

# Valley News

October 2015

No 221

News & Views from the Cherwell Valley



Oxfordshire Federation of WI's. InSTITUTE banners, including The Heyfords, were paraded from Christ Church Meadow to the Cathedral, a unique and stirring sight.  
Jill, Veronica & Elizabeth with the Heyford WI banner (made by Janet Lawrance)

**Valley News is delivered FREE to every household in:**

**Caulcott – Heyford Park – Lower Heyford - Somerton – Upper Heyford**

Editor: Ian Lough-Scott, The Rickyard, Upper Heyford, Bicester OX25 5LH

Telephone: 01869 232788 Email: [ianloughscott@btinternet.com](mailto:ianloughscott@btinternet.com)

Treasurer: Catherine Mullineux, 9 Eady Drive, Heyford Park, Upper Heyford, Bicester OX25 5TU

Telephone: 01869 233006 Email: [cmullineux@btinternet.com](mailto:cmullineux@btinternet.com)

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## CHERWELL VALLEY BENEFICE

<b>The Cherwell Valley Benefice in the Diocese of Oxford <a href="http://www.cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk">www.cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk</a></b>		
Rev Stephen Griffiths	01869 222572	steph78griff@hotmail.com
Rev Geoff Price	01869 346262	geoffandhope@yahoo.com
Mr. John Hine (LLM)	01869 278565	
Benefice Office	01869 233687	administrator@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk

### Church Services in the Valley

	Ardley St Mary's	Fritwell St Olave's	Lower Heyford & Caulcott St Mary's	Somerton St James	Southern Ann to the BVM	Upper Heyford St Mary's	Heyford Park HPC
18- Oct	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Family Communion	11:00 Morning Prayer	09:30 Matins & HC	08:30 1662 HC	9:30 Morn- ing Prayer	11:00 Contem- porary Worship
25- Oct		400 Even- song	11am Benefice Confirmation Service with +Colin at St James Somerton			08:30 1662 HC	
1- Nov	08:30 1662 HC	11:00 Family Worship	11:00 1662 Commu- nion	6pm ALL SOULS Benefice Re- membrance service	11:00 Matins	9.30am Trad lang Commun- ion	11am Commun- ion
8- Nov		08:30 1662 HC	9:30 Remem- brance Service 10:45 at Upper Heyford War Memorial	9:30 Sunday Club	10:45 Remembrance Service	10:45 War Memorial	11:00 Contem- porary Worship
15- Nov	9:30 Morning Prayer	11:00 Family Communion	11:00 Family Communion	09:30 Matins & HC	08:30 1662 HC	9:30 Morn- ing Prayer	11:00 Contem- porary Worship
22- Nov	9:30 Family Worship	4:00 Evensong	11:00 Family Com- munion	9.30 Family Com- munion	11:00 Said Morning Prayer	08:30 1662 HC	11am Baptism Service

**29th November 11:00 Benefice Service – St Mary's Ardley**

#### BENEFICE OFFICE

572 Brice Road, Heyford Park, OX25 5TE Tel: 01869 233687

**NEW OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 – 2.30**

**Tel: 01869 233687**

To book a wedding or baptism Tel: 01869 233687 [administrator@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk](mailto:administrator@cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk)

[www.cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk](http://www.cherwellvalleybenefice.org.uk)

Outside office hours please leave either a telephone or email message or in the case of an emergency please telephone 01869 233249 or 07889 444 616

Dear Friends,

On the 9th September 2015 Queen Elizabeth the Second became the longest reigning monarch in British history. Her Majesty has another 19 years to go in order to beat the record for the world's longest reign, that of Sobhuzu II, king of Swaziland from 1899-1982. But as the prayer above suggests, the success of a reign cannot be measured by its length alone. Certain qualities have endeared the Queen to us, not least her ability to rise above political differences and represent our nation to the world. Over the last 63 years the Queen has exemplified the delicate balance required to make a constitutional monarchy work. Great power is still invested in the Crown, but it has to be used with insight and restraint.

In the prayer the link is made between the example of Jesus Christ and the nature of leadership. In Jesus Christ we see someone who commands the highest honour and has ultimate authority in all things, yet demonstrates that unique power by living his life as a servant.

Two passages of Scripture come to mind:

**Philippians 2:5-8**

'Jesus Christ, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness...'

**John 13:4-5**

'Jesus got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.'

These texts, and many others like them, demonstrate how revolutionary the Christian message was to the world in which it emerged. Many of the people who encountered Jesus could not believe that someone who spoke for God, let alone claimed to be God, could be so 'down to earth.' His humble beginnings and 'ordinary' early life amongst the villagers of Nazareth did not square with expectations of a Messiah who would triumph over Roman domination and enable Israel to become a world power. Jesus had to correct his disciples who through that authority meant domination. His journey to the cross seemed to many to undermine any claim to be imbued with divine power. Yet this would prove to be the greatest demonstration of servant leadership. In the giving over of his life, he released the power that would bring hope and restoration to the world in every generation. Most leaders seeking to change the world for the better would see their death as a failure. But Jesus taught that in the giving over of one's life in service, and perhaps through the ultimate sacrifice, a life-giving gift can be shared with the many. The seed that 'dies' in the ground in the spring is multiplied many times over by harvest time.

It soon became clear in the teaching of Jesus that he was not looking for an army of martyrs, although some Christians have been called to that particular act of witness. No, the Christian message has spread largely through daily acts of service, often unseen and unrecognised, by countless people trying to use the everyday circumstances of life to make a difference. And through the gift of the Holy Spirit people are still equipped by God to use whatever power and authority they have to serve others.

The Queen and her successors still have the ability to inspire others to serve in a Christ-like way just as anyone in a visible public role has the potential to influence others. And in the same way we all have a sphere of influence, whether in the home, in the workplace, in our neighbourhood, amongst our friends or in the church. Each day is filled with opportunities to be Christ-like.

The prayer ends with another seemingly paradoxical thought: that one day the servants of God will reign with Christ. It's not that sacrificial living earns us a future reward, but that one day servant leadership will be recognised for what is really is: the wisdom of God in action.

With all good wishes in Christ, Stephen

## A Prayer for Her Majesty the Queen

On the occasion of Her Majesty becoming the longest reigning monarch in British history

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ exchanged the glory  
of a heavenly throne for the form of a servant,  
we thank you that you have given  
Elizabeth our Queen a heart to serve her people,  
and have kept her devoted in this service  
beyond all who were before her:  
encourage us by her example to serve one  
another, and to seek the common good,  
until you call us all to reign with  
Christ in your eternal kingdom.  
Amen.



## WHAT'S ON IN THE CHERWELL VALLEY

### ORLANDO JOPLING'S CELLO PILGRIMAGE

Acclaimed cellist Orlando Jopling playing the Bach Cello Suites

We are very fortunate that Orlando has agreed to return to Somerton to give us another magical evening of Bach's soulful and virtuoso cello music played by candlelight

**SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2015 at 6.30pm**

**ST. JAMES'S SOMERTON**

**Bach Suites for Solo Cello in G major, C minor & D major**

**Wine & Canapés will be served in the interval**

*"A truly magical evening and we are still glowing with pleasure". "Very moving".*

**Tickets in advance from September: £15 (under 16 free)**

**For more information contact Jill Burton on 01869 345147**

**dandjburton@btinternet.com**

**www.cellopilgrimage.co.uk**

### Christmas is Coming

*The next issue of Valley News will be published early in December*

*If you would like to place a Christmas advertisement please contact our treasurer, Catherine Mullineux at*

*[cmullineux@btinternet.com](mailto:cmullineux@btinternet.com) or on 01869 233006 for a full price list and order form.*

*Prices are from £6.75 to £35.00 depending on the size of your advertisement.*

*We will need to have your order and the copy you would like us to use by mid-November.*

**Very many thanks for the donations received from individuals following the appeal for financial support for the magazine. It is a great help and will see the magazine through the next few editions at least.**

*Catherine Mullineux, treasurer*

### Memorial Concert for Rodney Allan Souldern Church Choir

will be performing a selection of music from Rodney's life including Mozart and Gilbert & Sullivan

**7:00pm Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

**St Mary's Church, Souldern**

*Refreshments will be served during the concert*

For tickets contact:

**Clive Smith on mob: 07783 367258 home:**

**01869 346795**

Email: [clive.r.smith@btinternet.com](mailto:clive.r.smith@btinternet.com)

Or any choir member

There is no charge for the tickets but donations would be welcome

### Pop-up Cafe

**St Mary's Lower Heyford**

**Thursday mornings 11am—12.30pm**

A welcoming place to meet together over a cup of fresh coffee and home made cakes. Tea, soft drinks and sometimes sandwiches are available.

*Open to all and free of charge*

*Donations towards running costs gratefully received*

**The Heyford Branch of the British Legion**  
 will be hosting another talk by Bill King  
**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October**  
**The Reading Room, Upper Heyford.**

**7 for 7.30 start**



**The subject will be the last two years of the First World War.**

Anyone who has been to one of Bill King's talks will know that he is a wonderfully lucid and knowledgeable speaker

Light refreshments

Donations to RBL would be most welcome

**Souldern Community Market**  
 9:00am-12:00noon  
**CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**21<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**  
 (in the Church)

Tel: 01869 345931 or  
 email: [Barbara.a.mcgary@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.a.mcgary@gmail.com)  
 for further information or to book a stall

**Somerton's**  
**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**  
 will be held on  
**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December**  
 in the Barnes Memorial Hall

**LEST WE FORGET**

It is a time to remember the tragic consequences of the Great War and its impact on the Cherwell Valley as we recall the loss of three young men from the village of Upper Heyford in 1915

Private Fred Wilson 2375 Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars, died Friday 16 July 1915 aged 18  
 Cemetery: St Sever Cemetery, Rouen Seine-Maritime Grave: A. E. 31

Private ACB (Benson) Golder 10029  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, died Sunday 26 September 1915  
 Cemetery: Chocques Military Cemetery Pas de Calais Grave: I. E. 9

Company Sergeant Major Tom Hudson DCM 6970  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry  
 Died Saturday 25 September 1915 aged 32  
 Cemetery: Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Quinchy Pas de Calais Grave: II. E. 5

***Taken from the Regimental Chronicle***

Tom Hudson and Benson Golder both perished at the Battle of Loos, taking part in a subsidiary attack at Givenchy. The Regimental Chronicle states that on 25<sup>th</sup> zero hour was fixed for 6am, and that, for 10 minutes previous to that, gas (officially called "Accessory Cylinders") and smoke would be discharged from our front trenches. Colonel Eden remarks in his diary "When the cylinders were opened the gas hung frightfully and many of our men were gassed". Although the attack made some progress, by 11am the enemy, by the expenditure of a plentiful supply of bombs had driven the Company back to its original positions. Colonel Eden's diary describes the day as very disappointing, except for the good news from the south – Loos taken. He goes on to state: Our attack was subsidiary and had no backing, but we had hoped to occupy the German front system. Casualties: 9 officers and 250 men. 'A' Company scarcely counted now, so heavy had been its casualties. 'C' Company had also lost a number of men including Sergeant-Major Hudson, who, so far, had been through the war without a scratch.

***The matter of fact language of the Regimental Chronicle is chilling, the loss of men simply a statistic!***

*Upper Heyford Historical Society*

## What's going on at Cherwell District Council?

### Councillor Calling

Activity is beginning to restart after the summer break – a good or bad thing depending on your view of local government! The absolutely final stage of the **Local Plan** was achieved when the deadline for legal challenge passed without a murmur. It then received a powerful boost from the Inspector's report decisively rejecting one of the Gladman applications for housing adjoining Kirtlington.

Much of the argument had centred on Cherwell's **Five Year Housing Supply**, without which, you'll remember, developers can trump the Plan. CDC claimed to slip over the line with 5.1 years but this was vigorously challenged on two grounds. Firstly, the details of precisely which houses could be delivered when: our crystal ball versus theirs! And then our figures were based on a 5% margin for error whereas councils which persistently fail to reach their targets have their task made more impossible with a 20% penalty: we argued that the new, higher targets imposed by the Inspector on the local Plan had only existed for a few months so our record could not be judged to have failed against these. I'm very glad to report that the Inspector agreed on both counts so our supply is officially 5.1 years. Phew! Having paused for an ever so brief sigh of relief, we now have to pedal furiously to ensure it stays ahead of the target, which is by no means easy.

Help might come from an unlikely source – **Woodstock**. As you know, this is in West Oxfordshire District and so has never featured in our plans. However, Blenheim Estates have applied for a massive 1,600 house extension, 1,200 of whose homes would cross the boundary into Shipton-on-Cherwell parish, in Cherwell District, not in our Local Plan and so a totally unexpected windfall boost. Although hugely unpopular in Woodstock, in principle it seems akin to our long standing policy of focusing growth on market towns such as Bicester, Banbury and, stretching the definition, Kidlington – so I suppose not thinking of Woodstock shows a failure of imagination! Anyway, all that is before I've seen the application and all the work that goes into assessing it for our next Planning Committee so, at this stage, I can't say whether this particular scheme has merit or not. All that is certain is that the meeting will be crowded, emotional and very lengthy...

Given that our fate depends on maintaining that narrow edge over the 5 year supply, which could evaporate overnight, regardless of the number of planning permissions granted, in a housing market downturn simply because developers, sensibly only building what they can sell, turn off the taps, we still need to push on with the **Neighbourhood Plan**. If it can be achieved (and 11 parishes in one Forum is the most ambitious anywhere), we will have an additional barrier against unplanned development even if the Local Plan is stymied by lack of housing supply. This involves a lot of work which, inevitably, is falling to a small numbers of dedicated folk: we know who you are – thank you!

Meanwhile, in Bicester, the last Planning Committee approved an exciting project of a new "**Studio School**". This name translates into a 14-19 year old technical and vocational college for 300 pupils under the wing of Bicester School (formerly Community College, in case you blinked and missed the change). Unfortunately, the plan involves nibbling away a corner of the school's playing fields (facilities which will be rearranged within the field) and this requires the consent of Sport England. As their valuable remit is to protect playing fields, this is never given willingly so even a modest reduction like this with huge offsetting benefits will probably hold this up for ages – more's the pity as this will usefully fill a gap in provision in our fast expanding market town.

The break's over and it's still all Planning: nothing's changed!

**James Macnamara**

### **We urgently need faster Broadband!**

I was disappointed to hear that Gigaclear have suspended or cancelled the planned upgrade to fibre broadband for the Heyfords, Caulcott and Middleton Stoney. The service we have now from BT is so slow and primitive, and often goes down to completely unusable speeds. Is there anything we can do to help Gigaclear get the funding? Perhaps some government Broadband initiative? In the end this upgraded service would be essential to encourage small or home business in the area and would certainly help property prices for all of us. Further as residential customers we are stuck with the TV services of expensive organizations like Sky but with fibre optic broadband we could have much cheaper streaming services like Netflix.

Maybe someone can enlighten me with insight as to why Gigaclear cancelled or postponed, or what we can do to get the initiative back on track?

Lewis Aaron, Caulcott

## Coarse Gardening

A clever and creative friend in Oxford quite often chairs meetings of people of our generation and he has established a rule - before getting down to business, you are allowed **one** minute to discuss **one** ailment, and that's it. Otherwise, half the meeting time is lost in moans about aches and pains. So, let me tell you about my big toes. Arthritis in the joints means that they won't flex without pain, so heavy digging is not much fun, and even walking - What? How do you mean 'Time's up'? Oh; you'd rather not hear about my rotten toes. I see. Well, don't expect any sympathy about your knees. Tough.

Autumn seems to be upon us again, whether we like it or not, and that means bulb planting. If I put on my big, stiff boots I can still dig holes without bending my toes, so I have ordered various small daffodils to go under the shrubs which are now the main features of this garden. Also, I am having a go at native bluebells again. There is a huge old apple tree halfway down the garden, so huge it may well have been planted soon after the house was built in 1842 (and a giant old pear tree to go with it). It casts a good deal of deep shade, particularly on its north side, which is ideal for bluebells, and I would love to establish a 'pool' of them there. Normally, the best way to buy bluebells is 'in the green', i.e. sprouting bulbs dug up by the vendors in the springtime. I tried this once, when we were first here. The bulbs arrived in good order and I planted them without delay, but we then hit one of those late March/early April droughts, which happen surprisingly often, and very few of the bulbs survived, as they need a lot of moisture and this place is too big to go around watering things every day. This time I am buying naked bulbs in the autumn in the hopes that, if I get on with planting them promptly, they will cope with having been dug up and sold. I say 'naked' advisedly, because bluebells are atuncate bulbs, which means that they have none of that brown, papery covering of old leaf-bases which you see on daffodils or tulips and therefore they tend to dry out and die rather quickly; which is why they are best sold in the green; provided you water them in.

Please note that the wild bluebell is a protected species and it is illegal to dig them up from woodland, even by the landowner. The ones on the legitimate market are grown in fields, usually in the fens. To my mind, the bluebell is one of our most beautiful wild flowers and is a real national treasure. 'Blue' is a totally inadequate description. The bells are a wonderful blend of various shades of blue and purple and violet, very reminiscent of stained-glass colours. Get the sunlight shining through them and they are absolutely enchanting and their scent is superb.

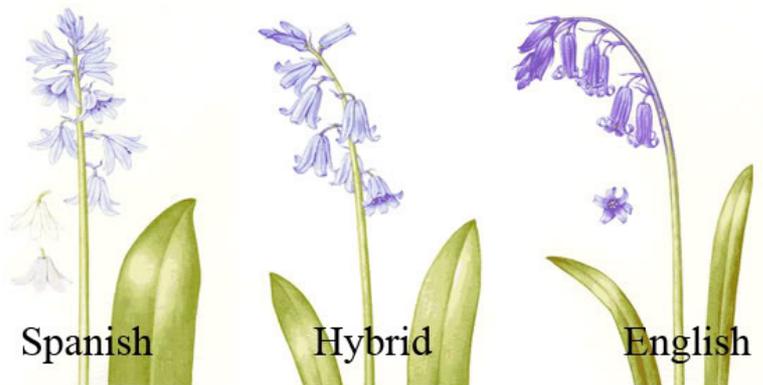
A cause for concern is that there is another kind of bluebell which is widely grown in gardens (and bulbs of which are sold in garden centres) - the Spanish bluebell. This species is stouter and more vigorous than our native one and, unfortunately, will inter-breed with it. The way to tell which one you have is to note the arrangement of the bells on the stem: in the British bluebell, the stem curves over at the top and the bells all hang down on one side. The Spanish bluebell has a thicker, more upright stem, with the bells arranged all around it, and sometimes they are upward facing. Also, the Spanish bluebells really are blue, an unsubtle sky blue, unless they are white or a rather muddy pink, as is often the case, and they have much broader, heavier leaves. They prefer to grow in the open, unlike the British bluebell, which needs quite dense shade. The hybrid between the two will also thrive in shade, which means that it is becoming common in the wild and mucking up the genetics of our native species. Bluebells of all descriptions grow readily from seed, flowering in the second or third year.

In this country, they are associated with deciduous woodland on heavy, slightly acid soils, and British bluebell woods are justly famous internationally. There isn't really anything like them anywhere else. In fact, the bluebell is practically a marker plant for ancient woodland. If you see a hedgerow with bluebells under it, you may be pretty sure the hedge is a remnant of an old wood which has been cleared, especially if the hedge itself is a wide mix of different shrubs, not just mainly hawthorn and sloe. Bluebells are often to be found with red campions, white stitchwort and wild garlic as companion plants, with crosiers of new bracken coming through among them - a wonderful sight. (Incidentally, wild garlic is called ramsoms in the north, and the place-name and personal name 'Ramsbottom' refers to a place at the bottom of a valley where ramsoms grow. It is nothing to do with the back end of a sheep. Not a lot of people know that). In upland areas, bluebells will grow in more open sites, especially if there is bracken to shade them. I have seen them making a band of blue at a certain height on treeless Welsh mountainsides, and on the Continent also they are more of a montane species, although there are bluebell woods along the western seaboard, though not as good as ours, of course.

How on earth we failed to make the bluebell the National Flower of the UK beats me. It has long been considered the nation's favourite wild flower and is the logo for the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland. As it is, we have the Tudor Rose as our national flower, even though it isn't really a flower at all, just an emblem - a design, an heraldic device. A better choice would have been the wild dog rose, I think, if we *must* have an English rose instead of a bluebell.

I have a notion that, if I can find shady places under some of our larger shrubs, wild bluebells would mix well with small daffodils, like Jet Fire and February Gold. They (sometimes) flower at much the same time. In sunnier spots I propose to try the same trick with common blue grape hyacinths, which are also deliciously scented and have the extra merit of being wonderfully cheap when bought wholesale. All this is dependent, of course, on the proper functioning of my toes. Have I told you about them? In detail? Oh, well.

Make the best of the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness. I hope all goes well with you. As the Spanish say, may no new thing occur.  
Roger Burt.



Spot the difference and admire the lovely English variety

## Autumn

I love the smell of this time of year of the decaying leaves and soft mists. It is a festive hedge row time with the wild rose hips, hawthorn berries, sloes, blackberries, holly berries, ivy berries, briony berries and elder berries. All these contain lots of vitamins and especially vitamin C. It is the time to plant winter cabbages, leeks, radishes and salads. The Michaelmas daisies, mullein and yarrow flowers join the rose in one final fling before the frost comes to sweeten the earth. An ointment of yarrow is said to cure wounds and inflammations as well as a bald head. Between the sunny days and wet weather the mushrooms emerge. Rosemary often flowers again at this time giving the bees a final feast. With the wild winds of November the bees, wasps, field mice, moles and toads curl up into hibernation. Rosemary is good for strengthening memory, fortifying the heart, strengthening sight, easing pain and helping with a cold. I love the frost on spider's webs this time of year. The thread of a spider is so fine that an eighth of an ounce of thread could stretch from London to Edinburgh. It is said that when the garden is cut back, the last herb stalk should be saved as it harbours the spirit of the garden. It can be hung by a ribbon somewhere to bless the next crop.

There are several festivals this time of year. On October 31 is All Hallows night which is the end of the Celtic year. On this night lanterns carved from turnips were left in front of the house to honour the dead and ask them to protect the house for the next year. Often bread and wine were left for the fairy creatures so they would not cause mischief. The next day is Samhain or the Celtic new year. At this time the fruits and crops were blessed and the dead remembered. Cakes were baked and offered to the poor. It is the time when Orion once again appears in the sky. At the beginning of November is the day to St. Francis who was a lover of all creatures on the earth. It is said a part of the garden should be planted to honour him. Some of his favourite plants are juniper, myrtle, angelica and fig trees. St. Andrews day is at the end of November and he is the patron saint of fishermen.

When doing an ointment or herbal preparation the ancients believed in the five rules. The first was that the person to be healed must believe they could be healed. The second was that anything used in the remedy must be asked for and thanked. The third rule was that any blessing said should only be said silently or it would lose its effectiveness. The fourth was that blessings should be handed onto others freely. The fifth was that no payment should be sought.

Debra Kaatz



## Centenary of Upper Heyford Airfield

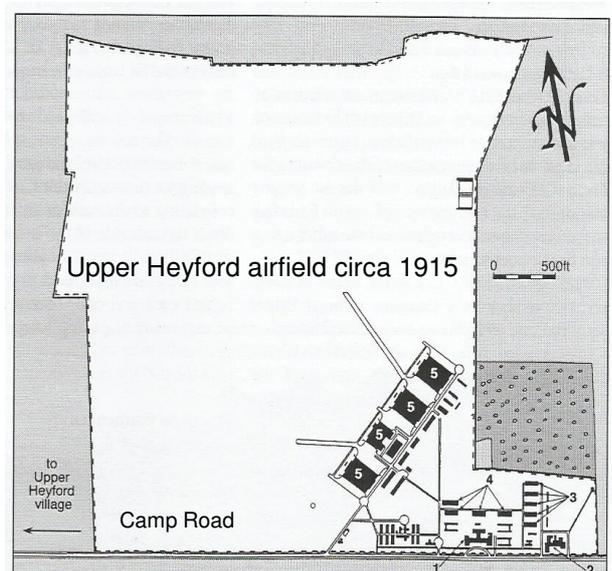
The late Stan Edmunds enjoyed recalling the Spring of 1915, when as a 12 year old lad he was helping his father Frank Edmunds in the fields at the top of the village. An incident occurred which he never forgot! A British Colonel came striding across and ordered them off the land which he said had been compulsory purchased by the Ministry of Defence. Frank pointed out to the Colonel that he took his orders from farmer Edmund Greaves, not the army, and if he was unhappy with them working in the field he should take the matter up with Mr Greaves.

The Colonel apparently did just that, only to find Frank and Stan the next day still working on the land. It was with much amusement that Stan would describe how irate the Colonel became and told them in no uncertain terms to leave the field and no matter what Mr Greaves said, never to return.

Flying from Upper Heyford began in the summer of 1915 amid the construction of wooden hangers, a wooden watch hut on short stilts resembling a water tower and miscellaneous wooden support buildings and Nissen huts. The aerodrome at that time covered an area of only 160 acres.

Key: 1 Officers Mess, 2 Institute, 3 Airmens huts, 4 Officers Quarters, 5 Aircraft repair sheds.

*Upper Heyford Historical Society*



## Poetry corner

The East Anglian coastline, which we have visited often over the years, is a fascinating region, very varied, some of it with flat salt marshes extending out to distant dunes, the lonely haunts of sea birds and basking seals, or reedy river estuaries, and other areas of steep shingle banks with deep water just off-shore, where hardy men troll for cod with enormous fishing-rods. Apart from at Cromer, where there is chalk, the low cliffs are mostly composed of sandy glacial drift and clay deposits, which are easily eroded by the sea. In parts of Suffolk particularly, the sea is actively reclaiming the land at a rate of knots. Perhaps the most famous example of this is at Dunwich, now a small village of about 800 people; in Mediaeval times, this was a busy port, the size of 14th century London, and was the capital of the Kingdom of the East Angles. It had eight churches, now all gone, largely because of three great storm surges, one in 1286 and two more the following year, which destroyed most of the town. Subsequent great storms over the next century or so reduced the place to a tiny hamlet. It is said that on wild nights you can hear the church bells ringing under the waves... Further down the coast is Aldeburgh, now forever associated with Benjamin Britten, whose haunting music seems to have absorbed some of the unforgiving bleakness of that bare seascape. A little further up, above Southwold, is the little village of Covehithe, where coastal erosion is going on faster than almost anywhere else. The poet Blake Morrison, in his recent collection *Shingle Street*, (Chatto Poetry), captures the rather weird quality of life on the edge of the brown and hostile North Sea, especially in his eery last verse.

Covehithe.

The tides go in and out  
but the cliffs are stuck in reverse:  
back across the fields they creep  
to the graves of Covehithe church.

From church to beach  
was once a hike.  
Today it's just a stroll.  
Soon it'll be a stone's throw.

And that path we took  
along the cliffs has itself been taken,  
by winter storms.  
The wheat's living on the edge.

What's to be done?  
I blame the dead  
in their grassy mounds,  
the sailors and fishermen

longing to be back at sea  
who since they can't get up  
and stride down to the beach  
entice the sea to come to them.



Roger Burt.

**An evening with Lawrence Sail**  
**Upper Heyford Reading Room**  
**Monday 16th November at 8pm**



Exeter poet Lawrence Sail will be talking about his superb new collection of poems, 'The Quick'. His last visit was a most delightful occasion

**The evening is open to all and free!!**

Wine and nibbles will be provided and donations would be much appreciated to help with costs.

**Sponsored rendition of Hymns**  
**Ancient & Modern**  
**by Frances Maksinski**

**From beginning to end**  
(or until Frances falls off her organ stool)

**To raise funds for**  
**POLLY**  
(who feeds the homeless in Banbury)

**Open House**  
**Saturday 14th November from 9am**  
**Manor Farm Ardley OX27 &NS**

You can donate either by making a collection at your church, via the Just Giving Page (contact Lynda\_webb@btinternet.com for details) or by turning up with cash at Manor Farm!



COME  
JOIN US AT  
HEYFORD  
PARK

# REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW



A NEW HOME, SET AMONGST AN AREA FULL OF HISTORY: HEYFORD PARK - A DESTINATION IN THE HEART OF NORTH OXFORDSHIRE.

With its open spaces and rolling country views, spacious homes and family-friendly facilities, Heyford Park provides residents with all the benefits they would expect from modern country life.

With 2-6 bedroom homes available in four current phases - Field Views, The Contemporary Collection, The Square and The Village Green Collection - welcome to 'The Model of Modern Village Living'.

**2 bedroom homes from £267,995**

Price and details are correct at time of going to press, September 2015. Terms and conditions apply.



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# THE RED LION



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**The Heyfords WI  
presents**



**Christine Wallace**

A quarter finalist in series 4

Telling stories of what life is really like in the tent, a fascinating insight into behind the scene of both television and baking

on

**28<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**at The Chapel, Heyford Park**

**at 7.30pm**

Admission £2.00 including refreshments and a raffle ticket

**All are welcome**

Lynn Humberstone 01869 340596

In late July the rain held off for an evening trip to North Aston village green to see the Mikron Theatre Company perform their play 'Raising Agents'. The script was spot on, 100 years of WI history cleverly interwoven with modern day happenings such as twitter, yarn bombing, Lucy Worsley etc. all delivered through acting and live music. Hats off to writer Maeve Larkin, she knows the WI inside out!

In August we entertained Great Linford WI from Milton Keynes. Ian Lough-Scott walked the ladies around Upper Heyford village giving a much enjoyed potted history of the village, returning to The Reading Room for a WI tea. Our thanks to Ian for giving up his time making the afternoon so interesting for our visitors.

A centenary celebratory event was held on September 15 at Christ Church Cathedral and arranged by Oxfordshire Federation of WI's. Inmate banners, including The Heyfords, were paraded from Christ Church Meadow to the Cathedral, a unique and stirring sight. A short speech from Ann Jones a member of the Welsh National Board, an address by Sir Hugo Brunner, music both to sing and listen to as well as solo performances made a moving and memorable day.

**The actual WI 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary day was September 16.** Coincidentally that was also The Heyfords meeting evening and an anniversary cake made by Denise was cut and enjoyed by all. Our speaker Stella Oates gave a light hearted approach to something we wear everyday 'Shoes', a very enjoyable evening on this historic day. Over 5,000 social media congratulatory messages were sent on the day, including David Cameron, Loose Women, Pudsey and many many more.

Our November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting 7.30pm at The Reading Room, we are having a film night, film not confirmed, look on the notice boards. Do come along and join our members for a social evening.

The Womens Institute passed a resolution to address waste in the production, packaging and transport of goods at their 2005 AGM so it's a fantastic result that from the 5<sup>th</sup> October, shoppers in England will be charged 5p per plastic carrier bag, (Welsh shoppers have been paying for bags since 2011). Its time to make good use of all those cotton carriers that most of us have accumulated and keep tucked away in cupboards and car boots

**Please help to protect our bees!**



I'm writing to tell you about a really important issue and asking you to join me in taking one very simple action. Our bees are in serious danger. There's a dangerous bee-killing pesticide which is banned - but the government recently lifted the ban in some areas. Instead of listening to the science, Liz Truss (the minister in charge of bees) had her ears bent by toxic chemical companies. The science isn't enough for politicians. She'll be weighing up the public opinion too. So what's more powerful than a million voices, coming together behind me in the meeting? I've already signed the petition to save the bees - can you too? It only takes ten seconds to sign:

<https://secure.38degrees.org.uk/keep-the-ban-on-pesticides>

But bees are crucial to life on earth - we rely on them to pollinate many of the fruit and veg we eat. Bees dying is a major threat to our food chain, as well as cruel. Fortunately, there's a growing people-powered campaign to save our bees. More and more people across the UK are hearing about the threat to our bees, and getting behind the campaign to save them.

Many thanks, Jo Allen

### Christmas Knitted Novelties

We've got some fab new patterns to add to our collection for this year's Christmas knits, including a Christmas tree, Santa sack and festive hedgehog and we'd love to hear from any supporters willing to knit some for us! Last year's Christmas novelties raised almost £5,000 towards Hospice care- wouldn't it be great to match that again this year? Whether you knit us five or fifty, we're grateful for your support and every penny really counts. Please call Fundraising for our new pattern booklet on 01295 816484 or email [sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk](mailto:sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk) to receive one via email.



### Christmas Cards

This year we have 16 beautiful new designs on offer this year, including local scenes and these are now on sale at our 7 charity shops and Hospice reception. Application forms can be downloaded from our website at [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk).

### Banbury Camera Club Exhibition Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October The Michael Heseltine Gallery, Chenderit School, Archery Road, Middleton Cheney.

This annual event offers supporters the opportunity to view a delightful collection of photographs and purchase prints in aid of the Hospice. Entry is free and opening hours are 9am – 5pm (Tuesday-Friday) and 11am- 4pm (Saturday and Sunday).

### Matalan KHH Promotion Day 9.30am, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October, Matalan, Cherwell Street, Banbury.

For this Hospice promotion day we are looking for volunteers to hold a collecting tin and to man the KHH Information Stall. We have 1.5 hours slots available from 9.30am and would be delighted to hear from anyone who'd like to volunteer. Please call Wendy in Fundraising on (01295) 816484 or email [wendy.crosse@khh.org.uk](mailto:wendy.crosse@khh.org.uk)

### Santa Fun Run

Why not kick-start the festive season with this family fundraiser?! Our 6<sup>th</sup> Santa Fun Run will be taking place at 11am on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> December at Spiceball Park, Banbury. Entry fee is £13 for adults, £7 for children aged 6 – 16 years and free for under 6's. This includes a Santa suit, mince pie and medal and you are asked to raise a minimum of £20 per adult or £40 per family. To take part, apply online at [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk) or call the Fundraising Office on 01295 816484 and we can pop an application form in the post.

### KHH Lottery

Our lottery is a vital income source for Katharine House, having raised over £1 million since May 2000. If you're stuck for a birthday present idea, we have a variety of Lottery Gift Membership solutions. For £1 per week you might get a phone call on a Friday morning from Wendy our Lottery Administrator telling you that you've won £1,000 - Wendy loves making that call! For more information call the Lottery Office on 01295 816484 or email [lottery@khh.org.uk](mailto:lottery@khh.org.uk).

For fundraising information, please contact Sarah in the Fundraising Department at the Hospice, tel:01295 816484, email: [sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk](mailto:sarah.brennan@khh.org.uk) or visit our website: [www.khh.org.uk](http://www.khh.org.uk)

### Half term already!

It's Monday morning, and as usual I am waiting on the path outside the school to welcome the children back to school after their busy weekend. Suddenly, from out of the park there appears two little boys, wearing Father



Fritwell School

Christmas hats, one harnessed with tinsel rather like a reindeer. Have I got my dates wrong? I'm sure I'd attended St. Olave's lovely Harvest Supper just three nights ago.

Then I remember that it's photograph day in school! Not only are the children having individual photographs taken, as well as with their siblings, but our new FOFS committee is trying out a new idea to raise some much needed funds for the school-Christmas cards featuring the children! As you can imagine the younger children especially are very excited, thinking that Christmas is only a week away.

FOFS have held their first committee meeting and apart from the annual community fireworks, which is being held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, they are arranging a Bingo Night and have already pencilled in June 11<sup>th</sup> for a Summer fete.

It was lovely to see so many parents and members of the community at St. Olave's for our Harvest Festival service, which was led by Years 1,2 and 3. The children did an amazing job and spoke with such clarity and confidence. Well done to all of them and thank you to all parents, who donated food to the Bicester Food Bank.



You might have seen notices around the villages advertising our Open Mornings. The first one was really successful and we have a number of parents already booked in to have a look around the school on November 13<sup>th</sup>. If you know of anyone, who is unable to make that date, and is looking for an outstanding Foundation Stage to send their child to, please do ask them to contact the School Office. We have spaces in other year groups too!  
Debbie McLeod, Headteacher

## Minutes of the meeting of the Lower Heyford Parish Council held on

Thursday 17th September 2015 at 7.00 pm in the Church

Present: - Mr Macnamara (JJ) (Chair), Mrs. Ball (DB) (Vice Chair), Mr Mortimore (CM), Mr. Eggeling (BE) , Mr. Thompson (LT)

Members of the public : Mr. Humberstone

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (CF) [Clerk]

**01.09.15 Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Mr. Dare (DD)

**02.09.15 Declarations of Interest :** There were no declarations of interest

**Minutes** of the last meeting held on 16th July 2015 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

**04.09.15 Public Participation .** The sole member of the public present was invited to participate at any time.

### **05.09.15 Clerk's Report**

Flooding at Portway reported again and work is in progress

Defibrillators ordered

Conclusion of Audit received from BDO

### **06.09.15 Actions from previous meeting**

#### **07.09.15 Highways/Footpaths**

The flooding at Portway previously reported is now being dealt with and work is in progress

**Winter salt supplies** - Clerk to complete pro forma from OCC requesting that the bins be filled up but that no further supplies are required as there is a stock at the boatyard

**Grass cutting contract** - an email had been received from DD saying that he wanted to hand over the grass cutting project due to other commitments. It was agreed that CF would take on the project. It was further agreed that Mark Probbitts should be appointed as contractor for 2016/17 with a contract to be renewed if satisfactory. CF will : Obtain all paperwork from DD, Draft a contract for Mark Probbitts and circulate to councillors Act as Line Manager

#### **ACTION : CLERK**

**08.09.15 Defibrillator** - These have now been received and are being stored in DD's (empty) flat but he wishes them to be removed by the end of the month. It was agreed that BE and CM would remove them and possibly store them at BE's house and CM will liaise with the landlords of both pubs and install the machines.

#### **ACTION : CM/BE**

**09.09.15 Possible councillor vacancy** - PT's house is for sale and she may be moving away. No further details and no action required.

**10.09.15 Meetings** JJ had attended the forum meeting of the Mid Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan (MCNP). Ardley with Fewcott are continuing to act as lead parish, but an executive consisting of Steeple Aston, Upper Heyford and Middleton Stoney has been formed to carry out the bulk of the work and report to Ardley with Fewcott. At the meeting the draft plan provided by Pegasus was discussed, particularly the format and the input required from villages. This plan is password protected and not available for publication. JJ will continue to attend the Executive meetings and encouraged councillors to attend working group meetings if they were able to, and it was reinforced that LHPC's main concern is protection from housing and protection from traffic. The Executive will be appointing an administrator, the cost of which will be borne by all the villages involved (likely to be in the region of £250pa per village) which should be considered when budgeting for the next financial year.

**11.09.15 LHRINC** The next meeting of the Charity is on 7th December

**12.09.15 Playground** - PT has approached the charity for assistance with funding for grass cutting in the playground and wished to know if the PC were prepared to contribute. It was agreed in principle subject to costs. CF to pass PT's contact details to Mark Probbitts in order for him to provide a quote. LT reported that some of the playground equipment is beginning to rust and requires attention, PT to investigate and report to supplier. PT confirmed the names of the members of the Playground committee and will provide CF with their contact details for her records .

#### **ACTION : PT/CLERK**

### **13.09.15 Planning - the following Planning applications had been received**

15/01028/LB Owls Nest Market Square - replacement doors & windows - APPROVED

15/00944/F White Horse Cottage - ancillary outbuilding - APPROVED

15/00262/TCA Owls Nest Market Square - Notice of Intent of Treework - APPROVED

15/00246/TCA Notice of Intent of treeworks 17 Freehold Street

15/01344/F Erection of detached dwelling and garaging with access parking and amenity space at land to the rear of May House, Station Road

### **14.09.15 Finance - The following accounts were approved for payment :**

Payee	Detail	Amount	Cheque No
CDC	Dog bins	192.19	500328
BDO	Audit	156.00	500329
WEL Medical	Defibrillators	3316.20	500330
CW Technologies	20s plenty signs	383.04	500331
Cathy Fleet	Clerk expenses	76.64	BACS

The audit had been concluded successfully by BDO and the notice to that effect will be put on the notice boards. The meeting closed at 8pm

## **BONFIRE NIGHT**

**Lower Heyford  
Saturday 7th November**

Gate opens at about 6.15pm  
Lighting the bonfire at 6.45pm  
Fireworks at 7.15pm

Bar  
Barbeque  
Coffee  
Mulled Wine



An enjoyable evening for all ages

Bonfire on the usual site

## **Community Education at the Marlborough School, Woodstock**

We run an extensive programme of courses for adults within the school all year round (apart from school holidays).

A full copy of our 2015-16 brochure is now available to download on the Marlborough School website  
[www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/community](http://www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/community).

If you would like a free printed copy of our brochure or to book a place please telephone **01993 813592** or email [co-med.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:co-med.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk).

It is possible to join some of our weekly classes throughout the term, if there is still availability – please ring to check. All our courses are competitively priced to give our students great value for money.

For up to date and comprehensive information about availability on courses please see the school website (as above).

As courses become full they are listed for your information.

Some courses are starting in **November**. These are:

Spanish Intermediate starts 5 November Thursdays 19.30-21.30 for 7 weeks £54

Flower Arranging for Beginners starts 9 November 19.00-21.00 for 5 weeks £42 plus materials

Yoga with Janice Hellens on 12 November 18.30-20.30 £17

We are running Saturday workshops on (there are also workshops on 5 March and 14 May):

**Saturday 21 November** (full details of all these courses can be found on the website or in the brochure):

Traditional Upholstery 1 (2 Saturdays next one 30 January) 09.30-17.00 £90 for 2 sessions

Aromatherapy for Health 10.00-12.45 £18

Creative Writing 10.00-15.00 £30

Acrylic Painting 10.00-16.00 £34

Learn to Knit 10.00-13.00 £20

Yoga for Neck and Shoulder Pain 10.00-13.00 £18

Spanish Conversation 10.00-12.00 £25

Anyone Can Sing 10.30-13.00 £18

Sugarcraft for Christmas – covering a fruit cake 10.30-12.30 £17

Sugarcraft Christmas decorations 13.00-16.30 £30 or £42 for both classes

Multicoloured Knitting (Fairisle) 13.30-16.30 £20

So Now You Can Sing 14.00-16.30 £18

**Saturday 30 January:**

How to use your Sewing Machine 9.30-16.30 £40

Spanish Conversation 10.00-12.00 £25

Back, Neck and Shoulder Massage 10.00-12.45 £18

Get Blogging 10.00-16.00 £34

Drawing with Confidence 10.00-16.00 £34

Applemac for Beginners 10.00-15.00 £30

Yoga to Release the Spine 10.00-13.00 £18

Sugarcraft – Birthday Cake Decoration 10.00-16.00 £42

EFT / Tapping : An Introduction 10.00-12.30 £18

Anyone Can Sing Workshop 10.30-13.00 £18

So Now You Can Sing Workshop 14.00-16.30 £18

Early booking is recommended, some courses fill up very quickly as people re-enrol.

**Mrs Jenny Bodinham, Coordinator, Marlborough C of E School, Community Education**

**Tel: 01993 813592**

# Heyford Park Residents & Community Development Association

## CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Chapel, Brice Road, Heyford Park, OX25 5TE

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December

11 – 3pm



Free entry—Over 30 stalls  
Santa's Grotto, Raffle & Tombola  
Burger/Sandwich Van



All proceeds to the Heyford Park Community Garden Project



Search 'Heyford Park Community Garden'

It has been a very busy and exciting year for the Community Garden, so much has happened and it is becoming an integral part of the Heyford Park Community. The Heyford Park Garden Open Day was a huge success even though it did rain and was a dull dark day! Our Judge this year was Nick Garner, we had more entries than last year, there was stiff competition, and he had a very hard time choosing the winners of each category. The placings were as follows:



### CHILD'S CONTAINER

1<sup>st</sup> Phia & Dorrie Bedford, Eady Road  
Tool set from Sharon's Plants & Seeds from Suttons Seeds  
2<sup>nd</sup> Shan Wills, Bader Drive  
Biscuits donated by Dorchester Group and Seeds from Suttons Seeds

### ADULT'S CONTAINER

1<sup>st</sup> Preben Rasmussen, Portal Drive North  
Massage donated by Clinic on the Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> Joan Bailey, Bader Drive  
Garden Centre Voucher donated by Davies & Partners

### BEST FRONT GARDENS

1<sup>st</sup> Hatfield. Harris Road  
Garden centre voucher and hanging basket donated by Bovis Homes  
2<sup>nd</sup> Preben Rasmussen  
Garden centre voucher and hanging basket donated by Bovis Homes  
3<sup>rd</sup> Anna Rosewell, Roper Road  
Garden centre voucher donated by Bovis Homes  
4<sup>th</sup> Barnes, Harris Road  
Gardening Book donated by XXX

### BEST BACK GARDENS

1<sup>st</sup> Anna Rosewell, Roper Road  
Pilates & Osteopathy Vouchers from Clinic on the Green  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lolly Sweeting, Harris Road  
Garden Centre voucher donated by Wyevale Garden Centres  
3<sup>rd</sup> Debi Aris, Portal Drive North  
Garden Centre voucher donated by Davies & Partners  
4<sup>th</sup> Preben Rasmussen, Portal Drive North  
Garden Centre voucher donated by Davies & Partners

Congratulations to you all, and we hope you will enter again next year and many others will enter too.

On August 22nd we held the official opening of the Community Garden and asked Roger Burt our local gardening Guru to officiate by cutting the ribbon and planting a shrub. We did think a tree was the usual thing, but as there are already 5 trees on the garden that perhaps a shrub would be more appropriate. Once the opening had been done, we all got stuck into the serious business of the BBQ and the kids playing with all the garden games provided. It was an extremely hot day, the temperature was 87f so I was told and very humid, we did have some humongous drops of rain and by the time the gazebos were put up the storm had gone over. It was such a wonderful surprise that so many folks turned up, even those who are new additions all were welcomed, and some new friends were made. It was so pleasing to "christen" the BBQ which Dorchester's bricklayers built, on a site prepared by Agetur, using bricks gifted by Bovis finished building the day before. The BBQ is there for anyone within the Community to use, just ask Anna Rosewell for the grill etc..... Tel No. 01869 233932 or 07855 326964, and return it to Anna cleaned.

Our next big event is the Christmas Bazaar, which Anna is busy organizing as we speak. Last year we had approximately 350 persons who came to the event and purchased Christmas gifts and goodies. Please make a note in your diaries **DECEMBER 5TH 11-3PM** so that you do not miss out. There will be a variety of stalls, some unusual things on offer, so keep a look out for the posters, you can also contact [hpcommgarden@gmail.com](mailto:hpcommgarden@gmail.com) stating what you would be selling and request a booking form, or contact Anna on 01869 233932 or 07855 326964. Raffle prize donations from individuals or companies would be very much appreciated. We had an amazing raffle last year let's try and do the same this year, as it's all in a good cause for the benefit of the whole community, and if a business contributes you will be mentioned in all marketing. contact [hpcommgarden@gmail.com](mailto:hpcommgarden@gmail.com), or contact Anna on 01869 233932 or 07855 326964.

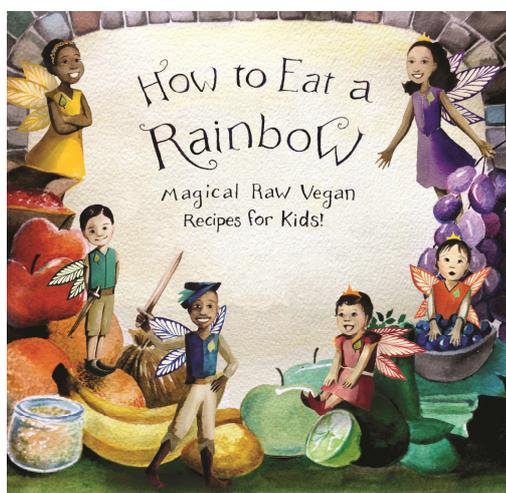
Cath & Chris Mullineux myself and any of the community who wish to turn up on Thursdays "garden maintenance evenings" are now starting to plant bulbs so the garden will look amazing next Spring, and Wyevale have given us many plants for the Sensory Garden, which also need planting while the soil is still warm. The majority of these will be repotted and stored at Sharon Keen's for the winter, but some of the soft fruit bushes will be planted now. Soon we shall have to switch our "Garden maintenance evenings" to Sundays from October in the afternoons as the light is fading sooner and when the clocks go back there will be even less daylight. We shall let all you keen helpers know via the Heyford Park page and our website.

### Can you help!

Several families with very little are moving into Heyford Park soon. They would appreciate any furniture, appliances and household goods, for kitchen and bedding. Please phone Simon Dean [07932 873967](tel:07932873967) to arrange when you can deliver them to Heyford Park Chapel. Many thanks.



### Recipe of the month



This recipe is from Ellie Bedford, local food blogger and author. The picture above is taken from Ellie's recent book. Book available at Coles Bookshop, Bicester

### Seasonal Autumn Blackberry Shake

If you are looking for a way to use this delicious Autumn fruit, but want a change from the humble blackberry and apple pie, then this blackberry smoothie is the perfect recipe for you! It's quick and easy to make, full of fibre, protein and carbohydrates to get you through the morning, and it tastes delicious too!

#### Ingredients

250ml almond or oat milk  
Large handful of blackberries  
1 scoop of vegan vanilla protein powder\*  
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

#### Method

Blend everything together until creamy and smooth.  
Add ice for a colder smoothie

\*We like Sunwarrior protein blend. If you can't find this, substitute with 1 tbsp shelled hemp seeds and 1/4 tsp vanilla extract. Shelled hemp is available locally in Grapetree Bicester

# UPPER HEYFORD NEWS

## The Flower & Produce Show 2015

A very big thank you to all you wonderful people who came along to support this event on 5<sup>th</sup> September. It was enormously well attended – much Aunt Sally was played, dogs shown, Pimms drunk (we ran out!) teas, burgers, and ice-cream scoffed, and children entertained with fairground rides and a bouncy castle while the band played. Did we mention that we had over 200 entries into the show as well? Tables were groaning under the weight of the produce, home baking and craft categories. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who not only entered the show, but came to help put up marquees and gazebos, hang bunting, run stalls or volunteer in any capacity at all, we honestly couldn't have done it without your support.

This leads nicely onto the numbers which everyone has been asking about. So, as follows:

### Income

Start-up money from the community fund (ring-fenced from the 2014 show)	£1000
Sponsorship from Dorchester, Bovis and Agrivert	£700
Takings on the day: gate, refreshments, stalls etc.	£2051.80
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£3751.80</b>

### Expenditure

Running costs – table hire, bouncy castle, band, food, beer etc.	£1636.86
Money back to community fund for 2016 show	£1000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£2636.86</b>
<b>TOTAL PROFIT</b>	<b>£1114.94</b>

As the Village Hall and Amenities Committee very kindly gave us the Village Hall free of charge for the weekend of this event, this profit will go back into the Village Hall and will either be used to stage another event such as a Friendship Evening, or go towards the ongoing maintenance of the Village Hall.

*The 2015 Flower & Produce Show Committee*

## Flower & Produce Show 2016

The Committee for the 2015 show was officially comprised of:

Alison Graham – Chair and Secretary

Stephen Yorke – Creative and PR

Hansa Menzies – Treasurer

An honourable mention must also go to Kym Yorke who unofficially did an enormous amount behind the scenes to support us, not least designing and laying out the show schedule which looked absolutely fabulous!

Due to increased work and personal commitments for all the 2015 Committee we have collectively decided to stand down, leaving the door open for a new Committee to come and stage the 2016 show. A handover will be provided with useful hints, tips and contact numbers for the new Committee going forward, just contact the outgoing Secretary.

Thank you everyone for your support over this last year – the 2015 Committee.

Alison Graham, 07775 507412, 01869 233696  
alison\_a\_graham@hotmail.com



Upper Heyford Bonfire Night

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov**

**Upper Heyford Village Hall**

**Gates Open 6.00pm**

(Bring the family, come & enjoy lovely fireworks and refreshments in a safe environment)

**ADULTS £3**

**CHILDREN £2 (13 years & younger)**

(EACH TICKETS INCLUDES A CREAMY HOT CHOCOLATE & A TASTY HOTDOG)

**GUY COMPETITION JUDGED: 6:30pm**

**BONFIRE LIT: 6:30PM**

**FIREWORKS: 6:45PM**

**Best guy Competition!**

**Bring guys to the village hall between 4:30pm & 5pm.**

Glow sticks will be available for sale. All children under 16 must be accompanied throughout the event by an adult.

**Please do not bring fireworks or sparklers to this event.**

### Macmillan Coffee Morning on 25th September

A most enjoyable couple of hours in our lovely Reading Room raised, with the help of several donations, £150 for this most worthwhile cause.

Very many thanks to all who supported the event., either making lovely cakes, providing raffle prizes, making donations and attending, all your efforts are much appreciated.  
*Veronica*

### Ride & Stride

For the first time for many years we actually had a cyclist representing our church. Jill Smith kindly agreed to cycle and raised £200 in sponsorship money, a fine effort.

Jill said how much she enjoyed the day and is already planning for next year. Well done Jill and many thanks.

*St Mary's PCC*

### Football

We have made a promising start to the season with 2 wins and two defeats, all closely fought games.

Future games:

24th Oct - Lord Jersey Cup, Banbury United Youth, Away

31st Oct - Kings Sutton , Away

7th Nov - Chacombe, Oxon Junior Shield, Away

14th Nov - Chasewll Park, Home

### Dog fouling

It is very disappointing that we still have the problem of dog fouling in the recreation field. It is inexcusable at the best of times, but especially now that we have a boys (under 11) football team using the facilities. This is a problem with only a very small number of owners, and we appeal to responsible dog owners and other villagers to report the matter to the parish council where applicable.

### Warreners

We enjoyed a lovely harvest meal courtesy of the committee. Pork pie, ham, eggs and salad with a glass of cider, followed by apple crumble and cream.

It was lovely to have Pearl and Terry back with us after Pearl's spell in hospital.

Next month (on 11th November) we will be having a film (still to be decided) courtesy of Age UK.

In December we look forward to our hot Christmas meal in the Village Hall provided by outside caterers. This is a traditional Christmas meal with all the trimmings, and a splendid choice of desserts—yummy!

We are sorry to report that David Jarvis had a fall in his garden and is not well as a result. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he is back with us soon.

### Watch out there is a speed camera about!

You may have noticed the speed gun manned by parishioners on Somerton Road and Camp Road. It's aim is to stop speeding traffic not to catch people out, so please slow down on our local roads.

### St Mary's, Upper Heyford Tower Lighting

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> July   | In celebration of the birthday of the late Ben Brain. 'With love from Karen and Sean.'  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July   | In celebration of the 95th birthday of the late Kathleen Smith.   |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> July   | In celebration of the birthday of Jon Radda. 'With love from Katie, Joe, Beth and Rebecca.xxxx.'  |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> July   | In memory of the late Timothy Tad Barker, youngest son of Ray. 'Much loved, greatly missed and thought of daily. All my love, Dad'            |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> August | In celebration of the 102 <sup>nd</sup> birthday of Edith Murray. 'Congratulations and lots of love from Sheila, Bernard and all the family.' |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> August | In celebration of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary of Marilyn and Timothy Bigelow.   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> August | In celebration of 'Victory over Japan.'<br>By Bob Beere.  |

*The contacts for the lighting of the Tower in memory of a loved one or a special occasion are Mary Goodman or Peter & Maureen James*

Jean Rosalie Barker

23rd July 1935 - 2nd October 2015

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Jean a much loved member of our community.

We send our condolences to Ray and Andrew and all family members.

A tribute will be included in the next edition of Valley News



### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



**Sunday 8th November**

**9.30am Lower Heyford Church**

**10.45am Upper Heyford War Memorial**

***LEST WE FORGET***

## SOMERTON NEWS

### SWIG

After the August break we were back in full SWI(n)G in September with a most interesting talk from the Head Butler of Blenheim Palace. What an amazing tale he had to tell. Among other jobs he has been trainee under butler at Buckingham Palace, bus driver, butler at Arundel, a period in a monastic community and now HB at Blenheim. The work he does there is varied to a degree, one wonders how he gets it all done, but he so obviously loves it and his enthusiasm was infectious. Thank you to Karen for arranging it.

Next month, October, we have our Harvest Supper when everyone is invited. The charge is minimal £3 for members £8 for guests, gentlemen are most welcome, the food outstanding and if you would like to join us please telephone Shirley 01869 346868.

In November Chris Ertl is giving a talk and demonstration on Christmas Crafts. A timely reminder for the following announcement.

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our immensely popular Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December in the Barnes Memorial Hall.

In the past couple of years several nearby villages have had their events on the same day which is a shame and I hope by advertising ours early we may avoid a clash. It would be nice to visit and support our neighbours and for them to reciprocate.

### GROTESQUES AT SOMERTON

It always amazes me that there are still secrets to be discovered at St. James Church Somerton. Following a phone call from a lady in Suffolk I arranged for her husband to visit with a request to see the bagpipe playing grotesque which he was reliably informed was lying at the foot of a buttress on the south side.

Having never seen anything resembling a bagpipe in the Church I was intrigued and went with my granddaughter to investigate. There were a few broken items at said place, crosses, bits of pinnacle and a much lighter stone that – well someone remarked looked like a headless, stuffed chicken. On closer inspection we discovered that with a bit of imagination you could make out a bag and two chanter, shame about the head, or lack of it.

Next day Myal Harper arrived with flowing white locks and an equally impressive beard having made a detour from Bath to Suffolk (he was really committed). He informed us that there were only 35 recorded bagpipe playing figures in churches in the country and one in a stained glass window in Warwick. Ours will be added to that list and it is remarkable because it has a double chanter. It could have been made any time between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century. This will need some investigating as we are unsure from whence it came, off the tower maybe.

Not only has he made a study of these figures but he has made a mediaeval set of pipes and with his partner Peg travels around the country playing at festivals such as Warwick, Cropredy, Lincoln, Bosworth and Chatsworth.

Our piper has now been taken to a safer place and hopefully will be on display in the future to like-minded visitors. For further information visit his website [www.myalpyper.co.uk](http://www.myalpyper.co.uk)

Just a reminder that a Gargoyle is a Grotesque with a pipe to carry water away from the roof.

Belling Ringing is still an important part of the Church's activities and Rosemary and Neil have created the History of our bells dating from the first half of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century along with lovely black and white atmospheric photographs exhibited in the Fermor Chapel. Of the eight bells, five were 17<sup>th</sup>C, a sixth added in 1896 and the final two were cast in Whitechapel in 1993. A worthwhile Visit.

46 Ride and Striders streamed through the Churches in the Benefice on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, marvelling at the effigies and the reredos in St. James's Church and grateful for the refreshments provided.

All life for the residents of the villages sadly comes to an end at some time leaving devastated relatives mourning their death. The All Souls Candlelit Service for the Benefice will be held in St James's Church on 1<sup>st</sup> November at 6 o'clock, replacing our usual, well-attended Evensong.

Traditional Evensong will continue on the first Sunday in December at 6 pm as usual with Advent Carols

### **The SOMERTON VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW**

was held on the first Saturday in September as it has been since the 1940's and, possibly, before. This year's Show was well up to standard with extensive displays of garden produce, cooking and handicrafts of various sorts. The photographic section also featured and is proving very popular. The overall winners of the cups were:

The Baldwin Cup for the best horticultural exhibit – Derrick Kingdom

The Emberlin Cup for the best display of vegetables – Derrick Kingdom

The Ivor Greenhouse Cup for the overall highest number of points – Pauline Gattley

The Ethel Smith Cup for the best Victoria sandwich – Rosemary Arnold

The Walter Smith Cup for the best exhibit of onions – Derrick Kingdom

The Ivor Greenhouse Cup for the overall highest number of points – Pauline Gattley

The Ethel Smith Cup for the best Victoria sandwich – Rosemary Arnold

The Walter Smith Cup for the best exhibit of onions – Derrick Kingdom

The Children's Cup for the highest number of points in the children's section – William Willetts

Best Horticultural Exhibit – Derrick Kingdom  
 Best Domestic Exhibit – Pearl Willetts  
 Best exhibit in Children's Section – William Willetts  
 We are planning ahead already for next year when we shall be introducing some new categories, such as a colouring competition. Put the date in your diary now – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2016.

The restoration of St James's Church and the Fermor Chapel and the our much used contemporary Village Hall has opened up opportunities for entertainment of all types in Somerton Village.

As Autumn is signalling the end of the summer, the Harvest Festival service in the Church, lovingly decorated with bales of straw, apples, pears, sheaves of wheat and barley; all to thank the Lord for the Harvest safely gathered in, will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Not forgetting the Harvest Supper in the Village Hall which further celebrated the festivities on 13<sup>th</sup> October. An annual event to remind ourselves that we are still a very rural farming community.

Already tickets are flying out for the Cellist **Orlando Jopling's Concert** on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm. The six Bach solo suites, played in the Albert Hall on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> September at the Proms and on Radio 3 & 4, will be echoed in our ancient Church where the acoustics are equally as good. **A TREAT INDEED.** Tickets: **£15 (children free) inclusive of homemade canapés and wine (not home made!) in the interval. A double CD recording will be on sale for £10.**

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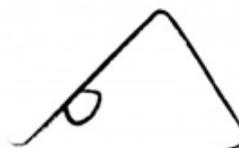
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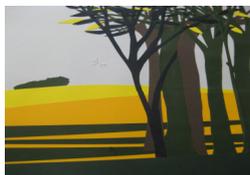


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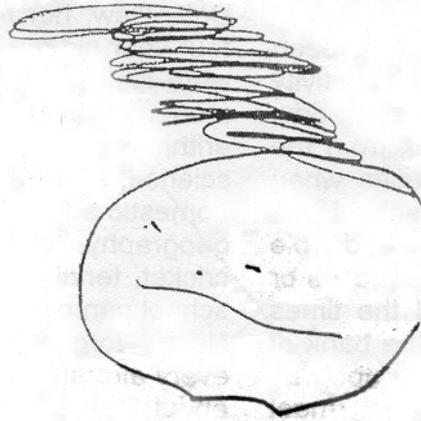
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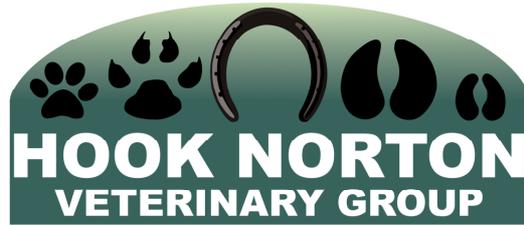
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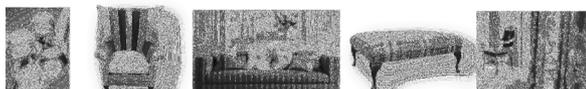
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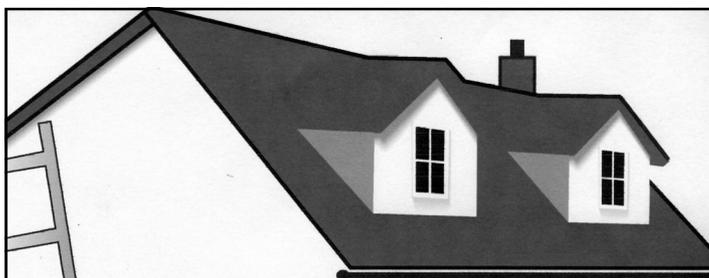


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## *Events Calendar - At a Glance*

<b>Saturday 24 October</b>	Memorial Concert for Rodney Allan Souldern Church Choir at Souldern Church	7.00pm
<b>Wednesday 28 October</b>	Heyfords WI - Christine Wallace on the Great British Bake Off - telling stories of what life is really like in the tent, a fascinating insight into behind the scene of both television and baking	7.30pm
<b>Wednesday 28 October</b>	Heyfords branch of The Royal British Legion Talk by Bill King—the last two years of the Great War Upper Heyford Reading Room	7.00 for 7.30pm
<b>Sunday 1 November</b>	Benefice Remembrance at Somerton Church	6.00pm
<b>Saturday 7 November</b>	Orlando Jopling's Cello Pilgrimage Somerton Church	6.30pm
<b>Saturday 7 November</b>	Upper Heyford Bonfire Night Village Hall & Recreation field	6.00pm
<b>Saturday 7 November</b>	Lower Heyford Bonfire Night with bar & barbeque	From 6.15pm
<b>Sunday 8 November</b>	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b> <b>St Mary's Lower Heyford Service at 9.30am</b> <b>Upper Heyford War Memorial at 10.45am</b>	
<b>Wednesday 11 November</b>	Warreners at Upper Heyford Village Hall - film	2.00pm
<b>Monday 16 November</b>	An evening with Lawrence Sail Upper Heyford Reading Room 8pm	8.00pm
<b>Wednesday 18 November</b>	Heyfords WI at Upper Heyford Reading Room FILM NIGHT all welcome	7.00pm
<b>Saturday 21 November</b>	Souldern Christmas Market at Souldern Church	9.00am—12 noon
<b>Saturday 28 November</b>	Adderbury Christmas Market at the Church	12—5.00pm
<b>Saturday 5 December</b>	Heyford Park's Christmas Bazaar at The Chapel	11.00am—3.00pm
<b>Saturday 5 December</b>	Somerton's Christmas Bazaar at Village Hall	