

# Cuddesdon & Denton Newsletter



December 2025

## ❖ Church Directory ❖

Vicar: The Revd. Tom Wallis, The Rectory,  
17 Southend, Garsington. Tel: 361146  
[therevdtomwallis@gmail.com](mailto:therevdtomwallis@gmail.com)

Churchwarden: Robert Wilson

Treasurer: Mrs Smith-Fitchett

Organist: Mr Keith Randall, 3 Butts Road,  
Horspath Tel: 874587



### **Church Services at All Saints, Cuddesdon**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP), 1st and 3rd Sundays

9.30am Parish Communion, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays

10.00am Benefice Communion (alternating between Garsington,  
Cuddesdon and Horspath), 5th Sundays



### **Private Prayer**

St Mary's Garsington: Tuesday & Fridays, 9.30am – dusk

Monday, Saturday and Sunday, 10.30am – dusk

All Saints' Cuddesdon & St Giles' Horspath: Daily 10.00am – dusk



### **To book Weddings and Baptisms**

And for other queries, please call: 07856 456363

or email: [gchbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:gchbenefice@gmail.com)

# ORCHARD UPDATE

If you have a fruit tree, you'll know that it's been a great year for fruit, despite the drought. Not yet in the village orchard! The new trees won't be really fruiting for a year or two yet.



The challenge has been to keep the newly planted trees alive despite the lack of rain. They did survive thanks to the volunteers who turned up to water the trees over the summer. We've only lost two trees and that was due to the poor quality of the trees rather than a lack of water.

In fact, the trees have done more than survive. They've been growing through the netting intended to protect them from being nibbled by deer, so a select group of volunteers have been extending the netting around each tree to give them more space to grow. Thanks to Paul and Melanie Harvey, Niki Carter and Katarina Ollikainen as well as Dee Murray and Louisa Vincent, John Cook and Judith Carson, all under the guidance of Ron Stern.

Once the leaves have fallen and the trees are dormant, we'll be pruning them to help develop the right shape. If you want to help or learn how to prune, please get in touch with Ron.

Nicko King  
Cuddesdon and Denton Orchard Committee



# FROM THE VICAR

Dear friends

Advent begins on Sunday 30th November, when we are bidding farewell to Bishop Humphrey and Emma Southern at our Benefice Eucharist in All Saints' Church. Later that day the choir of Ripon College Cuddesdon join us for an Advent Carol Service, also in All Saints' Church. Refreshments are being served after both services, and villagers from around the Benefice are joining us.

Advent is a season for watching and waiting, as we wait and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. At Carol Services and Midnight Mass, we often hear the beautiful prologue, or beginning, of John's Gospel:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being, what has come into being. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world..."

Those words send shivers down my spine, especially when read by candlelight, in a darkened church.

In Advent, we wait for the coming of the Lord, who brings both life and light. We watch, expectantly – like a sentry, on a rooftop, watching for the first glimmer of light from a distant beacon.

This idea of the light of Christ appearing gradually, like the light from beacons spreading from one hill-top to another, is picked up in Malcolm Guite's sonnet *O Oriens*:

*E vidi lume in forme de riviera Paradiso XXX; 61*

First light and then first lines along the east  
To touch and brush a sheen of light on water  
As though behind the sky itself they traced

The shift and shimmer of another river  
Flowing unbidden from its hidden source;  
The Day-Spring, the eternal Prima Vera.

Blake saw it too. Dante and Beatrice  
Are bathing in it now, away upstream...  
So every trace of light begins a grace

In me, a beckoning. The smallest gleam  
Is somehow a beginning and a calling;  
"Sleeper awake, the darkness was a dream

For you will see the Dayspring at your waking,  
Beyond your long last line the dawn is breaking".

I hope and pray that, this Advent, you might see signs of light in the darkness, to remind you of the coming of Emmanuel – God with us – the God who left his heavenly throne to pitch his tent among us, so that we might know God, and might know his great love for us and for the world.

Wishing you a peaceful and blessed Advent, a joyful Christmas, and a happy and healthy New Year.

Revd Tom x

# FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Dear Parishioners

With no January Newsletter, I've been reflecting a little about the past year and the 24 that preceded it, as we reach the quarter mark of the 21st Century. This was prompted in part by a friend and fellow parishioner who asked me about the changes we've seen in our little corner of the world in recent years, as we stood commemorating those from the village who gave their lives for us in two World Wars. How is the village now? Have the changes been positive? Why is there nowhere to park? Do we still have a good community spirit? All leading questions to which I haven't got one answer.

What I see is that Cuddesdon & Denton is a good place to live. It's not a cheap place to live and there are only two buses a week, but we have a thriving community, a pub, an active Village Hall constantly putting on events and the College which remains an institution that puts our Parish on the map. It also provides a turnover of spirited young people that make our annual fete the best in the area and a brilliant village event when we all come together every May.

As this century continues to confuse, bemuse and often outpace many of us, the other big parish event that continues to keep us rooted in time is Bonfire Night. I have so many people to thank for making sure that this continues, so here goes: Graham Sellar, Paul Sellar, Richard Palmer, Jez Turner and Mobbs of Wheatley for all the work on the Bonfire itself and the pyrotechnics... to Natasha Turner, Therese Luke, Lousia Vincent, Philip Spinks, Sue Sellar, Marion West, Dee Murray, Cricks Butchers and the Bat and Ball for making sure there's food and drink in the village hall and that our muddy boot marks are removed afterwards. You're all troopers and allow us to continue getting the village together, just as other events do throughout the year. Thank you.

The next event that the Parish Council organises is 'Carols Around The Tree'. As I write there is no Christmas tree yet (working on it!), but we hope to see you at 5pm on Sunday 21st December on Cuddesdon Green for a few carols, a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine.

I know there are a number of issues that are concerning to parishioners at the moment, whether the Oxford Congestion Charge, fly tipping, public safety or parking in the village. We do discuss them at our meetings and we don't always have the power to solve them, but it is your forum so please do keep contacting us on the PC email address with any queries - [cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com](mailto:cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com) or contact one of us directly.

As always, everyone is welcome at our next meetings on 2nd December and then on 6th January both at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

If you are reading this, then you have survived not only the first quarter of the 21st Century but now a full page of rambling prose from me as well. You have earned a nipperkin (see wreath on Cuddesdon Green!), so please raise a glass with me as I wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Brilliant New Year.

Best wishes,  
Chris

## **CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE**



The annual Carols Around the Christmas Tree will be at 5.00pm on Sunday 21st December

Mince pies and mulled wine will be provided to keep you warm while you sing.

Everyone is welcome



# SERVICES IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH AND THE BENEFICE

## December and January

### Sunday 7th December Advent 2

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9:30am Parish Communion

### Sunday 14th December Advent 3

9:30am Parish Communion  
**3.00pm *Benefice Story-Time Church*** in the Forest Church at Ripon College Cuddesdon (share stories about Jesus, around a campfire, with marshmallows, refreshments and conversation)

### Saturday 20th December

5.00pm Village Carol Service featuring Intermezzo

### Sunday 21st December Advent 4

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9:30am Parish Communion

### Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Crib Service  
11.30pm Midnight Eucharist

### Thursday 25th December Christmas Day

9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist

### Sunday 28th December Christmas 1

10.00am Benefice Eucharist at St Giles Horspath

### Sunday 4th January The Feast of Epiphany

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)  
9.30am Parish Communion

## **Sunday 11th January The Baptism of Christ**

9:30am Parish Communion

**3.00pm** ***Benefice Story-Time Church*** in the Forest Church at Ripon College Cuddesdon (share stories about Jesus around a campfire, with marshmallows, refreshments and conversation)

## **Sunday 18th January The Second Sunday of Epiphany**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9:30am Parish Communion

## **Sunday 25th January The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

9:30am Parish Communion

# **CUDDESDON COFFEE MORNING**

The next Coffee Morning is on Tuesday 9th December from 10.30am to 12.00pm.

As always everyone is welcome

Come along and meet up with friends. We extend a warm welcome to new members.

Entry is £1 to include coffee, biscuits and homemade cake. We always have an excellent raffle.

We are happy to provide transport to and from the Coffee Morning for anyone having difficulties with the journey. Contact Marion on 01865 872037 or Lynda via email [lyndaware@aol.com](mailto:lyndaware@aol.com) to make arrangements.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Jean, Marion, Lynda, Melanie and Paul.

# CUDDESDON VILLAGE HALL REPORT

This is the report from the Village Hall Committee's Annual General Meeting, held on 6th November.

Through the past year there have been public and private events: fireworks night, harvest supper, a jazz evening and a table top sale. We have hosted evenings in collaboration with FOASC – Friends of All Saints Church, Cuddesdon to continue to enrich the whole community of Cuddesdon and Denton.

The regular hire to Dare2Dream continues. The Parish Council have meetings in the hall, and it is also used as the polling station. Other regular hires are the WI and village coffee morning. The hall is hired for a range of events from wreath making to family parties.

We want to thank the whole Committee for their continued hard work and interest in this historic building and we are particularly thankful to have Sue who has ensured the hall is well maintained and welcoming. One of our dear committee members passed away very unexpectedly this year and she is sorely missed.

New doors and outside lighting have been installed. This was funded by two grants, one from SODC and the other from The Lottery Fund. The emergency lighting has also been updated.

Progress is being made on the Archive Room. The Archives are being collated and documented and we are indebted to the many volunteers who have help with different aspects of local life. Topics include: the Village School, World War 1, World War 1 military personnel, Village cross and memorial, the Village Play, People in the Village, Buildings of significance, Societies, clubs and organisations and World War 2 military personnel. These are all such interesting topics and records of the history and life through the years of our Village. We want to thank Kathy Hawley for organising the cataloguing of all the resources and to Mike Mount for adding all the resources onto the Village website.

We have the required three trustees – Fiona Hawkins, Susan Sellar and Gillie Ruscombe King, who is serving as a trustee this year. The Constitution and other relevant documents are in a folder in the kitchen.

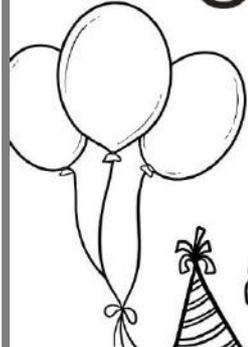
As always, we value and cherish the village hall and the volunteers who give their time to the community events taking place in it. We are a small committee and are always looking for support from those interested in the hall. Please think of joining us – it is fun, creative and most importantly rewarding. Please do approach any of us if you are interested.

The Village Hall Committee.

Gille Ruscombe King, Susan Sellar, Nicola Swift,  
Anne Marie Woodward, Fiona Hawkins



## CUDDESDON & DENTON VILLAGE HALL FOR HIRE



**Our Village Hall is available to hire 7 days a week for all kinds of events, whether you are celebrating a birthday, holding a workshop or remembering a loved one.**

**What can I book?** Parties, pop-ups, classes, workshops, memorials, wakes, markets, coffee mornings, parent groups, games nights...you name it! Unless it is dangerous or politically divisive, you can (probably) hold it in our hall.

**How much does it cost?** £12.50 per hour

**Capacity:** up to 150 for a standing event, 100 seated theatre-style, 80 if seated around tables.

**Facilities:** tables and chairs, domestic kitchen, crockery, cutlery and tea service for 30-40 people, hot water urn, children's toys, access to community play park, projector, speakers.

**Contact:** [villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com](mailto:villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com) for more info or to book

**JOY**

**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED  
TO  
CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS CUDDSDON**

**Saturday 20th December**

5.00pm Village Carol Service with  
Intermezzo

**Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day**

9.30am Christmas Morning Communion

 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**

# LIGHTING THE CHURCH TOWER

A fruitful autumn, rich in colour, has slipped into winter. The evenings are dark and this is the moment when annually we appeal for funds to light up the tower of the church. Very many thanks to those who have sponsored the tower light in past years and I am sure there are many of us who appreciate its solid, lit-up presence in the dark nights of winter. This is an invitation to bring light to the village again this Christmas.

Celebrate a birthday or anniversary or the memory of a loved one. And if you feel that £10 a night is just too much, then give what you can afford.



Would anyone like to sponsor the lighting of the tower over the Christmas period? Donations have enabled it to be lit up continuously for two or three months in recent winters and it would be good to repeat that this year. We suggest £40 for a week's illumination and £10 for a single night. The easiest way to contribute is by bank transfer:

Account name: All Saints Parochial Church Council Cuddesdon  
Account number: 30368024  
Code: 20-65-21

If you donate by bank transfer, please send me an email to let me know your donation so that I ensure that the light is kept on for the sponsored time.

Happy Advent and Christmas!

Robert Wilson  
Churchwarden  
01865 873513  
[robwil@myphone.coop](mailto:robwil@myphone.coop)

# CUDDESDON AND DENTON WI

We would be delighted to see former members, current members and new members, so do come along, bring a friend and enjoy getting to know everyone.

Visitors, including gentlemen, are very welcome to individual meetings at a charge of £5 per meeting. Refreshments are served.

We normally meet in the Village Hall at 6.45pm on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next meetings will be:

Thursday 11th December      Annual Christmas Dinner at Ripon College  
6.00pm for 6.30pm

Wednesday 7th January      Present Swap and Social. Bring a present  
(unwanted Christmas!) and swap for one  
you would like. Catch up on friends'  
Christmas and New Year news over a  
glass of wine and nibbles

## CAN YOU MAKE A PLANTER?

The two planters outside the Village Hall have been maintained for 25 years by WI members to provide colour in our village.

The original planters were donated by Cuddesdon and Denton WI for the millennium, and replaced in 2012. The boxes are looking frail again and we hope they will last another winter. Meanwhile the WI are seeking quotes from anyone who would like to make replacements. Please email [jacky.redgwell@hotmail.com](mailto:jacky.redgwell@hotmail.com)



SAVE

*the*

DATE

# Burns Night Party

SATURDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025

CUDDSDON VILLAGE HALL

DINNER AND CEILIDH

*EMAIL [ANNESTERN99@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ANNESTERN99@GMAIL.COM)*

*FOR MORE INFORMATION*

HOSTED BY FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS  
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**The Benefice of Garsington,  
Cuddesdon and Horspath**

invites everyone to

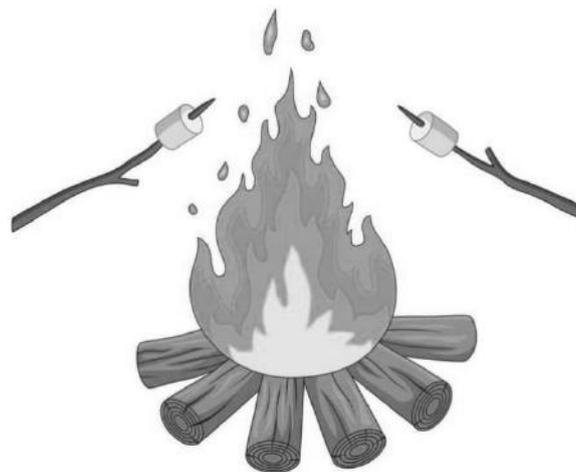
# **Story-time Church**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**3pm start**

**Meet in the Forest Church area of Ripon College  
Cuddesdon – from the main college car park,  
look for the wooden gate heading towards the  
allotments.**

**All are welcome for:**



**Stories and conversations round the campfire**

**Hot Chocolate**

**Marshmallows and other refreshments**

# All Saints' Cuddesdon

Please join with us for our Village Carol  
Service with Intermezzo Choir



Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm

Followed by Refreshments

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

 JOY

# THE MAPLE TREE

Merry Christmas from The Maple Tree!



Have you checked out our new schedule?

<b>Mondays</b>	Little Learners at 10.00-11.30am and Twins' Club at 2.00-4.00pm
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Smart Start at 9.30-11.30am
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Maple Babies at 9.30am-12.00pm
<b>Thursdays</b>	Time to Rhyme at 9.30-11.30am The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall from 10.30am-12.00pm Mums' Café at 1.00-3.00pm
<b>Fridays</b>	Creative Corner at 10.00-11.30am
<b>Saturdays</b>	Family Fun at 10.00-11.30am on December 13th and January 10th

Here are some additional dates for your diary:

22nd November	Wheatley Singers with the Cumnor Choral Society; The Armed Man, A Mass for Peace – all proceeds go to The Maple Tree!
28th November	The Maple Tree Tombola at the Wheatley Christmas Fair
5th December	last day to place your Christmas Tree order
13th December	Christmas Tree collection event
19th December	Christmas Disco
17th January	Silent Auction

Check out our website and social media for details about our programme and special events, including our popular Emergency Paediatric First Aid for parents and carers.

## **Wish List:**

A bookkeeper who is familiar with SAGE

A volunteer on Monday and Thursday afternoon sessions from 1:00-4:00pm

A fundraising-loving trustee!

In other news, we have been supporting some displaced families in the Ramada by the M40, and in the Travel Lodge in Wheatley. Thank you for all the recent donations; food, equipment, clothing, nappies, toys and books! The families are putting everything to good use in the hotels and then in their new homes.

We are here to help if you need advice or support: 01865 236700.

Email: [info@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:info@mapletree.org.uk)

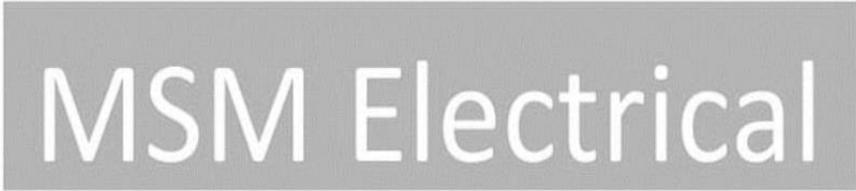
Website: [www.mapletree.org.uk](http://www.mapletree.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley](http://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley)

Instagram: [@themapletreecentre](https://www.instagram.com/themapletreecentre)

Laura Spencer

The Maple Tree Centre Manager



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Registered member NIC EIC

# MORLAND HOUSE SURGERY



Morland House Surgery, Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP

The usual surgery opening hours are  
Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.30pm.

Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends)  
8.00am to 10.30am, for prebooked consultations only.

Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to one of the reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact  
the Out of Hours service by phoning 111

A Morland House Surgery **Facebook Page** has been created. This is to keep patients up to date with surgery news and health issues. Please like and follow.

**Ordering Repeat Prescriptions** Please use the NHS App or log into your account on the NHS website. For more information on ordering, visit the 'prescriptions' page on our website.

**Winter vaccinations** are available to protect against serious illnesses like flu and COVID-19. To check eligibility and get information on booking visit [www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well](http://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/keep-warm-keep-well) . MHS has finished vaccinating for the 2025/26 winter season, but vaccinations are still available from local pharmacies.

**Care Messages:** The NHS App is now being used by MHS and other health providers to send you simple, secure messages on your phone about your care, for example appointments, test results and reminders. It is much quicker than waiting for a letter or phone call. See the MHS website to find out how to turn on notifications in the NHS App and receive Care Messages.

**You and Your General Practice** This new NHS guide can be downloaded from the MHS website. It is a great resource for all NHS patients, full of useful tips and helpful information in clear and simple language.

**Weight Loss Medication** is in the news and GPs can now prescribe Mounjara, one of the leading drugs. Eligibility criteria are very strict. Only a very small number of MHS patients will be eligible and will be contacted directly by the Surgery.

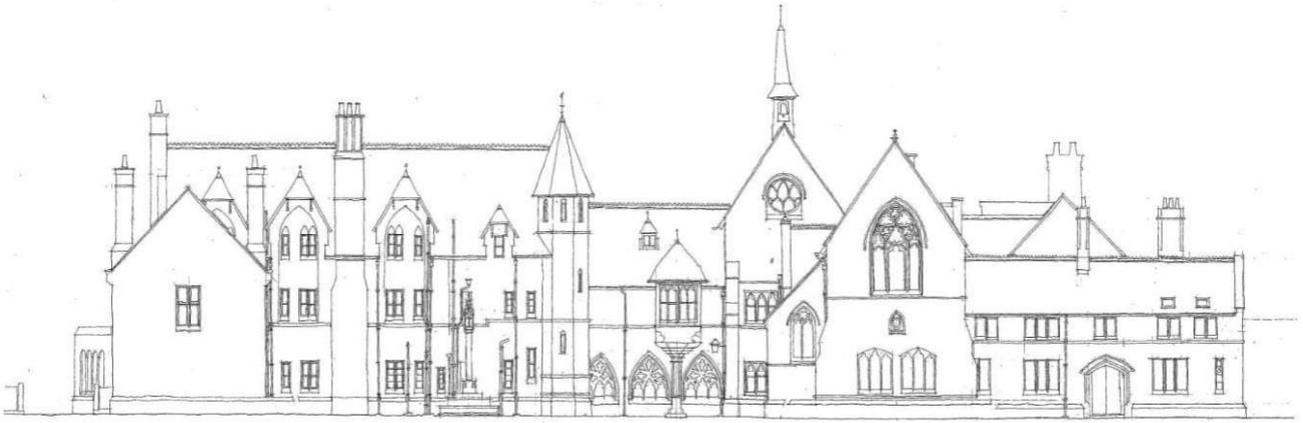
**Changes to the routine childhood immunisation schedule** are designed to provide even better protection for babies and children. The recent rise in measles cases mean it is more important than ever to ensure your children's vaccinations are up to date.

**Online Resources for Clinical Help** Did you know that there are many local services to which you can make self-referrals without speaking to your GP? The Morland House Surgery website lists the various options. Visit:

[www.morland-house.co.uk/help-and-support-service-types/self-referral/](http://www.morland-house.co.uk/help-and-support-service-types/self-referral/)

Visit **Morland House Surgery Website** for a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment: [www.morland-house.co.uk](http://www.morland-house.co.uk) . For example:

- **Medical Records and Test Results** – Guidance on how to access this information.
- **Pharmacy First Service (PFS)** – where pharmacies can directly treat seven common health conditions.
- **Group Consultation Clinics** – Successful group clinics are currently being offered for the menopause and hypertension. Eligible patients are being invited to attend, but if you would like to know more, please do contact us.
- **Breast Screening** – to detect the most common cancer in women
- **Whooping Cough** – Infections, symptoms and treatment



# RIPON COLLEGE CUDDESDON

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*For more information and all enquiries:*

Contact the Hospitality Team on 01865 874404 or [hospitality@rcc.ac.uk](mailto:hospitality@rcc.ac.uk)

[www.rcc.ac.uk/venue-hire](http://www.rcc.ac.uk/venue-hire)

## STORAGE

### Hollands Farm Great Milton

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Quarter page landscape	47 x 132	£6.00
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Full page	196 x 132	£24.00

Send your advert to [cuddesdon.dentonnl@gmail.com](mailto:cuddesdon.dentonnl@gmail.com) as a pdf, jpg, png or doc



# CHRISTMAS TREE SALE



BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH DIRECTLY FROM US TO HELP US RAISE VITAL FUNDS FOR THE MAPLE TREE & WHEATLEY SCOUTS



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4-5FT.....	£37
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Trees are premium Nordmann Fir and grown in Oxfordshire

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ORDER BY 5th DECEMBER

COLLECT TREES FROM THE MAPLE TREE ON: SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER 10-11.30AM

Registered charity No: 1174117  
Email: [info@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:info@mapletree.org.uk)  
Website: [www.mapletree.org.uk](http://www.mapletree.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley](https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley)



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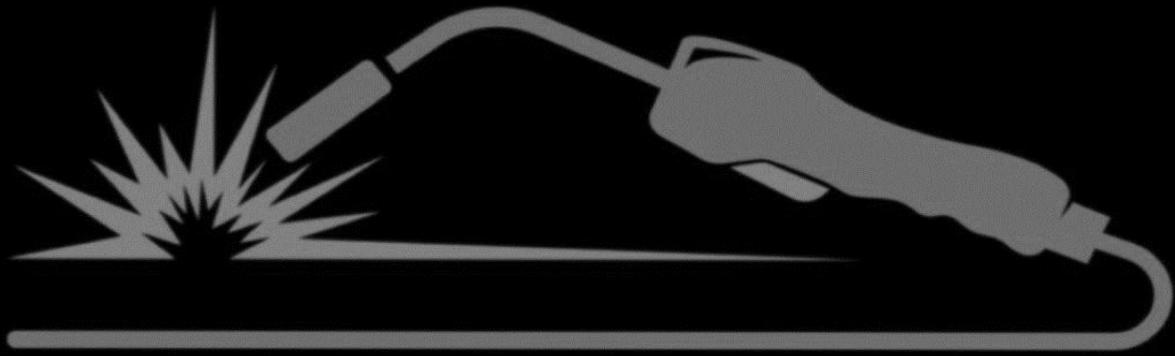
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**[www.wheatleypainter.co.uk](http://www.wheatleypainter.co.uk)**

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## ❖ Parish Directory ❖

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

email: [cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com](mailto:cuddesdon.dentonpc@gmail.com)

Evie Bennett	15 Denton Hill, Cuddesdon	
Stuart Flockton	1 Orchard View, Cuddesdon	
Chris Luke	Oak Tree Cottage, Denton	875551
Dee Murray		
Arthur Smith-Fitchett	The Orchard, Cuddesdon	876048
Philip Spinks	The Granary, 1 Dove House Lane, Cuddesdon	
Louisa Vincent	The Stables, Church Road, Cuddesdon	
Clerk:	Jo Garvey	

### **OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

County	Tim Bearder	07789 754727
Councillor	<a href="mailto:tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk">tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk</a>	

### **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

District	Sam James-Lawrie	
Councillor	<a href="mailto:sam.james-lawrie@southoxon.gov.uk">sam.james-lawrie@southoxon.gov.uk</a>	

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

P. Rutt Co-ordinator	Denton	874402
R Baylie	Parkside	872340
J Bennett	Wellbourne	874582
J Cook	Cuddesdon	874416
J Luke	Denton	874440
G O'Shea	Chippinghurst	07774 700073

### **VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE**

email: [villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com](mailto:villagehall.cuddesdon@gmail.com)

### **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Secretary: Jackie Redgwell	07443 519951
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### **SURGERY**

Morland House, London Road, Wheatley	872448
Pharmacy	874047

### **WHEATLEY LIBRARY**

The Merry Bells, High Street OX33 1XP	01865 815204
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