

# GREAT MILTON BULLETIN

October 2018

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Residents of the Parish can see the records of the Council held by the Parish Clerk or learn where they may be accessed. These records include minutes, financial information, and responses to planning consultations. Applications can be made to the Parish Clerk and documents viewed by appointment. Any copies required will be charged at 10p per page.

### **Great Milton Parish Council**

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Stephen Harrod</b>	<b>01844 278068</b>
Ward:	Church Road to Monckery Farm/The Priory	
<b>Vice Chairman:</b>	<b>Bill Fox</b>	<b>01844 279716</b>
Ward:	Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Peter Fewell</b>	<b>01844 279400</b>
Ward:	The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Clyde Deacon</b>	<b>01844 278554</b>
Ward:	High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>George Bennett</b>	<b>07482 339905</b>
Ward:	Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Gwen Harris</b>	<b>07401 399489</b>
Ward:	Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary	
<b>Councillor:</b>	<b>Peter Allen</b>	<b>01844 278334</b>
Ward:	Milton Common	

**Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Tim Darch – 01844 278347**  
**[contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk](mailto:contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk)**

### **Parish Council Representatives**

Rec Ground Committee:	Michael Robinson, Michele Block
Old Field Charity:	Hazel Hand, Niki Patrick
Hard Surface Play Area:	Susan Read, Jon Devitt
Neighbourhood Watch:	Jola Miziniak
Kent & Couling Charity:	Cynthia D'Anger
Sheppard Trust:	Ann Price, Pat Cox

Sally Orriss makes final adjustments to one of the Harvest Festival displays in St. Mary's Church. *Photo: Clare Blakeway Phillips.*

## Key Contacts:

### Local Governance

Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
County Councillor: Stephen Harrod	01844 278068	steve.harrod@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		Fxmystreet.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. Adam Stevenson	01491 613223	
Neighbourhood Watch: Jola Miziniak	07917 676463	jolamiziniak7@gmail.com
Citizens Advice Oxfordshire	03444 111 444	caox.org.uk
The Maple Tree Children's Centre	01865 873916	mapletreecc@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Great Milton Neighbours Hall	01844 278415	
Great Milton Pavilion & Recreation Ground	01844 278116	
Great Milton Website		Carina.martin@gmail.com http://www.greatmilton.co.uk
Great Milton Bulletin	07554 516989	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

## In My Opinion...

On Saturday 15th September there was a major blockage on the main sewer in Great Milton; according to Thames Water it was caused by accumulated wet wipes and cooking fat. A garden near Lower End, as the lowest point along the road, then got smothered in sewage from overflowing manhole covers, which was very, very nasty as you can imagine!

Consider this a gentle reminder to people not to put things they shouldn't into the sewer system!

You will hopefully be pleased to hear that a local resident has offered to sponsor the front page of the Bulletin so we can revert to the ever changing photos rather than the advert that economics dictated we adopt. Thanks to Sue Morgan for understanding our desire to go back to the photo cover, and thanks to the resident for the sponsorship. In my opinion it will be more appealing to have the old photos back!

May I also take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole community, to thank Tash for her two years of hard graft running our pub, as she now steps down to take on the even harder role of grandmother!

And remember, don't let apathy rule...

*Steve Harrod, Chairman*

PS: Saturday 20 October is the day to join in the two hour clear up session in the churchyard, refreshments provided, lots of fresh air, a bargain!!



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## Draft Parish Notes

Present at the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 17 September were Cllrs. W Fox (Vice Chairman), P Allen, G Harris, G Bennet and P Fewell, plus Tim Darch (Clerk) and 8 members of the public. Apologies were received in advance from Cllrs Steve Harrod (Chairman) and Clyde Deacon.

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 23rd July 2018 were signed and approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

### Planning Applications

The following planning applications were considered.

P18/S2573/FUL (The Oxford Belfry London Road Milton Common). Construction of 4 Detached and 2 Semi-Detached Dwellings. The majority of this potential development site is in the Tiddington Parish Council area: it is understood

that both Tiddington PC and SODC may have concerns with certain elements of the application, but Great Milton Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to the plans in their current form.

P18/S2911/FUL (Land adjacent to Great Expectations, Milton Common). Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission P18/S0958/RM. In order to process with the appropriate plan revisions. (Remove carports, increase parking spaces, alter external materials, and modify hedging.) Approval for Reserved matters (Access, Layout, Scale, Appearance and landscaping) pursuant to outline application (P17/S4227/O) for the erection of up to eight dwellings with associated access, parking and amenity space (as amended by additional plans submitted on 31 May 2018 and 19 July 2018).

The Parish Council has NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

P18/S2622/DIS (Milton Lodge Lower End Great Milton), Discharge of condition 3(materials) on application refs. P14/S2708/LB & P14/S2675/FUL (Change of use to dwelling. Changes to structure. Additional windows and door. Chimney added). FOR REFERENCE: NO CONSULTATION ON DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS.

P18/S2738/DIS (The Bull, The Green, Great Milton). Discharge of conditions 3 (window & lantern) & 5 (balustrading & staircase details) of Planning Permission P17/S337/FUL dining room extension together with provision of external staircase to first floor flat and all associated works. FOR REFERENCE: NO CONSULTATION ON DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS.

P18/S2478/DIS (Yew Tree Cottage Lower End Great Milton). Discharge of conditions 5 - Landscaping Scheme & 6 - tree protection on application ref. P18/S1184/HH Demolition of an existing single-storey conservatory and erection of proposed 2-storey front and side extensions and single storey rear extension and outbuilding. FOR REFERENCE: NO CONSULTATION ON DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS.

The following planning decisions were reviewed.

P18/S1842/FUL (The Bull, The Green, Great Milton). Proposed decking behind pub to provide improved external drinking/dining option. Planning permission has been granted for this application.

P18/S0958/RM (Land on the South Side of London Road Adjacent to Great Expectations Milton Common). Approval for Reserved matters (Access, Layout, Scale, Appearance and landscaping) pursuant to outline application (P17/S4227/O) for the erection of up to eight dwellings with associated access, parking and amenity space (as amended by additional plans submitted on 31 May 2018 and 19 July 2018). Planning permission has been granted for this application.





P18/S2182/FUL (Welcome Break Oxford, Thame Road, Waterstock OX33 1LJ). Extension to existing HGV park and associated works. Planning permission has been granted for this application.

### **Financial Resolutions**

The following payments were authorised:

Tim Darch. Salary, Tax and Expenses. £437.11

Jonathan Dudley. Bulletin production July/August. £287.20/£287.20

Green and Growing. Grass cutting July/August. £558/£534

Oxford Animal Sanctuary (in lieu of internal auditor's expenses). £100

Wheatley Park School Prize Giving sponsorship. £50

Moore Stephens. External Audit. £240.

A full bank reconciliation and the quarterly accounts were received and the bank statements for July and August were signed.

Receipt of the External Auditor's report was noted. This raised no issues. Notices of Completion have been placed on the noticeboards and a scanned report uploaded to the website.

A requested donation of £90 (£30 per event) towards the cost of organising the village Freecycle events for the next year was agreed. It was suggested that perhaps the hire cost of the Pavilion for the event could be waived in future given its charitable nature and the benefit derived from it by reducing the number of items going to landfill. However, given dwindling income from the Pavilion the charge cannot be waived: it has therefore been suggested that the Freecycle committee seeks a grant from the Sheppard Trust for support beyond the next year.

### **Parish Clerk and Councillors' update of matters in hand**

Ownership of the telephone box has now been transferred to the Parish Council. Greenford Ltd has kindly offered to meet the cost of insurance and installation of a defibrillator and will repaint the telephone box in due course.

The Clerk has placed notices on cars parking at the Lower End bus stop reminding them that it continues to be used by school buses. Residents in the area are thanked for an apparent reduction in the use of the bus stop as a parking area.

Oxfordshire County Council has responded ambivalently to the Parish Council's suggestion of fencing off the area of land used for unofficial parking at the junction of the A40 and A329 at Milton Common. As the County Council owns the land there appears little more that can be done: the Parish Council has suggested that OCC may wish to pursue alternative options (such as direct discussions with SVS) but at this stage this appears unlikely.

The new modular classroom at the school has been successfully installed and is now

in use.

Discussion of whether parking on the greens should continue to be discouraged given increasing demands on roadside space was deferred to the next meeting.

Bob Hutton and Simon Turner from Greenford attended the meeting and received comments from local residents, who expressed varying degrees of concern at the appearance of The Yard. Mr Hutton said he would tidy up the area as much as was practical and Mr Turner stated that double stacking of containers would cease; however Mr Hutton warned that unfortunately some visual disturbance may remain, particularly when viewing The Yard from some neighbours' upstairs windows.

Parish Councils are being offered a free Tree of Remembrance as part of events to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice. After discussion it was agreed that a Rowan tree is currently favoured, to be located on The Green given its central location.

Concerns have been expressed that the cover of the Bulletin is now occupied by an advertisement, a course of action adopted by the Parish Council to help secure the future of the magazine as a 'physical' publication by generating additional revenue. After discussion a local resident offered to sponsor the front cover in its previous form (featuring a different photograph of local interest each month): the Parish Council is appreciative of this gesture and the cover will revert to its original guise immediately.

Requests have been received to make August the one 'no Bulletin' month per year, rather than September as present. The Parish Council agreed to further investigate this possibility.

### **Oxford-Cambridge Expressway**

The preferred corridor for the Expressway, conceived to improve connectivity and stimulate economic growth between Oxford and Cambridge, has been announced. 'Corridor B' is preferred, broadly corresponding with East-West Rail to the north of Oxford. The route around Oxford is yet to be decided: this could either be to the west of the city (likely via an improved A34), or to the east, possibly via a new road from the Didcot area to the M40. An eastern route looks likely to bring this new road very close to Great Milton, possibly in the form of a widened, upgraded A329 or a new road across the fields on either side of Sworford Lane. The Parish Council agreed to carefully monitor future developments and to request that the Chairman refers to the issue and publicises key sources of information in his next Bulletin column.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting of Great Milton Parish Council will be held on Monday 15th October starting at 7.30pm in The Pavilion.

## Services in Our Benefice for October

	<b>St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton</b>	<b>St. James's Little Milton</b>	<b>St. Peter's Great Haseley</b>
Sunday 7th <i>Trinity 19</i>	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Harvest Festival 3:00pm
Sunday 14th <i>Trinity 20</i>	Holy Communion CW United Service with Methodists 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am
Sunday 21st <i>Trinity 21</i>	Family Service United Service with Methodists 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am
Sunday 28th <i>Last Sunday after Trinity</i>	Benefice Communion 10:00am		

## Services in Our Benefice for November

	<b>St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton</b>	<b>St. James's Little Milton</b>	<b>St. Peter's Great Haseley</b>
Sunday 4th <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am

## Ramblings from the Rectory

The very public nature of my role required me to literally follow doctors orders and take a month off following my father's death, the lead up to which had been a very stressful time. I was very grateful for this, for the first two weeks I would have been incapable of doing anything publicly, for the last two weeks I was grateful that I didn't have to!

But I also felt guilty. I know was very fortunate to take this time off, many in the same situation I realise are not. I used the time well, Cath and I discovered something called weekends! On three of the four weekends that we had we went away to various good friends, and for the other we had friends come to us. I worked very hard starting to sort out my father's flat in Henley. I actually found this very cathartic and am glad



that we can now face the task ahead with some of the stuff done, it also in an odd way allowed me time for thought and what my father had meant to me, I felt very close to him alone in his flat.

In the final week, in the grip of another onslaught of guilt I received a very timely email. In it was a reference to what was thought to be a Jewish tradition.

“In a bereavement, for the first month it is normal and even good to feel sad, angry, desolate, deserted and just about any other emotion and also to cry, rant and rave. After the first month the feeling of loss is still there but the other feelings very gradually start to ease over several months”.

I have found this to be absolutely true, and that particular communication was helpful and timely. The first month of a bereavement and how we approach it is so important.

However, I have reflected that we don't do this at all well as a culture, particularly perhaps in the case of elderly parents who have died, after all, haven't they simply come to the end of the road? But not only parents, most people I think would not have the ability to take a significant time away from work, not even perhaps two weeks?

The father of a good friend of ours, a secondary school teacher, died earlier this year. Our friend was allowed by her headteacher to take time off on the day of his death and the day after to sort out death certificates and so on. Also, she could have the day of his funeral but that was it. Apart from these three days as far as her head was concerned it was business as usual and she had to stand in front of her sixth formers as if nothing had happened. But then I reflected that when my Mother died two and a half years ago I tried to carry on as normal. Some wiser person suggested seriously to me that I shouldn't, I didn't listen. That was a mistake.

We have hidden death away, sanitised it and for the most part many of do not experience first hand for many years what dying looks like and what it is like to be with someone who is dying. We do not therefore know what to do with grief and bereavement. We have no cultural markers or customs, we have lost the wisdom which will help us to navigate a path for ourselves through what is likely to be an emotional storm. For some, carrying on as normal might be the only thing they can do, for others to even try would be disastrous, For many though there is simply no choice and that will eventually have consequences.

As I write, just after the month has finished I am now fully back at my duties, and very happy to be so. I am so grateful for the really touching comments in cards sent by local people who might have only met my father a few times, that has meant a great deal to me. I am grateful for the email sent only a few days ago which essentially reminded me that it's alright to be on this journey, even for an elderly parent!

*Simon*

## Great Milton Methodist Church Services

For further info. please contact Rev Adam Stevenson on 01491 613223

October				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Comments
7th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Judy Turner-Smith	
14th	9:30am	St. Mary's	Sue Barratt/Simon Cronk	United Service & Holy Communion
21st	11:00am	St. Mary's		
28th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Alan Turner-Smith	

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## An Advent Event

On Saturday November 24th there will be an Advent Event morning between 10 and 12 at The Pine Lodge in Little Milton for primary school aged children with activities and a story based on the theme of Advent. Further details will follow in the November Newsletter but put the date in your diaries now to avoid any disappointment.

*Lucinda Arnold Lesley McCaig Sally Ann Dennis*

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## Eulogy of Cynthia Mavis D'Anger

Our reason for printing the eulogy is that many people attending the celebration of Cynthia's life on the 7th September were unable to hear, when church is full the voice does not carry. Tony has okayed it, so I will continue.

Cynthia Mavis Clements was born at Wheatley on 21st April 1940, first daughter to Ted and Gladys Clements. Cynth's sister, Pam, came along in 1948. Cynth, as most people called her, was a war-time baby. Soon after her birth Dad had to join up, as it was called in those days, he joined the 'Desert Rats'. That meant Cynth was on her own with Mum in her early years, so she used to visit Great Milton a lot and became very close to Sylvia, her cousin, and remained so, almost like sisters. Cynth's school days at Wheatley were happy ones. It's said she was very good in school plays, but one dread was PE, to be avoided at all costs!

Her first job was working for Martin & Silver in Thame and later, after the children had gone to school, she also worked with Tony at Turners in Wheatley as a telephonist. Cynth also spent 20 years working in Londis, Wheatley, and had a reputation of being

a bit of an agony aunt!

Cynth met Tony when she was just 15 years old early in 1955, but it was sometime before a date was made, not until the November later that year. They clicked and the rest is history. There was one fly in the ointment, when Tony was about to do his National Service, he did not want to lose her, so faithful as ever Cynth wrote to him every day until he came home.

They were married in October 1959 and first home was a little cottage on Chilworth Farm called 'Stockman's Cottage', uncanny as it was my and Sylvia's first home when we married in 1957. The children came along, Stefan in 1961 and Gary in 63, both born at Chilworth. 1967 saw Nicola born at Red Roofs.

During the last 60 odd years we holidayed together on many occasions, in the latter years it was caravan holidays. Cynth really enjoyed the caravan holidays. Then sometimes we would shoot off for the day down to Exmoor, leaving at dawn in the car, to finish up in a little NT orchard in Bossington and cook up a breakfast as soon as we arrived, Cynth would always lay the table. We would all enjoy a cream tea at Horner Woods Tea Garden before leaving for home. Cynth spoke of the memories many times.

A great fundraiser for many years, Cynth along with Tony organised many coffee mornings for MacMillan raising many hundreds of pounds. She loved the church and served the hot dogs that Tony cooked for the annual fete for many years.

One thing Cynth enjoyed was dressing up, we often made a foursome. Years ago on Hallowe'en Cynth dressed as a witch, a most unlikely person for a witch as you could imagine, always with a big smile.

Cynth loved her grand-children to bits, as she did the rest of her family.

It was almost 62 years ago that Cynth was our Chief Bridesmaid and Tony our Best Man. God bless and rest in peace Cynth, 'til we meet again.

(A much-loved person; a full church was testimony to that).

*LP*

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## Sheppard Trust

The next meeting of the Trustees of the Sheppard Trust will be held on 8th November 2018. Funds are available for distribution and applications are welcomed from groups/organisations who meet the criteria of being based in Great Milton, and benefitting the inhabitants of Great Milton. Please do not hesitate to apply. Applications should be sent to Jane Willis, Briarwood, Haseley Road, Little Milton, OX44 7QE, or emailed to [janewillis1@live.co.uk](mailto:janewillis1@live.co.uk) and should arrive by Monday 29th October 2018.

## Harvest Festival

What a great turn out on all fronts. Flower arrangers decorated the church beautifully, a lovely service was celebrated with our Methodist friends and others from further afield joining us, Abbie Adiri from the school organised a children's quartet to perform and all this culminated in our annual harvest lunch.

Over 40 people enjoyed a bring and share lunch with delicious offerings. Thank you so much to all those talented people who decorated the church (including Le Manoir) and to those who donated food and wine for the lunch. Thank you also to those who set and cleared up.

We donated all the fruit and vegetables (a car load) to O'Hanlon House Day Service. (Day services for rough sleepers, street drinkers & those who have recently been resettled. Housing advice, including referrals to longer term housing. Pre-tenancy & resettlement support from project's hostel staff. GP surgery and nurse Mon-Fri. Dentist weekly, chiropodist monthly. Harm reduction support, needle exchange. CPN & mental health team weekly. Showers, laundry, clothing, lunch).



All the other gifts and donations collected in the church and in the shop were given to The Porch which provides day long support for homeless and vulnerably housed people wanting to move forward in their lives, away from street-life and addiction.

Please note that we will be collecting again for The Porch at Christmas.

*Church Wardens*



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## Senior Citizens Party Committee

### Harvest Festival

Wow! Your generosity never ceases to amaze us.

Bearing in mind the extreme weather we had experienced we were fearing a shortage produce but hey-ho! We finished with the mind boggling total of £722.65 – an all time record! When I counted the money I couldn't believe the total, so counted it again to confirm!

So many people to thank for this wonderful effort: firstly, of course, to those who donated produce – pickles, jams, cakes etc. Also raffle prizes.

Thanks to Tony Jefferis for kindly deputising for Simon and conducting a very enjoyable Thanksgiving Service, supported by Bill Fox on his keyboard, the music being a new and very pleasant addition to the service. Thank you Bill.

Thank you once again to Les Preston for taking on the task of auctioneer – an exhausting role!

Obviously the biggest 'thank you' is to all of you who spent so generously and created such a wonderful atmosphere with the 'bidding wars'.

Last, but not least, thanks to our 'long time' judges John and Eileen Newell.

Our thanks to you all again.

*Ann Price, Secretary*

## **Oxfordshire Historic Churches Ride And Stride**

On Saturday 8th September a group of us from the village set out to do the sponsored bike ride around churches in Oxfordshire. Thankfully it was a nice day, and following a route that Graham Orriss had planned we set off at 10 am towards our own church of St Marys first, then onto Gt Haseley, Tetsworth, Lewknor, Chinnor Thame, and all village churches in between, finishing at Albury.

Nearly all the churches were open and provided refreshments, stopping at Lewknor where we had a nice welcome and a cup of coffee. Then lunch was taken at the community cafe in Chinnor, from where we pedalled on till we reached Great Milton at about 4pm.

We saw some lovely little churches 18 in all, all well cared for and heard the history and stories about many, from the volunteers manning the churches for the day, it really is a great days cycling not too arduous, only 30 miles, but with plenty of stops.

Our own church had 8 visitors, and was looking at its best for a wedding later in the afternoon, and was manned by Sally Lasson, Jane Jefferis and Trudy Timbs. We thank them for their time in acting as welcomers for the visitors.

We made a total of £271 for OHCT half of which we can keep towards our church.

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## **£67m Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme**

### **Are You Ready?**

Full fibre broadband connections offer the fastest and most reliable speeds available and the government is committed to a vision of a full fibre Britain. As part of this commitment in March 2018, a £67 million Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme was announced.

Gigabit vouchers can be used by small and medium sized businesses and the local communities surrounding them to contribute to the installation cost of a gigabit capable connection. Businesses can claim up to £3,000 against the cost of connection either individually or as part of a group project. Residents can benefit from the scheme as part of a group project, which also includes businesses and can claim for a voucher of up to a value of £500.

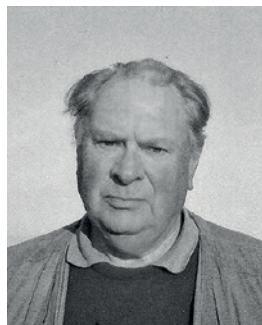
One gigabit is the same as 1,000 megabits – so it's a big leap forward in connection speeds that could benefit you and your business into the future.

For full details about whether you are eligible for a voucher and to connect you to a full fibre broadband supplier, visit: <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk>



## View From Views

Never can I remember such a trouble free harvest all done and dusted on a twinkle, with no wet grain needing drying or, loads of green weeds to cut and block machinery, all very straight forward. Having said that we had to be very careful with everything being so dry, not to allow any possibility of fire. As it was so hot, instead of having to dry wet grain, we had to cool it all down, as it was coming into store at over 30deg's c, if left would have heated up and eventually gone mouldy, (then possibly caught fire). There have been reports of some horrific fires, in fields both cut and uncut, we luckily escaped without incident. One such incident not far away a whole farm yard and house was lost, luckily only minor injuries to the occupants. As far as yields were concerned as I predicted they were down but not as badly as I thought, I reckon about 5-10%, we are pleasantly surprised also in that the quality seems to have held up, this is surprising as, the sample contains a large number of very small grains which would usually indicate poor quality. I think the answer to this could possibly be that the grains are just small not shriveled, we wait to with baited breath the final results, and the results and weights are revealed, the other plus is that at the moment the price is very good mainly due to the value of the pound. I can only guess as to why the results have turned out better than expected after a long cold wet winter, this could be due to the fact that up to end of May 2017 we had 200 mm rain whereas this year my records show 281mm nearly a 1/3 more.



Were we to get a herd Brexit my understanding according to the Farming press and elsewhere is that, in fact Agriculture should not suffer too badly, which is reassuring at a time of uncertainty. It appears most of the world particularly China is clamoring for British produce, as our food standards are recognized and admired worldwide, already our exports of food products are at an all-time high. The worry is that this will either put pressure on the price of food and/or suck in in cheaper substandard produce. (We Brits seem more concerned about the increase in the price of food than anything else, a recent chart shows that in fact we now spend approx. 8% on food whereas in 1950 it was about 28%). I also understand that industry as a whole is not too worried, as certain precautions have been taken to insure the flow of goods continues as there bound to be hiccups to begin with but, on the whole they do not seem to be too worried. To me this is really the main issue, as if business & trade is not too concerned then basically we do not have too much to be concerned about.

The results of the recent water quality test on the river carried out by



volunteers on behalf of the “River Thame Conservation Trust” (RTCT) showed there was, as suspected, an amount of Nitrate & Phosphate pollution. Some of this pollution is coming from agricultural land which is a worry to us and we need to take action before it is too late. No one can be sure of its origins but there are many theories as to the causes, one being that it could even be due to the acres of grassland ploughed up in the war and, not just run off from farmland, who knows? We must find out and do all we can to mitigate it. We know that some comes from sewage, particularly the Phosphates. As a result of all the various things the “RTCT” have been doing the Environmental agency restocked the Thame with many thousands of baby fish. See the “RTCT” website for further news as there is a lot going on.

My thoughts continually return to the “HS2 WHITE ELEPHANT” which I now understand is running well over budget, likely to be 60%, what’s new you might say, “Who cares”? I do as it’s our (“B”) money, we just laugh as typical Government ineptitude, how much longer are we going to allow this sort of mismanagement to continue, NHS is the same. Whilst my thoughts turned to this subject, I suddenly thought of my other hobby horse, Heathrow, and how inhuman it is to move people out of their homes or, impose noise and pollution on those who do not move but, live in the area affected, anyone would think we were at war. Then I had the brain wave (too late), I understand, we are or have been digging tunnels, for Cross Rail, now the new London sewer, and soon HS2. Not sure where the spoil will go, I think that it was/ is to be dumped out to sea. Why cannot all this spoil be used to build an Island in the Thames estuary to build a new purpose built Airport with all the infrastructure needed. We used to lead the world in civil engineering why not again lets be really innovative like we used to be, as the rest of the world has completed similar projects successfully. Above all this would give us a brilliant new building site with most of the infrastructure already in place, with no need for Chalgrove or Harrington then.

I seem to have said a lot but not much about the country side the fact is that at the moment all seems fairly quiet. The recent US case against Glyphosate needs more explanation I think I had better leave this for another issue, suffice to say it is not as bad as it sounds.

*Charles Peers*

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## **Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society**

The lack of rain this summer is still making its presence felt in the garden. While there has been the occasional spot of rain, there has not been enough to properly wet


the ground and we are continuing to lose plants.

We survived an ill-chosen holiday in Spain in August in the extreme heat with our children and grandchildren. Even the locals were suffering and I started to fantasise about the cold wet week we had spent in Sidmouth on our previous family holiday which is why we were in Spain! On our return, we found the garden very dry and, much to my surprise, all my Hebes were completely dead and brown; these are now out leaving yet more gaps and I think the garden will look very different next summer. I had not realised they were drought sensitive as they looked healthy and well when we left.

In the vegetable garden, we have had great success with carrots which we have grown in old bath tubs, a filing cabinet on its back and the old hot tub. We have watered these and have been rewarded with large sweet roots. The climbing French beans seem to have given up much earlier than usual, though. Onions are looking great and we have masses of aubergines on a plant I picked up in a garden centre and simply put in the bed in the man-greenhouse. The plant was riddled with red spider mite such that it seemed to have minimal functioning green tissue and yet still it formed huge fruits; I've no idea how. I need to sow some spinach which should give an early spring crop and I will try some elephant garlic this year.

Red spider mite has been a big issue this summer for a lot of people and the heat and dry have meant it has also flourished outside, particularly on Dahlias according to gardening friends which have not performed well this year. My Salvias have also not performed well and are generally much later flowering and I don't understand why. On Sunday I visited a garden in Bagshot devoted almost entirely to Salvias (for those of you who are RHS members there is an article about this garden in the September issue of *The Garden*). The garden was beautiful, but it has been a difficult summer with daily watering required and many plants being up to six weeks later flowering than usual. The owner commented that no amount of irrigation made up for lack of rain; somehow tap water just doesn't do the job. I would agree with that sentiment.

The other pest which is prominent in our garden is capsid bug which seems impossible to control without spraying which I am becoming less and less inclined to do. The Salvias have grown through it, but not so the tender Fuchsias which are only just starting to flower. I fear they may have to go.

Our compost heaps, of which there are four, are simply heaps which are periodically turned by my other half. They are relatively cool heaps so seed is not killed and we have to be very careful what we put on them and they take several years to rot down enough to use. One heap has produced a rather wonderful array of flowering plants including massive *Nicotiana sylvestris* with its huge leaves and white flowers. 

This is not quite the result we were aiming for, but they really have been gorgeous and we haven't had the heart to remove these plants as the seed is tiny and I find them hard to grow. In the past I have bought in small plants and they do freely seed in the garden, but generally too late to reach proper flowering size so this has been a real treat! I cannot recommend enough making the effort to make compost. All our new plants are planted in it with a helping of mycorrhizal fungi and it definitely absorbs water and makes them more drought tolerant which seems to be becoming more important as the years go by. I am certainly appreciating the cooler weather, but really look forward to some proper rain. Why are we never happy with what we have got?

*Liz Moyses*

For membership details (cost only £5 per family per year), please contact the membership secretary, Carys Lindsay • [caryselindsay@gmail.com](mailto:caryselindsay@gmail.com) • 07984250752

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Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society grew out of the "Dig for Victory" campaign during the Second World War. The main event in the Society's year has always been the Annual Produce Show traditionally held on the Saturday of the August Bank Holiday. There are competitive classes for the serious gardeners and bakers and many classes for those who would just like to have a go as well as a whole section for the children encouraging them to grow, bake, build and draw.



This year we held the show in Great Haseley Village Hall. Despite the difficult growing season, the hall was filled to the brim with fantastic exhibits ranging from flowers and vegetables to baked goods. The sunny weather, meant that the teas and delicious homemade cakes could be served in the street lending an enjoyable street party like atmosphere to the event. We would like to thank our volunteers and exhibitors for making it such a great event.

We normally hold the show in a large garden, kindly lent for the day by the home owners in one of the surrounding villages. It is a wonderful traditional affair crossing a country fete with a produce show held in a marquee. There is a brass band, traditional games such as skittles and Aunt Sally, a raffle, tombola and teas. Hence this year was a

departure from our regular format in a local garden as we had to downsize and hold the show in the hall, this is because we are lacking help in many areas: committee members, volunteers to set up and run the show, and numerous other not very arduous jobs.

We are particularly appealing to the younger community, to help, as many of us have been helping for numerous years and we would like to enthuse younger families to help us keep this very English tradition going. We would dearly like the show to continue, after all it has been going for 71 years in its current format and there is history of produce shows dating back to the Victorian era in the district.

If you feel that you can help in any way, even for an hour of so on the day, have any ideas about revitalising the show or society, or perhaps would like to join the Society (it is only £5 per family per year) and enter something in the show next year. We can promise you it is great fun and has a great spirit. If we can get volunteers to commit now for next August Bank holiday then we can assure the shows future, so please contact:

Louise Bird, Great Haseley, 07989 360127, [GHDHS\\_enquiries@outlook.com](mailto:GHDHS_enquiries@outlook.com).

OR Sally Orriss, Great Milton, Phone 279231, a member who is passionate about keeping the show going!!!

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## **Little Milton WI**

Thank you to Charlotte Haenlein for a wonderful insight in to her textile adventures along the Silk Route, with inspirational quilts, bags, wall hangings and silk paintings.

This month on Thursday September 11th we are learning about Medical Detection Dogs with Geoffrey Farrer-Brown and his dog, Peppa. Everyone welcome, visitors £4.

We are also hosting the Group meeting on Thursday 18th October. Come and try Bollywood Dancing with Betty Bloom Dance. Plus there's a prize for the best Bollywood outfit! Everyone welcome £3.

Do you live in Little Milton, Great Milton or The Haseleys, want to meet new people, make new friends? Then join Little Milton WI and meet like-minded, local women of all ages in an informal, friendly group.

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

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

Catering & Waitressing Service also available: Light lunches, Afternoon teas and Children's parties. Looking for help with your party or meeting? Contact us for a quote.

Like us at [www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge](https://www.facebook.com/lmpinelodge)

Details & news at [www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk)

Kath Stacey 279438 or email [littlemiltonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:littlemiltonwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

## **Wheatley Library – 01865 875267**

In August we had a very interesting and well received talk by Edward Hess on the Manor House here in Wheatley. Many thanks Edward! If there are other authors/poets/artists/musicians living in our area who would be interested in speaking at one of our regular events, please speak to staff at the library.

The Summer Reading Challenge was once again very popular with children: getting stickers to find clues, reading 6 books, doing a character hunt, and finally receiving a certificate, 'gold' medal and bracelet. This year for the first time we also had a Mini Reading Challenge, this was also very popular with the younger children receiving stickers and a 'gold' sticker at the end. Almost like the big kids.

As ever thank you thank you thank you to our volunteers who give some much of their time and are so vital to the library's continuation. We also would like to extend a very big thank you to all of you who donate books. At present about 25% of our adult fiction has been donated by you. The library would look very different without your contributions.

### **Dates to note:**

Saturday 29th September and Saturday 27th October

Ex-library stock book sale. 40p for a book or 3 for £1. Children's books are 20p each.

Wednesday 7th November

A talk by Paul Surman, poet and sceptic, on his latest book Places.

Refreshments will be provided.

Saturday 10th November

Jigsaw Swap event. Bring your old jigsaws to swap with some other puzzles.

Regular FOWL events:

On-going sale of donated books

Morning craft sessions weekly from 10-12

Evening craft sessions weekly from 7-9pm

There is a small charge for refreshments

From 10th September another FOWL event: Art in the Library Monday afternoons 3-5. To find out more pick up a leaflet at the library or go to [artwheatleylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:artwheatleylibrary@gmail.com)

Search for Friends of Wheatley Library on Facebook to know what is happening and when.



## News from The Pine Lodge

This month sees the return of the wonderful Clive Carroll in Concert on 20th. This year, we're excited to welcome local guitarist, Billy Watman, who will be the opening support act. Tickets available at Little Milton Shop and online, but buy them quick, they're selling fast.

### Regular activities include:

WI talk on Medical Detection Dogs on 11th at 7.30pm

Craft Club on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm (17th October)

Power Yoga with Hayley on Mondays at 9.15am

Yoga & Fitness with Yvonne on Mondays at 10.30am

Pilates with Lee on Wednesdays at 6pm and Fridays at 9.30am

Toddlersense, multi-sensory adventures for children on Thursdays 1015-1415

Adult Acting & Theatre sessions with Leone on Tuesdays 7-8.30pm

### Upcoming events:

WI Group meeting: Bollywood Dancing - Thursday 18th October 7.30pm

Clive Carroll Concert - Saturday 20th October 7.30pm

Fireworks - Saturday 3rd November 6pm

Bloodwise Craft Market - 10-11th November 10.30am-4pm

Quiz Night - 24 Nov, 19 Jan, 23 March & 18 May

Christmas Fayre - Saturday 1st December

Like us at [www.facebook.com/Impinelodge](http://www.facebook.com/Impinelodge)

Details & news at [www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk)

*Kath Stacey 279438 / Linda Lovegrove 279535*

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## Volunteering Grants are Available

### But Not for Too Long

Volunteering grants worth a total of £25,000 are still available to groups in South Oxfordshire, but time is running out to apply for them.

The money has been earmarked for community groups who have difficulties recruiting volunteers for financial reasons. The grant scheme was prompted by voluntary groups telling South Oxfordshire District Council that one of the biggest obstacles they face when trying to attract volunteers is finding money to meet training, transport and insurance costs.

In August the council launched a pilot volunteering grant scheme with a total of £25,000 to give away to help voluntary and community groups find the volunteers they need. 

Small voluntary groups in South Oxfordshire can apply for a new volunteering grant of between £250 to £750 to help cover costs, for example the costs of training as a sports coach or the costs of additional insurance needed to be a volunteer driver.

Cllr Lynn Lloyd, cabinet member for community services for South Oxfordshire District Council said: “Volunteers are the lifeblood of any community group – we know there are lots of people out there who want to help out in their local community, but sometimes the costs can be a barrier. We want to do everything we can to open those doors and give our local groups and charities the lift they need to help them continue to build thriving communities.”

The scheme will be run as a pilot in 2018/19 and depending on its success in improving the voluntary sector, councillors will decide whether to continue with it in the future.

The district council made a commitment in its Corporate Plan to provide additional support to voluntary and community groups to help them find the volunteers they need. The volunteering grant is the first of a range of exciting new projects underway to do that, and to help get communities working together to make life better in the district.

To find out more about the grant, eligibility and how to apply please see [southoxon.gov.uk/volunteering](http://southoxon.gov.uk/volunteering)

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## **The Flu Vaccination**

### **Who should have it and Why**

Flu vaccination is available every year on the NHS to help protect adults and children who are most at risk from flu and its complications.

Flu can be unpleasant, but if you are otherwise healthy it will usually clear up on its own within a week.

However, flu can be more severe in certain people, such as:

- Anyone aged 65 and over
- Pregnant Women
- Children and adults with an underlying health condition (such as long term heart or respiratory disease)
- Children and adults with weakened immune systems

The flu vaccine is routinely given on the NHS each year to anyone in these risk groups. It is the best protection we have against an unpredictable virus that can cause unpleasant illness in children and severe illness and death among at risk groups, including older people, pregnant women and those with an underlying medical health condition.

Morland House will be running Saturday flu clinics throughout the winter, starting Saturday 29th Sept. Please contact our reception team on 01865 872448 to book an appointment.

## John Howell MP writes...

Wherever you are in the constituency you have probably heard recent media reports on the proposed Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. For those communities near to potential routes I know that it has been on your minds for some time. The expressway is a major new road which will go across country to link Oxford and Cambridge via Milton Keynes. There are also calls for it to be extended to include Swindon at one end and the port of Ipswich at the other. The proposed new road is part of a much bigger national infrastructure project being coordinated by local councils and Local Enterprise Partnerships in the different counties from Oxfordshire to Cambridgeshire under the umbrella of England's Economic Heartland. Much of the preparatory work for this was completed by the National Infrastructure Commission. Transport, including East-West rail, is but one aspect of the overall project. The Chancellor has given his support for growth in this area with money earmarked in the last budget.

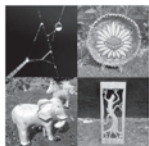
The recent media interest is as a result of the Minister announcing the 'corridor' within which the road will run. Until now three broad corridors had been identified. Narrowing this down is a step in the right direction. The corridor now selected is the one recommended by Highways England and will broadly follow the new East-West rail line, however details of the route within this broad corridor have yet to be determined. The next phase of work will include public consultation this.

I am pleased that the government has ruled out construction in the area of the Otmoor nature reserve in the north of this constituency but remain concerned that some areas of the Green Belt could still be at risk. Planning policy does not exclude road building in Green Belt areas but where there are alternatives we should use them. In the absence of alternative information to date I have taken the view that the route should utilise existing roads where possible.

It is anticipated that the new road will be ready for 2030. This may seem a long way off but there is much work to do before construction starts. The public consultation is critical. It will draw out many of the local detailed issues that will help finalise the route and will also identify related issues that need to be addressed.

With an infrastructure project of this magnitude there will be campaign groups working across the area. This is only to be expected and the views of all are an important part in the process. For my part I will seek to ensure that the voices of all who wish to raise a point are heard and that some are not drowned out by those who have greater means to get their voice heard. I have already met with a number of parish councils in potentially affected areas and will do so again with those likely to be affected in the announced corridor.

If you would like to know more about my please do look at my website [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com) which is regularly updated.



## CRAFT MARKET

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Adult £5 Child over 12 - £3

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**Saturday Nights**

**At 7.45pm**

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**or Melanie Scully 07990 985411**





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# Clive Carroll

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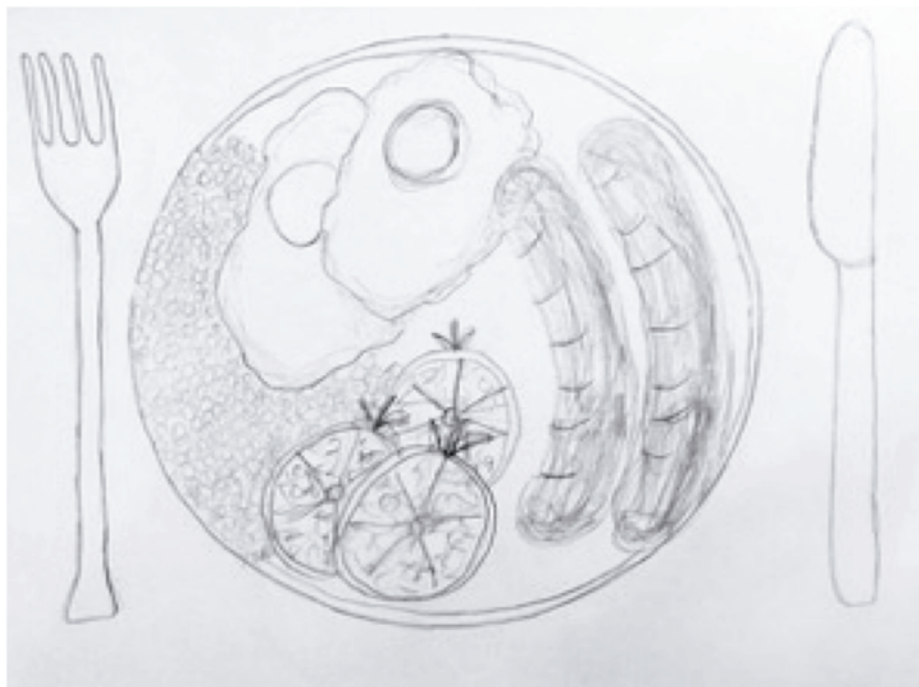
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**MENS BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**8.30am at FURLONG COTTAGE, LOWER END, GREAT MILTON**



**Following the very successful first Mens Breakfast it has been decided to have another! The date is now as above and the speaker is retired judge Chris Tyler whose topic will be**

**“Faith and the Law – an attraction of opposites”**

**All men are welcome. Please contact Cathy Cronk or Carol Ayton to book a place. Cathy on 01844 278349 or [cath.cronk@gmail.com](mailto:cath.cronk@gmail.com); Carol on 01844 278679 or [theaytons@me.com](mailto:theaytons@me.com)**

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£10 per session (drop-in) or £50 when you sign up for the full 6 weeks. No obligation: If, after the first class, you're unhappy with what you experience or it's not for you, get your money back. My name is Leone White. For more information, a discussion about the classes and whether they're right for you, or to sign up/drop-in, please contact me on 07445 059 001 or [leonejw@hotmail.com](mailto:leonejw@hotmail.com). You can also visit my website at [www.leonewhite.com](http://www.leonewhite.com).

## BULLETIN ADVERTISING

The Bulletin is produced 11 times per year and 360 copies are distributed. Advertising rates are as follows:

- 1/4 page (w62mm x h90mm) £5 or £50 per year**
- 1/2 page (w128mm x h90mm) £10 or £100 per year**
- Full page (w128mm x h185mm) £20 or £200 per year**
- Full back page colour £35 or £350 per year •**

Adverts for community or fund-raising events can have quarter page free. Larger sizes are charged at half the normal rate.

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## **The Great Pumpkin Hunt 20th October – 4th November**

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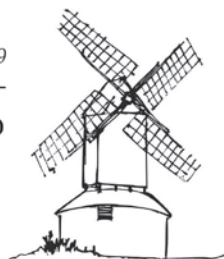
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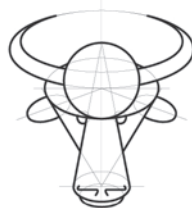
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# Diary

- Monday Power Vinyasa Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
*contact Hayley Bamford – 07825 794662. yogalizard.co.uk*  
 Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 7:30pm – 8:45pm  
*contact Yvonne Cartwright – 01844 279205*
- Tuesday Athletics Club. Year 8+. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.  
*enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*  
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact Ann Price – 01844 279474*
- Wednesday History Room Open at The Bull. 11:30am – 1:00pm  
 Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm
- Thursday Power Vinyasa Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 9:15am  
*contact Hayley Bamford – 07825 794662. yogalizard.co.uk*  
 The Neighbours Club. Alternate Thursdays. *contact Janet Earl – 01844 279432*  
 Sandy Lane Farm Market. 2:00pm – 6:30pm.  
*contact Sandy Lane Farm – 01844 279269 www.sandylanefarm.net*  
 Athletics Club. Year 4–7. 6:00–7:30pm. Horspath Sports & Athletics Ground.  
*enquiries.gmac@gmail.com*  
 Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pm  
*contact Daphne Holland – 01844 214198*  
 Bellringers – St. Mary's Church Tower. 7:30pm – 9:00pm  
*contact Pat Cox – 01844 279300. www.gm-bellringers.freeuk.com*
- Friday Toddler & Baby Group – The Neighbours Hall. 9:30am – 11:30am  
*For more information contact Olivia – oliviajhill@hotmail.com*
- Saturday Junior Sports – Recreation Ground. 5–11 years 10:00am – 12:00pm  
*contact Tash Groves – 01844 279637*  
 Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00pm.  
*Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090*  
 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm *contact David Spiers – 01844 218345*

## October

- |            |  |        |
|------------|--|--------|
| 11th Thurs | Neighbours Club: School Games  | 2:15pm |
| 13th Sat   | The Cutting Edge Big Band at The Neighbours Hall                         | 7:30pm |
| 15th Mon   | Parish Council Meeting in The Pavilion                                   | 7:30pm |
| 17th Wed   | Neighbours Club: Outing to Westonbirt National Arboretum                 | —      |
| 20th Sat   | Clive Carroll at The Pine Lodge, Little Milton                           | 7:30pm |
| 25th Thurs | Neighbours Club: Coins & Christianity by Graham Kirby (bring your coins) | 2:15pm |

## November

- |         |   |        |
|---------|---|--------|
| 2nd Fri | Music and Firework Spectacular in The Recreation Ground | 6:00pm |
| 3rd Sat | Firework Night at The Pine Lodge, Little Milton         | 6:00pm |

## December

- |         |  |        |
|---------|--|--------|
| 1st Sat | Mens Breakfast at Furlong Cottage, Lower End | 8:30am |
|---------|--|--------|

All copy (except adverts) to **[gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk)** by **20th October 2018.**

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