

Dorchester News

Free to every home in the parish

October 2023





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Cover: The autumn sunshine makes the Village Hall glow.

**Deadline for
November
Dorchester News**



email:

dorchesternews@dorchesteronthames.co.uk

A DoT view

With this issue of Dorchester News you should have received a questionnaire for a survey entitled 'Dorchester 2030 and Beyond'. This is from the Parish Council who really want to know what the residents of Dorchester want and hope for from their village, so that they, the Parish Council, can work towards delivering that. There is more about it on page 22.

Dorchester News endorses and supports this initiative and urges you to complete the survey and return it. The more people who do that the clearer guidance the Parish Council will have as to what we are looking for.

The survey is available online as well as in the paper format delivered here. If you can, it is better to complete it on line, which is generally easier for you and for the people analysing it.

Your personal details will not be revealed to the council or anyone else by the company that is analysing the responses and are protected by Data Protection legislation. If you sign up for the Community-Led Plan that is a separate exercise from the survey.

Have your say and help decide what Dorchester will be like in the coming years.

Ian Brace

Editorial Team

Ian Brace, Gillian Johnson

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'We plough the fields and scatter...

'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the ground...' we sing lustily at every Harvest Festival. Though to be honest, for the most part, we don't. When our children were little we had some good friends, Jonathan and Alex. Jonathan had always wanted to be a farmer, but had somehow ended up an insurance broker. So, to make up for the lack, they had three allotments. They were a bit of an inspiration to me. One day – the nearest I would ever get to the image of an earth-mother, I made bread with our girls (this was in the days before bread-makers!) – and felt rather pleased with myself. Later that day I told Alex at the school gate- she smiled and said 'Ah yes, we're growing wheat on our allotment.' It was clear I was never going to keep up...

For most of us the nearest we get to food production is a vegetable patch – we've been rescuing at least part of the vegetable patch in the Rectory garden and are also enjoying having a greenhouse for

the first time. But with fresh produce readily available in our supermarkets, now apparently independent of season or the elements, we generally find ourselves somewhat removed from its source – and hence to any sense of dependence on God for all that he gives us. Some years ago I was ministering in a number of deeply rural North Devon communities. One of my congregations was made up entirely of farmers and their families, two of my churches were in farmyards. Suddenly all the metaphors of harvest that had featured in my preaching in previous years were these people's real lives – and I was very much a lay person. I will never forget passing the peace shaking farmers' strong hands, or placing the communion bread in hands rough and stained from farm work. These people's relationship with land and place was like nothing I had ever known – and yes, farmers are always talking about the weather: asking me to pray for rain, or for it to stop raining (in North Devon it was usually the latter!). Here these people's livelihoods were deeply

dependant on the elements – and on the grace of God. Churches were packed at Harvest – and the other agricultural festivals of Rogation and Plough Sunday.

So this harvest may we remember our farming community, pray for them and give thanks for them. May we tend our gardens and vegetable plots with love and care and encounter God in the goodness of his creation. And wherever we earn our living – in business or academia, in schools or in healthcare, in retirement or wherever – may we indeed know that *'all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above'* – and *'thank the Lord, yes thank the Lord, for all his love'*.

But may it not end there – true gratitude overflows into generosity – to care for those who are in need, and to care for our world and its fragile eco-systems – entrusted to us by God, and on which all our lives depend.

Every blessing
Jane

Events in the Abbey

Thursday 12 October
Two Concerts 6.00pm – 7.15pm
and 8.30pm- 9.45pm

London Film Music Orchestra – Best of Hans Zimmer & John Williams Illuminated

1 hour and 15 minutes jam packed with cinema's most iconic music, beautifully performed by a live chamber orchestra, including: E.T, Jurassic Park, Jaws, Harry Potter, Man of Steel, Star Wars and many more. Tickets from £32.00 (plus booking fee) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tribute-to-hans-zimmer-john-williams-illuminated-dorchester-early-tickets-660486461787>

Sat 14 October
7:00pm – 9:30pm
OSJ- Russian Masters

From magical forests and rustic fairs to triumphal revolution and sweeping romance, tonight's concert will transport you to lands far away. Rupert Egerton-Smith and the orchestra will bring to life music from four Russian greats, each one a master of musical storytelling. Free tickets available for NHS workers and for the disabled. Please email admin@osj.org.uk. Tickets £5 to £30 from www.osj.org.uk

Harvest Festival

Dorchester Abbey 1 October 10.30am

A chance to give thanks to God for all his goodness to us - and for those of us who have plenty to care for those who lack. Our harvest gifts will go to Wallingford Emergency Food Bank.

The Food Bank was set up by Churches Together in the Wallingford Area in 2011 and the current annual demand is approximately 3000 people. They rely entirely on unpaid volunteers and donations of food and money from the public, churches, and other local organisations - so if you are able, please do contribute generously.

(See more about Wallingford Food Bank on page 7.)

Team Service

Sun 22 October 10.30am: Marsh Baldon.

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

DORCHESTER ABBEY



Harvest Festival

Sunday 1st October at 10.30am

We will be collecting food and financial gifts
for Wallingford Emergency Food Bank

Everybody's welcome

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** (Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings).

Team Events

K&K Link News

From **11 to 14 October**, members of the Diocese of Kimberley & Kuruman and Diocese of Oxford are invited to join our 2nd link Summit, coming together in shared prayer, study, learning and conversation.

The theme is 'Encourage one another and build each other up' (1 Thess. 5:11), which is also the Diocese of Kimberley and Kuruman's theme for 2023. Encouragement and mutual support are part of our calling as members of the Body of Christ - whether we are together or far apart, we can help each other to serve Christ faithfully.

Our 2017 summit was held face-to-face only: this time we will have a hybrid meeting, with some people meeting face-to-face and others meeting online.

The opening and closing worship, daily Bible studies, evening prayer, and keynote addresses will be live streamed for anyone in both dioceses to attend.

In addition, UK link parishes will meet in Thame on the 11th, where an online hub will connect them with Kimberley to share in the opening worship and presentations. Link parishes on both sides will also have opportunities to share with each other in Bible study and in other discussions throughout the summit.

Youth hubs, for young people between the ages of 18 and 25, will be formed on both sides and will share in online discussions on the 13th and 14th.

We encourage *anyone* in the Dorchester team to join in! If you'd like to attend the in-person meeting in Thame (11 October), where you can meet up with other parishes who also have links in the K&K Diocese, please RSVP to Amy Herlihy (see below) as we need a head count for catering.

What are the topics that will be discussed at the Summit? We will be hearing about each other's contexts through presentations and conversations; sharing daily Bible studies, evening prayer, and two eucharists; learning about key missional areas such as tackling gender-based violence and working for climate justice; and reflecting on how we can faithfully serve Christ in our own contexts and as partners in the Gospel.

We will soon have an Eventbrite page to register your interest for attending the sessions.

For more information, please contact Amy Herlihy (a.herlihy@btinternet.com)



Sunday 8th October
10.30am

FAMILY SERVICE



*All are warmly invited to join our Family Service
for Bible stories, fun, craft activities and
refreshments*

Dioceses of Kimberley & Kuruman and Oxford



2023 Summit

11-14 October



"Encourage one another and build each other up" (1 Thess. 5:13)

Link Parish Gathering

FEATURING

SHARED WORSHIP
LINK PRESENTATIONS • DINNER

Join
in!

Join in the opening of the link summit.
We will have time to connect with each other -
and a live link will connect Thame & Kimberley.
Bishop Steven will preside at our Eucharist.
Lunch and dinner provided.

October 11, 2023

12:00 - 7:00

AT ST MARY'S, THAME OX9 3AJ
Registration essential: bit.ly/KKOxonSummit

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Dorchester Lunch Club

The October lunch will be held on **Wednesday 18 October** in the back room of the Village Hall at 12.30 for 12.45 start. If you have not already let me know that you would like to come, please do so before **Monday 16 October**.

Future Lunch Club dates are **15 November** and **6 December**.

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**

Wallingford Food Bank

Do we really need a food bank?

By July this year the food bank had already fed 18% more households than in the whole of 2021/22.

Recent statistics show that the average increase in fuel prices over the 12 months to June is: gas 36.2% and electricity 17.3%. In addition, the cost of many basic store cupboard foods has increased by more than 20%. As there was an increase in benefits of only 10% in April, this means that many people are living on much less money than they were this time last year.

The foods which are most needed – these are the most expensive to buy in the shops - are: pasta products and couscous; low fat milk; jams, marmalades and honey; fruit and vegetable juices; tea and coffee; sugar and fruit. Toiletries and items for babies are necessary too.

Any donation however small will be very welcome.

Thank you to all those who trudge up my drive to leave a donation in the box and thank you too to everyone who leaves one in a supermarket collection point. Your support is invaluable.



Judy Parker



Dorchester Abbey

Vacancy for a Verger to assist the Churchwardens with

*Worship, Services and Visitor Experience
General Maintenance and Minor Repairs*

Full job description and terms of employment will be sent on application.

Please apply with CV and covering letter to
admin@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



Hempcroft Allotments October

The Allotment Society AGM for 2023 was held in the Village Hall on Thursday 21 September at 7.30pm. This was an opportunity to pay your rent for the forthcoming year which starts on 1 October, collect seed catalogues, and meet some fellow allotment neighbours. There are no rent increase for the forthcoming year.

The harvesting should be coming to an end in September/October. Root crops should be lifted while they are still growing in dry soil. Lift potatoes before they become trapped in cold wet soil later in the month. It is important to dry their skins before putting into storage. October is the month when the preparations for the 2024 growing season begin in earnest. As the ground is cleared of crops collect up all weeds and leaves. Next year's runner bean trench can be opened up and the vegetable trimmings from the crops can be thrown in to start breaking down over the winter. Add annual weeds etc to form a spongy water holding reservoir to help the beans survive hot days (hopefully) next summer.

Edward Metcalfe
340160

edmetcalfe@yahoo.co.uk

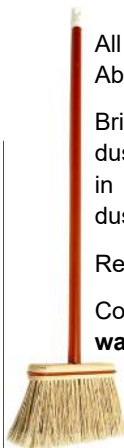
Please join in with another Big Abbey clean Saturday 21 October 10.00am - 12.30pm

All welcome from little hands to big hands to give the Abbey a good clean for winter arriving.

Bring along a dustpan and brush, a long handled duster or a few cloths. Otherwise just turn up and join in this little bit of community fun and spirit whilst dusting our beautiful village Abbey.

Refreshments will be served.

Contact Catherine Paul for more information:
warden2@dorchester-abbey.org.uk



Dorchester Abbey Junior Choir

The Dorchester Abbey Junior Choir (for young singers aged 7 and upwards) rehearses at 6.00pm for about half an hour each Friday during term time. We sing at the 10.30 Eucharist service once a month and occasionally at other times, such as the Abbey Carol Service and Remembrance. If you think your child might be interested in joining the choir, why not contact Abbey Director of music Jeremy Boughton and come along to a rehearsal?

Jeremy Boughton
jjbwallingford@tiscali.co.uk





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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 to make an appointment to write or update your Will today.

HEDGES



Dorchester Abbey Museum News

Exciting new Acquisition

The museum has just acquired a silver bodkin, found in a field in Dorchester in 2019 by a detectorist, passed to the Portable Antiquities Scheme, and then assessed at the British Museum. The bodkin is thought to be possibly from the period 1500-1700, weighs 10.83g and measures 70mmx30mm. It has the inscription SW on one side and a maker's mark 'D S' within a flower on the other, a five-pointed star above and a pellet below. We can only speculate about its possible owner, and how it came to be in the middle of a field! It will be on display in the museum before the winter closure.



Database progress

We now have MODES software, a widely used system for museum collections management. The MODES database update and editing is progressing well, thanks to Candy Madeley's excellent work in training us to use the system. A collection of old postcards of Dorchester which belonged to the late Muriel (Jane) Hill, and kindly donated by her daughter Paula Elias, has been documented on the database by Megan Parry and Denise Line, each with a description and photograph. We plan to keep adding new items as well as editing the older records on the database.

Museum opening

The museum officially closes on Sunday October 1, but will open on **Saturdays in October, 2.00-5.00 pm**, including the half-term weekend. Closed in November except for tours.

Christmas shopping weekend

Saturday and Sunday December 2 and 3, 2.00 to 5.00pm, as well as the following **Tuesday morning, December 5, 10.00am-12.30pm**

Alyce Chaucer – the story continues

Alyce Chaucer was Geoffrey Chaucer's granddaughter and later became Duchess of Suffolk. She lived in Ewelme for many years and is buried in a fine alabaster tomb in St Mary's Church, Ewelme.

If you have read Christina Hardyment's novel about Alyce, *The Serpent of Division*, you'll want to know that Volume 2 of the series, entitled *The Book of the Duchess* (see right), will be published on October 22, and will be available in the museum shop and from Linda Hender (linda.hender@gmail.com)

Dorchester Historical Society

Wednesday 25 October 2023 at 7.30pm

Dorchester Abbey Shrine Chapel

Members free, Visitors welcome (£5).

Margot Metcalfe will talk on:

Earthy Treasures: Selected Objects from Dorchester Abbey Museum



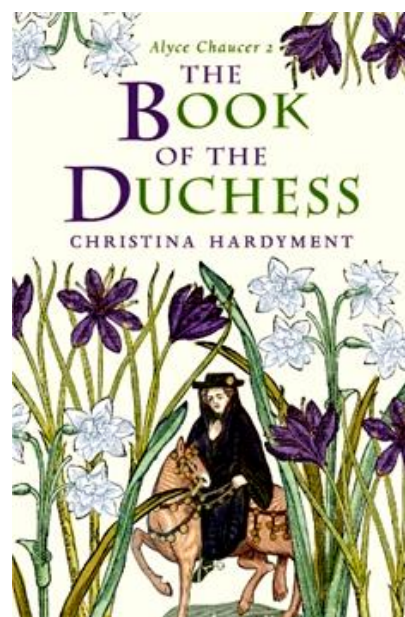
The Fettiplace Indenture

Dorchester Abbey Museum's collection comprises well over 1000 artefacts, objects and documents (including photographs and postcards), covering virtually every period of our village's history – a veritable Dorchester through the Ages. We are working towards ensuring that all acquisitions are fully documented on our new MODES database, thus improving access to the collection. This small selection of our 'treasures' is just a taster - each is described and set in its archeological or historical context, and many have a story to tell.

Margot Metcalfe, long-term Dorchester resident and local historian, has recently been appointed as the Museum's curator.

Date for your diary:

Wednesday 22 November (with seasonal refreshments)
Malcolm Airs: *George Gilbert Scott and Dorchester, Burcot and Clifton Hampden.*



DORCHESTER ABBEY



Time to Remember

Whether your loss is recent or long ago, you are warmly invited to join us to remember loved ones who have died and give thanks for their lives.

After the service there will be refreshments available if you would like to stay and chat.

The service is for everyone.

Sunday 29th October at 10.30am



St Birinus Primary School News

What a great start to a new year here at Dorchester St Birinus!

We have welcomed a group of new children into our Willow Class for their Reception year. They have really impressed us with how well they have settled and how they have integrated so brilliantly with the rest of the children in our school.

All our children have made a superb start to their new year groups and we are excited to see what our children will be able to achieve this year.

We are extremely grateful to the Hurst Water Meadow Trust who have provided further funding for us to continue to employ our specialist Forest School leader for this year.

We love going to explore the river, build dens, investigate the wildlife and learn how to take risks.

We have lots of other exciting things in the pipeline for the rest of this year too, including taking part in 'Oxtrail' in aid of Sobell House Hospice. We are keen to be involved in this fundraising project which will culminate in a sculpture trail across Oxfordshire next summer. In order to take part in this exciting venture we need a business that could agree to match our fundraising.

Our target would be double the number of children in the school, so we are looking for a business that could match our fundraising of approximately £150. If you work for, or run, a

company who may be able to help us with this please do contact me at school: **01865 340081**. Many thanks.

If you would like to come and see what our school has to offer, please do come to our open morning on Thursday 9th November. There is no need to book; just turn up and one of our lovely children will give you a guided tour. School staff and governors will also be around to speak to and answer any questions you may have. We'd love to see you!

You can find out more about our school from our website here: <https://www.st-birinus-pri.oxon.sch.uk/>

Jo Staples
Headteacher



Dorchester Pre-School

Welcome back!

The start of the term was an exceptionally hot one and we welcomed our new starters who have settled in to the setting so well! This term has seen us getting to know each other. With harvest festival themes we have been looking at Autumn, using the apples in the garden to make apple crumble. We have also been using autumn ingredients we have grown in our garden.

We have been welcoming new staff members and we are always eager to recruit new committee members, being a charitable organisation. William Orr-Ewing who lives in the village is our chair person and will be more than happy to tell you about the roles. The next AGM will be held at the pre-school in the next month and will be announced on the village notice board. All are very welcome.

Can you offer any voluntary work to the setting? We are looking for the grounds and the outside perimeter to be maintained every few weeks. Please pop in to the setting if this is something you could offer.

We have very few spaces now so if you aren't on the waiting list then please get your name down for places for 2024. There is a website where you can find contact details and info about the pre-school. Thank you again to all the staff and committee members for everything they do to make the setting as lovely and welcoming as it is.

Sarah Egan

Oxfordshire Libraries

October events at Berinsfield Library

Half-term Monster Lego Challenge
Tuesday 24 Oct 2.30-4.30pm
Build the biggest monster out of Lego!
Drop-in session suitable for ages 6+ with an adult.



Half-term Junk Modelling Marble Run
Thursday 26 October 2.30-4.30pm
Make a marble run out of cardboard, plastic and paper. Drop-in session suitable for ages 4+ with an adult.



Book Club Friday 27 October 2pm
Contact the library for this month's book or turn up to say hello and help choose the next one. All very welcome



Digital Helper: Thursdays 2 to 5pm
Help in using smart phones, tablets and laptops. Support for those less confident with technology. Booking essential



@oxonlibraries Berinsfield Library

Telephone 01865 340771 for more information or our opening hours



Dorchester Abbey Christmas Market

**Saturday 2nd December
10am-5pm**

**Gift & Food Stalls
Tea Room Home Baking
Hot BBQ bratwurst
Mulled wine
Teas
Christmas Wreaths
Museum gift shopping
Live Christmas Music all day!**



Father Christmas grotto!

**Book slots to see Father Christmas,
order cakes & wreaths in advance
on the Abbey website:
www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk**

**Raising money
for your Abbey**





Advent Windows 1 to 24 December



Following last year's huge success we'll once again be opening village windows every night from 1 December to Christmas Eve. Every evening at 6.30pm you can gather on the street to cheer as a decorated window is revealed, often with mulled wine and mince pies to create a lovely village community event. A collection will take place at the same time, this year for St Birinus School.

Would you like to decorate your window? Just get in touch

Maps will be available for sale from the Co-op in November.

Steph Forman
steph@forman.org.uk
01865 340434

Have you got your tickets yet? Saturday 18 November 7.30 Dorchester Village Hall Doors and bar open 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Historian and prime time TV star, Lucy Worsley, will be in our Village Hall giving her illustrated talk about Queen Victoria based on her best-selling book 'Queen Victoria, twenty-four days that changed her life'. Additionally, she has agreed to **sign copies of her books**, available from a stall set up and run by Wallingford Book Shop.

This is a fund-raising event for the village hall, which she has very kindly agreed to support so please come along to meet Lucy and perhaps change your perception of a much-misunderstood monarch.

A limited number of tickets are still available from ticketsource.co.uk/dotvh

Tickets are all £25 inclusive of booking agent fee and a free glass of wine



Photo:
© Hay Festival/
Paul Musso



Dorchester village hall is a registered charity no 900244 managed as an entirely self-funding village facility. The Village Hall has a modern 'hearing loop' facility.



Warborough & Shillingford WI

The summer of 2023 will probably be remembered as being a bit disappointing because the weather was often overcast and a bit cold, but thankfully, on the 16 August the WI Members' Summer Holiday Tea Party enjoyed warm sunshine. The afternoon was organised by members so the Committee could take a break. Pat Norman and Chris Tilley did a great job of coordinating the food given by WI Members. We gathered by the cricket pavilion to enjoy delicious sandwiches, cakes, Prosecco and tea. The best thing about our party has to be the opportunity to chat with other members and listen. As the theme was 'Summer Holiday' there were stories of summers long ago, by the seaside or just playing in the countryside near home and talking about the freedom we enjoyed as children that is so rare for children today. It was a lovely, relaxing afternoon for which the WI Committee want to thank all our members.

As we leave the summer behind the WI look forward to an interesting programme of speakers and activities in the autumn.

In October we will host Tim Pocock who will give a talk on The Magistrates Court; November we will be visited by Holly Cranmer who will share her knowledge about Perfume; and in December there will be a special event in keeping with the season.

The Walking Group, which meets every other Friday under Chris Tilley's guidance, will be striding through the beautiful

Oxfordshire countryside encouraging members to be active in a sociable group. Why not join them? You have nothing to lose & everything to gain.

The WI meets in the St. Laurence Hall on the first Wednesday of every month in the evening. If you would like to see what our meetings are like come along, the first three visits are free. There is usually a speaker or activity and complimentary refreshments. We are a friendly group and look forward to welcoming you soon.

Contact email: warboroughwi@oxfordshire.co.uk

Telephone: **Sarah Allan President**

01865 858673


Or **Vicky Hart**

01865 416437



Football Results

North Berks League



Div 1

02/09/2023 Compton 1st 1 1 Dorchester First

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consultation
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HETAS
REGISTERED

WOODBURNING STOVES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Dorchester Cricket Club

Cherwell Cricket League



Date	Dorchester 1 result Division 5C	Dorchester 2 result Division 7C
19/08/2023	Dorchester 1 beat Wootton and Boars Hill 1 by 9 wickets	Dorchester 2 beat Marcham 1 by 58 runs
26/08/2023	Cairns Fudge beat Dorchester by 80 Runs	Challow and Childrey 3 beat Dorchester 2 by 47 runs
02/09/2023	Dorchester beat Sunningwell by 1 Wicket	Dorchester 2 beat Harwell International 1 by 45 runs

Final league tables (abbreviated) for the 2023 season

Division 5C						
	Team	P	W	D	L	Total
1	Dorchester 1	18	11	0	4	330
2	Oxford Downs 3	18	10	0	5	322
3	Wantage & Grove 1	18	9	1	5	322
4	Garsington 1	18	9	0	6	298
5	Cairns Fudge 1	18	5	3	7	258
6	Radley 1	18	5	1	7	248
7	Risinghurst 1	18	6	2	6	237
8	Wootton and Boars Hill 1	18	5	1	8	236
9	Eynsham 1	18	3	2	10	209
10	Sunningwell 1	18	5	0	10	196

Division 7C						
	Team	P	W	D	L	Total
1	Didcot 3	18	11	0	3	354
2	Kingston Bagpuize 2	18	9	3	2	319
3	Wolvercote 3	18	8	1	5	286
4	Abingdon Vale 3	18	8	0	7	270
5	Harwell International 1	18	5	3	5	247
6	Oxford 4	18	6	2	6	244
7	Dorchester 2	18	7	1	7	223
8	Challow and Childrey 3	18	5	0	10	221
9	Uffington 1	18	5	2	7	220
10	Marcham 1	18	1	0	13	162

Congratulations to Dorchester 1 on wining their division and being promoted.

QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER 7.00^{PM}

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

0753 827 3129

Kubla Khan and The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

On the warm afternoon of Saturday 9 September, more than 100 people came to hear and see the collaboration of Dorchester residents Tim Cook and Adrian Brooks based on Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s works, *Kubla Khan* and *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Tim had put the two poems to music and Adrian had created illustrations to go with them. The music was played by an ensemble of musicians and singers, many local.

Whilst the music was performed in the Lady Chapel, the illustrations were projected overhead to illustrate the words. The original illustrations were also available to view and to buy, as well as two of Adrian’s marvellous theatres.



- Performers:**
 Soprano Solo - Judith Ward
 Oboe - Henry Bettinson
 Bass Solo - Giles Dawson
 Violin - Hilary McElwaine-Johnn
 Violin - Peter McElwaine-Johnn
 Cello - Jeremy Boughton
 Bass and Glockenspiel—Trevor Stevens



Pet Service

Sunday 10 September saw the Pet Service in the Abbey.



Ride+Stride

On Saturday 9 September, Sue and Malcolm Lucas at the Abbey lych gate welcome those taking part in Ride+Stride. This annual event, where people visit a number of churches in one day, raises money for the Historic Churches Trust.

Ukrainian Evening

A wonderful mixture of Ukrainian refugees now living in the area and local people got together on Sunday 10 September for an evening of music, eating and socialising. An estimated 140 people heard some superb music from Ukrainian and British performers of a wide age range and styles, covering British and Ukrainian folk songs, classical pieces on piano and guitar, choral music from the Abbey choir and Two-A-Part. They then tucked in to a mixture of Ukrainian and local dishes that people had brought along. The evening was a strong demonstration of the support of the community for our Ukrainian friends in their time of trouble.

The evening was organised by Vicky Vitruk and Revd Rachel Carnegie. It was funded by a grant from Asylum Welcome, and donations were collected for charity.



Dorchester sixty years ago

This aerial photograph of Dorchester was taken in the early 1960s. After a little restoration it clearly shows three features that many of today's residents will never have known. Top right is Beech House Hotel, where the housing in Beechcroft now stands. Top left is Pratt's garage, now houses in Malthouse Lane; and bottom front are Pratt's petrol pumps where the bench outside the Co-op now is.

With thanks to Jane Brooks (formerly Pratt) for the photograph.



Dorchester Abbey Christmas Cards

All profits to Dorchester Abbey

New cards
for 2023
by
local artists

All cards in packs of 10
for £4.50 with
Happy Christmas inside
Buy from the back of the Abbey
or contact Steph Forman
for large quantities
steph@forman.org.uk
01865 340434



Round Dorchester
by Claire Cross
14.8 x 14.8cm



Wittenham Clumps
by Sophia Stewart-Liberty
14.8x10.5cm



Robin
by Christine Ellis
14.8 x 10.5cm

Happy
Christmas

Abbey
Cards



Shrine Nativity
12x12cm



Annunciation
20x9cm (blank inside)



East End Nativity
10.5x14.8cm



Angels
9.7x21m



Christ Child
13x13cm

Dorchester News Crossword No.28 Solution

Compiled by Slider

1	M		2	A		3	P		4	T		5	A		6	A		7	M		8	T	
9	A	M	P	L	I	F	I	E	R		10	C	H	O	I	R							
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	N		H		E					E				E		X							

Nuclear Test Veterans Christmas Island 1957

Is there anyone who was there like my late husband was?

The Nuclear Test Medal will soon be available. You will need to apply to the Ministry of Defence.

Sue Popham
07778 340598

Anyone who served in any of Operations Hurricane, Totem, Mosaic, Buffalo, Grapple or Antler in the Pacific or Australia between 1952 and 1967 is now eligible for the Nuclear Test Medal.

For details and eligibility criteria go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nuclear-test-medal-eligibility-criteria>



Operation Grapple 1957

<https://pacificnukes.wordpress.com/uk-vets/>

HENGE at the Cornerstone

Following the success of the community **HENGE festival** during the 2022 Autumn Equinox, a continuing exhibition will be held at the Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot. Details above.

HENGE at the Cornerstone will feature a range of artwork, music, and poetry by leading local artists: Dionne Freeman, Sophia Stewart-Liberty, Anna Dillon, Jane McDonald, Cally Shadbolt, Nic Hamilton, Philip Koomen, Adrian Brooks, Stephen Eyre, Chris Baines, Jill Battson, and including work by pupils from local primary and secondary schools.

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What's on in Dorchester



Drop-in and discover wonderful local clubs, groups, activities, businesses and more

- Meet local groups and clubs, from sports to hobbies, and find your perfect fit -
- Engage with conservation enthusiasts and nurture our beautiful surroundings -
 - Get fit, have fun, learn new skills and make new friends -
 - Dive into wellness groups and elevate your well-being -
- Discover local businesses that bring unique offerings to our village -

Monday 16th October in the Village Hall

Pop in anytime between 6pm and 9pm – no need to stay the entire time

Explore your passions, connect with the community, and uncover hidden gems!

More info: www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

Organised and funded by Dorchester Parish Council

FREE!

'I am a Dorchester girl'

Margaret Mary Atkins was born in what is now 14 Queen Street Dorchester in November 1933. Named after her two Grannies, she was surely a welcome addition to the Atkins family. Her brothers George, Tom and Denis were 19, 17 and 11 respectively. Their parents, George, a jobbing gardener, village barber and amateur chiropodist, and Edith, a domestic cleaner, were strict, but doted on Margaret and she had a happy childhood and worked hard at her lessons. After primary and senior school in Dorchester, she had office jobs until her marriage.

Before marriage, Margaret joined her brother Denis's family for holidays to Devon and Cornwall. Margaret Mary means Pearl of the Sea and she lived up



Margaret Mary Belson 1933 - 2023



to her name there – swimming off the rocks and beaches encouraged by Denis. How she loved to swim, keeping up weekly sessions at Berinsfield until her health prevented that.

Margaret and Roger married at the Abbey in 1955. A very happy day. Sixty years later, The Revd Sue Booy's generously organised and presided at a Thanksgiving Service for the happy couple. To their delight she wore the new wedding cope for the occasion.

In the 60s and 70s Kevin's and Gena's arrivals truly blessed Margaret and Roger – the family was based, by then,

in Benson. The extended family meant so much to them both. They were always so interested and encouraging to family and friends – it was their real gift for friendship offered to all.

Margaret was a member of the Benson Bowling Team and she and Roger both won many trophies. They played throughout England.

Years on, when her health deteriorated and Margaret needed extra assistance, she was very grateful for all the help offered. Fortunate to have willing and kind family, wonderful neighbours and friends, Margaret (and Roger) struggled to be in control and independent late into their illnesses. But in the final months, when extra care was called for, support came from the ambulance staff, district nurses, GP and surgery staff, paid carers, Sue Ryder nurses, and everybody at Waterside Court, Wallingford. (Roger had predeceased Margaret by a few months.)

During lockdown Margaret was very grateful for the weekly online ministry offered by the clergy from the Abbey. Given her deep Christian faith, she appreciated the pastoral care given by the Revd Stephen Cousins of Ewelme over many months.

Margaret remained 'A Dorchester girl' all her life – the village of her birth was 'home' wherever she lived.

Parish Council Notices

Monthly Meetings October and November 2023

The October Council Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 11 October** and the November meeting will take place on **Wednesday 8 November**.

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 new Parish Council website

www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk - three clear days in advance of the meeting.

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

Village Notices

It would be much appreciated if event organisers would remove their notices once they are out of date. This particularly applies to the public areas of the village noticeboards outside the Co-op and the Village Hall which should only be used for local non-commercial purposes.

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.

The Clerk's new e-mail is:

parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Mike Corran, the Chairman, can be contacted via

chairman@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Council's new website is

www.dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

This is at present under development so for the time being please continue to look at

www.dorchesteronthames.co.uk for all Parish Council documents and reports. In due course these will be moved to the new website.



DORCHESTER 2030 & BEYOND

SURVEY NOW OPEN

Don't miss your chance to have a say on the priorities for our community in the years ahead.

The survey is now open for anyone and everyone in Dorchester to complete.

Surveys are available in various ways:

dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk/survey
parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk

Call Geoff Russell on 07752 900716

Pick one up from the Co-op

Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera:



Deadline for your response: 31st October 2023

From the Chair of the Parish Council



Whilst we have been enjoying the summer your Parish Councillors have been hard at work on your behalf on issues which we know residents care about. So I'd like to start by thanking your councillors for all they are doing at a particularly busy time.

The main event this month is the launch of '*Dorchester 2030 and Beyond*', our survey to ask what you think and what your priorities are for Dorchester over the next few years. At the Annual Parish Meeting in June we got some insight from those who were able to attend. But now we want to know what everybody thinks. The survey is now live and you can complete it up to the end of October. You should have a paper copy with this edition of Dorchester News which you can return to the box in the Coop. But we'd much prefer as many individuals as possible to fill it in via the online link. The more people who complete the survey, the better we understand what really matters to our community. So, please take a few minutes to do your bit and help shape our priorities for the next decade. When we have the results in we will, of course, be sharing then with the whole community and also then discussing how we mobilise to deliver some of those priorities.

In the meantime there is progress on a number of other fronts. Firstly I am delighted to say we have now signed the contracts for the improvements to upgrade our recreation ground facilities with the support of a number of grants. Most importantly the changes will give something for a wider range of age groups and abilities. The table tennis table is already installed, some new football goals are arriving around the time you read this and work on the playground upgrade starts shortly. We hope this will encourage more residents to make use of the rec and all it has to offer. Playground installation works will cause a little disruption of course but I'm sure it will be worth it. I want to pay particular tribute to Councillor Becky Waller and ex-Councillor Rob Ballantyne who, along with a bunch of other folk, have got us to this point.

Over the last month I am sure you will have seen a number of initiatives to smarten parts of our village. The Bridge Blitz team was a huge success with over 20 people de-weeding our bridge. Other initiatives have tidied the triangle at the bottom of Abingdon Rd and cleaned the bus shelters on the bypass. Thanks to all those who organised and took part. Adding to the work of the Green DOTs team and the work of the Hurst team this means we are finding ways to improve our local environment without waiting for over-stretched district and county council team to do things for us. The parish council wishes to continue to encourage and support this approach; if you have ideas let us know and we will try and support where required.

We know that bypass noise is an issue many people raise in the village. This has been a long and frustrating road and we aren't there yet. But I can report that Councillor Mike Atkinson

is beginning to get some traction with the police who have appointed an officer to work on the issue. So, not yet the result we want, but at least we have found a starting point which is progress after previous frustrations. I can't promise timescales or where precisely we will get to but let's hope that working with other local councils and the police we can, at last, start to get somewhere. Fingers crossed.

The '*What's on in Dorchester*' event will be taking place in the Village Hall on **Monday 16 October from 6.00-9.00pm**. We already have a good array of stall holders but there is always room for more, so, if you run an activity and want new recruits or know an organisation that would like to be represented, then get in touch with Geoff Russell on parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk. It's free, so what's not to like. And please do come along and see what is on offer for all ages, abilities and interests, Dorchester has so much to get involved in. We hope to see you there.

And finally...and most importantly for me as an ex-village cricketer who thinks the sight and sound of bat on ball and loud appealing is a key part of a summer's day, I wanted to congratulate our cricket team on their excellent promotion. Well done lads, we look forward to watching you achieve further success next year.

DADS

Dorchester Amateur Dramatics Society

Goldilocks and the Three Bears are on their way!

Preparations for this year's DADS pantomime, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, are now well under way. Rehearsals started in the sweltering heat of early September and it has been clear from the outset that the funny and innovative script by Tom Whalley will be a winner for all the family.

Performances on **Thursday 30 November** and **Friday 1 December** are at 7.00 pm and there are two performances on **Saturday 2 December** at 2.00 pm and 6.30 pm. Tickets are now on sale from www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads priced at £12 for adults and £9 for under 12 year olds.



Hayley Poole and Lucinda Kendrick getting into the panto spirit at the first rehearsal.



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



New £50,000 fund to increase biodiversity and encourage public access to green spaces

In a new partnership with Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE), the money will be given as grants through TOE's Local Environment Fund to help boost local nature recovery efforts and reduce the impacts of climate change.

Community groups, town and parish councils, charities and non-profit organisations are invited to apply to TOE for funds to help look after South Oxfordshire's green spaces. Grants ranging between £1,000 and £15,000 can be used for tree and hedgerow planting or restoring community orchards, ponds, and nature-rich meadows.

Grants could also be used to improve access to nature for the public to enjoy and learn from. This could include replacing stiles with gates for better accessibility and also improving pathways.

The new fund uses money from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) paid by developer contributions.

Early applications are encouraged, so any South Oxfordshire based group involved in protecting and restoring their local environment should contact TOE to find out more.

Detailed guidance and application forms are on www.trustforoxfordshire.org.uk/local-environment-fund.

The first deadline application deadline is **2 October 2023**, then **8 January 2024**. Submissions close at midday.

To check that your project idea meets TOE's funding criteria, contact Rachel Sanderson, Local Environment Fund grant administrator admin@trustforoxfordshire.org.uk and **01865 407003**.

Contractor agreed to supply new artificial sports pitch at Abbey Sports Centre

Blakedown Sport & Play Ltd are being awarded the contract to carry out the required refurbishment of the outdoor Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) in Berinsfield, at a cost of £157,749, funded by CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy).

Officers were mindful to ensure the contractors provided a sustainability statement outlining their policies and commitment to specify and procure sustainably sourced, carbon footprint reduced products, provide details around the removal of waste and their services in a way which will also meet our value for money and quality objectives.

Lighting header units will consist of LED lights to further reduce the carbon footprint and running costs of the new installation. Drainage improvements will be incorporated into the already installed soakaway system.

Councillor community grants funding open until 20 October

A reminder that the closing date for this is approaching. Bids can be from £250 - my total fund is £5000. Potential applicants are encouraged to get in touch with me as ward councillor to discuss their project and then to visit the South Oxfordshire Councillor Community Grants webpage for further details on eligibility. Applications are made online and are open until midday on **Friday 20 October 2023**. For more information, contact the Community Enablement team at grants@southandvale.gov.uk

Robin.Bennett@southoxon.gov.uk
tel. **01865 858680**
m. **07979 646815**

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



Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme

The Secretary of State has confirmed the CPO public inquiry for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme will begin on 14 November 2023 at 10am. It will be held at The Kings Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES. We expect the inquiry to last for around 3 weeks. It is open to the public and all are welcome to attend in person. The inspector will decide who may actively participate. Please check the Environment Agency website for further details and updates:

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/thames/ofas-updates/>

A pre-inquiry meeting was held virtually on Thursday 21 September.

HIF1 planning application

After writing to the council to 'call in' the decision on whether to approve this controversial road scheme, which the Council's Planning & Regulation committee resolved to reject at a (very long) meeting in July, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has set a timetable for the decision process – the hearing will commence on 5 December.

If you made comments to Oxfordshire County Council as Local Planning Authority at the application stage they will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

The application documents are available to view at County Hall in New Road, Oxford during office hours or on the County Council's Planning Applications

website <http://myeplanning.oxfordshire.gov.uk>, using reference number R3.0138/21.

Councillor priority fund.

A reminder that this is now live, and the application details can be found here:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/councillorpriorityfund

I have agreed to provide over £4800 funding towards the Berry Youth Centre's holiday support programme, 'Berry Camps', aiming to raise the aspiration levels of young people within the Berinsfield and surrounding communities and contribute positively to their health and wellbeing, running in school holidays and half terms up to August 2024.

Doughnut Oxfordshire

With a number of other councillors and council officers I attended a recent workshop by economist Kate Raworth on a vision for Oxfordshire where the needs of all are met, locally and globally, and planetary boundaries are respected. Have a look at <https://www.oxfordshiredoughnut.org.uk> if you'd like to know more.

robin.bennett@oxfordshire.gov.uk

tel. 01865 858680

m. 07979 646815



A pantomime by Tom Whalley

29th November - 2nd December 2023

Thursday & Friday 7pm

Saturday 2pm & 6.30pm

Dorchester-on-Thames Village Hall
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www.ticketsource.co.uk/dads

www.dads.org.uk

DADS
Dorchester Area Drama Society

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www.millstreampilates.co.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.

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) for updates.

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

October

Sun 1	A Haunting in Venice (12A)
Mon 2	A Haunting in Venice (12A)
Tues 3	A Haunting in Venice (12A)
Wed 4	A Haunting in Venice (12A)
Fri 6	Bolan's Shoes (15)
Sat 7	Bolan's Shoes (15)
Sun 22	The Old Oak (15)
Mon 23	The Old Oak (15)
Tues 24	The Old Oak (15)
Wed 25	An Evening with Jonas Kaufmann (12A) 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Thurs 26	Angel Headed Hipster (12A)
Fri 27	The Miracle Club (12A)
Sat 28	The Miracle Club (12A)
Sun 30	The Miracle Club (12A)
Mon 31	The Miracle Club (12A)

Live on Stage

Wednesday 18 October to Saturday 21 October

Sinodun Players

The Welkin by Lucy Kirkwood

All Tickets £12

First performed at the National Theatre in 2020, Lucy Kirkwood's acclaimed play *The Welkin* is set in 1759 on the Suffolk/Norfolk border, while England awaits the return of Halley's Comet.

The play tells the story of Sally Poppy, who has been convicted of murdering a child. Sentenced to be hanged, Sally pleads pregnancy. If true, this would save her and her sentence would become her transportation to the Colonies. To determine if she is with child, twelve matrons are pulled away from their housework to form a feminist version of *Twelve Angry Men's* jury.

Contains scenes of a violent and distressing nature, including domestic abuse and miscarriage, descriptions of hanging and sexual assault, child death, and strong language.

Live Screening

Thursday 5 October, 7.15pm

The Royal Opera — L'Elisir D'Amore

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

Live from the Royal Opera House.

Sung in Italian with English subtitles

Expect sun, fun and vocal acrobatics in Laurent Pelly's much-loved staging of Donizetti's intoxicating and witty comedy. Conductor Sesto Quatrini makes his house debut, as does soprano Nadine Sierra in the role of Adina with the incomparable Bryn Terfel as the genial wheeler-dealer Doctor Dulcamara.

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Chiropodist

Wednesday 11 October

Village Hall

Appointment only

Call **07850 196714**

Day by day

Sun 1 Oct	17th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Harvest Festival The Snug Sessions <i>An evening with Freddie Benedict</i> 7.00pm Bishops Court Farm
Wed 4 Oct	An introduction to Wine Tasting 7.30pm The Snug
Sat 7 Oct	Dorchester Tennis Club Quiz Night 7.00pm Village Hall
Sun 8 Oct	18th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Family Service 5.00pm Beauforest Society Evensong
Wed 11 Oct	Chiropodist Village Hall Appointment only; see page 29 Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall
Thurs 12 Oct	London Film Music Orchestra Best of Hans Zimmer and John Williams Illuminated 6.00pm and 8.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sat 14 Oct	Dorchester Football Club Dorchester First v Yarnton Reserves Intermediate Cup 1.30pm Recreation Ground OSJ Russian Masters 7.00pm Dorchester Abbey Nordic Nights Scandinavian Supper Abbey Guest House

Clocks go back 29 October



Sun 15 Oct	19th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30am Sung Eucharist The Snug Sessions <i>The Blues Explosion</i> 7.00pm Bishops Court Farm
Mon 16 Oct	What's on in Dorchester 6.00-9.00pm Village Hall
Wed 18 Oct	Dorchester Lunch Club 12.30pm Village Hall
Sat 21 Oct	Big Abbey Clean 10.00am Dorchester Abbey
Sun 22 Oct	20th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion 5.00pm Fellowship of St Birinus Evensong
Wed 25 Oct	Dorchester Historical Society <i>Earthy Treasures: Selected Objects from Dorchester Abbey Museum</i> Margot Metclafe 7.30pm Dorchester Abbey
Sun 29 Oct	Last Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am All Souls Service
Tues 31 Oct	Dorchester 2030 and Beyond Survey closing date

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

Tuesday	Coffee Morning 11.00am Dorchester Abbey Abbey Bell Ringers Practice 7.30pm
Wednesday	New Baby and Toddler Time 9.30-10.45am Dorchester Abbey Mobile Post Office 2.00-3.00pm but may vary Outside Co-op
Thursday	Wellbeing Walks 10.00am Outside Co-op
Friday	Pickleball 6.00pm St Birinus School 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	Move Together 1.30pm Yoga 7.30pm
Wednesday	Busby Dance for children 3.15pm Pilates 5.30pm Tango 7.30pm
Thursday	Yoga for Beginners 6.15pm See dorchesteronthamesvillagehall.org.uk/ #calendar for additional one-off events.

Parish Registers

Funerals

25 Aug	Katherine Victoria Louise Mellanby Herbert (Kate)
29 Aug	Denis George De Beger

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

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: Mon - 10.27, 12.48, 14.49;
Wed -10.27, 14.49; Fri - 09.41, 10.43, 12.21, 14.15.

From Wallingford: Mon - 09.23, 11.50, 13.35;
Wed - 11.50, 13.35; Fri - 09.25, 12.00, 12.15, 14.05.

To Didcot Station: Mon - 09.33, 12.00, 13.44
Wed - 12.00, 13.44.

From Didcot Station: Mon - 10.04, 12.25, 14.25; Wed - 10.04, 14.25.

See: www.goingforwardbuses.com

Other Bus Services

Service X40 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 **08712 002233**.

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, 5 & 7 High Street, Dorchester on Thames OX10 7HH; **07745 311439** (office) , **07752 9007116** (direct)
parishclerk@dorchesteronthames-pc.gov.uk.

SODC CONTACT

Telephone **01235 422422**
Email: 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
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
01865 340417
www.stbirinus.co.uk

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



REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Tues 3 Oct **Green**
Tues 10 Oct **Black**
Tues 17 Oct **Green**
Tues 24 Oct **Black**
Tues 31 Oct **Green***

Weekdays from 7.00am

Green* = Additional garden waste collection for brown bin customers.

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/

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