

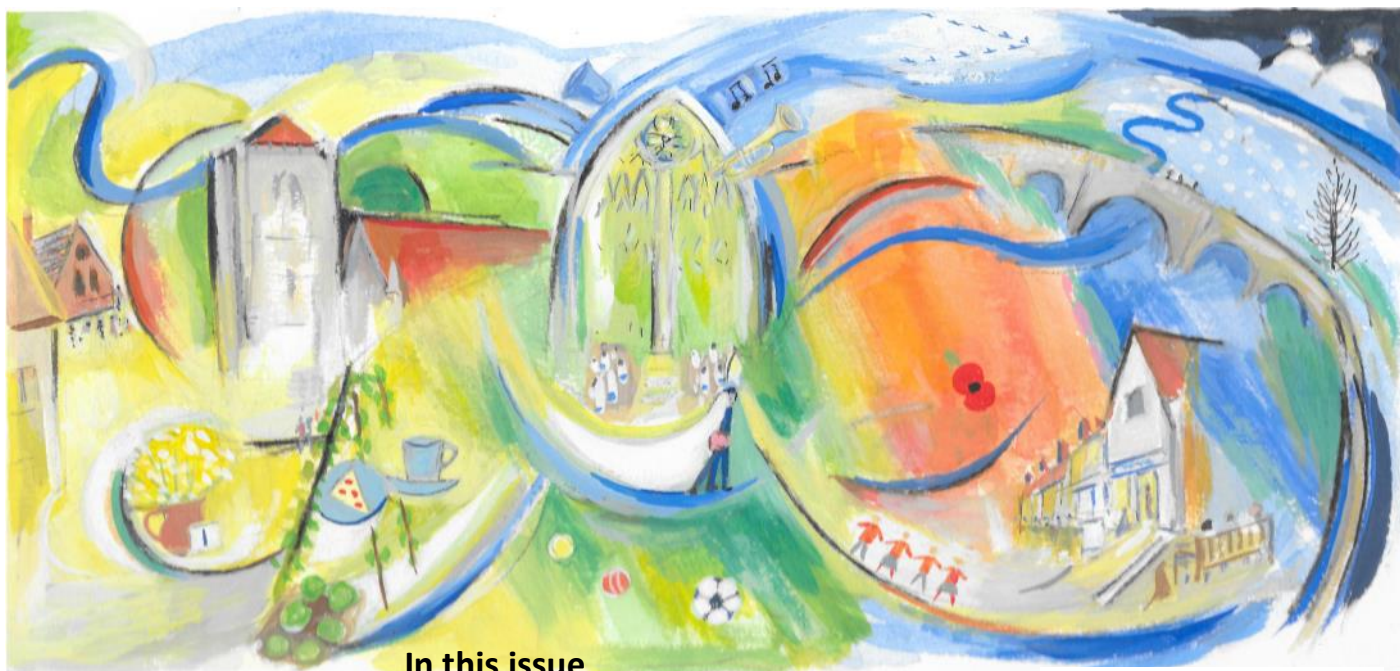
# ***Dorchester News***

***Free to every home in the parish***

***September 2023***







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Cover: Wedding flowers adorn the choir stalls in Dorchester Abbey

## Deadline for October Dorchester News



email:

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

### **A DoT view**

Most of us are back from holidays. Back to work, back in the village, back to a new school year.

We have several 'new years' to contend with. There is of course the calendar new year, as December tips into January; there is the new tax year, which, although it almost coincides with start of warmer weather, never seems to have that spring in its step.

But it is the new academic year that seems to me to be in many ways the most significant, coinciding with the change from summer to autumn, from lazy summer days (theoretically) to a full diary of work and social events.

There's the Autumn Flower Show; the evening to meet our friends from Ukraine; the wonderful *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* to go to; OSJ concerts are back as are the Historical Society meetings and the Snug Sessions; and Claire Andersson is giving us the first of her Nordic Nights at the end of the month, which really does mark the start of Autumn.

And there will be the Parish Council survey to determine the vision for Dorchester 2030. (See page 21.) Hardly a social event, admittedly, but a civic responsibility for us all to make our views known.

This 'new year' is shaping up to be pretty busy.

Ian Brace

### **Editorial Team**

Ian Brace, Steph Cook

### **Printed by**

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'I'm so done with this summer!' my youngest daughter declared. 'Next year needs to be better.' (she's getting married...) It does seem rather strange writing the September Talking Point when it feels like we're still waiting for summer to start. Already adverts are full of 'back to school' when I've only just waved farewell to teachers and pupils praying for them all to have a well-earned break. But we did have a few weeks of glorious early summer – and dare we hope for an autumn Indian Summer?

We arrived here in Dorchester in the dead of winter – it really was very cold! And whatever this summer may have been – the first year with a new garden is always a journey of discovery. The Rectory garden has some very real delights – especially a glorious herbaceous border planted by my predecessors. It also has some challenges – its size in the first place, but also brambles and bindweed and nettles which are beyond us to eradicate – we can only hope to keep them at bay. And one of the trees has needed major surgery! The Japanese Pagoda Tree, we learned the second largest in the country, has needed a very severe pruning for safety's sake. It looks rather harshly cut back right now – but the tree surgeons, who clearly know and love trees, are hopeful it will flourish again. It may still be the second largest of its type – we have learned there are more measures of a tree than its height.

Arriving in this team of churches and their local communities is also an amazing journey of discovery. As with our garden I think I will need the full cycle of 12 months to begin to feel anything other than new. But I am past feeling brand new – experiencing a growing love for these churches and communities as I get to know them, with all their joys and challenges (just like the garden!) – and caring for churches often feels very like caring for a garden – sowing and planting and pruning and clearing the brambles – creating conditions for health and growth.

Gardens feature through the story of the Bible – from the Garden of Eden, to Gethsemane where Jesus wept before his crucifixion, to the garden of the tomb where Jesus was laid to rest and where the resurrection was revealed – through to the end of the book – the hope of a restored creation – not back to Eden, better than that: restored, re-created, re-imagined, more glorious than the first – with Jesus the gardener declaring 'Behold I make all things new'.

And for now we share in God's work of re-creation in his world. Our cold wet British summer, along with the heatwaves experienced elsewhere, are a sharp reminder of the urgent need for us to be caring for the world God has entrusted to us. Jesus said 'I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full.' (John 10:10) – it's a verse many church schools draw on for

their vision statements, and expresses God's longing for each and every one of us. All of us who have encountered the transformation Jesus brings are entrusted with sharing this good news – this gospel – with others.

On the first Sunday of September we will be having a Team Service in Dorchester Abbey – a Confirmation Service with Bishop Gavin, where six people will be committing their lives afresh to follow Jesus, and the church will be affirming them, confirming them in their faith. Do come to support and encourage them – it will be a great service where I hope we will all be encouraged and inspired in our faith.

And for now I leave you with the collect prayer for that first Sunday in September – may we all be open to the work of God the gardener in our lives:

*Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.*

Every blessing  
Jane

## Services

Please see service list in Dorchester Diary, page 30 but please check with your minister.

Most parishes are sending a weekly email with service information; if you want to receive this email – and for up to date information about services - please call the Team Office on **01865 340007** or email **admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk**

## Team Services

**Sun 3 September 10.30am:** Team Confirmation Service at Dorchester Abbey

**Sun 24 September 10.30am:** Clifton Hampden

## Abbey Concert Managers required Are you interested?

The demand for Events to be held in the Abbey has been steadily increasing this year and we need to increase the number of volunteer Concert Managers who play a vital part in helping to make the events run smoothly. This is an opportunity to find out more about what goes on behind the scenes, meeting interesting artists, hearing lovely music and being the welcoming face of the Abbey to the audience.

Training will be given. For further details please contact the Events Administrator, Dorchester Abbey, Samantha Turner; **admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk** and **01865 340007** (Mon, Wed and Fri mornings





## 10th September, 10.30am Pets Service



Come and join us as we thank God  
for His animals and for all Creation.  
(Bring your own pet or come and enjoy others'.)



All are welcome at our Family Services  
for worship, Bible stories, fun and refreshments

## Team Events

**Save the Date- 10-14 October-** Many of you may recall that about five years ago we had a visit from a group of four ladies who ran the Burning Bush Soup Kitchen in South Africa. This group is officially known as our K&K and Oxford Dioceses Link project partner. That official name doesn't quite trip off the tongue, so we usually just talk about the Burning Bush Soup Kitchen project. What you may not know is that there are several Link projects between the K&K and Oxford Dioceses. This is the website that talks about the different Links: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/mission/world-mission/diocesan-links/kimberley-and-kuruman--oxford-link>

This October there will be a four-day Link Summit meeting. You will start to see notices about this meeting (including the notice above) where we give you information about the meeting and how to participate in the Summit. If you would like more information, contact Amy Herlihy at [a.herlihy@btinternet.com](mailto:a.herlihy@btinternet.com) – or watch for additional notices in the pew sheets!



## Events in the Abbey

### Sat 9 Sept 2.00pm-4.30pm Ancient Mariner (Shrine Chapel) Concert.

Kubla Khan and The Ancient Mariner are poems by Coleridge Taylor which Tim Cook has set to music and will be performed by local singers and instrumentalists. Original artwork Illustrations by Adrian Brooks will be available for sale with a pop up tea room. Free admission.

### Sun 10 Sept- 6.30pm onwards. An evening with Ukrainian friends: sharing music and food together

Please join us for this free event which we are running in partnership with our Ukrainian friends. An opportunity to share each other's music and food in a relaxed setting in Dorchester Abbey. Please do come at 5.00pm for Choral Evensong if you wish! Bring some food for the buffet to share. Please get free tickets from the ticket link so that we have some idea of numbers!

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/dorchesterabbey/t-ojzIndl>



### Sat 23 Sept- 7.00 pm – 9:30 pm OSJ- Bach

Orchestra of St John's Autumn season opens with an evening of sublime music from J.S. Bach. We are delighted to welcome back young violinist Poppy McGhee who, alongside Michel Tirabosco, will join the Orchestra in conjuring all the musical richness and joy of one of the world's most seminal composers. Free tickets available for NHS workers and for the disabled. Please email [admin@osj.org.uk](mailto:admin@osj.org.uk).

Tickets £5 to £30 from [www.osj.org.uk](http://www.osj.org.uk)

## Dorchester Lunch Club

The Lunch Club will be re-starting in October and will continue until Easter next year. The lunches this year will be on **Wednesdays 18 October, 15 November and 6 December.**

The Lunch Club is particularly for retired residents in Dorchester who are living on their own but also if there is space available, couples would be welcome. The lunches consists of a home cooked main course, a dessert and coffee or tea for the price of £5 per head and are held in the Back Room of the Village Hall at 12.30 for a 12.45 start. As the cooks are all volunteers it may be difficult to cater for people with allergies or vegetarians unless I know well in advance, so please bear that in mind if you wish to attend as we are not able to offer a choice of menu. It is only possible to cater for 18 people at each lunch.

I would welcome new residents to the village as well as all past members. If you have not been to these lunches before, it would be helpful to me to know well in advance that you are interested in joining us. My contact details are below.

**Volunteer washers up and car drivers wanted.** If there is anyone in the village who would like to volunteer to help wash up at the lunches or is able to drive a disabled person to the Village Hall and take them home afterwards, I would be very grateful if you could let me know.

**Susan Jupp** (co-ordinator for the Lunch Club)  
Phone: **01865 341066**

## Dorchester Abbey Clock - Update

Following generous donations from villagers, The Friends of Dorchester Abbey, Oxford Historic Churches Trust and ChurchCare we have covered the quoted cost of the repairs to the tower clock. There is a risk that more costs will arise once work starts, but hopefully we can find a way of covering any such costs. Given the historic nature of the clock we needed to get permission from the Diocese of Oxford to undertake the repairs – they want to see that the work will be carried out in the right way and by using Cumbria Clock Company (who repaired the clock in the Elizabeth Tower, more commonly known as Big Ben) we were able to demonstrate that.

There are only a few repairers of so called Turret Clocks in the country and so as you can imagine their services are in demand and so there is now a four to six month waiting period whilst we get to the top of the list with Cumbria Clock Company and they are ready to start work dismantling the clock to take back to the workshop for a full overhaul and clean before being reinstalled and commissioned. The overhaul process will take three to four months, so in Spring 2024 we should once more be able to tell the time using the clock and hear the quarter-hours being chimed.

Thank you so much to those who have contributed to the appeal for funds to repair the clock. We will provide another update in Dorchester News once we have more specific information on the repair timetable.

**Nick Forman**  
**Treasurer, Dorchester Abbey**



## Hempcroft Allotments September

The Allotment Society AGM for 2023 will be held in the Village Hall on **Thursday 21 September at 7.30pm.**

This will be the opportunity to elect your committee members for the forthcoming year, and to pay your rent for the forthcoming year, collect seed catalogues, and meet some fellow allotment neighbours over a convivial glass of wine.

The annual rent for a 10 pole plot is £15, for a 5 pole plot it is £10, and for a smaller plot it is £5. The Hempcroft Allotment Association annual subscription is £10 per year. It covers our insurance requirements, compulsory membership of the National Association of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners, and provides for general allotment maintenance and improvement. The rents and subscriptions will remain at these levels for the forthcoming year.

If you are not already an allotment holder but are interested in obtaining a plot then you are most welcome to join the meeting.

**Edward Metcalfe**  
**340160**  
**edmetcalfe@yahoo.co.uk**



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lille skogen

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## Dorchester Abbey Museum News

In spite of the weather, museum visitor numbers have returned to pre-COVID levels, and we have welcomed many more non-UK visitors, as well as a wide range of groups. We have also welcomed three new volunteers.

### Engaging our Community

Gill Whitten has set up three pop-up exhibitions this year; it's amazing what can be done on a single windowsill! Following the very successful Coronation pop-up, with try-on crowns and robes, we have had the Victoriana exhibition. Now until the end of September, we have an exhibition of Interesting objects found in the Dorchester area. We are very grateful to local residents who have loaned items for these exhibitions. Do come and see the latest exhibition, and bring items of interest relating to Dorchester in for us to look at.

Gill also organises handling workshops and assists Ellie Ribeiro with school visits to the Abbey - you may have seen her in Anglo-Saxon or pilgrim garb.

### Parish Magazines

The archive now has a virtually complete set of parish magazines going back to 1888 when the first *Dorchester Parish Magazine* appeared under the editorship of the Revd. Nathaniel Poyntz (we still lack a few from the period 1918-1920). There was no magazine from 1920 until the 1960s, with *Dorchester News* (5 issues Dec 1965-May 1966) and *Dorchester Times* (101 issues, missing Nos. 12 and 16)), from then until 1974 (both edited by the late Michael Hugh Jones). Another gap, until *Dorchester Parish News* (April 1983-August 1988, edited by Vera Baker), and later *Dorchester News* was overseen by Revd John Crowe from September 1988 (centenary of the very first issue) until his retirement. The magazine was edited for a number of years by Edward Ollershaw and then Susan Jupp. More recently, under Ian Brace's editorship from 2014, the magazine has made the transition to colour and new layout. This collection gives a fascinating insight into all aspects of Dorchester's life over more than a century.

### New volunteers welcome!

New volunteers are always welcome to join our friendly team. Please contact [museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:museum@dorchester-abbey.org.uk) to arrange a chat about how you can get involved.

## Dorchester Historical Society Wednesday 27 September 2023 at 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel

Members free, Visitors welcome (£5).

**Charles Dickerson with Ken Wise and  
David Watkin will talk on:**



### 'Drayton St Leonard, Then and Now

Dorchester's near neighbour lies surrounded by open fields, with agriculture its main occupation. Seemingly little-known today, this quiet village does have an interesting early history. In the most recent past, perhaps because of its many qualities, the village has become home to many residents who have made significant contributions to national life. Despite many physical changes, it remains, today, a delightful place in which to live.

### Date for your diary:

**Wednesday 25 October**

Margot Metcalfe, Curator: *'Earthly Treasures – Selected objects from the Dorchester Abbey Museum collection'*.

## Museum Volunteers Summer Party

On Monday 14 August Abbey Museum weren't as visible to the visitors. Revd Jane Willis added her thanks to Margot and said event. The curator, Margot Metcalfe, welcomed everybody and thanked all of the volunteers for their hard work, including those who worked behind the scenes and

were't as visible to the visitors. Revd Jane Willis added her thanks to Margot and said how pleased she had been that one of her first jobs after coming to Dorchester was to appoint Margot as the new curator.





## The White Hart

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## Dorchester Pre-School

Well what a wonderful send off we had at the end of July! Saying goodbye to Felix, Baker, Madoc, Maja, Imani, Oakley, Archie, Hamish and Tessa. All going off to start their journeys into school life. We had a wonderful sports day on the recreation grounds, where we had a delightful teddy bears picnic, followed by a graduation ceremony for all the leavers; a really special group this year as they were with us throughout covid! We wish them all the very best! We raised some great funds from a raffle of some luxury summer hampers which were arranged and put together by Francesca, Felix's mum. The funds are going to be used for some CDs and CD players with headphones for the children to operate themselves. We have recently purchased some lovely new toys for the children to use from some successful fundraisers towards the end of the summer term so thank you to all that have contributed in any way, it really helps the pre-school immensely. I'll take this opportunity to ask for any volunteers to help with fundraising this year as sadly Francesca has stepped down. We are always keen for new helpers or donations to keep the pre-school a wonderful place for the children to enjoy.

We are still looking for old wooden reels to make tables and saucepan donations or any kitchen utensils for the children's mud kitchen.

We are excited that the new term has started, with some new starters joining. We have some wonderful events happening, including a lovely autumn sponsored walk with the children. Our main garden is also going to get a revamp hopefully!

We are a charity organisation and survive solely on any funds raised so are always in need of donations in any way!

Sarah Egan



## It's the return of the DADS Panto!

Roll up! Roll up! The Circus is in town! This year's DADS winter show is the circus-themed pantomime Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Tom Whalley. It's the perfect way to kick off the festive season.

Dame Gertie Dollop runs the show with her son, Silly Billy but they have fallen on hard times. Particularly with the dastardly Ringmaster Heinkel, owner of the rival circus, up to his old tricks. Dame Gertie needs a miracle after their honeypot of pennies is accidentally stolen by three porridge-hungry, talking bears. Could they be the new star attraction Gertie has been searching for?

Find out in the big top pantomime that's just right! The show runs from **29 November to 2 December 2023**.

Thursday and Friday performances are at 7.00pm and Saturday shows are at 2.00pm and 6.30pm. Tickets £12 (Under 12s £9) from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads)

Oxfordshire Libraries

## September events at Berinsfield Library

Digital Helper: Thursdays 2 to 5pm

Help in using smart phones, tablets and laptops. Support for those less confident with technology. Booking essential



Saturday Craft session: 10.30am

Saturday 16 September

Join us for a fun drop-in craft suitable for ages 5+



Rhymetime: Wednesdays at 10.30am

Singing and rhyming fun for under 5s and their parents/carers. Every Wednesday morning during school term



Book Club: Friday 29 September 2pm

Contact the library for this month's book or turn up to say hello and help choose the next one. All very welcome



[@oxonlibraries](https://twitter.com/oxonlibraries) [f Berinsfield Library](https://www.facebook.com/BerinsfieldLibrary)

Telephone 01865 340771

Email: [berinsfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:berinsfield.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)



OXFORDSHIRE  
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Gilbert Scott Hall

The village hall of Dorchester-on-Thames

## Dorchester Village Hall 200 Club Prize Draw

Congratulations to the winners of the June draw.

|           |     |                     |
|-----------|-----|---------------------|
| 1st Prize | £75 | No.75 Mrs G Whitten |
| 2nd Prize | £45 | No.118 Mr K Bryan   |
| 3rd Prize | £25 | No.58 Mr T Hender   |

The next draw will be in September, so join now for a chance to win!

The 200 Club is a quarterly prize draw to reward supporters and raise funds for the village hall. We need new members to keep the draw worthwhile but there are good odds of winning as there is a maximum of 200 tickets in the draw. A ticket for the year (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](mailto: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





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## If not now, when?

Like most people, you probably know how important it is to have a Will in place. So how has it ended up at the bottom of your to-do list?

Hedges will ensure you protect your loved ones in the event of the unthinkable happening.

Call 01491 839839, drop in to our Wallingford office in Market Place, or find us at [hedgeslaw.co.uk](http://hedgeslaw.co.uk) to make an appointment to write or update your Will today.

**HEDGES**



## Saturday 18 November 7.30 Dorchester Village Hall

Dr Lucy Worsley has confirmed she will be attending a special fund-raising event at Dorchester Village Hall at which, in keeping with its Victorian heritage, she will deliver her highly acclaimed presentation on Queen Victoria



*'Queen Victoria: a little old lady, spherical in shape, dressed in black, perpetually grumpy. Right? Historian Lucy Worsley wants to make you think again. Meet a complex, contradictory woman, who had a traumatic childhood, who loved dancing, who suffered calamity and bereavement, before coming out the other side as an eccentric, powerful and really rather magnificent old lady. Lucy's illustrated talk takes you into the life, the palaces, and the rich colourful age of this woman who ruled a quarter of the globe'.*



Photo:  
© Hay Festival/  
Paul Musso

Lucy is an internationally respected historian and chief curator at Historic Royal Palaces, the independent charity responsible for maintaining the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, Kensington Palace State Apartments, the Banqueting House in Whitehall and Kew Palace in Kew Gardens. She is also a superstar of many prime-time TV documentaries and hosts 'Puzzling' an intellectually challenging series of quiz programmes on Channel 5.

**Tickets £25 available from  
[ticketsource.co.uk/dotvh](https://ticketsource.co.uk/dotvh)**

**Doors and bar open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Dorchester village hall is a registered charity no 900244 managed as an entirely self-funding village facility

## QUIZ NIGHT

**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 7.00PM**

**Dorchester Village Hall**



**Book a table (max 8 people)**

**£10 per person in advance**

**Includes 'Posh Ploughmans'**

**Cash only bar**

**Tickets in advance from**

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

**0753 827 3129**



## Warborough & Shillingford WI

Writing my article for the September edition of this magazine I am gazing out at dark skies and rain more typical of November than July and I am hoping for some sun. The lively talk at our Members' Meeting was a welcome distraction from the weather. World War II historians and re-enactors, Karen Wiles and her husband Bret, gave an informative lecture on the Women's Voluntary Service, WVS, from 1938 – 1945.

They spoke about Adolf Hitler's rise to power in Germany in 1933 and how the country became increasingly militaristic under his dictatorship. Among the preparations made by Britain in reaction to Germany's rearmament was the establishment of a voluntary women's organisation, within the umbrella of the Air Raid Precautions Department. Karen Wiles has written a book about rationing during World War II called 'A Week on Rations', she lists some of the surprising things the Ministry of Food suggested families eat and includes recipes. There is more information about this fascinating subject at [www.doingtheirbit.co.uk](http://www.doingtheirbit.co.uk).

In early August we had our outing to Wallingford Museum where we saw the display about Agatha Christie, one time resident of Wallingford, known in the community as Mrs Mallowan, wife of Sir Max Mallowan, archaeologist. A must see exhibition for any Agatha Christie fans: never before seen photographs and surprising details of her life are included in the display. For me, however, it was the model of Wallingford Castle that stole the show. Judy Dewey, the museum's curator, talked about the invincibility of the castle and its

importance from the 14<sup>th</sup> Century through to the Civil War. After Oxford Castle fell to Cromwell's troops, Wallingford held out. Colonel Blagg refused to give in until he received a message from the king, only then did the 12 week siege end. The Parliamentarians took control of the castle and used it to store armaments. The castle's ability to resist attack and influence the balance of power made it a risk and they decided to destroy it before it could be recaptured and used against them.

**The Walking Group:** On Friday 21 July the group walked from Warborough to the banks of the Thames at Benson to witness the annual Royal Swan Upping. The Walking Group meets every other Friday for exercise and friendly conversation in this most beautiful Oxfordshire countryside.

The next Members' meeting will be an outing on the afternoon of Wednesday **13 September 2023**, to Clays' Organic Market Garden, in Wallingford.

Our WI meetings usually take place in The St Laurence Hall by the church on the second Wednesday of every month, we would love to welcome you.

Contact: **Sarah Allan President**

**01865 858673**

[warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

Or **Vicky Hart**

**01865 416437**

[warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:warboroughwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)



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## RULES

1. The Show is open to any person residing in Dorchester-on Thames, Burcot, Drayton St Leonard and Berinsfield, or with a Dorchester allotment.

2. No exhibitor may exhibit more than one exhibit in each class, excepting Classes 21, 26 and 27, where three entries may be made.

3. The **number** of exhibits in Class 1 must be the same as in the corresponding class **where applicable** and **in a container**.

**4. All entry forms and fees to be submitted no later than 7.00 pm on the Wednesday evening before the show.**

5. All exhibits in classes 1-40 must have been grown by the exhibitor. All exhibits in classes 41-55 must be home produced by the exhibitor. All pot plants must have been owned for a minimum of 4 months.

6. Exhibitors must provide their own dishes, stands etc. Every care will be taken of the exhibits, but the committee will not be held responsible for loss or damage.

7. On the relative merits of the exhibits, the opinion of the judges shall be final, but the committee reserves to itself the decision on any other points in dispute.

8. The Committee reserves the right to inspect any competitor's garden or allotment before or after the day of the show.

**9. All exhibits for competition must be staged between 9.00 am and 10.15 am on the day of the show.**

10. All competitors must leave their exhibits on show until after the Prize giving and raffle and **clear immediately afterwards**.

11. Any protests must be made in writing before 3.00 pm on the day of the Show.

12. Any exhibitor infringing any of these rules will be disqualified.

## DORCHESTER-ON-THAMES AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW

and  
**Plant Sale/Raffle**  
in  
**DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL**  
on  
**Saturday 16th September 2023**

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

Raffle draw and  
presentation of prizes from 3.40 pm

Exhibitors will be competing for:  
The Amey Rose Bowl, The Rose Plate,  
The Amey Tankard, The Fruit Plate,  
The R Belcher Onion Cup,  
The Floral Art Cup, The Runner Bean Plate,  
The Britain in Bloom Cup, The Best Vegetable Award,  
Vegetable Collection Plate,  
The Best Kept Allotment, The Pat Cheese Potato Cup,  
Victoria Sandwich Award, The HC Smith Dahlia Cup,  
The Blackwell Photography Cup  
The Jerry Nudds Fruit Cake Plate and  
The Jenny Nudds Tomato Cup

**The first Dorchester Flower Show  
was held in 1859**

### Section 1 - Vegetables

- 1) Collection of 4 different types of vegetables (see rule 3)
- 2) Potatoes 5 white
- 3) Potatoes 5 coloured
- 4) Carrots 3, foliage 3" max
- 5) Parsnips 3, foliage 3" max
- 6) Onions 5
- 7) Garlic 3 bulbs
- 8) Shallots 7
- 9) Beetroot 3
- 10) Runner Beans 5
- 11) Longest Runner Bean
- 12) French Beans 5
- 13) Any other beans 5
- 14) Chilis 5
- 15) Sweet peppers 2
- 16) Tomatoes 5
- 17) Tomatoes, Cherry type 7
- 18) Cucumbers 2
- 19) Courgettes 3
- 20) Herbs - 4 bunches in water (space 12"x12")
- 21) Any other vegetable (see rule 2)
- 22) Squash 2
- 23) A disaster vegetable

### Section 2 - Fruit

- 24) Apples, Cooking 5
- 25) Apples, Dessert 5
- 26) Berry Fruit (see rule 2)
- 27) Any other fruit (see rule 2)

### Section 3 - Flowers

- 28) Flowering plant in pot, pot max 8" diameter
- 29) Foliage plant in pot, pot max 8" dia
- 30) Dahlia - 1, 6" diameter and over
- 31) Dahlias - 3, 3" to 6" diameter
- 32) Rose - 1 bloom any type
- 33) Succulent in pot, pot max 8" diameter
- 34) Flowering shrub - 3 stems, one variety
- 35) Berried shrub, including hips - 3 stems, one variety
- 36) Michaelmas daisies - 3 stems
- 37) Annuals - 3 stems, one variety
- 38) Annuals - 5 stems, all different plant families
- 39) Biennials or Perennials - 3 stems, one variety
- 40) Biennials or Perennials - 5 stems, all different plant families

### Section 4 - Flower Arrangements

- 41) 'Fireworks!' (max w18"x h24"x d18")
- 42) Green Planet (max 12"x12"x12")

### Section - 5 Domestic

- 43) Carrot cake
- 44) Fruit cake
- 45) Victoria sponge, caster sugar topping, jam filling
- 46) Brioche
- 47) Traditional Welsh Cakes - 5
- 48) Pot of jam - sealed with plain screw top lid
- 49) Fruit liqueur

### Section 6 - Photography and Art - All unmounted, not exhibited previously.

- Classes 50 & 51: Conventional or digital camera (must not be manipulated or enhanced in any way) Max 8" x 6"
- 50) 'Village Life'
  - 51) Subject beginning with 'J',
  - 52) Manipulated photograph, any subject - up to A4
  - 53) An unframed painting or drawing - max dimension 18"

### Section 7 - Children All own work please - state age on exhibit

- 54) A Disgusting Sandwich

### ENTRY FORM

Please return no later than **7.00 pm Wednesday, 13 Sept** to: Christina Stores, 55 High Street (post through letterbox please)

Class Nos .....

**Full name of Exhibitor** ..... Telephone no.....

Address..... Entry fee 10p per class.....

Email address (for Flower Show reminders and schedule only).....







# Dorchester Abbey

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**SEPT.**  
**2023**

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or  
register at:**

**<https://ohct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/take-part/>**

**For more information visit: <https://ridestride.org>**



## Dorchester gets a taste for Table Tennis

On Saturday 8 July the Table Tennis Taster session was held between 10.00am and mid-day. Led by Cath Dale, Leisure Development Officer in the SIDC Active Communities, and members of Dorchester Parish Council who have encouraged this initiative, around a dozen people of all ages turned up to get a first taste of playing table tennis or, in some cases, to demonstrate their not inconsiderable skill.

A somewhat overcast morning with the threat of rain didn't dampen spirits, although it may have affected the amount of spin you could get on the ball.

The table, placed next to the pavilion on the Recreation Ground, is free for anyone to use. Bats and balls are provided. I am sorry to have to report that some of the bats have since been vandalised, but the Parish Council has renewed them and has pledged to keep doing whatever is necessary to ensure that this remains a usable facility for the village.

Table tennis is an excellent way to get fit and stay in shape. Not only does it give you a full-body workout, but it also helps improve your hand-eye coordination and reflexes. This means that playing table tennis can help improve your strength, stamina, agility and speed—essential skills for any athlete. It is a *moderate-intensity activity*, which is good for your heart.

So get out there and start to ping and pong!



Above: Simon Ratliff takes on Geoff Russell—two titans of the game

Below: Rob Ballantyne, who has driven this initiative, with wife Val, prepare for a doubles match.



## Dorchester Cricket Club Cherwell Cricket League

| Date       | Dorchester 1 result<br>Division 5C                    | Dorchester 2 result<br>Division 7C  |
|------------|---|---|
| 10/06/2023 | Dorchester beat Radley by 61 Runs                     | Wolvercote 3 beat Dorchester 2 by 93 runs                                       |
| 17/06/2023 | Dorchester beat Wootton and Boars Hill by 58 Runs     | Dorchester 2 beat Marcham 1 by 99 runs  |
| 24/06/2023 | Dorchester beat Cairns Fudge by 70 Runs               | Match between Challow and Childrey 3 and Dorchester 2 forfeited by Dorchester 2 |
| 01/07/2023 | Dorchester 1 beat Sunningwell 1 by 9 wickets          | Harwell International 1 drew with Dorchester 2                                  |
| 08/07/2023 | Oxford Downs 3 beat Dorchester 1 by 3 wickets         | Dorchester 2 beat Oxford 4 by 21 runs   |
| 15/07/2023 | Wantage & Grove 1 beat Dorchester 1 by 6 wickets      | Abingdon Vale 3 beat Dorchester 2 by 4 wickets                                  |
| 22/07/2023 | Match Abandoned between Garsington 1 and Dorchester 1 | Match Abandoned between Dorchester 2 and Didcot 3                               |
| 29/07/2023 | Dorchester 1 beat Risinghurst by 3 Wickets            | Kingston Bagpuize 2 beat Dorchester 2 by 9 wickets                              |
| 05/08/2023 | Match Abandoned between Eynsham 1 and Dorchester 1    | Match Abandoned between Dorchester 2 and Uffington 1                            |
| 12/08/2023 | Dorchester beat Radley by 2 Wickets                   | Dorchester 2 beat Wolvercote 3 by 17 runs                                       |

## Three Sisters

Back in the late 1940s, early 1950s, three Harvey sisters shared a double bed at their home in Watling Lane (or Back Lane as it was then known) in the rural village of Dorchester on Thames in Oxfordshire. An older sister Jean slept beside them in another bed.

Their hard working parents Cyril (nicknamed Shocker) and Eileen provided a home for the four sisters and endured two world wars during their lives. Shocker was a well known character an ex marine, special constable and a keen sportsman as well as serving on the parish council. Times were hard with Britain just starting to recover from WW2 and the hardships it created. But in spite of this the four sisters went on to have happy lives, all marrying and having children of their own.

Seventy odd years later those same three sisters are again living under the same roof. No longer sharing a double bed, but living in flats only a few doors apart. Sadly Jean is no longer with us, but her children regularly visit the remaining sisters and take them out on visits to the local pub. After decades of marriage and a life time of experiences, fortune and fate have reunited the sisters in their twilight years.

This has been made possible by their families and thanks to One Housing and especially their dedicated excellent housing manager Roby.

### Stewart Downs

Below: The sisters' father Shocker Harvey stands arms folded.



Stewart's Aunty Dar with a friend. The thatched wall behind them is still there, and puts them in Martins Lane.



Above: left to right—Dar, Jean, Gwen, Vera

Below: left to right—Dar, Gwen, Vera in 2023 at Millcroft, Wallingford



Below: Don Pudwell outside the Bridge Garage in Bridge End, with a picture of the garage below.





## Gerry Stonhill

Former Dorchester boy and one time proprietor of The George, Gerry Stonhill is still remembered and talked about in the village for a variety of reasons despite having left the village around 30 years ago. But The George was just a warm up for the Individual Masons Arms at South Leigh. He died in July 2023 and The Times published the following obituary.

This obituary was published in The Times on 22 July 2023 and is reproduced with the paper's kind permission.

Politically incorrect, cigar-toting publican whose Oxfordshire pub was a favourite haunt of celebrities and the fast-car fraternity

Gerry Stonhill's Individual Mason Arms at South Leigh, northwest of Oxford, was undoubtedly individual. 'We don't like children, mobile telephones or media restaurant critics. We do like our guests to arrive by Hispano-Suiza, Bugatti, Ferrari, in a helicopter or on an MV Agusta,' the cigar-toting publican explained.

Riff-raff were discouraged, the menu did not include prices, and legend had it that if anyone wanted to know the cost of a dish, Stonhill would snap back that by asking, they were too poor to afford it. Over the front door hung a sign reading: 'Vegetarians by appointment only.'

The Mason Arms became a favourite of the fast-car fraternity, with Damon Hill and members of the Formula One teams dropping by for lunch. As if to emphasise the point, adverts appeared in Motor Sport magazine depicting a pair of racing motorcyclists, naked except for crash helmets and socks, above a caption reading: 'Enthusiasts leaving the Individual Mason Arms after a very fine luncheon.'

Visitors could find the politically incorrect Stonhill holding court in a corner of the dark, low-beamed bar, its walls papered with framed black-and-white photographs of yesterday's boy racers. A cheerfully irreverent character, he regaled drinkers with tales about being involved in a shunt in his Aston-Martin outside Château Laville Haut-Brion's vineyard southwest of Bordeaux, thereby acquiring the last couple of cases of the '79 vintage.

Stonhill created a helipad in the neighbouring field, claiming that it was used by his wealthier customers such as Bob Geldof. Other regulars included Richard Branson, Keith Floyd, Raymond Blanc and Marco Pierre White, who described the Mason Arms as 'all very postwar in feeling and spirit'.

Michael Winner, the Sunday Times restaurant critic, was not among their number. He recalled being warned that he would either love or loathe the Mason Arms. 'I loathed it,' he wrote in 2000, labelling it the 'tackiest pub' in Britain. On the basis that there was no such thing as bad publicity, Stonhill erected a plaque with those words by the front door.

In his entertaining rant, Winner added: 'For the finale, Gerry led me into his toilet to see a crude colour cartoon of naked men and women he'd bought in France. I glanced at it, then made an excuse and left.' Winner concluded: 'The problem



with Gerry is someone obviously told him he was a character and he believed them. That was a mistake.'

A correspondent to the paper agreed, adding: 'Stonhill and his staff have mastered the art of arrogant, offhand service. I can only leave it to your imagination how guests who are not celebrities are treated. The first time we went, we thought it was a joke. The joke was on us: it was just as bad the second time.'

Yet this flamboyant landlord's moment of greatest fame was still to come. In 2008 he fell foul of the Labour government's anti-smoking legislation. He admitted several charges of allowing smoking and was ordered by Witney magistrates to pay fines and costs of £5,750. One of those fines was because he himself had lit up in a supposedly smoke-free area of the premises.

Gerald Patrick Stonhill was born in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe), in 1941, the son of Leslie Stonhill, who was serving in the RAF, and his wife Marion (née Fletcher). He was a toddler when the family returned to Britain, where his parents took over the George Hotel at Dorchester-on-Thames. Stonhill joined them after leaving school at 15, eventually becoming proprietor. On one occasion he was featured in the press offering young couples, married or otherwise, the use of a 100-year-old four-poster bed at no extra charge in the inappropriately named 'Vicar's Room'.

Eventually he bought the Individual Mason Arms from Morland Brewery and did it up. Moving on after a couple of years, he bought and renovated a handful of other pubs. He also bought and sold fast cars, notably Ferraris. In 1995 he returned to the Mason Arms, living in a former outbuilding that he converted into living quarters. On one occasion the pub's burglar alarm went off and, unable to stop it, he picked up a shotgun and blasted it into silence.

He was a member of the Boisdale jazz and cigar club in London, taking part in the club's regular visits to Cuba to source fine cigars. His complicated private life included a five-week marriage: he had no children.

The Mason Arms closed in 2013, with Stonhill 'taking his prejudices into the sunset', as one Times critic noted: it has since reopened under new management. He took on the Railway Inn at Fairford, near Cirencester, before retiring to nearby Burford with his Porsche.



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## Jean Mary Bridgman

### 13 November 1929 - 1 May 2023

Jean died at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford on 1 May 2023, four days after she collapsed from a severe stroke at home in Dorchester's Herringcote, where she had lived with her husband, John, for over twenty years.

Jean was born in 1929 in Leicester. She had a strict mother and a father who owned a knitting fabric loom factory. He believed a woman's place was at home and men were the breadwinners. Jean disagreed and after school chose to go to college to learn about office and secretarial work. When ready, she asked her father for a job in his office, but he refused to let her work for him, so she found office work elsewhere. She also learned to drive and continued to do so into her 90s. She also took a 6-month job as an Au Pair in Bern, Switzerland which she hated. The children were horrible and she decided then she would not have a family.

She was attractive, fun loving, clever and independently minded and in the



1950s met John, a farmer's son with a very similar outlook on life. They married in London's Caxton Hall Registry Office and settled in Henley. Both had a variety of jobs and Jean continued developing her artistic and managing abilities.

They moved to Witheridge Hill where they bought and renovated the old post office. Jean made beautiful flower arrangements from the garden's flowers and used the garden shed as a studio where she restored ceramics.

They moved to Herringcote in the late 1990s where both enjoyed village life. Jean followed her specific interests in antiques and in repairing delicate ceramic figurines. Making a stand

against certain life-changing events in 1999, she campaigned against the Government's proposed alterations to the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS) and appeared on the front page of the Daily Telegraph's money section.

After John died in 2021 Jean began to withdraw from active life. She gradually became more confused and incapable of coping with her safety, care and the everyday life. Insisting she lived at home, as her health further declined, a local caring company team attended daily. Her Solicitors, LPA Attorney friends and Financial advisers looked after all her official needs and she died as she had wished, living independently, in her own home.



1984, restoring ceramic figures



1995, with John d.2021

## James Dollar

The family of James Dollar, who tragically died following a road traffic collision in Shillingford on 4 July, have released a tribute to him.

In Memoriam. It is with profound sadness that the family of James Dollar announce the news of his tragic death of 4 July 2023.

Born in 1968 and raised in a small village in Northamptonshire, James graduated with a first class honours degree in Engineering from the University of York.

He went on to pursue a successful career in engineering at the Ford Motor Company and more recently at Sharp UK.

A devout Christian, James was an active



member of his local church. He touched many people with his kindness and selfless generosity.

James was known to all his family and friends as a kind, generous and caring man. He was father to two boys, whom

he loved very much, and he will be greatly missed by them both.

The biggest consoling factor is that he had a living faith in Jesus and we know he is in heaven with him now.

James's large wider family, his brother and sisters, cousins, nieces, nephews, aunt and uncle and his adopted family around the world love him and miss him very much.

We would like to pass on our sincere thanks for all the condolences received and respectfully request peace and privacy as we mourn our great loss..

From Thames Valley Police website  
20 July 2023

## Parish Council Notices

### Monthly Meetings September and October 2023

The September Council Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 6 September** (one week earlier than usual) and the October meeting will take place on **Wednesday 11 October**. Council meetings commence at 7.30 p.m. and are held in the back meeting room of the Village Hall.

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

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

### Dogs in Dorchester Cemetery

The Council Cemetery regulations include the following:

*All persons visiting or passing through the Burial Ground must observe decorum in all respects and all dogs should be on a lead.* Unfortunately, there have been several recent examples of dog fouling, which is completely unacceptable.

### 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**. Direct Line **07752 900716** Texts are always welcome.

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

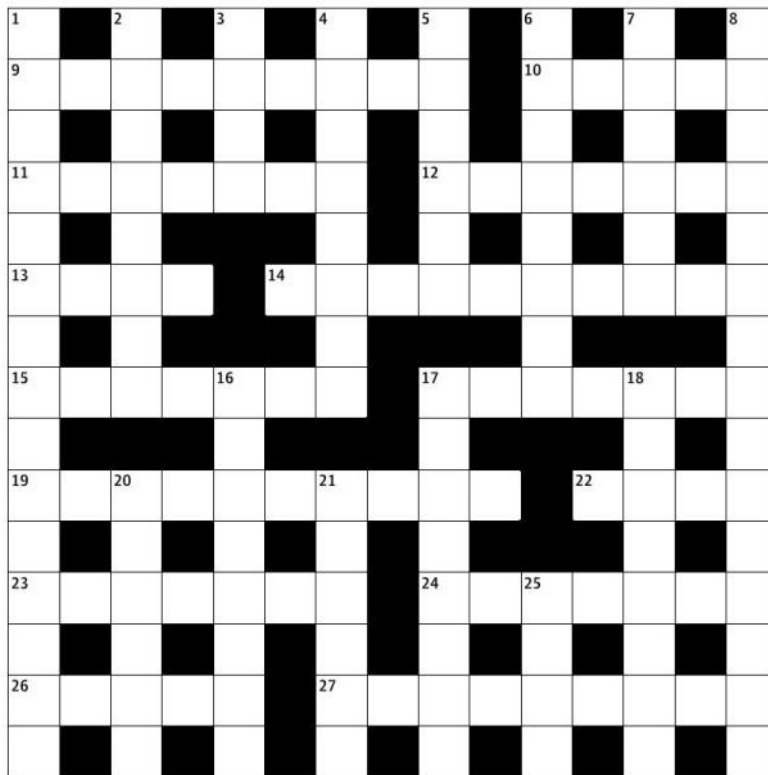
Cllr Mike Corran, the Chairman, can be contacted via **chairman@dorchesteronthames.co.uk**

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.

## Dorchester News Crossword No.28

Compiled by Slider



### Across

- 9 It can increase volume (plenty around if I get resistance at the end) (9)  
 10 I am in endless work to assemble the singers. (5)  
 11 Gin first then catch some drugs for the swinger. (7)  
 12 Very stuffy to be unlocked with no hotel. (7)  
 13 This ceremony sounds to be in order. (4)  
 14 Interfere with endless eggs and tie the knot. (7,3)  
 15 Get back on your bike again. (7)

- 17 He lets a confused No 13 follow about November. (7)  
 19 Entrance father in Gallic church with a reversed cross. (6,4)  
 22 Rome shouldn't be part of the net (4)  
 23 The trail goes round two directions and there is backing from him. (7)  
 24 A crazy loo pan tango for a number of men (7)  
 26 Pregnant with contained Western displeasure (5)  
 27 Gets rid of what sounds like the copper's money bags. (9)

### Down

- 1 An expert needed to control one of the crew. (6,9)  
 2 Describing shortfall in the cells can lead to a type of surgery (8)  
 3 Support in for assault and battery! (4)  
 4 See Timor another way and find it a bore. (8)  
 5 Wine when the military establishment is short. (6)  
 6 Is this a disturbing film? (1,5,2)  
 7 Promote a day of war celebration (uniform to be worn) and get a cleaner round (6)  
 8 An honest state can rely on value when I get to the loch. (15)  
 16 Quite certain to get birds on the river. (8)  
 17 New Pope rose to fight again. (8)  
 18 Diamonds are at home here (a place for preservation) (3,5)  
 20 Sufficient disgust after what happens at the Coliseum. (6)  
 21 Put down and make disappear in the river. (6)  
 25 Above all Imitate the cross! (4)



## From the Vice Chair of the Parish Council



As part of the May Parish Council election, a pledge was made to consult with as many residents as possible to develop a consensus around the vision for Dorchester 2030 and Beyond along with the three to four priorities that this council will pursue over its four year term of office. The consultative process was kicked off at the Annual Parish Meeting attended by around 80 people in the Abbey on 28 June. Since then we have been working with Community First Oxfordshire (CFO), a local community development charity, to develop a questionnaire.

The survey will be launched in the second half of September to be completed by the end of October. Residents are encouraged to complete the survey online via Survey Monkey. A colourful paper copy will also be delivered to all households to encourage active engagement by everyone in the village. Completed paper versions should be returned to the Co-op where additional paper copies will be available. This is an exciting opportunity for you to have your say in setting the priorities for your Parish Council.

Additionally we are planning to hold a 'What's on in Dorchester' event from **18.00-21.00 on Monday 16 October** in the Village Hall. This is the first such meeting to be held in the village since the pandemic. It will provide the platform for all clubs, societies, charities and groups to share their activities and for all residents to learn about what is happening in our village as well as explore the opportunities to get involved with one of the groups. All groups are very welcome and if your group hasn't booked a place already then please do get in touch with Geoff Russell, our parish clerk. Please put this date in your diaries now! More details will be available at a later date.

At our August meeting we had an interesting discussion about what we can collectively do to tidy up our village as both district and county council resources become even more stretched. This discussion was triggered by many people raising concerns about the scruffy state of the bridge into the village which SODC are due to clean in the second half of September. We felt this was too long to wait as it is becoming increasingly difficult to walk across the bridge and there will be a number of events in the Abbey in September. Not the way we should welcome visitors and look after a Scheduled Ancient Monument. So we decided to hold a volunteer clean-up day on Saturday 19 August. By the time we all read this Dorchester News we will know how successful this pilot event has been. We are keen to explore volunteering in the *Dorchester 2030 and Beyond* survey. We already have some further ideas to come together in a convivial atmosphere and improve our village.

Progress has also been made by the council on a number of other fronts:

1.The final details on the upgrading of the Playground are being completed and these will include the provision of an

adult disabled swing. Sovereign have been chosen to install the equipment

2.Two ¾-sized football goal posts have been ordered for the Recreation Ground.

3.Consultation is continuing on the potential provision of adult exercise equipment for the village which will definitely include some outdoor gym equipment on the Recreation Ground for teenagers and adults.

4.The logjam on the development of the Allens Pit affordable housing project has been removed with the replacement of Sovereign Housing by Hastoe Housing as the resident provider. We are hoping that Hastoe will join us for our 'What's on in Dorchester' event on **Monday 16 October**.

5.Grounds maintenance, including tree works, account for a significant part of our annual expenditure and later this year we will request tenders from a number of local suppliers.

6.We are keen to support the work of the Green DOT volunteers and have set aside £1,500 to cover any external expenditure they may require this financial year.

7.Oxfordshire County Council have indicated that they will be moving forward with both EV charge points and further consultation on 20mph in the centre of the village although currently there is no clear implementation timetable. We have confirmed the previous council's decision to site the one or two EV charge points in the Bridge End car park.

We are delighted that some villagers have joined our meetings and made some valuable contributions. We meet monthly and welcome everyone's input in helping us to serve our residents.

In the meantime please put **Monday 16 October** in your diaries for the 'What's on in Dorchester' event and complete the *Dorchester 2030 and Beyond* questionnaire when it is published in the second half of September. Please do contact us if you have any questions

**John Taylor**  
Vice Chair

### 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.

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## Advertorial

### What is a Menopause Coach?

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Not to mention helping you to understand what an earth has happened!

My experiences come not just from qualifications, but first hand from a diagnosis of Premature Ovarian Insufficiency when I was in my 30's. At that time, it was a taboo subject still and one that carried shame, with very little help available other than a direct clinical approach.

So, it is such a joy that we are finally able to recognise, treat and discuss what can be such a life impacting change for some of us - including our partners!

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The first 6-session course will run in September, with a maximum of 15 on the sofa!

It's interactive to help you work through elements that you'd like to address.

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Please do get in touch if you'd like more information about the course.

Bookings will open in July on [www.menopausecouch.co.uk](http://www.menopausecouch.co.uk)

You can also find me on Instagram at [@menopause\\_couch](https://www.instagram.com/menopause_couch)  
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## From your District Councillor... ...Robin Bennett



### Funding agreed for Citizens Advice service in Berinsfield

In late 2022, Berinsfield Information and Volunteer Centre (BIVC) announced they were no longer able to continue operating. This left a significant gap in service provision and had an impact on residents of Berinsfield and the surrounding area who rely on these services, especially with the current cost of living challenges. It also led to greater demand on the remaining voluntary organisations locally. SODC therefore agreed to reopen the Berinsfield Garden Village grant scheme to help fill the gap in provision.

Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice applied for funding to establish a Citizens Advice Community Hub in partnership with the Berin Centre, and will receive £9,999 per year for 2023-24 and the following three financial years to fund core costs for the new service.

### River Thames water quality updates

Anyone planning to use the River Thames at Wallingford and Henley for swimming, boating or fishing this summer will be pleased to know that the environmental charity Thames21 is doing regular water quality sampling as part of its campaign to improve water quality and gain bathing water status in those areas. The charity is publishing its water quality updates on its website. The Thames21 website has details for Wallingford and for Henley. You can read about the Wallingford campaign, and see the latest testing updates here:

<https://www.thames21.org.uk/improving-rivers/wallingford-bathing-waters-project/>

Also in Wallingford, I hope younger readers have been enjoying the newly-refurbished splash park by the river!

### Councillor community grants funding now open

A new round of funding from my District Councillor community grant scheme is available to help local charities and organisations. Organisations can now apply for grants from

£250 up to a maximum of £5,000. Potential applicants are encouraged to get in touch with me as ward councillor to discuss their project and then to visit the council webpage for further details on eligibility. Applications are made online and are open until midday on Friday 20 October 2023. It is possible to apply for both my County and District councillor grants for the same project, preferably in tandem with funding from other sources.

### Wallingford Castle Meadows wins Green Flag award

Wallingford Castle Meadows – owned by SODC - has won a Green Flag award, the international quality mark for parks and green spaces. Huge thanks to our friends at Earth Trust, who manage the castle meadows for us. The award is given out by Keep Britain Tidy, setting the standard for good high-quality parks across the United Kingdom and around the world.

### Move Together nominated for an award

Move Together, the physical activity programme co-ordinated by our Active Communities team that supports people with long term health conditions, has made the final six of the national APSE Awards for Best Health and Wellbeing Initiative. The winner will be determined at an awards ceremony in September.

### Cash boost for rural economy across districts

More than £1m is available to help improve the rural economy across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. Both district councils have secured funding from the government's Rural England Prosperity Fund, which can be used to provide a boost to projects such as creating rural business hubs, setting up community energy schemes and diversifying farm businesses beyond agriculture.

**Robin.Bennett@southoxon.gov.uk**

**tel. 01865 858680**

**m. 07979 646815**

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



### Community EV Microhubs

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC), in partnership with Oxfordshire local authorities, is looking to use government funding to provide a network of public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging across Oxfordshire, including through a Community EV Microhubs scheme that would provide one or two chargers in towns and villages across the county, especially in areas that currently have limited EV charging provision.

As part of this process, parish councils and community-focused non-profit organisations are invited to provide OCC with details of sites under their management or ownership, which they would consider suitable for public EV charging. Councils and groups that submit an expression of interest will help inform the planning process, assess demand for the scheme and understand the sites available. The grant scheme itself is expected to open in early 2024.

Expressions of interest can be submitted through the OCC's consultation platform Let's Talk Oxfordshire: <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ev-microhubs-eoi>

The closing date for expressions of interest is **15 September 2023**.

More info on EVs in Oxfordshire is here

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/energy-and-climate-change/electric-vehicles](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/energy-and-climate-change/electric-vehicles)

### HIF1 planning application

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has called in the recent decision of the county council's planning and regulation committee on the HIF1 Didcot and surrounding areas infrastructure project. This means there will be a review by the government-appointed planning inspectorate and the Secretary of State will now take the final decision about whether to approve the application.

The plans for the road(s) and bridge linking the A34 Milton interchange to Golden Balls roundabout finally came to the

OCC planning and regulation committee on July 17 and 18. After over 10 hours of discussion and speakers, the committee decided to reject the detailed application for a number of reasons. The council's planning and regulation committee, which I sit on, is independent from the council leadership, and councillors who sit on the committee are tasked to make planning decisions based on what is presented to them in the application.

The new timetable for the decision process will be confirmed shortly via the County Council.

### Councillor priority fund.

My county councillor grant fund is now live. If you have a local community project that could benefit from a small grant, feel free to get in touch with me directly. The application details can be found here:

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund)

[robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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# From your MP... ...John Howell

I know that many constituents share my concern on issues around climate change. As such I understand some of the concerns expressed over the decision to agree new oil and gas licences. However it is important that this is seen in full context and alongside other measures that are being introduced.

The wider context is that of energy security. We have all witnessed how Russia has manipulated and weaponised energy, disrupting supply and stalling growth in countries around the world. Now more than ever we need to increase our energy security to reduce our dependence on imports. This will not only help to protect our economy and is also important as, we are told, the carbon footprint of domestic gas production is around one-quarter of the carbon footprint of imported liquified natural gas. Further the independent Climate Change Committee predicts around a quarter of the UK's energy demand will still be met by oil and gas when the UK reaches net zero in 2050.

Alongside the oil and gas licences the Government has also confirmed two more industrial Carbon Capture, Usage and Storage locations and thus the continued commitment to helping all parts of the United Kingdom decarbonise to reach net zero by 2050. This puts us on track to store 20-30 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum by 2030, which is the equivalent to removing approximately 4 to 6 million cars from UK roads each year. It will also help realise the UK's carbon storage potential, which, with an estimated 78 billion tonnes of theoretical CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacity on the continental shelf, is some of the largest in the world.

At the same time as this announcement from our own Government I was interested to read the comments of Dr Jim Skea, the newly appointed head of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), about achieving a target of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the pre-industrial era. He said 'We should not despair and fall into a state of shock' if global temperatures were to increase by this amount. In another interview he explained his rationale saying 'If you constantly communicate the message that we are all doomed to extinction, then that paralyzes people and prevents them from taking the necessary steps to get a grip on climate change.' He clarified 'The world won't end if it warms by more than 1.5 degrees. It will however be a more dangerous world.'

I think this is a refreshing sort of comment. Dr Skea in no way underestimates the problem and the need to act. However some of the alarmist and extreme stance-taking by some people either makes people think there is no point in trying or leads them to bury their heads in the sand ignoring the issues. An approach which demands people change and makes life difficult for them doesn't encourage change. As Dr Skea says, 'Every measure we take to weaken climate change helps.' He added that measures were also becoming 'ever more cost-effective.'

Dr Skea believes that there are good reasons to be optimistic in the battle against climate change. His refreshing approach is pragmatic in that he hopes to adapt the IPCC to provide better and targeted advice to specific groups such as town planners, landowners and businesses: He recognises the need to address 'real people and their real lives, not scientific abstractions.' This is echoed in the approach that the Government is taking. The Prime Minister has stated that the Government is keen to reach the target in a way that is proportionate, pragmatic and does not place unnecessary burdens to household budgets. This I believe is the right way to go. We need to bring everyone with us to make things possible.

Our individual actions make a difference, but it is also important to recognise that we need technological solutions such as carbon capture. Hence the recent Government announcement on this is good news. In the end it is not protestors who disrupt lives and disenfranchise people from the issues that will win change but the pragmatic approach of our leaders. These latest Government decisions are helping to secure the UK's energy supply while creating a pathway for new and existing industries to invest in Britain and decarbonise to meet our net zero target. Win win.

Although the House is not sitting at the moment, ministers continue to work on their briefs and I continue with my work. If there is a particular issue that concerns you, please do share your thoughts. If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government, and in the Constituency, please do look at my website. The address is [www.johnhowell.org.uk](http://www.johnhowell.org.uk). My contact details are also on the website.



## Wallingford Museum News

### BunkFest

On **Sunday 3 September** the museum is offering a free special guided walk around the town, starting at 11.00am from the Museum. No booking is necessary but donations welcome.

Opening hours have also been extended during the BunkFest.

### Agatha Christie Weekend

Wallingford Museum is fully involved in the Agatha Christie weekend.

Wallingford Museum: Special Exhibition: *'At Home with the Queen of Crime'* takes you behind the scenes to Agatha's home life, featuring photographs of her at Winterbrook House and memories of local people who met her. Read her handwritten letters revealing her love of pantomimes and her gradual frustration as her health declined.

Please note special opening hours for the weekend:

**Friday 8 Sept:** 14.00 – 17.00

**Saturday 9 Sept:** 10.30 - 12.30 invited guests only. 12.30 – 17.00 open to all

**Sunday 10 Sept:** 9.30 – 10.00 for guided walk sales. Open to public 10.00 – 17.00

### Saturday 9 September

#### Guided Walk of Christie's Wallingford – 14.30

Guided Walk in Agatha Christie's Wallingford, with a touch of Midsomer Murders! Walks start from Wallingford Museum. Approx. 1½ hours. £10pp. The expert guides will help you discover the town as it would have been when 'Mrs Mallowan' lived and shopped here between 1934 and 1976, and how it later became the 'Causton' of Midsomer Murders.

Beginning at the Museum in the High Street it leads through the town as far as Winterbrook House, to glimpse Agatha's home from outside. (Anyone wishing to continue the Agatha Christie trail to Cholsey will be given directions). The guided walk returns to the Market Place, detouring along the Saxon fortifications for those who wish to explore a little farther.

Booking advised. Please use our Contact Form for your ticket(s) request, but payment will be made at the museum on the day (card or cash) [www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk](http://www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk)

### Saturday 9 September Wallingford Museum – 19.30

**'Who Dunnit'** challenge - Use clues to find your way around the Museum's nooks, crannies and exhibits, and learn more about Agatha Christie while detecting the answers that will solve the murder! £5pp (Adults and children over 12). Booking essential.

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

### Sunday 10 September

#### Guided Walk of Christie's Wallingford - 10.00 and 14.00

Guided Walk in Agatha Christie's Wallingford, with a touch of Midsomer Murders! Walks start from Wallingford Museum. Approx. 1½ hours. £10pp. (For walk details see Saturday above) Booking advised. Please use our Contact Form for



your ticket(s) request but payment will be made at the museum on the day (card or cash).

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

### House Detectives: history behind the door

The Museum's 2023 exhibition is proving to be popular. The houses in this exhibition have been chosen to reflect the changing development and use of houses in Wallingford, from the medieval period to the 20th century.

On your journey through the museum you will discover how we became house detectives and how you could become one too!

### Fabulous Fossils

We are now taking bookings on the website for Fabulous Fossils, which is being offered at the Museum on **Saturday 23 September** by the Oxford Geology Trust. Family Fun Activity: Handle fossils from Oxfordshire and around the world with the Oxfordshire Geology Trust.

**Saturday 23 September** 11.00 -1.00pm or 2.00 - 4.00pm

- Make your own Dino-Mask and colour dinosaur pictures
- Handle dinosaur teeth, claws and bones
- £2 'Lucky dip' for a 60 to 300 million year old fossil!
- Bring along your own fossils for our experts to identify
- See and handle fossils from Oxfordshire Geology Trust  
Get your FREE event tickets soon for the budding palaeontologists in your family.
- Booking Essential

### Guided Walks

Wallingford's Guided Historic Town Walks are happening **every Saturday until mid September**. The walkers meet under the town hall, no booking required, just turn up for 11.00am start. The cost is £10 per head, for a tour lasting between 90 to 120 mins and includes a season ticket to Wallingford Museum.

### Museum Bookshop

We have an excellent selection of good second-hand books (both fiction and non-fiction) at sensible prices. We look forward to seeing you - it's free to browse!

## The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society

**13 September** John Naylor Ashmolean Museum  
*'The Viking-Age world of the Watlington Hoard'*

<https://www.twhas.org.uk/meetings-programme.html> for the 2023 talks programme.

**Sue Wright**  
Wallingford Museum





**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.

We are also showing films on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at 2:30pm. Please look at the website for updates.

Please see website ([www.cornexchange.org.uk](http://www.cornexchange.org.uk)) for updates.

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### September

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| Tues 5   | <b>Haunted Mansion</b> (12A)                              |
| Wed 6    | <b>Haunted Mansion</b> (12A) 2.30pm and 7,30pm            |
| Thurs 7  | <b>Haunted Mansion</b> (12A)                              |
| Sat 9    | <b>Sound of Freedom</b> (12A)                             |
| Sun 10   | <b>Sound of Freedom</b> (12A)                             |
| Mon 11   | <b>Sound of Freedom</b> (12A)                             |
| Tues 12  | <b>Gran Turismo</b> (12A)                                 |
| Wed 13   | <b>Gran Turismo</b> (12A) 2.30pm and 7,30pm               |
| Thurs 14 | <b>Gran Turismo</b> (12A)                                 |
| Fri 15   | <b>And Then Came the Nightjars</b> (15)                   |
| Sat 16   | <b>And Then Came the Nightjars</b> (15) 2.30pm and 7,30pm |
| Sun 17   | <b>And Then Came the Nightjars</b> (15)                   |

## Live on Stage

**Friday 1 September to Saturday 2 September**

### Bunkfest

There will be events during the day in the auditorium and foyer and the bar will be open all day. Please feel free to pop in and enjoy the music. **Bunkfest events are of course free.**

**Friday, 8 September, 7:30pm**

**Mark Aldridge: 'Hercule Poirot, A Life in Crime'**

**All Tickets £15**

Mark Aldridge will give a talk entitled 'Hercule Poirot – A Life in Crime' with an introduction by Judy Dewey, Wallingford Museum historian and curator. In this talk, Dr Mark Aldridge looks at the development of Hercule Poirot since his first appearance in *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* in 1920. He explores Christie's relationship with the character, and her feelings about his appearances on stage and screen. Mark also looks at different portrayals of the detective across the media, including some unusual and lesser-known characterisations. This talk is based on research undertaken for Mark's book *Agatha Christie's Poirot, The Greatest*

*Detective in the World*, published by HarperCollins. He is currently working on a companion Miss Marple volume, to be published in 2024.

**Saturday, 9 September 3.30pm**

**Lucy Worsley 'Agatha Christie- a very elusive woman'**

**All Tickets £25**

Lucy Worsley will give a talk entitled 'Agatha Christie, a very elusive woman', followed by a Question & Answer session and book signing. In this illustrated talk presenting an overview of Christie's life, Lucy Worsley will discuss one of the most elusive and enigmatic figures of the twentieth century. Why did Agatha Christie spend her career pretending that she was 'just' an ordinary housewife, when she clearly wasn't? Christie went surfing in Hawaii, loved fast cars, and grew intrigued by the new science of psychology, which helped her through devastating mental illness. So why – despite all the evidence to the contrary – did she present herself as a retiring Edwardian lady of leisure? Sharing her research for a new biography based on the writer's personal letters and papers, Lucy will uncover the real Agatha Christie – not just a uniquely gifted storyteller, but also a person who, despite the obstacles of class and gender, became a thoroughly modern working woman.

**Saturday, 30 September 7.45pm**

**Short Drag Roger**

**All Tickets £10**

Short Drag Roger began just after the turn of the millennium in the landlocked village of Chalgrove, Oxfordshire. They sing traditional sea shanties, some dating back as far as the sixteenth century. They sing in strict work rhythm, to keep the true character of work songs. However in keeping with tradition, they also write their own shanties, and audience participation is an essential part of any Short Drag Roger gig. Short Drag Roger has grown from humble beginnings into a truly committed crew keeping shanties alive!

## Live Screening

**Wednesday 20 September, 7.15pm**

**Das Rheingold**

**£18 (adults), £15 (seniors), £10 (under 18s)**

**Live from the Royal Opera House.**

Sung in German with English subtitles. Antonio Pappano conducts Barrie Kosky's bold new imagining of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* with an outstanding cast: Christopher Maltman, Christopher Purves, Marina Prudenskaya, Sean Panikkar, In Sung Sim, Solomon Howard, Kiandra Howarth, Wiebke Lehmkuhl, Kostas Smoriginas, Brenton Ryan, Rodrick Dixon, Katharina Konradi, Niamh O'Sullivan.

When a precious hoard of gold is stolen from the river Rhine, it unleashes a chain of destructive events, pitting gods and mortals against one another for generations. Wagner's Ring cycle boasts some of the greatest music ever written for the opera stage. Join us as we embark on a spectacular journey into the world of myth, dream and memory, with the figure of Erda – Mother Earth herself – at its centre. Antonio Pappano conducts Barrie Kosky's bold new imagining of Wagner's *Das Rheingold* – which marks the start of a new Ring cycle for The Royal Opera.

## Day by day

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Sat<br>2 Sept  | <b>Cherwell League Cricket</b><br>Dorchester 1 v Sunningwell 1<br>12.30pm<br>Recreation Ground  |
| Sun<br>3 Sept  | <b>13th Sunday after Trinity</b><br>8.00am<br>Holy Communion (BCP)<br><br>10.30am<br>Team Confirmation Service  |
| Tues<br>5 Sept | <b>St Birinus School</b><br>Autumn term starts  |
| Wed<br>6 Sept  | <b>Parish Council Meeting</b><br>7.30pm<br>Village Hall   |
| Sat<br>9 Sept  | <b>Ride and Stride</b><br>Charity church visits<br><br><b>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner</b><br>2.00pm<br>Dorchester Abbey   |
| Sun<br>10 Sept | <b>14th Sunday after Trinity</b><br>8.00am<br>Holy Communion (BCP)<br><br>10.30am<br>Family Service/Pets Service<br><br>5.00pm<br>Choral Evensong<br><br><b>An Evening with Ukrainian Friends</b><br>6.30pm<br>Dorchester Abbey |
| Wed<br>13 Sept | <b>Chiropodist</b><br>Village Hall<br>Appointment only; see page 23   |
| Sat<br>16 Sept | <b>Autumn Flower Show</b><br>Staging 9.00-10.15am<br>Viewing 2.30-4.00pm<br>Village Hall  |



**Tuesday  
5 September**



Sun  
17 Sept **15th Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00am  
Holy Communion (BCP)  
  
10.30am  
Sung Eucharist  
  
**The Snug Sessions**  
*Elaine Delmar—Sings the Great American Songbook*  
7.00pm  
Bishops Court Farm

Thurs  
21 Sept **Hempcroft Allotments**  
AGM  
7.30pm  
Village Hall

Sat  
23 Sept **Orchestra of St Johns**  
Bach  
7.00pm  
Dorchester Abbey

Sun  
24 Sept **16th Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00am  
Holy Communion

Wed  
27 Sept **Dorchester Historical Society**  
*Drayton St Leonard, Then and Now*  
Charles Dickerson et al  
7.30pm  
Dorchester Abbey

Sat  
30 Sept **Nordic Nights**  
Scandinavian Supper  
Abbey Guest House

For St Birinus RC Church go to:

**[www.stbirinus.co.uk](http://www.stbirinus.co.uk)**

For current information about other services  
at Dorchester Abbey see

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

## Parish Registers

### Baptisms

6 Aug Margo Rose Norris

### Funerals

22 June Linda Champion

### Weddings

10 June Amy Hall and  
Dominic Hewitt

15 July Gemma Dawson and  
Benjamin Williams

29 July Peyton Sims and  
Dominic Selwood

5 August Hollie Graham and  
Claudio Da Silva

## Weekly events

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Tuesday   | Coffee Morning<br>11.00am<br>Dorchester Abbey<br><br>Abbey Bell Ringers<br>Practice<br>7.30pm  |
| Wednesday | New Baby and Toddler Time<br>9.30-10.45am<br>Dorchester Abbey<br><br>Mobile Post Office<br>2.00-3.00pm but may vary<br>Outside Co-op |
| Thursday  | Wellbeing Walks<br>10.00am<br>Outside Co-op<br><br>Pickleball<br>6.00pm<br>St Birinus School   |
| Friday    | Abbey Junior Choir<br>Practice<br>6.00pm<br><br>Abbey Senior Choir<br>Practice<br>7.00pm   |

See also the Parish Council website:  
**[www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk](http://www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk)**

## Weekly events in the Village Hall

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Tuesday   | Move Together<br>1.30pm<br><br>Yoga<br>7.30pm                                      |
| Wednesday | Busby Dance for children<br>3.15pm<br><br>Pilates<br>5.30pm<br><br>Tango<br>7.30pm |
| Thursday  | Yoga for Beginners<br>6.15pm   |

See  
**[dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/](http://dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/#calendar)**  
**#calendar** for additional one-off events.



## 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 **01865 340007**, email [admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk](mailto:admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk)

### HIRE OF DORCHESTER VILLAGE HALL

To hire our Village Hall, contact Emily Moore (interim) [bookings@dotvh.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://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: 10.29, 12.43, 14.49 (Mon), 10.29, 14.49 (Wed), 09.40, 10.43, 12.06, 12.39, 14.10 (Fri),  
From Wallingford: 09.25, 11.45 13.30 (Mon), 11.45, 13.30 (Wed), 11.45, 12.25, 14.00 (Fri)

To Didcot Station: 09.35, 11.55, 13.39 (Mon) 11.55, 13.39 (Wed),  
From Didcot Station: 10.06, 12.20, 14.25 (Mon), 10.06, 14.25 (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](http://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](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

## WALLINGFORD VOLUNTEER CENTRE

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

[www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com](http://www.wallingford.volunteercentre@gmail.com)

## CONTACTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Clerk is Geoffrey Russell of The Pigeons, 5 & 7 High Street, Dorchester on Thames OX10 7HH; **07745 311439** (office) , **07752 9007116** (direct)  
[parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@dorchesteronthames.co.uk)

## SODC CONTACT

Telephone **01235 422422**  
Email: [enquiries@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@southoxon.gov.uk)  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
Abbey House  
Abbey Close  
Abingdon OX14 3JE

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**ANGLICAN PRIEST**  
Dorchester Rectory  
**01865 340007**

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

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

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

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

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



## REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Tues 5 Sept **Green**  
Tues 12 Sept **Black**  
Tues 19 Sept **Green**  
Tues 26 Sept **Black**

## Weekdays from 7.00am

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

The recycling centre at Oakley Wood (off the A4130) is open 8.00am – 5.00pm seven days a week. Check website [www.oxford.gov.uk/](http://www.oxford.gov.uk/)

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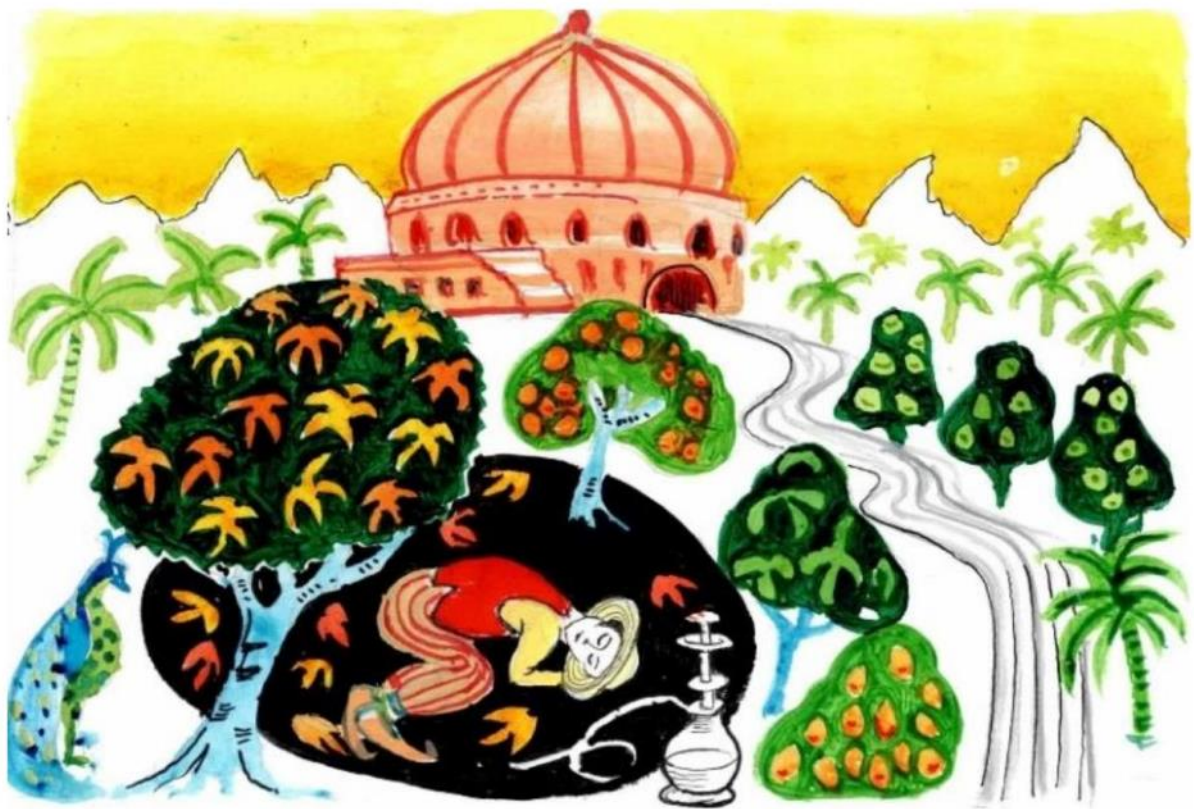


The Rime of the Ancient  
Mariner & Kubla Khan  
By Samuel Taylor Coleridge

You are invited to a free performance of two new  
compositions in **Dorchester Abbey**

on **Saturday 9 September at 2:30 pm**

Music by Tim Cook, Illustrations by Adrian Brooks



**Popup Tea-Room in the Abbey in the Interval  
and after the performance**

**Raising funds for Dorchester Abbey**