

Valley News

August 2012

No 202

News & Views from the Cherwell Valley



U2 Spy Plane at Upper Heyford September 1962

This rather innocuous looking aeroplane caused a national debate and put Upper Heyford on the front page of every national newspaper and the lead item on TV 50 years ago! The U2 became an icon of the Cold War when Gary Powers was shot down when piloting a U2 over Russia and was displayed with great delight by President Khrushchev.

The autumn of 1962 is just about as close as it got to boiling over into a major conflict, with the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the arrival of spy planes in England at the time of the crisis was controversial (although the reason given was their use for monitoring atmospheric conditions).

The U2, which is still around, albeit in a much updated form, is a most remarkable aeroplane with its ability to fly at over 70,000 feet. The massive wing span (over 100 feet) gave the aeroplane terrific lift appearing to take off at an angle of 45 degrees, however, it was seldom seen by the general populous around the base as the planes took off when it was dusk and returned in the early hours.

Upper Heyford Historical Society

Church Services in the Valley

	Ardley St Mary	Fritwell St Olave	Lower Hey- ford & Caulcott St Mary	Somerton St James the Apostle	Souldern Annunciation to the BVM	Upper Heyford St Mary The Chapel
--	-------------------	----------------------	---	-------------------------------------	--	--

29-Jul	10:30 Family Worship Communion - Somerton						11:00 Contemporary Worship
5-Aug	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Family Worship	11:00 1662 HC	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Matins	9:30 Traditional Language Communion & Hymns	11:00 Contemporary Worship
12-Aug	9:30 CW Family Communion	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Family Worship	9:30 Sunday Club	11:00 CW Sung Communion	9:30 Matins	11:00 Contemporary Worship
19-Aug	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Fam- ily Worship Communion	No Service	09:30 Matins & HC	08:30 1662 HC	9:30 Family Worship	11:00 Contemporary Worship
26-Aug	9:30 Family Worship	18:00 Evensong	11:00 CW Family Communion	9:30 Family Worship Communion	10:30 Souldern Chapel Coffee & Christ	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Contemporary Worship
2-Sep	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Family Worship	11:00 1662 HC	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Matins	9:30 Harvest	11:00 Contemporary Worship
9-Sep	9:30 CW Family Communion	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Family Worship	9:30 Sunday Club	11:00 CW Sung Communion	9:30 Matins	11:00 Contemporary Worship
16-Sep	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Family Worship Communion	11:00 Morning Prayer	09:30 Matins & HC	08:30 1662 HC	9:30 Family Worship	11:00 Contemporary Worship
23-Sep	9:30 Harvest	18:00 Evensong	11:00 Family Communion	9:30 Harvest & Family Worship Communion	10:30 Souldern Chapel Coffee & Christ	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Contemporary Worship
30-Sep	10:30 Family Worship Communion - St James Somerton – Paul’s final service						

	<p>CHERWELL VALLEY WORLD DAY OF PRAYER GROUP</p> <p>FRIDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER</p> <p>1.30 – 3.30 Cedar House Souldern. Tel: 345235</p> <p>LETTING GO</p> <p>LED BY</p> <p>The Revd. PAUL HUNT</p> <p>Followed by discussion and refreshments</p> <p>ALL WELCOME</p>
---	---

<p><u>Valley News is delivered FREE to every household in:</u></p> <p>Caulcott – Heyford Park – Lower Heyford</p> <p>Somerton – Upper Heyford</p> <p>Editor: Ian Lough-Scott, The Rickyard, Upper Heyford, Bicester OX25 5LH Telephone: 01869 232788 Email: ianloughscott@btinternet.com</p> <p>Treasurer: Stan Morris, The Orchard, Water Street, Somerton OX25 6NE Telephone: 01869 345544</p>

The Cherwell Valley Benefice in the Diocese of Oxford

Rev Paul Hunt, 346739 paul@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk;
Rev Edward Green, 340562 edward@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk;
Mr John Hine (LLM) 350272;
Scott Goosen (YW) 233087 flockofgeese4@yahoo.com
Benefice Office 233687 Barbara@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Dear Friends

“Parting is such sweet sorrow”

There were quite a few moist eyes among both parents and the children of year 6 at Fritwell School's leaver service in St Olave's Fritwell this morning. Departures and moving on is something that we learn at a very early age. For many it is our first experience of bereavement. It is hard and takes courage to leave behind the familiar. It is harder still parting from close friends, while we may well intend to maintain the friendship it will not be quite the same as we no longer share our daily lives with them.

In the famous balcony scene of Romeo and Juliet, Juliet says “Parting is such sweet sorrow.” Parting is a bitter sweet moment. Doing anything together, is a moment of sweetness, as we acknowledge the strength of feeling we have with someone close to us. That moment of sweetness becomes bitter for us as we say goodbye.

It was 14 years ago that I came here as vicar to the parishes of Ardley, Fritwell and Souldern and 7 years ago became Team Rector of the Cherwell Valley benefice when The Heyfords and Somerton were added. Now retirement beckons and just like the youngsters who are changing school, life is taking on a new direction and fresh experiences await. Yes that is exciting but leaving behind those who have shared so much with me and with whom I have shared so much is not easy.

It has been a privilege to serve the parishes and to be a part of peoples' lives. I have learnt a lot, I have been surprised and humbled by people's deep faith and their profound wisdom. I have been honoured by being invited to share precious moments in peoples lives. I am still surprised at how God works his purpose out and who he chooses for his work. I hope I have served the community with the same love and commitment that you have shown to me.

After the resurrection of Jesus, we read that he went, with his disciples, to a place outside Bethany. He lifted his hands and after blessing them was taken up from their presence. This must have been a moment of great sadness and also great fear as now they were on their own. But, we then read they returned to Jerusalem with great joy and they stayed in the temple praising God.

We have journeyed together. Parishes have come closer together supporting and caring for each other as they have grown in fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ. Some have already expressed sadness at my imminent departure, but I would like to think that, like the disciples, many will be praising God, not because I am leaving (although some may) but because it has been a good journey and there is a new vision for the church that offers opportunities that will both serve God and also strengthen his church in our community. Vicars move on but God will always be there for you. As the traditional leavers hymn “One more step along the world I go” reminds us.

And it's from the old I travel to the new

Keep me travelling along with you.”

As we now part and journey in to the future separately may God be always with you.

Thank you and God bless, Paul

Paul's final service

As Team Rector of the Cherwell Valley Benefice

Sunday 30th September

10:30am at

St James Somerton

Family Worship

Communion

Benefice Service



Followed by

Light lunch/refreshments

Everyone is invited to come along and take this opportunity to join Paul and Chris as they prepare to travel 'from the old to the new'

Obituary: It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Rear Admiral David Hepworth C.B., suddenly after a short illness in his 90th year. Beloved husband of Robin, devoted father and stepfather of Nicky and Mark, Fiona, Anna and Alex and proud grandfather of 10.

There will be a tribute to Admiral Hepworth in the next edition of Valley News

CHOROS

Conductor, Janet Lincé

My spirit sang all day

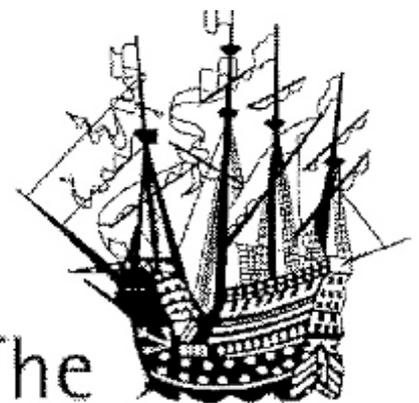
Sunday 16 September
6.30pm

St Mary's Church
Upper Heyford

*Choral favourites by
Tallis, Stanford and Elgar
Jazz arrangements
Spirituals*

Free admission and refreshments
Retiring collection

In aid of St Mary's Church Restoration Fund



The MARY ROSE

Community Market

Souldern Village Hall - 9am - 12 noon
September 15th - October 20th
(Christmas Market November 17th in the church)

Locally sourced, grown, produced or baked

Meat, eggs, vegetables, plants, cakes & savouries
(subject to availability)

Hand crafted, gifts, cards & jewellery etc

Sausage / Bacon / Egg baps
(to eat in or take out)

Come and enjoy a cup of tea / coffee and a chat with friends

Tel: 01869 345931 or email: barbaramcgarry@btinternet.com

The Mary Rose

An illustrated talk by:

Septephen Griffiths

15th August 2012

at 7.30pm

**The Reading Room
Upper Heyford**

What's going on at Cherwell District Council?

Councillor Calling

Planning Policy has gathered pace since I last reported. A new **Local Development Scheme** for Cherwell has been approved, setting out the documents that will make up the new local plan, and the most important of those documents, the **Local Plan** (previously called the Local Development Framework Core Strategy), which says where development will happen and how, has been approved for consultation (though, as I write, its release is still imminent) and Masterplans for Banbury and Bicester are also on the stocks – when the consultation begins, do have your say.

Driving all this activity is the upsurge in planning applications using the new **National Planning Policy Framework's** emphasis on each district have a 5-year supply of deliverable new housing in the pipeline at any time. Until we have a Plan in place, developers hope to use this clause to get new sites approved. Arguments rage round the 5-year supply itself – What exactly does “deliverable” mean when we've over 5 years' worth of planning permissions already? What about the NPPF's emphasis on local determination? And where does the NPPF's “sustainability” requirement fit in? Clearly, we need a Plan to get some coherence back into the system and stem this stream of appeals.

The new Plan proposes slightly fewer new houses than were imposed by the last Government, based on a proper study of Cherwell's needs, and, thanks to Eco Bicester, a reduction in the numbers for villages to take from 1,130 to 948 – even less as existing permissions can be taken into account. Your own councillors, though, may be guilty of causing the delayed launch as we challenged the distribution of these across the “Category A” sustainable villages (ie those with facilities – schools, pubs, shops, buses, etc – such as Fritwell) as their allocation took no account of their size, and the principle of “clustering” unsustainable locations with unrelated neighbouring settlements. Hopefully, these will have been rectified before the draft is circulated.

Other planning news centres on Bicester, where there's a bid to extend the town's Eco credentials to qualify it as a new generation **Garden City** – hopefully resulting in more funds and better facilities. Meanwhile, the council is encouraging **Bomber Command Heritage's** bid to turn RAF Bicester into a museum. Against them are the huge funds they'll have to raise to see off commercial developers: on their side are the challenges of dozens of listed historic structures which must be preserved but need huge amounts of restoration work – seconds out!

Railways provide some positive news as, while government enthusiasm for the **HS2** project wanes as its finances unravel, the **East-West Link** connecting Oxford-Bicester-Milton Keynes-Bedford has been given a green light not only to go ahead but for electrification as well. Combined with the **Evergreen** project, which has finally overcome the Wolvercote bats to speed up the Oxford-Bicester line and link it to the Bicester North-Marylebone route, Bicester is on the way to being a real rail hub and Bicester Town to changing from an unloved siding to a key destination.

Money, of course, is key to all projects and sometimes Parishes struggle to fund projects out of one year's precept in these tough times. So Cherwell is offering to become a “banker of last resort” to bridge this sort of gap with loans to enable such difficulties to be overcome.

Recycling has until now cost money. But, thanks to the worldwide squeeze on commodities like metals, paper and plastic, our new outsourcing contract, instead of costing £55,000 a year to cart recyclables away, is going to earn us £250,000 – so fill your blue bins and keep council tax down!

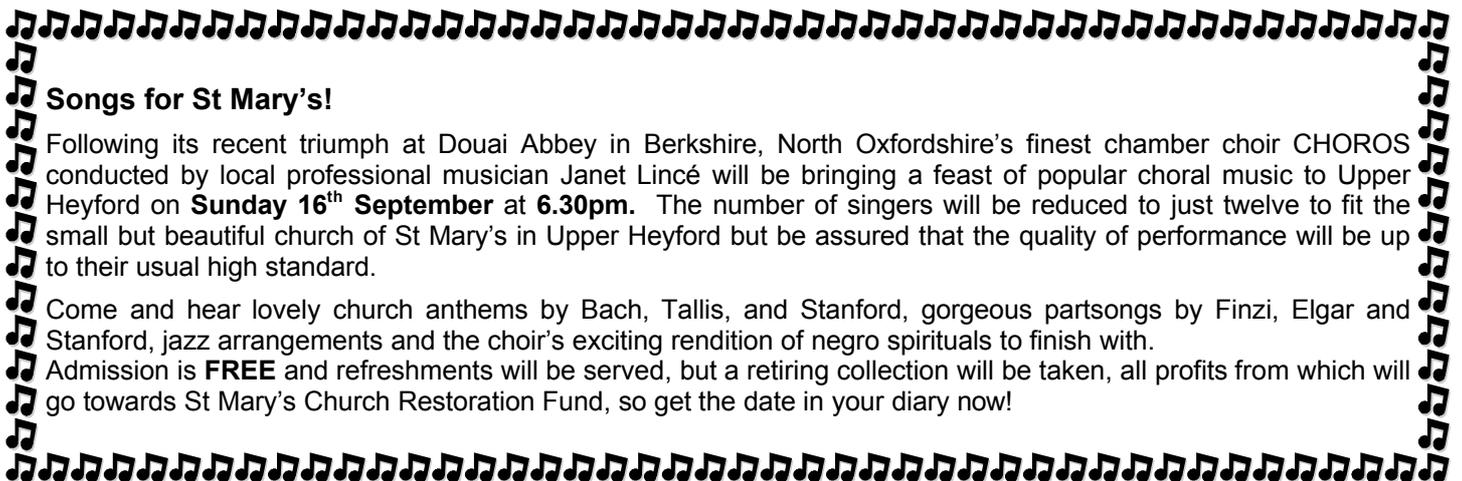
Recycling centres are a bone of contention with the closure of Ardley, Kidlington being a non-starter and the nearest being Redbridge. At least we'll now be getting a **re-use centre** in Bicester, where a consortium including the Waste Partnership, the wonderful Emmaus charity, the Chamber of Commerce and others is setting up to refurbish your old items and keep them from the tip.

Back to money, and the **New Homes Bonus** is the new way of rewarding districts that host new housing by paying them the first five years' council tax. The catches are that this ceases after five years, so it would be foolish to incur long term commitments, and it (inevitably) replaces other Government funding. So, how to make best use of it? And how to share it between the communities bearing the brunt of development and the wider District? Expect much heated discussion shortly as proposals are developed and debated!

Another alert is **welfare reform**, where Districts will be required to squeeze the benefits we currently distribute (a cunning way of shifting the blame to us!). I've not heard of any way of avoiding some people losing out so, again, expect some difficult moments.

Perhaps these weren't the best topics to start the holiday season: best of luck keeping dry in the on-going drought!

James Macnamara



Songs for St Mary's!

Following its recent triumph at Douai Abbey in Berkshire, North Oxfordshire's finest chamber choir CHOROS conducted by local professional musician Janet Lincé will be bringing a feast of popular choral music to Upper Heyford on **Sunday 16th September at 6.30pm**. The number of singers will be reduced to just twelve to fit the small but beautiful church of St Mary's in Upper Heyford but be assured that the quality of performance will be up to their usual high standard.

Come and hear lovely church anthems by Bach, Tallis, and Stanford, gorgeous partsongs by Finzi, Elgar and Stanford, jazz arrangements and the choir's exciting rendition of negro spirituals to finish with.

Admission is **FREE** and refreshments will be served, but a retiring collection will be taken, all profits from which will go towards St Mary's Church Restoration Fund, so get the date in your diary now!

NEWS & VIEWS FROM THE CHERWELL VALLEY

STEEPLE ASTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Invite you to a series of six classes to
Improve singing ability and vocal technique

Led by
Soprano and Vocal Coach

HEATHER CLEOBURY

Experienced singers and beginners alike will
Benefit from Heather Cleobury's expert tuition

No more singing alone in the bath!
No more struggling to hit the high notes

**Classes begin Monday, September 17th
8.00pm to 9.30pm
Steeple Aston Village Hall**

We will also be studying music for the

**Come and Sing Christmas Concert
On**

December 16th during these sessions.

Classes cost £5 per session

Payable on the night

Or £20 for all six classes

(Half price for students 18 or under)

For all enquiries

Email Choir Chair

Jevansvn@aol.com

Hi Everyone,

We run Modern Line Dance Classes in Oxfordshire, Warwickshire & Northamptonshire, & we cater for all levels from the absolute Beginner through to Improvers & on up to Intermediates/Advanced. We have been teaching for over 10 years, & dancing for at least 18 years!! We like to pass on our love & enthusiasm for this wonderful hobby of ours, by starting an **absolute Beginners Modern Line Dance Class at Heyford Park Community Centre on Thursday 9th August, 7.30pm - 8.45pm, Everyone welcome no partner required!**

The Music we dance too covers all different types Pop, Irish, Country, fast & slow! So its great exercise for body & mind. Please come along & try out Modern Line Dance.

We know you will love it!

For info call or email us, Julie & Jo.

01608 683280

sidelinersldc@aol.com

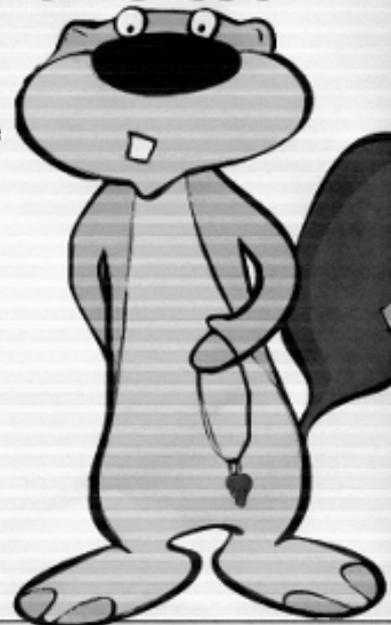
Check us out on our website www.sideliners.co.uk

Tackley Beavers need you!



If you enjoy working/interacting with children, having fun and supporting the community. Then please consider becoming Tackley's Beaver leader. We meet every Wednesday evening, we follow the ethos of Scouting and have great support from an assistant leader and Scout Group families. Training and support is available.

Please contact
Sally McManus on
01869 331157
for more details



Watercolour painting classes

Tuesday Evening

10 week Watercolour Painting class

7.30-9.30pm Upper Heyford Village Hall.

For more info please call Jo 07734562028.

Would you be interested in a Daytime Watercolour Painting Class with local artist David Meeks?

If so, please call Jo as above to register your interest.



MACMILLAN CANCER CARE

World's Biggest Coffee Morning 2012

Be part of it!

**Upper Heyford Reading Room Friday 28th Sept
10 - 12 noon**

The Poetry Corner

Poetry is often about love. The words paint a picture that can make us smile, remember and certainly pause. It gives us the chance to reflect on the wonders of the world captured in an instant by the poet. Poems at best, allow our hearts to flower.

Below are some short poems I enjoy and I hope you will too.

The Angel

The Angel that presided o'er my birth
Said, 'Little creature, form'd of joy and mirth,
Go, love without the help of anything on earth.'
by William Blake

In a Bath Teashop

'Let us not speak, for the love we bear one another--
Let us hold hands and look.'
She, such a very ordinary little woman;
He, such a thumping crook:
But both, for the moment, little lower than the angels
In the teashop inglenook.
John Betjeman

He Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven

Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet.
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.
W.B. Yeats

and an anonymous one for fun!

'Why didn't we think of clothes before?' asked Adam removing Eve's.
'Why did we ever think of clothes?' asked Eve laundering Adam's.

Debra Kaatz

If you are tempted to come and discover half-forgotten or new poems, we meet fortnightly in Upper Heyford during term time (on a Monday or a Thursday at 8.00) - but you don't have to attend every meeting. One of us introduces a poet, or a theme, and we volunteer to read a poem if we want to – but there is no obligation. You can just sit and listen. If you want to find out more feel free to email Heather and Roger Burt (handr.burt@virgin.net).



John Betjeman

He was a founding member of the Victorian Society and a passionate defender of Victorian architecture. Starting his career as a journalist, he ended it as one of the most popular British Poets Laureate to date and a much-loved figure on British television.

The [Energy Act 2011](#) includes provisions for the new 'Green Deal', which intends to reduce carbon emissions cost effectively by revolutionising the energy efficiency of British properties.



Is the Green Deal the right deal for you?

The government's Green Deal scheme aims to help more homeowners refurbish their homes by spreading the costs over future energy bills.

But is it the right deal for you?

Under the 'Golden Rule' any technologies installed must be so energy efficient that loan repayments should be less or equal to the money saved. So, for example, a 30% more efficient boiler could be installed. It delivers the same heat with 30% less fuel. You are then saving money on heating your house. Under the scheme this saving is used to repay the loan for the boiler. You get a new boiler, the house heats up faster, it's more comfortable and you aren't out of pocket. So, what's the catch? Firstly, the sums aren't simple. For example, as energy suppliers charge more for the first block of units, a 30% reduction in gas use does not equal a 30% reduction in bills. Secondly, basic loft and cavity wall insulation are unlikely to remain cheap or free under the scheme. Thirdly, interest payable on the loan might be 6 - 7%. If you have money and expect to stay put, you may get a better return paying for the work yourself.

If you are unsure, talk to someone who has already greened their home. SuperHomers host free Open Days in spring and September. They can explain both the benefits and challenges of eco renovation. See the website to book a visit or, for the latest on the Green Deal, see www.superhomes.org.uk/greendeal

Wildlife Watch

16 or so people met on the Green, Upper Heyford, on Monday 16th July, to be introduced to the habits of Swifts by Chris Mason, from the Cherwell Swifts Conversation project, and to discover their nesting places. Despite the cool and somewhat damp evening the summer visitors made an appearance in the grey skies over the church tower, where some have a nest. As the group meandered gently round the village it became clear that there were two other Swift sites in private homes.



Mr Mason would be pleased to hear from anyone who knows of other nesting places of this species. You may write to 'Swifts Project, c/o 6 Cranleigh Close, Banbury, OX16 9NT, or Email mason@cando.eclipse.co.uk It is hoped that there will be a talk about these extraordinary birds, later in the year, in the Reading Room at Upper Heyford.

The Heyfords WI

As our walk on May 3rd had to be cancelled due to the bad weather we re-arranged to go to Charlton on Otmoor on May 24th and this time the weather was kind to us, although the ground was still a little damp the evening was warm and sunny and we were able to see the wild Orchids that we had been hoping would be open. We were also able to enjoy the good weather when we had an evening walk around Kirtlington on June 28th.



Our planned visit to Iron Down Farm had to be cancelled at the last moment but we were fortunate in getting John Whiting to come and talk to us about "Tax for the Elderly" An interesting and informative meeting. We are hoping that we can re-arrange our trip to Iron Down Farm for later in the year.

Our July meeting on 18th will be Pam Newell giving us "A Glimpse of Sicily" Pam has been to visit us before and fascinated us with an insight into Krakow, so this should be another fantastic evening.

A reminder that our meeting on August 15th is open to all who wish to join us, Stephen Griffiths will be telling us all about "The Mary Rose" and her crew. Admission is £2.00 per person and this will include refreshments. We will also be having another open evening on September 19th when you can get tips on how to "Re-invent your Wardrobe" Admission will also be £2.00 per person including refreshments.

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of every month in Upper Heyford Reading Room, starting at 7.30pm. Visitors are most welcome to come and join us for the evening.

Healthy Heyford

Every Monday we walk over fields around the Cherwell Valley. We meet at Upper Heyford Village Hall 10am. Our walks usually take about 2 hours and we walk at a leisurely pace. All welcome.

For either walks ring Jo 07734562028 for more details

School's Out Holiday Activity Programme Marlborough School, Woodstock

Woodstock Partnership of Schools Community Learning

Our Community Education programme for 2012-2013 will be available during the August holiday. We will put copies in libraries, shops, schools around the area but if you still can't find a copy it will be available to download on the Marlborough School website www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk.

If you would like a free copy of our brochure or to book a place please telephone **01993 813592** or email comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk.

As well as all our usual popular classes we will be offering **NEW** classes in:

- Pilates
- Calligraphy
- Singing (Beginners and Choir)
- Dancing
- Creative Writing
- Poetry Appreciation
- Italian for Beginners
- Spanish Next Steps
- Know Your Body, Know Yourself (Ayurveda)
- Upholstery
- Learn to Knit

School's Out Holiday Activity Programme

School's Out is a children's activity programme running every school holiday (except bank holidays) at The Marlborough

School: 23 July-24 August. Activities will include:

- Art, craft and cookery (6+)
- Sports activities (6+)
- Street dance (8+)
- Theatre Workshop (8+)
- Survival (8+)
- Sewing (8+)
- Cooking (8+)
- Adobe Photoshop or Kayaking or Woodwork (11+)
- Glee Club (8+)
- Music and Drama Fiesta (8+)
- Face Masks (8+)
- Sculpture (8+)
- Nail Art (8+)
- Explorer Days (8+)
- Spanish and Italian Days (8+)

Days run from 9:30am-3:30pm, with an optional "chill out" 8:30-9:30am and 3:30-5pm.

Costs are £17.25 per day/£80.50 per week, or for a family ticket (up to four children from the same family) £36.50 per day. There is an additional charge of £4 per child per session for the morning Chill Out and £6 for the afternoon Chill Out (8+). Some activities carry an additional charge towards the cost of materials - see flyer for more specific information and some have a limited number of places. Financial support is available - please contact Jenny Bodinham at The Marlborough School or your child's headteacher, family support worker or health visitor for more information.

We accept childcare vouchers, please ring for information. Courses fill up very quickly so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Mrs Jenny Bodinham

Administrator

Woodstock Partnership Extended Services

Tel: 01993 813592

Thames Valley Police

Crimes of note

Instances of oil thefts are beginning to rise again, please pay attention and be vigilant wherever possible. An unfortunate household in Duns Tew had its tank emptied twice in a week. Lead was stolen from a building in Caversfield and tools stolen from a burglary in Hethe and cigarettes and cash stolen from a burglary at the Post office in Ambrosden .A garage lock was damaged in Hethe and a garage in Piddington was broken into where tools were stolen, more tools were stolen from a vehicle that was broken into in Somerton. Index plates were stolen from a parked car in Fewcott , fuel was stolen from vehicles in Blackthorn and a bike stolen from Fringford.

Neighbourhood Priorities

Metal Thefts have been low this month. The team have been actively stopping scrap metal commercial vehicles to ensure that operators hold the correct Council licences and are operating legally. We will continue to do so and hope that this will continue to deter offenders.

Rural crime is a worry to all. However the team would like to remind all residents that the Cherwell area is one of the safest places to live and work. Cherwell Local Police Area (LPA) has the lowest recorded crime and one of the highest detection rates within Thames Valley Police area. We cannot maintain this without your help, so please report any suspicious activity by calling 101, however minor you think it is! For more information on crime where you live, click on the following link: <http://www.police.uk> and enter your postcode.

Speeding checks were carried out on 5 occasions using the speed indicator device in Chesterton. Only 5 out of 108 vehicles monitored were exceeding the legal limit. The vehicle keepers have been issued with final warnings! Thank you to those of you who were driving safely.

Good news stories

WPC Caroline Brown presented a crime prevention talk to the Warreners Group that meet in Upper Heyford and PC Shaun Sullivan attended Fringford School for a Road Safety and Stranger Danger lesson. Both Shaun and Caroline also gave a general safety talk to year 5 and 6 pupils at Chesterton School.

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the new police non emergency number of 101 which has been in use since November last year, but if your call is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email: BicesterRuralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk - please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. If you have information about crime or Anti Social Behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555111. To view information on your neighbourhood team you can visit the force website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk We can also be followed on Twitter on @tvp_bicester .We will tweet messages to help prevent crime, make appeals or issue warnings and we urge people to follow us on the Twitter service as we can tell you instantaneously about incidents in and around Bicester.

Final date for copy October edition: 18 September

August

August was named after Augustus Caesar. The first of August is the Druid festival of Lammass meaning the loaf. In Scotland this was celebrated with wheat cakes, harvest meals, races and large bonfires. It is also the festival of the Celtic god Lugh which means light-born. Wheatcakes of the first harvest were made and offered to the earth in thanks for the harvest. In Anglo-Saxon the month was called Weodmonath or the month of weeds.

August is the beginning of the harvest and the fields are full of fruits, vegetables, sunflowers and feverfew. The blackcurrants are ripe and filled with four times as much vitamin C as an orange. It is St. Lawrence's day on the 10th of August who is the patron saint of cooks. For cakes to rise and roasts not to burn it is helpful to place a bunch of sage, rosemary, thyme and marjoram above the hearth. August 30th is the feast day of St. Fiacre, the patron saint to gardeners. August is month of harvest fairs. It is a time to do cuttings from roots, gather seeds and prepare cough syrups from horehound and elderberry.

September signifies the seventh month. It is the seventh month from March which was the beginning of the year for the Romans. In Welsh it is called Medi meaning the month of reaping. In Gaelic it is called An Suluine or the month of plenty. In Angle-Saxon it is called Halegmonath or the holy month. It is said that if there is fair weather the first day of September then there will be fair weather for the rest of the month. It is the month for bringing in the rest of the harvest.

September can be a good month for gathering mushrooms. It is a time to pick wormwood, tansy and lavender to make sachets for keeping the moths from clothes. It is the harvest time of grapes, hawthorns, elderberries which are often made into wine to keep the winter spirits bright and the body warm through the winter months.It is also the time to gather nuts and dry fruit. The swallow and martins begin to depart.

The 21st of September is St. Mathews day. St. Mathew is the patron saint of bankers and tax collectors. So make a bouquet of honesty, also called lunaria or the money of the pope, and tie it with a red ribbon to bring good fortune. It is said if St. Mathew's day is bright and clear then the wine will be good and there will be prosperity for the coming year. September 29th iis St. Michaelmas day. It is celebrated with feasts of cooked goose, nuts and roasted apples. Michaelmas daisies are said to bloom for St. Michael's valourous deeds. One saying is that a dark Michaelmas will mean a light Christmas. Hopefully the harvest is in and the fruits and vegetables will give us nourishment through the winter months.

Debra Kaatz



Well done, Bradley Wiggins
Tour de France
Winner 2012

HEYFORD PARK RESIDENTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“To create a vibrant community with a sense of pride, place & purpose”

Email: heyfordpark@btinternet.com

Telephone: 01869 233707

What we do

The committee has an unbiased view and tries to represent the residents of the Heyford Park Estate to the Landlords and Management agents to provide views, grievances and feedback in a calm and professional manner. During this time of uncertainty and redevelopment we will also ask probing questions about the development plans, time scales, prices and updates on what is going on.

The Residents committee attended a quarterly meeting with Dorchester Group and other residential groups from Heyford Park, (Playbus, Cubs, Scouts, Church, Parish Council, etc.) and during these meetings we openly update each other on developments and use this as a spring board to open up issues that have been raised by residents.

The Residents committee also tries to assist the residents when they ask for help by guiding them in the right direction to find out information or we may collate information of individuals who have similar problems and organise a group session with CAB or to have one loud, strong voice to raise a concern to our Landlords. It is this banding together and acting as one which gets us the residents heard.

As well as the disputes and concerns during the redevelopment process we also try to build a sense of community here at Heyford Park and put on a number of social events to try and bring the community together. Last year we put on a Funday and a Christmas Craft Fayre which had great turn out and we would like to do this again as well as our regular events of Bingo and Quiz nights.

Unfortunately funding has been cut this year due to economic reasons this is why events such as Bingo and Quiz nights are self-funding and the prize funds are variable. As for the larger events such as the Funday and Craft Fayre, yes a large proportion of our budget is used on these as we feel that the spirit of community is important. We approach companies and Dorchester Group, D&P and ask them to sponsor the event or items within the event. It's not just your support at social events we are after, its support all of the time to show everyone that Heyford Park is a community and that we want to be heard and that we stick together.

So please show your support any way you can as in the upcoming months there will be lots of changes being planned which will affect all of us.

List of committee members

Jennifer Luff	Chair Person
Richard Henderson	Vice Chair
Paul Fortman	Vice Chair
Sharon Keen	Secretary
Carole Gother	Treasure
Kate Henderson	
Sarah Fortman	
Alf Gother	
Stephen Luff	
Denise Clough	
James Henderson	
Bee Henderson	

All of the committee member can be contacted via our email address heyfordpark@btinternet.com Or if you know them you can always stop and speak to them in the street etc.

Community Notice Boards – Located at various locations around the park and are monitored regularly. Should you wish to put an advert up please contact the committee and your advert can be laminated and put up for a small fee of 50p per week.

Our new illuminated notice board will be going up shortly outside the community centre.

Lost & Found notices are free but any other non-approved notices may be removed without warning.

Business Leaflet Drop – We have our team of distribution personal who visit every house and drop off a copy of the Valley News and Newsletters. Should you wish to advertise your business via a leaflet drop at the same time as one of these distributions, to save yourself walking around the park then please contact the committee for details.

Business Directory – Due to popular demand the committee has recently undertaken a project to form a local business directory of businesses and skills on the park. Should you be interested in being included please contact the committee. Type of entries covered, Handy Person, Gardener, Car Wash, Window Cleaner etc.

Dates for the dairy

Bingo	18 th August	- 8 th September	- 6 th October
Quiz Night		22 nd September	- 20 th October
Funday	4 th August		
Christmas Event			To be confirmed

Karate

Tuesday and Thursday from 6pm in community centre. Please contact Phil Patrick information on 07764182687 or email; philpatrickis@yahoo.com

One month's free trial for all children

Zumba

Wednesday nights 6pm in the community centre. Fee payable. Contact; zumba4u@hotmail.co.uk

Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

MONDAY NIGHTS

Beavers from 5.15pm – 6.15pm

Cubs 6.30pm – 8pm

Contact Akela (Elaine) 01869 232886

Scouts 7.30pm – 9.00pm

For more information please contact Nigel or Candy by email; www.heyfordparkscouts.org.uk

THE HEYFORD PARK FREE SCHOOL



STOP PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

I am delighted to inform you that our proposal to develop The Heyford Park Free School has been given approval by the Department for Education.

This means that we have been given consent for a new all-through Free School that will provide 840 places for pupils aged between four and 19 by 2019, to open in September 2013.

With a strong emphasis on personal development as well as educational attainment, each year will contain two forms of entry, kept to 60 pupils per year group. The school has set high academic goals but will have close links with the local business community, providing its young people with knowledge, skills, mentorship and vocational opportunities to support them in later life.

This is an important milestone for The Heyford Park Free School and we would like to express our thanks to everyone involved for all their hard work. Our local parents and residents have worked tirelessly to provide support for the school and we are confident that we will be able to provide the local community with the choice and opportunity that they want and need for their children.

We plan to hold an information day for parents who are interested in learning more about the Free School later this month and we encourage you to come along and meet the team. Details of the events will be widely publicised and we hope to see you there.

If you have any questions in the meantime, or would like more information on the proposals please visit our website (www.heyfordparkfreeschool.org) or contact me on 01869 238200 or via email at s.mccready@dorchestergrp.com

Beadman & Co

*Chartered Accountants
Steeple Aston*

We offer support to Companies, Partnerships,
Sole Traders, Individuals and Trusts.

Our Services include:-

- Bookkeeping
- Annual Accounts
- Management Accounts
- Tax Returns & Tax advice
- VAT; Payroll; CITDS Returns
- Accounting Software advice & training
- Company Formation & Secretarial services

For more information contact Paul Beadman

Tel: 01869 347650 or 07793 744350

e-mail: paul.beadman@btconnect.com

or visit us at www.beadmanandco.co.uk



Hayes & Smit
Plumbing & Heating Ltd

For All Your Plumbing Needs

Gez Hayes 07960 934 425

Stefan Smit 07546 826 810

hayesmitplumbing@gmail.com

Tony Cowles **TV AERIAL SERVICES**

- **Poor Reception Solved** - Aerials repaired & supplied
- **TVs** - Hung on your wall for you. Also supplied & tuned
- **Extra TV Points** - For aerial and Sky (In HD!)
- **Sky TV** - Also Foreign Language TV

Call Bicester 01869 879111

A part of  **OXFORD AERIALS**

No. 23 School Lane, Upper Heyford



Where's that then?

Try as you might, I doubt you will find it these days as it is now three properties, namely Calebs Farmhouse, Calebs Cottage and Calips Barn.

I remember it as its former address where the entire row was the Hawkins' family home from about 1910, just after Grandad and Gran Hawkins married on Christmas Day, 1909 until aunt Gwen moved out a few years after Gran died in August 1971.

Grandad Frank was 48 when he married 28 years old Rose Golder from Somerton so they had to get cracking to raise such a large family i.e. two lads and five girls. Well, I guess you've got to fill your time somehow with no Tele or 'X' box consoles available. Whatever else they did, they must have got something right as they both lived until 90 years old.

These recollections are from my time living at No. 23 and also after dad, mum and me moved into 26 The Green, next to Boards Farm House, in 1942 when I was five years old. I just could not keep away from No. 23 as there was always so much to do and enjoy. I suspect I may digress from the main theme occasionally so if there is a little story to tell I hope you will forgive me for that.

The entrance was from School Lane pathway through the archway which is still there, along a cobblestone passage to a similar opening at the rear which used to have a wood framed, wire gate fitted. Sometimes, this inner gate was locked as occasionally people took a short cut from School Lane through to Orchard Lane. I guess the present occupiers would not be too pleased if you tried it today. Arriving in the rear garden, you turned left up to the back door, a substantial barrier to entry to the uninvited. There was no need for a door knocker as it had the old fashioned thumb operated latch which I remember was quite stiff and made an almighty clatter when you managed to operate it. Once inside, you turned left into 'the kitchen' which wasn't a kitchen really but was the living room. It was a very welcoming room with a fire always on the go in the open grate with ovens each side. The ovens didn't seem compatible with the open grate, so this room might have been the original Farmhouse kitchen. Always over the fire was a large black, smoke encrusted kettle with a steady stream of white steam from the spout. Hot water was always needed for some reason and the kettle was the only option as boilers and immersion heaters were about as futuristic as the Tardis. Gran always insisted that when tea was made it was 'pot to the kettle' and not the other way round which I guess was to get the water as hot as possible into the pot. It can't have been for safety reasons as you had to carry the kettle everywhere

else hot water was needed. Suspended from the wide chimney opening was a hook and chain which at sometime no doubt had cooking pots hung from it but not as I recall.

Turn right inside the back door and you are at the start of a very long passage almost the entire length of the building. All rooms except the 'Top Room' were on the left with just one large window on the right of the passage looking up the rear garden. Next up to the 'kitchen' was the pantry, a fairly large room, where water and all the foodstuffs were kept and it always felt quite cool in there which was just as well because there were no fridges etc then. Quite the best thing in there was the home made butter made with cream from Rectory Farm across the road. In my day, the farm was run by Frank Hawkins, my second cousin, who was a lovely kindly man and finished his days living in The Passage where Sue Pratley now lives. In the early 1950's, my dad used to sell logs locally getting most of his wood from The Ridings just the other side of the RAF camp. Occasionally he would get stuck with his tractor and trailer, would walk back to the village and then Frank would go back with his heavy horse and pull him out.

Back to that long passage and the room after the pantry was the cellar which was always good fun for a very young lad. There were quite a few steps down to the stone floor which is where the Farmhouse dairy used to be. At the bottom of the front wall was an opening to the outside area and is where the dairy floor was cleaned and flushed away.

Next up was a room which was our family room until we moved out in 1942. When I was born, we didn't have anywhere to live to start with and for the first few months I lived with mum and my grandparents in The Gap at Steeple Aston and dad lived at No. 23. Then we got this room at No.23 and could live as a proper family.

Just by this room against the back wall was the stairway to the bedrooms and past the stairway was another small passage to the 'Top Room'. I can't remember it being used much until my cousin Wilf came of an age when he could use it as his own room. The only event I can remember is it being used for the reception when my aunt Doris married Ken Walker. We have some very good photo's of that event and it looks like everyone scrubbed up pretty good.

Up the stairs I can only remember three bedrooms, one right in front of you, one to the left looking out over High Street and turn back along the landing to Grandad's and Gran's room.

Halfway along the landing was an extremely rickety vertical ladder which led up to the attic, and what a terrific place that was for exploring. More of that later.

With no bathroom or a long walk up the garden to the privy in the middle of the night, the only option in most households was a nice piece of chinaware under the bed affectionately known as 'the guzunder'. So, convicts weren't the only ones slopping out in the morning.

On the inside of the passage rear window was where all the personal hygiene 'facilities' were. It was up to you to make do with what amounted to a bench with a choice of receptacles to use. The water for washing came from the hand pump over the well outside the back door and hot water carried from the kitchen. The only tricky bit was that you had to keep some water by the well to prime the pump shaft or it took ages to get any water out of it. All water for drinking had to come from The Fountain water tap in front of Bunny Row.

So, where did the girls wash and brush up? I can't remember any screens or such so perhaps it had to be when the menfolk weren't around. Maybe it was a bathtub in front of the kitchen fire sometimes but I suspect most people had what we all knew as an 'all over wash'. The only toilet was about 80 feet away up the garden which meant you got to know the garden pretty well even if you weren't the gardener.

Just a little story about some other village water supplies might be worth a mention.

It seems there were several wells with hand pumps along the top of the village but the only ones I can recall was at the rear of No. 23, one in the corner of what was New College Square and another at the left hand end of Shop House in a small stone built enclosure. There was probably one at each of the two pubs but I can't remember them.

Continued next page

The Fountain opposite Bunny Row has a large water tank behind it and a pipe from this tank runs along past the former school and behind the Reading Room to feed the tap outside the cemetery. We exposed the pipe by the Reading Room when constructing the foundations for the new entrance lobby. When I get the chance I tell visitors that it is Holy Water as the spring that feeds the fountain rises in the former Rectory. It was always pleasant water to drink, cool and obviously palatable because the spring was well away from any contamination by farm animals etc.

When the Peace Camp was at the top of Camp Road in the 1980's many of the protesters carried out their personal hygiene requirements at the cemetery tap. At that time I was member of the Parish Council and we needed a volunteer to get in the tank behind the fountain and plug the pipe to the cemetery tap. Guess who?. Yup, you're right first time. So strip off, take a deep breath and bang a plug into the supply pipe. It had the desired effect and they went elsewhere but the supply had to be restored quite quickly as people were upset about having to carry water to the cemetery.

And finally on the water theme, in the late 1940's there was great excitement for the small lads when a large yellow derrick appeared in what was a small paddock where Rising Hill houses now are. They were drilling a water supply bore hole for the eight houses to be built. The houses were occupied in 1950 and they stayed on that supply until the water main was laid down the High Street. I believe there is still some evidence remaining of that borehole behind Pete James' House.

And of course, everyone knew that No. 23 was haunted except for that which is now part of Kim's home.

So, those of you there now, sleep well in your beds if you can until next time.

Whooooooooooooo

Ron Hawkins

SOMERTON NEWS

Somerton's Village History Project Forges Ahead

Three years ago we wrote about our plans to start a Somerton village history project based on a website and a changing display in a restored Fermor Chapel in our church here in Somerton. Under the aegis of the Church Council and with sponsorship from the Parish Council we managed in early 2011 to attract a grant of £49,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Our history project will continue but much of the work financed by this HLF grant has now been carried out, and we hope that friends from across the valley can have a look at our website (www.somertonoxon.co.uk) and come and see physically what has been achieved.

There will be an ideal opportunity for this on Saturday 8 September when we are taking part in the National Heritage Open Day scheme. This coincides with the annual Ride and Stride for the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust. We plan a small exhibition in the Fermor Chapel about Agriculture in the Valley over the centuries. We would love to hear from you if you have any old agricultural implements or pictures of agriculture as it was here fifty or so years ago. Please phone Rosemary on 345439 if you would be prepared to lend these for the display.

You will also be able to see demonstrations and a presentation about the remarkable seventeenth century clock mechanism which we have brought down from the church tower, conserved and mounted on a stand in the Nave of the church.

At various points during the day there will also be demonstrations of bell-ringing, and, if you have always wondered what it would be like to have a go, this will be your opportunity.

There will be refreshments available throughout the day.

Also in September we hope to show the film "Twenty-four Square Miles" about life in the middle of the last century in an area west of the Cherwell which was probably much the same as life in the Valley itself.

In November St James' will be hosting the Valley's Remembrance Service, and the History Project would like to put together a small exhibition in the Fermor Chapel about the men behind the names on our war memorials. It would be good if we could repeat and improve this exhibition each year but initially we probably ought to aim to get just the basic details together (Name, rank, age, date of death, place of burial etc) Much of this information can be accessed online and a good starting place would be the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website (www.cwgc.org). Would you feel able to do some research on the names on the memorial in your parish? It is a job that can easily be shared out between several people.

Our project is going well but we still do not have the people to do all the things which we would like to. If you would like to help in any way do please get in touch with Rosemary Arnold (345439), Alice Bowmaker (345553) or Basil Eastwood (345792). In particular we also need someone to write us a short article about the coming of the Canal and the impact which it has had on the Valley. Cherwell District Council is considering whether to designate the Canal as a conservation area and there is therefore quite a lot of information available via the Council's website <http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=1672>

Could you help us by writing up this material into an article for our website? It would be of great interest for the whole Valley. *Basil Eastwood / Rosemary Arnold*

News from St James's, Somerton

The Jubilee Celebrations

The village's celebrations started with a thoughtful service in the church, and the church was delighted to host many of the other events. It was a notably happy occasion despite (or perhaps because of) some pretty miserable weather. Delicious memories included not only the pig roast and a magnificent buffet but also the teddies' zipwire from the tower, the dancing in the nave and Dave Reed as a teletubby. Congratulations to all concerned.

New Service Pattern

We are introducing a new service pattern. This is needed since Eddie will be on his own for the six months or more from when Paul leaves till we get a new Rector. From the beginning of August until further notice the pattern will be .

- 1st Sunday Morning Prayer (lay led);
- 2nd Sunday Sunday Club (lay led);
- 3rd Sunday Matins with Holy Communion;
- 4th Sunday Family Communion.

Our **Harvest Festival** will be on 23 September at 9.30. There is going to be a shortage of apples this year, but if your prize vegetables are not ready in time for the village show at the beginning of the month we would love to have them to adorn the church.

New PCC Members

At the end of the Jubilee service a very short Vestry meeting was held at which Anne Corner was formally re-elected as churchwarden. On behalf of the congregation the Vicar thanked her for her willingness to stand again.

Finally the PCC is delighted to announce that David Reed has agreed to join the PCC. The PCC co-opted him by acclamation at its July meeting. There is still scope for more volunteers; we could do with one or two more members and of course we need a second churchwarden.

UPPER HEYFORD NEWS

St Mary's Church, Upper Heyford

St Mary's is on a roll! After the great success of the John Donne evening in May, our Church played a wonderful and memorable part in Upper Heyford's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in June. Our celebratory Service re-created – with only a little less pomp and circumstance – the music, readings and rituals of Queen Elizabeth's coronation service, and it was lovely to see so many of Upper Heyford's families entering into the spirit of the day and filling the Church, with their children beautifully dressed as royalty to present the bible, orb, sceptre, spurs, sword and crown!

Our new brass plaque to commemorate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee was unveiled by Jim Smith, who gave a thoughtful and moving speech to mark the occasion. The new plaque sits beneath the brass plaque marking Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It's a real reminder of what a link with tradition and local history our Church is – members of the same parish, over a century apart, remembering, in the same way, the same remarkable event for two Supreme Governors of the Church of England who are also the only British monarchs to have made it that far!

Everyone joined afterwards in a glass or two of champagne and all were agreed that it was a lovely way to start off the Jubilee celebrations for the whole community. Hearty thanks to all those who took so much trouble to make the service such a success and further thanks to all those who contributed so generously to our collection, raising, with Gift Aid, nearly £250.

Finally, a date for your diary. We are enormously privileged that Janet Lincé and her brilliant band of singers, Choros, will be performing in St Mary's Upper Heyford on Sunday 16th September at 6.30. Their concert is called 'My Spirit Sang All Day', and if you come along it's likely that your spirit will be singing for a considerable time afterwards as well – so get the date in your diaries now. It's not to be missed! The concert is free, with refreshments, and there will be a retiring collection in support of St Mary's forthcoming programme of renovations, about which more next time.

The Harvest Festival will be on 2nd September at 9.30am

Andrew Gotch, PCC Secretary

Fridays Aug 3rd & Sept 7th

7.30 pm

Upper Heyford Village Hall

All money prizes & good raffle

Proceeds in aid of the church



Cream Teas

Upper Heyford Reading Room

Every other Sunday 2-4pm on:

5th and 19th August

Patrica Mary Fowler
30/05/1941 - 11/07/2012



On 11th July, Pat Fowler lost the final battle with her heart, fighting to the end but peacefully and dignified.

Diagnosed with an irregular heartbeat at the age of 29, she had a replacement valve fitted in 1985 and when that was found to be faulty in 2000, she had 2 metal valves inserted (replacing the faulty valve and another that had been put under too much pressure) and a pacemaker. This had to be replaced about 2 years ago. Having these and other problems, and also coping so well with her recently deceased husband, John's problems, it is true testament to her courage, bravery and determination that she made it as far as she did, aged 71.

She leaves behind four sons and five amazing grandchildren, all a great credit to her and of course her late husband.

Will sadly be missed by many friends and family far and wide.

R.I.P Pat, now reunited with John

UPPER HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL

As from 1st September 2012 the village hall will be under new management and all bookings from this date are to be made via email on:

vhire@upperheyford.com

The new contact for hiring the hall is
Emma Measures

Parishioners will be delighted with the refurbishment which is still ongoing and when completed the hall will be a wonderful facility for parish and private functions. Our grateful thanks must be recorded to the band of parishioners who are working so diligently on behalf of the community.

The heating costs (no longer controlled by separate cards) is now included within the hire rates and the Amenities Committee and Parish Council is currently considering the level of new charges and these will be published on the web (upperheyford.com) and in Valley News at a later date.

St Mary's Church - floodlighting

- 1st April In celebration of the birthday of the late Mrs Sarah Brain by her daughter, Ann Woski
- 9th April In celebration of Roger Burt's birthday 'with love from Heather'
- 14th April In celebration of Margaret Hardcastle's birthday. With love from Mike'
- 19th April In memory of the late Ben Brain who passed a way two years ago today. 'Love Karen & Sean'
- 20th April In celebration of the birthday of Thomas Lord by Craig and Canary Lord
- 21st April In memory of the late Jan Woski who passed away two years ago today. 'All my love, your wife, Ann'
- 30th April In celebration of the birthday of the late John Smith. 'With love from Sally Anne, Jean, Ian, Emily, Graham and David'
- 21st May In celebration of the birthday of Stewart Prattley. 'As these lights light our church so you light my life. Many happy returns on your birthday Stew. All my love forever, Sueie XX'
- 28th May In celebration of the 92nd birthday of the late Mrs Doris James. 'With love from Maureen, Peter, Debbie and little Grace'
- 30th May In memory of the late Mr Jimmy James, who died in 2004. 'With love from Maureen, Peter, Debbie and little Grace'
- In celebration of the Golden Wedding anniversary of Sheila and Brain Boardman. 'With best wishes from Michelle and Wendy'

Warreners

Members have been shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Pat Fowler. Pat was a hard working member of the club and a great friend to everyone. Despite her health problems over many years Pat continued to have a very active life and was an important committee member of the club. She will be missed enormously as is her husband John who passed away last year.

At our June meeting WPC Caroline Brown enlightened us on the trials and tribulation of being a police officer. Fortunately she was able to assure us that life in the villages is generally very safe, while keeping us both informed and amused. Thank you, Caroline.

On 18th July we enjoyed a delightful meal at Fringford Village Hall courtesy of the 'Scullery Maids' who are always so friendly and hospitable.

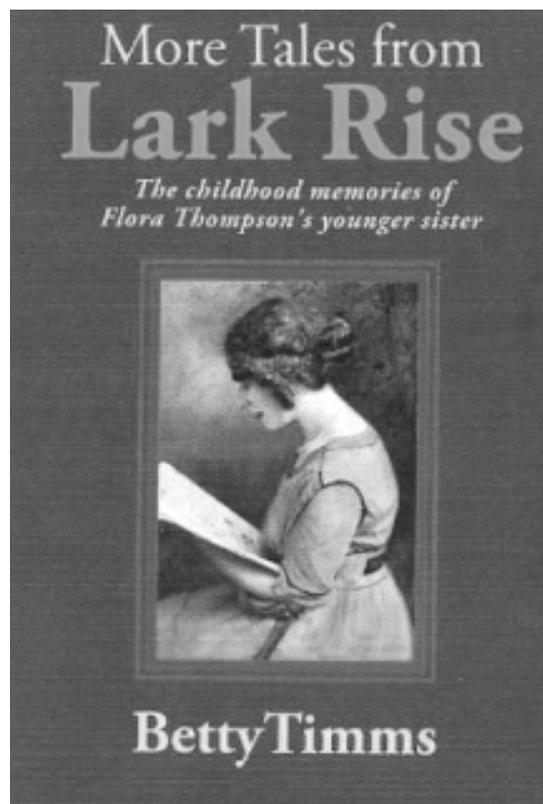
Our August meeting on 8th of the month will be a nostalgic afternoon of 40s, 50s and 60s music presented by Keith Moses, which should be very entertaining.

We will be back in the village hall for the August meeting, which will be much better for space and car parking.

The September meeting on the 12th will be bingo and a social occasion (again in the village hall).

We would very much welcome new members, we meet on the second Wednesday of the month from 2 - 4pm, it is a light hearted social occasion with refreshments for the over 50s.

The Lark rises again



A new book entitled '*More Tales from Lark Rise*' has recently been published and has subsequently been released for sale by independent local bookshops (you will find it at Coles Bookshop in Bicester).

It was written by Flora Thompson's younger sister Ethel Elizabeth (Betty) Timms some 70 to 80 years ago and the typescript of a first draft was not discovered until after her death.

Betty was born in 1886 and like her sister became an accomplished writer. She is best known for a children's book entitled '*The Little Grey Men of the Moor*' which was published in 1926.

This book is rather different as it recalls Betty's own childhood which was spent during the 1890s in the villages of Juniper Hill and Cottisford. She describes in detail schooldays, holidays and celebrations, working days, afternoons in the cottages and evenings in the public house.

Her observations cast fresh light on the daily happenings in the local community and in particular the Timms family life. Betty develops the lives of some very interesting individuals into wonderful cameos and many of the characters can be recognised as those which also appear in Flora's '*Lark Rise*'. The two books complement each other beautifully.

Betty's tales will undoubtedly delight those who were enthralled by '*Lark Rise*' and I am sure that all will be spellbound when they peep into the pin-a-sight that she has so lovingly created for us to enjoy.

Henry Westbury

Deddington Health Centre Transport

Notice to all parishioners in the valley

Have you used the mini-bus transport to the health centre during the last 12 months?

If you have, please let Jack Goodman, Upper Heyford Parish Clerk know on jackgoodman61@gmail.com

Coarse Gardening.

These pieces are written well ahead of publication, of course. I mention this, because on those occasions when I have commented on the weather, going on about the snow and frosts for instance, by some sort of perverse Sympathetic Magic conditions have promptly changed, delivering a mini-heatwave by the time my remarks appear in print, just to make me look foolish. Oh, how I hope it happens this time! I would be quite content to come across as a gibbering idiot if only we could have a week or two of warm, blissful sunshine, with bees in the hollyhocks, deckchairs on the lawn for strawberry teas, and moths fluttering in the honeysuckle on balmy evenings. As it is, we have snails on the hollyhocks, the strawberries have gone mouldy and the honeysuckle blossoms have rotted to a brown mush.

This summer, we are told, has been the worst (so far) since proper records began: cold, bleak, windy, sunless and relentlessly wet. Of course, it means that the hosepipe ban has now been lifted everywhere. Hallelujah! Oh, rapture. Let joy be unconfined. Now we can sluice our cars so that they are all nice and shiny and ready for a fresh coating of mud on their next outing. The summer (*summer?! - duh?*) has been dire, vile, foul, hideous, miserable and depressing. Michael Flanders had it right - *In July the sun is hot/ Is it shining? No, it's not!* You hear people say, 'Oh, well - mustn't grumble', to which I reply, incensed and ankle deep in slugs, 'Why not? We are English, dammit; we are whingeing Poms; it is our God-given birthright to moan, creatively and at length about *everything*, taxes, the government, the Olympics, football, the price of beer and, especially, on a daily basis, the weather. If you can't grumble at this lot, what *can* you grumble at?'

The strawberries - the few that the snails didn't get - have rotted. The raspberries look like going the same way. All the carefully nurtured, bee-friendly open faced flowers I have raised and planted out, the asters, dwarf sunflowers, cosmos and the like have provided yet more mollusc fodder. Delphiniums have been beaten down by torrential rain. Some young marrow plants have disappeared altogether, their places marked only by slime-trails. So what did like it? Well, we have had a bumper crop of gooseberries, which actually ripened, despite the lack of sunshine, and for a couple of days our kitchen turned into a goosegog processing plant - jam, pies, gooseberry icecream and parfait... Pumpkin and marrow plants, if not eaten when small, have become gigantic, sending out tendrilled trails which climb hedges and ambush you at gateways. That lovely purply-blue wild meadow cranesbill has had a bumper year - roadside verges are full of it, as well as the wild patches in my garden. Goosegrass is seeking to take over the world. But it is a Jubilee festival, an Olympic year, the best season Since Records Began, for - *snails*.

Snails. Whatcha gonna do? I have spent so much on snail-bait that Homebase ought to offer me shares. I have tried to be a good boy and have spent extra for the 'Organic' stuff - and therein lies an irritant. Organic my foot. It is, as it says on the drum, basically ferric phosphate. Now, if I remember my 'O' Level Chemistry - actually, to be strictly honest, if I remember Ben Naylor's, because he was better at it than I was and I sat next to him in order to copy - ferric phosphate is about as *inorganic* a chemical as you can get. Not a carbon atom in sight. What they mean is, it doesn't harm the environment (or at least not as much as metaldehyde, which is in the cheap stuff - and which,

ironically, actually *is* an organic chemical). But they can't be bothered to say that, not when there is a convenient buzz word to hand, like *organic*, so actually truth and accuracy go out the window. Which means that the word, which was once a perfectly useful scientific term, now means even less than it did before the 'environmentalists' got at it. Hence the irritation. What's more, the stuff doesn't seem to have that much effect. In fact, it is my belief that some of the little blighters actually like it. I chucked it all over the fruit cage, yet nary a strawberry did we see, and, when picking gooseberries, every so often there was the weird sensation of having taken hold of a very odd goosegog, quite the wrong shape, and hard. When dropped, with a click, into the basin, it would produce little beady eyes on tentacles. Ugh.

An area of the garden which did do well, despite everything, was the grassy strip I mentioned in my last piece, the leafy bit which I decided not to mow. It first produced two cowslip plants we didn't know were there and it then went yellow with dandelions. After that, the grass grew longer and up came numerous clumps of ox-eye daisies, which are flowering still, together with some tall hawkweeds. When the grasses came into flower I identified nine species, plus wheat from bird-seed. Many of the grasses are tall and elegant, waving in the slightest breeze and glinting silvery in the light. Just now, in the second half of July, patches are going a deep violet purple with the flowers of that little labiate herb, self-heal, which is normally about an inch tall in the sward, but can grow to a foot or more if not mown. This strip is visible from our kitchen and is a joy. We are going to keep it as it is, maybe adding a few wild-type bulbs for the springtime. And I shall try to get meadow cranesbill and wild scabious going in it.

It is still raining as I write. I have been reading about the life and times of Henry VIII in the early 1500s. They had a whole series of awful summers then. Harvests failed. People starved. Cardinal Wolsey prayed for the rain to stop. It didn't. The winters were appalling, too. The Thames froze over in most years and in the winter of 1528/29 the sea froze. We are told that all those who saw it never forgot it. Henry was stamping around trying to hook Anne Boleyn at the time and really couldn't care less for the plight of the people. On top of all that, there was plague: the mysterious 'sweating sickness' (causes unknown), where you could be cheerful at breakfast and dead by supper time.

Oh, well. So it could be worse. Mustn't grumble.

Enjoy yourself! Go and sprinkle your lawn! Roger Burt.



D L HANCOCK LTD

Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons

Established 17 years and still independent

BICESTERS ONLY INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTOR

A caring traditional **24 hour service** provided by Mr. Hancock personally



Member of
The National Association
of Funeral Directors

Serving Bicester and all Surrounding Areas

Private Chapel Of Rest

Mercedes Fleet of Funeral Cars



Member of
The Society of Allied & Independent
Funeral Directors



Perfect Choice
Pre-payment plans
available

Tel: 01869 244200 (24 Hrs)
Chapel House, 13 North Street,
Bicester, OX26 6NA.



PRO TEM ADVERT

Call today on
01295 722815
info@roofspaceplus.com

Roof Space Plus

Innovations in your roof

Affordable simple storage solutions
using your existing loft space

Affordable starting from £1000

Easy to use

Clean dustproof storage

Safe to use

We also offer Velux windows & skylights

www.roofspaceplus.com Bloxham
Mill, Bloxham, Oxon

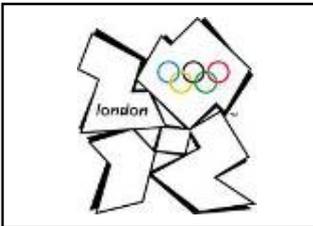


Shellac The 14 Day Manicure has
arrived at last!

On / off like a polish, lasts for 14 days
and zero dry time!!

Available at The Beauty Room

Lisa: 07971 096135
poshpedicures@hotmail.co.uk



SONIT ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Snowdrop Paddock Mill Lane Upper Heyford Bicester Oxon
INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL DOMESTIC
OVER 30YEARS EXPERIENCE

New Installations
Full/Part Rewires

Outdoor Security Lighting
Maintenance and Repairs

ALL WORK CARRIED OUT TO IEE REGULATIONS BS7671

All work guaranteed
Free quotation with no obligation

TEL: 01869 232272
MOB:07802 544509 MOB: 07742 601516

Cuts & Colours

by Carolle, Mobile Hairstylist

Friendly Local Qualified Hairdresser offering the following services in the comfort of your own home

Ladies Cut	£10.00	Gents Cut	£7.00
(with optional blow-dry)	£15.00	Childrens Cuts from	£5.00
Highlights/Lowlights from	£30.00		
Colour Tint	£22.00		
Regrowth coverage	£18.00		
Semi-Permanent Colour	£15.00		

For enquiries or an appointment please telephone Carolle : 07954 053019

Please support your small local businesses

Do you use Bottled Gas? Distributor / Dealer FloGas

Bottled Gas for all your gas requirements – local supplier
Central heating
Mobile Heaters
Patio heaters
Barbecues
Cookers & hobs

For more information or to arrange a delivery please call now on 01869 232048

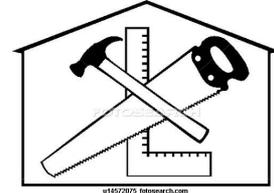
LOCAL HANDYMAN is available for the following:

- Property maintenance including stonework, brickwork, wall repairs, repointing, & timber treatment
- Lathe turning woodwork
- Gardening
- Pest control

Please contact Andrew Grimmett on 232559

R PINKER CARPENTRY

Local tradesman



DOORS LAMINATE FLOORING
KITCHEN CABINETS ETC

Tel: 01869 249300
Mob: 0773 2312277

Traditional Chimney Sweep



Robert S Williams
Tel: 07964 709560

Auction

Baynards Green 1 min
Junction 10 M40

every fortnight

Over 500 lots of anything
that's brought to us!

For more details please call
07984319360

STAPLES BUILDING 52 East Street, Fritwell, OX27 7QF

General Builders
Alterations
Refurbishments
Extensions
New Build

Specialist in conservation work
Planning service/Warranty Scheme

For advice & estimates phone:
Tim Staples Tel/Fax 01869 345592
Mobile: 0705 0011371

Email: staplesbuilding@talktalk.net



Accounts in a mess? Call us
today!

Unit 14, Shipton Road, Milton-under-Wychwood
www.davenportenterprises.co.uk
0800 056 6661



For quality printing & graphic
design at great prices...

Unit 14, Shipton Road, Milton-under-Wychwood
www.davenportenterprises.co.uk
0800 056 6661



For quality web design at
great prices...

Unit 14, Shipton Road, Milton-under-Wychwood
www.davenportenterprises.co.uk
0800 056 6661

BSM

the Best Start in Motoring

Julie Cole ADI: 300185

Your local BSM
Instructor

078660 67497

www.bsm.co.uk

KEN THE PAINTER

Domestic & Commercial
Internal & External

All Aspects of Painting and
Decorating Undertaken

Free Quotations

20 Years Experience

Tel: 01869 345507
Mob: 0794 1626984

5a The Lane, Fritwell, OX27 7QW

Computer Problems?

**Professional Computer & IT Support & Services
for North Oxon's Homes and Businesses**

PC won't boot? Can't connect to the internet?
PC running slow? Considering an AppleMac?
Need to use your PC more effectively?

Require LOCAL On-Site Support or Tuition?

COMPUTER-PRO

Incorporating **AC Elite Computers**

With many 100s of extremely satisfied users, we are known for our fast response and turn-around times, flexible call-outs, reliable support and very friendly, jargon-free, professional customer-orientated service. No call-out charges. Very reasonable rates.

- Disaster/Data Recovery • Virus/Malware Removal
- Hardware Service & Installations • Parts Sourcing
 - Wireless & Networking • Software Upgrades
 - Internet/Broadband Service Configuration
 - Health Checks & Performance Diagnostics
- PC + Mac + Linux • Loan equipment available
- Individual Tuition & Instruction • Purchasing Advice
 - 'Very Green Computing' - 100% parts recycling
- Robust Data Backup/Protection & Security Solutions
 - Functional, intelligent bespoke Website Design

Please call us on:

Office: 01869 352002

Mobile: 07802 315653

Email: pcstuff@computer-pro.co.uk

www.COMPUTER-PRO.co.uk

Microsoft

CERTIFIED
Professional

JOHN HINE & COMPANY

Chartered Accountants

FOR A NO NONSENCE APPROACH FOR THE SELF EMPLOYED AND LIMITED COMPANIES

Self-assessment tax returns
Financial control, including budgets, forecasts
and management accounts
Bookkeeping, payroll and VAT
Purchase and sale of businesses
Business and tax planning
Raising finance
Limited companies formed - Turnarounds

**OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
IN INDUSTRY**

For a complete service telephone

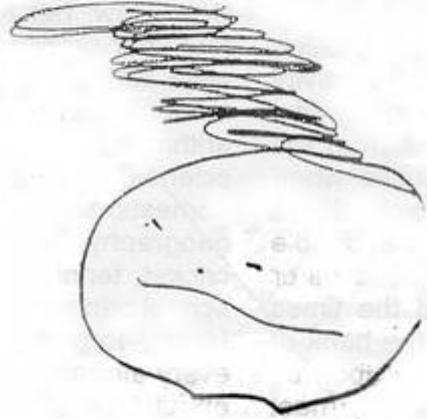
01869 350272

Kirtlington, Oxford – easy parking

NO POMP NO FUSS NO JARGON

**BRILLIANT HAIRCUTS
AT YOUR HOME**
by

TRACY CLARK



- VIDAL SASOON TRAINED
- AWARD WINNER
- NEAR YOU

Perms/highlights £35 – Cuts £15
Telephone: 346768



Alison Graham MAR

Member of the Association of Reflexologists
Alison is a highly qualified and experienced mobile
reflexologist

Balance and harmonise your body with a natural and
relaxing therapy

Reflexology may help:
Stress and sleep disorders
Hormonal imbalances
Digestive complaints – IBS etc
Provide relief from chronic conditions such as MS
Or just have time out to relax and unwind!

Alison is a specialist pregnancy reflexologist
and works with clients at any stage of a pregnancy

Indian head massage and gift vouchers also available

Contact Alison on:
01869 233696 or 07775 507412

Ever Wished You Could Outsource Your To Do List?

- Now You Can!

Precious little spare time?

Founded by Sarah Burrows, Cherry On Top provides a tailored service to take away the pain of getting personal projects off the ground by sourcing and managing proven suppliers, negotiating rates and overseeing your projects through to completion. Whether you are looking at home renovation, external maintenance or planning a celebration - we are here to help.

Top quality at all times

Based in North Oxfordshire and with our wide network of quality suppliers we can source the right solution to complete any project - call us to see how we can help you.

Contact Us

Tel: +44 (0) 7791 563347

Email: info@cherryontop.co.uk

Cherry On Top

Coach House, Orchard Place, Upper Heyford OX25 5JX

www.cherryontop.co.uk

Aspire

danceacademy



RAD Ballet - ISTD Modern - ISTD Tap

Classes every Saturday Term Time

9:00 - 9:30 Pre-School Ballet & Tap (4 yrs)
9:30 - 10:00 Tots Ballet (2 - 3 yrs)
10:00 - 10:45 Pre-Primary Ballet & Tap (5yrs +)
10:45 - 11:15 Modern (6 yrs)
11:15 - 11:45 Grade 1 Tap (7 yrs +)
11:45 - 12:15 Primary Ballet (6 yrs+)

* Class sizes are limited

Classes held at:
UPPER HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL
Somerton Road, Upper Heyford,
Nr Bicester, Oxfordshire OX25 5LB



ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCE
DANCE
REGISTERED TEACHER

Contact: Emma Elliot R.A.D.R.T.S., A.I.S.T.D Dip
Tel: 07834 195180 E-mail: emma.elliott@email.com

Principle Emma Elliot is registered with:
The Royal Academy of Dance, RAD
The Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance, ISTD



LONDON
2012

Best wishes to
all competitors
and spectators

LOCAL REMOVALS AND VAN-MAN HOURLY HIRE



SPEED SOURCE
0800 454558

10% DISCOUNT
WITH THIS
CARD

REMOVALS

Full House Moves
Hourly Van & Man Hire

STORAGE

Dry - Alarmed
Ideal for Household and Archive

SHIPPING

Worldwide Sea & Air
Relocation and Commercial

Unit 28 Balmer Cut, Buckingham Industrial Pk MK18 1UL
email:info@speedsource.co.uk • www.speedsource.co.uk

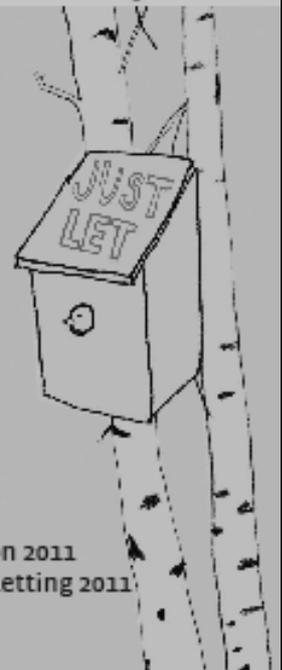
FindersKeepers™



1972-2012
40 years young

Professional service for long-term success

Call Nigel or Claire 01869 329530
Finders Keepers Letting & Property Management



Winner - Sunday Times Best Innovation 2011
Winner - Sunday Times Best Student Letting 2011

North Oxford
01865 311011

Central Oxford
01865 297999

Bicester
01839 329530

Witney
01993 700150

Bricks & Mortar
01865 302350

Inspired
Investment
01835 302308

Engineers Office:
22B Banbury Road
Oxford OX2 7BY

East Oxford
01865 200012

Abingdon
01235 535454

Banbury
01295 276766

Decorum Interiors
01865 302339

FK Student Letting
01865 260111

Registered No: 1322165
VAT No: 196172148



"Finders Keepers must have an ideas factory in one of its branches." Sunday Times Awards Judges' Comments



YOUR OUTSTANDING AWARD
WINNING RESTAURANT

Bengal Spice Restaurant

&

Take Away

Authentic Bengali Cuisine

Fully Licensed
Air-Conditioned

New Street (High Street)
Deddington, OX15 0SP

Open 7 days a week including
Bank Holidays

On A4260 between Kidlington and Banbury

Tel: 01869 337733/337799
www.bengal-spice-restaurant.com



SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL DECORATION



exterior house painting



bespoke murals

EVERY FORM OF
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
PAINTING & DECORATING
TEL: 01295 257785
www.noahsarkpainting.co.uk

Do you know someone that needs care?

Our Oxfordshire team offers specialist Live-in Care, enabling those who wish to remain within the comfort of their own home the opportunity to do so.

Giving one-to-one support our Live-in Carers are able to balance independent living with bespoke care needs by assisting with:

- personal care
- companionship
- housekeeping

Our award-winning service is rated Excellent by the Care Quality Commission.

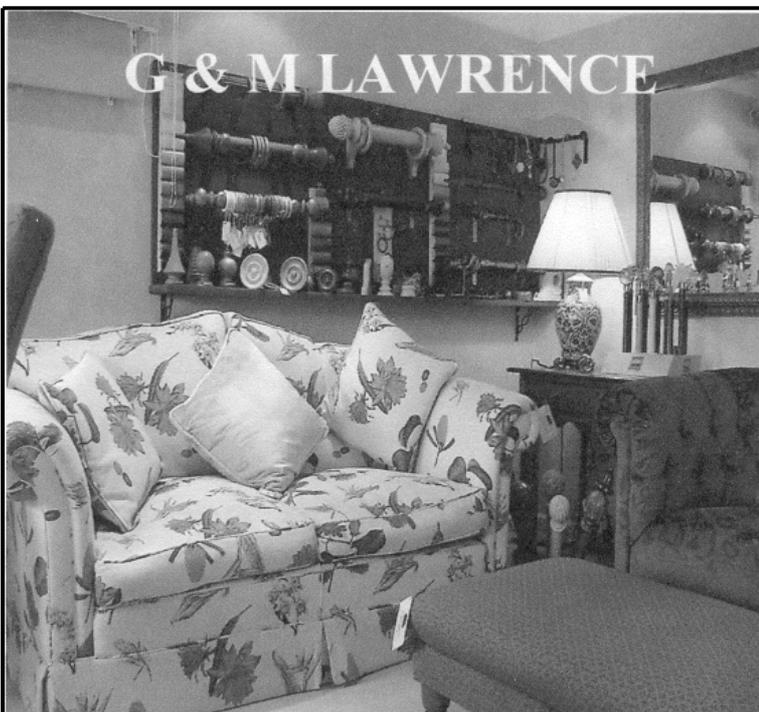
Find out how we can help you, please call 0808 180 1017 or visit www.helpinghands.co.uk




Helping Hands
Established since 1989



G & M LAWRENCE



Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm Saturday 9am to 1pm

SHOWROOM / WORKSHOP

*Specialists In Antique & Modern
Re-Upholstery*

*Quality Hand-Made Curtains
Pelmets & Blinds*

Tailor-Made Loose Covers

*Designer Fabrics
Wallpapers & Paints*

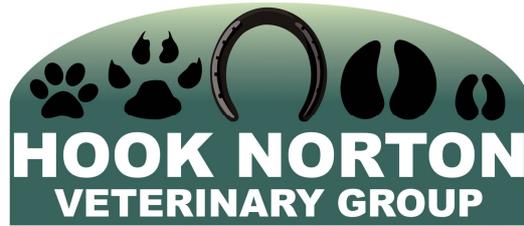
VISIT OUR CRAFTSMEN AT WORK

*Buckingham Road Industrial Estate
8d Boundary Road Brackley NN13 7ES*

01280 704437

Free Estimates & Design Service

www.gmlawrencefurnishings.co.uk



White Hills Surgery, Sibford Road, Hook Norton, Banbury, Oxon OX15 5DG

FOR ALL YOUR VETERINARY NEEDS

Equine, Farm & Accounts Departments Tel: **01608 730085**

Small Animal Appointments & Enquiries Tel: **01608 730501**, Fax: **01608 730439**

Branch Surgeries:

Spendlove Centre, Enstone Road, Charlbury Tel: **01608 811250**

Heritage House, St Thomas Street, Deddington Tel: **01869 337732**

www.hooknortonvets.co.uk

TOBIN JONES ^{LT}_D
LETTING AGENTS

TOBIN JONES PROPERTY is a family run business with over 25 years specialist letting and management experience in the area. With a staff of over twenty, we are small enough to be flexible but large enough to manage the biggest tasks effectively.

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE MORE RENTAL PROPERTY FOR OUR AWAITING, REGISTERED TENANTS!

If you are thinking about letting your property, or need to find a tenant quickly contact us today for free valuation.

WE OFFER A RANGE OF SERVICES FROM TENANT LOCATION TO FULL LETTING & MANAGEMENT

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY WE ARE OFFERING OUR FANTASTIC LETTING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICE AT 9.75%

WWW.TOBINJONES.COM

Pevensey House, 27 Sheep Street, Bicester OX26 6JF T: 01869 248254 F: 01869 253394
E: info@tobinjones.com

The Parishioners of
UPPER HEYFORD

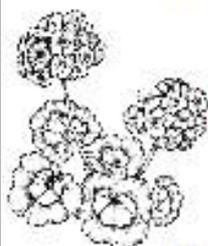


present their

**2012 Flower &
Produce Show**



to be opened by Mrs Mary Page
at 2.00 pm on Saturday, 1st September
at the Village Hall & Marquee
on the Upper Heyford Recreation Ground,



A Variety of Stalls, including:

Childrens' & Adults' Sports & Games, Tombola,
Tea & Cake, Raffle, Quizzes, Local Art Display,
Face Painting, Ice Cream, & more..

In the morning, *harvest weather permitting*, there will be a
Ploughing Match featuring Vintage Tractors & Ploughs in the field.
Guided Allotment Walk at 3pm. Prize-giving & Raffle Draw at 4.30.

Show closes at 5.00 pm, to be followed by
an **EVENING PARTY** with Music at 7.00pm

Bring your own Food & Drink and while away a lovely
evening, listening & dancing to a great band.

Grown-ups £3.00, Under-16s FREE

YOUR FLOWER SHOW NEEDS YOU!

Entries invited from *everyone* for:
Flowers, Vegetables, Fruit, Cookery,
Crafts & various Childrens' classes

PLEASE COME & SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE SHOW:

*Donations for Raffle & Tombola prizes, and cakes
& plants to sell would be very much appreciated.*

*We always need extra helpers, if you can spare
some time. Please contact Mary on 232722 or Jo on 232291.*