

# Wheatley Newsletter

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*The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.*

# WHEATLEY NEWSLETTER

The Parish Office, The Merry Bells, 89 High Street, Wheatley OX33 1XP.

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Distributed by a team of volunteers to all addresses in Wheatley and Holton.

Also available by post on subscription outside the distribution area.

Ask for details.

***Cover picture: Early 1900s, Wheatley River Resort (Wheatley Village Archive) See p12 for more details. If you have any photos of the village or events (past or present) we would love to put them on the front cover!***

**The Wheatley Newsletter welcomes contributions and advertisements 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 – the Editor reserves the right not to print items, and to edit items submitted for publication. The views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council or Editor, and no liability can be accepted for any errors or omissions, although we will publish corrections.

The deadline for the August - September edition is, **Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

Contributions to the Parish Office, as hard copy, or preferably by email with WORD attachments to [newsletter@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:newsletter@wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk) - with embedded pictures sent separately.

## ADVERTISING

New adverts can only be included when existing adverts drop out. Adverts cost £25 & £35 inclusive of VAT per edition, respectively for quarter and half pages. Quarter page maximum size: 9 cm high by 6 cm wide or 5 cm high by 12.5 cm wide. Half page maximum size: 9 cm high by 12.5 cm wide. Full page adverts no longer accepted.

## CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police non-emergency	101
Police Emergency, Fire, Ambulance	999
Parish Council	01865 875615
Merry Bells Bookings by telephone	01865 872073
<i><a href="http://merrybells.wix.com/the-merry-bells">http://merrybells.wix.com/the-merry-bells</a> for on line booking</i>	
Surgery, Morland House	01865 872448
Wheatley Archives, <a href="http://www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk">www.wheatleyarchive.org.uk</a>	01865 873343
Wheatley Library	01865 875267
County Councillor Anne Purse	01865 351404
District Councillor Toby Newman	01865 872239

## CLERK'S COLUMN

### Gareth Morris

Congratulations to all those candidates who were elected to the Parish Council and South Oxfordshire District Council on 7<sup>th</sup> May and commiserations to those that were unsuccessful.

At the Parish Council's AGM on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, Councillor Geoff Stephens was elected as Chairman of the Council and Councillor Janet Carr was elected Vice-Chairman.

New committees were appointed and Parish Council representatives to outside bodies were chosen. A full list appears on the noticeboards around the village and on the Parish Council's website: <http://wheatleyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

The defibrillator bought jointly by the Parish Council and the Merry Bells Management Committee has been installed by the entrance to the Merry Bells and is now ready for use. This is a 'public access defibrillator', the code number to unlock the cabinet will be given by the 999 operator. The machine then talks you through the process of 'shocking' the patient suspected of having had a heart attack.

We will be inviting interested parties (max. 15 participants) to a training session for one Saturday morning in late June/early July.

### Dates for your Diary - all meetings start at 7.30pm

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Planning Committee	Parish Office
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	F&GP Committee	Parish Office
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Parish Council	Merry Bells Hall
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Planning Committee	Parish Office
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	F&GP Committee	Parish Office

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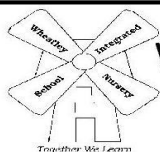


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## **ELECTIONS 7th May 2015 – Results**

### **WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

<b><u>Elected</u></b>	<b><u>Votes</u></b>
Toby George Newman	982
Roger Thomas Bell	895
Paul Michael Gregory	785
Janet Maureen Carr	784
Anne Davies	729
Tim Davies	689
Jim Reilly	675
Paul Adrian Eric Willmott	655
Joyce Mary Coveley	619
Andrew John Walkey	613
Gwendolen Birks	597
Paula Elisabeth Hood	593
Geoff Stephens	587
Sarah Coleridge	579
Patricia Anne Bignell	555

<b><u>Not Elected</u></b>	<b><u>Votes</u></b>
Doug Lamont	519
Angela Mary Knapp	492
David Hamilton Wyllie	476
Elizabeth Soilleux	473
Matt Reid	469
Dick Robinson	360

### **DISTRICT COUNCIL WHEATLEY DIVISION**

<b><u>Elected</u></b>	<b><u>Votes</u></b>
Conservative                      Toby Newman	1,003
<b><u>Not Elected</u></b>	
Labour                                  Andrew Walkey	508
Liberal Democrat                  Roger Bell	414
UKIP                                    Alex Ashmore	264

### **PARLIAMENTARY HENLEY CONSTITUENCY**

<b><u>Elected</u></b>	<b><u>Votes</u></b>
Conservative                      John Howell	32,292
<b><u>Not Elected</u></b>	
Labour                                  Sam Juthani	6,917
Liberal Democrat                  Sue Cooper	6,205
UKIP                                    Chris Jones	6,007
Green Party                          Mark Stevenson	3,815

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## **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **Toby Newman, District Councillor**

I'm writing this just a few days after the results of the election have been announced, so therefore I hope you'll forgive me for not giving an update on what has happened at the District Council but instead give you some information for the future.

I'm delighted to have been chosen by you to represent Wheatley. I'm really looking forward to making a difference for the good of the village, and know that I have both a responsibility and an incredible opportunity and I hope you are as excited as I am about that potential.

As I'm sure you'll have seen from my campaign literature, I stood with specific local objectives in mind and it was interesting to note that my opposing candidates had largely the same objectives, demonstrating that we all care about the same issues.

I'm keen to make inroads into these issues, amongst many others, however the chief business in the next couple of weeks is for me to get up to date on things that have been happening at SODC over the past few months and, along with my fellow councillors, get ourselves organised to run the council.

I must also take this opportunity to thank our former councillors, Janet Carr and Roger Bell. Both Janet and Roger have dedicated many years in serving our village at district level and have both performed tirelessly in representing our views, engaging with residents and groups on a wide range of different issues and taking on an important community leadership role. I'm really pleased that they are both continuing on the Parish Council and therefore contributing towards the future of our village.

Initially, for your convenience, I'll be holding a surgery along with our County Councillor, Anne Purse, on the second Saturday of the month in the Parish Office at The Merry Bells. In addition if you have any feedback or issues you would like to discuss with me you can call me on 01865 872239, tweet @tobynewman or preferably email me at toby.newman@southoxon.gov.uk



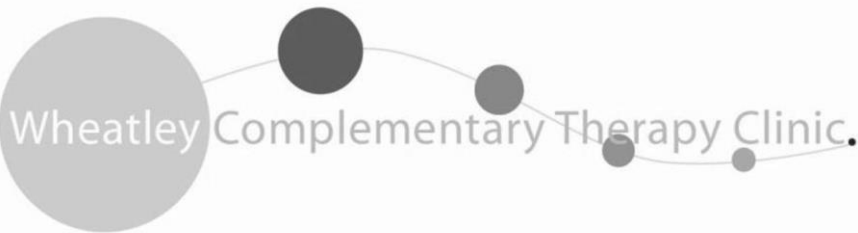
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## WHEATLEY W.I.

### Joyce Coveley

April & May have been busy months for the W.I. organisation in general, and the local groups in particular, as the Centennial Baton passed through the county during the week starting 12th April. The baton was delivered to Horspath Village Hall (where local W.I.s were gathered) on Wed 15th by 100 year old Lulu Belcher of Garsington, who was driven from Denman College in a Bullnose Morris. There followed a most enjoyable evening with champagne, centenary cake and music. There was also a banner parade and exhibition of artefacts from the W.I.s involved, as well as a wonderful display of hats from the last 100 years organised by Wheatley, with thanks to much hard work by Veronica Lancashire & Pam Hills.

Our April meeting "Experience Chocolate" nearly proved a disaster when the speaker failed to materialise. Fortunately the evening was saved, by the introduction of the Centenary Twin Girls (future recruits?) born to our youngest member; celebratory cake and the opportunity to chat, so all was not lost.

The May meeting heard, from member Ann Ambler, about Oxtalk the weekly local audio newspaper for blind & partially sighted people. Ann has been a volunteer for the charity for many years and gave a most interesting account on the organisation and production of the "paper" now issued on a memory stick.

Then on **Sat June 6th** we are holding the **W.I. Centenary Coffee Morning, 10am - 12 noon at the Merry Bells**. Entry includes coffee/tea & cake. There will be a craft stall, cakes, jam & preserves for sale and a raffle, as well as a small scale repeat of the exhibition "100 Years in Hats". Please support this event which will raise funds for Oxford Women's Refuge.

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## MAYDAY REPORT May 4th 2015

Jack Turner

A week before the event, the forecast had been dire but on the day it was bright and sunny. A splendid crowd witnessed the crowning of the Lord of the Garlands, Ben Vernade, and the Lady, Poppy Bennett. They were crowned by Mark Surman, long time High Street Butcher, Adamantine Wheatley F.C. centre half and later coach of the Wheatley Boys. The traditional May song was performed with something less than gusto but I resisted the pantomime ploy of making the crowd do it again but louder!

Restricted access up Friday Lane meant we took a different route to the Rec via the High Street and up the King and Queen yard, which I preferred.

The girls of Wheatley Primary School entertained us royally (an oblique reference to Princess Charlotte!) with just one hiatus which led to the longest barber's pole ever recorded. This year they had been coached by Uncle Gareth and Chantelle Brierley. The music was provided by the evergreen Mouse and Trousers and Friends and Rhian.

The collection, thanks to the bucket boys Ben Vernade and Noah Kirby, raised £138.50 with a donation going to the Scouts for all their help.

We would like to thank the stalwarts who manned the road-closed posts, the Wheatley Society and Archives volunteers and Mr & Mrs Morrish and Clare Pressman who stepped into the breach, ensuring the power supplies to make this event possible.

The morning concluded with Uncle Gareth leading the Swiss Roll which, mercifully, all survived and then dancing for all, which those who participated clearly enjoyed. Thank to you all for turning up and supporting this heart-warming family event, let's hope that the sun shines next year on our 41st attempt.



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## THE HISTORY FILE - Our 'Riverside Holiday Resort'

John Fox

In the 1900s, Blackpool Tower was new, coastal towns had piers like the decks of cruise ships and GWR ran 'holiday specials' to anywhere with a salty breeze. Not to be left out, Ernest Pollard and his Swiss wife Aline of *Wheatley Bridge Hotel* advertised their own 'Riverside Holiday Resort', a small rural holiday camp. It offered 'Fishing and Boating' (North American open canoes, increasingly popular after the 1880s, plus the inevitable 'Oxford' punts) with a pontoon landing for ease of embarkation.

'Weekend Accommodation' was in chalets of three grounded, whitewashed GWR carriages, while longer term guests stayed in-house. 'Saddle Hacks' and 'Smart Horse and Trap' could be hired for exploring; onsite tennis, croquet, and camping were available, although respectability required blanco-ed plimsolls.

Motorists were welcome, with petrol and a 'motor house' (? service garage) nearby. Ford Model T *coupés* lined up with other sit-up-and-beg motor[ised] car[riage]s on today's *Travel Lodge* site, under a tall flagpole. 'New' [fresh] milk and 'temperance' drinks were offered, with 'Rosbach and Perrier Waters', meals and tobacco, all 'on very moderate terms'. The fare from Paddington cost only 5 shillings.

In 1914, further 'inland' at *The Rose and Lily* on Church Rd, Sydney Spencer, (brother of artist Stanley) was captivated by Wheatley ('sunny, quiet, mellow, a refuge from disturbance') and its river ('all daydream, with white and golden-eyed water lilies'). Who needed the seaside with all this on the doorstep?



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## THE MERRY BELLS VILLAGE FAYRE - 4th JULY 2015

Tim Blightman

You are cordially invited to come and enjoy The Merry Bells Village Fayre taking place between 1pm and 5pm in the Merry Bells building and car park on **Saturday, 4th July 2015**. The aim of the Fayre is to celebrate our community and to provide an opportunity for the whole village to come together and enjoy ourselves. There will be a free hog roast, a local band, activities for children, free soft drinks and many local organisations have taken up the opportunity to have stands publicising their activities so you can find out about (and join!) the wide range of clubs and societies based in the village.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Merry Bells. Please note The Merry Bells car park will be closed from 12 noon on 3rd July to 10am on 6th July. For more details contact any of the Management Committee (see Merry Bells notice board for phone numbers/ emails) or email [merrybells@btconnect.com](mailto:merrybells@btconnect.com)

## THE COFFEE ROOM AT THE MERRY BELLS

Anne Ledwith

The Coffee Room is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10.00 am to 12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2015 we had a visit from Angie from Asda who deals with the donations that Asda make to the community. She brought with her some coffee, tea, sugar and biscuits for which we are very grateful. She also gave us a short talk about the area and the groups that receive donations from Asda. At the time of writing the photographs she took are on the wall behind the bins that take the green tokens.

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Janet Redfern

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Application forms are available from the Secretary, Janet Redfern (tel. 873389, email [janet.redfern@ntlworld.com](mailto:janet.redfern@ntlworld.com)), to whom they should be returned no later than 13th September 2015.

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**COMMUNITY PICNIC – Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>, from 12.30pm**  
**Malcolm Benson (on behalf of the Howe Trustees)**

All are invited to a community picnic (weather permitting) on the Howe Trust Land adjacent to the Littleworth Park Site with access opposite the primary school. There will be parking in the field although walkers can also enter the land via Howe Close or from the allotments off Windmill Lane. In addition to the picnic there will be a nature trail and quiz for children with a small gift to all who participate, courtesy of Waterperry Gardens. There is no need to book; just turn up with your picnic from 12.30pm.

**JOHN WATSON SCHOOL, 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PICNIC -**  
**Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2.30pm – 5.00pm**  
**Sarah Coleridge**

We will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a picnic in the Nursery School Garden. Space is limited, so if you would like to join us please let us know by June 8<sup>th</sup>. Contact the school office on 01865 452725 or [office@johnwatsonschool.org](mailto:office@johnwatsonschool.org).



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## MARIE CURIE NURSES

### Rebecca Dade, Community Fundraiser, Oxfordshire

I would like to inform everyone in Wheatley that Marie Curie speakers are available to give talks about the Charity. It is a great opportunity for local clubs, groups, schools, churches and companies to learn more about the organisation, the work we do and our impact on the local community. These talks can vary in length and can be tailored to suit your requirements.

Marie Curie Nurses provide free hands-on care to people with terminal illnesses in their own homes as well as vital emotional support for their families. It can make such a difference for patients to be able to be cared for where they normally live, surrounded by the people and things they love and cherish.

If you are interested in someone from Marie Curie coming to talk about our work, please contact Rebecca Dade on 01179 427132 or [rebecca.dade@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:rebecca.dade@mariecurie.org.uk)



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## WHEATLEY LIBRARY

### Vivien Vernede on behalf of The Friends of Wheatley Library

The friends of the library would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who are working at the library. Without their support the library would close. There are now some exciting events taking place at the library which have been organised by the friends.

These include free Coffee Mornings on the first Wednesday of the month from 10am - 12 noon. Please come and have a cup of coffee while browsing at books. The next one is on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and then on July 1st.

A weekly craft group run by Anne Rawlings, is now taking place on Monday mornings from 10am - 12 noon. Come and try out crafts such as weaving, sewing or drawing.

Computer Buddy Sessions are also taking place on Wednesdays. Please contact the library for details.

Family History - Linda Price is offering sessions in the library. If you are interested e-mail Linda at [lm\\_price@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lm_price@yahoo.co.uk)

We always need more volunteers, please e-mail [rosamond.lake@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rosamond.lake@hotmail.co.uk) if you would like to help.

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## **St GEORGE'S FUNDAY 2015 REPORT – *Celebrating our Community*** **Gordon Ewbank**

As so often seems to happen with this event, the forecast rain held off until we'd packed up and the afternoon was full of sunshine and lots of fun! With a near record attendance of approaching 900 during the course of the afternoon, this was yet another chance to celebrate our community, meet old friends and hopefully make a few new ones too.

The face painting, crafts and balloon modelling and bouncy castle kept children engaged and happy right through the afternoon, whilst the centre games team served up a variety of activities, some very wet! As ever, we had a very competitive tug of war competition for children and adults – won once more by the ladies!! The climbing wall was as popular as ever, watched closely by all the folk who took the opportunity to just sit, chat and watch the fun, relaxing with a cup of tea and excellent home-baked cake. We were so busy that the BBQ ran out of sausages by 4.15!

The story of St. George and the dragon was re-enacted once more and yet again our gallant hero vanquished the fierce dragon and rescued the beautiful princess - with a little help from an enthusiastic band of very brave villagers!

As ever, sincere thanks must go to our many sponsors, including a significant grant from the Parish Council and generous contributions in so many ways from the local churches. A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make this event happen (over 60 volunteers in all) and, of course, to everyone who came along on the day and helped to create such a special occasion. Gordon Ewbank, Fusion Youth & Community [Gordon.ewbank@fusionyac.org](mailto:Gordon.ewbank@fusionyac.org)

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One term every year we follow the National Gallery's project 'Take-One-Picture', where learning is based on a piece of art. This year we chose the stained glass window in St Mary's as our inspiration.

We invited local artist Kate Watkins to become our "Artist in Residence". The children all drew something from the Nativity and Kate used these to create a Nativity scene on perspex. She inked in the outlines and the children participated in inking in the colour.

We hope you like our lovely window, which has now been installed in St. Mary's and that it provides many years of pleasure to the congregation. This March we were awarded "Artsmark": the Arts Council England's programme to celebrate their arts and cultural provision.

Achieving Artsmark status recognises that our school has a number of very special qualities. Including:

- ✓ Excellent arts and cultural experiences on offer;
- ✓ forward thinking and open to development;
- ✓ committed to investing in our staff and young people;
- ✓ committed to listening to our students and providing opportunities for our community;
- ✓ an effective approach to building sustainable relationships with arts and cultural organisations;
- ✓ valuing the arts and culture through a broad and balanced curriculum.

To achieve Artsmark, we went through a rigorous application process, and validation visit from a professional arts consultant, being assessed on many areas, including arts in the curriculum, extra-curricular arts activities, how we work with artists and arts organisations and how our provision has impact. We are thrilled we were awarded this very special mark.

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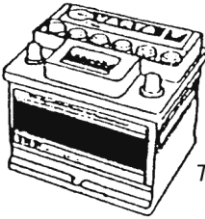
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## WHEATLEY VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION

**John Allmond**

By the time you read this the VPA will have visited Sheffield Park and journeyed on the Bluebell Railway in East Sussex on their first outing of the year.

With the warmer weather, gardeners everywhere will be focusing on growing fruit, flowers and vegetables and VPA members, having decided what classes to enter at the September show, will be starting to cultivate their potential prize winning exhibits. This year there will be a new trophy for the best single carnation. All member households should have received a schedule by now, if not please contact a committee member.

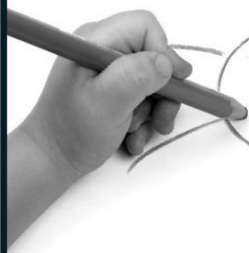
The programme continues with a talk on pelargoniums by David Taylor on June 9<sup>th</sup> and on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, Rob Jacobs will be speaking about herbaceous borders.

New members are always welcome at our meetings held on the second Tuesday of the month in the Merry Bells commencing at 7-30pm.

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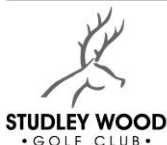
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## WHEATLEY PRODUCTIONS – The Shows go-on!

### Ian Germain

Many congratulations to the very talented performers and the 'behind-the-scenes' teams, who recently put on two hugely enjoyed productions; that is Godspell and Holton Players' evening of 50's nostalgia that have both rightly received rave reviews. Although Wheatley Productions can't take any credit for these shows, many of the performers, as members of our Company will have also performed in our latest production, Rogue's March, which hopefully many of you will have seen by the time you are reading this article. 'Rogue's March' is a play with music written and composed by Mick Jones as a sequel to his very successful 'Morris on the Somme', which was performed on Radio 4.

Mick has said it is his last play and so we at Wheatley Productions wanted to say 'thank you' for all of the wonderful community plays that he has written and performed in over the past 30 years. Not only have Mick's plays been relevant to local village life through the ages, but have always shown a strong sense of 'community'. For us at Wheatley Productions this is so important that we represent the whole community, quite literally from ages 8 to 80, therefore we would like to announce two opportunities to get involved.

Firstly, we will be returning with our Pantomime next January, which will be 'Sleeping Beauty' with references to 'The Dragon of Wheatley' (our last panto) and auditions will be held on Sundays June 28<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> for our Over 12s and on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July, we will audition our 8 to 12 year-olds. All Auditions will be at the URC at 2.00 pm.

Secondly on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, we are also inviting anyone and everyone to join us for our AGM, which again will be at the URC beginning at 4.30 pm with Afternoon Tea. There's posh! You are very welcome to come and join us, and in the meantime very many thanks for your continued support.

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## HOLTON PLAYERS

Edward Hess, Chairman

### Holton Players seeks participants for autumn musical

The Holton Players have announced their plans to put on a musical for their autumn 2015 Production. On 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015 they will be performing "Jekyll !", a musical based on the well-known Robert Louis Stevenson book "The Strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde".

The musical was written by Peter Fanning, Alex Went and John Moore and was performed at the Edinburgh Festival, winning a Fringe First Award.

The play will be directed in Holton by Peter Fanning, now a Wheatley resident, and fresh from his successful production of "Godspell" in Wheatley Church. The Musical Director will be Corinne Miley-Smith.

The scene is London, 1870. George Utterson's theatrical troupe is in Town, with a thrilling performance of that well known fairy story 'Beauty and Beast'. Crowds gather to watch their procession through the gas-lit streets. But behind the lamp light lurks a dark shadow, another monster, prowling unseen. They call him Mr Hyde, a terror to behold, making his way through the darkness. But what sort of hold does he have on the noble doctor, the loved and respected Henry Jekyll?

This tale, full of colour, romance and excitement is packed full of solos and choruses suitable for every age. This production will have a sizeable cast and there are good parts for children, young adults, as well as for those of a more mature disposition; for young romantic soloists, for actors, monsters, medics and members of the chorus.

Anybody (young, middle or old) interested in taking a part, big or small, solo or chorus, is invited to attend auditions at **Holton Village Hall from 6.30 pm on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2015.**

The Director and the Musical Director would be pleased to hear from anybody in advance and from anybody who cannot make it on 19<sup>th</sup> July. Please feel free to contact [peterafanning@gmail.com](mailto:peterafanning@gmail.com) or [corinnevams@gmail.com](mailto:corinnevams@gmail.com) or [ejwhess@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejwhess@hotmail.co.uk) if you are interested or would like more details.

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Hannah Rackauskas

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Brownies are aged between 7 and 10 years old and meet every Monday from 5.30pm until 7.00pm (term time only).

Guides are aged between 10 and 14 years old and meet every Wednesday from 7.00pm until 8.30pm (term time only).

If you can spare a couple of hours a week and would like to volunteer with our brilliant brownies or guides, please get in contact for more information: [shotovergirlguiding@gmail.com](mailto:shotovergirlguiding@gmail.com) (even if you can't commit every week we would still like to hear from you).

You can also visit the Girlguiding UK website to learn more about the Girlguiding organisation: <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/>



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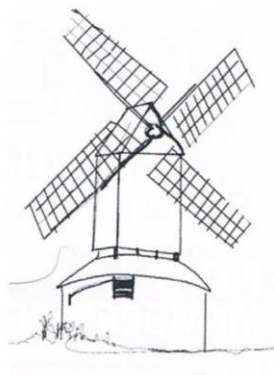
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## **WHEATLEY SINGERS - Come and join us!**

### **The Wheatley Singers are delighted to announce their re-launch!**

After some successful incarnations, Wheatley's own local choir will be re-born this September - with a new Musical Director - and will be preparing a performance of Handel's wonderful oratorio "Messiah": an ideal choice to settle us into our new regime. This glorious oratorio, a repertoire classic, is well-known and well-loved by singers and audiences.

We're pleased to announce that Kate Billimore will be leading us. She has led the Great Milton Singers since their foundation, and is keen to work us and to welcome former - and new - members to join. If you can read music, great. But it's not essential. Enthusiasm and commitment are far more necessary attributes! Kate has worked with a number of choirs: directing workshops, "Come & Sing" events and concerts. She believes in relaxed and informal, but effective rehearsals, so we're all looking forward to getting started.

"Messiah" will take place at St Mary the Virgin, Wheatley on November 21st. Rehearsals are held at 7.15pm on Tuesdays in Wheatley's URC, starting at 6.45pm on Tuesday September 1st with a celebration launch party.

Do come and join us. Why not contact Celia, our secretary (01865 872250; email [bagels2011@gmail.com](mailto:bagels2011@gmail.com)) or Kate (01844 339236; email [topcopykate@btinternet.com](mailto:topcopykate@btinternet.com)) for more information or encouragement.

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for Children

**Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's 10am service is Food Bank Sunday. Please bring a donation for the Food Bank**

Every Wednesday at 12 noon

Holy Communion

**Kings Club for children runs every week apart from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month alongside the 10am service.**

### St Mary's Church Floodlighting

23<sup>rd</sup> March

To celebrate the Birthday of the late Leslie Hanks

6<sup>th</sup> May

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1<sup>st</sup> June

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## FROM THE VICAR Revd Nigel Hawkes

Which Englishman has had the greatest influence on European history? Winston Churchill perhaps? Or the Duke of Wellington?

How about Boniface of Crediton? ..... Who?

*Wynfrith was born in Crediton in Devon in about the year 675 and took the name Boniface when he entered the monastery in Exeter as a young man. He became a Latin scholar and poet and was ordained when he was 30 years old. He rejected a safe ecclesiastical career in England and, in the year 716, became a missionary in Frisia (now in the north Netherlands), following in the steps of Willibrord. He eventually was commissioned by the pope to work in Hesse and Bavaria where he went after he had been consecrated as bishop in the year 722. He is said to have courageously felled a sacred oak at Geismar and, since the pagan gods did not come to avenge the act, widespread conversions to Christianity followed.*



*He was the founder of a string of monasteries across southern Germany and made sure that they were places of learning, so that evangelization could continue. He was made archbishop of Mainz in the year 732, where he consecrated many missionary bishops. He worked assiduously for the reform of the Church in France and managed to ensure that the more stable Rule of St Benedict was adhered to in her monasteries. He crowned Pepin as the Frankish king in 751, but was already very old.*

*While waiting for some new Christians to arrive for confirmation, he was murdered by a band of pagans on 5<sup>th</sup> June in the year 754. He has been judged as having a deeper influence on European history than any other Englishman.*

Boniface's memory is still celebrated in Germany nearly 1300 years after his death. Spare him a thought this month and give thanks for missionaries of every age who brought learning and faith to strange lands.



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## News from Wheatley United Reformed Church

### Zena Knight

We are continuing our afternoon teas with chat on the first Sunday afternoon in the month in the Chapel hall from 2.30-4.30pm. All are welcome on 7 June and 5 July. On 12 July our Church Anniversary Service will be celebrated at 10.00am. Sadly though this will be Tanya Stormo Rasmussen's last service as she moves back to the USA to accept a call to ministry at the Congregational Church of Hollis, New Hampshire. We shall miss her but send our good wishes with her for her new venture.

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## HOLTON & WHEATLEY CRICKET CLUB

### Alun Regan

The new season is now well under way and the pattern of last season has continued into all three games played so far, where the bowling has generally been quite consistent but we have struggled to post any sizeable innings with the bat. Against Chearsley and Letcombe, we only managed totals of 129 and 130, respectively, with our opponents winning quite comfortably as a result. Our main highlights in those games were Peter Burrows scoring 46 and 52, respectively, and, against Letcombe, Chris Ellis taking 3 for 33 and Alan Banyard 3 for 34.

Against all odds, though, we managed to pull off a remarkable victory against Farnham Royal, a very strong side who we usually struggle against. Again, we struggled with the bat, albeit against some very good bowling, but Dan Jacobs scored a gritty 48 and Graham Hawkins chipped in with an invaluable 24 not out which eventually resulted in a total of 127. Our bowling performance, though, was the best for many years and the opposition were despatched back to the pavilion for 101 all out. Whilst all bowlers contributed to the win, Neil Robinson ended with 4 for 31 and Alun Regan with 3 for 17.

We always welcome new members of any ability and age. Our membership is extremely broad, ranging from people who have not long taken up the game to some who, in past incarnations, have played at quite a high standard and also from teenage years to well beyond retirement age. Our aim is to be a friendly team who, win or lose, enjoy Sunday cricket, with a big focus on the social side as well as the sporting side. If you are interested in joining in please contact Hugh Kitchen on 873305. For those who like to watch a game, please do come and support us! Our ground is at the Brookes Wheatley Campus (at the very rear) and we have home games every Sunday during June and July - please see the Diary at the back of the Newsletter.

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## **PHENOLOGY**

### **Stuart Mabbutt**

'Phenology' is rife in wildlife gardens at this time of the year, it's the study of the season cycles of insects, plants, animals, in fact all wildlife. During spring, I often watch the sequence of events that indicate the accelerating march towards the summer season.

It can be indicated by the birds - the first Warblers, Swallow, Cuckoo and the first Swift, often in that order. Turtle Dove could have been one added to that spectacular list but few of us have that privilege nowadays.

Butterflies signal the seasons too so keep your eyes peeled for the different types around as the months advance.

Various types of blossom rushes through most quickly during spring which is followed weekly by differing flowers opening.

It's always interesting to keep a notebook of the dates you first see certain things appear, and compare those dates year on year. The mind pulls tricks on us and we often feel things are happening earlier year on year. When you compare these notes often things are shown to be getting earlier, very often by just a few days though, not weeks earlier as our memories tell us. I don't trust the accuracy of my own mind, but if you don't believe me, why not take up the study of Phenology yourself and see what you find. Happy Gardening. Stuart Mabbutt, Wildlife Gardening Specialist 01865 747243.

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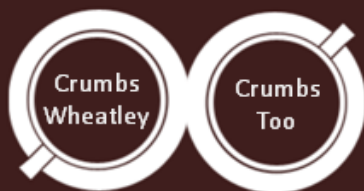
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## **COMMUNITY COACH TRIPS - NEXT TRIP 2nd July**

**Leigh Guyatt**

Our last community coach trip was a great success. We went to the V & A and then onto the Royal Chelsea Hospital where a very dapper Chelsea pensioner gave us a tour. The weather was kind to us and the traffic not bad.

The next trip is on Thursday 2nd July. To the Northampton Art Gallery and Museum, where there is a vast shoe collection. After this we will head for Stoke Bruerne and the very interesting canal museum, there will also be a short optional narrow boat ride to Blissworth tunnel (not into the tunnel). The cost will be about £28. Please email [oxfordtoursandmore@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordtoursandmore@gmail.com) or phone 01865 872765, if you would like to join us or just put your name on the mailing list for future information.

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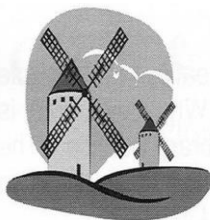
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## WHEATLEY DAY BY DAY

<b>WEEKLY</b>	<p><b>Wheatley Nursery School</b> Every weekday from 8 am to 3 pm next to the Primary School in Littleworth Road Contact 01865 452725.</p> <p><b>Wheatley Pre-School.</b> Behind the Primary School Car park. Littleworth Road. Sessions Mon - Fri 9.00 to 11.45 am and 1.00 to 3.30 pm Call 01865 873687 to visit, to register, or for information.</p> <p><b>Coffee Room</b> open 10 am to noon, Tues to Fri, Merry Bells. All welcome.</p> <p><b>Sharecare Community Club</b> Age UK Oxfordshire 9.30am - 2pm Mondays, Wednesdays &amp; Fridays at Holton Village Hall. An opportunity for older people to meet with others. Contact Iris Ellis 07973 783938</p>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<p><b>St Mary the Virgin.</b> Every Sunday 8 am Holy Communion . 1st Sunday 10 am Parish Praise. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 10 am Sung Eucharist with King's Club for Children. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 10 am service is Food Bank Sunday. Please bring a donation for the Food Bank.</p> <p>Kings Club for children runs every week apart from the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month alongside the 10am service.</p> <p><b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b>, Crown Road. Mass 10 am.</p> <p><b>URC.</b> Services at 10 am. Holy Communion on 1st &amp; 3rd Sundays</p> <p><b>Holton &amp; Wheatley Cricket Club</b>, Home games at Brookes Wheatley Campus every Sunday during June &amp; July (see Diary for times)</p>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<p><b>Beaver Scouts</b>, boys and girls aged 6-8, during term time, 5.30-6.30 pm, at the Scout Hut, Holloway Road (Tel: 01865 874997)</p> <p><b>Brownies</b> meet in the URC Hall 5.30 to 7 pm in term time.</p> <p><b>SODC Collections:</b> (except Bank Holidays). Food refuse weekly; wheelie bins for general waste, recycling waste and garden waste on alternate Mondays. Details 01865 875615.</p> <p><b>Carers and Toddlers.</b> Every Monday in school term at URC Hall, Crown Square 9.30 to 11.30 am. Everyone welcome. Age 0 - 3 with adult. Details Enid (08165) 872403.</p> <p><b>Not-so-Young Club.</b> Merry Bells. 2-4 pm. Every 2 weeks.</p> <p><b>Wheatley Bridge Club.</b> Holton Village Hall. 7 pm.</p> <p><b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b> 10 am - 1 pm United Reformed Church. Free confidential advice on money, legal, family and other matters. To make an appointment call 01844 217186 (Mon, Tue, Fri 10-4)</p> <p><b>Community Choir</b> URC Hall, 7.30 to 9 pm in term time.</p> <p><b>Friends of Wheatley Library Craft Group</b>, 10am - 12 noon</p>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<p><b>St Mary's Guild</b> meets every 4th Tuesday in the URC Hall 2 pm. New members always welcome See Wheatley Diary for details.</p>

	<p><b>Wheatley Women's Institute.</b> Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Merry Bells at 7.15 pm (except no meeting in August and the December meeting is held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month). New members always welcome to join and visitors are welcome at our talks and outings. Contact Christine 873246.</p> <p><b>St Mary's Church</b> open for prayer and reflection 7.30 to 9 pm</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<p><b>Parish Office Public Opening.</b> 9.30-11.30. Details: 875615</p> <p><b>Cub Scouts.</b> Boys and girls aged 8-10 ½, 6.45-8.15 pm, at the Scout Hut, Holloway Road . Contact 01865 874284</p> <p><b>Guides</b> meet in the URC Hall, 7 to 8.30 pm, in term time.</p> <p><b>Great Milton &amp; District Local History Society.</b> Winter meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of month, Great Milton School 7.30 pm. Non members welcome. Details: (01844) 279567</p> <p><b>Wheatley Walkers, Jalkers and Joggers.</b> 7.30 to 8.30 pm, the Park sports Centre, Contact Helen Coombes on 01865 872551 or 07979 538557.</p> <p><b>St Mary the Virgin</b> 12 noon, Holy Communion.</p> <p><b>Lively Library Club.</b> Second Wed, 2 to 3.30 pm, speakers, workshops, free to attend including tea and cake.</p> <p><b>Wheatley Library Coffee Morning (free)</b> every 1st Wednesday of the month, 10am - 12 noon</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<p><b>Explorer Scouts.</b> Boys and girls aged 14-18, 7 to 9 pm at the Scout Hut, Holloway Road (07745 285938)</p> <p><b>Wheatley Archive Room.</b> The Merry Bells 2-5 pm.</p> <p><b>Wheatley Walks.</b> 10 to 11 am. Meet at the Park Sports Centre - details from Anne on 872628 or Jean on 873430.</p> <p><b>United Reformed Church</b> coffee morning on the first and third Thursday, each month from 10 am to 11.30 am. All welcome.</p> <p><b>Xstream.</b> An after school club for primary children, 3.15 to 4.30 pm at the Primary School.</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<p><b>Scouts.</b> Boys and girls aged 10 ½ to 14, 7 to 9 pm, at the Scout Hut, Holloway Road . Contact 07745 285938</p> <p><b>St. Mary's Belltower Practice.</b> Experienced ringers and beginners welcome. St Mary's Church 7.30 - 9 pm. Details: (01865) 872250</p>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<p><b>Parish Office Public Opening</b> 9.30 to 11.30 am.</p> <p><b>Scrabble Club.</b> 1st in month. Details of venue 872641.</p>



## JUNE DIARY

Wednesday	3	Free Coffee Morning at Wheatley Library, 10am- 12 noon
Thursday	4	Wine Circle, 8pm Merry Bells
Saturday	6	WI Coffee Morning 10am – 12 noon, Merry Bells
Sunday	7	Tea, Cake and a Chat, 2.30 to 4.30pm URC Hall Holton & Wheatley Cricket Club vs Haddenham, 2pm Brookes Wheatley Campus
Monday	8	Not so Young Club, 2pm Merry Bells
Tuesday	9	VPA, 7.30pm Merry Bells: Pelargoniums
Wednesday	10	Planning Committee, 7.30pm Parish Office
Saturday	13	SODC & OCC Councillors open session, 10.30 to 11.30am Parish Office
Sunday	14	Wheatley Windmill Open Day 2pm - 6pm Holton & Wheatley CC vs BBC Caversham, 2pm, Brookes Wheatley Campus
Monday	15	F & GP Committee, 7.30pm Parish Office
Tuesday	16	Women's Institute, Our Garden Party at Waterperry 7.15pm
Thursday	18	Royal British Legion Open Meeting, 11.30am, New Club
Friday	19	Wheatley Society: Wine Tasting, 6pm Wheatley House garden
Sunday	21	Holton & Wheatley CC vs Forest Hill, Brookes Wheatley Campus , 2pm
Monday	22	Not so Young Club, 2pm Merry Bells
Tuesday	23	St Mary's Guild, 2.15pm, URC Hall Wheatley Society: Tour of Middle Temple Law Court
Saturday	27	Community Picnic on Howe Trust Land, Littleworth, 12.30 Arts Festival, Wheatley Park School, 2 - 6pm
Sunday	28	Holton & Wheatley CC vs Reading Lawyers, 2pm, Brookes Wheatley Campus Wheatley Productions Sleeping Beauty Auditions (Over 12s), URC, 2pm

## JULY DIARY

Wednesday	1	Free Coffee Morning at Wheatley Library, 10am -12 noon
Thursday	2	Wine Circle, 8pm Merry Bells Community Coach Trip see p54
Saturday	4	The Merry Bells Village Fayre, 1-5pm
Sunday	5	Tea, Cake and a Chat, 2.30 to 4.30pm URC Hall Holton & Wheatley CC vs Islip, 2pm, Brookes Wheatley Campus Wheatley Productions Sleeping Beauty Auditions (Over 12s), URC, 2pm

Monday	6	Not So Young Club, 2pm Merry Bells Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm, Merry Bells
Wednesday	8	Planning Committee, 7.30pm Parish Office Guys and Dolls, running until 11 July, Wheatley Park School 7.30pm. Matinee Fri 4pm & Sat 2.30pm
Saturday	11	SODC & OCC Councillors open session, 10.30 to 11.30am Parish Office Swap Shop, 9.30 – 11.00am, The Merry Bells John Watson School 50th Anniv. Celebration Picnic, 2.30 - 5pm, John Watson Nursery School Garden
Sunday	12	Wheatley URC Anniversary Service, 10.00am Wheatley Windmill Open Day 2pm - 6pm Wheatley Productions Sleeping Beauty Auditions (8 - 12 years old), URC, 2pm Wheatley Productions AGM, URC 4.30pm Holton & Wheatley CC vs President's XI, 11am, Brookes Wheatley Campus
Tuesday	14	VPA meeting, 7.30 pm Merry Bells: Herbaceous Borders
Sunday	19	Holton & Wheatley CC vs Wytham, 2pm, Brookes Wheatley Campus Holton Players Auditions for “Jekyll !” Musical, from 6.30pm, Holton Village Hall
Monday	20	Royal British Legion BBQ, 11.30am, New Club Not So Young Club, 2pm Merry Bells F & GP Committee, 7.30pm Parish Office Sands Theatre Summer School, Wheatley Park School (until 24th)
Tuesday	21	Women’s Institute, 'Old Time Musical Evening', 7.15pm Merry Bells
Sunday	26	Holton & Wheatley CC vs Great Milton, 2pm, Brookes Wheatley Campus
Tuesday	28	St Mary’s Guild, 2.15pm, URC Hall



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