

YARNTON

VILLAGE

NEWS

**MARCH
2019**

Editorial Committee:

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Frances Peck, tel. 374708 – *Distribution*

www.yarnton-village.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/Yarnton-Community>

CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH

Fri. 1 st	Scouts, Scout Hut, 7 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. <i>(and every Friday)</i>
Mon. 4 th	Yarnton Band learners and Training Band, 6.45 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. <i>(and every Monday)</i> Senior Band, 7.30 p.m. – 8.45 p.m. <i>(and every Monday)</i>
Mon. 4 th	Book Reading Group, tel. 372888
Mon. 4 th	Cubs, Scout Hut, 6.30 p.m. – 8 p.m. <i>(and every Monday)</i>
Mon. 4 th	Explorers, Scout Hut, 8.15 p.m. – 9.30 p.m. <i>(and every Monday)</i>
Tue. 5 th	Central Yarnton Bridge Club, Village Hall 9.50 a.m. <i>(and every Tuesday)</i>
Wed. 6 th	'Little Sheep' <i>(and every Wednesday in term time)</i> , 10.15 a.m., St. Bartholomew's
Wed. 6 th	Lunch Club, Village Hall, 1 p.m. <i>(and every Wednesday)</i>
Wed. 6 th	9.30 a.m. Ash Wednesday Eucharist service at St. Bartholomew's
Wed. 6 th	Beavers, Scout Hut, 5 p.m. – 6.15 p.m. <i>(and every Wednesday)</i>
Thur. 7 th	Sing-along music group for babies and pre-schoolers <i>(and every Thursday in term time)</i> , Village Hall, 10 a.m.
Thur. 7 th	Senior Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.
Fri. 8 th	Copy date for April issue of Yarnton Village News
Wed. 13 th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 6.15 p.m.
Thur. 14 th	Senior Club, Village Hall, 2 p.m.
Thur. 14 th	Yarnton Band learners and Training Band, 6.45 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. <i>(and every Thursday)</i> Senior Band, 7.30 p.m. – 8.45 p.m. <i>(and every Thursday)</i>
Thur. 14 th	W.I. Annual Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Thur. 21 st	Gardening Club, Village Hall, 7.30 p.m.
Fri. 22 nd – Mon. 15 th April	Village Spring Clean 2019

Advertising Rates

One-eighth A4 page: £8 per issue

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Classified Ads: 5p per word. Must include telephone number.

Discounted rates for annual advertising require payment up front for the whole year.

The Editorial Committee in no way accepts responsibility for services supplied by our advertisers.

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Tel. 01993 868179/868705, email: ldioffice@btconnect.com

One-quarter A4 page: £13 per issue

Whole A4 page: £40 per issue

Copy Deadline for April Issue

Material for inclusion in the April Newsletter should be received by midday on **Friday 8th March**.

Copy should be e-mailed to: ruth@astall.com and maryclarke2305@googlemail.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 May issue is Friday 5th April.

Yarnton Village Spring Clean 2019

22nd March to 15th April

Yarnton Parish Council, in conjunction with Cherwell District Council Environmental Team, is organising the annual Village Spring Clean. In previous years we have had great responses from a wide variety of village groups including William Fletcher School, Yarnton WI, Yarnton Gardening Club, Yarnton Scouts, Yarnton Mens FC and Yarnton Blues FC. Also there were a small number of residents who grouped together to litter pick their own streets.

The Great British SPRING CLEAN being promoted by the Daily Mail is leading the way nationally, and as a village we could support this with a really big effort of our own.

Volunteer groups, no matter how big or how small, are asked to respond to the contact details below. The Parish Council would like to encourage the involvement of young people's groups within the village, thereby making young people aware of their responsibilities within their community.

The Parish Council will provide all the necessary equipment i.e. picking tools, high viz. jackets, bags etc. and groups can select the day and time of their involvement. To get involved and make a difference please contact Fred Jones on yarntonpcfredj@gmail.com or 01865 373871.

WANTED

DISTRIBUTION ORGANISER FOR THE VILLAGE NEWS

Could you find a few hours each month to join the Village News editorial team as distribution organiser?

This will involve allocating and delivering bundles of magazines each month to the 34 distributors living around the village.

I can recommend it as a way of keeping fit and meeting a lovely bunch of people.

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Frances on 01865 374708.



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Yarnton Gardening Club

is pleased to welcome

Matthew Biggs

gardener and radio personality,
best known for his appearances on
Radio 4's Question Time

at its meeting on Thursday 21st March
in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

All are welcome
Non-members £2

Senior Club

7th March will be our A.G.M. and a warm welcome will be given to anyone wishing to come and join us. We play a variety of games, sit and chat, with tea/coffee and cake, and our afternoon ends with a raffle.

There were two birthdays in January: Jose and Muriel, and just Beryl's in February.

We will soon start to plan for special occasions for the coming year.

There will not be a meeting on 2nd May as the Hall will be used for voting in the Local Council elections.

Jose Green, tel. 375644

Thames Valley Police Alert

There have been a number of thefts from purses and handbags recently in the Kidlington area.

- Please make sure your handbag is secure and nobody can access it easily.
- Be aware when withdrawing cash from an ATM. Is anybody watching you?
- Take care when in queues for checkouts or to collect trolleys. This is an opportunity for thieves.
- Be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

Good Neighbour Scheme	Covering Kidlington, Yarnton and Begbroke Offers help to anybody over 60 or disabled with gardening, befriending, shopping, dog walking etc. All Volunteers are fully DBS checked.	Please contact Kidlington Information Centre on 01865 378479
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Yarnton Parish Council

Clerk: Lynne Whitley

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

Tel. 378476. e-mail: yarntonparishcouncil@gmail.com

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: Wednesdays 13th March and 10th 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, www.yarnton-village.org.uk

Parish Council - contact numbers

Parish Council Chairman:

Fred Jones, Email: yarntonpcfredj@gmail.com

Parish Council Vice-Chairman:

Graham Thompson, Email: yarntonpcgrahamt@gmail.com

Parish Council Members:

John Burford, Email: yarntonpcjohn@gmail.com

Michael Gibbard, Email: yarntonpcmichaelg@gmail.com

Robin Hearn. Tel: 374613

Anna Isles, Email: yarntonpcannai@gmail.com

Keith Johnston, Email: yarntonpckeithj@gmail.com

The above-named were declared elected as Parish Councillors without a contest as from May 2015 for a four-year period.

Co-opted Parish Councillor: 8th July 2015:

Fiona Mawson, Email: yarntonpcfionavm@gmail.com

Co-opted Parish Councillor: 8th November 2017:

Nathan Shelton, Email: yarntonpcnathans@gmail.com

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:

Lynne Whitley. Tel: 378476

District Councillors:

Alan Mackenzie-Wintle, Email: alan.mackenzie-wintle@cherwell.dc.gov.uk

Sandra Rhodes, Email: Sandra.rhodes@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Alaric Rose, Email: Alaric.rose@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

County Councillor:

Maurice Billington, Email:

Maurice.billington@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Yarnton Village Hall: Bookings: Tel: 07948 722633 or email yarntonvillagehall@gmail.com

Planning Applications:

18/02150/F. Part of OS Parcel 0083 North of 89 Cassington Road, redevelopment of part of the site with new purpose-built buildings for B1 and B8 use including provision for access onto Cassington Road.

18/02233/F. Knightsbridge Farm, Woodstock Road, change of use of land from B8 storage to use for the formation and storage of concrete blocks.

18/02204/F. 9 Field Close, single-storey side and rear wrap around extension to existing bungalow.

Planning Decisions:

18/01514/F. 15 The Garth, part single-storey rear extension, demolition of existing single-storey side extension and erection of a double-storey side and part double-storey rear extension. Granted 9.1.19.

18/02034/F. 198 & 200 Woodstock Road, resubmission of planning permission 18/00125/F. Demolition of existing pair of semi-detached dwellings and outbuildings. Erection of 2 detached replacement dwellings with detached garaging and associated landscaping and alterations to the approved elevations. Granted 17.1.19.

18/02068/F. 5 Dashwood Avenue, side and rear extension to existing bungalow. Granted 24.1.19.

18/01953/F. 1 Aysgarth Road, single-storey extension and first floor extension. Refused 7.1.19.

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.

Parish Councillors: An election will take place on 2nd May 2019 for 10 Parish Council seats, one more than currently due to the growth of the village since 1987 when the last increase was made. All existing Parish Councillors have to be re-elected if they wish to continue and won't all wish to, so please don't be complacent and think 'There are enough people already, I won't bothe!' We anticipate forms for people to nominate themselves will be available from Cherwell District Council towards the end of March with the closing date for applications being 3rd April. If you think that you might be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact us on the details above or come to our monthly meeting to find out what's involved. If you want to ensure you don't miss out on receiving a nomination form, please let the Parish Clerk know that you're interested and we will make sure you receive a form when they're available.

Annual Parish Meeting: This will be held on THURSDAY 25th April in the Village Hall starting at 7.30 p.m. Details of guest speaker will follow in April village news. All residents are very welcome to attend.

Parish Precepts 2019: The budget meeting was held on 16th January, when decisions were made on the expenditure and grants for the forthcoming financial year commencing 1st April 2019. The budget total for the precept was £91,194 which resulted in a sum of £78.54 for a Band D property, an increase of £6.37 from the previous year. Grants to local organisations were discussed and the following were successful:

Playing Fields:	£17,500 towards running costs at Littlemarsh and Yarnton Park
Village Hall:	£5,000 towards improving the entrance lobby
Scouts:	£309 to pay for purchase of two pop-up gazebos
Lunch Club	£250 to replace hostess trolley
Netball club	£600 towards cost of setting up a Youth Netball Club
Care Committee	£250 towards annual running costs

OurBusBartons	£2,000 towards costs of running their bus service to include Yarnton and Kidlington.
Begbroke & YarntonGreen	£4,000 towards cost of transport planning legal expertise ahead of CDC Local Plan Partial
Belt Campaign (BYG)	Review 'Examination in Public'.

As BYG required money urgently to pay for lawyers before the 'Examination in Public', YPC took the exceptional decision to pay their grant of £4,000 immediately. All other grants will be paid as usual at the start of the new financial year in April 2019.

Graffiti: Recently there has been an increase in graffiti in the Kidlington/Yarnton area. If you see any please report it to Cherwell DC www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/195/street-cleansing/414/graffiti.

OurBusBartons bus: Please note that passengers using this bus, which operates on Tuesdays, can use local authority concessionary passes. The bus stops in Yarnton and Kidlington twice on Tuesday.

Bottle Banks: The bottle banks are located in the layby in Cassington Road (opposite Cresswell Road). If the banks are full please take your bottles home, don't leave them or any other rubbish at the sides of the bin – this constitutes fly-tipping. A litter bin has now been placed near the bottle banks for normal rubbish (carrier bags, etc.).

Public Access Defibrillators: Defibrillators in the village 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), Yarnton Garden Centre, Sandy Lane, OX5 1PA (on right hand side of driveway into garden centre), 1 Park Close (in porch), and Rutten Lane Park (front of pavilion). If you find someone that you think may have had a cardiac arrest phone 999 as usual. The operator will tell you the location of the nearest defibrillator and will stay on the phone to help you if needed whilst paramedics are on their way to you. The defibrillator is useable by any member of the public and gives clear instructions to you.

Yarnton Village Website/Noticeboards: The Parish Council notice boards and village website www.yarnton-village.org.uk 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 is on Facebook to publicise local news and let village organisations publicise events and news.

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: Carol McNamara, tel .432798, 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 Friday 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/Dog bags: 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.

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 on the ground and 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. If you notice a full dog bin please report to Cherwell District Council

www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/193/dogs/396/dog-bins, Phone: 01295 227007 or email customer.service@cherwell-dc.gov.uk
Dog bags are available free of charge 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.

Fixmystreet website: www.fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk 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.

Yarnton Amateur Players

'Sleeping Beauty' pantomime written by Lewis Holifield, directed by Perry Trafford, Briony Marshall-Falland and George Oliver

Our small and friendly amateur dramatics group continues to thrive and grow, with a couple of new faces on stage this year. We also welcomed a record number of people through the door to enjoy our family pantomime.

This year the pantomime was written, directed and produced by the younger members of our group, allowing the 'veterans' to take more of a back seat - and what a wonderful job they did.

As always we would like to thank anyone who came to the show, bought a ticket, a cake or a cup of tea, helped tidy up or baked a batch of cakes. Thanks to those volunteers who served the refreshments and washed up - particular Simon Hill and Sue Pring who were amazing. We can't emphasize enough how much it is appreciated when someone comes forward simply to 'help' on the night.

A round of applause to Sionne Smale, who quietly operated lights and sound without mishap (or complaint) despite extensive (and last minute) changes to his instructions! Watch out for news of our popular summer show....

Belinda Davies, tel.372917

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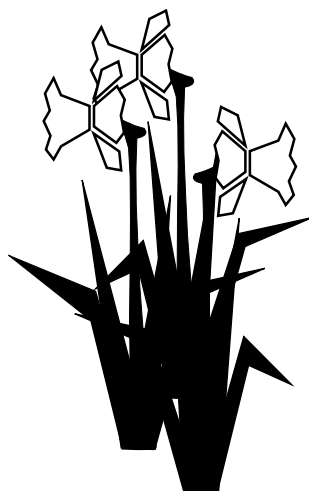
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Neighbourhood Watch

Thefts of handbags and purses have surged across the county, and there have been a number of such incidents in the Kidlington shopping area. Handbags left open, sometimes unattended, on shopping trolleys are easy pickings. Queuing at stalls to be served provides opportunity for pickpockets to dip into bags and pockets. The police offer the usual advice but it's usually common sense and being aware that such incidents do occur in shopping outlets.

Theft of heating oil is rare in this area, but a recent incident nearby highlights the possibility. For those who have oil fired central heating the police advise the following: apply a tank lock, if possible camouflage the tank, install censor lights and use a fuel alarm.

Recent scams include HM Revenue and Customs Alert and TV Licensing emails, both of which are intent on obtaining personal information and bank details. For how to stay safe online, visit www.cyberaware.gov.uk

Theft of expensive cars is prevalent nationwide and a recent incident occurred in Yarnton. These vehicles will often be stolen to order and will have been observed by the offenders prior to the theft. Similar incidents have taken place previously across the Oxfordshire area as a result of a burglary where only the car keys were stolen. Good advice: do not leave keys on the hall table or on view from the outside.

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Fred Jones, NHW Coordinator, tel. 01865 373871

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5 Wayside Cottages, Woodstock Road, Yarnton. OX5 1QH

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

Minister: Rev. Paul Carter, tel.: 01865 373958, Email: paul.carter@oxfordmethodists.org.uk

Local Contact Woodstock: Mrs Sue Beuzeval, tel. 01865 849696, Email: sue.beuzeval@woodstockmethodists.org.uk

Local Contact Kidlington: Mrs Janet Makepeace, tel. 01865 376667, Email: janet.makepeace@kidlingtonmethodists.org.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 March

Woodstock

3 rd	11 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter <i>(joint service at St. Mary Magdalene Church)</i>
10 th	10.30 a.m.	Margaret Sawyer
17 th	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Judy Turner-Smith
24 th	10.30 a.m.	Service led by members of the congregation
31 st	10.30 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter

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 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 10.00a.m. 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

3 rd	10 a.m.	Paul Rosentall
10 th	10 a.m.	Ian Leck
17 th	10 a.m.	Rev. Paul Carter <i>(Café Church, Holy Communion)</i>
24 th	10 a.m.	Margaret Sawyer
31 st	10 a.m.	Joanna Tulloch

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

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MONTHLY QUIZ

'devised by Sir Percy'

Here is the second in this year's series of short monthly quizzes. The quiz has ten questions; some you will know off the top of your head, many you will have to look up. Once you have answered them, study them to discover the link. Each month has a different link, and **only naming the link** will afford you a shot at victory! (You may not need all the answers to find the link).

There was no January quiz.

The link information can be found from part of each answer, the whole answer, or a phonetic part of the answer (e.g. hare might mean hair, doe might mean dough). The prizes each month are provided by Yarnton Home and Garden and we are very grateful to them for their generosity. There is also the chance to win a bumper prize if you can find the link between all the quizzes.

Please note that the closing date is 20th of each month, so please get your entries in promptly. Post your answers in the designated Yarnton Village News box located in Budgens - by the bananas.

Good luck!!

MARCH QUIZ

1. For his role in which film did Colin Firth receive the Oscar for Best Actor?
2. Which musical legend has been married four times, including once to Christie Brinkley?
3. Name the actress who played Gladys Pugh in the 1980's sitcom 'Hi-Di-Hi'.
4. Who reached the top ten in 2014 with the single 'Budapest'?
5. What was the title of U2's fifth studio album?
6. Who married his assistant, Debbie McGee?
7. The Voyage of the Dawn Treader is a ship featured in which literary series?
8. Who took the reins from Roger Moore to play bond in 1986?
9. Which 1969 classic movie features Benny Hill as a computer expert?
10. 1895 saw the publication of which Thomas Hardy novel?

Fill out and return this form to the designated Yarnton Village News box at Budgen's (by the bananas). The winner will be drawn on the 20th day of the month.

The February link is: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

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Yarnton W.I.

This month it's our Annual Meeting when we look back over the past year and elect the President and committee for the forthcoming one. It's not too late to volunteer to join the committee; we'd be very pleased to welcome you and get new ideas for our speakers and activities. This year is the 100th anniversary of OFWI so there will be lots going on.

We meet in the Village Hall on Thursday 14th at 7.30 p.m. and are always pleased to welcome visitors. We shall have a raffle and our usual bookstall, and tea hostesses are Yvonne Newell and Maureen Rhymes.

The coffee morning this month is on Friday 22nd at the Weston Library cafe at the Bodleian at 10.30 a.m. as usual. The April one will be on Monday 29th at Aston Pottery.



It may not be too late to put your name down for this year's Skittles evening at the Masonic Hall at Woodstock on Saturday 9th at 7 p.m. The cost is the same as last year: £11.50 plus 50p for the person who puts up the skittles. This includes a 2-course meal of sausages in a large Yorkshire pudding, plus a dessert. Ring Rosemary on 730188 to check space. Friends and family are very welcome to what is always a fun evening. *Ruth Astall*

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YARNTON NETBALL CLUB

It's been a very slow start to netball in 2019, with the wintery cold air cancelling some training sessions and matches. We are all keen to be back to training and matches, so hope that the weather warms up soon.

Club Congratulations:

We recently had one of our club members pass her 'Into Officiating Award' for umpiring matches; it was a freezing morning but congratulations! She is now working towards her umpiring C award.

We train every week on a Tuesday evening at Rutten Lane Court, Yarnton from 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. with a qualified coach leading the session. We train outside, so you will need to bring a water bottle and suitable clothes. You get three sessions free before you need to confirm to us if you would like to join the club. If you do decide to join there is an annual fee of £110 from September to August; this can be altered depending on when you join the club.

If you have any questions or would like more information about Yarnton Netball Club, please contact us at yarntonnetballclub@outlook.com or via Facebook at 'Yarnton Netball Club'.




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or

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For enquiries about baptisms, weddings or pastoral issues please contact Rev'd. Oliver Petter, The Vicarage, 26 Church Lane, Yarnton, Kidlington, OX5 1PY, tel. 01865 372714, email: vicar@ybsbenefice.org.uk.
Benefice website: www.ybsbenefice.org.uk
Churchwardens: Paul Tweddle, tel. 01865 373568, email paultweddle@btinternet.com
John Appleton, tel. 01865 460496, email john_appleton@ntlworld.com

Wednesday 6th March marks the start of **Lent**, the traditional period of preparation leading up to the celebration of Easter, reflecting the 40 days and nights that Jesus spent in the wilderness before his public ministry began. Lent is a time when many people, not just churchgoers, give things up as a discipline. Giving things up has certainly become more popular in recent years. Outside of Lent, January has become a season for this, with over 4 million people signing up for 'Dry January' this year and 'Veganuary' gaining prominence too.

Lent has always been the special time of fasting for Christians. But why is this the case? Temporarily giving up some of the things we like to eat and drink, has been understood to help focus us on a life lived for God. It also enters those who fast into solidarity with the huge number of people across the world who are hungry throughout the year.

Lent is not about giving up things just for the sake of it. For Christians it is primarily about making space to turn towards God, who turns towards us in Jesus Christ, and allows his love to heal us. In the book of Genesis, God asks Adam, 'Where are you?' Adam has turned away from God and hidden. For Christians, *Lent is about looking at the ways we hide from God*, who is the source of life and love, and how we distract ourselves and hide from all that makes us fully human. That love and abundant life of God is most fully revealed at the end of Lent, as Jesus goes to the cross, but then is raised from death on Easter Sunday, the victory of love over death and darkness. And when we celebrate Easter, it will certainly be a time to feast!

To mark the start of Lent, on **Ash Wednesday, 6th March** there will be a Eucharist in St. Bartholomew's, with the Imposition of Ashes* at 9.30 a.m., as well as at St. Michael's, Begbroke at 7 p.m. (**Imposition of Ashes is when a sign of the cross is made on the forehead as a reminder of our mortality and our trust in God and his love for us.*)

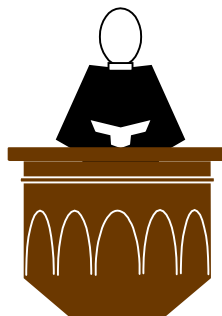
The third of our new **monthly gatherings** in the **Village Hall** takes place on **Sunday 10th March at 3 p.m.** These are for all ages, using crafts and creative activities to explore the themes of Lent, ending with a short time of prayer and reflection. This month we are delighted that Andrew Hazelden - Yarnton's resident potter - will join us for a live demonstration! Tea, coffee and cake are served, and all are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Our **Lent discussion group** will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. in the Vicarage, beginning on Wednesday 13th March. All are welcome! Please check the website for further details.

Our **History Project group** met for the first time at the end of January, and began to gather together the documents, articles and pamphlets relating to the church. We plan to produce a new booklet detailing the church's history and role in the village, as well as a young person's guide and a history for the website. If you would like to assist with the project, please do get in touch.

Regular Service Times (every week unless otherwise stated)

Sundays:	8 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer), 30 minutes. 11 a.m. Parish Sung Eucharist (with hymns, 1 hour, <i>followed by coffee</i>)
Wednesdays:	9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (modern language) 10.15 a.m. Little Sheep – activities and songs for toddlers, who must be accompanied throughout by an adult
Tuesday-Friday:	8.30 a.m. Morning Prayer (20 minutes)



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.

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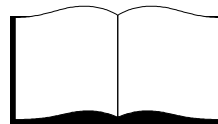
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Book Reading Group

On Monday 4th March we are talking about Graham Greene's book 'The Power and the Glory'. Then for April we are planning to read 'Good Pilot Peter Woodhouse' by Alexander McCall Smith. Please contact Jim or Caroline Briden on 01865 372888 if you would like to know more about the group or would like to come along to see whether you would like to join.



Macular Society, Kidlington

We are a local group of the Macular Society (visually impairment). We meet on the last Tuesday of each month in Frank Cook Court, School Road, Kidlington at 10.15 a.m. We get together with other members suffering with sight problems. We have a variety of speakers and other entertainment. In March we are visiting the OAB, (Oxford Association for the Blind) in Oxford. For further information about us, please visit 'Kidlington Voice online'.

Anyone interested in further information, please contact Tom on 01865 376482 or Marita on 01865 373104. Transport can be arranged if required.

Marita Ferrett

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Kidlington & District Historical Society

The next Meeting of the Kidlington & District Historical Society is on Tuesday 26th March, when we shall have a talk by Joanna Snelling entitled, 'Of Bees and Books - 500 years of an Oxford College Library'. 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.

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What a hectic and wonderful month it has been for Begbroke Playgroup!

Everywhere has been buzzing with activity, giggles and lots of new faces - a huge welcome to Jacob, Everest, Ezra, Rex and Grace. We welcome you and your families to Begbroke Playgroup.

If your child is between two and five years old, do you know they can join us? Be aware we currently have only a limited number of places and separate funded places for two year olds available. So even if you're just considering us later in the year, call and put your little one's name down on the waiting list - this will guarantee a placement.

A few years ago when I moved to Yarnton, I was a first-time mum and I made certain assumptions about my boy's schooling. Now, I realise you all probably know better than me, but I do meet a lot of mums out and about who share the same beliefs I had, so get ready for some myth busting facts:

I assumed that if he attended Begbroke Playgroup, there might be less chance for him to secure a placement at William Fletcher primary school. **MYTH - children from all Pre-Schools and Playgroups go through the same application process and where you have attended has no bearing on whether you will be accepted to your chosen primary school.**


I assumed that my boy would not settle as quickly at William Fletcher primary school if he attended Begbroke Playgroup because he would know fewer children. **MYTH - Not at all! Confidence gained from a positive Playgroup experience results in children making friends.**

I assumed that as my little one got older the education he received would be more structured, and therefore he would be more prepared to begin Foundation if he attended a Pre-School. **MYTH - Begbroke Playgroup is OFSTED rated 'GOOD' so they follow the same educational structure as other Pre-schools in the area. Obviously environments are different and at Begbroke our focus is very much on learning through play.**

We are lucky in Yarnton to have quality choices for the education of our little ones. It is vital to take advantage of this, look around all the venues on offer and choose the environment that will best meet the needs and personality of your child.

For more information call our manager Karen on 07594 652 291 or email karen@begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk

Kate Bye, Yarnton Resident and Chair of Begbroke Playgroup



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Yarnton Gardening Club

Our speaker this month is Matthew Biggs, a well-known panellist on Gardeners' Question Time on Radio 4. His talk is entitled 'Lessons from Great Gardeners' which promises to be extremely interesting, so do tell your friends about it as we always welcome visitors for the small charge of £2. We meet on Thursday 21st March in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Don't forget that our annual Plant Sale is on Saturday 18th May in the Village Hall at 11 a.m. As you're getting out in the garden and tidying up, do plant up any seedlings of favourite plants which you come across, or sow seeds of flowers or vegetables, to bring for sale. This is our main fund-raising event of the year and we rely on members and friends for a plentiful supply of good plants, as well as them then coming along to buy on the day.

Our first coach outing of the year is on Saturday 1st June, to RHS Hyde Hall in Essex, and there will be a board at the meeting for you to put your name down. The cost will be £18 per person. This is a great opportunity to visit somewhere a bit further afield that you might not want to drive to.

Ruth Astall

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Yarnton Gardening Club

Woodstock & District U3a

Gathering for 2019's first lecture, members and guests were greeted by headlined information about the Branch and its activities, projected on the hall's big screen ('It's so we know we're in the right place' one member whispered), culminating in the University of the 3rd Age's slogan, 'Learn - Laugh - Live!' Not a bad summation of the lecture that followed: entertainer Mark Walsh taught us something, raised a laugh, and was jolly lively. Armed with banjo and ukulele, his quickfire dissertation illustrated 20th century popular entertainment, his brushes with famous names from Danny La Rue to Barry Cryer, the BBC's much-loved 'Friday Night is Music Night', and appearances at theatres including London Palladium and Bournemouth Pavilion - 'the only ones in Britain with revolving stages' Walsh revealed - not a lot of people knew that. Meanwhile our 20 stalwart special interest groups flourish. Terry Glossop and Jeff Borer, leaders of the popular 'Historic Sites and Buildings' group, are open to suggestions for group visits later this year, while the cross-disciplinary 'Words and Music' group is seeking contributions on the theme of 'Water'; didn't Hank Williams have a hit with that, back in the 'Forties? Mark Walsh would certainly have known.

Details of Branch activity are at
www.u3asites.org.uk/woodstock

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Taking Stock

I'm thinking again about my own habits, which seems to be a regular thing for me during the fresh newness of the year so far. Somehow, I notice myself thinking of new ways of living, working, gardening. At times, they all feel like one and the same thing, but my aim is always a healthy package and balance.

This year I'm keeping my desk clearer of clutter, taking my laptop out with me during the day when I can, so I can work on the go, in some fascinating locations. Working on my laptop at my desk during the day, it's so easy to keep working on it well into the evening. I'm finding this is already having benefits for my wider life, and my work. OK, I'm getting less done in some ways, but it's more sustainable. I'm certainly finding that moving around to work moves ideas and perspectives around. The quality of my output looks to be of a higher standard already, and more focused.

What's all this got to do with gardening? Well, I've been involved in gardening professionally for over 30 years now, and I'm intrigued by how many of the gardens I've seen actually give an insight into the owners' personality, considerations and life in general. Whether we ever own our garden shall be the subject of another article.

So, when planning your gardening approach during the coming season, try a less cluttered effort with more focus on planting schemes. Try things in new places. Maybe change where the seats and viewing points are. See if standing and looking at your garden from a new angle brings any new perspectives.

We get into habits in life and how we garden. It's good to stand back and review the bigger picture.

Life's for living and gardening is for enjoying.

Happy Gardening.

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SUBWAY



Shrove Tuesday – 5th March.

For some this is the start of Lent – you may be giving up chocolate, alcohol or just observing this religious event. For others this is just a good excuse to test your pancake flipping skills! If you want to make them traditionally with milk, eggs and flour, or don't have the time or energy so go for the ready mix, we have everything you'll need here at the store – plus all the toppings.

Mothering Sunday – 31st March

Mothering Sunday is 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 – 31st 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!

Store Times

- Monday – Saturday 6am – 11pm
- Sunday - 6.30 – 10.30pm

Post Office Times

- Monday – Friday 9am – 5.30pm
- Saturday 9am – 2pm
- Sunday CLOSED



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Yarnton Village Hall 200 Club

Winners of the draw on 17th January were:

92	Mrs. M. Charlett	152	Mr. K. Mannion
119	Mrs. R. White	169	Mrs. J. Brown

Have you considered joining the Village Hall 200 Club? £12 annual subscription, and be in with a chance of winning £25 every week, with bonuses paid of £50 in June and £100 in December. Please contact Lynne Newin for further details, tel. 07948 722633 or email yarntonvillagehall@gmail.com

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Success for young Yarnton Band musicians



Some of Yarnton Band carolling a few years ago

Thanks to the generosity of those who heard us playing carols and Christmas music, we have bought several new pieces of music, including Jurassic Park, The Eye of the Tiger (theme from Rocky III), Fame, Ticket to Ride, Crazy Little Thing called Love and When I'm Sixty-four.

The band rehearses twice a week, but many band members go the extra mile and take exams. Recent successes have been Eliza Raynor *Cornet* Grade 2, Elsie Talbot *Cornet* Grade 2, Freya Slater *Baritone Horn* Grade 2, George Sherratt *Euphonium* Grade 4 and Calantha Smith *Cornet* Grade 5.

If you would like to know what Grade 5 involves, it includes a choice of pieces like *Verdi's Triumphal March (from Aida)*, *John Williams' Star Wars (Main Theme)*, and to sing or play from memory a melody played twice by the examiner. Obviously our young players have taken the advice given below and practiced every day!

This advice was found in the biography of the tenor horn player Gordon Higginbottom, 'From Umchucks to Cadenzas'.

Miss a day's practice and you can tell

Miss two days' practice and the band can tell

Miss three days' practice and everyone can tell.

Peter Hewis

