

WHEATLEY NEWS

Published by Wheatley Parish Council



Haymaking, Cuddesdon Road | Sarah Howes

Last Chance to Nominate - Page 5

Wheatley Daily Info Launch - Page 25

Wheatley-on-Sea - Pages 60 & 61



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 are particularly welcome but contentious issues or articles promoting personal causes should be avoided.

Submissions should be made by **14th September** 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

Full Parish Council

Merry Bells, 19:30
4th September

Planning Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
9th August
13th September

Finance Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
No Meeting

Open Spaces Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
18th September

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

Publisher & Billing Enquiries

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Distributor

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.

In the weeks since my last update, WPC have been working with Holton Parish Council on our respective responses to the recent planning permissions submitted by Oxford Brookes Wheatley Campus. This is a complicated business with so many attached reports and appendices that you need real focus to comprehend it. We would dearly love to meet the developer Crest Nicholson to discuss the site and how we can welcome the new community into our respective areas. We will have an extra 468 families coming into the area over the next few years, and we want their experience to be a positive one. I hope that Crest Nicholson will reach out to us in the next few months so we can work together.

Have you nominated someone for our Celebrating Volunteers Awards yet? The deadline is the 31st July and it would be wonderful if the village could thank all those who contribute their time and effort for others.

WPC participated in 'No Mow May' and it was a mixed experience. It was good to leave the grass to allow the pollinators to do their work, but strimming, mowing and then clearing up the long grass afterwards was unpleasant, and I would like to publicly thank our grounds operatives for their

dedication to getting on with it. Being showered with all sorts of nasty things that were lurking in the longer grass took a strong stomach.

There will be some consultations for villagers to respond to in the coming weeks/months. The first will request your views on access to the Littleworth Nature Reserve, and the second one will seek views on what villagers would like to see on Littleworth Playing Field. As a council we would like to have something for everyone, which could include a nature area, pond, seating area, nice walks, more challenging play equipment for older children as this age group is not catered for well in the village, and a pump track for children who like off road cycling. Where the field slopes down would be a natural place for an Amphitheatre (drama, storytelling, performances etc.). Completion of this project will take time, and the council will have to go for grants to make it happen, but we are determined to increase the amount of accessible green space in the village for your enjoyment.

And talking of enjoyment, as we go into a well-deserved summer break, I hope the weather remains fine for all of us – wherever we are and whatever we are doing.

Alison Sercombe

Clerk's Column

Firstly, thank you to everyone who engaged with Local Council Clerks Week 2023, enjoying the online quiz and interesting facts, that I hope provided you with an insight into the work the team undertake on behalf of the council and the community.

One of the regular parts of our roles include preparing for our schedule of meetings. Since the last edition the council have approved and submitted their Annual Governance and Accountability Return, agreed their strategic objectives for 2023-2027, its risk register and revised the Community Emergency Plan. All of these documents, the agendas and minutes from meetings, plus other documents are available from our website www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Did you know you can now watch our meetings online? If you can't attend a meeting, you can watch or hear the discussion live, by joining the meeting. Please scan the QR codes found on the agenda, social media post, or contact the parish office.

Councillors are still required to attend in person and if you would like to join the council, help deliver our projects, or would like to address an issue in the village, please contact the parish office.

Clr Mara joined the council in July and fills one of our vacancies, with four left to fill.

The grounds team have also been out in force, keeping the play areas, footpaths, planted areas looking lovely, whilst carrying out maintenance on some of the benches and equipment across the village, including the memorial bench for our long serving colleague John Funge, 1936-2021.



Do you have a skill or piece of equipment that could help the community in an

emergency. We are compiling a list of people who would be willing to help. This list will be held in line with our privacy policy but could really make a difference in times of extreme weather or utility shortages. If you can help, please do get in touch.

On that note, this is a final call for nominations 'celebrating volunteers' in Wheatley. It is easy to nominate and is a lovely gesture to acknowledge the positive impact their selfless actions have on you, or the community. Deadline for nominations is 31st July, so do hurry!

Finally, I end with a plea, if you have trees or shrubs near to footpaths or highways, please spend some time trimming these back helping to keep the paths clear and reducing hazards or potential damage to vehicles. Thank you in advance.

Michelle Legg

WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS AWARDS 2023

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 others.

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



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Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan Report

A. An issue for Examination.

The WNP Review is under Examination, after due Public Consultation. WNP Examiner, Mr Andrew Ashcroft, has a challenge Opinion to consider from Crest-Nicholson, now the developers of the OBU Wheatley site. C-N claim that the introduction of a Design Guide and Codes [DGC] by the WNP in 2019 and again for the WNP Review in June 2022, both supported by Wheatley Parish Council {Qualifying Body for the WNP} assumes undue authority to comment on the OBU site, to which it is not entitled.

B. WPC 'respectfully addresses' the issue by letter to Mr Ashcroft, 29 June 2023.

1. Wheatley Parish Council in two Consultations (2019 and 2022) published similar details, both in line with Regulations. Information was published on WPC website, in *Wheatley News*, and on all Parish Council noticeboards in Wheatley and Holton. As far as WPC is aware, no objections were made to either of the consultation procedures.
2. Following NPPF Section 12 provisions, WPC commissioned a Design Guide and Codes from AECOM, international Infrastructure Consultants. [AECOM are based in Dallas, with 51,000 employees world-wide. q.v. Wikipedia for detail.] AECOM knew that its contracted DGC was to appear in the forthcoming WNP Review. In addition, AECOM were invited to comment on the challenge Opinion submitted by Crest-Nicholson to the Examiner. Their comment appears in a letter to the Vice-Chairman of the WNP Committee [Roy Gordon] appended to the letter of 29 June from WPC to Mr Ashcroft.



We are seeking your thoughts...

...Should the permissive footpath through Littleworth Allotments be opened to the community?

Please respond to our survey available by:

1. Scanning the QR code
2. Visiting
<https://forms.office.com/e/4YvuzRpTZ1>
3. Collecting and returning a paper copy from the parish office
4. Returning the survey delivered through your door (applies to neighbouring properties /allotment tenants.)



3. Policy H1, the DGC and Policy SPOBU were not drafted with the intent to create conflict with the 2020 Permission or to the Allocation.
4. "WPC accepts that modifications may be required in the WNPR. It is to be expected following any Examination. If there are conflicts between WNP Review and developer proposals for STRAT14, hopefully resolution can be achieved in the Examination findings.

C. AECOM Comments.

- a) Mindful of where the site and steering group were at the time, AECOM awarded support to help ensure that any future infill and small-scale development remain in keeping with the character of Wheatley.
- b) The DGC Report was drafted to apply to growth in and around the village, but not explicitly to the OBU scheme. The note is largely correct in that respect.
- c) That said, the report does include the site as a 'character area' included in the Settlement Edge Area Type, and specifies which codes apply to this area type.
- d) That the report has not been explicitly drafted for this site, does not mean that many of the codes are not relevant for it. They are.
- e) **But** if a design guide or code were prepared to be applied to 500 homes, it would normally include more content on strategic layout, movement, street design, and block types.
- f) We would understand if the Examiner removed the site from Policy H1, but we do not think it necessary. He may suggest we put the site into its own area type (so not Settlement Edge) and specify which codes are particularly relevant to it.

D. Broader points made by Ben Castell:

SPOBU - WHE25 policy looks reasonable.

- I understand the questioning of the Green Belt, given the de-designation.
- I cannot comment on the 'process points'.
- The code or guide discussion in para 27 and from 68-78 is of no real consequence. It is well established that Neighbourhood Planning groups can establish DGCs and often do.

More issues await deliberation by the Examiner.

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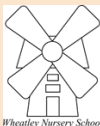
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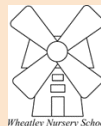
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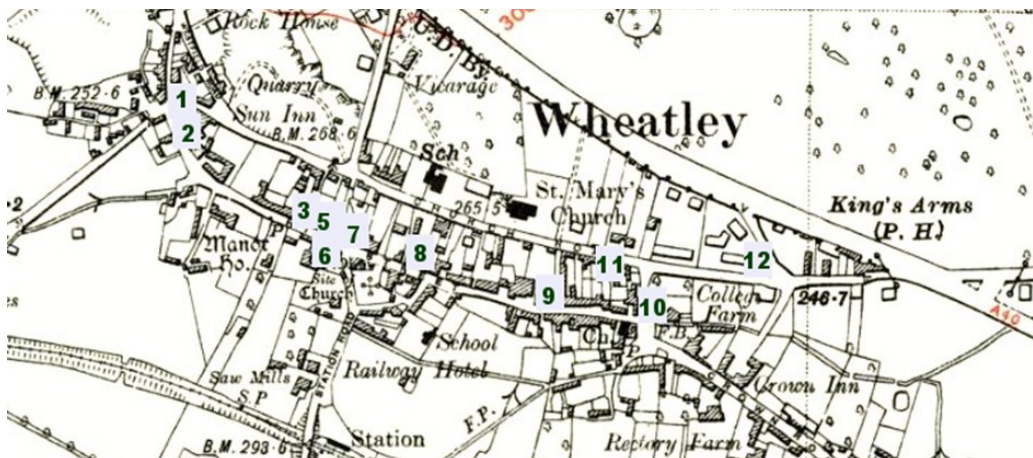
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YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

From September and due to lack of visitors to the library on Thursday afternoons, the archive will only be manned by appointment. Please e-mail info@wheatleyarchive.org.uk



Wheatley in the 1930s

In the first of a series of three articles, a map of the central village shops has been re-created.

1. West end of Church Road, butcher's shop run by Rose brothers until 1938
2. 11 High Street, shop run by Dungey family
3. Hyde baker at 39 High Street
4. (Between 3 & 5) Hairdresser adjacent bakery, became a hardware shop in 1947
5. Draper's shop at 47 High Street, Walde general store from 1935
6. Post Office and shop at 48 High Street
7. 51 High Street, general store, run by Hughes
8. 65/67 High Street, general store run by Bax
9. 97/99 High Street, Harris general stores
10. 113 High Street, Bob Green's sweet shop after the Chequers had closed
11. 94, Church Road, fish, poultry meat, and vegetables from the 1920s
12. 65 Church Road, Bates cycle shop from 1931

Was this unusual for the time? In a comparable village study, East Meon had four bakers, three grocers, a butcher, two mills, wheelwrights, farriers, a post office, and a fish and chip shop. Clothes, boots, and shoes could be bought at one grocery shop. It even had a herbalist!

Steph Cox

Our May meeting was a very social affair. Members had been asked to wear red, white and blue if possible as this was to be our celebration of The Coronation. The tables were laid with appropriate tablecloths and decorations and it was nice to be able to sit and chat while being served tea and cake by the committee. This was followed by a "Royal" quiz which certainly tested our knowledge of the royal family. Thanks to our committee for arranging such an enjoyable evening.

We had a very interesting talk at our June meeting given by Dee O'Brien who is a Chief Inspector with the Metropolitan Police Force. Dee has been in the police force for 23 years and has had a very varied career. She trained as a detective and was then assigned to the Counter Terrorist team where she undertook undercover surveillance and related some of the scenarios she had encountered doing this dangerous job. She also mentioned some of the tragic cases she had attended including murders and the Grenfell Tower disaster. There were also more pleasant times such as the 2012 Olympics, the Coronation and the Trooping of the Colour. Although security is paramount these are more joyous occasions and the atmosphere is more relaxed. She also spent 10 years as a community officer.

Her talk made members realise that, despite the sometimes unfavourable press coverage, our police do a wonderful

job often under the most difficult circumstances. We should be very proud of them.

History Snippets Aug/Sep 1923:

It was decided by the committee to write to General Miller asking him to support the scheme by which the County Council would, by means of the Public Libraries Act, ensure a permanent supply of books to the villages now supplied by the Rural Libraries, which will cease to exist in 1924. The letter was to be signed by all members. I think this must have been the beginning of an established library in Wheatley. There was still an issue regarding the street lighting but the W.I. were not giving up on getting better lighting in the village.

The fete in June had been an outstanding success and it was agreed to put £25 of the money raised into War Saving Certificates. Two outdoor meetings were held. A concert was held at The Windmills on Ladder Hill in July. The August meeting was held in the garden of The Old Parsonage when a dancing display was given by the children of Wheatley School.

There is no meeting in August. On 19th September we will welcome Gary Sherwood to our meeting when we will hear about his time in the Royal Ballet.

Our meetings are held in The Merry Bells beginning at 7.15 pm. Visitors are always welcome. £4 donation suggested.

Stephanie Brooklyn

Wheatley Views



Church Way medieval burial road lined with poplars - John Fox



Rainbow over Wheatley from the Howe Trust allotments - Lucy Collinson



View from The Avenue - Sarah Howes

Not the Fun Run - A Comedy of Errors

At 09:30 I was outside The Sun, but no walkers appeared.

At 10:00, no runners turned up, so I said to my partner, Jane Kelly, "Oh well, never mind, no more Fun Runs after 39 years! But I'll walk it". So I did, in 63 minutes, aged 78. BUT, as I came to the West Field gate, Caroline Dalton and Ruth Adewuyi stopped me and said "We've been looking for you!". It turns out, the Fun Run has always started at 11:00 - who knew? Certainly not me - the organiser - NOT!

Nine runners and one walker had set out, so all's well that ends well!

Here are the results:

- 1) Tom Guy in 24:40 (mm:ss), aged 34. His fifth win and one of the best times recorded.
- 2) Mike Hogan in 37:58, aged 59.
- 3) Peter Bayliss in 39:39, aged 67.
- 4) Jenny Stonard in 40:50, aged 40.
- 5) Ade Adewuyi in 41:52.
- 6) Colin Campion in 42:25, aged 69.
- 7) Caroline Chavasse in 44:44, aged 54.
- 8) Celia Pagel in 49:28, aged 63.
- 9) Laura Bayliss in 55:15.
- 10) Cath Hogan walked it in a world record 56:56 aged 59.

Well done all! Thanks for turning up at the right time!

Hope to make it myself next year at 11:00, 10:30 for walkers!

Jack Turner | Not the Organiser



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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.

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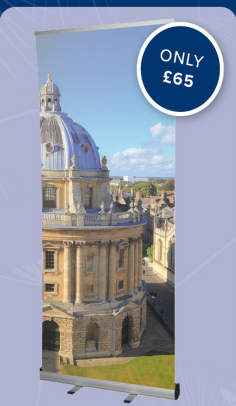
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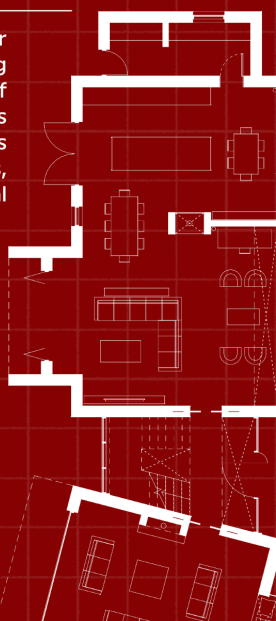
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A New Community Website for Wheatley, Holton, and Littleworth

www.wheatleydailyinfo.org.uk is now up and running

If you want to know what is going on in Wheatley and its environs, just go to the website and events taking place for clubs, societies, churches, and much more are listed in date order. To find out more, just click on the event. So, whether you want to know when the next Swap Shop is, where you can play table tennis or take your baby to music club: one click takes you there.

Don't miss out - try something new - get involved!

Deborah Bale

WHEATLEY CARE COORDINATOR

Wheatley Care is in NEED of another co-ordinator to join the team to help manage bookings requests to the drivers and allocations
(average 30 per month)

If you like speaking to people, we would love to hear from you.
We depend on the support of the community, so please help if you can.

Please contact **Kath Lamont 01865 876609**

Our Lady of Lourdes

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

Save our Hollyhocks!

Wheatley's hollyhocks are a magnificent feature of the summer landscape. When we moved here, they inspired me to buy hollyhock seeds on-line but, despite tender loving care, they withered and died. So I took some seeds from the dead flowerheads around the village – sure enough, not only did they flourish but kindly breezes spread them throughout the garden. We even have a growing colony in the stony ground of the OLL car park. The Wheatley genus *Alcea rosea* seems to thrive on neglect – and there is no law requiring us to grow commercial hybrid versions.

Not so in the Global South. CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, has recently undertaken a study which shows that, in order to gain finance from the World Bank, African countries are forced to implement laws and subsidies to provide greater access to hybrid seeds and chemical inputs. The resulting seed certification laws are making it illegal for local communities to propagate, grow, exchange and sell their own seeds.

The World Bank measures the success in terms of greater participation of the private sector in providing access to hybrid seeds and their necessary fertilisers, as opposed to measuring impacts based on poverty reduction or increased food security for poor farmers. As a result, major agribusiness companies have been the main beneficiaries, profiting from increased sales and further concentrating their control of agricultural systems.

At OLL, we have recently signed a petition to the World Bank in support of the small farmers who seek simply to protect their fundamental rights to save, use, exchange and sell their own varieties of seed, and put an end to policies that limit their choice over seeds they can access. If you would like to add your voice, google CAFOD Fix the Food System for a link to email the World Bank.

It's hardly a good comparison but imagine the outrage if Wheatley's hollyhocks were outlawed.

John Guy

Wheatley United Reformed Church

01865 873859 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

Wheatley URC News

Like all URC churches, Wheatley is steered by a Church Meeting, open to all members, but another aspect of governance in this church, particularly productive during the interregnum between ministers, is the input of several longstanding Ministry Teams, to one or more of which members are invited to contribute. Here are details of a couple, with more perhaps to follow.

Our Worship Team plans services, especially for the main festivals and joint services. Among visually captivating items are the advent wreath, and this year the flowering Easter Cross as well as the flowers which beautifully enhance both regular and special services. Our indefatigable Pulpit Secretary ensures that we have a wide range of visitors leading worship, as well as our regulars. Believing as we do in the priesthood of all believers, our style of worship varies: we have regular all-age services, dance (not compulsory) being part of one service recently, and I would never

have guessed that I would so much enjoy playing the bongos at the climax of our Christmas Morning worship. All this has doubtless contributed to the fact that our attendance at Sunday service, despite the loss of several faithful members, is higher than before the pandemic.

Our Finance Team, beyond its oversight of the work of our superb Treasurer, deals with both the mundane, such as soaring energy costs, which affect churches too (though our new Mulberry Room is highly efficient) and decisions on such matters as the church's charitable giving. We support Disasters Emergency Committee appeals, over and above the 12.5% of annual church income which supports causes near and far, examples from recent years including the Oxford Food Hub, young carers in Oxfordshire, The Gatehouse in Oxford, the Falcon School in Zimbabwe, and The Refugee Council.

Mike Matejtschuk

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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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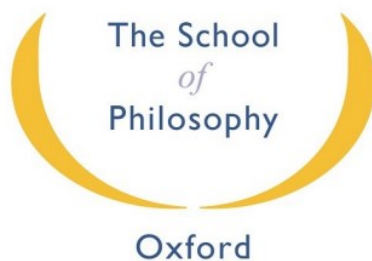
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Notices | Clubs | Events

THE MERRY BELLS CAR PARK WILL BE CLOSED

5.00 PM SAT 19 AUG
UNTIL
9.00 AM TUE 22 AUG

**ALL VEHICLES MUST
BE REMOVED
DURING THIS TIME**

Wheatley windmill
will be open again from
2pm to 6pm on
**Sundays August 13th
and 10th September.**

Free entry; tea and
cakes on sale; browse
our new souvenirs; give
a donation for some
freshly ground flour.

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 Wed each month
except August
2.00pm-4.00pm
Horspath Hub OX33 1RP
£3.50 per person inc.
tea/coffee and cake
07570 236443
valeriehunt
@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Wheatley Village
Produce Association
**Members
Annual Show**
Tue 2nd September
2pm, Merry Bells
[wheatleyvpa
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvpa@gmail.com)

Wheatley Village
Produce Association
**Photographing
flowers, birds &
insects**
Gill Ferguson
Tue 12th September
7.30pm, Merry Bells
[wheatleyvpa
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvpa@gmail.com)

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
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**Sustainable
Wheatley**

Swap Shop

Merry Bells

**Saturday 30th Sept
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
**"Fires and
Firefighting in
Oxford"**

a joint event with
WVA History Group
Thur 14th Sept
Merry Bells
7.45 for 8.00

The Wheatley Society

**"Jack Turner's
Shotover"**

Thur 21st Sept
Merry Bells
7.45 for 8.00

**Wheatley
Wine Circle**
Merry Bells
1st Thursday
in Month
19:30

Soldiers of Oxford
Museum, Woodstock

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frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk

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23 Sep 7.30pm
at New Club, Wheatley

[wheatleyprods
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyprods@gmail.com)

Wheatley Productions

Theatre Quiz

20 Oct 7.30pm
at New Club, Wheatley

[wheatleyprods
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyprods@gmail.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

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

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+

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

- 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

- From September 23 by appt only | please email info@wheatleyarchive.org.uk

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 10½-14

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

August / September 2023

Since the last newsletter we have had several events. A very informative “Tour and Tasting at Brightwell Vineyards” included the company of two very entertaining dogs in beautiful surroundings. We also learnt a lot about the local birds of prey. Ian Davis’ “Reflections on Disaster Risk and Recovery” talk highlighted the complexity of the issues that arise and the need to keep the abilities and resourcefulness of those affected at the forefront of subsequent assistance. The “Tour of Trinity College” was a great insight into what lies behind those impressive gates on the Broad from the 13th century Durham College for monks from Durham Priory to the multi-purpose Levine building not forgetting the Chapel with its amazing stained glass, wood carving and marquetry.

After all this it seemed fitting to end the first part of this year’s programme with a “Party for Party Wines” on a glorious summer evening – enjoyed by many as the photo shows.

In September we have two events: “Fires and Firefighting in Oxford” on Thursday 14th September Merry Bells 7.45 for 8.00 – a joint event with WVA History Group and on Thursday 21st September, same place, same time, “Jack Turner’s Shotover” will be about Jack’s pre-historic finds from the area featured in his latest book.

The Wheatley Society was set up 50 years ago and continues to be an active and

vibrant organisation. We want to celebrate its 50th year with various events including putting together a booklet. We are keen to have a lot of photos of people, events etc., maybe you have some in your albums. If you do, please can we copy them, we promise you will get them back in the same condition.

If you can assist us, please contact David Harverson:

01865 873343

david.harverson@outlook.com

In addition, we know that years ago some 200 photographic slides were taken at Society events, and they were contained in a wooden box. Where they are now is a mystery. If you have them or any knowledge of their whereabouts, please can you let David know.

We don’t just want to look back to the past but to take this anniversary as an opportunity to further develop the Wheatley Society. There will be several changes on the longstanding committee during the year and if you would like to be involved in this transition please contact, Mary Hall:

maryelizabethhall@hotmail.com.

Thank you and enjoy the Summer Break.

The Wheatley Society Committee

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ASDA Wheatley Community Update

As part of our national fundraising in aid of Tickled Pink we recently held a Bingo evening at Tetsworth Sports and Social club on June 22nd and would like to thank several local businesses, who supported us with raffle prizes to help us in our fundraising efforts. In total, we raised £344 and hope to make this an annual event, with the possibility of holding another evening fundraiser for Children in Need later in the year for which details will be provided in due course. Again, our thanks to everyone who came along and supported us to help make the evening a great success, with lots of fun and excellent feedback.

As part of our regular Programme of helping local Organisations, during May and June we welcomed a number of groups into store to fundraise including Wheatley Fire Service ran a charity carwash during May, raising £1,230 and are looking to hold another event for the Firefighters Charity in September.

The recent food drive by the Community Emergency Food bank was a success collecting 5 trolleys, along with the Oxford Hygiene bank also running a collection. Thank you to everyone who provided either long-life food items and/or hygiene products for these two collections.

Earlier in July, we helped Wheatley Park School by providing work experience for eight of their students working in several departments across our store for a week.

I'm planning to hold a litter pick in the early autumn, during week commencing 11th September.

We can now confirm the results on our final green token giving vote and have been out visiting all these groups recently to share the news.



- 1st Place - Chalgrove Age Concern £500
- 2nd Place - Thame Concert Band £400
- 3rd Place - Oxford Baby Bank £300

All planned fundraising activity, and updates on the totals raised are added to the Community Board at the start of each month, along with details of community activity taking place. If you have an event running on a regular or ad hoc basis you wish for us to add to the board, please get in touch on the email address below.

Finally, if there are any community groups or schools that wish to visit and book a store tour, with some activities which can be focused on recycling, or healthy eating for example, along with a tour of the building including our warehouses, back of store and the sales floor, please let us know. Plus, if you would like us to cover something else on the store tour, we will do our best to help, such as one of the highlights for children is scanning shopping on the checkouts.

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

Our weather has always been changeable and that is why we talk about it so much more than in other countries. We truly never know what to expect. Now it is also swinging between more extreme temperatures and precipitation! I suppose we have to get used to it.

August

Depending on the weather, concentrate watering only new plants and topping up ponds. Prune wisteria if not already done. Prune trained apples to restrict growth. Deadhead flowers frequently to encourage more flowers. You don't need to be advised to keep picking vegetables but do look out for seed to collect for next year. Last year I followed a tip to leave some of my old Autumn Bliss raspberry canes uncut and these gave me an early picking at the beginning of July, so I plan to do this again this year.

September

Pick autumn raspberries and dig up potatoes. As before, water carefully and net ponds to keep out falling leaves. Cover cabbages and other greens to save some from the pigeons. Clean greenhouses ready for overwintering plants. Continue collecting seed from favourite plants and divide herbaceous



perennials to get more. Plant spring bulbs except tulips which need to wait until November to avoid tulip fire.

Coming up:

- August – No meeting.
- 2 September Members Annual Show, visitors are welcome, deadline for members entries noon 26 August.
- 12 September Photographing flowers, birds & insects in the garden with Gill Ferguson.

Queries to wheatleyvpa@gmail.com

Geraldine Surman



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2. 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.
3. Up to date information on current news items including:
 - Staying safe in the hot weather
 - Prescribing policy for patients travelling abroad
 - Oxford Community Diagnostic Centre: X-Rays, blood tests, ultrasounds, CTs and more

Information on the NHS 111 online service which is available 24/7

Morland House PPG

GARSINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

We are a group of local senior citizens who meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month for tea/coffee, biscuits and a chat with Bingo, Raffle prizes and a Bring and Buy sale thrown in for entertainment.

Once a month during the summer and autumn we run subsidised trips to various sea side towns currently at a cost of £18 per person for members and £20 per person for non-members. Annual membership just £5.

We welcome new members from Garsington and surrounding villages and are keen to recruit more members. Meetings are held in Garsington Social club with ample free parking available.

You are cordially invited to come along for a free introductory meeting where you are able to join in and find out more details.

Looking forward to seeing you.



The Merry Bells Village Hall

In recent articles about the Merry Bells, we have written about its history and how, just over fifty years ago, it became the village hall that is technically owned by the village. We say 'technically' because in 1970 when the original owner and benefactor agreed to sell the building for the continued benefit of the village, a Trust was formed to take legal ownership.

We make this point because following recent articles, we have had comments about not having to pay for using the Hall and any of the facilities and amenities, with such comments, "as I live in the village and as the village owns the Merry Bells I should not have to pay anything".

The Trust Deed specifies that a Management Committee, consisting of elected members and representatives of various user groups, be the Trustees responsible for running the building for the use of all Wheatley residents.

In 1970, the Trustees immediately set about a programme of 'modernisation and repair' and have continued ever since. So much so, that at our recent Open Day, we were able to show that in the past fifty-three years the Trustees have invested over £1 million in

installing new equipment, upgrading, and maintaining the building, to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

Which is where we started this article, explaining that while technically the village owns the Merry Bells, we do need income to provide for the continued development and maintenance.

So, we do need the village to keep hiring the Hall and Coffee Room plus renting the offices and using our village library. On another historical note there has always been a library in the Merry Bells since it was founded in 1888 for which villagers had to pay a membership fee. Thankfully today, that is one charge that the village does not have to pay. So please support this excellent facility.

Finally, the Merry Bells car park will be closed from **5pm on Saturday 19th August until 9am Tuesday 22nd August**, which is slightly longer this year, as we will take the opportunity of carrying out some maintenance work this year. **Please make sure all vehicles are removed by that time.**

The Merry Bells Trustees

WHEATLEY CARE

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

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- Communicate with drivers and deal with all other correspondence.

Please contact: **Kath Lamont—01865 876609**

WALKS PROGRAMME AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023

AUGUST

- Thursday 3rd Meet at Swyncombe church for an undulating 9-mile walk with great views. Bring a picnic.
- Friday 11th Leisurely 4½ mile figure of eight walk from Marsh Baldon ending at The Seven Stars PH for an optional lunch/coffee if open.
- Sunday 13th Meet at Ludgershall, on the High Street close to the village hall, for a flat 6½ mile walk via Wootton Underwood.
- Thursday 17th Undemanding 7½ mile walk starting at Warborough, going via Shillingford Bridge to Wittenham Woods. Return via Day's Lock and the Thames Path.
- Wednesday 23rd Meet at Watlington, recreation ground car park, for a 6½ mile walk via Christmas Common. Lovely views.
- Thursday 24th Leisurely 5 mile walk from Chalgrove via Berwick Salome. Optional lunch at Red Lion PH at finish.
- Tuesday 29th Meet by Queen's Lane Coffee House, Oxford, for a 5½ mile inner city walk via parks and rivers. Wide choice of eateries at end of walk.
- Thursday 31st 5-mile scenic walk from Great Kimble (off B4009) via Chequers Knap and Buckmoorend. Optional lunch at Swan PH at the end.

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday 3rd Undulating 10-mile Chilterns walk from Lane End. Bring a picnic.
- Thursday 7th Undulating 8-mile walk from Piddington (West Wycombe) via Bledlow Ridge. Bring a picnic.
- Saturday 9th From Stadhampton, 6½ mile walk starting at 11am (bring a picnic) or 2-mile walk starting at 2pm, with tea/cakes in Stadhampton church at the end (donations to help rebuild a church in Fiji flattened by a cyclone).
- Thursday 14th Meet at Cookley Green for an 8½ mile walk with hills, woodlands, and views. Bring a picnic.
- Thursday 28th 10-mile scenic walk from Oving. Bring a picnic. Booking essential (see website).

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

Check the website to confirm details of these walks and to find additions to the programme:

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

or phone 01844 213608

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

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Apples (and other fruit)

As we have done in previous years, we will be going out again in the next few months, picking local fruit and distributing as much as we can around the village.

You can help if:

- You have a fruit tree which you are unable to pick, or you know of a fruit tree in the village whose fruit is unpicked.
- You would like to help pick fruit that will otherwise go to waste.
- You are involved in a group or a project that could benefit from this fruit (in the past we have left it outside local shops, and given some to the community larder as well as other local groups).

If you can help in any of these ways, please contact either Jane 01865 874588 or Nick 07919 528849.

We will also be having our traditional apple pressing day outside The Merry Bells on Saturday 21st October (10am- 2pm) where we will turn any remaining apples into juice; you are welcome to bring your own apples along for juicing.

An Appeal

Our current chair has unfortunately had to step down from the role and we are looking for someone with the drive, knowledge, and initiative to take over and continue to move us forward and grow the group.

The impact of climate change is becoming more and more obvious, and more action is needed to combat it so, if you want to lead the way and bring some much-needed energy and expertise, please get in touch at:

sustainablewheatley.org

sustainablewheatley@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/sustainablewheatley

PS: Don't forget the next Swapshop on **Sat 30th September** – bring stuff from 9am until 10.15am then take stuff from 10.30-12.00.

Tim Blightman

WHEATLEY-ON-SEA



What Wheatley would have looked like 160 million years ago

Can you imagine living on a coral lagoon surrounded by sandy beaches and warm tropical seas? Well, if you had lived in Wheatley 160 million years ago during the Jurassic Period you would have done just that. Wheatley was situated on the southeast portion of a circle of coral reefs stretching out to Beckley in the north and Headington in the west. These reefs were built up by many species of corals and the Jurassic ancestors of sea urchins, mussels, oysters, limpets, crinoids, and many varieties of crustaceans such as shrimp, lobster and crab that lived on or around the lagoon. As they died, their shells and bodies sank to the seafloor to create layer upon layer of calcium carbonate to form the Corallian Limestone that is now the bedrock of our village.

Over the millennia this bedrock has been covered with layers of clays, sand, Alluvial Gravel and Glacial Till (mud and rubble bulldozed by ancient glaciers). However, there are several places where you can see exposures of this Jurassic limestone. One of the best known is found at the back of the Recreation Ground and Templars Close. These were opened up when a huge quarry was dug in the 14th Century to provide building stone for many important buildings of the Middle Ages such as the newly founded Oxford Colleges such as Magdalen, Merton and Christchurch as well as Abingdon Abbey and Windsor Castle, to name just a few. Other quarries were subsequently opened in Headington, Woodeaton, Lye Hill and Cumnor. The Wheatley quarry continued to provide high quality building material known as Wheatley Limestone until last century. Many of the houses in the village as well as St Mary's Church are built of this durable and attractive rock. In the 1990s the British Geological Survey officially classified this particular type of limestone found to the east of Oxford as the 'Wheatley Limestone Member' identifying it as "shell-fragmented, biosparite grainstones interbedded with rubbly coralliferous limestones of the 'Coral Rag' facies". Corallian

limestone laid down in the same period can also be found in the Vale of Pickering in Yorkshire and in a narrow band of outcrops stretching from Wheatley down to Portland Bill in Dorsetshire.

How do we know that these rocks were laid down in the Jurassic Period? By far the most common method is through examining fossils. Limestones are not easily dated by radiometric techniques such as Carbon 14 and Uranium 235 dating. However, examining fossils found in both limestones and in radiometrically dated rocks such as shales or mudstones gives strong evidence of the age of the limestone. The shallow seas and reefs surrounding the lagoon teemed with life. Molluscs, crinoids, echinoderms (sea-urchins) and crustaceans fed off the corals.



Bivalves



Ammonites



Shark's tooth



Crinoid stems



Corals



Belemnites



Sea Urchins



Urchin spines

Ammonites, sharks, fishes, pliosaurs and ichthyosaurs flourished in the warm seas. On nearby Oxfordshire estuaries and swamps ancient ornithopods such as 'Cumnoria prestwichii' and the dinosaur Megalosaurus found in Stonesfield, grazed, hunted and died. They all left fossils.

Unfortunately, the outcrops of the Corralian Limestone in Wheatley, although host to an enormous variety of sea-life, are not good places to find undamaged fossils. The reefs of Templar Close, Lye Hill, and Beckley all lay on the east side of the lagoon and were exposed to open sea. Tidal movements and shifting currents flowing between the ancient Tethys and Boreal Oceans broke up the corals, shells and bones deposited in the reefs. Fragments of these fossils can be seen in the exposed cliffs as well as in the stones used for the Lock-up and the outside stonework of many of the older houses in the village - look out in particular for oyster and bivalve shells, crinoids and small sea-urchin spines. If you want to see more complete specimens go for a walk round Rock Edge Park or Magdalen Quarry in Headington. The reefs exposed there were more protected within the lagoon and you can see many good examples of fossilised reef-dwellers' remains. Further information on the Headington sites can be found at the following sites:

www.headington.org.uk/history/quarries/rock_edge

www.headington.org.uk/history/quarries/magdalen_pit

To learn more about fossils found in Oxfordshire, go and look at the Oxford Museum of Natural History's extensive collection:

oumnh.ox.ac.uk/learn-oxfordshire-dinosaurs

Richard Street



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Regular Volunteers

Could you spare a couple of hours every month or so, at a time that suits you, to carry out one of our routine tasks? We're looking for people of all ages with a range of interests and experience to become Regular Volunteers.

Could you help with regular 'gardening and monitoring tasks' - such as mowing our paths, taking water meter readings, watering trees or being responsible for checking on our newly planted saplings? More into DIY? Then would you be able to help repair a fence or fix a leaking tap on one of our water troughs?



Ad Hoc Volunteers

Our Ad Hoc Volunteers join in on our weekend working party project days, which happen 3 or 4 times a year in Autumn/Winter or early Spring. Typically, you'd be working in a team to help us to complete larger projects - such as bramble and scrub clearing, tree sapling planting, hedge trimming or weeding. All ages welcome. No experience required. We're a friendly bunch and volunteer perks include FREE hot drinks and homemade cakes!



Want to find out more? Check-out our NEW website at www.howetrust.org.uk Here you can sign up to register your interest or contact us to ask any questions about our volunteer work - we'd love to hear from you. You also can sign up here to receive our newsletter - so you'll be the first to hear about what's happening including our upcoming volunteer working party dates.

Final Orders Being Taken NOW

To Plant a Sapling Tree* on The Howe/ Adopt an English Oak

Final advance orders for saplings and oak tree orders being taken now until end Aug for planting in November. Exact planting dates tbc. Please see the News & Events page on our website or Facebook page for more information. To order please contact Maggie Fyffe as per below. *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

Allotment Association

Interested in having an allotment on The Howe? We currently have some vacant plots. To find out more please get in touch by completing a contact form on the allotment page of our website.



Wheatley Playing Field Trust

News from The Trust

July marks the eighth anniversary since Wheatley Playing Field Trust gained charitable status.

At the end of this month a new artificial cricket wicket will be installed. This is to replace the one that had fallen into disrepair and, for many years, had become unsafe to use. This new wicket will enable cricket to be played up to club standard.

The Trust is also hoping to install new floodlights on the tennis courts this summer.

Wheatley Oaks women's 2nd football festival was held on Saturday 24th June and they are to be congratulated on hosting another most successful event.

Over the past 8 years, the Trust has carried out many works to both improve and increase the facilities on the Wheatley Playing Field. Grass pitch improvement was a priority and the Trust is working with Wheatley Parish Council to carry out repairs to the pavilions. An improved heating system

is being installed this summer to prevent the lower pavilion from freezing up as it did last winter.

A reminder for those wishing to play tennis, the courts are offered free of charge outside school hours and at weekends to the residents of Wheatley and Holton. If you wish to play, details are on the Trust website. We just ask you register with us.

A reminder to all users, please do not park in front of the school and the Park Sports Centre.

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

WHEATLEY CARE SCHEME IS IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

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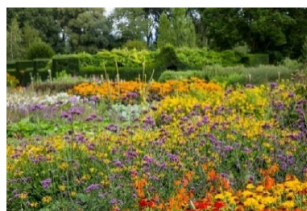
They have a vast experience & knowledge within the care sector, and are reliable, DBS checked & this is ongoing, professional, insured & self-employed, supply their own PPE, liaise with family members and any other professionals involved.

Services provided:

- All aspects of personal care that may be required, to include bathing, showering, hair wash, dressing, etc.
- 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 moiramaccr@outlook.com



Waterperry
Gardens

August & September

Waterperry Gardens - inspirational gardens & plants, expert advice, sumptuous food & great ideas for the home & garden, the perfect place to come with family & friends.

Theatre - A Midsummer Night's Dream by Box Tree Productions: Sat 5 August, 5pm-7pm

This classic Shakespeare play has been transformed into a musical extravaganza and adapted into modern language, so that it is perfect for the whole family to enjoy.

Waterperry Opera Festival: Fri 11 to Sun 20 August The opera festival with a difference...

not just grand opera, but family fun & entertainment too over 10 days across the Waterperry Estate.

Oxford Story Telling Festival: Fri 25 to Sun 27 August An enchanted realm of Myth, Magic and Mystery, an intimate festival weaving magic with stories, spoken word, poetry and song.

Waterperry House Open weekend: Sat 2 to Sun 3 September A chance to meet the owners of Waterperry Estate, the School of Philosophy and Economic Science. Varied selection of lectures, talks and tours throughout the 'open house' weekend. No pre-booking required.

A two-cello charity concert at Waterperry House Open Weekend: Sun 3rd September, 4pm-5pm Come and enjoy a two-cello charity concert in the beautiful setting of Waterperry House.

Autumn Wellness Retreat with Rina Golan: Fri 22nd September - Mon 25 September

All-inclusive 4-day retreat run by Rina Golan to support your overall wellbeing.

Sun 17 September: gardens open in aid of the National Garden Scheme

For further information and booking details please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

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Hello from The Maple Tree!

Our fabulous Children's Centre needs a special trustee. Do you have some time to spare and a background in finance? Are you able to join our small but lovely group of trustees? We are looking for someone to grow and improve our services to all the families in Wheatley and the surrounding villages.

We are open all summer and have some special sessions suitable for younger children and siblings up to age 8 or so.

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

Tuesdays: A nature walk, Pirate's Day, Sport's Day and Ready for School sessions at 10:00-11:30am

Wednesdays: Baby and Bump Cafe at 10:00am-12:00pm

Thursdays: Focus on Healthy Eating and Terrific Teeth at 10:00-11:30am and Twinnies at 2:00-3:30pm

Social Butterflies at The Maple Tree and our local villages at 10:00-11:30am (Horspath, Holton, Little Milton and Great Milton)

Family Fun at 10:00-11:30am, **3rd Saturday** in August

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 details about our summer programme. For details, links below.

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](https://www.facebook.com/TheMapleTreeWheatley)

Instagram: [@themapletreecentre](https://www.instagram.com/themapletreecentre)

Laura Spencer | Centre Manager



THE MAPLE TREE TREASURER VACANCY

- The Maple Tree is a well-respected and highly-valued charity in Wheatley, serving over 400 families each year from the village, many surrounding villages and parts of Oxford. We run play-based early learning activities for children under 5 and their parents, and workshops and courses for parents and carers. We also host health visitor clinics and provide advice and support.
- We are seeking a treasurer to join our team of trustees and help oversee our finances, prepare our annual budget and end of year accounts. This is a voluntary role, and vital to the smooth running and sustainability of the charity. Our current annual budget is approximately £90,000.
- The treasurer would need to come with prior experience of managing money, either with a bookkeeping or accountancy background or as part of a trustee or staffing role. If you are interested in finding out more about the role, we would be delighted to talk with you. Please contact Jane Lightfoot at jane@mapletree.org.uk.
- More information about The Maple Tree can be found at:

 www.mapletree.org.uk

 www.facebook.com/TheMapleTree/Wheatley/

Registered charity no.: 1174117

Compared With Last Summer

Compared with last summer, which seemed hot hot hot, with hardly ever a raindrop from the skies, this year the heat started earlier in June. Followed by sporadic cloud bursts in those lucky locations. Although lawns and a few other things dried and went brown quickly, other things responded to the heat and rain.

In my courtyard garden, my Buddleia is a good 1 to 2 feet taller than during previous summers, easily reaching 15 feet and still able to retain lush green leaves, unlike previous years.

My roses, herbs and vines have also grown prolifically, and this year we seem to have won the battle against aphids, which can often overwhelm the unopened rose buds.

Sitting in the courtyard, one could say all that lush growth can give a claustrophobic vibe. I agree, but what overrides that is a feeling of being embraced, cocooned, safe, in a womb-like place. In a cave-like place, surrounded by uncountable shades of green that nature provides for us to enjoy.

All enhanced by the suncatchers, the subtle windchimes, arbours, bird feeders, table and chairs, hanging baskets and washing lines. All those are my contribution to this wonderful mosaic this year. It means even though on the other side of the wall I have one of the busiest and noisiest roundabouts in Oxford, with its constant car horns tooting the day away, my green courtyard remains an escape to retreat to. Even in the heat of the day the green growth seems to have a cooling effect, making the hot sun more bearable.

So, where is your retreat in nature? If you don't have one, it's worth hunting one out. The rewards are immeasurable and very grounding.

Anyway, hope your garden is as lush as mine this year, and you are winning the aphid battle, or is that just me?

Happy Gardening!

01865 747243 | www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

Stuart Mabbutt | Wildlife Gardening Specialist

SODC Waste Collections — August & September 2023

Collection day Monday unless *changed	Which bins and other items?
Aug 7th & 21st Sep 4th & 18th	Green, brown, food & oil waste, textiles
Aug 14th & *29th Sep 11th & 25th	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



Wheatley Christmas Fair



FRIDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2023
2PM-8PM



WHEATLEY HIGH STREET & INSIDE THE MERRY BELLS
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