



Online edition no2

June 2020

From the Editorial Team

As the lockdown restrictions continue, although with some easement, we have decided to suspend normal publication of the *Crowmarsh News* for a second month. Some of our regular advertisers are now open for business, and we have listed these along with useful details of village support groups. As with last month's edition we are asking for readers to be kind enough to print off a copy for neighbours who do not have access to the internet.

We sincerely hope to return to normal publication in the near future. In the mean time, we hope you will all keep well and stay safe.

E-mail: Crowmarsh.editor@gmail.com

Crowmarsh Stores Reopens!

The village shop in Crowmarsh has reopened after closing at the beginning of the lockdown period.

Opening times are

Monday to Friday 7.30am – 6.00pm

Saturday 8.00am – 6.00pm

Sundays 8.00am – 12 noon

A big 'thank you' from the village to Karin for running our village shop for the past few years and to Corina and the team who have taken over.

Useful telephone numbers

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

Police non-emergency number 101

Advice from the Parish Council during the Covid-19 lockdown

As we begin to get out and about more, social distancing could be harder to achieve, but it is still necessary to stop the spread of the coronavirus. The county council is working with towns and parishes to make more space for walking and cycling to enable safe distancing.

OCC have updated their guide to using footpaths and other rights of way safely. For more information see <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/file/countryside-walks-rides/AccessToPublicWaysCoronavirus.pdf>

Cycling on the pavement over Wallingford Bridge is illegal and antisocial. It makes social distancing difficult. Do not cycle on the pavement: use the road. If you feel unable to cycle on the road, push your bike across the bridge and keep a safe distance at all times.

Recycling Centres Open

Oxfordshire County Council re-opened Household Waste Recycling Centres on 18th May, for essential use. This means waste that cannot be stored at home or would cause harm to health if stored.

There are new site rules to ensure social distancing and the safety of residents and site staff. Opening hours are reduced to 8am – 4pm to allow for cleaning. There are limits on the number and size of vehicles allowed in and only contactless payments are accepted.

Queues are likely, so if your waste can be disposed of legally and responsibly in another way, such as weekly kerbside collections or district council collection services, please use that service instead.

Full information about the changes to recycling centre rules can be found on the website - www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastereopenquestions

News from Crowmarsh Pre-School

Whilst it is far from 'business as usual' at Pre-School, we are finding new ways to reach out and keep in touch with one another and to keep everyone's spirits up during these difficult times.

Our children and families are joining in with singing and story time via Zoom. We are still able to keep in contact with all our families through 'Tapestry.' This is our online learning journal, which enables us to continue to support children's learning and development through sharing children's next steps and ideas for activities with parents. In turn, parents are busily posting news about what their children have been doing. We are also sharing stories and activities on our Facebook page – please do take a look and feel free to share these.

As your community Pre-School, we would like to offer help and support to all families with young children in the village. Your children do not have to attend Pre-School - we are here to help everyone. Please get in touch with us by emailing Annie:

manager@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk.

If you are interested in a Pre-School place for your child for the next academic year, please contact our administrator Toni on admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk

We wish all our friends and families well in these difficult times.

Walking with cows

For those who are unused to cows and a little nervous of them, here is some advice:

Cows like to stay together - so it is best not to separate one or two from the herd.

Cows, especially young ones are curious about the world - If you ignore them, they will ignore you. If a bold one takes a step towards you, simply look at it and take a step or two towards it and they will back away.

Cows feel threatened by a dog - so keep your dog on the lead and walk quickly past them. If you feel threatened by the cows then let your dog off the lead.

Village Support Contacts

Here are some details of various village groups you can join. If you want to join a group but don't know how to make contact with them, please contact the Crowmarsh News and we will put you in touch.

WhatsApp groups

Bellamy Way, Stephens Field and The Street
(from the bridge to Colliers)

Crowmarsh Hill (numbers 164 to 206)

Home Farm

Jethro Tull Gardens

Lane End and immediate neighbours in The Street

Mongewell

Murren Croft

Newnham Green, numbers 20A to 52

North Stoke

Park View

Robert Sparrow Gardens

Winter's Field

Facebook groups

Crowmarsh Parish Council

Crowmarsh Gifford Community

Crowmarsh COVID-19 Response

Thames Salon will give a free haircut to NHS Staff on Tuesdays 7.30pm-9.30pm for 4 weeks once they re-open.



Citizens Advice

We are still here to help.

We are no longer able to offer face to face appointments from our Advice Centres, but you will be able to talk to our advisers on the telephone.

Advice Line: 0300 330 9042

Monday to Friday 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

For general advice please visit our website [Citizensadvice.org.uk](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

Use new fast-track reporting for suspicious emails

Scam emails are becoming so smooth and sophisticated that even computer experts can be deceived by them, and the rest of us are in constant danger of being taken for a ride.

There is no need to feel isolated with the problem, though. If you are suspicious of an email or simply unsure, don't open the email and don't click on any of its links, but forward it right away to a new, dedicated reporting service which is very quick and convenient: forward the email to report@phishing.gov.uk and the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) will investigate it.

We need volunteer advisors and IT support

Last year our 150 volunteers advised over 11,000 people. We helped three quarters resolve their debt, benefits, employment and housing problems.

We now need more advisers to help us during and after the Covid-19 crisis and IT volunteers to help sort out our IT problems.

Ideally, we are looking for volunteers to commit to eight hours per week over one or two days. But we can be flexible.

If you are looking for a satisfying and stimulating volunteer role, please contact us at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale/volunteer

Travelling by Bus?

If you are paying by cash Stagecoach are only accepting exact fares as drivers are unable to give change. If you pay over the exact fare they are donating the difference to a local foundation.

John Child was Wallingford Postmaster until his death in 1857. He ran the Post Office from a shop on the left of the old Field and Hawkins building (now Coral Betting) in the Market Place. The original building has been demolished and rebuilt (now Zaro's Hair Studio).

Early in June 1857 the Post Office was moved from the Market Place, to Fish Street (soon to be renamed St. Mary's Street) and Thomas Jenkins was appointed Postmaster, a post he held until his death in 1875. Thomas Jenkins had the words "Post Office" spelt out in red and blue bricks in the pavement outside the Post Office. He also ran a hairdressing business at the same time in the Post Office.

A Mr J E Morgan succeeded Thomas Jenkins as Postmaster but resigned the same year. The next Postmaster was George Christie, a jeweller, and the Post Office returned to the Market Place. George Christie held the post from 1875 until 1893, when a new modern Post Office was built, by Brashers and Sons. It was in the right-hand side of what is now Boots the Chemist's. The Post Office was moved again in 1936 when a new Post Office was built on the opposite side of the Market Place and is now a restaurant called The Old Post Office.

David Beasley

Parish Council notes

Crowmarsh Parish Council met on-line for the second time on Thursday 7th May 2020. Full notes of the meeting are on the village website.

All Parish Councillors were present plus District Cllr Sue Cooper, the Clerk and the Finance Officer.

Finance

Payments agreed included £1,584 for grass cutting, £286.36 to Eibe for signs at the playground and outdoor gym, and £480 to Green and Tidy for mulching. North Stoke PCC was granted £660 for grass cutting at the church. The Finance Officer has applied for a grant of £10,000 from SODC for loss of income at the pavilion due to the lockdown. It was decided we didn't need to apply for grant aid from Scottish and Southern Electricity or our District Councillors.

The internal audit has been completed and the auditor's report is awaited.

Strategic priorities

We have received a Community Infrastructure Levy £100k in total from developments in the parish. We will review the list of strategic priorities at the June meeting.

Environment and Recreation Ground Committee

A grant of £300 was agreed towards planting trees in the Riverside Meadows and protecting them as they grow.

The Environment and Recreation Ground Committee will meet on 18th May to discuss plans for improvements to the pavilion, to include a small meeting room which could be hired out and used for parish council meetings.

Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on-line on Thursday 4th June starting at 7.30pm. For details, please contact the clerk by email crowmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

Advertisers

These regular *Crowmarsh News* advertisers have confirmed to us that they are now open.

Name & Services	Contact details	Website
Arbocare Tree Services	07778 811136 or 01235 813619	Arborcare.co.uk
Clean Machine	01491 825600	Machinesthatclean.com
Crowmarsh Tyre	01491 834088	
GA Electrical	reception@groupga.co.uk 01491 835875	
Howard Chadwick Funeral Service	office@chadwicksfuneralservice.co.uk 01491 825222	
Howbery Park	01491 822495	howberypark.com
Joss Coulton Plumbing	info@coultonplumbing.co.uk 01491 824486	coultonplumbing.co.uk
Puppy Classes	info@sohelpmedog.co.uk 07788 174506	sohelpmedog.co.uk
Roy Windebank	roysworkshop@gmail.com 01491 652345	roywindebank.co.uk
RefreshPro	info@refreshpro.co.uk 07772 416465	refreshpro.co.uk
Scott Gesner Gardener	gesnergardening@yahoo.co.uk 07818 244787	gesnergardening.co.uk
SH Decor	enquiries@shdecor.co.uk 01865 400208	shdecor.co.uk
South Oxfordshire Wellness	jo@sowellness.co.uk 07775 943574	sowellness.co.uk
The Landscape Group Oxford	lee@tlgo.co.uk 01865 341750	tlgo.co.uk
Warmingham	01491 874144	warmingham.com
WEPS	sales@weps.org.uk 01491 827825	

Church News

Despite our church building remaining closed, we continue to worship as the Wallingford Church of England Team by joining a "Worship at Home" service at 10am each Sunday morning on YouTube, followed by a Post-Worship Coffee on Zoom at 10.45am.

The easiest way to access this is via our Weekly Notices email - all are welcome to subscribe using the simple form at www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/notices/ but the link for each service will also be included in our calendar at www.wallingfordcofe.org.uk/calendar/ - just click on "Worship from Home" to show the details and copy the YouTube address into your browser.

We are also conducting funerals outside of our church buildings, either as burials at Newnham Murren or at one of our nearby crematoria. I am pleased to say that the strict limitation on the number of mourners is gradually being relaxed and that it is possible for others who may be shielding to join via the internet.

Blessings, Rev Kev