YARNTON

OCTOBER 2013

VILLAGE

Editorial Committee:

News

Mrs. Helen Anderson, 81 Spencer Avenue, OX5 1NQ, tel. 371656 - Secretary and Assistant Editor Mrs. Ruth Astall, 19 The Spears, OX5 1NS, tel. 372637 - Editor Frances Peck, tel. 374708 - Distribution Michael Westall, 1 Stocks Tree Close, OX5 1LU, tel. 373445 - Treasurer

Have you looked at our website: www.yarnton-village.org.uk?

CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH

	Wed.2nd	9.30 a.m. service at St. Bartholomew's (and every Wednesday)	
	Wed. 2nd	'Little Sheep' (and every Wednesday in term-time), 10.15 a.m., St. Bartholomew's	
	Wed. 2nd	Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m. (and every Wednesday)	
	Wed. 2nd		
	Thur. 3 rd	Sing-along music group for babies and pre-schoolers, (and every Thursday in term time),	
		Village Hall, 10 a.m.	
g ·		Scouts, Scout Hut, 7 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. (and every Friday)	
	Sat. 5 th	Dance (ballroom and sequence), British Legion, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.	
	Mon. 7 th	Short Mat Bowling, Village Hall, 10 a.m. (and every Monday)	
	Mon. 7 th	Cubs, Scout Hut, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m. (and every Monday)	
	Mon. 7 th	Book Reading Group, tel. 371656	
	Mon. 7 th	Explorers, Scout Hut, 8.15 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. (and every Monday)	
	Wed. 9th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 6.15 p.m.	
	Thur. 10 th	Senior Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.	
	Thur. 10 th	W.I. Harvest Supper, Village Hall, 7.45 p.m.	
	Tue. 15 th	Yarnton-with-Begbroke History Society, 7.45 p.m., Yarnton Village Hall	
	Thur. 17 th	Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.45 p.m.	
	Sat. 19th	Dance (ballroom and sequence), British Legion, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.	
	Thur. 24 th	Senior Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.	
	Sat. 26th	Dance (ballroom and sequence), British Legion, 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.	
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Advertising Rates

One-eighth A4 page: £72 per year, or £8 per issue One-half A4 page: £23 per issue

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Whole A4 page: £40 per issue

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Yarnton Village News is printed by Litho & Digital Impressions Ltd. Tel. 01993 868179/868705, email: ldioffice@btconnect.com

Copy Deadline for November Issue

Material for inclusion in the November Newsletter should be received by midday on Friday 11th October. Copy should be e-mailed to: ruth@astall.com and helen.anderson4@ntlworld.com or delivered to Mrs. Ruth Astall, 19 The Spears, tel. 372637.

The Editorial Committee reserves the right to cut, edit, or omit articles, or refuse advertisements for reasons of space limitation, suitability, etc. Their decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into.

Copy date for the December issue is Friday 8th November

Copy dates - a plea from the editor!

An increasing number of items for inclusion in the Village News are arriving after the copy date – even from people in the village who know when the dates are. I try to be as flexible as possible and want to include as much copy as possible, and I generally work on the issue over the weekend following the copy date. However, there's quite a lot of work involved – and I do have a job and a life, as well as the Village News!

Please could you try and get your items to me by the copy date - it would make my life so much easier.

Many thanks

Ruth Astall

Angie and Laurie Scarrott: Golden Wedding Anniversary

We would like to express our thanks to all our friends and family who came along to join us in celebrating at our party on Saturday $10^{\rm th}$ August. A lovely evening was had by all!

We are delighted to announce that we raised £580 for Macmillan by way of thanks and recognition for their support during my sister Pam Squires's illness. Neighbour Frank Oliver had the pleasure of opening the

Thanks to all once again. *Angie Scarrott*

donation boxes!



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Little Marsh New Pavilion - Progress

Thanks to the fine weather, progress has been good. With the footings in place and on time, the steel frame was very quickly installed, followed by further ground work and pumping in of the concrete base. Lots of vehicular movement in Green Lane -hopefully not too inconvenient for the residents. Bricklaying and installation of the roof should all be completed by the time of this publication and then the internal works can begin. To accommodate home football fixtures, temporary changing facilities have been installed.

The Parish Council is most appreciative of the cooperation shown by all contributors to the project enabling smooth running of the development.







Further progress updates will be published in the November issue of the YVN. *Yarnton Parish Council*

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Night Workers

During the lovely sunny days we had at the end of August and beginning of September, we spent a few days camping in our field. We had a wonderful time as the sun was so warm and made the whole world feel happy and bright.

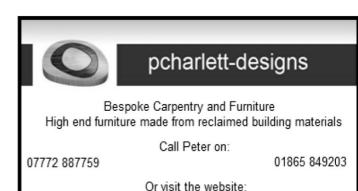
We were able to enjoy biking around Otmoor, which made a delightful change from the dual carriageway! The swallows were gathering and feeding up ready to go back to Africa. I guessed that some of them on the wires may have been the same ones we saw the year before and I couldn't imagine how many miles they had flown – many more than my bike!

I walked around the field early one morning when it was very wet and dewy. I was amazed to see how many spiders had been busy all night. The field was nearly covered with their webs – it seemed a shame to walk on them as they had put in so much effort.

Another night worker is the mole – on a bike ride we found a dead one, so I had to bring it home to show the grandchildren. Nothing like seeing something close up, even if it is dead. I couldn't see its eyes, but was amazed to see its paddy front feet that it uses to dig the soil with and leave mole hills all over the field.

I can't wait to find my first shiny brown conker and enjoy what autumn has to bring.

Hope you enjoy it too. Ellen Cocking



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Yarnton Band

I neglected to mention in closing George Tutte's obituary last month that he is survived by his two daughters, Glenda and Julie. As you may recall, Glenda and Julie, along with two of their friends were the founder members of the band in November 1959, and in December of the same year played Christmas carols on the streets of Yarnton to raise money for more instruments as more of their friends were interested in joining. Since then the band has always celebrated its birthday in the month of November with the annual concert.

George always attended the annual concert, although it meant quite a lot of travelling for him, and straight away he would become very involved. He would always have a bit of fun with the beginners group, and then in the concert proper he would conduct one of the pieces of music and at the end would deliver a speech.

With this in mind, it seems only fitting that this year's annual concert should be re-named The George Tutte Memorial Concert. This will be held in Yarnton Village Hall on Saturday 23rd November starting at the slightly earlier time of 7 p.m..

Glenda, Julie and their families will be coming and efforts are being made to contact the old players and people associated with George and the band. So please pass the word around, as you may still be in touch with people who we don't have contact details for. Anyone wishing to play, please get in touch at emma.sherratt@sky.com or phone 01869 241687 .The concert should not finish too late, so there will be time to socialise and reflect afterwards so we can have a wonderful evening in George's memory. Mark Sherratt

A different point of view

I am writing to complain about an article you have published in this month's Yarnton Village News. The article titled 'From a village resident' stating a problem with cat fouling fills me with great concern. Firstly I cannot believe you would agree to print such an article in the village paper, that may cause harmful behaviour to animals, and when did the Yarnton village newspaper become a paper that printed slanderous gossip that fuels hatred between neighbours.

It is quite obvious that the resident does not like cats, which is a personal preference. I am a cat owner and I feel this article could cause my cat and other cats in the neighbourhood harm.

Cats are solitary creatures who love to roam, can travel miles, cannot be taken for walks and cannot be told when to poo. Cats are independent creatures, who hunt; this is their nature. They are not dogs and cannot be treated as such. If said resident had watched the BBC Horizon programme on cat behaviour, perhaps they would have more of an understanding of cats.

I understand that it is upsetting when plants in the garden have been destroyed, but it is not only cats that do this: foxes, squirrels for example. We have found sprinkling pepper on the ground around the plants, NOT at said cats, can deter as they do not like the smell.

I believe the cat fouling problem is only being highlighted because the cats in the area have less and less field to roam in because every piece of land is being built on.

In response to cats fouling a middle of a lawn, this I cannot believe. If you speak to a vet or any cat owner you would perhaps realise cats are very discreet about poo. They like to clean up after themselves, e.g. they bury it in the ground, it would be extremely rare for them to foul in the middle of a lawn and leave it.

To comment on the mention of toxoplasmosis: firstly this is scaremongering, and again I cannot believe this was printed without correct research. Cats catch this from prey that is infected, but become immune. People can catch it if they handle cat faeces with their hands and do not wash their hands. I cannot believe members of the public would do this, especially pregnant women. Most people with common sense would wear gloves and then also wash their hands. You can also catch toxoplasmosis from handling raw meat, not just from cat faeces.

To conclude, I feel this article has an underlying feeling of hatred and harm to cats and should not have been printed. Perhaps research and re-wording to create a more positive piece would have been better. If I find that cats are being harmed and hurt because of this article, I will be sending it to the RSPCA with a copy of this message.

 $Name\ and\ address\ supplied$

From a Yarnton cat owner, to a fellow resident

As a devoted and responsible cat owner, I simply have to respond to the item in the September edition of Yarnton Village News from a fellow resident and keen gardener like

myself. I understand that it is unpleasant to find cat faeces in your garden, but it is hard to see how this implies that cat owners are irresponsible. Dog owners accompany their pets when they are out and control where they poo and how to dispose of it. Cat owners cannot do this, and cats cannot be confined to their owners' premises in the same way as dogs are, for the simple reason that they can climb! I have trained our cat to poo in our garden, but I am sure he doesn't always oblige. I am very happy to clear up cat poo in my neighbours' gardens if our cat is the culprit, but as several cats live in our Close I doubt it is possible to be sure

The risk of toxoplasmosis infection from cat and dog faeces is indeed serious, but can be prevented by hand-washing, particularly before eating (and certainly after gardening or handling animals). This is just basic personal hygiene, and a habit most of us have observed since childhood. It is true that some cats hunt and kill small birds and mammals, and our cat is certainly an offender in this regard. However, so do foxes, birds of prey and, for that matter, cars. It is regrettable but unavoidable, and unlikely to have a serious impact on wildlife numbers in general. At least cats do not attack people, unlike some dogs – surely the greater harm, despite your assertion to the contrary.

So, what can be done? Firstly, I have found pepper dust quite effective, which is harmless to people and plants, but the best deterrent is a water pistol. A jet of water will not harm a cat or your garden, but cats learn very quickly to avoid it. I suggest you don't use cat mint or catnip – these are intended to attract cats not repel them, which is why they are ingredients in some cat toys!

Name and address supplied

Pooey problems!

I am not a cat owner, and I don't have a problem with cat poo in my garden, but I can sympathise with the 'village resident' who expressed their concern in last month's newsletter. However, I fail to see how any cat owner can prevent their cat using other people's gardens, and I fear that the answer is to make one's garden less attractive to the cats that visit. I understand that sprinkling lion's dung on the flower beds has the desired effect!

Name and address supplied

From the editorial committee

The article in last month's issue was published as the personal opinion of the villager concerned, as are the responses printed here. However, to say that it could cause harmful behaviour to cats and other animals seems extremely unlikely.

We are including the various responses we have had to the article in this month's issue, and will then consider the matter closed. No further comments will be published.

Yarnton-with-Begbroke History Society

Alan Copeland, a keen photographer, is coming to talk about 'Curiosities of the Cotswolds' on Tuesday 15th October in **Yarnton Village Hall**. He is very interested in what he calls 'Curiosities' defined as 'simply, anything found in the English countryside which does not quite fit in with its surroundings'. He is a judge for various Club competitions and exhibitions. The talk starts at 7.45 p.m. *Helen Anderson*

Book Reading Group

The Book Reading Group's book for discussion on 7^{th} October is 'Wolf Hall' by Hilary Mantel. November's book is 'Man in the Wooden Hat' by Jane Gardam. Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. New members most welcome. Contact number: 371656.

Helen Anderson



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Yarnton Amateur Players Christmas Pantomime at Yarnton Village Hall

This year our pantomime will be 'Aladdin and the Wishing Tree'. Put a date in your diary now for Friday 13th December, or Saturday 14th December. Watch out for our advert in next month's newsletter where there will be further details.

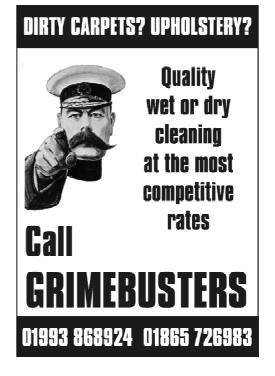
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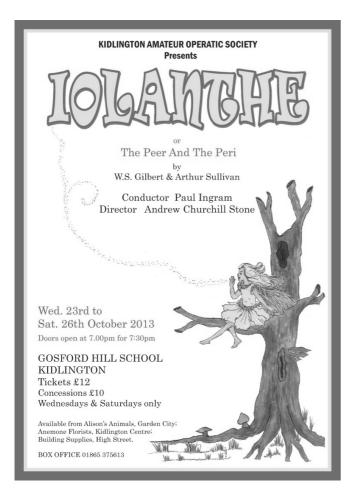
Winners of the draw on 8th August were:

114 Mr. P. Herbert
138 Mrs. Penfold
163 Mrs. L. Gaskins
12 R. Woodley

Winners of the draw on 5th September were:

Mrs. M. Birchall
 Mr. B. Haddlesey
 Mr. A. Davidson
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There's nowt as queer as folk

There is a saying up north: 'There's nowt as queer as folk', and I think it applies to certain Yarnton residents. I am talking about the dog owners who take the trouble to bag their pet's mess and then proceed to hang it on the nearest branch or barbed wire fence, instead of putting it in the bins provided.

I have discovered this festooning of the walkways in the footpath leading down to the cemetery and also in Little Lane between Little Blenheim and Cassington Road. Why do people do this? Are they rebelling and trying to prove a point? Are the poop bins all full up? Or are the perpetrators just plain crazy?

On a similar subject, someone recently took the trouble to take their bottles to the bottle bank near the Red Lion and then left the car park strewn with cardboard wine boxes. So it's OK to recycle glass, but not cardboard?

An inspection of the pink bin meant for small electrical items revealed no fewer than five empty paint pots. Yes, that's correct - paint pots.

Some years ago, there used to be a skip for garden refuse on the same site, but people abused it and left black plastic bags and non-garden waste all over the place. Not surprisingly, it was taken away. If we are not careful, the same could happen to our bottle banks. Name and email address supplied





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William Fletcher Halloween disco -25th October

We are pleased to be providing the toffee and chocolate apples for this school event! We're sure it will be a lot of freaky fun! Enjoy!

Cornish Tea Sails into Yarnton



If you haven't already heard of Cornish Tea you soon will! Cornish Tea Smugglers brew is new to Fraser's Budgens and we just love it! It is a breakfast blend tea with a really rather pleasant aftertaste. Look for it in the tea aisle, you can't miss it!

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Team Vicar: The Reverend Nathan Jarvis, tel. 01865 849352, 26 Church Lane, Yarnton

Bringing in the Harvest

I don't know if anyone out there is a fan of the Hairy Bikers? I was watching their cookery programme a few days ago, which was all about cooking things you have grown yourself. Along with the usual wit and banter, was a wonderful array of fruit and veg., all home grown. 'Everything tastes better when you have worked for your food' said one them, I forget which one. How true. There is a huge resurgence in growing our own. Allotments have waiting lists for months (in London, years!) and almost everyone I know has a little plot at the end of the garden where a few beans or potatoes can be grown. I am no different. We seem to be getting in touch with the land again. I am all for it, long may it last.

Somehow, getting soil under your nails, working up an appetite in the garden is very therapeutic. It connects us with the earth, and makes us think about the abundance of nature, or indeed the opposite if we get to the garden to discover vegetables shredded by caterpillars! To remember that carrots and cabbages grow in the ground, and not in the cellophane wrappers of the supermarket, is a good thing. This is the time of year when all our hard work (hopefully) pays dividends. We can fill our freezers full of delicious things, and sit back and relax. That's the idea, anyway.

Harvest is a time for reflection too. After another year, what have we achieved, what are we 'gathering in'? What things have we learnt that will help us and sustain us?

In church, we had a traditional harvest in September; the place was filled with good things to eat and to look at. We baked bread, and some of it we ate afterwards at our harvest lunch. As we did, we thought of those who have nothing to gather in, those who will go hungry. We celebrated and gave thanks for all we have, and so often take for granted.

So again, what are we grateful for? What do we want to say thank you for?

At William Fletcher School, the children have been thinking about what they want to say thank you for. We give thanks for a great start to the term, and for the wonderful results at the OFSTED inspection last term. For a safe place to learn and to play, to be with our friends and those who look after us. We have much to be grateful for.

So, the leaves are falling, the evenings are getting colder and darker. We are digging out our chunky knit jumpers and hunting out the hot water bottles. We are getting ready for the next season of the year. As we move from Harvest to Remembrance, we too travel as a church from one thing to another. Let us pause for thought, give thanks for all that is good, and enjoy the gifts of Harvest.

We thank thee, heav'nly Father for all things bright and good: the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food. Accept the gifts we offer for all thy love imparts, and, what thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

(every week unless otherwise stated)

St. Bartholomew's Church, Church Lane, Yarnton.

The Church is open every day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sundays

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Prayer, at St. Bartholomew's

11 a.m. Holy Communion, Common Worship,

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Wednesday 9.30 a.m., St. Bartholomew's



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Churchwarden: Charlotte Rayner, 3 Paternoster Court, Yarnton, tel. 01865 849534

Yarnton Parish Council

Clerk: Lynne Whitley

Office: Village Hall, The Paddocks, Yarnton, OX5 1TE.

Tel. 378476. e-mail:clerk@phonecoop.coop

The Parish Office is open Mondays and Thursdays

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. If the Clerk is not available when you call, please leave a message on the answerphone and a response will be made as soon as possible. If the main door of the Village Hall is locked, please knock on the window by the post box at the left end of the Village Hall.

Future Meeting dates: 9th October and 13th November in the Village Hall at 6.15 p.m., then every second Wednesday in the month. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of all Parish Council Meetings are available on the village website once they are

approved, <u>www.yarnton-village.org.uk</u> **Parish Council - contact numbers**

Parish Council Chairman Fred Jones. Tel: 373871

Parish Council Vice-Chairman Brian Newell. Tel: 842253 Parish Council Members:

John Burford. Tel: 849750 Harry Carrier. Tel: 841733 Michael Gibbard. Tel: 849435 Carol Green. Tel: 371355 Anna Isles. Tel: 372895 The above-named were declared elected as Parish Councillors without a contest as from 5th May 2011 for a four-year period. Michael Gibbard was declared elected as District Councillor as from 5th May 2011 for a four-year period

Co-opted Parish Councillor: 10th August 2011:

Graham Thompson. Tel: 461479

Co-opted Parish Councillor: 15th May 2013

Keith Johnston: Tel: 372266

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:

Lynne Whitley. Tel: 378476 **District Councillors:**

Michael Gibbard. Tel: 849435 Trevor Stevens. Tel: 451800

County Councillors:

Maurice Billington. Tel: 842235

Yarnton Village Hall

Bookings: Tel: 07948 722633 **Planning Applications:** None

Planning Decisions:

13/00841/F. 63 Meadow Way. First floor side extension.

Granted 12.8.13

Temporary Road Closures – Yarnton - Sandy Lane Level Crossing: For essential annual level crossing maintenance work to be carried out, part of Sandy Lane will be closed overnight on 19th October 2013 (22.55 to 08.00) and overnight on 26th October 2013 (23.00 to 09.00).

The Consumer Partnership: Oxfordshire's Consumer Partnership, run from Oxford CAB and linking all parts of the county, exists to campaign, educate, protect and empower consumers on issues from scams to cold calling. Our summer campaign is about Payday Loans, knowing your rights and where to seek help.

On 12th September the Partnership held a Forum at Trading Standards in Oxford – with a guest panel from Oxford Credit Union, the County Council and Citizens Advice. Get in touch to join our mailing list. We need more local volunteers – so please contact davidCEP@oxford-cab.org.uk if you can help or call 01865 304125. Much more at www.caox.org.uk/consumer

Compostable Caddy Bin Liners: The caddy bin liners are still selling well and stocks at the Parish Office in the Village Hall will be maintained for collection on Mondays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., or will be delivered by arrangement if more convenient and not possible to collect. The price is £3 (three pounds) per roll of 40 liners. Telephone 01865 378476.

Dogs: Dog waste bags are available free of charge from the Parish Office.

Welcome to Yarnton Booklets: The booklet can be viewed on the web site <u>www.yarnton-village.org.uk</u> and is available from the Parish Office at opening times, and also from the Post Office at Budgens Shop.



Yarnton Village Hall

The hall comprises a large Main Hall, Back Room and Committee Room. The hall is fully accessible - facilities include stage, kitchen, toilets with disabled facilities and car park. The hall is available for hire for meetings, training events, shows, lunches, clubs, sales, parties, etc. The charges for hiring the **Main Hall** or **Back Room** are per hour unless stated.

Village residents: £10 Non Village Residents: £12 **Kitchen:** £8 per session

A deposit of £100 is required when booking the hall. For further information or to book the hall please contact

Booking Secretary on 07948 722633





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Yarnton Gardening Club

The garden party held at the home of Ruby and David Haynes at the beginning of September was a great success. Although the evening was cooler than earlier in the summer and it started to get dark sooner, all those who came enjoyed a relaxing evening with good food and company. Many thanks to Ruby and David for the use of their garden.

Likewise, the trip to RHS Wisley on 7th September was also very enjoyable. A full coachload of members and friends went, and many came back with plants purchased from the exhibitors at the Annual Flower Show which was being held there. Thanks to John Cherry for organising this. Our speaker this month is Alison McDonald who will be talking about Yarnton Meads, floodplain grassland and changes through time. Don't forget to bring a houseplant along for the competition – foliage or flowering in a pot not exceeding 6 inches (15 cms.) diameter.

The December AGM and Christmas Social is rapidly approaching and a list will be available at the meeting for members to indicate what food they will be bringing. *Ruth Astall*

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Monday 8.00 - 18.00 Tuesday 8.30 - 18.00 Wednesday 8.30 - 12.30 Thursday 8.30 - 18.00 Friday 8.30 - 18.00

Diabetic & Asthma Clinics, Baby Immunisation Clinic – phone for appointment

Well Baby Clinic First Thursday of the month 2.00 -3.00

Daybreak

Daybreak is a local charity in Oxford, which started in 1991 and provides clubs for older people with a dementia.

We run three clubs:

Rosewood in Blackbird Leys, open Monday to Friday. Lilacs in Kidlington, open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Organiser, Sue Bond, 11 Charlbury Close, Kidlington OX5 2BW. Tel. 01865 370658.

Limes in North Oxford, open Monday and Tuesday. Organiser, Lyn Hunt, St. Margaret's Institute, 30 Polstead Road, OX2 6TN. Tel. 01865 510719.

We aim to provide an enjoyable and stimulating day for the member. We also recognise the importance of providing a short break for carers, as this is often the only time carers have for themselves all week.

We believe that people with a dementia retain skills and abilities, can make choices and express an opinion at some level.

We provide a range of suitable games and activities, outings and trips, singing and dancing.

We also provide a two-course hot meal, plus tea and biscuits for £11 a day.

We have Red Cross providing minibus transport and, depending where you live and spaces, offer a door-to-door service for £2 a day.

We recognise that people with dementia deserve high quality care and so all our staff receive specialist dementia training.

We run a Carers' Support Group once a month open to any carer of someone with dementia. We have guest speakers and a chance to share and learn from other carers.

We raise funds every year to keep our clubs open, through our fundraising manager. If you have time, energy or just ideas, we would love to hear from you.

We need volunteers to help us provide a more personal service and trustees to join our Board. If you have any particular skill or interest, please contact us. Colin Edwards, tel. 01865 552629/07859 316611

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Yarnton W.I.

This month is our annual Harvest Supper for members and friends. This year we are celebrating our 75th anniversary, so it will be an extra-special evening. If you haven't put your name down yet and would like to do so, please contact Mary Chamberlain on 371721. The cost is £8. The competition is for a table decoration, and there will also be a raffle. Tea hostesses are Hannah Melhuish, Rosemary Smith, Gwyneth Stone and Liz Trevett. Ruth Astall





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The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock

Museum Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Last admission 4.45 p.m. Closed Mondays. Free Admission.

Telephone 01993 811456.

Exhibitions

Oxford Art Society: until 13th October

The Art Society is an umbrella organisation for artists in Oxfordshire who wish to exhibit together, providing an interesting and diverse exhibition. Free Admission

The Stuff Collective: until 20th October

Former students of the Foundation Art and Design course from Abingdon and Witney College bring together their latest work.

Free Admission

Art in Woodstock: 19th October – 9th November

The annual visual arts festival fills venues around the town once again. This year's theme is portraits. Free Admission

October Half Term Children's Activities

Tuesday 29th October: TOM Tots – crafts, stories and songs for under 5s. 10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m., £1 per family. Craft Drop-ins – Wooden spoon characters – Get creative and make your own wooden spoon character. 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. £1.50 per child.

Thursday 30th October: Craft Drop-in – Make a face – Design a portrait inspired by the museum's collections.

2 p.m. - 4 p.m. £1.50 per child.

Those were the Days - Reminiscence afternoons

A monthly group for local people to meet, reminisce about the old days and share memories. £1 per person, includes tea and coffee. Friday 1st October – Shops and shopping

Saturday afternoon lectures based on the visual arts.

All talks are on a Saturday at 3 p.m. Tickets are £7.

These talks are proving very popular and tickets can be bought in advance from The Oxfordshire Museum, The Woodstock Bookshop, Oxford Street, Woodstock, tel. 01993 812760 or by telephoning Trevor Hendy 01993 812103 or at the venue on the day.

12th October. New Buildings in an Historic Setting – St. John's College, Oxford - Jeremy Estop and Matteo Sarno. Jeremy Estop and Matteo Sarno of London-based award-winning M.J.P. Architects will talk about their work in Oxford. The main focus will be on the practice's approach to the design of the much praised Garden Quad and Kendrew Quad buildings in the historic grounds of St. John's College.

9th November. War Artists – Paint, People and Propaganda – Meirion Hughes.

Meirion Harries is the author of *The War Artists*, the first comprehensive study of Britain's official war art schemes. The book goes behind the scenes to explore the personalities, the propaganda and the pressures that produced this extraordinary official record of conflict from the First World War to the Falklands. Featuring artists such as John Piper and Paul Nash.

23th November. J.M.W. Turner and Oxford – Dr. Jon Whiteley. A discussion, by Dr. Jon Whiteley, Senior Keeper of Western Art at The Ashmolean Museum, of the development of the art of J.M.W. Turner as seen through the many views he painted of the scenery of Oxford from the 1790s to the 1840s.

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Glyme Valley Probus Club for Ladies

Don McBrown came to talk to us in August about his life and career as a weather forecaster. An interesting point was made that despite satellites, technology and computers which get larger by the day, it is wild flowers that can usually predict the weather. Of course they can't tell us what it's going to be like next week, as they have fairly short term answers and generally only react to what the weather is doing at the time.

But we were told about cloud formations, storms and how aircraft can be very vulnerable to weather patterns. Lightening frequently strikes more than once in the same place, and we were told that to be inside during a storm is safer than outside. Indeed, the science of weather forecasting continues to fascinate and intrigue. We are still in the process of finding a new home for our meetings and a decision will soon be made. For any enquiries about Ladies Probus please contact 01993 812025. Sandy Rasch

Kidlington and Yarnton Surgery

It is flu vaccination time again. As well as those over 65 years and those patients with chronic diseases, this year the Department of Health want us to immunize children aged two and three years (this will be using nasal drops). Those of you who are either 70 years old OR 79 years old on $1^{\rm st}$ September can also have a shingles vaccine should you so wish.

Please phone reception on 379345 for an appointment for any of these vaccinations.

Carol Cripps, Practice Manager, Kidlington and Yarnton Surgery

The Oxfordshire Woodfuel Programme

Be smart when you buy firewood. Please buy from a local supplier, as this minimises 'fuel miles' and supports local businesses. Ask your supplier whether they provide 0xLogs (www.oxlogs.com), which are the Oxford quality standard for woodfuel. Otherwise ask:

1. what the moisture content of the wood is (it should be 25% or less), 2. what volume of wood you are getting (you should know what weight or volume you are getting, not just 'a load'), 3. whether it is soft or hardwood (a hardwood log has more energy than a softwood log of the same size), and 4. how long the logs are.

Wood with a high moisture content will burn badly, since much of its energy will first go into turning that moisture into steam before it can heat your house. Last summer was terrible for drying wood, but this year has been much better. You can buy a moisture meter for about £15 online. For more information see

www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk/our-community-wants-to. Join Logs for Labour. L4L matches up woodland owners whose woodlands need managing ('log offers') with people who are willing to help out in return for logs ('labour offers'). The woodfuel programme is organising a series of L4L events for the autumn and winter. If you would like to make either a log or a labour offer, contact: manager@oxonwoodfuel.org.uk or 'like' www.facebook.com/oxonwood to get updates on log offers.

Attention woodfuel boiler owners: If you own a chip, pellet, log batch or wood burning stove with back boiler, please could you fill out a short survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/9SZBD9T? The results will help others who are thinking about installing similar boilers.

Ash die-back. The Forestry Commission has a very good website in case you are worried that an ash tree has chalara (ash die-back): www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara. **Events and talks**. The woodfuel programme will be talking to Transition Eynsham on Wednesday 16th Oct at 7.30 p.m. There will also be a woodfuel conference in Dorking on Friday 4th October, and one on productive woodland enterprises in Birmingham on Thursday 17th October. Please see www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk for more information

Riki Therivel, Wood Fuel Programme Manager, TOE2, $01865\ 243488$





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NETBALL

Kidlington (Yarnton & Begbroke) Netball Club re-commences Club nights on *Tuesdays* this Winter *at Rutten Lane, Yarnton 7 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.* and new players are welcome – the sessions are suitable for beginner/returner players as well as the regular club members, and offer a relaxed atmosphere to try out the sport, usually with a qualified coach.

U16, U14, U12 and Highfive sessions are supported, with six teams playing in the Oxfordshire Junior Winter League on Sunday mornings, with training continuing throughout the year. Please contact Tess tessa.horn@gmail.com for further information on our junior sessions.

Whatever your age, if you are thinking that netball could be a fun and fitness activity which you would like to participate in - do consider coming along to our club.

For updated information please contact: Club Secretary - Laura - kidlington.netball@hotmail.co.uk

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Woodstock Methodist Church, Oxford Street, Woodstock Kidlington Methodist Church, Oxford Road, Kidlington

Minister: The Revd. Jonathan Todd, tel. 01865 842214, Email: jonathan.todd@oxfordmethodists.org.uk Lay Worker: Malcolm Bromhall, tel. 01865 373958, Email: malcolm.bromhall@oxfordmethodists.org.uk Web: www.woodstockmethodists.org.uk, www.kidlingtonmethodistchurch.co.uk

There are no Methodist churches in Yarnton, but you will find one in both Woodstock and Kidlington. Details of our forthcoming services are below, but there are also various midweek activities, details of which can be found on the appropriate website. Everyone is welcome to come and join us at any time.

Services in October

WOOGSTOCK				
6 th	8.30 a.m.	Rev. Jonathan Todd		
		(Holy Communion)		
	10.30 a.m.	Ian Leck		
13^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Paul Spray		
20^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Jonathan Todd		
		(Holy Communion)		
27^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Judith Atkinson		

TA7 - - J - + - - |-

We also have a Junior Church which meets every week at 10.30 a.m. and ranges in age from two to early teens. The first part of the morning is shared with the adults in church before we then go round to the church hall to share in our own activities. We are always delighted to see new members, whether with or without their parents!

Every Friday we meet at 9.30 a.m. for a short informal time of prayer followed by coffee. On the third Friday of the month, this incorporates a celebration of communion. All welcome!

Kidlington

6 th	10	Malaalaa Daaaalaall (Haaaaa
O ^{tti}	10 a.m.	Malcolm Bromhall (<i>Harvest</i>
		Festival)
12^{th}	4.30 p.m.	Messy Church (a time of games,
		crafts and informal worship)
13^{th}	10 a.m.	Rev. Leslie Marsh
		(Holy Communion)
20^{th}	10 a.m.	Mike King (Church Anniversary)
27^{th}	10 a.m.	Rev. Judy Turner-Smith
The K	idlington church	also runs a Junior Church and

The Kidlington church also runs a Junior Church and crèche on Sunday mornings.

General Wildlife Gardening Tips

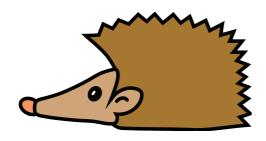
Had another lovely phone call from a reader this week, again requesting a specific subject to cover in these scribblings. I was asked to give 10 of my top tips for wildlife gardening to be an overview, and not focus in on one area in this article.

As always, I'm happy to oblige.

- Build a pond, have flowers/shrubs/trees with different coloured, shaped and smelling flowers at differing times of year, loads of dead wood, and grasses of differing length.
- Grow climbing plants against walls and fences and up the middle of shrubs and trees.
- Leave cracks in paving for hibernating and hunting beasties.
- Grow some native plants that support a much greater range of native wildlife, but variety is often just as effective in a garden so let's not get bogged down in native and non-native.
- Don't use chemicals, the natural balance will develop so that predators increase. Lots of parallels between organic and wildlife gardening here.
- Provide pollen rich flowers and nectar throughout the year.
- Leave water sources for the birds.
- Nest boxes for birds and boxes for bats can also be good.
- Leave prunings and leaves under your shrubs and hedges so hedgehogs have somewhere to sleep, breed and hibernate.
- Leave grass to grow long under some shrubs, these damp areas can be great for amphibians.

There you go, 10 top tips. I could think of so many more that are just as valid as these. Get thinking and come up with your own micro habitats out there in your own gardens.

Stuart Mabbutt, Widlife Gardening Specialist, 01865 747243



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10 a.m.

Parish Priest: Fr. Prem Fernando

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Weekdays

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Wednesday 9.30 a.m.

Thursday 9.30 a.m.

Friday 12 noon

St. Hugh of Lincoln

Saturday

Sunday 9.30 a.m. Wednesday 12 noon

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We are an established golfing society with a present membership of 33; we play at least once a month and each year plan a long golfing weekend away (also abroad).

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