WHEATLEY NEWS

Published by Wheatley Parish Council



Have Your Say - Oxon Plan 2050 - Page 8 RBL Poppy Appeal 2021 - Page 16 Clubs & Societies Fair - Page 62



Editor's Note

Hello and welcome to the October-November edition of the Wheatley Newsletter.

Once again another jam-packed issue. Testament to this is the long-awaited return of the Clubs & Events centre-page spread! It's great to see that we now have enough clubs, events, and societies starting back up to fill the noticeboard— long may it continue!

Following what feels like considerably less than a year (or maybe like three years, depending on your viewpoint) since the last one, Christmas has nearly snuck up on us. Don't forget to get in early and order your Christmas tree from the Wheatley Scout Group/Maple Tree coalition (p60) and give a little support to both of these local organisations.

As always, feedback, comments, and suggestions are welcome.

Pete Collinson | newsletter@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Contributions

The Wheatley Newsletter welcomes contributions and adverts from everyone in the two parishes and from businesses and organisations serving Wheatley and District. News and reports from village organisations particularly welcome but contentious issues articles promoting personal causes should be avoided.

Submissions should be made by **11th November** for the next issue.

The Editor reserves the right not to print items and to edit items submitted for publication.

Head to bit.ly/wnl-info for further details and to download a booking form.

Wheatley Information Booklet

Wheatley Parish Council have committed to updating the 2015 edition of the Wheatley Information Booklet.

Tim Blightman and Doug Lamont have volunteered to help with this and will be in contact with groups and organisations, to check and update details.

Any new organisations not included in the current edition can contact clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk with their details, for inclusion in the next edition.

WHEATLEY

NEWS |

Publisher

Wheatley Parish Council The Parish Office The Merry Bells 89 High Street Wheatley OX33 1XP 01865 875615

clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Distributor

This newsletter is kindly distributed to all addresses in Wheatley and Holton by a team of volunteers, organised by Christine Vernede (01865) 873335.

Disclaimer

The views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council or the Editor, and no liability can be accepted for any errors or omissions, although we will publish corrections where necessary.

Chair's Column

The Autumn season is upon us and I'm very pleased to update on some of our projects that are coming to fruition. Firstly, we have cleared the mass of garden waste in the Memorial Gardens. It had been an eyesore for so many months and I am delighted now it has gone. It has left some rubble and rubbish that needs to be removed, but after that has been removed too, we will cultivate the space. One of the suggestions under consideration has been a wildflower garden to attract bees.

Secondly, The Open Spaces Committee have been through the tendering process and appointed contractors to complete the renovations at the Village Square. The existing seating will be replaced, and other seating will be added alongside planters to give an attractive place to rest. The date for the work to start is in early October, but we will have a nice area very soon.

Thirdly, the Parish Council has been in discussion for some considerable time with the academy trust that runs the primary school about setting up a charitable trust to manage Littleworth Playing Fields for the benefit of both the school and the wider community. This would enable grants to be sought to make this large area of land suitable for a wide range of community activities. Despite our best endeavours over many meetings, the setting up of the trust is currently stalled. but it is hoped others will be interested in getting involved once the trust has been set up.

All good news has to be balanced by some realism and, with outdoor events and socialisation increasing again post-lockdown, we are hearing cases of residents experiencing disruption of their peace. If you

experience disruption, such as air, noise, or light pollution, you can report such disturbances to the SODC Environmental Health team using this form:

bit.ly/eh-complain

Finally, and very exciting, Councillor Newman, the Clerk, and Wheatley Park School are working towards setting up a Youth Council:

A Younger View for the Parish Council!

Are you under 18 and want to take part in a new way of integrating the views of young people into the local community? Nobody knows about the issues affecting young people better than young people themselves. Youth councils can act as a positive way of integrating the views of young people into the local community. Because of this we are setting up a Wheatley Youth Council. Supported by Wheatley Park School, the Youth Council will be a democratic organisation, created, run, and developed by young people for young people. They'll represent the views of young people at a local level, giving them the opportunity to have a voice, discuss relevant issues, engage decision-makers. contribute and improving the lives of other young people within their communities, influencing and inspiring change. They will work alongside Wheatley Parish Council and their Committees and subgroups in making the village a better place. Keep a lookout on Social Media and our website for more information.

Alison Sercombe

Clerk's Column

It was lovely to see some new and familiar faces at the Cuppa, Cake and Chat event and we will be running another free event on Saturday 16th October, from 12.30-3pm, again in the Merry Bells (see opposite). I hope we will see you there.

I am happy to say that the parish office is now open for Parish Surgeries. These take place every Wednesday and Saturday from 9.30-11.30 and you will have the opportunity to speak to the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, or a Councillor. You can still contact the council outside of these times using the contact details on both pages 2 and 71.

I would also like to thank everyone who responded to our Communication Consultation, we have looked at the initial results and will be using these to create a Communication Policy for the council. This will be presented to the council by the end of the year.

Hopefully you will have seen the work that had been carried out around the village. The fly tipped waste has been removed from the Memorial Gardens, the three brick bus stops have all been painted and the seating restained, as well as maintenance on the play areas and our allotments in Littleworth. There is still work to do in the Memorial Gardens, with some levelling off the ground, wildflower planting as well as the installation of the new interpretation board and repainting of the gates and railings.

The next stage of improvements to Village Square will begin in October, which will include oak panelling on the benches and around the raised bed, creating new seating as well as new planters that will bring vibrancy and attract pollinators.

We are often asked about the tree planting along the Farm Close/Station Rd footpath. To allow for the new trees to be given the best chance of survival, they will most likely be planted in November, but this will be dependent on the weather. Around the same time there will be opportunities for the community to help plant out new hedging too. We will share more information, nearer the time.

Getting Involved:

Community Emergency Plan

Would you like to help develop an emergency plan for your village and community? The parish council have made a start, but are seeking the input from residents of the village to help shape the document that will help emergency services and agencies to support Wheatley, during any emergency incidents.

Community Fridge/Larder

Are you interested in reducing food waste and sharing this with your community? A community fridge/larder could share excess food from local supermarkets, stores and wholesales with members/residents. There is still lots to work out, but if you would be interested in exploring options, please get in touch.

To register your interest in one or both of these opportunities, please contact the Parish Office:

clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk 01865 875615

Michelle Legg

Meetings & Dates

Parish Council

Merry Bells, 19:30

4th October

1st November

Planning Cmte.

Merry Bells, 19:30

13th October

10th November

Finance Cmte.

Merry Bells, 19:30

18th October

Open Spaces Cmte.

Merry Bells, 19:30

15th November

District Councillor Surgery

Parish Office

10:30-11:30

9th October

13th November



WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL INVITE YOU FOR A CUPPA, CAKE AND A CHAT

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER 12.30-3PM IN THE MERRY BELLS

Come down, meet a friendly face and enjoy some tasty treats. Everyone is welcome!

We especially extend the invite to anyone who has been isolating or would like some company.

Wheatley Parish Council, 89 High Street, Wheatley, OX33 1XP
T: 01865 875615 E: clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
W: www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Dog Fouling—SODC Waste & Recycling

Although there are many benefits that come with owning a dog, there are also responsibilities which include cleaning up after your dog. Please be aware that it is an offence to not clean up after your dog or leave used dog waste bags anywhere other than an appropriate bin. Under the Dog Fouling of Land Act 1996, allowing your dog to foul can result in an on-the-spot fixed penalty notice of £50 and incorrect disposal of dog waste bags can result in an £80 fixed penalty notice. If fines are not paid, cases can be escalated to court resulting in fines of up to £1,000.

The Parish office is open to the public each Wednesday and Saturday 09:30-11:30

Oxford Brookes Wheatley Campus

When the outline planning permission for up to 500 dwellings was granted on appeal in April 2020, it was clear that there would be a number of issues affecting local residents to be resolved both before and during the development of the site. It is worth noting that the site lies within the parish of Holton, but an additional 500 houses would have a huge impact on Wheatley.

With this in mind, it was felt that should be material co-operation between the two parishes to ensure a co-ordinated approach to Brookes, South Oxfordshire District Council and the developer in due course. For this reason, we set up a group, cleverly titled the Brookes Liaison Group, with representatives of Holton Parish Council, Wheatley Parish Council and Wheatley Park School.

There will be many matters arising throughout the course of the development which both communities will wish to discuss with Brookes and the developer in particular with the clear intention of influencing their approach and

decisions for the benefit of local residents.

There are likely to be a number of organisations who would like to have a say on what happens on the site, after both during and construction phase, but separate approaches from these organisations to the key players may be conflicting. We feel strongly that discussions South Oxfordshire with District Council, Brookes and the developer will carry much more weight coming body representing both from parishes. Therefore, we urge anyone with an interest in influencing outcomes on the site to channel their ideas through the Brookes Liaison Group so that we can work together.

At present it appears that it might be some time before any construction work commences. Among other things we understand that there are some legal issues to tidy up before the site can be fully marketed.

Please contact us if you have any matters which you wish to be considered.

Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan Report



The First Review has begun of WNP after it was 'made' by Referendum this May . WNP Committee and Wheatley PC had requested Examination two years ago [Sept. 2019]. Factors beyond the Examiner's and our control meant no valid SODC Development Local Plan was available by which he could measure the submitted WNP. The LP2034. had been 'frozen out', October 2019 -December 2020, and could not becould not be cited. He had to use an older, SODC Planning Strategy 2012 instead.

He modified our submitted WNP by removing 3 (eastern Wheatley) sites from our 4 proposed Enhancements, (which lelf Littleworth Enhancement intact.) He then Passed the modified WNP [Feb.2020], advising that we submit it to Referendum as soon as possible [duly done, 06 May 2021]. 'Made', Once а WNP may immediately begin a First Review corrections, updates and restoring what the Examiner had to remove in the absence of a valid Local Development Plan. In December 2020 the Local Plan [LP 2035] had been agreed and restored between SODC and Whitehall [December 2020]. It supports our WNP aspirations of 2019.

The Review is progressing. We are restoring the 3 **Enhancements** removed by the Examiner. We are refocussing on developments September 2019 - May 2021. E.g. ambient A40 noise now highlighted by the Local Plan, by Mill Green's Resident Executives, and by WNP website Evidence Bases from Old residents. WNP London Rd Committee has now responded to the new Draft [WNP 03] into which Roy Godon has put huge effort. WPC/HPC are now commenting (late Sepember). Public Consultation. Examination and Referendum will follow. Thank you everyone for your patience and support.

Have your say on Oxfordshire's future





The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is a long-term plan that will set a framework for future planning decisions.

We want your views on the policies we've suggested to help Oxfordshire:

- Address climate change
- Improve environmental quality
- Create strong and healthy communities
- Plan for sustainable travel and connectivity
- Create jobs and provide homes



The consultation is open until Friday 8 October

www.oxfordshireopenthought.org

Printed copies are available from your local library or one of the following:

- Banbury Town Council,
- Bicester Town Council,
- Cherwell District Council Bodicote House,
- Oxfordshire County Council County Hall,
- South Oxfordshire District Council,

- Vale of White Horse District Council Milton Park.
- West Oxfordshire District Council Woodgreen and Elmfield offices,
- Witney Town Council,
- Carterton Town Council,
- Chipping Norton Town Council.

Please confirm with the location before visiting.













The History File

A church divides like a ship, Nave [Hull] and Sanctuary [Bow]. 'Sanctuary' from arrest was last claimed 50 years ago: judges dismissed it as 'too long unclaimed'. Drama, song, music, talks, exhibitions have long shared worship space. A Clubs and Societies Fair in St Mary's last month showed how comfortable that sharing is. (English 'church whispering' has certainly ended! Pointed windows bother no-one. Ideas. conversation, people, and coffee bubbled that morning. Sheer human noise cheered and post-Lockdown even moved.

Wheatley medieval Chapel was always too small, but its two bells christened Bell Lane. In 1757 Thomas Sims offered to pay for a larger chapel and School. Petitioners backed him, but the bishop did not. From 1795, a final Wheatley Chapel under a Sims bequest lasted another 60 years, until Wheatley became a parish [1856] and earned its landmark church.



Travellers see the steeple even before crossing Wheatley Bridge

Thomas Davis, landlord-builder of The King's Arms [1756], had supported Sims and been a teacher, but where? In 1644, Richard Symonds, a garrison soldier, inspected the medieval chapel. He spotted a window-glass of St Nicholas – patron of children. A school may have shared the Chapel, however cramped.

Ante-natal wisdom was certainly shared in church porches. 'Churching' (thanksgiving and post-natal welfare) was more widespread. Basic podiatry, to clean feet of sores and 'nuisance' dirt, was a Last Supper basic. Harvest First Fruits tables reminded and thanked for what filled the barns outside. Crusader veterans had seen fountains in mosques (wash before you pray-hands, face, and feet). Medicine was taught and books loaned. The sight and sound of laughing welcoming families at picnic and play in a cool Damascus mosque is memorable. Many communities here lost their youth workers after school reforms, but some local church youth leaders have risen to the challenge.

Holton Bells (louder than Chapel) marked work shifts and prayer calls [Angelus at 12 and 6] across fields. People today, Nigel tells me, slip into St Mary's churchyard for the human silence of 'God's Acre' and to 'listen to the village' beyond.

'The Russian Bell in St Mary's Church – And a Secret Love Affair [Greg Walker] £3.00. 28pp. Superb true village story. Contact Peter Fanning. Proceeds to modernising St. Mary's Shared Space.

John Fox

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Nigel Talbot - Survey Manager

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Wheatley Playing Field Trust

News from The Trust

After 18 months of restrictions owing to Covid, it's great to see sport resuming on the playing fields again. Rugby, Football and Netball are all able to play competitively as sporting life returns to near normal.

This summer Wheatley Youth Cricket Club ran an All Stars series of sessions and next year hopes to repeat this for 5-8 year olds and also Dynamos for 8-12 years. Community tennis seemed to thrive.

We have now replaced the lights on the training pitch with LED's to reduce our carbon footprint and give a more uniform light.

However, Covid has not gone away and reasonable care must still be taken to ensure that we do not cause any further outbreak of the virus, so we still ask that casual use of the fields does not take place, because empty water bottles, masks or discarded equipment present safety hazards for those using and having to maintain the facilities. Likewise dog walking of the fields presents a real health hazard to

users, especially when poo is not correctly bagged and disposed of.

The Trust, as well as Wheatley Oaks FC and Wheatley Rugby Club, had tables at the recent Clubs and Societies Fair, held in St Mary's Church. This was an exceedingly well attended event, with many wanting to learn more of the activities that are taking place on the playing fields. A number of people asked about tennis in particular and expressed an interest in forming a club. As a consequence, the formation of a new tennis club is being looked into.

All of our user groups have their contact details on our website.

The Trust thus welcomes views on activities that anyone or any group might like to see taking place in the future, including under the new floodlights on the tennis/tarmac area.

Do get in touch at:

enquiries@wheatleyplayingfieldtrust.co.uk www.wheatleyplayingfieldtrust.co.uk

Paul Willmott | Chairman



Wheatley WI

OXFORDSHIRE

www.wheatleywi.com

July saw what we hoped was our last Zoom group meeting. Despite all the restrictions and not being able to see family and friends there were many positives to be had from our enforced lockdown and it was these that were discussed at this meeting.

The one thing that everyone agreed with was the wonderful community spirit found in Wheatley. All the help and support that was offered to the vulnerable, lonely and shielding people in the village, the kind gestures by neighbours and the gratitude shown to the NHS by clapping on Thursday evenings all helped bring the community together in an unprecedented way.

members appreciated Many their improvement in digital skills, learning how use Zoom and WhatsApp communicate with others and being able to join various online classes activities. Having 'me' time was also welcomed by many. Craft projects, knitting, gardening, reading, walking and improving cookery skills were just some of the pastimes mentioned.

There was a feeling that people are stronger, more resourceful and appreciative of the things they did before and took for granted. For the majority of our members life has not been too bad. We are the fortunate ones living in a nice village with easy access to the countryside but nevertheless we all want to get back to some sort of normality. Hopefully our

first step towards this will be the return of face to face meetings in September.

The bench commemorating our 100th anniversary is now in the possession of the Allotment Association. They will decide where it is to be located and arrange for it to be securely fixed in place.

W.I. History snippets 1921: In November arrangements were made for the Remembrance Service and the laying of a wreath at the war memorial. We are proud to be able to say that this is something that we still do every year, along with other societies in the village.

At this meeting a request was made for instruction, or a demonstration, on skincuring.

Apparently one of our members remembers curing a rabbit skin for her Alevel biology. I don't think her tongue in cheek offer of a demonstration would go down very well with today's membership. In December 1921 members made paper hats and arrangements were made for a Christmas party to be held in January when members would be able to invite guests, including children.

Our meetings are held in The Merry Bells on the third Tuesday of each month beginning at 7.15pm. In October our speaker will be Ian Scott-Hunter, *Life as a Royal* Footman and, in November, Ann Dawson will give a demonstration on flower arranging using supermarket flowers.

Stephanie Brooklyn



POPPY APPEAL



The 2021 Poppy Appeal

The British Legion Poppy Appeal authorities have announced that the Appeal this year is to go ahead in October/November in the traditional manner. It will run from Friday 29th October up to Saturday 13th November with Remembrance Sunday on 14th November 2021.

We are hoping to make collections at both Asda and Welcome Break, subject to whatever restrictions each organization may require of us due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. We will be provided with card readers at both location reducing the need for cash and indeed removing the traditional excuse "sorry but I haven't any change"!

In the village there will be fewer static boxes than in previous years.

I have written to all our regular volunteers initially to see how many are prepared to get involved, expecting some will still be a bit cautious in these uncertain times.

Jessica Jenkins, the Community Fundraiser for Oxfordshire, has agreed to give me some support this year, as so far no-one has come forward to take on the very satisfying job of Poppy Appeal Organiser for Wheatley and District which I will have performed for the past twenty years. I WILL NOT BE DOING THIS IN 2022.

If anyone else is willing to participate, particularly those under 60 years of age, then please get in touch so I can include you in our schedules.

Please respond even if you are unable to help this time but wish to be on the list for information as under the Data Protection Act you have to formally give your consent in this way to me using your details to draw up the rotas.

Fortunately, the country has not been involved in any recent significant conflicts (though some military personnel may have been injured in the retreat from Afghanistan) the requirement for funds to look after the needs of former service people and their loved ones is still great so any help will be more than welcome. Thank you in anticipation.

Roger Bell

01865 875286, 07747 344423

rogertbell304@gmail.com

Roger Bell Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser

Wheatley Library | 01865 875267



Wheatley Library Open Hours

Return to regular hours

Tuesday 2pm-7pm Wednesday 9.30am-1pm and 2-5pm Thursday 2pm-5pm Friday 9.30am-1pm and 2-6pm Saturday 9.30am-1pm

Welcome back!

The library is in the upper level of the Merry Bells Village Hall.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

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Search www.oxfordshire.gov.uk to see what is available to start a reading group or to use the free reading group service if you are already in a group.

The documents available online include:

- Reading group membership factsheet (pdf format, 81Kb)
- Membership form (pdf format, 88Kb)
- Book list without synopses (pdf format, 200Kb) there are more than 500 sets of books
- Book list with synopses (pdf format, 3Mb)

You can have up to three sets of books on loan to your group at any one time. If there is a title that you would like to read which is not on the list, you can recommend it to us, and we will consider it for inclusion next time we refresh the collection.

Wendy Stanton | Library Manager



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Clerk to the Local Governing Body

£12.85 - £14.75 per hour inclusive and based on experience

We currently have an opportunity at Wheatley CE Primary School for a committed individual with strong administrative skills and an interest in contributing to effective governance. The role of Clerk to the Local Governing Body (LGB) includes:

- Providing advice to the LGB on governance and procedural matters
- Providing admin support to the LGB including preparing agendas, minutes, etc.
- Liaising with the Chair, the Headteacher, and the ODST central team

You will be remunerated for nine hours work for each LGB meeting clerked, which includes attendance at the meeting and preparatory tasks, such as listed above.

This role is home-based with the need to attend meetings at schools, usually in the evenings. Training and support will be provided, and there will be the opportunity to attend regular briefings.

There's a lot more that goes into this important role, so please contact Liz Wickens on liz.wickens@wheatley.oxon.sch.uk for full details and requirements.

Please note that the **Wheatley Care Scheme** is currently operating with a reduced number of drivers, but the service remains available. Call **07505 543750** for assistance.

WHEATLEY CARE VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBER

Wheatley Care is looking for a third co-ordinator to join their team of volunteers to help manage booking requests and driver allocations (on average 30 per month)

If you like speaking to people and are good at scheduling/planning we'd love to hear from you.

Please call

Kath Lamont—01865 876609

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Please contact Kath Lamont—01865 876609

Thame Foodbank

Operated by Sharing Life Trust

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Not the Apple Weekend - Sat 9 & Sun 10 Oct, 10am till 4pm

Because of an unseasonal fifteen consecutive days of heavy frost at just the wrong time earlier in the year our apple crop this year has been hit hard leading to a much reduced number of apples for sale. We have innovative plans in place to protect the crop next year so fingers crossed for a bumper crop then! Despite of this we can still offer you a great family day out where you will be able to sample and buy many of our different types of juices. Advice and information on growing, planting, apple identification and selecting trees and rootstock will be available on the day. Buy goodies at the craft and food fair. This year, for the first time, our popular guided tours of the orchards and fruit sheds will also include the chance to go behind-the-scenes and see our apple press in action (£3 per adult or free with garden entrance and for season ticket holders). You can also take a tour of our Bee Hives and learn about the wonders of natural bee keeping. Take the children around the apple game in the gardens (must be accompanied by an adult for whom the garden entrance fee applies - not forgetting to keep an eye out for our pumpkin display in the Walled Garden!

Waterperry Spooky Scarecrow Trail - 16 till 31 October

Find the 10 spooky scarecrows hidden in the ornamental gardens and win a prize! A great chance for the kids to have fun and get some fresh air at the same time! £2.50 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult for whom the garden entrance fee applies.

For more information please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk



Mowers - We need you! Our churchyard needs attention

Many families in Wheatley have relatives or friends buried in the churchyard. This space is maintained by volunteers, who give their time up freely.

Join a group of mowers **on Monday mornings (or any convenient time)** during the summer months for good company, a good deed and a chat over coffee. **An hour or two** would be more than helpful.

Those in Wheatley and others who have moved elsewhere will thank you.

Please contact <u>clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk</u> or call 07462300799



Hello from The Maple Tree!

So far this year we have served 224 families and played with 289 children from Wheatley and beyond! We are now offering a full programme of sessions and activities to children under 5 and their parents and carers. We are erring on the side of caution with optional masks, a cleaning regime and adequate ventilation, and we are suggesting that families book using Eventbrite: bit.ly/mapletreeeb. However, dropping in for all or part of a session is also acceptable. There is a suggested donation of £2.50 per family per session. We welcome everyone!

Monday: Messy Mondays at 10:00-11:30am

Tuesday: Story and Rhyme Time at 10:00-11:30am

Wednesday: Maple Babies at 10:30-

11:30am and 1:30-2:30pm

Thursday: Little Explorers at 10:00-11:30am and **Little Adventurers** at 1:30-2:30pm

Friday: Coffee Morning with Wheatley Primary School parents at The Maple Tree Centre 8:45-9:45am and **Social Butterflies** at 10:00-11:30am (both entirely drop in)

Family Fun at 10:00-11:30am 3rd Saturday in month

Village Outreach: The Maple Tree at Forest Hill Village Hall on Thursdays from 11:00am-12:00pm

We are looking forward to our next fundraising event **Gardeners' Question Time** on 8th October at Mill View Garden Centre; details and tickets available from the Wheatley Society, Mill View and The Maple Tree.

We are looking for Volunteers! Would like to join our committed and friendly group of trustees? Or are you interested in helping with our sessions, working with young children alongside our dedicated staff team? Or fundraising? Do you have a lot of spare time or just an hour a week?

We are here to help you, if you need help, advice or support: 01865 236700 or 07849 466249.

Check out our Website and Facebook pages for our online sessions, special events and helpful information!

We are here to help you, if you need help, advice or support:

01865 236700 or 07849 466249

info@mapletree.org.uk www.mapletree.org.uk

www.facebook.com/ TheMapleTreeWheatley

Session Bookings: bit.ly/mapletreeeb

Laura Spencer | Centre Manager

Church News

Our Lady of Lourdes

01865 762433 | corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Harvest—Time to Fast

As the inevitable glut of garden-grown vegetables and fallen apples comes to an end, and as fruit has been gathered from local brambles and bushes, the thoughts of the community at Our Lady of Lourdes turn to the annual Harvest Family Fast Day on Friday October. Whilst the harvest here may be plentiful, it is a day on which we can express, in some small way. our solidarity with those in poverty by eating a simple meal and donating the savings to the work of CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

CAFOD is an inspirational organisation: acorns really can transform into oaks. In 1960. a few catholic women decided to ask their fellow parishioners to fast for a day and to contribute the savings to starving families in the Caribbean Island of Dominica. Within two years, every parish in the country was contributing and CAFOD, now a major international development agency, was created. Our Bishops were led by the inspirational activity these women.

CAFOD now works with the hardest to reach peoples in all corners of the earth. But the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world, now deeply affected by coronavirus with no NHS to supply vaccines, are also the ones who are being hit hardest by impact of climate change. Harvests are failing. Cities are flooding. Entire communities are finding it harder and harder to survive in the place they call home.

So our focus for the Harvest Fast Day this year is on the climate crisis and its impact on the poorest nations. We hope to educate and inspire our community to act in solidarity for the common global good - and we hope our small contribution will in and turn encourage transform national and international attitudes to the climate crisis. The good news is that donations to CAFOD during the pandemic have actually increased enabling more investment in impoverished sustaining communities and responding the to emergencies as they arise.

John Guy

Wheatley Area Churche

Encountering Community

For 16 years the Fusion Wheatley team, in partnership with Wheatley Area Churches, have run the annual Wheatley Holiday Club for primary aged children. Some years ago, this moved to Wheatley Park to accommodate larger numbers and in recent times has always been fully booked long before the event itself in late August.

Sadly, Covid restrictions meant that there was no holiday club at all in 2020 and even this year the team had to plan for all eventualities. The result was the Encounter festival, held in the playing fields beside Wheatlev Primary school over the August bank holiday weekend and centred around spectacular red and white striped big top! After such a long time apart, we felt that adults as well as children would appreciate the opportunity to gather and celebrate all that is good about our community and that certainly proved to be the case.

The aim was to run an event that felt inclusive, affirming and very welcoming to all who attended - a gift of service and love from the local churches to our community. God certainly answered our prayers for good weather and we are so grateful for the very hard work that the core organising team put in before and during the Encounter week.

The collaborative spirit of the volunteer and organising team was very strong and the atmosphere and culture around the event was very positive too. There were many smiles in evidence – not least from all the children – and it was a pleasure to be a part of it all.

The range of activities on offer was strong and there was something for all ages. The feedback from visitors was extremely positive as well. Indeed, for many it was the first major community event they'd been to for almost 2 years and was so welcome.

Hopefully, this will only be the first of many more WAC & Fusion events as we all look forward with hope to living together again with a renewed sense of community.

Gordon Ewbank | Chair

Wheatley United Reformed Church

01865 876288 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

News from URC

Quiz Walk around Long Crendon

We are very pleased to report the Quiz Walk raised the sum of £260 for the Falcon School in Harare, Zimbabwe. Many thanks to everyone who took part and for the donations which will be used for essential items and subsidised places at the school.

A World of Books – Saturday, 23rd October, 10am until 12noon, in Crown Square, Wheatley

Continuing our support for the Falcon School we are holding a book sale outside the church in Crown Square. We would appreciate donations of **GOOD** quality books to the church before Monday, 18th October. The sale will take place whatever the weather so please do spread the word and come and help us to raise funds and to spread awareness of the Falcon School during One World Week.

Due to the pandemic, the special Golden Jubilee Service and Tea on 26th June for Revd Dr Colin Thompson was postponed. We are very pleased that the service will go ahead on **Saturday**, **2nd October 2021 at 3.00pm**. Colin has been associated with Wheatley URC since the early 1990s and regularly leads worship. His thoughtful sermons have an international following; many of them are online at:

wheatleyurc.org.uk/sermons/worship-leader/colin-thompson.

Sunday Church Services

Services are now being held in the church with a booking system in order to restrict numbers. However, services can still be joined via Zoom. If you would like to join us please contact Phyllis Williams

secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk.

Debi Kidd

Church News

Wheatley Community Church

office@wheatleycommunitychurch.org

How Great Thou Art

If you've been to a church wedding or a morning service any time in the last fifty years, there's a good chance you'll have heard the words of that wonderful song of praise "How Great Thou Art":

Then sings my soul my saviour, God, to Thee

How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

There's something beautiful about singing together, and it wasn't until that was taken away from us by the pandemic that we realised just how much we missed it. As regulations lift and we've been allowed to sing together again in our Sunday meetings, we've noticed that there's even more "heart and soul" in the singing than before, because we've learned to appreciate what we were missing.

If there's something wonderful about singing, there's also something wonderful about praise – connecting with and thanking a God of love, generosity and creativity. While singing and praise were possible over Zoom, it's fair to say that it wasn't the same as being there in person. Our doors are now open again on a Sunday morning for anyone who would like to join us for a joyful morning service, complete with singing!

WCC meets on Sundays at 10:30am in Wheatley Primary School.

All are welcome – why not join us? For more information, or to register interest, head to

wheatleycommunitychurch.org/alpha office@wheatleycommunitychurch.org

Al McNicoll | Pastor



REVIVAL at St Mary's

Runners wanted for the Oxford Half Marathon!

We have 5 sponsored places available for the Oxford Half Marathon on Sunday 17th October to run on behalf of the Revival Project at St Mary's Church.

We have 3 runners, and we need 2 more.

Could it be you putting on those running shoes and blazing a trail for Wheatley? Your entry is paid for by us and you'll receive a T-shirt too.

If you enjoy a physical challenge, then join our other runners by contacting Deborah Bale at deborahbale56@gmail.com and do your bit for Wheatley!

Goodbye Chris and Carol

St Mary's Church has been a landmark of the village for over 150 years. To the left of the porch is a memorial to those who died in two World Wars; beyond it is the creamy stone of a new church wall, stone mason's work completed in 2013, when the rough original quarry stone was found to be crumbling.

The driving force behind this work was Christopher Sprent and his wife Carol. Chris Sprent launched The Friends of St Mary's in 2004, to ensure that the church and churchyard is maintained today and into the future. Since then, The Friends have raised more than £70,000 to keep this iconic building in shape.



Whilst running expenses for St Mary's (£1800 a

week) are met by the congregation, the job of The Friends is to preserve the fabric of the building. Thanks to Chris and Carol, this separation of powers has meant that many in the wider community have played their part in preserving this historic building.

The couple met in Canada, when Chris was a pilot in the RAF. They moved to Wheatley in 1980 and, after a spell in the Middle East, settled here permanently eight years later. Chris became Secretary to the PCC and then Churchwarden from 1997 to 2006, following which he cared for the building throughout the next decade. Meanwhile, Carol ran the Events, Church Fairs and Bazaars. When they retired, the couple continued to help with all manner of jobs - even giving the brasses a regular polish.

Chris and Carol's long involvement in the life of the village was celebrated at a festive ninetieth birthday for Chris in the Merry Bells last month. Following their move to the Fairfield Residential Home in Summertown, their energy and warmth will be sadly missed by their many friends in Wheatley.

Further details about membership of The Friends of St Mary's can be obtained from the Chairman, Peter Fanning: peterafanning@gmail.com

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30 hours spaces now available. We now take 2-year old's.

Forest school is running for all children between the ages 2-11 years.

All Stars Club Hours 8.00-9.00am and Monday-Thursday 3.15-6.00pm and Friday 3.15-5.00pm

(Reduced hours during the pandemic, 5pm closure)

The aim of the club is to provide a wide and varied programme of After School entertainment for children, extracurricular activities as well as offering childcare. Everyday we aim to provide a choice of two activities between 3.15pm and 5.00pm in an attempt to cater for the differing wants and needs of children at the Nursery and neighbouring primary School.

Please contact us on 01865 876750 or email us at staff@horspathnursery.org.uk

Visit our website for more information www.horspathnursery.org.uk

Ofsted June 2017 Rating: Good

"Staff focus successfully on seeking the views of individual children to plan ongoing activities. Staff support children's play and have a consistent approach and use good quality teaching strategies to extend children's learning."



WHEATLEY NURSERY SCHOOL





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E-mail:wheatleynurseryschool@johnwatsonschool.org

"Strong, enthusiastic support sees pupils thrive at Wheatley Nursery School."

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Please visit our website for more information: <u>www.wheatleynurseryschool.org</u> or follow us on facebook.







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Clubs & Events

NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE Wheatley High Street Friday 26th

November 11:00—23:00 For Wheatley Wheatley Christmas Fair

Friday 26th November High Street and

The Merry Bells 14:00 - 20:00 Handmade craft & gifts, food & drinks WHEATLEY WINDMILL

Open Sunday 10th October 14:00-17:00

Last opportunity to see around the windmill and sample our delicious teas this year

WHEATLEY LIBRARY

Christmas Fair

Merry Bells upper level Return to regular hours Tue 14:00-19:00 Wed 09:30-13:00

> Wed 14:00-17:00 Thu 14:00-17:00

Fri 09:30-13:00 Fri 14:00-18:00

Sat 09:30-13:00 Welcome back!

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For transport to hospital, surgeries etc. NOT to shops!

For all residents of Wheatley, Littleworth & Holton

TO BOOK, PLEASE PHONE AS SOON AS YOU HAVE YOUR APPOINTMENT

07505 543750 Answerphone
Use your Blue Badge if you
have one

Wheatley Care Scheme

Secretary needed for meetings four times per year Contact Kath

Lamont 01865 876609

HOLTON & WHEATLEY CRICKET CLUB

New members, any ability, always welcome.

Contact Hugh Kitchin 01865 873305

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

Friday 29th
October until
Saturday 13th
November

Wheatley Wine Circle AGM

New Club, Wheatley Wed 3rd November 19:30

Monthly meetings will resume in January

2022 on an informal basis

Further details to follow in December

Clubs & Events

Wheatley Parish Council

CUPPA, CAKE and a CHAT

Merry Bells
Sat 16th October
12:30-15:00
Meet a friendly face
and enjoy some tasty
treats

Not So Young Club

URC Church
Monday 20th September
14:00—16:00
Then same time
fortnightly until 13th
December
Frances Simpson
01865 873248
Barbara Joiner

Wheatley Singers

We're back!
Meeting every Tuesday
in the large and airy St.
Mary's Church.
We'd love you to join us
as we prepare for a

November. We sing; we have fun; we go to the pub.

revival performance in

Contact details page 70

Brownies

Back meeting outdoors only Girls aged 7 to 9 Wednesdays 17:30 - 19:00

Contact Adele
1stwheatleybrownies@gmail.com

Guides

albarjoiner@btinternet.com

Back meeting indoors
Girls aged 10 to 14
Wheatley URC
Term-time
Wednesdays
19:00 - 20:30
Contact Rachel

Rangers

Back meeting indoors
Girls aged 15 to 17
Wheatley URC
Term-time
Wednesdays
19:00 - 20:30
Contact Clare

wheatley.guides@yahoo.co.uk

WHEATLEY VILLAGE ARCHIVE

Thursdays 2pm-5pm
Room 1 (upstairs)
Merry Bells
Last Saturday of each
month
10am-12 noon
Have you been to find
out about your village.
Do come soon!

The Maple Tree Gardener's

wheatley.guides@yahoo.co.uk

Question Time

Mill View Garden Centre

Friday 8th October

19:00-21:30

Tickets £10

For booking and details: info@mapletree.org.uk

The Wheatley Society

Desert Island Discs with Bill Jackson

Merry Bells Friday 12th November 19:45

Day by Day

MONDAY

Wheatley Oaks FC | Holton Playing Fields | 19:00-20:00 | Women 30+ | hello@coachemma.co.uk
Mindfulness Sitting Group | URC | via Zoom | 08:50-09:40 | 01865 876288 | tomgoss09@gmail.com
Friends of Wheatley Library Craft Group | 10:00-12:00 & 19:00-21:00 | Exc. bank holidays
Beaver Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | Term time 18:00-19:00 | 01865 874997
Messy Mondays | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30 | bit.ly/mapletreeeb
Wheatley Bridge Club | Holton Village Hall | 19:00 | 01865 874017
Badminton Club | Park Sports Centre | 20:00-22:00 | 07769 827335

Studio25 Dance Academy | Merry Bells | studio25danceoxford@gmail.com | 07808 209243

- Junior Beginners | 16:00-17:00 | Age 7-9
- Senior Beginners | 17:00-18:00 | Age 10+

TUESDAY

Wheatley Library | Open 14:00-19:00

Rugby Club Seniors Training | Wheatley Playing Field | 19:00 | To book 07768 300314

Wheatley Women's Institute | Merry Bells | 3rd in month | 19:15 | 01865 558167

Wheatley Singers | URC Hall | 19:15-21:00 | 01865 872250 | All welcome

Wheatley Village Produce Association | Merry Bells | 2nd in month | 19:30

Flow Fitness Pilates | Merry Bells | 10:00-11:00 | info@flowfitness.org.uk

Story and Rhyme Time | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30 | bit.ly/mapletreeeb

Baby Ballerinas (pre-schoolers) | Merry Bells | 14:00-14:30 | Danni Evenhuis 07757 323553

Jumping Jellybeans (pre-schoolers) | Merry Bells | 14:30-15:00 | Danni Evenhuis 07757 323553

Dance4Fun Contemporary Dance | Merry Bells | Danni Evenhuis 07757 323553

- Reception to Year 2 | 16:00-16:30
- Year 3+ | 16:30-17:15

Merry Bells Coffee Room | 10:00-12:00 | To book 01865 873996 | All welcome

WEDNESDAY

Maple Babies | Maple Tree Centre | 10:30 & 13:30, one hour each | bit.ly/mapletreeeb Wheatley Library | Open 09:30-13:00 & 14:00-17:00

Pop-up Pilates | Merry Bells | 18:30 & 19:30, 1 hour | info@pop-up-pilates.com | 07731 321991 Cub Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | 18:45-20:15 | 01865 874284 | Boys & Girls Age 8-10½ Guides & Rangers | URC | Via Zoom | Term time 19:00-20:30 | Age 10+ | wheatley.guides@yahoo.co.uk Merry Bells Coffee Room | 10:00-12:00 | To book 01865 873996 | All welcome Baby Music Group | URC | Via Zoom | 10:00 | Term time only | Rachel 07505 131124 Sweaty Mama (Mum & baby fitness) | Merry Bells | 10:00-10:45 | Alex 07814 417991 Gathering & Short Prayers | URC | Via Zoom | 10:30/18:00 alternating | minister@wheatleyurc.org.uk Football Fitness | Tiger's Retreat, Garsington | 19:00-20:00 | yohannadam@yahoo.co.uk | Age 30+ St Mary's Church | 01865 872224 | vicar.wheatley@gmail.com

Holy Communion | 12:00 | Must pre-book

THURSDAY

Mindfulness Sitting Group | URC | via Zoom | 08:50-09:40 | 01865 876288 | tomgoss09@gmail.com
Wheatley Walks | Car park behind 6th Form Centre | 10:00-11:00 | 01865 873430
Wheatley Library | Open 14:00-17:00
Little Explorers | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30 | bit.ly/mapletreeeb
Little Adventurers | Maple Tree Centre | 13:30-14:30 | bit.ly/mapletreeeb
Maple Tree at Forest Hill | Forest Hill Village Hall | 11:00-12:00 | laura@mapletree.org.uk
Wheatley Village Archive | Merry Bells | 14:00-17:00 | Appt only, to book 01865 425909
Rugby Club Seniors | Wheatley Playing Field | 19:00 | To book 07768 300314
Explorer Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | 19:00-21:00 | 07745 285938 | Age 14½-18
Merry Bells Coffee Room | 10:00-12:00 | To book 01865 873996 | All welcome
Pilates | Merry Bells | 09:45-10:45
Yoga | Merry Bells | 19:30-20:30

Day by Day

FRIDAY

Wheatley Library | Open 09:30-13:00 & 14:00-18:00

Horspath Hub Coffee Morning | 10:00-12:00 | 07591 933964

Coffee Morning w/ Wheatley Primary Sch. | Maple Tree Centre | 08:45-09:45 | Drop-in

Social Butterflies | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30 | Drop-in

Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | 19:00-21:00 | 07745 285938 | Boys & girls age 101/2-14

St. Mary's Bell Tower Practice | St. Mary's Church | 19:30-21:00 | 01865 872250

Merry Bells Coffee Room | 10:00-12:00 | To book 01865 873996 | All welcome

Martial Arts | Primary School Hall | 07731 512682 | mrsfox@mattfiddes.com

- Mighty Matts | 16:30-17:15 | Age 3-6
- Junior/Family | 18:30-19:30 | Age 7+

SATURDAY

Wheatley Library | Open 09:30-13:00

Ballet Class | Merry Bells | 10:00-11:00

Wheatley Village Archive | Merry Bells | Last in month | 10:00-12:00 | Appt only 01865 425909

Family Fun | Maple Tree Centre | 3rd Saturday in month | 10:00-11:30 | bit.ly/mapletreeeb

Scrabble Club | Location varies | 1st in month | 19:30 | 01865 872628

Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church | 01865 762433 | corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

• Vigil Mass | Our Lady of Lourdes, Crown Rd. | 18:00

SUNDAY

Wheatley Windmill Open | 2nd in month | May to October

Wheatley Minis Football | Holton Rugby Club | 09:00-10:00 | Ages 4-7 | 07756 608744

St Mary's Church | 01865 872224 | vicar.wheatley@gmail.com

- Holy Communion | 08:00
- Parish Praise | 1st Sunday in month | 10:00
- Sung Eucharist | 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday in month | 10:00
- Food Bank Sunday | 4th Sunday in month | 10:00 | Please bring a donation for the Food Bank

United Reformed Church | 01865 876288 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

- Holy Communion | 1st & 3rd Sunday in month | 10:00
- Food Bank Sunday | 1st Sunday in month | 10:00
- Afternoon tea | 1st Sunday in month | 14:30-16:30

Wheatley Community Church | office@wheatleycommunitychurch.org

Wheatley Primary School | 10:30

* YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

YOUR Wheatley Village Archive is open again in the Merry Bells with appropriate social distancing, of course, on Thursday afternoons from 2 to 5 and on the last Saturday of each month from 10 to 12. Do visit and see what is stored on your behalf.

The AGM of Wheatley Village Archive will be held on Tuesday 5 October in the Coffee Room of the Merry Bells at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Like every other group or society, this has been an extraordinary 18 months with the village in and out of lockdown, However, and despite a lack of visitors to the archive room, it has also been a very successful time and much has accomplished along with been opportunities taken to sell our two new books when relaxations of lockdown permitted. WVA's major publication 'Bygone Wheatley' was commissioned before Covid struck and an incredible 265 copies having been sold. The memories of Christine Jackson (nee Tombs) from about 1939-1957 were converted into a book and had 100 of these printed and 71 have been sold. Both fascinating books to read.

Following on from the very successful Heritage Trail (green leaflet) of which over 2500 leaflets have been taken by residents and visitors to the village, the recently devised Greater Heritage Trail (blue leaflet) has proved very popular

too and followed by many people already. It is a 3-mile walk covering a much larger area and based on Wheatley's industrial heritage. Several guided walks of this trail have taken place, and there has been strong interest in this aspect of Wheatley's history from two other Oxford history organisations, Oxford Preservation Trust and Oxfordshire Architectural and History Society.

During the year, the records on the computer in the archive room have been extensively trawled, discovering a large number of images which have, as a result, been added to the hard copy and website archives. Some 350 completely new images have been added with a further 425 images added to or revised in previous records. 365 new or modified pdfs have been added or revised. About 90 completely new records have been added. The overall tally of over 1100 records, added or modified, shows that the archive has had a major make-over with now over Reports, of various 2500 records. lengths and complexities, have been written on some of the older houses in village broadening understanding of Wheatley and the inhabitants from almost 200 years ago. check out the website Do on www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk it's always growing!

Steph Cox







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The Merry Bells Village Hall

Unfortunately last time's Wheatley News did not print our article in full and left out the crucial information of the date and time of our AGM.

However, the AGM did go ahead as planned on 2nd September and residents were elected to represent all the village on the Committee. The full list of current committee members can be found on the noticeboard outside The Merry Bells.

We are able to co-opt more people if anyone wants to join us - in particular we need someone to take over the role of Treasurer (mainly keeping a record of

income and expenditure) and somebody to be Secretary (mainly taking minutes at the meetings and distributing paperwork to the committee). We meet once a month for about an hour.

If you are interested in helping us manage The Merry Bells, do please get in touch via info@merrybells.org.uk or speak to any of the committee members.

To book The Merry Bells please either go to our website www.merrybells.org.uk and click on the booking tab, or contact info@merrybells.org.uk, or phone 01865 872073. **Tim Blightman**



ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION



The Howe has been well used for exercise and recreation during the In addition to seats and summer. benches, there is a recently donated picnic table for general use. There is one plea, please take your litter home; it is distressing for other users to be surrounded by discarded cans and crisp packets. A further problem is that some of the ash trees are affected by ash die back and need to be felled before they die completely and become dangerous. On the plus side we have planted over 600 trees in the past 10 years and are receiving another 100 from the Woodland Trust this autumn for planting out in mid-November. As usual we are dependent on volunteer help both with respect to planting and future maintenance. We have been grateful for recent help from the Wheatley Wanderers and if vou would like to be involved either on a regular or ad hoc basis please contact Malcolm Benson.

This has been a productive year for allotment holders, especially beans and courgettes! Unfortunately, blight decimated any tomato plants. Surplus produce donated to the food bank run by Asylum Welcome has been gratefully received. In August,

additional raised beds were formally 'opened' with presentation of a plaque from the National Gardens Scheme, recognising their financial contribution to the project. At the same time we were able to 'christen' a smart new bench generously donated by the W I. The allotment AGM, when rents are due, is on November 1st. Now is the time to get your name on the waiting list if you would like a plot for next year. There are plots of varying sizes to suit different needs and abilities as well as the raised beds for individuals who have disabilities which make it difficult to manage a normal plot.

For further information regarding the Howe Trust or the allotment association please contact one of the following:

Malcolm Benson

Chair, Howe Trust mkb@doctors.org.uk | 07867 634321

E Morgan-Jones

Secretary, Allotment Association 01865 874413

Malcolm Benson

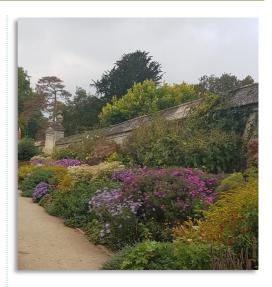
Wheatley Village Produce Association

Words from The VPA

Well, August wasn't overly warm but it did turn out to be very dry. September delivered some welcome warmth but the days are shortening and, inevitably, cooling down. We had a productive morning at the Clubs & Societies Fair with a number of people expressing interest in joining.

October is a great time to continue tidying but also to prepare for the next year. So, cut back perennials which look untidy but leave those with interesting seed heads, such as teazels. As well as tidying perennials, divide some to make more, including rhubarb. Whilst dahlias are usually left until first frost before lifting, move tender plants which can't wait under cover or wrap carefully. Pick fruits and collect seeds from favourite plants. Prune climbing roses. finish mowing lawns trimming hedges. It is a good time to aerate, scarify and repair scruffy lawns or lay new turf.

November will continue the trend for colder, darker days, so warm up by clearing leaves, planting tulips and pruning shrub roses. The birds may be getting short of food, so net brassicas and keep bird feeders topped up. Ensure vulnerable outdoor containers are raised on feet and insulated.



Grease band fruit trees against winter moth. It is the month for bonfires so, if you must, make this the time for getting rid of non-compostable stuff having kept fuel as dry as possible to reduce smoke pollution. Happy Guy Fawkes!

The 2021 AGM will be held at the Merry Bells on Tuesday 9 November when we will collect subscriptions of £12 per family for the coming year. Do come along and join us and look forward to a better year in 2022. You will be warmly welcomed!

Email wheatley VPA@gmail.com with any queries.

Geraldine Surman

ASDA Wheatley Community Update

It is fantastic to get back out into the community to visit groups, who have now re opened following long closures. We have also been able to support local food banks and take part in litter picks.

Our full community activity has now resumed which includes offering space fover for not-for-profit in our organisations to either raise awareness for their causes or to fundraise with coin collections. But be guick, as we already have a number of groups booked into store, which means we have limited slots available. However please get in touch if you have connections to local groups and we will see what we can do. As part of these activities, we can also invite groups including schools, youth groups, or vulnerable adults to give

them a tour of the behind-the-scenes

action at ASDA. These tours last between one to two hours.

To run these sessions, I have a variety of resources we can use and can focus on areas such as ASDA's sustainability or safe storage. I can also come out to community groups and run similar sessions.

Our first digital green token vote has finished, with Oxford Spires Scout District coming first receiving a cheque for £500 with the runners up; Red Kite Family Centre and Tetsworth Memorial Hall being awarded with £200 for their causes.

Thank you for all being part of the digital vote and for all your continued support in the store and I look forward very much to meeting you in our local community.

Linda Blackmore

Wheatley Refugee Support Group

AFGHANISTAN: The immediate response, with donations, to refugees from Afghanistan arriving in the UK, in Oxfordshire as elsewhere, was massive and organisations quickly had enough to meet initial needs. Oxfordshire Afghan Aid were able to pass some excess clothes and toiletries on to Oxford Mutual Aid and local homelessness groups. OAA and others now have a more targeted response and you can see what their current priorities are on their Facebook page.

If you have not already received our Circular (4th September) you can go to our Facebook page for pointing towards the needs of various organisations supporting Afghan refugees - MONEY, clothes, toiletries and nappies, toys, plus longer-term needs including accommodation, support and fostering.

(Please note: the correct local contact for Care4calais for limited clothes donations is stevelenbond1@gmail.com (not hotmail) – apologies for confusion).

ASYLUM WELCOME: In the meantime, since the summer and with great support

Sustainable Wheatley

Sustainable Wheatley

Sustainable Wheatley is a voluntary group whose aim is promoting sustainable living through waste reduction, re-use, recycling and use of resources.

We are primarily known for our Swapshops (which we hope to be able to re-start in 2022) and for our autumn fruit picking and distribution (again hopefully next year) but we want to do more than this to help combat climate change and other environmental issues which are mostly the result of overconsumption. This would include finding ways to reduce massively carbon emissions in Wheatley, (starting with a reduction in plastic usage, car usage, food waste, and fossil fuel-based energy) and/or water consumption.

However, we are a small group and lack the resources (time, knowledge and energy) to be as effective as we feel it needs to be, so we need new leaders with the drive, knowledge and initiative to take us forward and grow the group.



With COP26 coming up in Glasgow in November, this is an ideal time for driving sustainability issues up the agenda and so if you want to lead the way and bring some much-needed energy and expertise please get in touch.

Contact us:

email admin@wheatleycag.org
website www.sustainablewheatley.org
Facebook page @sustainablewheatley
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Tim Blightman

from Wheatley Allotments plus one or two others in the community, we have been delivering fresh vegetables each week to Asylum Welcome, for a welcome addition to the food packs distributed to refugees and asylum seekers in the community in Oxford.

CLOTHES COLLECTION: We are planning for a 3rd collection of good clothes, bedding and toiletries at the Merry Bells 10 - 12 on Saturday 23rd October (TBC), with Global Aid Network who work with refugees in Bosnia and Greece.

For further information go to our Facebook page. You can contact us on wheatleyrefugeegroup@gmail.com

Nick Vernede







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If you are looking to travel soon, I just wanted to make you aware of some of the changes to passport validity.

If you're travelling within the EU, your passport must be less than 10 years old on the day after you leave the country you are visiting. If you renewed your current passport before the previous one expired, extra months may have been added to its expiry date. Any extra months on your passport over 10 years may not count toward the minimum period needed. It's important to check to make sure your passport will still be valid when you travel.



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Wheatley Scout Group and The Maple Tree have joined forces again to sell Christmas trees to support their activities. All of the cut trees are premium quality fir from sustainable plantations in Scotland.

4ft+, 5ft+, 6ft+ and 7ft - all at unbeatable prices

Order your tree from November 1st for collection from The Maple Tree on Dec 10th at a seasonal sale of crafts and Christmas treats.

Deadline for orders: 1st December at 5pm

Register your interest now at: xmastrees@mapletree.org.uk

Family Christmas Crafts

Don't miss the Maple Tree's Christmas Crafts day for the family on 4th December: info@mapletree.org.uk or Tel. 01865 236700



Morland House PPG

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update

This update was prepared on 14th Sept 2021; events may well have moved on by the time you get to read this.

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Update

If you are aged 18 or over or are within three months of your 18th birthday, you may book your vaccine online through this website www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination or by phoning 119. If you are aged 16 or 17, you can visit a walk in Covid-19 vaccination site, please visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19 for up-to-date information.

As of 14th September, guidance on the booster vaccine has not yet been announced. Please visit our website or 111.nhs.uk for up-to-date information. In the meantime, we will contact patients once clinics have been set up, please do not contact us to try to make an appointment before then.

COVID-19 Vaccination Card

Patients with online access to their medical record (through the Patient Access app) can now view their COVID-19 vaccination record from the home screen of the app. This new feature will automatically be visible for patients who have already had access to their detailed care record and immunisations enabled by their practice. For information on how to gain online access to your medical record, please go to www.morland-house.co.uk and search 'Online Access'.

Important Information to keep you safe while isolating at home

If you have suspected coronavirus and have not been admitted to hospital, you may be isolating at home. Please see this leaflet for important information on how you can manage.

tinyurl.com/dpuf8wbs This leaflet can also be accessed on our website.

Blood Bottle Shortage

There is currently a shortage of blood test tubes in the UK. You can still have a blood test if you have an urgent health problem, but you may be asked to wait for your test, or rebook one for a later date if your doctor says it's safe to do so. We cannot give an exact date for when blood tests can be rebooked, but you will get a test as soon as possible if you need one. If you are worried about your symptoms, please visit 111.nhs.uk or call 111.

2021/22 Flu Vaccination

Unforeseen road freight challenges have brought about a delay to the delivery of our flu vaccines. We do not yet know when we receive them. Please do not contact us to try to book an appointment, we will contact our patients once we have a delivery date.

Wheatley Pharmacy – Opening Up

We are delighted to announce that Wheatley Pharmacy will be open for business on Monday 20th September, with a "grand" opening taking place on Saturday 25th September. Please do join us at 11am that morning for ribbon cutting and cake.

Visit Morland House Website:

For up-to-date information about our services, please visit www.morland-house.co.uk.

Morland House PPG



Wheatley Good Neighbour Scheme Clubs and Societies Fair

Bright sunshine greeted the launch of the Clubs and Societies Fair, which was held in St Mary's Church at the start of September. From Bell Ringing to Badminton, from Bridge to Baby Music, Wheatley has more than fifty clubs catering for every taste and interest.



Thirty-seven societies were represented at the Fair in a tapestry of banners, art work and inventive decoration, lighting up the nave and spilling out to the churchyard, where the Howe Trust and the Produce Society mingled with the Bell Ringers and the coffee and cake stands set amongst the graves.

More than three hundred villagers attended a day of celebration, amongst whom there were many who had recently moved to Wheatley, families who for months had been locked down in the pandemic and who now discovered what a rare fund of activities the village has to offer.

Everywhere, recruits signed on - for the Ramblers, the Wheatley Singers or for 'Stitch in Time' – while others greeted one another after eighteen months of dull restraint.

The event was arranged by **Wheatley Good Neighbour Scheme**, under the umbrella of

the Parish Council 'Wellbeing' remit which, as its name implies, fosters good relationships, well-being and initiatives to care for one another during and after these difficult times.

Revival at St Marys, the team behind the church refurbishment plans, 'aims to make St Mary's a more-welcoming place of worship and refurbish the building to meet the wider needs of the community.'

Wheatley's response to the Clubs and Societies Fair shows just what this building must be: 'a place for everyone throughout the whole community.'

Grateful thanks to all the many exhibitors and participants – not least to the Park Sports Club and the Rugby Club for their help in shifting the heavy pews.



If you would like to know more about the Wheatley Good Neighbour Scheme or you would like to become a volunteer, email: wheatleygns@gmail.com for more information.

Peter Fanning

THE WHEATLEY SOCIETY



Parish Newsletter October / November 2021

The Wheatley Society programme is now well underway. We hosted an amazingly successful Pop-Up Refill Shop in the Merry Bells. Thank you all for coming, clearly the idea was well supported so, hopefully, there will be another similar event in the autumn.

A walk in Oxford based on Gargoyles and Grotesques made many of us look upwards and see just how many there are around the city. Brian Lowe, our guide, provided fascinating explanations and many revealing anecdotes.





The Clubs and Societies Fair held in St. Mary's showed just how keen people are to meet each other again after such a long lockdown. As a result, we welcome 17 new members.

Charles Bennett hosted a tour of his Sandy Lane Farm. His talk focused on how farming is having to innovate to adapt to climate change. His son, George, showed us many new farming techniques to improve soil fertility and move towards organic status without the use of chemicals. Delicious cream teas were also available.

Future events for your diary include an illustrated talk by Colin Pawson on "The Story of Coaching from the Golden Age to the

Present Day. on Thursday 23rd September 2.30 at the Merry Bells." It will include demonstrations of Traditional Coach Horn Calls and Tunes.

A trip to a private Garden in Chalgrove which specialises in autumnal flowers and grasses is planned for the 6th October and members will receive more information nearer the date.

We are supporting the Maple Tree's Gardener's Question Time at the Mill View Garden Centre on Friday October 8th 7-9.30. Full details including how you can present your question are available elsewhere in this newsletter but you can go up to Mill View at and look around any time after 6. The event itself starts with a glass of wine and canapes. Tickets costing £10 are available via info@mapletree.org.uk.

Friday 12th November at the Merry Bells 7.45 sees the return of Desert Island Discs. This time we will be listening to the choices of Bill Jackson whilst he talks about his life and career which saw him and his family living in several countries whilst working in the field of International Development.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events. For those interested in joining, please contact Leigh Darnton: darnton@talktalk.net.

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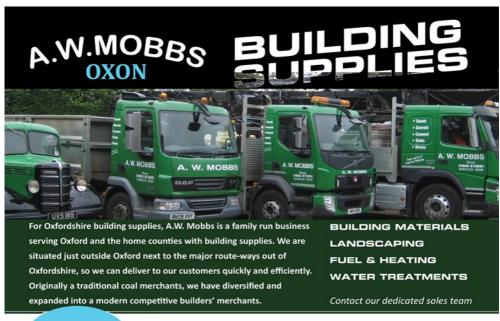


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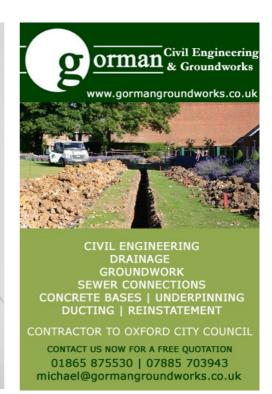
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Wheatley Singers

After the dreadful desert of the last 18 months, Wheatley's own choir, the "Wheatley Singers" is re-booting!

We've already enjoyed a safe "al fresco" summer season, singing together in beautiful gardens, and performing - and picnicking! - in a field. Now we're rehearsing again, in earnest, to prepare for a concert in November.

We're preparing, with fingers firmly crossed, to sing Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle and Gounod's delightful little "Messe aux Chapelle" - both uplifting, spirited and highly singable works, in St Mary's on November 13th. Have a listen to the Rossini here, if you want to be inspired:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=czfgEtUFK74

We've "normally" rehearsed in Wheatley's lovely URC. But we want to make sure that everyone feels safe as we come back together. So, after a couple of sessions in a spacious, airy, rustic barn, we're now going to meet in St Mary's - a larger venue with plenty of circulation and openable doors. Every Tuesday at 7.15pm.

Now that we're getting going again, we'd love to welcome new members (we already have a couple!); and to have former members re-join. If you can read music, great. But it's not essential. Enthusiasm and commitment are far more necessary attributes!

Our rehearsals are relaxed and informal, but effective. And great fun. Do come and join us.

Contact Matthew, our Secretary

(07885 059633; email matthew.maier@mmaier.co.uk) or

Kate, our Musical Director

(07729 887244; email topcopykate@btinternet.com), or any choir member for more information or encouragement.

Celia Pagel

SODC Waste Collections — October & November 2021

Collection day is Monday unless * (B. Hol)	Which bins and other items?
Oct 4th & 18th Nov 1st, 15th & 29th	Green, brown, food & oil waste, textiles
Oct 11th & 25th Nov 8th & 22nd	Grey, food & oil waste, small electricals

Key Contacts

Local Governance:

Oxfordshire County Council | 01865 792422 | oxfordshire.gov.uk

County Councillor Tim Bearder | 07789 754727 | tim.bearder@oxfordshire.gov.uk

District Councillor Alexandrine Kantor | 07581 745221 | alexandrine.kantor@southoxon.gov.uk

South Oxfordshire DC | 01235 422422 | southoxon.gov.uk

Planning Applications | 01235 422600 | planning@southoxon.gov.uk

Wheatley Parish Council | 01865 875615 | clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Local information:

Wheatley Post Office | 0845 722 3344 | Open Mon-Fri 09:00-17:30, Sat 09:00-13:00

The Maple Tree (Children's Centre) | 01865 236700 | hayley@mapletree.org.uk

The Merry Bells Village Hall | 01865 872073 | merrybells.org.uk

Howe Trust Allotment Assoc. | Secretary | Taff Morgan-Jones | 01865 874413

Wheatley Library | 01865 875267 | wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Wheatley Park Sports Centre | 01865 872128 | better.org.uk/venues/park

Wheatley Park School | 01865 872441 | wheatleypark.org

Wheatley Primary School | 01865 872366 | wheatley.oxon.sch.uk

Services:

Police non-emergency | 101 | www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Citizens Advice Oxfordshire | 03444 111 444 | caox.org.uk

To report potholes, fly-tipping, broken paving, vandalism, etc. | 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

Housing | 01235 422422 | housing@southandvale.gov.uk

GP Surgery, Morland House | 01865 872448 | morland-house.co.uk

NHS Out of Hours Service | 111 | 111.nhs.uk

Gas Emergency | 0800 111 999 | nationalgrid.com/group/safety-and-emergencies

National Power Cut Helpline | 105 | ssen.co.uk

Burst pipe or leak | 0800 714 614 | thameswater.co.uk

Floodline | 0345 988 1188 | gov.uk/check-flood-risk

Transport:

Oxfordshire Comet | 01865 323201 | oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet

Wheatley Care Scheme (transport to hospital or GP surgery) | 07505 543750

Arriva (280) Bus | 0344 800 4411 | arrivabus.co.uk

Oxford Bus Co. (U1 & London) | 01865 785400 | brookesbus.oxfordbus.co.uk

National Rail Enquiries | 03457 484950 | nationalrail.co.uk



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Find out more on Facebook @wheatleychristmasfair