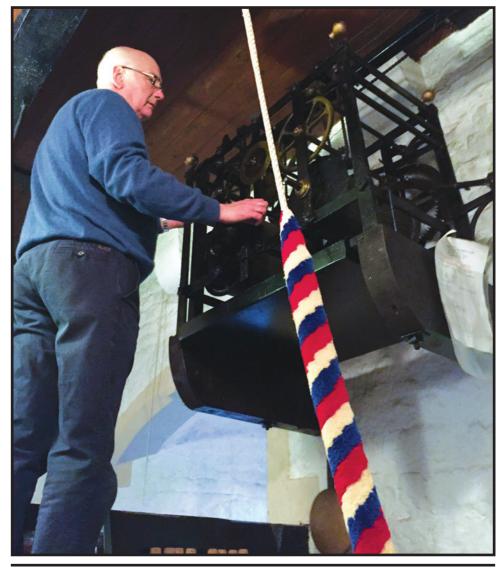


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Key Contacts:

Local Governance		
Oxfordshire County Council	01865 792422	Oxfordshire.gov.uk
South Oxfordshire District Council	01235 422422	Southoxon.gov.uk
District and County Councillor: Stephen Harrod	01844 278068	Stephen.Harrod@southoxon.gov.uk
Great Milton Parish Council Stephen Harrod (Chair) Clerk	01844 278068 07554 516989	contact@clerkgreatmilton.co.uk
Report potholes, fly-tipping, vandalism, broken paving		Fixmystreet.com
OCC Family Information Service	08452 262636	fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
OCC Highways	0845 310 1111	highway.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Missed Bin Collection	03000 610610	admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk
Bulky Household Waste Collection	01235 422406	waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Housing	01235 422422	housing@southandvale.gov.uk
SODC Planning Applications	01235 422600	planning@southoxon.gov.uk
Services		
Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance	999	
Police non-emergency	101	thamesvalley.police.uk
GP Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448	morland-house.co.uk
NHS non-emergency	111	nhs.uk
Gas Emergency	0800 111 999	nationalgrid.com/uk/safety/
Electricity Outage	0800 072 7282	sse.co.uk
Burst pipe or leak	0800 714 614	thameswater.co.uk
Floodline	0345 988 1188	gov.uk/check-flood-risk
Local information		
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 279474	
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...

The trials of the Thame/Wheatley Comet bus have been running with limited support, it has to be said, with four passengers on the first day, one on week two, and four on week three. There have been suggestions that this has not been widely advertised, although it is hard to see what else can be done, on top of putting the timetable in the Bulletin, in the shop and the pub!



One constructive suggestion has been to simplify the timetable and reduce the runs to simply going from Great Milton to Wheatley Surgery and back, enabling anyone to link up with the 280 and other services, a sensible suggestion in my opinion. We will implement this for the months of October and November, after which we will evaluate the usage and the feasibility of maintaining the service.

A further issue regarding the operation of the service is that the PC is not allowed to fund this directly, so a User Group has to be set up to manage the operation, separate from the PC. We therefore need a volunteer to head this user group and would suggest forming an orderly queue, or at least letting me or the parish clerk know if you are willing/able to do this.

In the meantime, please keep a copy of this page of the Bulletin with the new timetable (overleaf)!

Don't let apathy rule...

Steve Harrod, Chairman



Great Milton Comet: Timetable from Wednesday 4th October

Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1015	
Wheatley Bridge	1022	
Wheatley, bus stops adj. Ambrose Rise	1027	280 departs for Oxford 1031, for Thame 1033
Wheatley Surgery arr	1030	
Wheatley Surgery dep	1035	
Wheatley Bridge	1040	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1047	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1115	
Wheatley Bridge	1122	
Wheatley, bus stops adj. Ambrose Rise	1127	280 departs for Oxford 1131, for Thame 1137
Wheatley Surgery arr	1130	
Wheatley Surgery dep	1135	
Wheatley Bridge	1140	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1147	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1215	
Wheatley Bridge	1222	
Wheatley Surgery arr	1227	
Wheatley Surgery dep	1240	
Wheatley, bus stops adj. Ambrose Rise	1243	280 arrives from Oxford 1237, from Thame 1231
Wheatley Bridge	1248	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1255	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	1310	
Wheatley Bridge	1317	
Wheatley Surgery arr	1322	
Wheatley Surgery dep	1322	
Wheatley, bus stops adj. Ambrose Rise	1325	280 arrives from Oxford 1317, from Thame 1311
Wheatley Bridge	1330	
Great Milton, Pegswell Lane	R	

R - Returns to Great Milton if there are passengers on board

Parish Council Publication Scheme (Freedom of Information Act)

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

Chairman: Stephen Harrod

Ward: Church Road to Monkery Farm/The Priory

Vice Chairman: Bill Fox

Ward: Thame Road, inc Fullers Field and Green Hitchings

Councillor: Peter Fewell

Ward: The Green from Priory Bank to Tara/Applewood

Councillor: Clyde Deacon

Ward: High Street from North End Cottage to The Old Garage

Councillor: Malcolm Horsley

Ward: Thame Road from Green Hitchings to A329

Councillor: Gwen Harris

Ward: Kings Head House/Red Roofs to Wheatley Boundary

Councillor: Peter Allen
Ward: Milton Common

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Helen Cherry – 07554 516989 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: Lesley Bush, Liz Sands

Kent & Couling Charity: Cynthia D'Anger Sheppard Trust: Ann Price, Pat Cox

Front Cover

Graham the Tower Captain occasionally needs to fix and adjust St. Mary's clock. It's the oldest church turret clock in Oxfordshire, dating 1699. Photo: Stefan D'Anger.

Parish Council Notes

The September meeting of Great Milton Parish Council was chaired by Cllr Stephen Harrod, with Cllrs Bill Fox (Vice Chair), Peter Fewell and Clyde Deacon in attendance. Also present were Tim Darch (Clerk), Mr George Bennet and 6 members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllrs Gwen Harris and Peter Allen. The next meeting will be held on Monday 16 October at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been received:

Application Reference: P17/S3081/FUL. Crofts Furlong Farm, Lower End, Great Milton, OXFORD OX44 7NJ Construction of private tennis court.

It was RESOLVED to recommend refusal of this application on the grounds of encroachment on the Green Belt, dangerous precedent, change of use from agriculture and lack of public amenity.

Application Reference: P17/S3810/CC (OCC ref: R3.0064/17)

Planning application by Oxfordshire County Council for planning permission for the demolition of an existing one and a half classroom prefabricated modular building and the installation of a two classroom prefabricated modular building, to include drainage and creation of fire appliance hard-standing access where the existing prefabricated modular building is located at Great Milton (C Of E) Primary School, High Street, Great Milton, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX44 7NT

It was RESOLVED to fully support this application subject to the required progress on the renewal of leases being made.

Decisions on the following applications have been received from SODC:

Application No: P17/S0162/FUL. Orpwoods Farm Thame Road Great Milton OX44 7JD Change of use of part of building to B1 use. (As amended by e-mail from agent received 7 July 2017).

South Oxfordshire District Council hereby gives notice that planning permission is GRANTED for this application.

Application No: P17/S2051/HH. Tin Top House, Great Milton, OX44 7NR.

Detached timber clad garaging/store. South Oxfordshire District Council hereby gives notice that planning permission is REFUSED for this application.

Financial Resolutions

The council received a full bank reconciliation

The balance brought forward at 10 September 2017 was £29,545.13.

Receipts £18,954.28.

Payments -£8,326.62.

New Councillor

Cllr Malcolm Horsley has stepped down from the Parish Council. Following local advertisement of a vacancy George Bennet has been co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Bus service

The bus service will continue for a minimum of further two months following the current trial period, and will operate a revised route and timetable from October offering more trips to Wheatley Bridge from where travel to Thame and Oxford will be possible by connection with service 280. Continuation after November will be dependent upon usage and financial viability.

History Society

It was resolved to donate £150 to the History Society as a contribution towards the production costs of the revised 'Blakeston Survey'.

Footpath along Sworford Lane

The concept of a footpath was supported, although it was stated that the potential cost and lack of an obvious funding source was likely to be prohibitive. It was observed that the reintroduction of an attractive bus service may reduce the necessity for a footpath.

Other matters raised by members of the public

The path from Fullers Field to The Green was cleared of vegetation by Ian and Jan Melton, who were thanked for their hard work. This will be included in the village maintenance schedule from now on. It was reported that the one-way section of The Green was being ignored and that Thame Road needed resurfacing. Both matters will be reported to OCC Highways, with the suggestion that the road markings at the Thame Road junction are repainted and a HAMP survey of Thame Road is carried out.

Great Milton Methodist Church Services

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

Augu	August				
Date	Time	Church	Preacher	Detail	
1st	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Mr. Peter Honeyball		
8th	09:30am	St. Mary's	Rev. Simon Cronk Rev. Adam Stevenson	United Service	
15th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Rev. Adam Stevenson	Baptism	
22nd	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Mr. Paul Spray		
29th	11:00am	Gt. Milton	Dr. Alan Turner-Smith		

Services in Our Benefice for October

	St. Mary the Virgin Great Milton	St. James's Little Milton	St. Peter's Great Haseley
Sunday 1st Trinity 16	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Harvest Festival Service 3:30pm Bishop of Dorchester Rt. Rev. Colin Fletcher
Sunday 8th Trinity 17	United Service with GM Methodists 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am
Sunday 15th Trinity 18	Family Service 11:00am	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am
Sunday 22nd Trinity 19			Benefice Communion CW – 10:00am
Sunday 29th Last Sunday after Trinity	Benefice Communion CW – 10:00am	Compline Service 6:00pm	

Services in Our Benefice for November

	St. Mary the Virgin	St. James's	St. Peter's
	Great Milton	Little Milton	Great Haseley
Sunday 5th 4th Sunday before Advent	Holy Communion BCP 8:00am	Holy Communion CW 9:30am	Family Service 11:00am

From the Rectory

I am heading for my second anniversary of being the Rector here (Rector - Vicar, what's the difference? nothing really, just a historic detail which I am happy to bore anyone with who asks). I was instituted on 19th October. Anniversaries can be good things, times of celebration for birthdays and weddings (ours is also in October) they can of course be difficult things, times when we look back and remember especially those who are no longer with us.

Has much changed in this time, as far as the Church is concerned? Perhaps not,

a steady stroll rather than a quick dash. There is much to celebrate and I just love the atmosphere in our churches, their openness and flexibility with absolutely no complaint when new things are tried even if they don't always go so well! However I would be dishonest if I didn't admit that in some respects there has been disappointment. It would be fantastically unrealistic, not to say egotistical to expect that the doors of our churches would burst open simply because a new vicar (or rector) has arrived. Numbers remain small and yes, I do worry about the future. Our small congregations are really doing such good work to welcome families and children to the Church. Sometimes they actually come! When they do they get a fantastic welcome, and an act of worship with a lightness of touch, the service at Great Haseley at the beginning of September was exactly 35 minutes long. People really enjoyed themselves, there was I hope something to think about, and of course the obligatory cake to follow. We have had a bit of a bumper season for baptisms this year across all three parishes and I always encourage families to be involved and obviously hope they will, even occasionally. We are having conversations about how we might better keep in touch and support these families and whether what we do, given the constraints on resources we have as three small country churches is the right way forward? I cannot say that after twenty one years of having to do the job I am a huge fan of being a school governor! I am though in both village schools, although not very impressively I am afraid. However in all other respects I have really enjoyed making relationship with the local schools. Finding themes for assemblies is a real headache, and sometime I don't hit the mark, but I really enjoy visiting the schools and feeling in some small way a part of their life. At least there, the children do get something of the Christian message. For them that is their church and I tell myself that perhaps I shouldn't obsess so much that they don't come along with their families to the 'real' church on a Sunday!

One thing I have delighted in is being able to wander into our local pubs and feel accepted. I am not a person who seeks inevitably to 'bring the conversation round' but I am always happy to talk when asked about why I do what I do, I am also interested to find out why others do what they do? I have loved being part of these villages. However, i do have a frustration is that people see the local church perhaps as tea and cucumber sandwiches on the Vicarage lawn, lovely but basically irrelevant! Personally I would rather chew the cud over a pint and good honest conversation about how the world is and where in all of this might God fit into the picture? But I never force it.

And there lies the truth of what I feel called to do, simply, with others who see their involvement with the local church as a part of their christian commitment, to keep the rumour of God alive in world which seems to becoming increasingly deaf to that rumour. As I look back on another year one thing that has changed is the world

in which we live which has become a whole lot more unpredictable and precarious. Personally I think this might be the moment to open closed ears to that rumour!

From the registers

We celebrate the wedding of Rebecca Rogers and Peter Crook at St Mary's on Saturday 2 September.

We remember with thanksgiving the life of Pamela Haynes whose funeral was at St Mary's on 20 September.

Chruchwardens

St Mary's is indebted to Jane Jefferis for all the hard work she undertook as Churchwarden. Jane has now stood down from this and we are so grateful to Trudy Timbs who is taking up the vacancy and we are already appreciating the way in which she has taken on this role. We are also grateful to Clare Blakeway Philips who with her considerable experience and expertise is remaining as church warden.

Simon - October 2017.

Talking of keeping the rumour of God alive (although of course God doesn't actually need anyone to keep his rumour alive!) A couple of ladies in St Mary's, including my wife want to encourage the menfolk in some small way – including me! I feel utterly guilty as it really should be the menfolk who are doing this but they are arranging, with unapologetic gender stereotyping, a full English breakfast followed by a talk. Details below:

A couple of ladies in the church hope that some of our local men might enjoy having the occasional Saturday morning get together to enjoy a full English breakfast and also hear a talk with a broadly Christian theme! We would therefore like to invite you to the Ayton's at Furlong Cottage, Lower End on Saturday morning 21st October at 8.30am. After breakfast Tony Jefferis will talk about his work, especially his more recent projects in Gaza and Africa, and the faith that motivates him. If there is sufficient interest it is hoped that more breakfasts can then be planned.

All men are welcome and if you would like to come please let Cath Cronk cath.cronk@gmail.com 278349 or Carol Ayton theaytons@me.com 278679

We look forward to welcoming you!

The Neighbours Club

On the 3rd August we spent a very pleasant afternoon doing quizzes, chatting and drinking tea - nothing wrong with that!!

On Thursday the 10th August it was time for this month's outing. We went to Leamington Spa where we spent the morning and had lunch in their beautiful gardens, sadly the big glass restaurant we all remembered was closed so we had to be content with the Aviary Café. In the afternoon we went on to the Training Centre for Guide Dogs for the Blind which was only a short distance away on the edge of Leamington. We had a fantastic afternoon learning about these fabulous dogs and the amazing work which they do with people who have lost their sight. Some of us put on blindfolds and were guided round an obstacle course which was scary! Also available were various types of spectacles showing what it was like with peripheral vision, tunnel or part vision etc before being taken into a room and try to identify various objects in that room. We all now have an even greater respect for these amazing dogs who have the ability to give people their independence, and in fact their life back. An extremely enjoyable afternoon.

On the 17th August we had a lady from Reminiscence back with us and her subject this time was "A Day at the Seaside". It was really funny to see these people in their best bib and tucker paddling in the sea - some photos dating back to the 1800,s. We are now looking forward to a Fish and Chip Lunch on the 31st August at 1.00 p.m.

On the 6th September it was time for this month's outing when we set off for Newbury. We arrived earlier than we expected for lunch at Toby's Carvery However we spent a very pleasant hour of so drinking tea and coffee before lunch was served and an excellent lunch it was too. In the afternoon we boarded a horse-drawn boat on the Kennet and Avon Canal at Kintbury for a two-hour trip. Our horse's name was Monty and he was gorgeous. He plodded along at a very leisurely pace stopping every now and then for a nibble of some vegetation which took his fancy. We went as far as the lock where we got off and watched the boats going through the lock before jumping back on our boat to go through the lock ourselves. This was quite an experience to feel the boat gradually rising as the water filtered back in to bring it back up to the correct level. We then turned round and set off on our return journey to Kintbury. Monty was relieved of his harness and put back in his field but he put his head over the gate and watched very keenly to see if anyone had an apple for him. A lovely day.

On the 14th September it was our Harvest Festival. A basket of fruit was raffled and won by Kath and this raised £21.10. The rest of the produce was auctioned by Tony and, together with the raffle money, a total of £65 was raised which, as always, will be

sent to CLIC (cancer and leukaemia in children).

Our next meeting is on the 28th September when Liz Woolley will be coming to us for a talk and slides about the Parish of St Thomas the Martyr.

JCP

Forthcoming Events - October

Thurs 12th: Quizzes - 2:15pm

Wed 18th: Outing to Viridor Energy Recovery Facility at Ardley

and lunch at Weston-on-the-Green W.I.

Thurs 26th: Yvonne - 2:15pm

Harvest Festival

A very big thank you to all those who donated wonderful vegetables, flowers, fruit and dry goods for our Harvest Festival in St Marys Church on the week end of September 16th and 17th. A thank you also to those who came to help with the decorating, doing flower arrangements & keeping everyone supplied with tea and coffee, clearing up the mess and generally helping – a great team!

Thank you also to Jane Jeffries & her team for doing the lovely cream teas, which were much appreciated.

We were delighted to be able to make up small boxes of produce to give to some of our local villagers, as well as giving the non-perishable goods to The Porch, and the remaining 3 crates of fresh produce to the Gatehouse in Oxford, who provide meals for the homeless. As well as giving to these charities we raised over £400 for our church.

Many thanks, Sally Orriss









The Blakeston Survey was first produced 50 years ago, and was a record of some of the village buildings and inhabitants. It was later made available in book form, but was somewhat unwieldy and costly.

Fifty years on, the content is of historical importance and arguably of greater interest than originally envisioned.

The decision was made to publish a new edition in smaller format and at a reasonable price. This will shortly be available – more details next month.

Drop Everything!

This is one definitely NOT TO BE MISSED.

Brahms's magnificent, noble "German Requiem" always draws a crowd. Its sublime, radiant solos and majestic, dramatic choruses have, for almost 150 years moved and delighted audiences. That alone is reason enough to get along to a performance.

Add to this: the united voices of around 100 singers, many known personally to you; first class soloists - the wonderful Ann Mackay and stupendous Steven Henderson - known for their splendid renditions of the work; and an orchestral ensemble drawn from far and wide. Then you'll realise that a "perfect storm" of elements is coming together for a very special event. Great Milton & Wheatley Singers and Cumnor Choral Society are joining forces for this unique occasion, and putting their hearts and souls into making sure all the hard work counts.

As well as the Brahms, you'll hear readings and poetry, specifically chosen to honour "Remembrance", and spellbinding, moving solos, specifically selected for the evening.

So REMEMBER!

On Saturday November 11th, set a recording for "Strictly" and head for St Mary's, Thame at 7.30pm (better make it 7.00pm - you'll want a good seat). Then sit back and let the balm, angst and glorious waves of beautiful melody and sumptuous harmony wash over you, knowing that you're also supporting the "Centre for Cancer Immunology Research" and Oxford-based children's charity "Parasol".

Rehearsals have only just started, so if you want to join the singers for this fantastic event contact Kate Billimore 01844 339236 topcopykate@btinternet.com or just come along next Thursday 7:30pm to the Methodist Chapel in Great Milton.

Senior Citizens Party Committee

Harvest Festival

Wow! Your generosity never ceases to amaze us – proceeds totalling £577.90, the highest ever since the inception of the event in 1962. For the record, the proceeds of the first show totalled £16/1/0, of which £2/5/0 came from the raffle organised by my father.



Our thanks go to Simon Cronk for a very enjoyable Thanksgiving service to open the evening's activities, and to Les Preston for another sterling effort as auctioneer. Also thanks to Mick Hayes for transporting tables and chairs for us. Last, but not least, our judges, Eileen and John Newell, who have performed this task for more years than I care to remember!

The trophy for the highest number of points on the day went to the Noble family, after a close encounter with Ray and Val Plested – the difference being eight points.

To the 19 people who exhibited produce, those who kindly donated raffle prizes, and to all of you who spent so generously, our sincere thanks.

Ann Price, Treasurer

The Friends of Great Milton School

'100 Club'

Here is a list of all the recent prize winners of the FOGMS 100 Club – many congratulations to you all!

30 May	No 97	Helen Styles
6 June	No 59	Mrs J Jewell
13 June	No 72	Kelly Wing
20 June	No 78	Roz Guard
27 June	No 00	Anna Powell
4 July	No 10	Mrs E Newell
11 July	No 95	Mr P Denham
18 July	No 97	Helen Styles

Many thanks to all those who support this school fundraiser.

A big thank you to Ann Price for all her help in co-ordinating the draw at the Neighbours Hall and Christine Donnelly for her invaluable help with the prizes.

Keep Lucky!

Laura Putt, 100 Club Co-ordinator

Sheppard Trust

The next meeting of the Trustees of the Sheppard Trust will be on Thursday 12th October 2017. Limited funds are available for distribution and applications are welcomed. If your group/organisation meets 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 and should arrive by Thursday 5th October 2017.

Dear Editor

Could I just comment on the recently placed blue plaque for D'Arcy Dalton. One or two incorrect statements are made on the plaque – sorry to be a thorn in the side of the Field Paths Society. He was my near neighbour for many years 1960 – 80s. D'Arcy never lived at The Limes – he lived at Wyverns. It used to be called Constable Cottage

once upon a time and was the home of Mr and Mrs Frank Dearlove. The real Limes, now called Milton Lodge, was changed by a lady known as Mrs Gray. The house looks on to the Lower End road, opposite Close Cottages. It was also the home of Mr and Mrs Meadows who used to farm the land behind Red Roofs. Some of the older parishioners will remember Mr Meadows, late 30s-40s. He also ran a leather shop in the Oxford Covered Market. Another clue, the lime trees that grow just behind the wall of the big house.

The real problem is that once something is in print, or cast such as the plaque, it is taken as gospel and the truth. I feel history should be correct and not misleading.

Les Preston

Wheatley Scouts

Dear Editor.

I am writing as the new secretary to the Executive committee of the Wheatley Scouts and as so many of the Beavers/Cubs/Scouts are from Great Milton or go to GM school I wanted to write in the hope that someone would be able to consider the following volunteering as our new Group Scout Leader.

We've been without a GSL for over a year and we need one. It's an exciting opportunity to give some time to a great organisation and get unexpected rewards in return. We have just celebrated 50 years of Scouting in Wheatley. Our successful group is over-subscribed and would like to grow – possibly even move our HQ within the village.

We're looking for someone who will enjoy managing a group of dedicated and enthusiastic section leaders. No Previous Scouting experience is needed, the role could be uniformed or non-uniformed

Full training, coaching and mentoring is available with a route to membership of Institute of Leadership and Management.

We'd expect the role to take 8-10 hours per month and administrative assistance would be available

The GSL is akin to an Executive Chairman - supporting and guiding the section leaders and reporting to the District Commissioner and Group Executive Committee

If you're interested please get some more information from our Group Exec Chair Graham (gjay.mobile@gmail.com) or Group Exec Secretary Bea (beckylycett@hotmail.com)

Oxford Historic Churches Trust Ride and stride 2017!

Yet again, Great Milton's intrepid cyclists set off to participate in the Ride and Stride, led by Bill Fox. We had also a couple of Striders taking in the Oxford churches. By chance we met up with the Peers's farm contingent on their tractors in Warborough and Dorchester. The cyclists covered approximately 40 miles and 22 churches (Lewknor, Watlington and



Dorchester loop). Despite a terrible weather forecast, we had perfect cycling conditions with only one downpour. Not all the sponsorship money is in yet but we should have made about £300 which is great for the OHCT with half going to our church. Thank you to all the participants, sponsors and those who were on the welcoming rota in our church.

Clare Blakeway-Phillips



View from Views

Harvest is well and truly over now, it has not been what one could say a happy or straight forward one, rather long and drawn out/frustrating costly with less than expected outcomes. Actually when those of my age look back it has not been anything like as long as it used to be, I can remember as a child that the whole of the summer holidays (8 weeks then if my memory serves me correctly), the whole of which



was taken up with the Harvest process, firstly it was cut, before it was truly ripe, tied into sheaves stood up in shocks/stooks or whatever the locality called them to ripen for some three weeks, then carted to a rick/stack ready for threshing out at a later date. These stacks could then either be threshed straight away or left until the winter when there was more time, if this was the case these stacks would have to be thatched and made water tight. Threshing was carried out mainly by contractors teams that would travel from farm to farm pulling all their equipment behind steam engines, this of course was an occasion for great gatherings on farms where the Farmers wife would cook up great feasts for all the workers while they were on the farm, and I guess that is where Harvest festival tradition started from, never happened on our farm as we had our own thresher which was powered by a tractor.

Readers could be excused for asking the question why is he going on so about Harvest as though it is the be all and end all of everything, in years past it was everything to everyone that is why the summer school holidays are the longest, part of tradition, so the children could help in the harvest fields. To us Farmers it is the end of a year's toil, to some their main and only income for the next year, so it is a period of intense labour and stress. Grain harvest is the one always thought of as the main one we think of, as most farms would have had grain, the other harvests such as potatoes, veg, and fruit soft and hard being others, these would only make up a small part of a Farm's income, now this is all different as these smaller crops are now grown by specialists on much larger scales than ever before, and the smaller ones only on a very small scale, mainly because of the costs involved, and only produced by one man bands who don't have labour to pay, thus do not cost their own labour. Of course this has all changed now as it is all over in double quick time, machinery has improved so fast even in say the last 3 to 5 years. Also now it is all automated, nonetheless the pressure is still on, now being over so quickly makes me think back over my working years, I remember one of my first harvests working with my father at Chiselhampton in the early 60's we finished cutting in August, he got out the Champaign never heard of before,

then here at Views it would take us only 3 weeks of working days, but now 3 actual working days.

The results of this year's harvest are not great due to a series of factors. Having said that the Rape has not been too bad being cut before the wet changeable weather started, as with some of the autumn planted Barleys coming to harvest early the same applied. However the later crops such as autumn planted Wheat and spring planted Barley suffered. The Wheat as I think I reported at the time suffered, and died off during that dry period, producing a lot of shrivelled grains which will reduce the bulk weight, and thus in turn gives much lower quality grain reducing the end price. The barley was good but because the wet weather delayed the cutting date by some weeks, caused it to be over ripe and the straw being much weaker the grain was too heavy for it to remain standing, this meant it broke off, or as we say brackled down meaning it was not possible to get down low enough to gather, and consequently about half of it was cut off and left in the field, the net result was something like half the crop yield.

Chlorine in Chickens as I suggested some months ago is just the sort of problem that we will face in all our negotiations for free trade etc, if we wish free access to other countries we will have to give their products free entry to ours. US Chickens are 21% cheaper than ours we are told, this could immediately wipe out our national table bird industry, can we let this happen? I guess these US chickens are perfectly safe to eat as I have not heard of any health issues as a result, I also gather it is not uncommon in the US to pump water into their chickens to increase their weight.

It looks as if Michael Gove Is taking his new position, as DEFRA secretary, seriously so far, as he is saying, in order for the tax payer to understand why we need subsidies, and for us to earn this part of our income, we should be producing what the public wants, as long as it is done in such a way as we all understand what we are doing and to whose benefit, then I cannot disagree. The arguments that the large landowner gets thousands

in subsidies, my reaction is they have the same costs per acre, as we who get a miniscule amount compered, except they do benefit from the economy of scale, but otherwise have the same pressure as we smaller producers, and we must not forget that we all benefit from extremely low prices for our food when compared with the costs and risks involved in producing.





Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society

In mid-September, it is already feeling like winter is closing in with low temperatures and very dull weather with a lot of rain. We seem to have had alternating high temperatures with drought conditions and periods of cool with a lot of rain throughout the summer. The vegetable garden has particularly suffered as all the water we have is collected rain water; when it doesn't rain for six weeks, we have to carry water some distance which is very hard work. At least in the garden, we can use a hose when needs must, but this has not been often this summer, fortunately.

Our beloved meadow has really suffered this year as we have still not managed to get the hay cut. The person who usually cuts it has not been available and ever since I found someone else who wanted the hay, there have not been the four rain-free days he requires for the job. Sadly, I think it will have to be simply cut and left in-situ which is unfortunate. Cultivation of a species-rich wild flower meadow requires the reduction of fertility by removing the hay. This will set us back, but there is nothing we can do about it.

The recent poor weather through August and September seems to have slowed flowering on later flowering plants. I have some very healthy-looking Cosmos plants (thank you, Pat!) which are mostly only just starting to develop flower buds. This is very unusual. The most dramatic change in plant behaviour is that of a mature Lemon Verbena which is a beautiful lemon sherbet-smelling herb. It is tender, but for some reason it likes its spot outside our back door and comes back every year. Usually I have a constant fight all summer to stop it flowering in order to keep the leaves young and tender; currently it looks very healthy and is about eight feet tall with no sign of flowering at all. My Fuchsia collection are also mostly just getting going with flowering. I wonder how far away the first frost is?

In the meantime, I have been busy taking out plants I have fallen out with; these include a Clerodendron with really unusual flowers in autumn, but which, this summer, has displayed an extremely worrying ambition to take over the world. My better half kindly dug out the most stubborn bits. I always take the view that death of plants in the garden represents an opportunity for buying something new (I buy very few plants these days). A trip to a nursery in Great Missenden has resulted in the purchase of several unfamiliar plants at very reasonable prices compared to large garden centres; I will return. It remains to be seen whether the fact that they are uncommon means they are no good!

In the greenhouse, I am harvesting the last of the tomatoes and taking cuttings from favourite tender plants. I usually take cuttings in the spring, but have

decided to try September in order to have good sized plants for next spring; I saw the result of September cuttings in a beautiful private garden in Berkshire and was impressed enough to try. I also need to take cuttings of a Lavender which we have growing in two small hedges. Two plants did not overwinter so I need to replace them with identical plants. If I have more losses this winter (I suspect from too much wet) I will remove the rest of the plants and have a rethink.

There is always something new to try and new to learn in the garden and the garden never stands still and is never finished. I am constantly surprised by unintended planting combinations; that is the beauty of gardening.

Liz Moyses

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

Wheatley Library and Friends Group

Dates to note:

Wednesday 18th October 10:30

Sips, smile and sonnets

A few friends will be reading a contrasting pair of sonnets each. Chat and refreshments will follow

Wednesday 1st November 10:30

Anne Ledwith will be telling us about the lives of a few Wheatley residents who were sent to war. Poppies will be available in the library.

Friday 1st December 4pm-8pm

Book and Craft sale

Regular Friends of Wheatley Library events:

Morning craft sessions weekly

Evening Craft sessions monthly

Drawing group weekly during term time

Coffee mornings monthly

Computer Buddy sessions fortnightly

Author talks every 3 months

Volunteers

Thank you to all those who have committed their free time to supporting the library in one form or another. Currently we need a Saturday volunteer. At most it would be 3.5 hours twice a month and at least it would be 1 hour twice a month. If you feel

able to commit that time to the library or would like to know more please talk to staff. **Book club**

One of the book clubs based at our library has space for a few members. Please speak to staff if you are interested.

Oxfordshire County Council

DIY 1,2,3 for free scheme's changing

The current scheme which has been running at their Household Waste Recycling Centres for 15 years allowed residents to deposit up to three DIY waste items for free before being charged a small fee of £1 for each additional item.

From the 1st October 2017 this changes to a small fixed fee per item of £1.50 for most non-household or DIY items.

Residents can still deposit household waste for free at their local Household Waste Recycling Centre.

More information about the changes can be found online at www.oxfordshire.gov. uk/chargeablewaste



ST MARY'S MENS BREAKFAST SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER 2017



A couple of ladies in the church hope that some of our local men might enjoy having the occasional Saturday morning get together to enjoy a full English breakfast and also hear a talk with a broadly Christian theme! We would therefore like to invite you to the Ayton's at Furlong Cottage, Lower End on Saturday morning 21st October at 8.30am. After breakfast Tony Jefferis will talk about his work, especially his more recent projects in Gaza and Africa, and the faith that motivates him. If there is sufficient interest it is hoped that more breakfasts can then be planned.

All men are welcome and if you would like to come please contact

Cath Cronk cath.cronk@gmail.com 278349 or

Carol Ayton theaytons@me.com 278679

We look forward to welcoming you!



Rights of Way Restoring the Record



Free workshops for rights of way enthusiasts...

Acknowledged experts, Phil Wadey and Sarah Bucks, will be presenting two workshops based on their book 'Rights of Way - Restoring the Record'. The aim of these training events is to enthuse, enable and empower rights of way researchers to make definitive map modification order applications to ensure that rights that would be estimulative in 2028 are saved for future generations to use.

The day will concentrate on identifying routes, the key sources of evidence of historic ways, where that information is located, what it can tell us, and how a systematic research method can be employed to undertake this work.



18 November 2017 Henley Town Hall, Henley On Thames, Oxon, RG9 2AQ Bookings & enquiries to Ellen Froggatt, e: ellenfroggatt@oss.org.uk

19 November 2017 Bicester Hotel & Spa, Chesterton, Bicester, OX26 1TE Bookings & enquiries to Hannah Marsh, e: hannah.marsh@bhs.org.uk or t: 02476 840720



Both course dates are free of charge but places are limited so must be booked in advance. Arrival 9am for 9.30am start, finish 4.30am.

Tea and coffee is provided on arrival, lunch is not provided but can be purchased at the Bicoster Hotel. There is free parking at Bicester Hotel, public parking should be used for Henley Town Hall.

Delegates should bring a laptop (wi-fi provided) - tablets or smartphones may not be suitable for some training exercises - and OS maps of your local area.

The Open Spaces Society is Britain's oldest national conservation body, founded in 1865. It campaigns to protect common land, town and village greens, open spaces and public paths and people's rights to enjoy them.

The British Horse Society is the UK's largest and most influential equestrian charity. We protect and promote the interests of all horses and those who care about them, including the 3.5 million people in the UK who ride or who drive a horse-drawn carriage.



Sarah Bucks and Phil Wadey are authors of Rights of Way - Restoring the Record, a historic research guide. Copies of the book will be available to purchase at a discounted rate at both of these training days.

Registration for Oxfordshire Artweeks

May Festival 2018 is now open

 CLOSING DATE for entries is the 31st December 2017.



See www.artweeks.org or contact Jo Golding - Artweeks Administrator artweeks.org 01865 865596 for more details.

Don't miss your chance to take part: Artweeks is nonselective and open to all amateur and professional artists and craft makers living or working in Oxfordshire. Artweeks is also open to artists that live outside the county but are members of an established Oxfordshire based art group, society or guild. Artweeks festival is organised by a not for profit members company.

If you are new to Artweeks you may like to attend one of our free taking part events

Come and meet the festival director and hear more at our free sessions:

Cornerstone Arts, Didcot; Wed 4th Oct 2017 6.00-7.00pm
The Jam Factory, Oxford; Monday 9th Oct 2017 7pm-8.30pm
The Mill, Banbury; Tuesday 10th October 2017 7pm-8.30pm
West Ox Arts Gallery, Bampton; Thursday 19th October 7.30pm-9pm

Please do let us know if you are planning to come - at artweeks@artweeks.org - in case there is any last minute change to the arrangements.



Saturday Nights

At 7.45pm

At the Neighbours Hall Gt. Milton

All welcome Refreshments

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75

Contact David Spiers 07702 085962 or Melanie Scully 07990 985411



Great Milton Website

Have you seen the website? http://www.great-milton.co.uk/

It is important to keep it
up to date so please could you
advise Carina Martin of any
updates that need to be made
(carina.martin@gmail.com)

The Three Villages Car Service

The Three Villages Car service exists to help people who are having difficulty in getting to their doctors' appointments.

If you have to get to your GP surgery or Thame Hospital for an appointment and need help getting there, give us a call and we will help if we can.

Jane Jefferis – 01844 278743 or Wendy Richardson – 01844 278479.

Neighbours Hall

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For more details please contact: Secretary, Ann Price 01844 279 474

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For booking and more info, call 01844 278116

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18th October 7:30pm – 10:00pm

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www.littlemiltonvillagehall.org.uk

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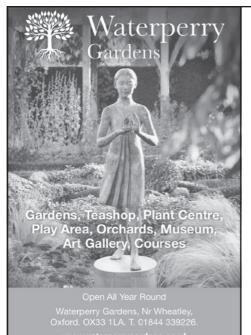
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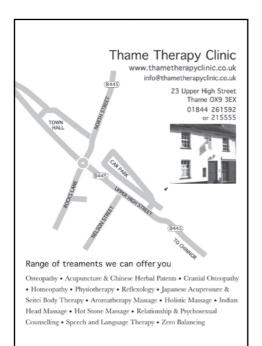


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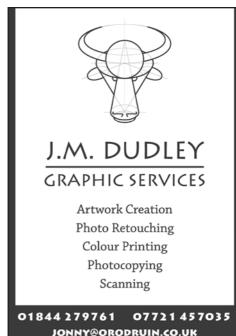
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	Diary	G
Monday	Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 7:30pm – 8:45pm	
Tuesday	contact Yvonne Cartwright – 01844 279205 Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm contact Ann Price – 01844	279474
Wednesday	History Room Open at The Bull. 11:30am – 1:00pm Fitness & Yoga – The Neighbours Hall. 6:00pm – 7:15pm	
	Athletics Club Training, Year 9-4. Evening, enquiries.gmac@g.	mail.com
Thursday	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.ne. Badminton – Great Milton School Hall. 7:00pm – 10:00pr	
	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	OI
Friday	Toddler & Baby Group – The Neighbours Hall. 9:30am – 1	11:30am
Saturday	For more information contact Olivia – oliviajhill@hotmail.com Athletics Club Training. Year 9-4. Morning. enquiries.gmac@	mail com
Guturuuy	Junior Sports – Recreation Ground. 5–11 years 10:00am –	
	contact Tash Groves – 01844 279637 Old Field: 2nd Saturday of each month. 10:15am – 12:00p	m.
	Contact Alex Kirkman – 01844 278090	
Bingo – Neighbours Hall. 7:45pm contact David Spiers – 01844 218345 (
Octob		0.45
l	5 Neighbours Club: Quizzes	2:15pm
10th wea	Neighbours Club: Outing to Viridor Energy Recovery Facility Craft Club at The Pine Lodge, Little Milton	7:30pm
21st Sat	St. Mary's Men's Breakfast at Furlong Cottage	8:30am
l	s Neighbours Club: Yvonne	2:15pm
Noven	· ·	, 6
4th Sat	Fireworks at The Pine Lodge, Little Milton	6:30pm
11th Sat	GM Singers et al: "German Requiem" at St. Mary's, Thame	7:00pm
		6

All copy (except adverts) to **gmbulletin@hotmail.co.uk** by **20th October 2017**. Adverts to **Helen Cherry** 21 Fullers Field, Great Milton, Oxford OX44 7PJ.

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