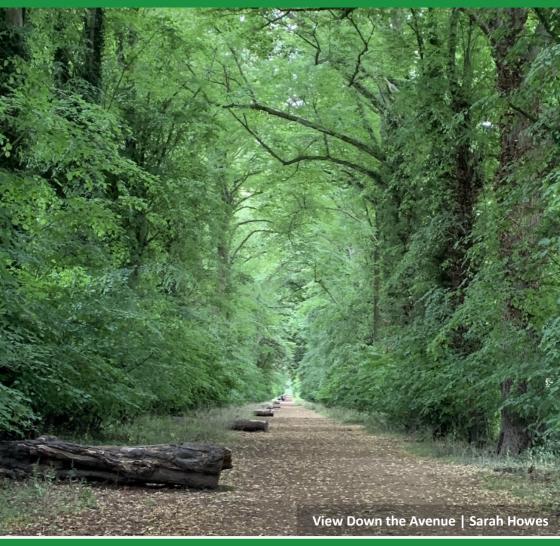
WHEATLEY NEWS

Published by Wheatley Parish Council



Parish Annual Report - Page 5 Great Big Green Week - Page 17 Project Active - Page 70





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 or articles promoting personal causes should be avoided.

Submissions should be made by **13th July** 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.

Meetings & Dates

Parish Council

Merry Bells, 19:30

5th June

3rd July

Planning Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30

14th June

12th July

Finance Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30

19th June

Open Spaces Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30

17th July

Parish Surgery

Parish Office

09:30 - 11:30

Every Wed & Sat

District Cllr Surgery

Parish Office 10:30

2nd Saturday in each month

WHEATLEY

NEWS

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This newsletter is kindly distributed to all addresses in Wheatley and Holton by a team of volunteers, organised by the Parish Office.

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

As I write this, I am reflecting on the wonder and magic of the Coronation, the awful rain which wiped out many street parties and then the glorious weather on Sunday which gave us all a lift. Although Monday brought us iffy weather, our local producers and community made us proud and came out in droves for the Local Produce Market, which was incredibly successful. WPC will be holding a debrief on how we can improve it, ready for the next one we put on.

Since I last wrote a piece for the newsletter, we have had local elections and I am pleased to say that 11 parish councillors are committed to serving the community for another 4 years. Wheatley should have 15 councillors so we will start the term with 4 vacancies. If anyone is interested in serving their village and being the voice of our community, please contact me or the clerk for more information on how to become a councillor and what is involved.

The new electoral period will involve a new Parish Business Plan and some of our new objectives will include:

- Raising funds for the replacement of our sports pavilions at Holton Playing Fields (WPC Land)
- Creating a Youth Council and a Youth Club
- Bringing back the old Cadet Hut into use as a community venue.
- Bringing Littleworth Field into use for the community to enjoy
- Working with OCC traffic officers on resolving parking issues around the village

These are all exciting projects, and all of our councillors are looking forward to making them happen. More and more Parish Councils all over the country are stepping up to fill the gaps left by reductions in services by central and local government, volunteers are the essential glue that holds it all together.

Speaking of volunteers, WPC is holding its second Volunteer Awards event later this year. It is important that we recognise those people that go above and beyond in supporting the village. If you want to nominate someone or an organisation who you believe has made a significant contribution to the village, please go to the information within this newsletter. All the categories are listed and there are some changes to last year so please have a look and nominate someone who has made a difference.

On Monday 15th May WPC hosted a public meeting to get views on Reserved Matters for the original planning application from Oxford Brookes. This is confusing because there are 2 planning applications running. We have already responded to the application relating to the access onto Waterperry Road but are seeking your views on the application featuring the spine road and the access at Holton Turn. Thank you to those that came and gave us valuable comments and contributions which we will add to our report.

Finally, it's gardening time! If you have a garden, patio, balcony, or window box just enjoy the new life bursting out of the soil. If you want larger open spaces, we are incredibly lucky to have the Howe and Shotover to enjoy, and we look forward to opening up Littleworth Field for villagers to use.

Alison Sercombe



Clerk's Column

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent meetings (Annual Parish Meeting and Oxford Brookes Planning Application). It is great to see you involved in local matters and to hear from our guest speakers. Don't forget all our council and committee meetings are held in public and you are welcome to come along and hear the discussions and decisions made.

May saw us enter into a new council term and it is a pleasure to see that many previous councillors stood for re-election. But I reiterate Alison's comments on needing new members to join us, to bring their insights and skills and to help us work with and to make improvements in the village.

Being a parish councillor is also a great opportunity to develop your own skills and knowledge and to make a real difference in your community.

We have some exciting projects coming up that will see a new Youth Club being launched in September, the opportunity to bring buildings and land back into community use as well as maintaining our existing facilities and services.

If you walked through the memorial gardens in May, you may have wondered why the grass was so long. We committed to 'No Mow May' to see if leaving the grass uncut for the month of May saw an increase in pollinators and wildflowers, we monitored this to the end of the month to see if this was achieved and will review for next year.

We continue to cut the recreation grounds and the grass along the highways for safety reasons. This is undertaken by our contractors, on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council.

Alongside the new council year, coronation, and produce market, we have been busy working on our annual accounting and governance statements, which will be presented to council at our June meeting. Copies of these will be available to view in the coming weeks.

Finally, just a little reminder from me that if you are promoting an event on one of the three noticeboards, please make sure that you remove the poster, after the event. This keeps the boards tidy and up to date. Thanks in advance.

Michelle Legg



Wheatley Parish Council Annual Report 2022-23

Wheatley Parish Council has continued to work with and to support the community, here are some of the highlights:

Wheatley

Ju bil

20 22

Supporting the Community

- Managed our play areas, open spaces and tree stock.
- · Installed new benches
- Installed table tennis in Church Rd rec.
- Awarded £10,200 of grants to local organisations
- Challenged inappropriate planning applications in and surrounding the village
- · Supported the Community Larder

Working with the Community

- Working with Wheatley Playing Field Trust to build a new sports pavilion and to maintain the current pavilions
- Working with Wheatley Primary School to tackle parking issues on Littleworth Rd and improving public access to the field.
- Organised and supported community events, including Cuppa, Cake & Chat events, Jubilee events and Play & Activity Day
- · Launched 'Celebrating Volunteers' awards
- · Are reviewing the Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan
- · Looking to bring cadet hut back into use.

...and how we spent it*

1952

 Precept 	£138,954		 Staff costs and Cllr development 	£57,736
Grants & Donations	£	7,750	 Open Spaces & Trees 	£22,469
 Newsletter advertising 	£	8,827	 Newsletter production 	£ 12,366
Interest	£	1,975	 Holton Pavilion 	£ 9,175
Community Infrastructure Levy	£	1,044	 Other expenditure 	£ 12,190
Other income		1760	 Office, meeting & events 	£ 14,863
			• Grants	f 10 200

2023 and beyond

Our income...*

The council has had to increase its precept for 2023-24, partly to address the ongoing price increases but also to help deliver its objectives including; a Youth Club for 10-14 year olds, a Local Produce Market, and to help support exciting opportunities to give the community access to more facilities.

*as of 31.03.2023

To do this we also need more councillors or volunteers. If you are interested in joining the council or working with us, please come forward.

Celebrating Wheatley Volunteers (see back page)

There are many, many volunteers within Wheatley, who selflessly support and improve the lives of others and to celebrate this we are seeking nominations, from the community, for volunteers from within Wheatley.



Awards will be presented at an event in September/October.

To complete your nomination please provide us with some information:

(Please refer to our privacy policy from our website www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Your name:
Your address:
Your contact number:
Your contact email:
Does the volunteer know that they have been nominated? $\ \square$ Yes $\ \square$ No
Name of volunteer/organisation:
Volunteer's address (if known):
Volunteer's contact number (if known):
Volunteer's contact email (if known):
Please select for which category you are making this nomination:
 □ Emma Wilson Parish Award (12 and under) □ Community Volunteer (individual) □ Environmental Volunteer □ Emma Wilson Parish Award (13–21-year-olds) □ Community Volunteer (organisation) □ Neighbour of the year
Please tell us more about your nominee (the volunteering they undertake, why they should win the award and anything else to support their nomination):

Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan Report



The Wheatley Parish Council called a Public Meeting on 16 May, before its monthly meeting, and gratifyingly, over 70 people attended. The meeting was called to hear the Community respond to the Reserved Matters (P23/S1407/RM) relating to a planning application, on behalf of Crest-Nicholson, to build 468 homes (including 162 Affordable) on the OBU site together with sports facilities, associated infrastructure, internal roads, car parking, public open space and landscaping. This follows P17/S4254/O, Outline Planning application that had already been granted, with all matters reserved for subsequent approval except details of vehicular access. The meeting commenced with WP Councillor Newman giving a presentation that showed maps and building designs of the proposed development.

Some of the concerns that were raised can be summarised:

- 1. Has sufficient car parking been provided for the sports pavilion, especially on match days, and is there adequate access for coaches from visiting teams.
- 2. The Rector of St Bartholomew's Church, Holton commented on the lack of pedestrian access into Holton for the Church and the Village Hall.
- 3. It was noted that there was very little information relating to the type of building materials to be used in the new development.
- 4. As part of the mitigation to reduce traffic noise from the A40 into the new development the application proposes to build an acoustic bund along the boundary between the new development and the A40. Concern was raised that if the design of this bund was intended to reflect noise away from the development, then this would inevitably increase the traffic noise on the opposite side of the A40 (e.g. in Fairfax Gate). This suggest that measures must be put in place to avoid unnecessary disruption for residents already living on the south side of the A40.
- Concern was raised with respect to The Triangle Care Home which is likely to be subjected to additional traffic noise and pollution on the Old London Road during the construction phase and subsequent operational phase. Particularly vulnerable will be the open-air courtyard.
- 6. Concern was raised that this application had not secured permission to access Holton Park Drive at the western boundary of the development.
- 7. It was noted that gas boilers were to be used for the domestic central heating systems in the new development. Concerns were raised that more eco-friendly and sustainable heating systems had not been proposed.

The first Review of the Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) is undergoing examination currently, following public consultation. The process by which the Review has been prepared and the introduction of Design Guidance and Codes (DGC) have been subject to a legal challenge by Crest-Nicholson citing the inappropriate application of the DGC to the part of the OBU site lying within the WNP area. The Parish Council and the WNP Committee are preparing a response to this challenge.

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Please email careers.mqs@belmond.com and we will be delighted to provide more information.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

2023/24 GRANTS FOR APPRENTICES, STUDENTS, TRAINEES

The Trustees of Wheatley Charities offer training/education grants to residents of the Parish of Wheatley (including Littleworth but not Holton!) and are prepared to award funds in support of some of the costs of on-the-job training or academic study. **Applicants must be under the age of 25**.

If you are a school leaver having passed your GCSEs or A-Levels and are about to start an apprenticeship you will be given priority, but university applicants should also apply.

Application forms are available from the Secretary, Ralf Eller (email: ralfeller@hotmail.com), to whom they should be returned electronically no later than **Thu 31st August 2023**.





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Anne Battershell

Anne Battershell, born Anne Corkett in 1933, was a creative person, a wonderful needlewoman, a Brown Owl, a keen gardener, a traveller, a painter and a singer, who relished new experiences. Anne and John met in the church choir at All Saints. Fastbourne and married in 1957. Their first home was а bungalow they themselves. John's work in education took them to Singapore via Reading, leaving UK with five children and returning with six. They came to 97 High Street, Wheatley when John was appointed Head of Religious Education at Wheatley Park School. John became a Lay Reader at St Mary's, while Anne was a stalwart in the church choir, and produced an annual nativity play in church and took a part time job. She also found

time to study for two A levels in 1979 and gain a BEd in 1983. Sadly, John died in 1985. Anne became a Lay Reader herself in 1989, while working full time as a housemistress at Headington School. In 1991, she moved to Goring, where she created a beautiful garden and also travelled widely. Anne was ordained in 1998 and became curate at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Goring. Her ministry next took her to Brafferton, North Yorkshire. In 2003, at seventy Anne retired to Walsden, Todmorden. She died there shortly after Easter this year, after twenty enjoyable years with her family.

Anne's six children, David's partner, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren survive her.

Caroline Dalton

Wheatley's Great Big Green Week 10-18 June 2023

Wheatley is joining this nationwide celebration of climate action.

Sunflower trail 10-18 June, across Wheatley

Over 25 venues have signed up to celebrate creativity and climate action by growing/crafting/painting sunflower displays of various sorts. Can you find them all?

A map is available on our website from 9 June.

Swapshop 10 June, 9-11.30, Merry Bells Village Hall, OX33 1XP

Sustainable Wheatley's time-honoured tradition of reducing waste will be taking place under the usual rules.

Littleworth Nature Reserve Quest 17 June, 11-4pm, OX33 1TR

Uncover the secrets of the reserve by scanning the QR code at any of the reserve entrances and let your quest begin. Suitable for mid to late primary school age and their adults.

Follow the lower path to find an information table in the meadow within the reserve. There will also be nature journalling.

Get to know your Howe 18 June, 2-5pm, OX33 1TA

Discover different habitats and future plans in the Howe Trust land with a guided tour.

Learn about the allotment association.

Treasure hunt for children.

Bring a picnic snack.

Please walk if you possibly can as there is very limited parking, which should only be used by those with mobility challenges.

Brought to you by Sustainable Wheatley in conjunction with: Walk Wheatley, Friends of Littleworth Nature Reserve, the Howe Trust, Allotment Association and Wheatley Women's Institute.

https://sustainablewheatley.org/great-big-green-week



Church News

Our Lady of Lourdes

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

Our Lady welcomes St Mary

The collective memory of being a religious community without a home lives on among the Catholics of Wheatley, so we are delighted to be giving a worshipping home to the Anglican community of St Mary the Virgin whilst their church is refurbished. By the time this newsletter hits the streets, St Mary's will have transferred their 8am and 10am Sunday services to Our Lady of Lourdes. It is an example of the growing bond of ecumenism in the Village, inspired by the very effective Wheatley Area Churches. But it wasn't always so!

Although King Charles III's Papal title, Fidei Defensor (Defender of the Faith) was conferred on Henry VIII by Leo X in 1521, it was summarily removed by another Pope, Paul III, when Henry divorced Catherine of Aragon; the title, no longer a Roman one, was restored by Parliament in 1544.

There followed a difficult period for Catholics in England! Catholics were forced to go underground and were known as recusants. In Wheatley, families such as the Archdales of Manor House and the Cursons of Waterperry continued to worship in secret and it was common for such houses to have hiding holes where priests could be hidden from the authorities. Although the ban on Catholic worship was lifted in 1791, some legislative restrictions continued to the 20th century.

There was no Catholic Church in Wheatley until the present beautiful barn conversion in Crown Road was opened as Our Lady of Lourdes in 1965; during the war years, Catholics worshipped in a chapel at Holton Military Hospital and earlier, from 1922, in the Old House in Kiln Lane.

So for some, Our Lady of Lourdes still feels new! When we were approached by St Mary's looking for a temporary home, Our Lady of Lourdes was full of sympathy and eager to respond. May our communities grow closer through sharing the House of God.

John Guy

St Mary's Church

01865 872224 | vicar.wheatley@

From the Vicar

In June and July in church and altar hangings are green in colour, replacing those of white and gold which have adorned the building during the season of Easter which has just come to a close. The white/gold for Faster makes sense as a celebratory colour, as does purple for sombre penitence in Lent, but why green? The Church call this time of year Ordinary Time to distinguish it from special seasons and festivals and, as the name suggests, Ordinary Time we revert to normal things and just get on with our normal, ordinary activities. The colour green reminds us that at this time of year nature is clothed in fresh green and is getting on with the business growing, for nature too this is Ordinary Time and our landscape looks as we might ordinarily picture it in our minds.

After a time of busy-ness it is good to have a time of quiet, routine activity, a time to catch up with some of the dull but necessary tasks that have been pushed aside in

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the busy time. It is good also to take some time away from work and activity for a holiday so that we might find refreshment and restock our stores of energy. In these difficult financial times fewer people will be taking expensive holidays abroad, but even a break in routine and a conscious effort to do something which is fun and which builds up our energy can have the desired effect.

Christians of all denominations try to take time out for quiet days or retreats to refresh both body and soul. Even the daily discipline of a quiet time for meditation and prayer can change the way you confront the day's tasks. In the story of creation in the Bible God established the idea of sabbath, a time for rest, as an essential part of how we should live our lives.

I hope that you will be able to find the time and space for a break from being busy this summer, and that you will feel refreshed and reinvigorated as a result.

Revd Nigel Hawkes

Wheatley United Reformed Church

01865 873859 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

Wheatley URC News

The latest URC venture inspired by our Time for God volunteer Elissa is the Friday Afternoon Hangout, for secondary school students in the village, all of whom are very welcome. This runs from after school to 5 pm in the URC church hall, Crown Square. As well as the chance simply to unwind and chat after the week's school, activities include music and table tennis plus the chance to get on with homework.

The church was pleased to launch Fairtrade Fortnight in February with a service which focused on the work of our care for the World team. Issues highlighted include the Fairtrade Premium only available in communities where Fairtrade operates, sustainability and gender issues. At the fairtrade stall held immediately afterwards, items were made available on a sale-or-return basis by Headington Fairtrade, and over £250 worth of sales were made. Visitors are welcome to come and purchase goods at these events. We recently renewed our certification as a Fairtrade Church until February 2025, and Wheatley remains, of course, a Fairtrade Village.

In the period running up to Easter, URC remains delighted to host the Wheatley Area Churches Lenten Lunches. Each church provides a variety of soups on one of the Saturdays, and donations are accepted for Christian Aid. This year a total of nearly £892 was donated an increase of £300 on last year. On Coronation Sunday, there were not one but two tea parties at the URC, the regular monthly event and a pop-up (with help from St Mary's and Our Lady's) in the Mulberry Room. Donations in both venues raised a further £410.51 while the regular event also raised £66.51 for the Alzheimer's Society, its regular charity of choice.

Mike Matejtschuk



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Various guest ales and premium lagers on tap at fantastic prices, ranging from £3.60 up to £4.60 for our premium lagers. We also have great offers on pitchers, spirits and shots.

We have a function room which can be used for many occasions including; weddings, birthdays, christenings, baby showers and any other occasion you wish to celebrate. Please pop in or call us (01865 873530) to discuss this further or for more information. Look out for more events and information on our Twitter (@wheatleynewclub), Instagram (@wheatleynewclub) and Facebook (The New Club Wheatley). In addition, keep an eye out for our new website, launching soon - www.thenewclubwheatley.com. Finally, a big thank you to all of our members and visitors who have supported the club in recent months. It has been greatly appreciated by Nicky, The Officers and The Committee.

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I've just been on the most amazing trip to **Namibia** in Africa and loved it so much, I wanted to share! My husband (Alan) and I drove around the whole country. It was very safe and they drive on the left, same as the UK, so not much to think about except



you're driving on gravel roads for a lot of the time! You don't have to self-drive as I have some special dates in 2023 where you'll be driven by an English-speaking driver/guide in a vehicle with no more than 8 people in it. It would be 14 nights in Namibia (dates below) with lots of inclusions. If you

want to know more then please get in touch! If you visit my webpage, I've also written a blog about our trip!

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May Day 2023

At last some warm weather, and just in time for May Day at Crown Square. A small crowd had gathered by 10am. Jack Turner led the singing of the May Song for the 47th time in the modern era. Mouse and Trousers and Uncle Gareth then, like the Pied Piper, lured us to the Merry Bells forecourt where some imaginary maypole dancing with some hilarity occurred, followed by some country dancing for all ages.

A lovely time was had by all, even those who don't know their left from their right-hand star!

Thanks to everyone who turned up. Same time, same place, next year!



Merry Bells Forecourt, 1st May 2022

Jack Turner

Wheatley Playing Field Trust

News from The Trust

The Trust will be carrying out some new installations during the school summer holidays. As previously mentioned, these are the installation of new floodlighting on the tennis courts and the laying of a new artificial cricket wicket. This is a replacement of the old artificial wicket alongside the square that had to be removed as it had become dangerous. The new wicket will enable cricket to be played up to club standard.

A date for the diary. Wheatley Oaks women's 2nd football festival will be held on Saturday 24th June. This follows their highly successful inaugural tournament in 2022.

There have been incidents recently when members of the public have had to be asked to leave the field by staff of Wheatley Park School. The Trust would like to remind everyone that the playing field is not public land and that only authorised users are allowed onto the playing field at any time. Owing to safeguarding issues, Wheatley Park School have sole use of the playing field each day, Monday to Friday, during term time. The Trust would ask everyone to respect this.

If there is anyone in the community who is thinking about playing netball, football or rugby or just wants to improve their fitness, please contact the clubs directly or use the Trust contact details below.

Do get in touch at:

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

Paul Willmott | Chairman



WALKS PROGRAMME JUNE/JULY 2023

Thame & Wheatley Ramblers have eight new walks in June and three in July. Visit our website to find details of these walks and additions to the programme:

www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley/walking

or phone 01844 213608

All walks are circular and start at 10am unless otherwise stated.

Leaders' contact details and suitability for dogs can also be found on the website.



The Merry Bells Village Hall

Celebrating 50 years of village ownership

Finally, we were able to celebrate the Village becoming the owners of the Merry Bells fifty-three years ago. We had originally planned to celebrate fifty years of village ownership, but Covid intervened. So, three years on, we had an open day that showed the fascinating history, the responsibilities of the Trustees on your behalf and free refreshments including plenty of cake courtesy of the Wheatley Womens Institute, who have been meeting at the Merry Bells for almost a hundred years.

When the building opened in 1888 free refreshments were offered, with over 400 people attending and although we didn't get quite that many, we did offer free refreshments and the opportunity to use the Merry Bells forecourt as an 'al fresco' meeting place, where customers can have their coffee, sandwiches and cake from Cornfields and Bruins plus perhaps a pork pie from Cricks. However, on the day the weather was not that conducive!

As written in earlier articles the Merry Bells was founded by Mrs Dorothy Miller as a Temperance Hotel, when 'the architect was a Mr. Tollit, whose plans were executed by Mr. Thomas Kingerlee of Banbury', with our village hall being his third major building. Having moved his family to Oxford in 1883 Thomas went on to build many famous Oxford buildings including the iconic Frank Cooper Marmalade Factory in 1903; The Ultimate Picture Palace (1911) and The New Theatre (1932-34). So Kingerlee joined us having celebrated 150 years of business now with a fifth generation David Kingerlee as their present-day Chairman.

Since 1888, the Merry Bells has always given a home to the village library beginning with

400 books in what is now the Coffee Room, moving to the Parish Council room in 1960 and now upstairs with over 6,000 books and IT facilities; on the day they stayed open a little longer than usual and helped with a Children's trail.

Also on show were original accounts for the building in the 1890s and 1930, copies of the minutes when it was proposed and agreed that the village bought the Merry Bells as their village hall and a chart showing that, as a Charitable Trust, the Trustees have invested just over £1 million in modernising and maintaining the building and facilities in their 50 years of village ownership.

Plus, we were able to show two very large, framed photographs loaned to us from Dorothy Miller's descendants, one of the "Women's Wednesday Afternoon Class" and one of the "Men's Mutual Improvement Class" both taken in the 1920's and we had a list of different Clubs and Societies that took place at the Merry Bells in the 1930's compared to those in the 2020's.

To complete our commemoration, we have commissioned a beer from the Shotover Brewery, with a specially designed label calling it 'Temperance' in honour of the village's intemperate past and Merry Bells beginning as a Temperance Hotel. It is an Extra Pale Ale and on sale at both Bruins and Cornfields.

Finally, if you would like to hear more about the Merry Bells Village Hall owned by the village and/or be involved, why not come to our AGM on Thursday June 8th at 7.00 pm. We would love to see you and will do our best to make you feel very welcome.

The Merry Bells Trustees

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Notices | Clubs | Events

THE MERRY BELLS AGM

Thursday 8 June 2023
At 7.00 pm
Main Hall, Merry Bells
All Wheatley residents
are eligible to attend
and vote

Oxfordshire Contemporary Opera

"Fame and Envy" by Roger Simmonds

The Parish Church of St Mary's, Thame **7.30pm Fri 16th/Sat 17th June** Tickets from Roy Gordon 01865 874542 or

www.oxcontemporaryopera.org

Wheatley URC

Sunday Tea

First Sunday of month
14:30 to 16:00
Come to meet and
make friends with

tea, cakes, and chat in the **URC Hall**

Age UK Oxon Horspath Film Club

Second Wednesday each month 2.00pm-4.00pm
Horspath Hub OX33 1RP
£3.50 per person includes tea/coffee and homemade cake
07827 235403
katehart@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

WHEATLEY PRODUCTIONS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wed 28th June,
7.30pm
Merry Bells Coffee Room
Members old and
new are welcome!

The Wheatley Society

Reflections on

Disaster Risk and Recovery

Coping with Major International Disasters Ian Davis

Merry Bells 20:00 Tue 6th June

Art Club

Every Monday
afternoon 4-6 pm
Wheatley Library
All welcome - bring a
project
£1 donation to the
library
Contact Tina on
tina_everett@btinternet.com

NOT SO YOUNG CLUB

Every other Monday exc. Bank Holidays

URC From 2.00-4.00pm

Chat, play bingo, tea and cake, occasional short talks of interest

albarjoiner@btinternet.com Frances Simpson 01865 873248

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Notices | Clubs | Events

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WGNS here to support our community



Swap Shop

Merry Bells
Saturday 10th June
09:00-10:15 Drop off
useable goods.

10:30-12:00 Take away as much as you like even if you don't bring anything.

Community Larder

Thursdays 14:30 -15:30

Wheatley URC
Help reduce food
waste and support
local causes

The Wheatley Society

Trinity College Guided Tour

with Events
Organiser Sarah
Jenkins
More details to
follow

Wheatley Windmill and Millie the Mobile Mill

Open 14:00 to 18:00 on

Sun 11th June

Sun 9th July

Wholemeal flour and refreshments will be available in the near the

windmill.

Handmade Oxford Int'l Contemporary Craft Festival

Friday 16th June to Sunday 18th June Waterperry Gardens For details and ticket booking:

www.handmadeinbritain.co.uk

Soldiers of Oxford Museum, Woodstock

Women and War:

From the Fringes to the Front Line

June to 10th Sept 2023 www.sofo.org.uk frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk

Exhibition running 3rd

Wheatley Wine Circle Merry Bells 1st Thursday in Month

19:30

Holton and Wheatley Cricket Club

Come and join us at pre-season nets in March and April.
Contact Hugh Kitchin

hkitchin@btconnect.com

Day by Day

MONDAY

Wheatley Oaks FC | Holton Playing Fields | 19:00-20:00 | Women 30+ | hello@coachemma.co.uk

Art Club | Library | 16:00-18:00 | £1 donation | tina_everett@btinternet.com

Mindfulness Sitting Group | URC | 08:50-09:40 | 01865 876288 | jmarkgwilliams@gmail.com

Not So Young Club | URC Hall | Fortnightly exc. B/H | 14:00-16:00 | albarjoiner@btinternet.com

Friends of Wheatley Library Fibre Group | 1st & 3rd in month | 14:00-16:00

Friends of Wheatley Library Knit & Natter Group | 2nd & 4th in month | 14:00-16:00

Friends of Wheatley Library Art Group | 16:30-18:30

Beaver Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | Term time 18:00-19:00 | 01865 874997

Messy Mondays | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30

Wheatley Bridge Club | Holton Village Hall | 19:00 | 01865 874017

Badminton Club | Park Sports Centre | 20:00-22:00 | 07769 827335

Zumba | Wheatley Primary | 19:00-20:00 | Maz: 07773 651154 mmccann36b@hotmail.com

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 | 07769 037110 | 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

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

Day by Day

WEDNESDAY

Parish Surgery | Parish Office, High Street | 09:30-11:30

Maple Babies | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00 & 13:00, one hour each

Acorns Theatre Music | Merry Bells | 09:30-10:30

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 | Term time 19:00-20:30 | Age 10+ | wheatley.guides@yahoo.co.uk

Brownies | URC | Term time 17:30-19:00 | Age 7-9 | 1stwheatleybrownies@gmail.com

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

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

Baby Music Group | URC | Via Zoom | 10:00 | Term time only | Rachel 07505 131124

Football Fitness | Tiger's Retreat, Garsington | 19:00-20:00 | yohannadam@yahoo.co.uk | Age 30+

Holy Communion | 12:00 | Must pre-book

THURSDAY

Mindfulness Sitting Group | URC | 08:50-09:40 | 01865 876288 | jmarkgwilliams@gmail.com

Wheatley Walks | Car park behind 6th Form Centre | 10:00-11:00 | 01865 873430

Prayer and Reflection (+ coffee) | URC | 10:00 | 1st in month | albarjoiner@btinternet.com

Memory Cafe | URC Hall | 10:00-12:30 | 2nd in month | laurencelalanne99@gmail.com

Wheatley Library | Open 14:00-17:00

Community Larder | Wheatley URC | 14:30-15:30

Wheatley Wine Circle | Merry Bells | 1st Thursday in month | 19:30

Little Explorers | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30

Twinnies! | Stay & Play for twins | Maple Tree Centre | 14:00-15:30

Maple Tree at Forest Hill | Forest Hill Village Hall | 11:00-12:00 | laura@mapletree.org.uk

Wheatley Village Archive | Wheatley Library | 14:00-16:30 | 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

Pilates | Merry Bells | 09:45-10:45

Day by Day

FRIDAY

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

Table Tennis | URC Hall | 10:00 | All abilities catered for | val_farmer40@hotmail.com **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 | 01865 873996 | All welcome

Martial Arts | Primary School Hall | 07731 512682 | Ages 3-7+ | mrsfox@mattfiddes.com

SATURDAY

Parish Surgery | Parish Office, High Street | 09:30-11:30

Wheatley Library | Open 09:30-13:00

Family Fun | Maple Tree Centre | 3rd in month | 10:00-11:30

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 Minis Football | Holton Rugby Club | 09:00-10:00 | Ages 4-7 | 07756 608744 Family Board Games Café | URC Hall | 2nd in month | 14:30-17:00 | kevin@kbetts.com 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

United Reformed Church | 01865 873859 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

- Morning Worship with Holy Communion | 1st Sunday in month | 10:00-11:00
- Pulse Wheatley Youth Group | Every week term time | 19:00-20:30
- Afternoon Tea | 1st in Month | 14:30-16:00

Wheatley Community Church | office@wheatleycommunitychurch.org

Wheatley Primary School | 10:30

THE WHEATLEY SOCIETY



Parish Newsletter June / July 2023

Our latest programme has started with 3 events linked in one way or another to the railways. Tom Hassall led a fascinating walk around North Osney illustrating its history from medieval times to the restoration of the Rewley Railway Swing Bridge Area. It seems to have been an area of Oxford which aways attracted competition between rival landowners and business families.

The Railway theme continued with a talk entitled "Preserving our Heritage – A Steam Railway" by Stanley Hart, Chairman of the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Rail. He took us on a ride through its history and came dressed the part complete with a signalman's whistle.

Then, still linked to the railway theme, Gareth Morris reminded us of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's great engineering achievements which made him so famous including his railways, even though he did lose the battle of the rail gauges to Stephenson as we saw during the North Osney walk.

Later in May there was a very well attended trip to tour Ripon College Cuddesdon to see

the beautiful modern chapel and have a cup of tea whilst learning more of the work that goes on there.

By the time this newsletter goes to print, we will also have had a Tour and Tasting at Brightwell Vineyard on May 30th – many have been there already, but it should be interesting to see how it is developing.

Events for the next period will include a talk on Tuesday June 6th in the Merry Bells at 8.00 when Ian Davis will call upon his 50 years of experience on coping with major international disasters. Given frequently they seem to be occurring it should be of interest to know what happens on the ground, how help is organised and mobilised and what happens once the story is off the front pages. Finally on Tuesday July 4th Sarah Jenkins, events organiser at Trinity College, will guide a group of us around the college whilst covering its lengthy history. More timely information on all these events will be around the village.

Thanks to all those who organise the events, we hope you enjoy participating in them.

The Wheatley Society Committee



The Maple Tree

Are you looking for a venue for a child or family friendly activity? Ask us about our reasonable rental rates

info@mapletree.org.uk

ASDA Wheatley Community Update

During March and April, we have welcomed six groups into store to fundraise and total raised over the two months was £1558.62.

In addition, a further £346.89 was raised for Tickled Pink, which included a Mother's Day Gift Wrap and Easter Egg tombola.

I am planning on running another gift wrap station (for donations) towards the end of the year. I will keep you posted after the summer of a proposed date for this.

In terms of outreach support, one of the biggest events I have attended this year was for Daffodil Sunday at Shotover to support the Maple Tree and St Nicolas Church, Forest Hill, to raise money for both groups. It was a great opportunity to be able to wander around the private gardens.

Over the coronation weekend we wanted to take part in the Community Clean up with a litter pick. Despite a small turn out of three of us, we concentrated around the store and at the back by Grant and Stone, collecting 17 bags of litter, plus another 20 bags of leaf litter, which Julia kindly came back to do the following day. I am going to plan a further litter pick later in the summer, so I will look to provide a date for this in the next newsletter.

On Sunday 7th, I also helped out at the Extra Special Sunday Tea to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III at the United Reform Church Hall. The hall was very busy throughout the afternoon so was a great chance for the community to come together.

In terms of what is coming up in store over the next two months, a food drive is also running in store on Friday 9th June, where we will be joined by the Community Emergency Food Bank who will be asking for donation of long-life items to distribute at the Cowley Food Bank.



You may also notice we have a secondary trolley in store currently to support the Oxford Hygiene Bank, which tackle hygiene poverty. A list of items required is displayed on a sign on the side of the trolley. The group will also be coming to store towards the end of June to run a hygiene drive and raise further awareness for support. 3 trolleys have been collected by the group since the collection was started.

During the last grant round, seven ASDA Foundation grants were supported across Oxfordshire stores, including one for the Maple Tree for £500 to help transform their outdoor area. In the next couple of months, I will be heading out to meet all these groups.

Our final Green Token Giving vote has now ended. The results of the vote are being verified currently, so I will give an update in the next newsletter of the result. At this time, we are not accepting nominations for this scheme, but there are other ways we may be able to support, so please get in touch to discuss.

My email address is: community_wheatley@asda.co.uk if you wish to get in touch with me.

Linda Blackmore

Wheatley Village Produce Association

Our local garden club

Summer has arrived and our gardens are buzzing!

June

If you have been itching to plant out summer bedding and other tender plants go for it! Check your borders for plants that will need staking and do it beforehand. Spring-flowering shrubs can now be cut back to shape and control their growth. The hungry gap should be coming to an end with salad crops and first early potatoes coming onstream. My rhubarb has been bountiful and will continue for some time to come – my sister recommends adding finely sliced and raw to salads! If you took part in 'no-mow May' why not continue to leave some areas for wildlife and just mow patterns in the grass? If not done in May, give spring bulbs a feed if they are still green.

July

Courgettes should now be well into their stride and will quickly morph into marrows if you turn your back on them! Watch out for scab on apple and pear trees and cut out any infected branches as damage can allow in canker. Pear trees should be pruned anyway towards the end of the month although apples are best tackled in August. There are no fungicides available for use by gardeners. Top up ponds if necessary with rain water if you can and remove excess weed. Talking of weeds — keep on weeding...



Coming up:

Tuesday 13 June, self-drive trip to Stott's Nursery

26-30 June Holiday to Morecombe

Tuesday 11 July, Chris Caddy will talk about The Lake District.

Queries to wheatleyvpa@gmail.com

Geraldine Surman



Ready for the Refurb!

By the time you read this, St Mary's Church will be closed for refurbishment. From pews, kneelers and hymnbooks to teacups, teapots, trolleys and tables — everything had to be cleared away in time for the builders to make a start. Building work should take six months — and with luck the Church will be ready and open by Christmas.



New heating will be installed, new toilets, a

new floor and a meeting room; the place will be a hive of activity through the summer and autumn.

And the cost? Well, thanks to a major grant from South Oxfordshire District Council, the team is increasingly confident that we shall meet our target. Several other grant funders have helped us on our way. But so have many of you, be you church goers or generous well-wishers. The goal of £650,000, was once a distant prospect. Now, we believe we are nearly there.

Meanwhile, and throughout the summer, Sunday services will take place in the Church of Our Lady Lourdes, whilst some of the regular meetings and practices will be at the URC. Our thanks to both for their generous welcome. Planning for this event has been a long and rocky road. We do not believe we are near the end – but at last we've reached the end of the beginning.

The Revival Team

WHEATLEY CARE

Wheatley Care has an important position that we need help filling:

SECRETARY

- Take and distribute minutes for 1-2 hour meetings four times a year.
- Communicate with drivers and deal with all other correspondence.

Please contact: Kath Lamont—01865 876609

WHEATLEY REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP

We would like to thank our many supporters who brought clothes and bedding to our collection on 22nd April, on behalf of Global Aid Network (GaiN) for refugees in Greece, Bosnia, and Ukraine. Once again, Shared Knitting (Headington) (sharedknitting@gmail.com) donated wonderful homemade blankets and garments.

We plan our next collection for the Autumn.

GaiN also distributes huge amounts of food to Ukraine, as well as supporting those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. If you would like to contribute money to any of their activities, please let us know.

We also collected food for Asylum Welcome Food Bank (food@asylum-welcome.org), which supports families in and around Oxford.

WRSG is supporting refugees and asylum seekers locally (Afghan families), in Oxford through Asylum Welcome, nationally through Care4Calais and internationally through GAiN.

For more information: wheatleyrefugeegroup@gmail.com.

Locally, please note that the Wheatley Ukraine Refugee Group would welcome offers of rented accommodation for families who must move on from their initial accommodation. Having been uprooted from all that is familiar in Ukraine, it is hard to have to move again, hence the need for somewhere long term to live. A good transport link is important and ideally it should be as local as possible as families have established local connections.

Current requirements:

- 3 bedrooms for a working mother with 2 teenage children
- accommodation for a single woman who works in Oxford.

For more information: wheatleyukrainegroup@gmail.com

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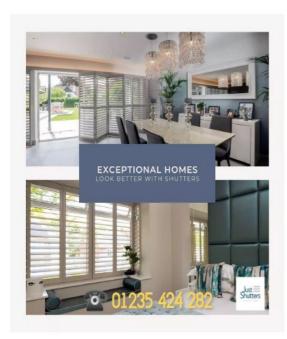
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Launching a brand-new website

The Clubs and Societies Fair of 2021 showed what a range of activities Wheatley has to offer with up to 80 different organisations.

Now, plans have been drawn up to create a website that will contain news of all Wheatley events and regular activities. These range from regular baby classes, yoga classes, sporting, and cultural activities to one-off events, such as concerts, exhibitions, and plays.

An administrator has been appointed and any interested club or society that has not yet been approached should write to wheatleydailyinfo@gmail.com.

There is no charge for users of the website.

It is expected that Wheatley Daily Info will be fully functional and available to everyone by the end of June.

Deborah Bale



This year sees the sixtieth anniversary of the last National Serviceman to be 'demobbed' i.e., leaving the services. Some enjoyed their time; others did not or sadly did not return home. The idea of a new form of National Service is often discussed as no doubt it will be by many and in the media this Summer.

Here in Wheatley we have a Branch of the National Service/RAF Association who meet monthly at the excellent New Club. We have guest speakers and plan occasional visits and whilst we favour RAF or aircraft topics we are not exclusive in our audience having other service or even non service members. The subject matter of talks sometimes extends to charitable or community causes.

For a very modest subscription and an optional fee for a lunch we welcome potential attendees from Wheatley and the neighbouring counties to come and meet us. No bull, no shouting, no drill but a good sociable bunch of chaps and a few ladies await you. For further information drop me, 'Mike', a line at michaelahyde@uwclub.net.

Mike Hyde | OXON, Berks, and Bucks Convenor NSA/RAF



Introducing the Soha Housing locality team whose job it is to support Soha residents and the community of Wheatley.

Starting at the back is David, the Technical Officer handling repairs and



maintenance enquiries, then Mel the Lettings Officer, followed by Annie the Neighbourhood Officer who deals with all aspects of residents' tenancies. In front of her is Tenancy Sustainment Officer Clare helping residents who are vulnerable through financial or health difficulties, enabling them to stay safely in their home then David who's the Rental Income Officer responsible for supporting tenants to pay their rent. Nicola is the team leader and then there's Debbie, the housing officer for Independent Living accommodation. Team Estates Operative Paul is right at the front.

Liz Roberts

Wheatley Larder - One Year On







Birthday Celebrations at Wheatley Larder

The Wheatley Larder is one year old. Formed to help combat food waste, the Larder provides free food to all and sundry. No paperwork and no permissions; no forms to be filled, such as many food banks still require. Villagers have been rolling up on every Thursday afternoon to St Mary's Church where they are invited to help themselves to whatever is on offer on the day.

No-one passing the queues outside St Mary's on a Thursday can fail to sense the buzz of interest and anticipation. The food is collected weekly from the Oxford Hub, which in its turn receives food from the supermarkets right across the county. Fresh vegetables, pasta, bread and tins are amongst the staple fare — with frozen mince, potato chips and seasonal fruit from time to time.

'You take whatever's going,' says Penny Wilmott, one of the leaders. 'You never know what's coming week by week.'

Tea and Cakes and Charities

But the Larder is also a social hub in the busy life of Wheatley. Customers collect their food, then linger on for tea and cakes and bit of a chat amongst the tables spread along the aisle.

Although there is no charge, there is an invitation to donate to one of a number of charities. Donations of more than £4,000 have been passed on to charities that range from local organisations like John Watson School and the Maple Tree to Thomley Hall and the Turkish Earthquake Fund.

From the end of May, the Larder will move from St Mary's Church to the URC, whilst the Church is closed for refurbishment. But the warmest of welcomes will never be lacking, either in friendship or nourishment.

Jane Fanning



Morland House Surgery

In April the Surgery began to offer further booster vaccinations to those most at risk from COVID. Eligible people include those aged 75 and over (by June 30); those aged 5 and over with weakened immune systems; and residents of care homes for older adults. Eligible people can also book boosters on the National Booking Service or the NHS App or visit a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site.

For more information, please visit Morland House website:

www.morland-house.co.uk

Also, the website provides a wealth of information and guidance on managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment e.g.

- 1. Up-to-date information about surgery opening hours and the wide range of services provided, including new dispensary hours.
- 2. Morland House Surgery is part of a Primary Care Network involving three other neighbouring GP practices. The PCN now offers patients enhanced access to GPs and nurses later in the evening and on Saturdays.
- A link to the electronic consulting service eConsult. Use eConsult to ask about your health symptoms, conditions, or treatment. You can even request things like sick notes and GP letters. From the home page click on 'Contact your GP practice Online'.
- 4. A link to the NHS App. Download the App, or open the NHS website in a web browser, to set up and log in to your NHS Account. Owned and run by the NHS, your NHS Account is a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services online.
- 5. Up to date information on current news items including:
 - Oxford Community Diagnostic Centre X-Rays, blood tests, ultrasounds, CTs and more
 - Information on the NHS 111 online service which is available 24/7
 - Advice on how to stay healthy and well
 - COVID-19 and flu vaccine updates
 - Looking after your mental health
 - Electronic Prescribing Service (EPS)
 - Group A strep and scarlet fever, advice for parents and guardians
 - · Discontinuation of blister pack recycling
 - 24/7 breastfeeding support
 - Expansion of bowel cancer screening programme

Morland House PPG



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- Undertake a 15 minute check visit that families find invaluable, to check on their loved ones, these visits may include: monitoring and ensure medication is taken from Dossett box, prepare and serve breakfast, or small lunch, assist to toilet or commode or just generally monitor people's well being
- Preparing & cooking hot meals
- Anything not listed, please do not hesitate to contact us, details below:

Linda McMahon on 07715 600524 or email lindalizzymac@outlook.com Moira McMahon on 07715 609968 or email moiramaccer@outlook.com



June & July Diary Dates...

Jubilee Brass (Oxford) Band Summer Concert: Sat, 3 June, 4pm-6pm

Family Theatre - The Tales of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny presented by

Quantum Theatre: Sat, 10 June, 5pm-6.30pm **Rare Plant Fair:** Sun, 11 June, 10am-4pm

Contemporary Arts Festival - Handmade Oxford: Fri, 16 to Sun, 18 June, 10am-5pm (Sun 4pm)

Theatre - Romeo & Juliet presented by The Lord Chamberlain's Men: Sun, 2 July, 7pm-9pm

Contemporary Ceramics Festival - Celebrating Ceramics presented by Craft in Focus: Fri, 14 to Sun 16 July, 10am-5.30pm

Children's Summer Sculpture Trail: Sat 15 July to Sun 3 Sep, 10am-5:30pm

vOx, Oxford's leading chamber choir - Shakespeare Songs at Waterperry: Sat 15 July, 5pm-7pm

Ballet - Nightingale presented by New Creations Collective: Sat 22 July, 2:30pm-3:30 pm

Theatre - Hercules presented by IK Productions: Sat 29 July, 5pm-6:30pm

Concert of folk music - Moonrakers: Sun 30 July, 6pm-8:30pm

For more information on all our events please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

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Get to know Your Howe: Sunday 18th June 2-5pm

We'd love everyone to come and get to know The Howe this summer.

Discover the varied habitats and learn about the plans we have for encouraging wildflowers, planting new hedgerows, and creating ponds with a guided tour. Learn about the Allotment Association. Bring a picnic and enjoy the beautiful views across the Otmoor.

Please walk if you possibly can, as there is very limited parking, which should only be used by those with mobility challenges.

Can't make our open day but want to know more?

Check out our NEW website at www.howetrust.org.uk or find and follow us on Facebook.

Plant a Tree* on The Howe and Help Biodiversity in Wheatley



Image: Freepik.com

Planting species such as Cherry Plum, Bird Cherry, Hazel, Rowan, Silver Birch, Crab Apple, Whitebeam, and Alder can really help our wildlife. Each 90-120cm bareroot sapling, with a cane and tree guard (to protect it from rabbits and deer) costs £5.

Like to join in? We're taking advance orders now.

*If you are unable to plant your tree yourself, for whatever reason, then you can choose to have this done for you by one of our volunteers.

'Adopt an English Oak'

We are also hoping to plant a small number of much larger, specimen trees - and we'd like to give the opportunity to individuals, groups, organisations, or local companies to 'Adopt an English Oak'.

A £175 donation will cover cost of the tree plus the labour and materials to protect it. For an additional £75 we can also arrange for your tree to have a personalised brass plaque with your name and a short message.

We are taking advance sapling and oak tree orders now until end July for planting in November. Please contact Maggie Fyffe.

Allotment Association

Interested in having an allotment on The Howe? We currently have some vacant plots. To find out more contact the allotment association. Call Georgina Glenny 01865 874450 or Michelle Gregory 07920 060710.

Maggie Fyffe | Chair



WHEATLEY CARE SCHEME IS IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

If you can spare any time to transport Wheatley Holton & Littleworth residents to medical appointments.

You will be reimbursed for your petrol cost.

So, if you feel you can HELP us:

Please contact Kath Lamont 01865 876609





Wheatley Primary School and Acorns Nursery

This time of year is always such a of combination excitement energy, tinged with a little sadness. In recent weeks we have had lots of opportunities to enhance classroom learning – including a week-long Y5/6 residential in Wales, a Y2 Teamwork partnership event, and maths competitions. Children are currently enjoying a new tag rugby club for Y1/2 and Y3/4 are rehearsing for the forthcoming **Festival** οf Voices performance at Dorchester Abbey. Later this term we have a Roman day for Y3/4 and a Mind the Monsters Wellbeing theatre outreach performance for all age groups. We are also looking forward to our summer fete after school on Friday longer days 7th July. The and (sometimes) better weather allow us to see how much the children have grown and developed over the past year. This was clear during SATs week, when our amazing year 6 children did their very best with the standardised national tests. If you know a year 6, tell them 'well done!'

This brings me to the 'sadness' part as we prepare to say goodbye to this year 6 cohort and wish them well as they start the next part of their education at secondary school. This change can be incredibly daunting for them. If you know a year 6, wish them well!

In September we will welcome a new cohort of early years children, many of whom will come from Acorns, our own school nursery. We are already seeing the benefits of having an integrated nursery – the children already know the school staff and the premises, and we know them. It makes a big difference to their confidence as they start 'big school'.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, we are delighted to be working closely with the Parish Council on the future of the school field. The field was leased to the school as part of the arrangements when the school academised. It is far too big for the school to manage, and we are delighted that we are moving towards a solution that will mean that our children have safe and consistent access to outside space and allow for the vast majority of the field to be managed by and for the community.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

Mrs Gillian Standing | Headteacher

YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

From September and due to lack of visitors to the library on Thursday afternoons, from September, the archive will only be manned on the first Thursday of the month (2.00 to 4.30). Otherwise it will be by appointment only.

A Hundred years ago in 1923

Wheatley Urban District Council was acting as a local district council. It was responsible for public health, housing, rating, planning, building regulations, water supplies, sewerage and some roads. The committee comprised Rees Levshon (chairman), William Tombs, Arthur Cullum, Henry Avery, Cox, Edward and Charles Shepherd, Caleb Harris, James Munt, J Jennings and Joseph Rose. The rate levy in the £ was increased from 2/-d to 2/6d, and a mowing machine was bought to deal with the war memorial ground. Rees Leyshon and Henry Avery were trustees 'Wheatley Common'; William Tombs president of the Wheatley Liberal Association and chairman of Wheatley Smallholders, a trading organisation with a turnover of over £1,000. Mrs Dorothy Miller, who had financed the building of the Merry Bells in 1888, was president of the W.I. Miss Antrobus was Wheatlev's representative on the Oxfordshire Red Triangle Federation. A British Legion branch had been formed.

'The Lawn' (now Wheatley House) and Iliffe Cottage (45 Church Road) were sold for undisclosed sums; The Manor with its four tenants sold for £700; the four Breach Cottages for £510; a house in High Street with 1 acre of garden for £650. The start of large houses up Ladder Hill saw the building of Edgehill, Windyridge, Longside, and

Coombe House (owned by the extravagant Briggs sisters who regularly ordered delicacies from Fortnums and Harrods). The Catholics of Wheatley celebrated Mass in The Old House, where Miss Dale made a room available.

Entertainments included a massive W.I. fete in the grounds of Shotover House with three short plays, a perambulator parade, flight of balloons, and much more. There also frequent whist drives, and the village was not short of musical talent. It also had active cricket and football teams, with members of the Shepherd, Cooper, Munt, Surman, Clements, Shorter, Crick and Naish families prominent.

Colletts garage was destroyed by fire when a motorcycle backfired with the loss of two motorcycles, a car, valuable lathe, tools, tyres and spare parts. Henry Ernest Munt, 8-years-old, son of Henry Ernest Munt, slipped into a boiling copper, scalded his leg and died three days later. Joseph Stowe, who had acquired the major Wheatley farm in 1902, died aged 85. Under his Will, it was bequeathed to Magdalen College.

Miss Summers was appointed as our district nurse, but this was later rescinded as she was not a communicant of the Church of England. A furore erupted with at least 15 newspaper letters and articles. Our vicar, Rev. Bell gave his support but not before making the point that, had there been two candidates with one οf the churchwomen, then the latter 'would no doubt have the advantage' because 'the greater number of her patients would be of her own religious kinship'.

Steph Cox

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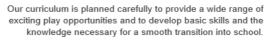
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All Stars After School Club Hours 7:30-9.00am and Monday-Friday 3.00-5.30pm

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. Every day we aim to provide a choice of activities 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 April 2022 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."



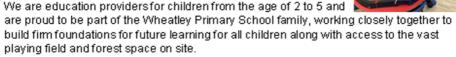
Acorns Nursery



Places available for the next school year

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Our nursery is led by passionate Early Years Practitioners, specialising in Early Years education. Our curriculum is planned alongside our Early Years Lead and qualified Reception teacher.



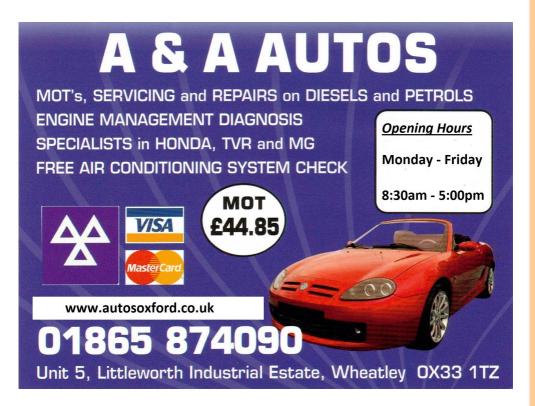


Wrap around breakfast and after school club is available on site through Cool Kids. Opening from 7.30—5.30pm Monday to Friday and also offering a holiday club during half term.

Nursery is open 8.50—3pm Monday to Friday

Visit www.wheatley.oxon.sch.uk and click on the Acorns tab for more information or call 01865 872366 and ask for Sue

Open Day Wed 3rd May 9.15am & Tues 6th June 1.15pm





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WHEATLEY PRODUCTIONS

Wheatley Productions is a friendly, welcoming local drama group. Over the past 30 years we've put on plays, musicals, pantomimes and even the occasional opera. Our youngest performers are 8, the oldest over 80. Whether you want to be on stage or backstage there is something for everyone. Maybe you've always wanted to direct a play or would love to appear on stage. Perhaps you'd like to use your artistic skills to paint scenery or make-up faces. Or you might be interested in costumes or lighting or being front of house. New members are always welcome, no experience necessary. Come along and meet us and find out more.

We have two social events planned for the autumn - on Saturday 23rd September a 'Poems and Pints' evening and on Friday 20th October a drama themed quiz. Both will be held at the New Club with a 7.30pm start. We'd love to see old friends and new faces there.

Our AGM will be on Wednesday June 28th at 7.30pm in the Merry Bells Coffee Room. Refreshments will be provided and all are welcome.

For more information contact us at wheatleyprods@gmail.com

Cath Hogan



Wheatley WI

Follow us on Facebook: Wheatley Women's Institute



Our Annual Meeting was held in March. A special welcome was extended to Sarah Griffey who would be our teller during the election of our new committee. Fortunately this was a very stress free event as all the committee members were willing to be reelected. Steph Cox was the only nominee for President and was duly voted in again.

After the formal business of the Annual Meeting was concluded members enjoyed a cup of tea before taking part in a light hearted quiz to round off the evening.

Our next meeting in April could not have been more different as we had a gin tasting courtesy of Chalgrove Artisan Distillery. Jenny and Bob Clark began by talking us through the history of the business which they started in They have wide range of gins, all named after Oxford postcodes, all of which, apart from one, have won prestigious awards. They flavour their gins with a wide variety of including strawberries. lavender and ginger to name but a few. Believe me the results are delicious. We were able to taste as many as we liked which meant a lot of laughter towards the end of the meeting.

Before the tasting however we had a short talk by Ella O'Brien who was a representative from the charity "Yellow Submarine" This had been our chosen charity for last year and we were pleased to be able to present her with a cheque for £260.

Another highlight of the evening was the unveiling of the post-box topper made by our craft club.

I'm sure by now this will be a familiar sight in the village and admired and appreciated by everyone. One craft club member has also knitted "King Charles and Queen Camilla" who will be on display in Wheatley Estate Agents.



History Snippets: June/July 1923

A talk on the work of the Women's Institute and a demonstration of fruit bottling were the two rather dull talks at the meetings in June. The July meeting took the form of a concert, attended by 55 members, which was held in the garden of The Windmills. However, the main event in June was the fete which was held in the gardens of Shotover House. As reported in the Oxford Chronicle and Reading Gazette on 29th June 1923 this was a great success. Some of the attractions were a decorative perambulator parade, a flight of balloons, a tennis tournament, clock golf, bowling and hoop-la. There were stalls selling country produce, sweets, needlework and handicrafts to name but a few. A play was performed by member s of the Institute, also two short dramatic sketches. There were also two performances of a minuet performed by Wheatley children. The Ickford band was present and an enjoyable time was spent by numerous visitors. Obviously a lot of hard work had gone into organising this event and it appears to have been a very successful event. Thankfully it didn't rain.

Visitors are always welcome. (£4 suggested donation)

Stephanie Brooklyn



Hello from The Maple Tree!

Our fabulous Children's Centre needs one or two trustees. We are in particular search of a special person with some time to spare and a background in finances. Are you able to join our small but lovely group of trustees? Can you help us to grow and improve our services to all the families in Wheatley and the surrounding villages?

We have something for every family with young children – a session each weekday and once a month on a Saturday.

Monday: Messy Mondays at 10:00-

11:30am

Tuesday: Story and Rhyme Time at

10:00-11:30am

Wednesday: Baby Cafe at 10:00am-

12:00pm

Thursday: Little Explorers at 10:00-11:30am and Twinnies at 2:00-

3:30pm

Social Butterflies at 10:00-11:30am

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.

Check out our Website and Facebook page for more information about our special events, our summer programme, and our popular First Aid classes. For details, please go to www.mapletree.org.uk.

Please also have a look at our Maple Tree Market page on Facebook or just come to The Maple Tree for a browse! We have some wonderful children's clothes, baby essentials, toys, and games available. This aids the environment by recycling, helps families during these difficult financial times and helps to sustain our charity when families are able to make a small donation.

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

01865 236700 or 07849 466249

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

FB: www.facebook.com/ TheMapleTreeWheatley

Instagram: @themapletreecentre

Laura Spencer | Centre Manager

Commonwealth War Graves | Corporal Fredrick Sheldon

On the eastern side of the River Tigris in Baghdad is the North Gate Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery. Within its walls is the grave of Lieutenant General Sir Stanley Maude, Commander-in-Chief of the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, 4487 casualties from World War One and World War Two and several other memorials.

Ravaged by time, some of the headstones have, over the years, suffered damage. None of this deliberate; indeed, the cemetery has been carefully cared for by the caretaker Mr. Jasim; his father and, before him, his father's father.

It was there under the sun that I found Corporal Fredrick Sheldon of the Royal Army Ordnance Corp.



Born in Wheatley in 1879/80, he was the second son of the master blacksmith who lived on the High Street. Before enlisting he was a schoolteacher who married his wife Ada in 1906.

Corporal Sheldon served his country in Mesopotamia. He died in, or near, Baghdad on 18 June 1918 104 years ago – killed by a shell explosion.

His name is on the village memorial and is also inscribed on the family grave in St Mary's churchyard. He had two brothers who also fought in the war; they returned.

On behalf of the Wheatley British Legion, I laid a cross. My colleagues and I stood in silence.

Corporal Fredrick Sheldon is one of the Wheatley men who did not come home.

We will remember them.

Professor Victoria Lindsay



another project from the lovely people at myS.:ciety

Project Active

Project Active - All change at the Littleworth Fields (currently better known as the school playing fields)

Have you ever asked yourself – why is the field next to the school not used more effectively? We are sure you have – we certainly have! It is definitely an underused space. We want to change this.

Building on the efforts of many before us, we are delighted to announce that **Wheatley Parish Council** and **Wheatley Primary School** are working hard together to find a solution to the way that the field is managed and used.

Our vision:

- a safe school field for the children to use about 10% of the current acreage; and
- The rest is managed as a community asset for the benefit of all.

We are at the beginning of this journey and there will be hurdles. We are united in our vision of developing the community part of the field into a beautiful village asset – a green space with interest for everyone, that encourages everyone to get active outdoors.

This is where you come in. Wheatley Parish Council serves our community, and we will want to hear from you – what do you want the field to be? How should it be developed? How can we encourage everyone outdoors? Soon, we will be asking for your ideas for what we call the field, so get thinking!

We will keep you updated as the project develops - watch out for opportunities to input your ideas. Feel free to contact any of us if you want to know more.







Alison Sercombe | Chair | Wheatley Parish Council Gill Standing | Headteacher | Wheatley Primary School Sarah Marioni | Local Governing Body | Wheatley Primary School

SODC Waste Collections — June & July 2023

Collection day Monday unless *changed	Which bins and other items?
Jun 12th & 26th Jul 10th & 24th	Green, brown, food & oil waste, textiles
Jun 5th & 19th Jul 3rd, 17th & 31st	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 | laura@mapletree.org.uk

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

Howe Trust Allotment Assoc. | Chair | Georgina Glenny | 01865 874450

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

Wheatley Good Neighbour Scheme | 07907 104856 | wheatleygns@gmail.com

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



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY MORE THAN THANK YOU?

Our volunteers awards 2023 are an opportunity to thank amazing people, to share their stories and to inspire othes.

Categories are:
Emma Wilson Parish Awards (under 12s & 13-21 year olds)
Community Award (individual)
Community Award (organisation)
Environmental Volunteer
Neighbour of the year.

Nominations can be made:
Online - using QR code, or from the parish council's website
Via email clerk@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Deadline is 31st July 2023

Submission form also available on page 6

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



