

WHEATLEY NEWS

Published by Wheatley Parish Council



Wheatley & Holton Play & Activity Day

Have Your Say: OBU - Page 7
RBL Poppy Appeal - Page 45
Royal Opening - 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 are particularly welcome but contentious issues or articles promoting personal causes should be avoided. Submissions should be made by **12th 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
2nd September

Planning Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
14th August
11th September

Finance Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
No Meeting

Open Spaces Cmte.

Parish Office, 19:30
16th 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.

Since the last newsletter, it has been another very busy period for your parish council.

On 11th June I was part of the welcoming party at Wellford Gardens for HRH Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester. He was there to officially open the care home, and a lovely home it is too.



Wellford Gardens Welcoming Party

Credit: The Orders of St John Care Trust

The week before I had been present at their party to celebrate D-Day with a big band playing Glen Miller songs and other favourites of the period. It was highly enjoyable.

The following week myself and a few councillors met Lagan Homes to talk about the development on the land known as Miss Tombs Field. These have always been positive meetings and the developers are working with us to produce affordable (!) housing that the village desperately needs.

Meanwhile, the council has received a draft lease for Littleworth Field, which is now with our solicitors for their advice and guidance. We are very close to bringing the field into community use and aim to open it up for residents to enjoy as soon as we can. Longer term we will be deciding what to put on the field. This is where you come in – you will have seen posters and QR codes within this magazine to participate in a survey to help us design what the area will look like. Please let us know what you think.

The Parish Clerk and I gave a talk to the 1st Wheatley Guides last week and we asked them what they would like to see on the field – suggestions included picnic benches, play equipment for older children, a performance stage, a pond, a multi-use games area and a skate park. We welcome their suggestions - this will be a 5-year plan and we need ideas now to organise the design and get the funding lined up.

We continue to work on obtaining the Cadet Hut, but we are not making as good progress with this project.

Your Parish Council is about to start their summer recess, although some of us will continue to keep things ticking over during the summer. For those that are about to go on holiday – enjoy your break, for those who are staying closer to home - enjoy it.

Alison Sercombe

By the time this edition drops through your letterboxes, we will have celebrated the third successful Wheatley & Holton Play & Activity Day. It was great to see so many people, young and old, enjoying themselves. Thank you to Martin at Oxfordshire Play Association for partnering with us again, the event sponsors and all the local groups and residents that came along.

Almost two years ago we began consulting with you on the topic of how to improve parking on the High St. It is hoped that OCC and SODC will begin to implement the new scheme from September. Residents who will be eligible for parking permits will be contacted by OCC/SODC directly. More details on page 6.

On the topic of consultation, you still have time to share your thoughts on what you would like to see at Littleworth Field, as Wheatley Parish Council look to create a new community open space. To find out more, please visit page 16 or contact us in the parish office.

In June we welcomed Pete Dalton to our grounds maintenance team. Pete grew up in Wheatley and has been supporting other organisations in the village, before applying to join us. If you spot Pete, or his colleague Richard, do stop and say hello!

Dates for your diaries

Public Meeting to discuss amended planning application for Holton Park/former Oxford Brookes campus, **Tuesday 13th August**, 7pm in Merry Bells

Local Produce Market, **Saturday 14th September** 10am-2pm, bringing you a selection of local producers and businesses with refreshments on sale from Wheatley Guides.

Wheatley Christmas Fair returns on **Friday 29th November** 2pm-8pm with festive stalls, and entertainment along High St and inside the Merry Bells.

Council Meetings

It has been great to see some members of the community joining our meetings online. Don't forget this facility is available for nearly all meetings, so if you can't physically make our meetings, you can watch the proceedings from the comfort of your home. All our agendas, minutes and core documents and links to meetings are available from our website www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk or by contacting the Parish Office.

Invite to join the council

Are you over 18, on the electoral register, live/work/own/rent property in Wheatley or within 3 miles of the village, then you are eligible to become a parish councillor and can help the council deliver its objectives.

Wheatley Parish Council have a clear strategy to:

- Act against Climate Change
- Support our village to become vibrant, sustainable, and safe.

- Make the council accessible to all and to promote inclusivity and wellbeing. But to do this effectively we need more of you to become parish councillors, to help the community and to come with new ideas and willing to share and develop their own skills.

The commitment is one or two meetings a month (no meeting in August).

Being a parish councillor is very rewarding, with supportive colleagues and council staff. Full training and support are available.

Public Meeting for Oxford Brookes Campus

Crest Nicholson, the owners of land currently leased to Oxford Brookes University have submitted an amendment to a previous planning application to build 447 properties on the site.

The application utilises entrances and exits on Holton Turn and Waterperry Rd and will include 166 affordable housing properties (purchase and rental).

As part of the planning process SODC have opened a period of public consultation. You can view the plans and make comments via SODC's planning portal, using reference P23/S1407/RM.

Wheatley Parish Council would also like to hear your views and will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday 13th August, at 7pm in the Merry Bells, before considering the application at its planning committee on Wednesday 14th August. Details of the meeting are on page 7.

Michelle Legg

WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL- NEXT LOCAL PRODUCE MARKET



Saturday 14th September 2024
10am-2pm
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Traffic Working Group Report

There are a number of items to report this month that should result in benefits to our community.

The new parking scheme has now been fully approved and should be implemented by Oxfordshire County Council in September or October. The scheme has a number of aspects to it, including offering parking permits to the residents of the High Street and Bell Lane. This will then enable Oxfordshire County Council to start enforcing the current two-hour waiting limits (one hour outside the shops) and make it easier for residents to find a parking spot when they go shopping.

There will be yellow lines put in by the bus stops at the Holloway end of Church Road which, along with the new bus timetables (see below), should significantly ease congestion and make it safer for pedestrians and people using the buses. Yellow lines will also be installed at a number of junctions around the village that will make it safer to enter and exit the roads.

Finally, the zigzag lines outside the primary school will be upgraded from the existing advisory 'School Keep Clear' markings to enforceable 'No Stopping on school entrance markings, Mondays to Fridays 8am-9am and 2.30pm-3.30pm' which will aid visibility and help improve the safety of children attending the Primary and John Watson schools and the Maple Tree Nursery. Please be aware that parking on zigzag lines can result in a police prosecution and a penalty of three points.

Oxford Bus company has introduced a new timetable for the 400 and 280 buses. They will run through the village twice every hour during weekdays and their timetables will be fairly evenly spaced to provide a service in each direction approximately once every 15 minutes. The 46 which runs via Cowley to Oxford and to Great Milton will continue to run hourly. The Aviva X7 service will cease on the 1st of August. The result is that the number of buses running up Church Rd during the day, Monday to Friday, will be reduced from around 18 to 10 which should help alleviate congestion. Timetables vary during the evening and at weekends and full details can be found on the Oxford Bus company website www.oxfordbus.co.uk/services. You could also look at the new timetables in the Parish Office and displayed on the bus stops around the village.

WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL
**PUBLIC MEETING - PLANNING
APPLICATION FOR HOLTON PARK**

**Public Meeting to discuss amended application for
Holton Park/former Oxford Brookes Campus**
from 7pm, Tuesday 13th August 2024
in the Merry Bells

Please come and share your views about the amended application for
Holton Park/former Oxford Brookes Campus.

Your comments will help shape the parish council's formal response, that
will be discussed and approved at their planning committee meeting, on
Wednesday 14th August. This meeting is held in public and you are
welcome to come along.

You can make your personal comment using SODC's planning portal,
reference P23/S1407/RM until 30th July

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WHEATLEY REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP

SINCE 2021, Global Aid Network (GaiN) have helped us by collecting the clothes and survival equipment very generously donated in Wheatley.

On Thursday 12th September (7.30-9pm) at the Merry Bells, they will talk about their work, including with refugees. They will describe what they do with your donations.

Then on Saturday 14th September (10am-12) at the URC (Crown Square) we will hold our next collection for GaiN. They need good quality (undamaged, clean, or new) winter clothing (nothing formal or XL), bedding, tents, and rucksacks. We will advertise fuller details nearer the time.

We are also collecting food for Asylum Welcome Food Bank.

For information from WRSG, contact wheatleyrefugeegrouo@gmail.com.

The Wheatley Ukrainian Refugee Group continues to provide Ukrainian families practical support to help them have a sense of welcome, well-being and hope even though sources of funding are diminishing.

There continues to be an urgent need for accommodation locally (of varying sizes) – ideally independent.

They continue to focus their efforts on working to support themselves and their children in local schools and societies whilst recognising their families and friends in Ukraine live under constant threat and increasing levels of hardship.

To celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day on 24th August we will help organise a Friends and Families party in a garden locally. We also plan to organise further trips to places of interest.

For information or to offer support, contact wheatleyukrainegroup@gmail.com.



Finally, we were privileged to hear the Yazidi Women's Choir, visiting from their refugee camp in Iraq, at 3 venues in Oxford in June. We also learned how their music has helped them in recovering from their persecution by Isis in 2014.

For email updates on our further events planned in Wheatley, and for wider news, contact wheatleyrefugeegroup@gmail.com.

Nick Vernede



Wheatley Singers

Wheatley Singers

Homecoming Concert!

Wheatley Singers are coming back to St Mary's Church, Wheatley

2024 has seen Wheatley Singers perform two marvellous concerts in Great Milton's lovely church. But we've really missed being in our home church here in Wheatley.

So, it's with great joy that we announce our triumphant return to St. Mary's with a tea-time concert on Saturday November 23rd at 4.00pm.

Showcasing twentieth century masters Vaughan Williams and Rutter, alongside the eighteenth century's Pergolesi, we can assure you of a varied mix of choral delights, accompanied by an awesome orchestra with full sparkling brass. Kate Billimore and the choir will also be joined by some of our favourite soloist friends. Definitely a treat not to be missed.

For this returning concert, we've chosen to support a local charity

So come and settle back into our own St Mary's and bask in the warmth of our homecoming.

Better still, if you'd rather be there as a singer, come along to our first rehearsal at 7.15pm in the URC on Tuesday September 3rd, and discover the exhilaration of singing with others and being supported by massed voices!

Celia Pagel

WHEATLEY CARE SCHEME IS IN NEED OF MORE VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Wheatley Care relies on the kind cooperation of its Volunteer Drivers to allow it to continue to provide a vital service to the residents of Wheatley, Holton & Littleworth.

Have you recently Retired? Can you HELP US!!!

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

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So, if you feel this is for YOU:

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WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON A NEW OPEN SPACE FOR THE COMMUNITY

What would you like to see in a new Open Space for the community?

There is an exciting opportunity to create a new open space for the community on Littleworth Field, and we need your help!

Share your thoughts and comments by completing a survey, you can respond 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. Joining in our engagement events - details to follow.



Survey closes midnight Saturday 31st August 2024

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Not The Fun Run 2024

A pleasant day with just a little rain towards the end of the RUN.

Two walkers - ANDY O'NEILL aged 64 and FIONA O'NEILL aged 61 left at 10:30 and completed the course in 1 hour 6 mins.

6 brave souls lined up for the run at 11 a.m - inspired, I hope, by my WINNER'S LOG recording the winners over the past 40 years and presented to today's winner who was:

TOM GUY, aged 35 in a time of 25 mins 22 sec. - his 6th win!

2nd **BRENT DALTON** aged 25 in 31 min 3 sec,

3rd **PETER BAYLIS** aged 68 in 39 min 18 sec,

4th **MIKE HOGAN** aged 60 in 41 min 5 sec,

5th **COLIN CAMPION** aged 70 in 44 min 28 sec,

6th **CELIA PAGEL** aged 64 in 53 min 01 sec.

Well done everybody! Thanks to Jane Kelly and Matthew Turner for their help with timekeeping. Remember - late May bank holiday 10:30 Walkers 11 am runners - it gives you a target to get fit and see our lovely countryside.

Jack Turner (Not the organiser)

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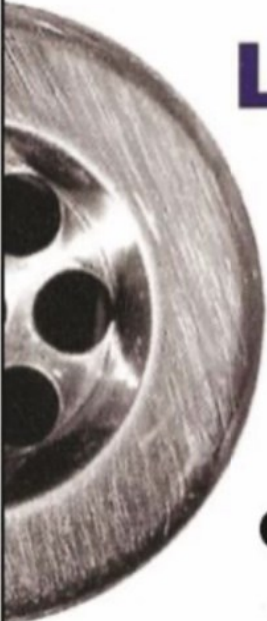


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ASDA Wheatley Community Update

As always, I have plenty to share with you all, showing what we have been up to over the last two months since my last reflections.

Our annual Food Drive, with support from the Community Emergency Food Bank ran in store on the 18th May, which was ran by volunteers mostly from the Wheatley Area. Generous contributions were given over a 4-hour duration with 9 trolleys of food donated by customers.

On the 15th June, we also had the Oxford Hygiene Bank running a collection, of which there was 141kg of donated products, which have been distributed by the Oxford Hygiene Bank to several other grass roots groups across the county to help tackle hygiene poverty (which could be products such as sanitary wear or washing products for clothes to toilet rolls, shampoo and toothpaste as examples).

The Food Bank trolley for the Community Emergency Food Bank and Hygiene Bank trolley are both permanent collections throughout the year and are collected on a regular basis if you are able to donate.

Our annual bingo night in aid of Tickled Pink, ran at the end of May, with a good turnout of around 25 people, held at Tetsworth Sports and Social. £215 was raised from tickets for the evening and a raffle, which helps us towards our annual target. I'll be running some fundraisers in store over the summer and for Breast Cancer Awareness month

in October, so there will be plenty of planned activity to be involved with.

Our Children in Need bingo night was given in the last newsletter which will run Thursday 26th September.

In other collections a total of £1775.38 was raised in the foyer from 3 different collections.

During May was the Big Help Out, and we organised a community litter pick, of which 7 bags were collected between 3 of us. Personal shout out to Marion and Wendy who both joined concentrating along the London Road towards the M40.

Since the last newsletter, I have been out in 5 early years settings and schools (including Wheatley Nursery) running healthy eating activities. Everyone loves to make a fruit skewer loaded with some of their favourite fruits, which encourages children to enjoy fruits, and try some they've never experienced before. Some of the groups have made superhero vegetables, with capes made from felt and pipe cleaners along with superhero masks.

Our final grass roots grant round is coming up which is due to open on the 9th September, which will close on Friday 8th November. Please get in contact early to discuss, as we normally have a high demand for these grants and have a store 'budget' for applicants. Our community email address is:

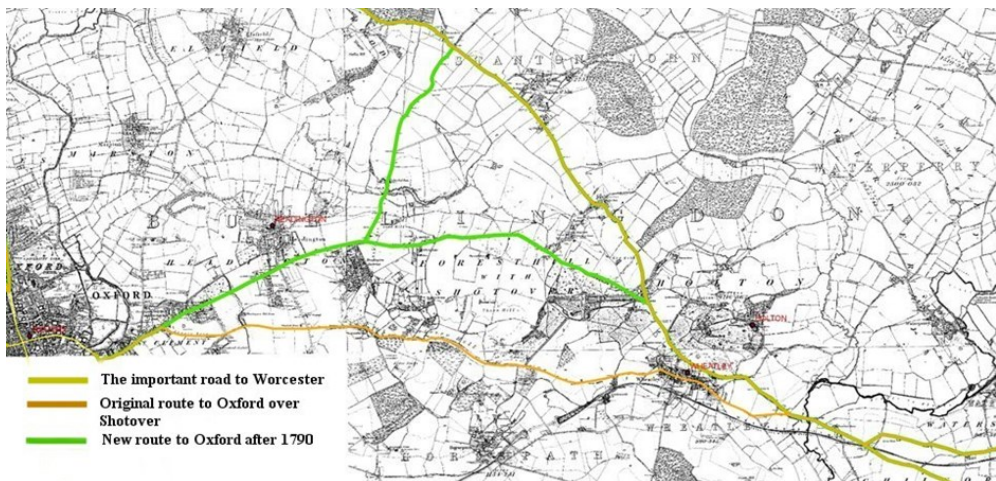
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Linda Blackmore

YOUR Wheatley Village Archive

Continuing the theme of trades in Wheatley, this article shows the importance of the road between London and Oxford which ran along Wheatley High Street; and the carriage-trade businesses that this trade spawned. These included many wheelwrights, blacksmiths, and other trades to support the coach-and-horse trade, but no contemporary information survives.

Access to Oxford from London was via a spur on the important route to Worcester, shown going northwest and off the map. To get to Oxford, you took a spur off this road east of Oxford and crossed Wheatley bridge.



This route crossed Miss Tombs field and linked up with what is now Roman Road and thence to Crown Road, on to High Street and then up Old Road in Littleworth and across Shotover. Horses could only do between 10-15 miles, so horse change-over points were set up on the road between Oxford and London. These were in Beaconsfield, High Wycombe and Tetsworth, these requiring stabling for up to 100 replacement horses. Wheatley was not a change-over point. However, travellers needed refreshment, and this led to inns being opened along High Street, the Crown in 1544 (later became a small hotel), the King & Queen and the George both in 1570, the latter becoming a packhorse inn which dealt with the movement of goods. Later came the White Horse (now Cinnamons) in 1577, the Bell Inn circa 1612, and the Chequers in 1765.

When the route over Shotover was changed c.1790 to the 'green' route along the line of the later A40, these inns lost out on this trade. The Crown, however, built a 'tap' in Church Road (now the main part of the house at number 116, later the doctor's house) which had a direct access for supplies to its inn in Crown Road. The Plough (now the Anointed Tattoo Studio), which had fronted the road across Miss Tombs field, was taken down and re-built on London Road.

The Sun Inn was added in 1780 and the Red Lion (now the New Club) in 1774, both off the back of the brick industry run from what-is-now the Old House in Westfield Road.



Steph Cox

Wheatley Village Produce Association

Our local garden club

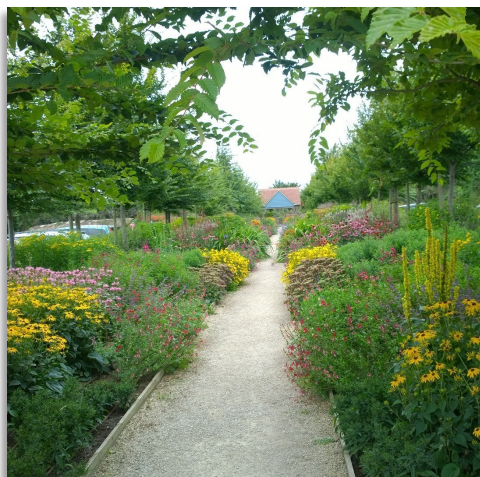
I have just returned from our annual VPA holiday, this time to Shropshire and Herefordshire. We were so lucky to have hardly any rain and mild temperatures – perfect for viewing gardens. Now home it has rained all night and all morning! Never mind, it's all good growing weather.... The October/November edition of Wheatley News will be my last in writing this piece. I have enjoyed it and I have had some lovely comments from readers.

August

Will this be warm and sunny? I prune wisteria in February and July, but it is not too late to cut back those long, whippy growths. As ever, water plants if needed, especially pots. Prune trained fruit trees, remove old raspberry canes, and pot up any baby strawberry plants from their mother plant. Keep on deadheading and look out for dry seedpods as a bonus.

September

We can't be sure what the weather will be like, but we know daylight will be getting shorter. Keep on picking fruit and veg, collecting seed and deadheading. Now is a good time to divide plants, both the make more but also to invigorate old ones. You can start planting spring bulbs except tulips which should be held back until November to reduce the risk of 'tulip fire'.



Coming up:

August:

No meeting this month

Saturday 7th September:

Members Annual Show.

Please submit entries and fees to the Show Secretary by noon Saturday 31 August.

10th September:

The Natural History of Shotover with the Shotover Preservation Society.

Queries to wheatleyvpa@gmail.com.

Geraldine Surman



Wheatley Rugby Club

Our preparation for next season is in full swing. Our 1st XV will be competing in the Berks, Bucks and Oxfordshire Leagues playing other local sides such as Oxford, Abingdon, Chipping Norton, and Farringdon. Our 2nd XV will be playing friendlies throughout the season and our Vets will be competing in the Oxfordshire Vets Floodlight Cup.

The club's 1st XV offers competitive rugby and our 2nd XV fun, social rugby for those new to the game and players in the latter years of their rugby careers. We also have a friendly social scene. We hold senior training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Wheatley Sports



Field, opposite Wheatley Park School starting at 7pm. Everyone over the age of 17 is welcome.

If you would like to find out more, please contact me on 07768 300314.

Peter Ramsdale | Chairman

Wheatley Productions is back!

After a gap of over two years Wheatley Productions is delighted to be back with a family show, "The See-Saw Tree", by David Wood. Can the village community and the animal community prevent the felling of an ancient oak tree by developers? You, the audience, will have the final say.

Wheatley Productions are grateful to the United Reformed Church for allowing us to use their space for the production on **Friday 16th and 17th August 2024**. Full details are in the centre pages of this issue, so please put those dates in your diary.

David Wood is prolific writer of pantomimes and family shows, such as 'Pied Piper' and 'Babe', both of which Wheatley Productions have put on in recent years.

We look forward to welcoming you all back.

Gareth Morris | Director, The See-Saw Tree



Wheatley Library | 01865 875267

Looking for holiday reading? Come and browse our shelves for your favourite reads, we're sure you'll find something to get you hooked.

Or perhaps, you like to listen to an audio book? You can download free e-books and e-audio books through the library service.

Primary school children can still join our annual and fun Summer Reading Challenge. Read six books during the summer and collect stickers and rewards on the way. When the challenge has been completed there's also a certificate and a medal to collect! There's even a challenge for the under 4s - the Mini Challenge. Both these challenges run until the 7th September.

During the summer holidays, we offer a variety of craft (jellyfish from cupcake cases, paperchain caterpillars, and butterflies), colouring activities, treasure hunt, and origami rocket. Just come and see us!

Our free Rhymetime sessions for our youngest visitors are Fridays 10:30 to 11:00. Singing with the little ones and chatting with other grown-ups. No need to book.

For our jigsaw friends: We will restart this popular event from Saturday 5th October 9:30 – 12:00 and every first Saturday of the month thereafter.

If you are new to the village the library is located on the upper floors of the Merry Bells. Entrance is from the carpark, off Church Road or up the steps from the High Street. Joining the library is completely free.

If you'd like more information on any of the above, drop in or contact us by phone or email.

Everybody's welcome!

Opening times:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday 2:00 – 7:00

Wednesday: 9:30 – 1:00 and 2:00 – 5:00

Thursday: 2:00 – 5:00

Friday: 9:30 – 1:00 and 2:00 – 6:00

Saturday: 9:30 – 1:00

Harriet Gill | Library Manager

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- 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.

Waterperry Opera Festival –9 until 18 August The opera festival with a difference... not just grand opera, but family fun & entertainment too over 10 days across the Waterperry Estate.

Oxford Storytelling Festival – 23 until 25 August An enchanted realm of Myth, Magic and Mystery, an intimate festival weaving magic with stories, spoken word, poetry and song.

Theatre: Little Mermaid by IK Productions – 31 August, 5pm-6.30pm Brand new family show is great for all ages from tiny tots to big kids, so hop aboard and sail the sea with The Little Mermaid!

Waterperry House Open weekend: 31 Aug & 1 September A chance to meet the owners of Waterperry Estate, the School of Philosophy and Economic Science. A varied selection of lectures, talks and tours throughout the 'open house' weekend. No pre-booking is required.

Autumn Wellness Retreat with Rina Golan: 13 until 15 September

3-day retreat run by Rina Golan to support your overall well-being.

Herbaceous Borders Old and New – 27 September 10.30am – 3.30pm One day course - practical advice about planning and designing, planting and maintaining your own border.

Tuesday 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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Tel: (01865) 598044

admin@wheatleynurseryschool.com

Please visit our website for more information

www.wheatleynurseryschool.org



Funded 15 and 30 hours FREE for 3-5 yr olds

Funded 15 hours FREE for children with 2 year old funding

Breakfast Club Monday -Friday 8-9am

After school Club Monday - Thursday 3.00-5.30pm



Register Now for September 2024

Nursery Hours 7:30am – 5:30pm for 1–4-year-olds

Our curriculum is planned carefully to provide a wide range of exciting play opportunities and to develop basic skills and the knowledge necessary for a smooth transition into school.

2 Year, 15/30 hours Government Funded spaces available.



Nature Club is running for children between the ages 1-11 years.

All Stars 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

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

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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.

We are education providers for children from the age of 2 to 5 and are proud to be part of the Wheatley Primary School family, working closely together to build firm foundations for future learning for all children along with access to the vast playing field and forest space on site.

Nursery is open 8.50—3pm Monday to Friday

Wrap around breakfast and after school club is available on site through Cool Kids from 3 years of age. Opening from 7.30—5.30pm Monday to Friday and also offering a holiday club during half term

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



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Notices | Clubs | Events



**Public meeting to
discuss Oxford
Brookes planning
application**
Merry Bells
7pm Tue 13th August
See page 7 for details



Local Produce Market
In & outside Merry Bells
10am - 2pm
Sat 14th Sep
Fresh fruit, bread,
chillies, and more!
See back page for details



**Holton and Wheatley
Cricket Club**
welcomes new
players in 2024 for
Sunday afternoon
friendlies.
Contact Hugh on
07788 672864

Companionship Café

Mill View Garden Centre
3rd Thursday of month
10:30-12:00
Calling all older adults
looking for friendship,
connections, and
creativity!
01865 841362
[beverley.wright
@homeinsteadoxford.co.uk](mailto:beverley.wright@homeinsteadoxford.co.uk)

Community Larder

Thursdays
14:30 -15:30

Wheatley URC
Help reduce food
waste and support
local causes

Wheatley Refugee Support Group Charity Collection

URC
10:00am-12:00pm
Sat 14th Sep
Collection of clothes for
GAIN and food for Asylum
Welcome Food Bank
[wheatleyrefugeegroup
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyrefugeegroup@gmail.com)

Wheatley
Productions present
The See Saw Tree
By David Wood
At United Reformed
Church, Wheatley
Fri 16th Aug 7.30pm
Sat 17th Aug 2.30pm
Sat 17th Aug 7.30pm
[wheatleyprods
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyprods@gmail.com)

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**

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Notices | Clubs | Events

Save the date!

Wheatley
Productions present
The See Saw Tree
By David Wood
Fri 16th August
Sat 17th August
At United Reformed
Church, Wheatley

Wheatley Village
Produce Association
Sat 7th Sep
**Members Annual
Show**
2.00pm, Merry
Bells
[wheatleyvpa
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvpa@gmail.com)

Wheatley Village
Produce Association
Tue 10th Sep
**The Natural History
of Shotover**
The Shotover
Preservation Society
7.30pm, Merry Bells
[wheatleyvpa
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyvpa@gmail.com)



**Sustainable
Wheatley**

SWAPSHOP

Merry Bells
Sat 28th Sep
09:00-10:15 Drop off
useable goods
10:30-12:00 Take away
as much as you like, even if
you didn't bring anything

St Mary's Ladies Guild

2:15pm URC Hall
Fourth Tuesday in month

Hear speakers touching
on many subjects and
charities
Open to all

Mary John 872909

Clubs and Societies Fair

St Mary's Church,
Wheatley
Sat 14th Sep
10:00am-12:00pm
Come for a taste of
Wheatley's 50+ clubs
and societies

Wheatley Refugee
Support Group

**Talk by GAIN on
their work**
Merry Bells
7:30pm Thu 12th Sep
[wheatleyrefugeegroup
@gmail.com](mailto:wheatleyrefugeegroup@gmail.com)



**Sustainable
Wheatley**

**Apple Pressing
Day**
Merry Bells
Sat 26th Oct
10:00-14:00

See page 54 for more
details



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Day by Day

MONDAY

Wheatley Oaks FC | Holton Playing Fields | 19:00-20:00 | Women 30+ | enquiries.wofc@gmail.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 Art Group | 1st & 3rd in month | 16:00-18:00

Beaver Scouts | Scout Hut Holloway Rd. | Term time 18:00-19:00 | 07962 243216

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

Twinnies | Maple Tree Centre | 14:00-16:00

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 | wheatleywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

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

Once Upon a Rhyme Time | Maple Tree Centre | 10:00-11:30

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

St Mary's Ladies Guild | URC Hall | 4th in month | 14:15 | 01865 872909 | All welcome



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

WEDNESDAY

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

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

Maple Chefs | Maple Tree Centre | 13:00-15:00 | To book: bit.ly/mapletreeeb

Wheatley Library | Open 09:30-13:00 & 14:00-17:00

Vinyasa Yoga | Merry Bells | 09:30-10:30 | sparkyoga1111@gmail.com | 07769 584255

Pop-up Pilates | Merry Bells | 18:00 & 19:00 | 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

Seated Pilates | Merry Bells | 11:30-12:30 | info@pop-up-pilates.com | 07731 321991

Prayers for the World | URC | 10:00-10:30 | 1st in month

Morning Tea or Coffee | URC | 10:30-12:00 | 1st & 3rd in month | Bring a friend

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

Baby and Bump Cafe | Maple Tree Centre | 09:30-11:30

Maple Tree at Forest Hill | Forest Hill Village Hall | 11:00-12:00 | info@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

Little Chatterboxes | 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 (at Our Lady of Lourdes) | 01865 872224 | wardens@stmaryswheatley.org

Normal service pattern (please check website tinyurl.com/2p99ceb9 as time & venue will occasionally change during the vacancy):

- Holy Communion | 08:00
- Sung Eucharist | 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday in month | 10:00
- Parish Praise (also Food Bank Sunday) | 4th Sunday in month | 10:00

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

- Morning Worship | 10:00-11:00 followed by coffee | Communion 1st Sun of month
- 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 2024



The Society has been very active over the last couple of months, starting with the highly successful exhibition of some of the changes that have taken place in Wheatley over the last 50 years. This was attended by over 200 people. Thanks to everyone who provided information, especially photographs.

Other events included a walk around Waterstock led by David Mancey to see the wildlife of the area and the River Thame, followed by a talk by the owner of the Mill. There was also a visit to Rycote Manor where we visited the Manor Gardens and Chapel, and had a very good informative tour led by Sarah. She started with the history of the estate, then we visited the chapel, followed by a stroll round the many walled gardens.

A talk on Consumer Rights was given by Peter Devlin, a High Court judge from Oxford. A top tip was to always pay by credit card wherever possible. The business companion website (www.businesscompanion.info) was also mentioned as a good source of information on trading standards.

Upcoming events include 'The First Hot Air Balloon in Oxford', a historical walking tour led by Mark Davies on Monday September 2nd at 10.30, cost £5pp.

On September 14th the Society will have a presence at the St Mary's Church Clubs and Societies Fair and on Thursday September 26th there is a talk entitled From Madness to Mental Health in Oxfordshire: a Potted History. All events will be publicised around the village.

For further information about the Wheatley Society, please contact our Secretary, sec.wheatleysociety@gmail.com.

David Haverson



Wheatley Playing Field Trust

WPFT has been proud to have been involved in planning and logistics to support the following events:

- Wheatley FC Junior football 5-a-side tournament involving 100 teams, 9 pitches and up to 1,000 spectators.
- Wheatley Oaks FC Women's over 30's football tournament involving 8 teams playing in 7-a-side matches.
- Downs Syndrome Oxford Group's 21 hour walkathon which raised over £40,000 for their charity.

Each of these events relied on full use of all the facilities; changing rooms, showers, toilets for the public and the clubhouse and kitchen for support services. The Trust is also delighted to be involved in a new event, **Cyclo-Cross**, with Wheatley Park School. Wheatley Park is excited to be hosting a cyclo-cross race for the first time this autumn. Cyclocross is a fun and very family-friendly cycling discipline, providing one of the most accessible ways into competitive cycling. After a mass start, competitors race against each other for up to an hour over multiple laps of an off-road course with plenty of twists, turns, and natural or man-made features to test their technical skills alongside their speed and endurance. As an autumn and winter sport, there's usually plenty of mud thrown into the mix, too! Many top professional road riders such as Britain's Tom Pidcock have their roots in cyclocross.

On Sunday 6th October, Wheatley Park will host Round 4 of the Central Cyclocross League with the event being organised by Bicester Millenium Cycling Club. It will be a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys cycling with a serviceable bike capable of riding on grass and mud to get a taste of competition in a safe, friendly, and supportive environment - entry details will be circulated locally nearer the time. It also makes a great spectator sport, so if you're not quite ready to take to the start line, make a date in your diary to come along and support the riders for free.

For more details, contact Tim Martin, headteacher (and cyclocross enthusiast) at Wheatley Park via head@wheatleypark.org.

Tennis nets are available to residents of Holton and Wheatley, free of charge, outside school hours. Please register so we can justify to SODC that these facilities are well used.

Finally, 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



The Merry Bells Village Hall

On Thursday 6th June the Merry Bells Trustees held their Annual General Meeting (AGM), available for anyone in the village to attend. Although, it was well advertised and promoted the attendance was disappointing. The Trustees presented Minutes from the previous AGM and a Statement of Accounts for 2023.

As we have reported previously, 2023 was a good year with the first surplus being made in three years, with reserves being added to our Bank Account. This then enabled the Trustees to report on planned investment in refurbishment and updating some of the equipment to make it the best place for our village community to use and enjoy.

But back to the business of the AGM, which resulted in the Trustees being re-elected and there is no change to the Representatives of the Village Organisations who also give their time to The Merry Bells. We still have room for more Volunteers from local people who are interested in helping support this Community Hub for our village. All

it involves is helping out occasionally on various projects and attending our monthly meetings on the first Thursday of the month, beginning on September 5th.

We do also need a member to act as Secretary, which involves attending the Meetings and producing the Minutes. Volunteers please - Your Village needs you!

One issue that is always present is the (ab)use of our private car park which is meant to be primarily for users of The Merry Bells but also offers 2-hour parking for residents to use other shops and services in the village. Longer-stay parking often means the car park is fuller than it should be and deters potential customers from coming to The Merry Bells and other facilities.

Finally, we have a new telephone number to make it easier either to make bookings or to get in touch with us directly. Please make a note of this number: **07427 343080**.

The Merry Bells Trustees

WHEATLEY CARE

Wheatley villagers depend on our volunteers drivers to get them to their medical appointments.

So, the more Drivers we have, the easier it makes it to distribute the runs. If anyone is interested in becoming a Driver, please contact Kath Lamont on

01865 876609



Volunteering Opportunities for Young People

Do you know a young person who's applying for university or an apprenticeship this autumn?

Perhaps you have a son, nephew or granddaughter who are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme?

Volunteering on The Howe is a fun way to boost their skills and confidence, and it'll also help their UCAS application or CV – if you'd like to learn more then we'd love to hear from you.



Memorial Trees and Commemorative Benches

Would you like to remember a loved one? Perhaps your family, company or local organisation would like to recognise and celebrate a special anniversary?

If so, then why not consider sponsoring a bench (with a plaque) on The Howe?

We're aiming to create a network of benches around the pathways on The Howe to help ensure that everyone can take a rest, or simply sit and enjoy the views, within our village's largest community green space. Contact us for more information.

Grow your own fruit and veg

The Allotments are situated on windmill lane (off Ladder Hill). The Association manages 110 allotment plots and is open to anyone in the local area who would like an allotment. Allotments vary in size, with 'half plots' averaging 100 square meters and whole plots 190 square meters. We also have a number of 8'x4' raised beds available for those who have difficulty working at ground level and they are surrounded by paving to facilitate access. Rental for this year is £30 for a whole plot, £25 for a half plot and £10 for a raised bed.

We welcome new members, both beginners and those with more experience. Plot members share ideas, tips, plants, and seeds and are happy to provide advice about how to get started. Whilst members are responsible for their own plots and hand tools, there is access to shared machinery such as cultivators and strimmers.

We currently have some vacant plots and there is still time to plant for winter and early spring crops (see the Howe Trust website for more on this). If you would be interested in finding out more about the allotments and/or getting a plot, please contact: Michele Gregory on 07920 060710 or Georgina Glenny on 01865 874450 or complete an allotment request form available from the Howe Trust website howetrust.org.uk/allotments.

Find Out More

You can read more about The Howe on our website or Facebook page howetrust.org.uk or www.facebook.com/howetrust.

Alternatively email maggiiefyffe@gmail.com or call, text or WhatsApp me (Maggie) on 07889 639986.

If you'd like to enquire about an allotment, then please contact Georgina Glenny via email goglenny@brookes.ac.uk or call 01865 874450.

POPPY APPEAL

Poppy Appeal 2023 & 2024

The Royal British Legion Head Office has now confirmed that the amount raised in the 2023 Poppy Appeal for the Wheatley and District Branch (Wheatley village, Tiddington, Great Milton, Waterstock, Holton Church and Waterperry Gardens Shop) was a magnificent **£22,710**.

Many thanks to the volunteers that did the collecting and the counting, and the outlets and bodies that allowed us to collect.

Thoughts now turn to the 2024 Appeal. This will run from Thursday 31st October to Monday 11th November. Remembrance Sunday will be on the 10th November when services will be held and wreaths laid.

In the next couple of months, I shall be contacting previous volunteers to see if they are prepared to volunteer again. If

I seem to have forgotten you, please remind me. New volunteers are always welcome so again please contact me.

The branch is still looking for new members. You do not have to have served in the forces.

We meet every 2 months at the New Club, at lunchtime, normally with a speaker. In recent months we had a retired history professor who gave a talk on an American airman who was shot down and imprisoned in Vietnam and the Poppy Appeal Manager for Oxfordshire who will explain his service in the Falklands. In August we have our summer lunch. So, please come along and give us a try, just give me a couple of days warning.

garethmorris76@hotmail.co.uk

07713 484090

Gareth Morris | Branch Secretary | Poppy Appeal Organiser

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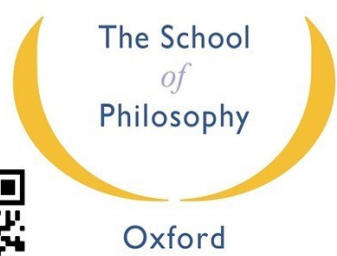
Monday 29th Apr 2024, 7:00-9:15PM

Aylesbury Multicultural Centre

Wednesday 1st May, 7:00-9:15PM

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As we have done in previous years, we plan to go out over the next few months, picking and distributing local fruit around the village to prevent it from going to waste. We are very much hoping that this year's harvest will be better than last year's, when we collected and shared about 130kg of fruit, far less than usual, which meant that we did not have enough left over for our usual juicing event.

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 which would otherwise go to waste.

You are involved in a group or project that could benefit from this fruit. (In the past we have left fruit outside the 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 Nick (07919 528849) or Jane (07855 739147).

We plan to hold an apple pressing day on Saturday 26th October outside the Merry Bells (10am to 2pm) where we will turn any remaining fruit into juice to distribute; you are also welcome to bring along your own apples to add to the juicing.

An Appeal

Our chair stepped down a year ago and whilst the group has continued to run all our existing projects, we are looking for someone with the drive, knowledge, and initiative to take us forward and grow the group.

The impact of climate change is becoming more and more obvious (the election of 4 Green Party MPs suggests people are more concerned), and more action is needed to combat it so, if you want to lead the way locally 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 Saturday September 28th. Bring stuff from 9am to 10:15am then take stuff from 10:30 until 12:00.

Tim Blightman

AUGUST

- **Thursday 1st:** Opportunity to walk Thame Outer Circuit (Part 3 Tetsworth to Towersey 11 miles). Details on website.
- **Thursday 8th:** Scenic 5 mile walk from Cadmore End via Turville. Booking required.
- **Saturday 10th:** Leisurely 4 mile walk from Thame Museum following Thame Inner Circuit (as part of Thame Museum's Active Thame exhibition).
- **Tuesday 13th:** Gentle social 2½ mile walk from Rectory Farm Stanton St. John with coffee/snacks at the finish.
- **Thursday 15th 11am:** Leisurely 7 mile walk from Chalgrove with pizza/pasta lunch at Half Moon PH in Cuxham at the midway point.
- **Sunday 18th 11am:** 7½ mile walk from Brill the windmill. Bring a picnic but option for cream tea at Brill church on return.
- **Thursday 22nd:** Pleasant Chilterns 7½ mile walk from Rotherfield Peppard. Bring a picnic. Booking required.
- **Saturday 24th:** Leisurely 6 miles from Tiddington. Bring a picnic.
- **Thursday 29th:** 8½ mile walk from Chinnor Mill Lane car park. Bring a picnic.
- **Saturday 31st:** 5½ miles from Oxford High St via Iffley church. Option for pub lunch at finish.

SEPTEMBER

- **Thursday 5th:** Undulating 9 miles from Watlington. Bring a picnic. Tea/cakes near finish.
- **Saturday 7th:** 6½ mile walk from Waterperry via Waterstock Tiddington and Albury before returning through Ickford.
- **Tuesday 10th 10:30am:** Gentle social 2½ miles from Oxford High St. (Queens Lane Coffee House opportunity to start with coffee at 10am). Optional pub lunch at end.
- **Thursday 12th:** Hilly (900ft of ascent) scenic 6 mile walk from Middle Assendon. Bring a picnic. Booking required.
- **Thursday 26th:** 7 mile walk from Dorchester (Bridge End Car Park) via Little Wittenham Wood and Shillingford following the Thames Path at times.

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

Please check the website to find additions to the programme and to confirm walks details as they are subject to change:

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.

The Great Big Green Week this year was 8th-16th June. The aim of the week is to encourage communities to come together to support action to tackle climate change and protect our natural environment. A huge number of events take place around the country designed to raise awareness of the threat to our planet. Although our meeting didn't fall during the official week, we designated our May meeting to this project by making bird feeders, so we were well prepared. Doodle Art bookmarks were also made, and members were able to catch up with each other over a cup of tea.

In June we welcomed Laura Bristow and Brad Galley, representatives of the Emmaus charity in Oxford. Founded in 1949 in Paris and now with 400 branches worldwide Emmaus gives shelter, support and, most importantly, hope to homeless people. Emmaus Oxford has 28 en-suite rooms and Companions (as the residents are known) can stay for as long as they need to. They are given the opportunity to gain work experience and qualifications which will help them get jobs when they leave. In return they commit to working 35 hours a week for the charity. This can include time for education.

Brad, who is himself a Companion, has had a very difficult life and knows only too well what it is like to be homeless

and having to sleep on the streets. He told us how his life has been transformed with the help of Emmaus and his hopes and dreams for the future. We wish him well for whatever the future holds for him.

There is no meeting in August. Our September meeting is our annual members show and cream tea. Members only as bookings are required.

HISTORY SNIPPETS Aug/Sep 1924

There was not much activity during these two months, probably due to it still being the holiday season. The August meeting was held in the gardens of Windmill House on Ladder Hill with an attendance of 31 members. This appears to have been a social evening with four competitions which afforded a great deal of amusement. One can only guess the subject matter.

Another garden meeting was arranged for September when members were invited to have tea on the lawn of The Old House. Guests were entertained with a display of folk dancing.

There is no mention in the minutes of how successful the charabanc outing to Wembley was. Let's hope the weather was kind to them and that they all had an enjoyable day out.

Stephanie Brooklyn



Hello from The Maple Tree!

Happy Summer from The Maple Tree, although as I write this, it is pretty grim outside!

Whatever the weather, we will be open every day of the summer holidays, including Saturday 20th July (our theme is optimistically Summer) and Saturday 17th August, when Linda from ASDA and I will hold an Under the Sea session.

Please check out our Website and Facebook page for full details of our under-5s sessions and our summer programme which is open for our older children too.

Just like last year we will be visiting some of the local villages and delivering a play session in the local community centres and village halls:

On **Friday 9th August** we will be at Holton Village Hall from 10:00-11:30.

On **Friday 16th August** we will be at Great Milton Pavilion from 10:00-11:30.

On **Friday 23rd August** we will be at Horspath Village Hall from 10:00-11:30.

On **Friday 30th August** we will be at Stanton St. John Village Hall from 10:00-11:30.

And **every Thursday** we are at the Forest Hill Village Hall from 10:30-12:00.

We hope you can join us at one, some or all of our outreach sessions!

Please contact us below if you too would like to volunteer at one or more of our fun play and learn sessions this summer or in the autumn.

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](https://www.instagram.com/themapletreecentre)

Laura Spencer | Centre Manager

WHEATLEY WINDMILL

Wheatley Windmill will be open to the public again on **11th August** and **8th September** from 2pm until 6pm. There will be tours of the windmill, teas with cake, demonstrations of milling at the mobile mill with flour to take home, souvenirs, books, jigsaws, and plants.

On **11th August** the Ukelele Orchestra will pay a visit to play at 3.30pm, while on **8th September** the City of Oxford Community Band will play at 3.30pm. On both afternoons, wind permitting, the windmill sails will turn.

Thanks and best wishes.

Caroline Dalton | Secretary

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SOCIAL MEDIA: Twitter (@wheatleynewclub), Instagram (@wheatleynewclub) and Facebook (The New Club Wheatley). In addition, keep an eye out on our website www.thenewclubwheatley.com.

Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram pages for upcoming events.

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2024/25 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 22nd August 2024**.

Ralf Eller | Secretary



Morland House Surgery

Morland Close, Wheatley OX33 1DP

The usual surgery opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm
Saturday mornings (excluding Bank Holiday weekends) 8am to 10.30am, for
prebooked consultations only

Enhanced access hours are offered outside these times, please speak to one of the
reception team on 01865 872448 for more information.

When the surgery is closed, please contact the Out of Hours service by phoning 111
Drink Coaches - Are you consuming too much alcohol? You can take the Alcohol Test –
it's free, online, quick, and confidential – taking just two minutes. Work out how risky
your drinking is and access personalised advice online and find out where you can get
support in Oxfordshire. www.morland-house.co.uk/drink-coach-take-the-test.

Whooping Cough, a bacterial infection that affects the lungs, has been rising in many
countries since December 2023. It is a cyclical disease, and a peak year is long overdue.
Vaccination in pregnancy and childhood are important for protection but both have
fallen in recent years. It is treated by antibiotics. For more information on symptoms
and treatment visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/whooping-cough.

The NHS launched the Pharmacy First Service (PFS) on 31st January (see NHS Pharmacy
First Service (PFS) | NHSBSA) Appointments can be booked directly with participating
pharmacies for the treatment of 7 common health conditions namely sinusitis, sore
throat, earache, infected insect bite, impetigo, shingles, uncomplicated urinary tract
infections in women. Pharmacists can offer advice to patients and supply NHS
medicines where clinically appropriate. This will help reduce the pressure on Morland
House Surgery. As an example, appointments with Wheatley Pharmacy can be booked
(often the same day) by phoning
01865 874047 or via the website www.wheatleypharmacy.com/book.

Group Consultation Clinics – A group clinic is currently being offered for the menopause
and we are working on introducing clinics for a wider range of conditions. The benefits
include a more thorough examination of your condition, having your questions
answered, sharing issues with others going through the same issues, and spending
longer with a GP.

Morland House Surgery Website For a wealth of information and guidance on
managing a vast number of health conditions, symptoms, and treatment, please visit
www.morland-house.co.uk. The new updated MHS website went live in June. If you
open the website home page and it still looks the same, you will need to click the
'refresh' button.

Also on the website are details of how to access your medical records and test results.

Our Lady of Lourdes

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

We develop community in the breaking of bread

In Chapter 24, Luke tells the story of two disciples who met a stranger as they were walking along on the road to Emmaus; they recognized Jesus only later in the breaking of bread.

Our Eucharistic celebrations each Saturday evening in Our Lady of Lourdes, and daily in Corpus Christi, provide an opportunity as a community to come together to listen to the word of God and to recognise the risen Jesus as we share in His communion.

But the sharing is important. The make-up of our parish community reflects our global church – there are more than 40 nationalities represented, many of whom play a significant role in the health and social care provision for Oxfordshire, centred on the JR.

In a new focus on developing and building the community, we have now introduced a monthly Meet and Eat session on the first Sunday of the month after the 11am Mass at Corpus Christi, with food prepared by parishioners from our many different countries. It is a sort of amuse bouche or appetizer before we go home for Sunday lunch.

Last Sunday, the parishioners from Poland arranged a magnificent spread of Pierogi; Polish potato pancakes; Mizeria, cucumber salad; Golabki, Polish cabbage rolls; and Polish sausage, Kielbasa. And in the coming months we will have Filipino food in August, an East Timorese spread in September, and Italian delicacies in October, before a variety of African and Asian dishes in the months to follow.

It reminds us that the Catholic Church is world-wide and, despite many cultural differences, when we worship at Mass, we are a single family of God who enjoy mixing, chatting, and learning from and about each other.

All would be welcome to join us at 11am on the first Sunday of the month at Corpus Christi – or indeed at 6pm on any Saturday evening at Our Lady of Lourdes, although without the international feast!

John Guy

PRaise!



- ♪ Have fun singing with others
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- ♪ Learn the musical secret code
- ♪ Perform every week
- ♪ It's all FREE ... and you can even earn pocket-money!
- ♪ Opportunities for young people to contribute to all aspects of the service.

Initially for treble (unbroken) voices, but growing into a choir for all ages, including adults.

No musical knowledge is required. All we expect is that children in the choir:

- love to sing
- want to get the best out of their voices
- are able to read confidently
- are prepared to attend regularly.

Choristers can earn medals with the Royal School of Church Music's ***Voice for Life*** training scheme:

A new all-age choir for Wheatley

(initially for children aged
9-14)

**Sundays 4pm – 7pm
from 15th September
St Mary's Church
Service for all 6pm**

- ♪ using your voice effectively
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- ♪ information about the music we sing
- ♪ relating our singing to our Christian ministry
- ♪ opportunities to develop leadership within choir and church

And of course, you get a smart medal to wear every Sunday instead of just a certificate.

This is a church choir, but we welcome singers of any faith or none.



For further information and to sign up, please contact choir@stmaryswheatley.org

Alexandra Hewitt
Lay Minister
Director of Music

Wheatley United Reformed Church

01865 873859 | secretary@wheatleyurc.org.uk

URC News

The year has rushed by, and we are about to say goodbye to our second Time for God volunteer, Wiebke Keizers from Halle in Germany. She has been a true source of blessing for all the children, young people, and their families with whom she has come into contact. She has sustained and deepened the existing work, started by Elisa in Year 1, such as assisting at the Pulse inter-church youth group on Sunday evenings, the monthly Sunday afternoon family Board Games café, and the Tuesday 'Xplore' sessions at Wheatley Park. Alongside the Community Church's youth pastor, Brandan, she has been active in the Wednesday afternoon sessions in the recreation ground, proving there is such a thing as a free lemonade, while the Friday Afternoon Hangout at the URC with table tennis, snacks, and spaces for chat and homework is still going strong.

To these, Wiebke has added assisting with brownies and guides and with the very young at The Maple Tree, her assistance also making possible a third course of ParentTalk, offering advice and the chance to share experiences to parents of secondary age children. The congregation at the URC will remember her for her superb violin playing at services and her contribution to our monthly all-age service. She has deepened our connection with Synod Youth and the National Youth assembly.

Wiebke will soon be off to the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, where she will, appropriately enough, be studying Book Science. Our sadness in seeing Wiebke go will be somewhat softened by the fact that we shall be welcoming a new Time for God worker, Cara Schulte from a town near Cologne, ready for the new academic year.

A fairly new development at the URC is our Prayers for the World session on the first Thursday of each month at 10 am in the Mulberry Room. This group meets for about half an hour and participants may sit and pray silently, or, if they wish, present a short prayer, self-composed or taken from a published source, focusing on the need for peace, justice, equity, dignity, and love in so many areas of the world and indeed this country. Members of any denomination or faith are welcome, both to this short session and to the excellent Fairtrade coffee usually served at 10.30.

Mike Matejtschuk



REVIVAL at St Mary's

St Mary's Revived!



The Builders have handed back the keys. The painters are painting the walls and St Mary's Church is on track for reopening. With underfloor heating, a new stone and tile floor, new lighting, and new toilets, the place feels light and airy, refreshed and ready to go. The Church will be ready and open by mid-August.

Grand Openings: A Service of Dedication on Sunday 8th September at 3.00 pm., to be conducted by Bishop Gavin Collins of Dorchester.

A Musical Reception of Thanks on Friday 20th September at 7.00 pm. to which all our donors, Grant Funders and well-wishers are invited.

More dates for your Diary:

Clubs and Societies Fair: Saturday 14th September from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 pm. – come for a taste of some of Wheatley's 50+ Clubs and Societies.

A Concert by the Angelorum Choir Sunday afternoon 29th September

A Production of Shakespeare's Hamlet: Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th October by Holton Players and St Mary's.

The Revival Team

The Wheatley Bells are Back!

For hundreds of years, church bells have rung out, not only to call communities to worship but also to celebrate special occasions, in remembrance of others, and to signify special events. They are part of the soundscape of the UK.



Since the start of this year, we have not been able to ring as the major refurbishment has taken place.

Now that work has been mostly completed, we are looking for bell ringers who would like to try their hand at learning to ring and help keep an old tradition going.

Bellringing is an activity like no other – a unique mix of physical exercise with mental agility that is a deep part of our history but still practiced and evolving today. It's taught not in a classroom or lecture hall, but in the belfry of a church tower, as a hands-on practical exercise for the body, the mind, and the spirit. Ringers learn at different ages and come from many different walks of life.

If you're interested in learning about bell ringing, or having a go yourself, you will be very welcome to come to see the bells in action at St Mary's Church on a Friday evening between 7:30 and 9:00.

For more information, please contact:

Peter Bayliss: peterbayliss7@gmail.com

David Benny: david.anthony.benny@gmail.com

Peter Bayliss | Tower Captain

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**

HRH The Duke of Gloucester visits OSJCT Wellford Gardens to officially open care home



On Tuesday 11 June 2024, His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester, officially opened The Orders of St John Care Trust's new care home Wellford Gardens in Wheatley, Oxfordshire. Wellford Gardens epitomises elegance, comfort, and the unparalleled personalised care associated with The Orders of St John Care Trust (OSJCT).

The Duke toured the new care home and was introduced to residents and employees. During the visit, The Duke also unveiled a plaque marking the opening of the new care home.

Dorte Chandler, General Manager at Wellford Gardens said: "We were delighted to host a special visit by His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester to mark the official opening of Wellford Gardens. It was a great opportunity to showcase the latest innovations in care and The Duke showed a keen interest in the important role care homes play for older people wishing to live life to the full, and the vital contribution we make to local communities."

William 'Bill' Clenell is among the first residents to move into Wellford Gardens. On meeting The Duke, Bill said: "This was the first time I met a member of the Royal Family. I was a bit tongue-tied. The Duke asked me if I was the first person in this room and although I wasn't the first person to move in, I am the first person in this room and so I can claim to be an original resident."

His Royal Highness, The Duke of Gloucester said: "This home has been designed carefully with all the lessons learned from previous homes. I hope all who come here will feel it's the perfect care home and that all their needs are attended to. I hope all will be extremely happy here."

For more information or to schedule a showround of Wellford Gardens, please visit www.osjct.co.uk/wellford-gardens or call our friendly team on 0800 988 8133.

SODC Waste Collections — August & September 2024

Collection day Monday unless *changed	Which bins and other items?
Aug 5th & 19th Sep 2nd, 16th & 30th	Green, brown, food & oil waste, textiles
Aug 12th & *27th Sep 9th & 23rd	Grey, food & oil waste, small electricals

Key Contacts

Local Governance:

Oxfordshire County Council | 01865 792422 | [oxfordshire.gov.uk](https://www.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](https://www.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 | 07427 343080 | [merrybells.org.uk](https://www.merrybells.org.uk)
The Howe Trust | Chair | Maggie Fyffe | 07889 639986 | [howetrust.org.uk](https://www.howetrust.org.uk)
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](https://www.wheatleypark.org)
Wheatley Primary School | 01865 872366 | [wheatley.oxon.sch.uk](https://www.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](https://www.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](https://www.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](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet)
Wheatley Care Scheme (transport to hospital or GP surgery) | 07505 543750
Oxford Bus Co. (400 P&R, NU1, 46) | 01865 785400 | [brookesbus.oxfordbus.co.uk](https://www.brookesbus.oxfordbus.co.uk)
National Rail Enquiries | 03457 484950 | [nationalrail.co.uk](https://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

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W: www.wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

