins on the stall by the allotments..

A DoT view

September saw two great village events. One, the Autumn Flower and Produce Show, is a regular feature in the calendar, but none the less eagerly anticipated by entrants and participants with friendly (mostly) rivalry to see who has the best beans or makes the best sponge cake. Many of the entries are real works of art, and Dorchester News is delighted to feature some of them in this month's issue. If you've not been to the show, Spring or Autumn, go along and be inspired by what your neighbours are up to.

The other event was Henge 2022, designed by Adrian Brooks to celebrate the ancient history of the area and the autumn equinox, and executed by a hard-working team of volunteers. And this was more than just a village event, drawing people in from across South Oxfordshire. A number of artists participated as did four schools who put on dance, drama and a mammoth. It was a truly magical evening.

Now we are in to November and beginning to see events and concerts associated with Christmas. Details of markets both at the Abbey and at Bishops Court Farm are in this issue, and a fascinating 'Living Advent Calendar' around the village. And, of course, DADS have their winter production at the beginning of December. More about that next month.

Aren't we lucky to live somewhere where so much happens.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team

Ian Brace, Gillian Johnson

Distribution Co-ordinator

Maurice Day

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**Deadline for
December/January
Dorchester News**



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

In Britain, we like to talk about the weather, we are famous for it, but this summer's intense heatwaves, the recent catastrophic floods in Pakistan, and the devastation caused by Hurricane Ian are perhaps conversations we wish we didn't need to have! With the soaring temperatures in the UK this summer causing the deaths of approximately 1,000 people; with one third of Pakistan covered in flood water; and with over 100 people dead because of Hurricane Ian, these are not weather events to take lightly. Lives and livelihoods have been turned upside down by these extreme weather events.

So, what should a Christian say in a conversation about the weather?

Before I answer that question, I would add as a sort of parenthesis a comment about what it means to 'Love your neighbour'.

This 'golden rule' of the major religions has a Kantian undertow; treating people as ends in themselves and not the means to an end requires us to be generous and selfless in all our relationships. But where do you draw the line? Does my neighbour live in the next street, the next village, the next county, across the channel or across the world? The radical answer is that my neighbour is any person, wherever they live across the globe, who needs my emotional or physical support.

In the context of the climate crisis, loving my neighbour means any action I take should benefit rather than harm those people living in vulnerable regions of the world. For example, thinking about my fossil fuel consumption and reducing my carbon footprint is loving my neighbour affected by rising sea levels and extreme

weather events. Choosing to eat less red meat and fewer dairy products is loving my neighbour whose natural landscape has been destroyed to provide grazing for beef or dairy cattle. Finding a pre-loved winter jumper in a charity shop rather than buying from a high street retailer is loving my neighbour trapped in a poverty wage job at a clothing factory. Simple choices and small actions that have a huge impact on my neighbours across the globe.

So, what about the weather, what should a Christian say about the weather? Christians are a people of justice and a people of hope. If our conversations about the weather and about climate change are begun with words of climate justice and end with words of hope for the future of our planet, we are on the right track.

Beauforest Evensong Sunday 6 November 5.00pm

The Dorchester Abbey Choir sings a traditional evensong at 5.00pm to celebrate Richard Beauforest our earliest Benefactor. Members of the Beauforest Society (part of our Abbey Friends) receive a particular invitation to this service and everyone is most welcome.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Friends and the Beauforest Society please do contact our Membership Secretary Mrs Honor Juniper.

Remembrance Sunday Sunday 13 November 10.00am

The Annual Service of Remembrance is an important marker in the community and Civic year. This year we have our normal service in Dorchester Abbey **at the slightly different time of 10.00am** followed by the solemn procession to the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance and the Silence.

Team Services Sunday 27 November 6.00pm Advent Carols in Dorchester Abbey.

If you would like to be added to the weekly email with service information please call the Abbey and Team Office on **01865 340007** or email **admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk**

Tea Room End of Season Thank You!

Dorchester Tea Room is now closed until Easter Saturday 2023 and we would like to thank all of our customers for their support and cake consumption through the 2022 season.

We have welcomed old friends and new and celebrated special days such as the Platinum Jubilee and Queen Elizabeth's funeral (complete with her favourite tiffin cake).

Our mid week sessions have been running again on Wednesdays and Thursdays and it has been a joy to invite customers back inside the tea room to eat with us. Six local charities have run sessions and we've also sold Kyiv cake on Saturdays to support the UNICEF work in Ukraine. Financially this year has been extraordinarily successful, with takings up to a new record, helped by the beautiful weather and post-COVID relief. The majority of this money will be given to charities proposed by the PCC and volunteers.

Over 75 people have helped with the tea room this year, baking, making jam, washing up and serving. Do join us whether you can manage just one cake or session or one a month – it's a great way to meet new friends and we really do need your help!



Steph Forman
steph@forman.org.uk

A selection of the 2022 team at our annual celebration

Village Hall Events November 2022

The Pride of Nasio

From 6.30p.m. on **Friday 4 November** everyone is invited to join the Pride of Nasio Welcome Home Party. The group of 14 local teenagers return from their 10 days in Kenya just a few days earlier and will be keen to share their experiences.

These include building a substantial mud house for a destitute family, working with the Kenya Red Cross eradicating Jiggers from the feet and hands of children and working in the Nasio supported schools and medical centre.

John Cornelius, who has organised many of these visits over recent years, has witnessed the life-changing experience this kind of volunteering trip has on all youngsters. On 4 November there will be an opportunity to see their photos and hear about these experiences at first-hand.

The evening is open to everyone who is interested and especially to parents, families, friends and supporters of the volunteers.

After the presentation, please stay for an informal celebration of their achievements.

Free entry with bar service and light snacks available (cash or card)

An Evening with Robin Oakley

Friday 11 November start 7.30 p.m.

'Slip-ups, Scoops and Confrontations'
Robin Oakley reflects on fifty years as a political journalist.



This will be followed by questions.

Political Editor of *The Times* for six years and of the *BBC* for eight years before being European Political Editor of *CNN* for nearly ten years. Now a distinguished lecturer and resident of Dorchester-on-Thames.

Free entry with bar service and light snacks available (cash or card).

To assist with catering arrangements, it would be helpful to have some idea in advance of the numbers planning to attend this event. Please email

parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk



Gilbert Scott Hall

The village hall of Dorchester-on-Thames

Dorchester Village Hall 200 Club

Prize Draw

Congratulations to the winners of the September draw.

1st Prize	£75	No. 006 Mrs G Johnson
2nd Prize	£45	No. 154 Mrs Y Harris
3rd Prize	£25	No. 83 Ms J Perrin

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 (four draws from when you join) only costs £12 and you can have as many tickets as you wish.

To join, contact Elaine Williams on **340441** or email 200club@dotvh.org.uk for a form. You can pay by cash, cheque or standing order (preferred).

Thank you for your support and good luck!

Elaine

Culham & District Horticultural Club



Wednesday 16 November 2022 at 7.30 pm
in Dorchester Abbey

Carolyn Foster
Extending the Season in the Border

The talk will give examples of perennials and shrubs for autumn colour and also suggest cultural practices to extend the season of interest.

Carolyn has been a professional gardener for over 30 years, designing gardens and planting schemes.

Our membership includes keen amateur gardeners, professional horticulturalists and those who just enjoy beautiful plants and gardens. We organize talks in the winter and garden visits in the summer. The annual subscription is £20. Visitors are welcome (suggested donation £4). For more details telephone 01235 850381 or email judy@tiggercat.me.uk



Dorchester Abbey Museum News

Thank you to everyone who came to our Stone Age handling exhibit weekend in September. It was great to see so many people enjoying our hands on experience learning about how people lived in the Stone Age.



So many of our visitors said how much they enjoyed it, that we are opening the museum on **Saturday 26** and **Sunday 27 November** for a special Toys of the Past handling exhibit. Visitors will be able to learn about a variety of children's toys from Tudor times to the present day.

Please do join us:

Saturday 26 November:

Toys of the Past handling exhibit 2.00-4.00pm
(Museum open 2.00-5.00pm)

Sunday 27 November:

Toys of the Past handling exhibit 2.00-4.00pm
(Museum open 10.00am – 5.00pm)

Tuesday 29 November:

Museum open 10.00-12noon

We will also be opening the museum for **Christmas shopping** on **Sunday 27 November** from 10.00am until 5.00pm, alongside the Dorchester Abbey Christmas Market.



Museum
Christmas Shopping
Sunday 27 November
10.00am until 5.00pm, alongside
the Dorchester Abbey Christmas
Market.



Hempcroft Allotments November

The Hempcroft Allotment Association Annual General Meeting was held on 21 September 2022 in the Village Hall. Rents were paid and seed catalogues were collected.

The Committee comprised Edward Metcalfe (Chairman), Jon Rosby (Treasurer), Charlotte Bennett, Sharon Thorpe and Chris Hill. Due to prior engagements Jon Rosby and Sharon Thorpe could not attend the meeting. All Committee members offered themselves for re-election which was unanimously approved.

Edward Metcalfe, on behalf of the Treasurer, presented the accounts of the Society. These are now in a healthy state after the annual membership was increased to £10 last year. The main expenditures are insurance and the statutory membership of the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners. The rent will remain the same as last year. Note that all of the money collected as rents is paid directly to the Parish Council. Seed catalogues were available for collection at the meeting and members were encouraged to order seeds from the catalogue because the Society derived some income from this.

It had been a long dry summer which led to challenges for certain crops but most people had coped admirably. Some time ago three separate prizes for the best allotments had been established. The categories and the winners for 2022 are as follows;

Best Newcomer	Leda Hodgson
Best Crop Diversity	Peter Collinson
Best Crop Husbandry	Alan Selwood

Phil Pridham-Field had won the trophy for Best Overall Allotment at the Village Flower Show and this was presented to him during the meeting.

During the early covid years we let all the plots and even brought some areas which had been lying fallow for some time into production. More recently we have returned to our normal occupancy which means that we no longer have a waiting list and at the time of writing there are six vacant plots.

During any other business there was lively debate on a number of issues. One concern was tenants who paid their rent for the year but did not use their plots which became overgrown with weeds spreading to adjacent plots. The meeting agreed that such tenants should be approached and issued warnings in line with the provisions of the tenancy agreement.

Edward Metcalfe
340160
edmetcalfe@yahoo.co.uk

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St Birinus Primary School News

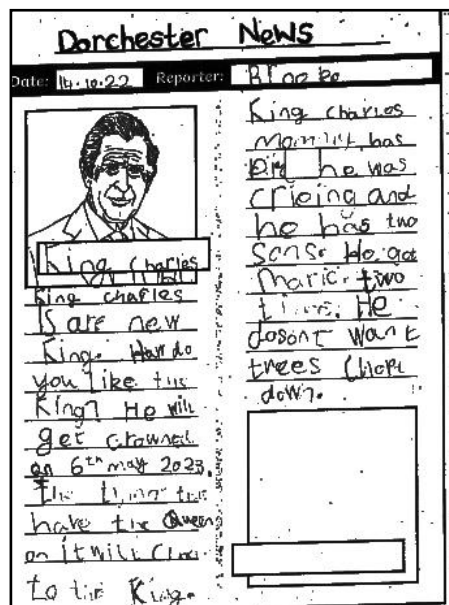
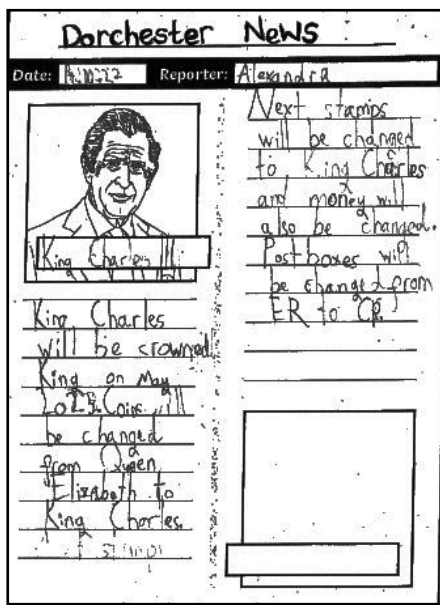
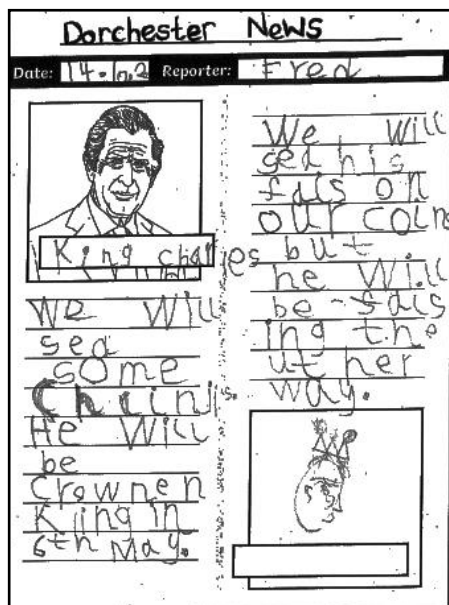
Our autumn term is well underway here and our children have been working especially hard to develop our school value of 'knowledge'. We have talked about aspirations and considered the best ways in which we learn.

Our youngest children in Hedgehog Class have settled in brilliantly to their new school and we are enjoying seeing the progress they are already making.

Squirrel Class have been thinking about castles this term and have really enjoyed writing some reports for the Dorchester News about the new king. We hope you enjoy these reports written by Fred who is 5, and Alexandra and Brooke who are 6.

Fox Class are learning about ancient Rome this term; developing their historical skills and understanding what the Romans did for us.

Owl Class are learning about the ancient Egyptians and have been thinking about developing their work to create an Egyptian exhibition.



Oxfordshire Libraries

Berinsfield Library this autumn

Berinsfield Library Reading Group

We are relaunching our library reading group! Do you enjoy exploring different books? Would you like to share your love of reading? Contact the library for more information.



Children's Lego Club

Every Tuesday from 4-5pm

Weekly Lego play for children age 9 and over. Please call or email the library for more information and to register your place – booking essential!



@oxonlibraries Oxfordshire Libraries

Telephone: 01865 340771
Email: Berinsfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk



We have welcomed some new children into the school this year and I am **enormously proud** of the way the children have supported our new children to settle into their new routines. We are a caring and supportive bunch here at Dorchester.

We are allowed visitors back into school now. If you have time to spare or a skill to share, please do get in touch if you would like to come into school as a volunteer. We always need people to support with hearing children read. We are also so lucky that we have been given a grant from the Hurst Water Meadow Trust which has enabled us to employ a specialist Forest school teacher for a session a week. These sessions are fun and enable our children to learn to **take risks, understand the environment** and consider ways we can look after our world. We would welcome a regular volunteer to assist with forest school so if you are available on a Wednesday afternoon during term time, are physically fit and **do not** mind getting a little cold and wet sometimes, please let us know if you would like to help. Give us a call on **01865 340081**.

Jo Staples
Headteacher

Dorchester Abbey Christmas Market

*Sunday 27th November
10am-5pm*

Tea Room Home Baking:

- whole Christmas cakes
- fresh baking & biscuits
- food gifts

Hot BBQ Bratwurst

Mulled wine

Teas



Christmas Wreaths
Gift & Food Stalls
Museum gift shopping

*Stay after the market for
a 6pm evening service
of Advent carols*



Raising money for your Abbey



Warborough & Shillingford WI

The WI Members' September meeting was a surprise success. The Dukes of Didcot gave hope to those of us who believed we were not musical and by the end of the evening all members were joining in to play *Twist and Shout* on the ukulele.

Our October speaker was Leigh Gotch, for 23 years Head of Toys at international auctioneers Bonhams. He spoke about the history of dolls from mid-17th Century, when English wooden dolls were made for the rich, illustrated by an informative slide show. Later, as the middle class emerged, dolls were mass produced and he brought some beautiful examples of Jumeau, Steiner and Bru as well as a very early vintage Barbie, from 1961. It was surprising how many members had kept cherished old dolls and brought them along.

Future programme:

On **9 November** we will be holding a creative evening with a seasonal theme, accompanied by mulled wine and nibbles.

December 14 will be the famous WI Members' party, when we shall eat, drink and be merry.

The Scrapbook is becoming a reality and our bespoke book is being made now. Contributions are still needed, so this is a call to members to write, paint or just send in a photograph we can use with a description of what it is about.

Walking Group: Takes place every other Friday, led by Chris Tilley. Fresh air and good company are promised for those who join.

The WI members' meeting takes place on the second Wednesday of every month in St Laurence Hall. If you would like to come along the first visit is free. **Membership:** Our WI has members from Shillingford, Newington, Dorchester and Warborough we are a friendly group who would love to welcome you.

Vicky Hart
Secretary,
vicky_hart_northwood@hotmail.com
tel: 01865 416437

Liz Eaton
President,
lizmeaton@gmail.com
tel: 01865 858534

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Dorchester Historical Society

7.30pm Wednesday 23 November 2022

Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel,

Members free, Visitors welcome (£5).

Professor Malcolm Airs on:

Upstairs to Bed: post-medieval houses in Dorchester

The living and sleeping habits of many ordinary people changed radically in the 16th and 17th centuries. In this talk Malcolm Airs will explore the evidence hidden within many of the houses in Dorchester and put the domestic revolution into a broader context.



Seasonal refreshments will be served – donations welcome!

Looking forward: The first talk in 2023 (**25 January**) will be *A Life in Ruins*, by Anni Byard, archaeologist, formerly Portable Finds Officer for Oxfordshire.

And have you seen our Facebook postings?

Margot Metcalfe, Chairman



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Dorchester's Living Advent Calendar

From 1st – 24th December a newly decorated Christmas window/lit garden will be revealed in a different Dorchester house every evening

- Gather for as many evening's 6.30pm reveals as you can (and perhaps enjoy refreshments!)
- Follow the map trail sold from the Coop for £3 in aid of Dorchester Pre-school



More info from:

Steph Forman (steph@forman.org.uk)

or Charlotte Bennett charlotte.bennett28@icloud.com

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New talent flourishing in Dorchester!

Although he has directed elsewhere, Russell Bailey will be making his DADS directorial debut with their next production, *A Fete Worse Than Death* by Richard James. Some of you will remember Russell for his hilarious performances as Lottie and Captain Knightly in DADS' summer show, *Mansfield Park & Ride*. Lucinda Kenrick, who made her DADS debut as Lizzie in *Mansfield Park & Ride*, returns as Trish, and DADS welcome Alastair Trickett, making his debut as Malcolm. Other cast members include, Sally Bell (Miss Parmenter), Mark Williams (Ray Martin), Carol-Anne Tilley (Bunny), Ryan Fannin (Father Mike) and Mark Wilkin (Nigel).

A Fete Worse Than Death is a comedy whodunnit, set within a country produce tent at Thornton's annual village fete. It's the day of Thornton's Village Fete and the competitors in the various produce competitions arrive in such a state of anticipation and expectation that feelings very soon reach fever pitch! In this comedy ambition, infidelity and marrow envy culminate in the death of one of the competitors but, who is the guilty party?

Performances of *A Fete Worse Than Death* are on **Thursday 1 December, Friday 2 December, and Saturday 3 December** at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £10 and are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads.

Photos:

Top right: The cast of *A Fete Worse Than Death* (L to R) Lucinda Kenrick, Mark Williams, Mark Wilkin, Sally Bell, Alastair Trickett, Carol-Anne Tilley and Ryan Fannin.

Bottom right: Marrow Envy: Malcolm (Alastair Trickett) and Father Mike (Ryan Fannin) compare marrows.



Dorchester Abbey Christmas Cards

All profits to Dorchester Abbey

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for 2022
by
local artists

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Abbey snow
by Elise Barnard
10.5x14.8cm



Abbey Lych Gate
by Sophia Stewart-Liberty
14.8x10.5cm

Abbey Bridge View
by Sophia Stewart-Liberty
10.5x14.8cm



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for a donation
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code below



<https://bit.ly/3TMb6ZH>



Shrine Nativity
12x12cm



Annunciation
20x9cm (blank inside)



East End Nativity
10.5x14.8cm



Angels
9.7x21cm



Christ Child
13x13cm

The Autumn Flower and Produce Show 2022

The Autumn Flower Show went well. We welcomed a few new exhibitors. Please keep entering in the future. The number of entries was down in previous autumn shows, we think mostly in vegetable classes. This is only to be expected with the poor growing conditions created by the weather. Watering cans are poor substitutes for a drop of real rain in a prolonged heatwave. Thank you to all who found something to enter.

Domestic classes were well supported. However, please read the schedule for preserves as it states 'sealed with a plain screw top lid'. Section 2 fruit and section 3 flowers seemed to follow a similar pattern to previous years. The floral art was lovely, but it was a pity that there was only one entry for the

smaller arrangements. Please be careful with the size of arrangements as the judge has a tape measure at the ready!

There was a good show of photos. The photo of a house martin feeding it's young was amazing. Just two pictures in the art class, which were very different from each other. Two entries in the children's classes; one for each age group. Both were very good. We wish that there were more entries in the children's classes. Please could you encourage your children to be creative and have a go.

Please read the schedule carefully before each show as it can change. It also gives information about the exhibit size, number of items, what filling a cake should have, etc.

Roll of Honour

Children's classes

Aged 9 and over: A seaside collage	Gabriella Grant
Aged 8 and under: A decorated potato	Eleanor Petherbridge

Adult classes

Runner Bean Plate: Best runner beans	Jenny Trinder
Pat Cheese Potato Cup: Best potatoes	Charles Dickerson
Vegetable Collection Pate: Veg class 1	Charles Dickerson
R Belcher Onion Cup: Best onions	Malcolm Airs
Jenny Nudds Tomato Cup	Richard Juniper
Best vegetable award: Not class 1	Charles Dickerson
Fruit Plate: Apples	Steph Forman
Best Kept Allotment Tray	Phil Pridham—Field
Blackwell photography Cup:	Nick Forman
Jerry Nudds Fruit Cake Plate	Ian Brace
Victoria Sandwich Award	Nick Forman
Rose Plate—best rose in show	Steph Forman
H C Smith Dahlia Cup	Hilary Warburton
Floral Art Cup	Claire Grant
Britain in Bloom Cup: most points in flower classes	Steph Forman
Amey Tankard: gentleman with most points in show	Nick Forman
Amey Rose Bowl: Lady with most points other than flower classes	Steph Forman



The Autumn Flower and Produce Show 2022

A selection of category winners





CHRISTMAS FAYRE

BISHOP'S COURT

F A R M

Friday 2nd December 2022

Free Entry 5pm – 10pm

A Christmas cornucopia of mouth-watering, locally sourced festive food and delicious drinks, a magical Santa's grotto, friendly reindeers, affable alpacas, artisan gifts and a feast of traditional musical delights.

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Freda Betty Charlotte Bumpass

15 March 1928—5 September 2022

Freda Betty Charlotte Bumpass was born in 1928 to Daisy and Wilfred Bumpass, sister to Joan born in 1930, and brother to Derry born in 1940. Wilfred died in 1947 at the age of 41 leaving his wife to bring up three children. Their first home in Dorchester was in Bridge End where they lived whilst 'The Dormers' in Watling Lane was being built by Wilfred and his brother Len.

Freda, Joan, and Derry would play in the pillboxes, down the Dyke hills, and would build tree houses in the big elm trees in Back Lane. All three children attended the primary school which is now the village hall before going to secondary school across the road leaving school at the age of 15. The dining area of the school doubled up as a youth club.



Store in Wallingford. She worked here for 66 years reluctantly retiring in 2015 following an accident/fall at home. Freda never learned to drive but would cycle to work up Shillingford Hill in all sorts of weather. In later years she caught to bus or got a lift from her good friend Brenda Clarke who also lived in Dorchester and worked in the Menswear Department of Pettits.

She celebrated her 80th birthday in 2008 with a surprise meal at the White Hart in Dorchester with 21 of her family and friends arranged by her nieces Lindsey and Angela. It was only fitting that her birthday cake was created in the shape of an allotment complete with a shed and a variety of vegetables, reflecting her love of gardening.

When Joan and Derry left home to get married Freda remained in the family

home caring for her mother until her death on 19 March 1986 aged 92. Freda had a passion for gardening and kept an allotment opposite The Dormers. She was very proud of her gardening achievements and won many prizes over the years at the village show including the 'best kept' allotment.

Freda's childhood was spent with her siblings and other children from the village who would congregate in Madge Greenaway's meadow at the bottom of Bridge End. In the summer they would swim in the river and camp out and in the winter when the flood water on the fields froze over they would skate on the ice. They would also slide down the Dyke hills or Wiittenham Clumps on their toboggans. Freda was also a Girl Guide for a while and went on camps and told tales of sleeping with pillows filled with straw.

Freda was a fiercely independent woman not afraid to speak her own mind and very much kept herself to herself. Sadly, as the result of dementia she had to leave the Dormers and spent the last 6 years of her life living in Westgate Care Home in Wallingford.

Freda's first job was in the café at Jack Deacon's garage in Berinsfield and then in 1948 she began working as an Accounts Clerk in Pettits Department



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A comedy
by Richard James



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www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads

www.dads.org.uk

DADS
Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society



Wildlife Gardening Jobs For Autumn

I love it when a reader suggests an idea for content, and the latest request is, "a brief article about 4 key things one can do this Autumn, to help nature in our gardens?"

Easy, as there are only four component parts to wildlife gardening in my view, as most considerations come under these four umbrellas.:

- Water
- Flowers/Trees/Shrubs with different colour and shaped blooms
- Grasses of a differing length
- Deadwood

With water, just try building a pond or placing out a container of some kind that will hold water next Spring and Summer. You'll be surprised how quick wildlife finds water you put out. Remember though, don't put goldfish into your pond, as they will likely eat most of what you want to attract.

With flowers and trees etc, simple. Extend the flowering season by growing a climber of some kind up it. A Clematis or Honeysuckle, they will extend the flower season very quickly and provide some new crevasses for insects etc to hide in.

Grasses of differing lengths, with this one, just don't be too handy with the mower or strimmer. If you've been growing a patch of grass all summer, to attract more life, then don't cut it all down again this Winter. What you've attracted needs somewhere to hibernate, or for the eggs laid on the grass to hatch next year. Most of what could emerge could be the predators of what you consider pests next year too.

Deadwood, again, simple. Deadwood isn't always good to hide behind your damp shed. Some creatures like dead wood in the full sun or semi shade too. So, this Autumn think about having log piles in more interesting and creative areas.

Wildlife gardening is mainly a mindset thing, a wildlife garden doesn't have to look any different to a manicured garden. The main difference is you are looking to try and create a more diverse range of habitats.

So, the fifth bonus task this Autumn is to just look at your garden differently, and start to see the opportunities it may provide. For you and the wildlife.

Happy Gardening
Stuart Mabbutt
Wildlife Gardening Specialist
www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



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Hedgehogs and Bonfires



With **5 November** approaching and many gardeners keen to set autumn bonfires, please consider our vulnerable hedgehogs. Your pile of wood and leaves makes a really attractive shelter or hibernation site for a 'hog. To avoid a horrific death or injury to your resident hog, please follow this guidance from Hedgehog Street, a partnership between People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society:

1. Build your bonfire at the last minute to prevent hedgehogs from moving in. Ideally it should be built on the day of lighting. Or move the entire bonfire a few metres just before lighting.
2. Put up a fence or barrier around the bonfire beforehand, using chicken wire or a pile of old tyres.
3. Check the bonfire thoroughly for hidden hedgehogs before lighting, even if the other steps have been followed – just to be on the safe side. Amphibians, reptiles and even pets also like to hide in structures like bonfires, so keep an eye out for them too.
4. If you find a hog, put it in a high-sided box and keep it somewhere safe, for release later that night, after your fire is out and cooled.



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Approximately 4,500 years ago families paused beneath two large hills, above the confluence of two rivers, and decided this was a special place. They constructed a double ring Henge and a Processional Way. Each Equinox they gathered, to mark the Seasons, and the Cycle of Life.

Later, it became a more permanent Settlement; babies were born, couples united, and funerals held, and each year the Cycle of Life was marked at the Henge.

On the 23 September 2022, the night of the Autumn Equinox, three hundred people, from age seven weeks to eighty years repeated that performance. Together they followed a Processional Way, beneath the Wittenham Clumps and between two Rivers. Beating sticks and drums, wearing animal masks, some dressed in Autumn costume, they followed a huge Processional Mammoth to a double ring henge.

At the Henge, two drummers beat a pulse, and a haunting soundscape followed the pulse. The Henge, which glowed at twilight, was decorated in dancing figures, animals, and poetry.

Teenage dancers and actors performed a three-part drama called 'Settlement', marking the eternal cycle of Birth, Union and Death, and each section of Settlement was punctuated by a performance of poetry, celebrating Landscape and Life

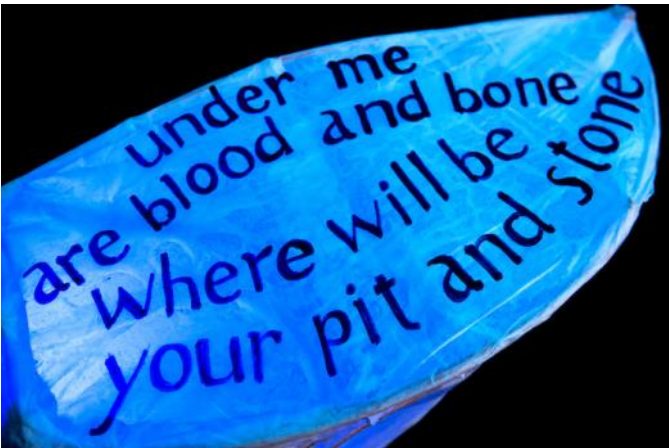
Land Artists were charged with responding to the Landscape.

One marked the movement of the wind from the Hills, in a series of five windsocks. A large hexagonal tower, facing the Clumps, paid homage to mystic artist, Paul Nash. A series of paintings captured the dynamism of the Dyke Hills, while a carefully positioned series of 60 boxes illuminated ancient grasses and plant life. Finally, a sacred structure became a place in which to contemplate the Spirit of Place.

As the sun died, the evening sky was pink with billowing clouds, a group of geese flew overhead in formation, and two herons watched from the Rivers.

Finally, in true community spirit, there was a feast/come BBQ, while an outdoor projection screened a film entitled 'Birth Union and Death', to a haunting Soundscape. In conjunction with HENG, Dorchester Museum ran a special exhibition and Stone Age craft workshops.

Will there be a HENG repeat? Possibly, in another 4,500 years.



Credits

Management: Adrian Brooks, Ed Metcalfe, Tim Cook, Stephen Eyre

HENGE and Poetry: Adrian Brooks, Tim Cook, Simon Ratliff, David Burns

Mammoth Procession: George Hinchcliffe and the pupils Wallingford School

Artists: Dionne Freeman (lead), Cally Shadbolt, Nick Hamilton, Philip Koomen, Adrian Brooks

Technical team: Simon Ratliff, Stephen Eyre, Robert Paynter

Soundscape and film: Stephen Eyre

Performances: Dance; Michelle Uezzeli; Drama; Maria Robertson

Poetry performance: Jill Battson

Schools' coordinator: Jane McDonald with Dorchester, Long Wittenham and Berinsfield schools

Projection and BBQ: Robert Paynter, Mike Coran, Nick Forman

Marshalls' director: Ed Metcalfe

Photographers: Ian Brace, Christopher Baines

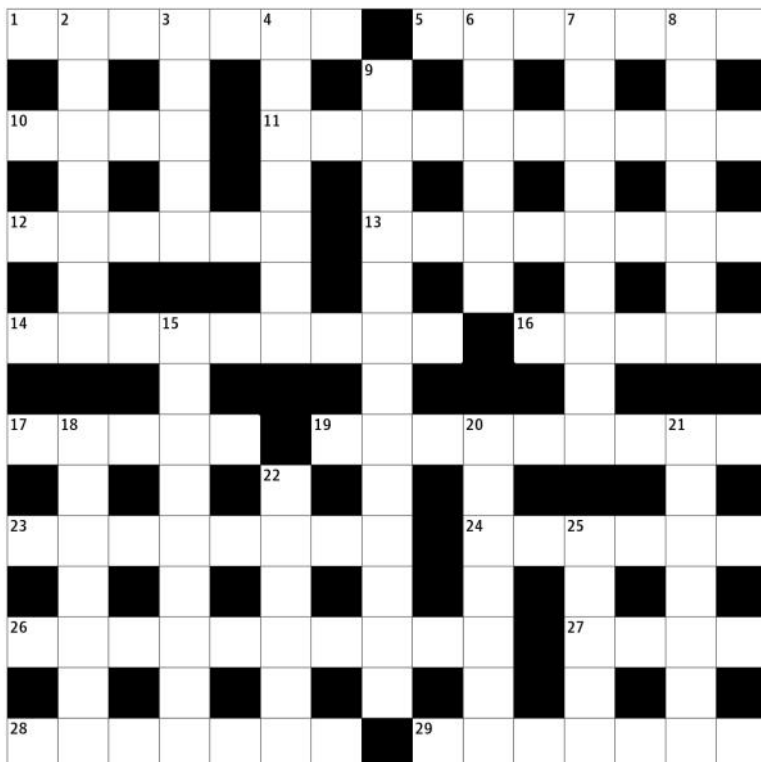
Project Sponsors: we wish to thank the SODC and Dorchester Parish Council for their support,

And The Hurst water Meadow Trust for preparation of the site.



Dorchester News Crossword No.24

Compiled by Slider



Across

- 1 Cut everything short to get an assortment (7)
5 An essay shows a race nearly void. (7)

- 10 The pain of a Greek character. (4)
11 Complex heat adds a couple of drugs to this undrinkable water. (3,4,3)
12 Do these uplands belong to Ted? (6)
13 A womaniser, but unwilling to go to a carnival venue (8)
14 Lift an item belonging to Bowie and fold up! (9)
16 A function with strength. (5)
17 Archaic command to turn to a biblical character (4)
19 Drink to the queen young lady and get a TV series. (9)
23 Get thee behind me! No, this is more polite. (5,3)
24 Thrill to an old call. (6)
26 Get there quickly in this. (2,4,4)
27 A day in 1944 followed by a long tender cut. (4)
28 Get smart, get into lane and get in order! (7)
29 Got high as a newt. (7)

Down

- 2 Uncover complex cretaceous dinosaur droppings (7)
3 The premier lady leads conservationists to a sporting occasion (5)
4 IRA Stan - explosive maker. (7)
6 A nice surprise leading to an unknown agreement. (6)
7 Admirable finish without starting the investigation. (9)
8 An analgesic erpetologist is exact in part but backward. (7)
9 To get together 'll fuel my soul with sweet sounds (13)
15 The town is winning as King replaces the leader. (9)
18 So loud work could make this skin preparation. (4,3)
20 Possibly a seat for life! (7)
21 There's poison for the poor antbear. (7)
22 In NW, very complicated heraldic creature appears. (6)
25 Collapses underground spaces. (5)



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Football Results North Berks League Div 2



24/09/202	E Hendred	0	6	Dorchester
2	AFC Reserves			
01/10/202	Dorchester t	6	0	Sutton Courtenay First
2				
08/10/202	Letcombe	1	4	Dorchester
2	Reserves			
15/10/202	Dorchester	4	1	Woodcote Development
2				

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Maggie's Kitchen Table Lunch & Christmas Makers' Market

Friday 2 December, 11.00am-8.00pm

The Coaching Barn, Little Stoke, OX10 6AX.

Join us for a special lunch or a fun festive evening in the convivial setting of the Coaching Barn at Little Stoke to raise money for Maggie's Oxford. Catch up with friends and shop for Christmas gifts from an eclectic range of local craftspeople and makers, with lots of ideas to take home:



The Coaching Barn

~ Gift Ideas and Demonstrations ~ Masses to buy from Jewellery to Ceramics ~ Live Music and a Festive Atmosphere ~ Delicious Local Food and Drink ~

Lunch Tickets £20, 11.00am-3.30pm – includes delicious lunch & glass of wine

Evening Tickets £10, 3.30pm-8.00pm – includes homemade mince pie & glass of mulled cider

To book tickets use this link www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maggies-kitchen-table-lunch-tickets-427879167107 or email claremhobbs@gmail.com.

Proceeds to Maggie's Oxford who offers amazing support for cancer patients and their families at the Churchill Hospital
www.maggies.org.uk



ALL SOULS - an autumn concert

**Dorchester Abbey,
Wed 2 November 7.00pm**

Tickets £10.00

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/mecklenburg/t-eajkrag>

Artists

Susanne Mecklenburg | voice

William Hancox | piano

Michael Eisinger | viola

All Souls - An Autumn Concert - autumn is the time of harvest and wine making. Nature shuts down, golden leaves are falling, nights get darker, winter is coming. It is a time of closure, hibernation and preparing for winter. There is so much music about this time. Join us for a spooky autumn concert with music by Strauss, Mahler, Faure, Turina, Guridi, Garcia Abril, Britten, Barber, Händel and Purcell.

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Art to be auctioned for Ukraine

Original paintings purchased in Kyiv by George Faillace who was a regular visitor to Kyiv when working for the European Bank for Reconstruction & Development are being auctioned locally to raise and meet the humanitarian and medical aid challenges in Ukraine.

Mark and Elaine Wilkin, who are currently hosting a Ukrainian guest at their home in Benson, are hosting the auction online with all monies raised going directly to British-Ukrainian Aid. This registered charity provides immediate, direct support to casualties of the conflict in Ukraine and those helping them on the ground.

Four paintings are being offered, three watercolours and one which is thought to have been painted using oils or acrylics. They can be viewed online at www.thecloseknit.band/art-for-ukraine.

The auction will run until 6.00pm on **Wednesday 30 November**. More information can be found online.



Trustees Wanted

Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice is a local charity providing free, confidential and independent advice to help people with problems in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse.

We are looking for several new trustees to join our Board:

- Company Secretary Trustee
- PR and Communications Trustee
- Research and Campaigns Trustee

The main issues people bring us concern benefits, debt, employment and housing problems. Following advice, four in five people are able to resolve their problem and we help most to find a way forward. We also use evidence to influence policies and practices that affect people's lives both locally and nationally.

If you are interested in joining our Board, please email our recruitment team: recruitment@osavcab.org.uk



Could you help a child to enjoy reading and change their life forever?



Volunteers needed in local primary schools

All it takes is one and a half hours twice a week during the school day as an ARCh volunteer.

Sandra Selby, ARCh Volunteer for 10 years, says *"I always left school with a smile on my face. ARCh was a very rewarding charity to work with and the ARCh back-up team supports volunteers so well."*

Full training, ongoing support and travel expenses are provided.

www.archoxfordshire.org.uk

Tel 01869 320380

The charity obtains enhanced DBS checks on all volunteers before placement
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Advertising in Dorchester News

Costs per issue are for an eighth of a page £12.75 mono, £13.75 colour; quarter page £25.50 mono, £27.50 colour; half page £38.25 mono, £41.25 colour and full page £51.00 mono, £55.00 colour. There are ten issues per year.

Please note that in response to rising costs our ad rates have been revised from October 2022.

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

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



Benson Choral Society

Mozart Double Bill

Saturday 12 November 7.30 pm

Dorchester Abbey

The internationally renowned conductor Nicholas Cleobury will direct the combined forces of Benson Choral Society, the West Forest Sinfonia and four wonderful soloists, featuring the much-loved Requiem and the Solemn Vespers, an experience not to be missed!

Mozart received a commission to write his masterly Requiem in 1791 but was unable to complete it before his death. The film 'Amadeus' portrays it as a commemoration of his life.

It's a great favourite with singers and audience alike.

In 1780 Mozart composed his Vesperae Solennes de Confessore, consisting of five psalms and a Magnificat. Intended for a saint's day, it includes the famous Laudate Dominum, whose soprano melody set against a choral background is surely among the most magical of all Mozart's vocal writing.



The Mirth & Melody of Angels Music for Christmas and the festive season from medieval and renaissance Europe

Saturday 3 December 7.30 pm

Dorchester Abbey

Played and sung by

The York Waits with singer Deborah Catterall

Celebrating the 45th anniversary of the recreation of York's historic city band, the Waits explore the rich tapestry of seasonal music from the fourteenth to the seventeenth century. Angels abound, from the 1350's Angelus ad Virginem – or Gabriel from Heaven-King, to Orlando Gibbons' Thus Angels Sung from the late Elizabethan era. Familiar German chorales are followed by French Noels and Mediterranean songs from the folk tradition, all accompanied by the full array of period instruments – shawms, sackbuts, curtals, crumhorns, bagpipes, recorders, flutes, fiddles, rebec, guitar, hurdy gurdy and portative organ.

Tim Bayley

Lizzie Gutteridge

Anna Marshall

Susan Marshall

William Marshall

Deborah Catterall

'...a dazzling seasonal celebration...characteristically infectious and, as always, they brought the music of days gone by to vivid, brilliant life.' Alice Masterson, www.yorkpress.co.uk

'Follow The Stars' : Macmillan Carols

Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

Friday 9 December

This event is so much more than just a carol concert raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. There will be a stellar cast of celebrities – actors, poets and singers – bursting like galactic cosmic rays throughout the evening to give scintillating literary readings. These will be interspersed by breathtaking musical performances and gloriously uplifting Christmas carols.

For our 25th anniversary last year, John Rutter, the nation's favourite choral composer, composed a carol as a "thank-you" to all the people in Oxfordshire in recognition of the £550,000 they have raised over the years through Follow-the-Stars. Here is your chance to hear this unique carol again.

The music will be performed by Oxford's world-class vocal ensemble, the Oxford Bach Soloists and conducted by the award-winning Tom Hammond-Davies. The spine tingling solos will bring you tears of joy. The concert will be live streamed and free to view online – justgiving.com/fundraising/follow-the-stars.

Macmillan estimates that across the UK there are currently around 50,000 'missing diagnoses' – meaning that compared to a similar time frame last year, 50,000 fewer people have been diagnosed with cancer. Macmillan rely on donations for 98% of their income. The post-pandemic difficulties mean they need your help more than ever this year

Book your tickets online at:

<https://www.ticketsoxford.com/events/follow-the-stars-macmillan-carols-2>

"Follow-the-Stars" has become very much part of Oxford's Christmas Calendar and as such is a not-to-be-missed event. It will lift your spirits to the heavens and is a little bit of what we all need to carry us through the dark winter months and put a smile on our faces!



Shaun Evans, Toby Jones and Sally Phillips will be giving the celebrity readings

The Village Playground – update

A recent edition of Dorchester News had a report on what the children at our local school thought of the playground now, and what they would like to see in the future. High on their list was some 'inclusive' play equipment, which simply means equipment that any child can use whatever their ability. There was a strong feeling from the children that not enabling any child to get involved just wasn't fair.

So, as the Parish Council is looking at improvements to the playground, incorporating some inclusive equipment, probably a roundabout that can also be used by kids in wheelchairs is top of the list. The pictures below and right show examples.

We are also looking at the possibility of one or two other alterations to update the playground and make it more interesting. We are currently talking to four different play companies to get their ideas.

Another thing that we want to include in the project is a 'trim trail' round the edge of the playing field with some equipment for those who want to stay fit and active.

No final decisions have been taken as to the exact plan, or which play company to go with. It would be great if some people were willing to have a look at where we have got so far on ideas to improve, and give us their thoughts. We are not looking at totally new playground, but we are hoping to update and improve.

We are a small village and the Parish Council does not have the money to fully fund this project, so we are busy applying for grants to help with the costs. We have already been awarded an SODC grant to start things off, thanks to our local

councillor Robin Bennett, and we need more from various sources – but it is very competitive!

Do get in touch with me via Geoff Russell, our Parish Clerk
parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Rob Ballantyne



© Wickstead



From the Chairman of the Parish Council



Firstly I hope, like me, you are delighted to see the Co-op being refurbished. The team there provide a wonderful service to the village and the work would appear to confirm the Co-op's commitment to Dorchester for the foreseeable future. Please do keep on supporting your local shop. And, of course, you can now cycle there and use our new bike rack!

An update on the complaints from residents over the past year or two about the noise and danger from the evident excessive speed coming from motorbikes on the bypass. You may recall we, along with other impacted parishes, approached the police, including the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner and also our MP. Having been promised a response we received no response let alone action. The latest stage is that a group of local District and County councillors have written to both the Chief Constable and the Commissioner to express our collective 'deep dismay and frustration' at the apparent lack of willingness of the police to enforce speed limits on the A4074 and A4130 and also the lack of a response from the Commissioner as promised many months ago.

So, I'm afraid, no tangible progress but I wanted residents to know that we have not given up and maybe one day the police will act.

A number of residents have enquired about defibrillators in the village.

There are three; in the old phone box in Bridge End; by the pavilion; in the entrance to the White Hart. And, more broadly, if you haven't got it already, the 'Save a Life' App provided by South Central Ambulance Service shows the location of all defibrillators in their area as well as general instructions as to how to use them to supplement the instructions on the individual devices. It's worth having the app on your phone just in case.

A bit more on 21st century technology, Gigaclear is now becoming available through the areas where cable has been installed so far on a phased basis. I know a number of residents are already up and running, the 'go live' has started in the north of the village and is creeping south. I am aware of ongoing discussions with the areas that have not yet been cabled and the PC will continue to help press Gigaclear to get as complete coverage as possible in the months ahead.

Lastly, the housing Survey. Thanks to those who completed it, we are awaiting the analysis from Community First and I hope to be able to report back to residents on the findings in the next month or two.

Mark Williams
Chairman DoT Parish Council

Parish Council Notices

Monthly Meetings November and December 2022

The November Council Meeting will take place in the Village Hall (back room) on **Wednesday 9 November**. The December Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 14 December**. Council meetings commence at 7.30 p.m.

Parish Council meetings are open to all residents. Anyone who wishes to raise a matter of concern is welcome to do so at the start of the meeting.

The Agenda for each meeting will be posted on Village notice-boards and on the Parish Council section of the Village website – **www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk** - three clear days in advance.

Bonfires

Residents wishing to find the rules and regulations about bonfires should refer to the website of South Oxfordshire District Council **<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk>**

Go to the section entitled Environment and neighbourhood issues look for the section headed 'Bonfires and nuisance smoke'

The direct link is **<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/environment-and-neighbourhood-issues/bonfires-and-nuisance-smoke/>**

Garden Encroachment over pavements

Residents whose properties are adjacent to pavements should always take care that the growth of their hedge or border planting does not overhang any neighbouring pavement and thus inconvenience neighbours and visitors.

The County Council can insist on such encroachments being trimmed back and if they become a serious problem, complaints can be submitted on Fix My Street

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. Texts are always welcome.

e-mail: **parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk**

Cllr Mark Williams, the Chairman, can be contacted via **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 Councillor.



The Mirth & Melody of Angels

Ancient music *for the* festive season *with*

The
York
Waits



Saturday 3rd December 2022 7.30pm

Dorchester Abbey

**Dorchester-on-Thames, Wallingford
OX10 7HH**

Tickets £15 (£10 concessions) online via
Eventbrite or on the door

theyorkwaits.org.uk



From your District Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



New council address

From Monday 3 October, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have a new temporary home at Abbey House in Abingdon until the new headquarters on the Didcot Gateway site is ready. The councils have been based at Milton Park since 2015.

Most council staff can and prefer to work remotely, which means we need significantly less office space. We therefore took the opportunity to bring the lease to an early end to save significant sums in rent by operating out of much smaller office space at Abbey House, which the Vale owns. Our new address is:

**South Oxfordshire District Council
Abbey House
Abbey Close
Abingdon, OX14 3JE**

All phone numbers for our services will remain the same and are available on our website.

Hackney carriage fare limits introduced for first time in South Oxfordshire

Licensed Taxis operating in South Oxfordshire will have a maximum fare they can charge passengers. This is to ensure passengers, especially those who rely on taxis to travel around such as those on low income or with disabilities, are not priced out of using taxis as the cost of living continues to rise. We recognised this is a challenging time for taxi operators, as their overheads are also rising, and have tried to ensure a fair balance so their businesses remain viable. South Oxfordshire was one of only six councils in the country who didn't set a tariff.

The fares only apply to hackney carriages, not private hire, as passengers are able to shop around with private hire vehicles to get the best deal, unlike a taxi rank. The fares only apply for journeys within South Oxfordshire and the new maximum fare for a two-mile journey on Tariff 1 will be £8.10, rising to £11.25 for Tariff 3 (applicable from 2am to 5.59am on weekdays and all day Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day).

Cost of Living crisis support

I attended a 'cost of living summit' recently, hosted by Oxfordshire County Council, to see how we combine to offer more support to those who need it. This is in response to our recent council motion. If you need any further information on the support that's available locally, please head to our website: www.southoxon.gov.uk/costofliving

Climate Action Report

We now report quarterly on progress with our Climate Action Plan. There's a lot happening and it's an interesting read. southoxon.gov.uk/climateaction

£320,000 of capital funding available for projects in South Oxfordshire

Our Capital Grant Scheme 2022-23 is now open for applications. SODC are able to provide a minimum of £1,000 and up to 50 per cent of the total project costs to eligible voluntary and community organisations. If you belong to or work for an organisation that you think could benefit from this scheme, you can find out more information on our website: www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants. The closing date for applications is midday on Friday 21 October.

I have now awarded all the funds in my 2022 district councillor fund, including funds for accessible play equipment at the Dorchester recreation ground, the Henge educational arts/history project, and YoCo Berinsfield.

And finally... please come to Didcot Eco Fair on 5 November!

Hold the fireworks: Everyone is invited to the Didcot Eco Fair at Cornerstone Arts Centre on **Saturday 5 November**, 11.00am-3.00pm, for a fun and informative event showcasing South Oxfordshire's fantastic sustainable businesses, with arts and crafts activities, food stalls and advice on how we can reduce both our environmental impact and our heating bills.

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From your County Councillor... ...Robin Bennett

Warm places, welfare schemes and Council Tax support this winter

The winter ahead looks incredibly difficult for people of all ages, backgrounds and incomes.. In local government, we have much more limited powers than national government, but we try to use all of the influence at our disposal. The council have agreed a list of proposals to help local people – particularly the vulnerable – face the combination of inflation and the rising cost of energy over coming months:

- The permanent provision of an emergency welfare scheme administered through the county council's customer services team, to enable provision of food support to children in early years settings and the targeting of grants for those missing out on national energy support schemes.
- Libraries can be **welcoming and warm places** for people to help with isolation, loneliness and mental wellbeing as well as warmth. A grants scheme for community venues to contribute to their energy costs is also proposed. This will support existing activities (stay and play schemes, lunch clubs etc) as well as new initiatives.
- A new grant scheme to support voluntary and community sector organisations will launch in October with an initial £100,000 of Oxfordshire Community Foundation (OCF) funding and £100,000 from OCC. The grants will fund a range of organisations supporting community food services, money and debt advice, networks for older people and vulnerable adults and those working with families in need.
- The county council will support the district councils in the Council Tax reduction scheme that aims to reduce the amount people with low incomes have to pay, as well as Council Tax hardship funds for those facing difficult circumstances.
- Expanding the Better Homes Better Health programme allowing the scheme to reach fuel poor households with advice on reducing energy costs. There is also a £210,000 grant to Citizens Advice in place to maintain debt and benefits advice capacity.
- A total of £322,000 of COVID funding has been assigned to the Care Workers Charity to provide crises grants for the most in need workers and access to the "Blue Light Card" staff benefit and discount scheme for all those working in the sector.

Speeding and noise disturbance on the A4074 and A4130

I have written alongside local councillor colleagues to both the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, to express our frustration at the failure of Thames Valley Police

to enforce speed limits on the A4074 and the A4130 in South Oxfordshire, or to respond to the concerns and evidence several parishes have presented to them. We don't think it's acceptable that Thames Valley Police appears to be ignoring its responsibility for enforcing safe speed limits in our area, with a minority of drivers routinely breaking the speed limit on our local roads.

School transport

I'm in regular (almost daily) contact with the Schools Transport team, as some residents face continuing issues on this front. The Berinsfield-Abingdon AB04 service is now being re-tendered, as we seek a more reliable service provision. A temporary solution is in place for the next few weeks with a separate minibus for Europa School pupils. It's been frustrating, but I know the team are really committed to making this work.

Broad Street public space improvements

A new project for Oxford's Broad Street aims to create a more welcoming public space. The project, expected to be ready later in October, will include sitting areas with planters for visitors to meet with friends to socialise or just take a break from working, sightseeing or shopping. Local businesses and residents have been involved to ensure that the street furniture is made responsibly and locally, including robust wooden benches and seats made using reclaimed wood produced by *RAW workshop*, an award-winning social enterprise based in Blackbird Leys.

'Decide and Provide' transport planning policy adopted.

The council's cabinet recently approved new requirements for transport planning for new developments based on the principle of 'decide and provide', rather than the previous method of 'predict and provide'. This is intended to help the county move towards its goal of a net zero transport system by 2040. The 'decide and provide' approach decides on a preferred transport vision and then provides the means to work towards it, instead of relying on past trends in car use and dependency.

Deregulated 'Investment Zones': No thanks

The County Council's Leader, Liz Leffman, issued a statement on why we decided not to bid for so-called investment zones. 'We consider that the de-regularisation of planning controls and reductions in environmental protection, which appear to be a condition of any investment zone, are incompatible with our net zero carbon aspirations and our commitment to protect and enhance biodiversity and environmental quality, as stated in our vision.'

robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk
tel. 01865 858680
m. 07979 646815

A close-up portrait of a man with dark hair, wearing a black beret and glasses, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a red jacket over a dark turtleneck. The background is dark and out of focus.

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Saturday 26 Nov 7pm



From your MP...

...John Howell

With Party Conference season now over the House returns to business. For my part I was unable to attend Party Conference as I was asked to join two other UK parliamentary representatives on a Council of Europe delegation to Bosnia Herzegovina. The delegation was tasked with monitoring the Presidential and General Elections to verify that the elections were free and fair, and that there was no obvious corruption in the process. Election observation missions help to ensure that the crucial values of the Council of Europe in the matters of human rights, promoting democracy, and the rule of law are known, understood, and accepted, and that countries are committed to them in the ways in which they conduct elections. In this instance we were able to confirm that the election was peaceful and fair. However, in the longer term many questions remain about the stability of the country. This work of the Council of Europe makes an important contribution in working towards greater stability, both in Member States (of which there are 46) and beyond. Observations are by official request of the national authorities.

In recent years we have become only too aware of our global interdependence, both because of the pandemic and, more recently, as a result of the conflict in Ukraine. One aspect of our global interdependence is around food security and supply chains. The need for home production is ever more important for continuity of supply, and also to reduce the miles that our food travels. In an area where farming is important it is good to see the industry being given more independence and financial resilience. The new Environmental Land Management Schemes being rolled out will support farmers to not only produce high-quality food but also to protect and enhance the natural environment.

Another issue that I know to be of local concern is that of planning. I have long championed reforms in this area, seeking greater local input through Neighbourhood Planning, and I am pleased to see that the proposed legislation looks to strengthen this. I have also long expressed my concerns at the lack of infrastructure coming forward in line with development and will be watching closely to see how the proposals for a new Infrastructure Levy will work to ensure that we have the things we need for our communities, such as schools and GP surgeries. I know that some concern has been expressed at the proposals for Investment Zones,

especially in relation to the environment. It is my understanding that key planning policies will ensure that developments protect our precious natural heritage and maintain national policy on the Green Belt.

For many the overarching concern at the moment is the cost of living. Whilst we await the details of the Government Financial Plan, I trust that everyone is aware of the support for which they are eligible. Full details of this can be found on the Government website at www.gov.uk/cost-of-living. At this link you can find the support set up for everyone, as well as support for those on low incomes, those with disabilities, for small business, and several other links.

As we settle into this period of parliamentary time there will be many issues for discussion. If there is an issue that concerns you, please do share your thoughts. My email address is john.howell.mp@parliament.uk. Alternatively, you can write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or at my constituency address (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD). Please note that correspondence sent through the post takes longer to reach me as it has to go through offsite security scanning before being delivered.

If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government and the Constituency look at my website which is regularly updated. The address is www.johnhowellmp.com. Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at www.parliament.uk.

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Cinema: All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm unless stated otherwise. Please note that we will start on time and that latecomers will only be allowed in after the start of the film where there is no disruption to sitting patrons. This means that we may have to reseat some latecomers. For Live Screenings we reserve the right to seat latecomers in the Curtis Room where there is a large screen relay. The bar and auditorium will open from 7.00pm so there's plenty of time to collect drinks beforehand.

Tickets £10 for Adults and £5 for under 15s unless otherwise stated.

November

Tues 1	Nothing Compares (15)
Wed 2	Nothing Compares (15)
Fri 4	Amsterdam (15)
Sun 6	Amsterdam (15)
Mon 7	Amsterdam (15)
Tues 8	Doctor Who Am I (TBA)
Wed 9	My Neighbour Adolf (TBA)
Thurs 10	My Neighbour Adolf (TBA)
Fri 11	The Banshees of Inisherin (15)
Sat 12	The Banshees of Inisherin (15)
Sun 13	The Banshees of Inisherin (15)
Fri 25	Living (12A)
Sun 27	Living (12A)

Live Screenings

Thursday, 3 November, 7.00pm

NT Live: The Seagull, recorded at the Harold Pinter theatre, London

Director: Jamie Lloyd, Starring: Emilia Clarke, Tom Rhys Harries, Indira Varma, Daniel Monks, Sophie Wu.

Emilia Clarke makes her West End debut in this 21st century retelling of Anton Chekhov's tale of love and loneliness.

Following his critically acclaimed five-star production of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Jamie Lloyd brings Anya Reiss' adaptation of Anton Chekhov's classic play to stage. Filmed live in London's West End

Tickets: £18 (adults), £15 (senior citizens), £10 (under 18s)

Wednesday, 16 November, 7:15pm

The Royal Ballet: A Diamond Celebration, live from Covent Garden

A dazzling showcase marking 60 years of the Friends of the Royal Opera House. The showcase will demonstrate the breadth and diversity of The Royal Ballet's repertory in classical, contemporary and heritage works.

Tickets: £18 (adults), £15 (senior citizens), £10 (under 18s)

Live on Stage

Wednesday 28 September to Saturday 1 October 7.45pm

Sinodun Players present *Twelfth Night* live on stage at the Corn Exchange

Shakespeare's classic comedy of love and deception is transported to the Art Deco period of the 1920s and set in the sumptuous Hotel Illyria on the Italian Riviera. In this sleek and stylish new production, tempers flare as passions rise under an unforgiving sun, leading to conflict, confusion and humiliation.

Tickets £12

Saturday, 26 November, 7:45

Live on stage, Arthur Smith presents his Edinburgh Fringe Show – about the Edinburgh Fringe

"There are Edinburgh Fringe legends and then there is Arthur Smith" (Bruce Dessau, Times)

This is Arthur Smith's love letter to the playground of the imagination that is the Edinburgh Fringe on its 75th birthday. Telling the story of this great city and its festivals and recalling some of the triumphs, disasters, love affairs and arrests of his many Augusts in Auld Reekie. A moving hour of revelations, songs, poems, and gags.

(Age guidance 14+).

All Tickets £15

Wallingford Theatre Club

Wallingford Theatre Club (WTC) is looking to recruit new members. Do you enjoy theatre? Would you like to enjoy going to the theatre without the hassle of driving and parking? Would you like the company of other theatre-goers with whom you can share your enjoyment (or otherwise!) of the show? Then the Theatre Club may be just what you are looking for.

Having ceased all activities during lock-down, when all theatres were closed, the Theatre Club is fully up and running again. Recent visits have been to theatres in Richmond, Winchester and Aylesbury to see such shows as *HMS Pinafore*, *The False Servant*, *Boeing – Boeing*. Best *Exotic Marigold Hotel* and *Blood Brothers*. We avoid West End theatres and choose local theatres which are up to a couple of hours drive away. They are usually in locations where there is an excellent choice of restaurants and cafes for lunch.

Our trips are made in a luxury coach and leave Wallingford and Didcot mid-morning, arriving at the venue in time for lunch before the performance. We leave for home shortly after the performance ends, getting back to Wallingford or Didcot early in the evening. Altogether an enjoyable day out.

Because we are able to get discounts for group bookings ticket prices are reasonable so the current cost to members of the theatre ticket and the coach trip combined is around £60 per person.

The Wallingford Theatre Club has members from the whole Wallingford area. If you are interested in learning more about the Theatre Club – or want to join, please contact the Membership Secretary Marion Rae, Telephone **01491 824422** or by email **davidandmarion@274industries.com**. We are looking forward to hearing from you. To quote the immortal bard 'the play's the thing.'

Day by day

Wed
2 Nov **All Souls—An autumn concert**
7.00pm
Dorchester Abbey

Fri
4 Nov **Pride of Nasio**
Welcome Home Party
From 6.30pm
Village Hall

Sun
6 Nov **3rd Sunday before Advent**
8.00am
Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am
Family Service

The Snug Sessions
Freddie Benedict Trio
6.30pm
Bishops Court Farm

Wed
9 Nov **Chiropodist**
Village Hall
Appointment only; see page 5

Parish Council Meeting
7.30pm
Village Hall

Fri
11 Nov **An Evening with Robin Oakley**
Slip-ups, Scoops and Confrontations
7.30pm
Village Hall

Sat
12 Nov **Benson Choral Society**
Requiem
7.30pm
Dorchester Abbey

Sun
13 Nov **Remembrance**
8.00am
Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00am
Remembrance Service

Wed
16 Nov **Lunch Club**
12.30pm
Gilbert Scott Hall

Culham & District Horticultural Club
Carolyn Foster
Extending the Season in the Border
7.30 pm
Dorchester Abbey



Sun
20 Nov **Christ the King**
8.00am
Holy Communion (BCP)

10.30am
Sung Eucharist

Wed
23 Nov **Dorchester Historical Society**
Professor Malcolm Airs
Upstairs to Bed: post-medieval houses in Dorchester
7.30pm
Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel,

Sat
26 Nov **Abbey Museum**
Toys of the past
2.00-4.00pm

Orchestra of St Johns
Mendelssohn
7.00pm
Dorchester Abbey

Sun
27 Nov **First Sunday of Advent**
8.00am
Holy Communion

6.00pm
Team Advent Carol Service

Abbey Christmas market
10.00am-5.00pm

Abbey Museum
Christmas Shopping
10.00am-5.00pm
Toys of the past
2.00-4.00pm

Tues
29 Nov **Abbey Museum**
10.00am-12.00noon

For current information about other services
at Dorchester Abbey see
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

For St Birinus RC Church go to:
www.stbirinus.co.uk

Weekly events

Monday Come and See
7.30pm
Dorchester Abbey

Tuesday Coffee Morning
11.00am
Dorchester Abbey

Abbey Bell Ringers
Practice
7.30pm

Wednesday Mobile Post Office
2.00-3.00pm but may vary due to
Covid 19
Outside Co-op

Thursday Wellbeing Walks
10.00am
Outside Co-op

Friday Abbey Junior Choir
Practice
6.00pm

Abbey Senior Choir
Practice
7.00pm

See also the Parish Council website:
www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

Weekly events in the Village Hall

Tuesday Zumba Gold
9.30am

Move Together
1.30pm

Busby Dance
3.15pm

Wednesday Pilates
5.30pm

Tango
7.30pm

See
[dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/
#calendar](http://dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/#calendar)
for forthcoming events.

Parish Registers

Baptisms

2 October Amelia Christina Minett

Marriages

24 Sept Daniel Townsend and Kirsty
Malone

Funerals

5 October Freda Betty Charlotte Bumpass
14 October Jonathon Morton



Remembrance Day Sunday 13 November

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 Emily Moore (interim) bookings@dotvh.org.uk or **01865 689452**.

Please telephone at least 24 hours in advance to arrange collection of the key.

FAULTS AND COMPLAINTS

POTHOLE, STREET OR ROAD PROBLEMS

Abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, flyposting or graffiti, flytipping or litter, street cleaning, such as broken glass in a cycle lane, unlit lampposts, potholes can be reported on fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk. In an emergency, call **0345 310 1111**.

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

POWER CUTS

If you suffer a power cut call **105** to get **National Grid** who will put you through to the network operator.

ANIMAL WELFARE

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

MOBILE POST OFFICE

The Mobile Post office stops outside the Co-op every Wednesday between 2.00 and 3.00pm but may vary.

Useful Information

BUS SERVICES

Bus services by Going Forward buses
Dorchester to Wallingford and Dorchester to Didcot

To Wallingford: 10.32, 12.48 (Mon, Wed), 09.46, 10.28 (Fri),
From Wallingford: 09.30, 11.45 (Mon, Wed), 11.50, 12.15 (Fri)

To Didcot Station: 09.38, 11.53 (Mon, Wed),
From Didcot Station: 10.05, 12.26 (Mon, Wed),

OTHER BUS SERVICES

Services X39 X40 go every 30 minutes from the bypass at the end of Drayton Road to Oxford and Wallingford. Information about bus services, is available from www.traveline.info, and **0871 200 2233**.

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.

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USEFUL CONTACTS

ANGLICAN PRIEST

Dorchester Rectory
01865 340007

ABBEY E-MAIL:

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

ABBEY WEBSITE

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk

VILLAGE WEBSITE

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk

ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST

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

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



REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Tues 1 Nov **Green***
Tues 8 Nov **Black**
Tues 15 Nov **Green**
Tues 22 Nov **Black**
Tues 29 Nov **Green**

Weekdays from 7.00am

Green* = extra garden waste for brown bin users

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. Check website www.oxford.gov.uk/

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