

**Issue 494**

**November 2019**

The *Crowmarsh News* is a self-funded publication, and we regret that we are unable to accept unpaid advertising, even from local businesses and societies.

We welcome material for inclusion but do not necessarily endorse the views of contributors. We reserve the right to refuse material or to shorten contributions as may be appropriate: editorial decisions are final.

## **ADVERTISING RATES**

The *Crowmarsh News* is distributed to over 700 households in Crowmarsh Gifford, North Stoke and Mongewell.

Our rates for a one-eighth-page display advertisement (nominal 9cm wide x 7cm tall) are:

- 1 month — £8.50
- 3 months — £25.00
- 6 months — £45.00

### **Leaflet distribution**

For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £30 for a single month. Advertisers must supply their own inserts (740 copies please).

Cheques should be made payable to Crowmarsh News Association.

## **The Crowmarsh News team**

The *Crowmarsh News* is run by the Crowmarsh News Association, a group of local volunteers.

*Editorial and Layout:* Amanda Maher and Kirsty Dawson

*Editorial support:* James and Toni Taylor, Doug German and John Griffin

*What's on listings:* Julian Park

*Advertising:* Pat Shields

*Distribution:* Frank Sadler and team

## **Next month's issue**

All new advertisements and all copy for the next issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our **20th November deadline**.

For all items of news, articles or correspondence, please e-mail

[crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com)

or deliver to the Editors at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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## WWII Veterans' Portraits on Display at Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum

A new exhibition of photographic portraits of WWII veterans is on display at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock, until the 5th January 2020.

The exhibition, titled *3945 Portraits*, is the work of award-winning photographer Glyn Dewis. He is leading an ongoing project to photograph WWII veterans from all branches of the armed forces, and from a wide range of different regiments and corps, including the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

The portraits will go on display alongside recorded interviews with the featured veterans, recounting their wartime experiences, as well as several drawings produced by children as a 'thank you' to them.

The project and exhibition are designed to 'remember, honour and educate'. Glyn Dewis intends to 'honour and remember our surviving WWII veterans by photographing as many of them as possible in order to provide both them and their families with classic, timeless portraits they treasure' and 'to sensitively educate the current and future younger generations about the events of WWII and of those who served, survived and were lost'.

Glyn will be running two 3945 Portraits project workshops on the 9th November and 7th December between 11am and 2pm. These will focus on demonstrating how the portraits were taken using minimal kit and in very limited space, showing how we can all create classic portraits without the need for all the latest and greatest equipment. Spaces can be booked on

the SOFO Museum website.

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust (SOFO) is a registered charity. The museum opened in 2014 and was officially opened by the Princess Royal.

SOFO uses the material of the two county regiments, the Queens Own Oxfordshire Hussars (QOOH) and the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, to reflect on the county's rich and diverse military heritage. The regimental collections date back to the late 18th Century and reflect the local regiments' involvement in major conflicts such as the War of American Independence, the Peninsula War, the Boer Wars, the Great War and WWII, together with less well known events such as the New Zealand war of 1864 and the Brunei emergency in the 1960s.

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum is open from Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 2pm-5pm. The county's only military history museum is in the grounds of the Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. **For further information call** 01993 810 210 or visit the museum webpage at [www.sofo.org.uk/](http://www.sofo.org.uk/) or the 3945 Portraits Project at [www.3945portraits.com/](http://www.3945portraits.com/).



*Reg Charles, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Copyright Glyn Dewis)*

## Crowmarsh Pre-school News

We are delighted to be given the opportunity to run this month's Community Café on November 9th from 10 – 12pm. As well as the opportunity to enjoy teas, coffees, and home-made cakes, we will be running a children's clothing and book 'swap shop'. If you've never been to the Café before, why not pop along – it would be great to see you!

If you would like to become involved in your local Pre-School in any way, we would love to hear from you. Perhaps you have a craft or skill that you would like to share, or maybe you would like to come and read stories with us? This year we are working hard to improve our outdoor learning area. We would welcome any help from gardeners and craftspeople. Please get in touch with us by emailing [manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk).

If you are interested in a place at pre-school for your child, please contact Toni our administrator on [admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk). We have already received several applications for spaces in September 2020, so please do get in contact soon!

Best wishes from your Pre-School team.

## Christmas Craft Fair and Market

A Christmas craft fair and market will be held at The Millstream Day Centre, Benson, on Saturday 16th November from 10-2pm. If you wish to book a table to sell your wares, please call Sue on 07782187866 or email [susan.woodley@ntlworld.com](mailto:susan.woodley@ntlworld.com). Places are limited and are on a first come basis.

## Crowmarsh Gifford Children's Christmas Party



*On Saturday 7th December from 3:00 to 5:00 pm Crowmarsh Village Hall committee are hosting a Christmas party for all children aged between 4 and 12 years old who live in Crowmarsh Gifford or North Stoke. There will be a visit by Father Christmas.*

*All children must be accompanied by an adult.*

*If you would like to attend please return the slip below to either Crowmarsh Village Store or Jan Pratt, 6 The Limes by Tuesday 12th November.*

### Crowmarsh Gifford Children's Christmas Party

*Name of Child/children.....Age(s).....*

*Address.....*

*Please notify us of any dietary needs.....*

*Thank you. Crowmarsh Village Hall Committee*



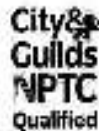
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Stuart Soames (836058,  
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## Wallingford Museum- last chance to see...

There is a last chance to see this year's special exhibition 'Once upon a time...' - the changing face of Wallingford at Wallingford Museum, as the Museum closes for the winter on the 30th November, to prepare for 2020.

This exhibition is about how we connect with times past by exploring Wallingford's history and archaeology. Wherever we live, the familiar surroundings of our houses, streets and town, remind us of the people that came before us, their work and lives shaping our present and our future.

In this engaging journey of discovery throughout the museum, you'll be invited to share any local knowledge you may have and to reminisce about your own history. Old and young alike can enjoy 'hands on' activities, discovering the secrets of garden archaeology and tracing the passage of time through photographs and objects. The exhibition runs throughout the museum with 'hands on' activities for children.

The museum is open on Tuesdays to Fridays 2.00pm - 5.00pm, and Saturdays 10.30am - 5.00pm.

*Judy Dewey*

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

**You can hire** the Dance Studio, Sports Hall or the Astroturf at Wallingford School.

Call Wilson Chong on 829762, or email [Leisure-centre@wallingfordschool.com](mailto:Leisure-centre@wallingfordschool.com)

### Useful telephone numbers

**Crime Stoppers** 0800 555 111

**Police non-emergency number** 101



## TWHAS talk



Richard Oram (Planning Archaeologist at Oxfordshire County Council) returns to talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about 'Further archaeological discoveries in Wallingford'.

He will give an update, continuing to outline the emergence of Wallingford's prehistoric past on the back of a ring of development round the town's boundary. This will also be a chance for those who missed it last summer to hear a fascinating talk. New material will include an outline of the Police Station excavation in Reading Road. (This site will be covered in a talk next year).

This talk will be held on Wednesday 13th Nov, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome.

*Katharine Keats-Rohan*  
[www.twahas.org.uk](http://www.twahas.org.uk)

**Short Mat Bowls** takes place at the Pavilion on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2pm. For more information, please call Don on 202543



### Christmas Fayre

At **Rush Court Care Home**  
Shillingford Road, Wallingford OX10 8LL

Please come along and help us get into the festive spirit at our Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 16 November 2019 2.00-4.30pm**

There will be Stalls, Raffles, Bottle Tombola, Irish Coffee with Mince Pies and much more!

## Pantomime News

It will soon be Pantomime season in Wallingford and production is underway!

Sinodun Players present Robin Hood and the Babes in the Wood - a rollicking good tale of derring-do in the Forest of Sherwood.

A much-loved English legend, combined with traditional pantomime fun, as Robin and his trusted band of Merry Men try to outfox the baddy we love to hate! Can Robin thwart the plans of the wicked Sheriff of Nottingham? Of course he can. But you'll have to come along to see how Maid Marian and the Babes are saved.

The pantomime will be showing from January 17th to February 1st 2020 at the Corn Exchange, Wallingford. Tickets go on sale in December from Corn Exchange box office 01491 825000 or online at [www.cornexchange.org.uk](http://www.cornexchange.org.uk)



## Wallingford Volunteer Centre

We urgently need more volunteer drivers – could you help?

If the centre is to continue to provide transport for elderly and disabled people in and around Wallingford and Crowmarsh we urgently need more volunteer drivers. We hate letting people down but currently we are not able to help everyone who comes to us for assistance because of the shortage of volunteer drivers.

Volunteers do not have to commit to a regular time or number of hours; we can work around your other commitments and offer tasks to suit you and your lifestyle. Every hour offered is valuable to us, whether it's one a month or several each week. Most driving jobs are taking clients to medical appointments locally or to Oxford or Reading. Our volunteers have parking permits and allocated spaces at the Oxford hospitals and receive a mileage



allowance which covers fuel costs and normal wear and tear of your vehicle.

If you think you can help and would like to know more, please email me at [wallingford.volunteer.centre@gmail.com](mailto:wallingford.volunteer.centre@gmail.com) (preferred) or ring the office on 836345 between 9.30am and 11.30am Monday to Thursday. If you would rather call in, we are based in the Methodist Church, St Leonards Square, Wallingford.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Sylvia Wear*

## Energy Advice Programme

Your local Citizens Advice is launching its annual initiative to help people in financial need who find it hard to pay their energy bills. The project, called the Energy Advice Programme (EAP), is going live throughout Oxfordshire South and Vale from October to March 2020. It includes comprehensive steps to help people who spend a significant proportion of their income on fuel bills.



At an EAP appointment our advisers can do one or more of the following:

- Help you understand energy companies' tariffs and bills.
- Provide information and support on switching tariff or supplier, identifying any savings you might make.
- Give advice on energy efficiency measures and list any grants available to pay for these.
- Carry out benefit entitlement checks and help you claim any benefits to which you might be entitled. We can help you apply for the Warm Home Discount and the Priority Services Register, if applicable.
- Assist with any customer service complaints you might have against your energy company.

For more information see the Citizens Advice website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk), call our Adviceline on 03 444 111 444 or visit a local branch of Citizens Advice during opening hours.

## **Past Times: Bonfire night in Wallingford**

**from David Beasley**

Bonfire night is with us again. Many of us remember when we all had bonfires and fireworks in our gardens, thankfully, these have now been discouraged and large public displays are now favoured. This has considerably cut down the number of accidents caused by fireworks and bonfires. Acts of vandalism still do happen though, as they did in 1858 in Wallingford...

On the evening of the 5th November 1858, a community bonfire was held in the Market Place in Wallingford. A number of youths, (the newspapers described them as 'idle' and 'worthless') from Wallingford and Crowmarsh assembled in the Market Place and commenced throwing fireballs. These fireballs were made from hemp, tar, and turpentine, and were thrown in all directions causing considerable danger to people in the Market Place.

There was a real danger of some of the buildings in the Market Place being set on fire. Several people were badly burnt, and the Corn Exchange and some houses had their brickwork blackened and doors damaged by the fire caused by the fireballs.

There were only two police officers on duty that night, and they were unable to arrest the youths at the time. Nevertheless, several of the ringleaders were identified and warrants were issued for their arrest. All were arrested within a few days and most were fined between £5 and £10, (a sum they would have found difficult to pay), and served a jail sentence of up to 3 months. This seems a very light sentence for the injury and damage they caused.

## **Henley & District Stamp Club**

If you enjoy 'collecting' and your hobby includes postcards, old letters or stamps come and share it with others who have the same interest; it is an enjoyable evening out amongst like-minded friendly people. Why not give it a

try?

November 13th – Peter Pugh from Rugby gives Part 1 of his display The Trans-Siberian Railway.

November 27th – Wayne Cox from Hertfordshire will show us his display on Pillar Boxes.

If you are interested in any of these subjects, but not necessarily into 'Stamps' you are welcome to visit us. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.45 pm. Visitors and new members are welcome. Further details can be obtained by phoning 681739 or on our website: [www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk)

## **Sue Ryder – Sale Dates**

The next Sales of Donated Goods are on Saturdays 2nd and 23rd November and 14th December, from 10.30am – 12.30pm.

Saleable donated goods are welcomed on weekdays between 9am and 4.30pm, but we cannot accept goods on Sale day or the day before. The Sue Ryder Nettlebed Hospice is at South Oxfordshire Palliative Care Hub, Nettlebed, Henley on Thames, Oxon, RG9 5DF. Please call 641384 ext 246 for further information.

### **To book Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall**

Call Chris Strange on 07711 904252  
or email [cvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:cvhbookings@gmail.com)

***Please make use of the Parish  
Council website for news and up-  
dates of local affairs***

***<http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk>***



## Wallingford U3A

At our October meeting there was a packed house to hear Dr Martin Holmes eviscerate John Major's premiership. He concluded that there were three reasons why John Major "blew it": Indecision, Europe and the ghost of Mrs Thatcher.

Major had abolished the poll tax and had won the 1992 election against the odds. Electioneering as "the ordinary man" he was in a strong position. Dr Holmes suggested he seemed to support some policies (Maastricht and the European Exchange Rate Mechanism, ERM) precisely because Mrs Thatcher had disliked them.

The Maastricht Treaty (The Treaty on European Union) was signed on 7th February 1992. Labour and the Lib-Dems opposed Major's negotiation of an "opt out" on the Social Charter; a lot of Conservatives voted against the Treaty altogether.

Dr Holmes maintained that the chaos surrounding the (ERM) was not Major's fault, but that he handled it badly. There was support in the UK for joining the ERM, but the war in Kuwait had rocketed the price of oil, tipping the world into recession, and Germany was struggling with reunification and had raised interest rates.

In the UK all parties wanted us to leave the ERM but Major refused. On 20th September 1992, currency speculators attacked the pound, threatening collapse. In panic the Government raised interest rates to 15% in one day! Under pressure, Major cancelled the interest rate hike, and we left the ERM. It was a humiliation but Major refused to apologise, refused to broadcast to the nation and tried to blame the whole mess on the Germans.

Finally, with the single currency issue, Major tried to keep the Conservative Party together, but he dithered. In the 1997 election his campaign didn't work. The Conservative vote collapsed and Tony Blair surged into power. Major, a good conciliatory man, clever politician and a negotiator, had "blown it".

Our speaker on November 6th will be Corry Starling on "Mapledurham Water Mill".

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month in Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome.

To see more about what we do please visit [u3asites.org.uk/Wallingford](http://u3asites.org.uk/Wallingford) for lists of speakers, outings and other activities. Or phone Jill on 01491 835994.

## Wallingford Photographic Club

Wallingford Photographic Club allows people of all ages and levels of experience to meet like-minded individuals and learn how to improve their photography through chatting to club members, presentations by visiting speakers, and regular competitions. The club meets every Thursday at 7.30pm for an 8pm start (7.45pm start on competition evenings) at Crowmarsh Pavilion.

- 7th November, a talk by Alan Colegrave ARPS called 'Why and a Little How'.
- 14th November, a talk by Rojer Weightman on 'Still Life – Allegory, Vanitas and Memento Mori'.
- 21st November, No Set Subject 2 competition.
- 28th November, our practical evening.

See [www.wallingfordphoto.club](http://www.wallingfordphoto.club) for more information and come along to a meeting – visitors are always welcome!

*Emily Dunn*

## Dorchester-on-Thames Charity Fireworks

Dorchester Recreation Ground from 5.30pm-8.30pm on Saturday 2nd November. Spectacular professional display; lovely roaring fire; locally-sourced gourmet BBQ; full bar with craft beers, G&Ts and Mulled wine; Children's carnival games-tent; eco-event - no plastic, no glow sticks. Come and beat the crowds while supporting a local disabled children's charity, Footsteps Foundation.



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Tel: 01491 599873

Email: [teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk](mailto:teamvicar@wallingfordcofe.org.uk)

Churchwardens:

Margaret Foster, tel: 836076

Eva Thompson, tel: 201675

### Services for November

Sunday 3rd	11am	All Saints Festival Family Service
Sunday 3rd	6pm	All Souls Memorial Service
Saturday 9th	10 am - noon	Crowmarsh Community Café, Village Hall
Sunday 10th	10.45am	Remembrance Sunday Service
Sunday 17th	9.30am	Team Service at St Agatha's, Brightwell
Sunday 24th	11am	Family Communion
Sunday 1st December	11am	Advent Family Service
Sunday 1st December	4pm	Advent Carol Service at Newnham Murren Church

Morning Prayer every Friday at 9am

Evening Prayer every Sunday at 6pm

Full details at [www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar](http://www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar)

Autumn seems to have come late this year, but November is when it really hits home. Trees shed their leaves, birds migrate to warmer climes, squirrels bury conkers and nature hunkers down for the winter. Although we don't have a wood burner in the Vicarage, on a walk through the woods I have a primal urge to store up logs ready for the cold nights. We notice the nights are drawing in and make our stand against it with bonfires and fireworks. In other religions, Diwali is celebrated as the triumph of light over darkness. It seems natural for us to resist the death and decay of nature and hope for better days of spring. Of course, Christians have a very real hope that death is not the end, because of the empty tomb – Jesus has opened the way to eternal life.

With this in mind, November begins with the Festival of All Saints which is rooted in a belief that there is a powerful spiritual bond between

the Saints in heaven (the "Church triumphant"), and us as the living saints (the "Church militant here on Earth"). Yes, scripture is clear that all ordinary Christians are "saints", this is what the Bible says 67 times in the New Testament in Acts 26:10; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2. The word 'saint' is not used to describe a special group of believers who serve God better than others.

This means that we remember our loved ones who have died as we hold our 'All Saints' Remembrance Service at 6pm on Sunday 3rd November. At this service the names of the departed will be read out and you can light a candle in memory of loved ones. You can add the name of loved ones to the list at the back of Church.

*Blessings, Rev Kev*

# What's on at Wallingford Corn Exchange

## Cinema

All regular performances normally start at 7:30pm and tickets £8 for Adults and £5 for under 15 unless otherwise stated. See [www.cornexchange.org.uk](http://www.cornexchange.org.uk) for further updates.

Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th *The Goldfinch* (15)

Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th *The Joker* (15)

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th *Ad Astra* (12A)

Monday 11th *The Farewell* (PG)

Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th *Rambo: Last Blood* (18)

Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th *Official Secrets*

Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil* (12A)

Thursday 21st *Good Posture* (15)

Monday 25th *Orphée* (PG)

Friday 29th *Tommy* (PG)

## Live show

Friday 1st November 7.30pm *Billy Connolly: The Sex Life of Bandages* All Tickets £10. Recorded from his final tour in Australia in 2015. This event includes an interview with Billy Connolly.

Friday 8th November 8pm Comedy: *James Beazley Mister Brightside* All Tickets £12. Critically acclaimed show at the Edinburgh Fringe. All profits from this show will be donated to Mind, the mental health charity.

Saturday 30th November 7:45pm *Pulse, experience the classic music of Pink Floyd*. All Tickets £18

## Live screenings

Thursday 7th November 7pm NT Live – *Hansard*, a new play by Simon Wood live from the National Theatre, London. Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (Seniors & Under 18s).

Tuesday 12th November, 7:30pm *42nd Street*. Filmed live from London's Theatre Royal in 2018 starring: Bonnie Langford, Clare Halse, Tom Lister, Philip Bertoli. Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (Seniors & Under 18s).

Wednesday 20th November, 7pm NT Live: *One Man, Two Guvnors*, the hit play by Richard Bean, based on 'The Servant of Two Masters' by Carlo Goldoni, starring James Corden. Tickets £15 (adults), £12.50 (seniors), £10 (under 18s).

Thursday 28th November, 7pm NT Live: Noel Coward's comedy *Present Laughter*, from the Old Vic Theatre London, starring Andrew Scott. Tickets £12.50 (adults), £10 (Seniors & Under 18s).

## Benson Choral Society

### Bach, Handel and Vivaldi Winter concert.

The first concert of our new season focuses on those three masters of the Baroque period, Bach, Handel and Vivaldi. Bach's setting of the *Magnificat* is a splendid ceremonial piece with grand choral gestures and brilliant orchestration, contrasted with a selection of solo arias and duets. Handel's Chandos Anthem *O praise the Lord with one consent* is similarly contrasted, one of the first works to display his inimitable choral style. Vivaldi is represented by two less well-known works, *Beatus Vir* for choir and soloists, and one of his many concertos for Strings.

The concert is at 7.30pm on Saturday 30th November in Dorchester Abbey. Tickets are £18 and £15 (reserved) or £12 (unreserved) available online via from [www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.bensonchoralsociety.org.uk) or phone Stephanie 01865 407395 (Evenings).

**To book the Pavilion or Hardcourt area in Crowmarsh Gifford ...**

Phone Chris Strange on 07711 904252, or email [chrisstrange47@gmail.com](mailto:chrisstrange47@gmail.com)

## John Howell MP writes...

Climate change is a very important issue that concerns many constituents. I share this concern. Many reports are being published on climate change and people can feel swamped with the information. What is important now is not continued debate on whether we have the correct figures but policies and action to move us towards net zero. The research will carry on, but we can make a start and strengthen policies as we learn more.

The independent Committee on Climate Change (CCC) advised that 2050 would be an 'appropriate UK contribution to the Paris Agreement' that is 'in line with other climate leaders' and is an 'achievable' target for the UK. It is for Government to drive this forward and I agree with the progress report that decisive cross-cutting action is needed.

I would like to see a new responsibility in government to coordinate the policies of different departments relevant to net zero. I believe that investment in research to bring forward new technologies is a key government responsibility. I am pleased to see groups in our communities coming together to work out what each can do in their own lives and in our communities. We need to be mindful of the impact of transition on consumers, business and working life. There are economic opportunities - there are currently some 400,000 jobs in the low carbon economy.

A key aspect of our transition will be taking people with us and making sure that being 'green' is affordable for everyone. In South Oxfordshire we have a good track record on waste recycling. When this was introduced there were people who complained about the new system. The council did their best to make it easy for people to recycle and the public has risen to the challenge. We need to do the same now with other initiatives. If you have ideas for this issue in your community, let me know. I am interested in sharing in your learning and hearing about what is important to you.

You can email me at:  
howelljm@parliament.uk, call on: 0207 219 6676 or 613072, write to me at: The House of

Commons, London, SW1A 0AA or my constituency office: PO Box 84, Watlington, OX49 5XD. Website [www.johnhowell.org.uk](http://www.johnhowell.org.uk).  
Facebook [www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire](http://www.facebook.com/JohnHowellOxfordshire).  
Twitter @JHowellUK.

## Ballet Dance Open Day

Have you or your little ones ever wanted to be a Ballet Dancer? Downland Dance are having their Open Day on Saturday 2nd November where you can try out a ballet class for FREE.

During our half-term Open Day, prospective students are invited to try a FREE ballet class in our Didcot or Abingdon studios. They will have the opportunity to meet our teachers, learn more information about the classes and ask questions. You can sign up for sessions for girls and boys aged 3 to 6 or for the Adult Beginners class (Didcot only).

For more details and to register visit [www.downland-dance.co.uk/open-days](http://www.downland-dance.co.uk/open-days) or email [info@downland-dance.co.uk](mailto:info@downland-dance.co.uk)

## The Queens Head Birthday!

On Saturday 16th November, Natasha and Stuart, the husband and wife team who run The Queens Head in our village, would like to share some birthday cake with our patrons as we celebrate five fantastic years here in Crowmarsh and look forward to more years to come. If you are new to the village, please join us. We have put the pub back into the village, re-establishing it as a pub and welcomed locals and visitors, hosted celebrations and family meals, and made many new friends along the way. We look forward to seeing you soon,

Natasha, Stuart and the team at The Queens Head.

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# Crowmarsh Parish Council News

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EX

tel. 838523, email [johngriffin@phonecoop.coop](mailto:johngriffin@phonecoop.coop)

Clerk: Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford, email [crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com)

Website: <http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk/index.php>

## Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 3rd October 2019

*Present:* Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Stuart Soames, David Rowley, Ken McCrea, Jon Grove, Fleur Stevenson and Julian Park, Sue Rance (Clerk), Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer) and District Councillor Andrea Powell.

Apologies were received from Cllr David Topliss, Andrew Johnson, Liz Ryall and Stephen Sherbourne.

We welcomed Gaynor Hopkins as a new parish councillor.

### Matters from the previous meeting

It was noted that Cllr McCrea will join the Environment and Recreation Ground Committee rather than the Planning Committee.

It was confirmed that the SODC deep cleanse that was going to remove kerbside weeds in Benson Lane at the end of August did not happen.

A team of Wallingford School students will carry out more environmental work in Crowmarsh Gifford this term.

Cllr Sherbourne and the Finance Officer are dealing with issues raised about the grass cutting contract. Cllr Johnson is revising the detailed wording of the council's safeguarding policy.

### Finance

A schedule of payments made since the last meeting was presented and approved. This included £2,814 to Arrow Fencing for constructing the platform for the double aerial cableway at the playground, £360 to Coulton Tree Services for removal of a eucalyptus tree at the recreation ground, £720 for the external audit and £1,320 to RCOH Limited for

Neighbourhood Plan consultancy work.

The accounts for the six months to 30th September were circulated. There was still an effect from the large receipts and payments for the playground project, but expenditure overall is in line with budget. The precept, the money we raise through the Council Tax, has not been increased for the last three years.

The external audit for 2018/19 has been completed and notices will be posted on noticeboards and on the website. VAT is now submitted automatically.

### District Councillor's report

District Councillor Andrea Powell reported on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan and other matters. The report was circulated and Parish Councillors' questions were answered about the local plan and rebuilding the SODC offices in Benson Lane

### Review of strategic priorities

The council discussed its future priorities for infrastructure projects, new facilities and improvements and took stock of what has recently been implemented, including the playground and outdoor gym. We will invite residents' ideas through a survey to help us put together a revised list of strategic priorities early in 2020. [see p.18]

### Planning

#### *Decisions by SODC*

P19/S2340/HH Replacement garage and alterations at 1 Winterbrook, Wallingford OX10 9DX. Planning permission granted.

P19/S2254/HH 69 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF. Single-storey glazed extension. Planning permission granted.

P18/S4138/RM Amendment no.2 on reserved matters for development of 150 houses at Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford. Planning permission granted.



### ***Applications withdrawn***

P19/S1536/FUL The Springs Golf Club Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BE

The reorganisation of tourism facilities to deliver a Spa and Reception building, replacement green-keeper, maintenance and laundry building, extension to the existing clubhouse and 43 hotel lodges.

P19/S2713/PDH 17 Robert Sparrow Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8DQ. Addition of a single-storey conservatory to the rear elevation.

### ***Consultation on applications***

P19/S2889/HH 17 Robert Sparrow Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8DQ. Addition of a single storey conservatory to the rear elevation. Recommend no objection.

### ***Neighbourhood plan***

There was a detailed report in the last Crowmarsh News. We have been granted £7700 for professional consultancy to help prepare the plan for consultation and submission and the chosen consultants, O'Neill Homer, have begun work.

### ***Enforcement complaint***

The SODC planning department has been asked to investigate why the listed gate pier and wall at the Carmel College entrance have not yet been rebuilt as required by the permission granted.

### ***Newnham Manor housing site***

Following an informal update on 6th September with the agents for the development of 100 houses behind Newnham Manor (P16/S3852/FUL), the revised plans will soon be ready to resubmit to SODC's planning committee.

### ***Planning training***

Cllrs Rowley and McCrea attended an SODC training session on 17th September. The County Council has a sum of Section 106 developer funding money that is available to apply for. County Cllr Gray will be asked for further information about that and also when the old entrance to the riverside park will be closed to traffic.

## **Environment and Recreation Ground Committee**

The committee will meet on 14th October. The new platform for the double aerial cableway at the playground is now in place. Oxfordshire Youth will be asked to publicise the Recreation Ground and Pavilion facilities to help increase their use and income.

Chris Strange is keeping the toilets open to playground users whenever possible and no issues have been reported. Alternative options have been discussed to make toilets accessible for those hiring the sports fields and playground users. This will be discussed with sports fields hirers and by the committee.

## **Traffic and Transport**

Cllr Sherbourne had suggested that the original 30mph flashing sign in Portway should now be removed. Cllr Hopkins suggested the speed indicator device in Benson Lane would be more effective if placed further up the road.

The Traffic and Transport committee will investigate complaints about traffic congestion and obstruction caused by deliveries to Jewsons.

## **Other business**

The overgrown vegetation at the junction of Cox Lane and the A4074 has been reported again to OCC Highways.

The notice of a public path diversion order for Crowmarsh Bridleway 17a and Crowmarsh Footpath 43 (part) at Mongewell will be posted on noticeboards at North Stoke, Mongewell and Crowmarsh Gifford.

North Stoke Village Hall Committee has paid for pruning of the tree by the bus stop in North Stoke to improve visibility.

The litter bin at the bus stop in The Street opposite Home Farm has disappeared. The Finance Officer has reported this on the Oxfordshire Fix My Street website.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 7th November, starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome as always.



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### Consultation on Parish Council strategic priorities

Three years ago the Parish Council carried out a residents' survey focusing on housing and infrastructure facilities. We have achieved some of the things you asked for, including a new playground, outdoor gym and basketball half-court, three traffic speed indicators and defibrillators at key locations. The major projects we still have on our strategic priorities list (the examples below are in no particular order) include some that depend on other authorities such as the County Council, some that will be funded or provided by housing developments, and some that the Parish Council will lead on.

Please tell us your top priorities in this list and add any other community facilities or improvements you want to see in the parish.

	Highest priority	Lowest priority
Crossing on the A4074 Portway		
Crossing in The Street near the school		
Traffic calming on B4009 in North Stoke		
Better toilet provision at the pavilion		
More usage of the recreation ground		
Better cycle routes and footpath links		
Community tree planting in the parish		

Please feel free to add any other comments.

Please indicate where you live: Crowmarsh Gifford / Mongewell / North Stoke / Other.

If you can, please respond to the survey on the parish website: (<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NSDQY2V>) or by email to [crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com), or if you prefer you can send your written response to 2 Home Farm, 29 Thames Mead or 4 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford or 7 Wallingford Rd, North Stoke.

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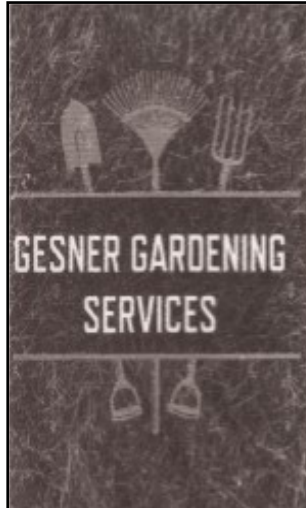
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## WHAT'S ON — NOVEMBER 2019

### Regular events and meetings

Every Thursday	19.45-22.00	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Friday	09.30-12.00	Wallingford Country Market	St Mary-le-More Church
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70
Every Saturday	10.00-13.00	Local Producers' Market	St Mary-le-More Church or Market Place, Wallingford
Various days	Different times	Didcot and Wallingford Ramblers <a href="http://www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford">www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford</a>	Different places
Every Sunday	11.00 onwards	Parish Communion (Family service on the first Sunday of the month)	St Mary Magdalene's Church, Crowmarsh

### This month

Saturday 2nd	18.00-21.00	Bonfire and Fireworks	Kinecroft, Wallingford
Saturday 2nd	10.30 onwards	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Sunday 3rd	09.30 onwards	CTC 25 mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 6th	14.00 onwards	U3A: Mapledurham Watermill	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 7th	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 9th	10.00-12.00	Crowmarsh Community Café	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Sunday 10th	10.30 onwards	Remembrance Sunday	Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 13th	20.00 onwards	Henley Philatelic Society: Trans- Siberian Railway	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 13th	19.45 onwards	TWHAS: Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Wallingford	St Mary-le-More Church, Wallingford
Saturday 16th	10.00-14.00	Christmas Craft Fair and Market	Millstream Day Centre, Benson
Sunday 17th	13.30 onwards	CTC 30 mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Saturday 23rd	10.30 onwards	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Wednesday 27th	20.00 onwards	Henley Philatelic Society: Pillar Boxes	Bix Village Hall
Saturday 30th	19.30 onwards	Benson Choral Society Winter Concert	Dorchester Abbey

### December

Wednesday 4th	14.00 onwards	U3A: Christmas Party with Carols	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Saturday 7th	15.00-17.00	Crowmarsh Children's Christmas Party	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 12th	19.30 onwards	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	Crowmarsh Village Hall