

Crowmarsh News

Issue 465

June 2017

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.

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Leaflet distribution

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, Amanda Maher, Edwina Johnson

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

or deliver to the Editor at 57 The Street.

For all advertising, please contact

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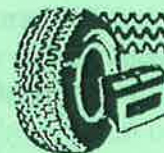
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Wallingford Festival of Cycling – Road Closures on 16th July

The South Oxfordshire District Council Leisure Team is once again supporting and promoting the Wallingford Festival of Cycling (WFOC) taking place on Sunday 16th July. This will be the third WFOC event.

WFOC has the honour of hosting two of the country's most prestigious road races for under U18s in the British Cycling Calendar this year, along with several community rides and town centre racing. The organisers are working in partnership with Wallingford Town Council, South Oxford District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, British Cycling and several local and regional cycling clubs and volunteers to make this event happen. The aims are to entertain and inspire young and old to take up cycling and to cycle more often. Please visit the website to find out about all the other activities the festival has to offer on the day - www.wfoc.co.uk

In order to host this top sporting event in our district, the festival has put in place a detailed traffic management plan, showing road closures, rolling road closures, clearways (roads to be cleared of parked cars or other obstructions before the race) and diversion plans including the ability to help 'land locked' residents get in and out at certain times.

Roads in and around Wallingford will be affected, as well as the Crowmarsh roundabout.

Although there will be professional traffic management staff out on the roads on the day, local residents can join the team of traffic marshals to support them. Having local people help to direct and divert traffic can only be a bonus! If you are interested in helping, please contact rebeccawfoc@gmail.com.

For more details on the traffic management plan, visit www.wfoc.co.uk or contact rebeccawfoc@gmail.com.

Pictures, logos and display ads for the Crowmarsh News...

...are best in .jpg or .pdf format.

Friends of St Johns, Mongewell

St John's, Mongewell, in the grounds of Carmel College is a short walk from Wallingford, along the Ridgeway towards North Stoke. This church is in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust.

The "Friends of St Johns" group has recently been formed to help preserve St John's. Our aim is to keep it as a simple quiet place of contemplation with gentle care and maintenance, and to develop natural planting. If you would like to join our Friends group and support the working parties, please call Jane Maggs on 833318.

Please do come to our first social event - A Talk on the "History of Mongewell" by David Beasley in the Church on Friday 23rd June at 6.30 for 7pm. Bring a picnic.

Nuffield Church

Nuffield church is holding its annual flower festival on the spring bank holiday weekend from Saturday 27th to Monday 29th May, 12noon until 5pm. We will also be holding open gardens in and around the village. Refreshments will be available in the church.

We are holding another craft fair and market in Benson Parish hall on Saturday 17th June from 10am to 2pm. We usually have a wide range of stalls, so please come and browse. There will be stalls selling delicious fresh local bread, cakes, pastries and pies, bric a brac, knitted goods, cards etc.

Refreshments are available, including our tasty bacon and sausage baps, toasties, tea, coffee and more.

For further information please contact Sue on 07782 187866. Or you can e-mail susan.woodley@ntlworld.com.

We will also have some stalls at the Nuffield car rally on Sunday 16th July from 11am onwards. These will include plants, raffle, tombola and cakes. This is a very well attended event so do come and enjoy the rally and support our stalls at the same time. We look forward to seeing you.

Crowmarsh Gifford School

Another month has gone by. We can't believe this is our final term; how quickly time flies.

Our children have all completed their SATs, the statutory national tests and have done very well. They continue to make us so proud with the hard work and effort that they put into their learning every day.

Our year 5 class have recently returned from their annual residential trip to Youlbury Scout Camp in Oxford. They truly faced their fears, learning to trust others through activities such as abseiling, climbing to heights to do a leap of faith, zip wire in a harness high above the on-lookers, among many other brave feats. They had a fantastic time and came home full of new stories and a renewed spirit. The learning from outdoor adventure cannot be replicated in the classroom – a different type of learning, but key to building character of resilience and fortitude. It is these experiences that often form many of the vivid memories of childhood.

This past month also saw another amazing turn out for the annual Thames Run and summer fair. Parents and volunteers ensured that it was a huge success. Events from the May Pole, pony rides, Judo displays and Marimba music, meant that there was something for everyone. This year we also had the support of Benson CE Primary School's Tea Vintage, run by their parent volunteers. A huge thank you must go to all of our parents and community members who help support our school – we could not do it without you.

With our new sports coordinator, Mrs Scott, and the help of two very dedicated parents, Mr Baroni and Mrs Hermsen, who have been supporting our children with additional lunchtime clubs and coaching, our sporting achievements continue to rise. Children from

across the school have competed in a range of events, from hockey to rugby and this term will see tennis and swimming.

Finally, as mentioned last month, our new garden is beginning to be planted. We would welcome any community members who are keen gardeners to come and help the children with this new endeavour.

We look forward to what this new term brings and hope that, as always, we are able to welcome you and your families into our school for one of our upcoming events.

Until next time....

Mrs Barton
Headteacher

Village Hall AGM

The AGM of Crowmarsh Village Hall Management Committee will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford School on Thursday 8th June, starting at 7.30pm.

All are welcome to attend.

August issue of the Crowmarsh News

Please note that there will be a temporary change of deadline for the August issue of the *Crowmarsh News*.

The normal deadline for all editorial and advertising material is the 20th of the preceding month. However, in order to work around holidays, we are bringing the deadline for the **August issue** forward to **15th July**.

The usual contact details will apply; please see the front cover.

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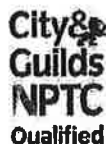
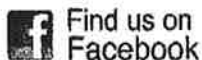
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Highway Robbery in Crowmarsh

After several days of almost continuous rain, Friday the 18th of April 1834, dawned a bright sunny early spring day. Mr Thomas Deane, of May's Farm, (May's Farm is on the Wallingford-Henley road, at the foot of Huntercombe Hill) decided to ride to Wallingford on his favourite stallion, Hector, instead of using his pony and trap.

He had a successful day at Wallingford market, and, on his way home he stopped at The Bell Inn, in Crowmarsh where he had a meal and two mugs of ale. He left The Bell at about 7.30pm. Near the top of Crowmarsh Hill he was stopped and pulled from his horse by three men, who robbed him of a gold watch, two £10 and three £5 notes of Simmond's bank, Henley, three gold and some silver coins. Having robbed Deane of everything of any value, the three ran away.

Mr Deane returned to Crowmarsh and sought assistance to find the men. Around twenty men responded to his hue and cry, but no trace of the three could be found. Two of the men were thought to be sailors, who were seen hanging around Crowmarsh during the day. A week later a Peter Marley was charged with highway robbery; also William Hooper was arrested when he tried to sell the gold watch at a shop

in St Giles's, Oxford. He stated when arrested that Peter Marley was not one of the three robbers.

He had been lodging in Crowmarsh on the day of the robbery and had befriended two sailors in The Bell that afternoon. He refused to name the two sailors, who he said had returned to their ship. He was found guilty at the Assizes, and was given a death sentence, which was later commuted to transportation for life.

Peter Marley was tried at the Oxford Assizes in July and was found guilty. The Judge asked for the death sentence to be recorded, but recommended mercy so his life could be spared, but he was to be transported for 10 years. On hearing his sentence Marley lent over and struck Deane, who was sitting near the prisoner, a heavy blow in the face that broke his nose.

Marley was removed from the court, but later brought up before the Judge again, who increased his sentence. Marley replied he would rather be hung than transported. This statement the Judge committed, replying that he was glad to hear that transportation was so feared, but confirmed his sentence of transportation.

Oxfordshire Science Festival

*** Events all around Oxford, from 16th-21st June**

*** Free family Explorazone Oxford Town Hall Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th June.**

Are we in control of our own destiny when it comes to sex, food and the future of our planet? Meaty topics at this year's Oxfordshire Science Festival explore everything from solar plasmas to pleasure and insect's knees to the history and fate of humanity.

Hear like an insect, build a star or watch a contagious cabaret. Over the weekend, families, adults and kids of all ages can delve

into the world of science. The hands-on Explorazone will open in the evening on Saturday 17th June for adults only, so grown-ups can play at being a paramedic, a plasma physicist or prevent a Polio pandemic.

The evolution debate will be untangled from science fiction with an event asking "is it right to synthesise human genomes?" Meanwhile a chef and a professor will highlight some unusual features of diet and health. Elsewhere, we scrutinise sustainability with the help of the Ladybird Expert Book of Climate Change.

The Oxfordshire Science Festival invites you to look again, look deeper and explore your world, 16th to 21st June. Find out more at: OxSciFest.com

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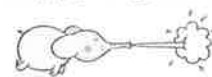
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Some speakers enthral their audience by their deep knowledge of their subject; others enchant with charm and humour. Robin Oakley enthralled and enchanted his audience at our last meeting when he spoke on "How Personality has taken over Politics".

As political editor of the BBC, and European Correspondent for CNN, Robin was, from Reagan's days to Blair's, at the very centre of domestic and world events. He entertained us hugely with sharp, sometimes sharpened, anecdotes about the Great and the Good, but always with the generosity of spirit that many of us remembered from his broadcast commentaries. However, he was also very serious.

A media man to the marrow he is concerned, now, about the interaction between the media and politics. "Focus Groups" and "Special Advisors" are now concerned more with immediacy and short term gain, and he fears politics is becoming shallow and trivialised.

He suggested that Bernie Sanders and Jeremy Corbyn, who have attempted discussion of ideas, appeal to the young, for whom this, increasingly, is a novelty. In the absence of genuine political debate the media now encourages "sound bites" and concentrates on soap opera style trivia: How does he eat a bacon sandwich? How does she manage chips? Tie patterns? Shoe styles?

Increasingly, now, the question is less 'What do they believe?' than 'Will they look good on TV?' Attlee definitely would not have had a look in!

Deference has declined, which might be a good thing, but he fears that respect is also declining, and that cannot be. Faced with Government by Twitter, with uncontrolled and unverifiable information on social media, with 24 hour news bulletins desperately looking for something new to say, Robin Oakley asked us to consider, among other things, the future of democracy if journalists, instead of reporting and analysing it are now instrumental in creating "news". A brilliant, wholly fascinating afternoon in uncountable ways.

Future Speakers:

7th June, Tony Hadland: The turbulent lifetime of Thomas Vachell. Those of us who have never heard of Thomas Vachell look forward to this. Tony Hadland is back by request, a laid back and ever popular speaker.

5th July, Timothy Walker: Tenerife - A botanical honey pot and evolutionary laboratory.

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm in Crowmarsh Village Hall. Visitors are always made welcome. Drop by for the talk, tea and biscuits. See what you think.

Outings:

17th June: Lunch and Matinee at Sonning Mill, Don't Dress for Dinner

21st June: The Mary Rose, Portsmouth

There are still a couple of places on our five day holiday in Shropshire from 13th July. We will stay at a 4-star Telford Hotel and Golf Resort. The group is a cheerful mix of singles and couples. There is a programme of visits in the area. Lots of laughter guaranteed. For more information about outings and the holiday, phone Eileen on 825156.

For more information about what we do, about our various interest groups and activities, please visit our website: just Google "U3A Wallingford". if you would rather talk to someone, then please phone Hermione on 01865 858024 or Jill on 835994.

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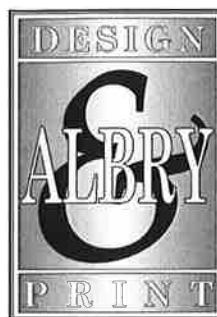
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Services for June

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Sunday 11th	Trinity Sunday	11am 5pm	Festival Family Service Songs of Praise
Sunday 18th	Trinity 1 (Fathers' Day)	11am	Parish Communion
Sunday 25th	Trinity 2	11am	Family Communion

Morning Prayer - every Friday at 9am

Evening Prayer – every Sunday at 6pm (except 11th June)

Celebrating Birthdays

Do you enjoy celebrating birthdays? Are there particular ways you celebrate a birthday?

Chances are that if you are in a family with young children, birthdays will be very important and you may do some particular things to celebrate, for example: decorate the room with balloons; make a themed birthday cake with the appropriate number of candles; sing the special birthday song; and chances are there will be some presents too!

For those of us who are past 21, we tend to count decades and have even bigger celebrations when the first digit changes. Whatever our age, birthdays are a way of marking the importance of someone in our lives, a way of saying how special they are to us and to remember the passing of years in our lives.

On 4th June, we will have the celebration of Pentecost (also known as Whit Sunday), the 'birthday of the Church' when we remember God's Spirit descending on the disciples who were gathered together. Pentecost (from the Greek *pentekoste*, 'fiftieth' of fifty days of celebration) has its roots in the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which was completed on the fiftieth day after Passover. For Christians on the fiftieth day after Easter we recall the empower-

ing of the Church by God's spirit in order that the Church might proclaim the message of the risen Christ to the world. This message was entrusted to the Church Universal and has been proclaimed for nearly 2,000 years – that is a lot of birthdays!

I hope you'll join us to celebrate this birthday of the Church on Sunday 4th June, then share a Family Picnic together, with Party Bags supplied for the children.

Then the following week, we have our annual Flower Festival throughout the weekend, with the Summer Fete stalls on the afternoon of Saturday 10th June from 2-5pm. This year the displays will depict various hymns and we will end our celebrations with a special "Songs of Praise" at 5pm on Sunday 11th June. Again, we welcome the village to join us!

Rev Kev

To book North Stoke Village Hall

contact Nikki Arnfeld (839736, 07969 788766,
narnfeld@yahoo.co.uk)

or

Stuart Soames

(836058, or sjwsoames@btinternet.com)



Wallingford Walks

Guided Historic Town Walks now take place every Saturday morning until 30 September, starting from the Town Hall at 11am. Walks last 1 to 2 hours and cost £5 per head, money which will be donated to support Wallingford Museum.

These are general walks covering the rich history of the town, but also touching on the links with Agatha Christie and *Midsomer Murders*. They will appeal to residents and visitors alike. There's no need to book, just turn up!

Alternatively, if you'd like to organise a Town Walk like this for your group / society / school at a different time, then please contact Philip Burton on 836200 or pburton6@talktalk.net

Who knows Wallingford?



Many residents already know much about their town - but there is always more to see and learn about! Where was this photograph taken? What is it? What is the significance to Wallingford's history?

You can hear much more about the Town's history by joining a Town History Walk which now start at 11 am every Saturday from under the Town Hall.

Further details for the Walks, together with the

answer to this month's photo quiz, can be found at: www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk



The view from above

Lidar and Aerial Photographs of Wallingford and beyond

Dr Edward Carpenter will talk at the Wallingford Historical & Archaeological Society (TWHAS) about Lidar and aerial photography of Wallingford.

Edward is an Investigator with Historic England, and joined the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England in 1998. Since 2002 he has been involved in a number of multi-period aerial surveys across England and has a particular interest in the various ways that these landscapes or the individual monuments within them are perceived.

Archaeological aerial survey has proved to be invaluable in the discovery and understanding of past landscapes. In particular, the identification of crop marks of buried features has led to the discovery of many thousands of archaeological sites over the last 100 years.

More recently, airborne laser scanning, also known as lidar, has allowed aerial archaeologists to see beneath the trees. Lidar has revealed extensive archaeological earthworks hidden within woodland, but it has also shown that even in open ground slight earthworks may still survive.

This talk will show what we can see on lidar and aerial photographs. Edward will use examples from across England, but will concentrate on Wallingford and the surrounding area. He will also consider what can be seen on some of the freely available aerial resources and how to interpret what they reveal.

This talk will be held on Wednesday 14th June, 7.45 for 8pm, at St Mary's Church, Wallingford. Visitors (£4) are most welcome. For more details of TWHAS activities, please visit www.twhas.org.uk

Guided Walks Around Fair Mile



Ian Wheeler, author of *Fair Mile Hospital: a Victorian Asylum*, is leading guided walks around the former Fair Mile Hospital in Cholsey. You will learn many insights into the hospital's origins, mission, daily routine, patients and staff.

Note: the tour will not suit young children.

Walks take about two hours and are subject to

demand and suitable weather. Meet at Fair Mile Cricket Pavillion on the dates below.

Saturday 10th and 17th of June at 2.15pm
Sundays 11th and 18th June at 10am.

Cost £3 per person. Advance booking is essential. To book, call Ian on 652295 or email ian@cholsey.com. Special arrangements can be made for groups of 10 or more.

Wallingford Patient Participation Group (PPG) Health Walks

The Wallingford Patient Participation Group and Wallingford Medical Practice held a successful Health Information Day in late March.

It was attended by the community of Wallingford and surrounding villages, the Mayor of Wallingford, Councillor Rose Lester and the County Councillor for the area Ms Lynda Atkins.

Members of the administration staff and Doctors spent time talking to stall holders and the public. As a result, several organisations will be working with the medical practice in the future. Age UK is the first to sign up and will be

visiting during June. The organisation has offered to run a Dementia Cafe for Patients.

Also, Wallingford PPG and Medical Practice are organising health walks. The first is a short half-hour walk for those wanting to start walking at their own pace.

It will start at the Wallingford Medical Practice on Saturday 24th June at 10.30. Soft drinks will be available at the practice after the walk.

Please see the Medical Practice website www.wallingfordmedicalpractice.co.uk or the notice board in the surgery for fuller details of this walk.

Short Mat Bowls

takes place at the Pavilion on Tuesdays at 7pm and on Thursdays at 2pm. For more information, please call 837518.

Byways of Beethoven from Benson Choral Society

Everyone probably knows something by Beethoven, but for this concert on 10th June we dug deeper into his choral works and found three gems!

Most familiar is the Mass in C (1807), which has been likened to Haydn's late masses and is altogether a well-crafted and enjoyable work. The Choral Fantasia has a glittering piano introduction played by our talented accompanist Anita D'Attellis. This sets the mood for a pleasant, light-hearted work with a final chorus extolling harmony, peace and love, with clear hints of the final 'Ode to Joy' from the Choral Symphony which came later (1824).

Finally we have a Hallelujah Chorus, not from Handel's Messiah, but from Beethoven's only oratorio, 'Christ on the Mount of Olives', which has fallen out of favour in recent times. This chorus has acquired a life of its own and well deserves an outing.

We welcome soloists Helen Withers (soprano), Serenna Wagner (mezzo-soprano), Paul Smy (tenor) and Philip Tebb (bass), with the Elgar Orchestra, expertly led by Christopher Walker.

Do come and hear us at 7.30pm on Saturday 10th June in Dorchester Abbey! Tickets are £15, £12 and £10 from Stephanie on 01865 407395 or from tickets.bensonchoral@gmail.com.

Get out on your bike ...

Is your bike gathering dust in a corner of the shed or garage? Have you thought about joining an organised cycle ride, but wondered whether it would be too far or too fast for you? Not sure that your gears and brakes are in working order? Well, this CTC Wallingford event on Sunday 2nd July is for you!

Get your bike checked out by our mechanic in Wallingford Market Place between 11am and 12pm. (The check is free, but you will have to pay for any spares needed.) Then join us in the Market Place at 1.30pm for a relaxed 10-12 mile ride. We'll explore some local lanes

and stop for tea and cake in a local café. We should be finished by 3.30pm.

Under 13s must be accompanied by an adult. 13 to 17 year-olds can come independently, but must bring a completed parental consent form, available from me. You don't need to be a member to take part: come and try out a few rides with us before you join.

For more information, contact me, Alison Smart (alisonjsmart@gmail.com or 836086).

The Corn Exchange

The Corn Exchange in Wallingford will be closed from Sunday 11th June for roof replacement and other work. It will re-open in October.

As we go to press, the amount in the Roof Appeal kitty is in excess of £300,000, well on track to hit the target of £500,000. The work will entail replacing the 160-year-old building's old and faulty glass roof with aluminium sheets. At the same time, improvements will be made to onstage facilities and auditorium heating and ventilation.

Meanwhile, the programme until the temporary closure is available online at www.cornexchange.org.uk

To add cash to the fundraising coffers, a summer Garden Party has been organised at a glorious riverside setting on the outskirts of Wallingford. It is open to the public.

Corn Exchange and Sinodun Players supporters John and Elizabeth Gordon have kindly offered to host this special event on the sweeping lawns of their home on Saturday 17th June at 3.30pm.

Guests will be welcomed with a glass of bubbly followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea, while being regaled throughout with a soundscape of beautiful music. Entertainment will include a one-act comedy, *Sixty-Love*, written by Sinodun Player Mike Rowbottom.

Tickets to the event are £15 from www.cornexchange.org.uk. More information, including location details, from Julie Utley, julieutley@aol.com or 834987.

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 Village Hall on Thursday 11th May 2017

Present: Councillors John Griffin (Chair), Nigel Hannigan, Stephen Sherbourne, Andrew Johnson, Ann Sharp, Fleur Stevenson, Stuart Soames, David Rowley and Denise Hall; Sue Rance (Clerk) and Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer); County Cllr Mark Gray, District Cllr Richard Pullen.

Apologies for absence from Cllrs Francesca Jones, David Mannering and David Topliss.

Cllr Griffin was re-elected as Chairman and Cllr Hannigan as Vice-Chairman.

Trees

Ash Tree at Jethro Tull Gardens: Tree expert Sarah Venners has reported that the ash tree has a bad fungal infection and will need to be felled. A letter will be sent to inform residents about this and to ask if they would like a replacement tree.

Trees on the left-hand side of Wallingford Bridge were reported to be obscuring road signs: Cllr Hannigan will investigate.

Update on grass cutting contract

Cllr Sharp reported that some areas of the village had been omitted from the map given to the new contractor, including the verges at Cox's Lane. The map will be amended and circulated for approval before it is sent to Berinsfield Community Business. There may be a small increase in cost. The Clerk will ask Scofell to return the key for the padlock at the play area at Botany Allotments: use of a combination lock was recommended in future.

Finance

The Finance Officer presented a summary of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2017,

which the council approved. There were no significant differences from last year. The accounts will now be sent to the internal auditor.

Allotment rents will continue at £10 but it was decided to raise them to £15 from next April in line with other allotments and to review costs and rents annually in the autumn.

A grant of £760 was agreed to North Stoke Village Hall for maintenance of the village hall grounds and grass cutting at North Stoke crossroads.

Planning

Decisions: The Council noted the following decisions from SODC:

P16/S4173/FUL (Full Application): Proposed detached dwelling with detached carport/garage. Lychgate House, Mongewell Park, Mongewell OX10 8DA.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

P17/S0915/HH (Householder): Proposed detached garage, car port and stores with loft room above. 2 Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BD.
PERMISSION GRANTED.

P16/S3608/O: Outline planning application for up to 150 dwellings together with associated access, public open space, landscaping and amenity areas. Land to the east of Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED.
PERMISSION REFUSED.

Applications: The Council agreed its response to SODC on the following applications:

P16/S3801/FUL: Amendment No. 3: Development of a dwelling with associated access, parking and landscaping. In addition there will be a greenhouse, yard, double garage, workshop, cold and dry stores and a plant room (as supported by Land Contamination Question-

naire and plans and information). Land at Cherry Orchard, Mongewell OX10 8DA.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P17/S1327/FUL: Erection of a two-storey dwelling with a double garage on land adjacent to Sherringham House. The dwelling is made up of three distinct forms with the garage as a separate entity located to the north of the dwelling. Sherringham House, Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BG.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the following reasons:

1. Over-development of the site.
2. Scale and bulk of the proposed development will have a direct negative effect on neighbouring properties.
3. A previous application for a bungalow on this site was refused for similar reasons.

South Oxfordshire District Council Local Plan

SODC published the latest draft of their Local Plan for public comment (until 17th May). SODC had proposed to include both the Benson Lane site and the Newnham Manor site in their local plan for housing developments.

The Parish Council will ask SODC to remove the Benson Lane site from the plan (since their Planning Committee had refused the planning application there), make comment on problems of safe access in regard to the Newnham Manor site and question the omission of the former SODC office site.

Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors Griffin, Hannigan and Jones met the steering group for the Wallingford Neighbourhood Plan and received valuable information which will be of assistance in preparation of our Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Update on strategic priorities

Cllr Rowley suggested adding a new section on sustainability information on the parish website and highlighting the Mongewell Cherry Orchard development as an example of sustainable development (once approved by SODC and with the applicant's permission).

Environment and Recreation Committee

Scofell has cut the nature area: two different types of fritillary have now been found among the flowers there.

There is a new sub-committee for the new play area, which met on 20th April and carried out an initial analysis of the votes for the play area and outdoor gym. Three tenders have been received and Cllr Rowley has done research into other local play areas including those at Eynsham and South Stoke. The pros and cons of wooden or steel structures and different landing surface are being discussed. Local school pupils have been consulted on their preferences for equipment and some responses have been received. A range of sources of funding is being considered. The next meeting of the sub-committee will be on 14th June.

It was agreed that the Recreation Ground sub-committee should manage the recreation ground at North Stoke as well.

Traffic and Transport Committee

A national road cycle race will be held around Wallingford on 16th July. Short-term road closures are planned in and around the parish and details will be reported as soon as they are known.

Website

A report will be given at the next meeting on the amount of use the website receives.

The website is up to date with parish council minutes and the publication scheme. The neighbourhood plan will have a dedicated section.

District Councillor report

Cllr Pullen said that the planning application for Avalon Kennels would not be granted until the noise issues have been resolved.

Parish Councils need to be familiar with the rules on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding [see under Planning].

Grants are now available from SODC for

community projects. Each district councillor will have a discretionary grant of £5000 to allocate for community projects. Parish councils and other organisations may apply online for a grant (£500 minimum).

A decision on a unitary authority for Oxfordshire will be made after the general election.

County Councillor's report

County Councillor Mark Gray was congratulated on his re-election to OCC.

Under the Oxfordshire Together scheme, parish councils will be encouraged to take on additional responsibilities if and when a unitary authority is created.

Other business

Cllr Rowley reported that the open day at Wallingford Medical Centre had been a great success. They plan a series of health walks starting from the surgery, the first on Saturday 24th June at 10.30am. Consideration is being given to expansion of the practice to meet increased demand from new housing developments in the area.

The Clerk will ask Arrow Fencing to repair the fence at the play area adjoining Cox's Lane and another fence that is damaged at Howbery Farm.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 1st June 2017 at North Stoke Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

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

phone Chris Strange on
07711 904252,

or e-mail chrisstrange47@gmail.com

Wallingford and District Stroke Club

Wallingford and District Stroke Club meets 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.

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 Nigel Hessey on 01491 651114 and we'll be pleased to talk to you.

Sue Ryder – Sale Dates

The next Sales of Donated Goods are on Saturdays 10th June, 1st and 22nd July. They will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Saleable donated goods are welcomed on week days between 9am and 4.30pm, but 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 call 01491 641384 ext 246 for further information or details.

Why Not Volunteer at The Style Acre Tearoom?

The Style Acre Tea Room at Savages in Blewbury is looking for volunteers to join its friendly team. Our tearoom provides work experience for people with learning disabilities, helping them develop important work skills.

Volunteers call it 'an amazing experience', as they see the effect of their help, as the people we support learn new skills and increase in confidence.

If you feel you can support us, please contact our Volunteer Officer, Chris, via email: cburrows@styleacre.org.uk or telephone 827593.

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SATURDAY	8.00 am - 6.00 pm

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WHAT'S ON – JUNE 2017

Regular events and meetings

Every Tuesday	19.00-21.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	14.00-16.30	Short Mat Bowls	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Thursday	19.45-22.00	Wallingford Photographic Club	Crowmarsh Pavilion
Every Friday	08.30-11.15	Wallingford Country Market	Regal Centre
Every Saturday	10.00-12.00	WAGS Store open	Centre 70
Most Saturdays	10.00-13.00	Local Producers' Market	Regal Centre

This month

Thursday 1st	19.30	Crowmarsh Parish Council Meeting	North Stoke Village Hall
Sunday 4th	Daytime	Wallingford Raft Race	Wallingford Bridge
Sunday 4th	All day	Senior Citizens' Day	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Wednesday 7th	14.00	U3A: Tony Hadland on Thomas Vachell	Crowmarsh Village Hall
Thursday 8th	07.00- 22.00	General National Elections	Crowmarsh Village Hall & North Stoke Village Hall
Friday 9th and Saturday 10th	Evenings	Beer and Blues Festival	Regal Centre
Saturday 10th	19.30	Beethoven concert by Benson Choral Society	Dorchester Abbey
Sunday 11th	13.30	CTC 22-mile road ride	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Wednesday 14th	19.30	Henley Philatelic: Patrick Campbell on GB Mail	Bix Village Hall
Wednesday 14th	19.45	TWHAS: Lidar and aerial photos of Wallingford	St Mary's Church, Wallingford
Saturday 17th	19.30	Luba Tunnicliffe (Viola) & Hannah Watson (Piano)	St Peter's Church, W'ford
Saturday 17th	All day	Wallingford Carnival	Kinecroft and town centre
Sunday 18th	13.30	CTC 37 Grandmaster road race	Meet Wallingford Market Place
Sunday 18th	All day	Fathers' Day specials	Cholsey and Wallingford Railway
Saturday 24th	10.30	Sue Ryder Sale	Nettlebed
Wednesday 28th	19.30 onwards	Henley Philatelic : President's Evening	Bix Village Hall

For details of walks with Didcot & Wallingford Ramblers, please see www.ramblers.org.uk/didcot-wallingford