

GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

November 2022

Published by the Parish Council

No. 580



Freedom of Information Act – Parish Council Publication Scheme

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides rights of public access to information held by Public Authorities. The Parish Council adopted a new publication scheme in November 2019: details can be found on the Parish Council Website at <https://www.great-milton.co.uk/freedom-of-information/>. Residents can see records of the policies and practices of the Parish Council including minutes, financial information and responses to planning consultations, on request from the Parish Clerk or via the website.

Great Milton Parish Council

Chairman:	Stephen Harrod	01844 278068
Ward:	Church Road to Monkery Farm/The Priory	
Vice Chairman:	Bill Fox	01844 279716
Ward:	Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings	
Councillor:	David Harms	
Ward:	The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood	
Councillor:	Clyde Deacon	01844 279242
Ward:	High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage	
Councillor:	George Bennett	07482 339905
Ward:	Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329	
Councillor:	Malcolm Horsley	07970 924194
Ward:	Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary	
Councillor:	Peter Allen	01844 278334
Ward:	Milton Common	

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Tim Darch – 01844 278347
contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk

Parish Council Representatives

Rec Ground Committee:	James Cunningham (Chair), Michele Block (Vice-Chair)
Old Field Charity:	Adrian Buckmaster (Chair), David Mackrory (Treasurer)
Hard Surface Play Area:	Mark Nethercleft (Chair), Dan Bennett (Treasurer), Sarah MacMahon (Membership)
Neighbourhood Watch:	Jola Miziniak, Rod Snowdon
Kent & Couling Charity:	Simon Cronk, Tricia Treanor, Sue Denham
Sheppard Trust:	Simon Cronk, Jane Willis
Neighbours' Hall:	Mike Robinson (Chair), Christine Donnelly

Cover: Trudy Timbs serving up delicious refreshments at St. Mary's open day.

Photo: Mary Wakefield.

Key Contacts:

Local Governance

Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Freddie Van Mierlo	07944 492438	freddie.vanmierlo@oxfordshire.gov.uk
District Councillor: Caroline Newton	07951 477144	caroline.newton@southoxon.gov.uk
Great Milton Parish Council		
Stephen Harrod (Chair)	01844 278068	
Tim Darch (Clerk)	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk
Report potholes, fly-tipping, vandalism, broken paving		Fixmystreet.com
OCC Family Information Service	08452 262636	fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
OCC Highways	0845 310 1111	highway.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Missed Bin Collection	03000 610610	admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk
Bulky Household Waste Collection	01235 422406	waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Housing	01235 422422	housing@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Planning Applications	01235 422600	planning@southoxon.gov.uk

Services

Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance	999	
Police non-emergency	101	thamesvalley.police.uk
GP Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448	morland-house.co.uk
NHS non-emergency	111	nhs.uk
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	nationalgrid.com/uk/safety/
Electricity Outage	0800 072 7282	sse.co.uk
Burst pipe or leak	0800 714 614	thameswater.co.uk
Floodline	0345 988 1188	gov.uk/check-flood-risk

Local information

St. Mary's Church: Rev. Simon Cronk		simon.cronk@btinternet.com
Methodist Church: Rev. Stephen Spain	01865 763676	
Neighbourhood Watch: Jola Miziniak	07917 676463	jolamiziniak7@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch: Rod Snowdon	07836 728919	bigsnodi@hotmail.co.uk
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	03444 111 444	caox.org.uk
The Maple Tree Children's Centre	01865 873916	mapletreec@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Great Milton Neighbours Hall	01844 278415	
Great Milton Pavilion & Recreation Ground	01844 278116	
Great Milton Website		contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk http://www.greatmilton.co.uk
Great Milton Bulletin	01844 278347	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk
Great Milton Primary School	01844 279388	gmilton.org
Wheatley Park School	01865 872441	www.wheatleypark.org

Transport

Comet - for people without access to suitable public transport	01865 323201	oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet
Arriva (280) Bus	0344 800 4411	arrivabus.co.uk
Oxford Tube (Buses to London)	01865 772250	oxfordtube.com
Park & Ride		oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/parkandride
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	nationalrail.co.uk

Draft Parish Notes

Meeting of the Parish Council held at the Pavilion on Monday 17th October 2022 at 7:30pm. The meeting was attended by Cllrs S Harrod (Chair), P Allen, C Deacon, D Harms, and M Horsley. Apologies were received from Cllr W Fox (Vice-Chair) Cllr Freddie Van Mierlo (OCC) and Cllr Caroline Newton (SODC). Chris Ashworth (Clerk) was in attendance, along 1 member of the public. No declarations of interest were received in matters on the agenda.

The County Councillor's monthly report was received and reviewed and is available on the Parish Council website along with the District Councillor's. No correspondence was received in matters not otherwise covered on the agenda.

P22/S3601/LB (3 Priory Bank Church Road Great Milton OX44 7PA) New chimney pot to extend height above the ridge to current regulatory height for a wood burner. Cllr S Harrod reviewed the application and consulted neighbours. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to SUPPORT this application.

Tetsworth Parish Council (TPC) has become increasingly concerned by the number of planning applications for solar arrays in our small part of South Oxfordshire. We have no desire to oppose the policies in place to provide renewable energy but are concerned that our area of the county is being asked to bear the brunt of their implementation.

The sites at Cromwell Farm and Harlesford, together with the sites proposed by the Dodwells application and that adjacent to Postcombe, could result in four large solar farms in the narrow stretch of the M40 corridor between junctions 6 and 7. The current planning procedure under which each application is considered individually does not take this cumulative effect into account.

TPC proposes that we arrange a meeting between representatives of our councils and SODC to persuade its planning department of the need to include within its framework a district-wide spacial strategy for the provision of renewable energy that would ensure an even distribution of such sites.

Great Milton Parish Council is happy to get involved in the process with Testworth Parish Council and will send a representative along to any meetings arranged in the future.

The minutes of the September meeting of the Parish Council, held on Monday 26th September, were received, reviewed, agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

Financial resolutions

The following cheques for payment were authorised and signed.

Chris Ashworth. Salary, Tax and Expenses October: £517.22

Shield Maintenance Dog Waste October: £62.40

Jonathon Dudley Bulletin production October: £335.20

BT Office/e-mail package: £10.80 (paid by monthly Direct Debit)

Hugo Fox: web support July: £19.99 (paid by monthly Direct Debit)

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (Budgeting): £66.00

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (Internal Controls): £66.00

The monthly bank reconciliation, accounts and bank statement was received, reviewed and approved. The reconciled bank balance as of 10th October was £43,715.90

The Parish Council discussed their financial priorities for the forthcoming financial year. It was agreed to a 0% increase on the precept again for another year.

Parish clerk and councillors' update of matters in hand

Work on the 20mph scheme is ongoing. Great Milton's scheme has been implemented.

Work on the gateway features has been raised with the signing contractor. It will take a few weeks for the necessary materials to be acquired then we will be given a date of installation.

The Great Milton Christmas Carols around the tree on the green, followed by mince pies in the pub, will take place on Tuesday 13th December, at 18:00. There will be a Christmas tree collection point set up within the village, adjacent to the entrance to the Rec. Posters will be produced with the details. The trees will be collected on w/c 9th of January when the normal garden waste collection begins.

Security in the village

Residents are encouraged to please continue to report any incident that they witness or experience to the police via the 101-telephone service or online via the police.co.uk website.

Funding for the youth club

The Councillors discussed the potential for helping fund the youth club in the village. A representative for the youth club attended the meeting and gave details about what they have achieved so far and what the plans are with more funding. They hope to be able to offer an affordable, safe and enjoyable place for 8–13-year-olds. Funding would help with the purchase of equipment for the children to use, help cover the hall hire fees and get all staff/volunteers first aid trained.

It was agreed that a donation of £500 would be made immediately. A further £500, less the amount of any funds received from other Parish Councils, would be paid in the New Year.

The Parish Council will also investigate providing Wi-Fi at the Pavilion.



Warm welcome campaign

The warm welcome campaign was discussed with places that could be used and talked through, and the Councillor's suggested the local Pub as the best place to provide this, which will be discussed with the tenants. The Parish Council is going to invite a member of the warm welcome campaign to come along to the next meeting, if possible, to discuss this matter in further detail.

Thame food bank initiative

A collection point was talked about at the meeting, along with its viability. This item will be talked about further at the next Parish Council Meeting, when we hope to have a representative of the initiative attending.

Code of conduct

The new code of conduct was read by the Councillors, and all agreed in favour of supporting it.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The CIL was mentioned and agreed that it would be saved for a project in the future as one comes up.

Meeting ended at 20:06

The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 21st November 2022 at 7:30pm at the Pavilion. The Parish Clerk remains contactable in the event of any issues or queries.

Neighbours' Hall Book Library

Open sessions of the Book Library will continue on the third Friday of the month (as long as the Hall is available) from 11-12 noon. Please come along to make use of this community facility to donate, borrow or keep from the good selection of books and jigsaw puzzles in the library. We are pleased with the new shelves kindly donated to the Hall giving us more space for books. People are also welcome to use the Library whenever they visit the Neighbours' Hall.

Friday 11th November 11-12noon

(please note second Friday as Hall not available on the 18th)

Friday 16th December 11-12noon

Friday 20th January 11-12noon

We will be providing tea, coffee and cakes in the Orchard Room to enjoy whilst you browse.

Barbara and Hazel

Benefice Services for November

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 6th		Holy Communion 9:00am	Family Worship 10:30am Service of the Commemoration of the Departed (tea follows) 4:00pm
Sunday 13th	Act of Remembrance followed by a Service of Remembrance in the Church 10:45am	Service of Remembrance 5:00pm	Holy Communion 9:00am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Great Haseley 10:45pm
Sunday 20th	Family Worship 10:30am		Holy Communion 9:00am
Sunday 27th		BCP Holy Communion 9:00am Family Gathering 4:00pm	Benefice Holy Communion 10:30am

Rector's Pint

It is with a heavy heart that I write this. In truth, I never really know how to tackle the subject of remembrance, but this year, that has been hugely amplified.

We do not have boots on the ground, yet. But we are effectively at war, or at least involved in a proxy war between the 'West' and Russia. I wonder what history will actually tell about the causes of this. It was an invasion, and Ukraine with its already creaking infrastructure, is being pulled to pieces Any possible diplomatic solution seems to have receded, if it was ever in sight in the first place, beyond a blood-tinged horizon. Once again there is war in Europe; what will our emotions be this year at our remembrance services, when we all say, 'we will remember them'?

A prayer at times of international unrest

Almighty Father,

Whose will is to restore all things

In your beloved Son, the King of all:

Govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
 And bring the families of the nations,
 Divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
 To be subject to his just and gentle rule;
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

November will be a month of remembrance, not only with our remembrance services (please see the service list in this newsletter) but also with our special service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the Departed. This is a time we can reflect on loved ones who are no longer with us, sing some familiar hymns, listen to a brief reflection, read out names, and light candles in their memory. It will also be the day when our books of condolence following the death of Queen Elizabeth II will be closed, after we kept them open for a while to allow as many people who wanted to sign to do so. I know that I wrote about the death of Her Majesty the Queen last month but when I took the first Book of Common Prayer service (the historic form of worship in the Church of England, dating from 1662 which we use once a month) it was very strange, as several of the prayers refer to Elizabeth our Queen and her governors. All those of us who take these services had to adapt, and make sure that we prayed for Charles, our King, and his governors. (Some of the books are very dog eared – after all, they are 70 years old! At some point we will need to replace them).

The service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the Departed will take place at 4.00pm on Sunday 6th November at St Peter's in Great Haseley. I am hoping that there will be tea and cake to follow.

Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Stephen Spain on 01865 763676

November 2022				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
6th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Revd Miriam Moul	
13th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Paul Spray	
20th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Local Arrangement	
27th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Dr Simon Blainey	

The next coffee morning is Wednesday 9th November from 10:00am to 12noon. Everyone will be most welcome!

Changes to your waste collections over the Christmas and New Year period

Christmas and New Year 2022/23

Normal collection day		Revised collection day	
Monday	26 December 2022	Wednesday	28 December 2022
Tuesday	27 December 2022	Thursday	29 December 2022
Wednesday	28 December 2022	Friday	30 December 2022
Thursday	29 December 2022	Saturday	31 December 2022
Friday	30 December 2022	Tuesday	3 January 2023
Monday	2 January 2023	Wednesday	4 January 2023
Tuesday	3 January 2023	Thursday	5 January 2023
Wednesday	4 January 2023	Friday	6 January 2023
Thursday	5 January 2023	Saturday	7 January 2023
Friday	6 January 2023	Monday	9 January 2023
Monday	9 January 2023	Tuesday	10 January 2023
Tuesday	10 January 2023	Wednesday	11 January 2023
Wednesday	11 January 2023	Thursday	12 January 2023
Thursday	12 January 2023	Friday	13 January 2023
Friday	13 January 2023	Saturday	14 January 2023

Please remember that we suspend garden waste collections over the holiday period to concentrate on Christmas waste collections. Collections resume in January 2023. For more information, please see our garden waste page on our website.

Find out more about recycling tips and waste collections over Christmas and New Year on our website www.morerecycling.co.uk

We will post information about any disruption to waste collection services on our websites and social media sites.

Our call centre is open for queries from 9am – 3.30pm on 23 December, 9am - 5pm on 28, 29 and 30 December on 03000 610610.



Leading Learning Leading

St Mary's Open Day – 1st October



Thanks to all those who came along to the Church Open Day, hope you enjoyed your visit and seeing how the church interior will be changing.

Grateful thanks to Greenplant for kindly supporting the event by providing materials and partitioning. And many thanks to all those who provided displays, talks, music, and help with setting up and running the event... you all contributed to making a really enjoyable event.

The day culminated in a very successful Auction of Promises raising £3,220 for St Mary's Conserve, Care, Connect appeal. A fantastic result!

A good atmosphere and a wide variety of 'promises' helped make a really fun event. Huge thanks to our fantastic auctioneer, Simon Alden, to all those who gave 'promises', and to those who made bids... successful or not!

We are delighted to say that St Mary's Church fundraising appeal is gaining real momentum. To find out more and how you can make a gift, see the leaflet and donation form on the village website www.great-milton.co.uk

Alternatively, find the St Mary's Great Milton webpage on www.investmycommunity.com.

Thank you.

Trudy, Clare, Mary, Jane, Liz and Fred





Most enquiries are from past residents or their relatives, wishing to trace a forbear, and often we can find an answer. Our records in the copy of the last Burial Book go back to the period 1880 – 2015.

We are also fortunate to have the disc on which the Oxford History Society recorded the inscriptions on the present tombstones. These are also photographed and indexed, so you are welcome to browse this or any other records of village life.

We are open in the Community Room every Wednesday from 10.30 – 12.00noon. We can also be contacted on gmhistorysociety@outlook.com

Hope to see you soon!

Update On Paper Deliveries

Since my last communication I have had further contact with The Chocolate Box Thame, who inform me that they are working out the routes etc., so I would urge anyone who is interested in changing their delivery service, or considering having a paper delivered, to get in touch with them alazaruk@aol.com and express an interest.

It is all looking quite promising – let's hope so.

Youth Club

New Youth Club opened! The Youth Club is a place that kids can hang out with their friends and have fun for children from Great Milton and surrounding villages. The youth club is for kids in year 4 to year 8 and runs weekly on a Wednesday at 6 – 8 pm in the Pavilion, £2 each child. Currently we have 25 - 27 children attending a week. We have an amazing tuck shop and many activities – pool table, table tennis, air hockey, board games, gaming and arts and crafts. Not to mention outdoor sports activities provided by Jason Carbon, JSC and the playground.

Local businesses can help by providing supplies for themed evenings, such as Stone World donating pebbles for decorating in an art and crafts activity. Businesses could also sponsor an evening for £50 and listed on our Facebook page. The next themed evening will be on Wednesday 26th October Halloween biscuit decorating from Bumblebee biscuit Co. Please contact us on our email below if you could sponsor/donate.



The Great Milton Youth Club would like to thank the Great Milton villagers for supporting the youth club through the Amazon wish list. Thanks to Great Milton parish council for £500 funding and support with hiring the Pavilion and the Sheppard Trust has graciously given a £1,500 grant for the set up and running of the Youth Club. Special thanks to the volunteers giving their time to run the youth club.

The Great Milton Youth Club Committee comprises of Dave and Laura Putt (Co-Chairs), Kelly Wing (Treasurer), Kezia Barrett and Lisa Watts (Play leaders), Alyson Frost (Designated Safeguarding Lead) and Sarah Armstrong (secretary). We are looking for local residents who would be interested in volunteering at the youth club to help deliver the club activities. For children in year 9 – 13 they can volunteer as a youth leader.

Please email Laura Putt / Kelly Wing greatmiltonyouthclub@gmail.com for volunteering, sponsorships and registering your child.

Sheppard Trust

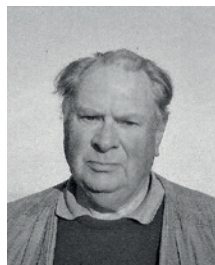
We had to abandon the October meeting as there were no requests for funding! Our next meeting will be in January 2023. If you run a group / organisation which is based in Great Milton, and which benefits the citizens of Great Milton and are in need of funding, please do make an application.

Please send your applications to Jane Willis, Briarwood, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QE, or email to janewillis1@live.co.uk to arrive by Monday 16th January 2023. But don't wait for the deadline, avoid the Christmas rush and get your application in now!

The Trustees are looking forward to receiving your requests.

View from Views

I feel compelled to mention the passing of a good friend and neighbouring farmer, David Watts, who sadly died 2 days after his 101st birthday. I had known him for a very long time. He served in the Royal Navy during WW2 being torpedoed I believe more than once (as so many were). His dear wife also served her country during the war being one of those who ferried planes for the RAF. As a farmer's son he eventually was able to get the tenancy of the family farm in Stadhampton where



he never stopped working and, even in retirement, he kept himself busy wood working and repairing items for the village plus tending his large garden and for others.

We are still very short of soil moisture, however we just had enough early in September to plant our Rape. This was under threat at the end of the month but luckily the rain we had at the end of the month has given it the boost to save it and, so far, we seem to have escaped the Cabbage Stem Flea Beetle (CSFB) which is always a risk with late planting. So far the pigeons seem to have left it alone; I am hopeful they will not be too much of a problem now as the plant has practically covered the rows. I am not sure what to report on the companion crop except it certainly suffered from the dry weather so is not the carpet of green we are looking for to suppress weeds; it is however recovering. It just remains to be seen how effective it is going to be and we are determined to continue with the experiment by sowing another area in the middle of a field. Although the Lupins were a failure we are going to give them another chance. This is a bit of a gamble as all our fields are of a size that are in reality too big to experiment with. Anyway we are going to continue as I feel the prospect for lupins should be good and could go towards replacing some Soya as their protein is between Soya and Beans & Peas.

Last year we made a mistake in the marketing of this year's harvest, being attracted to what at the time appeared to be a good price: this led to the last of last year's Barley, which left the farm just weeks before we started harvest, selling for a much higher price than that fixed last September as a speculation. You cannot always get it right.

When I reported that harvest had gone without a hitch autumn planted has also with rain just on cue as the last tractor left the field. This did not amount to much but since then we have had a couple of mm; enough to carry it on till we get some serious rain. We had almost perfect conditions for plant as well, I think due to the lack of ploughing which has left all the residues of the last few crops still in the soil making it more friable. Now we await disasters to follow; I cannot believe our luck will continue.

Funny old world; we seem to have made an about-turn in our leaders as we now have a male Monarch and a female Prime Minister. I believe the former has a little more experience than the latter yet we have to put up with her decisions and he is not allowed to express an opinion. I had great hopes that she was going to be a real breath of fresh air and sweep away all dead wood and get things done. This seems to have been wishful thinking. Leave alone the financial situation we seem to be in, which frankly I find difficult to get my head round, as I thought that, if you had mounting bills, you would do all you could to increase your income, not cut it. But then the PM was elected on that premise; one would assume such a radical scheme to have some basis. Now to compound the concern that our Government does not know where it



is going or understand how things work, we learn that planning is to be relaxed, farm subsidies are to be focussed more on production than the environment, and many other issues to encourage growth rather than conserving what we have achieved so far. This could mean the scrapping of all environmental payments and encourage us all to produce more food, which would mean undoing all the good we have been doing over the years. I also think that many of my colleagues will take great offence from the comments made by the Home Secretary who said Farmers should work harder in order to employ more indigenous labour, and use more technology, robots and the like. She can try if she likes. What planet are these people on; will the Green lobby accept a different support package? And how do they think that the UK population will want to work six months of the year and relocate to a caravan in the middle of nowhere, to work in a harsh environment? Only Farmers are daft enough to do that.

Charles Peers

Morland House Surgery

eConsult

We are pleased to introduce eConsult. eConsult is an online form which patients can complete to contact the surgery instead of making a phone call. You can use it to get help with an administrative matter (e.g., fit for work certificates, insurance forms, referral letters or requests for copies of records, have a prescription enquiry or wish to ask a GP or nurse a question). eConsult was created by GPs for GPs and will ask you questions appropriate to your query to make sure that we have all the information we need to provide the help you need. You will find the form on the home page of our website www.morland-house.co.uk

Enhanced Access

From October 2022, Morland House will be offering additional Enhanced Access hours to patients at various times during the week. Appointments offered will include GP appointments, blood test appointments, travel clinics, NHS health checks and more. Please speak to a receptionist or book your appointment online via your NHS log in.

22/23 Winter Covid and Flu Vaccination Programme

Morland House Surgery is pleased to be offering both the Covid-19 Autumn Booster vaccine and the annual flu vaccine. We are now taking bookings for our Saturday clinics in October. If you have not yet been contacted, please visit www.nhs.uk to find out if you are eligible for either or both vaccines and then contact our

reception team on 018656 872448 to book yours.

Visit Morland House Website

For up-to-date information about services, the COVID-19 vaccine, a link to the NHS App and opening hours, please visit www.morland-house.co.uk

The website also provides access to a large amount of information and advice on managing your health and wellbeing, including a large range of conditions, symptoms, treatments, and medicines.

Tons Together (Little Milton) WI

In September we managed to rebook our postponed September Albion Fields Sculpture Park trip and we were invited to an Aunt Sally night with Waterstock & Tiddington WI. A great night out at the Fox & Goat pub, we lost the tournament but were just glad we didn't injure anyone or break the gazebo lights! The LPA talk in October was very interesting and enlightening, many of us will now be looking into making more secure provisions for the future.

At our next meeting on Thursday 10th November at 7.30pm we have a Christmas Card Workshop with Yvonne Gilding. All proceeds going to the Berinsfield Day Centre. Everyone welcome - Visitors £5 or join up (2022/23 membership £22).

We're also planning a couple of theatre trips:

The Oxford Operatic Society new show, Evita at Oxford Playhouse on Thursday 26 January 2023. The ticket & coach cost £35. We'll need to sign up by 11th November.

Mamma Mia! at the New Theatre Oxford 6-31 December 2022. Planning to go on a matinee on a Thursday, Saturday or Xmas Friday.

Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton, The Haseleys, Stadhampton or surrounding villages, new to the area, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Tons Together WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group. Please email us if you fancy joining WI or need a lift.

We meet every 2nd Thursday of the month in the Pine Lodge at 7.30pm

Too shy to come by yourself? Contact us & we'll find you a WI buddy.

Like us at www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at www.littlemilton.org.uk

Kath Stacey 01844-279438 tonstogetherwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

A fine romance...



Following the Wheatley Singers' triumphant Springtime return to performing, you can hear them again back at St Mary's Church Wheatley this November.

On Sunday November 27th at 4.30pm, the singers - fronted by exquisite soloists and supported by first class musicians - will perform two Romantic greats: Fauré's sonorous "Requiem" and the sparkling "Mass in G" by Schubert.

Cast cares aside and enjoy a warm welcome, some great tunes and some blissful harmonies. And stay on for a glass of something delicious and some good craic. Tickets £10 available on the door.

John Howell MP writes...

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

In recent years we have become only too aware of our global interdependence, both because of the pandemic and, more recently, as a result of the conflict in Ukraine. One aspect of our global interdependence is around food security and supply chains. The need for home production is ever more important for continuity of supply, and also to reduce the miles that our food travels. In an area where farming is important it is good to see the industry being given

more independence and financial resilience. The new Environmental Land Management Schemes being rolled out will support farmers to not only produce high-quality food but also to protect and enhance the natural environment.

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

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

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

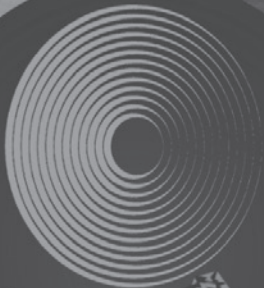
If you would like to know more about my work on behalf of the Government, and in the Constituency, please do look at my website, which is regularly updated. The address is www.johnhowellmp.com. Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at www.parliament.uk.



**Tuesday 13th December,
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Merry Christmas



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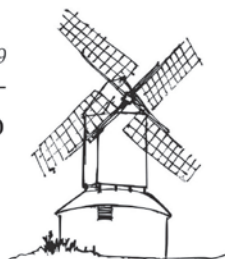
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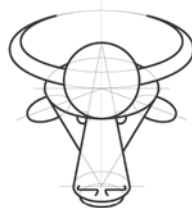
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Diary

Monday	Spark Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am <i>contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details</i> Arts & Crafts Club – The Pavilion. 1st Monday of each month. 6:30 – 9:00pm <i>contact carina.martin@gmail.com</i>
Tuesday	Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground. <i>enquiries.gmac@gmail.com</i> Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm <i>contact Ann Price – 01844 279474</i>
Wednesday	GM History Archive, The Community Room, The Bull. 10:30am – 12:00pm <i>or by appointment</i> 2nd Wed: Coffee Morning at The Methodist Chapel. 10:00am – Midday Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
Thursday	The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. <i>contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432</i> Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm. <i>contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net</i> Athletics Club. Year 4–7. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground. <i>enquiries.gmac@gmail.com</i> Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm <i>contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198</i> Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm <i>contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com</i>
Friday	Vinyasa Flow Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am <i>contact Claire – sparkyoga1111@gmail.com to book or for more details</i>
Saturday	Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 5:30pm. <i>contact: see Thursday</i> Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm. <i>Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090</i> Sandy Lane Farm Market. 10:00am – 2:00pm. <i>contact: see Thursday</i>

November

Tue 8th	Have Your Say at The Pavilion	3:00pm
Wed 9th	Coffee Morning at The Methodist Church	10:00am
Mon 21st	Parish Council Meeting at The Pavilion	7:30pm
Fri 25th	Swing, Music and Dance at The Neighbours' Hall	7:30pm
Sun 27th	The Wheatley Singers 'Requiem' and Mass in G' at St. Mary's	4:30pm

December

Tue 13th	Carols around the Christmas Tree on The Green	6:00pm
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All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th November 2022**.

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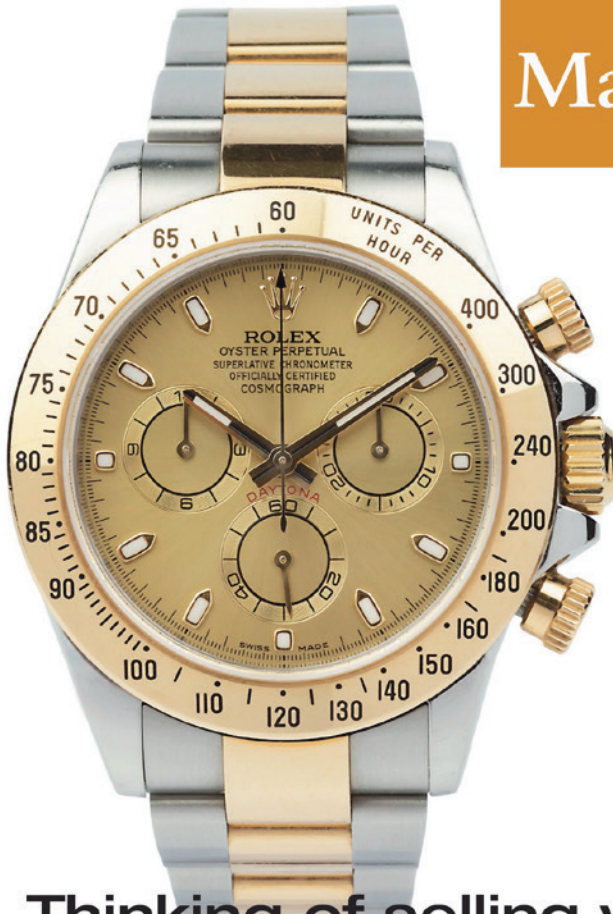
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