

Moulsford Events

Nigel Baker

Autumn is upon us. Hopefully, everyone has had a great summer, despite the mixed weather.

We have nevertheless enjoyed some lovely Friday socials. It's been great to see all the happy kids and people relaxing, enjoying a well deserved cool drink after the rigours of the week.

A particular highlight for many folks was the Dog Show; thanks to all who brought a four-legged friend along to show themselves or lend to someone else, and thanks to the organising team. It was a lot of fun.

So now looking forwards, we have our last Friday regular social on September the 8th. We'll be marking the occasion with the Wildlife BBQ, cooking up succulent local Venison and wild Rabbit on the grill. If people would like to donate a salad for the sides, it will be a welcome addition to the occasion, thanks.

In October, we have the Comedy Night on Saturday, 7th. It's almost full but the odd ticket may be available from Tracey Lee; get in touch on 07866 625521. We have a fully stocked bar and it's all set to be a highly entertaining evening.

In November, we may run a winter social with a fish and chip run, this is TBC. Do let the Events Committee team know if you'd support one.

The biggest event ahead is the village Gala, this year on Friday, 15th December at the Beetle and Wedge. The confirmed price for tickets is £50 which includes a 3 course meal, a welcome drink and a disco to dance the evening away!

The final event of 2023 will be the traditional Christmas Social at the Pavilion following the Carol service at the church. Provisionally, we are looking at from 6pm at the Pavilion on Friday, 22nd December. We hope Santa will be in attendance; as ever it will be a very cheery Christmasy event.

Don't forget, we'll also be looking to firm up a Boxing day walk to the Bell Aldworth. To keep up to date, we will keep you all informed on the village Facebook page and the trusty Moulsford News.

Thanks everyone and see you soon!



July/Aug 2023 has been a busy period for your new council, including:

- Submitting the annual Parish Council audit
- Completing the Neighbourhood Priority Statement
- Catching up with Oxfordshire Highways team
- Setting up meetings with Moulsoford Prep and Cranford House
- Feeding back on new planning applications
- Inputting into the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) research, regarding potential changes to land registry and information available when considering development opportunities.

Changes at Moulsoford Parish Council

We are delighted to welcome Melanie Mousley Jones, who joined the council in July and has already been a great help with various planning applications.

Owing to family reasons, Sinead Archer, our parish clerk, has stepped down. In the near term, the council are sharing out some of her duties between us, but we are also actively looking for a replacement. See separate advertisement in this newsletter.

Future plans

Sept – Dec will see the new council undertaking formal training in specific councillor duties.

In addition, over the next 6-12 months, we hope to focus on:

- Improving how we share information with the village – via social media, printed media, and online. This includes returning to our plans to redevelop the village website, which got derailed last year by the Neighbourhood Priorities Statement!
- Looking at what we can do to reduce speeding and congestion in the village – see separate article “Update on All Things Traffic Related”
- Revisiting allotments and securing a formal agreement regarding this with South Oxfordshire District Council.
- Building closer links with other parish councils – including sharing information about how we handle common problems and formalising common processes and procedures so that we can become more streamlined.
- Looking at what budget we will require looking out over the next few years, to continue to maintain the pavilion and to build a degree of contingency as required by local government.

Contact MPC

As always, if you have any questions or any specific concerns you would like to raise with your parish council, our details are on the back of Moulsoford News. We look forward to hearing from you and maybe seeing some of you in future Parish Council meetings.

Moulsford Parish Council - Vacancy for Parish Clerk

c. £14.20 - £15.50hr

(depending on experience)

Moulsford Parish Council is looking for a new parish clerk, who can spare around 6-7 hours per week to keep our parish council running smoothly. The Clerk provides administrative and clerical support to the Council, as well as managing the Council's finances.

You'll have experience in administration or clerical work and be able to maintain accurate financial records, demonstrate a calm, organised approach to work, show attention to detail, and possess good communication and customer service skills. You should also be accustomed to using a computer, including Word processing and Excel spreadsheets.

Responsibilities include:

- Helping set up parish council meetings, then subsequently attending and taking minutes.
- Managing administration related to the parish council, including record keeping, managing the review of planning applications, and handling queries from outside organisations.
- Managing the day-to-day accounts for the parish council, as well as assisting with the smooth running of the annual external audit.
- Updating the village website, Facebook page, etc. (e.g. notice of council meetings).

You will be working largely independently and should be comfortable using your initiative to deal with a wide range of issues. The majority of work can be done from home, at hours to suit you.

No prior experience of working for parish councils is necessary as training will be given. A laptop will also be supplied for your use.

If interested, please contact Sue Powell, spowell@moulsford-pc.org.uk for an informal discussion and to get a copy of the job description.

MOULSFORD PAVILION - SECRETARY

Managed by the PMC, (Pavilion Management Committee), of seven village residents.

We keep the wheels turning of this successful venue for events.

Our Secretary is leaving after eight years of contribution on this friendly committee and so we are seeking a replacement.

The role of Secretary includes:

Liaising with other committee members to fix dates for meetings, by email

Emailing meeting agendas

Taking down the minutes during meetings and circulating afterwards

Custodian of our 'Key Annual Task' list

We hold four meetings per year in the Pavilion.

If you can type and have access to a computer and email, are organised and would enjoy getting involved in village life and our fabulous Pavilion, with the task being far from onerous, you could be the team member we are looking for!

Please either ring or email Deb, clockox@aol.com, 01491 651045

From Your Parish Council continued

Update on all things traffic related!!

At the end of June, two individuals from the Oxfordshire County Council Highways team came over to visit Mouldsford and meet with Cllr Ben Partridge and myself.

We discussed various topics including:

- Potential speeding issues (and traffic calming measures)
- Congestion on the main road
- Parking near river
- General wear and tear to roads

1. Speeding

Walking northwards from the pavilion car park, the team observed passing traffic.

At this time (10am) there was little evidence of speeding. However, as this has been raised by several villagers as an issue, we requested speeding measurement in the village at three points – 1) up near Mouldsford Pre-prep (where mobile speed camera often located), 2) in the centre of the village near the pavilion, and 3) near the Ferry Lane/ Underhill junction.

OCC Highways are able to cover the costs for this. It will be scheduled for when the schools are back – likely to be late Sept/early Oct.

2. Road signage

There was evidence of road signs being covered by trees/hedges/other vegetation, including the school warning sign to the south of Cranford, and the speed repeater signs. Some signs were also caked in dirt, making them hard to read, e.g. the 30mph speed sign on the corner of A329/Ferry Lane.

As villagers, it's important that we help ensure traffic signs are kept clear, by cutting back any trees or hedges which may be obscuring the signs; either on or adjacent to our properties.

3. Road condition

We had received complaints about the main road condition, particularly on the stretch of the A329 coming down the hill, and abutting Underhill/Ferry Lane.

We were advised to photograph any potholes greater than 40mm depth, then report each individually online on FixMyStreet. However, this only needs to be done once (reporting same pothole five times won't get it fixed quicker!) so anyone reporting problems is advised to check whether the problem has already been logged.

It was noted that the gullies either side of the A329 in the same downhill section are completely blocked. Again, this should be reported, each individually, on FixMyStreet; **villagers should not attempt to clear these for themselves.**

Reviewing the condition of Ferry Lane, there are two potholes at the top – one of which is over 40mm and can be reported, one of which we simply need to keep an eye on. Again, the gully at the very top of Ferry Lane (on LHS as approach A329) is blocked and needs to be reported so it can be cleared.

4. Footpaths

Ben and Sue raised the issue of narrow paths, particularly from Mouldsford Prep School up to the garage, as well as near Grange Cottage. Some of the difficulties were caused by grass and hedge vegetation covering the asphalt; later that same day the verges were cut back and resolved some of the problem!

We also raised the issue of narrow pavements – particularly at Grange Cottage and bus stop on edge of Underhill. We were advised that there were several things that might help:

For bus stops, the repositioning of bins and removal of guard rails would make it easier to keep area clear and passable and ensure drivers had clear line of sight at entrance to Underhill when turning onto A329:

- Guard rails are no longer fitted in front of bus stops as a matter of routine, as they are not thought to offer any significant benefit. MPC should contact SODC if we wish these to be removed. However, note in subsequent discussions with people in Underhill, those with children felt there was a benefit in retaining them.
- Bins could be removed from posts and repositioned e.g. a round bin could be put on ground by Underhill road sign and the one on the lamp post that blocks the line of sight could be removed. Note that the bin by A329/Underhill had 8 dog poo bags in when checked and no actual rubbish; this may strengthen case for poo bin near river.

Narrow paths themselves e.g. by Grange Cottage, are more difficult to deal with. We discussed a couple of options: chicanes or offset/single island into road. Chicanes would slow traffic and allow widening of path; the disadvantage is that it would cost our village around £30,000. The second option of single island/offset into road would also widen path but have a limited effect on traffic going north in village and would interrupt traffic flow. Cost of second option is thought to be around £18K; again would need to be funded by our village.

It's worth noting that if the village moves to 20mph speed limit through village (see later section), this should not only bring the speed of passing traffic down but also make it safer for pedestrians using narrow paths and help reduce environmental pollution.

5. Congestion around school area

MPC advised Highways of actions taken by schools, including dedicated staff to direct traffic, use of staggered start and end times, and commissioning of school buses. Highways felt there was probably little more that could be done.

We mentioned use of central Moultsford car park during pick up/drop off times by, in particular, Cranford parents. On balance, both MPC and Highways thought this is probably the most pragmatic option to help avoid excessive congestion in the centre of the village at peak periods.

6. Parking

We primarily reviewed parking around the Beetle & Wedge and Ferry Lane. At time of visit, there were about 4 vehicles parked at least partially on the pavement; we were advised that unless the car was considered to be actively blocking the passage of pedestrians we were unlikely to get much help from police.

We also discussed briefly the yellow line option but, as when previously discussed reviewed, it was felt that this would simply move the problem elsewhere in the village, where it might cause even more problems. Also discussed was the use of land recently sold to B&W and its potential redevelopment as parking. It was felt again, this might be the least bad option, even though Ferry Lane residents have some reservations about the land being developed in this way.

Highways failed to see problem with pavement/parking on RHS of Ferry Lane as you go up to Victoria House/Albert House – only a few houses using this section of road need to gain access to their properties. Concerns that emergency vehicles would not be able to make it up were dismissed as unfounded (even though in the process a few wing mirrors might go missing!).

7. Follow up

The Parish Council will be following up with villagers regarding your views on speeding and on the potential of moving to a 20mph zone in the village, in line with Cholsey and many other Oxfordshire villages. If you have a strong view, one way or the other, or would like to be involved in this project, please speak to Cllr Hilary Shaw.

From Your Parish Council continued

Planning Applications and Decisions

Moulsford News and Planning deadlines invariably mean that the planning information below is out of date by the time of reading. For a current view of planning, please visit the online planning portal here:

<http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk/community/moulsford-on-thames-15214/planning-applications/>

Reference	Description	Status
P23/S2380/HH Breach House Halfpenny Lane Cholsey OX10 9JN	Enlargement of the existing access, the construction of a new gate and the erection of a boundary wall.	MPC: Object (impact of boundary wall on vegetation and character of area) SODC: Awaiting further arboricultural and landscape information. Decision date put back to 6th Sep.
P23/S2379/LDE 2 Cranford Cottages Moulsford OX10 9HR	Change of use of land from agricultural land / paddock to residential garden, on basis that land has been in use as garden for more than 10 years prior to this application.	MPC: Object (insufficient evidence to support claim). SODC: Under consideration

MPC100Club draw results

July 21st (at Moulsford Pavilion)

	Ball Number	Price Money
1st	48	£56.00
2nd	7	£28.00
3rd	93	£14.00

August 11th (at Moulsford Pavilion)

	Ball Number	Price Money
1st	10	£58.00
2nd	38	£29.00
3rd	51	£14.50

The next draw will be at the Pavilion on Friday 8th September at the Wildlife BBQ.

Sign up for the MPC100Club on the night, either a 6 month or 12 month period, with payment by bank card.

MPC100Club is run on behalf of Moulsford Parish Council, 35% of the fund is used for prize money, the remainder (after expenses) is for Moulsford Parish Council projects.

Dear Friends,

As summer draws to a close, and shorts and t-shirts are put away for another year, the usual rhythm of life returns with children heading back to school, youngsters packing up for university or college, and the TV is full with ads for all the new programmes about to begin. In the church, we look towards all that lies ahead in the next few months – Creation celebration, Remembrance Sunday, Advent and then, of course, the culmination of it all, Christmas!

But before we get to Christmas, we enter the season of Autumn, a time of thanksgiving. Maybe you want to give thanks to God for a lovely summer holiday, for weddings, for friends and family or for new beginnings.

This month in our church we give thanks for creation with a special service on Sunday 24th September 9:30 am. Do join us as we say thank you for all that creation provides us.

In his letter to the Ephesians St. Paul encourages us all to live our lives in an attitude of thankfulness. It is hard and takes a lot of discipline and requires effort. If you're feeling grouchy for no good reason, try smiling - the physical act of smiling makes you feel more cheerful whether you want to or not.

But living lives of thankfulness doesn't mean that we should just ignore our sufferings or the suffering of others and say they don't matter, because they do matter. There is a time to laugh and a time to cry. So many people say they mustn't grumble and imply that their sufferings are too small to be of value compared to other people's, "there are so many worse off than me". That is not true. All of our struggles and sufferings matter to God, however small they are. But St. Paul understood that if we can learn to be positive and thankful during the good times, then that will help to sustain us through the bad times. He was in prison when he wrote to the Ephesians. Being thankful didn't diminish his hardship, but it did help him to endure it.

Each new day brings with it a new beginning and a challenge. So how about a challenge, a challenge to be thankful! To make the effort to see the positive in a situation rather than the downside. To stop us when we start moaning and give thanks instead. And I think that if we can do that, we'll discover that whatever life may bring, it will be the better for having consciously tried to live it in an attitude of thankfulness.

God Bless

Rebecca Peters - Vicar

rev.cholseyandmoulsford@gmail.com



St. John the Baptist, Moulsoford, September

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
				11:00 Morning Praise Old Vicarage Laity		09:30 CW Contemporary Rev. Alan Gates
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	Visit to Huhudi Partnership begins	14:30 House Group contact 651401		11:00 Communion Old Vicarage Rev. Rebecca Peters		09:30 Morning Praise Jill Atkins 18:30 Youth Group Lawrence Hall, Cholsey
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433 19:45 PCC meet in Church		10:30 Coffee Shop Pavilion 14:30 House Group contact 651401		11:30 Funeral Veronica Port Church 11:00 Old Vicarage No service		09:30 CW Contemporary Rev. Alan Gates
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433	Visit to Huhudi Partnership ends 14:30 House Group contact 651401		11:30 Deanery Chapter meet in Church 15:00 Cakes, Tea, & Chat 10 Glebe Close 18:00 Gardening group 18:30 Autumn Diocesan Financial Briefing Zoom			09:30 CW Contemporary Rev. Chris Stott Creationtide 18:30 Youth Group Lawrence Hall, Cholsey
25	26	27	28	29	30	
11:00 Keep Fit Cholsey Meadows Contact 599 433		14:30 House Group contact 651401				

A short morning service is available each day in conjunction with our Partnership Parish of St. Phillip the Apostle, Huhudi, SA by Zoom, WhatsApp and e-mail. Contact Janet Knowles 651401 for further details.

Obituary - Veronica Port

We wanted to let you know that sadly our mother Veronica Port passed away on 19th August at her care home in Watlington, aged 84.

Many of you will have known and loved Veronica as for many years she was an energetic and fun filled contributor to Moultsford village life. Having previously lived in Goring, Veronica married Roger in 1988 (they had their wedding reception at the Beetle and Wedge) and then lived in Glebe Close until Roger died and then more recently Veronica moved to a care home in Watlington suffering from ever worsening dementia.

We cannot do justice to all the many things Veronica did in the village but we know that she was a dear friend of the Church, kick-started Friday evenings at the Pavilion and was a great fan indeed of the aforementioned Beetle and Wedge. She and Roger also loved their rowing boat and they could often be seen on the Moultsford stretch of the river. As many of you will have seen, that boat – “Port” – now sits proudly on the corner of Glebe Close – a permanent tribute to a wonderful couple and two lives very well lived!

We know that Veronica leaves behind many dear friends in the village. And she also leaves behind a large family, all of who she adored in only that special way she could. We will miss her terribly.

Veronica’s funeral will be held on Friday 15th September at St John the Baptist Church, Moultsford at 11.30 am. All are welcome and, typically, she asked that bright colours only be worn! No flowers please but, if desired, any donations can be made to Dementia U.K.

Tim Stow & Hetty McConnon
(Veronica’s children)

What's on in Moulsoford and Surrounding Areas

Monthly Coffee Shop

Gail Slinger



The next **Village Coffee Shop** will be on
Wed, 13th September 2023 in the Pavilion from 10:30am to 12 noon.



The September Coffee Shop will be in aid of MacMillan Cancer, if everyone is happy your £1.50's will be donated to them.

Please come and join us, bring a friend, neighbour or family member, we would love to see you all and have a chat. Please put your name on our Calendar Rota for 'Putting the Kettle on'; there is always help on hand if you need it and it's a good way to meet people and have a chat.

The August Coffee Shop was another great success with some great baking once again, thanks to everyone, most enjoyable.

Putting the kettle on in **September** will be **Twinks with helpers.**

So lovely Moulsoford residents, friends and family we look forward to seeing you in September at the pavilion.

Future Dates:

12th October - Carol & Gail

9th November - Gary & Trevor

14th December - Gail & Helpers



Moulsoford Parish Council (MPC) Meeting

Thursday, 7th Sep 2023
19:30 in the Pavilion
Everyone welcome!

Moulsoford Events Committee (MEC) Meeting

Wednesday, 20th Sep 2023
19:30 in the Pavilion
Everyone welcome!

Pavilion Management Committee (PMC) Meeting

Tuesday, 26th Sep 2023
7.30pm in the Pavilion
Everyone welcome!

Wallingford Country Market



Open each Friday morning in St. Mary-le-More Church, (situated just behind the Town Hall), between 9.30 am - 12 noon.

Selling delicious homemade baked goods and preserves, home grown plants, fruit and vegetables and many crafts.

Cholsey Community Library

Monday to Friday	2pm to 4.30pm
Friday Evening	6pm to 8pm
Saturday Morning	9.30pm-12.30pm

133 Goring - Wallingford via Streatley & Moulsoford

Including revised service from Monday 4th September 2023

	Until 1st September 2023		From 4th September 2023			
Days of Operation	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays		Mondays and Wednesdays		Fridays	
<i>Days of Operation</i>	<i>M,W,F</i>	<i>M,W,F</i>	<i>M,W</i>	<i>M,W</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
GORING, Railway Stn Forecourt	09:10	11:25	09:00	11:25	09:00	11:35
Goring Surgery/Library	09:11	11:26	09:01	11:26	09:01	11:36
Swan Hotel/Streatley Traffic Lights	09:12	11:27	09:02	11:27	09:02	11:37
Moulsoford Beetle & Wedge turn	09:17	11:32	09:07	11:32	09:07	11:42
Moulsoford, Old Vicarage	09:18		09:08		09:08	
Wallingford Hospital	R	R	R	R	R	R
Wallingford LiDL	R	R	R	R	R	R
WALLINGFORD Market Place	09:30	11:45	09:20	11:50	09:20	12:00
<i>Continues to</i>	<i>DIDCOT*</i>	<i>DIDCOT*</i>	<i>DIDCOT</i>	<i>DIDCOT</i>	<i>DFL</i>	<i>DFL</i>
	Until 1st September 2023		From 4th September 2023			
Days of Operation	Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays		Mondays and Wednesdays		Fridays	
<i>Days of Operation</i>	<i>M,W,F</i>	<i>M,W,F</i>	<i>M,W</i>	<i>M,W</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>F</i>
<i>Starts from</i>		<i>DIDCOT*</i>		<i>DIDCOT</i>		
WALLINGFORD Market Place	11:05	15:13	11:05	15:15	11:15	15:15
Wallingford LiDL	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
Wallingford Hospital	11:06	15:14	11:06	15:16	11:16	15:16
The Meadows	11:08	15:16	11:08	15:18	11:18	15:18
Moulsoford, Old Vicarage	R	R	R	R	R	R
Moulsoford Beetle & Wedge turn	11:11	15:19	11:11	15:21	11:21	15:21
Streatley Primary School	R	R	R	R	R	R
Streatley, The Coombe	R	R	11:14	15:24	11:24	15:24
Streatley Traffic Lights/Swan Hotel	11:14	15:22	R	R	R	R
GORING, Railway Stn Forecourt	11:25	15:33	11:25	15:35	11:35	15:35

DFL Dorchester Flyer: to or from Dorchester village

* To or from Didcot on Mondays and Wednesdays only.

Q Picks up here on request only by prior arrangement with the driver on the outward journey

R Sets down only at these points on request to the driver by passengers already on board at previous timing point

Sorry, no services on other days or on Public Holidays

All times subject to change at short notice. Please check our website before you travel. Times shown on Traveline or other websites may not be up to date.

CONCESSIONARY PASS HOLDERS

**Free travel on all these services
except before 09:30 in West Berkshire**

www.goingforwardbuses.com 07484 605888

What's on in Moulsoford and Surrounding Areas *continued*

THE COFFEE SHOP



WEDS 13th September

10.30AM-12NOON

If you fancy a couple of hours of chatting, relaxing and drinking coffee or tea, do join us, £1.50 donation.

Please do come along, everyone from the village is welcome. For more information call Gail Slinger on 01491 651931 or email gailslinger2601@gmail.com.

Wallingford Accessible Boat Club announces:



A Charity Music Festival for Wallingford's Wheelyboat

What:

A multi-genre live music event featuring rock & country bands, solo artists and local jammers. A variety of Headliners include Definitely 90's, Funky Funks, Cover Bouys and Kennet Delta Cowboys

When:

Sunday 24th September 2023, 2pm-9pm

Where:

Wallingford Sports Park, Hithercroft Road, Wallingford OX10 9RB

Why:

Wallingford Accessible Boat Club's objective is to enable disabled and less mobile people to get out on our lovely River Thames on our Wheelyboat WOW-one free of charge. Our annual costs of £13,000 however have to be covered which is why our Club has to raise funds through initiatives such as WheelyFest. We need every penny we can raise.

How:

Ticket only – Adults £10.00; Under 12's £5.00; Under 5's Free of charge. Available July

Extras:

Hog Roast, Food and Drink from the Bar
A selection of fundraising games, star prize raffle, silent auction. All Donations welcome!

All proceeds for the benefit of Wallingford Accessible Boat Club

Please Save the Date!!

Further information will be available from www.wabc.org.uk at a later date.

Spinning Club - Social Craft

Moulsoford craft group meets on the 2nd Thursday of the Month and would like to invite anyone who already does crafting or would like to start crafting to join us.

It is a very sociable and informal meeting and everyone is made to feel welcome.

We meet between 6.30 and 10pm.

For more information, call Linda Scurr on 652916.

What's On at the Corn Exchange in Wallingford, Cinema/Theatre:

September Calendar

1st & 2nd - **Bunkfest**

3rd - 7th - **Haunted Mansion** - 7.30 - 9.30pm

6th - **Haunted Mansion** - 2.30 - 4.30pm (Matinee)

8th - **Hercule Poirot (A Life in Crime)** - 7.30 - 9pm

9th - **Agatha Christie - A very elusive woman** - 3.30 - 5.30pm **SOLD OUT**

9th - 11th - **Sound of Freedom** - 7.30 - 9.45pm

12th - 14th - **Grand Tourismo** - 7.30 - 9.45pm

13th - **Grand Tourismo** - 2.30 - 4.45pm (Matinee)

15th - 17th - **And Then Come the Nightjars** - 7.30 - 8.51pm

16th - **And Then Come the Nightjars** - 2.30 - 3.51pm (Matinee)

18th & 19th - **Gangs of New York** - 7.30 - 10.17pm

20th - **Gangs of New York** - 2.30 - 5.17pm (Matinee)

20th - **The Royal Opera - Das Rheingold** - 7.15 - 10.15pm

21st - **Oppenheimer** - 7.30 - 10.30pm

22nd - 26th - **Past Lives** - 7.30 - 9.15pm

23rd - **Past Lives** - 2.30 - 4.15pm (Matinee)

27th & 28th - **Theater Camp** - 7.30pm

27th - **Theater Camp** - 2.30pm (Matinee)

29th - 4th October - **A Haunting in Venice** - 7.30 - 9.15pm

30th - **Short Drag Roger** - 7.30 - 9.45pm (Live on Stage)

HENLEY AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Summer is now coming to an end and we are re-commencing our meetings in Bix Village Hall.

Have you thought of resurrecting a hobby from your past, like stamp collecting?

You will find it more than just collecting a little bit of sticky paper. If you look into the history and background of the stamps and postal history, there is a lot to learn.

The Henley Stamp Club is a friendly group and we would be delighted to see new visitors or members. If you are interested in facts concerning stamps or postal history, why not come along and find out about how you can promote your interest?



Have you seen the new stamps?

Please do not remove the digital code strip from the stamp.

To learn more about stamps and postal history why not visit us at Bix one Wednesday evening? You can then meet people who find postal history and the story of stamps fascinating too.

Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Visitors and new members are very welcome.

Wednesday, 13th September – Is a members evening displaying “New Acquisitions”.

Wednesday, 27th September – We have a guest speaker, Kim Stuckey with an excellent display on the subject “Falklands War”

Further details can be obtained by phoning Brian on 01491 681739 or on our website www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk

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Wallingford Local Producers Market

WPLM is a regular event in many people’s calendar. Based at St Mary-le-More, it’s their weekly fix of fresh vegetables, cheese, cakes, bakes, coffee and lots of foody treats.



Inside there’s even more, with handmade arts and crafts by local makers; there really is something for everyone. All the food and crafts are made locally and the market has a warm and welcoming community feel. So if you haven’t found it yet, go and visit on a Saturday morning between 10am and 12.30pm. Starting in March, the market will also be in the Market Place on every first Saturday of the month with extended hours between 10am and 1pm (except 1st week of Sept).

**Repair more
in 2023!**



CHOLSEY REPAIR CAFE

Sat. 16th Sept. 2023

11 am to 1.45 pm at Cholsey Pavilion.

**Bring along your broken item and a team
of volunteers will try to help you mend it**

Subject to availability of volunteer specialists or equipment on
the day, we may be able to offer help with: -

- ✓ bicycles
- ✓ electricals
- ✓ laptops/computers
- ✓ clocks
- ✓ mechanical problems
- ✓ clothing and textiles
- ✓ specialist gluing
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Local News

Countryfile's Tom Heap joins Earth Trust supporters in championing access and engagement with natural green space - June 2023

The vital importance of championing access to green spaces for everyone is marked next week as Oxfordshire based environmental charity – Earth Trust – meets with its supporter community. The event will focus on the active role Earth Trust's growing community can play in green spaces by putting people at the heart of change to enable better access, engagement and nature recovery.

Special guest speakers will include BBC Countryfile's Tom Heap, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, David Rouane and Richard Benwell, Chief Executive of Wildlife and Countryside Link. The event includes the annual Rose Ceremony, a tradition dating back several decades during which the Chair of Oxfordshire County Council (currently Councillor Felix Bloomfield) presents a rose to Earth Trust as a peppercorn rent for public access to Wittenham Clumps – the largest freely accessible natural green space landscape in Oxfordshire.

This year's event marks the launch of a new membership scheme to connect more people to Earth Trust's purpose of inspiring people to address biodiversity, climate and wellbeing with the power of natural green spaces.

Jayne Manley, CEO explains: "Our Supporters Day this year is an important opportunity for us to talk about the impact of our community and what we have achieved together – from supporting disadvantaged communities to access green space, to helping children engage with the natural world around them; from reintroducing wetlands along the Thames, to generating new evidence on nature based solutions to climate change – we're working tirelessly to enable nature and people to thrive in balance, while using this work to inspire change at a national level too.

We are delighted to have such a fantastic variety of different voices and perspectives so that we can explore ideas for our future direction together – and to recognise and celebrate this wonderful community and all the many different ways that we work together.

Earth Trust needs support from our community to transform more lives. That's why we are launching a brand new membership scheme, so that we can become an even stronger voice for championing green spaces for everyone."

Tom Heap says: "We all have an active role to play in enabling change and recovering what we have lost of our nature. We have seen significant progress and change in the global, national and regional nature recovery policy sphere. But, little on what this means locally for people and community engagement with their places.

It is vital that we embed social engagement of people with nature into our futures – ensuring that nature recovery is also actively building nature in to people's lives. I'm delighted to be joining the Earth Trust community as they discuss what more can be done."

With Oxfordshire being one of most rapidly developing counties in the UK – Earth Trust is positioned at the sharp edge of creating and managing spaces that enable both people and nature to thrive in balance.

In addition to the iconic Wittenham Clumps (500 hectares of woodland, farmland, wildflower meadows and wetlands), the Trust also cares for a growing number of smaller community reserves – special places for both nature and people within urban areas and towns. These places receive 200,000 plus visits a year.

Earth Trust feels passionate about using people power to address the triple threat we currently face as a society in terms of climate change, loss of biodiversity, and health and equality. It has never been more critical to provide access to green space and to engage people deeply with nature - both for their own wellbeing and to inspire action to protect the natural world for our future.



Local News continued

Wallingford's Wheelyboat fundraiser promises to be spectacular - WheelyFest Tickets on sale now!

Wallingford Accessible Boat Club (WABC) is delighted to announce tickets for the Charity's major fundraiser of the year, WheelyFest, a multi-genre music festival, are now available direct from it's website www.wabc.org.uk/wheelyfest.

Ticket prices are £15 and Under 5s free of charge. Ticket numbers are limited so those looking for a great value-for-money music event should hurry.

The event will take place at Wallingford Sports Park, Hithercroft Road, Wallingford on 24th September starting at 2pm extending to 9pm. It will be music-rich featuring 7 live bands plus solo artists and local musicians jamming along with WheelyFest's very own House Band offering live sound across the music spectrum – Pop, 90s, Country, Rock, Funk, Soul and R&B.

As a family event, it will offer games to amuse young and old alike as well as bar facilities offering bar food and supported by a Hog Roast for all comers. An exciting Silent Auction and Star Prize Raffle complete the entertainment. See also www.wabc.org.uk/wheelyfest.

The event's Music Director Sarah Eastwood, an award winning actor and local singing star, has compiled the music programme with the aim of satisfying all tastes, recruiting a dazzling array of bands and musicians who are all donating their services completely free of charge. These include Definitely 90s, The Fabulous Funky Funks, The Coverbuys, Kennet Delta Cowboys, Shaky Ground, ReVibe and many others.

Sarah commented: "I am so excited by this event – it promises to be truly spectacular and our hope is it raises a huge amount of money for Wallingford's Wheelyboat. The organisation gives so much joy and extreme pleasure to so many disabled and elderly people – it is so deserving and this is recognised by my brilliant musician friends who have all got behind the event and have offered their time and artistry completely free of charge. That is amazing!"

WABC Chairman John Jenkins MBE added: "I am sure WheelyFest will be a WOW! of an event – so fitting as a charity fundraiser for our Wheelyboat, WOW-one - and I am so grateful to all who have helped make it happen – Sarah, all her music friends, their support teams, Wallingford Sports Park as well as of course our amazing WABC members. Sincere thanks to them all! "

Wallingford Castle Meadows celebrates 16 years consecutive Green Flag Award - July 2023

The results of the annual Green Flag Awards are officially released today, and Wallingford Castle Meadows has once again been officially recognised as one of the country's best parks, marking an impressive 16th consecutive year of receiving this prestigious award. This is also the 10th consecutive year that Wallingford Castle Meadows has attained Green Heritage Site accreditation for the care of the remains of one of the greatest medieval castles in England.

Working together for nature and heritage

Earth Trust, and their team of devoted volunteers, manages Wallingford Castle Meadows on behalf of South Oxfordshire District Council - ensuring the preservation and enhancement of this cherished local natural space. Together, the team cares for and nurtures the biodiversity and beauty of these vibrant meadows for people to relish and appreciate.

Volunteer warden and butterfly surveyor, Steve Nixon, comments: "Wallingford is so lucky to have such a historic and beautiful site, available to all, close to the centre of town. The meadows reflect the changing seasons from the flooded lower fields in late winter to the carpets of yellow buttercups and cowslips in spring, to the swaying swathes of grass in summer and the vibrant colours of autumn. At least 21 species of butterfly have been found here. Red kites, wren, green woodpecker, nuthatch, goldfinch and greenfinch are a constant presence. Blackcap, chiffchaff, reed warbler and whitethroat add to the dawn chorus during spring and summer. Fox and deer are regularly seen, and even otter along the Thames adjacent to the meadows. My family find the meadows a place of tranquillity and calm. It is a magical place."

Keep Britain Tidy's Green Flag Award Scheme Manager Paul Todd MBE said: "I would like to congratulate everyone involved at Earth Trust in achieving a Green Flag Award. Wallingford Castle Meadows is a vital green space for the community in Wallingford, bringing people together and providing opportunities to lead healthy lifestyles. The staff and volunteers do so much to ensure that it maintains the high standards of the Green Flag Award and everyone involved should feel extremely proud of their achievement."

Tim Read, Senior Warden, comments, "We're really pleased that Wallingford Castle Meadows has been recognised, once again, as a high quality public green space. Being awarded the Green Flag and Green Heritage Awards highlights the hard work which goes into managing the site and the incredible effort made by our volunteers. Castle Meadows is clearly a special place and you can see its value to the local community in the way they look after it. A wonderful achievement, thank you so much to everyone involved."

Earth Trust's CEO, Jayne Manley, stated, "Green spaces are an incredibly powerful way of connecting people to each other and the environment but they are often overlooked. So, if you are a visitor to Wallingford Castle Meadows and you want to help others with the power of natural green spaces, please join our circle of people wanting to see and be a part of change! Thank you to the Green Flag Award Scheme for recognising the benefit to people's mental and physical health that this amazing location provides to and South Oxfordshire District Council for their continued support."

A full list of Green Flag Award-winning parks and green spaces is available [here](#).

Archaeologists discover remains of tiny Roman 'lap dog' in Oxfordshire

An archaeological dig in Oxfordshire, UK, has uncovered the 1,800 year-old remains of a tiny Roman dog.

At just 20 cm (7.8 inches) tall at the shoulder, researchers say that the ancient pooch is one of the five smallest Roman dogs ever discovered in the UK, and that its unusually small size means it is likely to have been a much-loved pet.

The little dog, which is thought to have been female with bowed legs, would probably have had a similar stature to a dachshund, but been closer in size to a chihuahua.

The animal's remains were unearthed during an archaeological dig at the headquarters of environmental charity Earth Trust in Oxfordshire by a team of archaeologists from DigVentures, and later identified by zooarchaeologists examining the bones in the lab.

The excavation took place downslope from one of South Oxfordshire's most iconic landmarks - Wittenham Clumps. Affectionately known locally as 'The Clumps', the site is owned and managed by Earth Trust, and features the ancient hillfort Castle Hill, which is registered as a scheduled ancient monument overlooking the River Thames, approximately 15 miles from Oxford and 50 miles from London. Much-loved by modern day dog owners and walkers near and far, it is the most highly visited free to access greenspace in the region.

During the excavations, archaeologists discovered a large Roman villa, as well as the earlier remains of an earlier Iron Age settlement.

The animal's remains were found within one of the 42 Roman burials associated with the villa, but it's unclear whether the dog was buried with its owner or buried separately, say the researchers.

In total, the remains of at least 15 small-medium sized dogs (including the tiny lapdog) were recovered from the Roman villa, which was occupied for around 150 years between the 3rd and 4th centuries AD.

Among many other discoveries at the villa, archaeologists found domestic items such as cooking utensils including a ladle, colander or strainer, cleaver, and storage jars, as well as personal items like brooches, bracelet, a ring, leather-working tools, hair combs, medical spatula, and even the hobnails from a pair of Roman shoes.

"This site provides a snapshot of domestic life in Roman Britain; it's like peering into someone's home. The villa would have been occupied by a relatively wealthy Roman family, who ran a farm with an assortment of working animals, including hunting or herding dogs – as well as this tiny canine" said Maiya Pina-Dacier from DigVentures.

Archaeologists found that the villa's residents were also keeping chickens, geese, pigs, cattle, sheep or goats, and horses, donkeys or mules for food and farming. But not all animals were kept for practical purposes; several ravens and crows were also discovered which may have been used in ritual or ceremonial activities rather than for food. In the Iron Age part of the site, the team also discovered the remains of a decapitated dog, similar to a greyhound, buried in a pit along with a cow skull.

While most of us probably think of small dogs as a modern trend associated with a certain kind of luxury lifestyle, discoveries like this make it clear that the companionship of small dogs has been enjoyed in Britain for at least 1,800 years.

The presence of small dogs in Britain first appears with the arrival of the Romans. Until then, archaeologists typically only find medium-large sized dogs, which are generally thought to have been kept by Iron Age for practical purposes like hunting, herding, killed for fur, or sometimes sacrificed. But once the Romans arrive, smaller dogs become increasingly popular.

Once the Romans arrive, archaeologists begin to see at least two types of small dog in Britain, including miniature or toy dogs, which are the same shape as larger dogs but smaller; and dwarf dogs, arising when a puppy is born with chondrodysplasia, which results in short and bowed legs, and are then bred to produce bowed-legged dwarf breeds, like the modern dachshund.

"While it's possible that this dog was used for hunting, we know that Romans in other parts of the empire had begun to breed and keep small dogs as pets. In the UK, most of the small dogs we find measure between 22 – 37 cm in shoulder height, making this individual particularly small" said Hannah Russ and Sarah Everett, the zooarchaeologists who analysed the animal remains.

"The fact that this dog was so small and had bowed legs suggests that she probably wasn't bred for hunting. This, along with the fact that she might have even been buried with her owner, makes it far more likely that she was kept as a house dog, lap dog, or pet" they said.

Mikron Travelling Theatre Company wows Wallingford audience!

Narrow boat players perform in beautiful riverside gardens

Welcome to Wallingford, Mikron Travelling Theatre!

Last Saturday, for the first time in Wallingford, Mikron Travelling Theatre company gave a lunchtime performance overlooking the river Thames on lush lawns and apple trees in a private garden. They were accompanied by a picnicking audience enrapt by the proceedings.

Over 80 people brought deck chairs, picnics & friends to enjoy a production 'A force to be reckoned with', 'Pioneering women in the Police force' performed by the professional actor/musicians. This specially written production is one of two informative, enlightening and fun plays toured annually by actors in their narrow boat.

Some of the audience, followers of Mikron Theatre, travelled distances to join the sun-filled garden. Many more from Wallingford, Crowmarsh and Brightwell joined them.

It is hoped that Mikron will return to Wallingford with another specially written show next year and beyond.

Mikron are also currently touring their alternate (specially written) show 'Twitchers' about the foundations of the RSPB.

Organiser Deborah Whelan commented: "It was real joy to bring this informative, entertaining fun production to Wallingford. Mikron have been touring wonderful UK performances for over 50 years. I have seen many over that time. My thanks must go to actors, friends and family who made this independent offering possible. To the people who supported the show and especially to home-owner Giles Cattermole for the beautiful setting. I am grateful the weather was kind to us".

.....

Moulsford News Contributions

Planning a local event?

Wanting to share some poetry or wisdom?

Celebrating a special day or sporting/musical/... achievement?

Doing something for charity?

Share your news, plans and stories with us!

You can reach the editor, Katja Abel, by email:

moulsfordnews@moulsford-pc.org.uk

Deadline for October edition: Wednesday, 27th September 2023

Elli the Gardener



Gardening diary

Hello everyone! This summer has been a very fruitful one, with lots of things to harvest. Firstly, we have had many, many tomatoes from the polytunnel in the allotment. These have been great for making pasta sauces! We have also had lots of courgettes and spring onions which we also use in sauce. There has also been quite a lot of cucumber, which my family enjoyed (even though I don't like it). From the herb garden we have gathered lots of mint to dry and use for tea. But best of all have been the runner beans from my bed. We have enjoyed so many dinners with them, and they just keep on coming! They also look really pretty, climbing up the bamboo poles arranged in the shape of a teepee, and the white and red flowers look really nice. The Omega Pumpkin is also growing nicely, it is the second biggest one! I also love the roast beetroot which we have occasionally. We have also had some yummy apples and plums from our next-door neighbors, and they truly are AMAZING! My dad made some plum chutney, a whole five jars! My mum made some delicious plum compote, so here is the recipe!

Ingredients:

400g plums
50 ml water
1 tbsp of sugar
1 cinnamon stick

Method:

Take out the stones and quarter the plums.
Mix the plums with the other ingredients in a pot.
Cook for 7 to 10 minutes, until soft.

Either eat it warm or put it in a jar and into the fridge. It is really nice warm, but also quite refreshing when it is cold, as it is a bit tart as well. You can have it on its own or on porridge or yogurt to give it a fruity kick!

That's it for this month, see you next time!

Answers for the last Quiz

1. Apricots grow on trees.
2. Chlorophyll gives plants their green colour.
3. Scoville is the scale for measuring the heat of peppers.
4. True, potatoes are in the nightshade family.
5. Malus is the latin name for apples.

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Useful Contacts

Moulsford Parish Council

<http://www.moulsford-pc.org.uk>

Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
Sue Powell (Chair)	Laburnham Cottage, Moulsford	07786 250368	spowell@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Hilary Shaw (Vice Chair)	N/A	07880 732381	hshaw@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Ben Partridge (Financial Officer)	22 Underhill, Moulsford	07828 902947	bpartridge@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Martin Eagle	Glebe Orchard, Glebe Close, Moulsford	07785 905883	meagle@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Melanie Mousley Jones	N/A	07813 092239	mmousleyjones@moulsford-pc.org.uk
Parish Clerk	N/A	N/A	parishclerk@moulsford-pc.org.uk

Please report any traffic and parking issues experienced to: trafficandparking@moulsford-pc.org.uk

South Oxfordshire District Councillors

Anne-Marie Simpson	Mallards, Moulsford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 9HR	07738 568907	Anne-Marie.Simpson@southoxon.gov.uk
Ben Manning	45 Greenmere, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, OX10 0QH	07946 476733	Ben.Manning@southoxon.gov.uk

Oxfordshire County Councillor

Felix Bloomfield	The Views, Ewelme, OX10 6HF	07912 875199	felix.bloomfield@oxfordshire.gov.uk
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These hire rates apply from 1st April 2023 until revised by the Pavilion Management Committee.

To make or enquire about a booking please contact the Bookings Secretary.

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MOULSFORD PAVILION HIRE RATES 2023/24

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Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Location
8th September	18:30 Friday Social (Wildlife BBQ)	Moulsford Pavilion
13th September	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
7th October	Comedy Night	Moulsford Pavilion
12th October	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
9th November	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
14th December	10:30 Coffee Shop	Moulsford Pavilion
15th December	Christmas Gala	Beetle & Wedge
22nd December	Christmas Social	St John the Baptist Moulsford Pavillion
26th December	Boxing Day Walk	TBC