MARCH 2017

Village

News

YARNTON

Editorial Committee:

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<u>www.yarnton-village.org.uk?</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/Yarnton-Community-</u> <u>1550477671912903/?fref=ts</u>

CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH

Wed. 1 st	Ash Wednesday Service, St. Bartholomew's, 9.30 a.m.
Wed. 1 st	'Little Sheep' (and every Wednesday in term-time), 10.15 a.m., St. Bartholomew's
Wed. 1 st	Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m. (and every Wednesday)
Wed. 1 st	Beavers, Scout Hut, 5 p.m. – 6.15 p.m. (and every Wednesday)
Thur. 2 nd	Sing-along music group for babies and pre-schoolers, (and every Thursday in term time),
	Village Hall, 10 a.m.
Thur. 2 nd	Senior Club Village Hall, 2p.m.
Fri. 3 rd	Scouts, Scout Hut, 7 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. (and every Friday)
Mon. 6 th	Short Mat Bowling, Village Hall, 10 a.m. (and every Monday)
Mon. 6 th	Cubs, Scout Hut, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m. (and every Monday)
Mon. 6 th	Explorers, Scout Hut, 8.15 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. (and every Monday)
Mon. 6 th	Book Reading Group, tel. 372888
Tue. 7 th	Central Yarnton Bridge Club, Village Hall 9.50 a.m. (and every Tuesday)
Wed. 8 th	9.30 a.m. service at St. Bartholomew's (and every Wednesday)
Wed. 8 th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 6.15 p.m.
Thur.9 th	W.I., Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Fri. 10 th	Copy date for April issue of Yarnton Village News
Thur. 16 th	Senior Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.
Thur. 16 th	Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Sun. 26 th	Mothering Day Service, St. Bartholomew's, 11 a.m.

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Copy Deadline for April Issue

Material for inclusion in the April Newsletter should be received by midday on Friday 10th March. Copy should be e-mailed to: <u>ruth@astall.com</u> **and** <u>maryclarke2305@googlemail.com</u> 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 May issue is Friday 7th April.

Thank you

On behalf of all the members of the Lunch Club, we would like to say a big thank you to all the staff at Yarnton Manor who invited us to have lunch at the Manor on 11th January. Everyone enjoyed a very nice meal. Thank you again. *D. Poulton*

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Over 15 years of clinical experience Anita is a member of the GOC (General Osteopathic Council) and gualified in 1996.

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YOGA in YARNTON

Anita is also a member of the IYA (Iyengar Yoga Association) and has been studying Iyengar Yoga since 1997 and has been teaching since 2006. Individual and small group classes available at 98 Rutten Lane. Please call for details of Yoga classes.

Found

A Yale key on a key ring was found at the end of January at the bus stop in Rutten Lane on the corner of the Paddocks. If you think it might be yours, please contact Ruth Astall on 372637.



News from William Fletcher School

As I write this our **new play equipment** is being set up on the playing field next to the Key Stage 2 playground. This is very exciting and huge thanks to our PTA who made a significant financial contribution towards this. The children are really looking forward to playing on the new equipment, and this will be an excellent addition to our play facilities at school. Our **new extension** at school has now been completed and the staff and children are really benefiting from using our lovely new classrooms, the years 5 and 6 pupils each have a new classroom and there is a new staffroom area. We all agree that the new building looks amazing from the outside too.

During January all the children took part in a project exploring **Syrian tiles from the Ashmolean museum**. The tiles were used as a stimulus for a range of learning activities including learning about Islamic art, making new tile designs in art and writing prayers. Also in January some of our Year 4 children visited the Yarnton Nursing Home behind the school to read stories to the residents. This was a brilliant opportunity to share books and talk with older members of our community. We have started a new initiative between home and school as part of our Unicef Rights Respecting School accreditation. This is called 'The Big Question'. Every week a question is published in the school newsletter, which parents and carers can discuss with their child at home. Questions so far have included: 'Why Am I here?' and 'Who am I?' This supports UN Rights of the Child: Article 12: You have the Right to give your opinion and for adults to take it seriously.

Also this term the children in Key Stage 1 have been practicing putting bandages on each other as part of their learning about the life of **Florence Nightingale** and discovering other famous people in history. The Hobgoblin children's theatre company visited our children in Key Stage 1 during February and put on a great performance of **Little Red Riding Hood** as part of their project on Fairy Tales.

During February, three of our children in year 6 represented school at the West Oxfordshire schools **Boccia competition**. This is a sport quite similar to boules or bowls. The children worked well as a team and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of playing matches and meeting other children from around the county. The children were a real credit to our school. Our children in years 3 and 4 have been learning about **Vikings and Anglo Saxons**. They have enjoyed doing artwork based around Anglo Saxon brooches. They were most impressed when they learned about Thor the god of Thunder and his mighty hammer.

Our children enjoyed our winter **school discos** just before the February half term holiday. Our amazing PTA also provided pancakes to all the children at school on Shrove Tuesday for at least the 4th year running. Have a happy and healthy March from the William Fletcher team, staff, PTA and governors.

William Fletcher Governors, Parents and Community Group. Are you interested in joining our school's Parents and Community Committee? In this group we try to forge closer links between our local communities and the school. If you live in Yarnton or Begbroke and are interested, please contact the school office who will let the Chair of the committee know.



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Yarnton under threat from 4,400 new houses

Yarnton village is under threat. So is Begbroke. And Kidlington. Are these statements hyperbole or based on substance? The answer to that depends on how we view the proposals from Cherwell District Council to build 4,400 new houses on Green Belt land that surrounds these three historic villages.

In November 2016, Cherwell District Council began a public consultation process on proposals to build 4,400 new houses in the district. A substantial document, called the Options Consultation, was published by the District Council and this explained that the 4,400 new houses were needed to meet the unmet housing need of Oxford City. The document outlined why the new houses are needed and possible areas where these could be located. However the consultation document states that Cherwell District Council's preferred area for the development is around Yarnton, Begbroke and Kidlington. This preference is despite each of the three villages being fully enclosed by fields that comprise the Oxford Green Belt, which means they are meant to be protected from development. Within the area around the three villages, Cherwell District Council specifies sites that are under threat. These include the fields that run behind the Turnpike to Begbroke village. To the west of the A44, the swathe of fields surrounding Spring Hill are highlighted, while fields directly south of Yarnton adjacent to Church Lane are mentioned. Beyond Yarnton, large open areas surrounding Begbroke and Kidlington are threatened. This includes all the Green Belt band that currently separates the three villages from Oxford.

The consequence of this development will be the coalescence of Yarnton, Begbroke and Kidlington into one mass urban sprawl that becomes a suburb of Oxford. Local identity and history will be lost. For ever. Countryside rich in wildlife and highly valued by the local community would be destroyed. The purpose of the Oxford Green Belt is to protect the countryside from exactly this type of development. Bizarrely, the proposals contradict Cherwell District Council's own policies that state the importance of protecting the Green Belt.

It is important to attempt to put the full enormity of the development into context. We are not talking about a few tens of new houses, or even a few hundred, but thousands of new houses. The 2011 census stated that there are approximately 1,100 houses in Yarnton, 350 in Begbroke and 6,300 in Kidlington including Water Eaton. This means the proposed development of 4,400 new houses is four times the size of Yarnton! A development of this magnitude would have enormous consequences on all aspects of life. Extra pressure would be placed on schools, health services and other local amenities. Roads and public transport in the area are, on a daily basis, already under severe pressure and it is difficult to comprehend the impact of this development. *(continued on opposite page)*



But a point often raised is that new houses are needed. This is correct, new homes are required and there is already a detailed plan in place for future house building in Cherwell District. The Local Plan Part 1, adopted by Cherwell District Council in July 2015, is a detailed report that outlines the housing needs for the district from 2011 to 2031. In the Local Plan, Cherwell District Council committed to build 22,840 new houses and stated this would be achieved through a mix of substantial developments and small scale projects. The Local Plan for Cherwell also states the importance of protecting the Green Belt and the need to prevent the coalescence of villages into large urban sprawls. There is no reference to substantial development within the Oxford Green Belt, nor the coalescence of Yarnton, Begbroke and Kidlington. It is clear that the 4,400 new houses are in addition to what Cherwell District Council has already committed to build, with Yarnton, Begbroke and Kidlington expected to absorb the unmet housing needs of Oxford City Council.

With this in mind, it is worth asking how the figure of 4,400 was calculated. The figure was the outcome of the 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for Oxfordshire. The SHMA highlighted the major employment centres within Oxfordshire, notably the south and east of Oxford, the Science Vale area around Culham, Didcot and Harwell, and Banbury, and outlined a range of employment growth forecasts. The 4,400 figure was based on the most optimistic of these forecasts, although the SHMA makes no reference to the Northern Gateway Project at Peartree. It should be asked then if Oxford City Council is prioritising industrial growth ahead of delivering new houses to meet the needs of Oxford? The SHMA was also prepared prior to the result of the European Union referendum, an event that will shape the future of the country for decades. At a time of uncertainty, surely a review of the growth plans is warranted?

So are these proposals a 'done deal'? A group of concerned residents from Begbroke and Yarnton do not think so, and they have come together to form an opposition group. Our group, called Begbroke and Yarnton Green Belt Campaign, comprises people who have lived in the area for many years and value our unique village communities and surrounding countryside. One of the group's priorities is to make residents of Yarnton and Begbroke aware of these plans and garner support to oppose them. The first stage of the consultation process ended in January 2017. Cherwell District Council will publish a further consultation document in April or May this year and further reviews will take place in the subsequent months. The voices of the local community must be heard during this process, but how can this be achieved? Write to your local MP and councillors, spread the word about the plans amongst your friends and neighbours, and keep watch for important developments around the process. To help, our recently launched website at <u>www.begbrokeyarntoncampaign.uk</u> contains more details about the plans and includes contact details if you have any questions or would like to get involved with our campaign.

This will be an emotive subject. Many people will oppose the new houses, others may be supportive. What is clear though is the time to make your opinions heard is now. Once the first bricks are laid it will be too late. It is over the coming weeks and months that the future identity of our village will be determined. The outcome will affect generations to come. *Richard Pye*



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Yarnton Amateur Players

The dust has once again settled on the Village Hall stage following our pantomime 'Hansel and Gretal' in January. We are pleased to report that nearly 300 people (aged 0 to 90!) cheered, laughed, boo'd and clapped us along the way... and hopefully left with smiles on their faces. We would like to thank all of them for coming and supporting us - and especially those who helped make cakes, serve in the kitchen, or tidy up after the last show! We will be making a donation with some of the proceeds of the show to the Haematology ward at the Churchill Hospital, where one of our cast members (Perry Trafford aka Hansel) was treated a few years ago. Perry will also be undertaking a series of half-marathons this year to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

We are pleased to announce that our popular dinner show will return this year in June. Look out for more details in a few months time. In the meantime ... if anyone wants to join our happy group, please come along to the Village Hall on any Wednesday (8 p.m. to 10 p.m.) in March to see us. *Belinda Davies, tel. 372917*



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On Saturday 25th March Oxford Harmonic Choir performs Tippett's *A Child of our Time* in Oxford Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. This powerful work explores themes of persecution and flight, and includes settings of five famous African-American spirituals born of black slavery. Beethoven's Violin concerto will also be performed. We are joined by the Orchestra of Stowe Opera and soloists Abigail Iveson (soprano), Olivia Ray (mezzo soprano), Philip Sheffield (tenor), Alan Fairs (baritone) and Charles Sewart (violin). Robert Secret conducts. Tickets are £15– £18 (concessions available) from Oxford Playhouse (tel. 01865 305305, www.ticketsoxford.com), and on the door from 7 p.m.

Visit <u>www.oxfordharmonicchoir.org</u> for more information.

Yarnton 2017 Spring Clean

Arrangements are currently being made for this year's event, which in previous years has proved to be popular and successful. The Spring Clean is scheduled to take place during the period 3rd March to 20th March inclusive. Most of the clubs/organisations in the village have in the past taken part and will have been contacted regarding their possible involvement this year. Last year a number of residents took part by litter picking their own street, and this was very much appreciated by the Parish Council. Litter picking equipment/bags/high viz jackets are available for people wishing to take part. For further information please contact Fred Jones 01865 373871. *Yarnton Parish Council*



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Yarnton Netball Club

The second half of the Winter season began in late January with tough matches against Brize Norton and Wallingford. League matches are played on Wednesday nights at the Oxford Arena at Marston and will run through to the end of March. Coaching continues on Club Night (Tuesdays) at Rutten Lane court from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.; we are particularly welcoming new players this month as we begin to prepare for the Summer league which will commence in May – please do come along and see if you might like to join in.



Players need to be 15+ and turn up in easy clothing and trainers, and with a bottle of water! Please check updated information with our club secretary before turning-up for training. Further information on netball within Oxfordshire is at <u>www.oxfordshirenetball.co.uk</u> For those with SKY SPORTS. The Vitality Netball Superleague is in full swing with weekly matches being shown live – keep up with the progress of our nearest Superleague squad - TEAMBATH, or select your own favourite at

https://www.englandnetball.co.uk/competitions/. Club Secretary: Laura. tel. 07740 467107, varntonnetballclub@outlook.com





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Yarnton Gardening Club

As mentioned last month, we have no elected Chairman at present and so members of the committee are taking it in turns to chair our monthly meetings. In January it was Pauline Brown's turn, and she started the arrangement off in excellent fashion. Our speaker was Tony Clear, previously head gardener at Brook Cottage at Alkerton, a garden the club has visited several times. Sadly the house and garden have been sold following the death of the previous owners, and the garden is no longer open to the public. Tony showed us slides of views past and more recent of the garden, and talked about his time there. It was a fascinating talk, especially to those of us who had visited the garden, and we were sorry to hear of its demise. We were encouraged by the good attendance at the meeting and the number of people renewing their membership, and we welcomed one new member. This month our talk is by Malcolm Brownsword and his topic is Pleiones. Some people may not know what these are - they are a type of orchid which originates mostly from China, Northern India, Thailand and Nepal. In this country they are generally grown as pot plants, and have very pretty, often brightly coloured flowers. Malcolm will tell us more and give us information on their cultivation and varieties.

We meet in the Village Hall on Thursday 16th at 7.30 p.m. and visitors are always welcome.

As the weather warms up and you start to get out in the garden again, don't forget that we have our annual Plant Sale on 13th May. If you're sowing seeds, sow some extra ones; if you find stray seedlings, pot them up; if some clumps of perennials have outgrown their space in the garden, divide them and plant some ready for the sale. Members and friends have always supplied a wonderful array of flower and vegetable plants for sale, so we hope for more of the same this year.

We shall be taking names for our outing on Sunday 14th May to RHS Wisley, an all-day trip by coach, so look out for the list at the meeting, or contact Cath Newman on 849275 for more information. *Ruth Astall*



The Key Medical Practice

Staff Training is Underway

The partners of the Key Medical Practice are determined that all members of the team take part in training. Training is known to enhance job satisfaction and increase staff morale, but most importantly it improves patient care. We are very fortunate to have enrolled three of our nurses on training courses this spring. Cheryl is undertaking her preliminary Practice Nurse training, Anna is learning all about asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and Steph is gaining in-depth knowledge of diabetes. Some of their training will involve consulting with patients in the practice under the guidance of an experienced mentor. You will, of course, be informed if your appointment is to be held by a staff member in training and your wishes will be respected if you choose not to participate.

However, good clinical training is an apprenticeship and we do hope many of our patients feel comfortable in facilitating the learning of our team.



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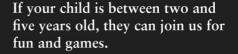
Senior Club

We started the new year with three birthdays – Jose, Kath (Wilson) and Muriel; we were all wished a Happy Birthday with the usual song and present. We were sorry to hear that Richard can no longer make the journey from Kidlington. He was a member of the Club several years before I joined. We have sent our good wishes to him. This means we have lost another member. Repeating what I wrote in January, we are desperate for new members to keep the Club going in the future. *Jose Green, tel.* 375644

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Yarnton Band - Where are former players now?

The influence of our band spreads far and wide. In Australia we have at least six former players. When the band was at a low ebb **Audrey and George Willett** kept the band going with a handful of children; sadly since their move to Australia George has passed away, but Audrey still plays with several bands including the Silver Threads band, mainly formed of former Salvation Army players. Their son, **Mike Willett** plays cornet with the Royal Agricultural Band, one of the top brass bands in Western Australia, and will be remembered here as a fine solo cornet player. Their granddaughter **Claire Roberts** (daughter of Janice) is a teacher and won her first solo award with our band at the age of five!

Three other cornet players who were with Yarnton band at various times during some of the band's successful years in the 1960s and 1970s now live in Australia - **Sue Carter**, one of the founder members of the band, **Barry Martin and his sister Janet**.



Mike Willett and Jan Nutt (nee Martin) to the right



Alex Carr

Nearer to home **Alex Carr** started playing with our band at the age of five and is now a professional French Horn player with the orchestra of the English National Ballet. Alex also plays at various times with the BBC Concert Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and has played for many West End musicals, including Phantom of the Opera, The Wizard of Oz and The Sound of Music. Her husband Richard Stroud is also a professional Horn player. Alex's father, John Carr, decided to encourage her in the nineteen eighties by learning to play himself, and after starting on the trombone John has now moved on to play in our Bass section.

Nigel Hall, who played with the band for some time, moved on to conduct many bands in the area, runs the MMI Music publishing company and is also a composer and arranger. Another player known to many is Lynne Whitley, who started with the band as a young girl and has recently played with Witney Town Band. I thank Lynne Whitley for the information on our former members now living in Australia. And if anyone in the village has news of other former players please let me know. *Peter Hewis*





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Minister: The Revd. Alison Mares, tel. 01865 373958, Email: <u>alison.mares@oxfordmethodists.org.uk</u>. Lay Worker: Malcolm Bromhall, tel. 07887 947569, Email: malcolm.bromhall@oxfordmethodists.org.uk Web: <u>www.woodstockmethodists.org.uk</u>, <u>www.kidlingtonmethodistchurch.co.uk</u> 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 March

Woodstock

5^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Alison Mares
12^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Philip Beuzeval
		(Holy Communion)
19^{th}	10.30 a.m.	Ian Leck
26^{th}	10.30 p.m.	Rev. Bob Whorton

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 Thursday we meet at 9:30am for a short informal time of prayer followed by coffee. On the third Thursday of

the month, this incorporates a celebration of communion. All welcome!

Kidlington

5^{th}	10 a.m.	John Lenton				
12^{th}	10 a.m.	Simeon Mitchell				
19^{th}	10 a.m.	Rev. Canon Dr. Martin Wellings				
		(Holy Communion)				
26^{th}	10 a.m.	Heidi Cottrell				
The Kidlington church also runs a Junior Church and						
crèche on Sunday mornings.						

The next Messy Church at Kidlington will be on Saturday 11th March at 4.30 p.m. Messy church is a time for families to share in stories, activities and food together. All are welcome.



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Yarnton W.I.

This month is our Annual Meeting, when we look back over the past year, and elect officers and committee members for the new W.I. year which starts in April. We are hoping for one or two new committee members this vear, and it's not too late to volunteer. Most of us have been on the committee for a long time and we need fresh ideas so that our meetings and events don't get stale. Please give it some thought and contact a committee member as soon as possible, if you think you might like to join us. You will be made most welcome.

Following the business at the meeting, we are planning a lighthearted Beetle Drive, so do come along.

The meeting is in the Village Hall on Thursday 9th at 7.30 p.m. Tea hostesses are Maureen Rhymes, Rosemary Smith and Gwyneth Stone. We shall have a raffle and our usual book stall.

The March coffee morning will be on Monday 27th at The Buttery in Woodstock from 10.30 a.m. Do come along if vou are free.

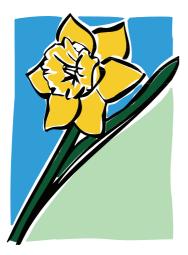
Skittles. There may still be time to put your name down for our annual Skittles evening, which will be on Saturday 18th March at the Masonic Hall in Woodstock at 7 p.m. The cost will be £11.50 to include a 2-course meal, plus 50p for the 'sticker-upper'. Please contact Rosemary on 01865 730188 for further details or to book. Ruth Astall

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 or email varntonvillagehall@gmail.com

Macular Society Kidlington

We normally meet on the last Tuesday of the month, in Frank Cook Court, School Road, Kidlington at 10.15 a.m. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 28th March and our speaker will be Rob Pritchard, Community Liaison Officer , Smart Metering and electric and gas energy. Anyone interested in further information, please contact Tom on 01865 37648 or Marita on 01865 373104. *Marita Ferrett*





In Nature's Own Time.

I recently experienced my mother passing away, and have found nature a great comfort. I have noticed time moving in very strange ways at times of grief.

Since then, I have been observing how nature's own body clock, as it were, works. No real conclusions, just more questions.

Nature fluctuates, especially when there is a warm spell; just look at all the wild flowers already germinating. Or witness how nature contracts and protects itself when harsh weather reappears. Nature does find its own level and balances out, though, something which we ourselves could learn an immense amount from.

As I write, it's exactly a week, almost to the minute, that my mother's funeral happened. I wonder sometimes if nature is aware of passing time, or just focuses on 'being'? Something else we could all no doubt learn from? Do the birds in the garden realise how long they have been singing? Do the bees realise they've been flying around in circles much of the time? Do the little mammals and invertebrates have any comprehension that we are watching them, or are they just busy, doing what they do best, just 'being'? I wonder if nature understands what 'just being' is?

Maybe what it is to be human is understanding and knowing, which sets us apart? Is that a good thing though? Does that affect our enjoyment of our wildlife gardens though, as we just don't spend time out in it happily just 'being'?

Just some thoughts whilst sat out in my own wildlife garden, wondering what on earth to write about! Happy Wildlife Gardening.

Stuart 'The Wildman' Mabbutt, tel. 01865 747243 <u>www.wildmaninspires.co.uk</u>

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WE VISIT YOU AT HOME

Glyme Valley Probus Club for Ladies

In January George Hedges came to talk to us on two topics. The first was his career in the Police Service in Oxford for 45 years. He faced violent crime, benefit fraud and traffic control, to name but a few points; it was an interesting subject and there were very amusing stories throughout this time.

Shortly after retirement George became involved with a young family who had two very sick children, and from this experience the charity ROSY began. This gives respite nursing for Oxfordshire's sick youngsters and provides care in their own homes for children and babies with terminal illness. Over the few short years since this charity began in 2002, some very expensive equipment has been provided, and the few hours of respite care given can be very beneficial for the families and their sick children.

Funds are raised in many ways, and all donations are given directly to provide families with nursing care and equipment. I am pleased to report that Ladies Probus donated a generous collection to this charity. A few of us are off to Wales shortly for our winter holiday, where we plan to visit a castle, a cathedral, a slate museum, a power station, the Menai Bridge and Angelsey, together with other points of interest, and we plan to enjoy good company while we are together. *Sandy Rasch*



For enquiries about baptisms, weddings or pastoral issues please contact Revd. Nathan Jarvis on <u>fr.nathan@yahoo.com</u> or 01865 849352 Team Vicar: The Reverend Nathan Jarvis, tel. 01865 849352, 26 Church Lane, Yarnton Churchwardens: Ian Gill, email <u>iangill98@yahoo.com</u>

John Appleton, tel. 01865 460496 email john appleton@ntlworld.com

I would like to share with you a reading from a recent service. It is not often I quote the prophet Isaiah, especially in the Village News, but that's what I'm going to do today. It has so much relevance for what is going on in the world at the moment, abroad and closer to home:

'Thus says the LORD: Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements, they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard.'

This passage is all about sticking up for the oppressed, not just in words, but in action. Who would have thought that something written so long ago could still be useful today? I love this reading. It tells us to not only to serve God in ritual and in word, but to get out there and work for the poor. It tells us to speak up for injustice, in fact, to shout out when we see it and to help out where we can. If ever we needed to hear this message, it is now. It is now, when we see such disturbing developments in the U.S. and when we listen to the plans for Brexit on TV or read about it in the newspapers. It is about empowerment, and actually acting on what we know to be right. It is about not putting your head in the sand, it's about making it happen.

How do we let the oppressed go free?

How do we share our bread with the hungry?

How do we clothe the naked?

How do we stand up for what is right, and be lights in the world?

'Let the oppressed go free'

There are countless prisoners abroad who have been incarcerated unfairly, or without charge. We often hear about them on the news, and then something else grabs our attention, or the headlines and we soon forget. Oppression can take many forms. We can feel personally oppressed in our daily lives by those around us or circumstances out of our control. We can also feel oppressed by situations we see in the world. Many friends on Facebook are trying to fill their posts with positivity, with artwork, with acts of kindness, sending out a message of hope rather than rehashing the things that bring us down and make us depressed or angry.

One thing that most people are talking about daily is the situation with Brexit, and of course the new President of the United States. Rather than simply feeling powerless and frustrated, why not do something about it? Stop imagining, make it happen! Go to this link: <u>https://www.amnesty.org.uk/</u>

'Share your bread with the hungry'

<u>I</u> have always respected the French. How can you fault a nation that spends three hours eating lunch? Seriously, they have some great ideas, and in some ways, I wish we were more like them. Let me tell you about something that caught my eye recently:

They have just passed a new law. The law says that any food that is left over at the end of the day in supermarkets has to be given to the poor; the shops are legally obliged to give it away to the needy. Imagine that. If you had no money, and no means of finding food, you'd know where to go at the end of the day. You would know that something would be available for you to eat. Imagine if we were to do that here? Stop imagining, make it happen! Go to this link:

https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/make-supermarkets-hand-over-all-unsold-food-to-charities

'Clothe the naked'

I was in Oxford, on St. Giles the other day. It was really cold. I was dressed in a big heavy coat, with a woolly hat. It was not the day to go out unprepared. As I went into the sandwich shop, a homeless woman asked me for money. She wanted some food, so I bought her a sandwich. As I looked at her, and what she was carrying, I realised she had a very thin sleeping bag, and that

her clothes were not really warm enough for winter. The sandwich might have fed her, but I was still worried about where she might be sleeping, whether she might catch cold or even worse. I wanted to know how we could help in more practical ways. If you want to help clothe the naked and make some sort of contribution, there are lots of ways. One way is to donate furniture, toys, and clothes to charity shops. Stop imagining, make it happen! Go to this link: <u>https://www.emmaus.org.uk</u> 'Be light in the world'

Instead of getting thoroughly fed up with what is going on in the world, perhaps we can find new ways of being forces for good. Maybe we can find ways of coming together and shedding light in dark places, of being beacons of hope in what can often seem like a hopeless world.

I know how much time many of us in our community give to organisations and good causes. Without people giving freely of their time, many institutions and clubs would not be able to operate. It is the same with church organisations, the uniformed organisations and so many committees and groups that enable our village to cater for its residents' needs. Our village is blessed with a huge number of people who want to give their time to do something for someone else. If you don't regularly volunteer, why not give it a go? Stop imagining, make it happen! Go to this link: <u>https://volunteeringmatters.org.uk/</u>

Life is busy, I know all too well. But life is so much more rewarding when we join in with others towards a common goal. Being a source for good in the community, standing up for others, making sure we stick up for those who are in need is what we are about as a nation, as a people. Isaiah got it right all those years ago. Perhaps we need to 'lift up our heads' a little more and use our voices too. Fr. Nathan

St. Bartholomew's Church, Church Lane, Yarnton The Church is open every day from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES (every week unless otherwise stated)

Sundays

8 a.m. Holy Communion, Book of Common Praver, traditional service with no Hymns 11 a.m. Holy Communion, Common Worship, with hymns. Coffee after the service. The first Sunday of the month is an informal Family Service, and after the service there is a Fairtrade and local produce stall.

Weekday Eucharist Service: Wednesday, 9.30 a.m.

Our Children's Church, Little Shepherds, meets each Sunday during the service at 11 a.m. apart from the first Sunday in the month which is an All-Age Service. Come and join in the fun!

SERVICES FOR MARCH

Wednesday 1st Ash Wednesday Service, 9.30 a.m., St. Bartholomew's

Sunday 26th Mothering Sunday: All-Age Service, 11.00 a.m., St. Bartholomew's

SERVICES FOR APRIL

- Outdoor Stations of the Cross followed by a soup lunch, 10.30 a.m., St. Bartholomew's Saturday 1st
- Sunday 9th Palm Sunday: Joint All-Age Service with procession, 10.45 a.m., William Fletcher Primary School
- Thursday 13th Maundy Thursday Liturgy, 7 p.m., St. Bartholomew's
- Friday 14th Good Friday Liturgy, 2 p.m., St. Bartholomew's
- Saturday 15th Holy Saturday, Church cleaning open to all! Coffee served.
- Sunday 16th Easter Day Dawn Eucharist, 6 a.m., St. Bartholomew's Easter Day Parish Eucharist, 11 a.m., St. Bartholomew's, followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Egg and Spoon Race



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Neighbourhood Watch

Theft of and from motor vehicles. There have been a number of incidents reported in and around the Yarnton/Kidlington/Oxford areas. Unfortunately some involved vehicles that had been left insecure by the owners. Many modern day cars are easily recognised as being unlocked by virtue of the wing mirrors being in the operating position.

Dwelling burglaries have been attempted unsuccessfully in Yarnton in recent weeks, with the offenders being disturbed by the occupants. Successful burglaries have taken place close by in Summertown involving the theft of expensive electrical items. We all need to be conscious of advertising newly purchased items when we put out packaging for collection. Invariably it is too big to fit in the wheelie bin and has a nice picture of what the item was, advertising to all and sundry how you spent your hard earned cash. For those unfortunate enough to be burgled, there is a high risk of a repeat because the perpetrators know that the victim will replace the stolen item. Two simple precautions: for packaging that is too big for the bin, fold advertising inward from prying eyes, and don't leave laptops, etc. on view at ground level.

Fly tipping is rife across the country and Yarnton is no exception. Residents are asked to keep an eye out for offenders, who have used the Red Lion car park, the bottle bank opposite Creswell Close, and Church Lane. Don't feel bad about reporting these people and their vehicles; they are using your village as a waste dump.

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER IS 101 Fred Jones, Yarnton NHW, tel. 373871



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'Let the garage come to you'



Book Reading Group

On Monday 6th March we are discussing 'Northanger Abbey' by Jane Austen.

We are planning to read 'The Girl on the Train' by Paula Hawkins for our April meeting.

Please phone Caroline or Jim Briden on 372888 if you would like to find out more about the group.

Kidlington & District Historical Society

The next Meeting of the Kidlington & District Historical Society is on Tuesday 28th March, when there will be a talk by Martin Greenwood entitled 'The real Candleford Green.' The meeting starts at 7.50 p.m. and we will be at The Willows Restaurant, Moorside Place, The Moors, Kidlington, OX5 2UZ. Visitors £3.50, under 26s 50 pence.



Yarnton Parish Council

Clerk: Lynne Whitley

Office: Village Hall, The Paddocks, Yarnton, OX5 1TE. Tel. 378476. e-mail: <u>yarntonparishcouncil@gmail.com</u> 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 ring the door bell by the post box at the left end of the Village Hall.

Future Meeting dates: Wednesday 8th March and 12th April in the Village Hall at 6.15 p.m., then every second Wednesday in the month. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings.

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 Iones, Tel: 373871 **Parish Council Vice-Chairman:** Graham Thompson. Tel: 461479 **Parish Council Members:** John Burford. Tel: 849750 Michael Gibbard. Tel: 849435 Robin Hearn. Tel: 374613 Anna Isles. Tel: 372895 Keith Johnston. Tel: 372266 The above-named were declared elected as Parish Councillors without a contest as from May 2015 for a fouryear period. Co-opted Parish Councillors: 8th July 2015: Fiona Mawson, Tel: 847949. Gregg Morris. Tel: 371291 **Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:**

Lynne Whitley. Tel: 378476

District Councillors:

Alan Mackenzie-Wintle, Tel: 376614 Sandra Rhodes, Tel: 848861 Nigel Simpson, Tel: 372951 **County Councillor:** Maurice Billington. Tel: 842235 **Yarnton Village Hall:** Bookings: Tel: 07948 722633 or email <u>yarntonvillagehall@gmail.com</u> **Planning Applications:**

16/02456/F. Units 7 & 8 Oxford Industrial Park, removal of condition 9 (operating hours) of 00/00475/F. 17/00032/F. Argoed, 164 Woodstock Road, change of use from a residential care home (Class C2) to 1 no three-bedroom house (Class C3).

17/00003/F. 42 Great Close Road, erect lean-to conservatory porch with veranda at the rear of property. **Planning Decisions:**

16/02000/F. 9 Merton Way, erection of a one-bedroom, single-storey granny annexe at the rear of the existing dwelling. Granted 17.1.17.

Planning Applications/Comments: Lists of planning applications received by the Parish Council are published on the four Parish Council notice boards in the village within a few days of receipt.Members of the public can also view and comment on all planning applications via Cherwell District Council's website at www.cherwell.gov.uk.

Correspondence: All correspondence by letter or email to the Parish Council must include the sender's name and address. The Parish Council will not be able to discuss anonymous correspondence received without these details.

Service Road outside Budgens: The Parish Council is still in discussion with Oxfordshire County Council regarding issues in relation to the traffic situation and will update residents when the information is received.

Parish Precepts 2017: The Budget Meeting was held on 18^{th} January when decisions were made on the expenditure and grants for the forthcoming financial year commencing 1^{st} April 2017. The budget total for the precept was £76,900, which resulted in a sum of £66.24 for a Band D property, which is an increase of £6.02 from the previous year. Grants to local organisations were discussed and the following were successful:

Playing Fields: Care Committee: Scouts: Pre-school: £19000 towards running costs at Littlemarsh and Yarnton Park £300 towards running costs of the shopping bus £300 for purchase of a projector £3000 towards cost of a new canopy for the playground



Yarnton Village Website/Noticeboards: The Parish Council notice boards and village website <u>www.yarnton-village.org.uk</u> are where the Parish Council gives up-to-date information on things which are notified at short notices as well as publicising items of importance, so we would actively encourage you to regularly check the notice boards and the website. When possible items of importance will also be posted on Spotted Kidlington/Yarnton and Yarnton Community pages of Facebook. Yarnton Community page has been set up on Facebook to publicise local news and let village organisations publicise events and news.

Notices around the village: Notices advertising events are frequently posted on street lights, bus stops, etc. Whilst this is strictly 'flytipping' unless you own the property, the Parish Council accepts this is a useful way of advertising events but would request that the posters are removed within 2 or 3 days of the event happening, please.

Flytipping: (From CDC website) Flytipping can be dangerous. You can report incidents of fly tipping within Cherwell District online by following the links on their website. Cherwell District Council are responsible for acting on reports of fly tipping to both remove the waste which is on public land and to locate and prosecute the offenders. Where the waste is hazardous the council has a responsibility to ensure public safety until such time as the waste can be removed. It would be helpful with the investigation if the person making the report could leave contact details, so that we are able to confirm location of the fly tip and obtain any further information relating to the incident. Investigations are carried out to obtain any evidence that may help in identifying the offender. Arrangements are then made to clear the waste from public or council land. If the tip is on private land, then the land owner will be responsible for having the waste removed. If a potential fly tip has been found, it would be helpful to report the incident to us as soon as is possible so that any evidence that might still be in place can be obtained.

Dog Fouling: It is an offence not to pick up after your dog, but it is also very offensive to members of the public to see dog bags dumped in hedges. PLEASE PICK UP DOG MESS IN A BAG AND DEPOSIT IN AN APPROPRIATE PLACE, preferably in one of the 12 dog bins located around the village, but they can also be put into your household green bin if that's preferable to you.

Public Access Defibrillators: These are located at Yarnton Village Hall, The Paddocks, OX5 1TE (front of building near front door), Westlake Pharmacy, 75 Spencer Avenue, OX5 1NQ (on side wall) and Yarnton Garden Centre, Sandy Lane, OX5 1PA (on right hand side of driveway into garden centre) and Rutten Lane Park (front of pavilion).

Yarnton Care Committee: The Care Committee was set up in 1974 to give help where needed to residents of Yarnton. Services provided focus predominantly on older residents and/or those less mobile.

Chairman: Fred Jones, tel. 373871; Secretary: Bernie Connors, tel. 372944, Treasurer: Ann Warne.

Services available:

Surgery or hospital appointments: Transport is available for appointments where no other is available. A small charge is made for hospital visits. Contact Mick Teeling, tel. 376801.

Shopping Bus: A fortnightly minibus to Kidlington on a Tuesday morning 9.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. Door-to-door service with help to carry the shopping. £2 per person. Contact Fred Jones, tel. 373871.

Lunch Club: Every Wednesday in the Village Hall 12.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. A two-course meal with tea or coffee for just £4. Free transport available for people with limited mobility. A companionable meal in friendly atmosphere. Contact David Poulton, tel. 374158.

Compostable Caddy Bin Liners: Caddy bin liners can still be purchased from the Parish Council Office in the Village Hall 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 378476. Dog bags are available free of charge at the same times.

Fixmystreet website: <u>www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk</u> is an easy to use website designed to help Oxfordshire residents to report, view, or discuss local highway faults directly and quickly to Oxfordshire County Council by simply locating them on a map. You can report faults linked to amenities or problems that are broken or dirty, damaged or dumped, or need fixing, cleaning or clearing such as: abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, flyposting or graffiti, flytipping or litter, unlit lampposts and potholes. Please make use of this website if you think anything in the village needs reporting, as by using the website you can see if it has already been reported and any update applicable.





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St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Kidlington St. Hugh of Lincoln Catholic Church, Woodstock Parish Priest: Fr Prem Fernando

Times of Mass

St. Thomas More				
Saturday Vigil	6 p.m.			
Sunday	11 a.m.			
Weekdays				
Monday	9.30 a.m.			
Tuesday	7 p.m.			
Thursday	9.30 a.m.			
Friday	12 noon			
St. Hugh of Lincoln				
Sunday	9.30 a.m.			
Wednesday	12 noon			
Sacrament of Reconciliation , Kidlington, Saturdays				

Sacrament of Reconciliation, Kidlington, Saturdays 5 p.m. - 5.30 p.m., or any time at call. **Baptism and Marriage** by appointment. Young children go into the parish hall for part of the 11 a.m. Sunday Mass to celebrate their own liturgy. Coffee is served after the 9.30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Hugh and after the 11 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas More. St. Thomas More Primary School is next to the Catholic Church in Kidlington. If you would like your child to attend this school, please contact Fr. Prem on 377093, or the Headteacher on 373674. A mini-bus collects from surrounding villages.

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).

Our next **Saturday workshops are:** (check our website for up-to-date availability):

4th March:

Patchwork (by Machine) for Beginners 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. £41 + materials.

Badminton 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. £10.

iPad/iPhone for Beginners 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. £20. Punch Board Crafts 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. £20 + materials. Yoga: Exploring Yin and Yang 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. £20. Sugarcraft Cupcake Decorating – Pretty Cupcake Toppers 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. £26 + materials.

Traditional Upholstery Workshop 10 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. £50 + materials.

Painting Using Special Effects 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. £35.

Italian Cookery: Risotto and Lemon Scaloppine 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. £39 + ingredients.

Stained Glass 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. £41 + materials.

Singing for the Terrified 10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. £20 (or £30 if attend both singing workshops on same day). Archemy 11.05 a.m. 12.05 p.m. 510

- Archery 11.05 a.m. 12.05 p.m. £10.
- iPad/iPhone for Improvers 1 p.m. 4 p.m. £20.
- Pilates with Balls and Bands 2 p.m. 4 p.m. £13.50.

SongThreads Choir Workshop 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. £20 (or £30 if attend both singing workshops on same day). **20th May:**

Badminton 10 a.m – 11 a.m. £10.

Digital Photography for Beginners 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. £62.

Yoga for Spring 10 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. £23.

Traditional Upholstery Workshop 10 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. £50 +materials.

Acrylic Painting 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. £35.

Stained Glass 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. £41 +materials.

Singing for the Terrified 10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. £20 (or £30 if attend both singing workshops on same day).

Archery 11.05 a.m. - 12.05 p.m. £10.

SongThreads Choir Workshop 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. £20 (or £30 if attend both singing workshops on same day).

If you would like a free printed copy of our brochure or to book a place please telephone **01993 813592 or email** <u>comed.4560@marlborough.oxon.sch.uk</u>. 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 (www.marlborough.oxon.sch.uk/commed). As courses become full they are listed for your information. *Mrs. Jenny Bodinham, Coordinator, Marlborough C of E School, Community Education, tel. 01993 813592*

Group Exercise Classes

Bringing fitness to the community

MONDAYS

TUESDAYS

Pilates 9.30am - 10.30am

Taurus Training, Kidlington

Pilates 9.30am - 10.30am Yarnton Village Hall Post-Natal Pilates 10.30am - 11.30am Yarnton Village Hall (Bring your baby along!) Bootcamp Circuits 6.30pm - 7.30pm William Fletcher School **Intermediate Pilates** 7pm - 8pm William Fletcher School

FRIDAYS Bodypump 9.30am - 10.30am Taurus Training, Kidlington

WEDNESDAYS

For more information or to book your place call **Andrea Finnigan** (dip ONT dip FTST)

0771 421 9793

www.finniganfitness.co.uk









Mothering Sunday – 26th March

The end of the month sees a day to cherish, a day to show your mother just how much you care. Remember, in the store we have a variety of goods to help you make her day that little bit more special, from cards to flowers to chocolate, among a host of things your mother will just love!





Don't forget to Change your Clocks - 26th March 2 a.m.

We just love the clocks going forward – the mornings start to get lighter and the evenings that little bit longer – spring has arrived! Daffodils at the ready!

Bags for Life

We've now crunched the numbers for the bags sold for charity in 2016 and are very pleased to say that a fantastic £1826.30 will be donated to Sobell House, our chosen charity; that's a lot of bags! Thanks to all of our customers for making this possible.





Remember, you can join our exclusive Platinum Club online at <u>www.frasersbudgens.co.uk</u>. You'll get 2p off a litre every Sunday, Half Price Platinum Car Washes Mon-Fri, 20% off hot drinks, a free product each month and money off vouchers too... **it's free to join too**. Why not?