

Published by Little Milton Parish Council

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# Little Milton Newsletter



August 2019

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: AUGUST 2019

Thurs	1st	10.15 – 14.15	Toddlersense – Pine Lodge
Sun	4th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion CW St James'
Mon	5th	10.30 a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues	6th	11.00 a.m. 7.30- 9.00 p.m.	Chalgrove Age Concern – Pine Lodge Bell Ringing Practice – St James'
Wed	7th	9.45 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Babies and Toddlers Music Group: GH Pilates: Pine Lodge
Thurs	8th	10.15 – 14.15 7.30 p.m.	Toddlersense – Pine Lodge W.I. – Pine Lodge
Frid.	9th	9.30 a.m. 9.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge Great Haseley Baby and Toddler Group in Neighbours Hall Great Milton
Sun	11th	11.00 a.m.	Family Service – St James'
Mon	12th	10.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge Sewing Group: Spring Cottage
Tues	13th	11.00 a.m. 7.30 -9.00 p.m.	Chalgrove Age Concern – Pine Lodge Bell Ringing Practice – St James'
Wed	14th	9.45 a.m. 12.00 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Babies and Toddlers Music Group GH Village Lunch- The Lamb Pilates: Pine Lodge
Thurs	15th	10.15 – 14.15	Toddlersense – Pine Lodge
Frid.	16th	9.30 a.m. 9.30 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge Great Haseley Baby and Toddler Group in Neighbours Hall Great Milton
Sun	18th	8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion BCP St James'
Mon.	19th	10.30 a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues.	20th	11.00 a.m. 7.30 -9.00 p.m.	Chalgrove Age Concern – Pine Lodge Bell Ringing Practice – St James'
Wed	21st	9.45 a.m. 6.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	Babies and Toddlers Music Group GH Pilates: Pine Lodge Craft Club: Pine Lodge
Thurs	22nd	10.15 – 14.15	Toddlersense – Pine Lodge
Frid.	23rd	9.30 a.m. 9.45 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge Great Haseley Baby and Toddler Group in Neighbours Hall Great Milton
Sat	24th	2.00 p.m.	Great Haseley & District Horticultural Show
Sun	25th	10.00 a.m.	Benefice Communion: Rycote Chapel
Mon	26th	10.30 a.m.	Fitness/Yoga – Pine Lodge
Tues	27th	11.00 a.m. 7.30 -9.00 p.m.	Chalgrove Age Concern – Pine Lodge Bell Ringing Practice – St James'
Wed	28th	9.45 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Babies and Toddlers Music Group GH Pilates: Pine Lodge
Thurs	29th	10.15 – 14.15	Toddlersense – Pine Lodge
Frid	30th	9.30 a.m. 9.45 a.m.	Pilates: Pine Lodge Great Haseley Baby and Toddler Group in Neighbours Hall Great Milton

## **EXTRACTS FROM PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT MEETING 24th JULY 2019**

**(The minutes will be approved at the meeting held on 24th July 2019)**

The extract of the minutes of 24<sup>th</sup> July will be published in the September Newsletter

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on **Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 8.00 p.m. in the Pine Lodge**

Freedom of Information Act – Parish Council Publication Scheme the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) provides rights of public access to information held by Public Authorities. The Parish Council adopted a new publication scheme on 1st January 2009. A version of the Publication Scheme will be available on the Council Website [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk) Residents can see the 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.

### **Current Council members**

Councillor Alaric Smith ( Chairman)	01844 279993
Councillor Francois Van Der Merwe (Vice Chair)	01844 278180
Councillor Howard Harrison	01844 279946
Councillor Adam Sheppard	01844
Councillor Steve Sidhu	01844 279448
Councillor David Wakeling	01844 278014
Parish Clerk Raymond Fergusson	01844 279150 <a href="mailto:Imparishcouncil@btinternet.com">Imparishcouncil@btinternet.com</a>
County Councillor: Stephen Harrod	01844 278068
District Councillor Caroline Newton	01491 614662

### **SODC: WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT**

The minimum charge is £34 for up to 3 items and £7 for each additional item. There is a maximum of six items per collection day: if you have more than six, you'll need to book another collection day. Please note that a bed and mattress counts as 2 items and a three piece suite (consisting of 1 settee and 2 chairs) counts as 3 items. N.B. Payments by credit card are subject to a 1.36% surcharge.

**Before you contact us to book your bulky waste collection, have a good think about whether you have any other big items to dispose of. Once we have processed your booking, we are unable to make any alterations or add any other items – even if you have only booked one or two items.**

To arrange this service residents can call the Public Amenities Team on 01235 422406 or book on line from the Council's website [www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)

### **Give your furniture to a good home**

Have you considered donating your furniture to charity or a good home? Emmaus is an Oxford based charity that will come out to all areas of the county and collect unwanted furniture free of charge. Please [visit the Emmaus website](#) for more details.

### **BIFFA: WASTE COLLECTION DATES – AUGUST 2019**

	<b>Brown</b>	<b>Grey</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Food</b>
6th August	No	Yes	No	Yes
13th August	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
20th August	No	Yes	No	Yes
28th August ++	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

Changed date due to Bank Holiday

The Oxfordshire County Council Waste Recycling Centres at Redbridge, Drayton (near Abingdon) and Oakley Wood are open seven days a week including Bank Holidays from 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

### **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: CAROLINE NEWTON**

The main order of business at SODC remains the new administration's plans for the Local Plan (submitted on 29 March and awaiting inspection). At the time of writing, it seems likely that after much discussion of the options, Cabinet is likely to bring forward proposals to Full Council in the autumn.

The options under consideration by the Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet have stretched from leaving the emerging Local Plan unchanged to withdrawing it and starting again.

The first option (recommended by officers) seems unacceptable to the LD/Green administration as they collectively want reduce dramatically the number of houses to be built, and disagree with all the proposed strategic sites.

The fourth option is very risky as it leaves SODC with an increasingly outdated Local Plan for a number of years which puts us at risk of speculative applications.

Some measure of protection against speculative building seems to have been offered by recently published figures for housing supply which indicate a 9.7 year supply of sites. However the figures are less comforting in two or three years' time when, without the LP2034 as currently drafted, the land supply is projected to crash well below 5 years.

My opinion is that whereas the former administration reluctantly accepted the objectively assessed need, and added in our proportion of Oxford City's unmet need, the current administration seems to be relying on *wishing* the objectively assessed need to be lower, without the evidence to support it.

Some hope for lowering numbers can be found in the Inspectors of Oxford City's LP questioning its level of unmet need and that is something the inspectors of the SODC LP would take into account.

One of the costs of reducing the number of houses in the SODC LP is the loss of the Growth Deal (£215 million) and Houses and Infrastructure Fund (£218 million) for infrastructure both of which were awarded to Oxfordshire alongside the commitment to build the necessary houses. The Administration seem likely to propose at Full Council this Thursday (18 July) that it appeals to Government for agreement to keep that infrastructure funding even if it reduces the number of houses in the LP. It is unlikely that the Department of Housing will agree to this but that remains to be seen.

### **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEVE HARROD**

**NHS announces Oxfordshire will be part of new joined-up health and care system**  
Oxfordshire is to be part of a new 'integrated care systems' created by the NHS in England to improve health and social care services. The new joined up care system also covers Buckinghamshire and Berkshire West.

The NHS and local authorities in the three areas aim to deliver a person-centred vision for health and care services, making sure services are planned and delivered as locally as possible. Health and care organisations will work collectively to bring better health outcomes for people and ensure effort is not duplicated or resources wasted.

Following the announcement by the NHS, Cllr Ian Hudspeth, Leader of Oxfordshire County Council and Chairman of the Local Government Association's Community Wellbeing Board said:

“The move to integrated care across the country gives us the opportunity to really make a difference for our residents and communities. Locally, I’m convinced that working together in partnership with the NHS we will deliver huge benefits to the health and care system and will improve the health and wellbeing of Oxfordshire’s residents.”

### **About integrated care systems**

Local services can provide better and more joined-up care for patients when different organisations work together in this way. For staff, improved collaboration can help to make it easier to work with colleagues from other organisations. Integrated care systems can better understand data about local people’s health, allowing them to provide care that is tailored to individual needs.

By working alongside councils and drawing on the expertise of others such as local charities and community groups, the local authorities and the NHS can help people to live healthier lives for longer, and to stay out of hospital when they do not need to be there.

### **Moving forward with housing infrastructure funding bids**

Oxfordshire County Council is now concluding contract negotiations in the next few months to formally secure infrastructure funding relating to four strategic transport projects in the Didcot Garden Town area. This relates to our successful Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) £218 million bid announced in the Spring Statement.

The county council is also working with Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and Highways England to complete the clarification stage of its £102m HIF bid projects associated with the A40 between Witney and Oxford, known as the A40 smart corridor. Consultants acting on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council have submitted a planning application for a proposed park and ride site, located on the A40 north-west of Eynsham and the first components of the scheme, which aims to:

- Support jobs and housing growth and economic vitality;
- Reduce transport emissions and meet our obligations to Government;
- Protect, and where possible enhance Oxfordshire’s environment and improve quality of life
- Improve public health, air quality, safety and individual wellbeing.

We are hopeful of hearing the outcome of the bid in the next few months. If we are successful in this second HIF bid, it will mean we’ll have secured £535 million of infrastructure funding for Oxfordshire since signing the Growth Deal in just over a year. The Growth Deal is now in its second year of delivery and £30m of investment was achieved in the first year. Work is continuing to deliver infrastructure investment across over forty individual schemes in the County.

### **Major progress on improving Oxfordshire’s roads**

Repairs and improvements on Oxfordshire’s roads continue with more than 34,000 potholes repaired over the last year, a 45 per cent increase on the previous year - and there’s more major repairs to come over the summer.

The county council recently announced an extra £13m for road maintenance for this financial year on top of its existing £18.5m programme of work – this follows last year’s additional £12m boost. The strategy is paying off with 34,159 potholes repaired compared to 23,486 the year before.

This year’s additional money will be spent across Oxfordshire’s towns and villages on resurfacing, drainage, bridge repairs and footways.

Last year's extra cash saw more than 37 extra miles of road being resurfaced through a range of methods which also included surface dressing and micro-asphalting – both of which make road surfaces waterproof and extend their life.

### **Major investment in improving Oxford's Botley Road**

Oxfordshire County Council is planning to spend £9.1m on measures on Botley Road in Oxford that will include bus, cycle and pedestrian improvements. The plans include bus priority measures and major cycle improvements to create a safer and continuous route along the corridor. This includes changes to several junctions along the route, notably restricting access to some side roads, where there have been collisions with cyclists, and additional cycle lanes.

Also proposed is a more consistent and improved footpath, including additional crossings, which will benefit pedestrians. Surface repairs and improvements will be carried out to enhance the condition and ride quality of the road to benefit of all users.

Public consultation on the proposals has recently been completed. Construction is currently scheduled to start from spring 2020 with some advanced works from January 2020.

### **(NON) RAMBLINGS FROM THE RECTORY**

I am taking a month off from trying to come up with anything thought provoking or profound! I do want to wish those who might be taking a break away in August a happy and safe time. Cath and I and our dog Dylan have just returned from a holiday touring around Wales. We had a wonderful time visiting old haunts and discovering some new and I was able to bag one of the three thousand foot peaks in Snowdonia, Y Garn, via the aptly named Devil's kitchen! It was a great walk but the mountain sadly was in cloud at the top. Nonetheless it satisfied my desire to get up something high, and the views below the cloud base were of course spectacular.

I do though want to briefly plug something simple we are doing in August in Great Milton. Instead of the regular all age family service on 18th August we will be holding a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the Rectory Garden. Please see the details below. If people want to come and stay on for a proper picnic lunch from mid-day onwards they are most welcome to. This is open to all, young and old alike from all the villages. Should the weather not behave we will simply move to do something back in St Mary's.

Please do come along, and bring your Teddy Bear!

Also, there is a special Benefice Service on Sunday 25 August at Rycote Chapel. All are invited and if you haven't been before it is a lovely event in a wonderful and unique setting. We are very grateful to Bernard and Sarah Taylor for hosting us.

*Simon*

### **LITTLE MILTON FETE: MAIN DRAW**

The winner of the raffle prize of a vintage tea party for 6 was Angie Jones and the prize was sponsored by V & S Vintage Tea Parties.

If anyone is interested in having a tea party or you want to find out more information, please contact Sue on 07762664194

## **GREAT MILTON METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES- AUGUST**

**For further info. Please contact Rev Canon Dr Martin Wellings on 01865 243216**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Comments</b>
4th Aug	11.00 am	Great Milton	Paul Rosentall	
11th Aug	11.00 am	Great Milton	Judy Turner-Smith	
18th Aug	11.00 am		At Watlington	Holy Communion
25th Aug	11.00 am	Great Milton	John Anderson	Holy Communion

## **BENEFICE SERVICES AUGUST/SEPTEMBER**

	<b>GREAT MILTON St Mary's</b>	<b>LITTLE MILTON St James'</b>	<b>GREAT HASELEY St Peter's</b>
Sunday 4th August <b>Trinity 7</b>	Holy Communion BCP 8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW 9.30 a.m.	Family Service  11.00 a.m.
Sunday 11th August <b>Trinity 8</b>	Holy Communion CW 9.30 a.m.	Family Service  11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion BCP 8.00 a.m.
Sunday 18th August <b>Trinity 9</b>	Teddy Bear Picnic The Rectory Garden 11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion BCP 8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW 9.30 a.m.
Sunday 25th August <b>Trinity 10</b>	<b>BENEFICE</b>	<b>SERVICE AT CW 10.00 a.m.</b>	<b>RYCOTE</b>
Sunday 1st September <b>Trinity 11</b>	Holy Communion BCP 8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion CW 9.30 a.m.	Family Service  11.00 a.m.

## **CHURCH FLOWER ROTA FOR AUGUST**

W/E 4th August	—	Maggie Wheeler
W/E 11th August	-	Maggie Wheeler
W/E 18th August	—	TBA
W/E 25th August	-	TBA
W/E 1st September	-	TBA

## **CHURCH CLEANING ROTA FOR AUGUST**

W/E 4th August	—	Mrs E. Summers & Mrs Anne Hawkins
W/E 11th August	—	Mrs A Blagg/ Mrs C D'Aeth
W/E 18th August	—	Mrs M Davies & Mrs S A Dennis
W/E 25th August	—	Mrs L. Lovegrove/ Mrs C Coward

W/E 1st September	–	Mrs A Jones & Mrs Sarah Smith
<b><u>BELL RINGING PRACTICE FOR AUGUST</u></b>		
Tuesday 6th August	-	7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
<b>Sunday 11th August</b>	-	<b>10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.</b>
Tuesday 13th August	-	7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
Tuesday 20th August	-	No Ringing: Holy week
Tuesday 27th August	-	7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.
Tuesday 3rd September	-	7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

### **GRASS CUTTING AUGUST**

W/E 4th August	-	Dave Arnold
W/E 11th August	-	Raymond Fergusson
W/E 18th August	-	David Hawkins
W/E 25th August	-	Howard Harrison
W/E 1st September	-	David Arnold

## **Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust**



### **34th Sponsored Ride & Stride SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER**

#### **In aid of the Historic Churches Trust and St James' Church**

Our village has in the past participated in this above event. It is a very effective way of raising funds for our church and supporting the Historic Churches Trust. The number of Riders and Striders has sadly diminished over the years and the one rider (cyclist) last year is not able to participate this time.

Are there any riders or striders out there who could enter this year and take part? Sponsorship is almost guaranteed as our rider last year achieved a sponsorship total of over £200 without much effort. If you could walk around a few churches or better still cycle a few more could you please contact me for more details and then I will carry on making arrangements for our church to be manned. This is a national event and would prove to be an interesting trip for any participant. I await your calls!

*Anne Hawkins 279526 or e-mail [annemhawkins@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annemhawkins@hotmail.co.uk)*

### **SEWING GROUP**

Warmest thanks to Mary H for hosting eight of us last month... This month we're all meeting on Monday August 12<sup>th</sup> at Spring Cottage in the Haseley Road from 11.00 onwards. Please do telephone Sally Ann on 278029 by the 10<sup>th</sup> (or at the latest 11<sup>th</sup>) please for the catering numbers. Looking forward to welcoming anyone able to be with us.

*S.A. Dennis*



Want a fun night out in Little Milton?

Come and try our village

# **Quiz Night**

## **Saturday**

### **28<sup>th</sup> September**

**7pm @ The Pine Lodge**

**Ticket includes 2-course dinner**

**Licensed bar**

**Corkage £2 per bottle**

**Everyone welcome!**

**- On your own or in a team**

**Tickets £12 in advance at LM Shop**  
**£15 on the door**

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

News at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

## **QUIZ NIGHT**

The Village Hall Committee are looking for budding quiz-masters and this could be something that you would like to try. The quiz nights provide a lot of enjoyment and Mark Willis on 01844 279468 would be delighted to hear from you. You could share the quiz-master task with a friend.

## **VILLAGE LUNCH AT THE LAMB**

Our next lunch will be on Wednesday **14th August 2019**. Everyone is welcome including visitors to the Village so do try and come along. A two course menu £12. Please give Ian or Des a ring at the Lamb on 01844 279527.

## **FRIENDS OF WELLS FARM**

Wow what a July! I have been collecting records for BBOWT and the wider records organisations over the last few years for various species and one of the surveys covers butterflies at Wells Farm. July is always the best when it comes to numbers and this year's count was particularly successful. In fact, Chris and I counted 1075 on our 2.2 mile route! That is a record as far as I know and three times as many as last year's July count. Moreover, although we don't count bees (yet) there were also loads of them about too. So why do we have so many when the news is telling us they are in decline? One of the key reasons for loss (other than pesticides) is habitat. The BBOWT team have put a lot of effort into sowing and managing the fields to provide excellent habitat which is why we see carpets of vetch, hedgerows of knapweed and many other species when we walk around. So I hope you had a chance to enjoy the spectacle.

Nearly all (if not all) the livestock will have now gone to other reserves. Without them we would not have so many wild flowers here because they keep the grass down when put out to graze the fields at the right time. The BBOWT ponies are semi-wild and sometimes get nervous around pets so the Trust have to balance the needs of the wildlife, livestock and people. Signs clearly indicate that dogs (and other pets!) need to be kept on a lead. There are several routes open which pass around certain fields, particularly Barn field and if you wish to know more just reach out to me and I will be happy to point them out.

August is a time when the young animals are much more independent and venturing further away from the family. There is still time to watch our local Black Arrows (swifts) swooping and darting in formation around the houses, particularly in Chiltern View. Keep an eye out for Barn Owls at dusk and maybe a family of badgers on an evening excursion.

## **CHALGROVE AGE CONCERN**

As a result of work being done at Chalgrove Village Hall the regular Tuesday club day will be held in The Pine Lodge during the month of August.. This is a fantastic opportunity to call into the hall and enjoy a cup of coffee. You will be made most welcome.

## **VIEW FROM VIEWS**

It is at this time of year when all the glories of spring and early summer begin to disappear with plant life losing its bloom and lushness. What is fabulous is this year, after some 5 years the wildflowers we planted have been alive with a variety of butterflies, moths, and all other insects and invertebrates. It is a real joy to see that at last we may be making a difference to these important species.

By the time this is read some of our harvest will be gathered in and we shall have some idea what effect the weather has had on yield. I am still astonished how well all crops are looking, the weather now is critical. The rain in June must have helped a great deal but even up to then everything seemed to be in good heart. Now most crops look as if they will exceed all expectations, somehow this growing season has been plain sailing, as every time a task needed to be done it was possible to do it, never known this before. Probably as soon as the harvesters start to move the rain will start and never stop until all is safely gathered in (Murphy's Law). Not only has it been a good year for getting on with jobs but with being so dry there has been little or no disease, keeping our costs down.

There has been a lot in the press just lately about us having to care for the soil and that if we don't we only have another 50 or so years before disaster strikes. Whoever thought that we do not care about our soils must be mad, do they not think that we are not aware how important our natural resource is. We must not forget that farmers have tilled the soil in this area for 100's of years with yields ever increasing something we must have got something right. One could argue that one of the reasons for crops to be flourishing is due to soil conditions, so as another step to improving soil conditions we have this year grown all our crops without the use of a plough, as with the use of ever increasing size and weight of machinery subsoil was becoming compacted, this would affect drainage and not allow root penetration to any depth, which cannot be the case this season. Of course there are pressures on us to produce more and at less cost, so that the consumer can afford food, which in turn forces us down certain paths that perhaps may not be beneficial to either the health of the soil or the quality of the produce. I think though that farmers understand that this can only continue for a short while, and as soon as things seem to be going in the wrong direction we alter course.

There are suggestions that the big supermarkets will be installing green walls in their stores, these will grow types of veg and fruit artificially in the vertical, this means that you the customer will be able to pick your own whilst shopping, no plastic, or delivery charge, also you will know it's origin, probably will not be very tasty or have much nutritional value, but never mind it won't have been grown on land that can then be rewilded! We are constantly being bombarded with the theory that eating red meat is bad for the planet, this may be the case for meat that is produced intensively and not on grass, animals have been grazing this earth for a very long time and belching and everything else they do, it is the beef lots of North America that are the problem, it is not our animals eating grass that are the problem. We do though have to be careful, as the alternative to grazing/eating red meat is to grow vast acres of Maize and Soya, which requires a system of agriculture that is at the moment destroying the forests of South America, not sure this is the way we should go. We cannot get away from the fact that the biggest threat to the planet is the Human being as there are too many of us.

Interestingly I have just read a report in the agricultural press, where an Oxford Professor (must be right) has said that methane produced by animals will ultimately cool the atmosphere and that farmers had already played a big part in reducing it emissions, this is of course good news if it is true, nice to think we are doing something right for once. To be honest I do not understand his thinking.

Also by the time this is published we shall know if it is Boris or Jeremy (Hunt (I hope not the other)) one thing I would hope whoever it is can get a grip on the excesses of this life, the excessive pay that some seem to attract cannot be right, when we have people that cannot afford to put a roof over their heads or feed their children. With the country unable to provide the services we all need. No wonder there is unrest in the

population, probably at the root of knifings, littering, drug taking, stealing, and many others, creating a don't care attitude, you cannot blame some people saying why should I care someone else better off than I can pay for that etc! "This simply has to be tackled".

Recently I read or rather had read out to me, a piece from some country magazine that JCB, the tractor and digger manufacturer, had just beaten the land speed record for a tractor, over 100 MPH. Just what use this is remains to be seen, but the thought of a tractor doing 100 MPH over our fields, getting work done in next to no time at all makes the mind boggle.

*Charles Peers*

### **WELLS FARM ALLOTMENTS**

So has it been a good growing year so far? Well I guess it all depends on watering at this point. As I write, the well on the site has managed to keep up with demand through the dry spell and provided we all keep on top of the weeds it should be good for most things.

For those plots that have been neglected, please would the tenants at least cut things back to prevent seeds dispersing on to other plots. The agreement states that a percentage of the plot needs to be cultivated. If this does not happen, the plot may be given to someone on the waiting list next year.

I understand there have been issues with the mower, although when I last checked it was working very well. If you find any problems please feel free to reach out to me and I will work with others to try and resolve it. If you need any platters, there is a small first aid kit in the shed. Let me know if you use anything so I can replenish stocks.

Oh, and there should be lots of blackberries appearing this year along the path so should be a good year. According to my plant book there are over 300 sub species of our European bramble which explains why some have darker stems, others have different colour petals etc. They are actually related to roses ... hence the thorns I guess. Did you know that in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, people would brew strong ale from a mixture of blackberries, malt and hops and it was apparently very popular?

### **LITTLE MILTON WI**

Thank you to Claire for her very professional talk and demonstration about her printmaking business. The members were so inspired they booked straight on to a workshop at Claire's studio in Stadhampton. You can too at [www.linocutworkshops.com](http://www.linocutworkshops.com)

On **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August** we are planning a day trip to the **Bodleian Library** by minibus. Please let me know if you'd like to come as I'll need to book tickets and the bus.

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

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

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

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

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

# GREAT MILTON TUG OF WAR



**GT MILTON VS GT HASELEY VS LITTLE MILTON**  
**SAT AUGUST 31ST | 2 PM - LATE**

## The Village Green & Pub

Evening Entertainment Including Special Guest

EDWINA HAYES and Superstar DJ Niv Adiri

£10 Adults, Kids Free

Wristbands entitle dicounted drinks and food

**Fun for All the Family**

**Beer | Hogroast | Kids Entertainment**

**Money Goes to the Church Tower Fund**

### **URGENT**

If you are interested please contact Ian or Des at the Lamb. I understand there is both a ladies and gents team. **LITTLE MILTON NEEDS YOU!! Ed**

## **FRIENDS OF LITTLE MILTON SCHOOL- 200 CLUB**

### **JULY**

1st	No 9	Jean Preece	£10.00
2nd	No 28	Tan McCormick	£8.00
3rd	No 44	Val Coates	£6.00

*Diane Austin: Little Milton School 200 Club Organiser*

### **NEWS FROM THE PINE LODGE**

We're having a summer break from events in preparation for an autumn of quizzes, crafts, fireworks and new classes. Leone is back in September with weekly acting and theatre sessions for adults. Natasha from Toddler Sense is returning from maternity leave, plus we have a new advanced textile class with Amarjeet Nandhra (already sold out!).

There are still vacancies on the committee and we especially need a new treasurer. Are you a book-keeper or accountant who could spare some time to help us? Please contact us if you are interested in joining the committee or helping with events. No previous experience is needed.

#### **Regular activities include:**

Craft Club on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm (21 Aug)

Yoga & Fitness with Yvonne on Mondays at 10.30am

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

#### **Upcoming events:**

Horticultural Show - Saturday 24 August

Quiz Night - Saturday 28 September 7pm

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

Details & news on the Pine Lodge page at [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

**Melanie Kinghan 278774 / Linda Lovegrove 279535**

**[linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com](mailto:linda.pinelodge@yahoo.com)**

### **WHEATLEY LIBRARY**

Our Opera in an hour event was great fun for all who participated! Thank you, Roger for your time and energy. We will be having another later in the year. Keep an eye out for details.

#### **Dates to note:**

**Tuesdays at 16.00pm**

#### **Digital development.**

Gain a better understanding of digital terminology, the internet and general computer usage. You will be logged onto a simple online course that you can work through at your own pace.

#### **Book Trivia events**

**30 questions... How many can you answer?**

Follow Friends of Wheatley Library on Facebook or see in library for details.

**6<sup>th</sup> July – 9<sup>th</sup> September**

#### **Oxfordshire Reads**

Take a postcard, recommend a books and possibly win a prize.

## **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July – 14<sup>th</sup> September**

**\*Space Chase Summer Reading Challenge\* brought to you by the Reading Agency, the library service and Arts Council England.**

4 visits to the library, 6 books to the read.

We have lots of new books, crafts, characters, activities, prizes, stickers, collector folder and online game links!

Come and join in the challenge.

## **Wednesday 7 August**

### **Speaker event**

Jane Stubbs is the author of Thornfield Hall. It is the story of Jane Eyre, as told by the housekeeper, Mrs Fairfax. The original text is treated with respect; there are some additions but no alterations. To fit into the skin of Mrs Fairfax, Jane made the clothes the housekeeper might have worn, complete with underwear. Undressing the mannequin of Mrs Fairfax is a great ice-breaker for discussion. Jane is an experienced teacher and lecturer.

## **19<sup>th</sup> August**

### **Digital summer**

Details available in the library.

## **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August**

Ex-library stock book sale, 40p each or 3 for £1

## **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Ex-library stock book sale 40p each or 3 for £1

### **Regular Friends of Wheatley Library events:**

The regular groups will be taking a break over August with an additional craft group starting in September on Monday afternoons.

### **Wheatley Reading Group**

The Wheatley reading group has a few spaces available for anyone looking to join a group. The books they read cover a broad range of genres from thrillers to classics to non-fiction to light reads. There is always something to enjoy in each book and something to discuss at the meetings. If you are interested, please leave your details with a member of library staff and the group leader will get in contact with you.

### **Thanks all, staff and volunteers of Wheatley Library**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at Stanton St John, village hall car park, at 10am for a leisurely fairly level 5 mile walk with interesting countryside to Polecat End and Holly Wood. Pub stop at the end. Sorry, walk not suitable for dogs. 01865 358905 for details

## **THE LAMB**

### **NEXT QUIZ ON THURSDAY 1st AUGUST**

This is a fun quiz, **commencing at 8.00 pm**, comprising 5 rounds

General Knowledge

TV & Films

Sports

Picture Quiz

Music

Cost per person is £2, which will all go to prizes and teams are from 1 to 6 people

**You are invited to**  
**The Great Haseley and District**  
**Horticultural Society**  
**72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Show**



**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 2.00 p.m.**  
**The Pine Lodge, Little Milton,**  
**Teas, Raffle and Tombola**  
**Classes for all to enter.**  
**For schedules and entry forms:**  
**[ghdhs\\_enquiries@outlook.com](mailto:ghdhs_enquiries@outlook.com) Ph 07989 360127**



## **THAME & WHEATLEY RAMBLERS –AUGUST 2019**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August.** Meet at Ibstone Common at 10am for an 8 mile undulating walk through woods and common land. Past Idlecombe wood, the two villages of Turville and Fingest where we stop for picnic lunch, though pub may be available for a drink. Return past Gravesend, Twigside Bottom and Penley Wood. Bring a picnic. 01844 213608 for details.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at the Old Kiln, Nettlebed, at 10am for a 7 mile circular walk including the Nature Reserve and continuing up the valley towards Russell's Water and Park End. 01865 890829 for details.

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at Frieth, by the Church (please park considerately on the roadside) at 10am for an 8½ mile undulating walk through villages and along a stretch of the Chiltern Way. Leisurely lunch at the Barn or a picnic. Sorry, walk not suitable for dogs. 01844 213608 for details.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at Stadhampton, Crazy Bear Farm shop (park at far end of car park) at 10am for a leisurely 4 mile walk including historical trail through Ascott Park taking in the attractive parkland that was once part of the Dormer family estate. We finish with lunch at the Farm Shop café. 01844 213608 for details.

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at Cadmore End, Church Road opposite the school, at 10am for a 6 mile walk via Mousells Wood, Fingest, Turville, then up to the windmill on the way back to Cadmore End. Hills, woods and lovely views. 01865 423555 for details.

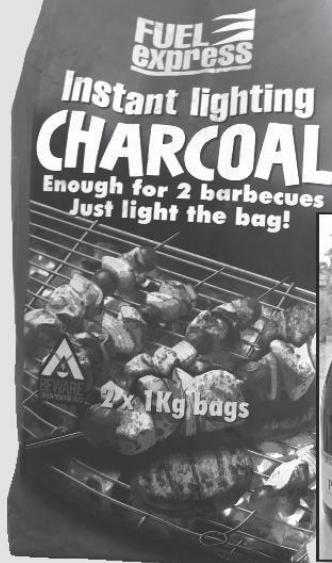
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August.** Meet at the Plough, Great Haseley at 10am for a 6 mile circular walk taking in Latchford. Please only park in the pub car park if you intend to have lunch there afterwards. 01844 213608 for details.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.** Meet at Middle Assendon in the layby near the Rainbow Inn at 10am for a 9 mile hilly scenic walk with three steep climbs and 12 stiles. Bring a picnic. 07986 189081 for details

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August.** Meet at Ewelme, Cow Common car park, at 10am for a 7 mile circular walk through Upperton and Brightwell Baldwin. Possible pub/café at the end of the walk. 07724 993328 for details.

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August.** Meet at Watlington Hill NT car park at 10am for a 14½ mile circular walk through beech woods, open farm land and chalk hills. From Christmas Common the route passes through Fingest, Turville, and Stonor Park before arriving back at Watlington Hill. Picnic lunch. Pub stop at the end. Sorry, walk not suitable for dogs. 07811 883552 for details

# BARBECUE!



## Holiday Cash and Everyday Banking at the Post Office!

You can do your Everyday Banking in the shop over the Post Office counter. It's a free way to access your high street bank account for personal and business customers. And get Euros on demand.

### Get involved

Contact us on 01844 279978  
or call into the Shop.

Visit our website:

[www.littlemiltonvillageshop.co.uk](http://www.littlemiltonvillageshop.co.uk)  
or [lmvs.co.uk](http://lmvs.co.uk)

and follow us on FACEBOOK.

Opening Hours	Shop	Cafe	Post Office
Monday to Friday	8:30am to 5:30pm	8:30am to 4:30pm	8:45am to 5:30pm
Saturdays	9:00am to 12:30pm	9:00am to 12:30pm	9:00am to 12:30pm
Sundays & Bank Holidays	Closed	Closed	Closed

Remember, your village shop will use any surplus profits to support your village projects.

## **LETTER FROM FRANCE**

### **SUMMERTIME IN FRANCE**

As I write this, this part of France has come alive. From the start of June, Every village, town and vineyard opens its doors and celebrates with feasts, fairs, and prodigious quantities of wine. My favourite is the Night Market in Duras, which is a village feast every Thursday evening, with stalls selling all kinds of cooked food, and all the local vineyards selling their wines by the bottle at supermarket prices. A large plate of paella for instance costs 10 Euros.

Last weekend our village decided to have a Fair, with Brass Band, a disco, and huge amounts of food and drink. My Moules Frites went down very well, although I didn't manage to stay to the end, which was 3 am.

### **THE VINES-DROUGHT!**

You may have seen on the news that France has been experiencing very hot weather-a record of 45.9C was recorded in one village in Vaucluse. Here it reached 40C, still extremely hot, and the dry spell has continued for over a month. This is ideal for established vines whose roots go very deep, but disastrous for my vines which are only a year old. So, I have been watering by hose daily. 6000 vines need a lot of water, so my water bill will be huge when it arrives, but needs must. My routine is to get up at 6am, and start watering at 7am, when the weather is cool. By 2pm the water coming through 200 metres of hosepipe is dangerously hot, warmed by the sun, so I stop then. Rather annoyingly, it is the pot grown vines which seem to be suffering most, whereas the bare rooted vines have established themselves more successfully and need less watering. If I had my time over again, I would have insisted on only bare rooted vines, but hindsight is a wonderful thing.

### **EUROPEAN ELECTIONS**

I watched the European Election results with interest, with Nigel Farage & his Brexit party getting 32% of the vote in the UK. France also has a FREXIT party, but they fared rather less well, with only 3% of the vote, so it is unlikely France will be exiting the EU anytime soon. I should also note that there were a significant number of ex-pat pensioners living in France and Spain who voted for Brexit, and have since seen their pensions drop by 18% following the fall in the value of £Sterling vs the Euro which took place immediately the Referendum Result became clear. Before the Referendum, the £ stood at 1.32 to the Euro, and is now down at 1.11. If a NO DEAL Brexit becomes a reality, it is likely to fall further, so we may see an exodus of pensioners moving back to the UK, their "LIFE IN THE SUN" rather sadly coming to an end, whether they voted for Brexit or not.

### **E10 PETROL**

My car is a diesel, but I have been puzzled by the marking of E10 on petrol pumps in France. It turns out that E10 stands for 10% Ethanol added to the petrol, which cuts carbon dioxide emissions from Petrol powered vehicles. Apparently the UK is one of the last countries in Europe to adopt this idea, but it has now come onto the agenda. France decided to adopt it in 2009, so has a 10 year start.

### **A DOWRY OF TREES**

When you travel through France, you often see clumps of trees, planted in a very symmetrical way. I always thought this was rather quaint, but never understood the reason for the plantation. It turns out that not long ago, if a daughter was borne to a family who possessed land, then these trees would be planted so that when she came of age and was married, the trees could be used as a dowry.

Rather nice idea !!!

A bientot!

Stuart McGill  
stuartmmcgill@gmail.com



### **Pension Credit entitles over-75s to free TV licence – Citizens Advice**

The BBC is planning to start charging over-75s for their TV licences unless they receive Pension Credit. Pension Credit is a benefit for people on low incomes who have reached the state retirement age.

Currently, those aged 75 or older receive free TV licences which cover them and anyone else they live with. However, as from June 2020, over-75s will be means tested for the free licence. It is thought that more than three million people will no longer be eligible to receive it.

But if you can provide evidence that you get Pension Credit, you can continue to receive a free TV licence. Over a million people who qualify for Pension Credit aren't claiming it, the government says, so it's worth checking your eligibility.

Call the Pension Credit claim line on 0800 991 234 Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to find out about your entitlement. Alternatively visit <https://www.gov.uk/pension-credit>

You'll need to quote your National Insurance number and be able to give details of your savings and pensions, as well as the account into which you want your Pension Credit paid.

If you live in a care home or sheltered housing you can get an Accommodation for Residential Care licence which costs £7.50. You only need this if you watch TV in your own separate accommodation.

If you need help understanding this change, telephone Citizens Advice Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or come and see us in person. For locations of offices and opening hours visit <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale>

### **GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

I have just reviewed my article for this time last year and found a similar period of very dry weather. Today, though, it has rained a significant amount and all the water butts are full again. Unfortunately, the complete lack of water stores on the veg patch means we have lost a number of sowings of young vegetables. Life should be easier for a few days now, but I note that temperatures are reaching into the thirties next week again so we will soon be short again.

I rather confidently told you last year that there was no need to worry about brown dead looking lawns and that they would soon green up again. In my experience lawns are always cured by the following spring. After the heat of last summer and a mild winter we had a lot of bare patches on the lawn which, despite several attempts at resowing, have still not greened up. We even bought new lawn seed in case the seed was dead, but to no avail. Maybe this rain will help.

I notice that the pests are settling in in the greenhouse again. Last year, as a result of my accident, we didn't get around to removing the sad looking aubergine plants which appeared to have no functioning green tissue. These plants carried on producing aubergines and when the weather cooled as autumn advanced, new fresh growth was produced and the aubergines just kept coming; a very impressive result indeed so I won't be in a rush to remove these plants when the inevitable red spider mite sets in. The aubergines are already cropping well this year.

Other survivors of last winter were some large specimen tender Fuchsias. I am looking forward to them flowering as I thought I had lost the whole lot. What a treat that will be.

This year, due to some losses through general neglect over the winter, I did have fewer plants in pots than is usual. I bought only two new plants, Marguerites which I can't resist. They will flower all summer if you keep up with the dead heading which, so far, I am managing to do. Summer bedding and colourful pots must be regularly dead headed, watered and fed to maintain a good show. I'm not great at keeping mixed pots going and prefer to have different plants which I can switch in and out as they look at their best and then look less good. However, it is not easy to move around large pots so some are on display for the duration of the summer.

This summer we seem to have lost all our plums, all our pears and virtually all our apples. The culprits, I think, are probably finches. This year they didn't eat the buds, but waited for flowers and tiny fruit. The birds also cleared the gooseberries while we were away. I picked some before we left and planned to pick the rest on our return, but they were all gone (probably about 7 to 8kg); normally the birds wait until they ripen so I can only assume they were desperate so I forgive them. On the positive side, our apricot tree had masses of flower in February and the fruit will be ripe very soon – I can't wait!

*Liz Moyses*

### **WHEATLEY VILLAGE ARCHIVE HISTORY GROUP**

The new Wheatley Village Archive website is up and running and proving very popular with residents – both current and also previous from far and near. Have you checked it out lately? Just type your enquiry into the search facility (in quotes if more than one word) and see what there is. Go to [www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk](http://www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk) for past details of your house, your road, past residents, past industries, the railway etc. We have recently had correspondence from an ex-Wheatley resident living in the USA who is filling some gaps in the history of the village for us from his time, as a child, living in the High Street. Perhaps you have photographs or something related to the village that we can scan and add to the archive for everyone to share. If so, then please contact the archives on [wheatleyvillagearchive@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvillagearchive@gmail.com) so it can be arranged to temporarily borrow, scan and then include these on the constantly expanding website. We're currently looking for a video/CD/DVD of the village production of Ruddigore – perhaps you have one?

The archive team are continuing the development of the Wheatley Heritage Trail for which we have received a Heritage Grant towards the cost of information boards to be

placed at points in the village accompanied by a leaflet with over 20 stops of interest.  
[Watch this space!](#)

The Wheatley Village Archive History Group (WVAHG) is growing in numbers and our programme starts with a trip to Abingdon Merchant House on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July and a talk about life in 19<sup>th</sup> century Oxford entitled 'Beer, Sausages and Marmalade' on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Do look out for details posted around the village especially for the trip to Abingdon at the beginning of July.

We're planning the 2020 calendar even before you've had your summer holidays! If you have any great photos of the village you'd like included then do get in touch.

Back to the archives, for those who'd rather see the real thing, all the archives are still accessible every Thursday in the Merry Bells 2-5pm and the last Saturday of the month 10-12. See you soon!

## **TALKS and TOURS**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019** – Speaker: Liz Woolley

'Beer, Sausages & Marmalade: food, drink, politics and tourism in C19th Oxford'

## **MAPLE TREE**

We attended the first ever Wheatley & Holton Play Day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July and this was a huge success! We met lots of lovely new people who enjoyed our activities which included hungry caterpillar necklaces, butterflies and making healthy wraps. What a fabulous day and well done to all concerned.

We were also thrilled to have been awarded a score of 5 after our recent Food Hygiene Inspection.



We continue to run throughout the summer holidays except for Thursday Stay & Play sessions, as we are out and about! See below for additional holiday sessions at The Maple Tree

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Age suitability</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Thurs 8 Aug 10-12noon	Stay & Play – Wheatley Rec	0-8 years	£2 per fam
Weds 14 Aug 12-1.30	Sling/Buggy Walk – meet outside Maple Tree	0-2	£2 per fam
Thurs 15 Aug 10-12noon	Stay & Play – Little Milton Rec	0-8 years	£2 per fam

Tues 20 Aug 1- 2.30pm	Holiday Maple Mini-Chefs – scone making (pre-booking essential)	0-8 years	£4 per child
Weds 21 Aug 12-1.30pm	Sling/Buggy Walk – meet outside Maple Tree	0-2	£2 per fam
Thurs 22 Aug 10-12noon	Stay & Play – Great Haseley Park	0-8 years	£2 per fam
Weds 28 Aug 12-1.30pm	Sling/Buggy Walk – meet outside Maple Tree	0-2	£2 per fam
Thurs 29 Aug 10-12noon	Stay & Play – Great Milton Park	0-8 years	£2 per fam

See our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/500731153419935/> or to volunteer, hire the MT or just for more information contact [hayley@mapletree.org.uk](mailto:hayley@mapletree.org.uk)

### **THAMES VALLEY POLICE OPEN DAY: SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

Join us at our annual Thames Valley Police (TVP) Open Day on Saturday 10 August at our training centre in Sulhamstead, between 10am and 4pm.

Our Roads Policing Unit, Forensic Investigations Unit, Contact Management team and Specialist Operations team are just a handful of over 50 exhibitors who will be attending to showcase their work.

Highlights include:

- Displays from our dogs section, our local search and rescue dogs and our public order team who have a new twist in store this year.
- The force helicopter will be dropping by with an opportunity for you to meet the pilots and grab a photo.
- 11 exciting talks throughout the day; find out what family liaison is, what it's like to answer the 999 and 101 calls, and learn about the history of Thames Valley Police.
- A fancy dress competition, dress in your best police themed costume to be in with a chance of winning a fantastic prize.
- Get involved in our scavenger hunt which will see you take a trip round our stalls to follow the clues and bring out your inner detective.
- Visit the museum and museum shop which will be celebrating its return to Sulhamstead.

As at previous events, TVP will also be raising funds for two worthy charities. This year the public's donations will go towards supporting PACT and Pilgrim Bandits.

Key Information:

- Car parking is available on a first come, first served basis.
- Assistance dogs are permitted to the event, other visitors with dogs will be turned away and dogs must not be left in vehicles.
- Bag searches will be taking place upon entry to the event.
- Entrance to the site is free.





# BUCKS COUNTY SHOW

**THURSDAY 29th AUGUST 2019**

**Bolddog Lings Free Style Motorcycle Display Team,  
Giant Tortoises, The Sheep Show and lots more**

**Over 200 Trade Stands along with the Best of British Livestock**

**WEEDON PARK (A413) AYLESBURY**

**'A great family day out'**



**01296 680400**

**BUY TICKETS ONLINE**  
**[buckscountyshow.co.uk](http://buckscountyshow.co.uk)**





**John Howell MP writes...**

**July 2019**

By the time this newsletter is published we will have a new Prime Minister and Parliament will probably be in recess. This is a time when MPs often take a holiday, as do many others. It is also a time when we can spend more time in our constituencies. I find it a good time to catch up with local meetings and spend more time out and about in the many villages across the constituency.

As I think of holidays I am sure many will be travelling abroad. With climate change high on our agenda the issue of CO2 emissions from aviation is a hot topic. Some people avoid travelling by air but for others this is not realistic. Some people look at carbon offsetting and I know that others find it difficult to know what to do for the best. As with all issues around climate change we need to tackle it on all fronts.

There is indeed a need for action at a global level to address CO2 emissions from aviation. Here I am pleased that Ministers are taking action to encourage the development and supply of lower carbon jet fuels. Amendments have been made to the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligations Order (RTFO) to include the use of sustainable alternative fuels in aviation. Further to this, £20 million has been made available through the National Productivity Investment Fund to leverage private sector investment to help develop and commercialise alternative fuels. This has the potential to reduce the carbon impact of aviation and heavy goods vehicles and capitalise on the industrial opportunities for growth and jobs.

This month the Committee on Climate Change published its Progress Report to Parliament. In it they welcome Parliament's decision to make 'net zero' law commenting that it is a positive step making carbon neutrality mainstream. The legislation has been brought forward by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and it puts the UK on track to become the first G7 country to legislate for net zero emissions. Other major economies are expected to follow suit. It is also good that young people will also have the chance to shape future climate policy through a Youth Steering Group which has been set up by Government and will be led by the British Youth Council. They will advise Government on priorities for environmental action and give a view on progress to date against existing commitments on climate, waste and recycling, and biodiversity loss. Of course tough targets do not, in themselves, reduce emissions. We need action plans to deliver the targets. Much needs to be done. I acknowledge that it is for Government to drive this forward and I agree entirely with the progress report that decisive cross-cutting action is needed.

Every step is progress and we should not be too quick to criticise. No should we feel overwhelmed by the challenge as I know some people do. Every action taken by an individual is a move in the right direction and we should not feel that it is too small. This is why I have welcomed initiatives such as Young Climate Warriors which encourages positive shared action. I know that there are several communities in the constituency where a climate action group has been set up. I would welcome knowing more about these so that we can encourage one another and share ideas.

More generally, if you have an issue or concern relating to Parliament which you would like to discuss you can email me at [howelljm@parliament.uk](mailto:howelljm@parliament.uk) or write to me at the House of Commons (House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA) or my constituency office (PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD).

If you would like to receive my periodic electronic newsletters, and briefings on specific issues, please email me asking to be subscribed. You can also follow me on Facebook [www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire](https://www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire) and on twitter @JHowellUK

For more information about my work both in Westminster and in the constituency please do visit my website, [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com), which is regularly updated. Further details of the work of Parliament is available on the parliament website at [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk).

*Printed and promoted by John Howell MP House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA*

**DEADLINE REMINDER** – Please note that unless articles are in the hands of the Editor by the **18th of the month** (unless otherwise stated), such articles will miss the scheduled Newsletter. The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Parish Council. All material for inclusion in the **September 2019** Newsletter should be with the Editor at 27 Chiltern View, Little Milton, by 8.00 p.m. on **18th August**. The Editor reserves the right not to print items submitted for publication and to edit those items, which are published

## **KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Age UK	01844 279238	Janet Betts
Citizens Advice Bureau	01844 214827	Thame & District
Church: St James	01844 278349	Rev. Simon Cronk
Doctors	01865 872448 111 0845 345 8995 999	Morland Surgery Out of Hours Service NHS Helpline Medical Emergencies
Little Milton Shop	01844 279978	Alison Shelton (Manager)
Little Milton School	01844 279310	Head: Ms Hannah Brown
Milk Deliveries	07773006485	A J Woods Ltd
MUGA	Bookings for the courts are made at the Post Office	
Neighbourhood Watch	01844 279468	Mark Willis
Newsletter	01844 279150	Raymond Fergusson (Editor)
OCC	01865 792422	All enquiries
Parish Council	01844 279993 01844 279150	Alaric Smith (Chair) Raymond Fergusson (Clerk)
Pine Lodge	01844 278774 01844 279535 0844 7255568	TBA (Chair) Linda Lovegrove (Bookings) 24/7 Call out service
Police	101	Thames Valley Police (Non-emergency)
Post Office	01844 279001	Alison Shelton (Postmistress)
Public Transport	01865 323201	Comet
SODC	01235 422422	All enquiries
Southern Electric	0800 0727 282	Emergency Number
Thames Water	0800 3169 800	Emergency Number
The Lamb	01844 279527	Ian & Des
Biffa (Verdant)	03000 610610	All enquiries

For all other numbers go to website [www.littlemilton.org.uk](http://www.littlemilton.org.uk)

*Cover Picture courtesy of Charles Peers*