

# Crowmarsh News

Issue 441

June 2015

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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.

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For a single sheet loose insert in the *Crowmarsh News* (size up to A4), our current rate is £25.00 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:* James and Toni Taylor

*Editorial support:* 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 July issue of *Crowmarsh News* must reach us before our 20th June 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 Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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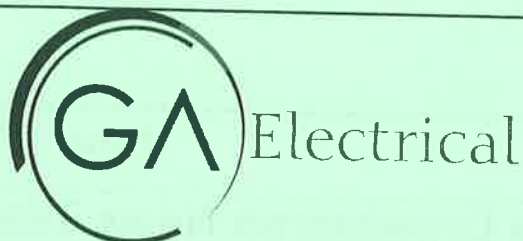


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## Rev'd Jeremy's leaving 'do'

As most people in the village will already know, our Team Vicar is off to pastures new in Uffington. The church is going to give him a great send-off on Sunday 14th June, after the Summer Fete and Flower Festival closes.

There will be a service of Songs of Praise at 6pm, followed by refreshments and something sparkling to drink to celebrate his time with us in Crowmarsh.

We'd love to see as many people from the village as can come - if you'd prefer not to sing, join us afterwards in the church at about 6.45pm.

### **Sarah Nesbitt**

PCC Lay Chair (07770 930756,  
sjn62@icloud.com)

## Parish Council elections

There were only seven parish council nominations for the 12 seats on Crowmarsh Parish Council, so there was no need for an election. Your councillors are John Griffin, Nigel Hannigan, Andrew Johnson, Francesca Jones, Stephen Sherbourne, Stuart Soames and Fleur Stevenson.

There are five vacancies to be filled by co-option: please contact the chairman or clerk if you would be interested in joining the parish council. We are looking for people from North Stoke and Mongewell as well as Crowmarsh Gifford. The meetings are on Thursday evenings once a month.

### **John Griffin**

29 Thames Mead, tel. 838523,  
email johngriffin@phonecoop.coop

## Crowmarsh in the Civil Wars

On Friday 5 June, Wallingford Museum curator Judy Dewey will talk on "Crowmarsh in two English Civil Wars", at Crowmarsh church from 7.30pm.

Tickets cost just £7.50 (which includes a pudding and a drink), from Just Trading, 17 St Marys St, Wallingford or from Margaret Harding (835791) or Sarah Nesbitt (825903).

## Parking in our village

Many of our residential areas were not designed for the number of cars we now have and there are sometimes problems with parking, some (but not all) caused by visitors to the parish.

The main guidelines are the Highway Code and showing consideration for other people. This includes only parking on the road, never on the pavement; do not park within 10m of a junction (e.g. on the white lines at the entrance to Thames Mead); do not obstruct entrances or access for emergency vehicles (e.g. on the approach to the recreation ground); don't park in a turning area or bus layby, or beside drop kerbs or on private roads.

Parking on the streets is not reserved for residents except in some marked bays: we do not own the road space outside our house, even if we are used to using it.

## The Annual Parish Meeting – report

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at Crowmarsh Gifford School on Tuesday 19th May, starting at 7.30pm.

Light refreshments were provided and there was a talk by Richard Neale on Crowmarsh archaeology of the Anglo-Saxon period. We heard from representatives of Thames Water and Thames Valley Police, and several issues were discussed for the Parish Council and other authorities to address. These included speeding traffic and mains drainage.

Thanks to all who attended.

## O'Donnell Antiques

After 40 years trading in Wallingford, Lin and Chris of O'Donnell Antiques, at 26 High Street, are retiring.

There will be a Grand Clearance Sale of stock and fittings until Friday 26th June.

Lin and Chris would like to thank all their customers who have supported them over all these years. We wish them both all the best, too.



## Crowmarsh Pre-School



**Some serious thinking  
going on during the  
Pre-School's Quiz  
Night**

The parents and children of Crowmarsh pre-school would like to thank everyone who supported our recent quiz night. We had an astonishing turn-out and we hope everyone who came had a fabulous evening.

Your generosity has allowed the pre-school to raise an amazing £3400, which will pay for much needed resources for the pre-school and allow us to treat the children to our annual day trip to the farm. We are truly thankful for having such an amazing community supporting us.

As the demand for the pre-school is continuing to grow, we have now started a waiting list. If you have a child whom you would like to attend Crowmarsh pre-school, we suggest registering early to avoid disappointment.

Crowmarsh Pre-school has been rated outstanding by Ofsted and has a strong emphasis on learning through play. We are open to all children between the ages of two and five years old and provide the perfect (and FUN) preparation for children getting ready to start school.

We offer two sessions a day during term time. Morning session 8.45 / 9am-12pm and an afternoon session 12pm-3pm. Lunch club is from 12-1pm and may be added on to the morning session.

To find out more information about the pre-school please call our Manager, Dilys Beaumont, for a chat on 07951599623 or e-mail Vikki at [admissions@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk](mailto:admissions@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk)

## Benson Community Health Fair a great success

"It was huge success" said John Reid, Chair of Benson Patients' Panel. "I heard complimentary remarks from many people from the village and from outside."

Benson Patients' Panel and Mill Stream Surgery were delighted with the support shown to the Benson Community Health Fair held on 25 April at the Parish Hall. They were very grateful to the Parish Council staff for help in setting up the hall, and to RAF Benson for help in erecting the marquee used for the outdoor events.

Around 300 visitors came to the Fair, where there were over 40 stallholders and many

health related activities taking place.

A wide variety of talks in the Parish Hall Lounge and Committee Room included "How to use the NHS" and "NHS Career choices" given by medical staff from Millstream Surgery. A practical demonstration and talk about "Essential First Aid" was given by St John Ambulance and there was so much interest in first aid skills that we plan to arrange some longer First Aid courses in the Village.

MacMillan Cancer Support gave a supportive and informative session on "Living with Cancer" and a local deputy headteacher gave a reassuring talk on "Parenting Teenagers".

There were also sessions on "Mental illness" and "Eating for Health".

Stalls in the Parish Hall and outside offered everything from blood pressure testing by surgery staff to the Alexander Technique, and from Mental Health to Accident Prevention Advice. The Fair covered a very wide range of health related topics from the directly medical to the role of music, art and dance in promoting good health. Local schools took part in a poster competition on Healthy Living and their work was displayed in the hall.

There were plenty of opportunities to have a go at practical activity sessions – a rowing machine, Nordic walking, health walks, running, circle dancing, table tennis, Tai Chi and Powerhoop fitness. Several visitors came along on their bicycles and Dave Curl the Bike Repair Man was on hand to offer free bike checks.

The Benson Guides, led by Helen Stevenson, served free healthy refreshments to visitors. "I thought the Guides and Brownies were delightful - especially that they came and served you at your stand" said Carol Pedrick of the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

"I was knocked out by the scope of the whole organisation" said Janet Burt from the village. "I talked to lots of the organisations taking part and they thought it was quite brilliant, and a great opportunity for getting their message out widely from one location. It has also put our Patients' Panel and Benson's Mill Stream Surgery on the map."

Of the many complimentary remarks from our stallholders from outside the village, one message kept coming through. "What a fabulous community spirit you have in Benson - everyone seemed so keen to get involved."

We plan to follow up with some smaller events around specific interest areas – Carers, Mental Health, First Aid, and we are optimistic that the Benson community will support these initiatives too. Thank you for your interest in the Community Health Fair – and watch this space.

**To book Crowmarsh Village Hall...**  
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## Garden Party at Newnham Manor, 1925

Thanks once again to the generosity of Mr Livingstone-Learmonth, the beautiful grounds of Newnham Manor provided an attractive setting for Crowmarsh Parish Church Patronal Festival on Wednesday 15th June 1925. The Parochial Church Council organised the event, particularly Mr H Dean and Mr E Ponking. The object of the party was to raise money for the Church Funds and provide a treat for the children of Crowmarsh and a trip to Wembley for the older ones.

On a very sunny day the Vicar, the Reverend T.W.L. Caspersz RN (a former Royal Navy Chaplain), gave a speech of thanks to Mr Livingstone-Learmonth for allowing the Party to be held in his grounds. Miss Livingstone-Learmonth opened the proceedings and also said how pleased she was that so many people had attended the garden party. She was then presented with a bouquet by Dorothy Honey.

The Church Missionary Society had a number of stalls; the Fancy Goods stall was run by Mrs and Miss Pettit and Mrs Percy Turner, the Bookstall by Miss Phyllis Woodley and Mr A Thorpe. Of the sideshows, Bowling on Squares was in the charge of Miss Jakeman and Mrs Keen; Hidden Card, Mr H Parrott; Crazy Golf, Miss Chapman; Hoops-in, Mr F Emery, assisted by his son William Emery;

Pennies on the Square, Mr J Harvey. There was of course a Palmist, a Madame Zora. The teas were provided by Mrs Muggleton (of Benson Lane) and Mrs Parrott. The imposing figure of Mr Mulvaney rendered sterling service on the gate.

An outdoor wireless set was installed by Mr F Walker, with a powerful speaker which allowed people to listen to programmes being broadcast by the BBC. During the broadcasts a collection was made for the Daily News Fund, for providing wirelasses for the London Hospitals. £2-16s-3d (£2.82) was collected.

The Whist Drive was won by Miss Lois Giles for the ladies and Mr A Barrett for the men. The raffle was won by Mr Percy Messenger (a ham) and second prize was a smaller ham won by Mr Charlie Durham (of Fish and Chips fame); Miss Bessie Crook won a tea service on the Hoops-in stall, and Mrs Brown of Crowmarsh won at the Hidden Card stall.

In the evening a dance was held, and 160 people danced on the illuminated lawns to the music of Optimists' Band, finally finishing a little after midnight.

The Garden Party seems to have been a great success and over £50 was raised for the Church Fund.

## Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The next dates for the Sales of Donated Goods are Saturdays 6th and 27th June – 10.30am to 12.30pm.

Saleable donated goods are welcomed on week days between 9am and 4.30pm. We regret we are unable to accept goods on Sale Day or the day before.

Volunteers are always needed to select and allocate donated goods and to assist with Sales. The Sue Ryder Nettlebed Hospice is at Henley on Thames, RG9 5DF. Please note our new telephone number for these sales: 641384 ext 246.

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### To book the Pavilion or Hardcourt area in Crowmarsh...

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## History and Wallingford in June

There are several amazing events in Wallingford during June, which should tempt you to make your way to Wallingford Museum to find out more about the Town's history.

On Saturday 13th June there will be a peal from the bells of St Mary's Church from 12.30pm for about three hours, in commemoration of the signing of Magna Carta. This peal is an initiative which will be happening nationwide during that weekend. As well as listening to the peal, why not come along to the Museum that day to see the 'Magna Carta and All That!' display, highlighting Wallingford's role in the events of 1215, and why it is one of only four towns mentioned in Magna Carta.

Then on Sunday 21st June there is the Town's inaugural 'Festival of Cycling' - a day celebrating many forms of cycling including community events as well as competitive cycling. It will be based around the tight streets of the town.

One of the races will be the 'Agatha Christie Youth Girls' race! Use that as an opportunity to visit the Museum to see the exhibition 'At Home with the Queen of Crime' which presents Agatha Christie's life of 42 years residing in the town. There is also the 'Midsomer Murders' display, showing the Wallingford connections with this popular TV series.

The weekend of Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th June will bring many visitors to the town to experience Wallingford at the time of the Civil War and to witness a re-enactment battle by the English Civil War Society. What better occasion to learn about Wallingford Castle's role in the Civil War – part of the acclaimed new exhibition 'Wallingford's Royal Castle Revealed' which has fresh historical research into the life and importance of one of the greatest royal strongholds of Medieval England.

A £4 ticket will give adults (children free) unlimited access to the Museum for the whole 2015 season. It is open as follows:

Tuesdays to Fridays 2pm - 5pm

Saturdays 10.30am - 5pm

Sundays (June - August only) & Bank Holidays  
2pm - 5pm

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



## The Origins of Wessex

June's talk to The Wallingford Historical and Archaeological Society (TWHAS) will be by Professor Helena Hamerow. She will present 'The Origins of Wessex: re-shaping identities in the Upper Thames Valley, 5th-7th centuries'.

The Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex is popularly assumed to have originated around its later capital, Winchester. In fact, its origins lie in the Upper Thames Valley (stretching roughly from Lechlade to Reading), with the emergence of a people referred to in early sources as the Gewisse, who, by the end of the 7th century, had come to be known as the West Saxons.

This talk considers how new, post-Roman identities and forms of authority developed in the Upper Thames Valley with the emergence of the Gewisse. Drawing mostly on archaeological sources, the talk examines the formation of a 'Gewissen' identity and the British contribution to it, and how leading families of the Gewisse used material culture and the landscape itself to establish their position.

Helena Hamerow is known within the town, as she was a member of the project team which has researched Wallingford for the 'Burh to Borough Project'.

This talk will be held on Friday 12th June, 7.45 for 8pm at Wallingford Town Hall.

Visitors (£3) are most welcome.



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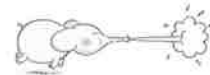
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## Parents And Children Together (PACT) Charity Midsummer Supper with Money Saving Expert

Money Saving Expert Martin Lewis will be joining diners at a Midsummer Supper in aid of family support charity Parents And Children Together (PACT). The dinner will take place at the Slug and Lettuce at Oxford Castle on Thursday 25th June at 6.30pm.

Martin Lewis is creator of the moneysavingexpert.com website and presenter of the *Martin Lewis Money Show* on ITV. His co-presenter Saira Khan adopted her daughter Amara through PACT and is part of the organising committee.

Guests will be able to meet Martin and take part in a Q&A session with him before dinner is served at 8.30pm.

Martin said: "I'm delighted to be able to support PACT and their work providing therapy for adopted and fostered children – and I'm looking forward to a fun evening in Oxford on 25th June. Everyone deserves a good start in life, and providing support and help in early years reaps huge rewards later. Yet sadly, for many reasons, that isn't always possible. The support and help given by PACT to help children come to terms with neglect and abuse they have suffered before being adopted or fostered is crucial. If we can't help from day one, we need to try even harder to redress the balance later."

Tickets for the event cost £30 which includes a three-course meal and a glass of bubbly. To book your tickets for this exciting event and the opportunity to pose your consumer questions to Martin Lewis visit the PACT website:

<http://pactcharity.org/midsummer-supper>

PACT has been building and strengthening families since 1911 through adoption, long-term fostering, award-winning therapeutic services and community projects across London and the south. Funds raised from this event will be used for PACT's award-winning therapeutic services FACTS which help

adopted and fostered children deal with traumatic experiences.

PACT Chief Executive Jan Fishwick said: "We are thrilled to have Martin's support at this fundraising dinner and would encourage people to buy their tickets soon before they sell out!"

## Make tracks for Wallingford's first model railway show

Wallingford will host its first ever model railway exhibition on Sunday 21st June. The event is being held at St John's School, Wallingford.

More than 15 model railway layouts, along with a number of trade stands, will be on show in a variety of scales from tiny Z gauge to garden-sized G scale.

The exhibition is being well supported by clubs and modellers from around Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Hampshire, and many of the layouts are new to the exhibition circuit.

Of particular interest is Kuritu Line, a two-dimension layout of both rural and urban Japanese scenes. There will also be a selection of layouts: Plas Halt, Dawes Creek and Halland. You will see Oxfordshire based layouts in the Abingdon Branch Line and Witney Euston, plus Dowdan International, an airport layout and for the American modeller, Southern Renegades.

St John's Primary School is located at Paddock Road, Wallingford, and there is free parking onsite at the school. Just down the road is Wallingford station, which is running Father's Day steam specials on the day between Cholsey and Wallingford.

The exhibition will be open from 10am to 4.30pm. Admission is £4 for adults, £1.50 for children and £10 for families (2+2).

### Short Mat Bowls

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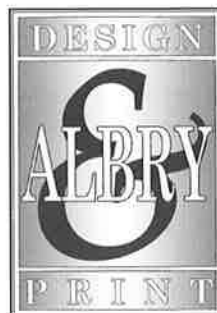
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tel: 837626  
email: jgoulston@btinternet.com  
Churchwardens:  
Margaret Foster, tel: 836076  
Eva Thompson, tel: to be confirmed

### Services for June

Sunday 7th	1st After Trinity	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 14th			Flower Festival
		11am	All Age Worship
		6pm	Festival Praise
Sunday 21st	Trinity .3.	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 28th	Trinity .4.	11am	All Age Communion

We have been bombarded with so many things happening recently, both nationally and internationally, that it has been very difficult to keep one's mind on the things which affect us locally.

The Congregation at St Mary Magdalene's have been coming to terms with the news that Jeremy will be leaving us this month, and will move to Uffington Benefice; although we all wish him well, we shall miss him. His leaving will have a profound impact on all sorts of things, not least, who will we have to minister to us? The good news is that we shall be looking for someone to replace Jeremy, but we shall have to wait for the due processes to be exercised.

In the meantime, we have lots of things to look forward to, and we are well into the planning stage. Firstly, on Friday 5th June at 7.30pm, in Church, we shall be having a talk from Judy Dewey, the Curator of Wallingford Museum, about the impact the two Civil Wars had on Crowmarsh. I am sure this will be an excellent evening, as Judy knows how to keep her audience spellbound. The cost is £7.50, which includes pudding and a drink. See the posters around the village for more details.

The next item will be our Fete and Flower Festival, where the theme is 'Kings and Queens'; the weekend to put in your diary is 13th and 14th of June. There are lots of things planned to interest both you and your children, and again posters will be around the village

giving more details.

The 'Festival Songs of Praise' on Sunday 14th will be Jeremy's last service with us, so do come along to join with us in saying our farewells and best wishes for the future. We hope that you will find the time to visit our ancient Norman church, of which we should be rightly proud, and to appreciate the flower arrangements, and the thoughtfulness which has gone into the making of them.

Our church life has many celebratory times, and most of them go unnoticed by people outside of the life of the church. This is I suppose very much as it is in the secular world: lots of events are happening, but only those directly involved know about them. However, we in the know of church life would very much like everyone to know about the special times we have in church. Trying to live the life shown to us by Jesus himself is very difficult, and that is why we attend church, to try and find ways of making the job as easy for ourselves as we can.

Jesus told us to go out and tell the world about him, which is something quite difficult to do; but we hope that by coming to see our Flower Festival, you can see we are trying to reach out to show you something of the love of Christ himself, in the beauty of the flowers and the quiet of the church building.

We shall as usual have our Refreshment stand, so come along and relax with a cup of



tea and indulge in a slice of cake; or tempt yourself with a few plants for the garden or the allotment.

We look forward to welcoming you, at one or all of our events.

God bless

**Margaret Foster**, Churchwarden

## **Wallingford U3A**

### **Chatsworth and the Cavendish family**

At our May meeting we were delighted to welcome back Dr Gillian White who promised us some history, some architecture and some scandal associated with Chatsworth and the Cavendish family between 1550 and 1850. This she delivered at a cheerful speed, quite wonderfully illustrated. The story of the Cavendishes embraces some very strong women, some very charming men and a fair measure of good luck and timing.

The first of the many William Cavendishes was an auditor from Suffolk, who rose to become Treasurer of the King's Bedchamber to Henry VIII. He became immensely rich, and he and his wife bought the Estate at Chatsworth in Derbyshire. Unfortunately, post mortem, he was charged with embezzling £60,000, a huge sum those days. His wife, Bess, took over the Estate.

Fortunately, Bess was a confidante of Queen Elizabeth I who ascended the throne in 1558. The Queen cancelled the bulk of the debt. Bess' second husband paid off the rest, and then, conveniently, died. Bess then married George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. This marriage failed. Bess was ejected from Chatsworth, and built Hardwick Hall. Chatsworth was inherited by Henry, the eldest son, but Henry had no money. He sold Chatsworth to his younger brother, William, Bess' favourite son. So the Estate and Bess' money were reunited.

King James I needed money. The Cavendishes were in the position to provide £11,000, and William Cavendish became 1st Earl of Devonshire. At the Restoration, William Cavendish (4th Earl) carried the Royal Train at the Coronation. But James II sailed too close

to Catholicism and cozied up to Louis XIV, so in 1688 the 4th Earl supported William of Orange, (William and Mary). William thus elevated William Cavendish to a Dukedom. The newly created Duke of Devonshire retired to Derbyshire and spent the next 20 years recreating Chatsworth as the magnificent baroque palace we now know.

There was scandal too. The 4th Duke married Charlotte Boyle, heiress to the fortune of the Earl of Burlington. Through her, the Devonshires inherited Chiswick House, Burlington House, Bolton Abbey and Landsborough Hall in Yorkshire, and Lismore Castle in Ireland. But Charlotte's sister, Dorothy, had married Earl Euston whose crude brutality to his teenage wife was very public, and horrifying, and the Cavendishes were appalled by the association.

Then the 5th Duke of Devonshire lived in a 'menage a trois', openly with his wife Georgiana and his mistress Lady Elizabeth Foster. Unusual at the best of times, but the two women were close friends. There were three legitimate children, but the Duchess had an affair, and a child, with Charles Grey. She was exiled to France, and the Lady Elizabeth went with her. Georgiana came back to die at Chatsworth, and the Duke married Lady Elizabeth.

The 6th Duke, son of Georgiana, never married, although he had close and much discussed relationships with many, including the unstable Lady Caroline Lamb and the tragic Princess Charlotte. He also had bizarrely close friendships with Nicolas I of Russia and with his step-mother the Lady Elizabeth. The 6th Duke extended Chatsworth, employing William Paxton, of Crystal Palace fame, to transform the gardens. Paxton asked to be buried nearby.

Sadly Dr White had decided to stop her narrative at the year 1850, so she did. We eagerly await her next visit.

### **Future Talks**

3rd June: Tony Strafford – The Ladies of the Tower

8th July: John Radcliffe – Doctor and Philanthropist

5th August: Timothy Walker – The Oxford

Botanic Gardens and Harcourt Arboretum.

Our meetings are held in Crowmarsh Village Hall at 2pm. Visitors are always welcome.


To find out more about us and what we do, please phone Hermione on 01865 858024, or visit [www.u3asites.org.uk/wallingford](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/wallingford) where you will find photographs and up to date information.

## Come and barn dance – at the Tennis Club

Wallingford's Portcullis Tennis Club are holding a barn dance on Saturday 27th June from 8pm to late, in the Bar at Wallingford Sports Park (Hithercroft Road), to raise funds for a new clubhouse. There will be a professional caller and dancing to a live band, "Tumbledown Dick".

Tickets are £15 for adults and £10 for under 16s, to include a simple hot supper. All profits from the event are going towards the new clubhouse. Tickets are available from [kaywebber@gmail.com](mailto:kaywebber@gmail.com) or phone 832576.

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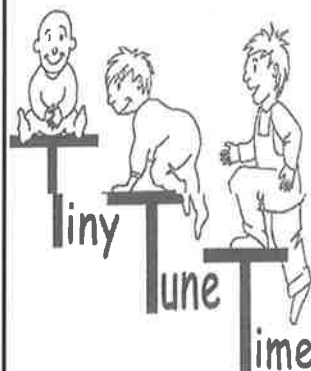


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# Crowmarsh Parish Council News

Chairman: John Griffin, 29 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, tel. 838523,  
email: johngriffin@phonecoop.coop  
Parish Clerk: Sue Rance, 2 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford  
Website: <http://www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk/index.php>

## Notes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 14th May 2015

*Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Nigel Hannigan, Andrew Johnson, Stephen Sherbourne, Fleur Stevenson and Stuart Soames; Sue Rance (Parish Clerk), Melanie Malcolm (Finance Officer), County Cllr Mark Gray (for part of the meeting).*

*Apologies: from Cllr Francesca Jones*

John Griffin was re-elected as Chairman and Nigel Hannigan as Vice-Chairman. (Please see the note on page 3 about the annual elections to the Parish Council.)

### Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting

Cllr Gray had been in touch with some North Stoke parents and put them in touch with County Council officers about their choice of secondary schools.

### County Councillor's report

Clacks Lane is to be closed for carriageway widening and resurfacing work. The Wallingford – Goring 134 bus contract is to be extended but there is still uncertainty over which contractor will run it. The Parish Council will send a letter of support for GoRide, the current providers. Mark Gray and Nigel Hannigan will consult local contractors about a pedestrian crossing in The Street.

### Finance

Payments made in April were agreed. A new finance system is now in place. It was agreed that the new system was an improvement and would enable better reporting.

The accounts are currently with the auditor and the audited accounts will be presented for

approval at the June meeting.

A strategic review of proposed expenditure will consider some major projects:

- Traffic calming on A4074 Portway
- Internal improvements at the Pavilion
- Pedestrian crossing in The Street.

### Grass cutting

A meeting has been held with Scofell to discuss some gaps in the first cuts, and agreed an annotated map of all the areas included in the contract. Cllr Soames will contact Scofell about the grass cutting at North Stoke recreation ground. Cllr Johnson will be the contact for grass cutting in Crowmarsh Gifford.

### Chairman's report

We hope to co-opt some new councillors at the June meeting to fill the current vacancies on the Parish Council. An announcement will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th May and Cllr Griffin will draft an advertisement.

The bus shelter by the church had been vandalised but the police had made arrests. The Clerk would obtain an estimate for repairs and pass this on to the police.

Retiring councillor Anne Lowes had requested two additional dog bins and a litterbin for Mongewell.

Wallingford Town Council will no longer plant and maintain the flower tubs at the roundabout near the Queen's Head because of an unspecified health and safety issue: the Clerk will ask again what that issue was.

A camper van and other vehicles have been parked in Bellamy Way, which is a private road. When the access road to the Riverside Park is completed (which we strongly hope will be this summer) it will need to be kept clear of parked vehicles.

## Planning

### *SODC decisions:*

P15/S0134/HH (Householder) and P15/S0135/LB (Listed Building Consent): Demolition of single-storey front extension, construction of new larger single-storey extension, internal alterations and creation of a new rear door, The Old Farmhouse, The Street, North Stoke:  
PERMISSION GRANTED.

P15/S0704/HH: Demolition of existing garage and erection of a double garage with home office over (as amended), 1 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford:  
PERMISSION GRANTED.

### *Parish Council responses to SODC were agreed as follows:*

P15/S0947/FUL: Two-storey, four-bay building to be used as a maintenance shed, garden machinery store and garage for two cars on the ground floor and storage for the kennels business on the first floor. Avalon Kennels Ltd, Ickniel Way:  
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P15/S1272/FUL: Provision of floodplain compensation areas south of The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, to compensate for floodplain volume occupied by proposed access road to Riverside Park from Bellamy Way:  
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P15/S1408/PSP: Prior approval for rooftop mounted solar PV system at Howbery Park. Howbery Park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BA:  
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.  
(Councillor Stevenson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.)

### *Application withdrawn:*

P15/S0625/FUL, to erect two 2-bed semi-detached dwellings adjacent to The Old Coach House, The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, has been withdrawn.

**Pictures and logos for the Crowmarsh News...**  
...are best in .jpg or .pdf format.

## Environment and Recreation Ground Committee

The next committee meeting is on Monday 18th May. One of the adult football clubs would like a temporary alcohol licence for a forthcoming event. Up to twelve temporary licences may be granted per annum, but the pavilion will not be licensed itself. Scofell is the new contractor for cutting the recreation ground and nature area.

The committee will discuss whether paid secretarial support is needed for their meetings.

## Traffic and Transport Committee

Cllr Soames reported that traffic through North Stoke has increased and speeding is common, a particular problem in the mornings when school children are waiting to board the school bus. Cllr Hannigan will ask Mrs Barton, the Headteacher, to contact the police about this problem. Noise from motorcycles is a continuing problem on the main roads and through North Stoke.

### Next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 4th June, starting at 7.30pm. Members of the public will be welcome.

## Useful telephone numbers

<b>Crime Stoppers</b>	0800 555 111
<b>Police non-emergency number</b>	101

## To book North Stoke Village Hall

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or Stuart Soames  
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## Wallingford & District Art Club – still life painting

Wallingford and District Art Club meets on Tuesdays, 7.30-9.30pm at Centre 70, Goldsmiths Lane. On Tuesday 16 June, artist Sonia Bacchus will demonstrate how to paint a still life in the style of the Old Masters and you are most welcome to join us for what is always an entertaining and interesting evening (visitors £5, members free).

And why not come along to a FREE taster session at one of the untutored painting evenings on all other Tuesdays? Just bring your own materials and ideas or simply come to have a look round and a friendly chat.

Our Summer Art Exhibition is on Saturday 20 June 10am to 4.30pm at Centre 70, and admission is free.

Do ring or e-mail me if you would like more information on these events or the other exciting demonstrations we shall be having each month.

**Stephanie Toole**, 825042 or  
toole.stephanie@yahoo.co.uk

## Henley Philatelic Society

Our 'stamp season' draws to a close until September, but there are plenty of excellent opportunities to continue collecting with 'Swinpex' on 13th June and 'Midpex' on 4th July. Both have good car parks and forty plus dealers. Henley will close its year with a pub supper, for details phone the number below.

10th June 7.30pm – our guest speaker will give an interesting display on South Georgia, its History and Postal History.

24th June – President's Evening, and another of his interesting displays which could be on London, Sarawak or maybe even 'Coffee'.

Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Bix Village Hall at 7.45pm from September to June inclusive. Visitors and new members are welcome. Details 681739 or on our website: [www.henleyphilatelic.co.uk](http://www.henleyphilatelic.co.uk)

## Wallingford and District Stroke Club

Wallingford and District Stroke Club has been assisting Stroke sufferers and their families and carers for the past 17 years under the inspired leadership of Veronica Port, who has recently handed over the Chair. Veronica was presented with an OCVA award by the High Sherriff of Oxfordshire in a recent ceremony for Outstanding Volunteers at Oxford Town Hall.

Affiliated to the Stroke Association, we are a friendly and happy club; we meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at Crowmarsh Village Hall for activities and companionship, tea and cake. In the summer months we arrange outings, both locally and further afield using the Wallingford Coach with its accessible platform.

A stroke can have a devastating effect on the victim and also on those who are suddenly in a position of caring. It can be a lonely place but meeting with people in a similar situation can demonstrate there is Life After Stroke.

We'd love to welcome more members (fees are very reasonable at £2 per month). If you, or someone you know, would like to join us – or just give us a try – please contact Norman Goodall on 01235 834503 or Jenny Tatman on 01491 839499 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

## Stoke Row Covered Market

The next Covered Market will be held on 20th June in the Stoke Row Village Hall.

The Covered Market is held on the third Saturday of every month from 10am to 2pm. For stall-holders, set-up is from 8am.

We have stalls selling local produce, plus a range of arts and crafts stalls, and even a hurdle maker who gives a demonstration. After browsing the stalls why not enjoy a home-made roll or a nice cup of tea or coffee?

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## WHAT'S ON – JUNE 2015

### Regular events & meetings

Every Tuesday	19.00-21.30
3rd Tuesday	14.00-15.30
2nd and 4th Weds	Evenings
Every Thursday	14.00-16.30
Every Thursday	19.45-22.00
Every Friday	8.30-11.15
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00
Most Saturdays	10.00-13.00

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### This month

Wednesday 3rd	14.00	U3A: 'The Ladies of the Tower' Tony Trafford	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 4th	19.30	Parish Council	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Friday 5th	19.30	Crowmarsh in two English civil wars: history talk by Judy Dewey	Crowmarsh Church
Saturday 6th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th	All day	Senior Citizens' Weekend	C&W Railway
Sunday 7th	11.00 approx	Mayor's Parade & Church Service	Wallingford Market Place and St Mary's Church
Sunday 7th	13.30	CTC 22-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 10th	19.30	Henley Philatelic: South Georgia	Bix Village Hall
Friday 12th	19.45	TWHAS: The Origins of Wessex	Wallingford Town Hall
Friday 12th & Saturday 13th	Various	Blues and Beer Festival 2015 – 25th Anniversary	Regal Centre, W'ford
Saturday 13th	08.30-16.00	Wallingford Farmers' Market	Market Place
Saturday 13th	20.00	String quartet concert	St Peter's Church, Wallingford
Sunday 14th	15.00-17.00	Band Concert - Roke and Benson Brass Band	Castle Gardens
Friday 19th & Saturday 20th	Various	RugFest	Wallingford Sports Park
Saturday 20th	13.00	Wallingford Carnival	Town Centre & Kinecroft
Saturday 20th	13.30	CTC 29-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Saturday 20th	19.30	Benson Choral Concert	Dorchester Abbey
Sunday 21st	All day	Festival of Cycling	Wallingford
Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st	All day	Stoke Row Steam Rally	Nr Ipsden off A4074
Sunday 21st	All day	Father's Day Specials	C&W Railway
Wednesday 24th	19.45	Henley Philatelic: President's evening	Bix Village Hall
Saturday 27th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Saturday 27th	20.00	Piano concert	St Peter's Church, Wallingford
Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th	All day events	English Civil War Battle Re-enactment	Wallingford
Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th	All day	Transport Weekend	C&W Railway